

TUSCARORA TOWNSHIP ~~SCHOOL~~ HALL  
3546 S. Straits Highway  
Indian River  
Cheboygan County  
Michigan

HABS No. MI-400

HABS  
MICH  
16- INRIV,  
1-

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

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

TUSCARORA TOWNSHIP HALL

HABS No. MI- 400

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1-

Location: 3546 S. Straits Highway, Indian River, Cheboygan County, Michigan  
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:  
16.686782.5031175

Significance: The township hall has served as municipal offices for sixty nine years, replacing the original frame structure that was destroyed by fire in 1922, and has no identifiable architectural style.

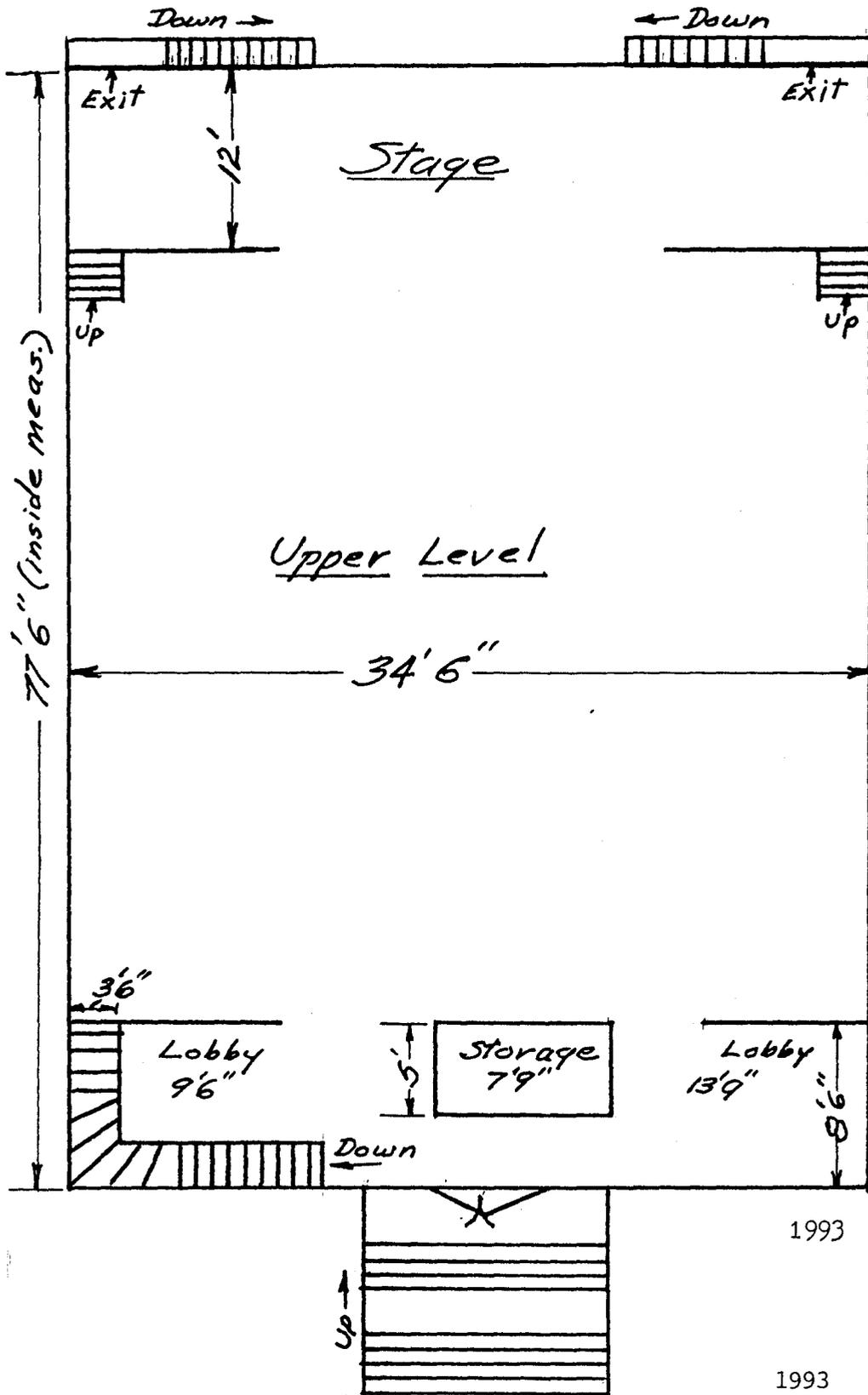
Description: The township hall faces Straits Highway (US 27). The structure measures forty (40) feet by eighty (80) feet with an overall height of 33 feet. There are two levels in the building: the basement of which four (4) feet is below ground level and six (6) feet above ground, and the first floor above ground. It is a rectangular building, with the basement portion constructed of poured concrete twelve (12) inches thick, and the upper level built of clay tile 4" x 11" and 1" thick and attached to a metal lath. It is topped by a gable roof and has a false storefront. Due to the positioning of the two floors, stairs are required for entry to either level. The upper level has outdoor stairs facing Straits Highway and the lower level has an interior stair to the side of the upper ones. The interior of the upper level is lath stucco. The lower level was paneled in 1951. In 1982 the upper level was remodeled for energy conservation purposes, with a drop ceiling installed and windows sealed.

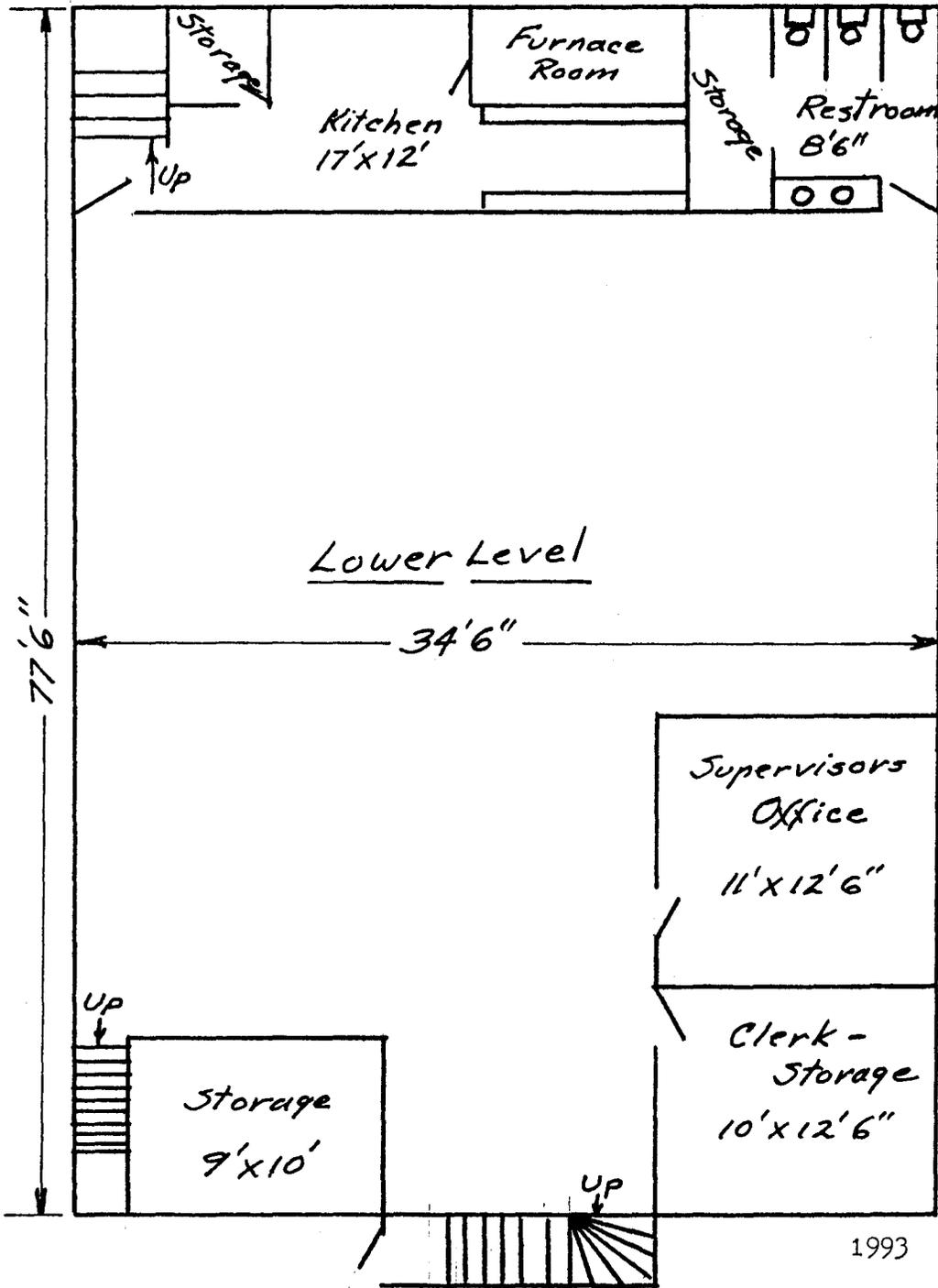
History: According to the upper story front door lintel this facility was constructed in 1924. The architect was a Mr. O. Stanley, with the building committee comprised of Captain Charles W. McConnell, Irvin Waldron and E.J. Frye. The contractor was Mr. William Woody of Cheboygan, Michigan. It is constructed on the site of the original townhall.

Throughout the years the townhall has been used for elections, township public meetings, and organizational meetings of local groups. For twenty years the Mason's leased the building, from 1958 to 1979. Briefly the upstairs level was used for dances and basketball during years 1951-1952. Since 1951 the lower level has been the only section in use for government offices and meetings.

Source: On August 26, 1993, the original plans were discovered, with notations on the back of the contractor, committee members, and architect. These are the only records available. None were located in the vault; the earlier records were all lost in the fire which destroyed the original township hall. Contacts were made with relevant Cheboygan County offices and they held no records. There was no local newspaper until the late 1950's. We talked with life-long residents for some information and supported that with two local book publications: A Native of Indian River by Thora Wilbur Connors and The Pageant of Tuscarora by Robert Sager. It is not listed in the National Register.

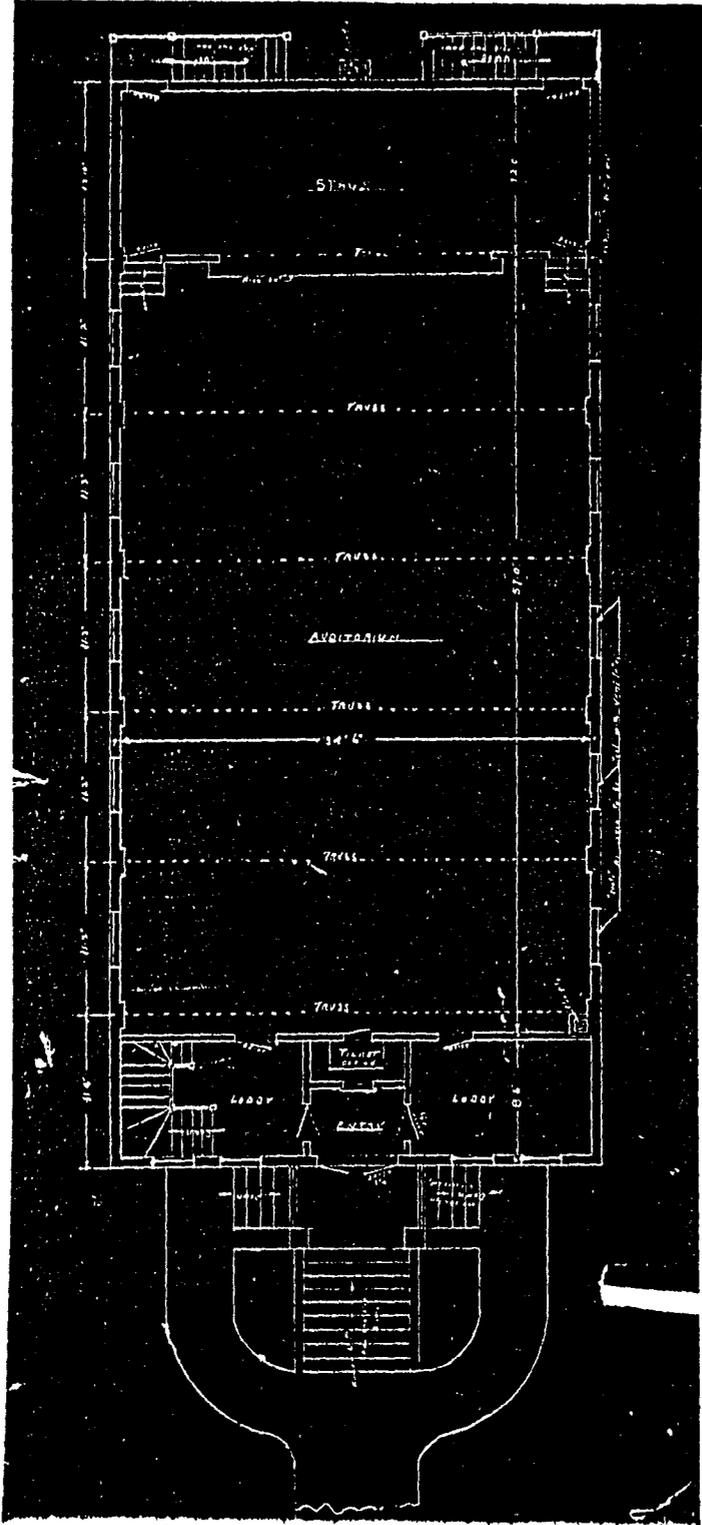
Historian : Cindy Lou Poquette  
Indian River Area Library  
September 17, 1993



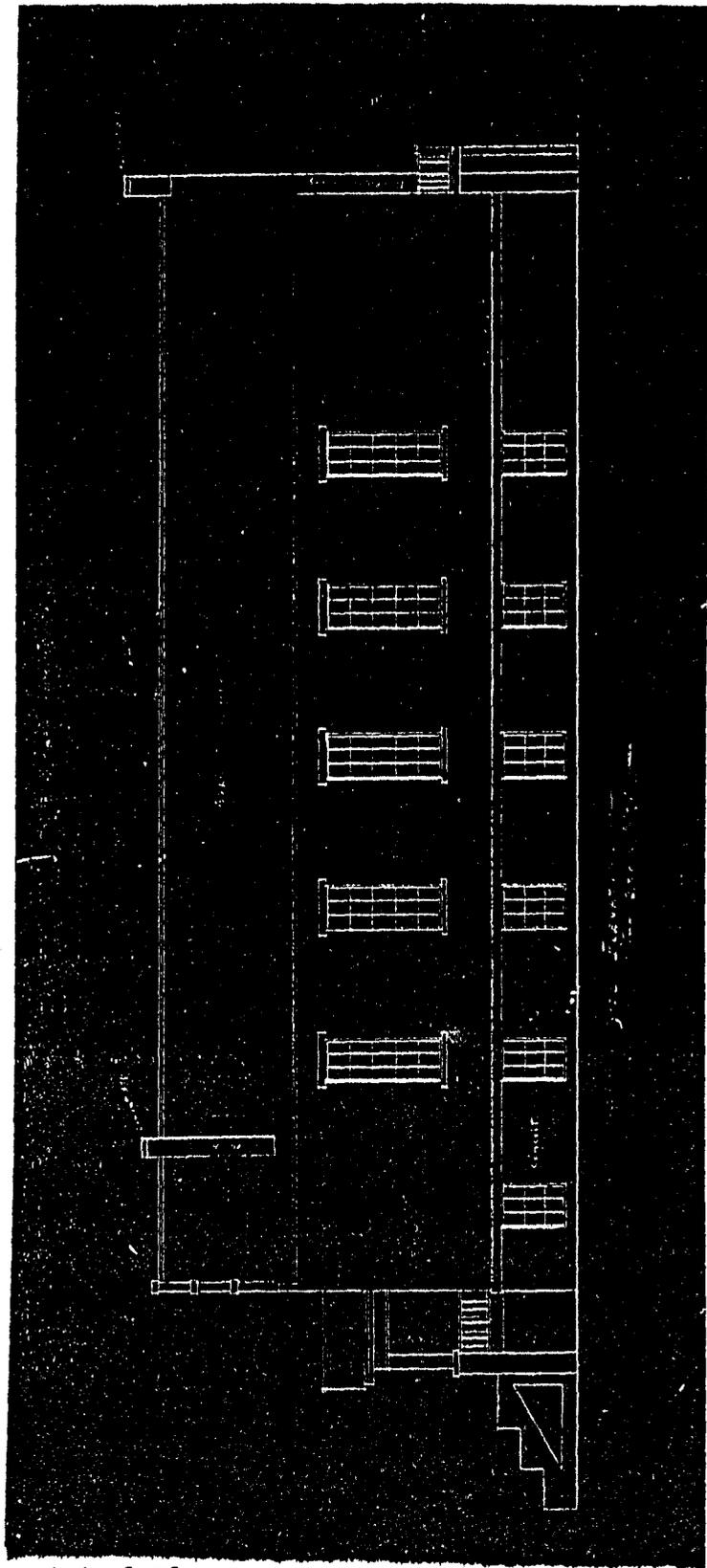


1993

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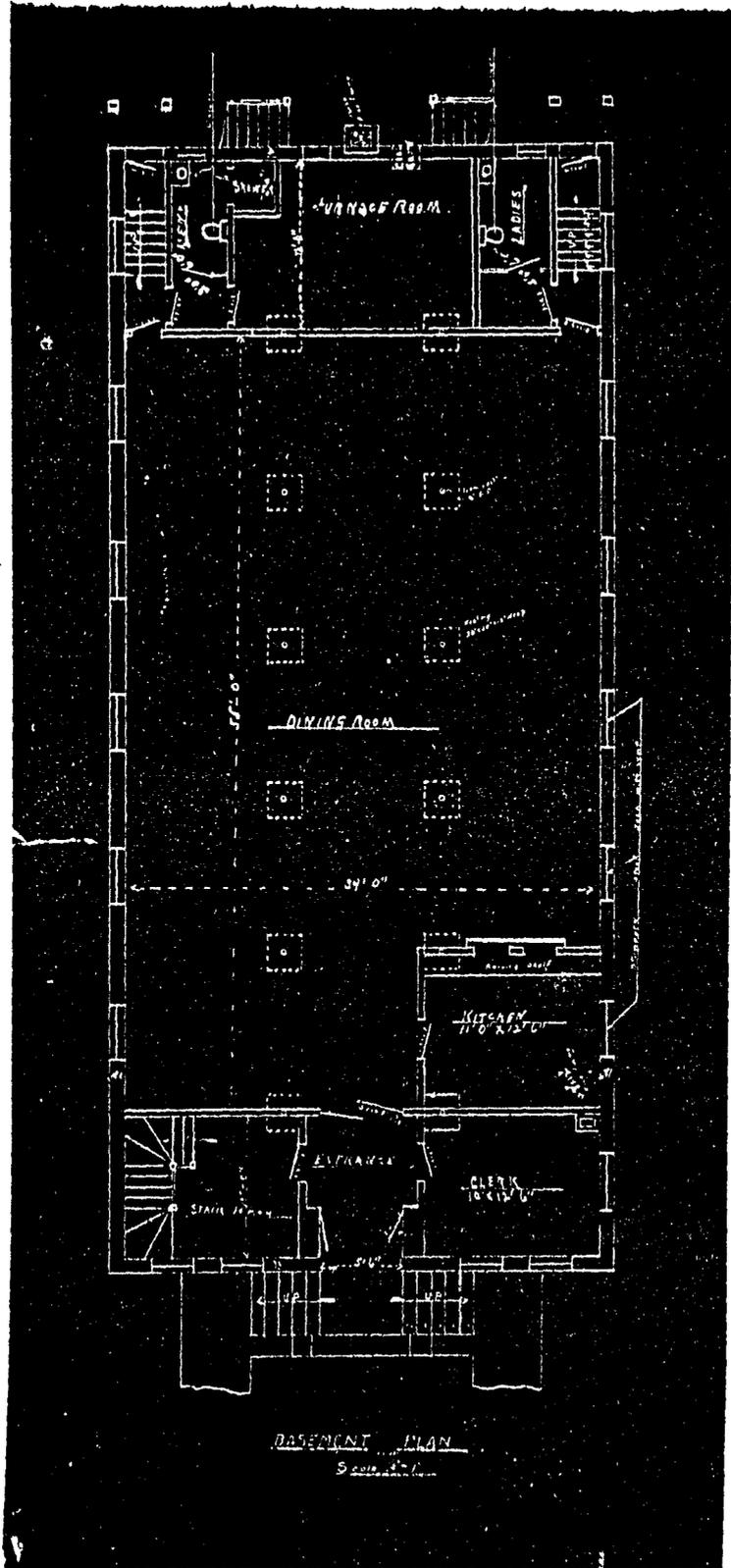


Original Plans ca. 1922

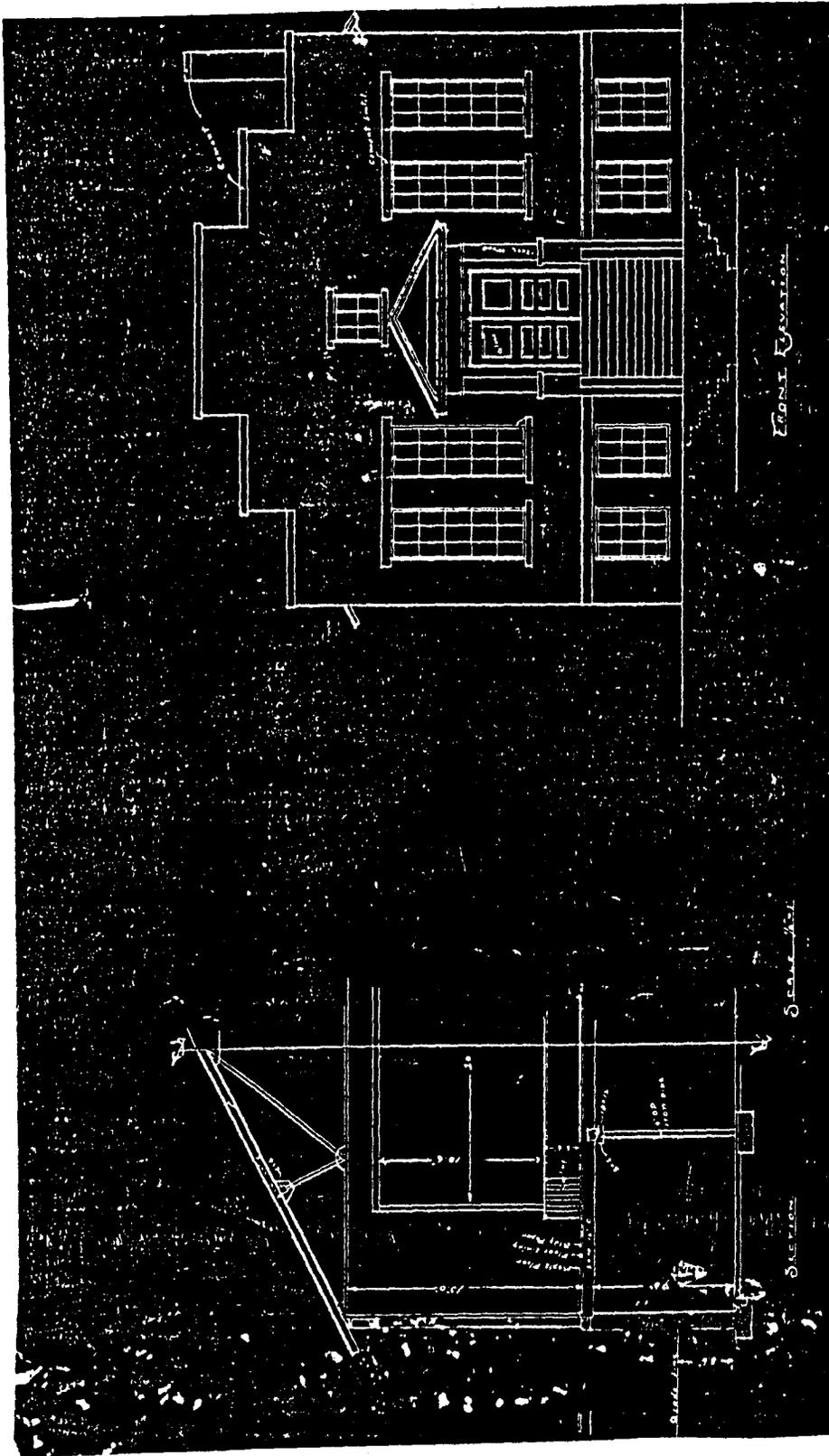


Original Plans ca. 1922





Original Plans ca. 1922



Original Plans ca. 1922