

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION

NPS Form 10-900

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form (Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK OF LATROBE

Other Name/Site Number: LATROBE TRUST COMPANY; LATROBE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY; FIRST NATIONAL BANK IN LATROBE; MELLON NATIONAL BANK AND TRUST COMPANY AND CITIZENS BANK.

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: 816 Ligonier Street

Not for publication: N/A

City/Town: Latrobe

Vicinity: N/A

State: PA County: Westmoreland Code: 129

Zip Code: 15650

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property

Private: X

Public-Local: ___

Public-State: ___

Public-Federal: ___

Category of Property

Building(s): X

District: ___

Site: ___

Structure: ___

Object: ___

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

1

Noncontributing

1 buildings

___ sites

___ structures

___ objects

1 Total

Number of Contributing Resources Previously Listed in the National Register: 0

Name of Related Multiple Property Listing: N/A

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4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Brent D. Glass

9/12/02

Signature of Certifying Official

Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of Commenting or Other Official

Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is:

- Entered in the National Register
- Determined eligible for the National Register
- Determined not eligible for the National Register
- Removed from the National Register
- Other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

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6. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic: Commerce/Trade

Sub: Financial institution

Current: Commerce/Trade

Sub: Financial institution

7. DESCRIPTIONArchitectural Classification: Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Italian Renaissance

Materials:

Foundation: sandstone

Walls: brick and granite

Roof: asphalt

Other: N/A

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

Nationally: __ Statewide: __ Locally: X

Applicable National

Register Criteria: A X B C X D

Criteria Considerations

(Exceptions): A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance: Commerce/Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1926-1951

Significant Dates: 1926

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Bartholomew and Smith architects; L.L. Duffee, builder

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Albert, George Dallas. *History of the County of Westmoreland, Pennsylvania with Biographical Sketches of Many of its Pioneers and Prominent Men*. Philadelphia: L.H. Everts and Company, 1882.
- Boucher, John, N. *Old and New Westmoreland* Volume III, New York, 1918.
- "Citizens' Bank to Erect Modern Building Corner Ligonier and Main." The Latrobe Bulletin 6 February 1926.
- 'Citizens' National Bank Advertisement." The Latrobe Bulletin 5 January 1927.
- "Contract is Awarded for Erecting a New Bank Building." The Latrobe Bulletin 23 April 1926.
- Henry, Charles M., Printing Co., pub., *The Greater Greensburg Profile*, Greensburg, Pennsylvania, 1962.
- "A History of Banking in Latrobe." The Latrobe Bulletin 50 Anniversary 19 December 1952.
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- Koyl, George S., Ed. *American Architects Directory*. New York: R.R. Bowker Company, 1955 and 1970.
- Latrobe Historical Society, *Latrobe As It Was* (1940), 1991.
- Latrobe, Pennsylvania 1854-1954 One Hundred Years*. Privately published, Latrobe Pennsylvania, 1954.
- Mullin-Kille Company, pub., *Latrobe Pennsylvania City Directory*. Chillicothe, Ohio, 1961, 1964 and 1966.
- National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Academy Hill Historic District, Greensburg, Pennsylvania.
- Thomes, Sheila Burns, Ed. *Directory of Historic American Architectural Firms*. Washington, D.C.: The Committee for the Preservation of Architectural Records, 1979.
- Van Atta, Robert B., *A Bicentennial History of the City of Greensburg*, Privately published, Greensburg, Pennsylvania, 1999.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Preliminary Determination of Individual Listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- Previously Listed in the National Register.
- Previously Determined Eligible by the National Register.
- Designated a National Historic Landmark.
- Recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- Recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other (Specify Repository):

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
	17	637240	4463960

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundaries for the Citizens National Bank correspond to the legally recorded boundaries for the parcel as listed in Deed Book Volume 3423 Page 591 and cited below.

Beginning at the northeasterly corner formed by the intersection of Ligonier and Main Streets; thence along the northerly side of Main Street, northeast a distance of 69.81 feet to a point on line dividing land herein described; thence along said dividing line northwest, a distance of 32 feet to a point; thence northeast, a distance of 0.19 feet to a point; thence northwest, a distance of 28 feet to a point on line dividing land herein described; thence along said dividing line southwest, a distance of 70 feet to a point on the easterly side of Ligonier Street; thence along said easterly side of Ligonier Street, southeast, a distance of 60 feet to the northeasterly corner formed by the intersection of Ligonier and Main Street at the place of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary includes the city lot that has been historically associated with the Citizens National Bank Building.

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title: Mr. Clinton Piper, Preservation Consultant

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Date: May 2002

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The 1926 Citizens National Bank is a six-story steel frame, flat roofed building with a non-load bearing masonry veneer. The Italian Renaissance Revival-influenced building's massing follows, on a reduced scale, the base-shaft-capital arrangement common to many American late nineteenth century buildings. In plan, the roughly L-shaped building measures 60' x 70'. It stands prominently at the core of Latrobe's business district on the northwest corner of two main thoroughfares, Main and Ligonier Streets. (*Photo #1*) Internally, aside from some alteration to the first floor bank area, the building retains its primary circulation patterns and detailing. Externally, the building's massing, materials, fenestration, and decorative detailing are intact, nearly unaltered, and in good repair.

The building's south and east elevations have smoothly-finished and lightly scored granite cladding which stands in contrast to the brick veneer of the other elevations. The otherwise austere building has a decorative first floor base including a raised basement with a watertable featuring a molded capstone. Granite quoins and two oculi on the south and east elevations with bay leaf band surrounds and marble insets which further articulate the otherwise smooth exterior. (*Photo #2*)

Two rectangular window openings flank the bank's entrance on the south elevation. Their wrought iron grates have been removed and the openings replaced with glass block. A decorated chambranle with ascendants that have an ovidart molding on the outer edge and a more simple molded detail on the inner edge compose the bank's door surround. The transverse has four shields connected with swags or garlands. Between each shield is a carved eagle. A cornice with dentils supports the two-part overdoor. The top has a shield or tablet containing the building's construction date of 1926. Stylized leaves flank the shield and terminate in cherubs holding vases which rest on a molded cornice above a central panel reading, "*Dedicated to the service of our citizens that the fruit of their labor may be made secure.*" Flanking this panel are two more cherub figures in relief. The original doors to the bank have been replaced with modern anodized aluminum frame doors with glass panels, as have the original two-leaf wrought iron doors over the entrance. A modern canopy extends from the main entrance with bank's logo. (*Photo #5*)

Additional granite detailing of the base includes a recessed door west of the bank entrance. It has a more austere surround with a simple chambranle and unadorned ascendants. Similar to the front entrance to the bank, the present doors are modern anodized double aluminum frame doors with glass panels and an awning. Above this west entrance is a recessed opening with classically detailed reveals and a metal frame casement window. The door on the east side of the building has unadorned chambranle and contains a utilitarian set of metal fire doors with rectangular glass panels above. The east elevation has three tall window openings, which, like the south elevation, have largely been infilled with glass block. The heads of these window openings are decorated with a central shield; a wreath, stylized leaves, and seated griffins flanking it. The chambranle is plain, with only a molded cornice across the top. (*Photo #3*)

A granite-molded cornice with carved anthemion separates the decorative base from the shaft's more plainly-detailed second through fifth floors. This portion of the exterior is largely original and in excellent condition. The window openings on the south elevation consist of paired steel sash windows. The openings correspond to the plain detailing of the shaft portion of the building and include simple granite windowsills. The steel sash windows are composed of four parts: a horizontal glazed panel across the top, with two vertical glazed panels in

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the middle and another horizontal glazed panel across the bottom. These modern replacement sashes follow the lines of the original steel windows. On the second through fifth floors of the east elevation the openings consist of three sets of paired windows flanked with single openings. On the far north end of the building, above the fire doors, are single sash windows aligned with each of the stair's six floors landings rather than the adjacent window openings. (*Photos #1-#3*)

The capital portion, separated from the fifth floor by a beltcourse, has a series of tall window openings on the south and east elevations echoing the openings of the first floor base. The south elevation has four large openings with six glazed panels over three glazed panels. Decorative window surrounds each have a transverse containing a shield and swags while the ascendants are plain. Across the bottom are more swags flanked with scrolls. On the east elevation of the sixth floor are three windows identical in detail to those of the south elevation, and they are flanked with large shields.

Adjacent buildings at the lower levels obscure the other two elevations, the west and north, but the unadorned yellow brick walls of the building's upper level walls are visible. These more utilitarian elevations of the building have symmetrically-placed openings with similar detailing and proportions to those on the south and east elevations. Single window openings are located mainly at the ends of the interior halls and the landings of the main stair. Some openings contain glass blocks. Along the lightwell of the west elevation are two sets of paired sash. (*Photo #4*)

The standard built-up roof is gravel surrounded with a short parapet capped in granite. At the roofline is a plain beltcourse with a decorative molding underneath. A simple cornice extends around the north and west elevations. The passenger elevator penthouse, a brick clad structure, extends up from the southwest corner of the building. On the northwest side of the building is one rectangular brick chimney that extends from the first floor beyond the roofline. Roof access is through a hatch near the chimney in the northwest corner of the roof.

The interior of the Citizens National Bank Building retains its original configuration of a first floor bank space and offices on upper floors. Near the bank are an office lobby, two passenger elevators, and a stair. Walls in the lobby have a modern ceramic tile finish with a tile border and glass above while the ceiling has modern finishes including decorative borders and a central square panel with a modern light fixture. The majority of the doors and doorways on the building's first floor have been replaced or altered with modern anodized frame doors with glass. Near the office stair is an original brass collection box for mail. (*Photo #16*)

The bank space retains its original volume including a service area with mezzanine to the rear or north end. Teller areas are located on the east side of the room with open workspaces to the west. The bank hall has its original rusticated stone walls, marble baseboard, wainscoting, and chair rail intact on the south and west sides. (*Photos #6-#7 & #9*) Some of the wainscoting and chair rail has been covered with paneling on the north and east sides of the hall. The rear, or north, wall retains original carved ancons supporting a heavy cornice with decorative acanthus leaf detailing creating a balcony for the mezzanine that is now enclosed. (*Photo #10*) The underside of the beam retains its paneled insets with decorative surrounds. The original bank hall ceiling is intact above the present suspended ceiling. It has beams with panels edged in bay leaf bands. Near the ceiling is an ovidart molding. Each beam is supported with ancons featuring ovidart molding and acanthus leaves. A small office on the second floor, near the passenger elevator, originally served as a security office with an interior window providing a view to the bank hall below.

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The bank vault, located on the north wall of the bank hall, measures 12'-0" wide, 23'-0" long and 11'-0" high. (*Photo #8*) Walls are 20" thick and consist of steel mesh and concrete while the interior is lined with chrome steel. The door is 42" wide and 22" thick and weighs 30 tons. The safe contains 500 original safe deposit boxes of various sizes. It also includes a separate room containing money storage.

Floors two through six contain a series of simply detailed offices. Each floorplate, which typically retains its original circulation pattern, has a central L-shaped corridor extending from the north end of the building, near the fire stairs, south where the corridor turns west to the two passenger elevators and main stair. There are roughly eleven offices or rooms per floor with the original men's and women's bathrooms located toward the center of each floor.

The second through fifth floors have reinforced concrete floors, original painted plaster walls over metal lathe, and original painted baseboard with chair rail, modern ceiling tiles, and suspended acoustic ceilings. (*Photos #11-#14*) Additional detailing includes original molded steel doors, surrounds, and original sandblasted glass panels, brass hardware, letter slots, and switchplates. The fire doors have six wire vision glass panels above one wood panel. The steel frame windows have no wood trim surrounds, but each has an original marble slab windowsill. The bathrooms are largely intact with original fixtures, tile floors and wood stalls. Two cast metal stairways, one stair located near the elevators, and a second fire stair in the northeast corner of the building, provide access to each floor. (*Photo #15*) The office lobby stair has tall glass block openings with no trim and marble slabs, as does the fire stair.

On the sixth floor, much of the original finish detail has been removed and replaced including the doors, but the new finishes follow the lines of the originals. While the windows on the sixth floor are considerably taller than those of the other floors, it does not appear that the interior finishes of this level were any different than those of the other levels. The original published rendering of the building indicates that the sixth floor windows were to have been the same size as the others, but with carved panels above. Apparently a change was made in the design, however it was not known when this occurred.

The basement is accessible from the office lobby stair and the fire stair. The landing at the bottom of the office lobby stair has a metal bar gate that separates the bank storage vault from the mechanical areas of the basement. (*Photo #17*) These areas contain an oil-fired furnace and other mechanical electrical and plumbing-related systems. The oil-fired furnace serves the building's original and still extant radiators.

The Citizens National Bank Building, aside from limited alterations to the bank area on the first floor retains its circulation patterns and much of its original detailing. The exterior materials, fenestration patterns and decorative detailing are intact and in good repair. The Citizens National Bank continues to be emblematic of early twentieth century financial and commercial history in Latrobe.

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The Citizens National Bank Building is significant under National Register Criterion "A" for its association with early twentieth century financial and commercial activity in Latrobe. It was constructed as a bank and office building, and it has continually housed these functions to the present day. The building is also significant under Criterion "C" as a distinctive, locally-significant example of Italian Renaissance Revival-influenced architecture, which emulates the base-shaft-capital construction common in larger American cities at this time. The 1926-1951 period of significance reflects the continuous financial and commercial significance of the building; the National Register's fifty-year guide for establishing significance was selected as the end of the period of significance. Although altered at the first floor level, the changes have not diminished the building's ability to reflect its significance; it retains an overall architectural integrity and prominence in the community.

LATROBE'S HISTORY

Latrobe grew from a thickly-forested site along the Loyalhanna Creek in central Westmoreland County near Chestnut Ridge. Oliver Barnes, an agent and civil engineer for the Pennsylvania Railroad, purchased the site to build a railyard. He subsequently saw the site, forty miles from Pittsburgh, near the creek and timber and coal resources, as an excellent location for a town, one of many such towns established in southwestern Pennsylvania during this period.¹ Barnes purchased a tract of land from Thomas Kirk in February of 1851, and in May of 1851, he planned lots on a flat area in a bend of the creek. While the railyard was built a short distance to the northwest at Derry, a railroad station and support buildings were erected upon several acres near the town center. Barnes named the town for his fellow engineer, Benjamin H. Latrobe, Jr., who was also involved with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Latrobe's father, Benjamin H. Sr., was the nationally-known architect.² The nascent town grew quickly; it was incorporated as a borough in May of 1854.³ Early industries such as paper and gristmills developed in Latrobe because of its proximity to the creek. As Pittsburgh emerged as a steel production center during the post Civil War era, coal deposits around Latrobe, and most of southwestern Pennsylvania, were in high demand since coal was a key ingredient to steel manufacturing.⁴

BANKING HISTORY

With the emergence and growth of local business and industry came a need for banking institutions. Latrobe's first bank was the Greensburg Deposit Bank (also known as Lloyd Huff and Watt), which opened in 1867 at 713 Ligonier Street. Bankruptcy, the result of the 1873 financial panic, forced the bank to close. Former officers and customers of Lloyd Huff and Watt helped establish The Citizens Banking Company (1873-1888), which assumed the debts of Lloyd Huff and Watt and their bank location on Ligonier Street. Two years later another bank was formed, W.S. Head and Brother (1875 to 1888) located at the corner of Depot and Ligonier Streets. In 1888, these two banks consolidated to form **The First National Bank of Latrobe (1888-1933)** located on Depot and Ligonier Streets. Another bank was created in August 1888, **The Citizens National Bank of Latrobe (1888-1928)**, located on the northwest corner of Main and Ligonier Streets in a now-demolished three story red brick building, the site of the present building.⁵ Latrobe was home to two other banks during this prosperous late nineteenth/early twentieth century period: **The Peoples National Bank of Latrobe (1901-1931)** on the southeast corner of Main and Ligonier Street and the **Latrobe Trust Company (1903-1933)**, at 818 Ligonier Street.

¹George Dallas Albert, *History of the County of Westmoreland, Pennsylvania with Biographical Sketches of Many of its Pioneers and Prominent Men* (Philadelphia: L.H. Everts and Company, 1882), 597.

²*Latrobe Pennsylvania 1854-1954 One Hundred Years* (Privately published, Latrobe, Pennsylvania, 1954), 16-17.

³Albert, 597.

⁴*Latrobe Pennsylvania 1854-1954*, 21-22.

⁵*Ibid.*, 129.

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These four banks, The First National Bank of Latrobe, The Citizens National Bank of Latrobe, The People's National Bank and the Latrobe Trust Company competed for business in the Latrobe business district in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The steel industry's establishment of major specialty alloy plants in Latrobe sustained economic growth in the region. Symbolic of this growth, Citizens National Bank of Latrobe erected a more elaborate, substantial and up-to-date building. According to the February 1926 minutes of the Citizens National Bank director's meetings, the decision was made to build a new bank on the same prominent Main and Ligonier Street location rather than moving.⁶ In the same year, The Peoples National Bank of Latrobe razed its original building to make way for a new building on its southeast corner of Main and Ligonier Street.

Unlike the first Citizens National Bank building, an architect was selected to design the new building. Local architects Paul Bartholomew and Brandon Smith were retained to design a building that symbolized the bank's importance, its aspirations and to further capitalize on its excellent business district location.⁷ The new bank opened for business on November 21, 1927.⁸ As was common to the banks and commercial buildings of this era, publicity articles touted the new building as the "most modern in every particular" and the vault was "the largest in this section of the county." The vault was also reported to have "sufficient strength to withstand earthquakes and dynamite attacks."⁹ While the building was erected largely following the plans of Bartholomew and Smith, a published rendering of the building depicts the sixth floor windows to be the same size as those of the lower floors with large decorative panels above them. It is not known whether these windows were used and subsequently changed or if the present windows are original.

Economic instability beginning in the late 1920s peaked with the stock market crash of 1929. As elsewhere in the nation the Great Depression brought an era characterized by mergers and liquidations to Latrobe's banks. Financially stronger banks took over smaller, less stable operations and consolidated at the larger bank's location. In 1928, barely a year after its new building was complete, The Citizens National Bank of Latrobe combined with Latrobe Trust Company and assumed the name, Latrobe Trust Company, consolidating operations at Citizens National Bank's prominent Main and Ligonier Street location. The bank survived the crash of 1929, but in 1933 it was placed in liquidation and became the Latrobe Bank and Trust Company, operating from the same Main and Ligonier Street location.

The Peoples National Bank of Latrobe liquidated in 1931. It was not until 1934 that Commercial National Bank of Latrobe was created in the former Peoples Bank Building where it remains today. In 1937 First National Bank in Latrobe (1933-1948), located on Depot and Ligonier Streets, merged with The Latrobe Bank and Trust Company. First National Bank in Latrobe abandoned its Depot and Ligonier Street location in favor of the Main and Ligonier location of The Latrobe Bank and Trust Company, but retained the latter's name.¹⁰ In 1948, First National Bank in Latrobe became the Latrobe office of the Pittsburgh-based Mellon National Bank and Trust Company.¹¹

By the 1950s, further economic shifts resulted in banks across the nation no longer being locally owned, but regionally owned. Only two banks remained on opposite corners of Latrobe's business district: **Mellon National Bank and Trust** and **Commercial National Bank**. Clearly, the Ligonier and Main Street location

⁶ "A History of Banking in Latrobe" *The Latrobe Bulletin* 50th Anniversary Edition (19 December 1952).

⁷ "Citizens' Bank to Erect Modern Building Corner Ligonier and Main" *The Latrobe Bulletin* (6 February 1926).

⁸ "A History of Banking in Latrobe."

⁹ "Citizens' National Bank Advertisement."

¹⁰ "A History of Banking in Latrobe."

¹¹ Ibid.

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was the prime bank location in Latrobe. In 2001, **Citizens Bank** bought Mellon National Bank and Trust Company.

BARTHOLOMEW AND SMITH ARCHITECTS

Architect Paul Bartholomew (1883-1973) was born in Cleveland, Ohio, and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a degree in architecture in 1908. He established a practice in Greensburg, Pennsylvania in 1912.¹² Bartholomew's training was in the Beaux-Arts tradition with his body of work drawing heavily on European and American Colonial precedents. His notable projects include the National Bank Building in Carnegie, the Troutman Department Store in Greensburg, Westmoreland Hospital in Greensburg, the YMCA Building in Greensburg, the Beta Theta Pi Fraternity House in State College, "New Deal" community of Norvelt in Westmoreland County, and numerous private houses in Greensburg and one near Connellsville. Bartholomew also oversaw the 1950s era renovation of the Troutman Department store in Connellsville.¹³ Successor firms to Bartholomew's original firm continue in operation today.

Bartholomew partnered with another prominent architect of the Beaux-Arts tradition, Brandon Smith (1889-1962) for a time beginning in 1915.¹⁴ Smith studied architecture at Carnegie Institute of Technology. In 1923, he designed the Fox Chapel Golf Club with Bartholomew, followed by the Citizens National Bank Building in Latrobe. By 1928, Smith formed his own firm of Smith and Reif and designed the Edgeworth Club in Pittsburgh in 1929. He continued to work through the depression with a number of commissions for private residences in Pittsburgh and Greensburg, including the McKelvey House in Squirrel Hill and the Charles Lynch House, Starboard Light, in Greensburg. Smith retired and moved to Florida in 1950 where he continued to take on projects until his death in 1962.¹⁵

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

The multiple-use, multiple-story Citizens National Bank Building was typical of the commercial buildings built in the early decades of the twentieth century. During this period the multiple story mixed-use building was ascendant in American architecture, beginning in the cities of New York and Chicago in the late nineteenth century, spreading to smaller cities like Pittsburgh, then to yet smaller cities and towns like Latrobe. Development of the elevator encouraged the construction of more than five floors, so buildings could be more than sixty feet in height. This coincided with the increases in downtown land values, which further encouraged the construction of multiple-story buildings.

Multiple-story buildings brought prestige for the builder or tenant often serving as self-advertisement. The first floors of many of these buildings housed anchor businesses such as a bank or department store, the upper floors being used to house professional and service-oriented offices such as doctors, lawyers, dentists, tailors, and other small businesses. In the case of Citizens National Bank, the upper floors were designed with individual offices and suites, each opening to a main hall. To take advantage of natural light and air circulation, many offices in buildings of this type had interior windows, doors, and transoms facing the main hall. Most of these buildings were constructed of either structural masonry (until circa 1910), or in some cases, concrete and steel (typical by 1926), resulting in many of the buildings being regarded as fireproof.

¹²George S. Koyl, Ed., *American Architects Directory* (New York: R.R. Bowker Company, 1955 and 1970), 47.

¹³*Ibid.*, 28.

¹⁴Sheila Burns Thomes, Ed., *Directory of Historic American Architectural Firms* (Washington, D.C.: The Committee for the Preservation of Architectural Records, Inc, 1979), 28-29.

¹⁵William M. Kelly, *Edgeworth 1893-1993* (Privately published, 1993), 104-105.

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The architects and contractors of Citizens National Bank utilized technology of the age by erecting a six story building with elevators, electric lighting, and followed the trend of combining a bank with commercial and professional and service offices into one building. The structural steel building with non-load bearing masonry veneer has one of Latrobe's most finely detailed facades with decorative beltcourses, swags, shields, dentils, griffins, and cherubs. Other common elements of the style exhibited in the building's design include

symmetrical fenestration, use of classical forms, pedimented doorways, quoins, and multipaned windows. The building's fine detailing together with its location at the intersection of Latrobe's two main thoroughfares of the commercial and business district ensured its prominence in the community.

While historically there were three architect-designed bank buildings in Latrobe, only the Citizens National Bank and Peoples National Bank, now known as Commercial National Bank, remain. The five story, Beaux-Arts influenced First National Bank of Latrobe Building on Depot and Ligonier Streets was razed in the 1970s. The three story Classical Revival temple style influenced Peoples National Bank at 900 Ligonier Street was also built in 1926. Designed by the New York firm of Morgan, French and Company, People's Bank is built of Indiana limestone and measures 50'-0" x 100'-0." Similar to Citizens National Bank, Peoples National Bank is of steel frame construction with masonry cladding.¹⁶ Like the Citizens National Bank, the building has a main bank floor at street level and office floors above accessible in the case of this building either from the Ligonier Street entrance or from a second Main Street entrance. Although not as tall as the Citizens National Bank, this building is notable for its two large Ionic columns flanking the entrance on Ligonier Street and the pilasters extending around the perimeter of the building. The windows have been replaced on all elevations with anodized windows, but the openings have not been altered. The roofline retains its decorative balustrade.

Other five or more story buildings exist in Latrobe, such as the load-bearing six story masonry Eiseman Building of 1908 on Ligonier Street, the five story Masonic Building of 1926 on Ligonier Street and the similar-vintage six story Ober Building on Main Street. While all of slightly different style and detailing, these commercial buildings are simpler background buildings lacking the prominence in Latrobe's urban core of the Citizens National Bank Building.

Citizens National Bank functioned as a multiple-use building with various tenants. A 1940 city directory reveals a diverse list of commercial and professional tenants in the bank including a chiropractor, real estate and insurance offices, barber, dentist, building and loan association, several attorneys, physician, coal and coke company, fuel company, and beauty shop. City directories from 1961, 1964 and 1966 reveal a continuation of many of the same types of tenants in the upper level offices. Presently, the Citizens Bank building has the following professional offices: a reality office, insurance company, law firm, several attorneys, a private foundation, and several doctors' offices.

Other multiple story buildings in the region include the First National Bank Building in Greensburg, Westmoreland County, presently Southwest Bank, at 111 South Main Street. Built in 1925, the eight-story brick building is similar to Citizens National Bank in that it combines both a first floor banking space with upper level offices. The bank hall has detailing reminiscent of Citizens National Bank including a beamed ceiling with carved ancons. Similar in exterior detailing to the Citizens National Bank is the Troutman Department Store on Main Street in Greensburg, also designed by Paul Bartholomew. This six-floor building is essentially an expanded version of the Citizens National Bank. It has the same Italian Renaissance Revival

¹⁶“Contract is Awarded for Erecting a New Bank Building” The Latrobe Bulletin (23 April 1926).

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elevations with symmetrically ordered fenestration and extremely plain window surrounds. The lower two levels feature decorative motifs and surrounds. Like the Citizens National Bank, the façade is clad in masonry and the other elevations are of yellow brick. While the exterior of this building has been carefully restored, the building no longer functions as a department store, having been converted into senior citizen housing.

Another architect-designed building in a similarly-sized southwestern Pennsylvania town is the Monongahela City Trust Company of Second and Main Streets in Monongahela, Washington County. Morgan, French and Company of New York designed the building. This bank only operated between 1928-1929, a victim of the

stock market crash of 1929. It subsequently housed many functions including a car dealership, but it is vacant. Connellsville, Fayette County, was home to a number of multiple story bank and commercial buildings, several of which, including the First National Bank Building, have been torn down. The Colonial National Bank of 1906 at 101 E Crawford Avenue still stands, but is a classical temple type design. The Fayette Bank Building in Uniontown, Fayette County was designed by nationally-known architect, Daniel H. Burnham, in 1902. At eleven stories, it is Uniontown's most prominent building, but no longer functions as a bank.

The Citizens National Bank Building of Latrobe stands as a remaining example of a higher style, architect-designed, multiple story building constructed in an urban core of one of the many communities that grew as a result of coal and steel wealth associated with Pittsburgh and southwestern Pennsylvania in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This building type was common to nearly every substantial community outside of Pittsburgh, and the Citizens National Bank Building of Latrobe is a particularly distinctive and intact example of this type.

CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK, WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PA

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK, WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PA

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet Photographs Page 1**CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK/MELLON BANK BUILDING PHOTOGRAPHS***Information for numbers 1-5 is the same for all photographs.*

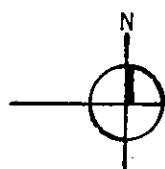
1. *Citizens National Bank/Mellon Bank Building*
2. *City of Latrobe, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania*
3. *Clinton Piper*
4. *March 2001*
5. *RR #4, Box 89A, Latrobe, Pennsylvania 15650*

NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	DIRECTION
#1	Southeast elevation	N
#2	Southwest elevation	NE
#3	Northeast elevation	S
#4	North elevation	S
#5	Detail of first floor south elevation	N
#6	Main bank hall	SW
#7	Detail of main bank hall	NW
#8	Detail of bank vault	N
#9	Detail of marble wainscoting	W
#10	Cornice detail in bank hall	SE
#11	Typical office level (Fourth Floor)	E
#12	Typical office level (Fourth Floor)	N
#13	Detail of Fifth Floor conference room	SE
#14	Typical office (Second Floor)	S
#15	Stair detail	E
#16	Mail chute	W
#17	Detail of basement vault	N

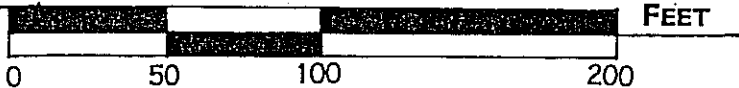


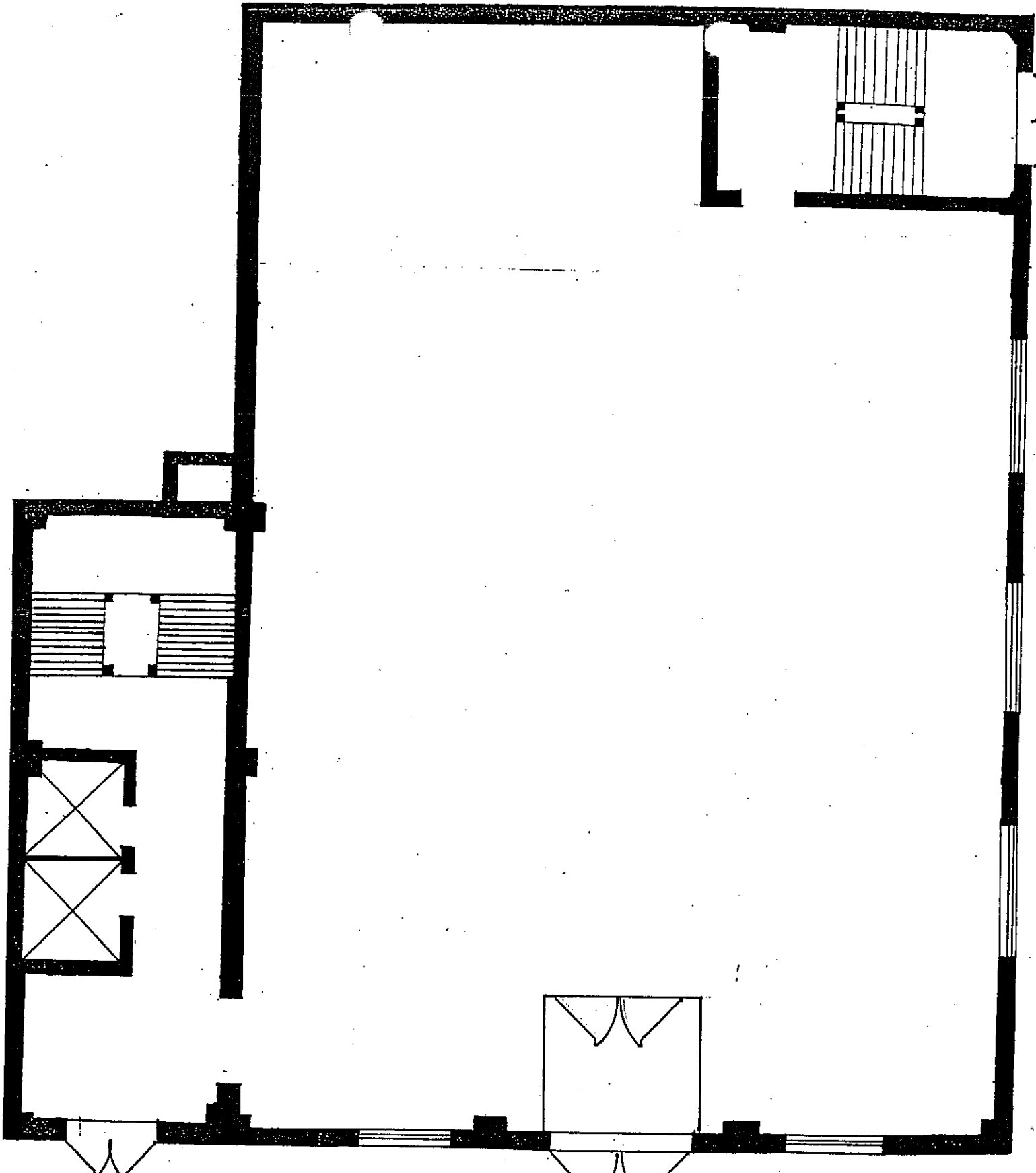
**CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK BUILDING-MELLON BANK BUILDING
CITY OF LATROBE-WESTMORELAND COUNTY-PA**

09-01

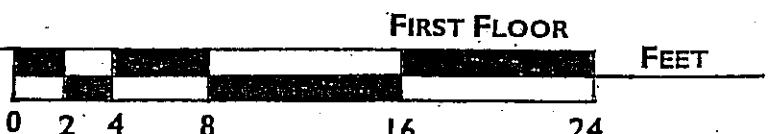
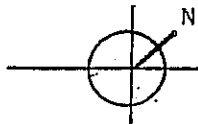


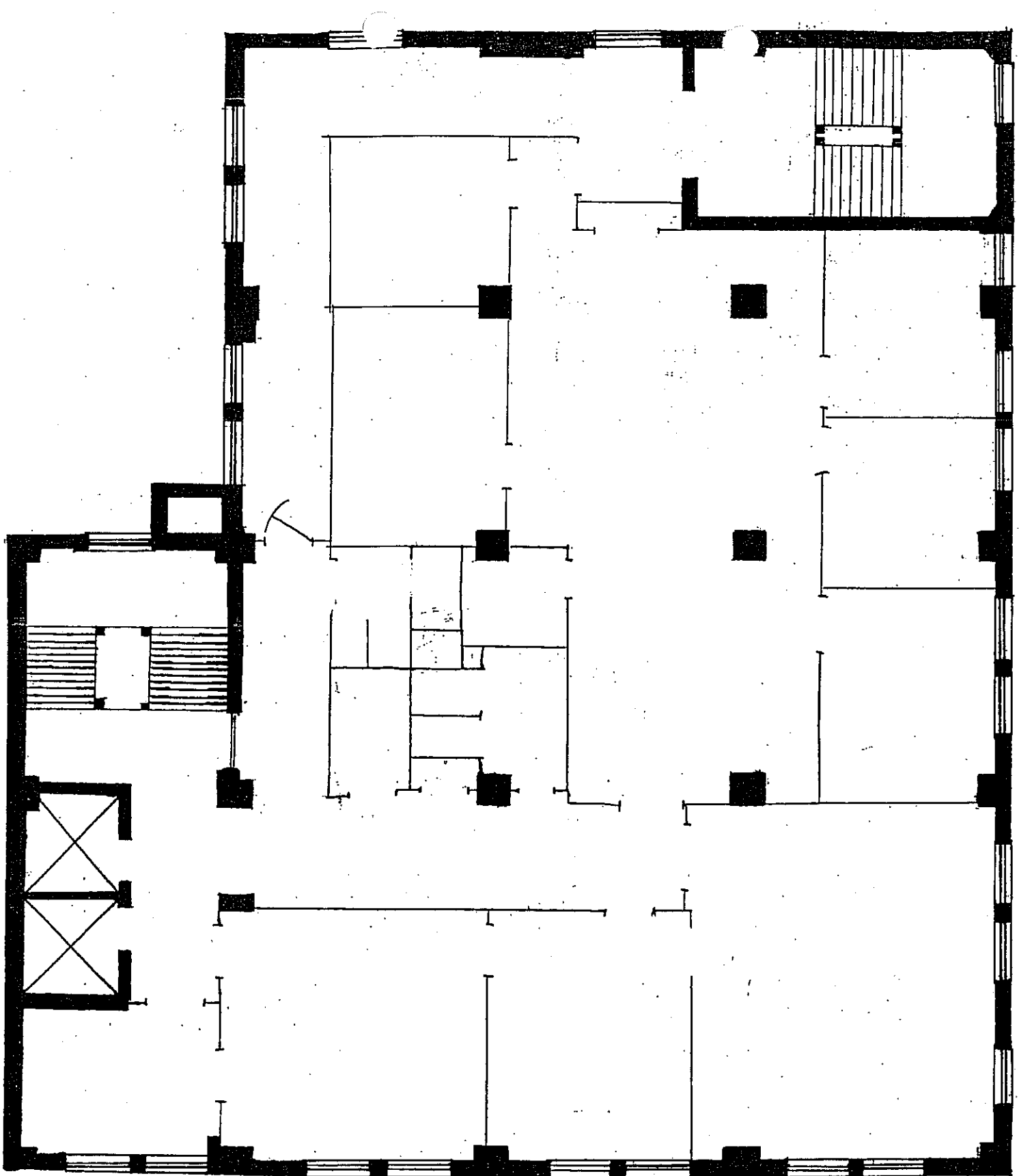
SITE PLAN



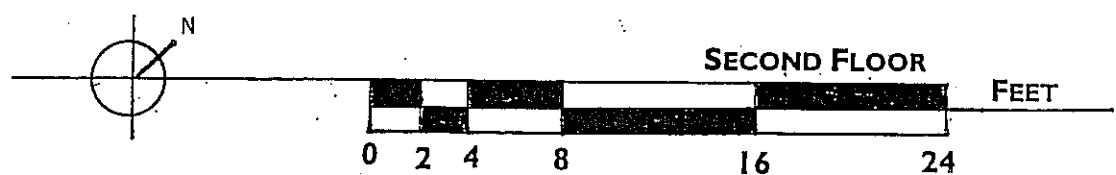


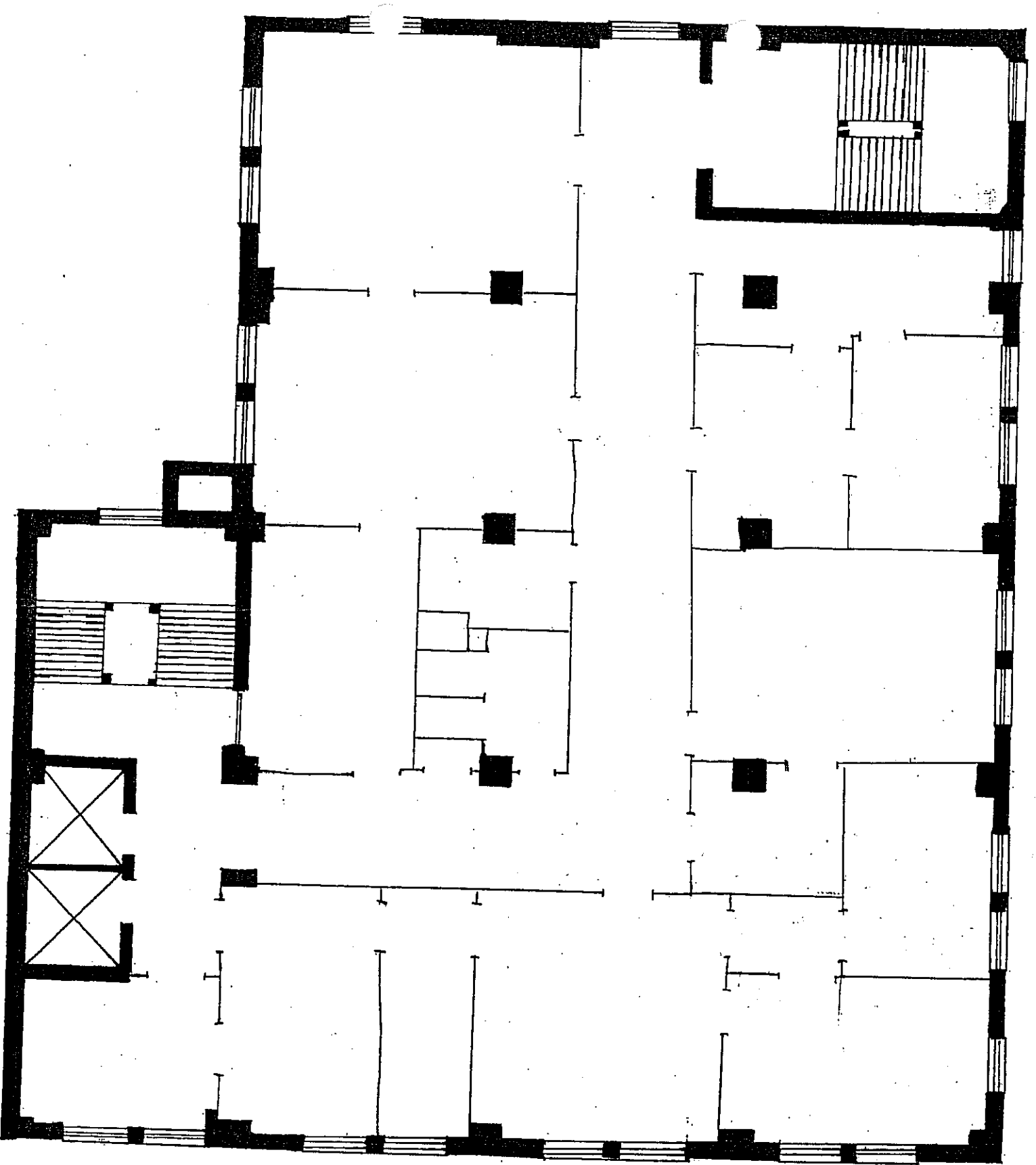
CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK BUILDING-MELLON BANK BUILDING
CITY OF LATROBE-WESTMORELAND COUNTY-PA
09-01



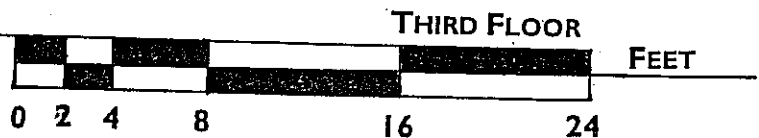
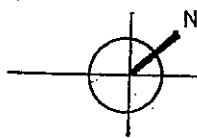


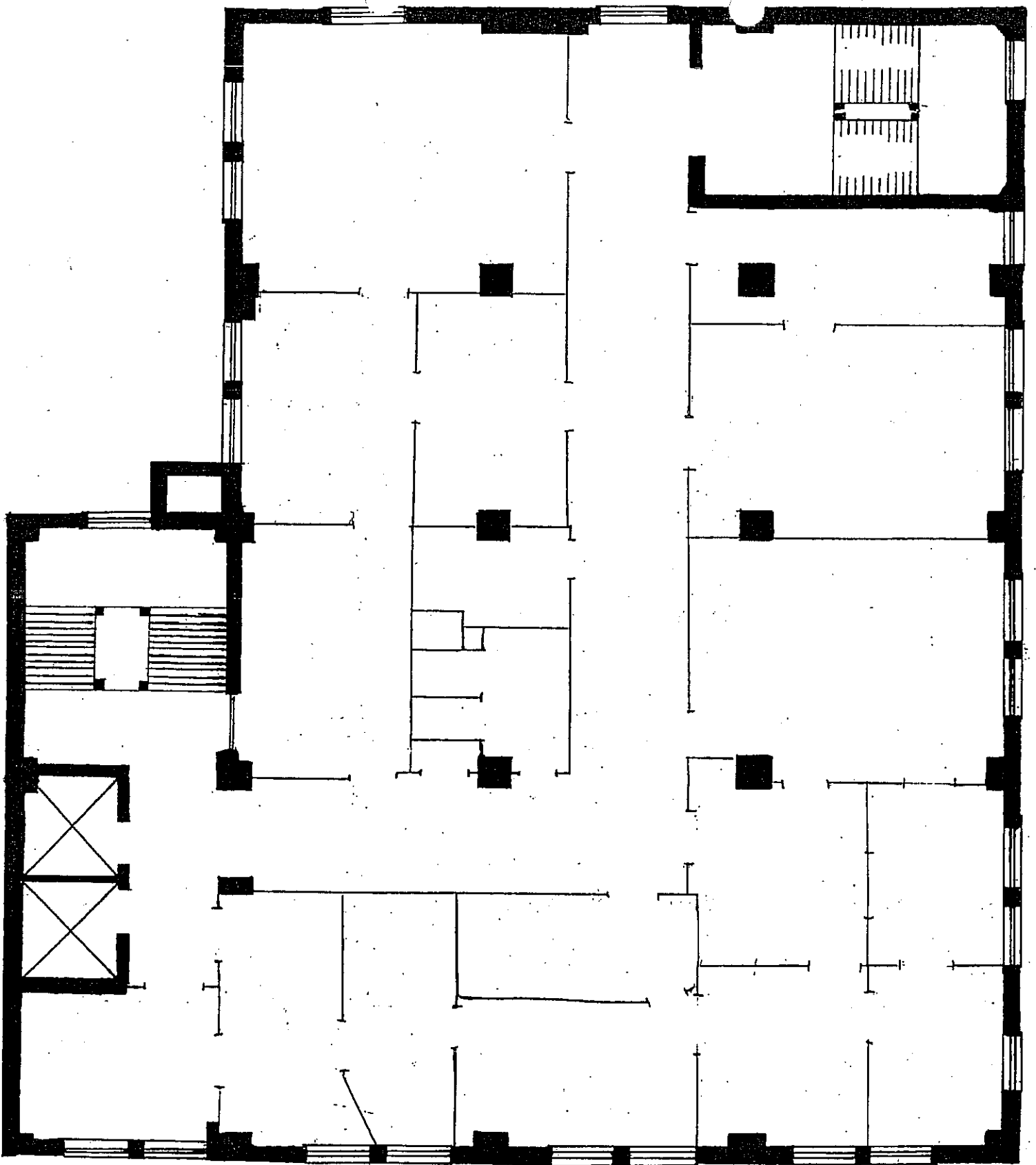
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CITY OF LATROBE-WESTMORELAND COUNTY-PA
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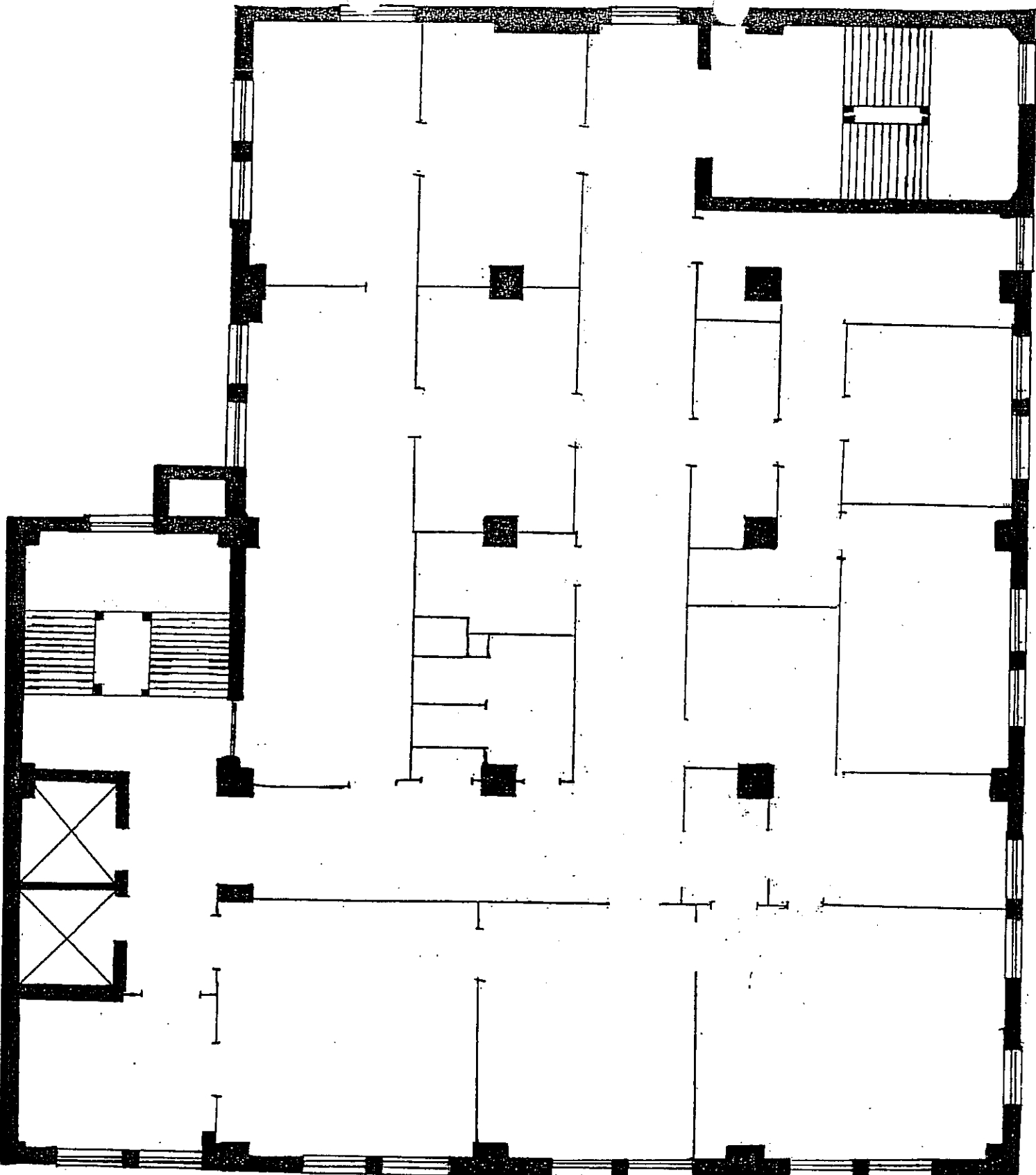
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CITY OF LATROBE-WESTMORELAND COUNTY-PA
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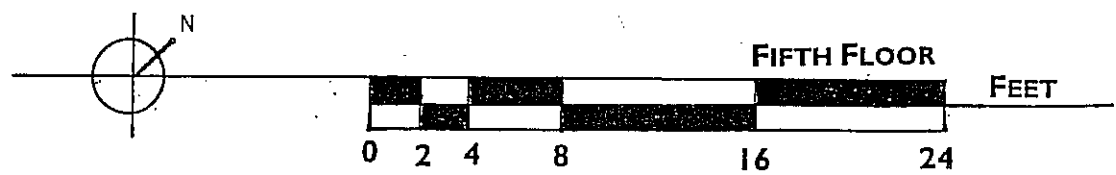


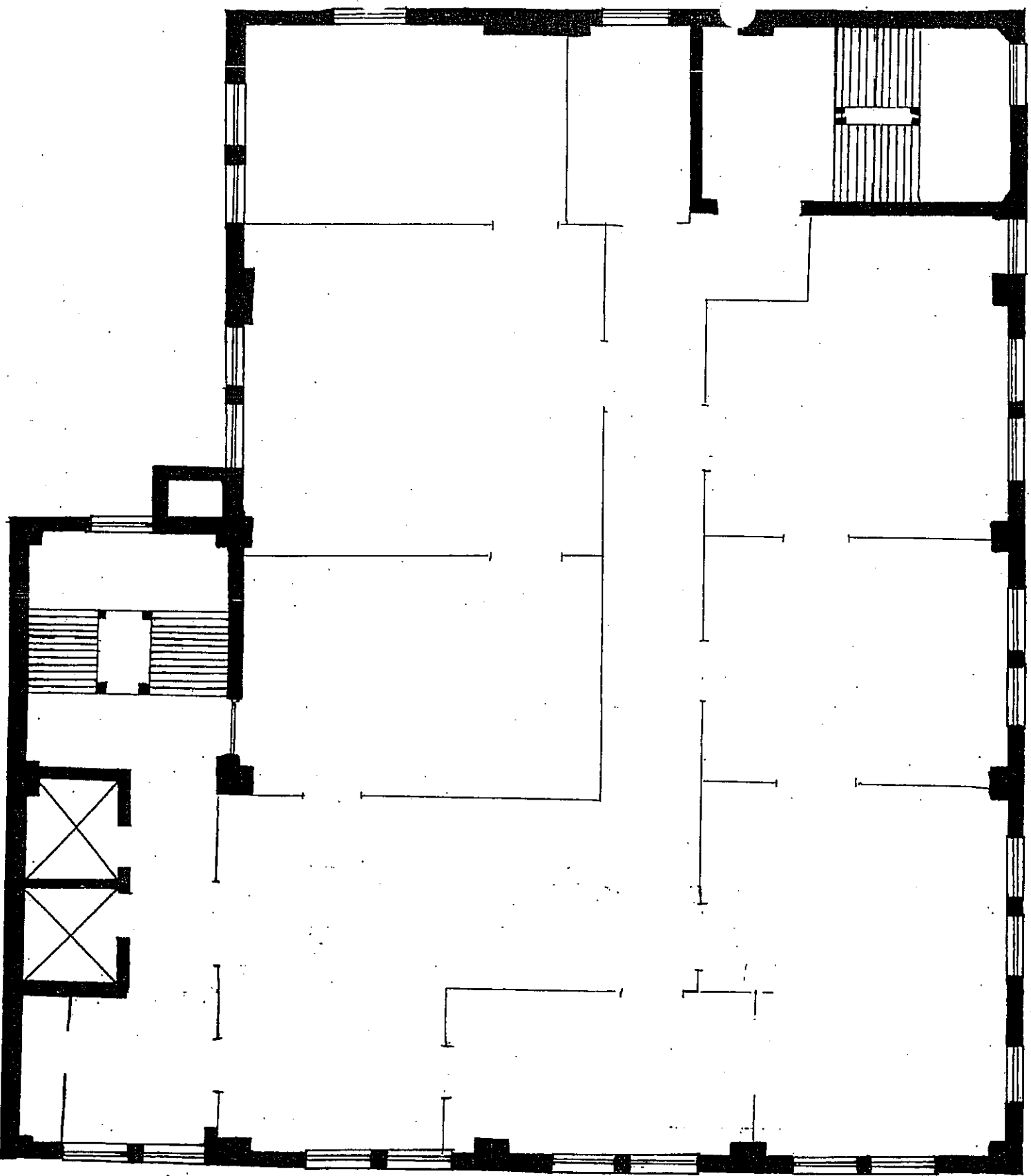
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CITY OF LATROBE-WESTMORELAND COUNTY-PA
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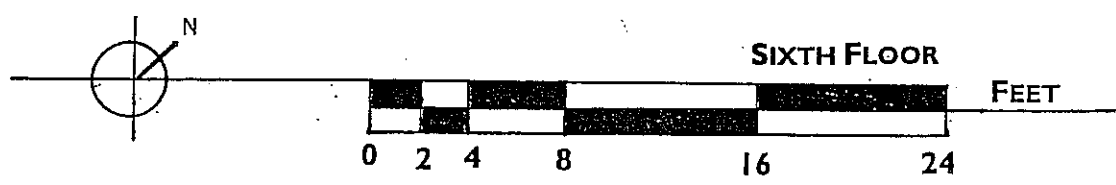


CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK BUILDING-MELLON BANK BUILDING
CITY OF LATROBE-WESTMORELAND COUNTY-PA
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CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK BUILDING-MELLON BANK BUILDING
CITY OF LATROBE-WESTMORELAND COUNTY-PA
09-01



CITIZENS NATIONAL
Bank
City of Latrobe
Westmoreland County
PENNSYLVANIA
Latrobe Road

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