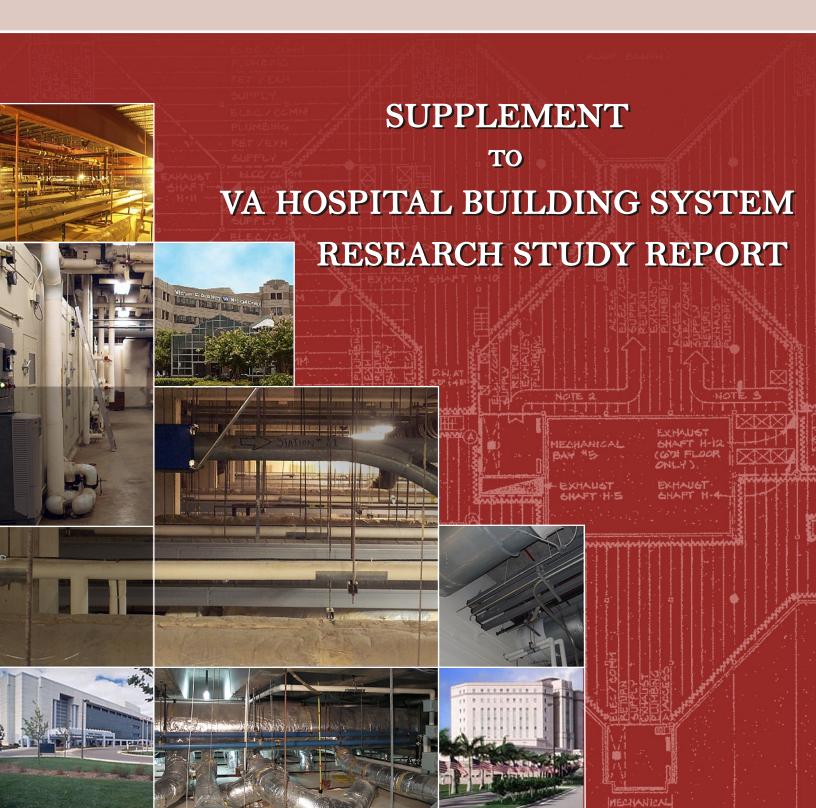


**JUNE 2006** 



# SUPPLEMENT

Section 1 Foreword and

Acknowledgements

Section 2 VAHBS Overview

Section 3 Issues

Section 4 Application to New

Projects

Appendix A Example VAHBS Hospitals

Appendix B Record Drawings

Appendix C VAHBS CAD Drawings

June 2006

# Section 1

# Foreword & Acknowledgements

	Page
Foreword	1-1
Acknowledgements	1-3
Glossary	1-5

June 2006

### **Foreword**

VA policy is to design new hospital buildings to provide for continuing adaptability throughout their structural life. The VAHBS concept as defined in the VA Hospital Building System Research Study Report (Project 99-R047; U.S. Government Printing Office Stock No. 051-000-00 112-5) was created to provide such adaptability. The purpose of this supplement is to address the effects on the VAHBS concept and Research Study Report (Red Book) brought about by 30 years of changes in technology, construction practices, and health care models.

It has been VA's experience that VAHBS projects have not cost more than traditional construction in construction bidding, and have cost less on a life-cycle basis. A key factor in the bidding process is thorough pre-bid conferencing which includes sub-contractors (such as mechanical, plumbing, electrical, etc.) and material suppliers as well as general contractors to inform them of the potential savings in time and labor through the separation of trades on all levels. The use of drawings, models, and virtual reality should be considered for part of these pre-bid conferences.

The project team for a new VA hospital, including VA staff and design and engineering consultants, shall use this Supplement in conjunction with the VAHBS Research Study Report (Red Book) in the design and construction of new VAHBS buildings.

Lloyd H. Siegel, FAIA Associate Chief Facilities Management Officer for Strategic Management

June 2006

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## Glossary

**Adaptability:** The ability to respond to, or be readily adjusted to, changing conditions.

#### Assembly:

- A group of attached components considered collectively (e.g., a pre-hung door).
- A design configuration composed of a specific arrangement of service modules.

**Bedroom Zone:** A plan zone at the building perimeter sized to accommodate patient bedrooms.

**BGSF:** Building gross square foot, a unit of total floor area including building service spaces and shafts, common horizontal and vertical circulation systems, structure, and exterior enclosure systems; but excluding interstitial service zones.

**Building Subsystem:** One of the coordinated groups of components, each performing a major function, which combine to form a building system.

### **Building System:**

- Any specific building production process or method.
- Any set of coordinated building components intended for application as a group.

## Ceiling:

- Finish system at the top of a functional zone, usually suspended from underside of interstitial platform (e.g. acoustical, or GWB or plaster ceiling).
- A combination interstitial platform/ finished ceiling at the top of a functional zone (obsolete).

**Compatibility:** The state of functional, economic, and aesthetic coordination between two or more systems or components.

**Component:** A part, or assembly of parts, in a system.

**Compound Assembly:** A design configuration in which the structural framing changes direction, and/or some service bays are completely internal.

**Conventional Design and Construction:** Existing, traditional building methods are they are currently applied.

**CPM:** Critical Path Method.

**Critical Path:** The particular sequence or path through a work schedule determining the shortest time within which all work can be completed.

**Critical Path Method:** A scheduling technique for the identification and control of work activities on the critical path.

**Design Configuration:** A general building plan type, illustrated by a diagrammatic plan.

**Design Criteria:** Various performance requirements, dimensional rules, descriptions of typical and special conditions, and the like, serving as guidelines in the development of a detailed design from the basic system design.

**Design Determinant:** An independent variable, or general class of such variables, encountered in a design problem, which influences the selection of alternative solutions or the characteristics of a particular solution (e.g. program, site, budget, codes).

**Fast-track:** An accelerated scheduling technique characterized by the overlapping of activities traditionally performed in linear sequence, requiring early commitment to general decisions, but allowing postponement of detailed decisions.

**Fire Compartment:** A unit of area on a building floor enclosed by two-hour fire resistance rated construction on all sides from which there are at least two different exits.

**Fire Section:** Term used in original Red Book, see Fire Compartment.

### Flexibility:

- Adaptability.
- Having alternatives.

#### **Functional Space:**

- Habitable room or area not assigned exclusively to building service equipment.
- Space within the functional zone.

**Functional Space Requirement:** A characteristic a particular functional space must have to satisfy a user need or an applicable regulation or standard.

**Functional Unit:** A group of rooms interrelated by shared activities or processes (e.g., nursing unit, intensive care unit). Usually implies close proximity.

**Functional Zone:** The horizontal layer of space between the top of a finished floor and the bottom of the finished ceiling immediately above.

**Generic Design Option:** One of a limited number of alternative general types of solution allowed within the basic design of a particular building subsystem.

HCS: Health Care System.

**HVAC:** Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning

**Integrated Subsystem:** Any of the pre-coordinated subsystems specifically within the scope of a particular building system.

**Integration:** See Systems Integration.

#### Interface:

- A common boundary between two systems or components.
- A boundary detail designed to maintain a specified relation between adjacent systems or components.

**Interstitial Platform:** The deck system that provides the walk-on surface for the above ceiling (interstitial) service zone; and constitutes the bottom of the two-hour separation between floors (Refer to fire test reports NBSIR 85-3158, Fire Performance of Interstitial Space Construction System; and NISTIR 5560, Fire Performance of an Interstitial Space Construction System). Platform construction is continuous across a service module, except for the service bay.

**Interstitial Space:** Unfinished or non-habitable space utilized for building service subsystems, of sufficient size to accommodate workers and permit maintenance and alteration without disruption of activities in functional spaces. The term usually refers to the portion of the service zone between the finished ceiling and the floor above.

#### Modular:

- Having commensurable dimensions.
- Capable of arrangement with exact fit in more than one sequence or direction.
- Composed of or containing predetermined dimensional and/or functional units; such as repetitive structural bays or service modules.

**Modular Coordination:** Dimensional coordination utilizing commensurable dimensions.

#### Module:

- The common divisor of a set of commensurable dimensions.
- A dimensional pattern restricting the location of a specified building component.
- A unit of space defined by a special set of dimensional and/or functional characteristics.
- See also Planning Module, Service Module, Space Module

**Non-integrated:** Outside the design scope of a particular building subsystem.

Non-system: Non-integrated.

**OFM:** Office of Facilities Management.

#### Optimize:

- To maximize desirable characteristics and/or minimize undesirable characteristics.
- To establish functional and economic balance among the performance characteristics or two or more systems or components.

**Planning Module:** A one-story high unit of building volume with specific dimensional and functional characteristics.

**Plan Zone:** A plan area of constant width extending from end-to-end, or side-to-side, of a building or planning module. See Bedroom Zone, Sanitary Zone, and Service Strip.

Platform: See Interstitial Platform.

**Prefabrication:** The on-site or off-site advance manufacture of building systems and components traditionally fabricated in-place during installation.

**Primary Subzone:** A horizontal subdivision of the service zone reserved exclusively for distribution of systems or services oriented in a specific direction to the structure.

**Product:** A material, component, or system manufactured off the construction site.

**Prototype System Design:** A basic system design establishing the performance and dimensional limits within which alternative detailed designs may be produced to accommodate specific conditions at various times and places.

**Red Book:** VAHBS Research Study Report, Project 99-R047; U.S. Government Printing Office Stock No. 051-000-00 112-5. The Red Book is available from the VA Technical Information Library (TIL) at <a href="http://www.va.gov/facmgt/standard/bsds.asp">http://www.va.gov/facmgt/standard/bsds.asp</a>.

**Reserved Zone:** A specified region within a building volume assigned to the exclusive use of one subsystem, or limed step of subsystems, or to a specific function. See Functional Zone, Service Zone, Primary Subzone, and Secondary Subzone.

**Sanitary Zone:** A plan zone in a nursing unit, such as between the patient bedrooms and the corridor, sized to accommodate lavatories, toilet facilities, etc.

**Secondary Subzone:** A vertical subdivision of a primary subzone reserved exclusively for the distribution of a specific service subsystem or group of subsystems.

**Service Bay:** A structural bay specifically designed to provide for mechanical and electrical rooms and/or various kinds of vertical shafts, located at the perimeter of a service module. May be enclosed by shear walls or other lateral bracing systems.

**Service Module:** A planning module containing, and served by, an independent horizontal distribution network; typically including its own air handling unit.

**Service Strip:** A plan zone containing internal service bays.

**Service Zone:** The horizontal layer or building volume between the bottom of a finished ceiling and the top of the finished floor immediately above; and the adjoining service bay. See Interstitial Space.

**Simple Assembly:** A design configuration in which all structure is framed in the same direction and all service bays are external.

**Space Module:** A subdivision of a service module in a patient bedroom area which may be internally organized in various ways to accommodate a range of functions, and which may be incorporated within a variety of design configurations.

## Subsystem:

- A system considered as a component of a larger or more general system.
- Any component, or group of components, which has internally the characteristics of a system (e.g. the distribution components of a mechanical system).

Support Area: All hospital areas outside the bed-care area.

**System:** A set whose elements (termed components) are organized toward a common objective, and are characterized by interdependence in their individual contributions to that objective.

**Systems Analysis:** Examination of the effects of the interactions between the components of a system on the individual performance of those elements and on the total performance of the system.

**Systems Approach:** A strategy of problem definition and solution which emphasizes the interaction between problem elements and between the immediate problem and its larger context, and which specifically avoids traditional methods of independent or ad hoc treatment of the various elements.

#### **Systems Integration:**

- The combination of a groups of relatively independent parts into a coordinated whole to improve performance through controlled interaction.
- The joint use of a component by two or more systems.

#### Unit:

- A structurally independent assembly performing a specific function or range of functions.
- A functionally related set of people, equipment, spaces, missions, and activities considered collectively for planning and administrative purposes. See Functional Unit.
- A module.

**User Needs:** Those conditions the users of a building consider necessary or desirable as environment or support for their activities, without particular reference to how such conditions are to be provided.

#### **User Requirements:**

- User needs.
- Performance requirements established directly by a user.

VA: Department of Veterans Affairs.

**VA Hospital Building System:** A prototype system design developed by VA for use in the design and construction of new hospital buildings; characterized by modular design and the use of systems approach to the integration of building services and functional or planning modules.

VAHBS: VA Hospital Building System.

VA HCS or VAHCS: VA Health Care System.

**VAMC:** VA Medical Center.

# Section 2

## **VAHBS Overview**

	Page
History of VAHBS	2-1
VAHBS Concepts	2-1
Systems Integration	2-1
Planning Modules	2-2
Service Modules	2-2
Structural Bay	2-2
Service Zone	2-2
Functional Zones/Space Modules	32-3
Fire Compartments (Sections)	2-3
Figure 2-1 Service Module Concepts	2-4
Building Subsystems	2-5
Shell Systems	2-5
Structural	2-5
Partition	2-5
Platform	2-5
Service Systems and Subzones	2-5
Figure 2-2 Building Subsystems	2-6
Service Zone	2-7
Figure 2-3 Typical Subzones	2-8
Hospitals Built Using VAHBS	2-9
Example Medical Centers	2-9

June 2006

## **History of VAHBS**

The VA Hospital Building System (VAHBS) is an approach to the design and construction of large, multi-story hospital buildings based on the principles of systems integration. Key features of the VAHBS are modular design with integrated service zones for permanent and adaptable building subsystems.

Faced with rising costs, lengthy periods between programming and occupancy, accelerating obsolescence and inadequate building performance, VA decided to study the application of systems integration to a proto-



Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center Loma Linda, CA, 1977

type design for new hospitals. The result of the work by VA Research staff and the consultant, Stone, Marraccini and Patterson with Building Systems Development, was the Development Study--VA Hospital Building System Research Study Report (Red Book) first published in January 1972. The Red Book report was last revised in August 1977.

The VAHBS has been used successfully on many VA projects. Over the last three decades certain elements of this system have evolved in response to field experience, emerging health care models, and technical and regulatory changes. As a supplement to the Red Book, this Paper is intended to aid designers of new VA hospital buildings in the application of VAHBS concepts to today's conditions and construction practices.

## **VAHBS Concepts**

#### **Systems Integration**

The Red Book presented a prototype design system for new hospital buildings. In the prototype system, building systems and subsystems and their interrelationships are defined and examined as integrated or coordinated components of the building as a whole from the very beginning of the design process. The primary objectives for systems integration are cost control, improved performance, adaptability, time (schedule) reduction, and the provision of a basis for the long-term development and modification of the hospital building.

Readers must keep in mind that the prototype design system was not intended to be used as a standardized scheme. The prototype design system was to be used as a model for the generalized decision process for the design and construction of new facilities. The prototype space modules were based on functional criteria appropriate to the health care delivery model of the time. Changes in these criteria have made many of the dimensions and space modules proposed in the Red Book obsolete. However, the basic concepts of integrating building services and using a systems approach for problem definition and solution in design and construction still remain valid.

## **Planning Modules**

The conventional design process tends to concentrate on spatial and functional relationships with minimal consideration for structure and mechanical and electrical systems during preliminary and schematic design. This approach tends to result in specialized and unique designs for the service systems in each part of the building. The results are increased complexity in detailing and construction, and compromises in maintenance, future adaptability, and expansion.

To use the VAHBS, a designer needs to understand the following concepts:

- Service Modules
- Fire Compartments (Sections)
- Building Subsystems
  - o Shell Systems
  - o Service Systems and Subzones.

#### Service Modules

The Red Book proposes a systematic or modular approach to the design of new hospital buildings where building systems are integrated into the planning modules from the start of design. The basic building block is the service module. Service modules were defined as one story units of building volume with a footprint of approximately 10,000 square feet. More recent designs have used service modules in the range of 20,000 square feet. Each Service module is comprised of

- · structural bays,
- a service zone, and
- functional zones or space modules (the occupied areas).

Each service module is completely contained, alone or with one or more other modules, in a fire compartment.

The building block concept can offer advantages in design, construction, operation and maintenance. Once established, the service module provides a means of manipulating overall building configuration with the assurance of subsystem capability and integrity.

**Structural Bay:** The structural bay is the basic unit of which all other modules are comprised. The dimensions of the structural bay are influenced by the functional layout (space planning), service zone clearances, and type of structural system selected. Refer to Section 3 Issues, Section 4 Application to New Projects and Appendix A for further discussion and examples of typical bay sizes.

A special variation of a structural bay is the service bay. This special bay contains the mechanical, electrical and telecommunications rooms that support a service module; and service shafts and risers (and may include exit stairs) necessary for vertical distribution of services. It is a part of the service zone [see below]. Major equipment items and all pumps and motors are contained in the service bay. In section, the service bay extends from structural floor to structural floor. The walk-on platform (interstitial deck) does not extend into or through the service bay.

**Service Zone:** A service zone includes a full height service bay (with independent mechanical, electrical, and telecommunications rooms) and an independent service distribution network that includes the interstitial zone above the functional zone.

**Functional Zones and Space Modules:** The functional zone is the occupied floor area within a service module. The Red Book defines space modules as variations of the service module designed for inpatient bed units. Space modules may be the same size or smaller than a service module, but in no case may be larger than a service module.

### **Fire Compartments (Sections)**

When the term "fire section" is used in the Red Book, it should be replaced with "fire compartment" to be consistent with current Code terminology. A fire compartment is a unit of area enclosed by two-hour fire resistance rated construction on all sides from which there are at least two different exits. The size and number of fire compartments shall be as determined by current codes, VA criteria, and the overall fire protection strategy for the building.

A fire compartment may contain one or more service modules. The boundaries of the service module(s) should coincide with the boundaries of the fire compartment.

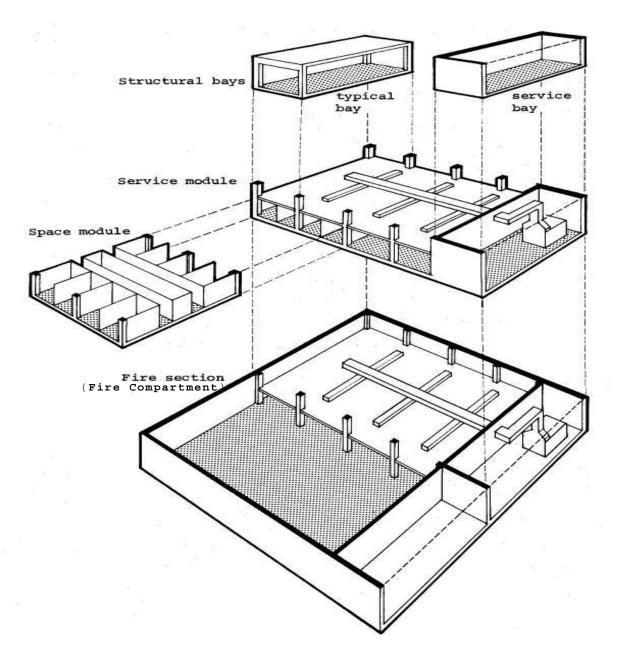


Figure 2-1 Service Module Concepts

#### **Building Subsystems**

The prototype system design includes six specific building subsystems that are referred to as integrated subsystems: structure, partitions, and walk-on platform (interstitial deck) are "shell" subsystems; HVAC, plumbing and electrical are "service" subsystems. Other subsystems such as foundations, exterior closure, roof, and conveying systems have been excluded and are referred to as non-integrated subsystems. Communications systems were originally considered non-integrated systems. The increases in the numbers and complexity of telephone/data and other "low-voltage" sub-systems warrant considering them as integrated service subsystems.

#### **Shell Systems**

**Structural:** The structural system may be steel frame or reinforced concrete frame. Selection would be based on engineering and economic analysis.

**Partition:** Partition subsystem is the generic term used in the Red Book for non-load bearing, vertical, interior construction used to subdivide or enclose portions of the building volume. Components must provide a wide range of performance in terms of impact resistance, finishes, fire and/or smoke resistance, acoustics, x-ray shielding, etc. In current practice, "partitions" with fire or smoke resistance ratings are called "fire barrier walls" or "smoke barriers" as defined in NFPA 101. Except as required for code compliance, construction will typically terminate underside of the platform. The Red Book envisioned that the final service runs in the functional zone would be installed outside, or on the surface of, the partitions. In current practice, vertical service drops to a room or area are to be concealed within the partitions. Horizontal distribution of services is to remain in the defined service zones.

**Platform:** The walk-on platform/ceiling subsystem has also evolved from the system originally described in the Red Book. The Red Book defined subzone S-6 as the ceiling: a combined walk-on platform or interstitial deck with surface applied finishes and fixtures on the underside (exposed to the functional zone). Current practice uses two subzones, S-6 and S-7. The S-6 subzone is the platform. The S-7 subzone includes the space below the platform and the suspended finish ceiling. Light fixtures are typically recessed in the finish ceiling. Refer to Section 4 Application to New Projects and Appendix C for examples of walk-on platform and ceiling construction.

#### **Service Systems and Subzones**

The service subsystems for each service module are located within the service zone, i.e., within the service bay and/or the horizontal portion of the service zone (interstitial space) above the functional zone. To many A/E's the platform/ceiling subsystem and the interstitial space it creates are the most prominent features of the VAHBS. The platform allows for better organization of service distribution, improved access for maintenance or modification of services with reduced impacts to functional zones. The integration and coordination of building services are much more important to the successful application of the VAHBS.

The service zone is highly organized into reserved subzones for the various mechanical, plumbing, fire protection, electrical and tele/data services. The purposes of this "pre-coordination" are to provide clear channels for access and passage for all trades, to minimize crossovers and other conflicts, to assure reasonable space for future extensions and additions, and to permit positive location of all components. All services, except gravity drains, downfeed into the functional zone below.

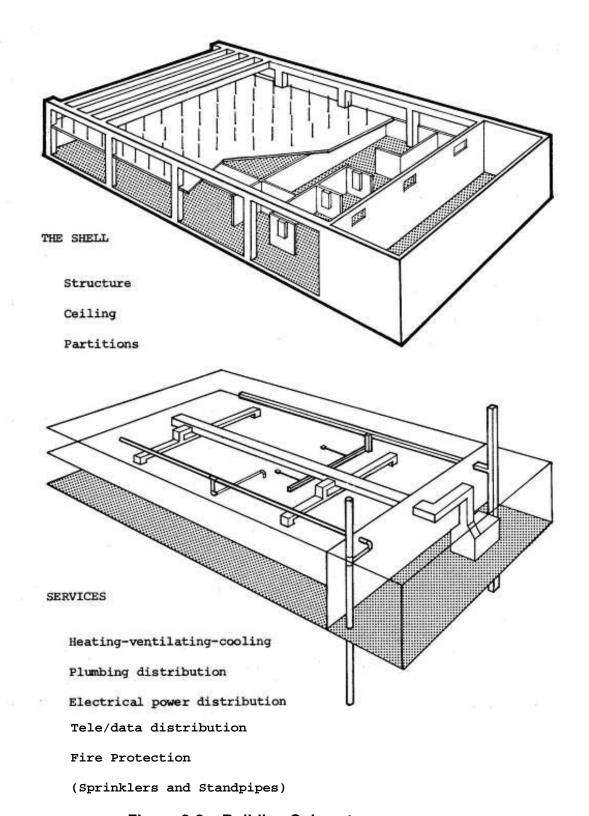


Figure 2-2 Building Subsystems

**Service Zone:** The service zone is organized into subzones and channels that define and organize the service runs. [Refer to details in Appendix C. Refer to Appendix A for examples in existing VAHBS hospitals.] Subzones are horizontal layers within the service zone. Main service distribution runs from the service bay are all parallel, each connecting to branches at right angles to the mains, and branches connecting, where required, to laterals at right angles to the branches within the defined subzones. Channels are plan divisions of the subzones and define reserved locations for particular services.

In order to preserve the rights-of-way for initial and future installation of service runs, no shortcut or point-to-point routing of services is permitted. This is extremely important.

#### S-1 Subzone—Floor Slab

This subzone equals the depth of the floor finish, topping slab and structural slab.

#### S-2 Subzone—Branch Distribution

This subzone contains the structural beams, pressure piping and gravity drainage and vents.

#### S-3 Subzone—Main Distribution

This is the major subzone and is reserved for main distribution of services through the length of the service zone. It is divided by service into channels. The depth will be governed by HVAC supply and return/exhaust ducts. Note that crossovers of main ducts are to occur in the Service Bay.

#### S-4 Subzone—Branch Distribution

This subzone contains mechanical and electrical branches and vents. It is divided by service into channels. Depth will be governed by HVAC branches.

#### S-5 Subzone—Lateral Distribution

This subzone takes the final service run to the location of the service drop into the functional zone below. Any projections from the walk-on platform construction will be parallel to the services at this level. Formal channels are usually not defined in this subzone.

#### S-6 Subzone—Platform

This subzone equals the overall depth of the walk-on platform (interstitial deck) construction.

### S-7 Subzone—Ceiling

This subzone extends from the underside of the walk-on platform to the bottom of the suspended, finish ceiling. Limited lateral distribution may occur in this subzone such as offsets in service drops from the penetration through the walk-on deck to fixture or partition; fixtures and devices recessed in the finished ceiling; switch legs and whips for lighting fixtures; fire sprinkler; and non-integrated telecommunications conduit and cabling for public address, nurse call, CATV/MATV systems and fire alarm system.

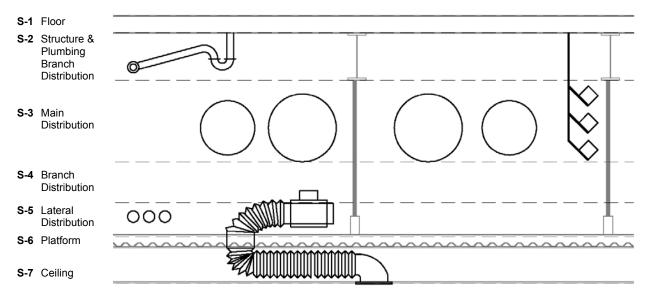


Figure 2-3 Typical Subzones

## **Hospitals Built Using VAHBS**

The VAHBS has been used in new and replacement hospital projects in all areas of the country.

#### **Example Medical Centers**

Three representative Medical Centers were selected for review and inclusion as examples of the application of the VAHBS in this Supplement. They are identified as Medical Centers A, B, and C in the Appendix. The main hospital building at each medical center is a single structure of 929,000 to 1.5 million square feet. The number of stories, building geometries, structural bays and materials of construction vary in each building.

Project data for each of these hospital buildings, including typical plans and service zone strategies, are presented in Appendix A. Also included in Appendix A are summaries and analysis of interviews of the Facilities or Engineering Officers and Resident Engineers (if available) for the example medical centers regarding the effects of the VAHBS on the construction, maintenance, operation, remodeling and new construction for the buildings.

# Section 3

## **Issues**

	Page
Need for Supplement	3-1
Changes in Health Care Models	3-1
Changes in Technology	3-2
Changes in Regulatory Requirements	3-2
Cost and Schedule	3-3
Cost	3-3
Cost of VAHBS Hospitals	3-3
Construction Cost	3-4
Life Cycle Costs	3-4
Schedule	3-5
Planning, Design & Construction	3-5
Remodel and Renovation	3-6

June 2006

## **Need for Supplement**

In 2004 and 2005 VA undertook advance planning for the first new major hospital projects since the mid 1990's. Since VA policy for the design of new hospital buildings is to provide for their continuing adaptability to changing conditions and programs throughout their structural life (VHA Program Guide PG-18-3, Design and Construction Procedures, Topic 3) and since the VAHBS concept which provides such adaptability was partially outdated (original issue 1972, revision 1977), VA recognized the need for a Supplement to the Red Book to address significant developments in construction and healthcare delivery since 1977. In August 2005 VA commissioned this Supplement Paper as the means to provide uniform guidance to project teams in the application of VAHBS principles.

The VA Hospital Building System was successfully applied to major new or replacement hospital projects completed between 1977 and 1995. The buildings show a variety of design expressions, bay sizes, plan geometries and floor-to-floor heights. Detailed information is provided for three of the facilities in the Appendices. Photos of several other VA Medical Centers have been inserted in Sections 2, 3, and 4.

As the projects using the VAHBS were designed, constructed and occupied details of the system evolved. A number of refinements in the application of systems integration were discovered by the designers, contractors, and VA. This Supplement to the Red Book reports on those developments. There have been numerous and significant changes in the healthcare delivery model, medical technology, and regulatory requirements since 1977. The VAHBS was intended to allow for a high degree of functional adaptability and ease of utility (service) modifications. All of the VAHBS hospital buildings have been occupied for 10 or more years and have undergone varying degrees of modifications. This Supplement includes reports on the adaptability of systems at three of the facilities.

### **Changes in Health Care Models**

The prevailing health care model at the time the VAHBS was developed was centered on inpatient care with a relatively small ambulatory component. Bed towers of 700 to 1000 beds were major components of space in the hospital. Consequently 40 to 60 bed nursing units were the primary driver for the planning modules presented in the VAHBS. Typical designs included a preponderance of 4-bed rooms with a mix of 1 and 2-bed rooms.

Beginning in the 1980's there was a major shift in the health care model from inpatient to outpatient or ambulatory services. Trends in patient privacy also moved design to 20-bed nursing units with all 1-bed rooms.

Existing VAHBS hospitals have proven to be highly adaptable to these changes in health care delivery. New designs must address these changes by designing structural bays and space modules to meet current functional needs while maintaining a high degree of adaptability.



VA Medical Center Bronx, NY, 1980

## **Changes in Technology**

As technology for healthcare is invented and implemented, continuing changes in functional space and building service will be necessary to support the new equipment and processes. Hospital designs that incorporate adaptable plans and services are essential to continued viability. Over the last 30 years some of the greatest impacts from new technology have been to the electrical, and communications systems.

Digital data networks have become the prevalent means for information transport, necessitating installation of fiber optic backbones, electronic components, and copper station cabling of everincreasing bandwidth. These requirements were not anticipated when the VAHBS was instituted, and installation of data network cabling has been generally performed with little regard for the organization of VAHBS service systems and subzones; this is in large part due to the fact that most cable plants were not installed as part of the original construction project, but at a later date. Replacement of older telephone cabling, which often accompanied data network installation, was subject to the same lack of discipline. Further, the trend for most special systems such as nurse call and fire alarm to use digital communication protocols, the growth of digital building environmental control systems, the current trend away from coaxial cable to twisted-pair wiring for signal systems such as MATV and CCTV, and the movement towards integration of different systems by gateways or standard protocols (such as Ethernet, BacNet, or TCP/IP) onto a common network have driven the need for structured cabling systems coupled with rigorous installation and maintenance practices. Any systems whose information is transported over the data network become integrated systems by default per this Supplement to the VAHBS. Remaining communications systems are non-integrated and are separately treated in VA design manuals and master specifications.

## **Changes in Regulatory Requirements**

Building codes and, in particular, seismic requirements have become increasingly stringent. Most of these changes affect the specification, detailing, or installation of services, but will not affect the space modules or overall VAHBS concept. However, changes in structural requirements will affect decisions concerning bay size, lateral restraint systems, and member sizes. These will, in turn, influence service zone dimensions, floor-to-floor height, and planning modules.

Fire and life safety codes have undergone numerous revisions since the Red Book was first published. The fire and life safety concepts used for the prototype design in the Red Book were based on a health care model with primarily inpatient care and comparatively small outpatient and administration areas. The usual approach was to consider the entire hospital building as a single institutional occupancy and not to create multiple occupancies. This allowed for expansion or relocation of departments and services without having to worry about occupancy separations. However, requirements for fire and smoke compartments were extended into areas where they might not otherwise have been required. Automatic fire sprinklers were not required nor were they typically installed throughout the building.

As the percentage of outpatient care areas increased, the fire and life safety strategy shifted from single-occupancy to multiple-occupancy buildings. The fire protection strategies for new buildings will need to consider multiple occupancies when establishing fire and smoke compartments, and service modules.

Fire sprinklers are now required throughout VA patient care buildings. Because the service zones in VAHBS buildings featured highly ordered distribution of service systems with allowances for expansion, fire sprinkler systems could be added or extended with minimal disruptions to other services or occupied space. In new buildings fire sprinkler and standpipe systems should be added to the list of integrated subsystems.

JCAHO and AIA/HHS guidelines for hospital design, equipment and systems have been revised several times and may be expected to continue to evolve. While these changes have made some of the specific planning data in the Red Book obsolete, they reinforce the need for designs and building services with high degrees of adaptability.

VA and ASHRAE standards for ventilation rates, energy efficient design, and indoor air quality have been updated and will continue to evolve.

The 2002 National Electrical Code introduced requirements that abandoned, low-voltage communications cabling of many systems be removed in order to reduce the combustible fuel load present in the cable insulation. Much legacy telephone, intercom, coaxial, and other wiring was abandoned in place when newer cable plants were installed in the 1990's. While this concern is most in regard to the construction of new VA hospitals, it is a critical component of renovation projects in existing hospitals where cabling may or may not have been installed per VA criteria.

#### **Cost and Schedule**

#### Cost

Many of the basic principles and observations contained within the Red Book related to cost still hold true today. However, recent market fluctuations, changes in procurement selection, and amendments to contract requirements have had an effect on many of the Analyses. Future analyses of costs associated with VAHBS building comparisons should therefore give greater consideration to location, market conditions and procurement methods.

It is extremely important, as stated later in Section 4, to hold thorough pre-bid conferences for prime and sub-contractors, and material suppliers using models, diagrams, video simulations, and other techniques illustrating project sequence and the time and labor saving opportunities inherent in the VAHBS.

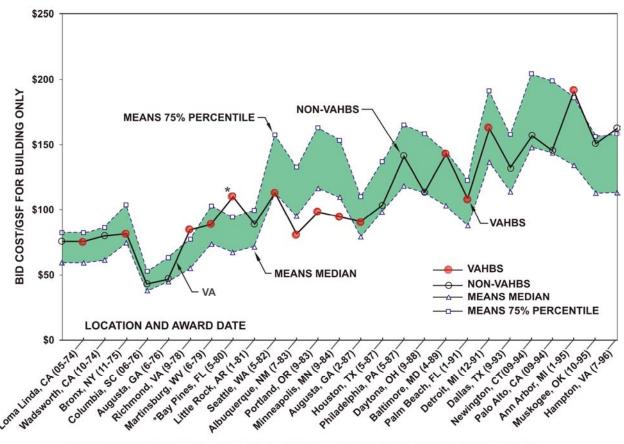
#### **Cost of VAHBS Hospitals**

A VA Study compared the Bid Cost / GSF for facilities built using VAHBS over a 22 year period (from Loma Linda, CA in 1974 to Hampton, VA in 1996) with R.S. Means cost data for hospital construction over the same period (See Fig Below). Means includes nationwide cost data for hospital types ranging from small, community hospitals to large, complex medical centers (including non-VAHBS construction). VA hospitals tend to be in the category of large to very large medical centers. The median and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile costs from Means Cost Data were selected as representing costs for hospitals of similar size and with programs similar to VA hospitals.

Except for Bay Pines, the costs for the VAHBS hospitals are at or below the Means 75<sup>th</sup> percentile. Costs for three of the hospitals (Albuquerque, Portland, and Minneapolis) were below the Means median. It should be noted that the construction contract for Bay Pines included electric powered

vehicles (not normally purchased with construction funds) and an unusually large quantity of exterior canopies and walkways among other buildings on the campus.

## VA COST AT LOCATION AND AWARD DATE



\* BID INCLUDES ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS EXTERNAL TO THE BUILDING IN THE GSF COST

#### **Construction Cost**

The data from the Medical Centers (Database, Volume 2) used for the Cost Analyses in Volume 3 of the Red Book are now largely outdated simply through the passage of time. While ENR and other Building Cost indices reflect the overall cost increases due to inflation, they do not always address specific Elemental / Trade fluctuations. These may have varied considerably over time thereby "skewing" any direct proportionate link between such general inflation indices and the Cost Analyses outlined in the Red Book. For example, recent volatility in steel and concrete costs has seen these components increase in dramatically greater proportions than other trades. The design team shall use the best available current data for cost estimating, systems comparisons, and life cycle cost analysis.

#### **Life Cycle Costs**

Unlike some private sector Owners, VA can be expected to occupy a hospital building for 40, 50, or more years. For such long terms, the costs of operating, maintaining, and altering buildings will usually exceed their first cost several times over. Section 752 in Volume 3 of the Red Book analyzes the savings in housekeeping, maintenance, and alteration for a systems building compared to a traditional building. The general observations and principles contained in Section

752 still apply today and are supported by the experiences and observations of Medical Center Facilities Managers (see Appendix A). The VAHBS permits a much greater ease, time saving, and quality of routine and emergency maintenance, and alterations or changes with substantially less impact on occupied spaces. These factors can be expected to pro\duce cost savings compared to traditional construction. However, methods and procedures used by VA for funding operation, maintenance, and alterations; and tracking expenses still make detailed assignment of costs and analysis difficult (and beyond the scope of this Supplement).

Recent trends in construction costs will likely affect the relationship of Life Cycle Costs to First Costs. For example, construction costs (first costs) would appear to be seeing considerable escalation at present. As noted previously, some sub-systems or components such as steel and concrete are increasing faster than the overall escalation rate. Some portions of the country are affected to a much greater degree than others. Such "spikes" in first costs will affect the relationship between Life Cycle Costs and First Costs. In certain instances, the result may be a longer "pay-back" period for savings in housekeeping, maintenance and renovations.



John D. Dingell VAMC, Detroit, MI 1995

The basic premise outlined in Section 752.5 of the Red Book, i.e., that the cost of major alterations within a VAHBS building are less than those for a conventional building should still hold true. Indeed given the apparent current market place preference by bidding contractors in certain locations, savings may actually be magnified.

General trends suggest that more "difficult" alteration projects with greater phasing, access and temporary work considerations and restrictions are considerably less attractive than "new" build or "less restrictive" alteration construction projects.

The cost of "General Conditions" will be greater than for less restrictive projects and bidders may add a factor for the perceived greater risk. Remodeling in VAHBS buildings compared to remodeling in conventional buildings should offer greater ease of construction, attractiveness to bidders and lower "premiums" for actual and/or perceived risk.

#### **Schedule**

The planning, design, and construction of a major new facility takes several years. Shortening the duration of a project reduces the impact of inflation or cost escalation, reduces overhead/general conditions, and delivers services to veterans sooner. The VAHBS includes several strategies with the potential to accelerate the design and construction of new hospital buildings. Because each project will have its own unique combination of opportunities and constraints not all strategies may be applicable to every project.

## Planning, Design and Construction

The integrated approach to functional and systems design proposed in the Red Book can shorten the time for planning and design due to earlier involvement by the engineering disciplines. The development of the service modules to be used in the design of each new facility

requires the project team to make basic engineering assumptions for structure and building service systems. The level of detail required is greater than that for typical block or preliminary design. Engineering and systems design is then no longer tied to the development of detailed or "final" room and department layouts. Design development and construction documents for the integrated systems can start earlier than normal. Application of the VAHBS places a premium on examining and coordinating the interrelationships of building services and subsystems early during design.

Modularity, redundancy, and use of typical or repetitive elements in the design of the building systems will reduce the number of "special" conditions. This may simplify the preparation of

documents and may make greater efficiencies in procurement and installation possible. Modularity not only promotes a learning curve increasing productivity for the workmen as the building progresses, but it also allows pre-fabrication for many components or sub-systems (duct runs, piping, wireway, etc.).

Since the design is more "adaptable," the building systems will require fewer modifications or redesign due to changes in the functional plans. Multiple or phased bid packages can be developed and priced with a greater degree of confidence.

Use of assigned subzones and channels, and integration of system during design will reduce conflicts and changes in the field. However, the Contractor still must closely coordi-



VA Medical Center Portland, OR, 1984

nate the work of the various trades and enforce the "rules" established for the service zones.

#### **Remodel and Renovation**

The VAHBS includes features that should facilitate the work and reduce impacts on occupied spaces in or adjoining the area of the work. The potential advantages of these features must be clearly communicated to bidders so that benefits in schedule (and consequently costs) may be realized. These features are intended to contain the impacts of the work to as limited an area as possible. By reducing impacts to the functional zone and surrounding occupied areas of the hospital, the need for temporary barriers, temporary utilities, phasing and "domino" moves may be reduced or eliminated.

Features of the VAHBS that facilitate remodel and renovation include modular design, stacked service bays, service risers separated from functional zones, location of service equipment restricted to service bays (out of functional zones and interstitial area), provisions for access to exterior for major equipment replacement, provision of accessible interstitial service zones with dedicated subzones and channels; "over sizing" service mains, equipment rooms, shafts and risers; use of non-bearing partition systems (including smoke and fire) that terminate at interstitial platform; and coordination of fire zone and service module boundaries.

## Section 4

# **Application of VAHBS to New Projects** Page VA Criteria and Standards......4-1 Use of VAHBS ......4-1 Organization of VAHBS Research Study Report ......4-1 Supplements to VAHBS Research Study Report ......4-2 Volume 1-Design Manual ......4-2 Basic Concepts ......4-2 The Prototype System Design......4-2 Application ......4-3 Planning Modules ......4-3 Structural Bay ......4-3 Service Module ......4-4 Space Module......4-5 Fire Safety ......4-5 Planning Module Applications ......4-5 Building Subsystems ......4-5 Structure .......4-5 Ceiling......4-9 Partitions......4-11 HVAC......4-12 Plumbing and Fire Protection ......4-13 Electrical .......4-13 Coordination Checklist......4-14 Procedure ......4-15 Problem Analysis ......4-15 Design Development ......4-15 Contract Documents......4-15 Cost Estimating ......4-16 Construction Scheduling......4-16

June 2006

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# **VA Criteria and Standards**

VA provides guidance to A/Es for the design and construction of its facilities in a series of Design Guides, Design Manuals, Design, Alerts, Master Specifications and Standard Details. These documents can be found in the Technical Information Library (TIL) at <a href="http://www.va.gov/facmgt/standard/">http://www.va.gov/facmgt/standard/</a>. Standards referenced in this supplement include:

PG-18-1, <u>Master Construction Specifications</u>

PG-18-3, <u>Design and Construction Procedures</u>

PG-18-10, <u>Design Manuals</u>

PG-18-14, Room Finishes, Door, and Hardware Schedule

VA <u>Fire Protection Design Manual</u>

DVA Physical Security Report

H-18-8 Seismic Design

The criteria documents are generally organized by design or engineering discipline. Each document provides guidance specific to that discipline, e.g., such as guidance for the design of functional spaces, or detailed guidance for the selection, sizing, installation or modification of a particular system or subsystem. The interrelationship and future adaptability of the various subsystems and the building as a whole are addressed in the VAHBS Research Study Report (Red Book).

# **Use of VAHBS**

VA policy as stated in VHA Program Guide PG-18-3, Topic 3 is to design new hospital buildings to provide for continuing adaptability throughout their structural life. The VAHBS provides a proven and cost-effective methodology and systems prototype for the integration of the various individual systems, subsystems and functional zones found in a hospital building. Specific zones and channels are assigned to each system and subsystem for distribution throughout the building. The high level of organization and discipline in locating service systems and components significantly enhances the constructability and adaptability of VA hospital buildings and meets VA policy.

The project team for a new VA hospital, including VA staff and design and engineering consultants, shall use this Supplement in conjunction with the VAHBS Research Study Report (Red Book) in the design and construction of new VAHBS buildings. This Supplement is intended to assist the project team in the application of the VAHBS to new designs by identifying outdated or obsolete portions in the 1977 document and providing examples of successful solutions and details used in implementing the VAHBS. The design team is expected to understand and apply all current VA criteria and standards and comply with applicable codes and regulations.

# **Organization of VAHBS Research Study Report**

The VAHBS Research Study Report (Red Book) consists of three volumes: Volume 1-Design Manual, Volume 2-Data Base, and Volume 3-Project Report. Volume 2 contains a detailed data base on user needs, functional requirements, costs, labor unions, and laws and regulations. Volume 3 is the consultant's report describing the research and underlying assumptions used in developing the VAHBS.

Volume 1 of the Red Book was intended as the primary guide to design with the VAHBS. Volumes 2 and 3 were intended as secondary or reference documents. Accordingly this Supplement will provide guidance solely on the use of Volume 1.

Changes brought about by three decades of evolving healthcare and construction practices have made much of the programmatic data, planning data and dimensions in the report obsolete. Completely updating these Volumes 2 and 3 to reflect current standards is beyond the scope of this supplement.

The project team shall adhere to the latest VA criteria and current practice for functional and programmatic issues addressed by Volumes 2 and 3. The project team should particularly refer to the specific project space plan (program) in lieu of Volume 2. Users may refer to Volume 3 to gain a deeper understanding of the underlying principles of the VAHBS; however, users must keep in mind that current criteria and practices will supersede information in that volume.

# **Supplements to VAHBS Research Study Report**

The information in the following paragraphs is provided to supplement Volume 1, Research Study Report, Project 99-R047; U.S. Government Printing Office Stock No. 051-000-00 112-5 (Red Book). The electronic file is available in the VA TIL at <a href="http://www.va.gov/facmgt/standard/bsds.asp">http://www.va.gov/facmgt/standard/bsds.asp</a>

# Volume 1—Design Manual

Volume 1 of the Red Book is divided into 4 parts: Basic Concepts, Planning Module, Building Subsystems, and Procedure. For ease of reference, the supplementary material in this section is presented in the order found in the Red Book.



VA Medical Center Bay Pines, FL, 1983

# **Basic Concepts**

# The Prototype System Design

Section 110 of the Red Book introduces the prototype system design by describing the organization, background and intent of the VAHBS. The basic concepts remain sound and require only the following minor updates.

**113.1** Integrated and Non-integrated Subsystems: Fire protection (sprinkler and standpipe) and Telephone/Data and other signal subsystems (including fire alarm and nurse call) are to be added to list of integrated subsystems.

Contract documents provide a performance specification for fire protection systems, and the contractor provides the final design and layout of the system. Documents typically locate the risers; mains and branches are routed by the contractor. The horizontal runs for these systems must be pitched to drain. Although final layouts are not included in the construction documents, a coordination strategy is required for sprinkler and standpipe systems to ensure that the zones and channels allocated for other subsystems will not be violated.

Telecommunications and other special systems (Tele/Data) continue to increase in quantity and complexity. VA criteria now require dedicated telecommunications equipment rooms to be separated from electrical equipment spaces. A high degree of adaptability and expansion is required for these subsystems.

**113.2 Shell Systems:** Refer to supplement for Section 310 below for commentary on structural systems.

Ceiling subsystem shall be split into platform and ceiling subsystems. The Red Book defined subzone S-6 as the ceiling: a combined walk-on platform or interstitial deck with surface applied finishes and fixtures on the underside (exposed to the functional zone). Current practice uses two subzones, S-6 and S-7. The S-6 subzone is the platform. The S-7 subzone includes the space below the platform and the suspended finish ceiling. Refer to supplement for Section 320 below for details of platform and ceiling construction. Refer to Appendix A for examples.

Wherever the Red Book refers to "ceiling" or "S-6" subzone the reader should apply the current definitions of S-6 platform and/or S-7 ceiling subzones as appropriate to the context.

Refer to the supplement for Section 330 below for commentary on partition systems.

# **Application**

Section 120 provides general guidance on the use of the VAHBS for programming, budgeting and design of new hospital projects.

122 Data Base: Volume 2 contains a detailed data base on user needs, functional requirements, costs, labor unions, and laws and regulations. Volume 2 has not been updated since 1977 and much of the programmatic data, planning data and dimensions are obsolete. The project team shall use the space plan (program) specifically developed for the project and adhere to the latest VA criteria and current design practice for functional and programmatic issues.

#### **Planning Modules**

Section 200 introduces the modules and design configurations created for the Red Book. The functional program for VA hospitals has changed extensively since this section was written. The planning issues listed in this section still need to be addressed in design process; however, many of the conclusions regarding dimensions and geometries should be modified as noted in the following paragraphs.

# **Structural Bay**

Size and geometry of the structural bay and planning modules are not restricted to the rectangular bay described in Section 210 of the Red Book. The project team may adjust the bay size and shape as appropriate for the program and systems used in a particular design. Selection of bay size will affect depth of structure (subzones S-1 and S-2) and floor to floor height when integrated with allocations for service subzones S-3 through S-7.



VA Medical Center Augusta, GA, 1987

#### **Service Module**

- **Section 220:** Describes the prototype service module and discusses the issues that the design team must consider when establishing modules. This section is supplemented as follows.
- **222 Size and Shape:** Dimensions in Section 220 are not fixed standards. As with the structural bay, size and shape of the service modules may vary.
- **222.1.3 Fire Sections:** Rename this section as "Fire and Smoke Compartments." Dimensions and sizes of service modules may vary as required by functional program and as required to meet limits on fire and smoke compartments. Smoke zones are limited to 22,500 square feet. Fire compartments should be limited to 52,000 square feet because NFPA 13 limits the maximum size of a sprinkler system to 52,000 square feet.
- **223 Service Bays:** See structural comments for Section 300 for discussion of arrangement of framing (beams) and lateral systems (shear walls). Refer to Appendices A and B for examples of service bay arrangements used in existing VAHBS hospitals.
- **223.4 Priority of Service:** Current Codes do not require that all of the fire or smoke separations from the functional zone be continued through the service zone. However, distribution of services will be simplified and the need for fire or smoke dampers will be minimized if the design team avoids sharing services between modules.
- **224 Service Zone:** Split the S6 Platform/Ceiling subzone into two subzones: S-6 Platform and S-7 Ceiling.
- **224.2** *Channels:* Refer to examples in Appendices A and B, and details in Appendix C for examples of typical channels.
- **224.3** Access and Maintenance: Access to the interstitial service zone shall be provided by means of an industrial stair from the service bay and from fire/exit stairs in the service module. Ladders are not an acceptable means of access to the service zone. If the service zone is subdivided by partitions or walls, doors shall be provided for maintenance access and emergency egress. VA does not consider the interstitial service zone as occupied space.
- **224.4 Construction Design:** Smoke barriers may not be required in the service zone. Design shall be based on VA *Fire Protection Design Manual* and applicable codes.

Amend Section 224 to add new subsection 224.6 as follows.

- **224.6 Wayfinding:** The design team shall develop a strategy for wayfinding in the interstitial service zone(s). Permanent markings and or signage shall be provided as appropriate to assist in locating and using access routes, means of egress; and establishing position within the interstitial service zone relative to the functional zone and any fire or smoke separations below.
- **225** Functional Zone: Ceiling heights shall be in accordance with VA Program Guide PG-18-10, Architectural Design Manual for New Hospitals/Replacement Hospitals Paragraph 4.6.2.

Partitions in the functional zone will typically terminate at the underside of the walk-on platform (S-6 subzone). Service distribution components should be housed in the partitions and not surface mounted.

### **Space Module**

Current programmatic requirements for nursing units, including bed room types and sizes, have changed from those used to establish the space modules in the Red Book. Section 230 may be used as a general guide to identify issues to be considered when establishing nursing unit space modules; however, the design team will have to develop new space modules. The requirements and criteria for nursing units can be expected to continue to evolve. Future adaptability needs to be considered in the location of sanitary zones and service distribution strategies.

# **Fire Safety**

Rename Section 240 to "Fire Safety." Comply with VA *Fire Protection Manual* and current codes. When "fire section" is used in the Red Book, it should be replaced with "fire compartment" to be consistent with current Code terminology. The size of fire compartments should be no more than 52,000 square feet to coordinate with sprinkler system limitations in NFPA 13. The size of smoke zones is now limited to 22,500 square feet.

Fire barrier walls, regardless of their rating, typically extend from slab to slab (e.g., stairs and vertical openings), however, VA criteria currently permits fire barrier walls serving horizontal exits (2-hour) or separating hazardous areas (1-hour) in buildings using the VAHBS not to have to extend through the interstitial space. NFPA 101, Chapter 8.5 does not require smoke barriers to carry a fire resistance rating; however, most occupancy chapters require smoke barriers to carry a one-hour fire resistance rating. Smoke barriers generally extend from slab to slab, but Chapter 8.5.2.3 permits a smoke barrier not to extend through an interstitial space "provided that the construction assembly forming the bottom of the interstitial space provides resistance to the passage of smoke equal to that provided by the smoke barrier."

Refer to comments for Sections 315.1, 321, 330, 342, and 353 for additional information.

# **Planning Module Applications**

Section 250 provides sample configurations of service modules. This section is intended to illustrate the potential of the system. It is not intended to establish any preferred configuration. Refer to Appendices A and B for service module configurations in three example VAHBS hospitals.

Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center Richmond, VA, 1983

# **Building Subsystems**

#### Structure

The primary structural system envisioned for VAHBS buildings in the Red Book consisted of cast-in-place reinforced concrete construction with post-tensioned long span floor joists. More than half of the VA hospitals built with the VAHBS have used structural steel framing for the structural system. The use of steel framing causes a number of changes from VAHBS structural system (dropped girders, long rectangular bays, offsets from columns, e.g.). In many

cases, square bays in the range of 28 to 36 feet have been used with steel framing. Steel framing is typically used because of flexibility for future changes (which might require floor penetrations) and speed of construction.

311 Basic Design: The use of steel framing has resulted in a predominant use of braced frame lateral systems. Moment frame systems have been used in lower seismic zones. A hybrid system, Special Truss Moment Frames (STMF), has been developed and incorporated into the building codes since the publication of the Red Book. This system may have applications within the VAHBS, such that the trusses could be located within the interstitial space, leaving the functional space free of braces. However, truss design would require close coordination with other systems to avoid conflicts with distribution channels in the service zone.

**311.1.1 Typical Structural:** Bays Most of the structural steel hospital designs for both VAHBS and elsewhere employ square structural grids with columns spaced between 28 to 36 feet. While the dropped girder system described in the Red Book has been implemented successfully at the Houston VAMC, it is not a common application. To provide access through the S2 zone, regularly spaced openings in the floor beams and girders can be provided. Castellated beams could be considered for this purpose.

**311.2** Lateral Force Resisting Elements: The VAHBS calls for concrete shear wall cores to be placed around the service bays and at the end of the service module. However, concrete walls create challenges to both medical planning and future flexibility. Steel braced frames can be used to replace these elements. Moment frames and STMF are other options for steel framed structures. These systems are more appropriate for low and moderate seismic regions due to their structural flexibility and the challenges associated with meeting building drift limits stipulated by building codes and VA.

Vertical loads on interstitial platform (floor) systems are typically transferred to the beams above through rods, which do not have any lateral force resisting capability. Lateral loads generated by the weight of the interstitial platform system and any other dead loads on the interstitial platform are transferred through the metal deck to the interstitial framing to the columns. Though these loads are likely to be small, all elements along the load path should be evaluated. For

analysis simplification, the mass of the interstitial platform may be lumped at the functional floor.

311.3 Relationship Between Main Structural Members: This approach is applicable for the cast-in-place concrete system envisioned by VAHBS. If structural steel is used, many of the recommendations would result in increased cost.

312 Generic Design Options: This section identifies four basic structural options (cast-in-place concrete with prestressed beams, steel, precast concrete, and reinforced concrete). General cost indications are presented that may not be correct for present conditions.



VA Medical Center San Antonio, TX, 1973 (not VAHBS, but used interstitial space)

- **313.1 Structural Bays:** Incremental bay lengths between 40'-6" and 58'-6" are suggested, with standard 22'-6" width. Many applications have departed from these recommendations in favor of shorter and/or square bays. For steel structures, longer bays also present additional challenges for seismic design, due to a limited number of configurations of the lateral force resisting system appropriate for use with long spans. Furthermore, the structural flexibility of such systems may lead to much heavier and deeper structural elements than anticipated due to drift limits. Bay sizes need to be coordinated with functional program and space types.
- 313.2 Floor-to-Floor Height: As shown in the examples in Appendix A, floor-to-floor heights with VAHBS are typically in the range of 18'-8" to 19'-4". These heights will accommodate a finish ceiling height of 9-feet and the interstitial service zone. For floors with significant quantity of spaces with ceiling heights greater than 9-feet, consideration should be given to increasing floor-to-floor height (as seen at Palm Beach). Designers shall note that VA does not classify the interstitial service zone as an industrial occupancy or workplace for the purpose of determining egress requirements (including headroom). Refer to supplement for Section 321 for changes to ceiling and subzone S-7. The sketch in the Red Book does not reflect the S-7 subzone between the interstitial deck and the ceiling.
- **313.3 Building Height:** The International Building Code has replaced the Uniform Building Code as the basis of the structural design for VA Hospitals. Height limits for concrete wall systems still exist. Structurally other systems may be designed to exceed the 160 foot limit. Buildings using the VAHBS that are over 4 stories in height will be classified "high-rise" since the highest occupied level will be above 75-foot height. The design team will need to consider functional, operational, fire protection, and aesthetic issues when determining the appropriateness of a high rise design.
- **313.4 Building Width:** This section may be disregarded.
- **313.5.2 Girders:** Discussion focuses on 22'-6" span based on "dimensional discipline" of 4'-6" for bedroom widths. Modules and dimensions may be adjusted as appropriate to the functional program and structural system selected. This section also refers to 75 and 115 psf live load areas in the sketch. See discussion of live loads in Section 314.
- 313.5.3 Beams: Minimum and maximum beam depths are given. Though beam depths can be reduced with shorter spans, deep beams may still be required to limit floor vibrations. These limits are necessary for occupancy comfort or functional requirements in areas such as surgery operating rooms and other locations with vibration sensitive equipment, e.g., MRI, microscopes.
- 313.5.4 Structural Slab: Topping slab is cited as three inches thick. This is consistent with VA Program Guide PG-18-3 Design and Construction Procedures, Topic 6. This will allow for maximum adaptability. Considera-



VA Medical Center West Los Angeles, CA, 1976 (not VAHBS, used interstitial space)

tion may be given to whether or not this can be reduced and still accommodate all minor floor depressions without compromising clear dimensions established for service subzones and channels.

- **313.5.5 Shear Elements:** Reference is to UBC earthquake zone 3. VA Standard for Seismic Design is document H-18-8, which adopts the latest edition of the IBC with modifications, notably a story drift limit of 50% of the IBC values. Comparison of wind and earthquake loads should be removed.
- **314.1.2 Vertical Loads:** The Red Book refers to two basic live load values on main floor elements of 75 psf and 115 psf. These include 15 psf from the interstitial level (reduced from 25 psf) combined with either 60 or 100 psf for the main floors. The 25 psf load should be continued for interstitial levels, and a 80 psf live load plus a 20 psf partition load should be used for the design of the main floors at all locations. This allows the relocation of corridors in the future without concern for floor loading demands and eliminates the need for two different live loads.
- **314.1.3 Vertical Loads:** Remove the note that refers to the National Building Code. The IBC shall be used for all loading designations.
- **314.1.4 Vertical Loads:** Revise Table 310-1 to remove the Modified Class 115 Loading designation and combine it with Special Loading. Change the partition loads in Table 310-2 from 25 to 20 psf. The topping slab load should be "Applicable DL" instead of 25 psf since it may vary for different projects. Change Uniform Live Loads to 80 psf for all locations as noted previously. Total Live Load on the main floor elements therefore becomes 95 psf (since 25 psf at interstitial level can be reduced to 15 psf per note 3).
- **314.1.5 Vertical Loads:** Modify the first sentence in this section to reflect changes described above.

**314.2 Lateral Loads:** Reference should be made to VA Document H-18-8 for seismic design and IBC for general lateral load design.

Amend Section 314 to add new subsection 314.3 as follows.

314.3 Blast Loading: VA now has requirements for the consideration of blast loadings. Two documents need to be considered. The first is "Department of Veterans Affairs Physical Security Strategies Report", dated May 13, 2005. The second is "ISC Security Design Criteria for New



VA Medical Center Martinsburg, WV, 1983

Federal Office Buildings and Major Modernization Projects", dated September 29, 2004. The engineer is required to consider progressive collapse of the structure. This may be a major determinant in the selection of the structural system.

**315.1 Fire Protection:** Structures shall be fire resistive construction in accordance with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) National Fire Codes and International Building Code (IBC). Refer to VA *Fire Protection Design Manual* for additional guidance. As of the date of this Supplement, there have been only two full-scale fire tests of complete assemblies for the intersitial system. These tests were conducted by <u>US Department of Commerce</u>

(http://www.bfrl.nist.gov) and are described in the following reports: <u>NBSIR 85-3158</u>, Fire Performance of Interstitial Space Construction System; and <u>NISTIR 5560</u>, Fire Performance of an Interstitial Space Construction System. The reports may be found at: <a href="http://fire.nist.gov/bfrlpubs/fire85/art006.html">http://fire.nist.gov/bfrlpubs/fire85/art006.html</a> and <a href="http://fire.nist.gov/bfrlpubs/fire95/art055.html">http://fire.nist.gov/bfrlpubs/fire95/art055.html</a>

Details of typical assemblies are provided in Appendix C.

**315.5 Floor Vibration:** The sensitivity of many pieces of modern medical equipment to floor vibrations has increased dramatically since the publication of the Red Book. For steel building design AISC Design Guide 11 *Floor Vibrations Due to Human Activities* is the basic reference that should be followed. Each project may have unique pieces of equipment that may require special consideration, such as vibration isolation, which would need to be accommodated in the design.

Amend Section 315 to add new subsection 315.6 as follows.

- **315.6 Sustainable Design:** Sustainable Design is now a consideration for all disciplines that needs to be included in modern hospital design, including structural.
- **316.1.1 Excessive Length of Building:** The maximum 300 feet distance between expansion joints should be considered a general guideline. Greater or shorter lengths may be required depending on the geographic location of the building, its plan configuration, and the heating and cooling systems that are provided in the building.
- **317 Target Costs:** Have not been updated to reflect current market and developments in materials and detailing.

# Ceiling

There have been several developments in the design and construction of ceiling systems in VAHBS buildings from the prototype system described in the Red Book. The most significant changes have been the separation of the finish ceiling from the platform/ceiling assembly and materials used for the platform diaphragm.

**321 Basic Design:** Unlike the combined platform ceiling subsystem proposed in the Red Book, current practice is to use two subzones. The S-6 subzone is now the walk-on platform. The S-7 subzone includes the space below the platform and a suspended finish ceiling. Recent editions of the VA *Fire Protection Manual* have clarified that the fire rating is to consider the entire "floor/ceiling" assembly from the bottom of the interstitial deck to the top of the structural floor above. 2-hour fire resistance is required for the assembly (see comments for Section 315.1).

Various concretes have been used for the walk-on platform diaphragm. The trend has been away from gypsum based materials to lightweight Portland cement concrete. A primary reason for this move is that unless sealed or hardened, the gypsum concrete as used in the early decks can produce troublesome quantities of dust (particularly in high traffic aisles).

- **321.2 Supporting Framework**: Recent designs have typically used purlins of small, wide flange steel beams such as W6 shapes. Spacing of purlins and hangers is to be coordinated with structural bay and service channels. Typical area per hanger remains in range of 50 to 60 square feet.
- **321.3** *Platform:* Fire resistance. The platform is not considered as a separate 1-hour element; but as a part of the complete 2-hour floor/ceiling system.
- **321.4 Finished Ceiling:** systems are suspended below platform and are not part of the fire resistive floor/ceiling assembly. Most areas will use acoustical panels in exposed grid with hard surface (GWB or plaster) finishes where needed. See VA Program Guide PG-18-14, Room Finishes. Door. And Hardware Schedule.
- **322.1 Platform:** systems using poured gypsum concrete or lightweight Portland cement concrete over metal deck may be considered for use. Since the platform deck forms part of the fire resistive "floor/ceiling" assembly, the construction must comply with recognized fire-resistive assemblies. If smoke barrier partitions terminate at the underside of the platform, the platform construction must provide resistance to passage of smoke equal to the partitions.

Lightweight Portland cement mixes are preferred for increased durability and greater ease of patching or repair. The metal deck, or form board, is placed on the bottom flanges of the supporting framework of purlins and the concrete fill is screeded to nearly the level of the top flange of the purlins. The top flanges are left exposed to facilitate attachment of supports for service distribution in the S-4 and S-5 subzones. Bottom flanges of purlins must be fireproofed. Details of typical assemblies are provided in Appendix C.

**322.2 Finished:** Ceiling Options 1 and 2 are no longer used. Under Option 3 limited lateral distribution may occur in the S-7 subzone; such as offsets in service drops, fixtures or devices re-

cessed in the finished ceiling, switch legs and whips for lighting fixtures, fire sprinkler branches, and non-integrated telecommunications subsystems. The design team shall coordinate and clearly define on the documents the hierarchy for distribution of services between the S-5 and S-7 subzones.

- **324 Ceiling Loading:** Criteria for vertical and lateral loading apply to the platform system. Refer to structural sections for detailed requirements.
- **325** Acoustics: Refer to VA Program Guide PG-18-3, Topic 11, Noise Transmission Control for STC ratings required at various locations.
- **326** Fire Safety: Design and construction of platform and ceiling including opening protection (if required) and fire and smoke stopping are to comply with VA Fire Protection Manual and applicable codes. Materials and assemblies are to conform to current designs as listed or approved by UL or other recognized authorities.



New Mexico VA HCS Albuquerque, NM, 1986

- **327.3 Surface Characteristics:** Of platform will not require direct attachment of ceiling finishes to the underside of the platform. The S-7 subzone should be a minimum of 4-inches deep, 8-inches is preferred (see examples in Appendix A).
- **328 Target Costs:** Have not been updated to reflect current market and developments in materials and detailing.

#### **Partitions**

"Partition" is the generic term used in Section 330 of the Red Book for non-load bearing, vertical, interior construction used to subdivide or enclose portions of the building volume. In current practice, "partitions" with fire or smoke resistance ratings are called "fire barrier walls" or "smoke barriers" as defined in NFPA 101.

Criteria for non-bearing partition systems has been superseded by VA PG-18-10, *Architectural Design Manual for New Hospitals/Replacement Hospitals*; PG-18-14, *Room Finishes, Door, And Hardware Schedule*; PG-18-4, *Standard Details*; and PG-18-1, *Master Construction Specifications*.

The following Red Book concepts remain valid: construction enclosing shafts and otherwise required by fire codes shall extend from structural slab to structural slab; two-hour fire resistance rated construction shall be considered permanent, other partitions are to be considered adaptable.

Fire and smoke resistive construction, opening protection, and penetration and perimeter fire/smoke stopping are to conform to current designs as listed or approved by UL or other recognized authorities.

- **332.2** *Typical Methods for Housing Services:* Surface mounted services are not the preferred means of distribution. Services may be in stud space or between parallel rows of studs in chase wall construction. To increase adaptability, services are not to be run horizontally in partitions.
- **333.3 Door Sizes:** Door frames need not extend to ceiling or walk-on platform. Door types and sizes are to be in accordance with PG-18-14, *Room Finishes, Door, And Hardware Schedule* and PG-18-4 VA *Standard Details* 08100-1 and 08100-2. Provide partition framing at door frames as indicated in standard detail 08110-1. Reinforce frames for lead-lined doors with steel angles as indicated in standard detail 08110-3.
- **334.4 Attachments:** Refer to PG-18-4 VA *Standard Details*, 05500-2 for preferred method of anchorage for wall mounted items.
- **335** Acoustics: Use VA Program Guide PG-18-3, Design and Construction Procedures Topic 11, Noise Transmission Control to establish the STC ratings required at various locations.
- **335.3** *Furring around:* Surface Mounted Services will generally not be required. Services will typically be concealed within partition construction.
- **336** *Fire Safety:* Components and assemblies are to comply with VA *Fire Protection Manual* and applicable codes.
- **338** *Target Costs:* Have not been updated to reflect current market and developments in materials and detailing.

# **HVAC**

**342.1 Supply Systems:** The major alternatives for supply are low or medium pressure, variable air volume (VAV) systems with terminal reheat. The close humidity control required for certain areas in the hospital may be difficult to achieve unless cooling/dehumidification is employed at the unit.

Where climatic conditions require, a mixed system which combines hot water convectors for building perimeter auxiliary heating with a single duct system for heating and cooling could be a prime variation.



VA Medical Center San Diego, CA, 1971 (not VAHBS, used interstitial space)

**342.2 Return and Exhaust Systems:** The systems must be capable of handling from 25 to 100% outside air. Both return and exhaust shall be extracted through the service zone by fully ducted systems. The return air fans shall be placed in the service bay mechanical rooms. Ducts for special exhaust systems will be required in various service modules. Exhaust ducts shall be routed to shaft(s) in the service bay and then to fans on the roof. General exhaust will handle a range of conditions from individual toilets to large areas such as isolation suites and shall be ducted through the service bay to fans on the roof.

**343.1.1 Sub zones:** Flexible duct within subzones S-4 or S-5 shall be limited to 3 feet for each run. Flex duct within subzone S-7 shall be limited to 5 feet. Return/exhaust system plenums are not allowed.

# **343.1.3.** Return or exhaust plenum: Are not allowed.

**344.6** Accessibility: Hydronic components, such as control valves, strainers and other devices requiring periodic service, shall be located above the interstitial platform approximately 14 inches to allow a catch basin to be used when servicing that component.

**344.4** Fire Safety: No exhaust or return plenums are allowed.

Fire dampers are required on vertical exhaust ducts that penetrate the floor assembly separating service bays. Fire dampers are not required in ductwork penetrating the one hour wall separating the service bay from the interstitial service zone. Fire dampers are not required for ductwork that penetrates the interstitial platform (subject to the limits of the Fire Performance Tests for the floor/ceiling assembly).

In many cases, current codes will require fewer (or no) fire or smoke separations in the interstitial service zone than envisioned in the Red Book. However, ductwork systems serving distinct (different) smoke or fire zones in the functional zone shall not be "cross-connected" in the interstitial service zone.

# **Plumbing and Fire Protection**

353 .3 Fire Protection Piping: The mains for the sprinkler system shall be run in subzone S-3. The preferred location for branch and lateral (sub branch) fire sprinkler piping is subzone S-7 for distribution to the functional zone. No fire sprinkler system is required in the interstitial area; except for conditions listed in VA Fire Protection Design Manual.



John L. McClellan VA Medical Center Little Rock, AR, 1981

#### **Electrical**

**361 Basic Design:** Now requires that electrical and telecommunications rooms are dedicated and separate. Under some circumstances the telecommunication room may be further divided into separate telephone/data and signal closets. Refer to VA PG-18-10, *Electrical Design Manual* Chapters 7 and 8; and the VHA TCD *Spaces & Cable Pathways Design Guide*.

**362.1 Service Zone:** Figures in the Red Book depict electrical and telecommunications wireways on independent supports; where space, wireway size, and separation requirements permit, it is advantageous to install all wireways on a common support. Telephone and data cabling is to be installed in cable tray as shown in figure 360-2, beginning with 18" minimum width tray at the Telephone/Data room and narrowing as it traverses subzone S3. Narrow tray or wire basket tray may be used in subzone S4. A separate cable tray, appropriately sized, shall be provided for other signal systems. If an independent data network is required for facility engineering services, in order to maintain separation between patient data and building services data and control functions, its cabling shall be installed in a separate tray system. Do not use the specified covered 6" x 6" wireways per the *Electrical Design Manual*.

**362.2 Service Bay:** bays shall be designed with the separation of electrical and telecommunications rooms as described in the supplement to 361 Basic Design.

**Section 362.2 Service Bay:** this section is amended to include new subsections 362.2.1 and 362.2.2 as follows.

**362.2.1 Electrical Room:** Size the electrical room to house the normal and essential electrical distribution equipment associated with the Service Module, including bare wall space for future expansion. As the interstitial walk-on deck does not extend into the Service Bay, the designer may take advantage of the very high ceiling by installing a steel grate 'mezzanine' level, accessible by ladder. This area may be used for installing step-down transformers, access to high-mounted bus riser devices, access to branch circuit wireways before they penetrate the rated wall into the S3 subzone, or for mounting other electrical equipment.

The electrical room shall be located immediately adjacent to the Functional Floor. If the Service Bay layout dictates that the electrical and telecommunications room(s) cannot be side-by-side against the wall between the Service Bay and the Functional Floor, then the electrical room should be behind the telecommunications space. This will ensure that the telecommunications wireways do not violate the National Electrical Code clear space above electrical equipment. However, no corresponding restriction prevents electrical wireways from passing above telecommunications spaces, as long as VA criteria for separation and spacing between these systems are followed.

**362.2.2** *Telephone/Data Room and Signal Room:* The preferred arrangement is for two separate rooms, one for telephone/data equipment and cabling, and one for other signal systems. Refer to Chapters 7 and 8 of the *Electrical Design Manual*, and the VHA TCD *Spaces and Cable Pathways Design Guide* for more information. The minimum acceptable room size for a combined telephone/data and signal systems room serving a Functional Floor area of 10,000 sf is 10' x 14'. The designer shall contact VHA's Telecommunications Consultant Division (TCD-194D) for technical guidance and approval of sizing and number or rooms required. The VAHBS is intended to facilitate maintenance and renovation in the Functional Floor area; however, renovations in the Service Bay can still be disruptive and costly. Care shall be taken that the telecommunications spaces are built with due care for future systems expansion or replacement.

**363** Load Distribution: has not been updated; designers should note that healthcare power densities have increased significantly in comparison to those suggested in 1977, with an accompanying need for larger electrical closets with higher cooling needs. Prudent design practices now suggest a greater degree of redundancy and reliability for healthcare electrical distribution systems.

**363.4 Service Module Requirements:** this section is amended to add a new subsection 363.4.1 as follows.

**363.4.1 Service Zone Lighting:** Lighting shall be strip fluorescent with wire guards. Illumination

level on walkways shall average 15 footcandles, with a minimum walkway illumination level of 1 footcandle provided by unswitched emergency luminaires. Provide general illumination for non-walkway areas of 1 footcandle, coordinating luminaire locations with ductwork and other services in the subzones. Refer to VA PG-18-10, *Electrical Design Manual* Chapter 6 for more detailed information on interstitial space normal, emergency, and exit lighting and lighting controls.

**364 Target Costs:** Have not been updated to reflect current market conditions and developments in materials.



VA Medical Center Philadelphia, PA, 1994 (not VAHBS, used interstitial space)

#### **Coordination Checklist**

Section 370 of the Red Book provides a coordination "checklist." The list is an inventory of compatibility considerations that the project team needs to consider in the selection and coordination of integrated subsystems in a particular design. Most of the checklist items are applicable to the design and coordination of systems and subsystems in VAHBS buildings as they were written. Many of the concepts are applicable even to non-VAHBS buildings.

For Checklist Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 13, 14, and 18 the term "ceiling" shall be interpreted as referring to the platform subzone S-6. Finish ceilings are suspended below the platform and define the lower boundary of the S-7 subzone. For items 15, 16 and 17 "ceiling" shall be interpreted as referring to either the S-6 or S-7 subzones as appropriate for the context and design selected.

Delete Checklist Item 19. Services and fixtures shall be located within partitions and suspended ceiling systems in conventional fashion; except, services shall not be run horizontally in partitions. The S-7 ceiling subzone offers limited opportunities for lateral distribution. As the service zone strategy is developed for a project, consideration shall be given to defining the allocation of subsystems between the S-5 and S-7 subzones.

Add "Fire Protection (sprinkler and standpipe)" and "Telephone/Data distribution" to the Integrated Systems list.

#### **Procedure**

The Procedure section was intended as an outline guide to be used by VA staff and A/E contractors to the use of the Red Book in the design of a VA system hospital. It is not, however, a step-by-step guide. The design of buildings, especially buildings as complex as hospitals, requires the interaction of a diverse group of stakeholders; and each project will have its own unique constraints and opportunities (site, functional program, availability of materials and trades, budget, schedule, etc.). However, each project can be broadly divided into three phases: problem analysis, design development and contract documents. The material in Section 400 is intended to assist the project team with applying the concepts of the VAHBS prototype in the overall design process.

### **Problem Analysis**

Section 420 may be used by the design team without further supplement.

# **Design Development**

Section 431 Building Configuration (Preliminary Block Studies) and 432 Building Schematic Design the procedures and deliverables for the design phases are to be revised and coordinated with the tasks and deliverables in VA Program Guide PG-18-15 A/E <u>Submissions Instructions</u> and the requirements in the design contract. The concepts for developing modules and integration of services remain valid.

#### **Contract Documents**

Procedures and deliverables are to be revised and coordinated with the tasks and deliverables in VA Program Guide PG-18-15 *A/E Submissions Instructions* and the requirements in the design contract.

It is essential that the design team establish and clearly communicate the strategy for allocation of sub-zones and channels for distribution of building systems within the interstitial service zone. Examples of contract documents from some past projects are included in Appendix B. CAD drawings of a "typical" service module with systems integration have been developed for this Supplement and may be found in Appendix C.

Potential contractors and sub-contractors need to be made aware of VAHBS concepts and potential benefits as early as possible during the design process. For example, the use of the VAHBS and systems integration should discussed with contractors and suppliers when making the market surveys at each submittal phase. It is recommended that the pre-bid conference be expanded to include an intense session to educate contractors, subcontractors and suppliers about the VAHBS and the strategies developed for the project.

# **Cost Estimating**

As discussed in Section 3 of this Supplement, the Target Costs in the Red Book cannot be used as provided. The data from the Medical Centers used for the Cost Analyses in the Red Book are now largely outdated simply through the passage of time. While ENR and other Building Cost indices reflect the overall cost increases due to inflation, they do not always address specific Elemental / Trade fluctuations. These may have varied considerably over time thereby "skewing" any direct proportionate link between such general inflation indices and the Cost Analyses outlined in the Red Book. OFM's Strategic Management Office (181) can provide further guidance and assistance with estimating and cost analysis.

Project cost estimates shall be prepared in accordance with PG-18-15 *A/E Submissions Instructions* and VA <u>Manual for Preparation of Cost Estimates for Hospital Projects.</u>

# **Construction Scheduling**

Section 460 may be used by the design team without further supplement. VA policy on the use of Network Analysis System-Critical Path Method

VA Medical Center Baltimore, MD, 1992

scheduling may be found at <a href="http://www.va.gov/facmgt/consulting/networkanalysis.asp">http://www.va.gov/facmgt/consulting/networkanalysis.asp</a>. OFM's Service Delivery Office (183) can provide further guidance and assistance with schedule analysis.

# Appendix A

# **Example VAHBS Hospitals**

	Page
Introduction	A-1
Purpose	A-1
Data Sheet	A-1
Session Notes	A-1
Analysis	A-1
Medical Center A	
Data Sheet	A-3
Interview with Facilities Officer	A-4
Analysis of Building System and Modules	A-5
Photos of Service Zone	A-9
Medical Center B	
Data Sheet	A-15
Interview with Facilities Officer	A-16
Analysis of Building System and Modules	A-17
Photos of Service Zone	A-19
Medical Center C	
Data Sheet	A-23
Interview with Facilities Officer	A-24
Analysis of Building System and Modules	A-25
Photos of Service Zone	A-27

June 2006

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#### Introduction

# **Purpose**

The Facilities or Engineering Officers at the Medical Centers have gained valuable insights into operating; maintaining and modifying hospitals built using the VAHBS. Field surveys and interviews were conducted in August 2005 for the purpose of gathering and recording feedback on the long-term benefits or deficiencies of the VAHBS.

Field surveys were conducted at the three example Medical Centers. The main buildings at these Medical Centers have been in operation from about 11 to 18 years. In that time the buildings have undergone varying amounts of modification/remodeling.

# **Data Sheet**

These sheets provide a one-page summary of key information for building, service module, and service zone (interstitial) strategies used at the Medical Centers surveyed.

#### **Session Notes**

The interview notes include relevant comments and observations regarding construction, operation, maintenance, and modification of building shell and service systems. Where applicable, comments regarding remodel or new construction at the Medical Center were solicited. Observations or recommendations for improving or implementing the VAHBS were recorded.

### **Analysis**

In this section the integration of services and systems in the existing facilities is compared with the prototype design proposed by the Red Book in 1972-77. Service Module strategies are compared for the areas of structural bay, service bay, and service distribution and integration in the service zone and its subzones and channels.

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# Medical Center A VAHBS Data Sheet

Functional Area: 1.4 M BGSF Stories: 6 Basement: Yes Subbasement: No

Interstitial Area: Levels: 7

Construction: Structural Frame: STEEL Walk-on Platform: Lt Wt PC Conc on Steel Deck

# **Service Module Information**

Functional Area	Typical Gross Floor	Service Bay	Typical Dimensions			
Туре	Area per Module (SF)	Location	Structural Grid	Floor to Floor		
Clinical	18,000	External	36'-6" x 36'-6"	18'-10"		
Nursing Units	18,000	External	36'-6" x 36'-6"	18'-10"		

# **Typical Service Zone Strategy**

	O,
S-1	7 ½"
S-2	21"
S-3	36"
S-4	18"
S-5	15"
S-6	4 1/2"
S-7	4" w/ 10'-0" Clg. 16" w/ 9'-0" Clg.

Typical Subzone Dimensions

Subtotal S-1 through S-6 Subzones = 8'-9"

# **S-3 Subzone Channels**—36'-6" Bay

ELEC/ COM	RETURN	SUPPLY	EXHAUST	PLUMB	ACCESS
6'-1"	6'-1"	6'-1"	6'-1"	6'-1"	6'-1"

# S-4 Subzone Channels—36'-6" Bay

SUPPLY	RETURN/ EXHAUST	PLUMB	ELEC/ COM
9'-1 ½ "	9'-1 ½ "	9'-1 ½ "	9'-1 ½ "

# Medical Center A Interview with Facilities Officer

# Session Notes, August 30, 2005

**Attendees** Howard Gibson

Robert Clifton

William Nelson

Nicholas Krauja Theodore Moeller

#### Construction

Mr. Gibson was the Senior Resident Engineer in Charge and Mr. Clifton was the SRE responsible for electrical systems during construction of the facility. They provided valuable insights into construction of VAHBS hospitals and offered suggestions for construction drawing content and contract requirements for coordination by the general and sub-contractors.

Modularity and familiarity benefited construction process. Repetitive components facilitated ordering materials and allowed contractor to work with suppliers to develop and obtain factory fabricated custom items, e.g., special wireway transitions. CD's required contractors to prepare large scale coordination drawings for all areas of the building. Enforcement of this requirement by RE's during construction identified and resolved potential conflicts prior to installation.

### Operation

Interstitial level aids greatly in day-to-day maintenance. Most work can be accomplished without disruption to functional zones. Even if functional zones are affected, only one floor will be involved in shut-downs or relocations (e.g., plumbing work will not require access from ceiling or floor below).

#### **Modifications**

Building was designed based on a workload for 1047 inpatient beds and 120,000 annual outpatient visits. In 2005 hospital is operation with 500 inpatient beds and 800,000 outpatient visits. Vacated nursing units have been converted to other functions. All major radiology equipment has been replaced.

Availability of interstitial service zone has facilitated conversions/remodel work and greatly reduced impacts on occupied functional space.

Telecommunications work under control of IRMS. Cabling installed after construction contract did not use wireway system. Installers, including vendors/contractors, disregard established subzones and channels. Finding point-to-point runs of cable supported from other services is not unusual.

# **Comments Advantages/Disadvantages of VAHBS**

Continuing education of designers, bidders, and contractors is essential to maintain integrity of established subzones and channels.

# What would you change?

Education of designers, bidders, and contractors is essential for success of VAHBS. Recommend intensive pre-bid meeting (2 days) to educate contractors, subs, and suppliers. Recommend making fire sprinkler and transport (pneumatic tube) integrated systems.

# Medical Center A Analysis of Building Systems and Modules-Building Construction

# **Shell Systems**

**Structure:** Steel frame; rolled sections for columns, girders and beams; special "dropped"

girder to allow services in S-2 subzone to cross intermediate girder lines.

**Platform:** Lightweight Portland cement concrete on steel deck.

**Ceiling:** Suspended acoustical and GWB. **Partitions:** GWB on metal stud, non-bearing.

# **Integrated Service Systems**

**HVAC:** Air handlers and crossovers of supply and return ductwork are located in Service Bay. Air intake is by louvers in exterior wall of Service Bay. Main runs are in S-3 subzone; terminal boxes and branch ducts are in S-4 subzone. Shafts for exhaust are located at Service Bays and adjacent to elevator hoistways. Fans are on roof in penthouse. HVAC piping is in duct channels, parallel to ducts.

**Plumbing:** Risers are in Service Bay, drainage branches in S-2 subzone, drainage mains and supply mains for water and gases are in S-3 subzone; supply branches and local distribution in S-4 and S-5 subzones.

**Electrical:** The Service Bay electrical room is an expanded metal fence enclosure with vertical bus risers, wall-mounted distribution and branch circuit panels, and ceiling-suspended stepdown transformers. Branch circuits are installed in 4" x 4" wireways from the Service Bay electrical room to throughout the interstitial space Zones S3/S4. Wireways are mounted 'christmas-tree' fashion on metal channel posts secured to the walk-on deck. The post supports are dedicated to electrical distribution; telecommunications wireways are mounted on a separate 'christmas-tree' support system. The wireways are mounted at a 45-degree angle on the supports. The telecommunications wire-basket cable tray and the signal systems wireways in the Service Bay may violate the National Electric Code clear space above some of the electrical equipment. Interstitial lighting is by wall-mounted incandescent fixtures, which yield sufficient illumination but also uncomfortable glare.

**Communications:** Telephone/data, nurse call, CATV, paging, and radio entertainment were detailed in the construction documents as integrated systems, installed in three wireways. Telephone/data and nurse call have dedicated 4" x 4" wireways, with the remainder of the systems installed together in a common 4" x 4" wireway. Telephone/data cabling is installed in wirebasket cable tray above the electrical area of the Service Bay; the other signal systems cross the electrical space in wireway. As was typical in the 1980's and 1990's, the telephone/ data cabling was installed after construction by separate contract, and after the telephone/data wire passes from the Service Bay into the interstitial space, it generally is not installed in the empty wireways put in place by the original construction project. Cabling is bundled and relatively neatly attached to the structural steel. The other signal systems, installed by the original contractor, use the wireways as intended.

# **Non-integrated Systems**

**Fire Protection:** Contract documents did not include sprinkler and standpipe systems in distribution strategy. Risers are typically located in or near exit stairs. Mains typically follow plumbing supply channels with branches and sprinkler heads in S-7 subzone.

**Transport:** Pneumatic tube routed through service zone; no dedicated sub zone or channel; special coordination required during design/construction for interfaces with other subsystems.

# Medical Center A Analysis of Building Systems and Modules-Service Module

Typical Size/Dimensions regular modules; square or wedge shaped; up to about 20,000 gsf

Structural Bay	36'-6" x 36'-6"
Location of Service Bay	typically external at narrow end of wedge; or at one end of module with ac-
	cess to courtyard; bays stack vertically
Fire Sections	typically one 18,000 to 22,000 sq module per fire section; 2-hour fire rated
	partitions extend from structural floor to structural floor.

# **Service Bay**

**Layout in Plan:** typically square plan; electrical / telecommunications area separated from HVAC areas by wire mesh partitions

# **Service Zone**

Subzones	18'-10" floor to floor; 8'-6" typical from top S-1 to bottom S-6 platform; S-7
	16" with 9 ft ceiling.
S-3 Channels	typical 5 channels at 6'-1" in each 36'-6" bay between hanger rods for
	platform support; 4 for services, 1 for access aisle.
S-4 Channels	typical 4 channels at 9'-1 1/2" in each bay between hanger rods; 4 for ser-
	vice, none for access.

# Operation

# Maintenance/Repair

Headroom and accessibility generally very good.

Lighting levels lower than in other Medical Centers surveyed.

Receptacles for tools.

No drains provided.

# **Modifications/New Construction**

Much of the Tele/data cabling installed after construction contract did not use wireways provided; installed across channels and subzones; some cables run in open and not protected from potential damage.

Most MPE work followed available channels.

June 2006

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Note plumbing risers and stacks in background.

Photo A-1 Service Bay
Showing industrial stair for access to interstitial service zone



Photo A-2 Service Bay
Side showing electrical penetrations of 1-hour wall to interstitial service zone

Note non-compliant telephone/data cabling installed outside of wireways.



Fire dampers are not required at duct penetrations.

Photo A-3 Service Bay
Side showing duct penetrations of 1-hour wall to interstitial service zone



Photo A-4 Service Bay
Side showing piping penetrations of 1-hour wall to interstitial service zone



**Photo A-5** Interstitial Service Zone Showing typical distribution subzones and channels

Note dropped girder in S-2 subzone.

Note non-compliant telephone/data cabling.

Note branch ducts supported from platform.



**Photo A-6** Interstitial Service Zone Showing Electrical channel in Subzone S-4

S-2 subzone. Note dropped girder in background.

S-4 subzone. Hanger rods are visible at both sides of channel for electrical wireways.

Channel for HVAC is to left.

Note HVAC piping (insulated) and plumbing are crossing at right angles in S-5 subzone below.



Note piping in S-2 subzone.

Note S-3 mains are supported from structure above; S-4 laterals are supported from interstitial platform (purlins not visible in photo).

**Photo A-7**Showing transition of Electrical Wireways from mains to laterals at S-3 to S-4 subzones



Note specially fabricated transitions.

Note strut "christmas trees" supporting wireway from platform.

**Photo A-8**Showing transition of Electrical Wireways from mains to laterals at S-3 to S-4 subzones



Note branch duct, sanitary piping and tele/data cabling installed outside designated channels. Low concentration of services in this area still allows access for maintenance or modifications.

Photo A-9 Interstitial Service Zone Showing remodel work



Photo A-10 Interstitial Service Zone Showing remodel work

Note haphazard modifications to HVAC and telecommunications systems. There are numerous violations of established channels for services and access aisle.

Installation has compromised ability to maintain systems in this area as well as future adaptability.

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# Medical Center B VAHBS Data Sheet

Functional Area: 1.5 M BGSF Stories: 4 Basement: Yes Subbasement: No

Interstitial Area: 1.0 M Levels: 5

Construction: Structural Frame: Cast in Place Concrete Walk-on Platform: Gyp Concrete

over fiberglass

form board

# **Service Module Information**

Functional Area	Typical Gross Floor	Service Bay	Typical Dimensions			
Туре	Area per Module (SF)	Location	Structural Grid	Floor to Floor		
Clinical	18,000 to 20,000	External/Internal	22'-6" x 22'-6"	18'-8"		
Nursing Units	10,000 to 12,000	External/Internal	22'-6" x 22'-6"	18'-8"		

# **Typical Service Zone Strategy**

S-1	4 1/2"
S-2	24"
S-3	44"
S-4	16"
S-5	11"
S-6 S-7	4"
S-7	12 ½" w/ 9'-0" Clg.

Typical Subzone Dimensions

Subtotal S-1 through S-6 Subzones = 8'-7 1/2"

# S-3 Subzone Channels—90'-0" Bay

Α	U	Р	Н	Н	Н	Н	U	U	Р	U	U	U	Α
4'-0"	9'-4"	6'-4"	6'-4"	6'-4"	6'-4"	6'-4"	6'-4"	6'-4"	6'-4"	6'-4"	6'-4"	9'-4"	4'-0"

# S-4 Subzone Channels—45'-0" Bay

E	Α	Н	Р	Α	Е	Α	Е	Α	Н	Р	Α	Е
1'-5"	2'-0"	11'-0"	3'-0"	2'-0"	1'-5"	2'-0"	1'-5"	2'-0"	16'-0"	3'-0"	2'-0"	1'-5"

A=Access E=Electrical H=Mechanical P=Plumbing U=Unassigned

# Medical Center B Interview with Facilities Officer

# Session Notes, August 22, 2005

**Attendees** John Bochek William Nelson

Steve Tharldson Nicholas Krauja
Cindy Doolittle Theodore Moeller

#### Construction

Engineering staff was not present during initial construction. VA staff worked on several completion items prior to initial occupancy.

# Operation

Interstitial service zone reduces time required to complete maintenance and modifications/remodel. Impacts on occupied space and adjacent areas are reduced.

# **Modifications**

Original designed for 725 Med-Surg-Psych beds and 120 bed NHCU. Wings converted or remodeled as bed count reduced. Radiology equipment has been replaced.

Tele/data extensions and addition of new systems are by IRMS and do not use defined subzones and channels.

# Advantages/Disadvantages of VAHBS

# What would you change?

Provide drains in service zone.

# Medical Center B Analysis of Building Systems and Modules-Building Construction

# **Shell Systems**

**Structure:** Cast-in-place concrete.

**Platform:** Gypsum concrete on fiberglass formboard.

**Ceiling:** Suspended acoustical and GWB. **Partitions:** GWB on metal stud, non-bearing.

# **Integrated Service Systems**

**HVAC:** Exhaust fans are in penthouse or on roof. Air handlers are in service bays of external modules with intakes on exterior walls. Air handlers for internal modules are in penthouse with shafts for ducts to the modules. Crossovers of main ducts occur in Service Bays. HVAC piping generally parallels duct systems in HVAC channels. Terminal boxes are in S-4 subzone with final distribution in S-5 subzone.

**Plumbing:** Risers are in Service Bay. Waste lines are in S-2 subzone and drop to mains in S-3 subzone. Vent piping and pressure piping mains for water and gases are in S-3 subzone; supply branches are in S-4 subzone; and local distribution is in S-5 subzone.

**Electrical:** The Service Bay electrical room is a dedicated room with vertical bus risers, wall-mounted distribution and branch circuit panels, and stepdown transformers. Branch circuits are installed in 4" x 4" wireways from the Service Bay electrical room to throughout the interstitial space Zones S3/S4. Wireways are mounted 'christmas-tree' fashion on full height metal channel posts secured to both the walk-on deck and the structure above. The post supports are dedicated to electrical distribution; telecommunications wireways are mounted on a separate support system identical to that provided for electrical. The wireways were detailed on the construction documents to be mounted at a 45-degree angle, but this was not followed in construction. The wireways are mounted parallel to structure, with the hinged covers vertical, and wiring is apt to fall out of the wireway when the cover is opened.

**Communications:** All telecommunications systems originate in a dedicated room in the Service Bay. Telephone, network, and signal wireways were originally installed. The telephone (6") and network (4") wireways were little-used. The other signal systems were installed in a 4" common wireway. Some telephone and data cabling was installed loose in the interstitial space, but the bulk of it is in Zone 7 between the walk-on deck and the suspended ceiling of the Functional Floor.

# **Non-integrated Systems**

**Fire Protection:** Contract documents did not include fire protection system piping in distribution strategy. Risers are typically located in or near exit stairs. Branches and drops to sprinkler heads are in S-7 subzone.

**Transport:** Pneumatic tube system "overlaid" over services in dedicated subzones or channels.

# Medical Center B Analysis of Building Systems and Modules-Service Module

**Typical Size/Dimensions:** In plan, the building is basically a large square with two projecting rectangular wings. Most service modules are rectangular and vary considerably in size depending on type of functional space. Modules at building corners extend in two directions from the service bay in an "L" geometry.

Structural Bay	22'-6" x 22'-6" typical
Location of Service Bay	Exterior service bays are located at building corners. Interior modules are served from penthouse equipment rooms.
Fire Sections	

#### **Service Bay**

**Layout in Plan:** Service bays are nearly square in plan.

#### **Service Zone**

Subzones	18'-8" floor to floor; 8'-7 ½" typical from top S-1 to bottom S-6 platform; S-7 subzone 12½" with 9 ft ceiling.		
S-3 Channels	Typical 14 channels in 90 ft bay (4 structural bays); unassigned channels and access aisles outboard at sides of bay.		
S-4 Channels	Typical 13 channels in 45 ft bay, narrow (2 ft) access aisles alternate with channels for services.		

## Operation

#### Maintenance/Repair

Access to all areas is very good. Lighting level in service zones is very good. Receptacles are available in service zone for tools.

#### **Modifications/New Construction**

Although contractors/installers have used numerous shortcuts (especially for communications), overall subzones and channels remain well defined.



Note cast-inplace concrete structure and piping offsets from S-2 subzone.

Note hanger rods for interstitial platform system; tops of purlins are visible above gypsum concrete deck.

Photo B-1 Interstitial Service Zone Near end of main runs



Note noncompliant tele/data cabling.

Ends of electrical mains in S-3 subzone can be seen in foreground at right side of photo.

**Photo B-2** Interstitial Service Zone
Showing HVAC mains in S-3 subzone and branch ducts in S-4 subzone



Note branch ducts in back-ground in S-4 and S-5 subzones.

Photo B-3
Showing wireways in S-3 and S-4 subzones



Photo B-4 Typical Service Bay



Note industrial stair for access to interstitial service zone in background.

Crossovers occur in Service
Bay, **not** interstitial service
zone.

Photo B-5 Service Bay
Showing crossovers of ducts and piping



**Photo B-6** Interior Service Module Showing ducts to interstitial service zone from penthouse



Note fiberglass formboard and sub-purlins for gypsum platform deck.

Fire sprinkler piping is run in subzone S-7.

Photo B-7 Subzone S-7
Above suspended lay-in ceiling system

### Medical Center C VAHBS Data Sheet

Functional Area: 863,000 BGSF Stories: 9 Basement: Yes Subbasement: No

Interstitial Area: 700,000 Levels: 10

Construction:

Structural Frame Concrete—prestressed,

precast frame and "joists" w/ cast-in-place topping

slabs

Walk-on Platform Light Weight Concrete

on Steel Deck

#### **Service Module Information**

Functional Area	Typical Gross Floor	Service Bay	Typical Di	mensions
Туре	Area per Module (SF)	Location	Structural Grid	Floor to Floor
Clinical	22,000	External	27'-0" x 27'-0"	20'-4"
Nursing Units	15,000	External	27'-0" x 27'-0"	19'-4"

#### **Typical Service Zone Strategy**

S-1	6"
S-2	25"
S-3	40"
S-4	20"
S-5	16"
S-6 S-7 *	4 ½"
S-7 *	½" W/ 10'-0" Clg. 12 ½" W/ 9'-0" Clg.

Typical Subzone Dimensions

Subtotal S-1 through S-6 Subzones = 9'-3 ½" \* S-7 Based on 19'-4" FLR to FLR

#### S-3 Subzone Channels

#### S-4 Subzone Channels

HVAC	ELEC	U	PLMB	HVAC	U	HVAC	ACCESS
4'-2"	3'-0"	10"	2'-6"	5'-8"	10"	4'-2"	3'-0"

PLMB	HVAC	HVAC	HVAC	ELEC	ACCESS
1'-9"	6'-5"	6'-5"	3'-5"	3'-0"	1'-9"

# Medical Center C Interview with Facilities Officer

#### Session Notes, August 22, 2005

**Attendance** Wallace Thompson

William Nelson Nicholas Krauja Theodore Moeller

#### Construction

Interstitial deck installed after mains hung from floor above. Contractors typically used high-reach lifts to install from structural floor below. Openings through platform were sleeved before lightweight concrete placed.

Floor construction is topping slab over precast, pre-tensioned "joists." Contractor was allowed to run conduits for branch circuits in topping. Creates difficulties for remodel work.

Smoke evacuation is provided for interstitial levels. Fire barriers do not extend vertically through the service zone.

#### Operation

Interstitial service zone facilitates maintenance and modifications of service systems.

#### **Modifications**

Lightweight concrete easily cut (hole saw) and patched for service relocations.

#### Comments--Advantages/Disadvantages of VAHBS

#### What would you change?

Service bays should be sized for growth potential in the module. Enforce rules for service distribution (i.e., no conduit in slabs).

## Medical Center C Analysis of Building Systems and Modules--Building Construction

#### **Shell Systems**

**Structure:** Pre-cast pre-stressed concrete frame with cast-in-place structural and topping

slabs.

Platform: Lightweight concrete on steel deck.
Ceiling: Suspended acoustical and GWB.
Partitions: GWB on metal stud, non-bearing.

#### **Integrated Service Systems**

**HVAC:** Air handlers are in service bays with intake through exterior wall. Crossovers of main ducts occur in Service Bays. HVAC piping generally parallels duct systems in HVAC channels. Terminal boxes and final distribution are in S-5 subzone.

**Plumbing:** Waste lines are in S-2 subzone and drop to mains in S-3 subzone. Risers are in Service Bay. Vent piping and supply mains for water and gases are in S-3 subzone; supply branches are in S-4 subzone; and local distribution is in S-5 subzone.

**Electrical:** The Service Bay electrical room is a dedicated room with vertical bus risers, wall-mounted distribution and branch circuit panels, and stepdown transformers. Branch circuits are installed in 4" x 4" wireways from the Service Bay electrical room to throughout the interstitial space Zones S3/S4. Both electrical and telecommunications wireways are mounted flat in a common, custom, stepped support rack suspended from the structure above. The covers hinge open from the top. Electrical wireways are noted as being over-full per NEC from the panelboards to the first branch wireway. Code allows no more than 20% fill for this wireway application.

**Communications:** All telecommunications systems originate in a dedicated room in the Service Bay. Telephone, network, and signal wireways were originally installed. The 4" telephone and network wireways were little-used. Telephone and data cabling was installed in the interstitial space or in Zone 7. The other signal systems were installed in a 4" common wireway, and better adhere to the VAHBS. A separate data network installed by VAMC Engineering used the network wireway for the purpose intended.

#### **Non-integrated Systems**

**Fire Protection:** Fire sprinkler and standpipe was not integrated with distribution strategy for interstitial channels. Risers are typically located at exit stairs. Branches and drops are in S-7 subzone.

**Transport:** Pneumatic tube system cuts across subzones and channels.

# Medical Center C Analysis of Building Systems and Modules-Service Module

#### **Typical Size/Dimensions**

Structural Bay	27'-0" x 27'-0"
Location of Service Bay	external, near corner of module.
Fire Sections	do not extend through interstitial service zone.

#### **Service Bay**

**Layout in Plan** Rectangular, typically located near corner of module.

**Layout in Section** Extends from structural floor to structural floor.

#### **Service Zone**

Subzones	19'-4" typical floor to floor (20'-4" clinical floors); 9'-3 ½" typical from top S-1 to bottom S-6 platform; S-7 12 ½" w/ 9 ft ceiling and 19'-4" story height.	
S-3 Channels	Services require header in S-3 subzone to reach far end of module, mains then take off perpendicular to header and extend through S-3 sub-zone at intervals. Typical 5 channels parallel to purlins for deck (4 purlins at 6'-5" spacing per 27 ft bay).	
S-4 Channels	typical 6 channels per 27 ft bay; hanger spacing varies.	

## Operation

Plan configuration locates most service bays near courtyard at a corner of the service module. Main service runs are routed around the edge of the courtyard, requiring S-3 channels to make 90-degree turns. Service distribution patterns allow for continuous access aisle only around the perimeter of the entire floor. No cross aisles are provided between service modules. This condition increases the difficulty of access and increases the potential or "cross service" between modules.

#### Maintenance/Repair

Access is fair compared to other Medical Centers due to lack of circulation aisles in transverse direction. Lighting level is good. Receptacles are available for tools. No drains in service zone(interstitial).

#### **Modifications/New Construction**

Remodel work was in progress on 9<sup>th</sup> floor during survey. Work was proceeding without disruptions to occupied space on floor below.



Fire dampers are not required at duct penetrations.

Photo C-1 Service Bay
Side showing penetrations of 1-hour wall to interstitial service zone



Note duct and piping crossovers occur in service bay, not in interstitial service zone.

Photo C-2 Service Bay
Side showing duct penetrations of 1-hour wall to interstitial service zone.



Note HVAC branches crossing under wireway mains in S-4 channel in background.

Note plumbing in S-5 subzone at far left side of photo.

Photo C-3
Electrical transition from mains in S-3 subzone to branches in S-4 subzone.



Photo C-4 Interstitial Service Zone
Showing typical perimeter access aisle (note stripe on deck)

Note transition of piping from S-2 to S-3 subzones in background.

Note fluorescent fixture lack wire guards.

Note hanger rods and purlins for platform deck system.



Pre-cast prestressed "joists" Subzone S-2

Subzone S-3

Subzone S-4

Subzone S-5

Photo C-5 Interstitial Service Zone Showing typical distribution



S-4 subzone w/ HVAC & Electrical channels

Note flex conduit at transitions from wireway in S-4 through S-5 subzone.

Medical gas and plumbing in S-5 subzone.

Note exposed top of purlin for interstitial deck.

**Photo C-6**Transitions from S-4 to S-5 subzones



S-3 subzone

**Photo C-7**Showing Electrical and HVAC channels in S-4 subzone crossing under HVAC main in S-3 subzone



Photo C-8 Interstitial Service Zone

Distribution

S-2 subzone

Note wire guard on light fixture.

S-3 subzone

S-4 subzone

S-5 subzone

Note marking for access aisle at far left in foreground of photo.

# Appendix B

# **Record Drawings**

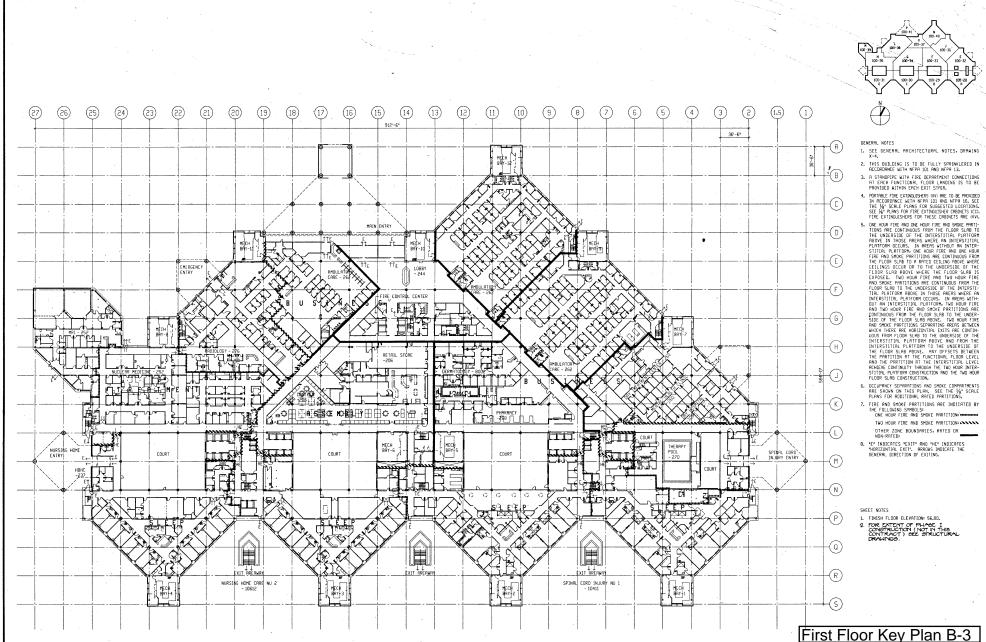
		Page
Int	roduction	B-1
Me	edical Center A	
	First Floor Key Plan	B-3
	First Interstitial Key Plan	B-4
	Third Floor Key Plan	B-5
	Third Interstitial Key Plan	B-6
	Allocation of Interstitial Space-Typical	B-7
	Typical Interstitial Space Composite Sections	B-8
	Interstitial Space Details and Sections	B-9
	First Floor Interstitial Plan Area A	
	Power, Lighting and Communications	B-10
	Typical Interstitial Space Composite Plan	B-11
Me	edical Center B	
	Basement Floor Composite Plan	B-12
	Interstitial Zoning and Services Arrangement	B-13
	Basement S-3 Level Interstitial Plan	B-14
	First Floor S-3 Level Interstitial Plan	B-15
	Fourth Floor S-3 Level Interstitial Plan	B-16
	Interstitial Typical Details	B-17
Me	edical Center C	
	Building Gross Section	B-18
	Typical Interstitial Space Comp. Plan & Section .	B-19
	Partial Interstitial Floor Plan – West	B-20
	Pneumatic Tubes / ABC Riser Diagram	
	& Schedule	B-21

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#### Introduction

The following documents were obtained during the field surveys of the example Medical Centers. They are included with this Supplement as examples of some of the information provided in the construction documents of previous projects to illustrate the VAHBS concept to the Contractor.

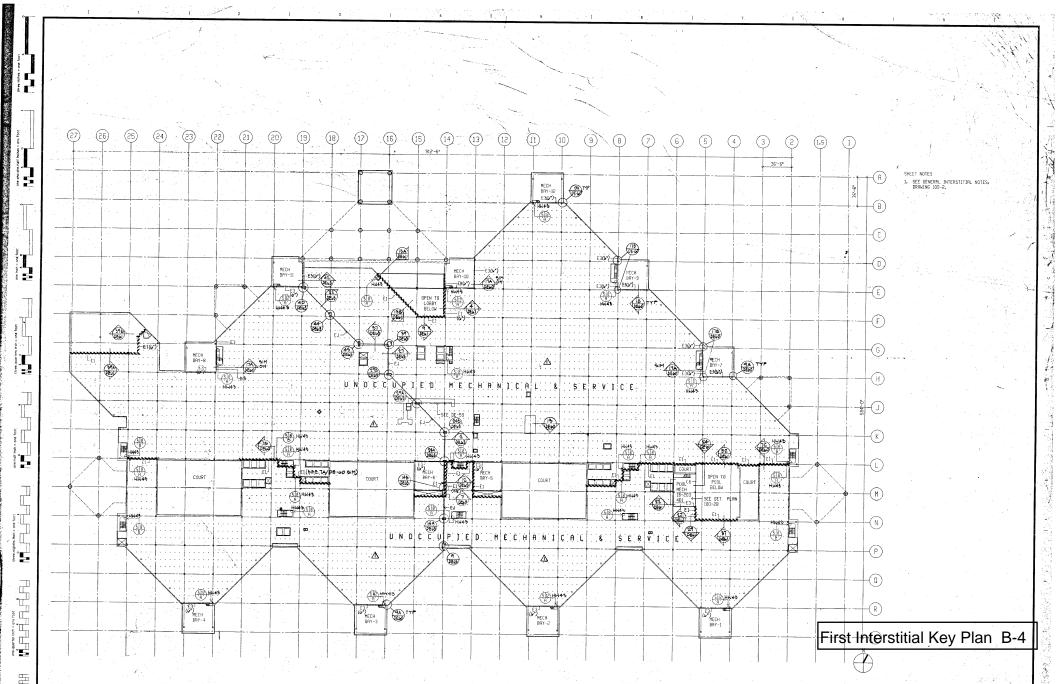
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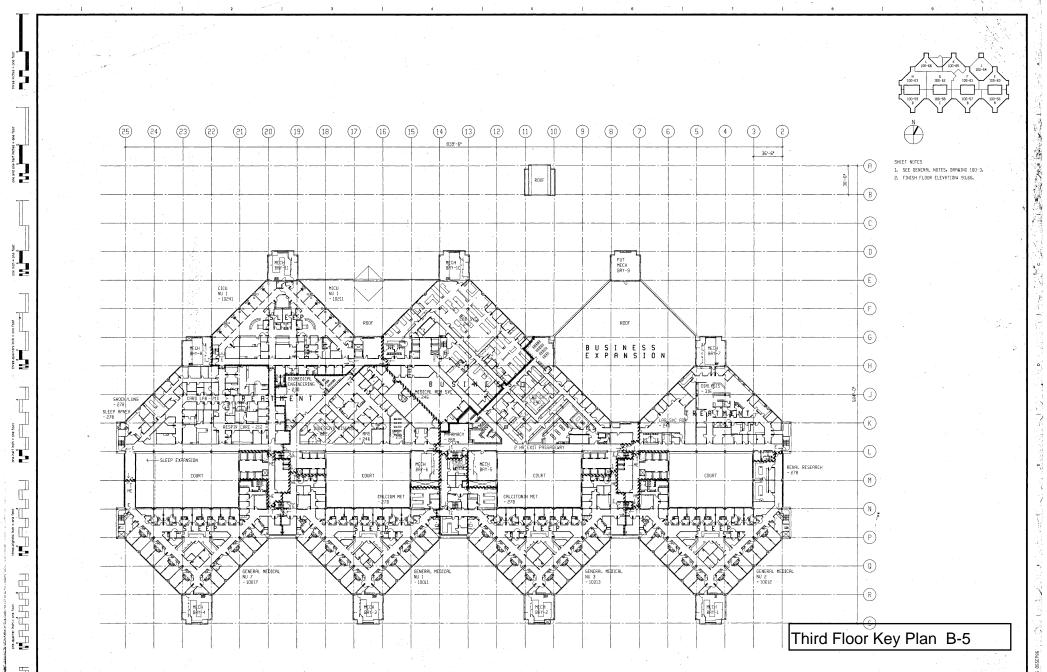


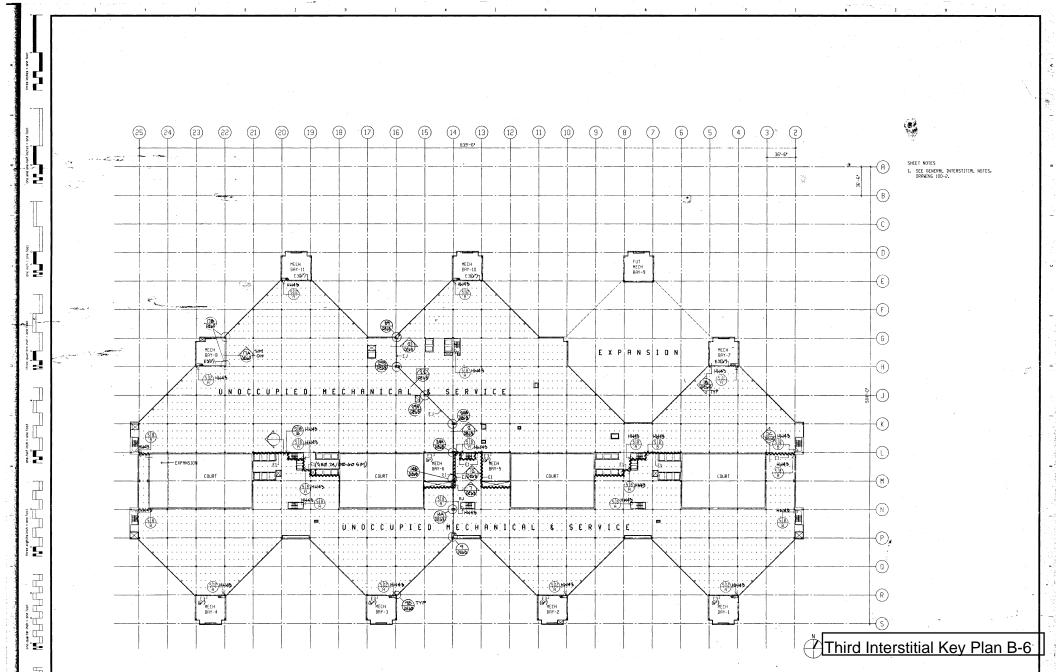
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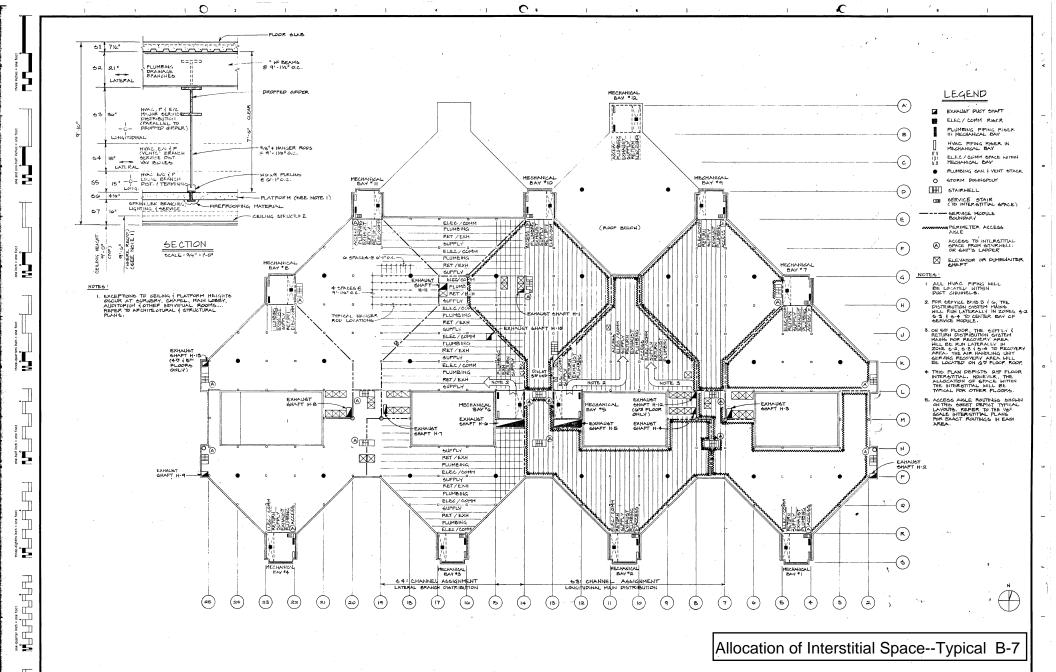
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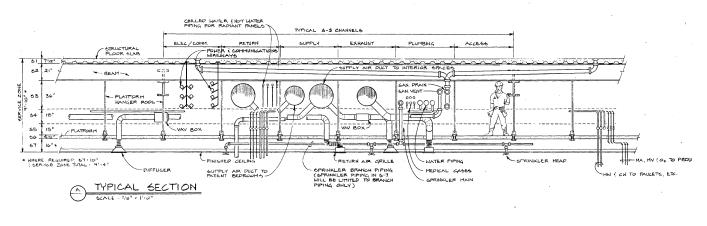
one-quarter inch a one foot

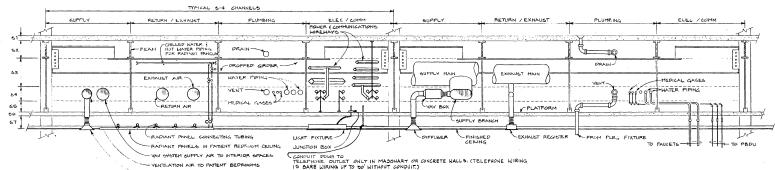




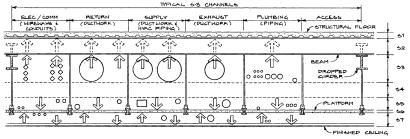








# B TYPICAL SECTION



TYPICAL STRATEGY FOR SUPPORTING DISTRIBUTION IN 5-3, 5-5 ; 5-7 SUBZONES

SUBZONE S-2: 3YSTEM ELEMENTS IN THE S-2 ZONE SHALL BE SUPPORTED FROM THE UNDERSIDE OF THE FLOOR SLAB OR DECK.

SUBJOANT S.L. SAN THE S.-3 ZOME SHALL BE SHALL BE SHATED AND SHATE

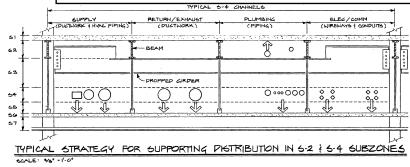
SUBZONE 5-4: SYSTEM ELEMENTS IN THE S-4 ZONE SHALL E SUPPORTED FROM THE PLATFORM PURLIN.

SUBZONE S-5: SYSTEM ELEMENTS IN THE S-5 ZONE SHALL BE SUPPORTED FROM THE PLATFORM,

SUTTON 5-17.

SYSTEM ELECTRIST IN THE 6-7 ZONE AS SELL AS
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FOR THE SYSTEM CONTINUES AND THE ACCITICATION OF THE SYSTEM OF STRUCTURAL ELECTRIST BEARING ON
THE PLATFORM PURILIN. IN THE CASE OF HEAVY
CEILING MONITOR INTO REASON ELECTRIST.

# Typical Interstitial Space Composite Sections B-8



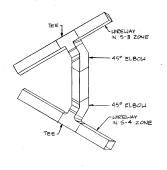


RACEWAY	SIZES MAIN S-3 ZONE	
SYMBOL	WIREWAY SIZE*	MANIPLATE
190,	4 x 4	NORMAL POWER "A"
NB	4 x 4	NORMAL POWER "B"
.0	4 × 4	EQUIP. NORMAL POWER
·C	4 x 4	CRITICAL POWER
L	2-1/2 x 2-1/2	LIFE SAPETY POWER
E	2-1/2 x 2-1/2	EQUIP. EMERGENCY POWER
1	6 × 6	TELEPHONE
TV.	6 x 6	HATV/CCTV/RADIO/PAGING
P	6 x 6	FIRE ALARN SYSTEM
s	6 x 6	NURSE CALL
ł	PUTURE	

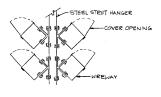
	PACEWAY	SIZES MAIN S-4 ZONE	
	SYMBOL	MIRENAY SIZE*	NAMERIATE
	Æ	2-1/2" x 2-1/2"	NORMAL POWER "A"
	NB	2-1/2" x 2-1/2"	NORMAL POKER "B"
	-0	2-1/2" x 2-1/2"	EQUIP, NORMAL POWER
	<u> </u>	2-1/2" × 2-1/2"	CRITICAL POWER
•	L	2-1/2" x 2-1/2"	LIFE SAFETY POWER
	Ε	&-1/2" x 2-1/2"	EQUIP. EMERGENCY POWER
	T	4 × 4	TELEPHONE
	≅	4 × 4	HATV/CCTV/RADIO/PAGING
		4 × 4	FIRE ALARM SYSTEM
	8	4 x 4	MURSE CALL
	_	FUTURE	

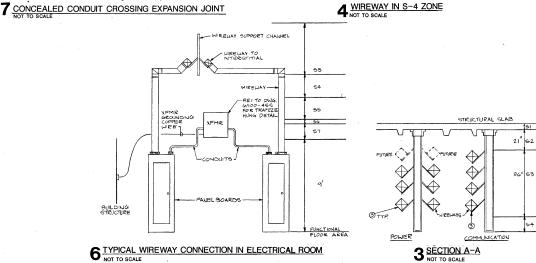
\*UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

- REPER TO DRAWINGS 100-E179 THRU 100-E253 FOR RACEWAY SYMBOLS.



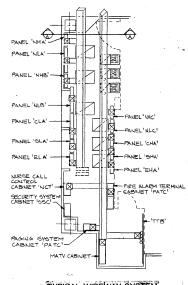
**5** WIREWAY TRANSITION FROM S-3 ZONE TO S-4 ZONE NOT TO SCALE





21" 5-2 -SUPPORT CHANNEL

2 ALTERNATE MOUNTING METHOD S-4 ZONE NOT TO SCALE



TYPICAL WIREWAY SYSTEM AT ELECTRICAL ROOM

Interstital Space Details and Sections B-9

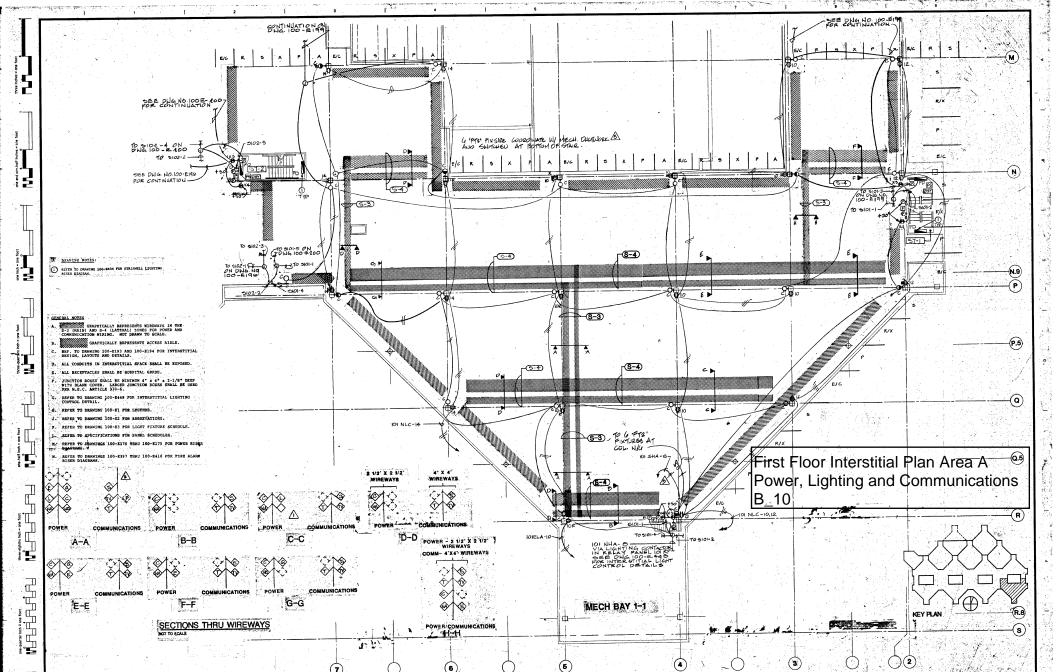
NOTES: (PERTAINING TO INTERSTITTIBL RACINAY SYSTEM)

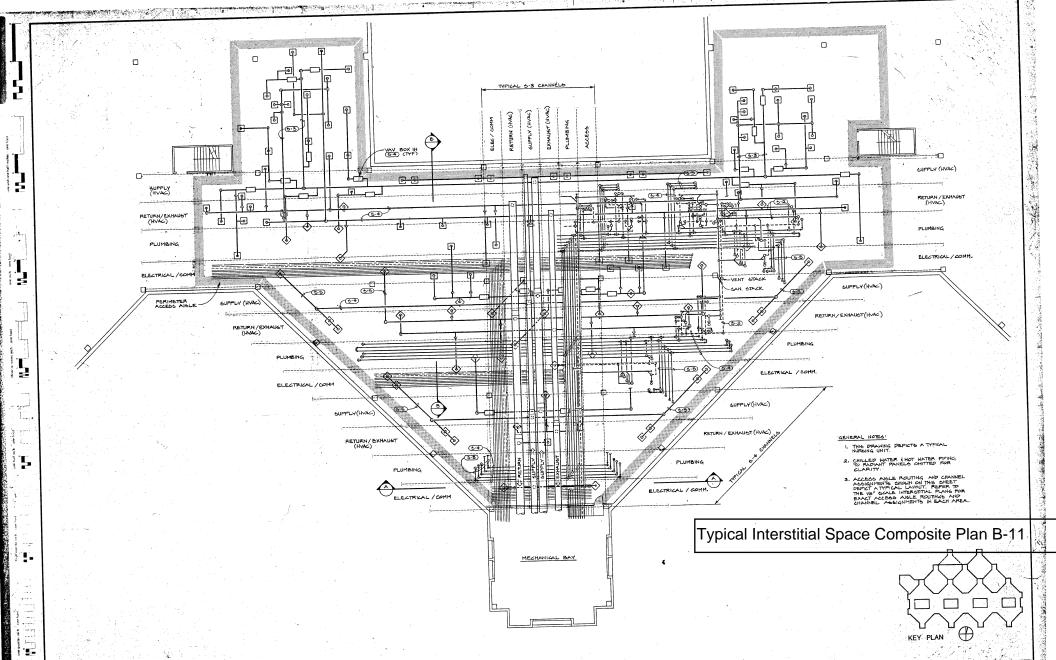
PROVIDE PIREPROOPING WHEREVER A WIREWAY PROFIRED A PIREWALL.

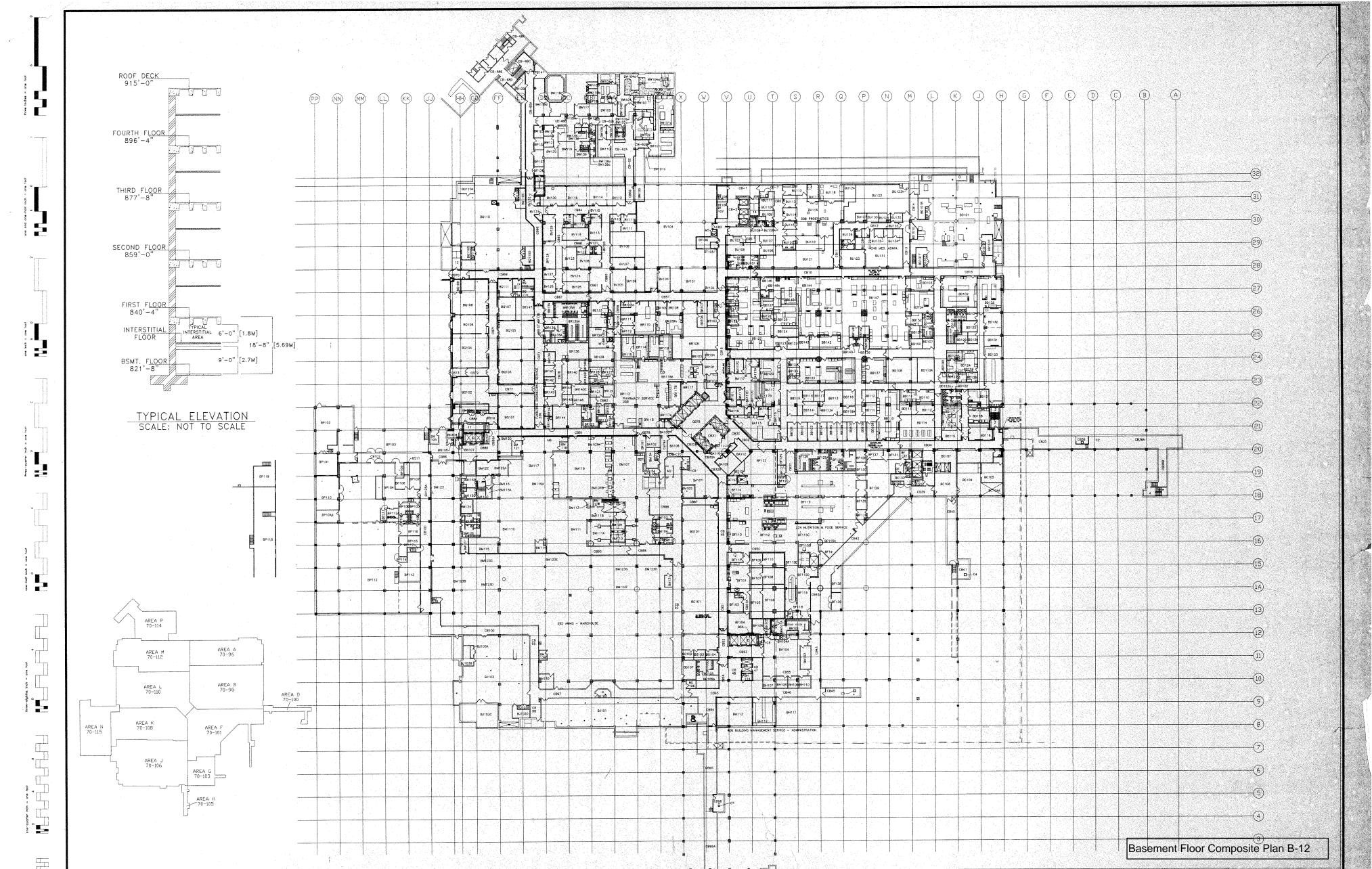
BUILDING EXPANSION JOINT-

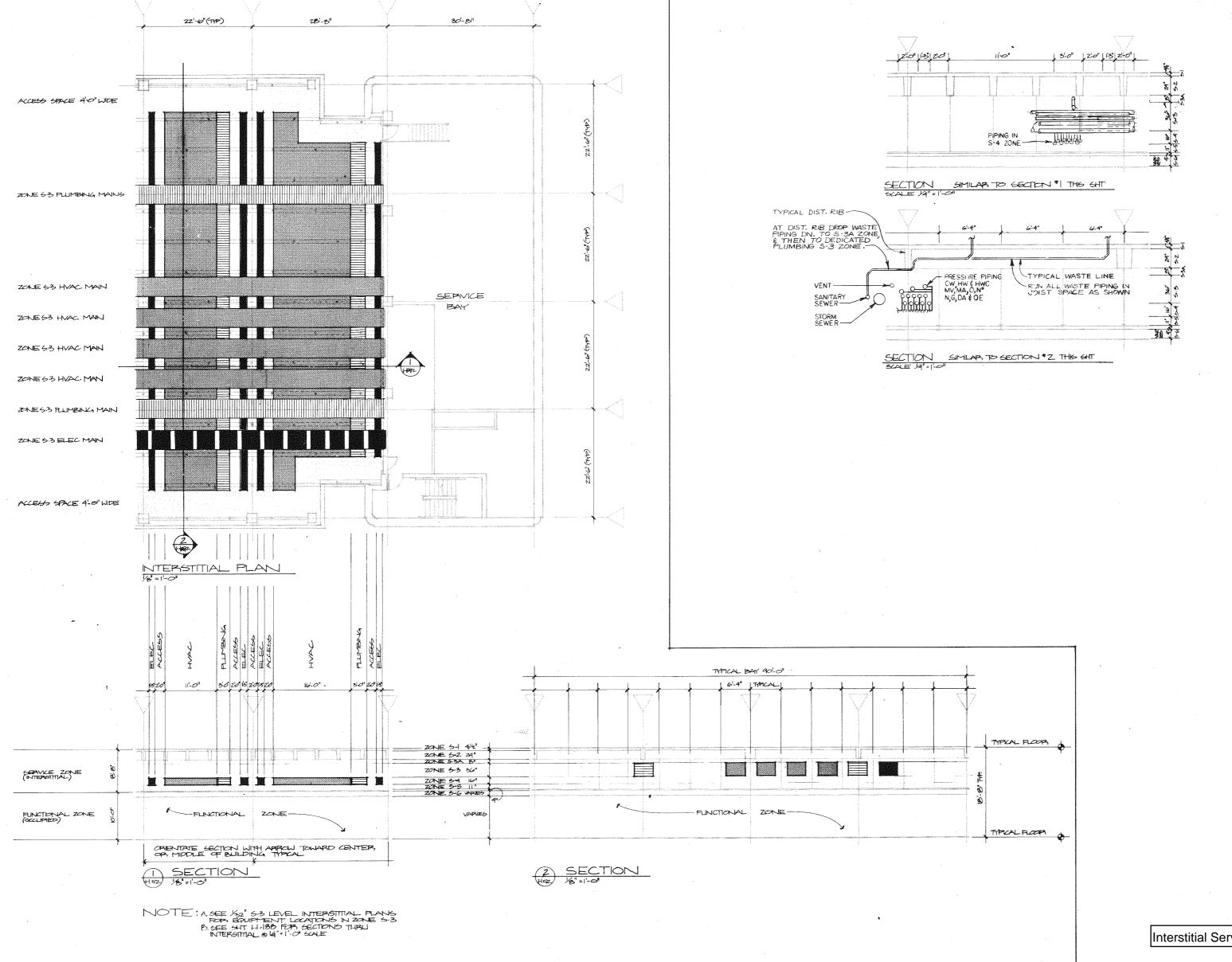
- FLEXIBLE LINKS

8 HORIZONTAL CONDUIT RUN ACROSS EXPANSION JOINT NOT TO SCALE



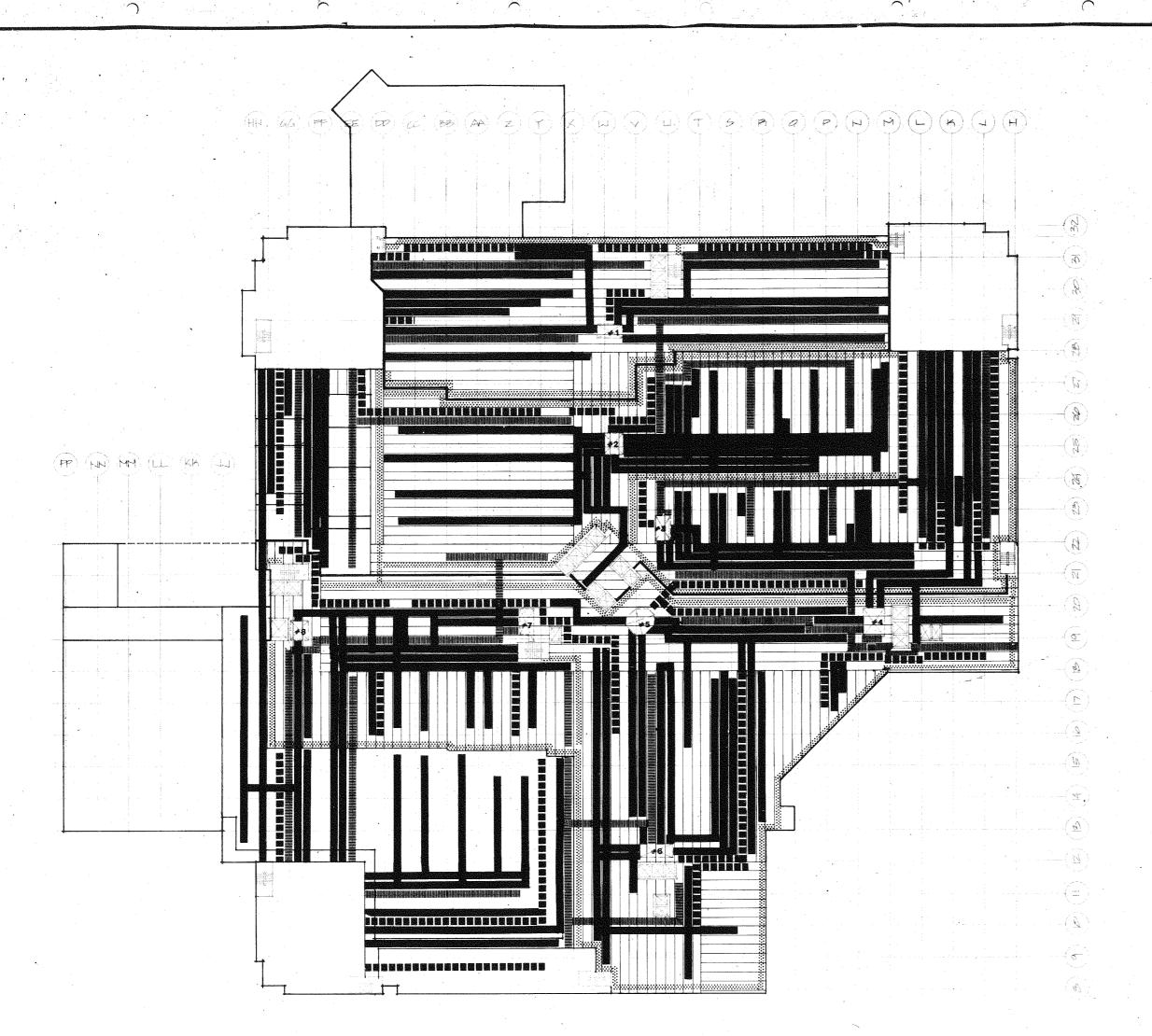






Interstitial Services and Zoning Arrangement B-13



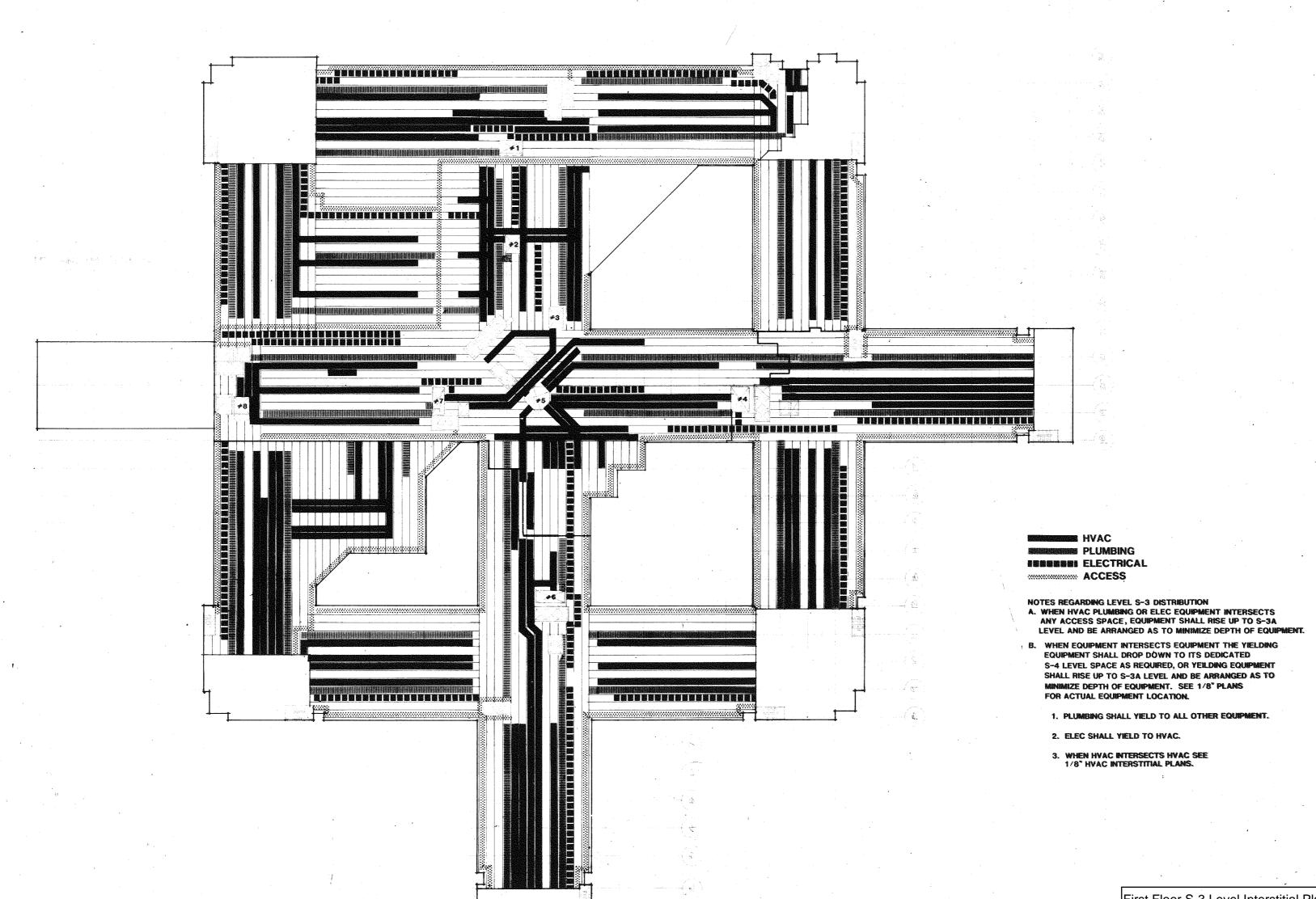


PLUMBING SECURE ELECTRICAL ACCESS

- NOTES REGARDING LEVEL S-3 DISTRIBUTION

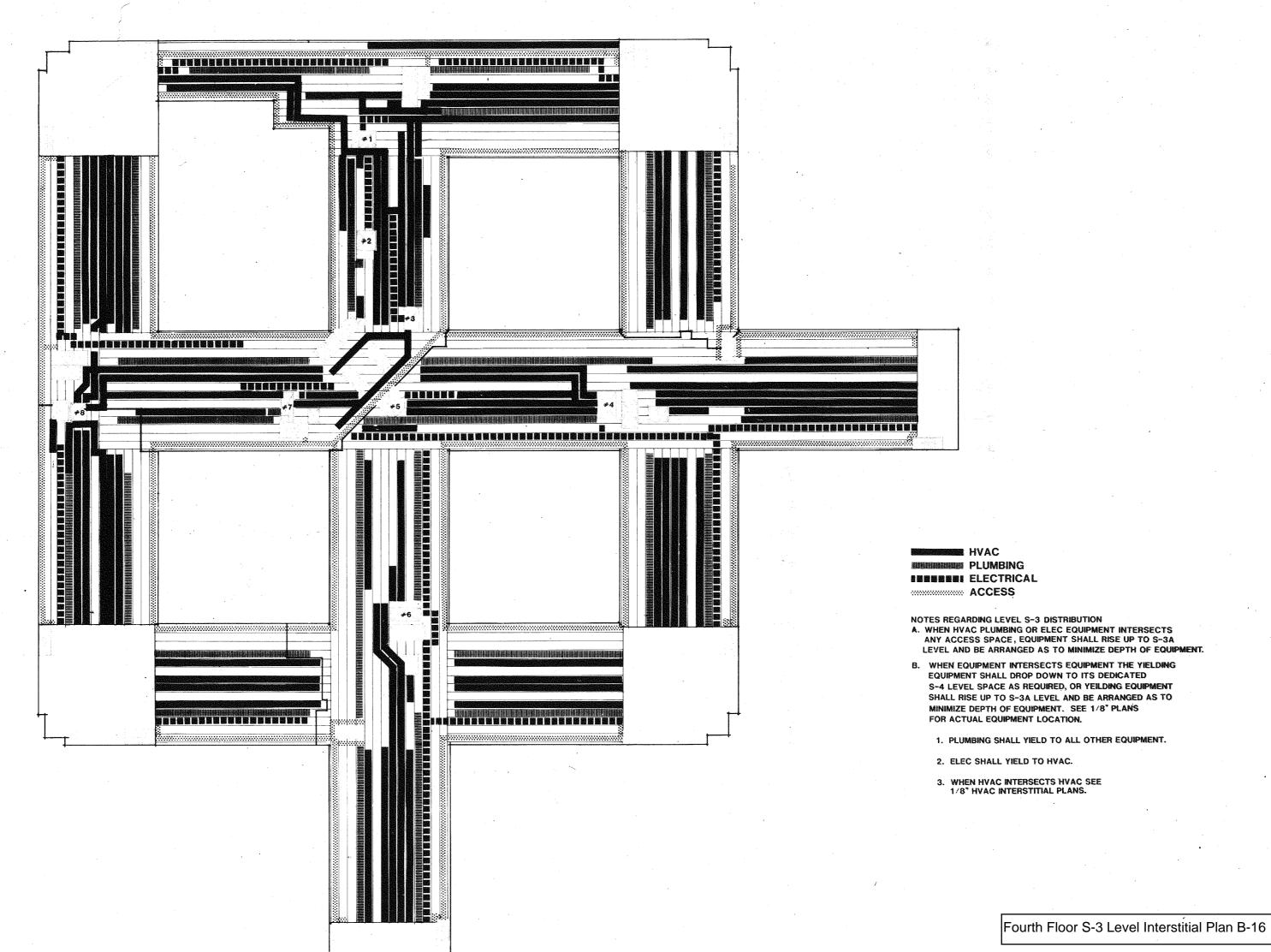
  A. WHEN HVAC PLUMBING OR ELEC EQUIPMENT INTERSECTS
  ANY ACCESS SPACE, EQUIPMENT SHALL RISE UP TO S-3A LEVEL AND BE ARRANGED AS TO MINIMIZE DEPTH OF EQUIPMENT.
- B. WHEN EQUIPMENT INTERSECTS EQUIPMENT THE YIELDING EQUIPMENT SHALL DROP DOWN TO ITS DEDICATED S-4 LEVEL SPACE AS REQUIRED, OR YEILDING EQUIPMENT SHALL RISE UP TO S-3A LEVEL AND BE ARRANGED AS TO MINIMIZE DEPTH OF EQUIPMENT. SEE 1/8" PLANS FOR ACTUAL EQUIPMENT LOCATION.
  - 1. PLUMBING SHALL YIELD TO ALL OTHER EQUIPMENT.
  - 2. ELEC SHALL YIELD TO HVAC.
  - 3. WHEN HVAC INTERSECTS HVAC SEE 1/8" HVAC INTERSTITIAL PLANS.

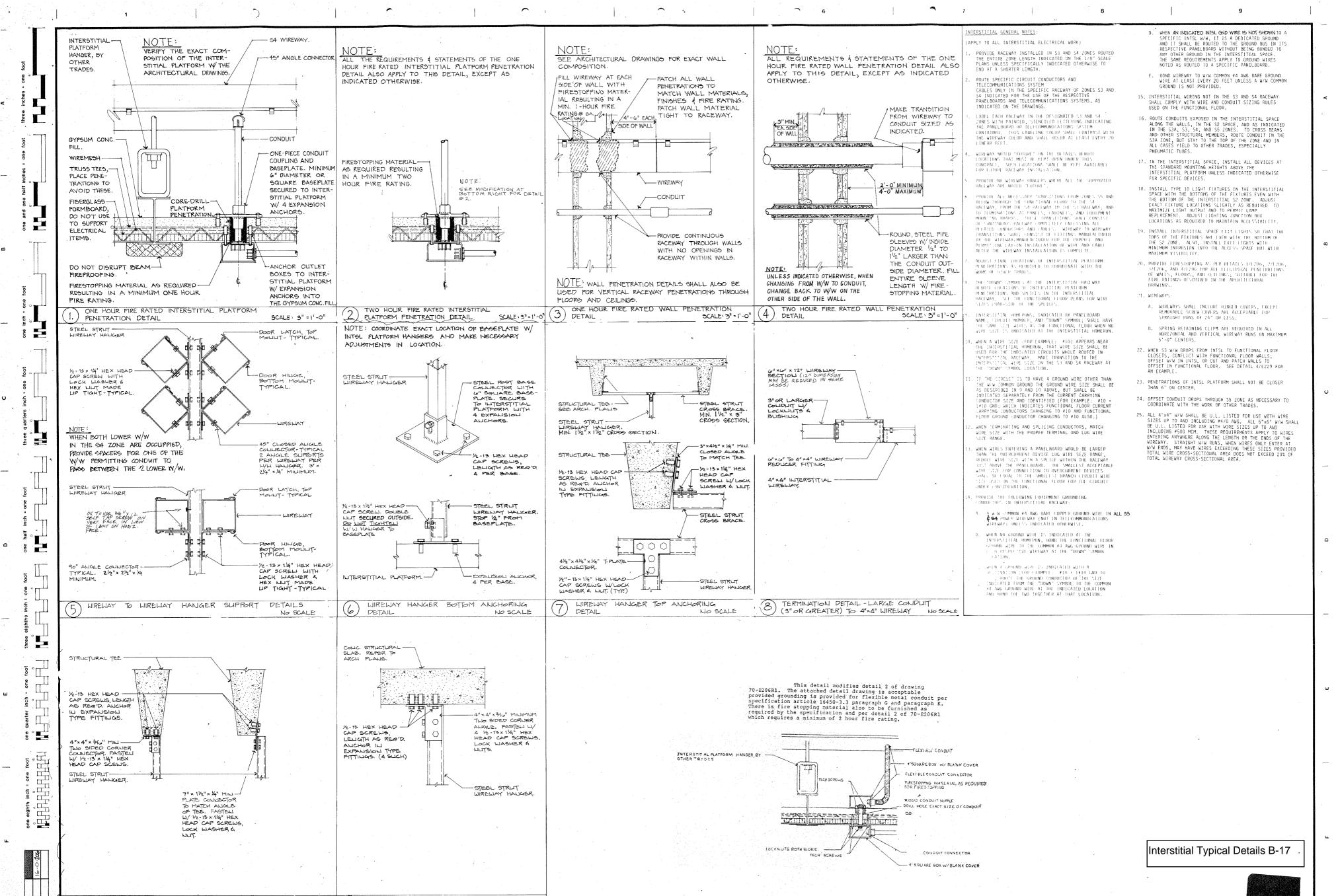
Basement S-3 level Interstitial plan B-14

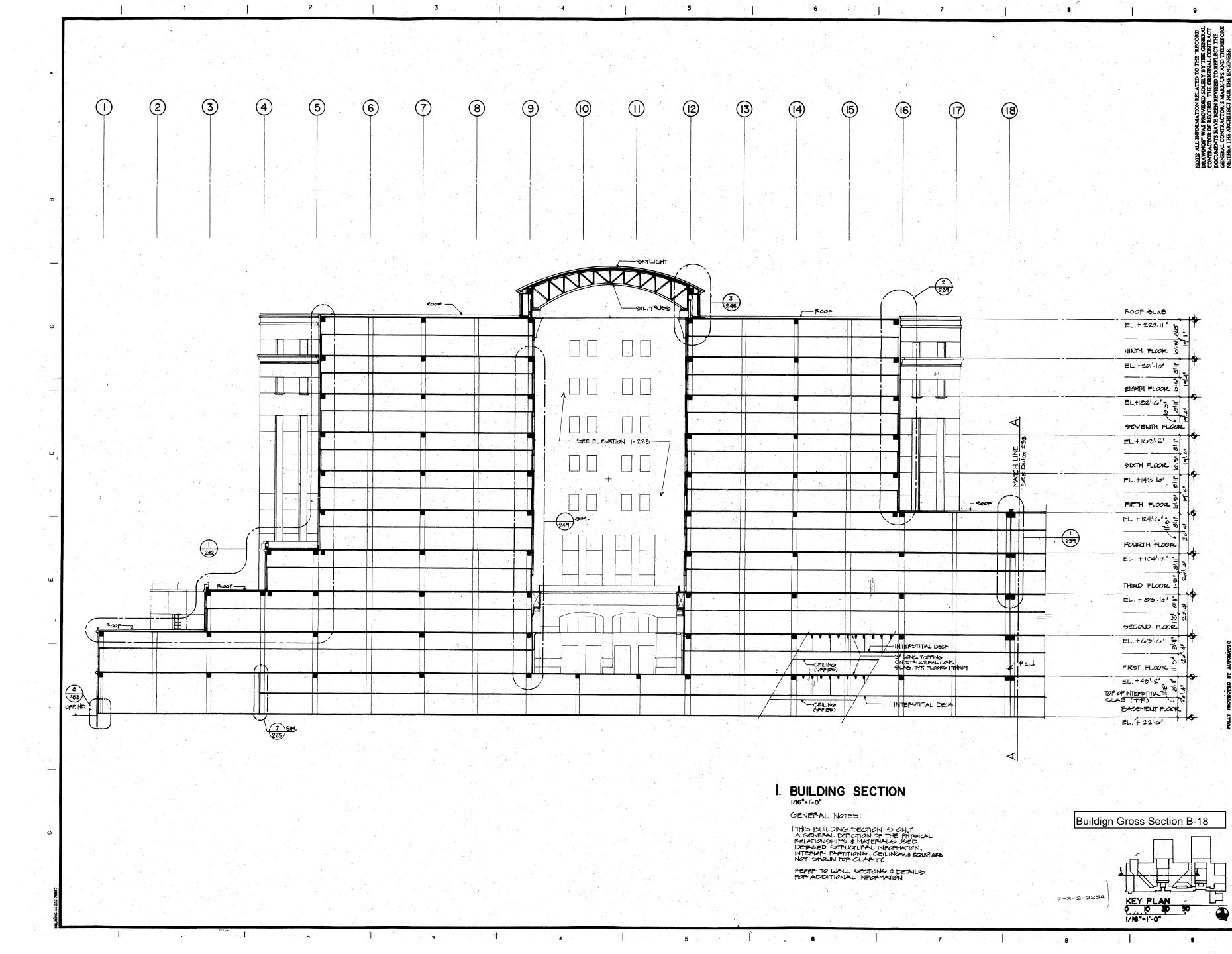


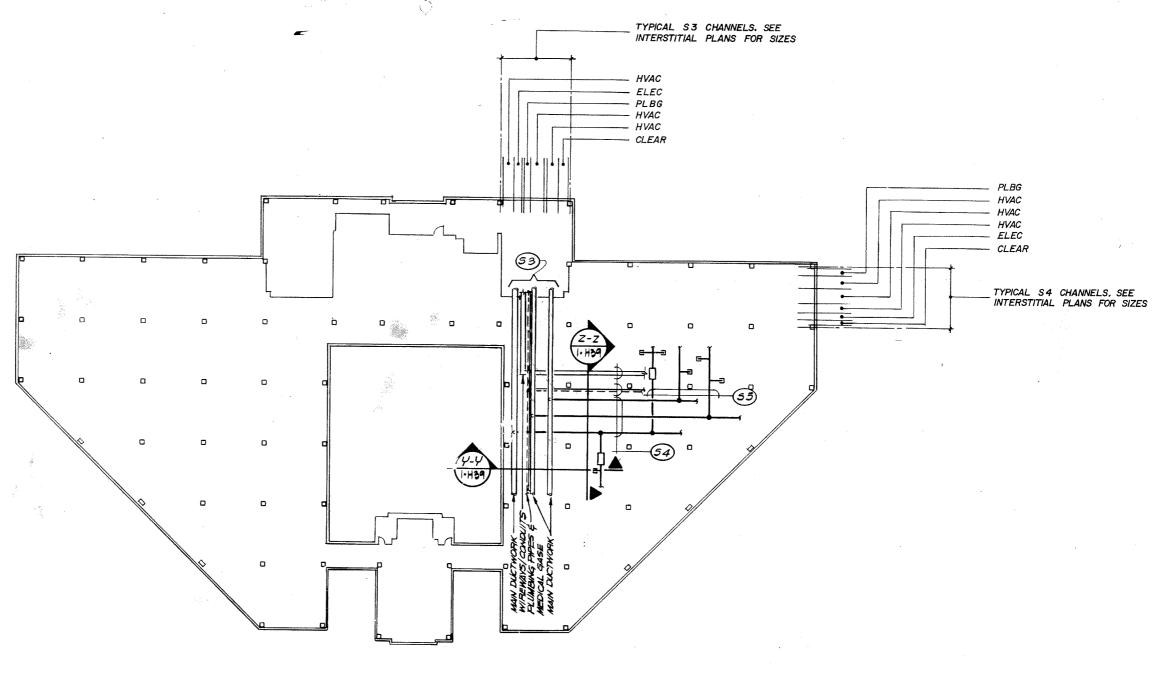
4.0.54 4.0.54 P-3

First Floor S-3 Level Interstitial Plan B-15

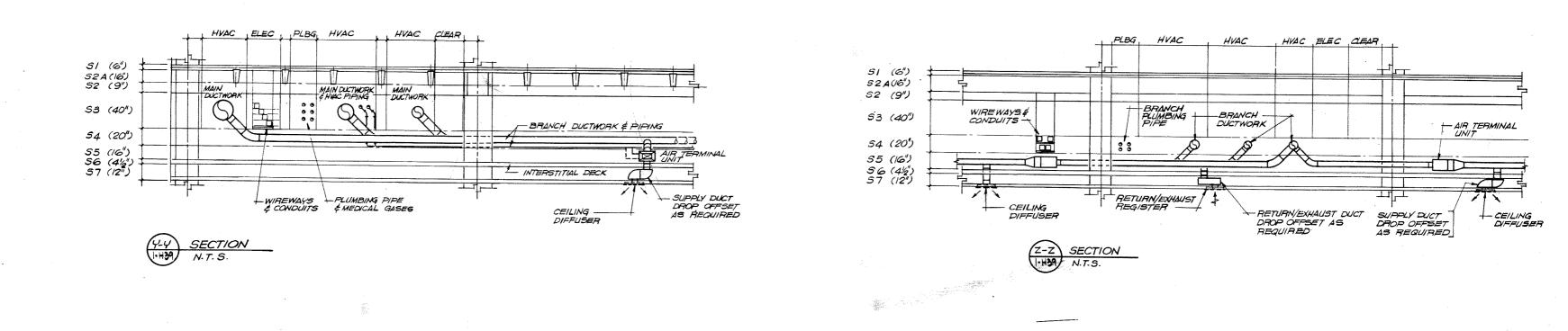








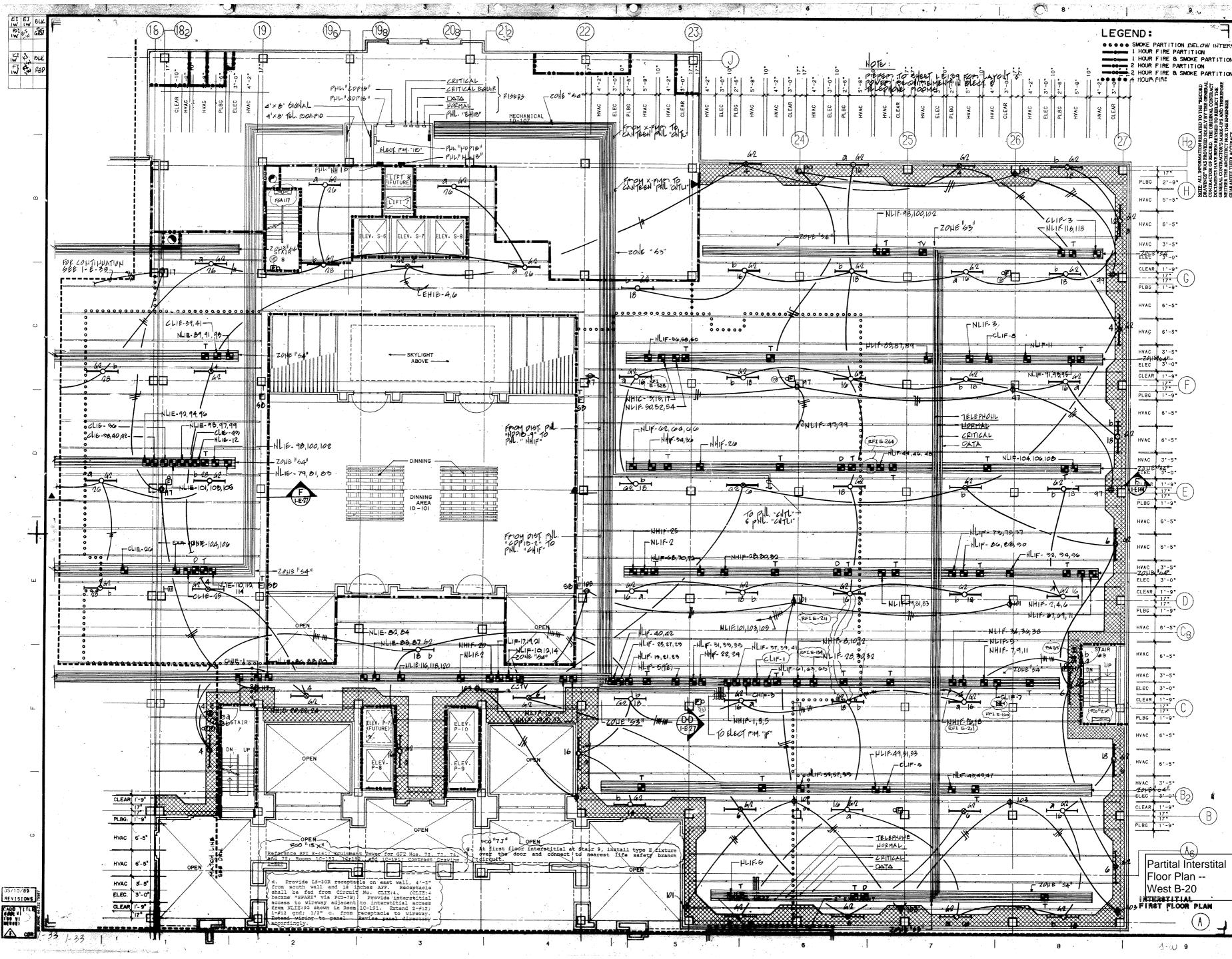
TYPICAL INTERSTITIAL SPACE

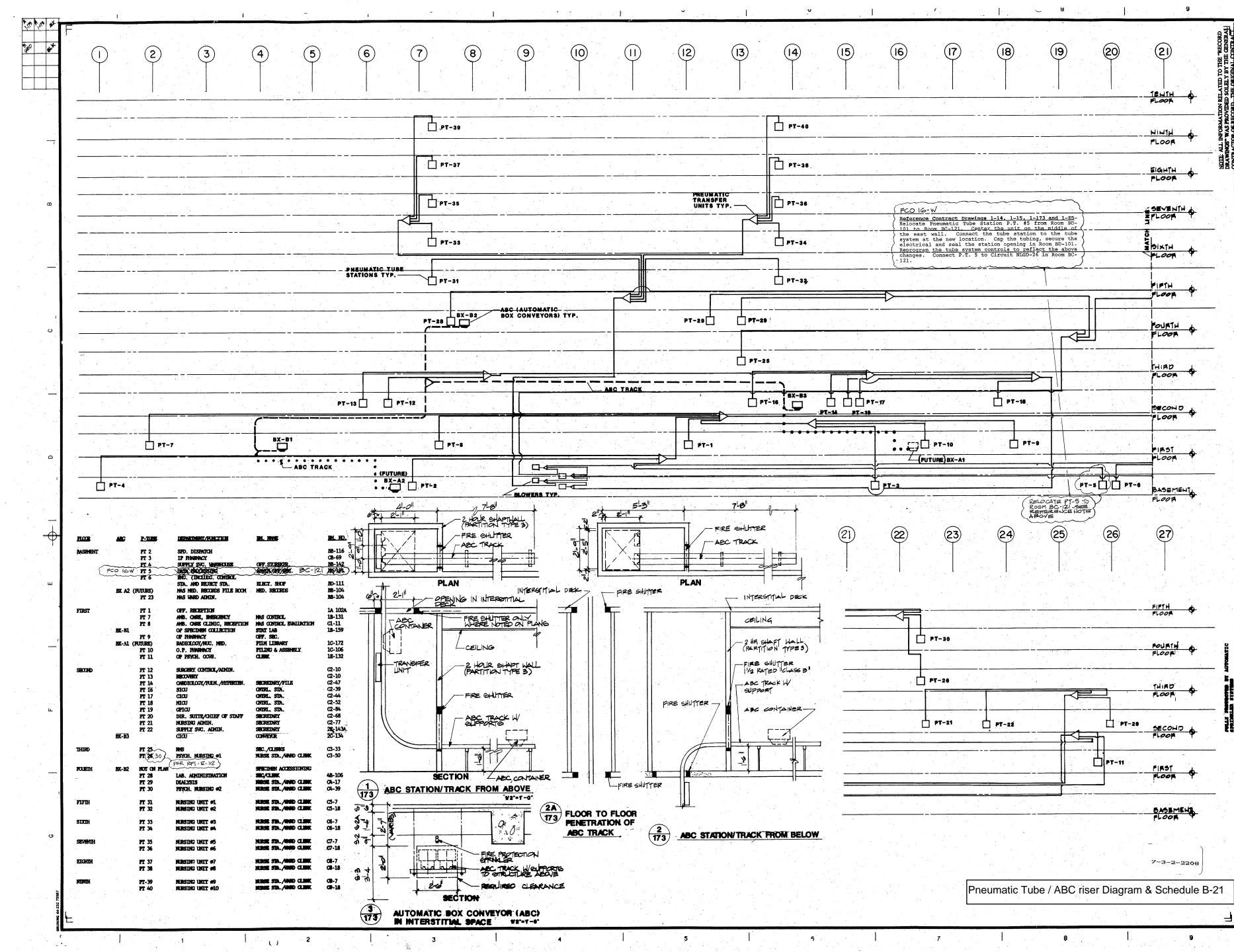


Typical Interstitial Space Composite Plan and Section B-19

NOTE: ALL INFORMATION RELATED TO THE "RECORD DRAWINGS" WAS PROVIDED SOLELY BY THE GENERAL CONTRACTOR OF RECORD. THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN REVISED TO REFLECT THE GENERAL CONTRACTOR'S MARK-19S AND THEREFORE NEITHER THE ARCHITECT NOR THE ENGINEER GUARANTEE THEIR ACCURACY.

9





## Appendix C

## **VAHBS CAD Drawings**

Page
C-1
00000-5
00000-6
00000-7
00000-8
00000-9
00000-10
00000-11
00000-12
03522-1
03522-2

June 2006

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## Introduction

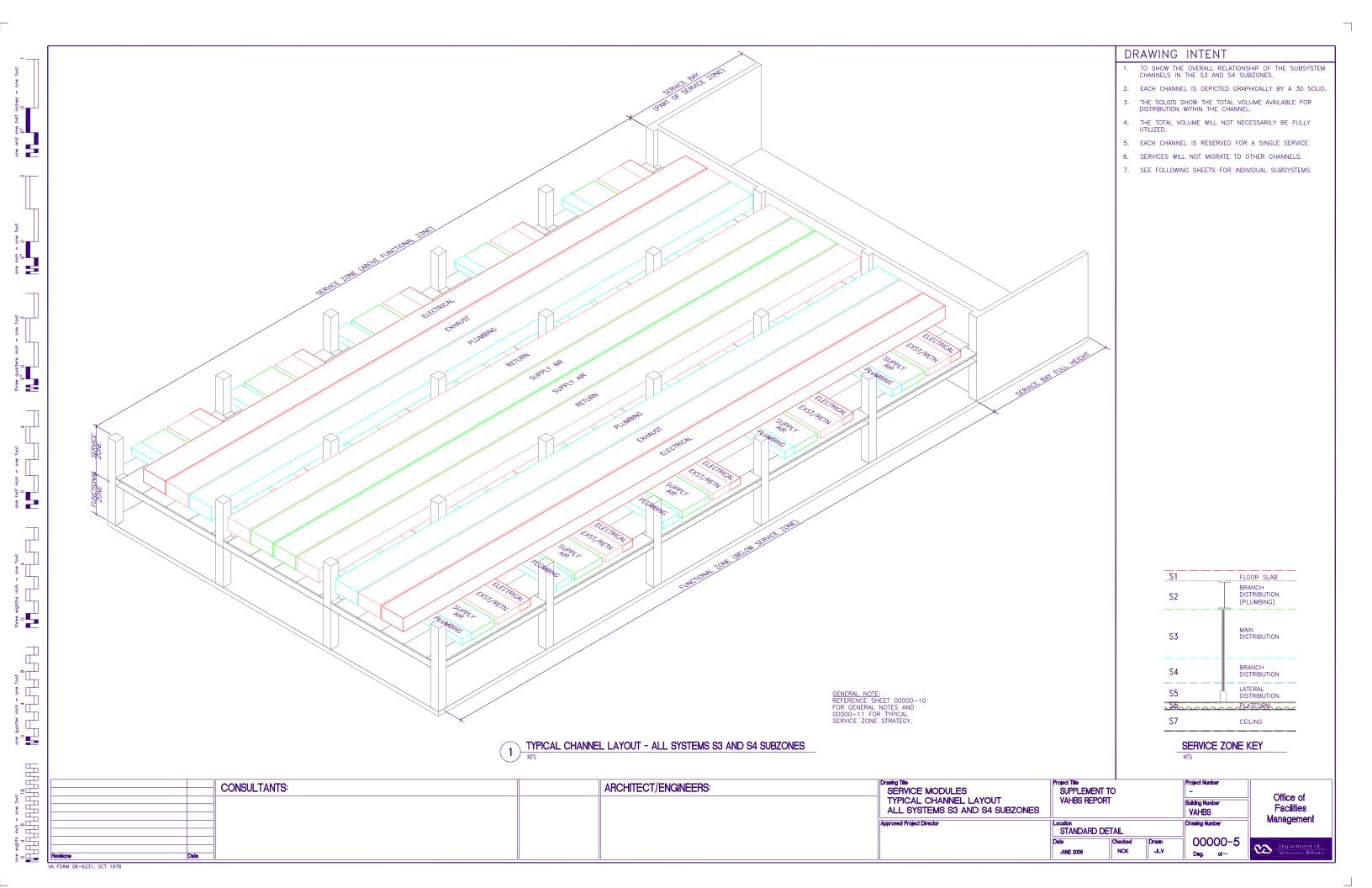
The following CAD drawings have been developed to assist in communicating VAHBS concepts to the project team. They are intended as a guide to the type of information that the A/E should incorporate in the construction documents in order to communicate the VAHBS concept and strategies to the Contractor.

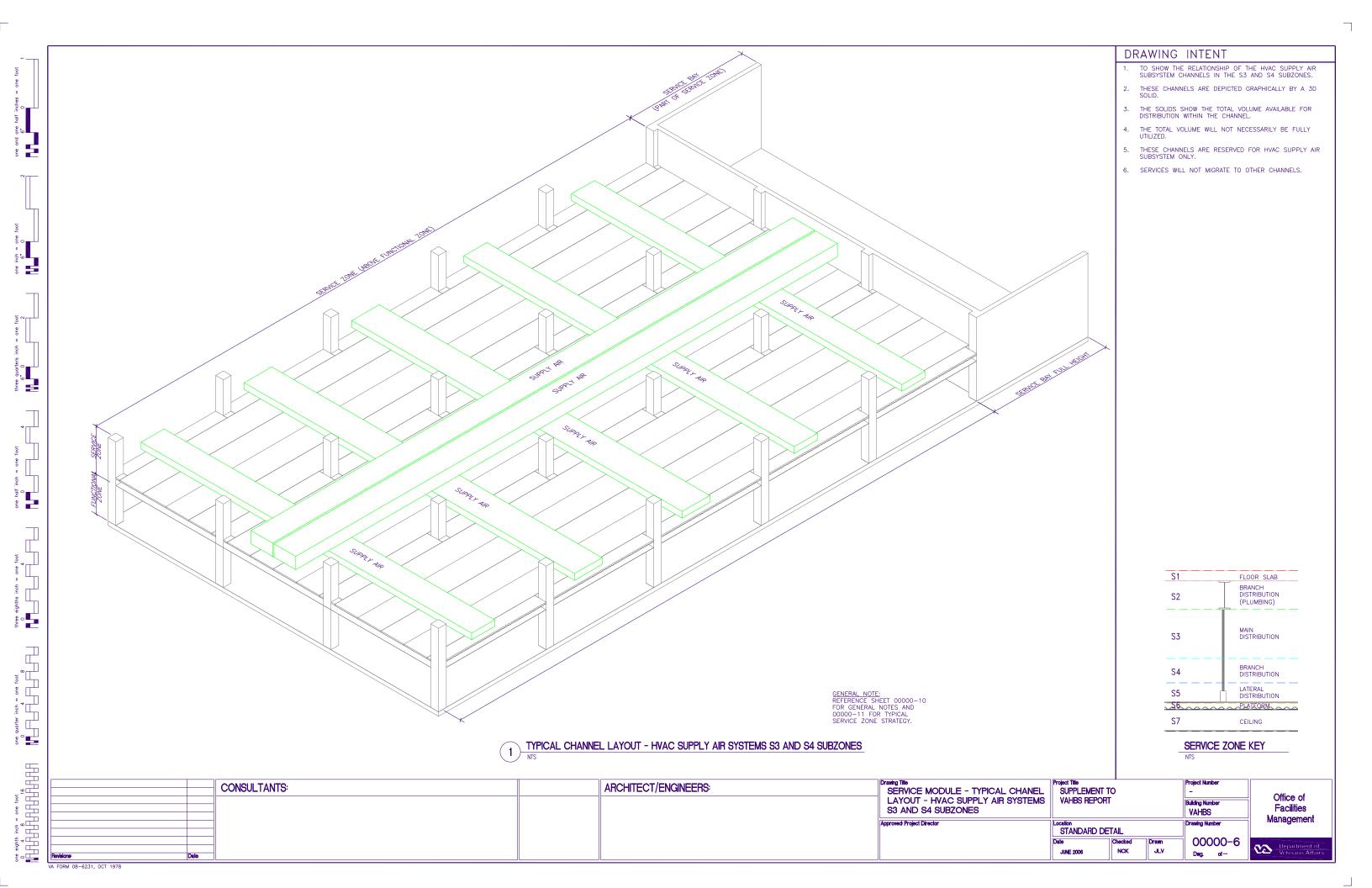
The drawings have been prepared in accordance with VHA <u>National CAD Standard Application</u> <u>Guide</u>. The Design A/E shall make revisions for construction type, dimensions, geometries, service systems; and any other project specific requirements if any portions of these drawing files are to be included in the construction document package.

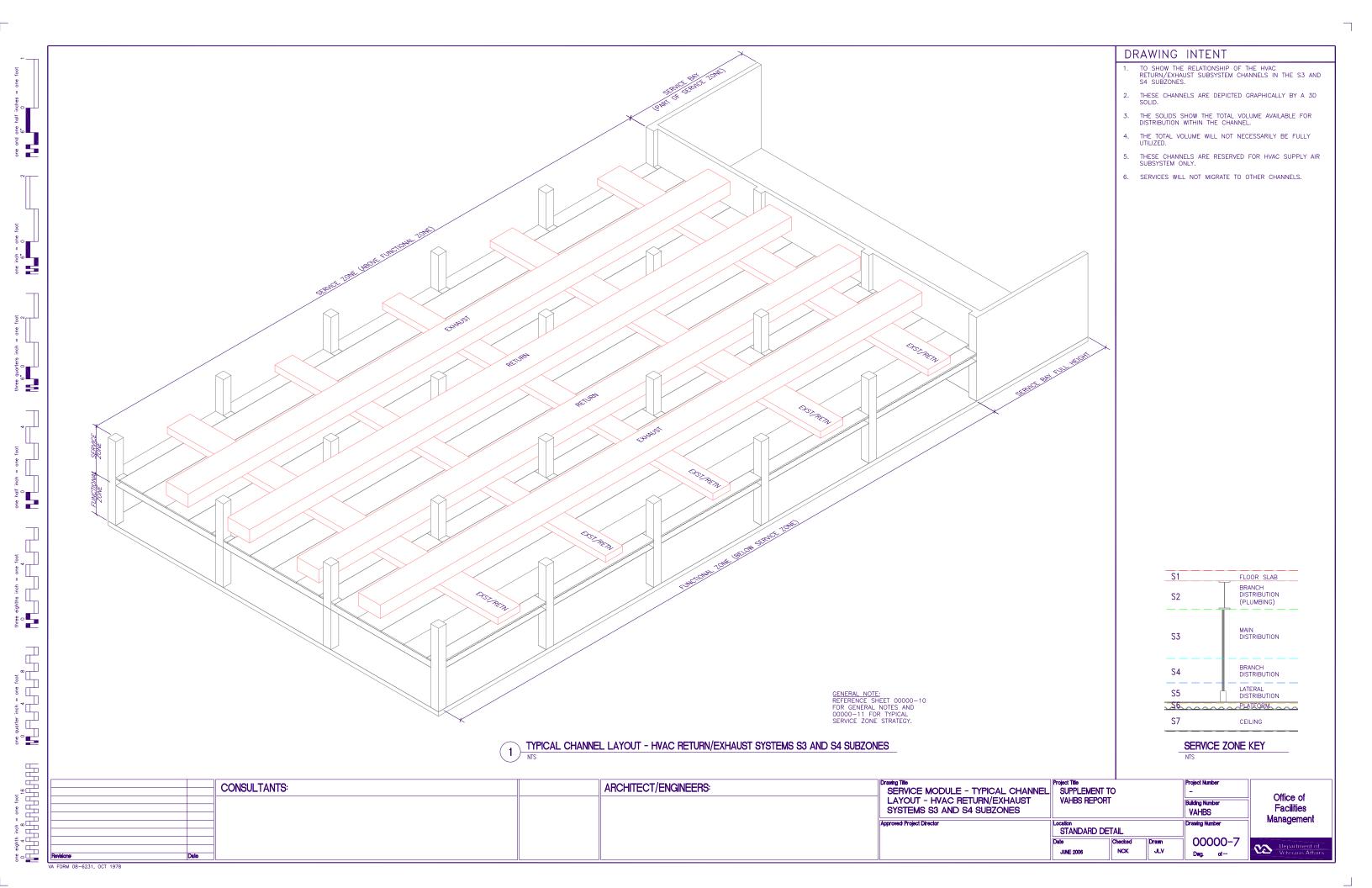
Note that the drawing numbering begins with 00000-5 for the typical service module and channel diagrams and notes. These drawings have been numbered top continue the sequence for VA architectural standard details in section 00000. VA standard details are generally numbered by specification section or division. 00000 is used for details that relate to multiple disciplines or do not otherwise fit in a single section.

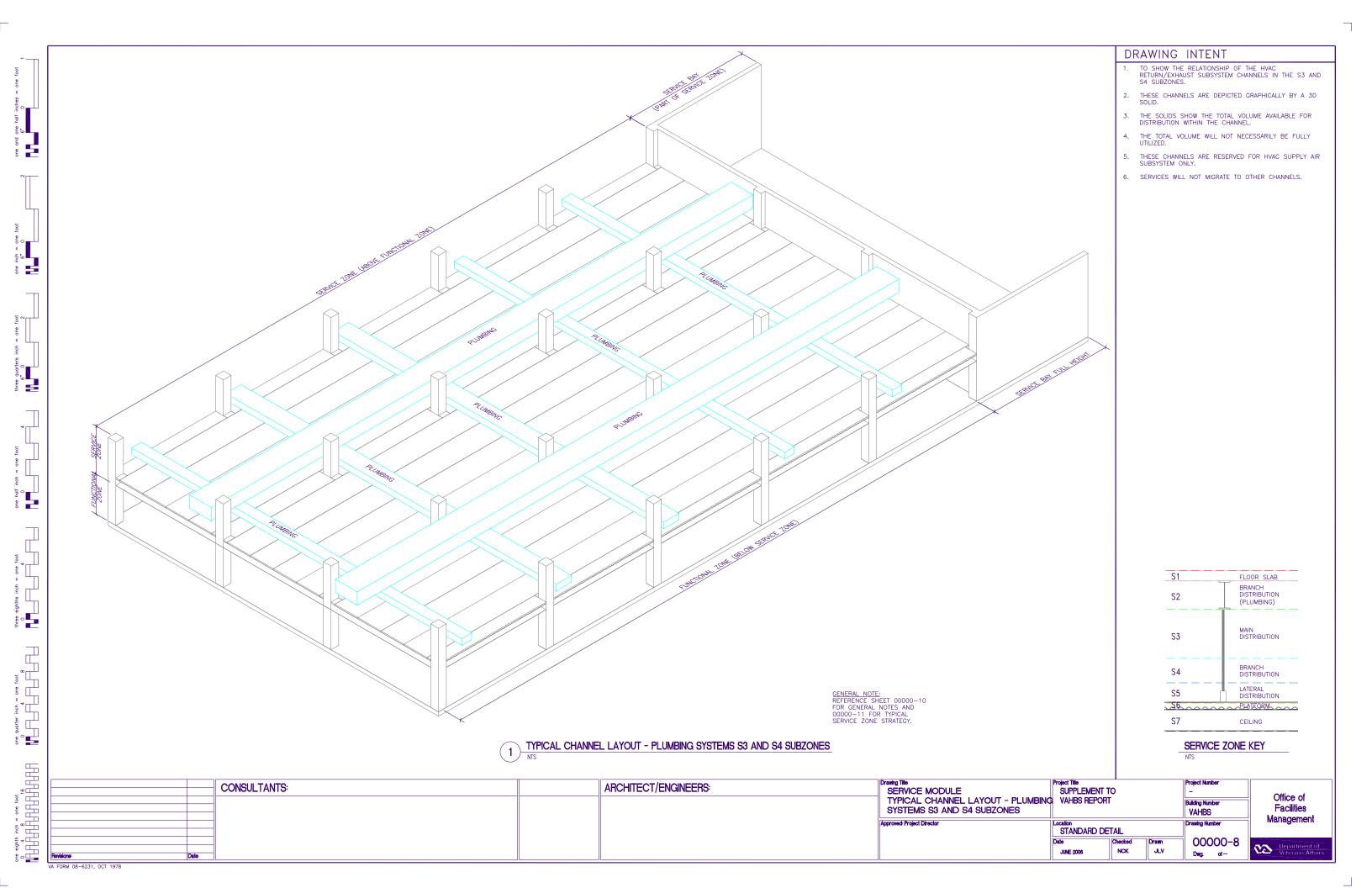
The interstitial floor system (deck) details are numbered to relate to Master Specification Section 03522, INSULATING CONCRETE INTERSTITIAL DECK.

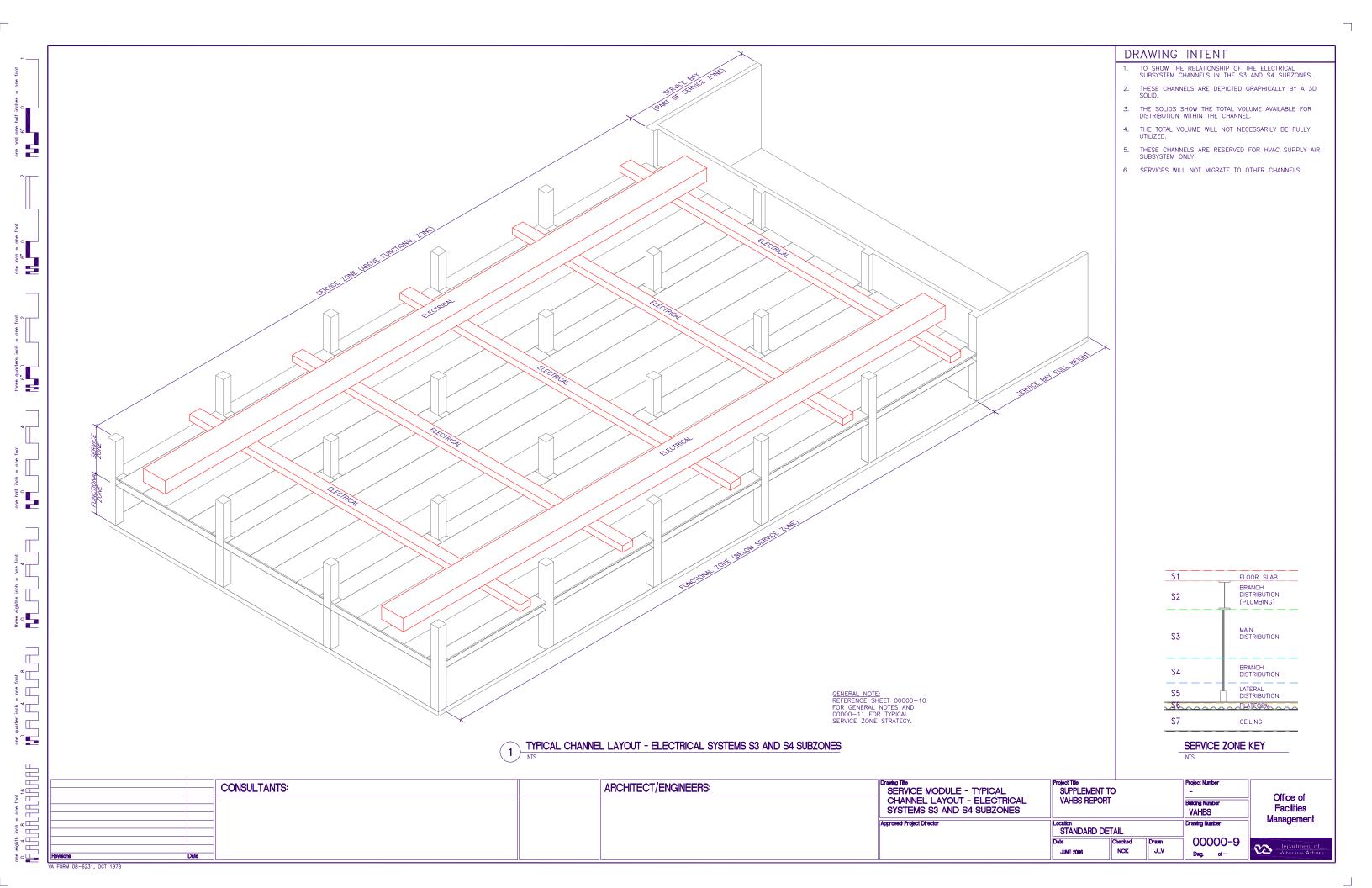
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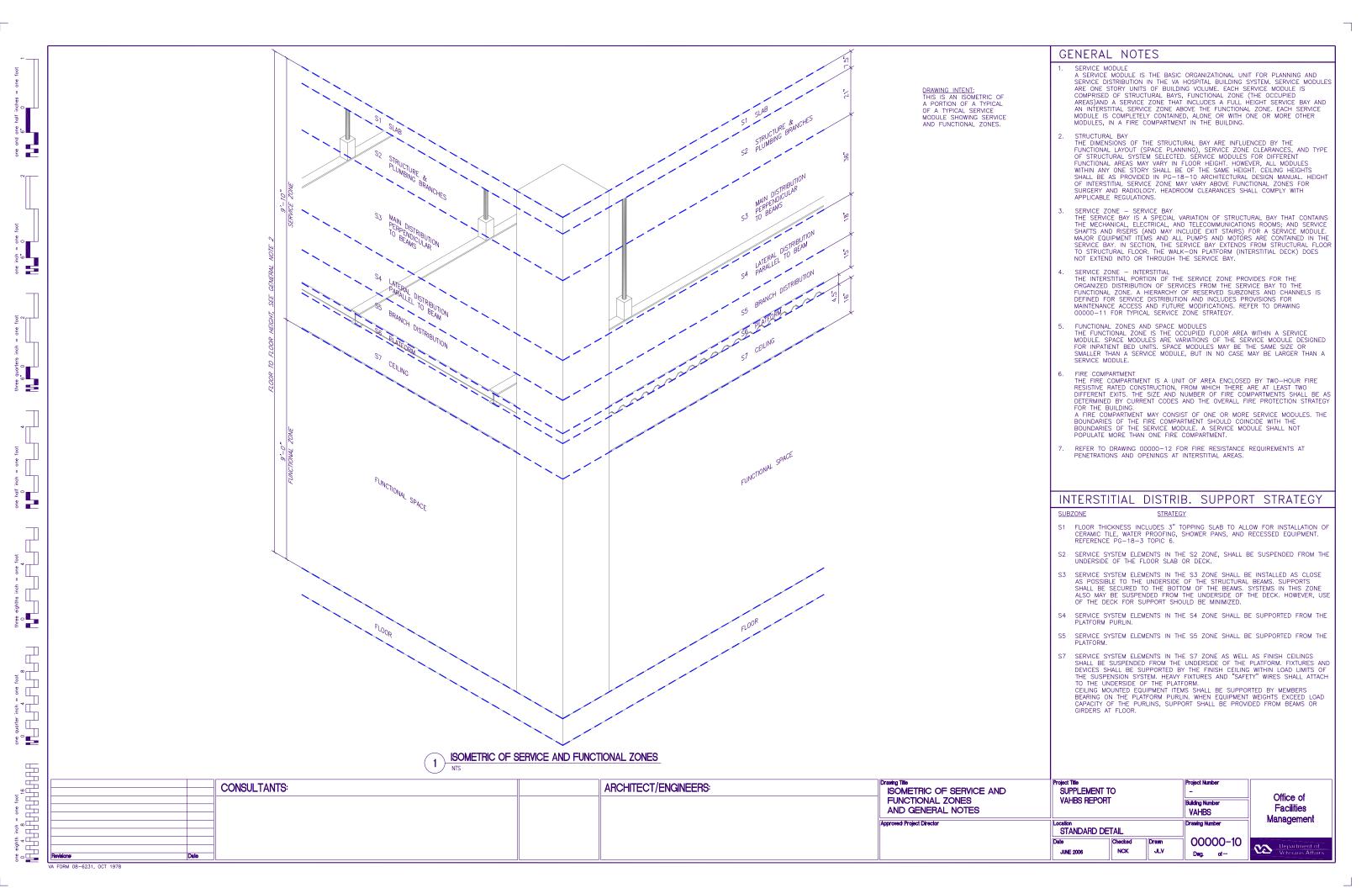


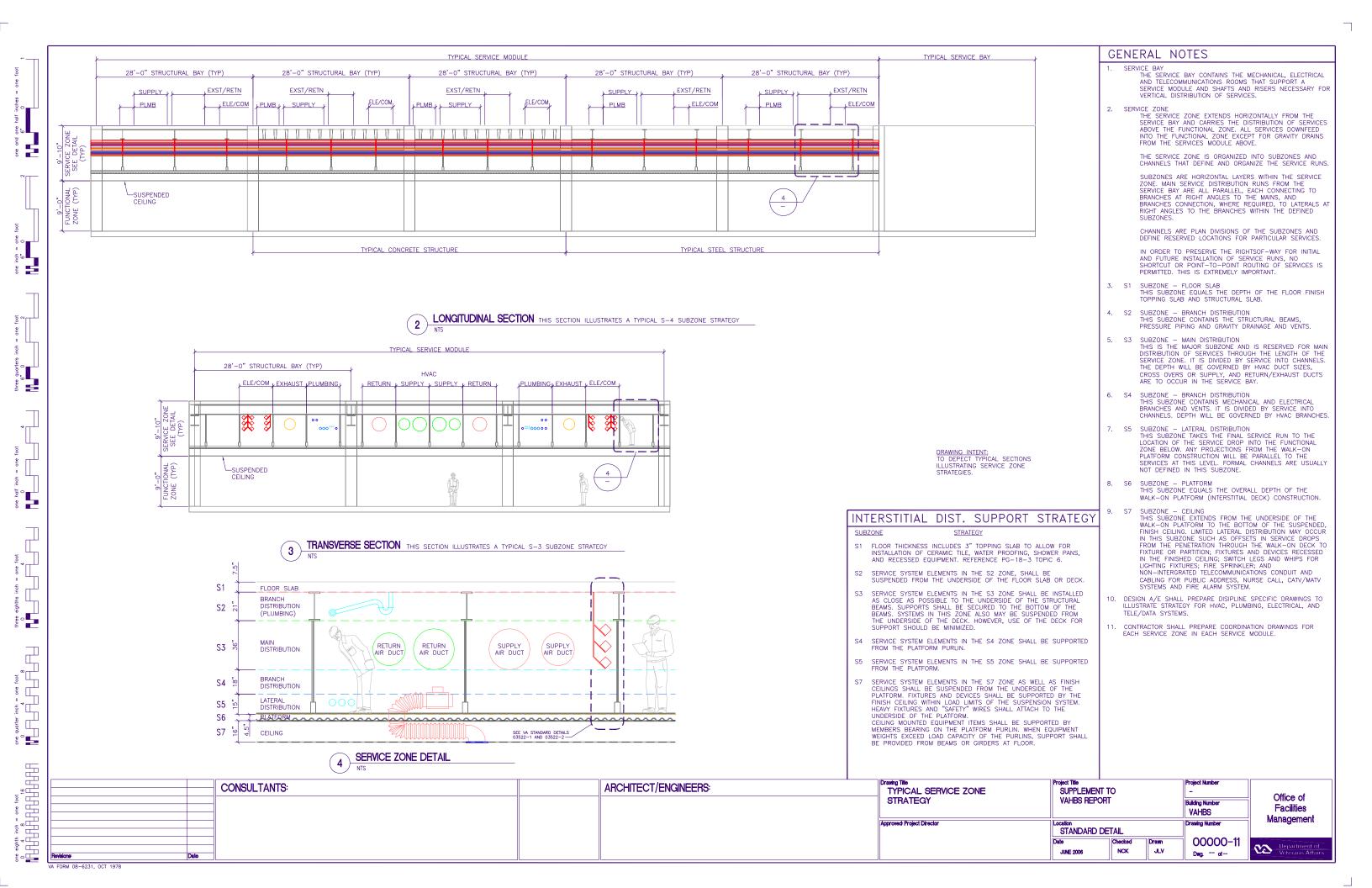


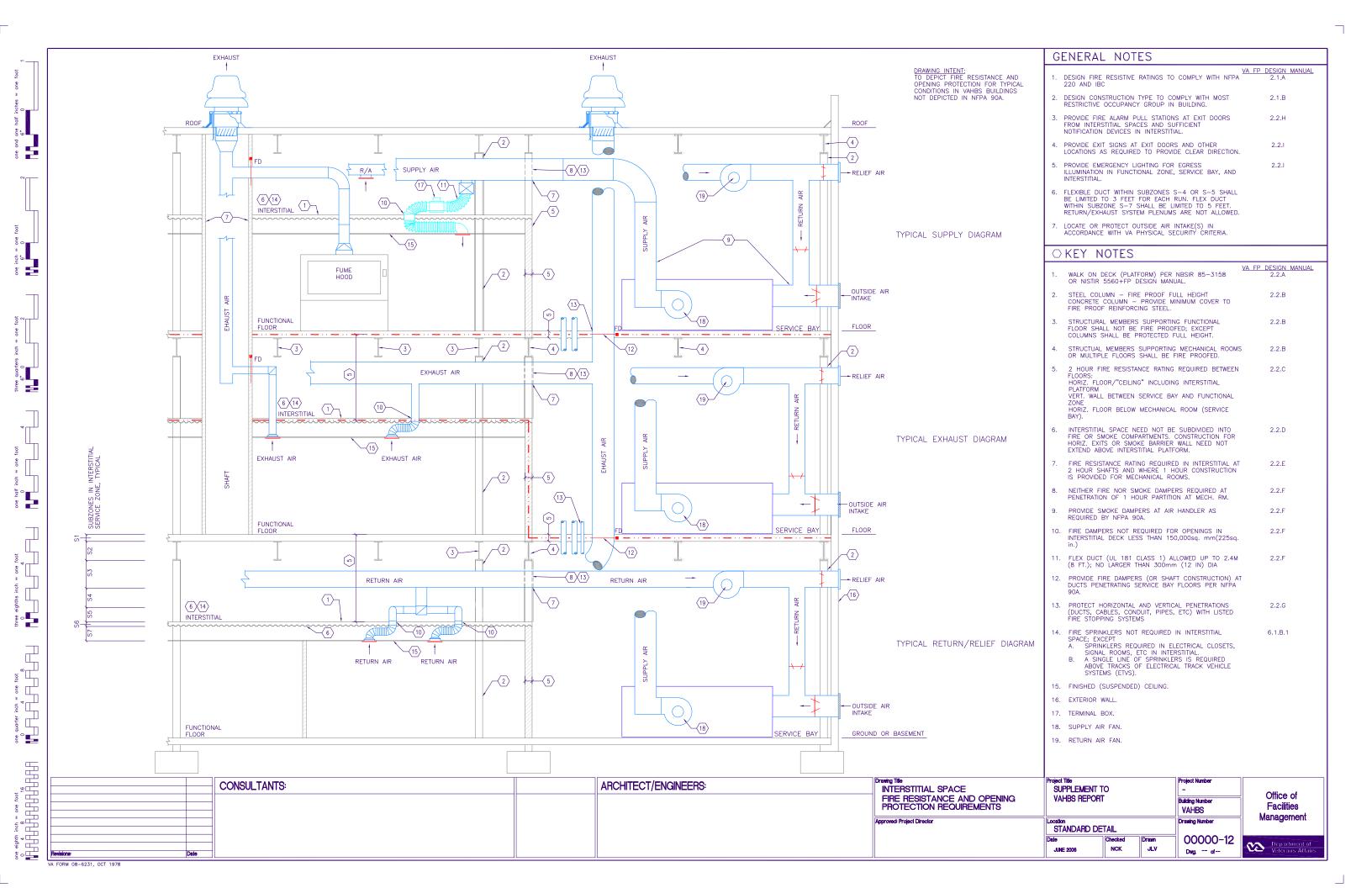


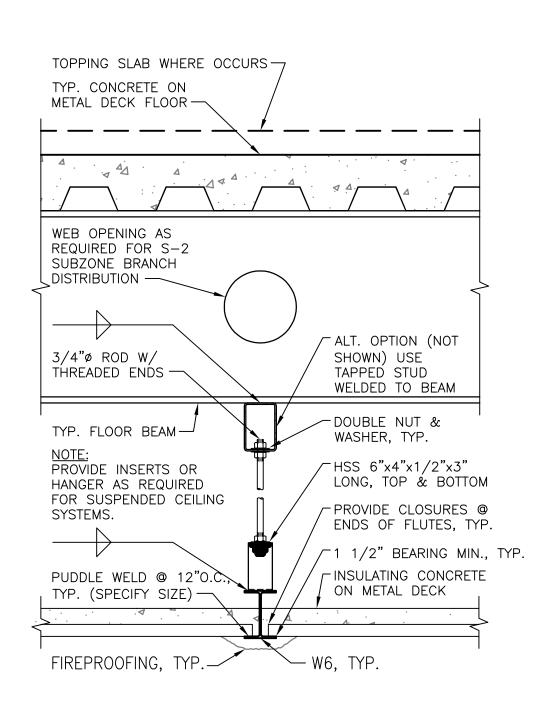














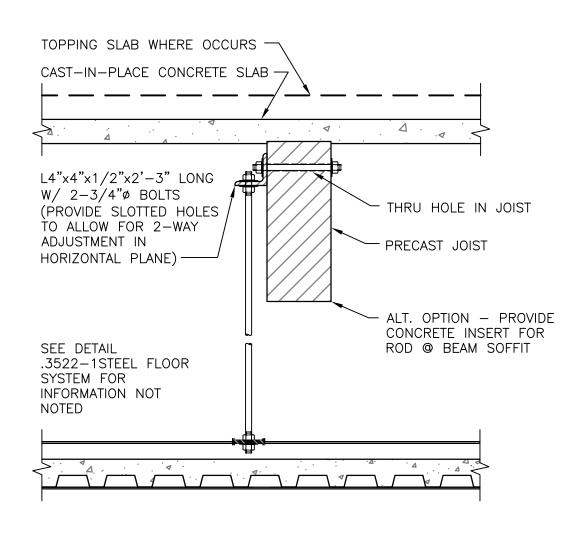
DETAIL TITLE / TYPICAL INTERSTITIAL SECTION
FOR STEEL FOOR SYSTEM

**SCALE: NONE** 

DATE ISSUED: JUNE 2006

CAD DETAIL NO.:

03522-1.DWG





DETAIL TITLE / TYPICAL INTERSTITIAL SECTION
FOR CONCRETE FLOOR SYSTEM

SCALE : NONE

DATE ISSUED: JUNE 2006

CAD DETAIL NO.:

03522-2.DWG