

Bureau of Mines Boulder City Experimental Station, Weigh Station (Bureau of Mines Boulder City Experimental Station, Scale House)

Date Street North of U.S. Highway 93
Boulder City
Clark County
Nevada

HABS No. NV-35-K

HABS
NEV
2-BOUC,
1K-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

**Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California 94107**

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

BUREAU OF MINES BOULDER CITY EXPERIMENTAL STATION (Date Street Complex)
WEIGH STATION (Scale House)

HABS No. NV-35-K

Location: Date Street Complex, bordered by U.S. Highway 93 Truck Route, and Elm and Date streets
Boulder City, Clark County, Nevada

The Weigh Station is located near the south central portion of the complex. Building 700 is located directly to the southwest, and Building 600 is to the northwest.

Boulder City, Nev., 7.5' Topographic Quadrangle, U.S.G.S., 1958, Photorevised 1983, Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 11.694500.3983300 (approximate center of building)

Present Owner: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation

Present Use: Abandoned

Significance: The Weigh Station, as part of the Date Street Complex, was part of the Bureau of Mines Electrometallurgical Research Facility located in Boulder City. As such, it is within the designated Boulder City Historic District. In a report of a survey of the Date Street Complex, Christine Pfaff (1992:4-5) notes that this building, one of five that is to be demolished, was constructed during the period of significance (1931-1945) for the District, contributed to the functioning of the Research Facility, is significant as part of the complex under National Register Criterion a, and, therefore, is considered a contributing element to the District. Examination of the historical maps and photographs indicate that this building is not in its original location, which was on the north side of the scales (NV-35-11; NV-35-12; NV-35-K-3; NV-35-9; NV-35-2; NV-35-3; NV-35-F-8). It apparently was moved between 1957 and 1965, possibly in 1963 after the removal of the old wood-frame warehouse ([Blue] 1966:30).

The significance of the Boulder City Historic District is tied to the Boulder Canyon Project (Hoover Dam) and to the history of American City Planning. This was the first community constructed following the federal New Towns model, as well as the "first fully-developed experience in new town planning as promoted by the Community Planning Movement, a movement which is recognized as the force which most influenced contemporary community planning practices" (Woodward et al. 1982:8.1).

Description: The Weigh Station is a one-story, wood-frame, corrugated sheet metal building constructed on a simple rectangle plan. It is oriented on a northeast/southwest axis, but the descriptions of the elevations will be addressed as north, south, east, and west. The building measures 12 (east/west) by 10 (north/south) feet. Although there are no

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records indicating the date of construction, a map of the complex with a penned date of "1/15/42" shows its presence. This suggests a 1941 construction date, which coincides with the increased facilities.

The building has a normal pitch (31°), end-gabled roof of corrugated sheet metal. The eaves are open with exposed wood rafters and an overhang (approximately 6 inches) on all sides. The walls are clad with corrugated sheet metal. The foundation is comprised of concrete blocks, visible on all but the north elevation. The windows are recessed and wood-framed. A pipe is located at the west end of the roofline.

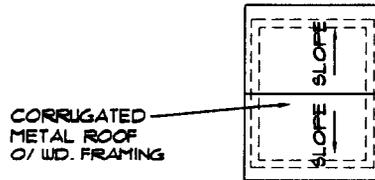
The primary (front) elevation faces north. A wood-framed, three paneled (plywood) door is offset to the west end of the elevation. Most of the upper half of the north elevation is comprised of a window. It is a 12-part divided-light (two 3/3), horizontal slider. There are concrete pads between the wall and weight located to the north. Just below the window is a metal cover plate with a handle that serves as access to the scales mechanism. The scales, measuring 26 (east/west) by 10 (north/south) feet, have a concrete slab covering.

Neither the west or south elevations have any openings or other features. On the east elevation is fixed 6-part divided-light (3/3). Above it is a sign that reads "*Fairbanks Scales.*" Leaning against the side of the wall is another sign that reads "*ROAD / TO 700 / CLOSED.*"

The interior has a wood plank (3-inch wide) floor. Although the scales are no longer used, they are routinely serviced, as noted by a service log on the north wall east of the door. Below the window is the measuring device, which can determine the weight of items up to 10,000 pounds. The manufacturer's name, *Fairbanks*, is on the pedestaled base and on the sliding scale marker on the top weight bar. On the east wall, below the window, is a wood drafting type table where the daily logs were kept for recording weights. One of the last logs is still present. A built-in, wood storage cabinet and shelf unit is on the south wall. The bottom quarter is an open shelf, topped by a cabinet with three shelves. The interior west wall has a plywood filler in the center of the wall, suggesting that an opening the same size and location as that on the east wall was once there.

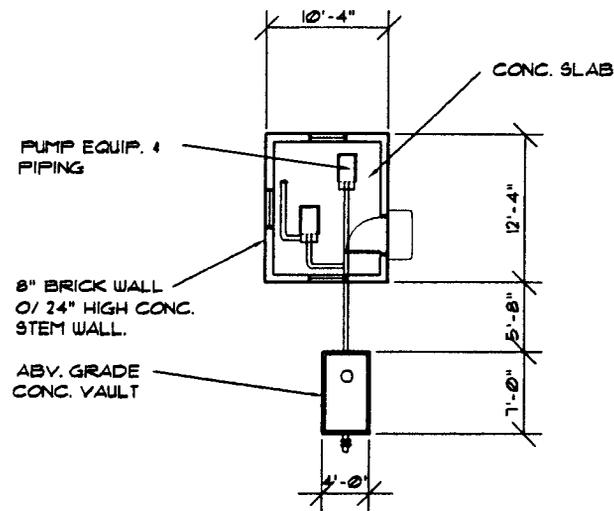
Additional Documentation:

Building Elevations with Scales and Floor Plan (Attachment 1: 2 pages)



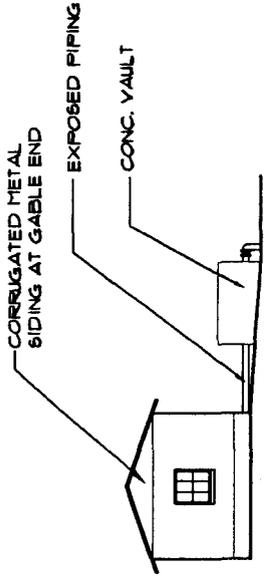
PUMP HOUSE
DEMO. ROOF PLAN

SCALE : 1/16"=1'-0"



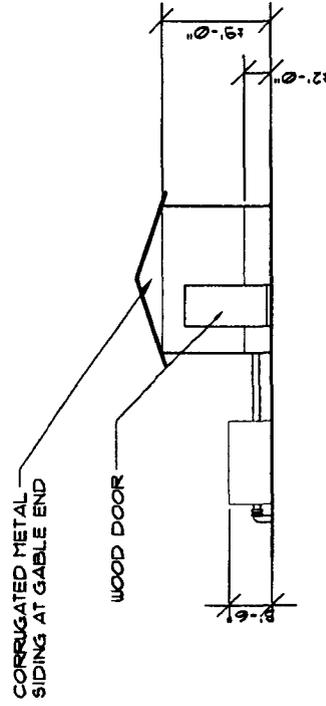
PUMP HOUSE
DEMOLITION PLAN

SCALE : 1/16"=1'-0"



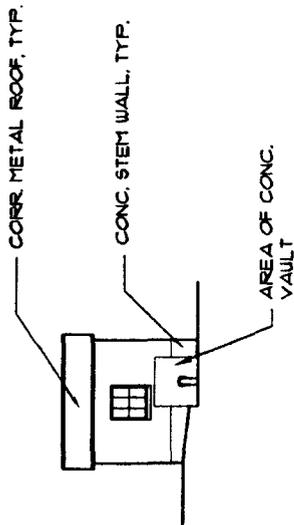
**PUMP HOUSE
WEST DEMOLITION ELEVATION**

SCALE : 1/16" = 1'-0"



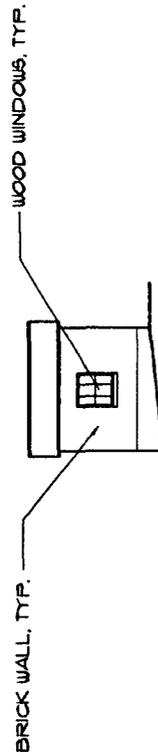
**PUMP HOUSE
EAST DEMOLITION ELEVATION**

SCALE : 1/16" = 1'-0"



**PUMP HOUSE
SOUTH DEMOLITION ELEVATION**

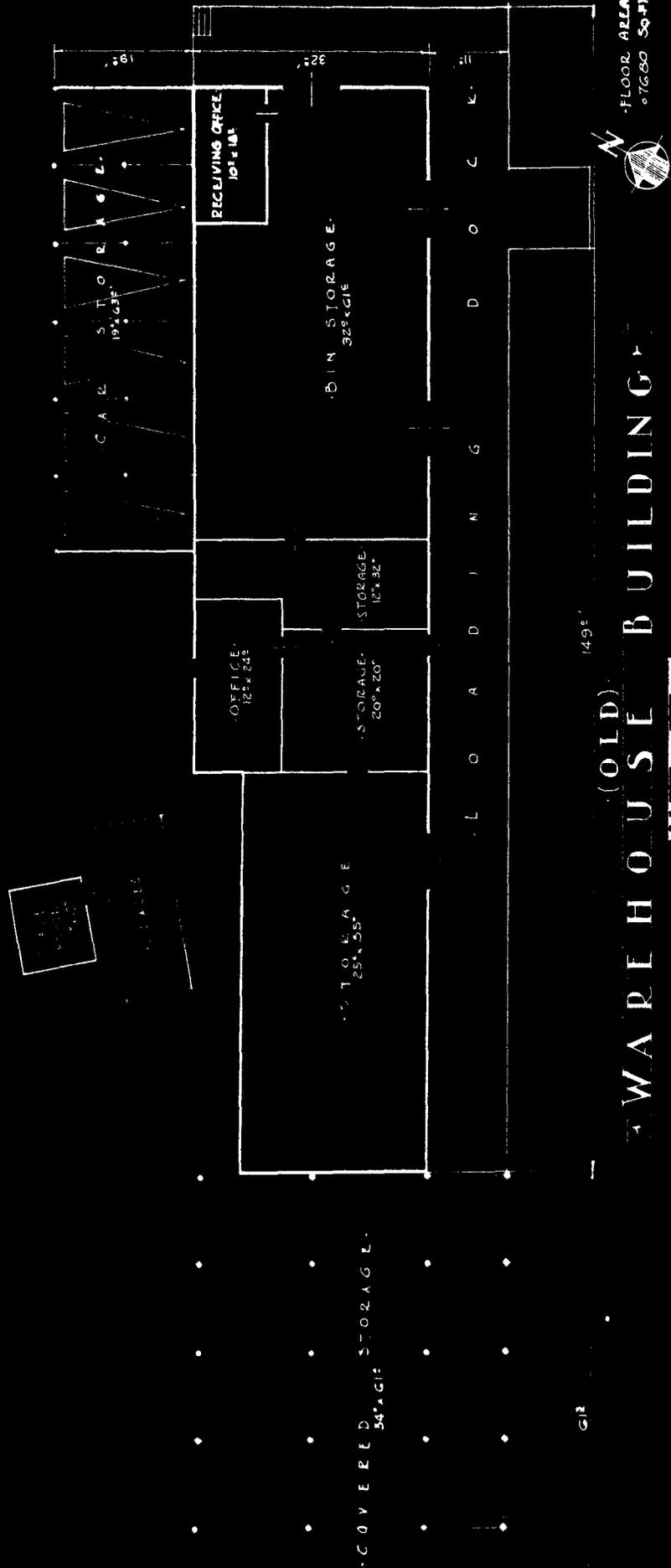
SCALE : 1/16" = 1'-0"



**PUMP HOUSE
NORTH DEMOLITION ELEVATION**

SCALE : 1/16" = 1'-0"

Photocopy of plan drawing (c. 1953, photocopy in U.S. Bureau of Mines Lab Collection, MS-18, Department of Special Collections, Leid Library, University of Nevada, Las Vegas). (OLD) WAREHOUSE BUILDING location (no longer standing) with SCALES and original location of WEIGH STATION (Scale House)



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