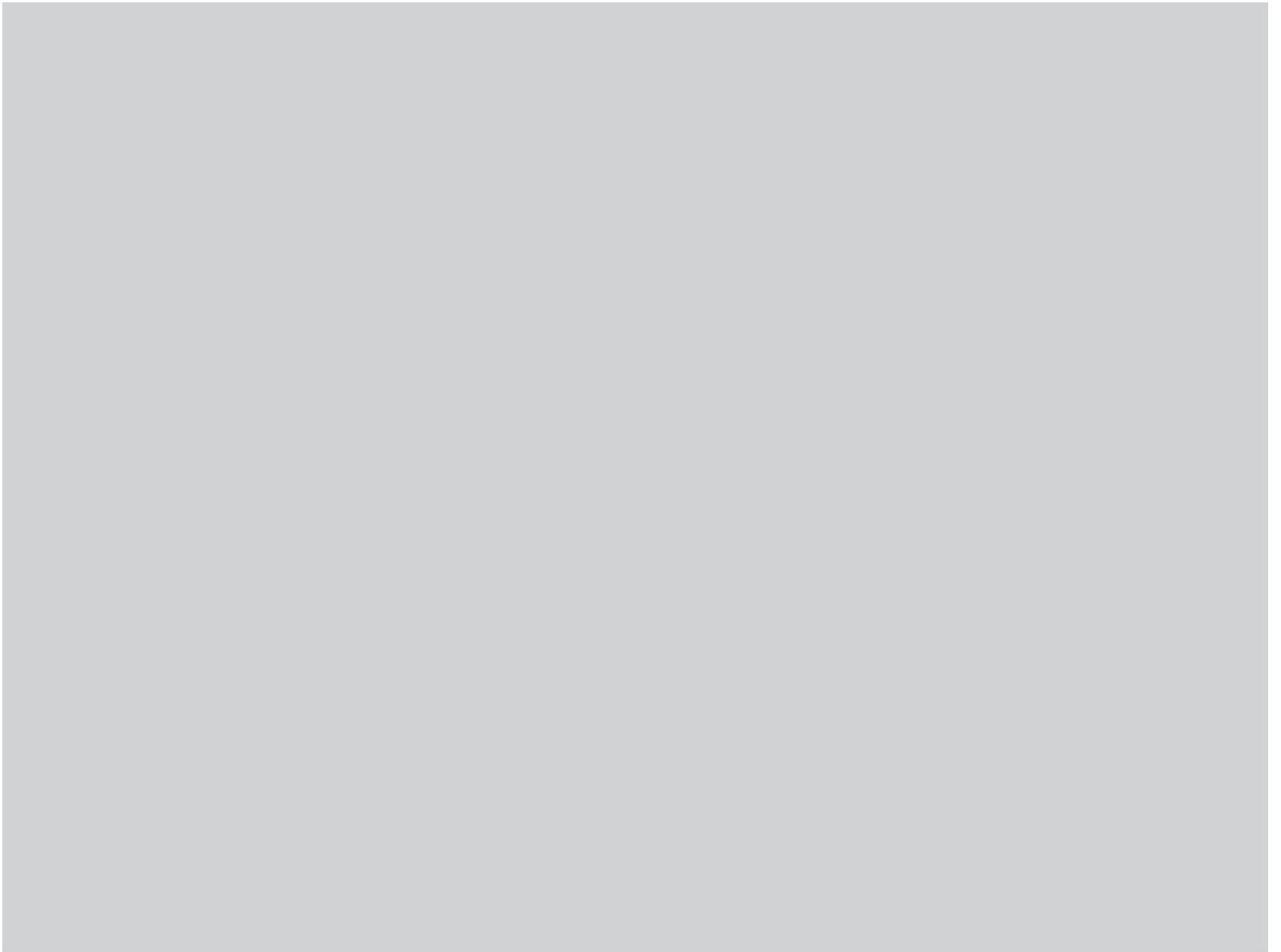




# Alcatraz Barracks Building 64

## Abbreviated Historic Structure Report





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## *Abbreviated Historic Structure Report*

Alcatraz Island  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, California

Produced by the  
Cultural Resources and Museum Management Division  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, DC

September 2003

Front cover photo:  
View of Alcatraz  
Barracks Building 64,  
2003. Photo credit:  
John Martini.

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## Introduction

This *Abbreviated Historic Structure Report* was prepared by the National Park Service (NPS), Division of Cultural Resources and Museum Management (CRMM), Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), with the assistance of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (Parks Conservancy), a designated National Park Service cooperating association operating under the NPS Cooperating Associations Policies, Standards and Guidelines, NPS 32.

### Preparation

The Historical Architect in charge of the report was Jane Lehman (NPS-CRMM). Jason Hagin of the Parks Conservancy produced the architectural drawings and arranged the report for publication. John Martini, consulting with the Parks Conservancy, conducted the historical research.

### Relevant Documents

The Barracks Building is but one of many cultural and natural features on Alcatraz Island, which is part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The *General Management Plan/Environmental Analysis* (GMP, September 1980) is the main planning document for the GGNRA. Subsequent to the 1980 Plan, there have been several Park Service reports directed specifically at interpretation of Alcatraz. *Wayside Exhibit Plans* were written in 1980, 1983, and 1985. Other relevant documents include the *Annual Statement for Interpretation and Visitor Services: Alcatraz Island*, begun in 1982, and the 1987 *Interpretive Prospectus: Alcatraz, Golden Gate National Recreation Area*, by the Division of Interpretive Planning, Harpers Ferry Center. The most recent Park Service Reports available for preparation of this *Abbreviated Historic Structure Report* are the July 9, 1993 *Development Concept Plan and Environmental Assessment* and the October 2001 *Alcatraz Island Historic Preservation and Safety Construction Program, Final Environmental Impact Statement*. In addition to National Park Service planning efforts, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy sponsored a planning workshop for Alcatraz Island in 1988, in which leading private architects and planners, led by Lawrence Halprin, were invited to participate. The workshop resulted in a publication titled *Alcatraz: The Future Concept Plan and Guidelines for Alcatraz Island*, by Lawrence Halprin, et. al.

The major historical treatise on Alcatraz Island is *The Rock, A History of Alcatraz Island, 1847-1972*, a resource study written by Erwin Thompson and published by the National Park Service, Denver Service Center, in 1980. This book is considered to be the most authoritative work yet produced on the Army and its role in the development of Alcatraz Island. Another relevant work is *The U.S. Army on Alcatraz*

*Island* by Col. Herbert Hart, USMC (ret), 1969. This study, prepared for the City and County of San Francisco, is the seminal work pertaining to the military history of Alcatraz, and contains a valuable compilation of original documents pertaining to the island's military development.

Locally, there are three sources of primary research materials: 1) The Historic Document Collection of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, located at the Park Archives and Records Center at the Presidio of San Francisco; 2) The Sierra Pacific Area branch of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), located at San Bruno; and 3) the Main branch of NARA located in Washington, D.C. Specific record groups at NARA include RG 77, Records of the Corps of Engineers, RG 92, Records of the Quartermaster General, and Record Group 129, Bureau of Prisons' Alcatraz Administrative Records.

In addition, several Bay Area libraries have collections that include historic photographs of Alcatraz. They provide an invaluable visual documentation of the development of the Barracks Building. These include the San Francisco Public Library's History Center at the Main Library, the Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley, and the Society of California Pioneers and the California Historical Society, both located in San Francisco.

No records were available for this report for the time period 1963-1973 when the island was in the care of the United States General Services Administration. The only event that may have resulted in changes to the structure during this time was the occupation of the island by Native Americans from November 1969 to March 1971. Documentation of graffiti in the Barracks Building dating from this period is contained in a report commissioned by the National Park Service: *Inventory of Occupation Graffiti, 1969-1971, Alcatraz Island, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, California* by Jon Noxon, 1979. This inventory was verified by NPS staff in 1997 and photographic documentation of the graffiti was completed by Brian Grogan, consultant to Carey & Co. in 1999.

Preservation and restoration efforts carried out by the National Park Service during the period 1973 to present were documented through oral interviews and written records provided by Mr. James Delgado, former historian for Golden Gate National Recreation Area, oral interviews with Mr. Bob Kirby, the former site supervisor of Alcatraz and current members of the NPS' interpretive, maintenance and preservation crews.

## Statement of Significance

For nearly 100 years Building 64 has dominated the sheltered eastern shore of Alcatraz Island. Its looming multi-storied façade has witnessed the comings and goings of some of the most infamous prisoners ever housed on the island, and to passers-by on the Bay it was long believed to have been part of the prison complex built on ‘The Rock’. Yet the building’s function has always been residential. When construction originally began in the mid-1860s, the building was designed to serve the dual duties of a fortification protecting the island’s only dock and barracks for the enlisted garrison. However, the former role was never implemented and for the rest of island’s history the barracks served as quarters for the island’s military personnel and, later, for penitentiary staff and families.

Building 64 is significant under National Register Criteria A, B, and C, both as a defensive structure and as the last remaining residential structure on the island. Building 64 meets criterion A, the broad patterns of our history, for its role in military history as a defensive structure and a four-company barracks, for its role as a residential structure during the penitentiary era, and for its role in the social movement associated with Native American civil rights. It is significant under criterion B for its association with Native American activist, Richard Oakes. Its significance under criterion C stems from its unique design as the only “double-depth” casemated barracks structure in a Third System fort. With further research, it may also be determined that the precast concrete block construction designed to resemble sandstone might also make it eligible under criterion C.

## Civil War Period

Work on the new “bombproof barracks” began at the height of the Civil War and reflected the military’s concerns that San Francisco Bay might be attacked by Confederate forces or naval vessels of a country sympathetic to the southern cause. Although additional fortifications were built during this period on Angel Island and at Point San Jose to meet this perceived threat, those batteries were recognized as temporary works. By contrast, the Alcatraz “bombproof barracks” was designed as a *permanent* structure intended to last for decades. As such, it is unique both in terms of its design as the only “double-depth” casemated barracks and in that it is the only permanent fortification built on the West Coast during the Civil War.

Immediately after the end of the war, several dozen treasonous civilians were imprisoned on the island and forced to work on the construction of the “bombproof barracks”. These men had been so “utterly infamous” as to have publicly celebrated the news of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, and were arrested by military authorities for their “treasonous rejoicing.”

## Spanish-American War Era

Following the close of the Spanish-American War, the United States began a years-long struggle with Filipino freedom fighters known “insurrectos”, and tens of thousands of American troops were shipped to the Philippine Islands. Within a few months, hundreds of soldier-prisoners were sent back to the states for military crimes committed overseas. Their arrival led to a several-times increase in the size of the military convict population on Alcatraz and the construction of a second prison complex on the island.

During this period Alcatraz was becoming less a harbor defense fort and more a place of military confinement. This explosion in the prisoner population also resulted in the need to increase the number of guards posted to the island to control the convicts. This was the proximate cause of the construction of Building 64. Although it had long been noted that the enlisted barracks on Alcatraz were far from adequate, it was the need to house an ever-increasing number of guards on the island that eventually led to the new barracks’ construction.

Building 64 is extremely significant to this era because its construction was an integral part of Alcatraz’s transition from fort to prison, an evolution that concluded shortly before the building’s final completion when the army re-designated the island as “Pacific Branch, U.S. Military Prison.”

## Disciplinary Barracks

As Alcatraz evolved from a harbor defense fort to a military prison, the island underwent a major remodeling that included construction of additional prison buildings and support structures. Among these latter buildings were dozens of residences for the military guard staff and officers, ranging in size from the 14-room Commandant’s House overlooking the parade ground to tiny clapboard cottages (some remodeled from buildings dating back to the Civil War). Of these structures, Building 64 was easily the largest and most impressive residential edifice on the island.

Over the years, however, all military residences on Alcatraz with exception of Bldg. 64 were destroyed either through Bureau of Prisons remodeling efforts, acts of vandalism, or General Services Administration (GSA) demolition projects. Bldg. 64 is significant today because it is the only intact army-era residential structure remaining on the island.

## Bureau of Prisons

When Alcatraz became a federal penitentiary in 1934, the Bureau of Prisons adapted existing military residences on the island into staff housing for the guard staff. The most drastic changes during this conversion occurred inside Bldg. 64, where dozens of apartments and dormitory rooms were created by carving up the former enlisted men’s

squad rooms and officers' quarters. Over the years, untold numbers of guards and their families occupied this structure, living a suburban lifestyle in the shadow of America's most notorious prison.

Over time, the Bureau of Prisons built additional staff housing on the parade ground, eventually creating a fenced-off family compound at the south end of the island consisting of Building 64, three new apartment houses, a large duplex, a collection of wooden cottages, a gym, playground, and other support buildings.

Following the Indian Occupation of 1969-1971, all these residences with the exception of Building 64 were demolished by the GSA in an effort to prevent further occupations of the island by removing residential structures. The island was transferred to the National Park Service, though, before Bldg. 64 could be demolished.

Bldg. 64 today is significant because it is the only residential structure remaining on Alcatraz, and is a critical resource for telling the story of family life on the island.

### **Indian Occupation**

During the Indian Occupation of 1969-1971 hundreds of Native American activists lived in Bldg. 64, leaving behind numerous physical reminders of their residency in the form of graffiti and other political statements.

One of the original organizers of the Occupation was a Richard Oakes, a young Mohawk studying at San Francisco State College. Handsome and articulate, Oakes became arguably the Indians' most visible and charismatic spokesman. Although some Indians resented the publicity he received, most considered Oakes to be the leader of the Occupation.

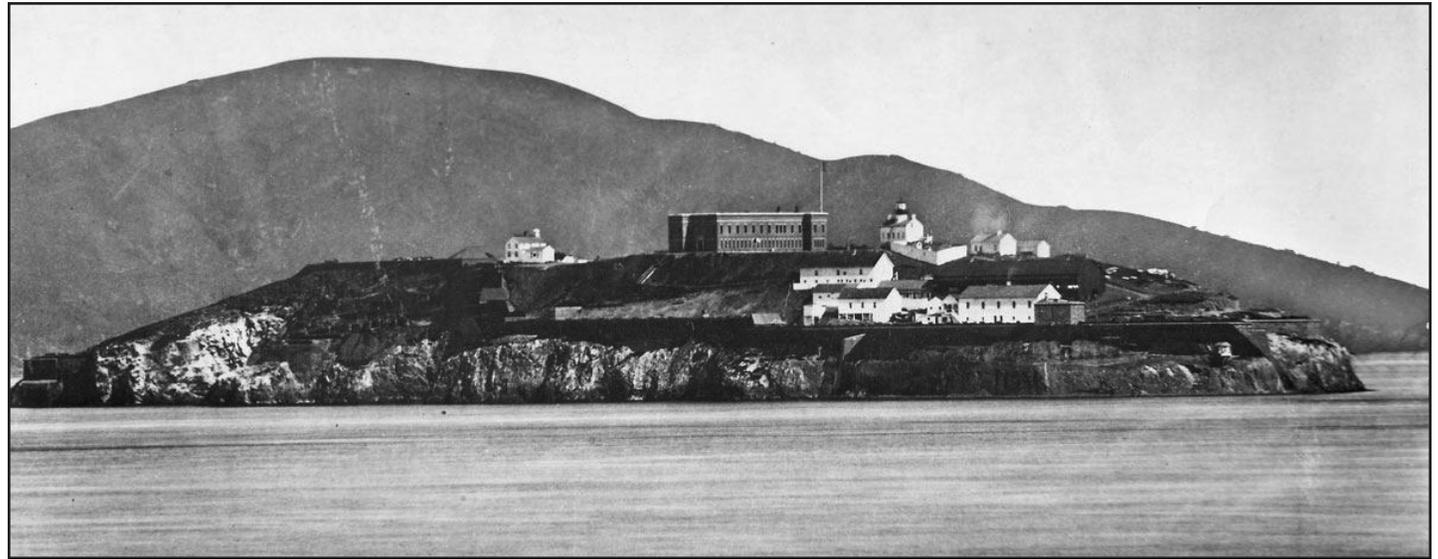
Oakes brought his family to the island, but in early 1970 his stepdaughter was killed in a fall down a stairwell in one of the apartment houses on the parade ground. A few days after she passed away, Oakes and his family left the island for good, creating a leadership void and a power struggle among the remaining occupiers. Many of the Indians on Alcatraz feel today that his departure was the beginning of the end of the Occupation.

During his brief residency Oakes apparently lived in different places on the island, one of which was a room in apartment #307 in Bldg. 64. Historians believe that this room, marked in the Occupiers' tradition with a sign reading "TAKEN BY OAKES", served either as his office or residence for an undetermined period.

Building 64 becomes significant during this period both for its role as a residence for many participants in the Indian Occupation and also because of its documented association with the only person of renown to emerge from the Occupation.



## Administrative Data



Alcatraz, 1865. Photo  
Credit: California State  
Library, Sacramento.

### Developmental History

Building 64 is one of a succession of structures built on the windswept island of Alcatraz between 1853 and 1941. The U.S. Government recognized the defensive value of Alcatraz Island as early as 1847 when Lt. William Warner of the U.S. Army's Topographical Engineers carried out field surveys of what was then a barren rock. In 1850, a joint Army-Navy board carried out surveys of the Pacific Coast to make recommendations for constructing harbor defenses. This board recommended two forts at the bay's only entrance, at the narrows nicknamed "the Golden Gate" by early settlers. These two forts, one at the Presidio and one at Lime Point on the Marin shore, would set up a devastating cross-fire at a point where the Gate was only a mile wide. To back up this "outer line" of defenses, the board recommended an "inner line" focusing around Alcatraz Island. On the island itself, gun batteries would be hacked out of the rocky slopes and sited so that their cannon could sweep the inner bay. Backing up the island's batteries would be smaller fortifications located on the San Francisco waterfront and on Angel Island and Yerba Buena Island.

On November 6, 1850 President Millard Fillmore issued an Executive Order setting aside "for public purposes" hundreds of acres of shoreline for planned defensive sites. Included among these lands were several of the larger islands of San Francisco Bay, including "Alcatraz Island" as it was then known. After two years of initial surveys, budget allocations, and preparatory site work, construction began in early 1853 at two locations: Fort Point in the Presidio and Alcatraz Island.

At Fort Point, the Corps of Engineers envisioned a large masonry fortification along the classic lines of the multi-storied forts they had constructed along the eastern seaboard. These "works" as they were known, included such well-known forts as Fort Pulaski at Savannah, Georgia, and Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina. These forts, examples of what military historians refer to as the "Third System" of American fortifications, all relied upon similar design features such as enclosed floor plans with a central parade, multiple stories of gun rooms (or "casemates") arranged so that the cannon fired through thick parapet walls, and sea level locations. This was the type of structure erected at Fort Point.

For Alcatraz though, the Engineers decided to try something different. Recognizing that the island's rocky cliffs and nearly inaccessible shoreline were already excellent defensive features, they decided to excavate an encircling belt of open (or "barbette") gun batteries along the island's upper slopes. Access to the batteries and barracks would be a single switchback road leading from the dock area on Alcatraz' sheltered lee side to the top of the island.

The future site of Building 64 was originally a portion of the defensive walls (called "scarps") constructed in the 1850s that encircled much of the island as protection against enemy forces attempting to scale the rocky slopes. When first constructed in 1857, the defensive wall in this area was an extension of the scarp wall that ran from the Guardhouse to the island's dock, a distance of nearly 400'-0". Near

its southern end the wall made a 'dogleg' to the southwest for its last 75'-0", likely following the most stable rock formations along the island's shoreline.<sup>1</sup>

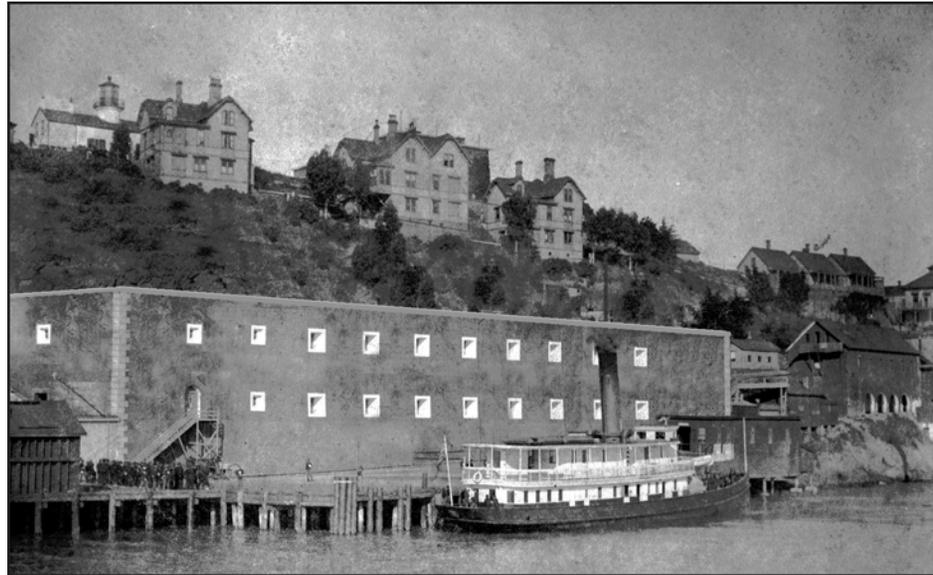
Unlike other defensive walls around the island, this stretch of wall was not intended for artillery emplacements. Instead, it was designed to be used solely by riflemen and was fitted with a 'firing step' on its landside to allow the soldiers to fire over the parapet onto the roadway and dock below. The rocky slope in this stretch of the defensive wall turned out to be exceptionally unstable and at least two landslides occurred during its construction, one of which resulted in the deaths of two workers.<sup>2</sup> As a result of these slides, the wall stretching from the Guardhouse to the dock was increased in size and thickness to serve as a retaining wall in addition to its defensive role (see Figure 1).

### Construction of the "bombproof barracks"

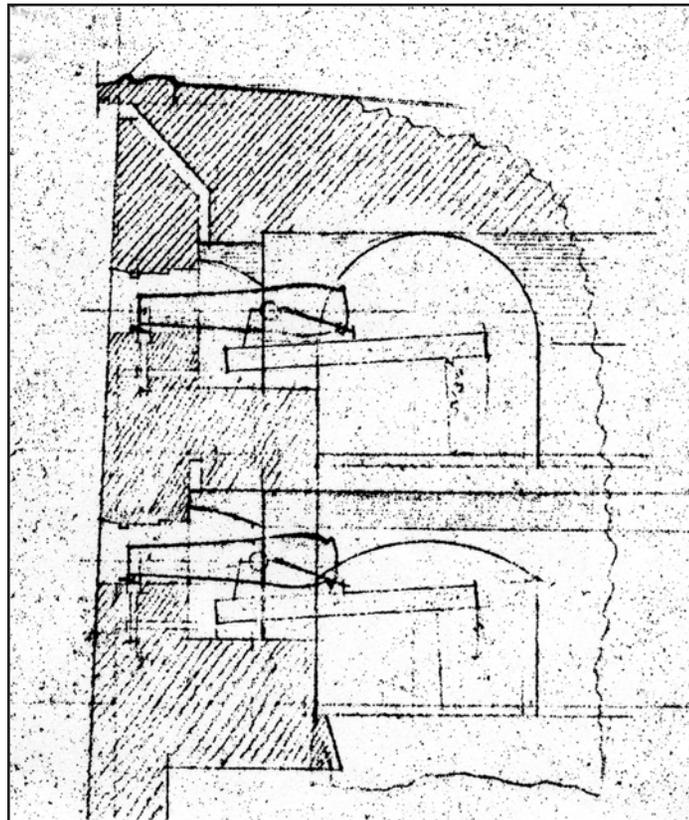
Following the outbreak of Civil War in April 1861, Alcatraz Island became the military's key defensive installation in San Francisco Bay. But there were problems. The island's wartime garrison had far outgrown the limited quarters available in the Citadel atop the island, and the enlisted soldiers were being quartered in a collection of wood-frame laborers' dormitories dating back to the earliest construction days on the island. In addition, the military realized the island had an Achilles' heel in the form of its leeward shore and the defensive wall above the dock. As mentioned previously, the engineers had provided this section of wall only with positions for infantrymen, not cannon, and the island's commanding officer complained loudly that the vulnerable dock was undefended. The commander on Alcatraz corresponded with the Chief of Engineers office in Washington, and the island's supervising engineer was ordered to prepare plans for combined storage and barracks buildings.<sup>3</sup>

In response, Army Engineer Lt. George Elliot forwarded plans just before Christmas 1864 showing a proposed barracks/warehouse/gun battery structure to be built behind the dock. Designed to provide quarters for 800 men, Elliot's barracks would also hold kitchens and messes, provisions for four months, ordnance stores, and an ammunition magazine. The building was to be "bombproof" (i.e., protected against the heaviest artillery fire) with two tiers of masonry casemates for storage and living quarters, and a barbette tier with positions for eleven guns overlooking the dock. Interestingly, Elliot did not propose mounting cannon within the casemates in this initial proposal. Except for small ventilator openings, the casemates were to be blank on the bay side.<sup>4</sup>

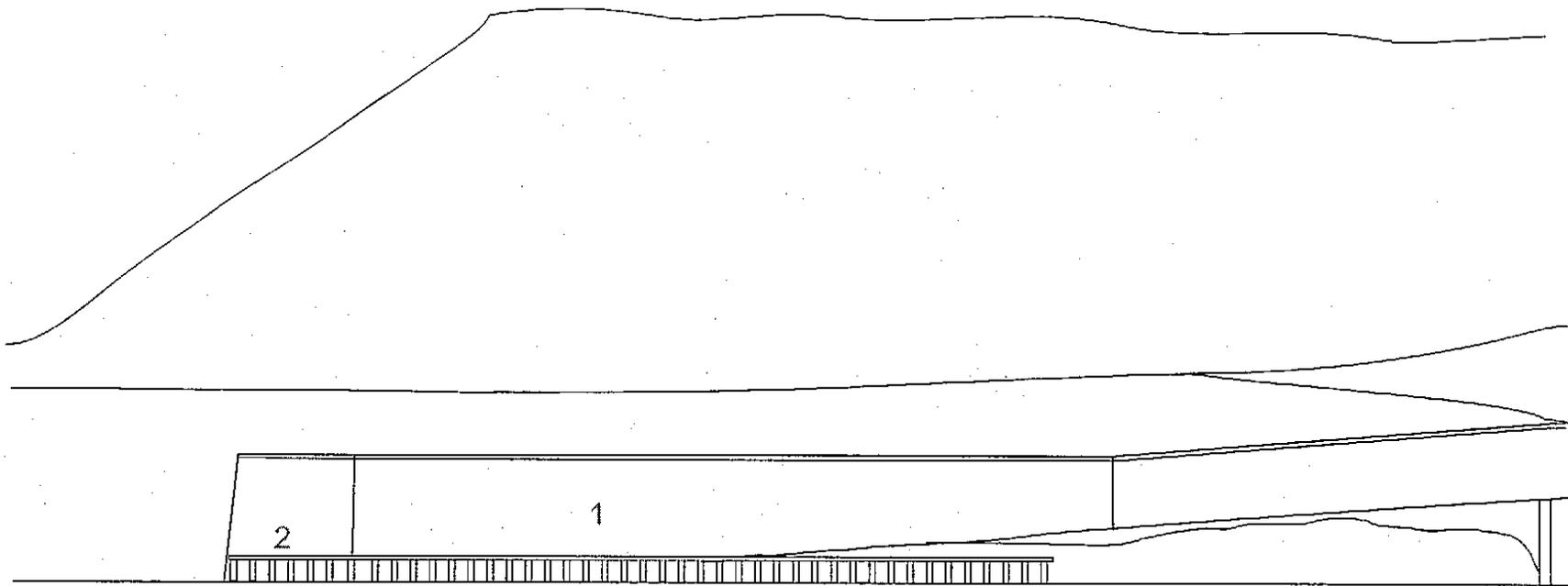
It took another several weeks for these early plans to show windows in the casemates above the dock, and initially these openings were designed only to allow light and ventilation to enter the casemates, not to serve as gun embrasures. It took several months of correspondence before Elliot proposed using the casemate rooms as gun positions in addition to their intended storage and barracks roles, and requested permission to alter the plans accordingly.<sup>5</sup> In its final configuration,



Above: Artist rendition (photo manipulation) of proposed design for second floor (not constructed). Photo Credit: John Martini.



Left: Cross section of casemates, 1865. Credit: National Archives & Records Administration, Record Group 77.



- 1 Brick Defensive Wall
- 2 Wood Dock

View of Alcatraz East Shore - Looking West  
*Illustration Not to Scale*

Figure 1 Brick  
Defensive Wall and  
Wood Dock—1859.

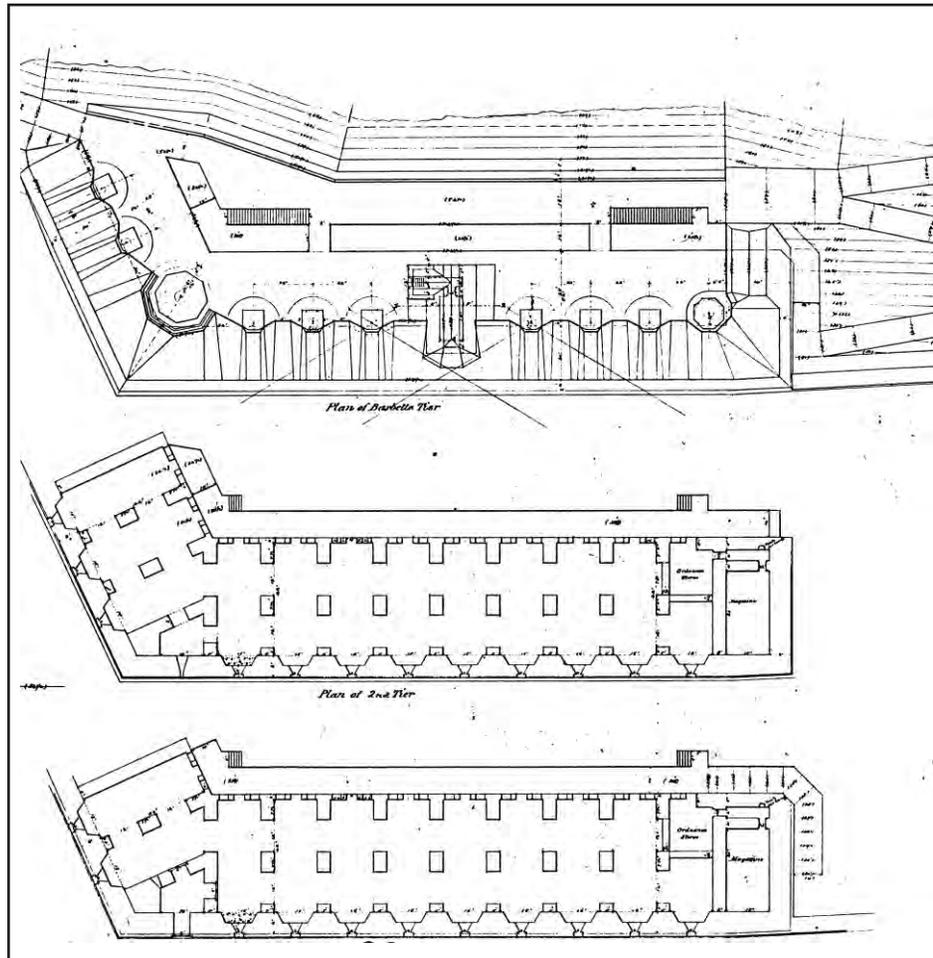
Elliot envisioned that the “bombproof barracks” would comprise two tiers of casemates mounting 10-inch caliber Rodman-pattern cannon, with positions for an additional 10 guns on the barbette tier. The lowest tier was to be used as a storehouse, while the second tier would house the soldiers’ barracks, kitchens and mess rooms. An open driveway 10’ wide would separate the casemates from the hill in the rear, which would be excavated for additional storerooms, shops, kitchens and latrines. Stone stairways and an ironwork grille would provide access to the second tier of casemates and hillside storerooms. Lt. Elliot felt that if the ironwork and the area walls were painted with a light color, sufficient light would reach the storerooms below.<sup>6</sup>

Work began on the new barracks in March 1865 with the demolition of the 1857 defensive wall and excavation of the hillside in its rear. Six weeks later, following the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, a number of unrepentant Confederate sympathizers were incarcerated on the island for their “treasonous rejoicing” at the news of the assassination and put to work excavating the foundations for the “bombproof barracks”. A reporter visiting the island several weeks later reported the men were “working under armed guard excavating foundations for a new battery near the island’s wharf” and that some were shackled to 24-pound iron balls to restrict their movements.<sup>7</sup>

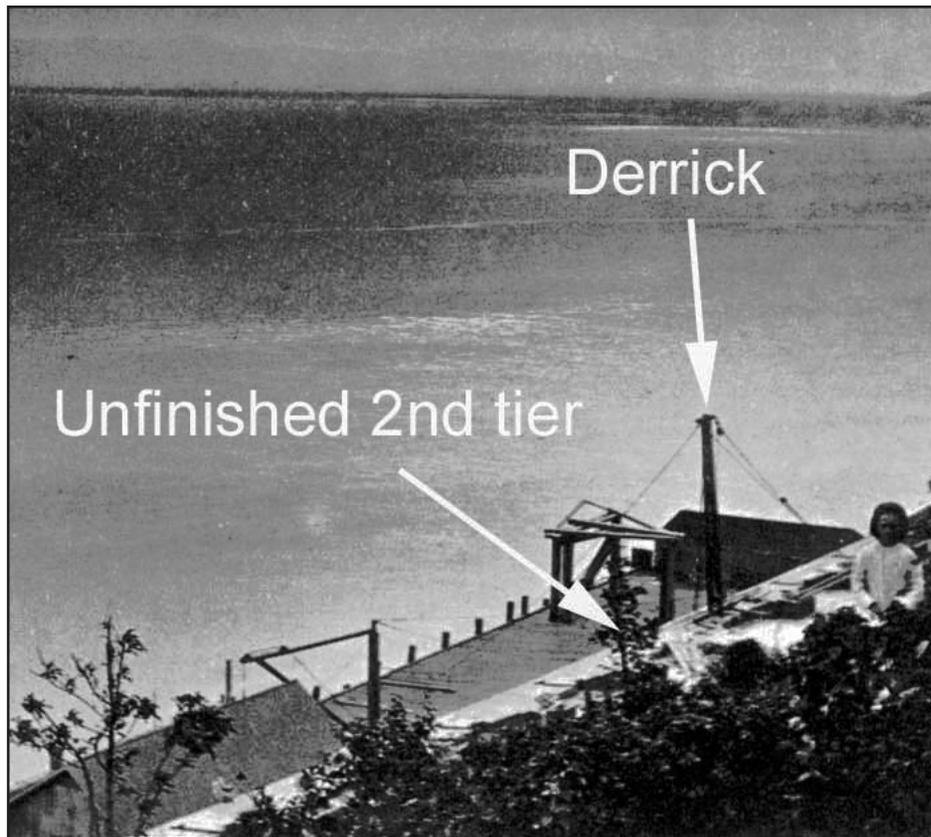
Over the course of the next 20 months work progressed steadily on the new barracks. In his annual report for fiscal year 1866, Lt. Elliot described the structure in considerable detail:

This barracks is designed not only to furnish quarters for the garrison, but Storage room for the military supplies of the place. It will contain three magazines for powder and will increase by thirty (30) guns the fire from the island over a part of the navigable waters of the bay ... which is now commanded by but few guns. The site of this barracks will not be seen by an enemy till he passes the main line of defense of the harbor. The excavation for it required the removal of a very large quantity of hard sand stone rock so that the masonry was not commenced until October. Since that time the seawall foundation has been completed. All the piers of the lower tier have been finished, the communication arches of this tier have been turned, and the main arches have been commenced. The embrasures of this tier have all been finished. The scarp and rear wall have been carried as high as the skewbacks of the communication arches. The stone stairs and the storerooms in rear have also advanced nearly as high as the opening lines of the arches.<sup>8</sup>

In December 1866, Elliot prepared a new set of plans, sections, and elevations of the barracks. He forwarded these to Washington together with a long letter that described the structure and pointed out the need



Floor Plans of  
“bombproof barracks”,  
1865. PARC, Golden  
Gate National  
Recreation Area.



View of casemates  
(with author's  
annotations), 1869.  
Photo Credit: Bancroft  
Library, University of  
California, Berkeley.

for continuing appropriations in order to complete it. Although parts of this description duplicate some of the material already presented, Elliot included details not mentioned in earlier reports:

The barbette will be armed with one 15" Rodman gun on center pintle carriage, eight rifled guns on front pintle carriages, and one rifled gun on centre pintle carriage. There will be two traverses, each rising 6' above the interior crest. One of them will contain a service magazine 16' x 8'. There are two tiers of casemates. The upper will furnish quarters for the garrison ... and in the lower will be storage room for the Commissary, Quarter Master, Ordnance and Engineer supplies for the post. This tier will also contain the kitchen for the troops...

One of the casemates in each tier will be used and is arranged for a magazine... There are smoke flues for stoves from each casemate of each tier. There are two flues for the escape of smoke over each casemate, and there is a ventilator from the rear of each casemate near the crown of the arch. The small irregular casemate of the lower tier in the salient is arranged for the reception of stores from the wharf below, thru' a large door thru' the scarp. The machinery necessary to raise the stores from the wharf will be placed in the corresponding casemate in the 2nd tier. This machinery can also be connected with a pump which will be placed below the floor [of the lower casemate] for raising salt water to the cistern to be provided for supplying water for bathing purposes. [There would also be a freshwater cistern, both of them located at the second level behind the open corridor designated the 'area way.']

In rear of the gun casemates is an open space 10' wide, and in rear of this had been arranged a series of small rooms two tiers high [and now numbering more than ten] ... The stairs communicating with the different stories are also on the rear side of the open space. Across this open space and 6" below the tops of the sills of the doorways of the 2d tier is an iron grating formed of bars of iron 2-1/2" x 1/2" placed 1" a part. This grating rests in ledges in the masonry, except at the stairways where it rests on wrought iron girders.

Two of the small rooms in the rear will be fitted up for ovens. They are [approximately in the middle of the first tier]...and will each contain two ovens 6' 6" x 4' 9". In rear of the barbette will be a roadway 16' wide connected at the northerly end with the ramps leading to the wharf, the summit, and the northwest end of the island and at its southerly end with a covered way lead-ing to the southern batteries. This structure will furnish barrack room for at least 500 men in time of war and one years supplies for them...

The piers and walls of the 2d tier ... are about 1' 6" above the floor (34' 6"). The arches (bomb proof) of the 2d tier of the small rooms in rear are nearly finished.<sup>9</sup>

Workers had begun construction of the second tier when news arrived in July 1867 ordering all work suspended until further notice; the Chief of Engineers in Washington wanted to reevaluate the need for casemated works of this design. The heavy weapons introduced during the Civil War had made masonry fortifications notably susceptible to long-range gunfire, and new tests were being carried out in the East to determine future designs for scarp walls and casemates. The island's new supervising engineer, Maj. George Mendell, argued through his superior for permission to finish the structure but was turned down by Chief of Engineers Humphreys: "I am led to the conclusion that it is not expedient to make this structure an exception to the rule which has suspended work in all like cases..." "If," he added, "the work itself is liable to injury from the delay, it may be covered with boards, or to a certain extent with asphalt, for its security, and so as to make the lower tier available for storage or other use." Later Humphreys allowed Mendell to complete the small rooms to the rear of the barracks, in addition to making the casemates safe for storage.<sup>10</sup>

At the time work was suspended in summer 1867 the second tier stood only partially complete: the rear wall facing the hillside had been raised to about half its intended height; the brick piers for the second tier arches had reached a height of 6'-6" above the casemate floors; and the scarp walls had been raised only 3 courses of brick above floor level. This was as far as the "bombproof barracks" would ever go. Except for completing the rear rooms and cisterns, no more work would take place on the structure for the next 38 years (see *Figure 2*).

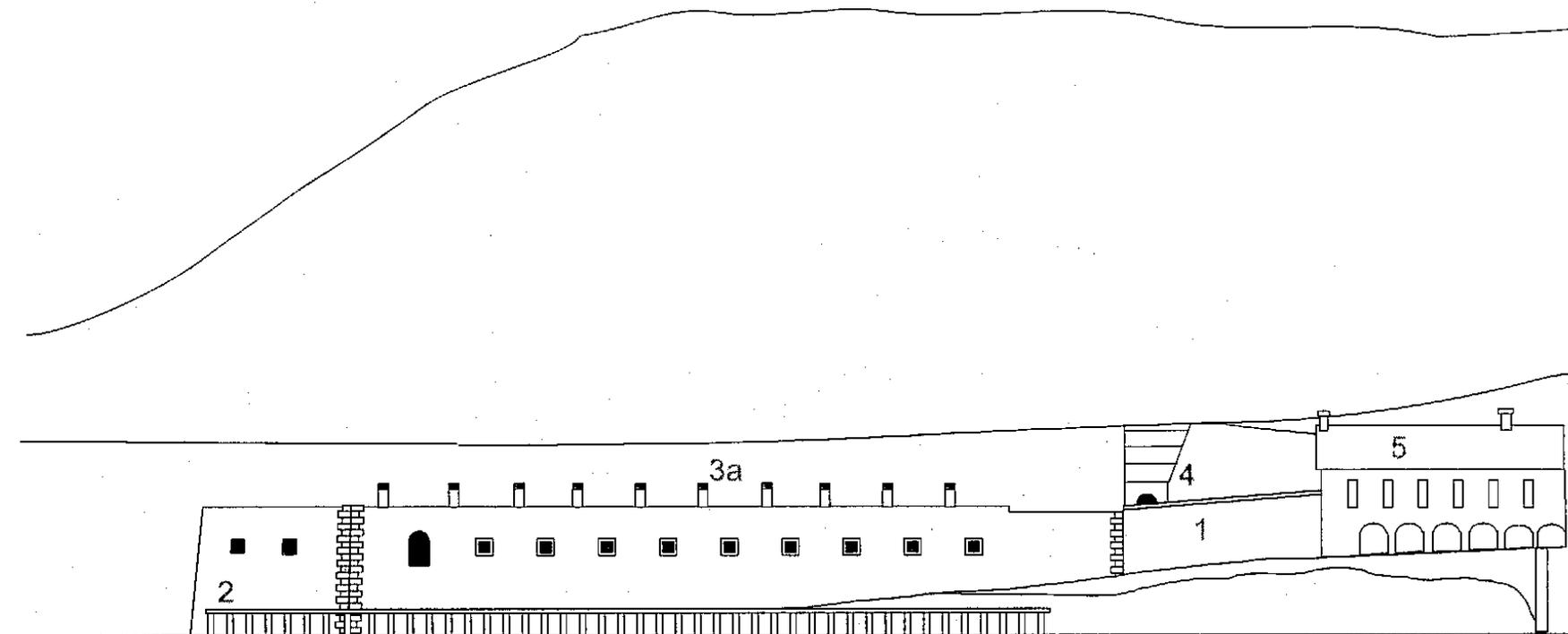
### Early Barracks Use

How the island's garrison used the unfinished barracks during the next few years is not recorded, but likely the casemates and store-rooms served as warehouse space on the always-crowded island. On 19 April 1874 one of the "temporary" wood frame barracks buildings on the island's western slope was destroyed by fire. This unfortunate incident compounded housing problems for the enlisted men; only a few months earlier their only other barracks building had been torn down to make way for more batteries. The War Department's Surgeon-General reported that as an interim measure the troops were temporarily quartered on top of the unfinished brick barracks:

There being on the island no other buildings for the reception of troops, the two companies stationed at the post are encamped on the top of an unfinished fort on the northeastern [sic] extremity of the island. Each company occupies five regulation hospital tents and two wall-tents. The tents are floored. Two frame buildings, each 20 by 35 feet, one for each company, served as reading and sitting rooms during the day. Kitchens and mess-rooms are fitted up in the casemates of the fort. The bakery is also



Offshore view looking northwest, ca. 1884.  
Photo Credit: Charles Stucker Collection.



View of Alcatraz East Shore - Looking West  
*Illustration Not to Scale*

- 1 Brick Defensive Wall
- 2 Wood Dock
- 3 Brick Casemates
- 3a Brick Piers of Unfinished Second Tier
- 4 Portal - Passage to China Alley
- 5 Lower Prison

Figure 2 "bomb-proof barracks" and Wood Dock—1869.

established in a casemate, and has a capacity for turning out four hundred rations a day.<sup>11</sup>

The soldiers apparently lived in the tents throughout the summer of 1874. That fall, a semi-permanent wood frame barracks with space for two companies was built atop the casemates.<sup>12</sup> This gable-end building, with various modifications and additions, would serve as the only barracks for Alcatraz's enlisted men until early 1906 when the first half of Building 64 was completed (see Figure 3).

In 1884, the post quartermaster reported that a two-story building had been erected adjacent to the barracks on the southwest dogleg of the casemates to house the company kitchens and mess halls (which had previously been located in the casemates), and the post library and reading rooms.<sup>13</sup> That same year, Maj. Mendell converted several of the casemates into storehouses for underwater mines to be used for mining San Francisco Bay. This caused a minor row with the post's commander, because these casemates were located directly below the enlisted men's barracks and he feared their presence would endanger the troops' lives. He was only mollified when informed by Mendell that the mines wouldn't actually be loaded with explosives while in storage. On 30 June 1884 Mendell reported he had 451 mines stored in the casemates.

Mendell reported he had improved the casemates by constructing wooden scaffolding to hold the mines and extending the roof of the barracks overhead. This new roofline created an extended porch that shed water away from the casemate roofs in an effort to keep the mines dry. It seems to have been of little help, though, since Mendell repeatedly complained that the casemates were damp, dark and practically unventilated, and he had to keep prisoners at work scraping and painting the mines. Conditions never did improve, and by June 1891 the mines had been removed from the island and relocated to a new storehouse on Yerba Buena Island.<sup>14</sup>

Alcatraz's association with the bay's underwater minefields continued for several more years, though. In 1889 funds were allocated to convert the unused powder magazine at the north end of the casemates into a "torpedo operating room" from which the electrically controlled mines could be detonated in response to directions from observers watching the approach of enemy ships. Mendell completed the work in Fiscal Year 1891, reporting that he had installed flooring in the old magazine, increased the roof cover overhead, and dug a shaft and cable gallery for electrical cabling leading to the water's edge.<sup>15</sup> It's unlikely the casemate was ever used, though, since when the bay was mined during the Spanish-American War for the first time, the minefields were controlled from casemates at Fort Mason and Fort Baker.<sup>16</sup>

Every March the post quartermaster prepared his annual report on the state of the public buildings. The report for 1889 was one of the more detailed of those that have survived and provides a good description of the structures located atop the unfinished casemates:



16. Post Library and Reading Room—These rooms were located in the upper floor of building no. 32. [This is the building constructed atop the dogleg in 1884.]

17. Barracks—A 1\_ story frame building, 102 by 34 feet. A partition divided it into two equal sets of quarters, each occupied by a company. It stood on casemates. [This is the same barracks first constructed in late 1874.]

18. First Sergeant's Room and Storeroom—This was a one-story, two-room frame building, 28 by 16 feet. It stood on casemates.

19. First Sergeant's Room and Storeroom—This building was identical to building 18.

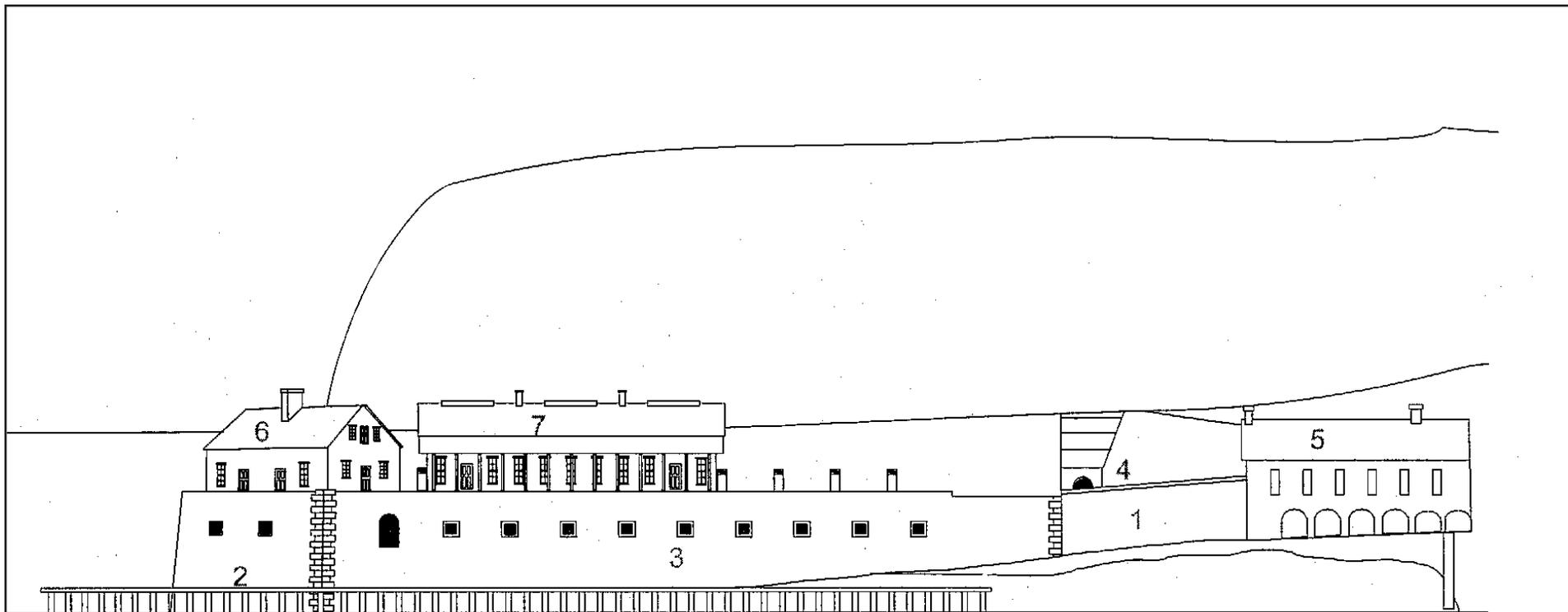
20. Company Tailor and Barber Shop—This was a one-story, two room frame building, 29 by 15 feet. It stood on casemates. [It was also located directly over the mine operating casemate.]

32. Company Kitchens and Mess Rooms—This was a one-story frame building, 49 by 32 feet, with an attic [which held a library and reading room; see building 16] and four rooms: two kitchens and two mess rooms. It had been erected in 1884 at a cost of \$904.

34. Casemate—One casemate had formerly been used as a gymnasium but was abandoned on account of dampness.

35. Casemate—One casemate was used as a bathhouse and washroom. The bathrooms had been constructed in 1885.<sup>17</sup>

**Wood frame barracks, company tailor and barber shop buildings, 1893. Photo Credit: National Archives & Records Administration, Record Group 92, OQMG, General Correspondence.**



View of Alcatraz East Shore - Looking West  
*Illustration Not to Scale*

- 1 Brick Defensive Wall
- 2 Wood Dock
- 3 Brick Casemates
- 4 Portal - Passage to China Alley
- 5 Lower Prison
- 6 Kitchen/Mess Rooms
- 7 Wood Frame Barracks

Figure 3 Kitchen/Mess  
 Rooms and Barracks—  
 1885.

At some point between 1883 and 1893, an extension was built onto the bay side of the enlisted barracks, taking the place of the extended porch added by Maj. Mendell as a waterproofing effort. This awkward addition reflected an increase in the island's garrison, but the records are silent on the exact date of the modification. Once completed, the barracks and casemates assumed their final configuration until the construction of the new concrete barracks (see Figure 4).

### Permanent Barracks

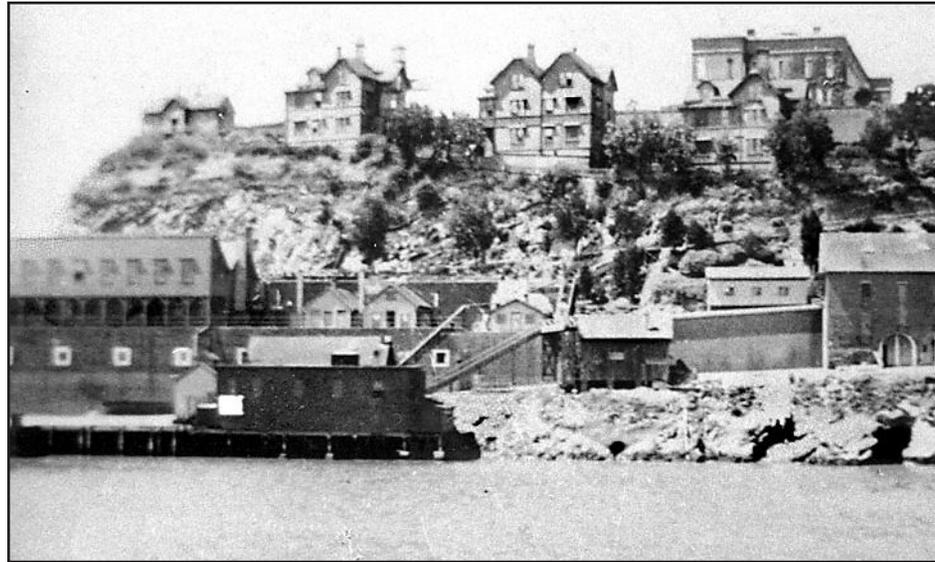
In his *Historic Resource Study for Alcatraz Island*, historian Erwin Thompson summarized the housing situation for the island's enlisted personnel at the start of the 20th century:

For most of the 45 years that a garrison had occupied Alcatraz Island, the enlisted men's quarters had been far from satisfactory. The Citadel had been the only permanent barracks, and the troops had lived in it for only a short time before moving into a succession of temporary frame buildings. As of 1905 the guard companies were living in the latest of these, located on top of the unfinished casemates. Several other small structures, such as first sergeants' rooms and a barbershop, shared this huge platform. In February 1905 the quartermaster announced that all of these buildings would be replaced by a four-company, three-story, concrete-block barracks that would cost an estimated \$10,000. This low price (later increased to \$20,000) would be achieved by the use of prison labor to manufacture the hollow concrete blocks on the island and carry out all the construction work under the direction of skilled civilian supervision ... He said that the new barracks would contain dayrooms, dormitories, and a post exchange. The kitchens and mess rooms would be in the casemates. The flank section was to have a two-lane bowling alley on the first floor. Latrines would be retained in the old casemated rooms to the rear of the structure.<sup>18</sup>

Construction on the four-company barracks began in February 1905 with the demolition of several small structures (including the former NCO cottages and barbershop) and the half-completed brick piers on top of the northern half of the casemates. Several carloads of debris were removed from the casemates and then a new concrete foundation poured for the first half of the new barracks. Plans called for the barracks to be built in two sections, allowing the garrison to continue to live in the 1870s wooden barracks until the northern half of the concrete building was complete.

An inspection report of "Fort Alcatraz" dated October 1905 gives a good overview of the state of the work up to that point:

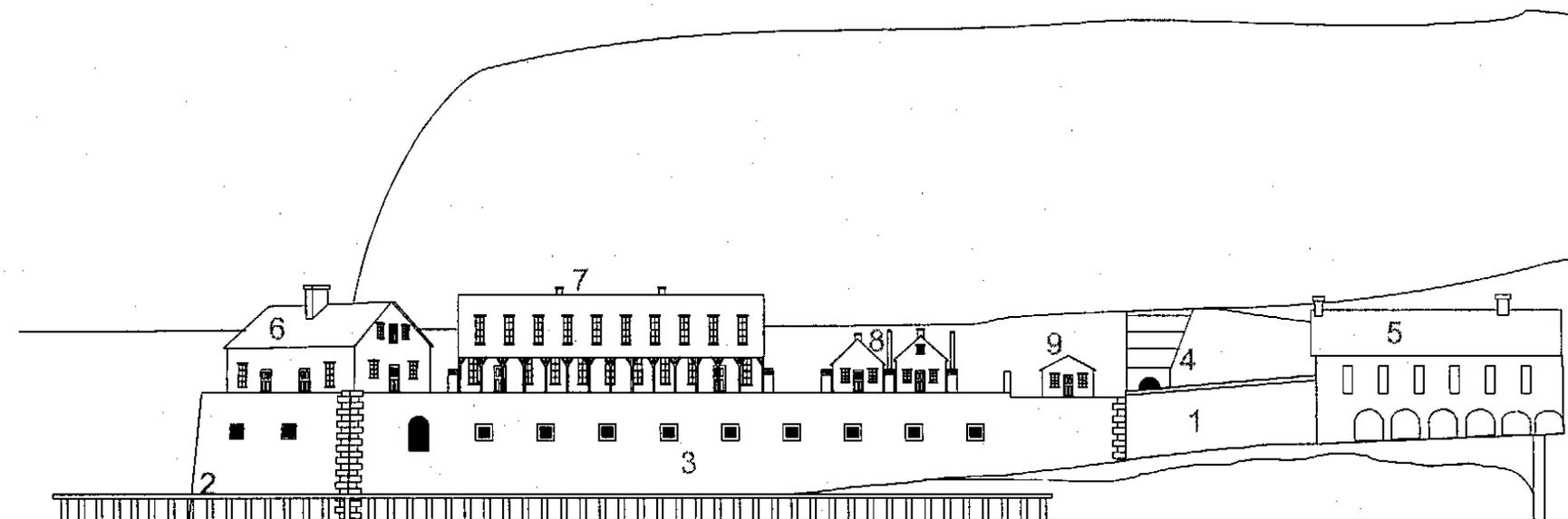
Work is in progress on construction of a barrack for four companies of Infantry with a Post Exchange addition. It is being erected upon brick walls of the old fortification



Above: Off-shore view looking west, ca. 1895. PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.



Below: Off-shore view looking northwest, 1901. PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.



View of Alcatraz East Shore - Looking West  
*Illustration Not to Scale*

- 1 Brick Defensive Wall
- 2 Wood Dock
- 3 Brick Casemates
- 4 Portal - Passage to China Alley
- 5 Lower Prison
- 6 Kitchen/Mess Rooms
- 7 Wood Frame Barracks
- 8 NCO Cottages
- 9 Barbershop

Figure 4 Kitchen/Mess Rooms, Barracks, NCO Cottages and Barbershop—1902.

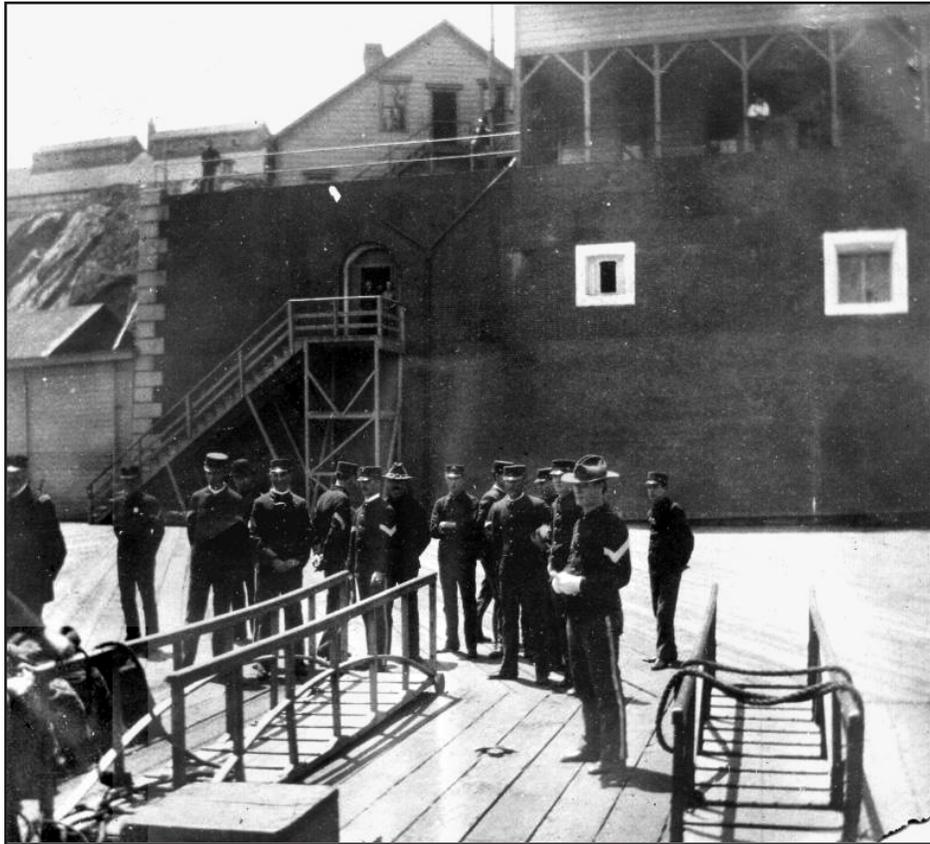
system of the island as a foundation, and upon plans prepared in the office of the Chief Quartermaster Dept. of California, The building now under construction [i.e., the northern half of the completed building] comprise kitchen, mess room, day rooms and dormitories for the companies, and provision is made for lavatories and latrines in the casemate rooms of the old fort directly adjacent. The second building directly attached to the one now being built, will also contain accommodations for two companies and an annex for post exchange...

The work, including preparation of the blocks, done wholly by prison labor and with material—broken stone and sand—brought from Angel Island, nothing but the cement, lumber for joists, door and window frames, etc. is purchased. Even the carpenter work has thus far been almost wholly by prisoners...These barracks will when completed be in appearance similar to the stone barracks at Fort Riley, Kansas, and should, in respect to accommodations and durability be equal to those also.

Progress of the work has been very slow & probably fully a year will yet be required to complete the barracks and its post exchange annex for the four companies, although the barrack part proper for two companies should be ready for occupation within two or three months. The slow progress is due in part to the fact that construction work had to be so arranged that the present barrack on the site of which the new one is being erected can be used by the troops constituting the prison guard...<sup>19</sup>

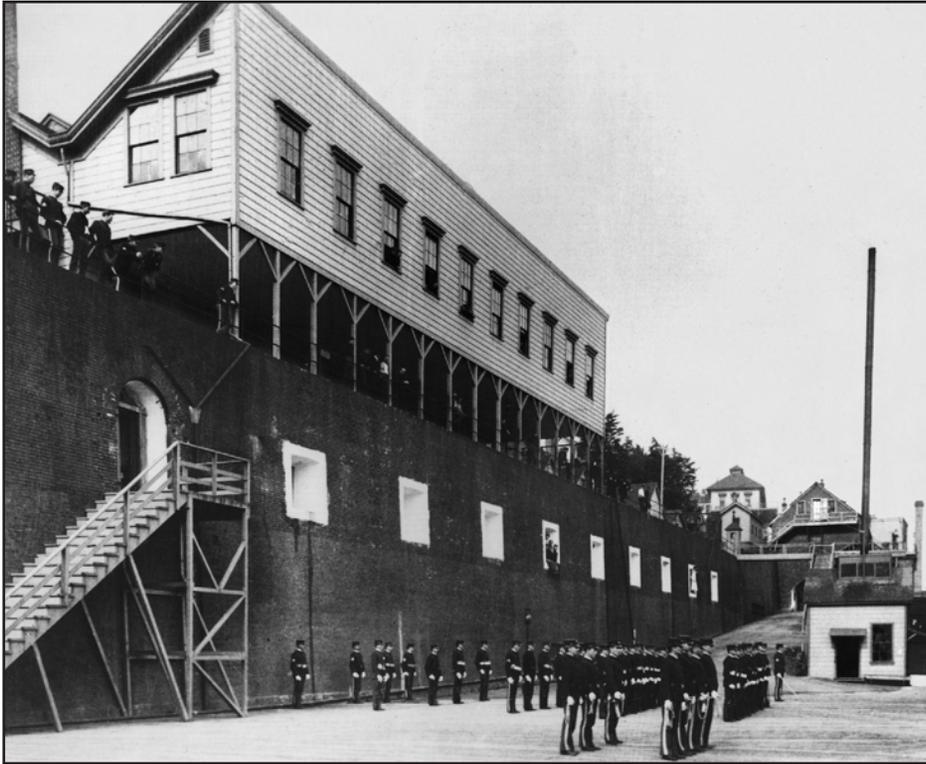
As soon as the area was cleared, a new foundation was poured atop the brick casemates and the first half of the barracks constructed by convict labor. (A lengthy description of the construction of the barracks was prepared by the supervising quartermaster and is attached this report as an addendum.)

The first half of the barracks, comprising space for two companies, was completed in early 1906 and all four companies posted to the island temporarily moved into the new building so the old wood barracks could be demolished and the rest of the new barracks constructed in its place. Shortly after the troops moved in, San Francisco was struck by the devastating earthquake of 18 April 1906. Alcatraz and its new barracks building suffered almost no damage however. The supervising quartermaster commented that only a few bricks were thrown out of place in the fireplaces. He also noted with some pride that when the earthquake hit, all four companies made a simultaneous rush for the few exits available to them in the half-constructed building, far exceeding the anticipated load capacity with no ill effects.<sup>20</sup>

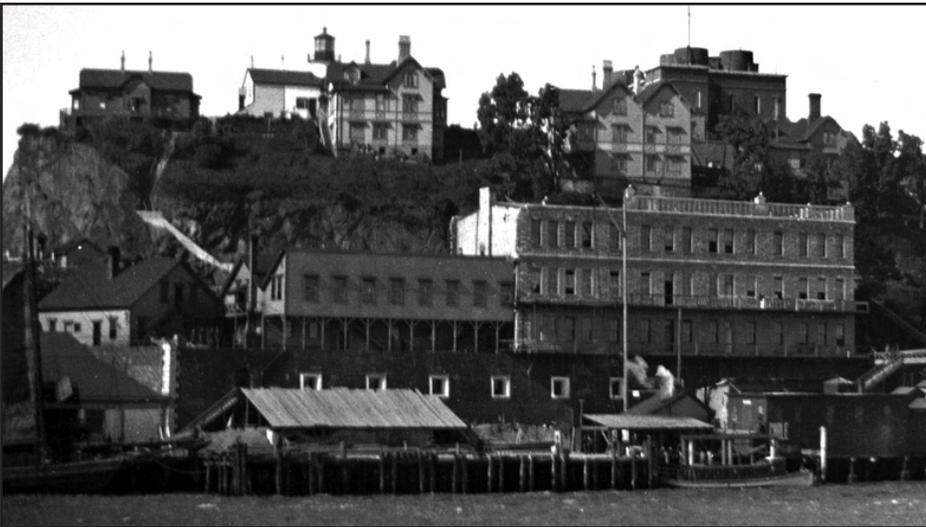


View from dock, ca. 1901. Photo Credit: Michael Esslinger Collection.

1902. View looking north from dock. PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.



Offshore view looking west showing north end of Building 64 complete, 1906. Photo Credit: San Francisco Maritime.



Work resumed on the building shortly after the earthquake, and the remaining half of the barracks was completed in early 1908. When complete, the building provided housing for four companies of soldiers (approximately 400 men) with space in the dogleg for the proposed Post Exchange and bowling alley.

In its original configuration the barracks was physically divided into four distinct sections—one for each company—and each section encompassed rooms on all three floors. These rooms served as dormitory spaces (squad rooms), recreation and reading rooms (day rooms), bachelor NCO quarters, and company offices and storerooms. Interior “grand staircases” connected the three floors allotted to each company; while masonry interior walls separated each companies’ designated portion of the barracks from the adjacent companies’ quarters (see *Figure 5*).

The Army considered the side of the barracks overlooking the dock to be the primary façade of the building, and the west side facing the road and hillside to be its rear. Wood balconies ran the full lengths of the fronts of the first and second stories and connected all four companies’ entrances. Access to the backside of the building was provided by metal grate ramps spanning the gap between the building and the roadway. In keeping with the separate-but-equal policy relating to the companies’ allocated spaces, every company had two ramps connecting to the hillside, one each at the second and third floor levels. (Although these ramps were on the back of the building they seem to have served as the primary method of entering and exiting the building.) At this time the area now referred to as the “parade ground” was occupied by the Upper Prison, and the narrow space between the back of the new barracks and the hillside opposite initially served as a tiny parade ground for the garrison. Each company maintained its kitchens and mess rooms in the casemates, while the small brick storerooms across the alley apparently contained common washing and latrine facilities, which all four companies shared in some unrecorded manner.

Interestingly, no floor plans or drawings have been found showing the barracks in its original configuration. Much can be inferred, though, by studying the numerous entries for Building 64 contained in the “Historical Records of Buildings” maintained by the island’s quartermaster. This document, frequently referred to as the “Post Building Book”, contains copious notations on improvements and alterations made to the barracks between 1908 and 1932, as well as the first complete floor plans of its interior, dated 1929.<sup>21</sup>

The Army’s written records give us additional insights into the building’s layout and evolution. Even before it was completed, the new barracks began to undergo modifications. In May 1906 the old wooden floors in the casemates were taken up, the polluted soil beneath was removed (it had become that way due to the constant scrubbing of the floors and the water leaking through), and new concrete floors were installed in the four kitchens and four mess halls. Construction of the

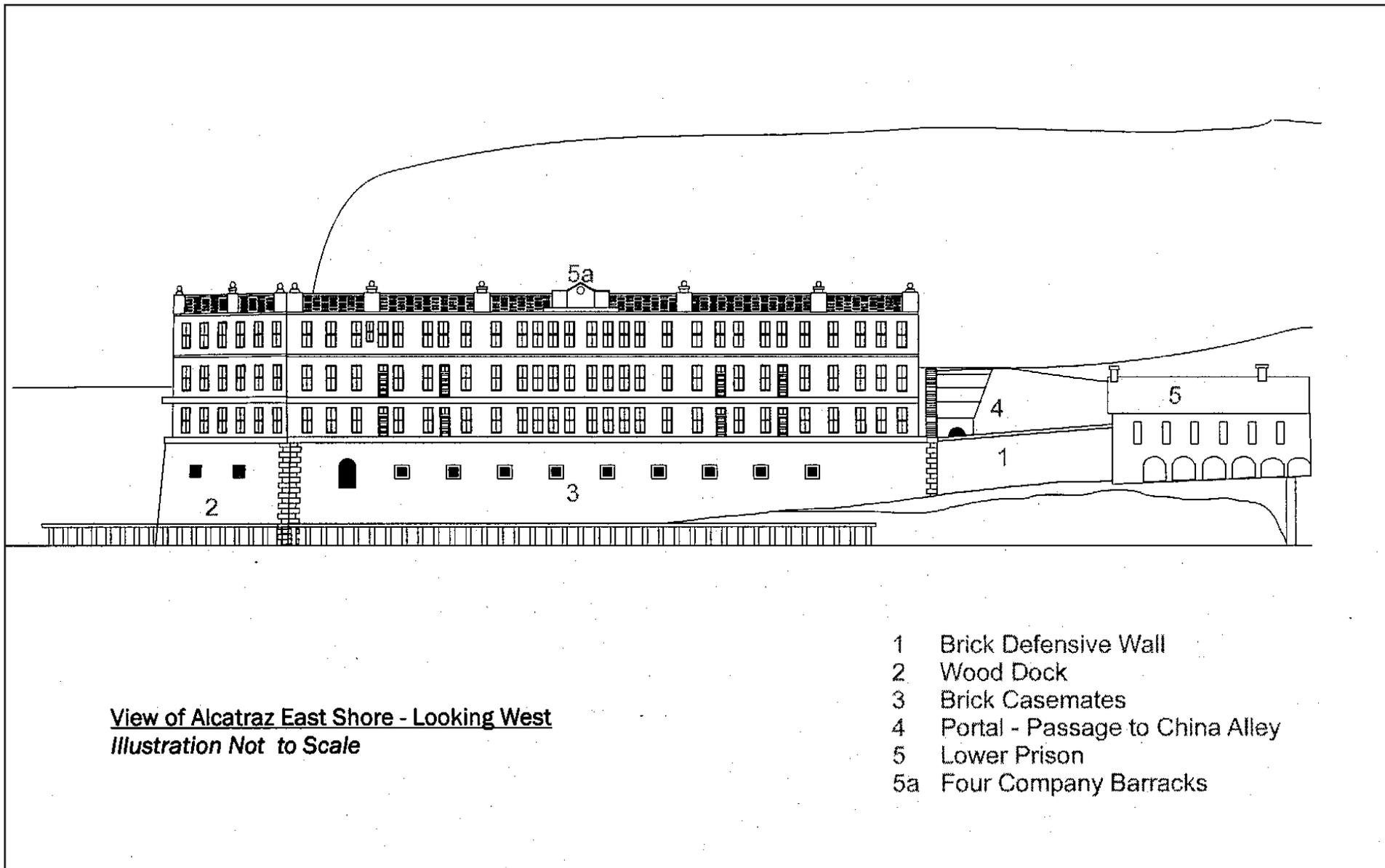


Figure 5 Four Company Barracks—1915.

last sets of these four company quarters was still underway at the end of 1907, when the quartermaster got permission to move the orderly rooms, first sergeants' rooms, reading rooms, and storerooms from the first floor to the third floor in order to improve lighting, since the rear retaining wall and casemated rooms cut off the light from the first floor. Then, in early 1908, the decision was made to demolish the Citadel on the summit of the island to make way for the new concrete prison. As a result, the southeastern end of the barracks, which was intended for a fourth company of men, was converted into officers' housing to replace the six sets of officer's quarters in the Citadel.<sup>22</sup>

Numerous physical changes accompanied the conversion of the dogleg of the barracks from enlisted quarters to officers' quarters. These alterations seem to have taken place over the course of several years and eventually included subdividing open squad rooms into private rooms; installing additional bathrooms and kitchens in the new quarters; removing the southernmost interior staircase and stairwell; constructing a new interior staircase connecting the second and third floors; converting several window openings into doorways to provide entrances to new residences; and creating an Officers Club ("Officers Open Mess") on the second floor. As a result of these changes in function, it's unlikely the planned Post Exchange and bowling alley were ever installed in the dogleg. Instead, they were eventually located in a specially designed building constructed in 1910 just north of the Lower Prison complex.

The first Building Book entries for Building 64, dated March 1908, provide the earliest description of the barracks. At that time the building was officially designated "Bachelor Officers Quarters for 7 & Company Barracks", with capacity of 260 men. Total construction cost was listed as \$41,389.10, and total area above the basement level was 33,248 ½ square feet. The basement consisted of the twelve original casemates, which had been converted into four sets of kitchens and mess halls. The first floor consisted of nine rooms and four hallways. The second floor consisted of four rooms and four hallways. The third floor consisted of thirteen rooms and four hallways. (The large number of rooms on this floor probably indicates the locations of the company NCO rooms and the newly converted officers' quarters.) The island did not yet have a power plant, so light was provided by kerosene lanterns and heat came from innumerable fireplaces throughout the building.<sup>23</sup>

In 1915 and 1916 three additional sets of bachelor officers quarters were constructed in the building at a total cost of \$807.03, with all work provided by prison labor. An addendum to the Building Book records both this new construction as well as an updated inventory of rooms in the barracks. It appears the convict construction crews had been kept busy over the intervening years, since the building's second floor now contained 22 rooms (including four sets of bachelor officers quarters), six hallways, and an Officers Club. The third floor was even more chopped up, containing a staggering 32 rooms

and eleven hallways. (No changes were recorded for the first floor.) The interior of Building 64 was rapidly becoming a maze of rooms and hallways.<sup>24</sup>

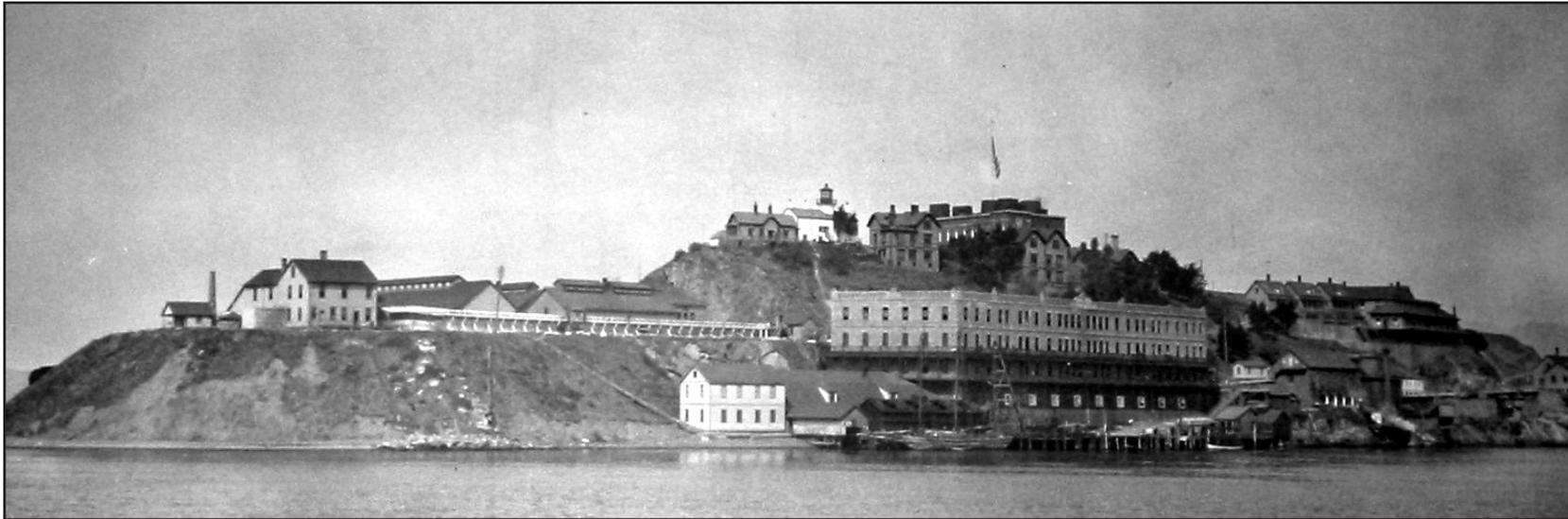
By 1921 the Army had decided to re-designate the barracks into separate and distinct buildings. From that point on, "Building 64" referred only to the areas of the building occupied by the guard companies, while the rooms occupied by the married and bachelor house type designations "64-A" through "64-G" and "64-L" and "64-M". (Why this system skipped letters H through K is not known.)<sup>25</sup>

Converting the dogleg to officers quarters had resulted in a serious break from long-standing Army tradition that dictated a strict physical separation between officers and enlisted. In his 1926 "Annual Report" the island commandant noted "The absence of officers quarters necessitates quartering officers and their families in the barracks for the enlisted personnel of this station, which deprives no-commissioned officers of certain grades of the quarters authorized them by law."<sup>26</sup> However, that policy seems to have continued up through the Army's departure in the early 1930s, despite repeated requests for funding to construct additional officers residences to correct the situation.

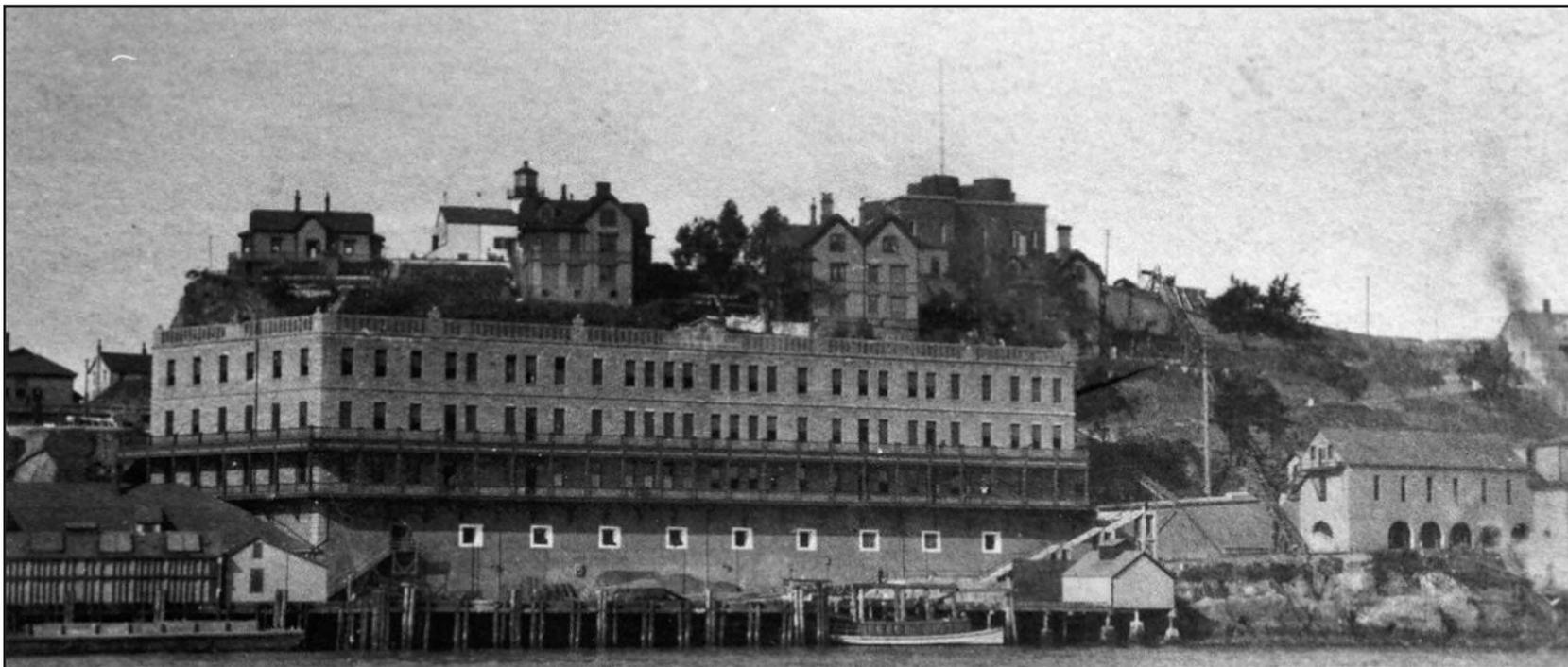
In 1920 a two-story, wooden building was built adjacent to the east face of the brick casemate portion of Building 64 at dock level. This building housed a five-bay vehicle/carriage shed on the first level a "wharfinger's office" on its upper floor. Designated as Building 86, this lean-to structure was reduced to a single-story vehicle shed in 1930.<sup>27</sup> (This extant building currently serves as the Alcatraz staff's dock office and first aid room, while one of the adjoining bays shelters the island's electric ambulance cart.)

As mentioned previously, researchers have not been able to locate the original plans for Building 64. The earliest known floor plans are found in the post's Building Book and show its interior layout in January 1929. These plans are useful because they record the layout of the various interior apartments and company spaces just prior to the island's transfer from the Army to the Department of Justice. At this time, all three floors of the northern half of the barracks were occupied by the Disciplinary Barracks' guard detachment, while the island's Headquarters Detachment and a Quartermaster Detachment occupied the southern portion of only the first floor. The second and third floors in the southern half of the building held the apartments for married and bachelor officers, with the Officers Club occupying much of the dogleg on the second floor.

The basement casemates were being used mostly as storage areas, except for two rooms (casemates 9 and 10) that had been converted into a latrine and a washroom. Also, a doorway and additional window had been cut into the wall between casemate 12 and the dock road. All but one of the small rooms across from the casemates had been bricked up, and were labeled "sealed" on the plans. Most of the small brick rooms across from the first floor were being used for

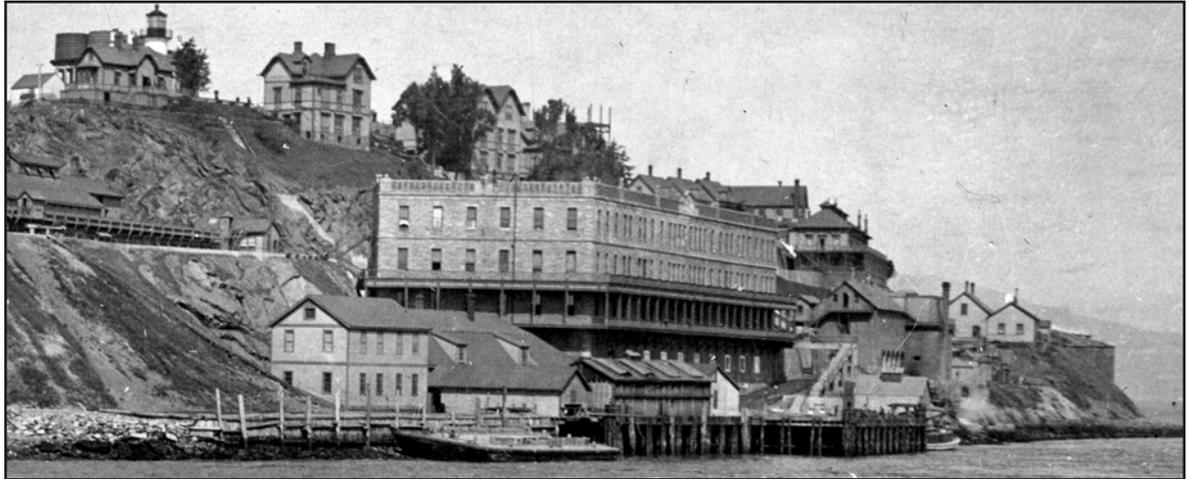


Off-shore view looking northwest, 1907. Photo Credit: San Francisco Maritime.

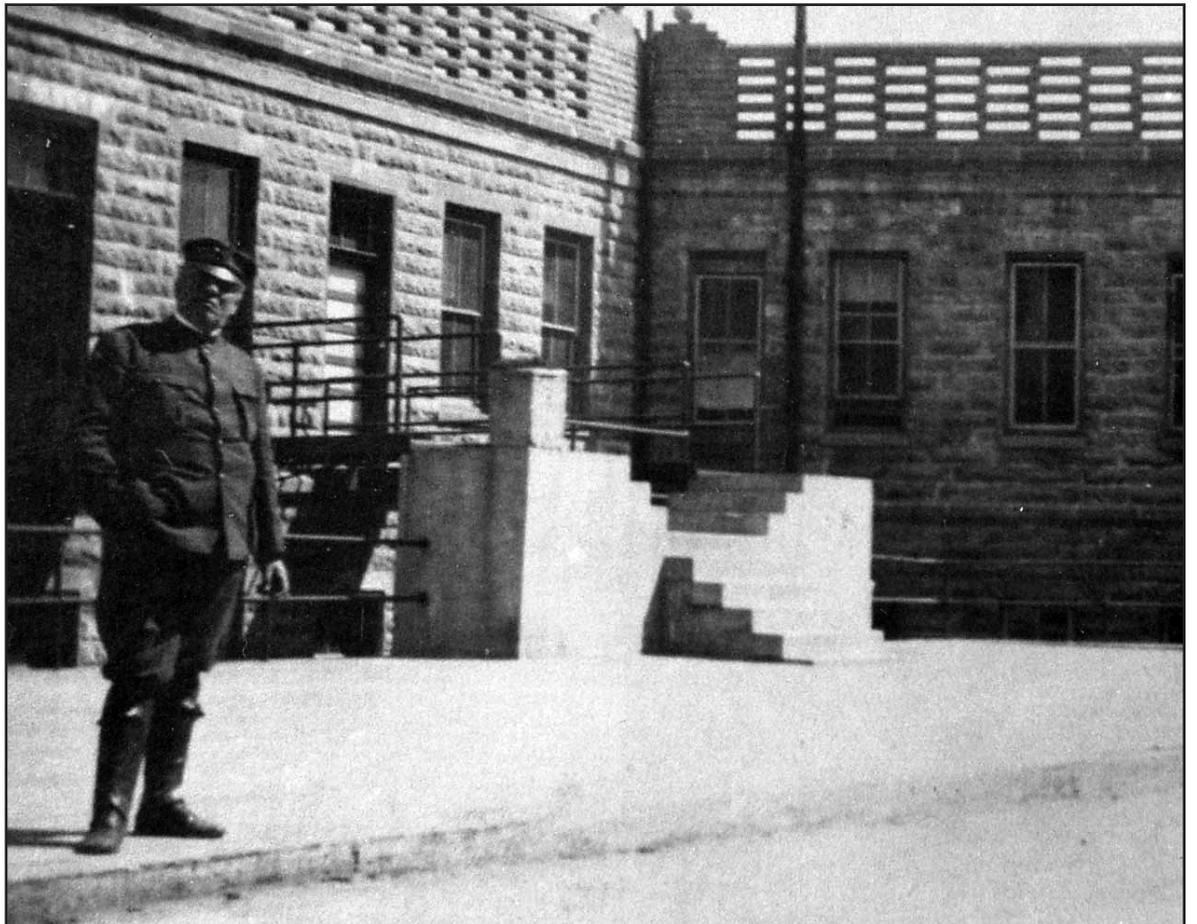


Off-shore view looking west, 1908. Photo Credit: San Francisco Maritime.

Off-shore view looking northeast, 1909. PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.



Colonel Turner, Building 64 "parade ground," 1911. PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.





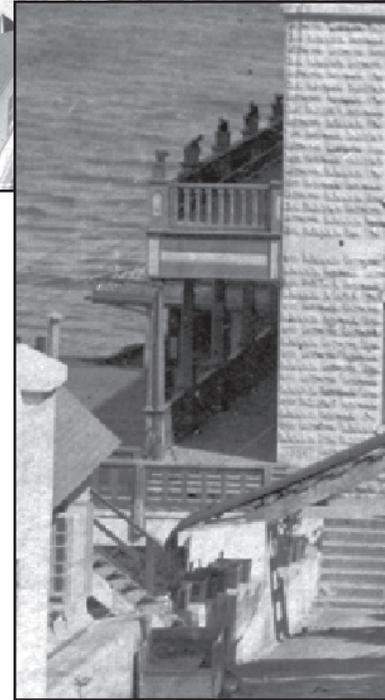
Clockwise starting from upper left:  
Off-shore view looking northwest, Wharfinger's Office adjacent to Staircases, ca. 1920. Photo Credit: Charles Stucker Collection.

Off-shore view looking northwest, 1914. Photo Credit: National Archives & Records Administration.

Rear view looking northeast, ca. 1915. Photo Credit: Charles Stucker Collection.

Rear view looking south, ca. 1914. PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

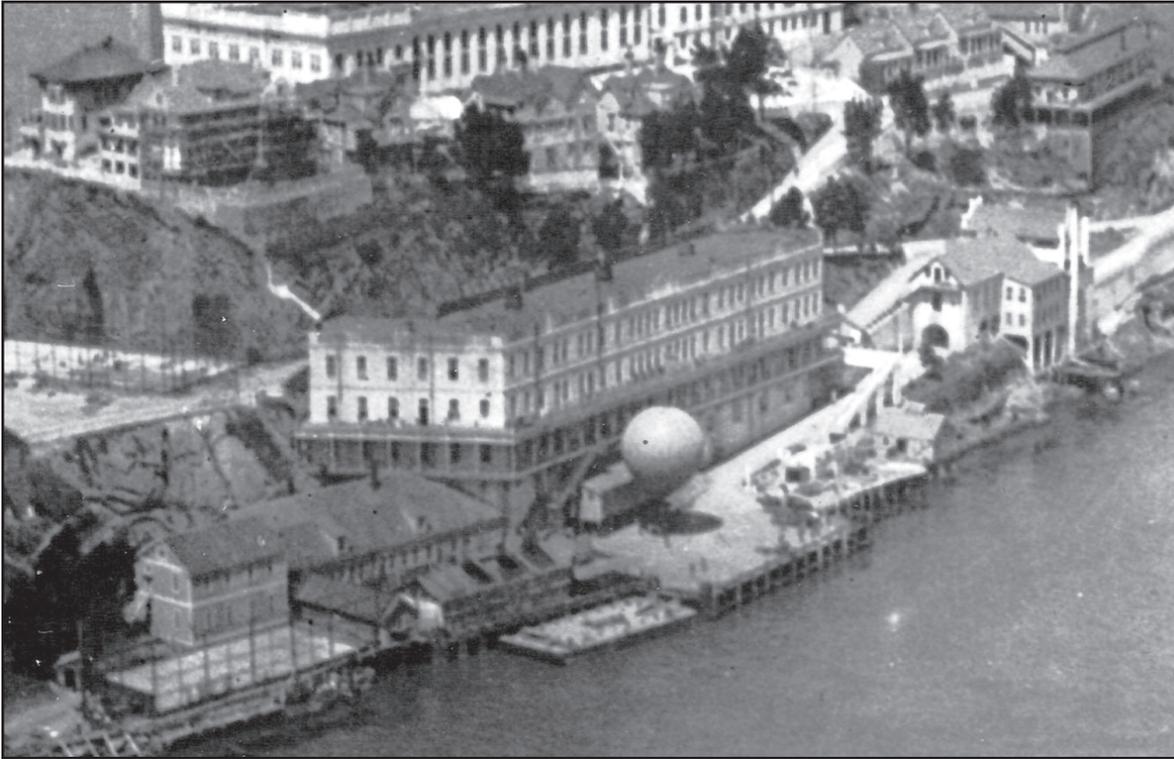




View looking south with balcony detail, ca. 1920. PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Above: View toward dock, ca. 1919. Photo Credit: John Martini Collection.

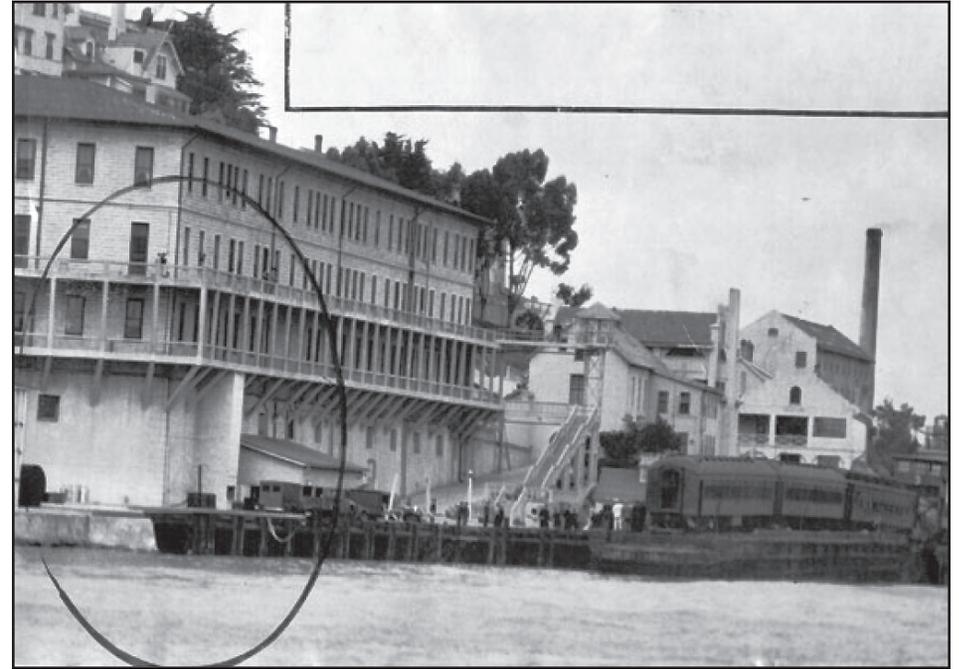
Bottom: View looking south from roadway, ca. 1920. Photo Credit: Rod Crossley Collection.



Top: Aerial view 1924  
PARC, Golden Gate  
National Recreation  
Area.

Bottom: Aerial view  
1930. Photo Credit: U.S.  
Army.





**Top left: View of dock 1933 (No elevator yet). PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.**

**Above right: Dock view with first prisoner barge and elevator circled, 1934. Photo Credit: San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.**

**Bottom Left: Close-up view of dock ca.1934. PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.**

company storage purposes, while the largest room at the north end had been converted into a scullery for the adjacent Guard Detachment mess hall.<sup>28</sup>

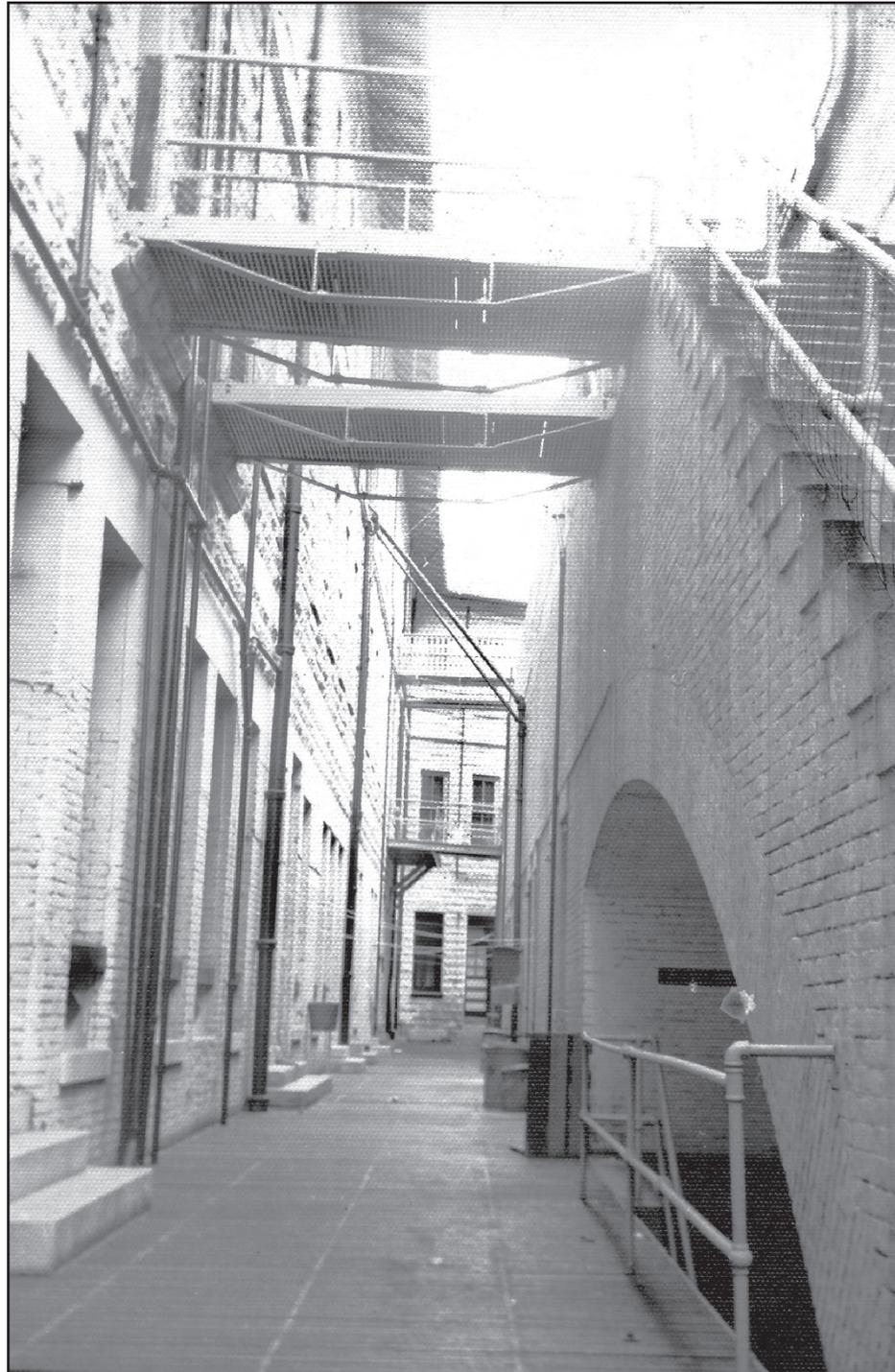
Two major physical alterations to Building 64 took place late in the Army's tenure on Alcatraz. By the mid-1920s the original wood balconies on the front of the barracks had become unsafe, so in Fiscal Year 1928 the wooden balconies and their supports were replaced with reinforced concrete balconies at a cost of \$6,581.96. Sometime around this time the barracks' original tar and gravel flat roof and its ornamental parapet were removed and replaced with a galvanized metal hip roof. Interestingly, the Building Book fails to record exactly when the roof was replaced. However, the Building Book shows an unspecified expenditure of \$10,292.87 for the barracks in FY 1928 and the accompanying photo in the book, also dated 1928, shows the new roof in place. Presumably the roof replacement took place at the same time the porches were replaced.<sup>29</sup>

### **Bureau of Prisons Era**

In 1933, planning began for the transfer of Alcatraz from the War Department to the Department of Justice and its conversion into a maximum-security federal penitentiary. The barracks building, now known simply as "Building 64," was the obvious choice for housing for the civilian correctional officers and their families. Just before departing the island in mid-1934, the army prepared a final inventory of buildings on the island that also detailed the final military layout of Building 64. At this time the barracks contained ten "dormitory rooms" for 115 enlisted guards, a mess hall, five family apartments, and an Officers Club. The basement arrangement still corresponded to the 1929 plans, with three storerooms at the north end and seven at the south, all separated "by temporary wooden partitions in archways." (The two unaccounted-for casemates were those converted to a washroom and latrine for the guard companies).<sup>30</sup>

In order to create staff housing, the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) subdivided Building 64's interior yet again, creating a warren of apartments ranging in size from one-bedroom dormitory rooms for the bachelor guards to a sprawling eleven-room apartment overlooking the bay (known fondly as "The Cow Palace") that became one of the most desirable residences on the island.

The first BOP personnel took up residency on Alcatraz in early February of 1934. The Chief Clerk for the new penitentiary, Mr. Loring O. Mills, informed William Hammack of the Bureau of Prisons in Washington that the army had arranged for storage space in the casemates of the barracks. He also reported that the army had nicknamed the area behind the barracks "Chinatown". (Island residents believe this name evolved because of the alley's resemblance to San Francisco's Chinatown, especially the laundry flapping from clotheslines on washday.)<sup>31</sup>



Left: View of "Chinatown Alley," ca. 1940. PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.



Above: Dock Registration Office, 1956. Photo Credit: San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.

Right: Dock Tower, 1938. Photo Credit: Charles Stucker Collection.



The BOP made several alterations to Building 64 to prepare it for its new role as a guards' apartment house. Prominent among these changes were the conversion of the north end of the first story from an open squad bay and mess hall into a series of dormitory rooms for bachelor guards. The former army scullery, located in one of the 1860s brick storerooms behind the barracks, was converted into a multi-user shower and toilet room for the bachelors. By 1936 the building reportedly contained eleven family apartments and nine single rooms.<sup>32</sup>

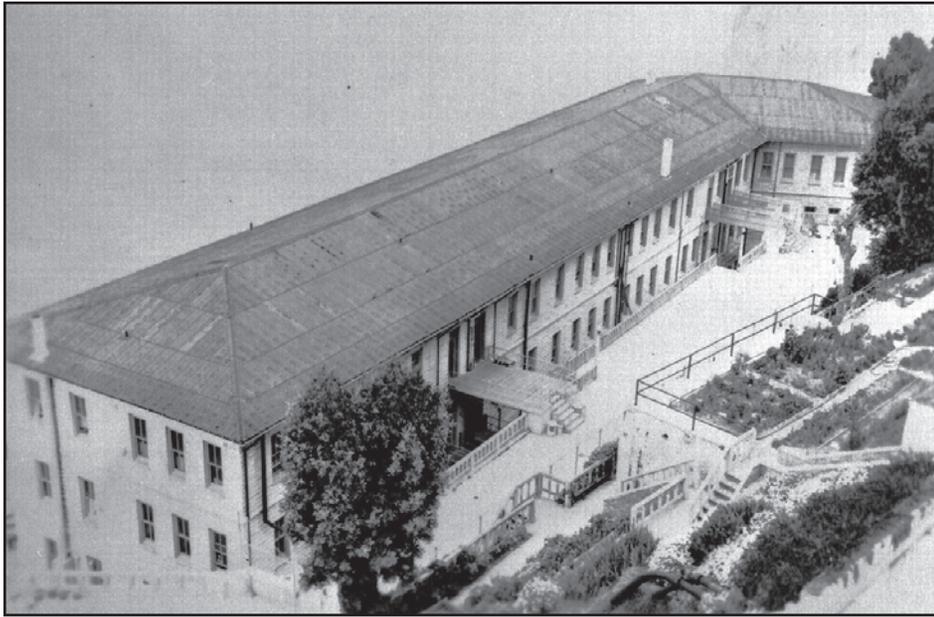
The BOP also decided to continue the Army's use of the casemates as a storehouse area, and to facilitate moving freight installed an elevator connecting the dock with an existing entrance through the scarp wall of the casemate at the angle of the wall.<sup>33</sup> It is believed that the BOP also sealed up most of the window and doorway openings connecting the casemates to the "Chinatown alley" at this time.

In addition to converting the interior of the barracks to apartments and dormitories, a guard tower was added to the concrete staircase leading from the northeast corner of the first floor porch to the dock. This structure, designated as "Dock Tower," consisted of a hexagonal guard shack surround by an open walkway, and supported by four metal legs bolted to the staircase. Access to the tower was via a catwalk connecting to the northeast corner of the second floor porch of Building 64.<sup>34</sup>

Other alterations to the building included converting part of the five-bay vehicle shed at the dock level (army building #86) into a "registration office" where arriving visitors had their credentials checked and were required to walk through a metal detector. Within the casemates, the northernmost three rooms were converted into a locker room where guards living on the mainland could change from their uniforms into civilian clothes before taking the island launch back to San Francisco.<sup>35</sup>

Building 64 became notorious almost from the arrival of the first penitentiary staff as a less-than-desirable area to raise a family. The aging building was poorly laid out and the modifications over the years had turned its interior into a labyrinth of ill-lit hallways, blocked-off staircases, and rickety ramps spanning closed stairwells. The building also became infamous to residents for the non-functioning fireplaces that appeared in bizarre locations like clothes closets and bathrooms—vestiges of the building's original use of coal-heated barrack rooms. Children loved exploring Building 64's nooks and crannies; wives hated cleaning and cooking in its depressing interior kitchens; and the BOP worried the whole building was a death trap.

As early as 1937 the Treasury Department's supervising engineer J. L. Langner inspected the island and, after taking a close look at Building 64, he immediately recommended "Apartment building should be condemned and abandoned." The only part of the building he approved of was the casemated basement that served as the island's warehouse:



Side walls are about five feet thick at north, two feet on south and ceiling, all solid brick. Contents for the most part non-inflammable consisting of hardware, canned foods for commissary, etc.... Housekeeping in the storeroom is excellent. Unused window openings will be bricked up, and other items of building fireproofing taken care of.<sup>36</sup>

Only a few days later Langner filed another report and expanded on his previous concerns:

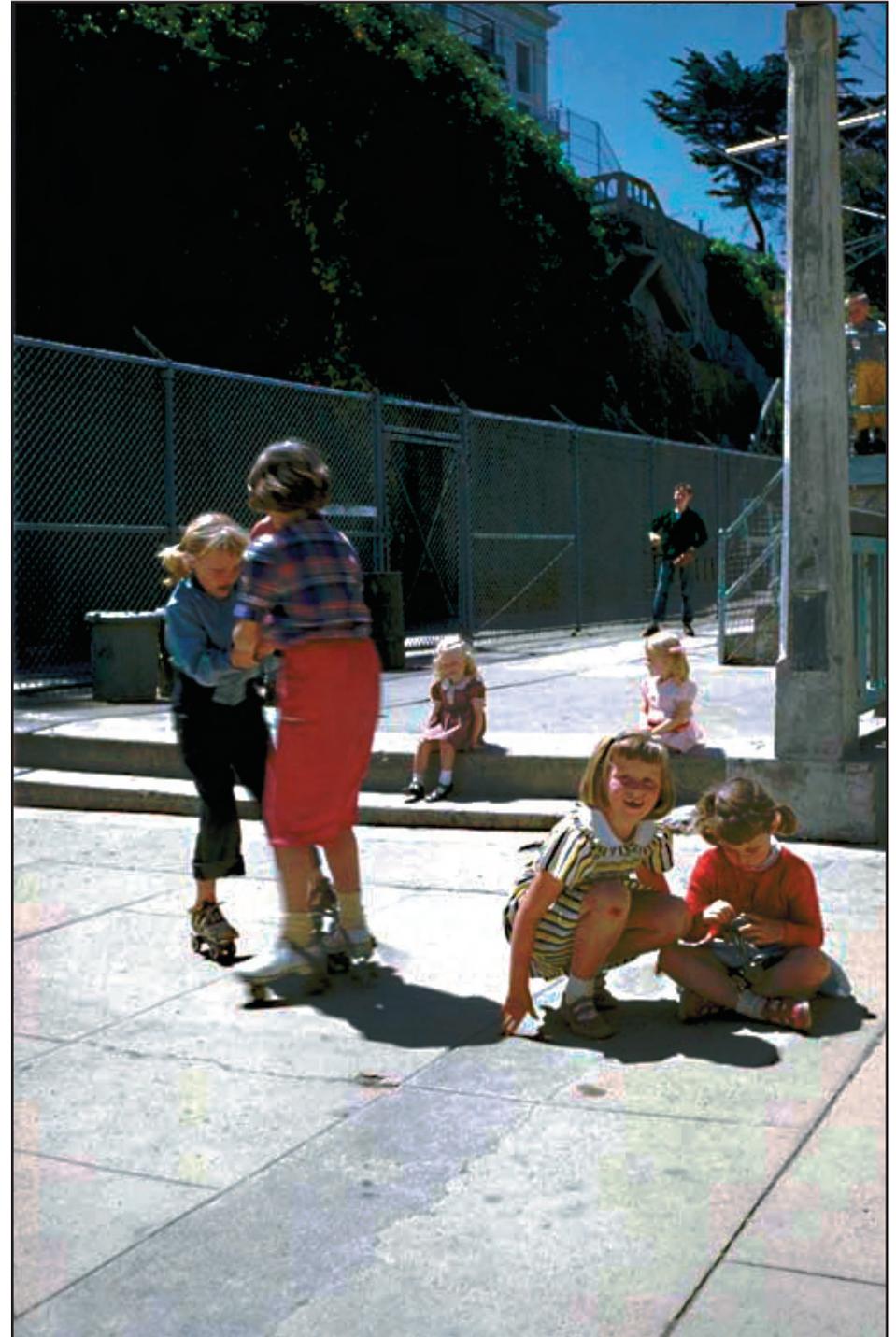
Present apartment building is built on top of old brick fortification. . . . Entire interior is wood construction housing 26 family apartments and 12 single mens quarters. Building is not fire safe and should be rebuilt. Has no means of escape from the third floor except front entrances.

He went on to make numerous recommendations to provide interim fire safety, ranging from installing house reels to constructing interior firewalls in the attic and adding fire escapes to the outside of the building. Only two were apparently acted upon: “Brick up all window openings from store house to court space [i.e., Chinatown]” and “Provide five metal covered doors in storeroom.”<sup>37</sup>

Alcatraz underwent a major renovation during the period 1938–1941 with funding provided by the federal Public Works Administration (PWA), and many improvements were made to the prison complex and the island’s utility systems. Although none of the PWA funds were specifically earmarked for Building 64, the aging apartment house did benefit in some ways as a by-product of the expansive island remodeling.

**Above: View of galvanized metal hipped roof, 1940. Photo Credit: PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.**

**Right: Fenced area on west side of building, 1953. Photo Credit: Charles Stucker Collection.**



Right: Canteen and convicts in the 1940s. PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Far right: New Dock Tower, 1940s. PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

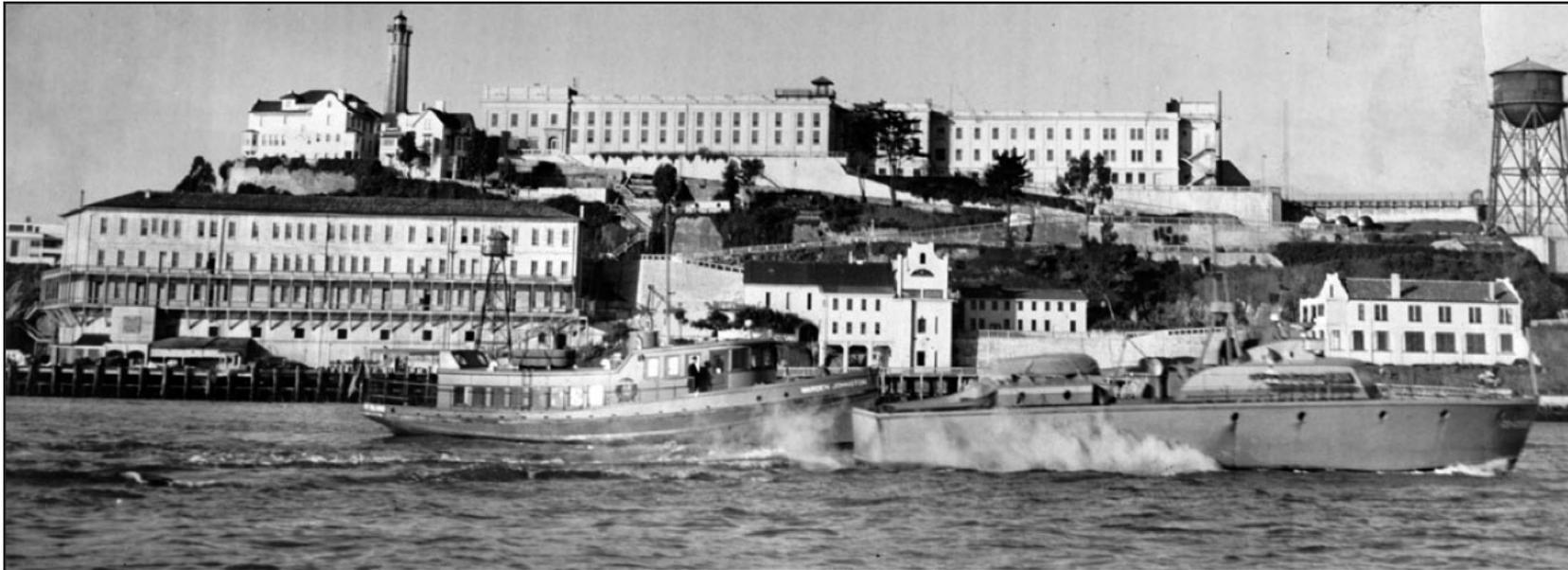


The PWA—funded construction of three new apartment houses for the Alcatraz guard staff, which were constructed in 1940-1941 on the parade ground at the south end of the island. Two of these buildings were earmarked for family quarters and one was designated a bachelor guards' dormitory. The completion of these buildings in early 1941 greatly eased overcrowding in Building 64 when many of the families and most of the bachelors moved into the newer quarters.

Simultaneously, various other aging residences around the island were demolished and their occupants moved into the new apartments as part of a conscious effort to consolidate all the families into one secure area. As part of this upgraded security, an 8-foot cyclone fence topped with barbed wire was constructed around the north and west sides of Building 64. During daylight hours, women and children were restricted to the inside of this fenced compound, which eventually included the parade ground and the entire southern tip of Alcatraz. Gates in the fence provided vehicle access to the compound and also allowed island residents to leave the enclosure after all the convicts had been locked in their cells. Care was taken to locate several gates directly opposite the ramps on the back of Building 64 and in line with fire hydrants in case they were needed during an emergency.<sup>38</sup>

This departure of the bachelors resulted in the freeing-up of space on the first floor of Building 64, and the area previously occupied by their dormitory was remodeled into a canteen and post office. Both of these functions had previously been housed in the former Post Exchange (called the Social Hall by the BOP residents) on the road to the Powerhouse, but moving them into the family compound made their services much more accessible to the island's residents. This tiny canteen was officially titled "Correctional Officers Canteen" but came to be known to island residents simply as "The Store." It stocked a variety of produce, canned goods, staples, fresh meats and household items and sold them on a non-profit basis to the families.





Offshore view looking west, 1946. Photo Credit: San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.

As an added attraction, a telephone booth with a direct line to the mainland was installed on the porch just outside the door to the canteen. (Previously, the only outside line available to family members was located in the prison administration building at the front of the cellhouse.) The telephone and soda fountain inside the canteen made the lower porch of Building 64 a favorite hangout for island children and teenagers.<sup>39</sup>

Also in 1941, the Dock Tower—or to be specific, the guard shack from the top of the tower—was relocated from its original location on the concrete staircase to a taller and more secure tower overlooking the boat landing slip. This new tower was one of the tallest freestanding guard towers in the country.<sup>40</sup> The last improvement to the building was the addition of new freight elevator that took the place of the small elevator (described as a ‘dumb waiter’) that had been added by the BOP in 1934. This new structure consisted of an enclosed elevator shaft and winding machinery, as well as a small toilet room for inmates working on the dock crew. Contractor Thomas M. Jones completed both construction projects on 12 February 1942.<sup>41</sup> Also, a small concrete building housing a vehicle repair shop was also added to the south side of the elevator shaft around this time.

Numerous former island residents have written books about their lives on Alcatraz, and one of the best descriptions of life in Building 64 and its challenges comes from Phyllis T. Weed’s *Alcatraz Home Town*. Phyllis moved onto the island in 1943 when she, her mother and stepfather, Correctional Officer “Mac” McPherson, were assigned apartment #201 directly above the canteen. The building and its challenges obviously impressed Ms. Weed deeply:

Originally, the top three floors had been built for an Army barracks. When it was divided into apartments, the result was an architect’s nightmare. The building was full of blind halls and dead-end stairways. In the hall outside our kitchen door was a fireplace—all by itself.

Next to our front door was a stairway that went to the first landing, and quit. It had once turned at the landing and gone down—to where? The second half was boarded over... It was a delightful place to play, and many times Father came roaring through our front door to chase the children out. Not only were they noisy, but apparently no one had told them that one does not urinate in public hallways.

“The Cave” was the name Mother gave to that apartment. The kitchen was an inside room; it had no windows, no daylight, no view of the outdoors...

The trim on 64 Building had once been blue, I think, but had faded to a dingy pale gray-blue. It was never painted, to my knowledge, in the sixteen years we called Alcatraz home. The halls were incredibly dirty. The filth of years had crept into every crevice. Each family was supposed to keep its section of the hall swept out, but few did.

Appliances had to be rated AC-DC, but the rating did not guarantee that they would work...There was usually at least one apartment fire at Christmas-time when we had our trees and lights up. Dry evergreens and DC current do not mix well.



Above: Existing stenciled "Air Raid Shelter" sign in casemates. Photo Credit: John Martini.

Right: TV antennas and clothesline strung over "Chinatown Alley," 1950s. Photo Credit: Charles Stucker Collection.



The rent was raised three times during the years we lived on the island; once while we were living in 64 Building. . . The rent raise in 64 Building infuriated my parents because, before we moved to the island, the building had twice been condemned as unsafe for habitation.<sup>42</sup>

On another occasion, Ms. Weed ventured down to the lowest levels of Building 64 to explore the casemate area—a part of the island that seems to have terrified children:

Alcatraz did not have everything, but we did have “China Town”, the “Alcatraz Slum.” This was the back of 64 Building. . .

The first floor, which was the old fort of 1866, was always damp, dark dingy and contained storage rooms, the air-raid shelter, and change rooms for officers coming to work from “over town.”

I hated to go below our own third floor level, which was relatively light and airy, to the grating below and seldom did so if I could avoid it. I felt uneasy down there. Dad told me I should not go down to the lowest level.

Well, I did go down to the first level of “China Town” once. I was scared, but determined to see for myself.

A gutter ran down the center of the paving, with stale water standing in it. My nose was pinched with disgust. I saw barred, dark doors and windows the full length of the building, and try as I might, I could not see what was inside. I had never read horror or scary movies, but my imagination was doing fine.

At the far end of the building a single light shone through a small, grilled window in a steel door. I peered in cautiously. An officer, whom I probably knew but did not recognize in that setting, was seated at a table. I was aware of many bundles piled into a small space. The man looked up as I looked in and stared straight at me without expression.

Have you ever tried to hurry nonchalantly? I succeeded in not running, but I left rapidly and did not go down there again.<sup>43</sup>

The air raid shelter mentioned above was established in one of the casemates shortly after the outbreak of World War II. Directional arrows painted in yellow and black on the walls of the “Chinatown” staircases directed residents down to this shelter, which was apparently located in the two central storage rooms on the west side of “Chinatown alley.”<sup>44</sup> (At the time of this writing these two rooms house the Bureau of Prisons displays.) According to another island resident, Mr. Donald Hurley, there was only one air raid alarm resulting in the shelter’s actually being used—and with unexpected results:

As we all raced to the bomb shelter it became apparent that everyone was not going to fit into the shelter. As I recall, most of the women and children did get inside; however, several of the men (off-duty) had to stand outside.

Fortunately, this air raid turned out to be a false alarm (no pun intended.)<sup>45</sup>

In late 1942 the island’s staff developed specifications for painting several buildings on the island, including Building 64. In his reply to Warden Johnston, Robert Dunbar of the BOP specified the colors to be used in the planned-for project:

“Color Samples. It is desired that you use the following colors for the buildings, based on the Public Building Administration’s color card numbers:

Exterior of Old Buildings’

Body ----- #155

Trim ----- #124

Interior of Building #64

Walls ----- #129

Trim, Doors, Ceiling ----- #126A”<sup>46</sup>

It is not known, though, whether this painting program was ever carried out, and if so, what colors were actually used. (Considering Ms. Weeds’ comments about the lack of painting in Building 64 during her residency there, the work may not have taken place).



**View of Guard Tower with balconies behind and moveable scaffolding, 1953. Photo Credit: Charles Stucker Collection.**



Cupie Mitchell standing on chair on upper balcony (temporary fire escape and tower beyond), 1953. Photo Credit: Charles Stucker Collection.

Towards the end of World War II a post-war master plan for the island was developed, in which the Warden Johnston identified the goal of demolishing Building 64 and building a new storehouse in its place. This proposal was integrally tied to another hoped-for project—the construction of three additional apartment houses on the parade ground. Had they been built, the families living in Building 64 would have been relocated and the old apartment house demolished to make way for additional storehouse space atop the brick casemates.

As an indication of the stoutness of the casemates, the plan stated: “Our idea, however, is not to take this Building down to the ground but only to the level of the Storehouse [casemates], because it is difficult to see how we could get any better foundations than we have at present for that floor. . .but we could recondition and remodel the plans of the Storehouse to include proper facilities for refrigeration of items of food.” The total cost was estimated at \$75,000. Like so many other Alcatraz projects, the proposal was never carried out.<sup>47</sup>

The BOP files on Alcatraz regarding Building 64 also contain numerous references to infestations by cockroaches and rats. In 1944, Warden Johnston wrote Director James V. Bennett seeking permission to use sodium fluoride, which he promised would be carefully regulated and

never used in the prison proper due to its poisonous properties. What the director’s response was is not recorded, but apparently Johnston was told to use Pyrethrum instead. The following year Johnston wrote again to complain about cockroaches in the apartments, stating, “we have been unable to purchase insecticide with pyrethrum” and this time requesting permission to use a 50/50 mixture of sodium fluoride and Borax. Again, Bennett’s reply is not recorded.<sup>48</sup>

The storerooms in the basement casemates continued to serve as warehouse space throughout Building 64’s occupancy by the BOP, and a 1951 budget request for the warehouse provides insights into its equipment and operations:

The storeroom at this institution is operated by one employee with part time assistance from another employee from the business office [located in the prison building]. There are no inmates assigned for labor or any other purpose in the storehouse. . . . At the present time the only equipment available consists of three four-wheeled wagons and four two-wheeled carts. These are relics of a bygone era in warehousing. . .<sup>49</sup>

A 1955 inspection mentions that items stocked in the storehouse include inmate undershirts and shoes, counter brushes, medical supplies (presumably non-prescription) and cases of Puffed Rice and Puffed Wheat. It also recorded the storeroom was dusty and in need of cleaning.<sup>50</sup>

Throughout the 1950s, conditions in Building 64 continued to deteriorate. In early 1955 two sections of roofing were torn loose by a windstorm. An examination of the destroyed panels stated “the outer roof consists of two layers of a tarred composition of some undetermined kind with a ferrous metal in between, preformed into a semi-rigid, slightly corrugated sheet. . .”, which was likely the original roofing material since no changes had been made to the roof since the BOP took control of the island.<sup>51</sup> Plans were made to re-roof the building entirely with corrugated aluminum panels, and low bid of \$11,999 received on 24 June 1955. This bid was accepted, and the work apparently carried out later that year. (The records do not indicate who received the contract however, or any additional information about the re-roofing project.)<sup>52</sup>

A major renovation of the interior of Building 64 began in the summer of 1957 when \$30,000 was allocated for repair and improvements. The warden prepared a lengthy analysis of how to spend the money on fixtures and features ranging from new sinks and cabinets, kitchen ranges, light fixtures, linoleum flooring, paints, window shades, and gutters.<sup>53</sup> Areas to be refurbished included residential areas and common areas, and it was likely the first major overhaul the building had received since sometime during the army era. The work was carried out between the summer of 1957 and spring 1958, and almost immediately complaints started to come in: linings behind the tubs, sinks and toilets were segmented and not continuous, making for an



Elevator housing with Occupation graffiti, 1969. PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

unsightly appearance; bathroom and kitchen fixtures were poorly selected; and fixtures in general cost more than ordinary fixtures would have. The new bathroom lights, which were made in the shape of Chinese paper lanterns, drew special wrath from BOP inspectors from Washington. The total cost of the project came in well under budget at \$25,178.40.<sup>54</sup>

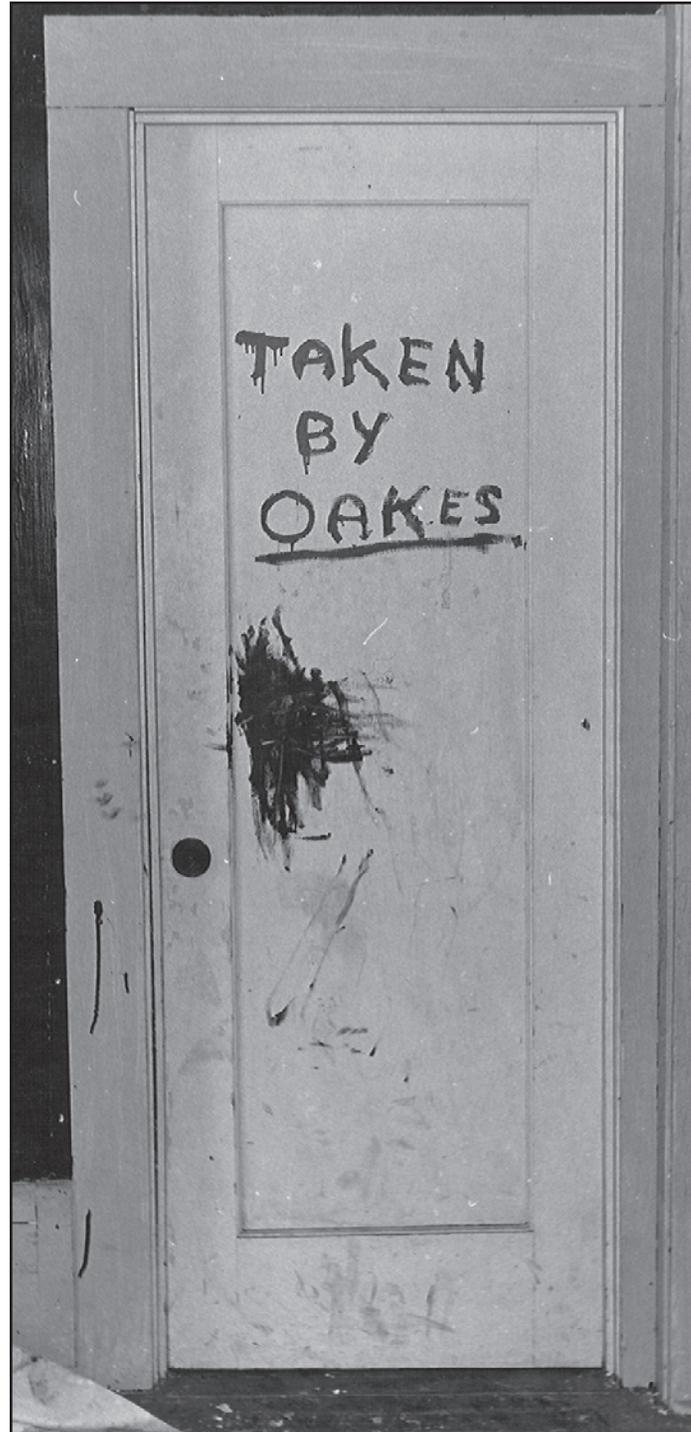
In late 1958 additional funds were sought to repaint the exterior of Building 64 and carry out additional repairs as might be necessary. The repair work was eventually bundled with on-going repairs taking place on the main prison building, but as soon as work got underway additional problems appeared. Crumbling areas of concrete had to be removed and rebuilt, especially around the windows; a major support for the balcony had to be removed and rebuilt; and sections of ornamental concrete railing needed to be replaced with pipe metal railings. In April 1959 the problem had turned into a nightmare, with 979 square feet of concrete removed and 635 pounds of steel installed around the windows at an unexpected cost of \$19,183.<sup>55</sup> The project was allowed to proceed, though, and the overrun was partly covered

by deleting work elements on projects elsewhere on the island. This paint and rehab project was apparently the last time the exterior of Building 64 was painted.

The need for fire escapes on Building 64 had been noted since the mid-1930s, but it was not until late 1959 that funds were formally requested to install the escapes. Star Iron Works of San Francisco prepared an estimate for the project, which would include escapes on both sides of the building at a cost of \$9,760.<sup>56</sup> Until this time, a makeshift fire escape system consisting of a movable painters scaffolding on rollers had been kept at the ready on the second floor balcony, the theory being that in the event of a fire on the third floor volunteers would roll the scaffold to the burning apartment and rescue its occupants. Despite this pressing need and the presence of funds, it took until June 1960 for the work actually to be completed.<sup>57</sup>

At the same time the fire escapes were being installed, Building 64 was re-wired for AC current instead of the hazardous DC system that had been the cause of several fires over the years. Island residents were polled on the number and types of electrical fixtures

"Taken By Oakes"  
door, 1974. PARC,  
Golden Gate National  
Recreation Area.



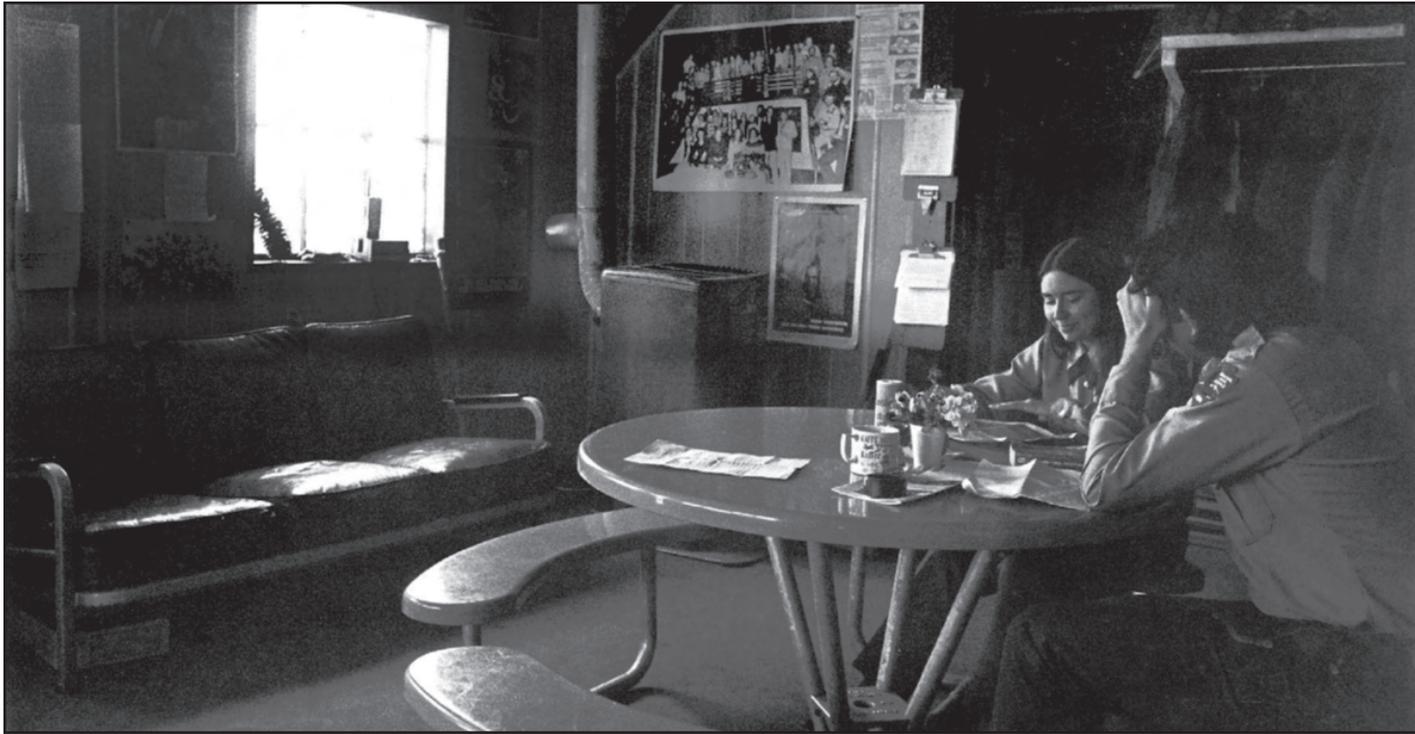
in their apartments, and the island's Chief of Mechanical Services prepared an island-wide use plan that estimated the existing electrical load at Building 64 as 50,200 watts.<sup>58</sup> However, the records are unclear whether or not this island-wide project was completed before the Bureau of Prisons decided in mid-1962 to begin phasing out the penitentiary on Alcatraz. It would probably have been the last project completed at Building 64 before the penitentiary closed for good on March 21, 1963.

### Indian Occupation

Between November 1969 and June 1971, Native American activists calling themselves "The Indians of All Tribes" occupied Alcatraz Island. During this period, Building 64 served as a residence for many of the Occupiers and its rooms are still decorated with various types of murals, graffiti, and political statements left by the protestors and their supporters. Unfortunately, extensive damage also occurred during the 18-month Occupation that included broken windows, smashed plaster and sheetrock, and damaged plumbing and electrical fixtures. Also, innumerable balustrades and banister sections were ripped out of the interior staircases and apparently used as firewood. At an undetermined date a fire broke out in the attic of the building but luckily did not spread far, and damage was limited to the dogleg portion near the southwest corner of the building.

At another point, the Occupiers repainted in brilliant red the façade of apartment 104 overlooking the dock. The reason for this paint scheme is not clear; the apartment may have served as a gathering place or office for the Native Americans, or its tenants may simply have wanted to make a visual statement about Red Power to passing vessels. (Other buildings on Alcatraz were painted red during this period for symbolic purposes. These included the lighthouse tower and the duplex residence at the southern tip of the parade ground.)

In recent years the story has evolved that Richard Oakes, one of the charismatic leaders of the Occupation, lived in this first-floor apartment. However, compelling physical evidence indicates that a room in apartment 307 on the third floor was actually Oakes' residence. In 1974, when the NPS assumed control of the island, the door to one of the apartment's bedrooms was painted in large red letters "TAKEN BY OAKES". (This door was subsequently removed to protect it from damage and is currently in museum storage.)<sup>59</sup>



Tech Office, 1980.  
PARC, Golden Gate  
National Recreation  
Area.

## NPS Era

Alcatraz became part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in 1972, and was opened to the public for the first time in October 1973. Within a few weeks of opening, park workers began converting the former Registration Office in Building 86 into a combination ranger office and break room, and completed the project shortly before January 1, 1974. In the course of this remodeling two garage stalls on the south side of the original office were framed-in and enclosed, tripling the enclosed space within Building 86 but greatly altering its historic appearance. This new room was shortly nicknamed the “Tech Office” after the Park Technicians who at that time were leading the guided tours of the island.

In late 1974 several of the park staff developed plans to remodel three of the casemates in Building 64 into an interpretive display area. This project received verbal permission from Superintendent Bill Whalen and Supervisory Park Ranger Jerry Rumburg, and actual work was carried out during the winter of 1974-1975. The area designated for the displays, casemates #10, 11 and 12, was chosen principally because of these rooms’ physical proximity to the dock. The three casemates had last been used as changing rooms for penitentiary guards living on the mainland, and the interior was a jumble of decaying wood benches and clothing lockers (the latter probably dating back to

the army era) mixed together with discarded clothing left behind from the Occupation. It should also be noted that at this time the proposed display rooms were physically separated from the rest of the casemates by in-fill masonry walls in the communication arches between casemates #9 and 10. These walls were left in place during the conversion to exhibit spaces.<sup>60</sup>

Work items completed during the conversion included a thorough cleaning of the interiors of the three casemates; removal of non-functioning electrical conduit, light fixtures and steam radiators; and scraping and chipping old paint and plaster cement to expose original brick surfaces. In addition, two bricked-up windows in casemate #12, which may have once served as coal or cargo chutes, were reopened and glazed with window glass. New windows were installed in the embrasures, and new doors installed in the doorways. In addition, the casemates were re-electrified and new fluorescent light fixtures installed. In order to provide safer visitor access, an overhead hinged gate was removed from the entry tunnel to “Chinatown.” This gate, probably dating to the BOP era, was affixed to the “1866” entablature over the tunnel by two rusty hinges and held in place by a counterweight. Park staff, fearing it might fall on visitors, cut off the screen with an acetylene torch and discarded it.<sup>61</sup>

"Alcatraz and the American Prison Experience" Exhibit, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.



Fabrication of exhibit display casework was carried out by Bill Oswald and several other park staff members, and the so-called “museum” was opened in early spring of 1975. In its original configuration the display area was a mandatory part of the guided programs then being offered, and visitors were led into the exhibit area via the doorway in casemate #10 and exited via the doorway on the dock side of casemate #12. Each casemate had its own theme: casemate #10 focused on the penitentiary era, casemate #11 was devoted to the fortification, lighthouse and military stories, and casemate #12 had displays relating to the natural history.<sup>62</sup>

The casemates stayed in this configuration until 1980 when a major overhaul of the rooms and the exhibits took place. Under the direction of supervisor Bob Kirby and park historian Jim Delgado, the work involved both a thorough overhaul of the exhibit areas and also construction of new staff space in the previously unused casemate areas. This project, funded by monies provided by the boat concessionaire and donations made by movie companies filming on the island, included repainting the interiors of the museum rooms with whitewash mixed to historic specifications; removal of a barred gate and grille from the doorway leading to the dock; construction of a wheelchair accessible ramp at this same doorway; and construction of a small bookstore and sales area operated by the park’s cooperating association in casemate #11. Also, casemate #10 was converted from an exhibit gallery into a small theater room for slide shows and other audio-visual (AV) productions.<sup>63</sup>

A major improvement—as far as the staff was concerned—was the construction of an expansive and modern break room in one of the previously abandoned casemates to take the place of the aging Tech Office on the dock. Christened the “Tech Room”, this new staff room was located in casemate #5 and featured such unheard of luxuries as carpeting, acoustical ceiling tiles, recessed lights, and the finest plastic knotty-pine paneling money could buy. Among other innovations, two of the communication arches between the new room and the adjoining casemates were walled off and converted into small offices for the ranger staff.<sup>64</sup> According to the supervisor at the time, he chose the location of the new room for two reasons: its proximity to a spiral staircase alongside the elevator shaft leading to the dock (since removed) and because staff members could communicate between the dock office and the new room by simply yelling (phones had not yet been installed on the island).

As part of this same project, the old Tech Office on the dock was remodeled into a waiting room for park visitors and a small office for a park ranger.<sup>65</sup> A first aid room and storage area for first aid supplies was also constructed at this time.

Additional changes and improvements to the casemates would continue throughout the 1980s and into the 1990s. In 1984, three more casemates were converted to AV rooms as part of an “open island” policy that allowed visitors to explore Alcatraz at their own pace

rather than be restricted to guided programs and to learn about its history through a variety of media. During this conversion, casemates #7, 8 and 9 were remodeled into theaters by removing wooden in-fill walls in the communication arches. It is also believed that the masonry walls separating casemates 9 and 10 were demolished as part of this modernization. The upshot of this conversion was that the number of theater rooms was increased from one to four, and that the casemates' original architecture was visible for the first time in many decades.<sup>66</sup>

The last major expansion of the casemate area took place in 1991 when a new exhibit titled "Alcatraz and the American Prison Experience" was installed in two of the former storerooms on the east side of "Chinatown." This exhibit, nicknamed "the BOP exhibit" was jointly produced and funded by both the NPS and the Bureau of Prison, was the catalyst for numerous changes and improvements that included the following:

- Installation of replica 1860s wooden doors and shutters on the storerooms along "Chinatown"

- Installation of military history exhibits in a room adjoining the BOP exhibits

- Construction of a wooden boardwalk halfway down Chinatown to provide level access for wheelchairs to the doorways of the exhibit rooms and theaters

- Installation of new lighting and signage

- Construction of an expanded bookstore and guest author's signing desk in casemate #11

- Conversion of casemates #s 1 and 2 to storerooms for the cooperating association

- Repair of the freight elevator leading from the dock to the casemates

- Provisions for additional staff space, with offices added in casemate #4 and a kitchen and lunchroom in casemate #6

In 1992 and 1993 the current bookstore was constructed and the old 1980 Tech Room in casemate #5 remodeled to its present configuration. The last major alteration occurred in 1997 when a new display titled the "Alcatraz Indian Exhibit" telling the story of the 19-month Occupation was installed in the storeroom adjoining the BOP exhibit rooms.

Alterations to Building 64 under the NPS have not been restricted to the casemate area, however. Ironically, one of the first restoration measures took place in 1977 when the movie *Escape From Alcatraz* was shot on the island and the film company realized that part of Building 64 would be visible in one of the scenes. As a cosmetic measure, the movie crews repaired and re-glazed all the windows on the north end of the building and even hung drapes as a finishing touch.



Current "Tech Room" in casemate 06, 2003  
Photo Credit: John Martini.

Throughout the 1980s, additional windows on the remaining sides of the building were repaired by various youth work groups such as the Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC).<sup>67</sup>

During the period 1988-1990 the iron gratings that span "Chinatown" at the first floor level were extensively refurbished and repainted, with special attention given the large I-beams that supported the gratings where they spanned the staircase openings. In 1996, the ramps and associated handrails that spanned the alley at the 2nd and 3rd floor levels were similarly treated. However, due to the construction material (steel vs. iron), corrosion was much more advanced and less original fabric was preserved than during the earlier preservation efforts.

In 1997 the entire roof of Building 64 was replaced with corrugated aluminum panels. This included the area of dogleg at the southwest end of the building that had been damaged by fire during the Indian Occupation and had been left open to the elements for more than 25 years. In November 2002 a severe windstorm swept through San Francisco and peeled the aluminum roof off this same portion of the dogleg. NPS historical architects believe this wind damage can be traced directly to the roof supports in this area damaged by the long-ago fire and years of subsequent neglect. (At the time of this writing, the roof of Building 64 is undergoing repairs that will include rehabilitating the supporting members.)<sup>68</sup>

Present view looking east into bookstore in casemate 11. Photo Credit: John Martini.



The buildings that line the foot of Building 64 at the dock level have also undergone renovations. As mentioned earlier, the NPS converted the old Registration Office in Building 86 into a Tech Office in 1973. Twenty years later in 1993 this office was remodeled again into its current configuration as the island's Dock Office, which also houses a small first aid room and rescue cache. (Appropriately, the adjacent wagon shed is still used for housing government vehicles and now shelters the island's electric cart/ambulance.) In 1994, the spiral staircase that connected the dock level with the embrasure of casemate #3 was removed and re-installed in the cellhouse barbershop, and its opening through the shed roof of Building 86 was repaired.<sup>69</sup>

The small garage building on the dock attached to the south side of the freight elevator has also been remodeled several times during the NPS era. The first use was as a stand-by generator shed that provided power to the Coast Guard lighthouse and NPS offices and display areas.<sup>70</sup> These generators were removed when new diesel generators located in the powerhouse went on-line in 1989, and the building stood vacant until 1992 when convict workers from the BOP facility at Pleasanton remodeled it as an interpretive center. Dubbed the "Alcatraz Easy Access Program" and designed for use by disabled visitors, the building originally housed several Apple computer terminals where visitors could take an interactive virtual tour of the island. The program was not a success and the computers saw little use, especially after a tram service for disabled visitors was introduced. In 1997-1998 the garage was remodeled into a small sales outlet named, appropriately, the Dock Bookstore.<sup>71</sup>

A recent rehabilitation project at Building 64 began in 2001 as part of the NPS' Fee Demonstration Program. Funded by admission fees to the island, this extensive rehab project involves the repair and/or replacement of all exterior doors and windows in the building. To facilitate this restoration effort, NPS carpenters established a well-equipped workshop in the first floor corner apartment, in the same rooms that had for many years housed the island's Canteen and Post Office. At the time of this writing, many of the windows and doors on the first floor have been completed.

Currently, in tandem with a NPS Line Item Construction Project to seismically upgrade the main prison building, the concrete balconies on Building 64 are undergoing repair. Spalling concrete from two levels of balconies on the east face of the building had become a safety hazard to the extent that their repair had become necessary to ensure safety for visitors and staff. At the time of this publication, the building's exterior balconies and stairs have been completely repaired.

## Chronology of development and use of Barracks Building 64

1857	Defensive wall constructed on future site of Bldg. 64.	1884	Two-story kitchen/mess hall/library built atop dogleg of casemates.
1864	Summer. Correspondence begins re: building casemate barracks above dock to replace temporary wooden barracks elsewhere on island. December. First plans forwarded to Chief of Engineers in Washington. No cannon positions shown in casemates, only barbette emplacements.		Casemates below barracks converted to storage warehouse for underwater mines (Probably #s 4, 5 & 6). Barracks enlarged to provide protection to mines stored in casemates.
1865	February. Initial approval given by Chief of Engineers March. Work begins on demolition of old scarp wall and excavation for barracks' foundations. Elliot recommends installing cannon in casemates. Summer. Approval received for building additional rooms in rear of casemates. September. Construction of seawall foundation begins.	1885	Unidentified casemate converted to bathhouse and washroom.
1866	January. Masonry of scarp wall carried up to bottoms of gun embrasures. Several piers built for communication arches. March. Most of the embrasure irons installed. May. Work slows due to scarcity of good mechanics.	ca. 1890	Kitchens and mess rooms moved from frame building into casemates.
1867	January. Work suspended pending decision by Board of Engineers on future design standards. April. Piers for second tier reached height of 6'-6" above floor. July. COE refuses to allow work to proceed except for water proofing casemates and completion of small rooms in rear. August. Work continuing on small rooms, cisterns, and flues in cooking rooms.	1890	September—November. Ammunition magazine on first tier (casemate #12) converted to mine operating room.
1869	Summer. Photograph taken by Eadweard Muybridge shows top of unfinished second tier of casemates with derrick in place. Brickwork appears to have reached height of approx. a foot above floor.	1891	Mines removed from casemates and moved to Yerba Buena Island. Pipe railing added along top edge of casemates.
1874	Fall. Temporary wooden barracks built atop main portion of casemates.	1899	Ten of the eleven embrasure openings enlarged to 4'10" x 4'6" to improve lighting and ventilation. PX (located in casemate #4) not enlarged due to separate funding source.
ca. 1880	Small buildings used as sergeants' quarters, storerooms and tailor shops built atop casemates north of barracks.	1902	Final embrasure opening (casemate #4) enlarged to 4'10" x 4'6" dimensions.
		1905	February. Quartermaster announces plan to replace all the wooden buildings atop casemates with single concrete structure housing four companies. Fall. Work underway on construction of north half of building.
		1906	April. North portion of building suffers minor damage to chimneys and sewer during earthquake on 18 April. May. Wood floors in casemates torn out and "polluted soil" removed, and concrete floors installed in four kitchens and four mess halls.
		1907	Fall. Construction still underway. First room designations changed when several uses move from first floor to third: orderly rooms, first sergeants' rooms, reading rooms, and some storerooms.
		1908	Decision made to convert dogleg of barracks from enlisted barracks to officers' quarters to replace the six quarters lost when Citadel was demolished.

1909	November. A sergeant throws an enlisted man from a third floor window. Soldier is killed landing on the iron grating in the alley and sergeant subsequently commits suicide.	1938	January. Inspection report recommends, "Unused window openings [in storehouse] will be bricked up."
ca. 1920	Bldg. 86 constructed on dock adjacent to lower part of brick casemates. Two-story structure served as Wharfinger's office and vehicle/carriage shed.		February. 'Modernization Plan' states roof is constructed of "asbestos protected metal on wood purlins supported on steel trusses." Also states that the building contains 26 family apartments and 12 single men's quarters. Recommends \$13,000 of improvements, mostly fireproofing.
1925-1926	Original wooden balconies and railings replaced with reinforced concrete.	1941	Present "Dock Tower" built, replacing earlier tower attached to staircase
1928-1930	Original roof and cornice replaced with hipped, corrugated steel roof.		Post office and canteen moved from Post Exchange/Social Hall to first floor of barracks
1929	First known floor plans of building prepared. Casemates contain storerooms, a boiler room, and enlisted men's latrine and shower room. Upper stories contain enlisted, NCO and officer's quarters.		Dock freight elevator replaced by new structure containing an enlarged elevator and an inmates' bathroom.
1930	Bldg. 86 on dock remodeled into single-story structure with removal of Wharfinger's Office on upper level.		Fences on south and east sides constructed. For safety, gates are placed opposite stairs from building and across from fire hydrants on roadway.
1934	February. Bureau of Prisons personnel arrive on island. Correspondence by BOP includes first use of term "Chinatown" for alley behind barracks. Numerous alterations made to building: Interior of barracks converted into apartments for married and bachelor guards. Casemate in rear of north end of barracks (formerly a scullery) is converted to bath and shower room for bachelor guards. Two casemates at north end of first floor (#s 11 and 12) converted into locker and changing room for guards. Freight elevator constructed from dock to doorway on casemate level. "Dock Tower" constructed adjacent to staircase leading to dock. North part of Bldg. 86 on dock converted to Registration Office.	1942	Several casemates converted into bomb shelter for families living in apartments.
		1944	Warden reports insect problems in apartment houses.
		1945	Memo on 'Postwar Program' recommends demolishing Bldg 64 but retaining casemate storehouse and remodeling it for improved storage. Memo also states building currently held 36 families.
		ca. 1946	Undated memo calls for repainting interiors of all apartment houses and installing 200 fluorescent lights to replace "old fashioned drop lights."
		1953	June. Island-wide construction program calls for demolition of Bldg. 64, this time replacing it with a both new storehouse and a new administration building.
1935	Building entirely repainted inside and out.		November. Paint used on apartment house exteriors is specified as "Paint, Exterior semigloss, Cream, Superstructure, Pittsburgh Plate Glass Col, #UC-32207 or equal".
1936	Upper three stories reported to contain 11 apartments and 9 single rooms.		
1937	September. Island survey reports the ground floor casemates being used as a storehouse.		

- 1955 February. Windstorms damage roof. Report states “No change in this roofing has been made, to our knowledge since 1934, and possibly this is still the original roof. This type of roofing is no longer on the market. . . . This roof must be replaced.”  
June. Specifications prepared for re-roofing building with corrugated aluminum. Low bid of \$11,999 received and awarded.  
November. Fire breaks out in apartment of CO John Hart, caused by an unattended iron.
- 1957-1958 Extensive renovations for apartments carried out, including new kitchen sinks, ranges, refrigerators, light fixtures, bathroom toilets and tubs, linoleum, window shades, interior repainting, gutters, and more. Total cost \$30,000. (Estimated that \$120,000 more needed to complete repairs.)
- 1958 Specifications developed for repainting exterior of building. Sandblasting recommended initially, then rejected.  
28 families reported living in building.
- 1959 September. Inspection report states Bldg 64 is “a fire trap to start with” and recommends converting it to storehouse by gutting it and replacing interior with reinforced concrete floors and walls.  
November. Another inspector reports: “It is unbelievable the Government would maintain such a structure for employee living quarters.” He also stated regarding basement Change Room: “To describe it as being filthy would be putting it mildly.” Adjacent warehouse, though, was “clean and in order” and 90% repainted.
- 1960 Fire escapes and ramps fabricated and installed at cost of \$9,760.
- 1961 Work begins on replacing deteriorated wire mesh fencing on balconies with ornamental concrete blocks. Never completed.
- 1963 Inventory forms prepared listing accountable property in Canteen, Officer’s Locker Room and Store-room in Bldg. 64.
- 1973 Former BOP Registration Station on dock converted to NPS ranger office and break room. Named “Tech Office” (for Park Technicians).
- 1975 Casemates #s 10, 11 & 12 converted into interpretive displays by NPS personnel:  
Old wood lockers and benches removed.  
Plaster removed from walls to expose original brick.  
Wood burning stove installed in casemate #12.  
Cement blocks removed from two chutes in casemate #12 and converted to windows.  
Door and windows installed on dock side of casemates.  
Doors installed on “Chinatown” side of casemates.  
Shower in SE corner of casemate #12 covered and converted to bench.  
Casemates electrified and fluorescent lights installed.
- 1977 Windows re-glazed at north end of building and curtains installed for filming of movie *Escape From Alcatraz*.
- 1980-1981 Casemates reconfigured by NPS:  
Wood partitions between casemates are replaced with new sheetrock partitions to create an office in casemate #5 (the Tech Room).  
Casemate #10 converted to slide show room.  
Grille and barred door removed from doorway in casemate #12 and wheelchair ramp installed.  
Cooperating Association bookstore installed in casemate #11.  
Interiors of public area casemates are whitewashed.
- 1984 Casemates #7, 8 & 9 converted into additional theater spaces, for total of four AV casemate rooms.
- 1988-1989 Generators removed from old garage on dock when new diesel generators in powerhouse go into service.
- 1988-1990 Iron gratings and I-beams at first floor level preserved.

- 1991 Museum area reconfigured:  
 Two storerooms behind casemates converted into “BOP display” to replace earlier NPS displays.  
 Casemates #11 & 12 converted into GGNPA sales outlet and guest authors’ book signing area.  
 Wheelchair accessible floor added to casemates 11 & 12.  
 Wooden deck constructed halfway down length of “Chinatown” to provide level access to all theater and display rooms.  
 Dock elevator restored to operating condition.  
 Casemates #s 1 & 2 converted to GGNPA storage space.  
 Additional NPS offices installed in casemate #4.  
 Kitchen and eating area installed in casemate #6.
- 1992-1993 BOP workers convert former garage on dock into interpretive center called “Alcatraz Easy Access Program”.  
 Old “Tech Office” on dock remodeled into current configuration as Dock Office.  
 Current bookstore in casemate #11 constructed.
- 1994 Spiral stairs removed leading from dock to casemate #3 and re-installed in prison barber shop.
- 1996 Steel ramps, handrails and gratings at 2nd and 3rd floors preserved with Fee Demonstration (Fee Demo) funds.
- 1997 October. “Alcatraz Indian Exhibit” installed behind casemates in storeroom adjacent to BOP display area.  
 Building re-roofed with corrugated aluminum and copper downspouts.
- 2001 to Present  
 Fee Demo funds used for restoration of exterior windows and doors.
- 2002 November. Storm winds rip corrugated aluminum roofing off dogleg.
- 2003 February. Aluminum roof repaired.



Above: View of Building 64 roof from Lighthouse, 2003. PARC, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Bottom: Present off-shore view looking north, 2003. Photo credit John Martini.



## Physical Description

Building 64, also known as the Barracks Building, is a 4-story masonry building approximately 262'-0" x 88'-0". The building plan is roughly a backward "L"-shape, with the main wing axis nominally north to south. The building is situated at the southeast corner of Alcatraz Island, adjacent to (west of) the dock area. To the west of the building, the rock face of the island rises up to the level of the cell house. Two levels of vaulted brick storage rooms, topped by a road and Parade Ground, were built against the rock face. A 10-foot wide and 2½ story high alleyway known as "China Alley" or "Chinatown" separates the storage rooms and Building 64. The ground floor, or casemate level, of the building houses the National Park Service (NPS) and Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (Parks Conservancy) offices, video screening and museum exhibit rooms, and a bookstore. With the exception of the northeast corner of one floor that is being used as a wood shop for the repair of windows and doors, the upper three floors, formerly used for prison staff housing, are presently unoccupied.

The lower portion of Building 64, designed as part of the island defenses, was constructed between 1865 and 1867 to house large guns in casemates resistant to bombardment. The casemate level is constructed of fired red brick in thick multiple-wythe walls and vaulted brick ceiling/roofs. Much of the brickwork has alternate running and header courses. There are 13 bays on this level; the majority having a wall with a small rectangular opening and casement window on the east, facing the dock. There are several small structures built against the outer brick wall at the dock level on the east. These structures currently house the Ranger Station, a Bookstore and carport for island electrical vehicles.

The 1905 three-story barracks construction on top of the casemate level has 12"-18" thick hollow concrete block exterior walls and 6" thick concrete block interior transverse and stair enclosure walls. An exception appears in "China Alley" where the red brick construction stops midway up the first floor wall because of an originally planned, but never constructed, second casemate level. The floors are wood frame; post and beam supporting 3 x12 full-sized joists at 16" on center. On top of the joists is diagonally laid wood sub-floor tongue and groove planking with hardwood finish flooring.

Originally used as large barracks rooms, the upper floors have since been divided up into smaller rooms by 2" framed partitions that are usually finished with lath and plaster or ¼"-½" gypsum board. Typically there are wood framed suspended ceilings. The roof is constructed of aluminum corrugated sheathing over 4x8 wood



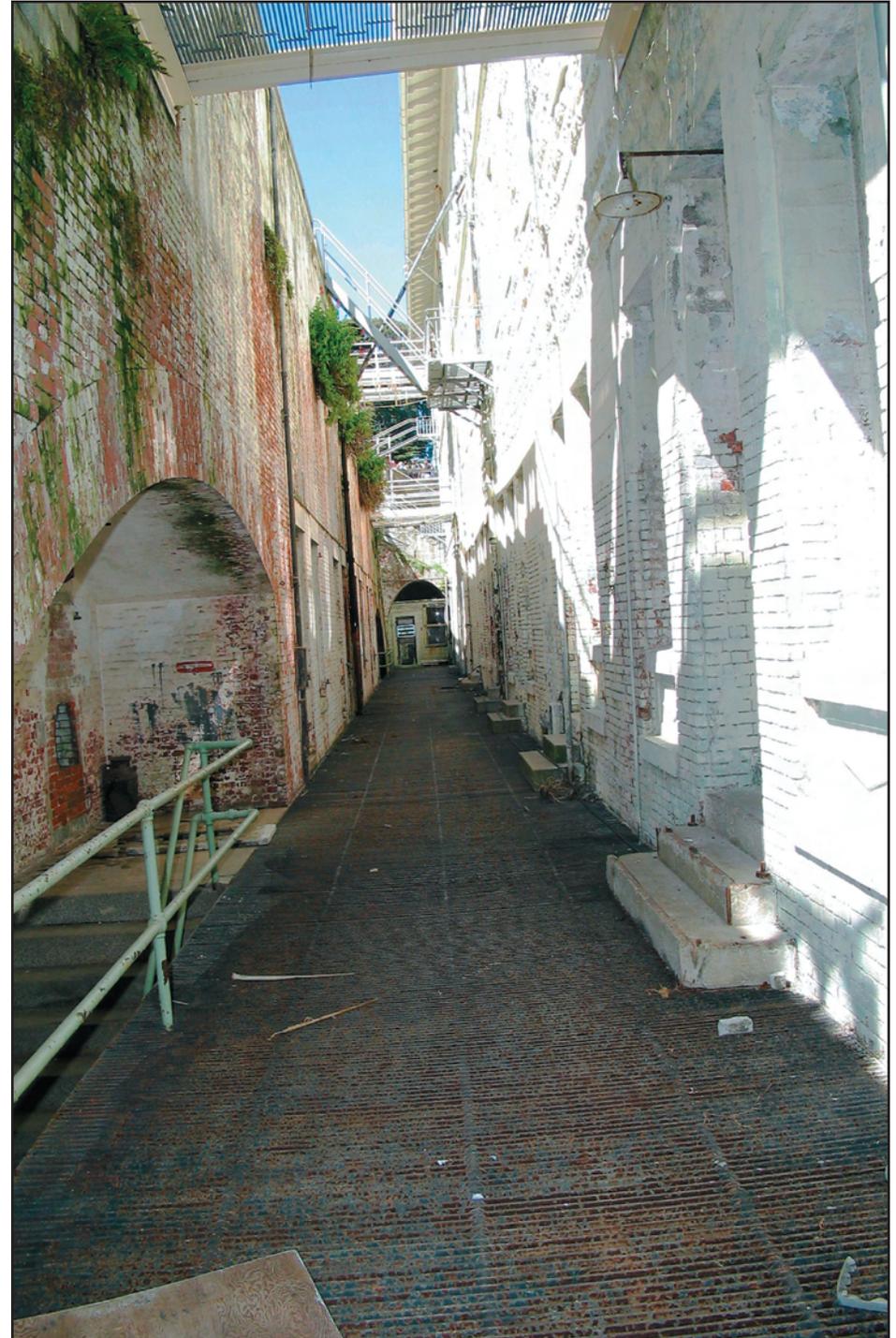
**Above: 1866 opening  
"Brick Portal", 2003.  
Photo Credit: John  
Martini .**

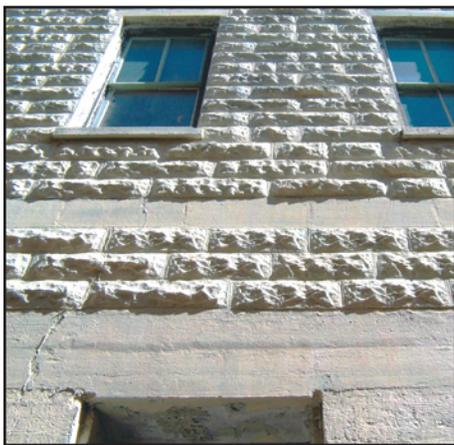
purlins supported by steel trusses. The roof over the southwest portion of the building referred to as the 'dogleg' was damaged severely in a recent windstorm.

**Right: "China Alley"  
'first floor' level  
looking north., 2003  
Photo Credit: John  
Martini.**

Access to the building is awkward, as there is no obvious "front door." The casemate level, into which thousands of tourists enter each day, is accessible to the Dock only through a single narrow door in the east wall of the northernmost vault. There is a freight elevator at the origin of the 'dog leg' that provides vertical access to the casemate level from the Dock, and leads directly into the vaults at the 'dogleg' now used as a merchandise storage and office area. At the rear of the building on the west, the casemates open out into "China Alley", which leads, through a brick portal at the north, past the Guardhouse Complex up to the main switchback road.

Concrete balconies run along the dockside of the First and Second Floors of the later concrete block structure built atop the casemates. The concrete columns, railings and brackets have spalls in numerous places, creating a safety hazard on the balconies and a falling hazard below. Various concrete and galvanized steel staircases access these balconies, which in turn lead into the building through a multitude of entry doors. The upper three floors on the west façade of the building are accessed via an unusual series of metal bridges.





Top: Parabolic brick arch, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.

Bottom: Closeup of concrete block exterior wall, 2003 Photo Credit: John Martini.

Right: First floor balcony view looking south, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.

The upper three floors of the building, built atop the casemates level, were originally constructed by the Army as four separate Company Barracks. The main spaces were separated by concrete block firewalls with no penetrations, and each barracks space had its own grand staircase. As the building was converted into smaller residential units, portions of the grand staircases were altered or removed and the large barracks rooms were subdivided into many smaller rooms. This process of compartmentalizing has produced the “rabbit’s warren” seen today.

## Exterior Materials

### Summary

At the writing of this report, the exterior of the building is in generally fair condition. The casemate level and the hollow concrete block walls of the upper levels show their durability to have endured the last 30 years without maintenance. Portions of the building exterior have suffered damage over the years, though since this building is partially occupied, some deterioration has been halted and some damage repaired.

### Wall Surfaces

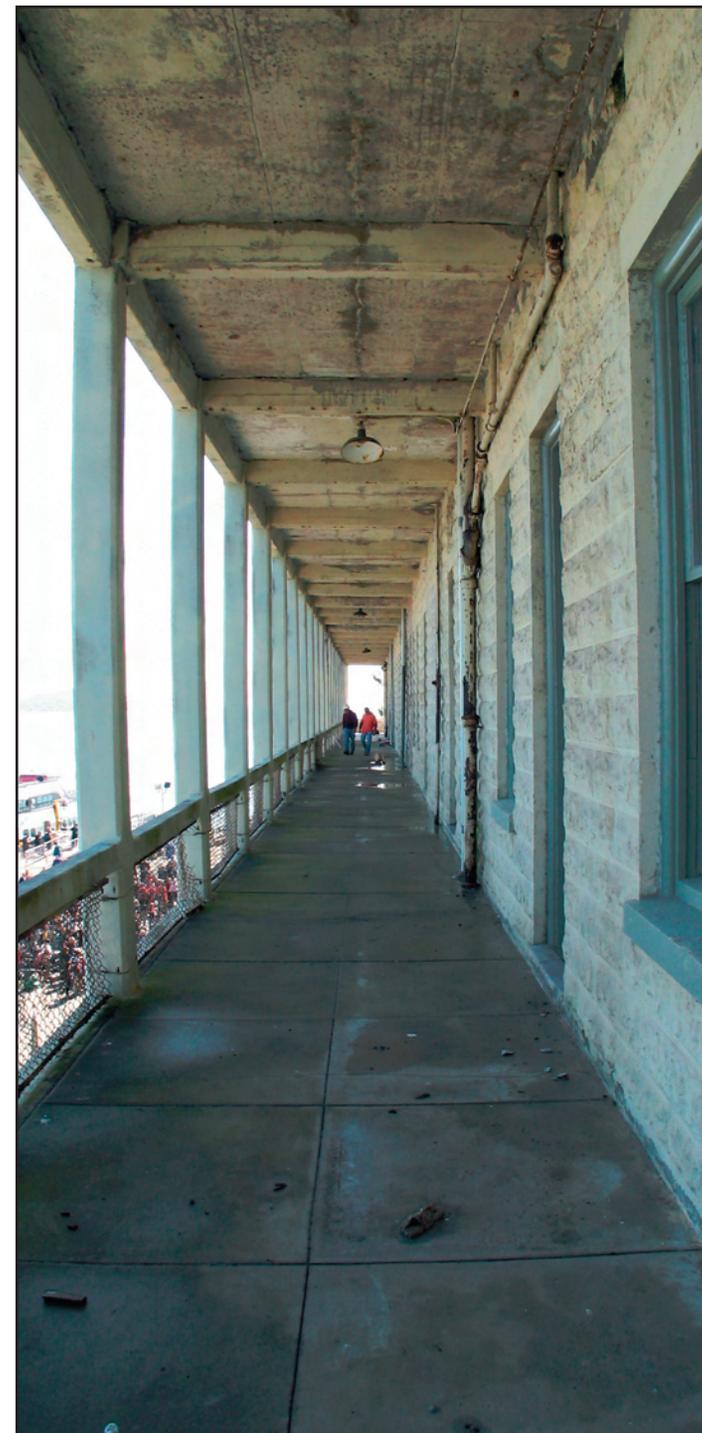
#### Brick

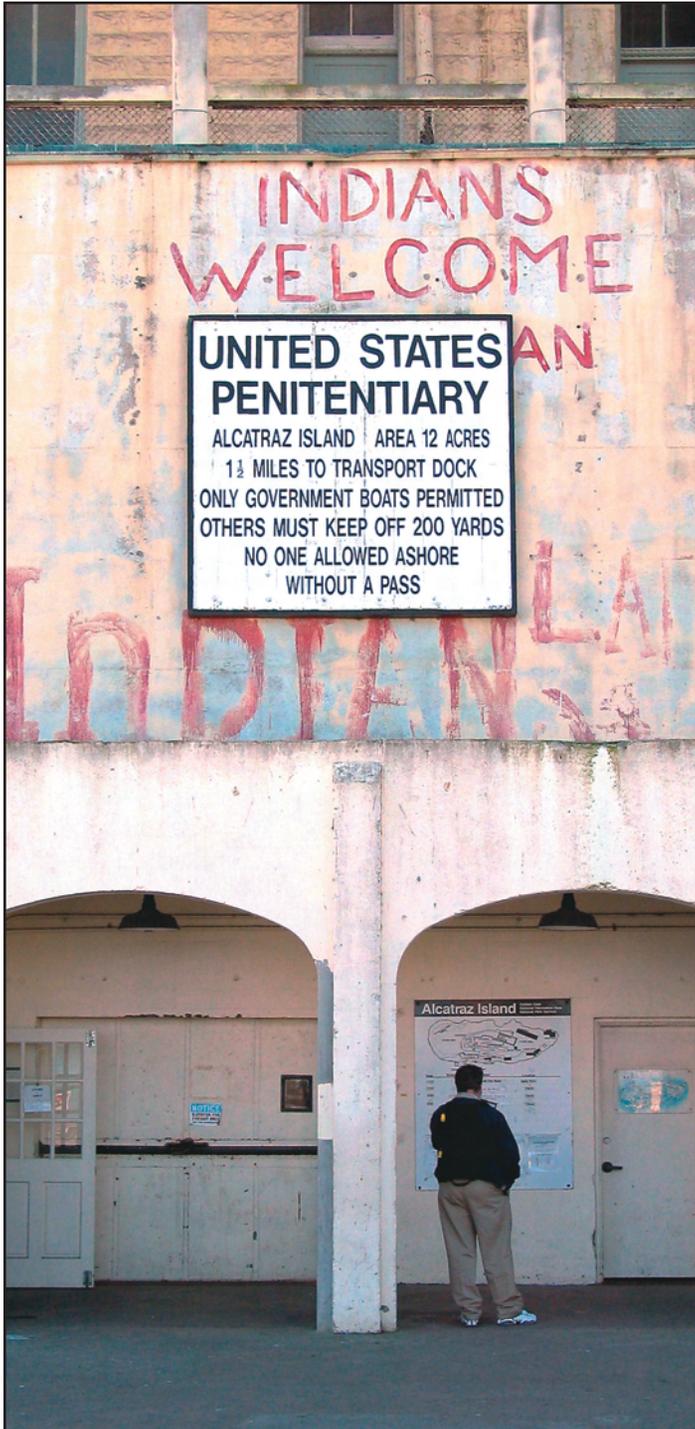
The casemate level of Building 64 and both levels of “China Alley,” the rear storage area, are constructed of brick. The walls range in thickness from approximately 1’-0”-4’-0”. The construction appears to be of high quality. Openings are arched and two rear staircases are built into large parabolic-arch openings. The brick at this level generally appears to be in good condition, though the mortar needs re-pointing. There is deterioration in one area of the brick wall at the casemate level along China Alley. Paint on the brick walls is peeling and there is mold in several locations.

#### Hollow Concrete Block

The walls of the upper three floors are constructed of unreinforced hollow concrete masonry units approximately 10”x32” in a running bond pattern. The block at the first floor is 16” thick, the second 14”, and the third 12”. The hollow concrete blocks were molded with a rock-faced ashlar pattern on the outside. The resulting appearance is that of a stone barracks building. The block walls appear to be generally in good condition, however there is some localized damage to the block at the third floor on the southwest end of the building as a result of the recent windstorm and a previous fire. This area was repaired in February of 2003. Paint on the block walls is peeling and there is mold in several locations.

Concrete block was also used on the small building addition at the dock level. This concrete block appears to be not as well made as that of the upper levels. It was poorly grouted and laid unevenly.



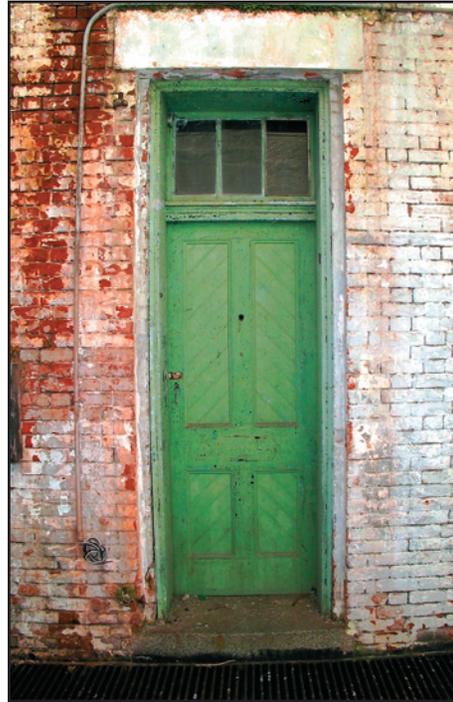


Clockwise from top left: Concrete elevator tower, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.

View of roof from Parade Ground, ca. 1915. Photo Credit: Charles Stucker Collection.

View of roof from Parade Ground, ca. 1929. Photo Credit: National Archives, Record Group 92.

View of roof from Parade Ground, 2002. Photo Credit: John Martini.



Top Left: Typical 5-panel wood door with transom, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.

Top right: Typical 4-panel door to rear storage rooms, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.

Bottom left: Typical double-hung window, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.

Ranger office at dock, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.

### Concrete

There is a freight elevator shaft constructed of cast-in-place concrete located at the origin of the 'dogleg'. This elevator provides vertical access from the Dock to the casemate level. Form board patterns are visible on the concrete, which appears to be in good condition even though it has been patched in several locations. There is highly visible Indian-era graffiti on this structure.

### Wood Siding

There is a wood frame shed structure to the north of the elevator shaft that houses a Ranger Office and covered parking for island electrical vehicles. This structure is clad in 1 x 6 V-groove wood siding.

## Roof

### Historical Roof

Originally Building 64 had a fairly flat roof accessed by the grand staircases within the building. This roof had a decorative parapet topped with cannonballs as decoration. The roof and parapet were removed in 1928, presumably due to deterioration and leakage problems, and replaced with a hip roof almost identical to the one seen today.

### Metal Roof

The current roof configuration is a simple hipped roof with 16-gauge corrugated aluminum roofing panels 4' wide by 11' long metal. There are copper U-section gutters around the entire roof with 4 inch copper leaders at regular intervals. There is a ridge bar permanently mounted on the roof where safety lines can be clipped during roof work. The majority of the metal roof in the 'dogleg' portion blew off in a windstorm on November 8, 2002 and was repaired in February of 2003. The November storm also damaged several framing members, requiring their removal and replacement. The gutters and downspouts appear to be in good condition, but tend to collect a considerable amount of debris due to the presence of nesting gulls.

### Chimneys

#### Cast-in-place Concrete

Of the numerous chimneys that originally penetrated the roof surface, only two non-functioning concrete chimneys remain. One chimney is incorporated into the exterior wall and penetrates the roof above Apartment 307. This chimney was damaged in the November 2002 windstorm and had broken at the roofline and was leaning eastward at perhaps a 10° angle. It was repaired as part of the roof repair in February of 2003.

### Windows & Doors

#### Wood Entry Doors

There are many different styles of entry doors in Building 64. The majority of the doors are 3'-0" x 8'-0" x 1¼" thick. Most have a 1'-10" 2-light transom above them. Many different door styles exist, 5-panel, 6-panel, 3-panel with window above, and 2-panel with a window above, to name the most common.

#### Storage Room Doors

Along "China Alley" are openings to storage rooms on both the casemate and First Floor levels. The brick openings are arched with heavy wooden shutter-like doors. Each door opening has a pair of doors and measures 3'-2" wide and 9'-6" high to the center of the arch. The doors are constructed of 1 x 4 tongue and groove wainscot paneling over 2x framing. The boards are vertical on the exterior and diagonal on the interior and are attached with large carriage bolts. There are two ½" wide x 18" long strap hinges on each door. Storage room doors and shutters on the casemate level are replicas installed in the 1980s.



Top: View of underside of concrete balcony under repair, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.



Bottom: Remnants of cast iron stair, south end, prior to wind storm, 2002. Photo Credit: Jane Lehman.

Opposite page: View of metal stair and concrete stair, north side, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.



## Windows

The predominant window style of the upper three floors of the building is a 3'-0" x 8'-0" wood frame double-hung window. These are wood sash single glazed true-divided light windows, generally in a 2 over 2 pattern. Most of the windows are in very poor condition, with the exception of about ten that have been rehabilitated along the First Floor balcony on the east façade of the building. On the majority of windows, the paint is peeling or blistered, wood sash are cracked, glazing is broken in many instances, and the cord ropes have become brittle or have broken. A number of windows appear to have been replaced by surplus or 'recycled' sash, leading to unusual combinations, such as 4 light over 9 light.

At the Casemate level, the original east window openings facing the dock were adapted from cannon embrasures with iron shutters. The openings were enlarged at a later date to accommodate windows. Presently, there is one door at the northern end of the building, which serves as the main visitor entrance, and the remaining wall openings are fitted with wood casement windows. Originally each of the casemates had one door opening and two window openings facing into "China Alley". These openings had arched brick headers and heavy wooden shutters on iron pintles. Most of these openings were blocked up during the Bureau of Prisons era for security reasons.

## Balconies

The balconies on the east and southeast sides of the building are reinforced concrete elevated slabs supported with reinforced concrete or concrete-encased steel section struts. The support structure shows significant concrete spalls and exposed rusted steel reinforcement. Currently there is a construction project being undertaken to repair the concrete balconies, steps and railings. There are approximately seven galvanized steel balconies associated with the fire escapes on both the east and west facades at the third floor. These appear to have been replaced within the last 20 years and are generally in good condition.

## Stairs

There is an abundance of different stair types at Building 64. Granite and brick stairways are built into the wall at China Alley at the west. These are the oldest stairways associated with the building and are in good condition. There is a flight of cast iron stairs that date from the same Military Barracks period that provided access from the Parade Ground to the third floor. This stair was likely relocated from the Citadel when the main Cell House was constructed. Several years ago the stairs collapsed onto a second floor wood frame addition and were never repaired. The cast iron treads and risers are broken in several places and have extensively rusted, but they appear to be salvageable. Salvaging this stair is desirable, as it is one of four remaining sets of cast iron stairs on the island.



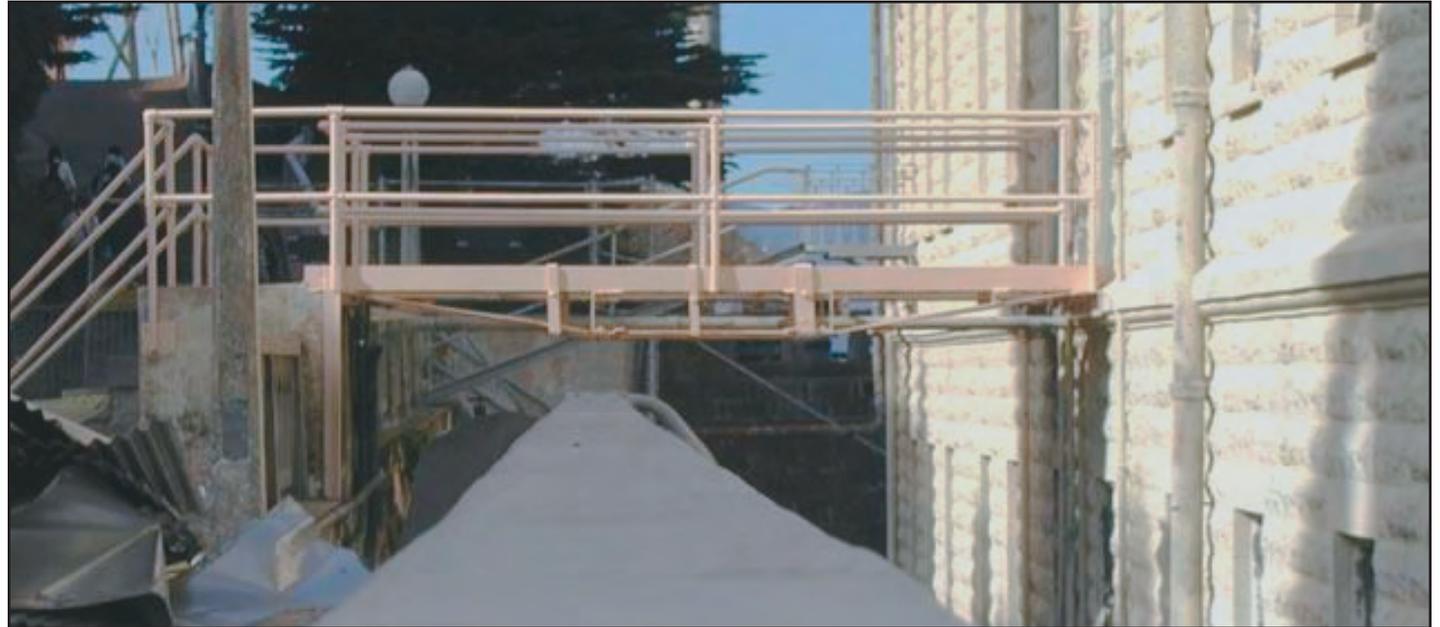
Top: View of historic concrete railing, 2003. Photo Credit: Jane Lehman.



Bottom: Second floor balcony railing before repair, 2003. Photo Credit: Jane Lehman.

Right: Concrete railing 'cap' with metal pipe railings beyond, 2003. Photo Credit: NPS Maintenance.

Bottom: Typical interior casemate level, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.



Cast-in-place concrete stairs provide access to the upper three floors from the Dock at both north and south ends of the building. Generally the stairs are in fair condition. However, shallow treads and tall risers create a hazardous condition in certain areas. Cast-in-place concrete stairs and landings are also found at the elevated steel walks above 'China Alley' that provide access to the third floor of the building at the west. These stairs are in good condition. Between the first and second floor balconies at the northeast corner of the building is a galvanized steel ladder stair. There are other galvanized steel stairs and ramps that provide egress and connect the fire escapes on the second and third floors. The galvanized steel in the majority of these areas appears to be sound, with minimal amounts of visible rust.

#### Railings

There are three primary types of railings on the exterior of Building 64, precast concrete, cast-in-place concrete and pipe rail. Precast concrete railings are found on the stairs near the Guard Tower on the Dock, protecting the upper edge of 'China Alley', and at the rear of the building near the north end of the Parade Ground. These railings have concrete 'pickets' with large interstitial voids (approximately 10") and are typically used throughout the Island. Many of these rails located throughout the Island have been modified with metal mesh infill panels or tied with ropes to abate the hazards of having the large open spaces, however, the railings at Building 64 have not been modified as such because they are located in areas closed to public visitation. A small number of

concrete railings in this area were replaced in 2001. These are in good condition. Railings that were not replaced show large spalls with exposed and rusted reinforcement steel. One section of concrete railing in this area collapsed when roof debris fell on it during the November 2002 storm.

The railings at the concrete balconies consist of a cast-in-place concrete top rail between concrete posts with chain link wire mesh infill panels. This railing style also appears on the stairway that connects the First Floor balcony and the Dock at the south end of the building. Overall, it is generally in very poor condition, shows numerous areas of rusted metal and spalled concrete, and has collapsed in several places. There is one area of at the south end of the First Floor balcony where the chain link wire mesh infill panels have been replaced with decorative concrete block that is red in color. This replacement appears to be associated with a project from the Bureau of Prison era that was never completed.

The remaining exterior railings are metal pipe railings ranging in size from 1 inch to 2½" in diameter. These appear at the stairs and steel walkways at the west façade; and on the fire escapes. They appear generally to be in good condition.

## **Plumbing and Electrical**

### **Plumbing**

There are numerous plumbing pipes attached to the exterior of the building. Many of these are water supply pipes originating at the cisterns and Water Tank. A small number of pipes are connected to the sanitary sewer system and others are associated with the roof drainage system. All pipes have been abandoned or no longer function, with the exception of the 4 inch leaders connected to the roof gutters.

### **Electrical**

There is 480-volt service to the building. This is reduced to a 208-volt/3-phase system with power panels and breakers. Inside the building the service is further reduced to 110 volt. The only visible electrical lines on the exterior of the building are surface mounted conduits that supply electrical fixtures.

### **Lighting**

There are several historic lampposts that remain along the west at the rear of the building to illuminate the pedestrian walkways in that area. The fixtures are 6'-0" high and consist of tapered precast concrete posts with a 12" diameter glass globe. Pendant lights once hung from the ceiling of the lower balcony and pendants adapted with rigid conduit for wall mounting were used in areas with no roof overhang. There are a small number of functioning exterior light fixtures near the sheds at the dock level, but the majority are no longer operable.



Interior of cistern behind Building 64. Photo Credit: Martin Mayer .



Typical interior  
upper level, 2003.  
Photo Credit: John  
Martini.

## Interior Materials

### Summary

In general, the interior finishes of the building are in poor condition. Deterioration due to exposure to the elements, continued neglect, vandalism, pest and water infiltration has led to extensive damage and loss of fabric. The primary exception to this typical situation exists at the Casemate level. Because staff and visitors have continuously occupied the spaces on this level, repairs and mitigations are completed in a timely fashion, so that the spaces are consequently in good condition. In the following sections, a brief description of each individual interior material is presented along with recommendations for conservation.

### Floors

#### Casemate Level

The floors in the casemate level are poured-in-place concrete. The finish floor material is carpet in the offices, vinyl composition tile in the retail store, and exposed concrete treated with a sealer in the theater space. Most of the flooring is generally in good condition. The concrete has been patched in some areas where plumbing was previously installed and later removed.

‘China Alley’ has a concrete floor with a channel drain that slopes to drain runoff into one large floor drain in the center of the alley. A raised wood deck has been added at the north end of the alley to make the floor levels between the storage rooms and the casemates contiguous, doing away with the need for stairs into and out of the alley and thus linking the alley rooms to an accessible path of travel for visitor use. This boardwalk is not adequately ventilated. Also, the drainage system in the alley is in need of repair, as it appears as though water in the alley does not drain properly. Since there are high spots that collect water, the water stagnates and foul odors consume the alley, creating a constant maintenance problem.

The main entry to the casemate level, through casemate 12, also has a raised floor for accessibility reasons. This floor, constructed of plywood with vinyl composition tile, was also improperly vented. In several places the wood has rotted, causing holes to form in the floor.

#### Upper Levels

Typical floors are 1”x 6” diagonal tongue and groove planking subfloor over 3” x 12” floor joists at 16” on center. On top of the subfloor is ¾” x 3” tongue and groove hardwood flooring. This floor assembly is generally in good condition. There appears to be widespread water damage from roof leaks, particularly on the upper floors. One might theorize that as the top layer of flooring showed signs of warping or delaminating, another layer of flooring was added. This would explain the multiple layers of finish



Left: Concrete floor in "China Alley", 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.

Above: Indian-era graffiti on lath and plaster walls, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.

Right: Investigative opening in wood floor, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.





Above: Typical apartment interior with 1/4" gypsum board partition walls, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.

Right: Indian-era graffiti on lath and plaster walls, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.



flooring in certain areas. There is approximately 12" of crawlspace between the First Floor framing and the concrete roof/ceiling of the casemates.

In addition to the floors already mentioned, there is finish flooring of various types in various locations, including wood parquet, sheet vinyl, vinyl tiles, and linoleum runners. Generally, this flooring is in very poor condition.

### Wall Surfaces

#### Casemate Level

At the Casemate level, the walls are brick, either unfinished or finished with plaster or cement parging. These walls have been maintained and are in good condition.

#### Upper Levels

Interior walls in Building 64 are primarily 2"x 4" framing, finished with plaster, gypsum wallboard or fiberboard. The walls separating the original Company Barracks with the Grand Staircases are 6" hollow concrete block covered with asbestos content plaster.

Typically, a two-coat plaster system is applied to wood lath. The lath is either mounted directly to the studs or onto wood furring strips affixed to the concrete walls. In general, all of the wall surfaces are painted. Due to the age of the finishes, it is reasonable to presume that all this paint contains lead.

The condition of the walls on the upper levels ranges from poor to very poor. Paint is peeling extensively on the majority of the walls. Many walls have holes in them due to vandalism during the Indian Occupation. Some interior walls have been removed. The Third Floor walls have been damaged extensively by water penetration during several periods when the building's roof was in disrepair.

In addition to vandalism resulting from the Indian Occupation, there is also extensive Occupation graffiti on the interior walls of Building 64. This has been documented extensively in a study titled *Inventory of Occupation Graffiti 1969-1971* by John Noxon



Top left: Examples of baseboard wood trim, original and newer installations, 2003. Photo Credit: Jane Lehman.



Top right: Typical apartment entry door, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.



Bottom left: Interior windows, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.



View of extensive ceiling damage at south end of third floor, 2003. Photo Credit: Jane Lehman.

and Deborah Marcus. The condition of the graffiti ranges from fair to very poor. It has faded over the years and in many places is peeling with the paint on the walls.

### Ceilings

#### Casemate Level

The ceilings in the casemate level are all barrel-vaulted brick. They are in good condition.

#### Upper Levels

Typical ceilings are composed of 1" x 6" bead and board paneling that is attached directly to the underside of the floor joists. Between 2 and 4' below the floor joists is a drop ceiling composed of 2" x 6" joists, ½" fiberboard and ½" x 2" trim in a 4' x 4' pattern. The bead and board paneling is original to the building when it was divided into large rooms for the Company Barracks. The drop ceilings were installed as the spaces were converted into apartments composed of smaller rooms. Although the ceiling is in good

condition in certain areas, it generally deteriorates as you go up, with the worst conditions existing on the Third Floor in the area where the roof had blown off.

### Doors and Windows

#### Casemate Level

Most interior doors on the Casemate level have been replaced since the Park Service began occupying the building. These doors do not contribute greatly to the historic fabric and are in good condition.

#### Upper Level Doors

The interior doors on the upper three floors are primarily 2'-8" x 6'-8" painted wood frame and panel doors. A large number of interior doors have a transom window. Generally these doors have a single panel, but there are also two, four and five-panel doors with this style. In several areas there are doors with several lights or French style doors. These doors, where they exist, are in fair condition. A large number of doors have been removed. Door hardware that is generally inoperable exists on some doors. The painted finish on the doors, like the walls, is peeling and presumably contains lead.

#### Upper Level Windows

Interior windows exist throughout the upper levels of Building 64. These were installed when the large barracks spaces were converted to smaller apartments as a means of getting natural light and air into rooms that would not otherwise have any. The size and the shape of these windows vary widely, but primarily the sill heights are above 6' to afford some privacy to the spaces. There are many different types of windows: 4 over 4 double-hung, 4 light and 6 light fixed, single light and 6 light hopper, to mention the most common. Some of the windows exist as transoms or sidelights. The wood sash of these windows is in good condition, oftentimes the glazing is broken, and in most cases the windows are painted shut.

### Trim

#### Upper Levels

There is a minimal amount of wood trim on the interior of this building. There is baseboard, door and window trim in all the apartment spaces, but no other decorative trim such as wainscoting, picture rails or crown molding exists.

The baseboards on the original company barracks are ¼" x 13" whereas newer baseboards are nominally 1" x 8". In some cases the 1x8 baseboard has been added directly to the 13" high baseboard. The original door and window casing trim is nominally 1x6 trim with a flat profile. In some cases there is a 2¾" ogee style trim around the doors. This appears to be a more recent addition.

## Fireplaces

### Casemate Level

No original fireplaces exist at the casemate level.

### Upper Levels

Fireplaces were originally used as the sole source of heat on the upper floors of Building 64. Once the central Steam Plant for the island was completed, radiators were installed to provide heat to the building. Many fireplaces remain throughout the building although most of them are sealed and their chimneys have been removed.

The fireplaces are masonry, but the material used for the surrounds varies. Most of the fireplaces are concrete block with decorative diamond patterns on the sides. Three fireplaces are composed of river rock with decorative concrete around the fireboxes and the mantles. Both of these fireplace types have concrete mantles. Several of the fireplaces are brick with brick mantles. All of the hearths are concrete with wood trim that is set flush with the finish floor surface.

### Diamond Fireplace

These fireplace surrounds have precast concrete sides with an elongated diamond pattern. Above the firebox are two courses of hollow concrete block finished to resemble ashlar stone. The mantle is precast concrete.

### River Rock Fireplace

These fireplaces have two strips of precast concrete supporting a precast concrete mantle. Painted smooth river rock is used as a veneer over the original fireplace material.

### Brick Fireplace

These fireplaces are constructed of brick in a modified running bond. At the top of the fireplace, three tiers of brick corbel out to form the mantle. Several of the brick fireplaces do not have a corbelled mantle; the mantle is formed from a simple offset in the brick.



Top to bottom:  
'Diamond style'  
fireplace in bathroom,  
2003. Photo Credit:  
Jane Lehman.

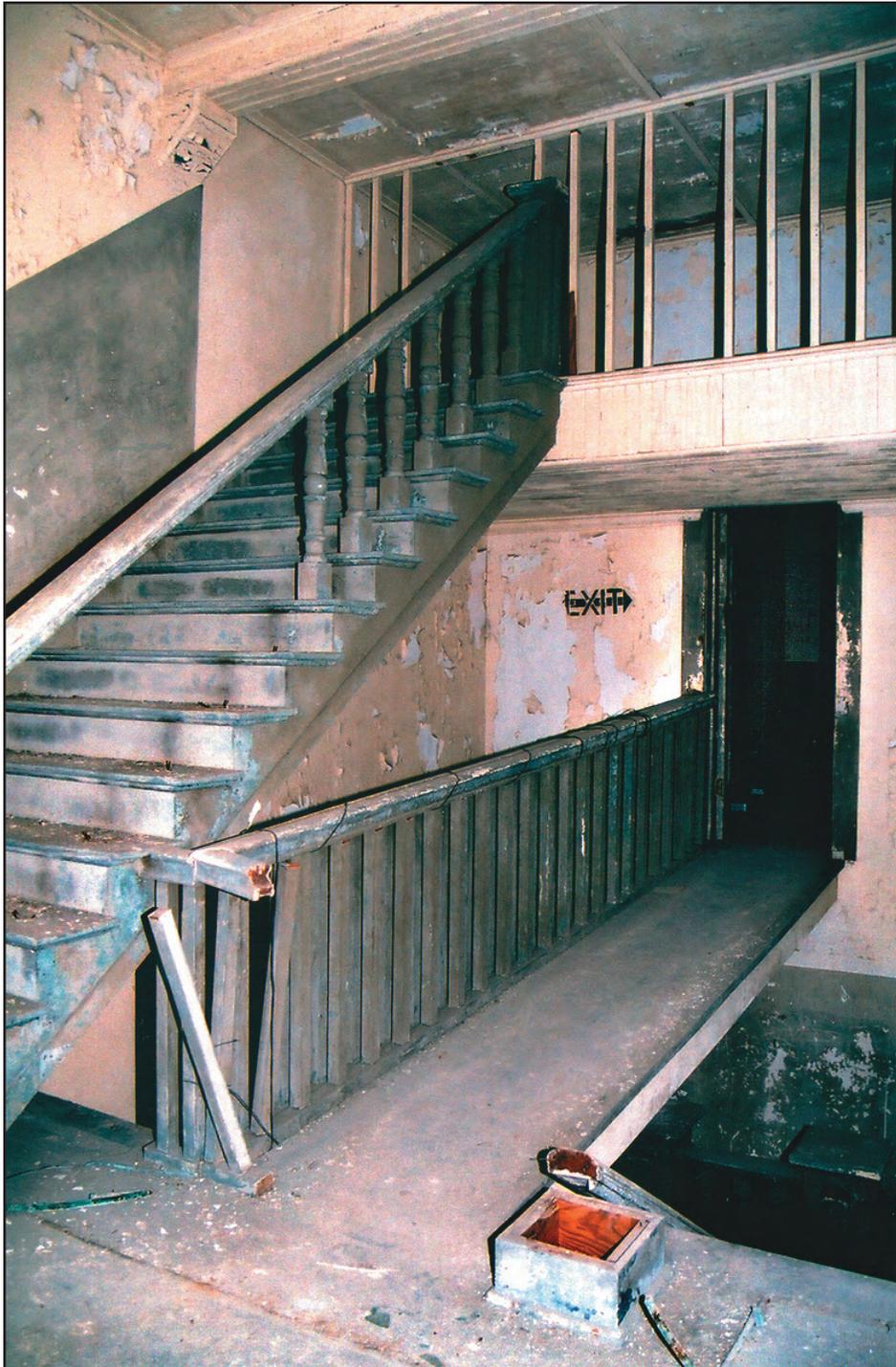
'River rock'  
fireplace,  
2003. Photo Credit:  
Jane Lehman.

Brick fireplace,  
2003.  
Photo Credit: Jane  
Lehman.





Stair 01 showing remnants of toilet partition, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.



Stair 01 at third floor landing, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.



Stair 03 between second and third floors, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.



Outline of Stair 04  
visible in apartment  
108, 2003. Photo  
Credit: John Martini.

Stair 02 at second floor landing, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.



## Grand Staircases

When the Company Barracks addition was originally built on top of the Casemated Barracks, each of the four companies had its own entrances and exits, and a main staircase connecting each of the three stories of living space. Each of the three story Company Barracks was separated from the others by solid masonry walls. This was a traditional design for late 20th Century Army housing. As Building 64 was remodeled from a Company Barracks into officer's housing and later family housing, portions of the staircases were removed or blocked off. Doors were cut through the staircase masonry walls and 'bridges' were added in some areas to span between the east landing and the west hallways.

The grand staircases have 7/8" thick stair treads that are 6' wide. The rise and run is 7" and 10 1/2" nominally, although there is some variation in certain areas. The main newel posts are 1 foot square with a 16" square cap. The railings are 3" x 6" with decorative, turned wood balusters at 10" on center.

### Stair 01

This stair has been removed from the First to the Second Floors. The First Floor was converted into a living room and bathroom for Apartment 101. The flight between the Second and Third Floors still exists, and 'bridges' have been added at both levels to connect the main stair landing on the east with the rear hallways on the west. The flight that originally accessed the attic or roof is blocked at the Third Floor, though the steps are extant. There is sheet linoleum on the floor of all stair landings and 1" hexagonal tile set on a 2 1/2" thick concrete pad at the Third Floor landing. This is evidence of a water closet that existed on this landing during the Army era.

Generally the wood steps are in good condition. There are three intact wood newel posts remaining, but less than a dozen original balusters remain. The 'bridges' are 32" wide. Their railings are composed of 1 3/4" square pickets at approximately 6" centers. All four of the 'bridge' railings remain. The linoleum flooring is in very poor condition, and the wood finish flooring is in fair condition.

### Stair 02

This is the most intact staircase of the original four. It is intact from the First Floor up to the Attic. One door opening has been added between Stair 1 and 2 at the Second Floor and there are remnants of a water closet at the Third Floor landing. The stairs from the Third Floor landing to the Attic are slightly steeper than the main stairs, there is an area that has been completely caged off by pickets at the attic landing, and the final stairs into the attic have irregular risers and runs and become very steep.

The steps are in good condition. There are no railings between the First and Second Floors, but two newel posts, several railings, and a few balusters remain between the Second and Third

Floors. The sheet linoleum is in very poor condition, but the hex tile at the Third Floor landing and the wood finish flooring is in fair condition.

#### **Stair 03**

This staircase is intact between the First and Third Floors, but it has been altered in several places. The space below the stair between the First and Second Floors was converted into a bedroom for Apt. 107. Windows were added from this bedroom into the First Floor landing. Apartment 306 was enlarged by lowering the overhead clearance of the staircase between the Second and Third Floors and incorporating this space into the apartment footprint. A wall was added in this area that divides this staircase into two spaces.

The steps are in good condition. The newel posts and railings exist between the First and Second Floors, but no balusters remain. Only one newel post remains from the Second to the Third Floors. This section of railing has been incorporated into a wall. All the other elements have been removed. The linoleum at the landings is in very poor condition.

#### **Stair 04**

Nothing remains of this staircase except traces of its outline on the concrete block walls. On the First Floor, the space became the living room for Apt. 108. On the Second Floor, it became a bedroom for Apt. 207, and on the Third Floor it became a bedroom for Apt. 306.

#### **Electrical Fixtures**

The historic electrical system has been abandoned. The original power panels and breakers for each of the apartments are located in two rooms on the 3rd floor.

#### **Lighting**

Lighting in each room consisted of a single fixture suspended from the ceiling. Most of these light fixtures appear to date from the 1950's, but are deteriorated beyond repair.

#### **Plumbing**

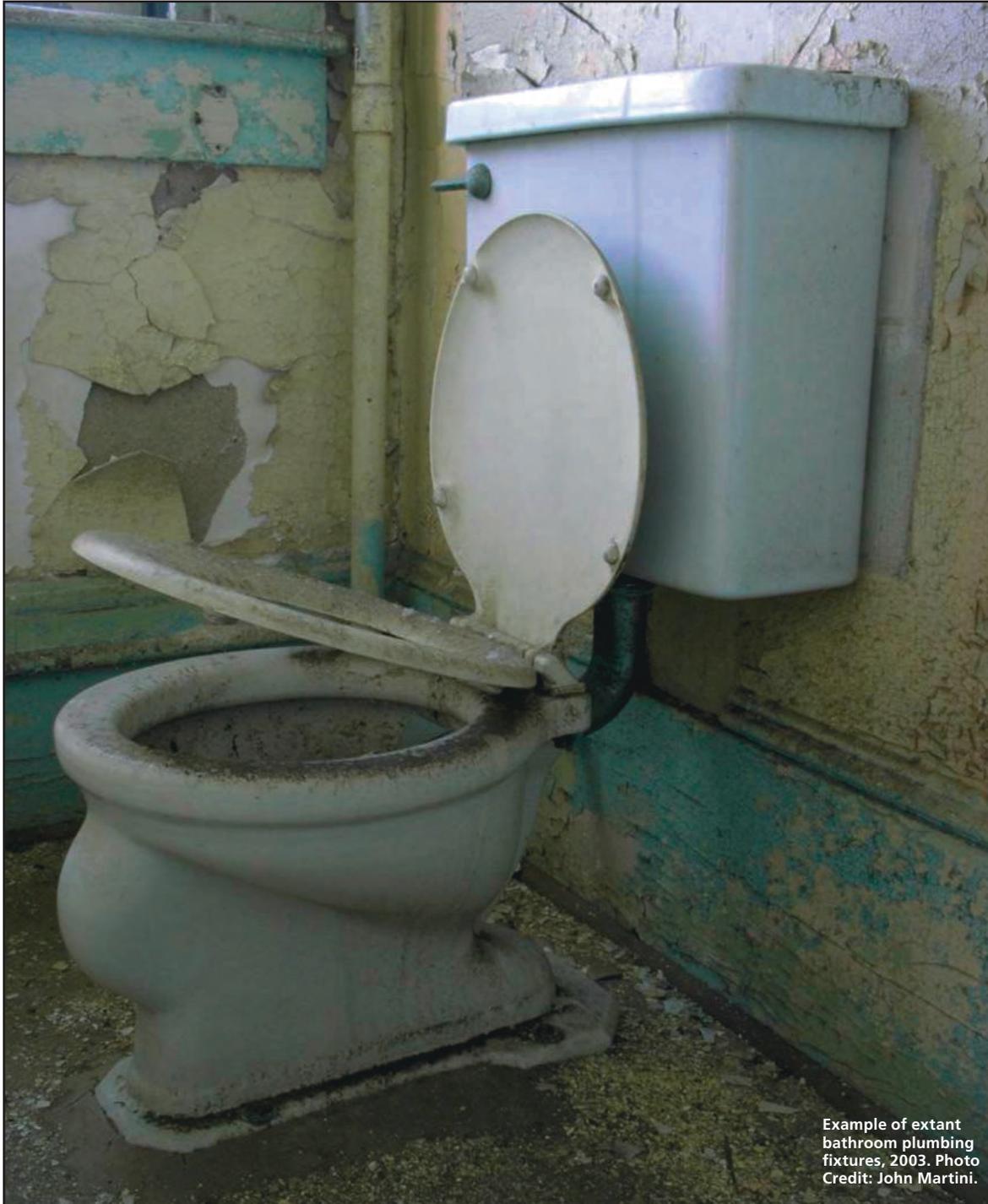
Cisterns located behind Building 64 originally held potable water for the occupants of the building. The cisterns were abandoned and fresh water was supplied from the water tower after it was constructed at the top of the island. As was the case with the rest of the island, toilets in Building 64 were plumbed with seawater pumped directly out of the bay. The cisterns still remain in good condition. The condition of the piping for the building varies from good in certain interior locations to completely deteriorated in locations exposed to the marine climate.

#### **Bathrooms**

Porcelain fixtures were used throughout the building. The majority of the apartments had one bathroom in them each equipped with a bathtub, toilet, and wall-mounted sink. The bathtubs are still generally intact throughout the building. The toilets consist of



Example of BOP era light fixture, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.



Example of extant bathroom plumbing fixtures, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.

floor-mounted bowls with wall-mounted tanks. The majority of the tanks are broken off the walls and the bowls are clogged with debris. In almost all cases, the wall-mounted sinks are broken off the walls.

#### **Kitchens**

No plumbing fixtures remain in the kitchens. There is very little evidence of where the sinks and drain boards might have been because most of piping has been removed.

#### **Radiators**

Many steam radiators still existing throughout the building, although the heating system as a whole does not function.

#### **Fire Protection**

A fire sprinkler system was installed in the building at one point. The pipes for the system still remain in the attic. A sand bucket system supplemented the fire suppression for the building. Many of the original stands and buckets still exist.

#### **Appliances and Cabinetry**

##### **Appliances**

There are several refrigerators and stoves remaining in the building dating from the 1950's and early 1960's, however, they all are rusted and unserviceable.

##### **Cabinetry**

There was never much built-in cabinetry in Building 64. The army used wooden wall lockers for storage purposes, several of which still remain in the building. As Building 64 was converted from army barracks to single family apartments, built-in cabinets were added in many of the kitchens. Currently eight of these cabinets remain.



Example of extant bathroom plumbing fixtures, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.



Left to right: Army-era locker converted to closet, 2003. Photo Credit: John Martini.

Typical built-in kitchen cabinetry, 2003. Photo Credit: Jason Hagin.



## Condition Assessments & Significant Features

There are many significant features remaining throughout Building 64. Significant overall building features which should be preserved include:

- Building Shape—brick defensive wall and corbels. Concrete blocks poured to look like sandstone.
- Roof—the roof shape, chimneys, corrugated metal roofing, large overhang with decorative outriggers.
- Brick rooms at casemate level, including rear storage rooms. Especially significant are the barrel vaulted ceilings, arched openings, parabolic arches over staircases, elongated arch ceiling in first floor shower room.
- “China Alley” including metal floor grating.
- Balconies along south and east façades and entry bridges on west façade.
- Elevator shaft and dock structures.
- Pattern of openings—cannon embrasures at casemate level. Wood doors and windows at barracks levels.

The following condition assessments individually evaluate each of the 27 remaining apartments and the common hallways on floors 1, 2, and 3. Note that numbers below the noted condition refer to apartments noted on floor plans

## Interior Spaces Condition Assessment

Condition	Walls	Floors	Ceilings	Doors/Windows	Electrical & Plumbing	Appliances
Good	Finishes and Structure largely undamaged	Finishes and Structure largely undamaged 101, 102, 104	Finishes and Structure largely undamaged 104	Units and assemblies largely undamaged, hardware semi-functional 104	Fixtures undamaged in original location 202, 204, 307 (no sinks)	Units in original location, largely undamaged
Fair	Finishes and Structure slightly deteriorated or damaged	Finishes & structure is warped or delaminating 103, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 201, 202, 203, 204	Finishes and Structure slightly deteriorated or damaged; peeling paint, minor warping 101, 102, 107	Units and assemblies slightly damaged, not functional; nailed shut 101, 102, 103, 202, 203, 204, 209	Fixtures in original location, slightly damaged	Units in original location, slightly deteriorated or damaged, not functional 108, 109, 110, 201, 202, 203, 204, 208, 209
Poor	Finishes & Structure severely deteriorated or damaged 101, 102, 103, 104, 108, 110, 201, 202, 203, 204, 306, 307	Finishes and Structure severely deteriorated or floor finish removed	Finishes and Structure severely deteriorated or damaged; missing sections 103, 108, 201, 202, 203, 204	Units and assemblies severely deteriorated	Fixtures severely damaged; pieces of fixtures remain, wires hanging from walls or ceilings 101, 102, 103, 104, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 201, 203, 207, 208, 209, 111	Pieces of units remain in apartment area 111
Very Poor	Finishes and Structure missing, removed or destroyed 106, 107, 109, 207, 208, 209, 111	Finishes and Structure damaged; holes or weak spots 207, 208, 209, 306, 307, 111	Finishes and Structure damaged; collapsed areas 106, 109, 110, 207, 208, 209, 306, 307, 111	Units and assemblies missing or removed, openings covered with plywood 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 201, 207, 208, 306, 307, 111	No fixtures remain 306	No appliances remain 101, 102, 103, 104, 106, 107, 207, 306, 307

## Significant Features of Interior Spaces Condition Assessment

Type of Space	Apt or room number	No. of bedrooms	General Condition (see matrix)	Features Remaining from Periods of Significance			
				Casemated Barracks 1866-1904	U.S. Army Disciplinary Barracks 1905-1933	Bureau of Prisons 1934-1963	Post-Prison/ Indian Occupation 1964-1971
Apt	101	1	Fair	Historical openings to "China Alley"	Brick fireplace in closet	Light fixture in 3 & 4	
Apt	102	1	Fair		Brick fireplace in closet	Light fixture in 4	
Apt	103	2	Poor		Baseboards in 1, 2, 4, 5		
Apt	104	1	Fair	Access hatch in wood floor shows concrete floor below	Baseboards in 2, 3, 4		Significant graffiti in 1,4
Apt	105	1	Poor		Diamond fireplace in 3 Baseboards in 1, 2, 3		
Apt	106	1	Very Poor				
Apt	107	2	Poor		Baseboards in 1, 2, 3, 5, 7		
Apt	108	1	Poor	Historical openings to "China Alley"			
Apt	109	2 or 3	Poor		Baseboards in 1, 4, 5	Light fixture in 5	

				Features Remaining from Periods of Significance			
Type of Space	Apt or room number	No. of bedrooms	General Condition (see matrix)	Casemated Barracks 1866-1904	U.S. Army Disciplinary Barracks 1905-1933	Bureau of Prisons 1934-1963	Post-Prison/ Indian Occupation 1964-1971
Apt	110	2	Poor		Baseboards in 1, 2, 8 Diamond fireplace Outline of 3' & 6' opening in 3	Light fixture in 8	
Apt	111	2	Very Poor		Diamond fireplace		
Canteen	112/113	n/a	Fair		2 brick corner fireplaces Raised floor in stove area	Large double sink Metal shelves along wall	
Shower Room	114	n/a	Good	Barrel-vaulted brick ceiling	White 1" hexagonal floor tile	White 3"x6" wall tile 3 tiled shower stalls Wood partitions around 1 toilet stall	
Hall	115	n/a	Fair			Opening in wall for postal counter	
Post Office	116	n/a	Fair			Wood sliding window at customer counter Counter top on 3 walls	
Apt	201	2	Poor		Baseboards in 1, 2, 4, 5		
Apt	202	1	Fair		Diamond fireplace Baseboards in 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	All plumbing fixtures remain	
Apt	203	2	Poor		Diamond fireplace Baseboards in 1, 2, 4, 5, 6		
Apt	204	1	Fair		Diamond fireplace Baseboards in 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 Brick fireplace in closet	All plumbing fixtures remain	

Type of Space	Apt or room number	No. of bedrooms	General Condition (see matrix)	Features Remaining from Periods of Significance			
				Casemated Barracks 1866-1904	U.S. Army Disciplinary Barracks 1905-1933	Bureau of Prisons 1934-1963	Post-Prison/ Indian Occupation 1964-1971
Apt	205	2	Poor		Brick fireplace in 1 Plaster walls Baseboards in 1, 4, 5, 6		
Apt	206	1	Poor		Plaster walls	Cabinet in 2	
Apt	207	2 or 3	Very Poor		Brick fireplace	Hutch in kitchen	
Apt	208	2	Very Poor		Baseboards in 2, 3 River rock fireplace	Hutch in kitchen	
Apt	209	2	Very Poor		Baseboards in 1, 4, 6 Brick fireplace Door to 6		"Gregory fell in water" in 4
Hall	211	n/a	Poor		Brick fireplace w/ mantle		
Hall	212	n/a	Poor				
Hall	215	n/a	Poor		Diamond fireplace Baseboards		
Apt	301	2	Poor		Baseboards in 1, 4, 5	Hutch in 2	
Apt	302	1	Fair		Brick fireplace in 5 Baseboards in 1, 2, 3, 4		

				Features Remaining from Periods of Significance			
Type of Space	Apt or room number	No. of bedrooms	General Condition (see matrix)	Casemated Barracks 1866-1904	U.S. Army Disciplinary Barracks 1905-1933	Bureau of Prisons 1934-1963	Post-Prison/ Indian Occupation 1964-1971
Apt	303	1	Poor		Baseboards in 1, 2, 4, 7	Hutch in 2	
Apt	304	1	Poor		Diamond fireplace in 4 Baseboards in 1, 2, 3, 4		
Apt	305	3	Fair		River rock fireplace in 1 Diamond fireplace in 10 Brick fireplace in 4 14" baseboard in 5 rooms	Room layouts	Graffiti in rooms 1, 5, 6
Apt	306	3	Very Poor		Brick fireplace in 6 and river rock fireplace in 1 (neither filled in) Baseboards in ?	Light fixture in 8	"Custer had it coming" in 1
Apt	307	3	Very Poor		Brick fireplace in 3 Check double opening between 3 & 4	Hutch in 2 Built-in in 17	Indian head in 4
Hall	309	n/a	Poor		Diamond fireplace		
Hall	310	n/a	Poor		Diamond fireplace		
Utility Room	312	n/a	Poor				
Utility Room	313	n/a	Poor				

# Recommendations

## Immediate Recommendations

- **INDOOR PLUMBING**—Immediate need for indoor plumbing in the areas with existing occupancy, such as offices on first floor and wood shop.
- **STORM DAMAGE REPAIR**—Repair damaged section of roof and damaged chimney. Repair ceilings, floors, walls, doors and windows damaged from fallen debris or water penetration, remove exterior debris near Apt. 111. (Roof repair portion completed February 2003)
- **PERIMETER PATROL**—Restore stairs and balconies to the extent that it is possible to patrol the perimeter of the building. Maintain access for passage around southwest corner of the building at the parade ground level and at the first floor level.
- **CHIMNEY REMOVAL**—Remove remains of concrete chimney from Apt. 207. Repair floors, walls and ceilings in the immediate area to prevent further damage to building's interior.

## Short-term Recommendations

- **STABILIZE BUILDING ENVELOPE AND MOTHBALL UPPER 3 FLOORS**—Mothballing should be done in accordance with Preservation Brief 31—Mothballing Historic Buildings. This will preserve the upper floors until it is possible to reuse the spaces.
- **CYCLICAL MAINTENANCE PLAN**—In addition to the requirements for mothballing, cyclical maintenance needs to be done on the building. This should include activities such as, annual cleaning of gutters and downspouts, removal of gull nests on the roof, and painting and caulking in areas of moisture penetration.
- **CASEMATE RESTORATION**—Restore casemates by removing interior partitions and removing concrete infill from window and door openings. Open remainder of “China Alley” to visitation.

## Long-range Recommendations

- **ULTIMATE TREATMENT RECOMMENDATION**—According to the 1993 Alcatraz Development Concept Plan, the ultimate treatment recommendation for Building 64 is rehabilitation for adaptive reuse.
- **FULL CODE ANALYSIS**—All code related issues need to be identified including, but not limited to, life-safety, fire-protection, accessibility, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing.
- **SEISMIC UPGRADE**—Complete seismic evaluation and implement seismic strengthening measures.
- **HSR PHASE II AND HFR**—Complete Phase II of the Historic Structures Report and a Historic Furnishings Report prior to acquiring and displaying any period furnishings.
- **ELEVATOR**—An elevator is essential if the upper levels of the building are to be reused. If it becomes possible to add an elevator to the building, consideration should be given to placing it in the location of Grand Staircase 4 as a first choice or Grand Staircase 3 as a second choice.
- **TIME PERIODS AND AREAS OF RESTORATION**—It is not normally recommended that one building be restored to different time periods. However, Building 64 is so large and its spaces so discontinuous that it is acceptable to restore some areas to different time periods in order to interpret more of the building's history. If any spaces in the building are restored to a certain time period prior to the remainder of the building being reused, it will be required that those spaces have plumbing and electrical service to them.
- **SQUAD BAYS**—Squad bays should be restored in the areas beside Grand Staircase 2. This staircase is the most intact of the original four and is an integral feature of the original design of the company barracks.
- **CANTEEN AND POST OFFICE**—During the BOP days the canteen and post office were located in the Northeast corner of the first floor. These areas retain some integrity and could be restored to the BOP period.
- **MISSING ELEMENTS**—Replace missing elements as it becomes feasible:
  - Cast-iron stairs
  - Chimneys
  - Railings
  - Doors
  - Windows



## **Appendix A**

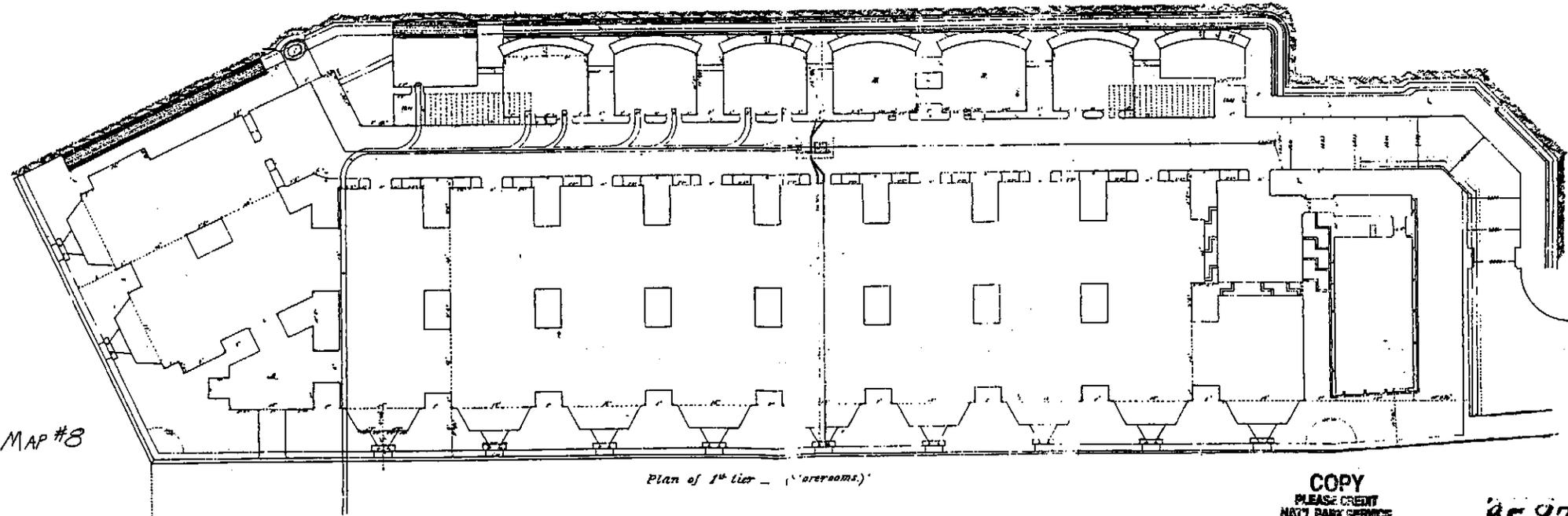
*Historic Drawings & Plans*

Alcatraz Island,  
San Francisco Harbor  
California.  
Bomb proof Barrack.

Scale 1" = 10'.  
Sheet No. 2.

Respectfully forwarded to the Chief Engineer  
with letter of this date.

San Francisco Cal.  
Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 1866.  
Geo. A. Baird,  
Chief Engineer.

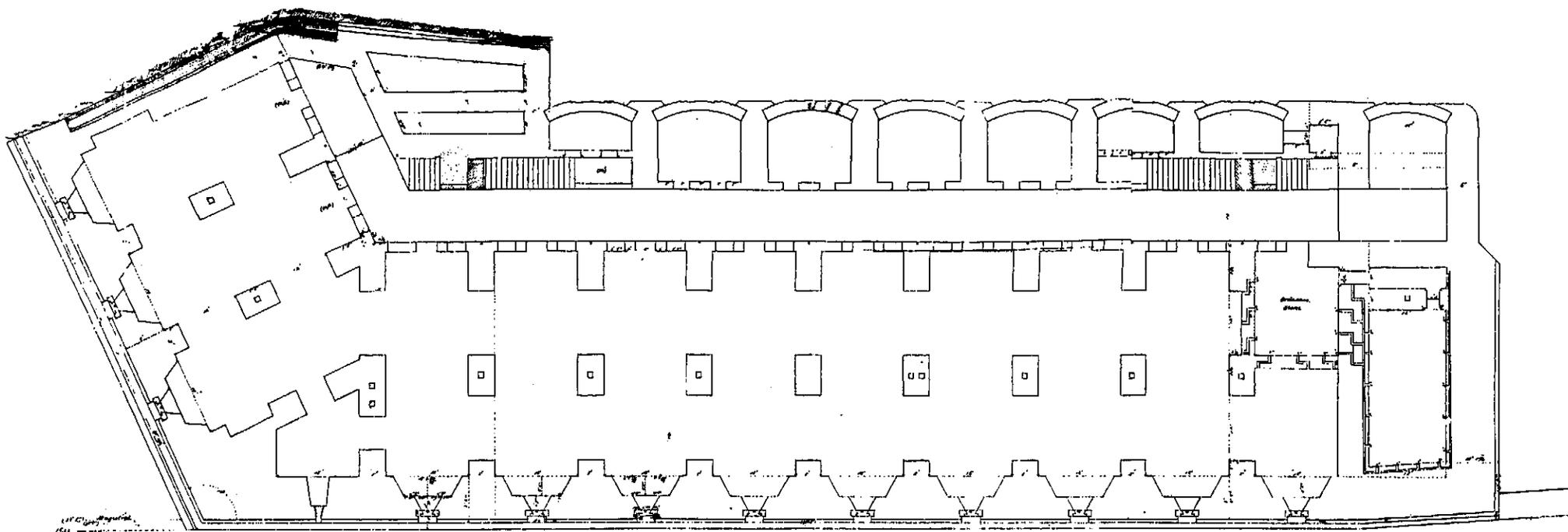


MAP #8

Plan of 1<sup>st</sup> tier - ('storerooms')

COPY  
PLEASE CREDIT  
NAT'L PARK SERVICE  
GOMR ARCHIVES

95-87



Plan of 2<sup>nd</sup> tier - (Quarters)

Alcatraz Island,  
San Francisco Harbor  
California.  
Bomb proof Barrack.

Scale 1" to 10'.  
Sheet No 2.

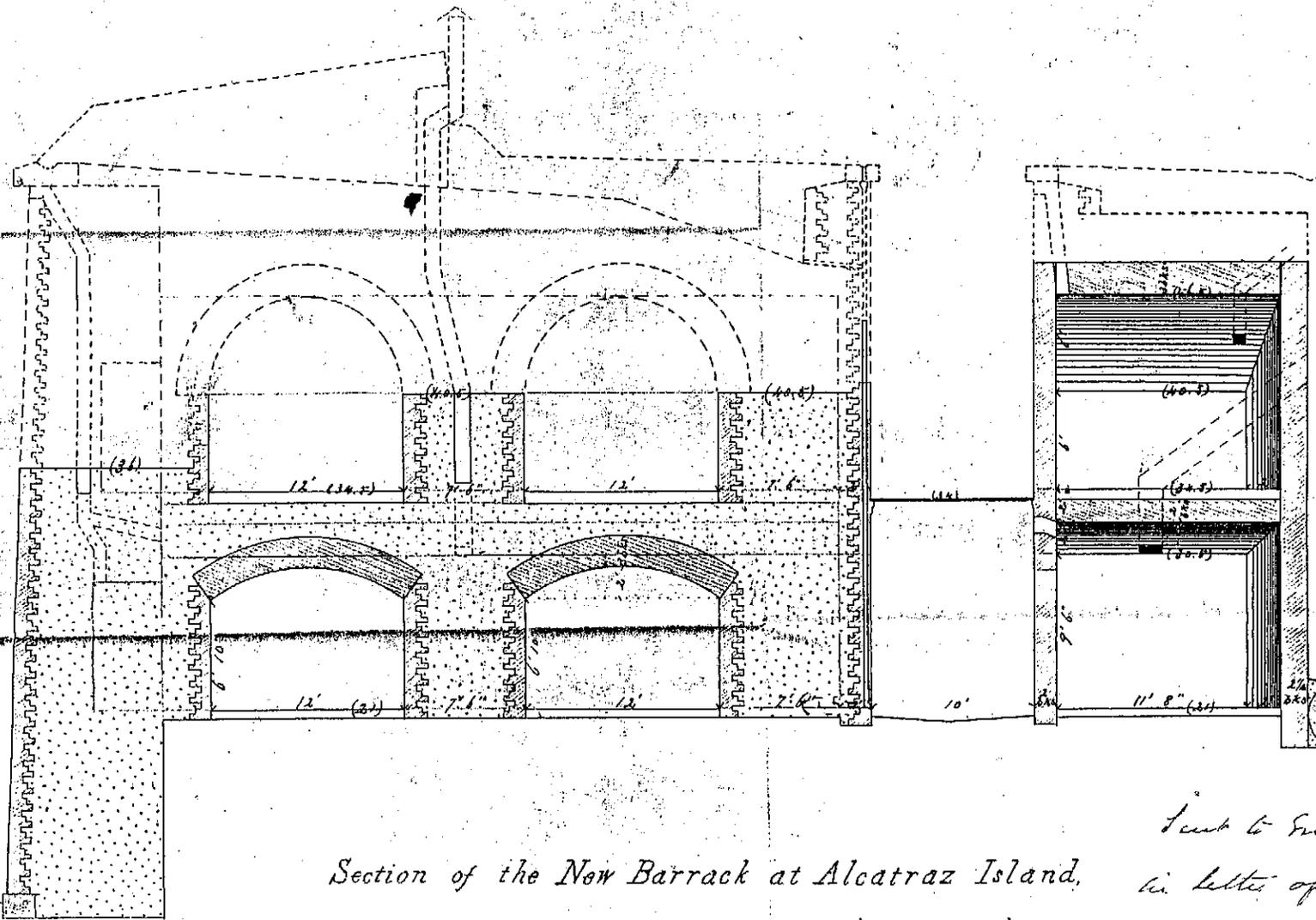
Respectfully forwarded to the Chief Engineer  
with letter of this date.

San Francisco Cal.  
Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 1866.

Wm. A. Lind  
Capt of Engineers



HTK 24 1867



ENGINEER DEPARTMENT  
 M. 89  
 MAY 27 1867  
 3d Div.

*Section of the New Barrack at Alcatraz Island,  
 showing its state of completion. April 29<sup>th</sup> 1867.*

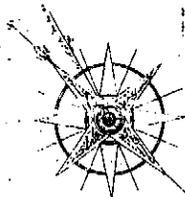
*Sent to Engineers Department  
 in letter of this date.  
 G. H. Mansfield  
 New York: B. G. L. Co.  
 4/29/1867*

1867. Bomb Proof Barrack. Section  
 NARA, RG 77, Corresp. Rel. To Notif. Letters  
 Recd. 1866-67 (3<sup>d</sup> Div.) Box 5, Mendell, SF, Apr.  
 29, 1867, to Humphreys

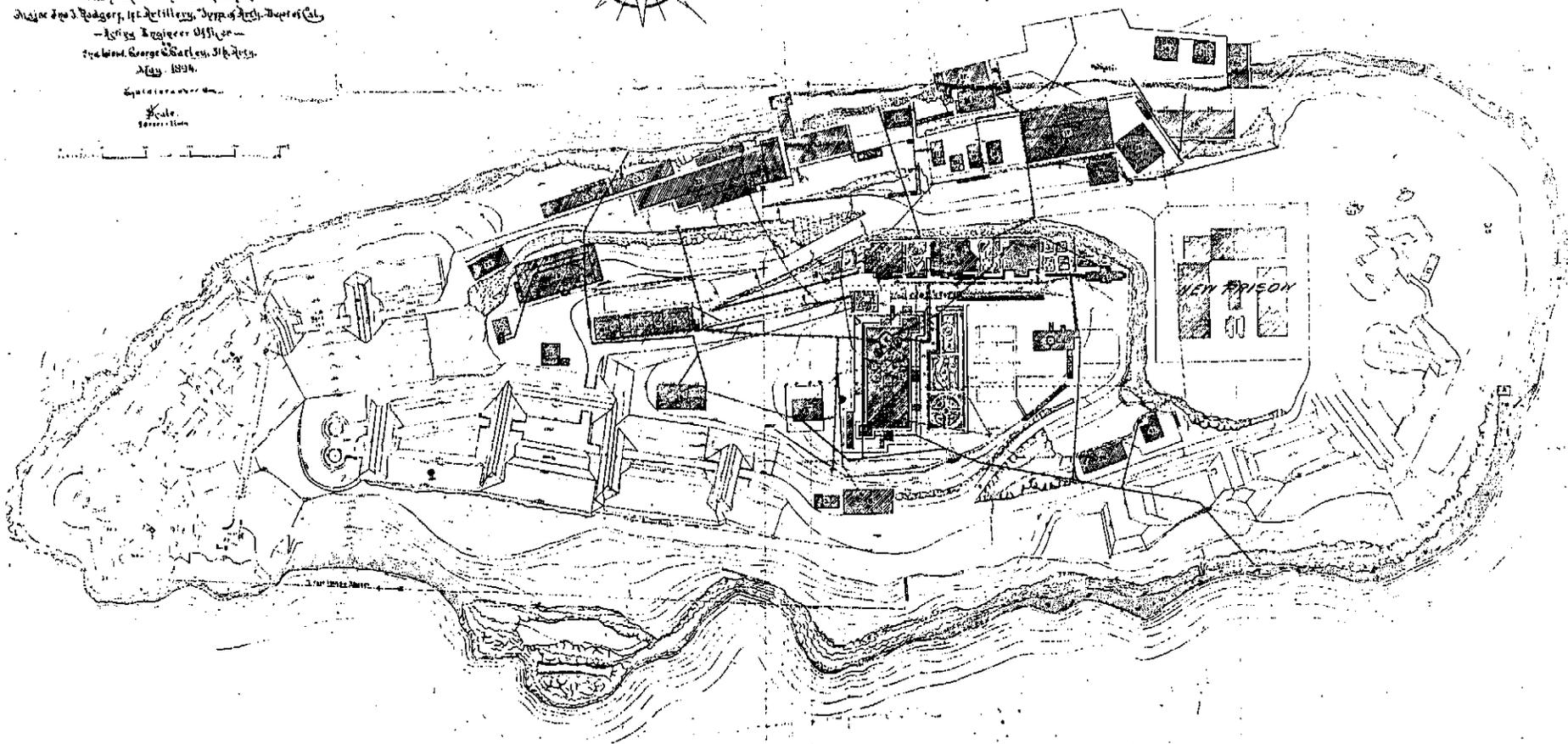
# MAP OF ALCATRAZ ISLAND, SAN FRANCISCO BAY, CALIFORNIA.

Drawn under the direction of  
Major Geo. J. Rodgers, Lt. Artillery, Dept. of Army, Dept. of Cal.,  
— Acting Engineer Officer —  
by Lieut. George Charles J. H. H. H.  
May, 1894.

Scale  
10000 Feet

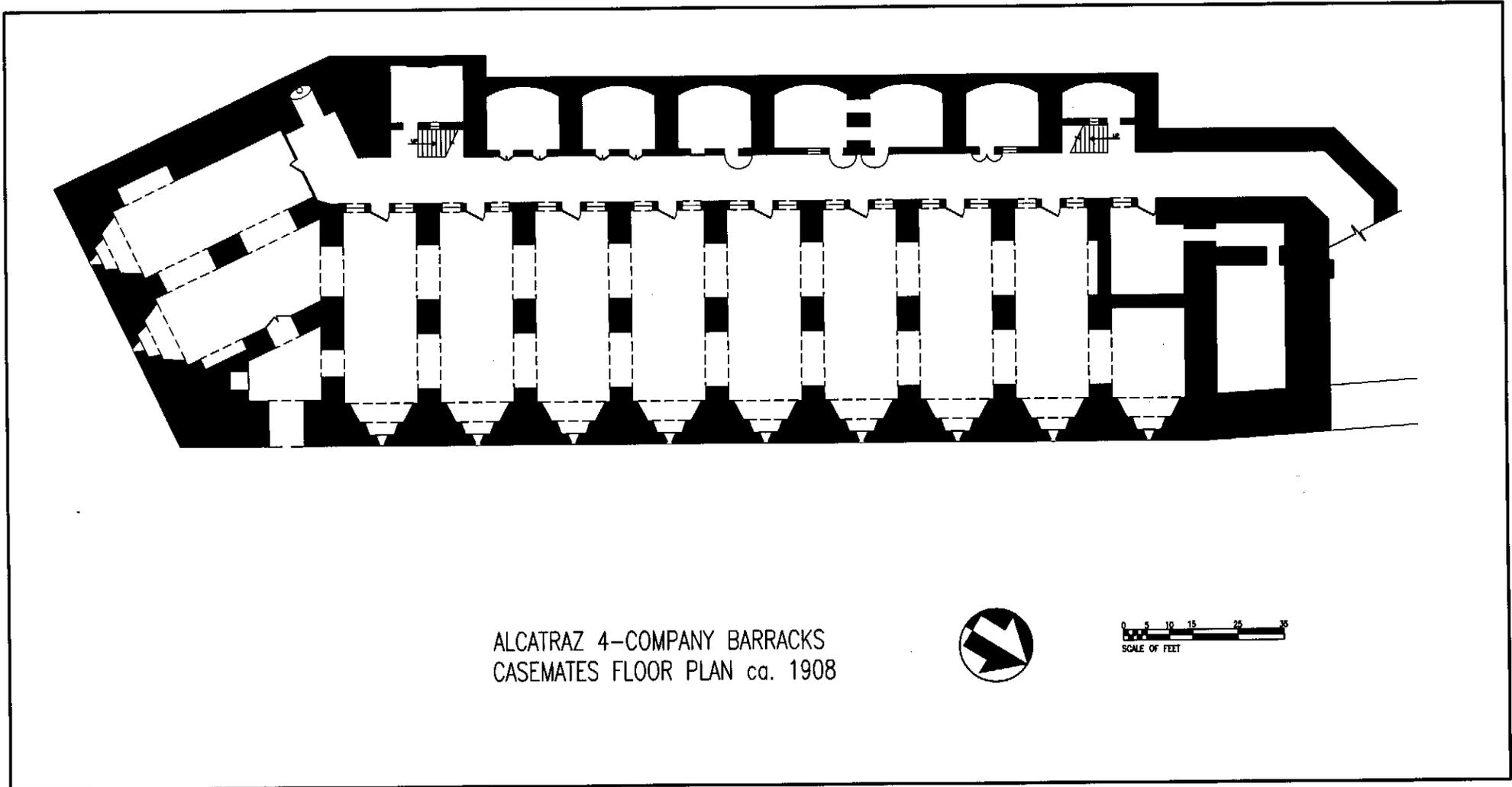


- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Main Guard House</li> <li>2. Magazine</li> <li>3. Barracks</li> <li>4. Quarters</li> <li>5. Q. M. Office</li> <li>6. Office</li> <li>7. Store</li> <li>8. Jail</li> <li>9. Chapel</li> <li>10. Hospital</li> <li>11. Laundry</li> <li>12. Kitchen</li> <li>13. Dining Room</li> <li>14. Bath</li> <li>15. Water Tower</li> <li>16. Windmill</li> <li>17. Prison</li> <li>18. Prison</li> <li>19. Prison</li> <li>20. Prison</li> <li>21. Prison</li> <li>22. Prison</li> <li>23. Prison</li> <li>24. Prison</li> <li>25. Prison</li> <li>26. Prison</li> <li>27. Prison</li> <li>28. Prison</li> <li>29. Prison</li> <li>30. Prison</li> <li>31. Prison</li> <li>32. Prison</li> <li>33. Prison</li> <li>34. Prison</li> <li>35. Prison</li> <li>36. Prison</li> <li>37. Prison</li> <li>38. Prison</li> <li>39. Prison</li> <li>40. Prison</li> <li>41. Prison</li> <li>42. Prison</li> <li>43. Prison</li> <li>44. Prison</li> <li>45. Prison</li> <li>46. Prison</li> <li>47. Prison</li> <li>48. Prison</li> <li>49. Prison</li> <li>50. Prison</li> <li>51. Prison</li> <li>52. Prison</li> <li>53. Prison</li> <li>54. Prison</li> <li>55. Prison</li> <li>56. Prison</li> <li>57. Prison</li> <li>58. Prison</li> <li>59. Prison</li> <li>60. Prison</li> <li>61. Prison</li> <li>62. Prison</li> <li>63. Prison</li> <li>64. Prison</li> <li>65. Prison</li> <li>66. Prison</li> <li>67. Prison</li> <li>68. Prison</li> <li>69. Prison</li> <li>70. Prison</li> <li>71. Prison</li> <li>72. Prison</li> <li>73. Prison</li> <li>74. Prison</li> <li>75. Prison</li> <li>76. Prison</li> <li>77. Prison</li> <li>78. Prison</li> <li>79. Prison</li> <li>80. Prison</li> <li>81. Prison</li> <li>82. Prison</li> <li>83. Prison</li> <li>84. Prison</li> <li>85. Prison</li> <li>86. Prison</li> <li>87. Prison</li> <li>88. Prison</li> <li>89. Prison</li> <li>90. Prison</li> <li>91. Prison</li> <li>92. Prison</li> <li>93. Prison</li> <li>94. Prison</li> <li>95. Prison</li> <li>96. Prison</li> <li>97. 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|---|---|---|



1894. Alcatraz Island Map  
NARA, RG 92, Office of the Quartermaster  
General

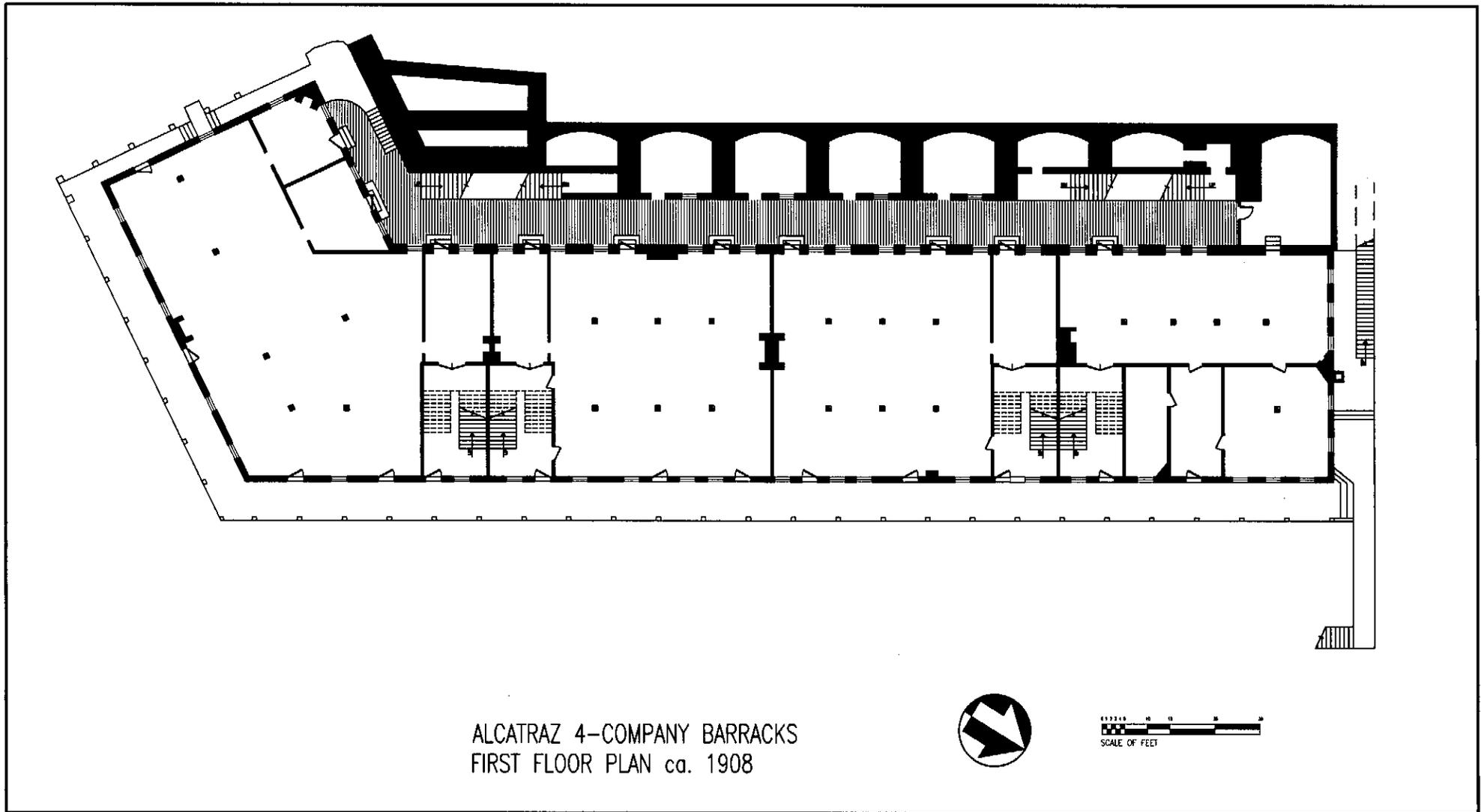
COPY  
PLEASE RETURN  
NAVY PAPER SERVICE  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION



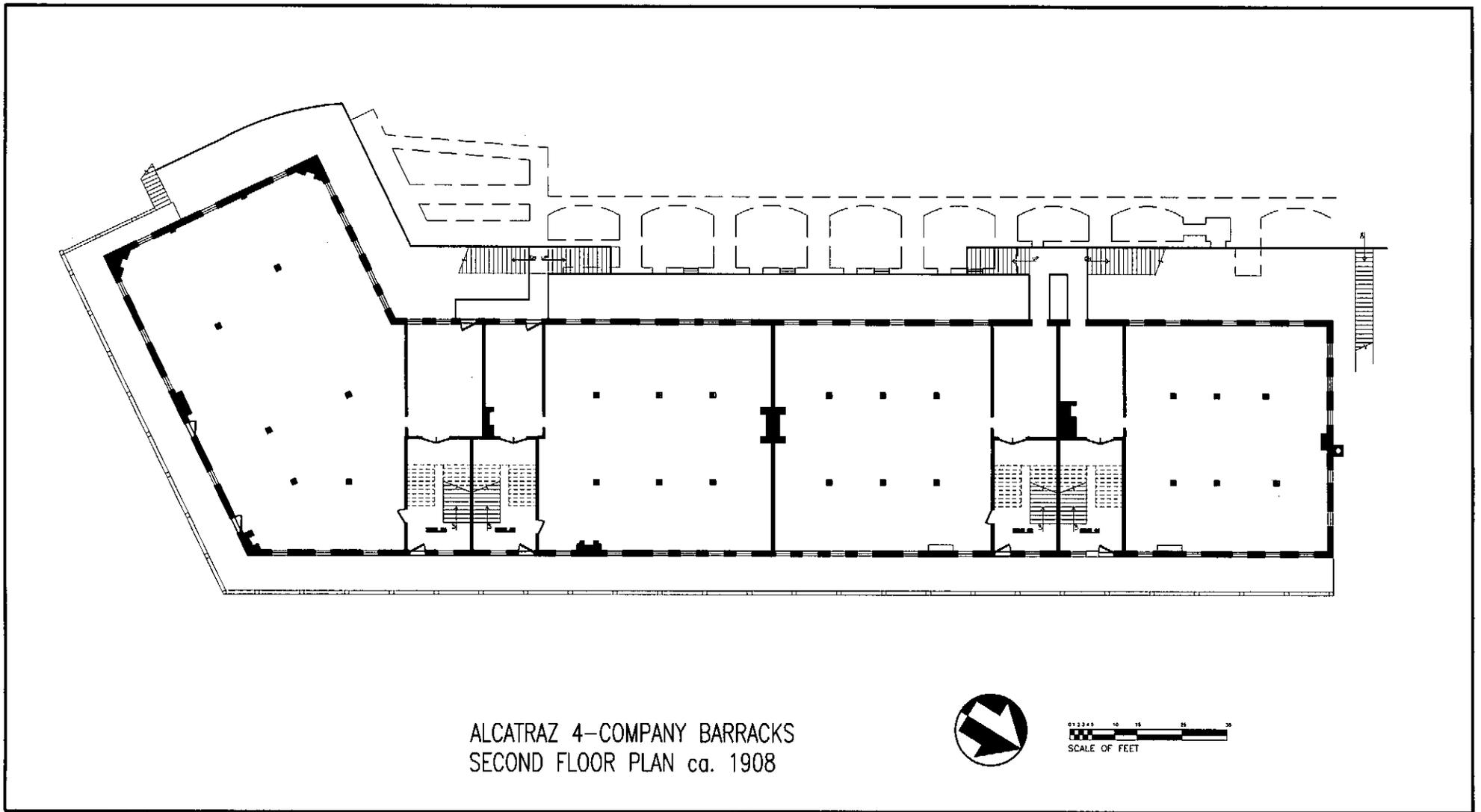
ALCATRAZ 4-COMPANY BARRACKS  
CASEMATES FLOOR PLAN ca. 1908



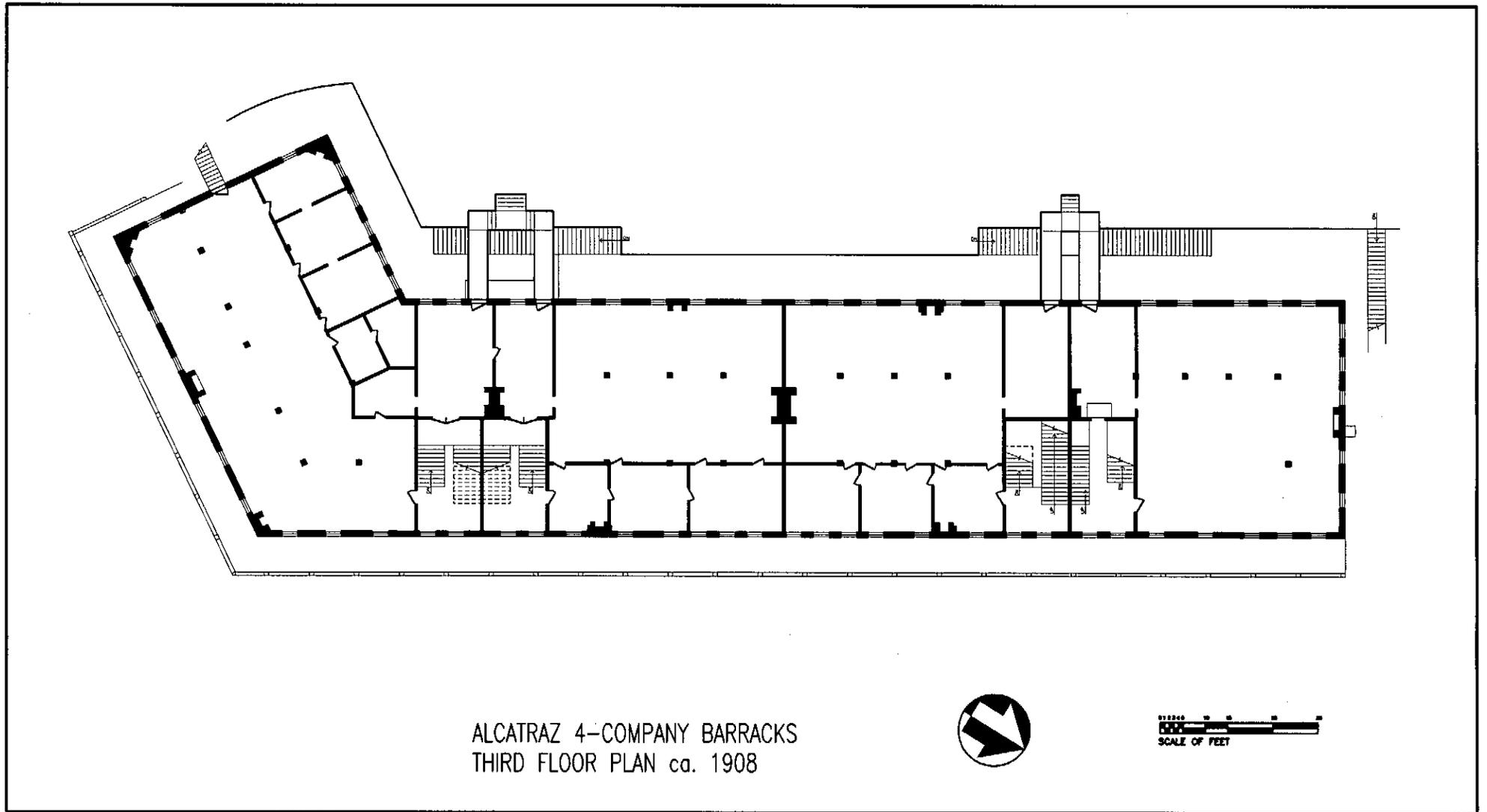
1908 (Illustration only).  
Barracks Bldg. Casemates Plan



1908 (Illustration only).  
Barracks Bldg. First Floor Plan



1908 (Illustration only).  
Barracks Bldg. Second Floor Plan



1908 (Illustration only).  
Barracks Bldg. Third Floor Plan

Note: 4' out of ceiling 11' 4"  
HEAD CASMATE SLAB - LOWER PLAN - RADIATION CASE WITH SHEET PILING

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES



P.B., U.S.D.B. GUARD BARRACKS, Bldg. 64  
ALBUQUERQUE, CALIFORNIA

BASEMENT PLAN  
Scale: 1" = 24 feet

Date: January 2<sup>nd</sup> 1924  
APPR. *W. L. ...*  
Commandant

CORRECTED BY: *A. H. McFadden*  
Supt. of Construction  
Drawn by: *F.*

APPR. *W. L. ...*  
Quartermaster

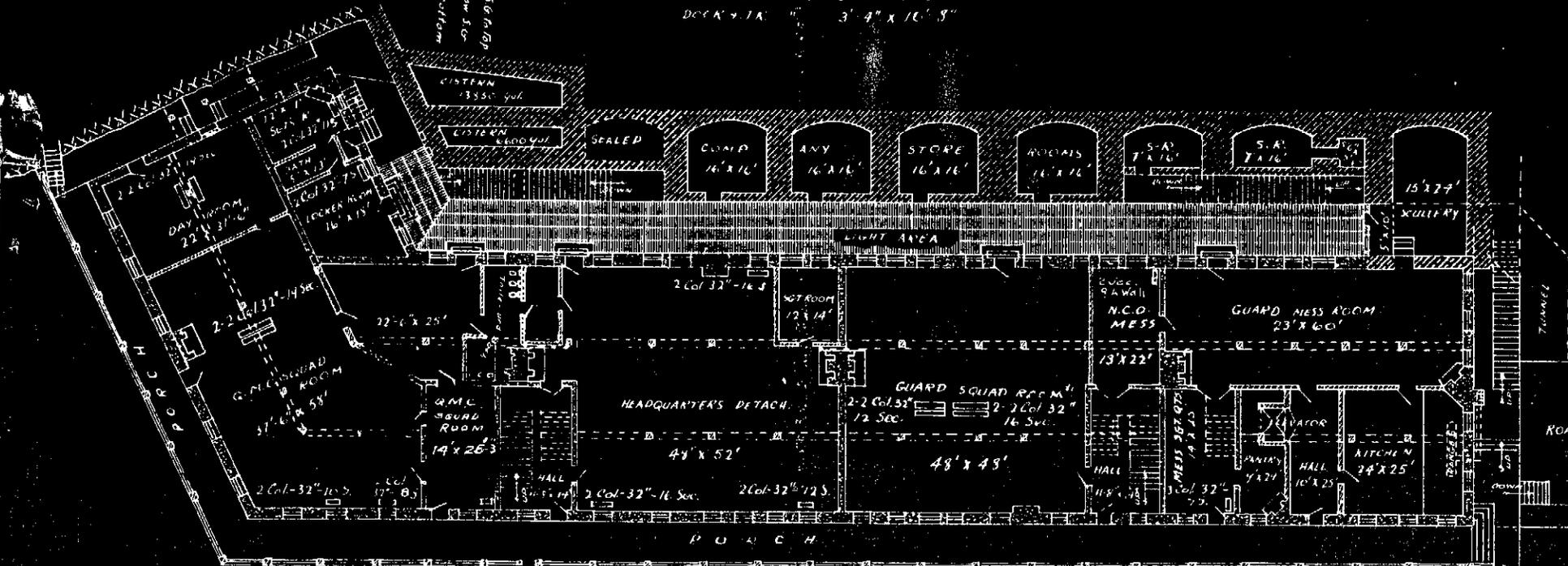
REVISIONS

1929. P.B., U.S.D.B. Guard Barracks, Bldg. 64.  
Basement (Casemates) Plan  
NARA, RG 92, Office of the Quartermaster  
General

HEAT EXHAUST STEAM - POWER PLANT  
 RADIATORS 2 Col. 32" - 3 1/2" per sect.

WINDOWS OPENINGS 5' 0" x 7' - 5"  
 DOOR + TR. " 3' 4" x 10' 8"

N.O. 36 ft dia  
 110' dia  
 13' 4" dia  
 cushion



**P.B., U.S.D.B. GUARD BARRACKS, BLDG. 64**  
 MCATRAZ, CALIFORNIA

FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
 Scale 1" = 24 feet

Date: January 2nd 1929

CORRECT *[Signature]*  
 Supt. of Construction

APPR. *[Signature]*  
 Commander

Drawn by Ferris  
 REVISIONS:

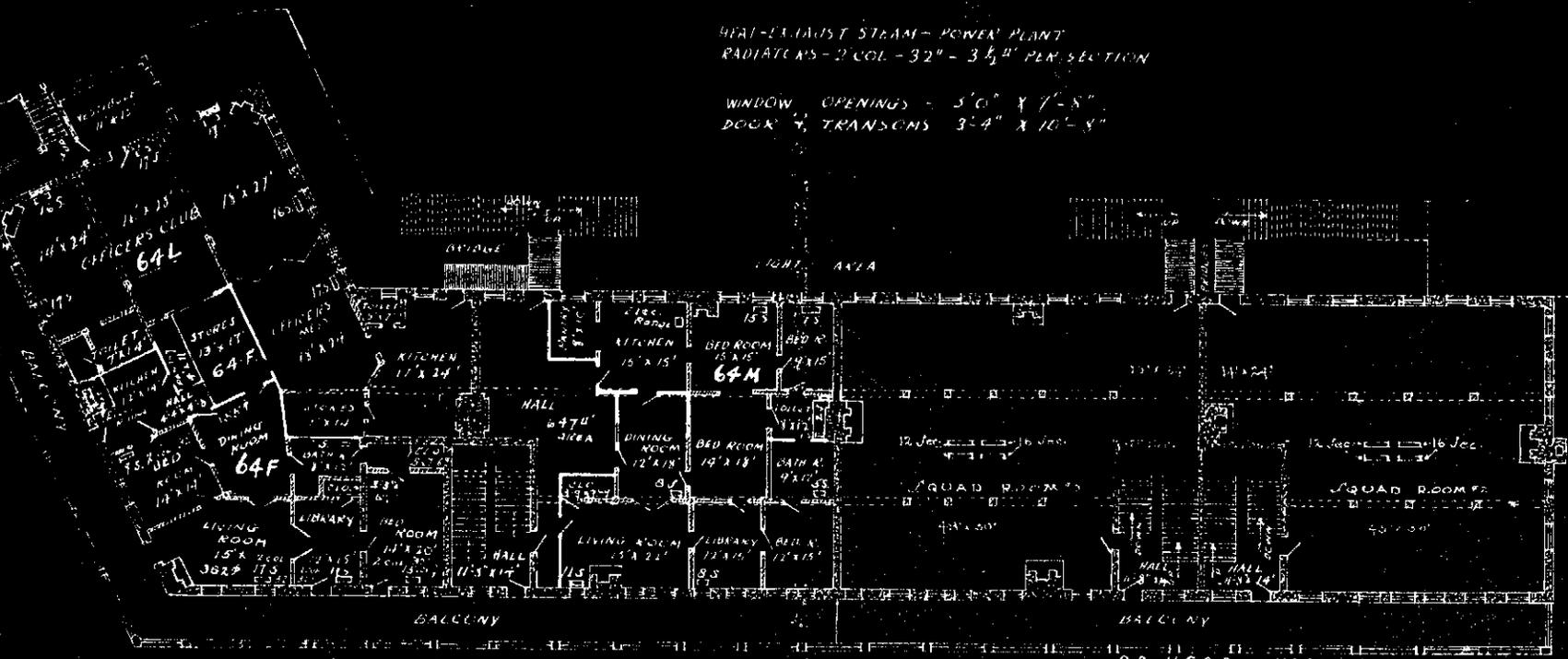
APPR. *[Signature]*  
 Quartermaster

1929. P.B., U.S.D.B. Guard Barracks, Bldg. 64.  
 First Floor Plan  
 NARA, RG 92, Office of the Quartermaster  
 General

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

HEAT-EXHAUST STEAM-POWER PLANT  
RADIATORS-2 COL-32"-3 1/2" PER SECTION

WINDOW OPENINGS - 5'-0" X 7'-8"  
DOOR 7, TRANSOMS 3'-4" X 10'-8"



P.B., U.S.D.B. GUARD BARRACKS, BLDG. 64  
ALCATRAZ, CALIFORNIA

SECOND FLOOR PLAN  
Scale 1/4" = 1 foot

CORRECTED BY [Signature]  
SUPERVISOR OF CONSTRUCTION  
Drawn by F. [Signature]  
REVISIONS

Date January 1929  
APPR. [Signature] Commandant  
APPR. [Signature] Quartermaster

1929. P.B., U.S.D.B. Guard Barracks, Bldg. 64.  
Second Floor Plan  
NARA, RG 92, Office of the Quartermaster  
General

HEAT - FINEST STEAM POWER PLANT  
RADIATORS, 2 COL. 32" x 3 1/2" DIA. SECTION  
WINDOW OPENINGS 3'-0" x 7'-4"  
DOOR " " " 3'-4" x 6'-5"



SECTION A-A  
Scale 1/16"

P.B., U.S.D.B. GUARD BARRACKS, BLDG. 64  
ALLATRAZ, CALIFORNIA

THIRD FLOOR PLAN  
Scale 1/32" = 1 foot

Date January 1929  
APPR. *Walter Case*

CORRECT - Supt. of Construction  
DRAWN BY F.

APPR. *Quartermaster*

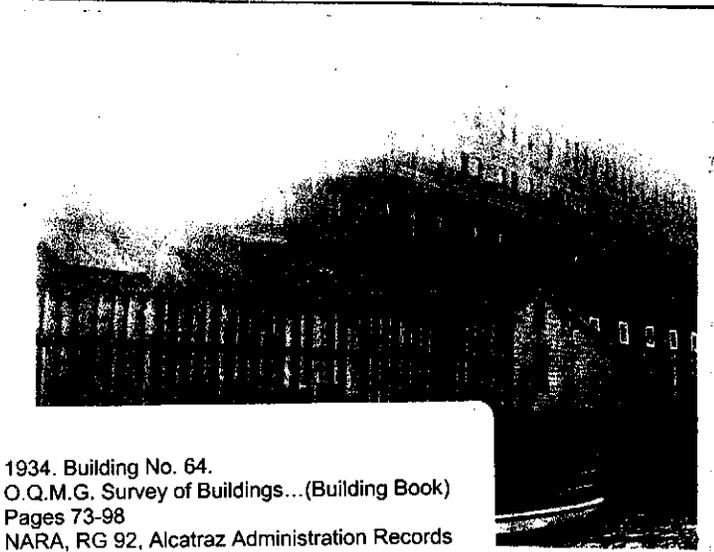
1929. P.B., U.S.D.B. Guard Barracks, Bldg. 64.  
Third Floor Plan  
NARA, RG 92, Office of the Quartermaster  
General

Q.M.G.O. Plan No. 777, Building No. 64

Repairs.

Expenditure	Yr. ending	Amount
HEAVY FURNITURE INSTALLED.		
in No 64.	3-1-07	\$ 4.50
Bedsteads, iron, Obl.	3-1-08	\$ 265.00
Bookcases	3-1-09	\$ 85.50
Chairs, dining, arm	3-1-10	\$ 155.00
"    "    side	3-1-11	\$ 455.00
"    "    library, arm	3-1-12	\$ 837.00
"    "    side	3-1-13	\$ 179.00
Chests of Drawers	3-1-14	\$ 310.00
Desks	3-1-15	\$ 629.00
Divans	3-1-16	\$ 1,085.00
Flat Packs	3-1-17	
Refrigerators	3-1-18	
Sideboards	3-1-19	
Tables, dining	3-1-20	
"    kitchen	3-1-21	
"    parlor		

JAN 22 1931



1934. Building No. 64.  
O.Q.M.G. Survey of Buildings... (Building Book)  
Pages 73-98  
NARA, RG 92, Alcatraz Administration Records

Place. Alcatraz Isld., Cal. March 1st, 1908.  
R.O. Quarters for 7 & Company Barracks  
Designation of Building, Capacity,  
.260 Men.; Construction: Cost \$41,389.19 Date, 1908  
Material: Walls Concrete Block Foundations Brick & Stone

Roof Tar & Gravel, Floors Wood How heated  
. Fireplaces (...sq ft. rad.), How lighted. Min. Oil  
Provided with: Water connections. No., Sewer connections. No.  
Water Closets No., Urinals No., Wash Sinks No. Q, Wash Basins No. Q,  
Laundry Tubs No. Q., Baths; Shower No. Q., Tubs No. Q., Screens... Q.,  
Storm Sash... Q., Storm Doors... Q., Wall Lockers No. 153,  
Total floor area above basement sq. ft. 33,248-1/2  
Dimensions, Main Building 261'x162' Wings 171'3"x68'

Basement: room arranged by floors 10r, 10'x42'  
1st. Floor: - 1r, 24'x25' 1r, 23'x60' 2r, 10'x25' 1H, 14'x25' 1H, 14'x49'  
1r, 47'6"x49' 1r, 49'x53' 2H, 14'x49'6" 1r, 32'x86'6" 2r, 17'6"x18'  
2nd. Floor: - 1r, 46'x50' 2H, 14'x50' 1r, 48'6"x50' 1r, 50'6"x53' 2H, 14'x  
50'6" 1r, 51'x86'6" 2H, 14'x50' 1r, 34'x48'6" 1r, 15'6"x14' 1r, 15'6"  
3rd. Floor: 1r, 26'x50' 2H, 14'x50' 1r, 34'x48'6" 1r, 15'6"x14' 1r, 15'6"  
Below enter chronologically all modifications, additions,  
introduction of water, sewer, electric light, etc., since  
Mch. 1st, 1905.  
1r, 19'6" 1r, 15'x15' 1r, 34'x52'6" 1r, 15'6"x15'6" 1r, 17'6"x15'6"  
1r, 13'x15'6" 2H, 14'x50'6" 1r, 32'6"x86' 1r, 11'x17'6"  
1r, 13'x17'6" 1r, 13'x17'6"  
Cost of Wall Lockers \$1,305.40

Buildings Nos. 32, 35 and 48 have been remodeled into, and  
form a part of this building. See Q.M.G.O. #298240.  
See #303354 relative to B.O. Qrs. in this building.  
To Mch. 1/12: 173 Wall lockers, 2 refrigerators, in Co Barracks;  
in B.O. Qrs. A: 1 bookcase; 2 arm chairs, 1 side; 1 Lib side; 1 hall rack,  
1 sideboard; 1 parlor table; 1 refrigerator; in B: 1 arm, 1 side chairs,  
1 desk; 1 sideboard; 1 refrigerator; in D: 1 bookcase; 3 arm chairs, 2 side,  
2 Lib. side; 1 chest of drawers; 1 desk; 1 hall rack; 1 parlor table.  
in E: 1 bookcase; 1 arm chair, 2 Lib. side; 1 chest of drawers, 1 desk;  
1 sideboard; 1 parlor table; in F: 1 bookcase; 3 arm chairs, 1 side, 1 Lib.  
side; 1 chest of drawers; 1 desk; 1 hall rack; 1 sideboard; 2 tables,  
(1 dining, 1 parlor.) in G: 4 arm chairs, 6 side; 1 refrigerator; in H:  
1 bookcase, 1 arm chair, 2 side; 1 chest of drawers; 1 desk; 1 hall rack;  
in L: 1 bookcase; 2 arm chairs; 2 side; 1 desk; 1 sideboard; 2 tables,  
(1 dining, 1 parlor)

2nd & 3rd floors re-arranged so as to provide three (3) additional sets of bachelor officers' quarters, per authority Q.M.G.O. # 625-CR, dated Oct. 8, 1915. Work completed February 28, 1916. Total cost: \$ 807.03, all for material; work done by post and prison labor.

This change increases capacity of building, besides its use as a company barracks, to 10 sets of bachelor officers' quarters and Officers' Mess.

Lighting: Electric. Heating: Fireplaces & stoves.

Plumbing installation: 1 Water closet, 1 Bath tub and 1 Lavatory in each set.

Following is the present arrangement of 2nd & 3rd Floors:

2nd Floor.

1 R 49'6" x 50' and 14'6" x 24'; IR 49'6" x 48' and 14'6" x 24'; 4H 14 x 25'; 1H 20' x 34'; 1H 17' x 64'.  
1 Bach. set, consisting of: 1R 15' x 25'; 1R 15' x 12'; 1R 15' x 14'; 1R 9' x 12'; 1R 18'6" x 13'; 1 Closet 9' x 12'.  
1 Bach. set, consisting of: 1R 15' x 15'; 1R 15' x 16'; 1R 10' x 15'; 1R 9' x 12'; 1R 18'6" x 13'; 1 Closet 9' x 12'.  
1 Bach. set, consisting of: 2R 14'6" x 12'; 1R 14'6" x 14'6"; 1R 7' x 7'; 1 Closet 2'6" x 7'.  
1 Bach. set, consisting of: 1R 23' x 14'6"; 1R 12' x 14'6"; 1R 8' x 12'; 1R 7' x 7'; 1 Closet 2'6" x 7'.  
Officers' Mess: 1R 17' x 18'; 1R 9' x 18'; 1R 14' x 18'; 1R 7' x 12'.

3rd Floor.

1R 50' x 34' and 35' x 16'; 2R 12' x 16'; 1R 30' x 24'6"; 1R 17' x 24'6"; 1R 14' x 15'6"; 1R 19'6" x 15'6"; 1R 16'6" x 15'6"; 4H 14' x 25'; 1H 11' x 24'; 1H 8'6" x 51'6"; 1H 15' x 24'; 1H 18'6" x 27'; 1H 8' x 16'; 1H 17' x 64'; 1H 12' x 21'6".  
1 Bach. set, consisting of: 2R 14'6" x 15'; 1R 12'6" x 15'; 1R 8'6" x 15'; 1 Closet 9' x 8'6".  
1 Bach. set, consisting of: 1R 17' x 15'; 1R 12'6" x 15'; 1R 15' x 15'; 1R 9' x 15'; 1 Closet 9' x 8'6".  
1 Bach. set, consisting of: 1R 18'6" x 12'; 1R 18'6" x 12'6"; 1R 18'6" x 14'6"; 1R 7' x 7'; 1 Closet 3' x 4'.  
1 Bach. set, consisting of: 1R 18' x 24'; 1R 13' x 16'; 1R 7' x 7'; 1 Closet 3' x 2'6".  
1 Bach. set, consisting of: 2R 12' x 15'; 1R 14'6" x 15'; 1R 6'6" x 7'; 1 Closet 2' x 7'.  
1 Bach. set, consisting of: 1R 10'6" x 15'; 1R 10' x 15'; 1R 7' x 7'; 1 Closet 2' x 7'; 1R 12' x 15'.

Alcatraz, Cal.,  
March 29, 1916.

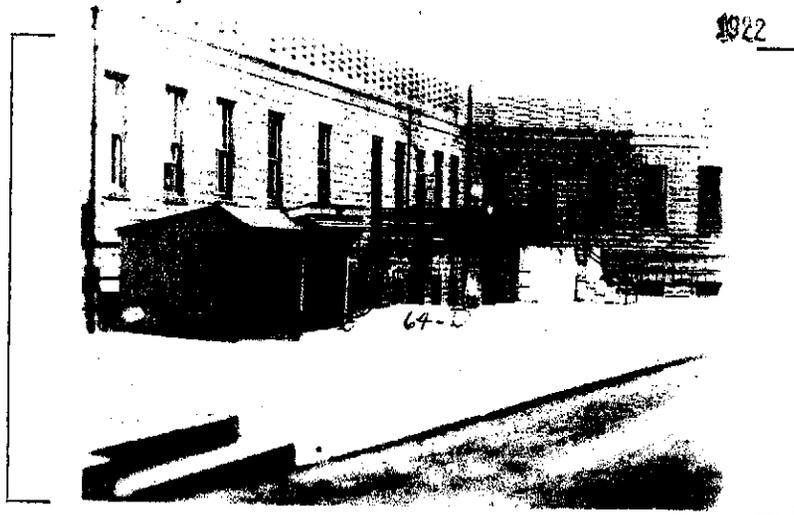






Building No. 64-D O. Q. M. G.: Plan No. \_\_\_\_\_

HEAVY FURNITURE INSTALLED		REPAIRS	
Bedsteads, iron, single		Expended to 6-30-21	\$
"    "    double			
Bookcases	1	Year ending 6-30-22	\$ 172.75
Chairs, dining, arm	1	"    "    6-30-23	
"    "    side	4	"    "    6-30-24	
"    library, arm	2	"    "    6-30-25	
"    "    side	1	"    "    6-30-26	
Chests of drawers	2	"    "    6-30-27	
Curtain poles		"    "    6-30-28	
Desks	1	"    "    6-30-29	
Dressers		"    "    6-30-30	
Davenport		"    "    6-30-31	
Hatracks	1	"    "    6-30-32	
Refrigerators	1	"    "    6-30-33	
Rocking chairs		"    "    6-30-34	
Sideboards	1	"    "    6-30-35	
Tables, dining	1	"    "    6-30-36	
"    kitchen		"    "    6-30-37	
"    library	2	"    "    6-30-38	
"    parlor		"    "    6-30-39	
Wall lockers		"    "    6-30-40	
		Total	



Place Alcatraz, California.  
 Designation of building U.S. Guard Barracks (Officers Quarters) Capacity 1 Family  
 Total cost, \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date completed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Material: Walls Concrete block; Wood partus. Foundation \_\_\_\_\_  
 Roof \_\_\_\_\_ Floors Wood  
 Total floor area above basement, square feet Officers quarters 1432  
 Size: Main building \_\_\_\_\_ Wings \_\_\_\_\_ Basement \_\_\_\_\_

PROVIDED WITH—

How heated Fireplace: Steam  
 (\_\_\_\_ 125 sq. ft. rad.)  
 How lighted Electric  
 Water connections Yes  
 Sewer connections Yes  
 Gas connections \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water-closets, No. 1  
 Urinals, No. 0  
 Wash sinks, No. 1  
 Washbasins, No. 1  
 Laundry tubs, No. 0  
 Shower baths, No. 0  
 Bathtubs, No. 1  
 Screens, No. 0  
 Storm sash, No. 0  
 Storm doors, No. 1  
 Window shades, No. 6  
 Ranges Coal, No. 1  
Electric, No. 1  
 Meters Water, No. 1  
Gas, No. 1  
Electric, No. 1

SIZE OF ROOMS

FLOOR	DESIGNATION OF ROOM	WIDTH	LENGTH	HEIGHT
Third	Entry	8'	8' 11"	14'
	Living room	13' 5"	25'	"
	Dining room	13' 4"	18'	"
	Kitchen	9'	13'	"
	Bed room	16'	25'	"
	Bed room	8'	17'	"
	Bath room	5'	9'	"

ADDITIONS AND INSTALLATIONS 13'4x18'0"

Below enter chronologically all modifications, additions, introductions of water, sewer, lights, etc., also dates for all changes of listed articles, etc.









Place Alcatraz, California.  
 Designation of building (Officers Quarters.) Capacity 1 Family  
 Total cost, \$..... Date completed .....

Material: Walls Cement block; wood parts. Foundation .....

Roof ..... Floors Wood

Total floor area above basement, square feet Officers Quarters 887

Size: Main building ..... Wings ..... Basement .....

SIZE OF ROOMS

FLOOR	DESIGNATION OF ROOM	WIDTH	LENGTH	HEIGHT
Second	Living room	15'	15'	14'
	Alcove bed rm.	8'	9'	"
	Dining room	15'	15'2"	"
	Alcove bed rm.	8'1"	12'10"	"
	Bath room	8'1"	12'2"	"
	Kitchen	9'4"	15'	"

PROVIDED WITH—

How heated Firespace; steam  
 (..... 122.1/3 sq. ft. rad.)

How lighted Electric

Water connections Yes

Sewer connections Yes

Gas connections.....

Water-closets, No. 1

Urinals, No. ....

Wash sinks, No. 1

Washbasins, No. 1

Laundry tubs, No. ....

Shower baths, No. ....

Bathtubs, No. 1

Screens, No. ....

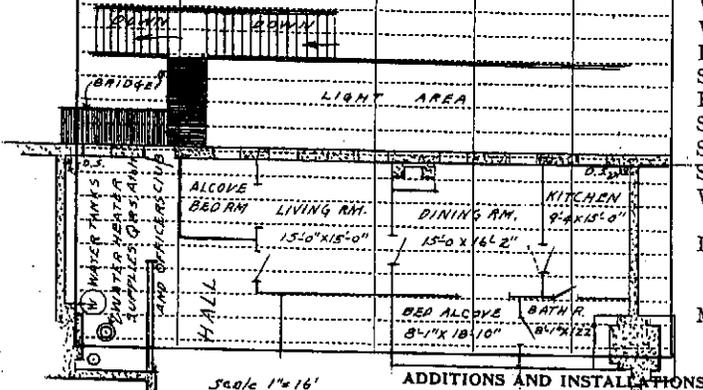
Storm sash, No. ....

Storm doors, No. ....

Window shades, No. 6

Ranges Gas, No. 1  
Electric, No. ....

Meters Gas, No. ....  
Electric, No. 1

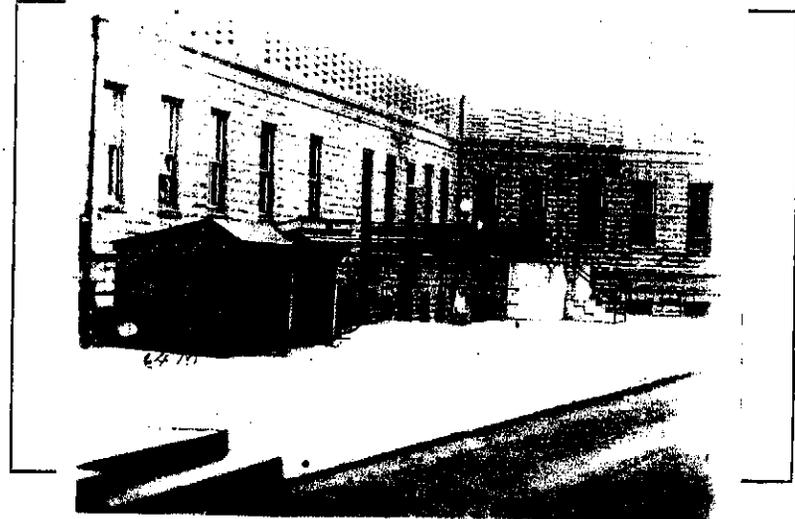


ADDITIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

Below enter chronologically all modifications, additions, introductions of water, sewer, lights, etc., also dates for all changes of listed articles, etc.

O. O. M. C.: Plan No.

Building No. 64-K



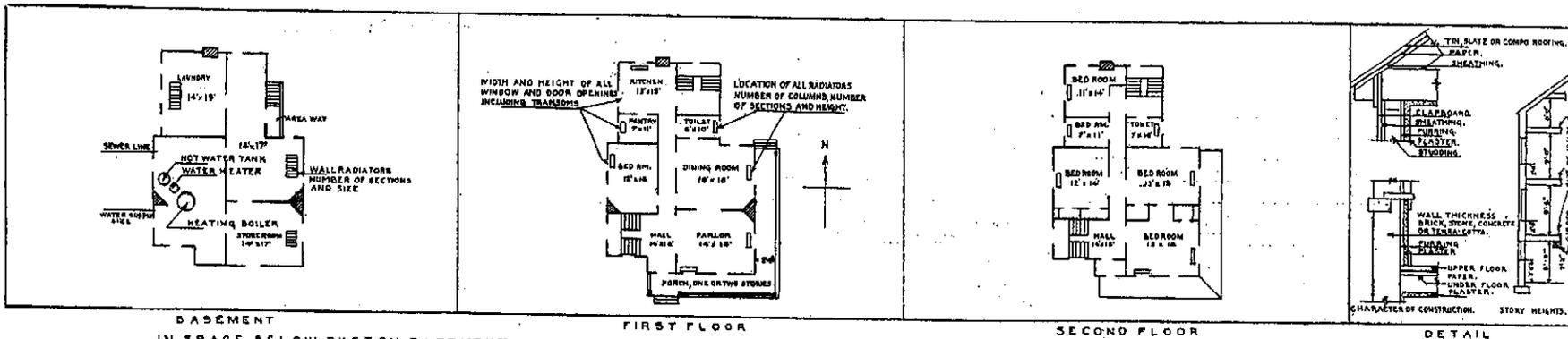
HEAVY FURNITURE INSTALLED

REPAIRS

Bedsteads, iron, single.....	Expended to 6-30-21..... \$.....
"    "    double.....	
Bookcases.....	Year ending 6-30-22..... \$ 13.00
Chairs, dining, arm.....	"    "    6-30-23.....
"    "    side.....	"    "    6-30-24.....
"    "    library, arm.....	"    "    6-30-25.....
"    "    side.....	"    "    6-30-26.....
Chests of drawers.....	"    "    6-30-27.....
Curtain poles.....	"    "    6-30-28.....
Desks.....	"    "    6-30-29.....
Dressers.....	"    "    6-30-30.....
Davenport.....	"    "    6-30-31.....
Hatracks.....	"    "    6-30-32.....
Refrigerators.....	"    "    6-30-33.....
Rocking chairs.....	"    "    6-30-34.....
Sideboards.....	"    "    6-30-35.....
Tables, dining.....	"    "    6-30-36.....
"    kitchen.....	"    "    6-30-37.....
"    library.....	"    "    6-30-38.....
"    parlor.....	"    "    6-30-39.....
Wall lockers.....	"    "    6-30-40.....
	Total.....

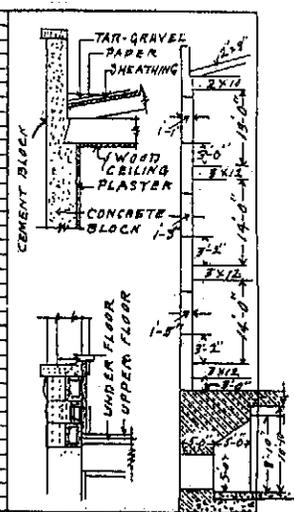
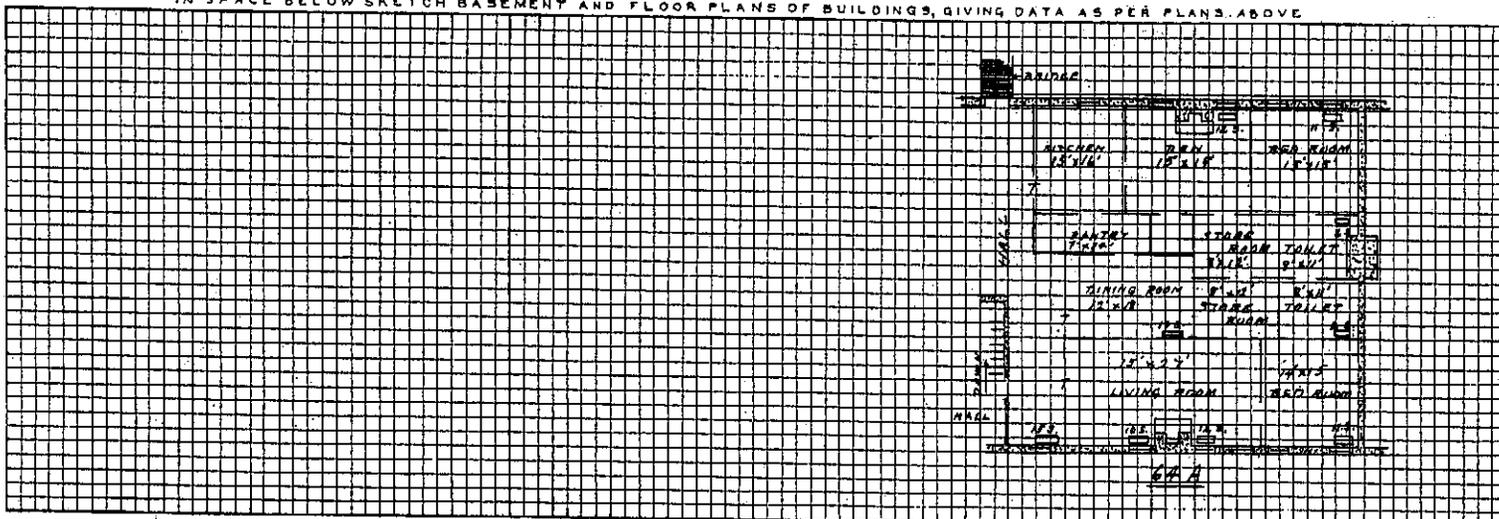






BASEMENT FIRST FLOOR SECOND FLOOR DETAIL

IN SPACE BELOW SKETCH BASEMENT AND FLOOR PLANS OF BUILDINGS, GIVING DATA AS PER PLANS ABOVE



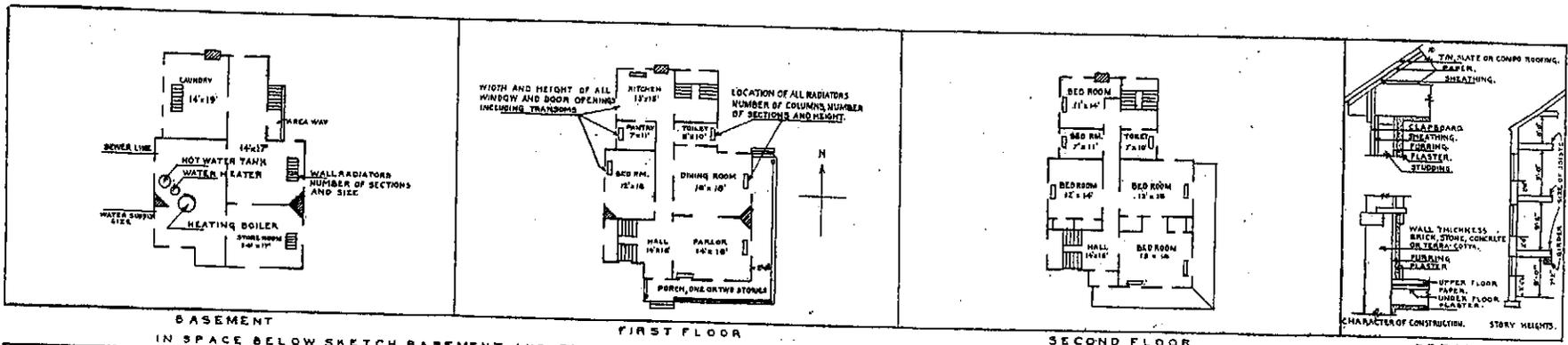
REMARKS

Part of 3rd. floor plan of Guard Bks. No. 64 showing Officers quarters 64A. formerly 64 A. & C.  
 Radiators 2 col. 32" high, 3 1/3 ft. per. section, size by letter S. following no of sections.  
 Doors marked T. have transoms, opening 3'-0" x 9'-0", all other door openings 3'-0" x 7'-0"  
 Cased openings 6'-0" x 7'-0". Window openings 3'-0" x 7'-8".

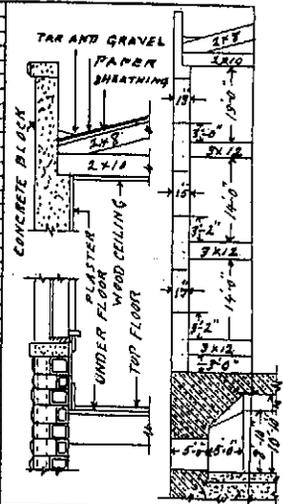
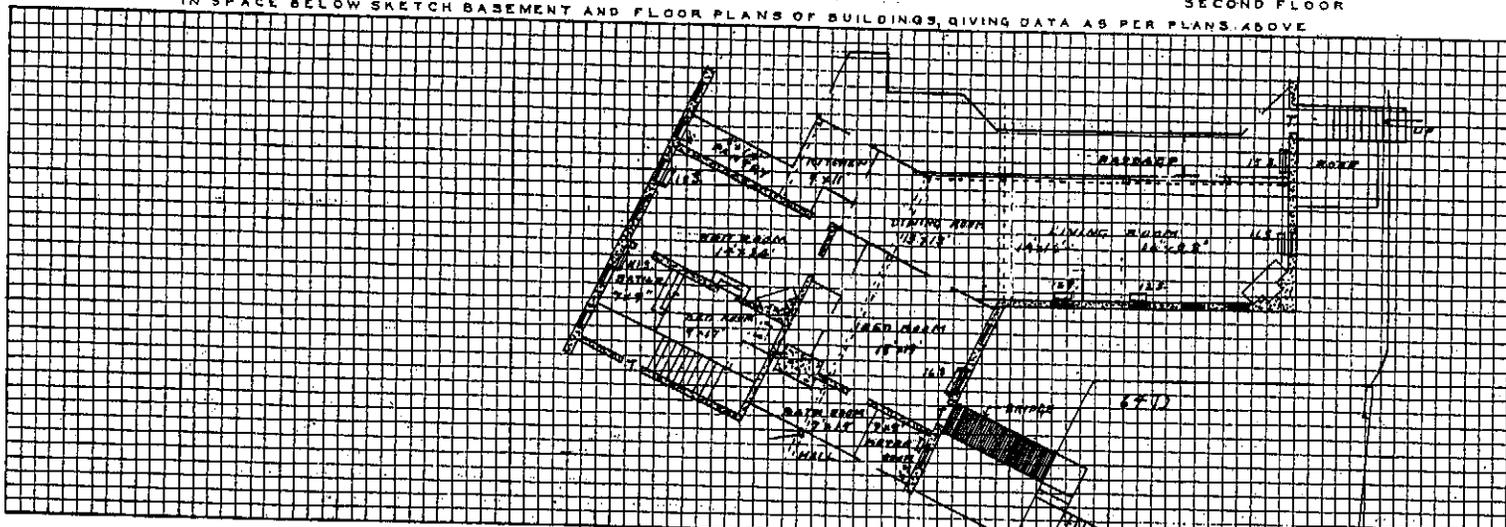
INSTRUCTIONS

If plans of building are available, forward copy of same showing information called for above. These plans should be checked against the building and any variations from same in the building as constructed should be noted.  
 If plans are not available make sketch plans and elevation in spaces above. The plans shown are typical of "quarters." Similar plans may be made for all types of buildings. There are 10 squares to the inch. Each square will represent 1', 2', 4', or 8', etc., as may be necessary to show entire building in the space allowed. Show inside dimensions and designation of each room. Indicate location of water and sewer connections. In space under heading "Details" show character of construction, story heights, etc.





BASEMENT FIRST FLOOR SECOND FLOOR  
 IN SPACE BELOW SKETCH BASEMENT AND FLOOR PLANS OF BUILDINGS, GIVING DATA AS PER PLANS ABOVE. CHARACTER OF CONSTRUCTION, STORY HEIGHTS, DETAIL



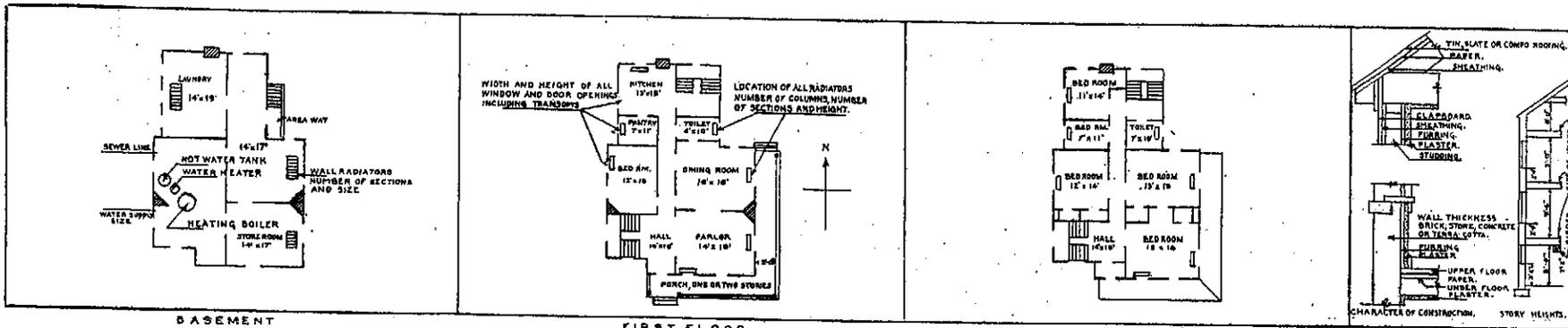
REMARKS

Part of 3rd. floor plan of Guard Bks. 64, showing 64 D., Officers Quarters, formerly 64 B. and D.  
 Steam heat from power plant, radiators 2 col. 3/2 inches, 3 1/3 sq. ft. per section. Figures followed by S. show no. of sections in each radiator. When marked W.I.S., is wall radiation 9 sq. ft. per section.  
 Doors marked T. have transoms; opening 3'-4"X10'-8". All other doors 3'-0"X7'-0". Larger openings are cased only.  
 Window openings 3'-0"X7'-8" except one marked W. 2'-6"X6'-0"

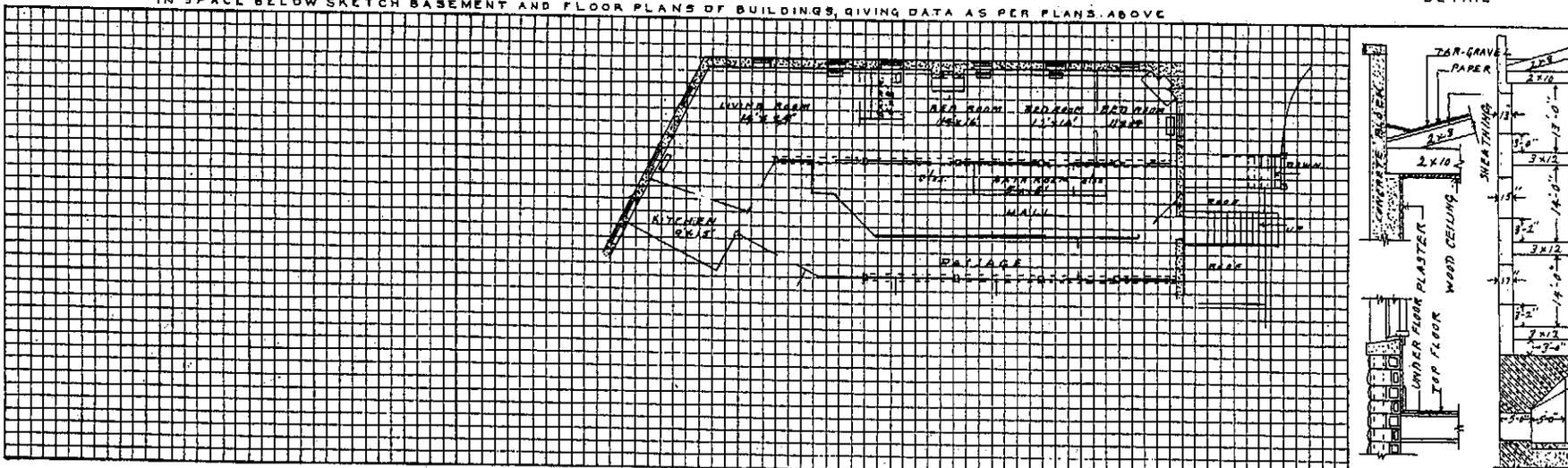
INSTRUCTIONS

If plans of building are available, forward copy of same showing information called for above. These plans should be checked against the building and any variations from same in the building as constructed should be noted.  
 If plans are not available make sketch plans and elevation in spaces above. The plans shown are typical of "quarters." Similar plans may be made for all types of buildings. There are 10 squares to the inch. Each square will represent 1', 2', 4', or 8', etc., as may be necessary to show entire building in the space allowed. Show inside dimensions and designation of each room. Indicate location of water and sewer connections. In space under heading "Details" show character of construction, story heights, etc.





BASEMENT FIRST FLOOR SECOND FLOOR  
 IN SPACE BELOW SKETCH BASEMENT AND FLOOR PLANS OF BUILDINGS, GIVING DATA AS PER PLANS ABOVE  
 DETAIL



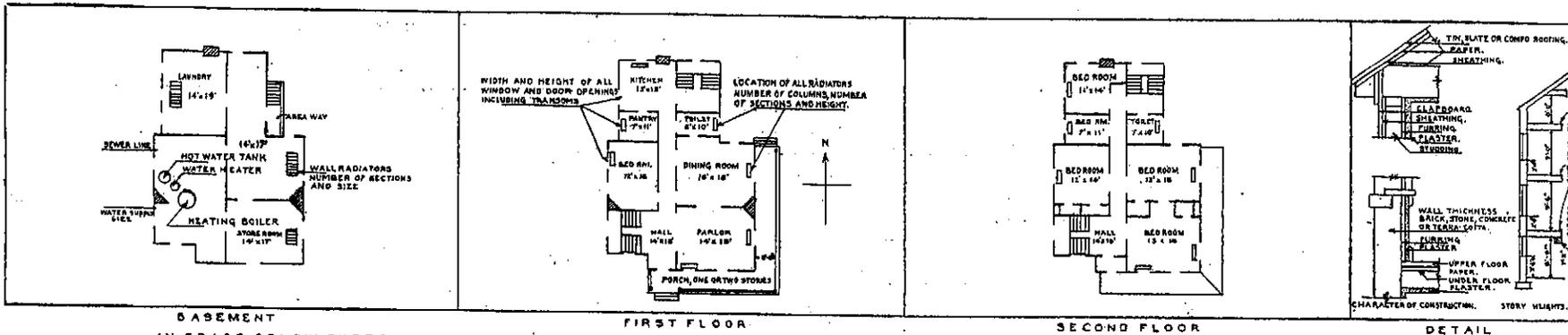
REMARKS

Part of 3rd. floor plan of Guard Bkm. 64, showing 64 E. Officers quarters formerly double set Officers quarters E. & G. Radiators 2 col. 32" high, 3 1/3 sq. Ft. per section. Figures followed by S. show no of sections in each radiator. Doors marked T. have transoms, opening 3-4" X 10'-8", all other door openings 3'-0" X 7'-0" Window openings 3'-0" X 7'-8"

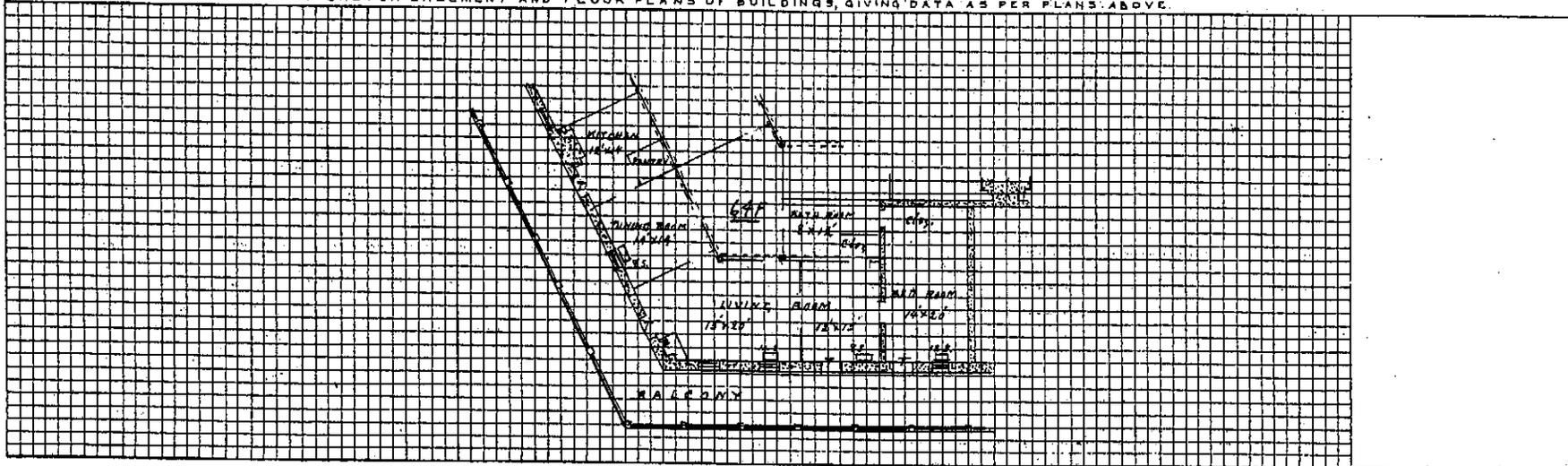
INSTRUCTIONS

If plans of building are available, forward copy of same showing information called for above. These plans should be checked against the building and any variations from same in the building as constructed should be noted.  
 If plans are not available make sketch plans and elevation in spaces above. The plans shown are typical of "quarters." Similar plans may be made for all types of buildings. There are 10 squares to the inch. Each square will represent 1', 2', 4', or 8', etc., as may be necessary to show entire building in the space allowed. Show inside dimensions and designation of each room. Indicate location of water and sewer connections. In space under heading "Details" show character of construction, story heights, etc.





IN SPACE BELOW SKETCH BASEMENT AND FLOOR PLANS OF BUILDINGS, GIVING DATA AS PER PLANS ABOVE.



**REMARKS**

Part of second floor plan of Guard Bks. 64 Showing 64F. Bachelor Officers Quarters.  
 Radiators, 2 col. 32 inches high, 3 1/3 Sq. Ft. per section, figures followed by 3. Show no of sections to each radiator.  
 Doors marked T. have transoms, openings 3'-4" X 10'-8". All other door openings 3'-0" X 7'-0". Cased openings 6'-0" X 7'-0".  
 Window openings 3'-0" X 7'-8".

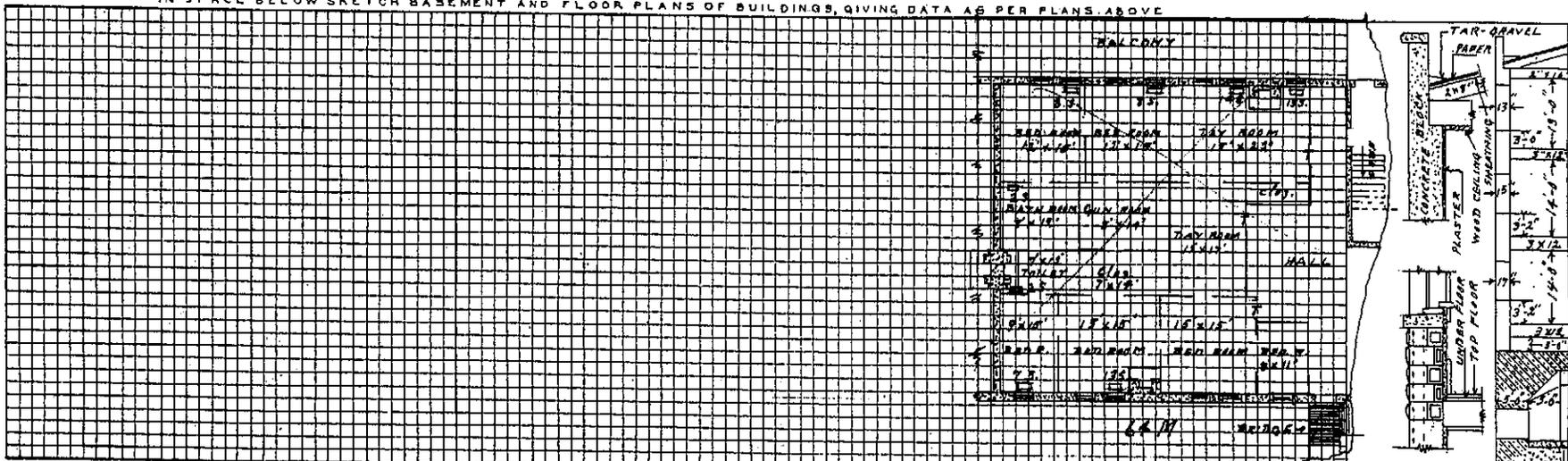
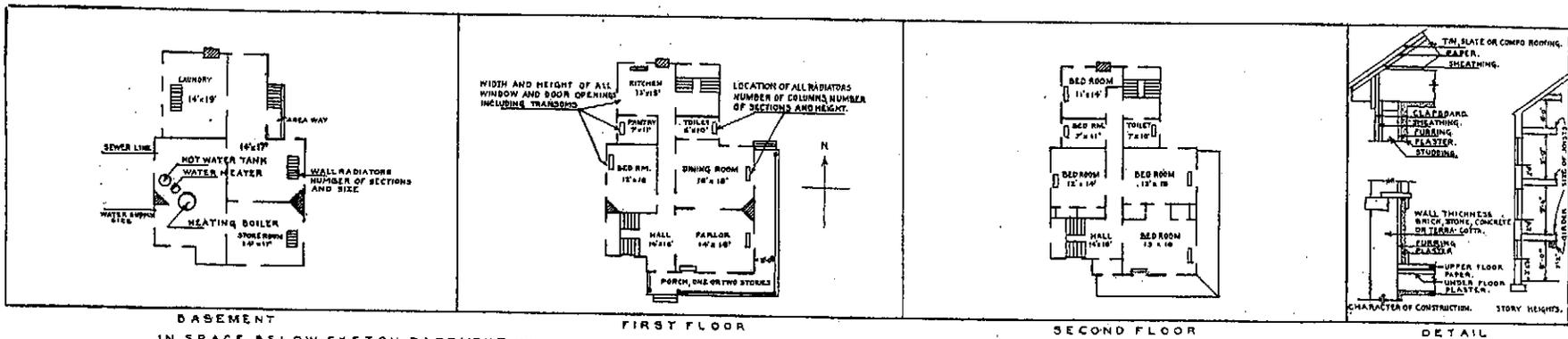
**INSTRUCTIONS**

If plans of building are available, forward copy of same showing information called for above. These plans should be checked against the building and any variations from same in the building as constructed should be noted.  
 If plans are not available make sketch plans and elevation in spaces above. The plans shown are typical of "quarters." Similar plans may be made for all types of buildings. There are 10 squares to the inch. Each square will represent 1', 2', 4', or 8', etc., as may be necessary to show entire building in the space allowed. Show inside dimensions and designation of each room. Indicate location of water and sewer connections. In space under heading "Details" show character of construction, story heights, etc.





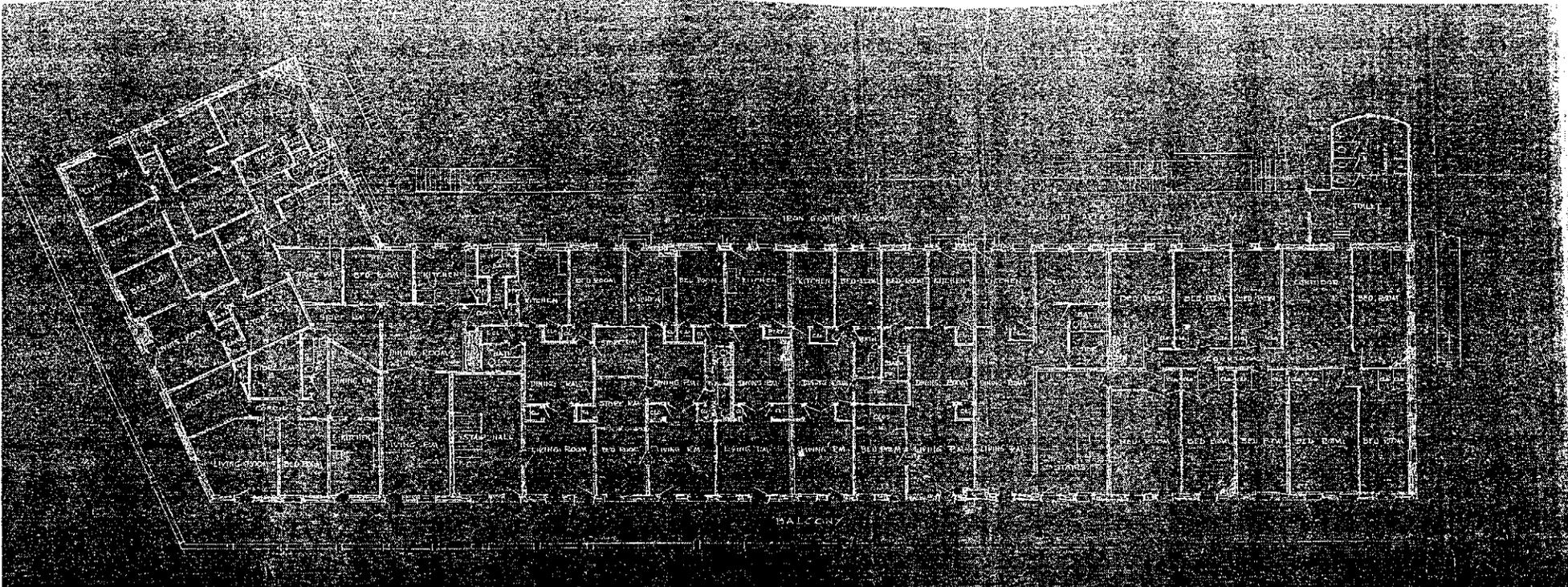




### INSTRUCTIONS

If plans of building are available, forward copy of same showing information called for above. These plans should be checked against the building and any variations from same in the building as constructed should be noted.

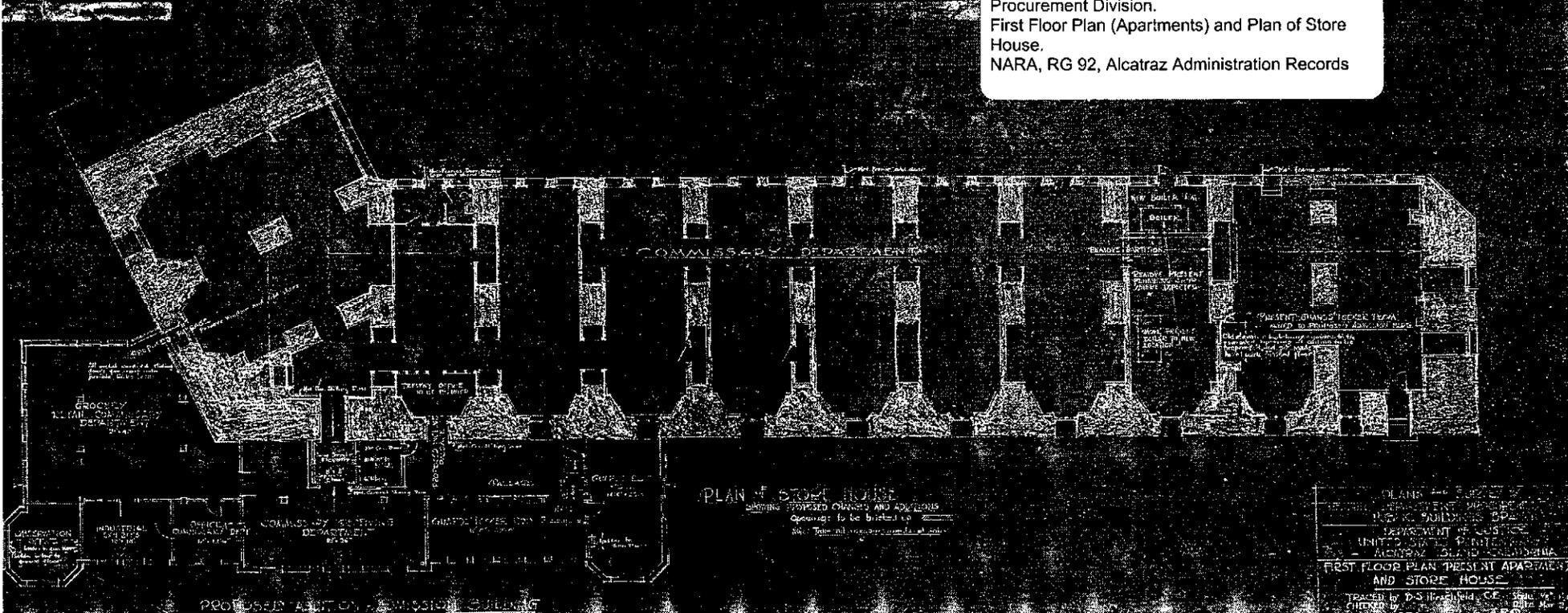
If plans are not available make sketch plans and elevation in spaces above. The plans shown are typical of "quarters." Similar plans may be made for all types of buildings. There are 10 squares to the inch. Each square will represent 1', 2', 4', or 8', etc., as may be necessary to show entire building in the space allowed. Show inside dimensions and designation of each room. Indicate location of water and sewer connections. In space under heading "Details" show character of construction, story heights, etc.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

Concrete Block Walls, Wood Stud Partitions, Tile and Wood Floor

1938. Survey By Dept. of Treasury,  
Procurement Division.  
First Floor Plan (Apartments) and Plan of Store  
House.  
NARA, RG 92, Alcatraz Administration Records



PLAN OF STORE HOUSE

SHOWING PROPOSED CHANGES AND ADDITIONS  
Openings to be indicated by dashed lines  
Note: Total area enclosed by walls is 10,000 sq. ft.

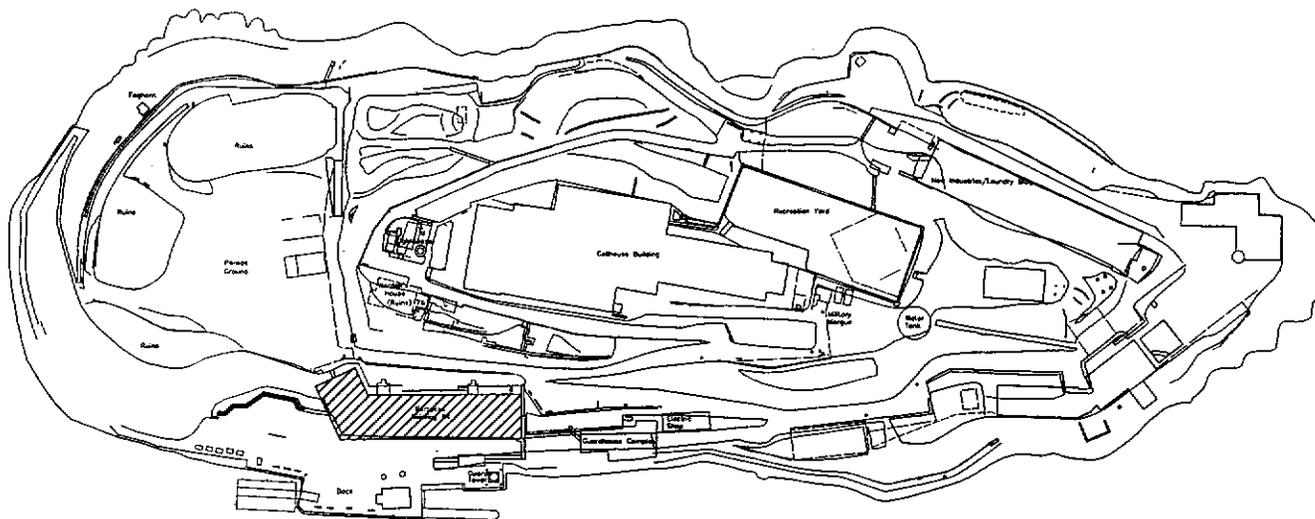
PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS  
FOR THE REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT OF  
THE BUILDING OF THE  
COMMISSARY DEPARTMENT OF THE  
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY  
- ALCATRAZ ISLAND - CALIFORNIA  
FIRST FLOOR PLAN PRESENT APARTMENT  
AND STORE HOUSE  
Traced by D-S [illegible] CE [illegible]  
Checked by [illegible]  
DRAWING NUMBER 100

## **Appendix B**

*Existing Conditions Drawings*

ALCATRAZ ISLAND  
GOLDEN GATE RECREATION AREA

BUILDING 64 - BARRACKS  
ABBREVIATED HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT



LOCATION MAP

San Francisco Bay

SCALE: AS NOTED



DRAWING INDEX

00	TITLE SHEET
01	GROUND FLOOR PLAN
02	FIRST FLOOR APARTMENTS PLAN
03	SECOND FLOOR APARTMENTS PLAN
04	THIRD FLOOR APARTMENTS PLAN
05	ROOF PLAN
06	SECTION AND ELEVATIONS

REVISIONS	BY



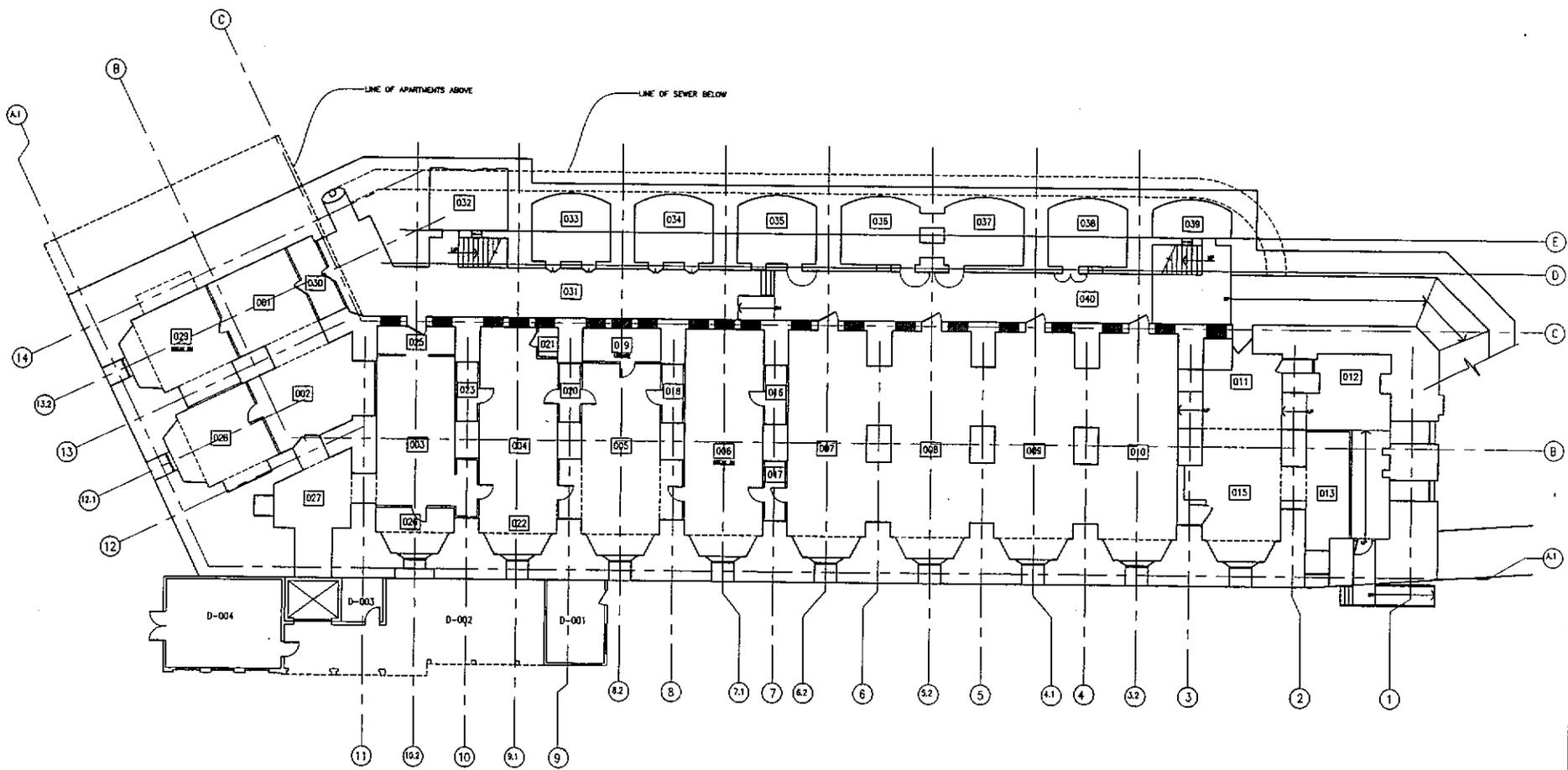
ALCATRAZ - BUILDING 64  
TITLE SHEET



DATE: JAN 80
SCALE: AS NOTED
DRAWN: J. L. ...
CHECKED: J. L. ...
NO. 00
OF 06 SHEETS



BARRACKS BUILDING #64



1  
01

GROUND FLOOR (CASEMATES) AND DOCK LEVEL PLAN

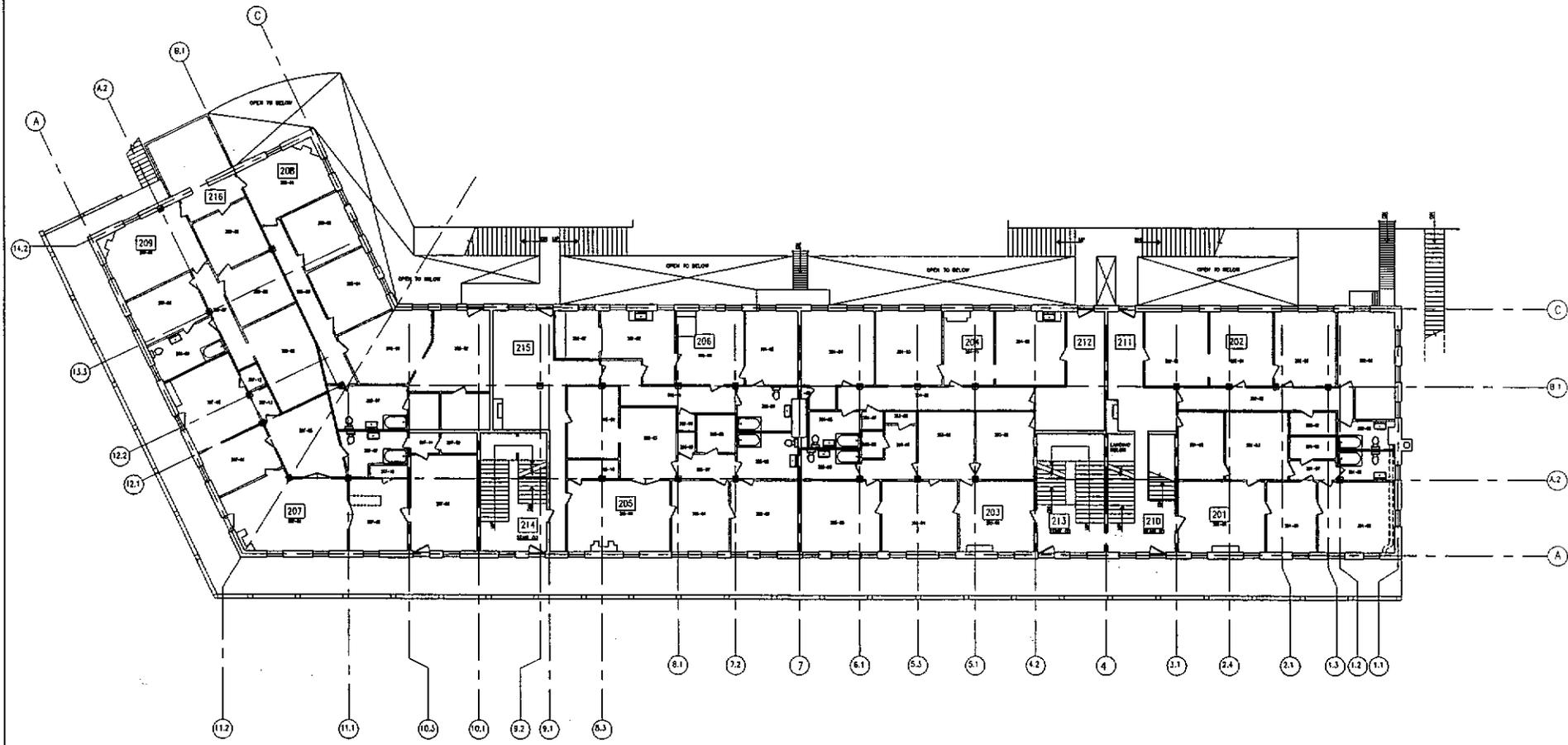
SCALE: AS NOTED



ALCATRAZ - BUILDING 64  
GROUND FLOOR

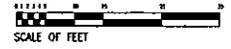
DATE: 11/1/64  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"  
DRAWN: J. J. JAMES  
CHECKED: J. J. JAMES  
SHEET: 0

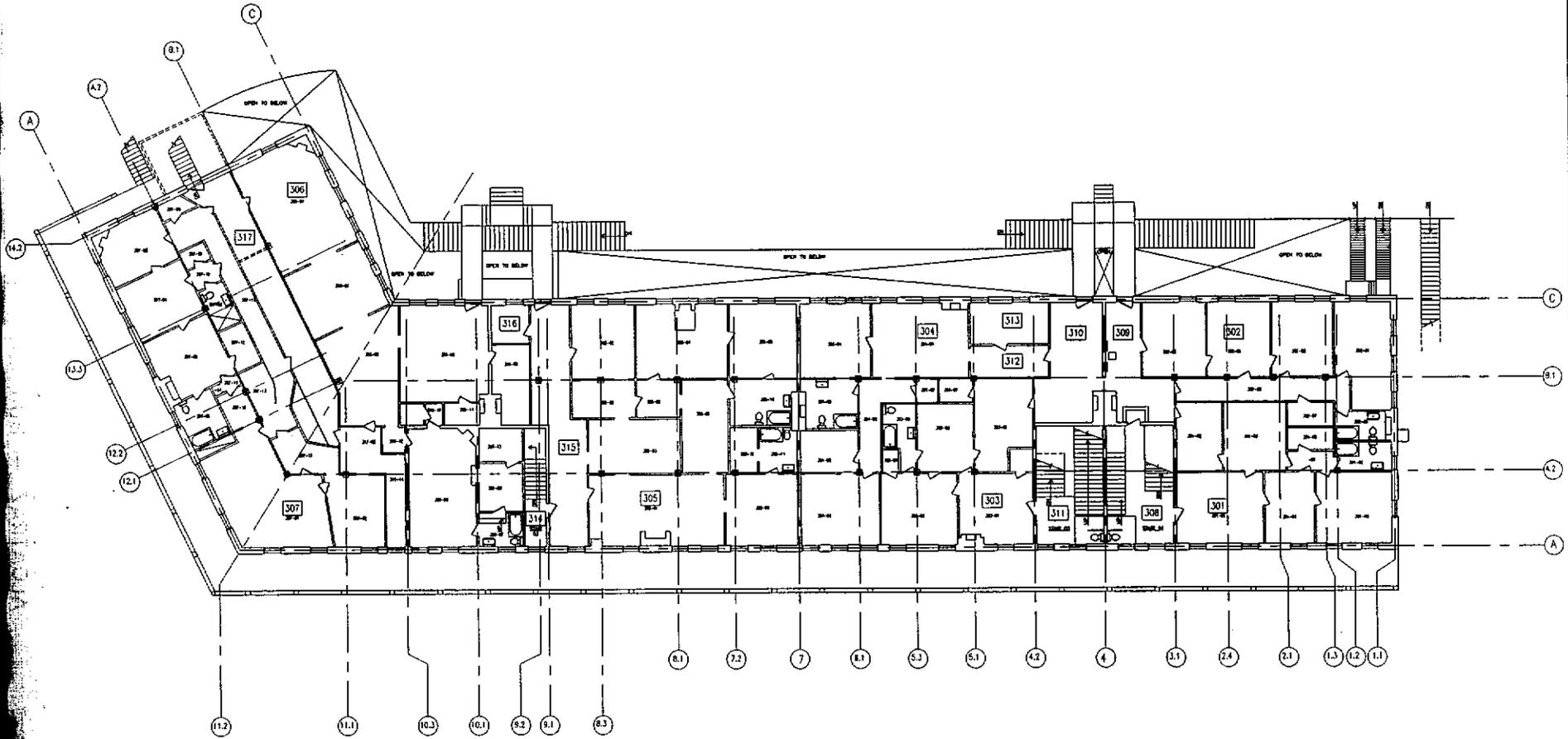




1  
03 SECOND FLOOR APARTMENTS PLAN

SCALE: AS NOTED





1  
04

THIRD FLOOR APARTMENTS PLAN

SCALE: AS NOTED



REVISIONS	BY

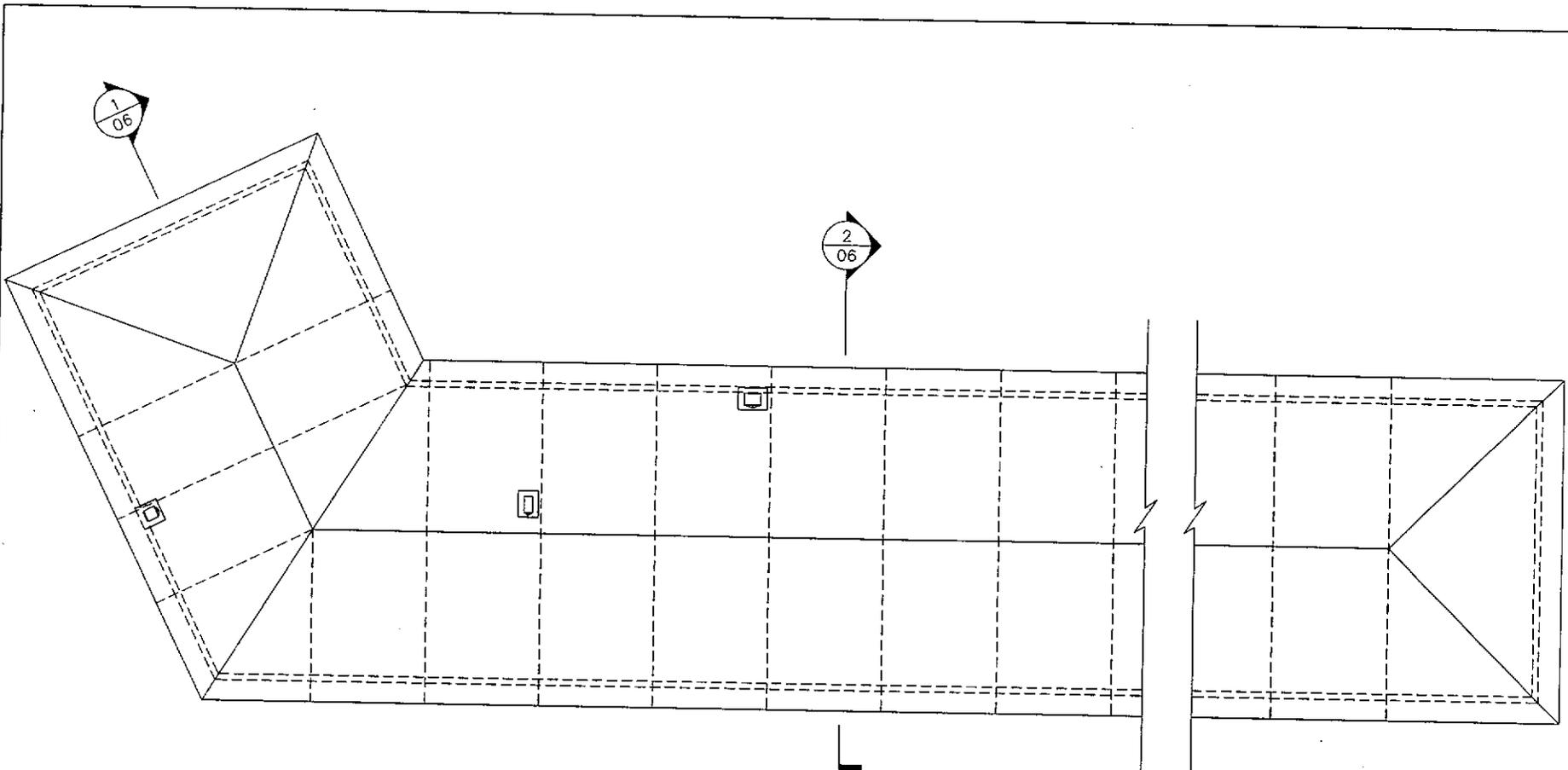


ALCATRAZ - BUILDING 64  
THIRD FLOOR APARTMENTS PLAN



DATE: APR 1953  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"  
DRAWN: J. HORN  
CHECKED: J. LORAN  
SHEET

04



1  
05

ROOF PLAN

SCALE: AS NOTED

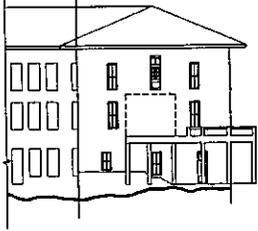


ALCATRAZ - BUILDING 64



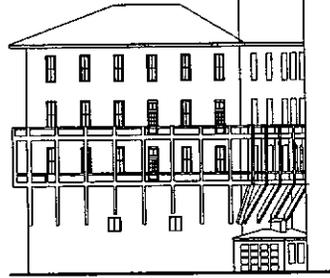
DATE: JAN 1964  
 DRAWN BY: [illegible]  
 CHECKED BY: [illegible]  
 PROJECT: [illegible]

FACADE SHOWN OBLIQUE



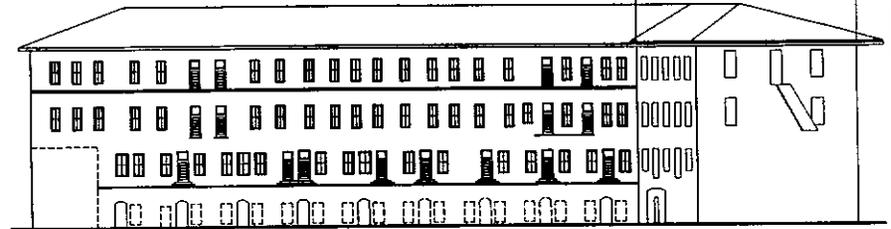
SOUTHWEST

FACADE SHOWN OBLIQUE



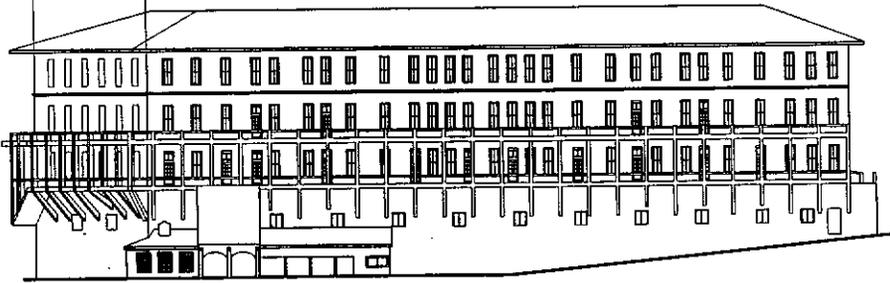
SOUTHEAST

FACADES SHOWN OBLIQUE



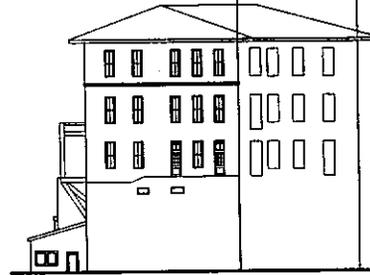
WEST

FACADE SHOWN OBLIQUE



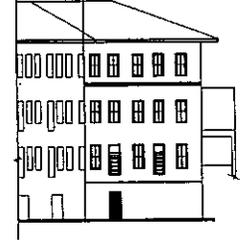
EAST

FACADE SHOWN OBLIQUE



NORTH

FACADE SHOWN OBLIQUE



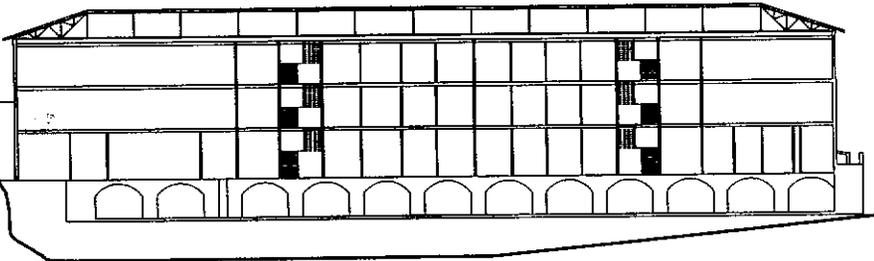
NORTHWEST



3 ELEVATIONS

SCALE: AS NOTED

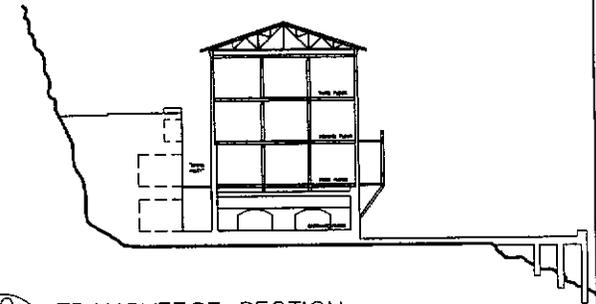
06



1 LONGITUDINAL SECTION

SCALE: AS NOTED

06



2 TRANSVERSE SECTION

SCALE: AS NOTED

06

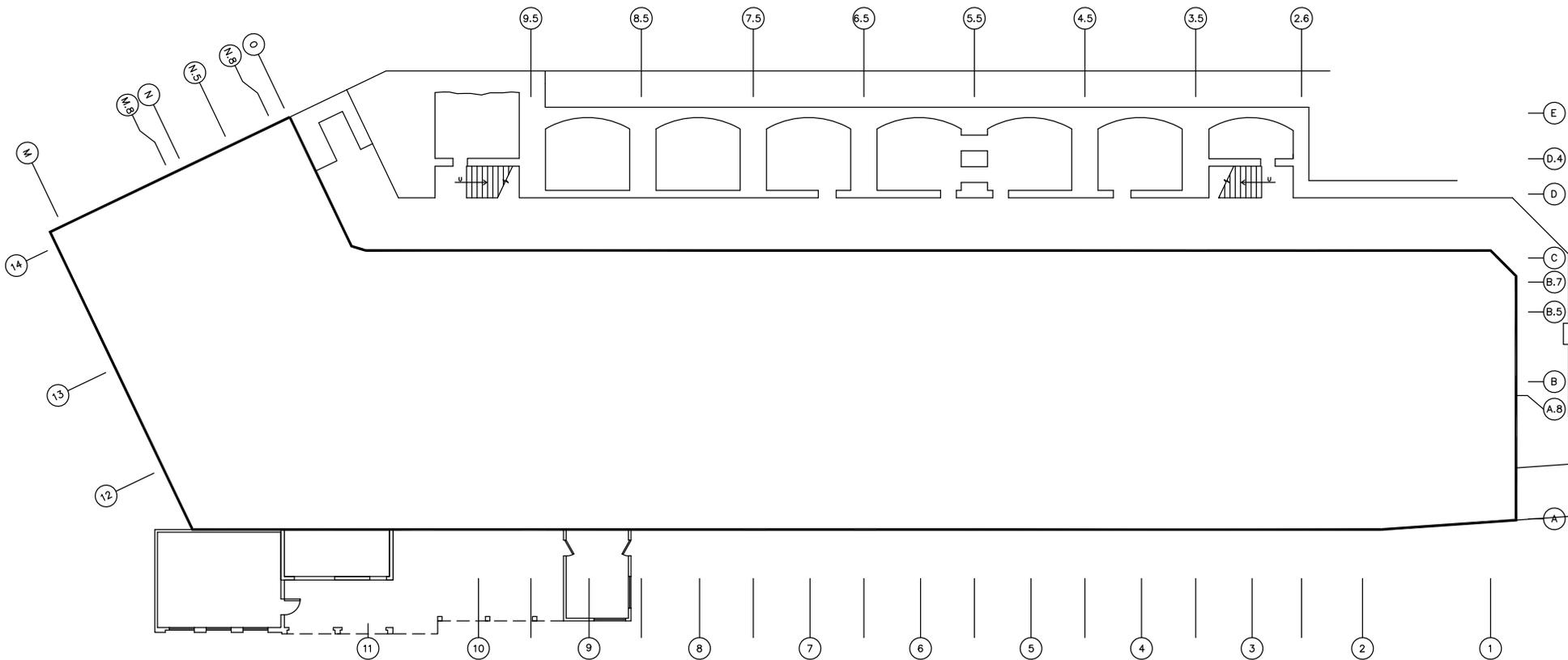
ALCATRAZ - BUILDING 64  
SECTION & ELEVATIONS



DATE: JUNE 1963  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"  
DRAWN BY: J. L. WALKER  
CHECKED BY: J. L. WALKER  
SHEET

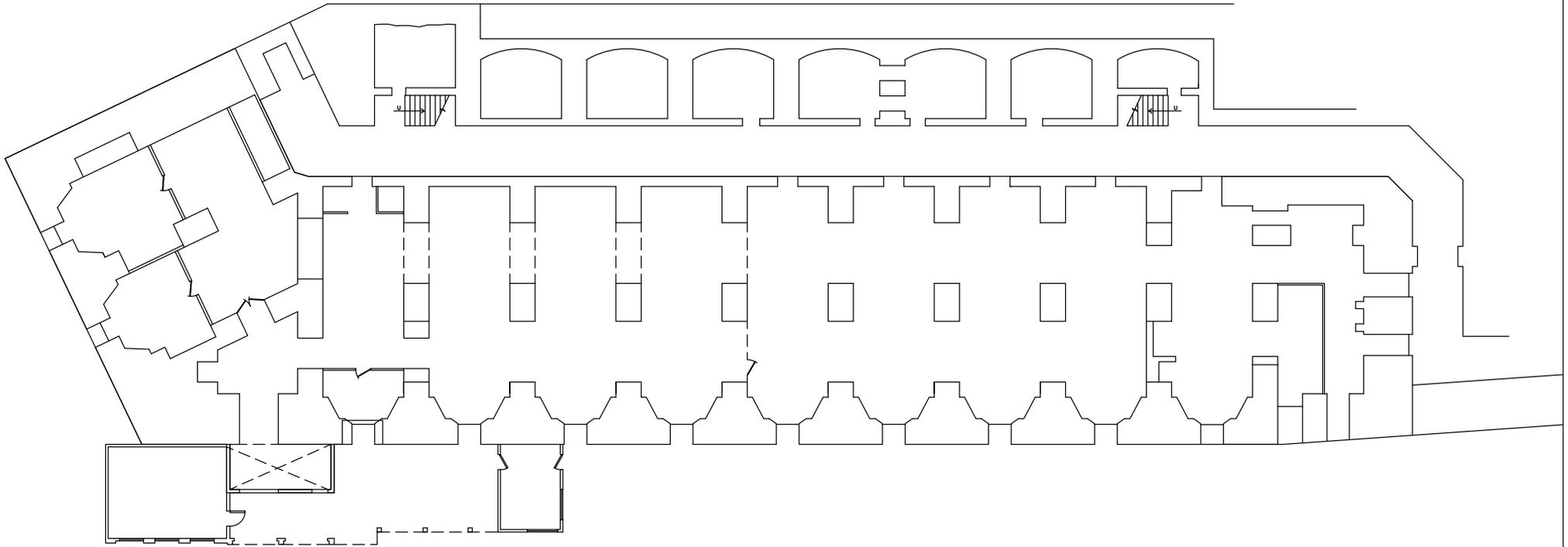
06

J. L. WALKER



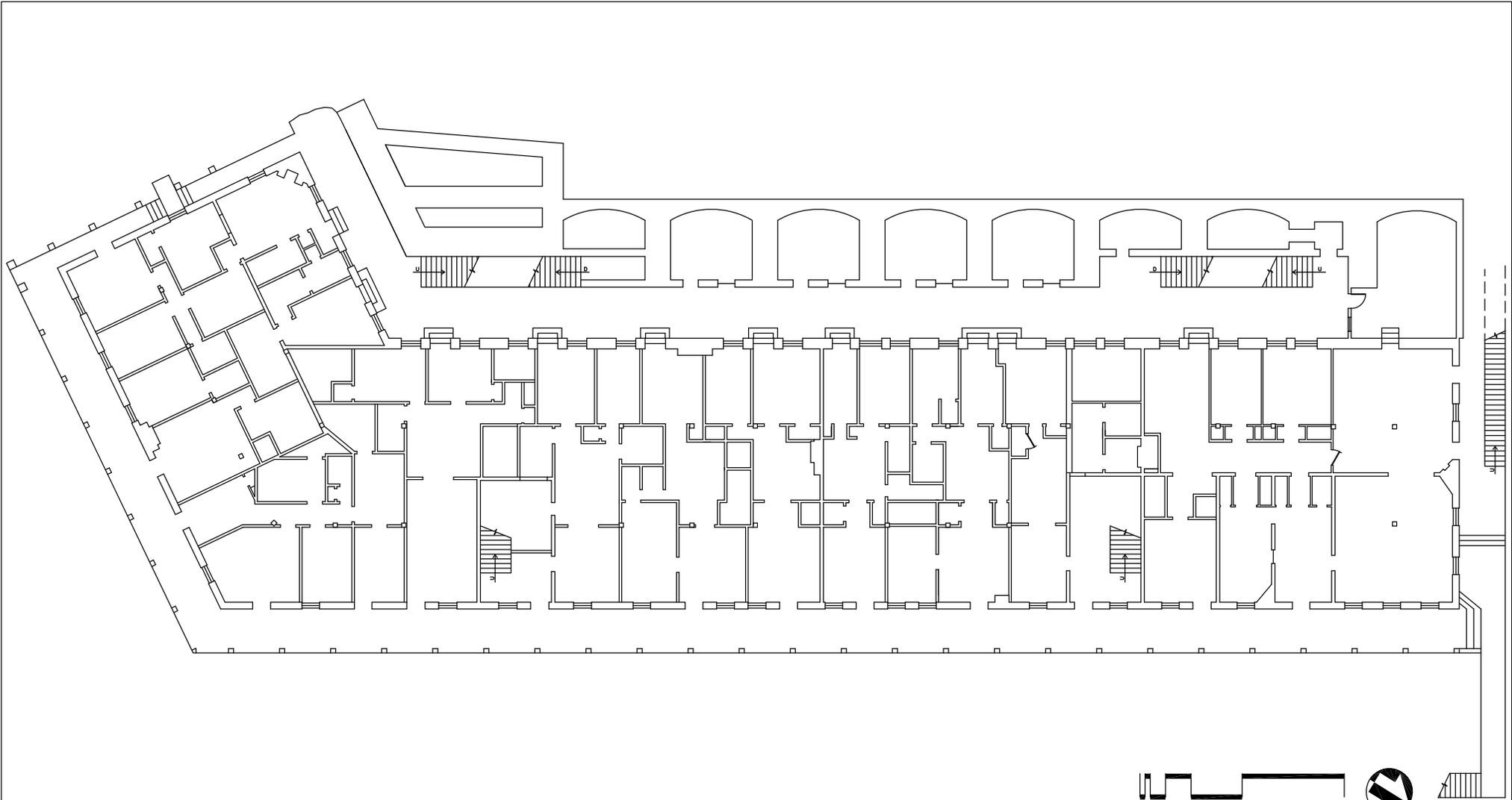
**AZ BUILDING 64 EXISTING CONDITIONS - FIRST FLOOR PLAN**

SCALE: AS NOTED



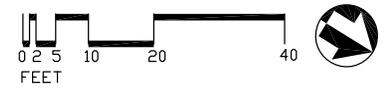
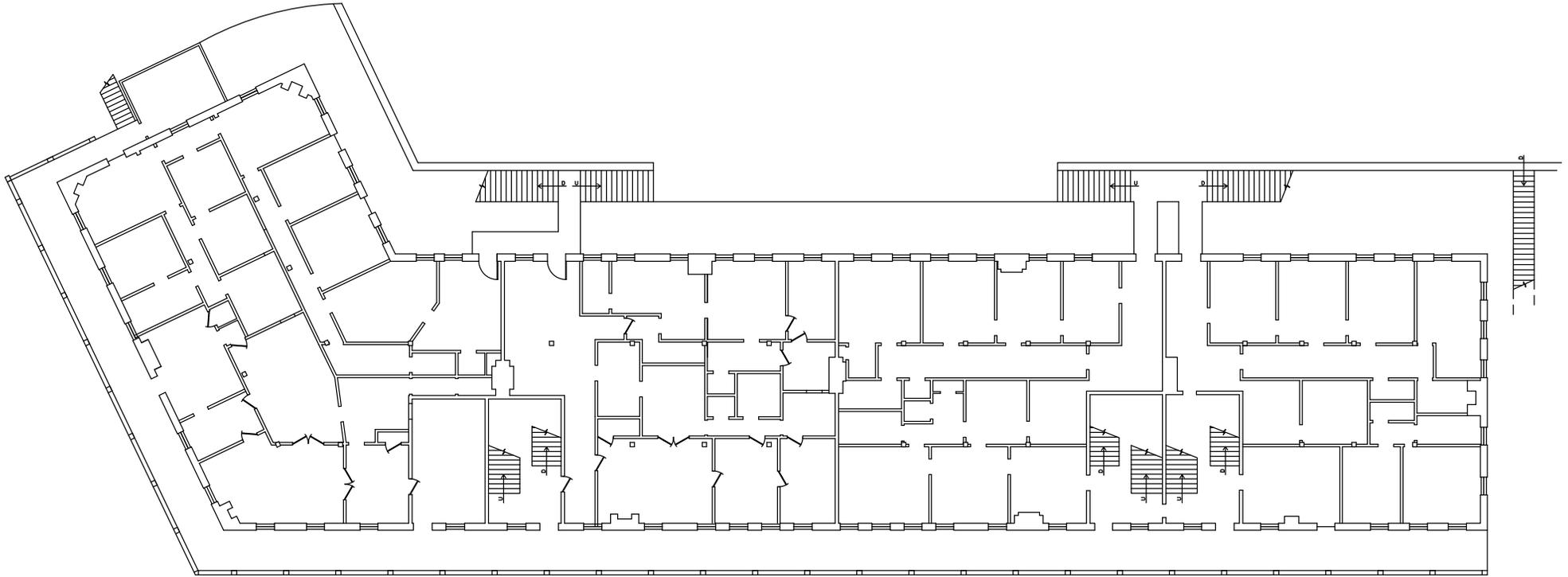
**AZ BUILDING 64 EXISTING CONDITIONS - FIRST FLOOR PLAN**

SCALE: AS NOTED



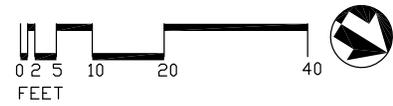
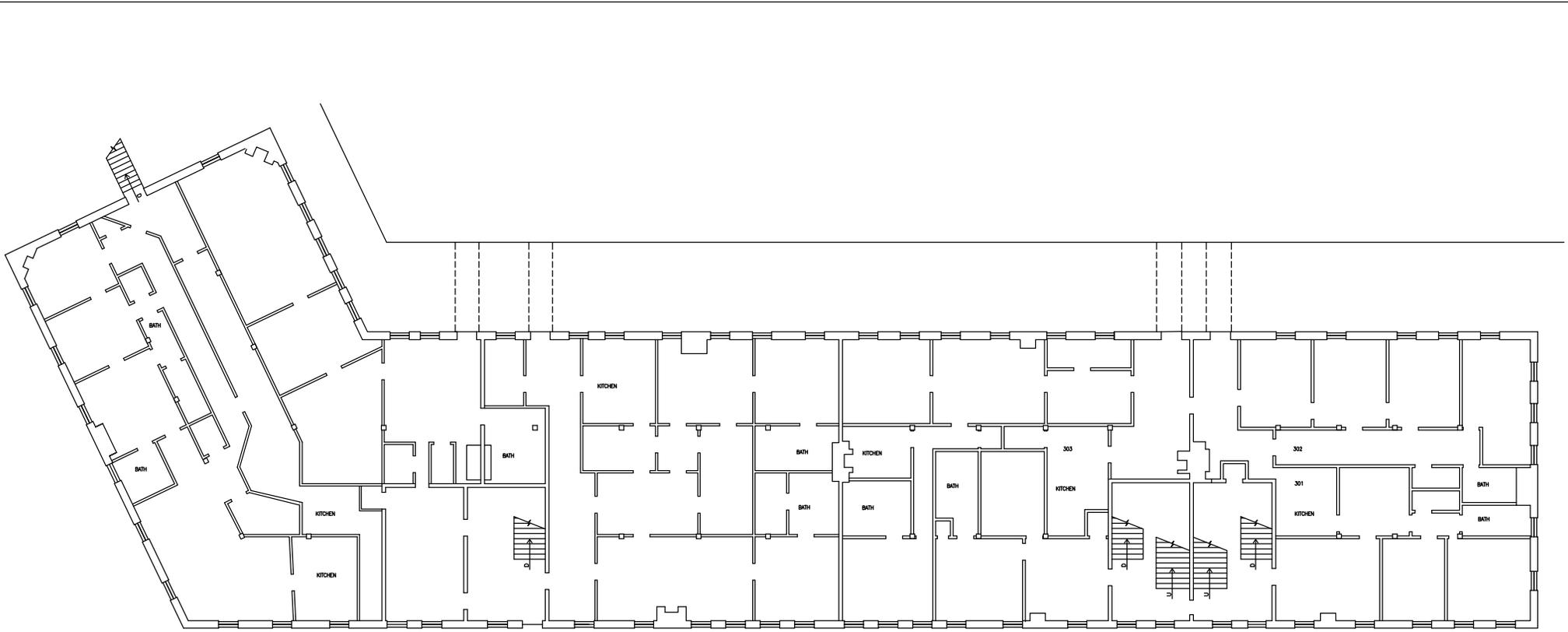
**AZ BUILDING 64 EXISITING CONDITIONS - SECOND FLOOR PLAN**

SCALE: AS NOTED



**AZ BUILDING 64 EXISTING CONDITIONS - THIRD FLOOR PLAN**

SCALE: AS NOTED



**AZ BUILDING 64 EXISITING CONDITIONS - FOURTH FLOOR PLAN**

SCALE: AS NOTED

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



**Golden Gate National Recreation Area**  
Alcatraz Island  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123