

316-318 LACKAWANNA AVENUE (Commercial Building)
Scranton
Lackawanna County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5638

HABS
PA
35-SCRAN,
15-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

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PA
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

316-318 LACKAWANNA AVENUE HABS No. PA-5638
(Commercial Building)

Location: 316-318 Lackawanna Avenue, Scranton, Lackawanna
County Pennsylvania

USGS Scranton, PA Quadrangle
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
18.444220.4584070

Significance: 316-318 Lackawanna Avenue is one of the largest of
a row of late nineteenth and early twentieth
century commercial buildings that made up the
heart of Scranton's business district during the
city's greatest period of prosperity. The
building is one of the best representatives in the
row of an early twentieth century tall building,
influenced by tall building design in major
eastern cities.

Description: Six stories tall and with a terra cotta facade,
the building faces Lackawanna Avenue. The first
two stories have a modern storefront, but the
upper floors retain their original design. The
composition consists of two large bays flanking a
narrow center bay, all of them topped by segmental
arches. Molded piers and arches, torchers,
keystones, and a modillioned cornice highlight the
topmost portion of the facade. The rear, which
faces Bogart Place and the Delaware and Lackawanna
Railroad viaduct, is brick.

History: The building was erected in 1906 by the Economy
Furniture Company, whose name is seen in mosaic on
the facade parapet and in paint on the rear.
Advertisements on the rear, designed to be seen by
passengers approaching Scranton's main station on
the railroad viaduct, demonstrate that the rear
elevations of this and other Lackawanna Avenue
buildings could be important parts of their
composition. This is especially true of the later
buildings erected after the viaduct and new
station. The present occupant, Home Furniture,
replaced Economy. An earlier four story building
on the site was probably erected around 1900 and
can be seen on a postcard postmarked 1908. At
that time it held a clothing store. An even
earlier three story building held a dry goods
store.

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The building was included in the Lackawanna Avenue Commercial Historic District, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. The building is scheduled for demolition in February 1992.

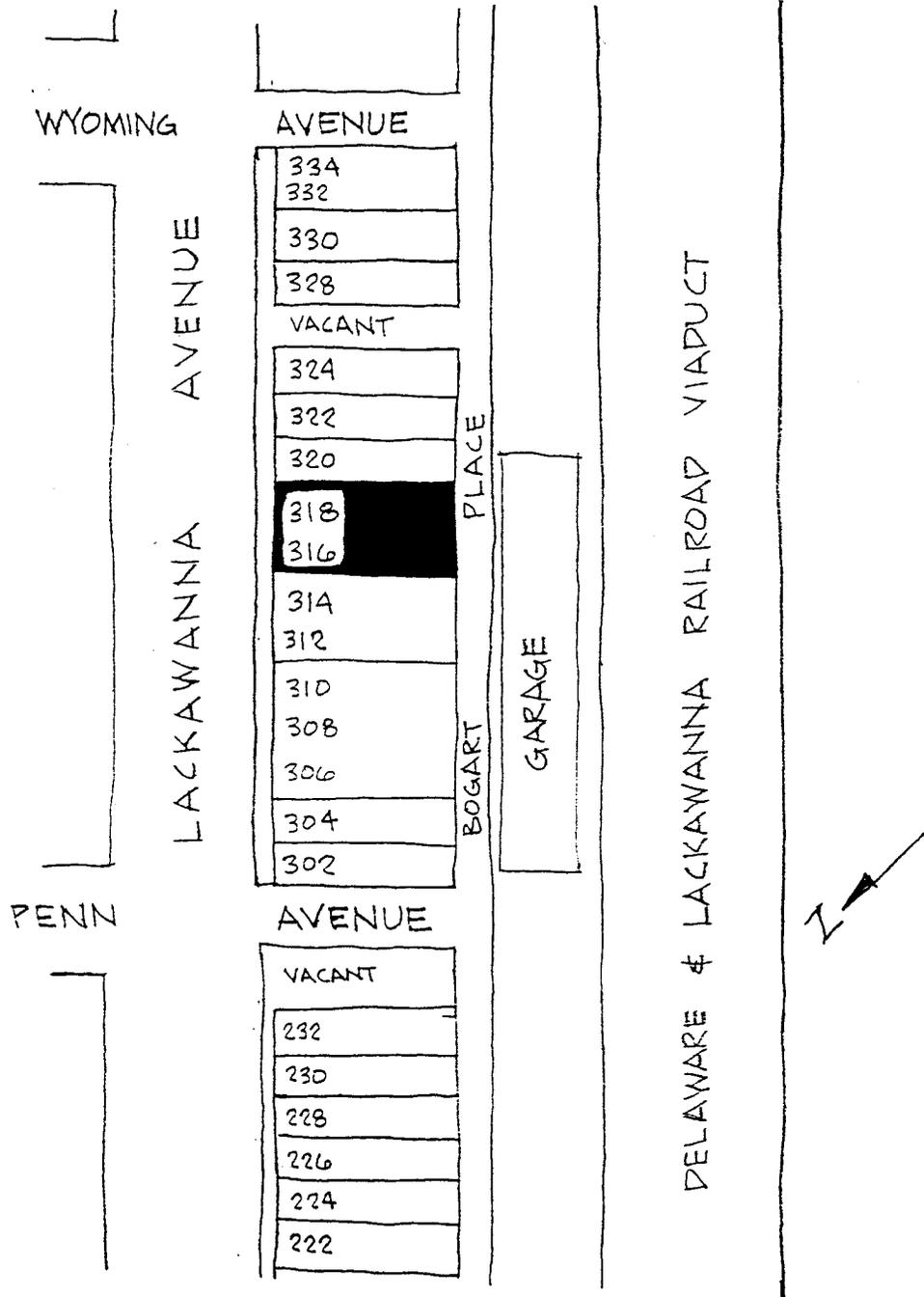
Sources:

- Lackawanna Avenue Commercial Historic District. National Register of Historic Places nomination form, 1983.
- Sanborn Atlases of Scranton, Sanborn Map Company, 1955 (updated to 1973), 1898 (updated to 1910), and 1884.
- G.M. Hopkins, Atlas of Scranton, 1877.
- Scranton City Directories, 1956, 1925, 1907, 1902, 1884.
- Postcard photo of Lackawanna Avenue, postmarked 1908, in Jack Hiddlestone, Greetings from Scranton, Scranton: Lackawanna Historical Society, 1986, p.11.
- Photo of Parade on Lackawanna Avenue, circa 1902-05, Lackawanna Historical Society, #STSC 91-P.

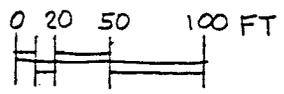
Historian:

Mark Reinberger
Martin Jay Rosenblum, R.A. & Associates
Philadelphia, PA
October 10, 1991

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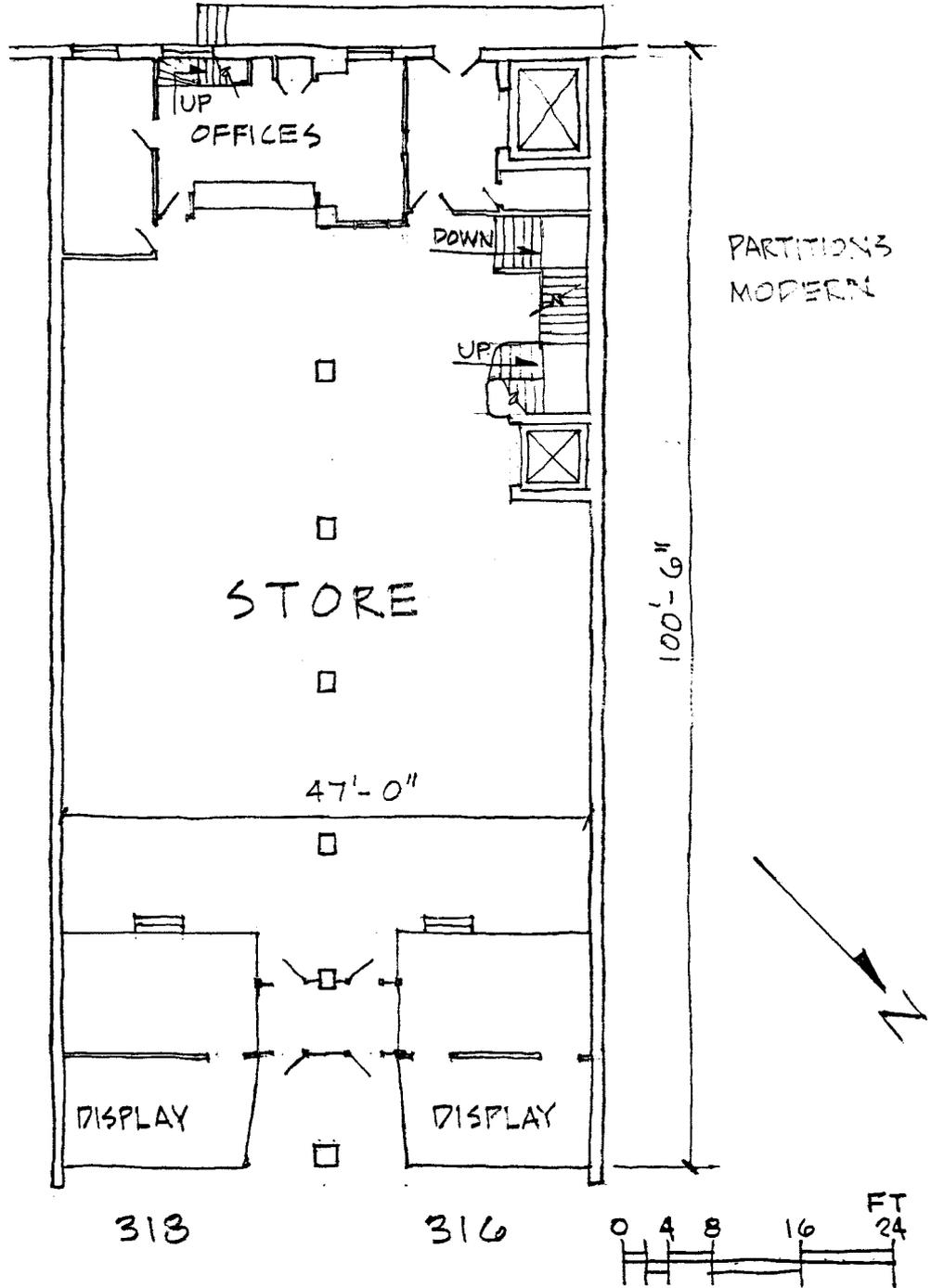
SITE PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

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— BOGART PLACE —



LACKAWANNA AVENUE — 10/91 NR