

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 54th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN TOM ZOOK**, on February 11, 1995, at
1:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Tom Zook, Chairman (R)
Rep. Edward J. "Ed" Grady, Vice Chairman (Majority) (R)
Rep. Joe Quilici, Vice Chairman (Minority) (D)
Rep. Beverly Barnhart (D)
Rep. Ernest Bergsagel (R)
Rep. Roger Debruycker (R)
Rep. Gary Feland (R)
Rep. Marjorie I. Fisher (R)
Rep. Don Holland (R)
Rep. Royal C. Johnson (R)
Rep. John Johnson (D)
Rep. Betty Lou Kasten (R)
Rep. Matt McCann (D)
Rep. William T. "Red" Menahan (D)
Rep. Steve Vick (R)
Rep. William R. Wiseman (R)

Members Excused: Rep. John Cobb (R)
Rep. Mike Kadas (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Nan LeFebvre, Fiscal Analyst
Marjorie Peterson, Committee Secretary

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and
discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: Law Enforcement Academy Proposals
Executive Action: None.

HEARING ON LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY PROPOSALSOpening Statement by Attorney General:

Joe Mazurek, Attorney General, Helena, opened by stating that he wanted everyone to know there was a problem with the facility the Law Enforcement Academy was presently occupying and that their needs were constantly changing. The bond issue in Gallatin County was defeated and, at that time, the Governor proposed to move the Academy to Mountain View School outside of Helena. The Academy was created in 1959 on the Montana State University campus. It existed there until 1978, when MSU needed the dorms for students. In 1978, then Attorney General, Mike Greely, agreed to lease eight mobile homes as temporary quarters in Gallatin County. In 1985, the legislature evaluated the problem. Then, in 1987, the issue failed and the Academy was not moved. The 1993 Legislature recognized the additional training needs, the safety problems in the temporary facility, and the need for separate space for women trainees. In 1989, there were 515 officers a year in the Academy and now there are over 1,056.

Mr. Mazurek said the defeat of the bond issue in Gallatin County now puts this issue before the legislature. There are currently 10 FTEs at the Academy who are committed to relocate as a group. The legislature has mandated that they also train parole officers, detention officers, juvenile probation officers, fish and game wardens, park rangers, dispatchers and coroners.

This issue should be addressed as soon as possible. The current lease expires in 1999 and that would give ample time to renovate another facility. The Attorney General's office is mostly familiar with the Mountain View proposal as they worked closely with the Governor, but they are also concerned about what the Academy is as well as where it is.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. CHRIS CHRISTIAENS, SD 23, Great Falls, asked who owned the current facility. Mr. Mazurek said he thought it was owned by Gallatin County, but he would check into it.

REP. JOE QUILICI, HD 36, Butte, asked how soon they would like to move. Attorney General Mazurek stated during past efforts they had planned around the facility in Gallatin County, and were going to acquire an additional 7,000 square feet; they currently occupy 15,000 square feet. If the bond issue had passed it would have taken them only one year to move. REP. QUILICI said that since the facility is not adequate, the sooner they can get into a permanent place and start running the Academy with proper training, the better it would be for the state of Montana.

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Greg Noose, Division Administrator, Law Enforcement Academy, said they have testified before the Long-Range Planning subcommittee and he didn't want to waste the committee's time by being repetitious. He wants the legislature to understand what the Academy means to Montana. Many of their needs depend on support services in the communities. He said it would take a little time to reestablish relationships in a new community, but it would be an economic benefit for the community they move to.

GALEN PROPOSAL - HB 213

REP. RED MENAHAN, HD 57, Anaconda, said his bill would establish the location of the Academy on the Galen Campus of the Montana State Hospital. He introduced **Cheryl Beatty, Chief Executive, Deer Lodge County**. She stated that the Galen Campus was an excellent opportunity to invest tax dollars wisely by providing a permanent home for the Academy. She submitted her four-page testimony. **EXHIBIT 1.**

REP. LIZ SMITH, HD 56, Deer Lodge, said that Galen was in her district and she fully supports this proposal. The valley is accessible to many support services and is centrally located. She feels that the structure is in good shape and should be utilized for such an important purpose. There is a greater demand on law enforcement, not only in Montana, but nationally. The legislature needs to use good judgment and choose Galen for the Academy site.

Lowell Springer, Springer Group Architects, Bozeman, showed a video and presented architectural drawings for the Galen campus. He submitted a booklet on the proposal, along with a summary sheet on why Galen was the best choice. **EXHIBITS 2 and 3.**

REP. ERNEST BERGSAGEL, HD 95, Malta, asked if there was central heating in all the facilities or separate systems for each building. **Mr. Springer** said some were dependent on the central source. **REP. BERGSAGEL** wondered what the structural evaluation of the facility was at the present time. **Mr. Springer** stated there would need to be \$2.8 million invested into the facility, in addition to the gymnasium for another \$5.8 million. **REP. MENAHAN** said to save money they could get the proposal on the list to use the Job Corps for construction.

Helen Kellicut, Anaconda-Deer Lodge County, urged support for the Galen campus and submitted written testimony from Rocky Top Academy, Powell County Progress and Anaconda Local Development Corporation. **EXHIBITS 4, 5, and 6.**

SEN. TOM BECK, SD 28, Deer Lodge, was also in support of the Galen proposal. He said they are trying to solve the problem as cost-effectively as possible for the people of Montana. The land

the facility is on at Galen is owned by the state and the buildings are in good shape.

REP. BERGSAGEL had some questions about operating costs, in specific, electricity. SEN. BECK said that they were looking into a retrofit project by DNRC to make the buildings energy-efficient. He understands that would drop energy costs considerably.

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REP. MENAHAN closed the Galen proposal by reiterating that they would like to involve the Job Corps for a minimum cost to the taxpayers. He feels the Galen proposal is solid and worthy of consideration.

GALLATIN COUNTY PROPOSAL

SEN. DON HARGROVE, SD 16, Belgrade, said that the Academy has been there for a long time and should stay. There is a long-standing relationship with the university and other support services. He said there had been a plan to build a 7,000 square-foot building, but that plan was defeated in the bond issue. He knows of the Governor's proposal, but if the money is not there, he would like to again have the state reconsider Gallatin County. He does not have a formal proposal at this point, but he will submit one.

BOULDER PROPOSAL

REP. DUANE GRIMES, HD 39, Clancy, said the Montana Developmental Center (MDC) in Boulder will be vacated and that site is an excellent one for the Academy. Currently, there is a new building being built to house MDC patients, which is totally federally-funded and would leave the current buildings vacant. He thinks it would be a good site for the Academy.

Ed Hedland, Boulder City Council, said that Boulder is the county seat in Jefferson County and is located 28 miles south of Helena and 37 miles north of Butte. He said it is a good centrally-located site. The Boulder Chamber of Commerce is comprised of 50 members and the town has just built a new library.

Bruce Smith, County Extension Agent, Jefferson and Madison counties, showed some slides of Boulder and the surrounding areas. He submitted a proposal written by Scott Mendenhall on using the Boulder MDC facility. EXHIBIT 7.

Leonard Wortman, Jefferson County Commission, also showed slides of the facility at Boulder and said it was comparable or superior to the site at Mountain View. He talked about the assets of using the Boulder site and the important historical values

connected with it. He submitted a letter from Tom Dawson, Jefferson County Sheriff. **EXHIBIT 8.**

Scott Mendenhall, MSU Extension Agent, Jefferson County, said the main issue that should be considered is what the needs are for the facility. The present facilities in Bozeman are inadequate and have light construction, expensive maintenance, unsatisfactory dorms and inadequate square footage. He said the campus in Boulder has over 125,000 square feet, six dormitories, food service areas, office and classroom space and would be well suited for the current and future needs of the Academy. It is a state-owned site, so there would be no land acquisition necessary. He feels there is strong community support in choosing the facility in Boulder.

HELENA--MOUNTAIN VIEW PROPOSAL

SEN. SUE BARTLETT, SD 27, Helena, said she is pleased to bring to the committee the Helena proposal for the Academy. She agrees that the Governor's proposal has gotten very strong community support and would provide the needs for the Academy. She said the Long-Range Building subcommittee had scheduled a detailed hearing on the Mountain View site, so she had omitted those details from today's hearing.

Bill Verwolf, City Manager, Helena, said that the city commission of Helena fully supports the Helena proposal and would do what they can to make the proposal functional. He said that one of the major concerns should be for the Academy to have a suitable, permanent home. He doesn't think they should lose site of that important issue. It is time, as well as critical to training, that it be in a permanent location.

Ernie Nunn, Executive Director, Helena Chamber of Commerce, also said that the Helena community stands ready to support the Governor and Attorney General in relocating a very important program for Montana. The Chamber of Commerce has reviewed the support services required by the Academy and Helena is fully prepared to respond in any way they can. Helena has all the support services that are necessary and required, and is interested in forming a viable relationship to meet local, state and federal guidelines. The city of Helena has just been approved to build a \$6 million regional firefighting training center at the regional airport complex. The search and rescue unit in this community is second to none in the northwest. He said they also have two nationally-certified training instructors in Helena and there are other qualified instructors located at the Helena College of Technology. He reiterated that the relocation to a permanent site would be cost-effective for the state and the Chamber would cooperate any way they could.

EXHIBIT 9.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Counter: 50.5.}

Blake Wordell, Lewis and Clark County Commissioner, Helena, agreed with **Mr. Nunn** and wanted to show that the county is very involved in this issue and wholeheartedly supports a move to Mountain View School. He said the Helena Police Department and the Lewis and Clark County Sheriff's Department are fully supportive in this relocation and would cooperate in any way possible. They not only share records with the Academy, but participate in many programs at the Academy.

Alex Capdeville, Dean, Helena College of Technology, said the college has many services and programs they could provide to staff at the Academy. The college has provided training since 1937 and are experienced in working with short-term courses. He said they conduct training for state employees in English and writing courses, as well as SBAS (the statewide budget and accounting system) and will initiate the training for the regional firefighting center. He also stated that the college was committed to work with the Academy staff in any way possible.

Paul Graham, Helena Regional Airport, fully supports the Governor's proposal to move the Academy to Mountain View. He wanted the committee to be aware of the training and educational opportunities at the Helena airport. The \$6 million regional firefighter training center will train aviation and structural firefighters, including those from the Forest Service, National Guard, Department of State Lands, and city and county government. In conjunction with that, they are proposing a regional firearms pistol range that will be the first state-of-the-art pistol range in Montana. There will be a sniper range, fire shooting house, tactical combat range and a 20-lane pistol range for multi-agency law enforcement. He said that this was important because no matter where the Academy is situated in the state, they would come to Helena to utilize the new firearms range. **EXHIBIT 10.**

Chuck O'Reilly, Sheriff, Lewis and Clark County, Helena, said he was also representing the Montana Peace Officers Association and that they fully support the Governor's proposal for Mountain View. He said the peace officers in Montana have been seeking to upgrade their capabilities to serve Montanans in a responsible and professional manner. They look forward to having a suitable environment. He also stressed that the needs should focus on those of the Academy, as well as the site, but noted that Mountain View would fully accomplish that as well. **EXHIBIT 11.**

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Troy McGee, Helena Police Officer, said the Helena Police Department strongly supports the move to Helena.

SEN. BARTLETT closed by saying that the important issue was to have a permanent site for the Academy and she feels the Mountain View school would be a great site. The Helena community has many services that would support the Academy and would do whatever is deemed necessary to make that happen.

GREAT FALLS PROPOSAL

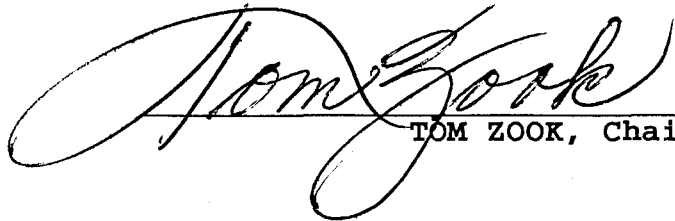
SEN. CHRIS CHRISTIAENS, SD 23, Great Falls, said that the Great Falls community wants to be involved in a collaborative effort to make sure we have the best Law Enforcement Academy in the state of Montana. In 1984, the legislature heard this issue and there were 100 people from the Great Falls community who were involved at that time. He emphasized the educational opportunities in Great Falls would enhance the Academy, such as the College of Great Falls, Northern Montana College and the MSU-College of Technology. He said if Malmstrom Air Force Base closes, those facilities would be available for a site, and would include a firing range. He reiterated that Great Falls was large enough to take care of any needs and support services that the Academy required.


GALLATIN COUNTY PROPOSAL (cont'd.)

Bill Slaughter, Gallatin County Sheriff, said he has been in law enforcement for 22 years. He said rather than being concerned where the Academy will be placed, people in law enforcement want a community that will be able to supply resources and support services and he thinks Gallatin County would provide that.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:15 p.m.


TOM ZOOK, Chairman


MARJORIE PETERSON, Secretary

TZ/mp

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Appropriations

ROLL CALL

DATE 2-11-95

| NAME | PRESENT | ABSENT | EXCUSED |
|---|---------|--------|---------|
| Rep. Tom Zook, Chairman | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Ed Grady, Vice Chairman, Majority | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Joe Quilici, Vice Chairman, Minority | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Beverly Barnhart | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Ernest Bergsagel | ✓ | | |
| Rep. John Cobb | | | ✓ |
| Rep. Roger DeBruycker | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Gary Feland | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Marj Fisher | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Don Holland | ✓ | | |
| Rep. John Johnson | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Royal Johnson | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Mike Kadas | | | ✓ |
| Rep. Betty Lou Kasten | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Matt McCann | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Red Menahan | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Steve Vick | ✓ | | |
| Rep. Bill Wiseman | ✓ | | |

EXHIBIT 1
DATE 2-11-95
HB 213

Testimony: Galen Proposal - Law Enforcement Academy
Cheryl S. Beatty, Chief Executive
Anaconda-Deer Lodge County

2-11-95

Mr. Chairman and Committee members. For the record, I am Cheryl Beatty, Chief Executive for Anaconda-Deer Lodge County.

Today we will present to you a long-term solution to provide a facility for the Law Enforcement Academy for the State of Montana at the Galen Campus. This is an excellent opportunity for the wise investment of our tax dollars to provide a permanent home for the Academy.

To begin, I need to give you a brief history on how the County has been involved in the reuse of the Galen Campus. On June 30, 1993, the Department of Corrections closed the Galen State Hospital. On July 1, 1993, I took office as the newly elected Chief Executive for Anaconda-Deer Lodge County. On July 2, 1993, I contacted Rick Day, Director of the Department of Correction and Human Services, regarding the disposition of the Campus. I expressed to Mr. Day that during my recent campaign many residents of the area had expressed their concerns regarding the rapid destruction of these campus buildings if abandoned. After several meetings with Rick Day and Dan Anderson, Administrator in the Department of Correction and Human Services, we entered into negotiations to manage the Campus for the State of Montana. The lowest bid proposal that had been received by the State to manage the Campus had been \$360,000. The County on January 1, 1994, entered into a "management partnership" agreement to manage the Galen Campus for \$100,000 per year plus rental income. In

addition, the County has been actively seeking alternative reuse of the Galen Campus with the successful placement of Rocky Top Academy.

Next, you might ask "Why would the County want to take on such a task and headache?" SIMPLE: To save a valuable resource! As Governor Racicot has stated on many occasions, we should not look at a glass of water as a glass that is half empty, but as a glass that is half full. In 1993, the Galen Campus was valued at \$17 million. It was our belief that the citizens of the State of Montana should not loose such a valuable asset. If the State had walked away as intended, I can safely say that the buildings would have quickly deteriorated from vandalism, water damage, theft and weather related demise. The County's interest was to prevent another Twin Bridges scenario from happening right along Interstate 90 for all to see. Anaconda-Deer Lodge County had started working hard to rebuild all areas of our County as well as areas with Superfund designation.

The management agreement began as a partnership that has been successful to date. The Campus buildings have been protected, all 5 houses have been rented, 8 of 24 apartments are rented, the Triplex housing unit is rented and the Lighthouse Building is leased to Rocky Top Academy, a private boy's school.

In the management agreement several items were addressed as shared responsibilities. The item of most concern today is the second paragraph of the agreement that states "The Department has

Galen Campus - Law Enforcement Academy

an obligation to maintain the Galen Facilities in good repair to preserve their value to the State. Further, the Department acknowledges an obligation to the citizens of the State and to the residents of the Deer Lodge Valley to endeavor to find a productive use for these facilities in order to enhance the economy of the area and of the State."

The Galen Campus would be a ideal site for the Law Enforcement Academy for many reasons:

- * The Galen Campus is already state-owned and no land acquisition would be necessary.
- * Renovation dollars would be spent on brick, concrete and steel structures that are sound structures which makes the investment long-term and cost-effective.
- * The campus and adjoining state land includes 720 acres for outdoor firing ranges and a motor vehicle driving range.
- * The Terrill-Crocket Building proposed for the Academy would be used for administration, classroom training, cafeteria and housing and would utilize 53,000 square feet. There are 11 classroom ranging from 624 square feet to 1,753 square feet. The cafeteria can serve up to 250 trainees and staff at any given time. The dorm capacity is 175 trainees with double occupancy rooms of 228 square feet. (The current needs is approx. 144 trainees per session, therefore this proposal allows for 20% growth.) The building is currently ADA accessible.
- * Galen Campus includes several buildings available for development for recreation, additional training sites, gymnasium, etc.
- * Shared services with Warms Spring State Hospital and The Montana State Prison would reduce operation and maintenance costs. These include services such as medical care, laundry service, meals, instruction, firearms range, certified lab facility and law library.
- * Adequate paved parking and roads.
- * Galen Campus has easy access to adjacent Interstate 90 and is within a 100 mile radius of 4 of the 7 major population areas in Montana.

Galen Campus - Law Enforcement Academy

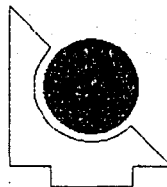
- * All support services or buildings are available on campus such as recreation, maintenance and maintenance buildings, housing for staff and visiting instructors, chapel, and garages.
- * This proposal does not interfere with any existing program or use of the campus.
- * Expansion and coordination for related training is possible such as fire training, search and rescue, prison guard training, etc. Galen Campus could be easily developed into a statewide or Northwest Regional Training Center.
- * Galen is near predicted growth areas in Montana. Campus is only a 30 minute drive from University of Montana-Butte Division and Butte College of Technology. It is centrally located to 8 universities or technical training schools which offers a wide variety of resources. A fiber optics cable parallels the Galen Campus which would provide any higher education available through this system.
- * Galen Campus is aesthetically pleasing and the area offers a wide variety of recreation opportunities.
- * Galen Campus is within a 15-minute drive to Anaconda or Deer Lodge which can provide most support services or supplies needed for the Law Enforcement Academy. Galen is only 25 miles from Butte that could provide any other services required. These three community resources would give a variety of selection and resource pools to draw from for staff, instructors and support needs. This would also offer a variety of "real-life" training opportunities. For example, 15 minutes from campus is the Deer Lodge Community Center which offers an indoor Olympic size swimming pool for water rescue training.

These are only a few of the opportunities available for the Law Enforcement Academy at Galen Campus. You will see and hear more as we continue with our presentation. We believe we have a cost-effective, long-term solution for the Montana Law Enforcement Academy. We believe that Montana would have a facility that the State would be proud to have for our law enforcement training.

EXHIBIT 2
DATE 2-11-95
HB 213

**A NEW LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY
FOR
THE STATE OF MONTANA**

**A PROPOSAL FOR THE RE-USE
OF
MONTANA STATE HOSPITAL
GALEN CAMPUS**



**SPRINGER GROUP ARCHITECTS, P.C.
201 South Wallace
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406 585-2400)**

February 11, 1995

WHY IS THE GALEN CAMPUS THE BEST SOLUTION FOR MONTANA'S LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY?

- **PRESENT FACILITIES IN BOZEMAN ARE INADEQUATE**

Not really an issue

- **COST EFFECTIVENESS**

State Owned

No acquisition cost

More than adequate land area for

Defensive Driving Training Course

Future development

Existing Structures

Institutional Quality

Excellent Condition

- **USES STATE OWNED FACILITIES**

Addresses the State's Commitment to Anaconda/Deer Lodge

- **FACILITY NEEDS**

Ideally located

Major airport within 25 miles-improved airport within 5 minutes

Adjacent to Interstate 90

Near State men's correctional facility and Warm Springs

Provides adequate administrative, classroom, dormitory, physical training and leisure time facilities

The Galen facility surpasses any property currently owned by the State for adequately addressing all the immediate and long term needs of a training center

Existing adequate on-site employee housing

- **Motor Vehicle Driving Range, outdoor tactical/scenario-based training and field evidence training needs**

The Galen site encompasses over 700 acres that will more than adequately accommodate all of these training requirements.

- **Separation/Dedicated Facility**

Isolated, dedicated campus

- **Potential collocation of related facilities**

262,000 square feet of existing usable building space

- **Community Considerations**

With the several State institutions in close proximity, Galen offers access to a large number of trained staff

Outstanding natural amenities

Excellent recreational opportunities

- **Local Law Enforcement Cooperation**

Galen campus can utilize personnel and equipment at Men's Correctional Facility in the curriculum

- **Potential efficiencies with other state institutions**

Galen is in the heart of law enforcement and correctional facilities for Montana

Shared food services, laundry, housekeeping

Minimum security and half-way personnel utilization

Rehabilitation participation

- **Aesthetically pleasing facilities and setting**

Galen is INCOMPARABLE.



ROCKY TOP ACADEMY

EXHIBIT 4
2-11-95
HB 213

P.O. Box 1349
Anaconda, MT 59711-1349
Phone (406) 693-2277
Fax (406) 693-2434

February 9, 1995

Cheryl Beatty, Chief Executive Anaconda-Deer Lodge County
Courthouse
Anaconda, MT 59711

Dear Cheryl:

The following are my comments on bringing the Police Academy to the Galen Campus.

In March of 1994, Rocky Top Academy, Inc. leased the "Lighthouse Building" from Anaconda-Deer Lodge County. We have spent a considerable amount of time and money remodeling the building and cleaning up the surrounding areas of the campus. We currently have eight students in residence from as far away as Guam and Florida. Parents of all the students are very impressed with our building and the surrounding campus. They are also impressed with our close proximity to Interstate 90 and air transportation in Butte.

Rocky Top Academy is slowly growing, and we should be up to a dozen students within a few months. Our maximum capacity in this building is 24. In the future, as we grow, we would like to lease other buildings and operate a co-ed model.

We feel the addition of a Police Academy to the Galen Campus would be extremely complimentary to Rocky Top Academy. We are making every effort to have a first class operation, and feel the presence of a Police Academy would enhance the entire campus. Furthermore, we will do anything possible to cooperate with the Police Academy in making the Galen Campus a showplace for the state.

If we can be of any further assistance at this time, please feel free to call on us. Also, any interested parties are welcome to visit our school and see first hand what new life can be put into these beautiful Galen buildings.

Sincerely,

Tom Gregory, DIRECTOR
ROCKY TOP ACADEMY, INC.

FEB-10-1995 15:49 FROM KEYSTONE DRG 4068462348 TO

Powell County Progress

406/846-3680-Ext. 47
406/846-1133

P. O. Box 776
Deer Lodge, Montana 59722

February 10, 1995
Committee for
Mt. Law Enforcement Academy Center

It is with utmost regret that I cannot attend this meeting.

The Law Enforcement Academy, if moved from Bozeman, should go to the Galen complex. As you have heard from our delegation, there is more than enough room, the isolation of the campus is conducive for learning and training added with the proximity to the Montana State Prison it all makes sense.

The State of Montana should stop acquiring buildings and lands, that are then taken off the tax rolls of the counties they are in, and utilize there existing assets. The move to the Galen campus is fiscally and managerially correct and above all it's the right thing to do.

Leighton A. Jewell, Chairman

ANACONDA
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONP.O. BOX 842
ANACONDA,
MONTANA 59711
TELEPHONE (406) 563-5538

February 10, 1995

Representative Tom Zook
Joint Appropriations Committee

Recently great effort went into a proposal to attract the billion dollar Micron Company to Montana. Micron set out specific criteria that would utilize resources and joint efforts, to match the needs of their company and their customers in order to locate a site for new facility.

Montana is no less than a billion dollar company and as a State we must plan our strategies well to develop and locate facilities that will deliver the most to the bottom line for the share holders of this States, its citizens.

A proposal has be presented before you to use the Galen Campus facility to be utilized by the Montana Law Enforcement Academy. As the Board of Directors of Montana It is your responsibility to review these proposals and make a location decision that is in the best interest the citizens of Montana.

At first blush this academy serves those in law enforcement and others charged with protecting the people of Montana. We must be farsighted, identifying all similar needs to be met in the most efficient training center which can be developed for those who serve the citizens of Montana.

In making their decision as Board of Directors must also focus on what are the training needs in the state, not only for law enforcement, but of every other jurisdiction under the responsibility, be it State, sub-State unit or other entity controlled by the laws of the State of Montana. When we look at the Law Enforcement Academy, we must also take in consideration those people working in Montana State Prison for personnel utilizing the State Fire Training School, the State Fish and Game, the Department of State Lands, coordinating Government Agencies, and those in private security that may require many of the same curriculum and/or facilities needed to enhance their training. There are common training needs both in curriculum and facilities that require the most efficient coordination of required services. The costs for all of State government must be reviewed, as well as an effort made to reduce duplication and build a cooperation and collaboration in developing programs so as to achieve the highest efficiency in returns to the citizens of the State.

Furthermore, there is a need to build the facility which objectively states the commitment that the State has to training and to those individuals that need to be trained not only to build their moral, but to encourage them to the highest excellence.

It is necessary to be able to move quickly to utilize infrastructure that does not need lengthy study to build or renovate to meet the needs of the customer. Time causes deterioration of existing unused resources. Time adds dollars which are two precious resources that we must guard and utilize to the State's best advantage in timely fashion.

When looking at location, as Board of Directors you must look at where the the greatest critical mass of customers are both physically and functionally. A location that provides not only the services immediately required, but the capability to use additional resources and facilities to increase the efficiencies of the operation. The ability to capitalize adjoining resources of land, of air transportation, of trainers, university system, or private sector support is vital. Physical requirements, i.e., nearness to water, mountains, urban and rural settings, transportation, etc. is of utmost importance when carrying out curriculum needs.

Wholehearted acceptance by the community is important so that those being trained are supported and encouraged.

The campus at Galen meets those needs. It is large enough and varied enough to provide the various training settings required not only by law enforcement but by other units that must be trained by State. Galen is centrally located to the large numbers of people that must be trained, be it highway patrol, local law enforcement, prison, or other law enforcement and protective supportive services throughout the State. This central location also provides nearness to educational resources along with a campus atmosphere which gives rock solid evidence to the State's commitment to those being trained.

Finally, as the Board of Directors of the State of Montana you must look at the current resources available which would enable you to utilize millions of dollars of infrastructure currently in place, reducing the need additional expenditures of capital funds and to minimize dollars necessary to develop a facility. This is your responsibility to the stock holders of the State of Montana, its citizens.

We urge your careful scrutiny of the plan presented to you as we feel it will surely meet the needs of the State of Montana now and into the future.

Respectfully,



Jim Davison

EXHIBIT 7
DATE 2-11-95
~~BB~~ Boulder

MOVING THE MONTANA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY TO
THE SOUTH CAMPUS OF THE MONTANA DEVELOPMENTAL
CENTER IN BOULDER, MONTANA.

A Position Paper to the LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE
ERNEST BERSAGEL, CHAIR

JANUARY, 1995

By

JEFFERSON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

CONTACT: Scott Mendenhall
MSU Extension Service,
Jefferson County Economic Development Agent
(406) 287-3282

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Introduction

Pursuant to the Joint Interim Subcommittee on the Law Enforcement Academy findings in its report: "Facility Needs of the Montana Law Enforcement Academy" (April, 1987) coupled with the recent capital project request to move the Law Enforcement Academy (November, 1994), there is ample rationale to relocate the Law Enforcement Academy from the existing Gallatin County location. At 15,680 square feet of space, the current facilities are grossly inadequate compared to the 59,820 square feet recommended by the subcommittee in its report. A permanent, stable and flexible site is needed to address present and anticipated attendance rates as well as necessary programs to assure proper education and training of Montana police officers. The Montana Developmental Center in Boulder offers the best option to meet these requirements.

In determining the ideal location for the Law Enforcement Academy, serious consideration should be given to the findings and recommendations of the Joint Subcommittee since considerable time and other resources were expended in developing their report. The focus of this document is to illustrate the many ways in which the soon-to-be-vacated South Campus of the Montana Developmental Center in Boulder will address those recommendations.

MAJOR ISSUES AND SOLUTIONS FOUND IN THE SOUTH CAMPUS OF THE MONTANA DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER

Issues

Issue 1. The present facilities in Bozeman are grossly inadequate and do not meet the needs of the Montana Law Enforcement Academy. The Summary of Findings of the Joint Interim Subcommittee on the Law Enforcement Academy (hereafter referred to as JISLEA) noted serious inadequacies including: light construction, expensive maintenance, unsatisfactory dorms and inadequate square footage.

Montana Developmental Center Solution

The sprawling 80+ acre South Campus of the Montana Developmental Center in Boulder with over 125,000 square feet of building space dwarfs the 15,680 square feet of temporary space in Bozeman (see Appendix A). With six resident dormitories, food service areas, office space and classroom space, the Montana Developmental Center location is already well suited for the Law Enforcement Academy's current and future needs.

Issue 2. Cost effectiveness.

Montana Developmental Center Solution

The Montana Developmental Center is already state-owned and, therefore, will be state controlled. Escalating rents, termination of leases, and other lease-related problems that have characterized the existing arrangement would be mute points with the Montana Developmental Center location. There would be no land acquisition costs involved with this site either.

The JISLEA report found that "construction of a new Law Enforcement Academy is unjustified" based on higher costs of construction compared to renovation. The report also points out that building a new state institution doesn't command great public support.

Issue 3. Use of existing state-owned facilities.

Montana Developmental Center Solution

Findings from the JISLEA report indicate that the construction of a new facility is unwarranted because there are existing state-owned buildings available that could provide adequate facilities to house the Montana Law Enforcement Academy. Specifically, renovating structures made of brick, mortar and steel was recommended. Communities have shown in several instances that there are buildings and other facilities that could be renovated at reasonable cost to provide permanent housing for the Academy. In the case of Montana Developmental Center, the state would obtain improved facilities for the Academy without contributing to the number of state institutions in Montana. The state would make use of underutilized state buildings, thereby making good use of available state resources.

Issue 4. Facility needs.

Current utilization levels at the Academy are 1,100 students annually or from 65-110 students at any given time. Academy administration estimates are for this to increase. The JISLEA report calls for several components to address the needs of the Academy:

A. Administrative Facilities

Includes lobby, administrative offices, facility offices, secretary area, conference room, lounge and miscellaneous space.

Total minimum space: 5,105 square feet.

B. Classrooms

Two 40-student classrooms, one 64-student classroom, one 20-student classroom, a crime scene lab, seminar room, library, and equipment storage area.

Total minimum space: 7,060 square feet.

C. Training Component

Multipurpose room for physical training, self defense, graduation ceremonies, weight and exercise area, and indoor firing range.

Total minimum space: 12,828 square feet.

D. Dormitory Component

Fifty double occupancy rooms, TV room, laundry, housekeeping area, etc. Total minimum space: 17,400 square feet.

E. Support Component

Garages, storage. Total minimum space: 1,680 square feet.

F. Kitchen/Dining Component

Total minimum space: 3,920 square feet.

Total minimum space: 59,826 square feet

Additional recommendations were made for a motor vehicle driving range and areas for outdoor tactical exercises/scenario-based education.

Montana Developmental Center Solution

The South Campus of the Montana Developmental Center (see Appendix A) totals over 128,000 square feet of which about 97,000 square feet has been recently used. Many configurations of the space could be designed to meet the Academy's needs. Some possibilities include:

A. Administrative

Building 8 (see Appendices B & C) is currently being used for Montana Developmental Center faculty and, at 7,886 square feet, would match the estimated requirement with room to grow.

B. Classrooms/Training Component

Building 6 & 7 (see Appendices B & C) are ideally suited for classrooms, labs, and libraries in addition to having adequate room for weight rooms and physical training areas.

C. Firing Range

Building 24 (see Appendices B & C), the current laundry facility for the Montana Developmental Center, would be an excellent location for a dedicated indoor firing range. With cinder block construction, the 6,480 square foot building has high ceilings suitable for acoustic baffles and necessary system lighting.

Another possibility is one of the two upper floors of Building 9 (see Appendices B & C) that have 9,000 square feet per floor.

D. Dormitory Component

Buildings 10-15 (see Appendices B & C) are currently used as resident dorms at Montana Developmental Center and are ideally suited for the same usage by the Montana Law Enforcement Academy. At an average of 7,000 square feet each, three of these would be sufficient for the Academy's existing needs and could be designed to provide gender separation as well.

E. Support Component

Building 69 (see Appendix B) is a row of garages that total 2,611 square feet. This could provide storage and vehicle storage. Part of Building 44 is already being used as a shop. There is ample room for support facilities.

F. Kitchen/Dining

Building 25 (see Appendices B & C) is currently being used as the kitchen/dining area for the Montana Developmental Center and would be an obvious choice for use by the Academy for the same function.

Issue 5. Motor vehicle driving range, outdoor tactical/scenario-based training and field evidence training needs.

The JISLEA report findings indicated several longterm needs of the Academy that would ensure top quality education and training of Montana's police officers. These included a motor vehicle driving range, areas suitable for outdoor tactical/scenario-based training, and suitable areas for field evidence training.

The existing situation involves transporting officers to Lewistown for motor vehicle driving training and the facilities in Bozeman aren't at all well-suited for any type of outdoor tactical exercises.

The report cites several deficiencies in the current training program with each being directly tied to the inadequacy of facilities.

Montana Developmental Center Solution

The Montana Developmental Center's South Campus encompasses some 80+ acres, most of which is currently leased to an area rancher (see Appendix A). It's entirely feasible to locate a motor vehicle driving range immediately adjacent to the buildings of the Montana Developmental Center, thus bolstering continuity of the Academy's entire training program and gaining efficiencies that aren't currently attainable. The separateness and privateness of the Montana Developmental Center's South Campus yields itself exceptionally well to scenario-based training. The Boulder River corridor on the northern border of the property provides terrain that is very well suited for outdoor tactical exercises as well as field evidence training.

Issue 6. Separation/Dedicated Facility

The JISLEA, in its research, called for proposals from communities interested in housing the Montana Law Enforcement Academy. It cited several requirements for the proposed Academy site. Included is a provision for a site that lends itself to good visual and acoustical privacy.

Montana Developmental Center Solution

As can be seen from the map in Appendix A, the southern campus is completely separate from any other buildings. There is an approximately seven foot chainlink fence entirely around the campus. The Boulder River separates the southern campus from the north campus where the newly remodeled Montana Developmental Center will be located effective January, 1996. As such, the South Campus of the Montana Developmental Center site would have no interference from traffic, pedestrians, or related problems.

Issue 7. Potential collocation of related facilities.

Montana Developmental Center Solution

The South Campus of Montana Developmental Center offers room to grow for the Montana Law Enforcement Academy. It also is well suited for potential collocation of other related facilities such as the State Forensics Lab. One of the needs of the Montana Law Enforcement Academy is for an on-site crime scene lab. Collocation of the Forensics Lab would lend itself well to efficiencies gained from having the two labs together.

Issue 8. Community considerations

The Montana Law Enforcement Academy should be housed in a community that offers advantages for staff and trainees.

Montana Developmental Center Solution

Boulder has many advantages for the Montana Law Enforcement Academy. First, it is centrally located to the State's police officer force. It is a short 27-mile interstate drive to Helena where the Department of Justice, who oversees the Academy, is located. Scenic Boulder is located in the midst of the Elkhorn Mountains, home to many outdoor recreational activities. Local amenities such as the Boulder Hot Springs, the health mines, restaurants, a new medical clinic, and the new community library all contribute to the well-rounded lifestyle that would help attract and retain qualified professional staff. Compared to large areas, Boulder is a relatively low-cost community. Cost of housing, real property and property taxes are much lower than elsewhere.

Issue 9. Local Law Enforcement Cooperation

Montana Developmental Center Solution

Boulder is the county seat of Jefferson County and the home of the recently constructed county jail. The facility was built to federal specifications. Local law enforcement staff have expressed much willingness to cooperate with the Academy for providing real-life training in prison/prison-related activities. The jail is a short five-minute drive or ten-minute walk away from the Montana Developmental Center South Campus.

Issue 10. Potential efficiencies with other state institutions.

Montana Developmental Center Solution

As noted above in Issue 7, collocation of the Forensics Lab would create efficiencies and cost savings for the Montana Law Enforcement Academy. In addition, potential efficiencies exist from having the new Montana Developmental Center located adjacently to the Academy just across the Boulder River. These include potential shared laundry services for linens, shared labs, and shared food services. One of the excellent existing programs at Montana Developmental Center is the work experience program where Montana Developmental Center residents are employed in the laundry. The addition of the Academy's linen would provide work experience possibilities for more Montana Developmental Center residents. Montana Developmental Center has a lab and employs 1.5 lab technicians. Potential efficiencies exist for the lab to provide services for the Law Enforcement Academy, Forensics Lab and vice versa. Finally, both the Academy and Montana Developmental Center require food services. Undoubtedly, efficiencies could be gained by having one kitchen for both with a delivery system to the respective dining areas.

Issue 11. The site should be an aesthetically pleasing facility that enhances the overall setting for the Academy.

Montana Developmental Center Solution

As can be seen from the photos in Appendix D and is further enforced by on-site visual appraisal, the Montana Developmental Center's South Campus is a statuesque brick facility gracefully laid out. Centered in the midst of a mountain range, the majestic campus is an excellent representation for Montana. Passerbys, faculty and trainees alike would be proud of the Academy as located in Boulder.

Conclusion

The Montana Law Enforcement Academy has been operating at a subpar level for many years. At the same time, demands on the Academy have increased. Montana's increasing population, new programs brought about by the war on drugs, new federal programs providing more officers, new "pre-service" programs for civilians, and new legislative-mandated audiences have all impacted the Academy's facility needs.

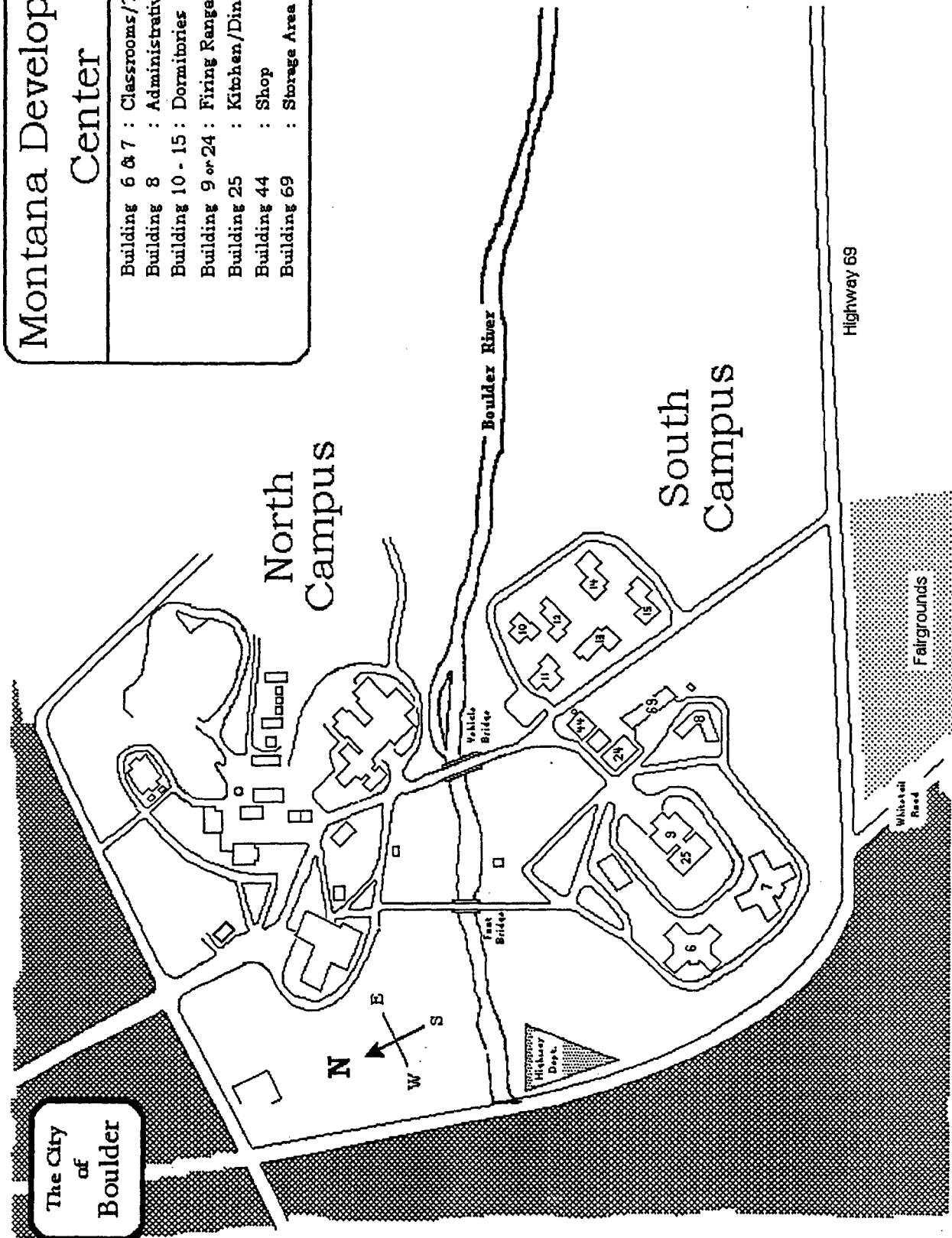
Recent legislation has largely only served as a bandaid approach to the issues surrounding the Academy. The JISLEA expended considerable resources in its study in 1987. Its findings point to the need to secure a permanent, stable, and flexible location for the Montana Law Enforcement Academy. The report recommended renovating existing state-owned facilities that are adequate for the Academy's growing needs.

The soon-to-be vacated South Campus of the Montana Developmental Center in Boulder completely meets the Academy's needs that were identified in the JISLEA report. While actual renovation costs will be unknown until a study of them has been completed, comparable projects would indicate that these costs will be well within reason compared to new construction alternatives. A Boulder site would present many advantages geographically and the Montana Developmental Center facility already closely resembles the ideal layout of the Academy.

The Montana Law Enforcement Academy needs a permanent long-term home. Adequate facilities will assure that Montana's police force receives the highest quality training and education. Utilizing the South Campus of the Montana Developmental Center is the best possible solution given the Academy's existing and future needs. The Montana Developmental Center site presents a viable solution that warrants careful consideration.

APPENDIX A

| Montana Development Center | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Building 6 & 7 | : Classrooms/Training |
| Building 8 | : Administrative |
| Building 10 - 15 | : Dormitories |
| Building 9 or 24 | : Firing Range |
| Building 25 | : Kitchen/Dining |
| Building 44 | : Shop |
| Building 69 | : Storage Area |



APPENDIX B

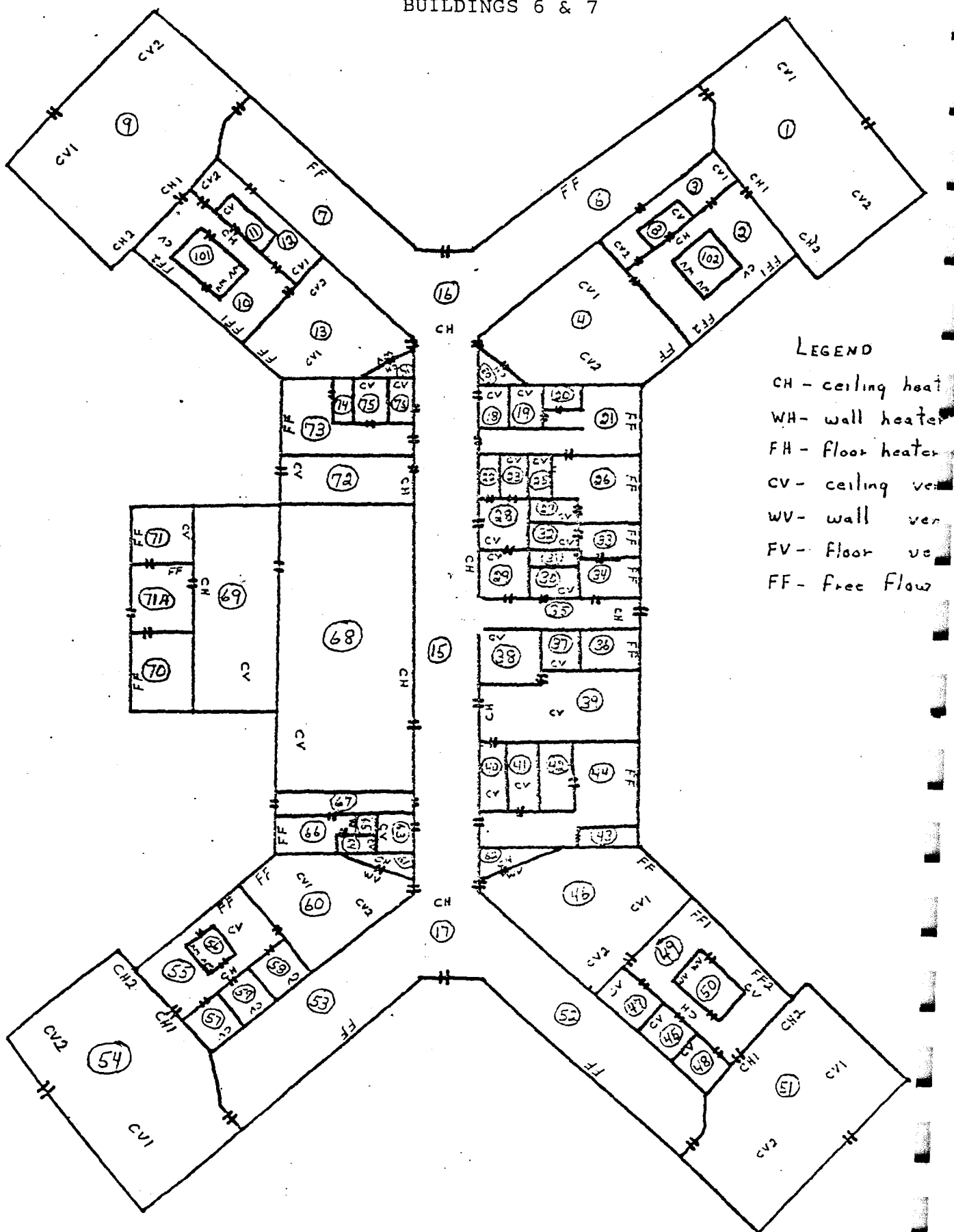
Buildings on South Campus:

| Number | Built | Sq.Ft. | Exterior | Interior | Roof |
|--------|-------|--------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 5 | 1923 | 10,782 | Brick | Plaster&Lath | Concrete with Built Up Roof |
| 6 | 1954 | 24,400 | Brick | Plaster&Lath | Concrete with Built Up Roof |
| 7 | 1954 | 24,400 | Brick | Plaster&Lath | Concrete with Built Up Roof |
| 8 | 1964 | 7,886 | Brick | Cinder Block & Post&Beam | Wood Deck with Built Up Roof |
| 9 | 1912 | 27,000 | Brick | Plaster&Lath | Concrete with Built Up Roof |
| 25 | 1964 | 7,109 | Brick | Cinder Block & Post&Beam | Wood Deck with Built Up Roof |
| 10-15 | 1972 | 7,000 | Brick (6,500 - 7,200) | Stud/sheetrock | Wood Truss with Asphalt Shingles |
| 23 | 1922 | 2,833 | Cinder Block & Stucco | Cinder Block | Wood Truss with Asphalt Shingles |
| 24 | 1960 | 6,480 | Cinder Block & Stucco | Cinder Block | Wood Truss with Asphalt Shingles |
| 42 | 1954 | 140 | Imit.Stone Composition Siding | Sheetrock | Comp. Shingles |
| 44 | 1912 | 7,334 | Concrete & Brick | Concrete & Brick | Concrete with Built Up Roof |
| 47 | 1960 | 140 | Composition | Sheetrock | Comp. Shingles |
| 69 | 1934 | 2,611 | Corrugated Metal | Hardboard | Metal |

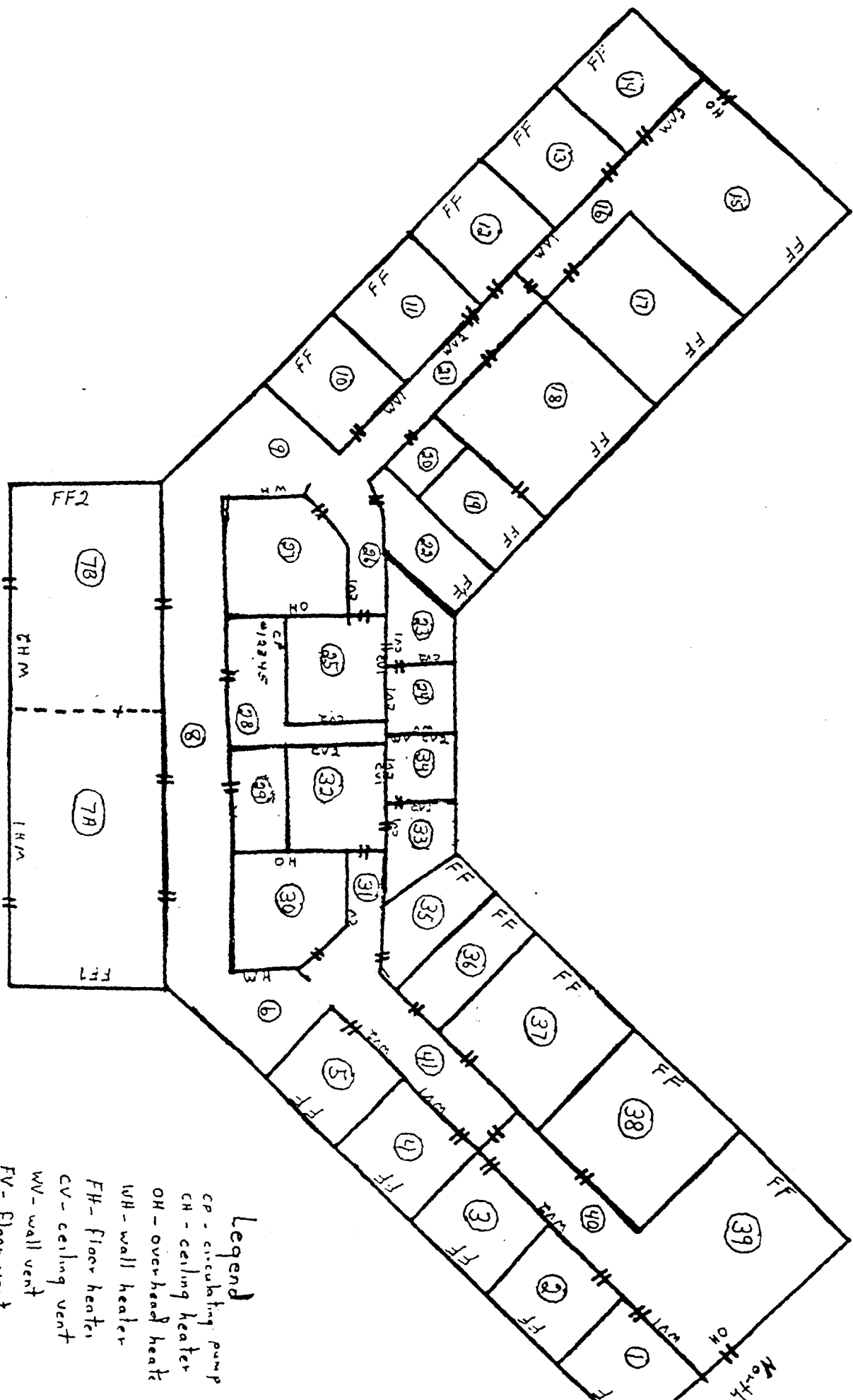
APPENDIX C

INTERIOR LAYOUT OF KEY BUILDINGS ON SOUTH CAMPUS OF THE MONTANA DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER

BUILDINGS 6 & 7



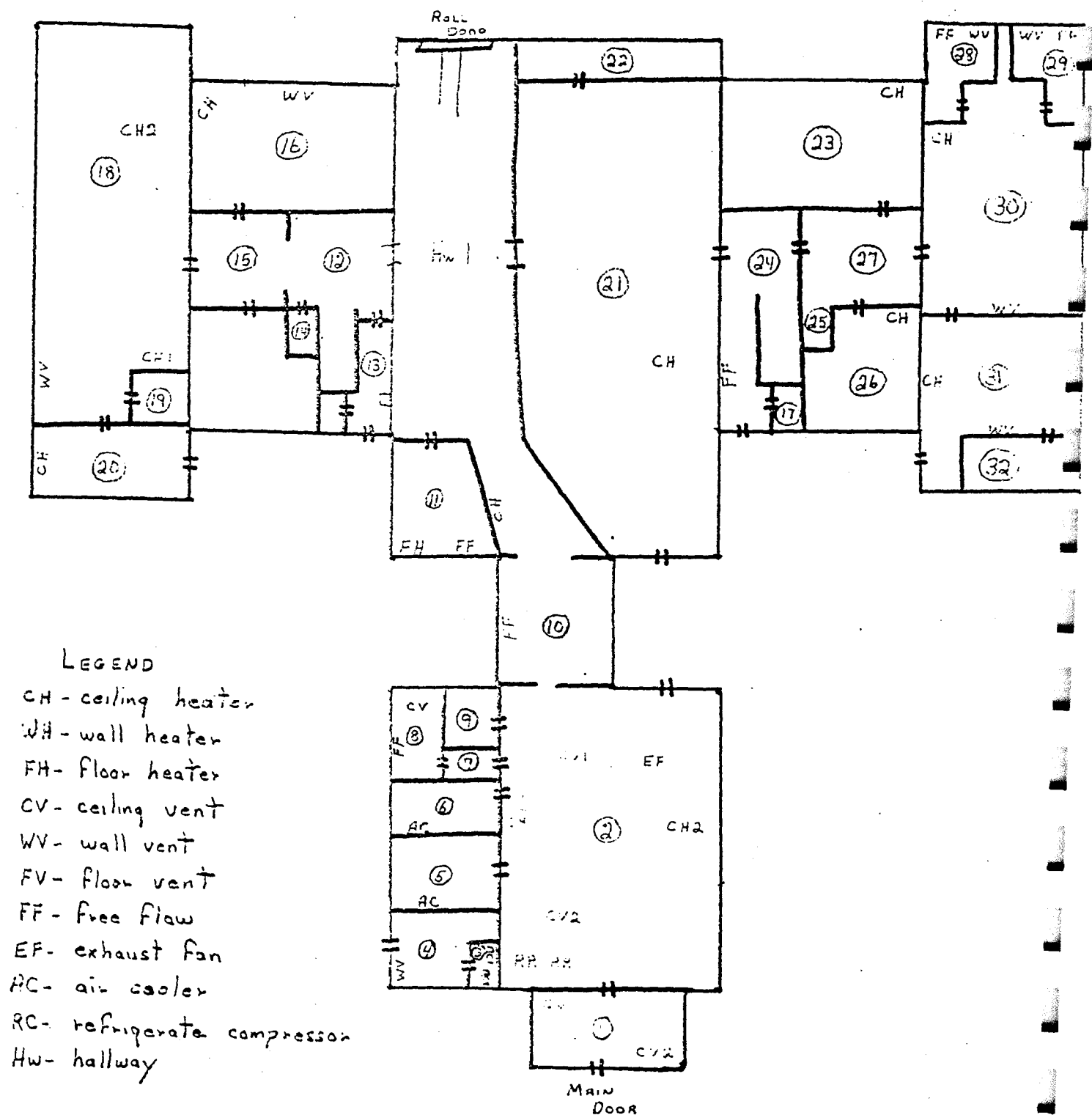
BUILDING 8



Legend

- CP - circulating pump
- CH - ceiling heater
- OH - over-head heater
- WH - wall heater
- FH - floor heater
- CV - ceiling vent
- WV - wall vent
- FW - Floor vent
- FF - Free Flow

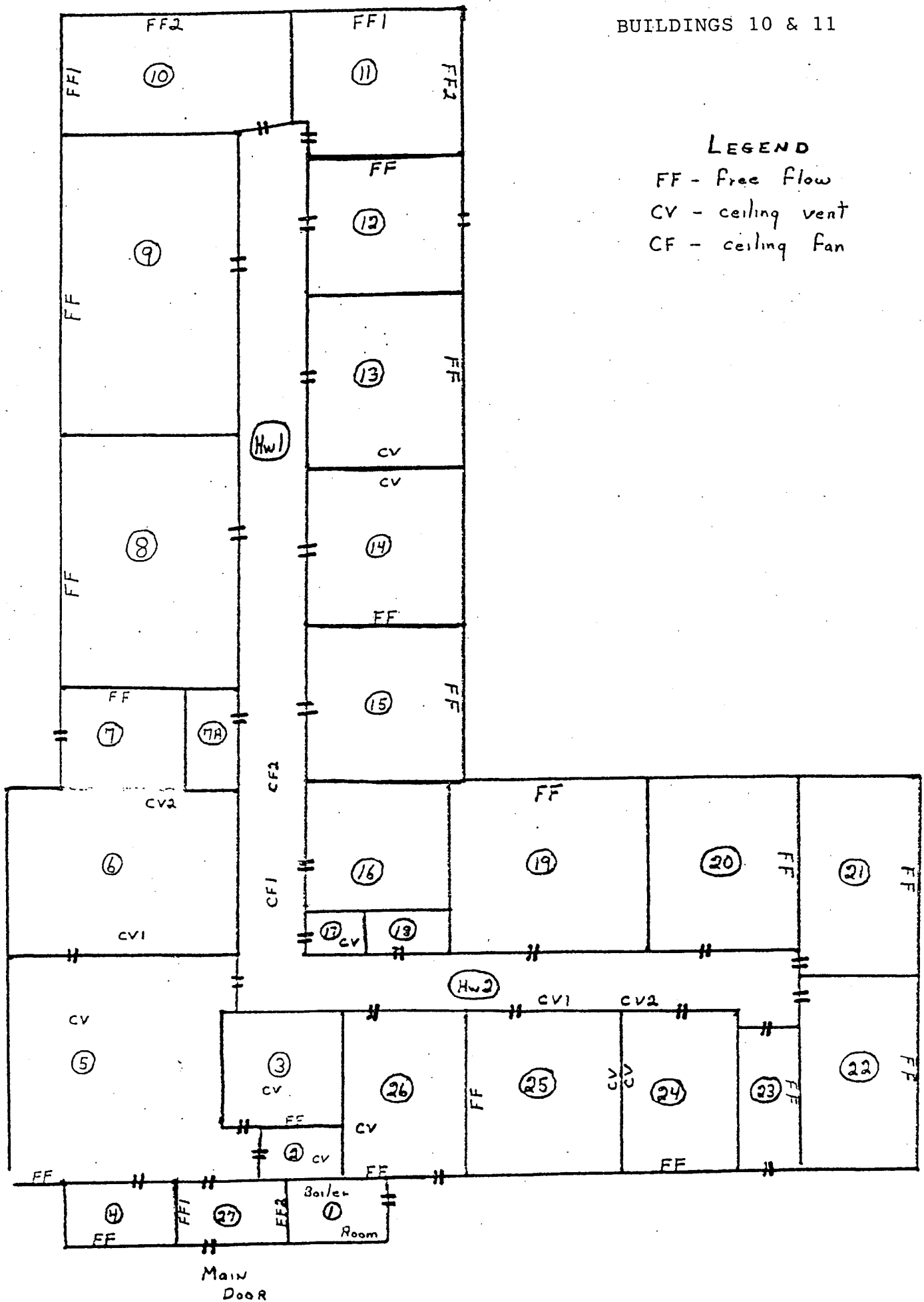
BUILDING 9
(1st Floor)



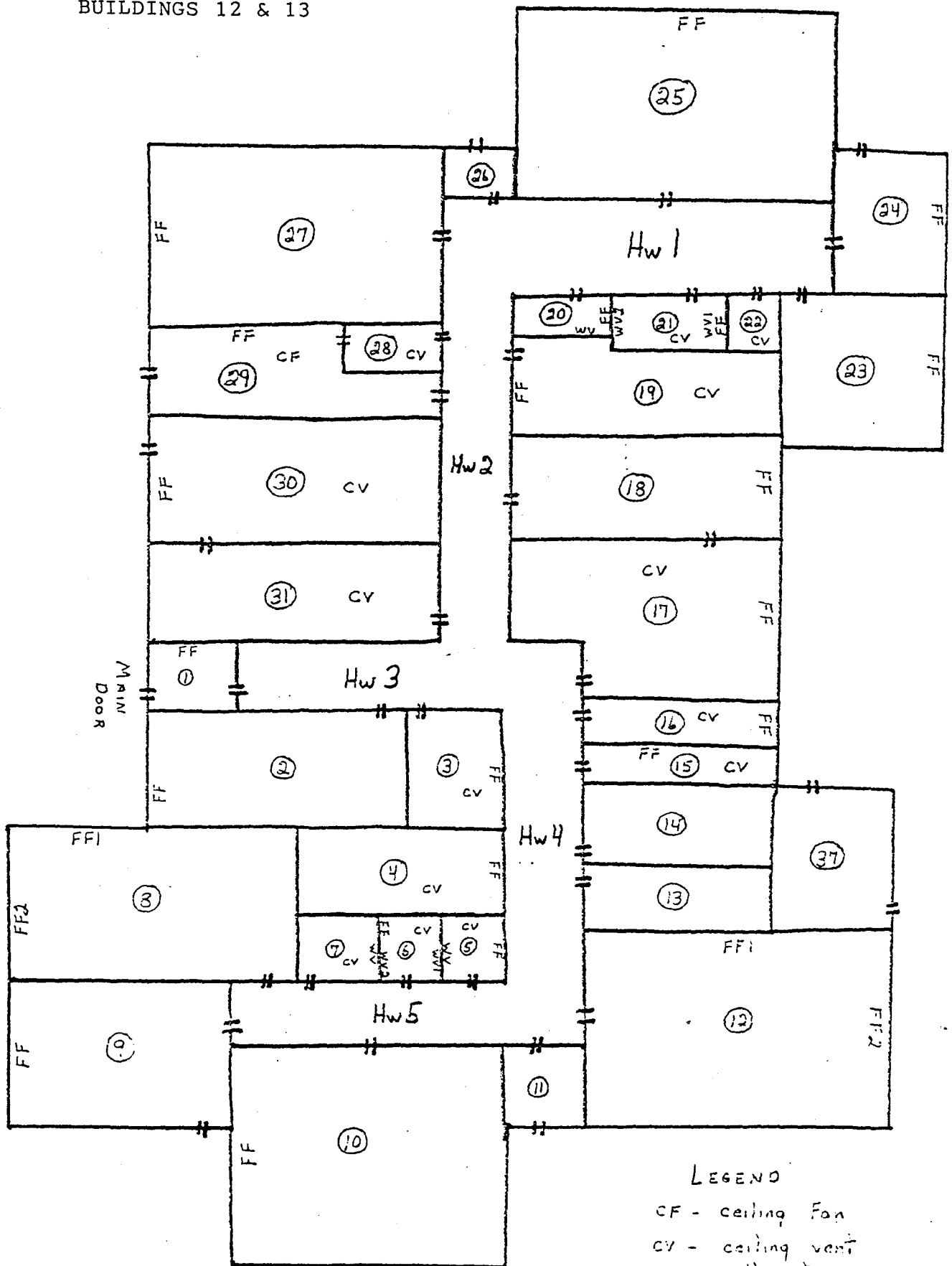
BUILDINGS 10 & 11

LEGEND

- FF - Free flow
- CV - ceiling vent
- CF - ceiling fan



BUILDINGS 12 & 13



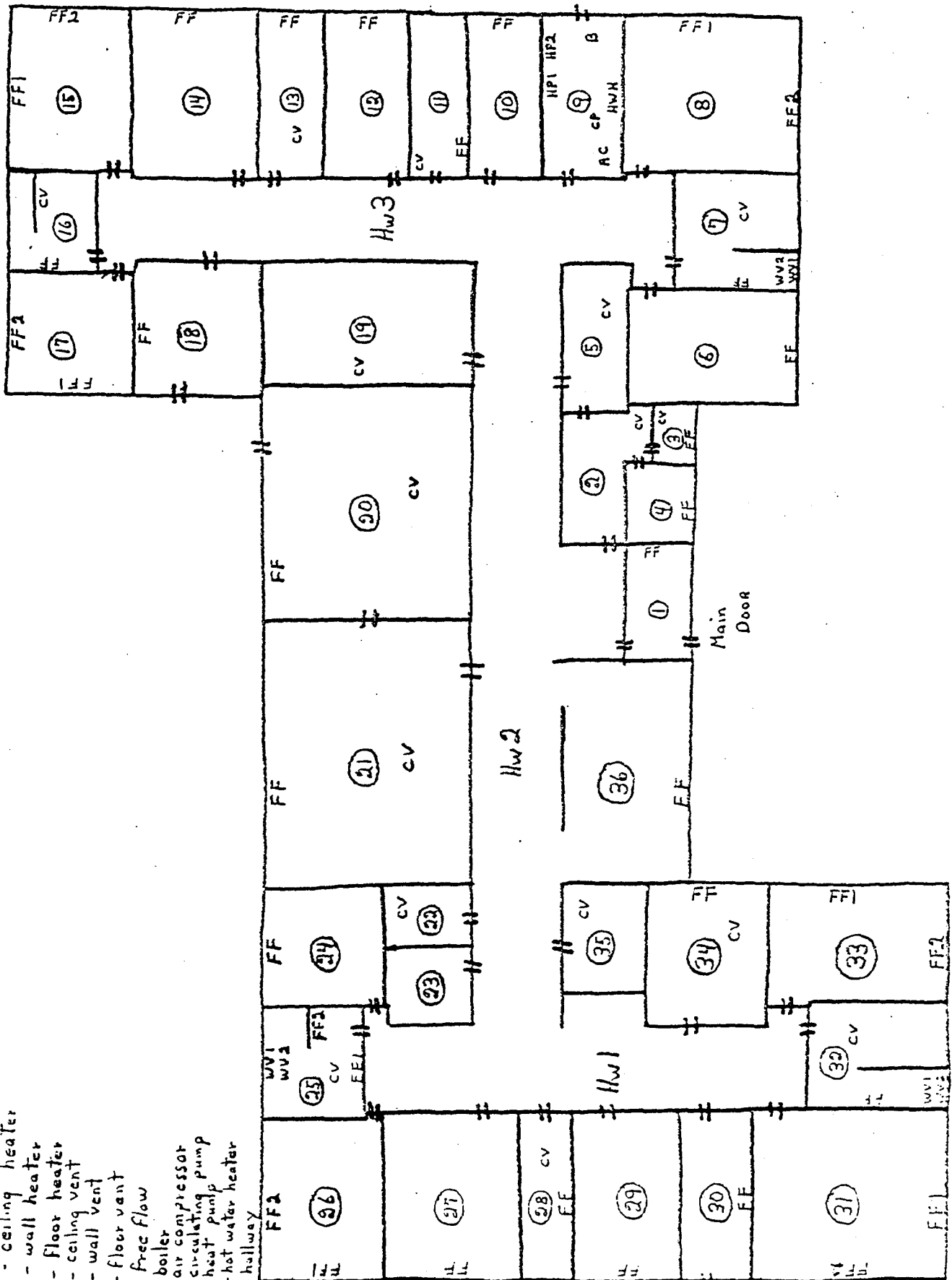
LEGEND

CF - ceiling Fan
 CV - ceiling vent
 WV - wall vent
 FF - free flow
 Hw - hallway

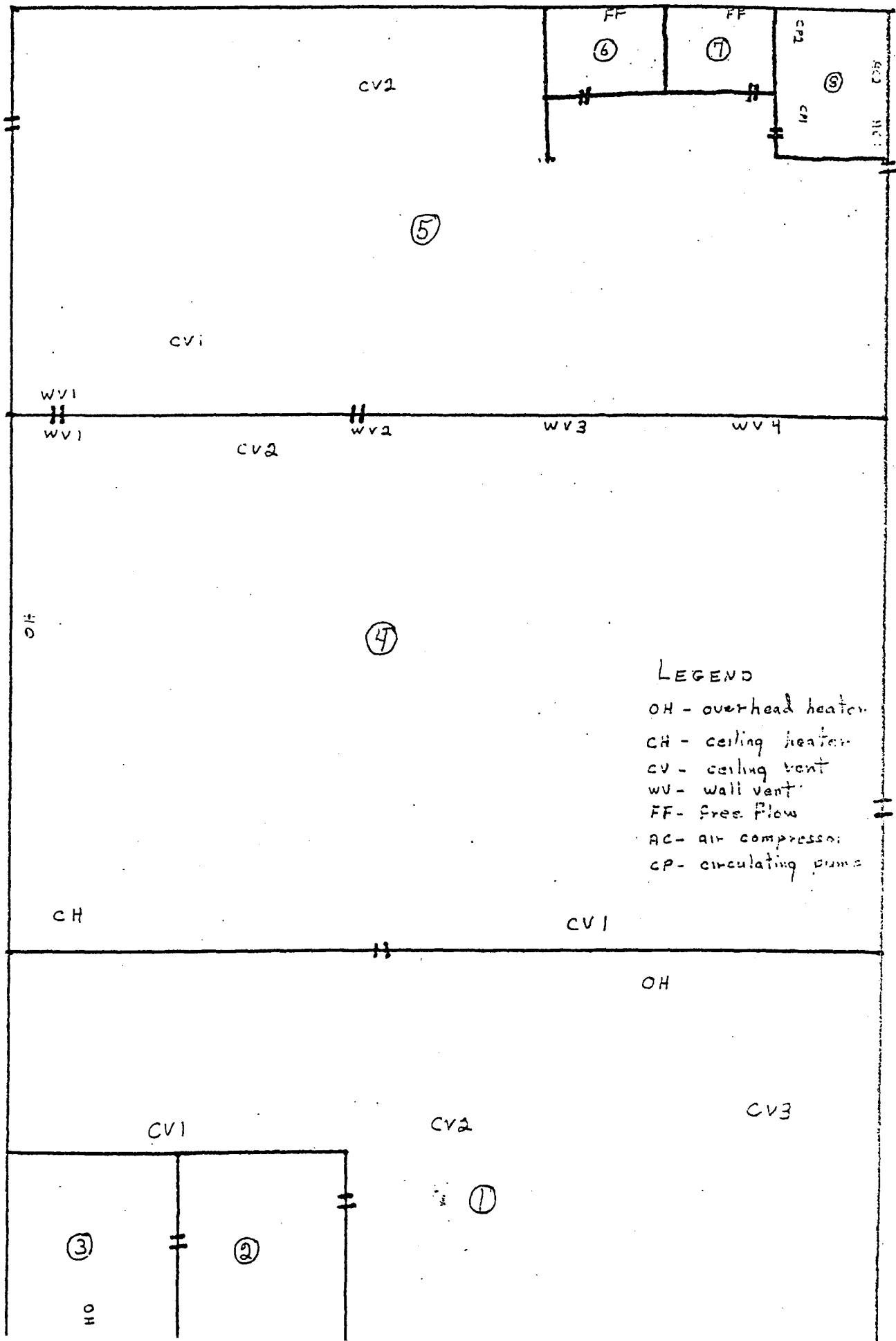
BUILDINGS 14 & 15

Legend

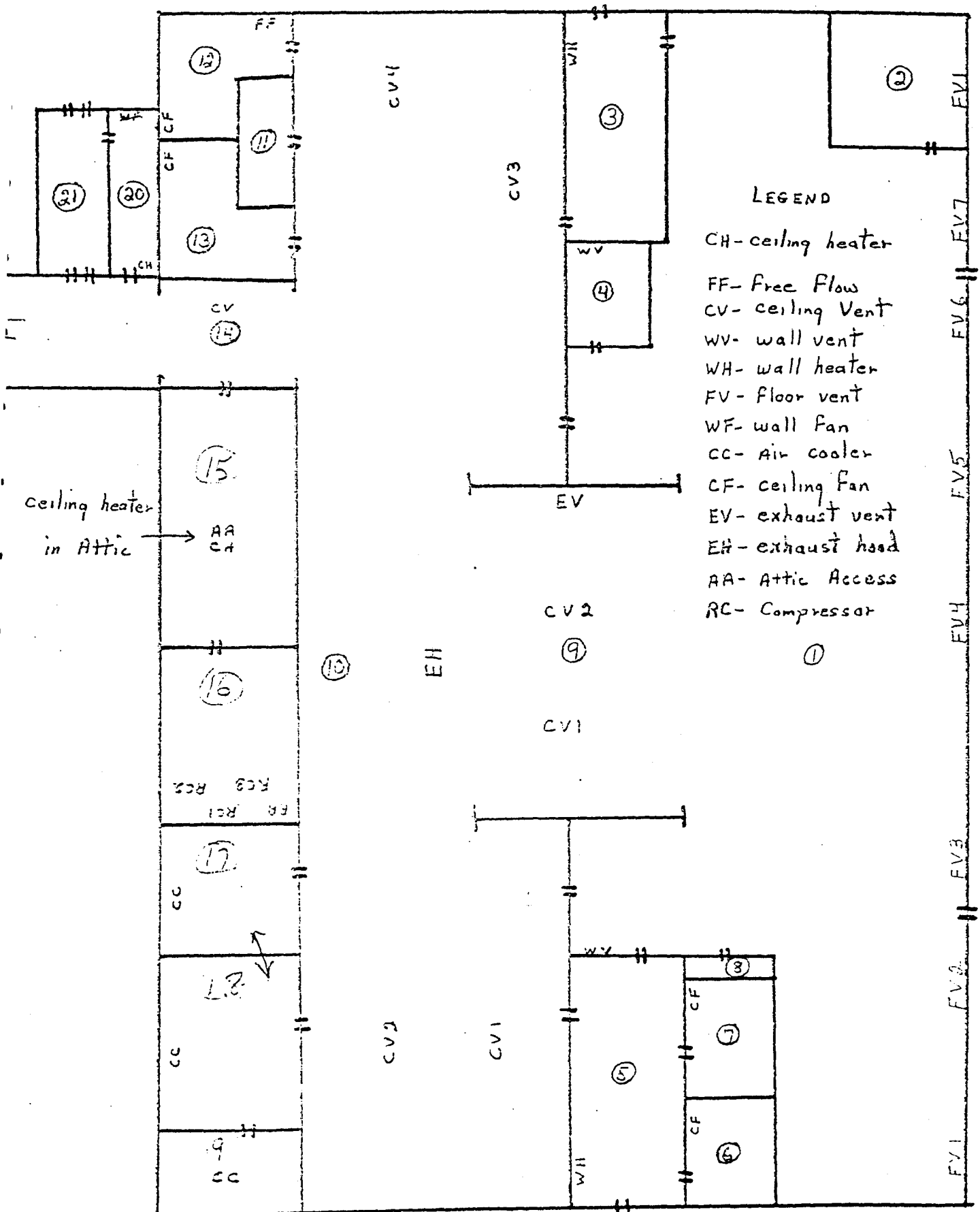
CH - ceiling heater
 WH - wall heater
 FH - Floor heater
 CV - ceiling vent
 WV - wall vent
 FV - Floor vent
 FF - Free flow
 B - boiler
 AC - air compressor
 CP - circulating pump
 HP - heat pump
 HWH - hot water heater
 Hw - hallway



BUILDING 24
Laundry



BUILDING 25
Canary



APPENDIX D

PICTORIAL DEPICTION OF THE SOUTH CAMPUS
OF THE MONTANA DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER

Office of
JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFF

P.O. Box 588
Boulder, Montana 59632
(406) 225-3323

8
DATE 2-11-95
Boulder

Sheriff
Tom Dawson

Undersheriff
Tim Campbell

To: The Members of the Legislative Long Range
Planning Committee
From: *Tom Dawson*
Tom Dawson, Sheriff
Jefferson County
Re: Montana Law Enforcement Academy
Facilities and Relocation

A memo of February 7, 1995 from the Montana Sheriffs' and Peace Officer's Association and the Montana Association of Chief's of Police stressed the importance for support of a permanent facility for the Law Enforcement Academy and requested support for relocation to the Mountain View School in Helena. Their rationale was that though there are several other proposals, they are less desirable, due to their location and lack of local resources to support Academy programs.

It is the belief of this office, that there is already a substantial amount of state government located in Helena and that other areas of the state need to be utilized. We believe that Boulder has much to offer and before you make any final decisions, you should take into consideration the following factors.

At the present time there is a \$10 million building program going on at the Montana Development Center, in Boulder, which will relocate all of the current residents from the cottages they currently reside in, to new residence buildings north of the Boulder river.

The campus which will be abandoned includes 6 dormitories, possibility of small apartments for faculty, office building, classrooms and recreational facilities as well as food service. There are motels and restaurants in Boulder and in the immediate vicinity. if this was preferred by instructors instead of using what was available on campus.

Boulder is located 30 miles from Helena and 40 miles from Butte which would assist in drawing the instructors from these areas. The State Director of the EMS Bureau, Drew Dawson, and State EMS Training Coordinator for First Responders, Sam Matlack, reside in Boulder and would be closer to provide any assistance. Matlack is also the Captain of the Jefferson County Sheriff Reserves.

Law Enforcement Academy Relocation
Jefferson County Sheriff's Proposal
Page 2

The Jefferson County Sheriff's office offers any assistance necessary to help facilitate the move and provide any assistance it can toward training. The Jefferson County Sheriff's office houses a jail which is 10 years old, and meets current Federal jail standards and has recently installed a state of the art 911 system. We also have the capability of coordinating the First Responder training.

A Jefferson County Sheriff Deputy is a certified K-9 instructor and there is plenty of space to accommodate a K-9 Academy.

The High School track is across the back yard from the campus and there is state owned property across the road from the campus, on which an excellent firing range could be developed. There is also a private firing range 3 miles from town.

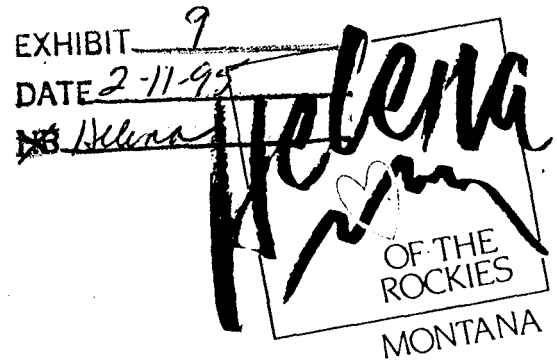
This office has a very good rapport with the private land owners surrounding Boulder and much of the land in the area is State or Federally owned and would provide ideal settings for Search and Rescue and Tactical Team training.

The Jefferson County Courthouse has a Law library and a Courtroom which is available most of the time. Jefferson County Sheriff's Office is member of two very active drug task forces.

The Community of Boulder has an active Ambulance Service and there is a Medical Clinic, soon to be housed in a new facility, that can provide routine and emergency medical services.

Governor Racicot's efforts to upgrade the Law Enforcement Academy are greatly appreciated and the need for this upgrade is recognized by the entire law enforcement community. It is our belief, however, that you should look into all the possibilities available and that you consider the assets of the Boulder area before making a final decision on the location of the next Law Enforcement Academy.

201 E. LYNDAL AVE. • HELENA, MT 59601
HELENA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



February 8, 1995

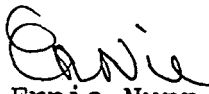
Ernest Bergsagel, Chairman
Long Range Building Committee
Rm. #317, Capitol Station
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Chairman Bergsagel:

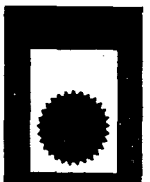
The Helena community is very interested in helping streamline state government for greater efficiency and improve public access to government.

- 1) The Montana Law Enforcement Academy (MLEA) is a target for possible relocation and the Helena community supports the consolidation at the Mountain View site.
- 2) The Helena community has prepared a Services Support document to accommodate these facilities.
- 3) The MLEA is an excellent example of forming partnerships that will meet local staff and federal needs. The opportunity to tie this academy to the Regional Firearms Training Center, the Regional Fire Training Center, Professional Instructors and other law enforcement agencies in the Helena area is outstanding.
- 4) This relocation effort to the Mountain View site would be very cost effective for the state of Montana.

Enclosed is several letters of support for this relocation and the Helena community stands ready to make MLEA a permanent home.


Ernie Nunn
Executive Vice President

Enc.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATE OF MONTANA



MARC RACICOT
GOVERNOR

STATE CAPITOL
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-0801

January 3, 1995

Advantage Helena
201 E. Lyndale Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Kay, Ernie, Blake and Ron:

As you may know, I have hoped for many years to be able to see a state law enforcement center developed. This budget allowed us to propose the first steps toward this goal and the changing mission at Mountain View gave us a good location.

I certainly recognize the political problems that will have to be solved, but I continue to believe that this package makes sense both programmatically and economically. Hopefully we can convince others that is the case as well.

I look forward to your support in attaining that objective.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marc".

MARC RACICOT
Governor

cc: Dave Lewis

CONRAD BURNS
MONTANA

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION
SMALL BUSINESS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2603

January 13, 1995

Mr. Ernie Nunn
Executive Vice-President
Helena Area Chamber of Commerce
201 East Lyndale Avenue
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Ernie:

Thanks for sharing the letter you wrote to Governor
Racicot on December 8th.

I agree that combining facilities and training
opportunities for Montana's law enforcement personnel
remains a worthy priority.

I appreciate your keeping me in the loop. If I can
be of any assistance to you in this endeavor, please do
not hesitate to contact me.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Conrad Burns", written over a horizontal line.

Conrad Burns
United States Senator

CRB/klh

NEWS RELEASE
ATTORNEY GENERAL JOE MAZUREK
STATE OF MONTANA

FOR RELEASE: Jan. 17, 1995

CONTACT: Dennis Taylor, 444-2026

LAW ENFORCEMENT GROUPS SUPPORT ACADEMY MOVE TO HELENA

HELENA -- Law enforcement groups representing the majority of people who receive training at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy have supported a modified proposal to move the facility from Bozeman to Helena, Attorney General Joe Mazurek announced Tuesday.

"The people who use the academy agree that where it is located is not as important as what it is," Mazurek said. "We need a sound structure with enough space to train the more than 1,000 current and prospective officers who use our programs each year."

He said the law enforcement groups also want to see the academy placed in a permanent home.

"These groups have united behind a single proposal in hopes that it will prevent the academy from becoming a political football tossed up among the many communities that would like to have it," he said. When the issue of moving the academy was last raised in the 1980s, a number of communities vied for it and the key issue of providing a permanent location was not addressed, Mazurek noted.

Since 1978, the academy has been housed in eight mobile homes, on land owned by Gallatin County in Bozeman. Under a cooperative agreement signed in 1991 and approved by the 1993 Legislature, the county had planned to construct a building in Bozeman that the state would then lease for the academy.

However, Gallatin County voters rejected a bond issue for the building in November, prompting Gov. Marc Racicot to suggest a \$7 million plan to move the academy, the state Crime Lab in Missoula and the Highway Patrol headquarters in Helena to the former Mountain View School for delinquent girls on the outskirts of Helena.

Mazurek said that the governor has since modified that proposal, and the law enforcement groups that have reviewed it now support the move.

Racicot's revised plan would ask the Legislature to:

- allocate \$2 million to renovate a building on the Mountain View campus to house the academy, and

- allocate \$500,000 to study the needs of the various state laboratories, including the Crime Lab located in Missoula, and report findings and recommendations back to the 1997 Legislature.

- keep the Highway Patrol headquarters in its current location in Helena.

"This is a good approach to solving the academy's immediate need for permanent space that meets our long-term requirements for training law enforcement personnel," Mazurek said.

He said the following groups have endorsed the modified proposal to relocate the Montana Law Enforcement Academy to the Mountain View campus in the Helena Valley: Montana Sheriff's and Peace Officers Association, Montana Association of Chiefs of Police, Montana Police Protective Association, Montana Correctional Association, Montana County Attorneys' Association, Montana Associated Public Safety Communications Officials, Game Wardens' Association, Montana Animal Control Officers Association, and the Association of Public Safety Communication Officials (APCO) Training Committee.



LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

221 Breckenridge
Helena, MT 59601
406-447-8235 Business
911 Emergency Only
406-449-8452 FAX

CHUCK O'REILLY, SHERIFF

February 6, 1995

Ernie Nunn
Director
Helena Chamber of Commerce
201 East Lyndale
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Ernie,

I am pleased to inform you that at the Montana Sheriffs & Peace Officers Board meeting held on January 12th of this year the Board voted to support Governor Racicot's proposal to move the Montana Law Enforcement Academy to the Mountain View location in the Helena valley.

I believe this stance by the MSPOA reflects a sincere desire on the part of Montana sheriffs to establish a permanent bricks and mortar facility and location for the MLEA as opposed to the "temporary" facilities they have been in for the last several years.

I fully agree with the MSPOA and am willing to do whatever I can to assist you in your endeavors. . I do intend to appear at the legislative hearings in support of Governor Racicot's budget regarding the academy and its' potential move and I'm sure we will be crossing paths in this regards. Please give me a call and let me know if I can help in any other way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chuck O'Reilly". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "C" and "R".

Chuck O'Reilly

Sheriff

L&C County

Helena Police Department
221 Breckenridge
Helena, Montana 59601



William J. Ware
Chief of Police

Phone: 406/447-8479
Fax #: 406/442-3965

January 10, 1995

Mr. Ernie Nunn
Executive Vice President
Helena Area Chamber of Commerce
201 East Lyndale Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Ernie:

I am in receipt of your letter to Governor Marc Racicot, dated December 15, 1994, expressing interest and support of the relocation of the Montana Law Enforcement Academy (MLEA) to the Helena Community.

Sorry I haven't answered sooner, but due to a death in my family I've been out-of-state for over a week. However, as the Helena Police Department Chief of Police, I too am in full agreement and support of the proposal to move the Academy from Bozeman to Helena. In addition to the advantages you outlined in your letter, the following are additional benefits which I feel should be taken into consideration during the development of the final proposal for consideration by the Governor's office.

1. Close proximity to and immediate access with associated state and federal government agencies, Montana Highway Patrol, Attorney General's Office and etc., as well as the legislative sessions when in progress.
2. Opportunity to consolidate and support our efforts regarding the proposal and subsequent construction of a firearms and driving range training center at the Helena Airport.
3. Cost effectiveness and efficiency. MLEA certified training sessions located in Helena will result in HPD budget savings. Also, scheduling our officers to attend and instruct these training sessions will be simplified as there won't be any travel involved and they will be at home.
4. Mountain View School is a viable structure for the MLEA. It has accommodations for housing administration and support personnel, as well as room options for students attending training sessions.

Letter to Ernie Nunn
Helena Chamber of Commerce
Support for Relocation of MLEA
January 10, 1995

Page 2

I am willing to assist and be a member of any committee that is formulating the proposal for submission to the Attorney General's Office regarding the relocation of the MLEA to our community. Please let me know of any meetings and/or work sessions planned to discuss this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

William J. Ware
Chief of Police
Helena Police Department

WJW:bk

cc: MLEA File
Bill Verwolf, City Manager

ADVANTAGE HELENA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOBS FOR HELENA!

201 E. LYNDAL AVE., HELENA, MT 59601

PHONE: 442-4120 FAX: 449-5631

December 15, 1994

Governor Marc Racicot
Capitol Building
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Governor Racicot:

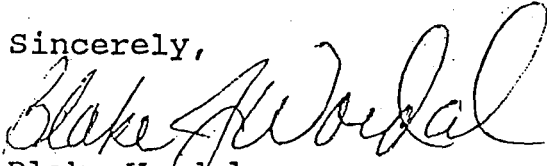
The Helena community is very interested and supportive of your efforts to streamline state government for greater efficiency and improved citizen access. To accomplish these goals:

1. We understand you are considering consolidation and relocation of many State offices. As we understand it, the Montana Law Enforcement Academy (MLEA), the Montana Crime Lab, Warm Springs State hospital, and the Medical Examiner's Office are all being discussed as targets for possible relocation.
2. We are interested in working with you on this project. The Helena area has many alternatives for this endeavor, specifically at the Mountain View School site and at other available sites in the Community.
3. The MLEA is an excellent example of the potential to form a partnership that will meet Federal, State, and local needs. The opportunity to tie the Academy into the designed (proposed?) Firearms Training Center at the Helena Regional Airport is outstanding. Also, access to the State Highway Patrol Headquarters, local organized law enforcement agencies as well as to instructors are consideration of merit for your reorganization plans.

Helena

We believe that a request for proposal from interested communities is in order. This will help formulate the most efficient plan for consolidation / relocation of State offices and personnel. The Helena Community would appreciate the opportunity to be a part of this program and we are more that willing to help implement your decision.


Sincerely,



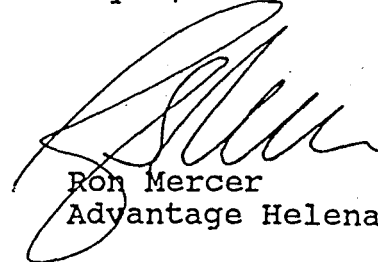
Blake Wordal
Chair, Lewis & Clark
Board of County Commissioners



Kay McKenna
Mayor, City of Helena



Ernie Nunn
Helena Area Chamber of Commerce



Ron Mercer
Advantage Helena

MLEA relocation sought

The Helena Area Chamber of Commerce, County Commissioners, City Commissioners and Advantage Helena recently notified Gov. Marc Racicot of the community's interest in having the Montana Law Enforcement Academy (MLEA) located in Helena, since Gallatin County failed to pass a mill levy to continue its operations.

The MLEA relocation to Helena would support the state's efforts to help streamline government; and academy could be co-located with other existing facilities that the state currently owns.

ACCESS TO the state headquarters for Montana Highway Patrol, highly qualified instructors, Helena College of Technology and the regional fire training and firearms center at the Helena airport makes this an excellent opportunity to utilize existing and planned facilities.

The state-owned Mountain View School facilities and other alternate sites at the Helena Regional Airport offer an opportunity to upgrade facilities needed for the MLEA at a reasonable cost compared to expensive rental fees.

SENATOR SUE BARTLETT has submitted



**ERNIE
NUNN**

CHAMBER NOTES

a bill request for this legislative session that will indicate the community's interest in getting the attention of the state house to locate this law-enforcement training program in the Helena area.

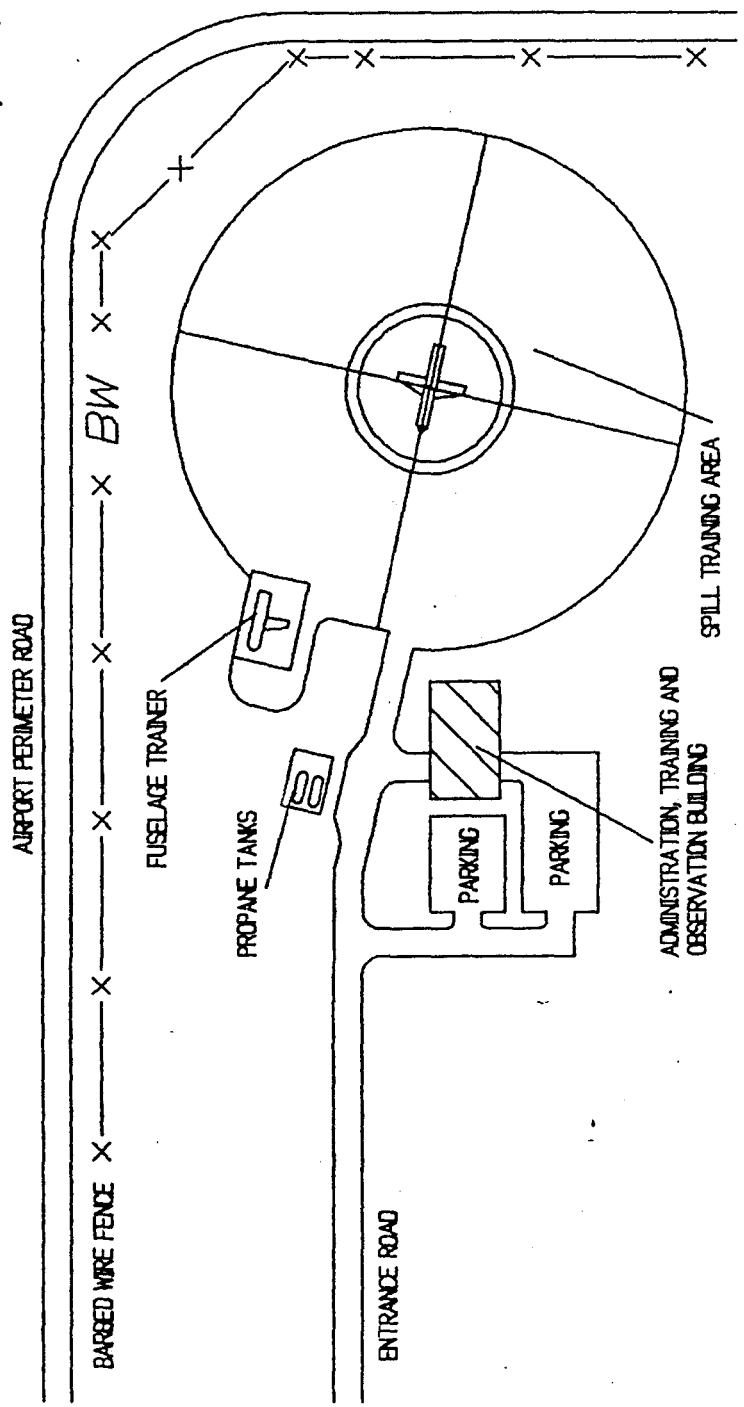
Each year over 1,100 law enforcement officers attend this very important training session and would contribute a payroll of \$750,000/year to the Helena area.

This academy needs a permanent home and the Helena community needs to stand ready to offer solutions.

ERNIE NUNN is the executive vice president of the Helena Area Chamber of Commerce.

EXHIBIT 10
 DATE 2-11-95
 BY Helena

REGIONAL FIRE TRAINING CENTER



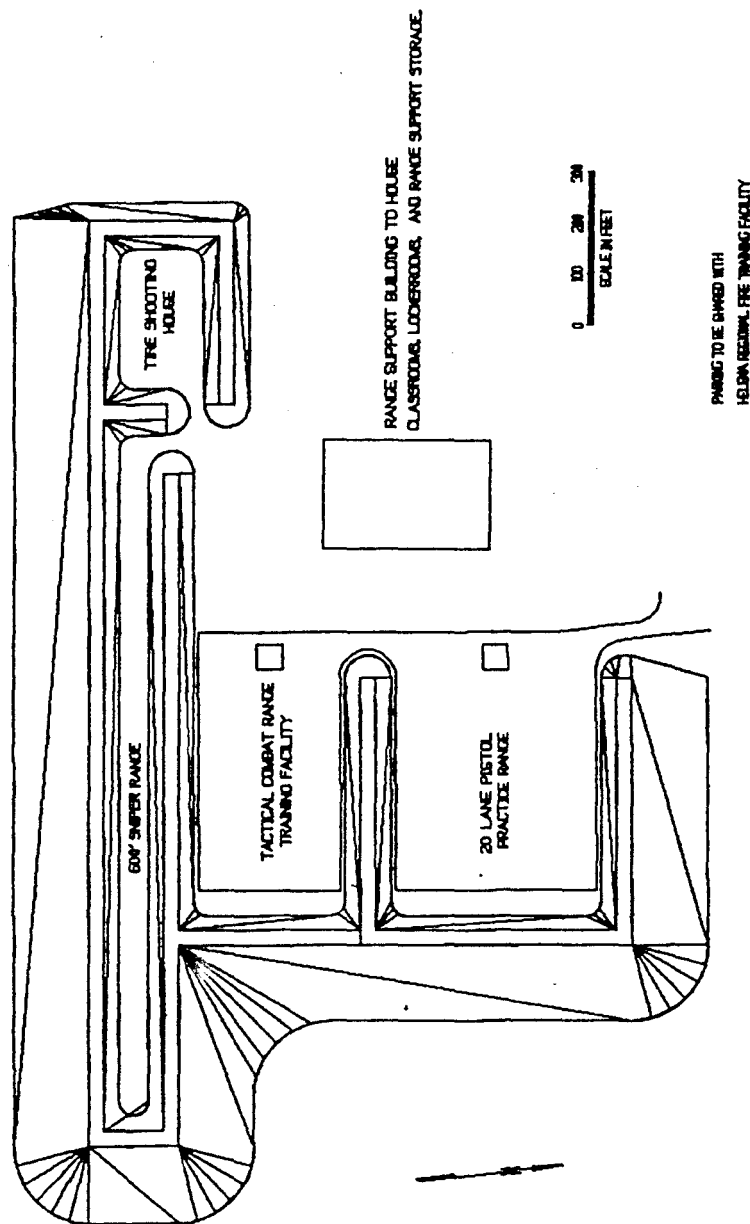
The Helena Regional Airport began working on the Regional Fire Training Center (RFTC) project over three years ago. The RFTC will be a state of the art propane facility which complies with all local, state, and federal environmental regulations. This facility includes a propane fire pit, an aircraft simulator, a classroom training area with showers and lockers, an operational area, access road, water and sewer development, a new aircraft fire fighting vehicle, and other miscellaneous items.

The Airport has developed a plan to operate this facility as a stand-alone cost center that will not require operational expenses to be allocated by the airlines.

The RFTC must be designed strictly in accordance with aircraft fire fighting needs in order to be eligible for 90% FAA discretionary Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funding; however, even with these restrictions, it lends itself to be used by other fire agencies. The Forest Service, National Guard, Department of State Lands, and many city and county fire departments have agreed to use the facility provided a reasonable fee is established. A program to train Native American fire fighters is also being considered.

The Helena Airport Board has selected the architectural firm of Crossman-Whitney-Griffin and the engineering firm of Morrison-Maierle/CSSA for this project. While final construction approval is still being discussed with the FAA, the design of the facility has been funded, and construction is expected to begin in late 1993 or 1994.

REGIONAL PISTOL RANGE



The Regional Fire Training Facility is being designed to provide a multiagency firearms training site. More than twenty law enforcement agencies have expressed interest in this project. Montana does not presently have a professional firearms facility. The Montana Law Enforcement Academy presently uses an old gravel pit at Lewistown to train peace officers from around the state. This project has the potential to attract statewide training and regional governmental competitive events.

EXHIBIT 11
DATE 2-11-95
BY Helina

**Testimony
of the
Montana Sheriffs & Peace Officers Association
presented by
Sheriff Chuck O'Reilly
on the
Montana Law Enforcement Academy**

From 1959 until 1979 the MLEA was situated on the campus of the University in Bozeman after which it was moved to "temporary facilities" on land owned by Gallatin County. Sixteen years later it still resides in those "temporary facilities" that are outmoded, outdated, and wholly inadequate for any type of academic setting.

The MSPOA has lobbied for several years for construction of a new academy only to be shot down either by lack of money or usually by a political fight regarding the site location - a fight in which everyone loses. This year the MSPOA Board of Directors - which is composed of sheriffs, undersheriffs, & deputy sheriffs from large & small communities from all across our state, voted unanimously to support Governor Racicot's proposal to construct and/or remodel facilities at the Mountain View School in the Helena valley. His proposal appears to be a cost-effective method of finally achieving the bricks and mortar status of permanency we all have been working toward for so long.

The peace officers in our great state are constantly seeking to improve their knowledge and upgrade their capabilities so they can serve the public in a professional and responsible manner. They look forward with eager anticipation to the top quality courses the MLEA offers, but they do not look forward to the environment in which they will be housed and scheduled for these courses.

It is our hope that the focal point for discussions on the MLEA will be on the needs of the Academy, the law enforcement officers they serve, and ultimately the citizens who will benefit from the advantages top quality law enforcement training presented in an adequate learning environment will bring, rather than on site selection for any other reasons.

We urge you to support the proposal to permanently place the MLEA at the Mountain View School location.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VISITOR'S REGISTER

Appropriations COMMITTEE BILL NO. _____
 DATE 2-11-95 SPONSOR(S) Law Enforcement Academy

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

| NAME AND ADDRESS | REPRESENTING | BILL | OPPOSE | SUPPORT |
|------------------|--------------------------------|------------|--------|---------|
| Cheryl Beatty | Anaconda - Deer Lodge Co. 1213 | | | X |
| David M Ellis | ANACONDA DEER LODGE CO. HB 213 | | | |
| Mary Springer | | | | |
| Bruce Smith | BOULDER / JEFFERSON CO. | | | X |
| Lucy Springer | BOULDER / ANA-DEER | | | |
| Scott Mansfield | Boulder - Jeff. County | | | X |
| Ed Heald | Boulder | | | X |
| Leonard Wortman | Boulder | | | X |
| Carol West | Boulder | | | X |
| Don Allen | Helena | HB 213 | | ✓ |
| Blake Ward | Lewis & Clark Co. | Helena LEA | | ✓ |
| Helen Kellicott | Anaconda - D.L. Co. | | | ✓ |
| Jim Smith | Rep # 56 | | | |

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED TESTIMONY WITH SECRETARY. WITNESS STATEMENT FORMS
 ARE AVAILABLE IF YOU CARE TO SUBMIT WRITTEN TESTIMONY.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VISITOR'S REGISTER

Appropriations COMMITTEE BILL NO. _____
 DATE 2-11-95 SPONSOR(S) _____

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

| NAME AND ADDRESS | REPRESENTING | BILL | OPPOSE | SUPPORT |
|------------------|-----------------|------|--------|---------|
| Dennis M. Taylor | Dept of Justice | | | ✓ |
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