



March 22, 2022

Ms. Susan M. Pierce  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
WV Division of Culture and History  
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East  
Charleston, WV 25305

Re: Section 106 Undertaking  
Exterior Building Signage  
Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse  
1125 Chapline Street  
City of Wheeling, Ohio County, West Virginia

Dear Ms. Pierce:

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is proposing to make additions to the exterior signage at the Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse (Wheeling CH). The Wheeling CH is a contributing element to the Wheeling Historic District (NRHP: 12/31/79). The Wheeling CH was built in 1907 and has been expanded multiple times. A 1937 expansion retained the original building's Beaux Arts style. A rear Addition was built in 1999, and an Annex was built in 2004. The Addition and the Annex are considered non-contributing elements to the Wheeling Historic District. The East Wheeling Historic District (NRHP: 11/22/99) is located adjacent to the Wheeling CH on the opposite side of Chapline Street.

On December 21, 2021, President Biden signed a bill into law to name the Wheeling CH (including the Addition and Annex) as the Frederick P. Stamp, Jr. Federal Building and United States Courthouse (Public Law No: 117-75), in honor of the lifelong Wheeling resident and federal judge who served on the U.S. District Court of the Northern District of West Virginia, including as its Chief Judge from 1994 to 2001. GSA, as the owner of the building, is currently beginning design for the installation of new signage for the new honorary name of the building.

The existing historic signage on the building will not be changed, and the building will not be permanently altered with the installation of new signage. Free-standing, post-mounted signage is preferred. GSA has developed three options for signage:

- Option 1: a traditional design compatible with the 1907 / 1937 courthouse and installed, with lighting, in one of the existing landscaping beds adjacent to the 1907 / 1937 courthouse.
- Option 2a: a contemporary design with upper- and lower-case modern font compatible with the 2004 Annex and installed, without lighting, adjacent to the Annex
- Option 2b: a contemporary design with all upper-case modern font compatible with the 2004 Annex and installed, without lighting, adjacent to the Annex

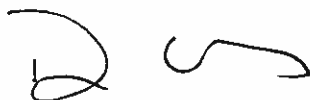
Included in Attachment 1 are renderings of the alternatives under consideration for the new building signage. GSA prefers Option 2b, but a final selection has not yet been made. All three

options will constitute a minor visual change within the Wheeling Historic District and from the East Wheeling Historic District.

The proposed action is considered an undertaking subject to Section 106 Consultation. For purposes of Direct Effect, GSA proposes the Area of Potential Effect (APE) be limited to the area of disturbance, which at this time is projected to be in an existing landscaping bed or hardscape adjacent to the building on Chapline Street. For purposes of Indirect Effect, GSA proposes the APE include immediately adjacent properties and those, if any, that could be visually impacted as a result of the new construction. The proposed additional signage will only be visible from Chapline Street from 11<sup>th</sup> Street to midway between 12<sup>th</sup> Street and 14<sup>th</sup> Street, and from 12<sup>th</sup> Street from Market Street to Eoff Street. The Indirect Effects APE includes portions of the Wheeling Historic District and East Wheeling Historic District.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR 800.5(b), it is the opinion of GSA that the proposed alterations will have No Adverse Effect on any historic properties. If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (215) 446-4570 or [donna.andrews@gsa.gov](mailto:donna.andrews@gsa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Andrews', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Donna Andrews  
Regional Historic Preservation Officer  
Public Buildings Service

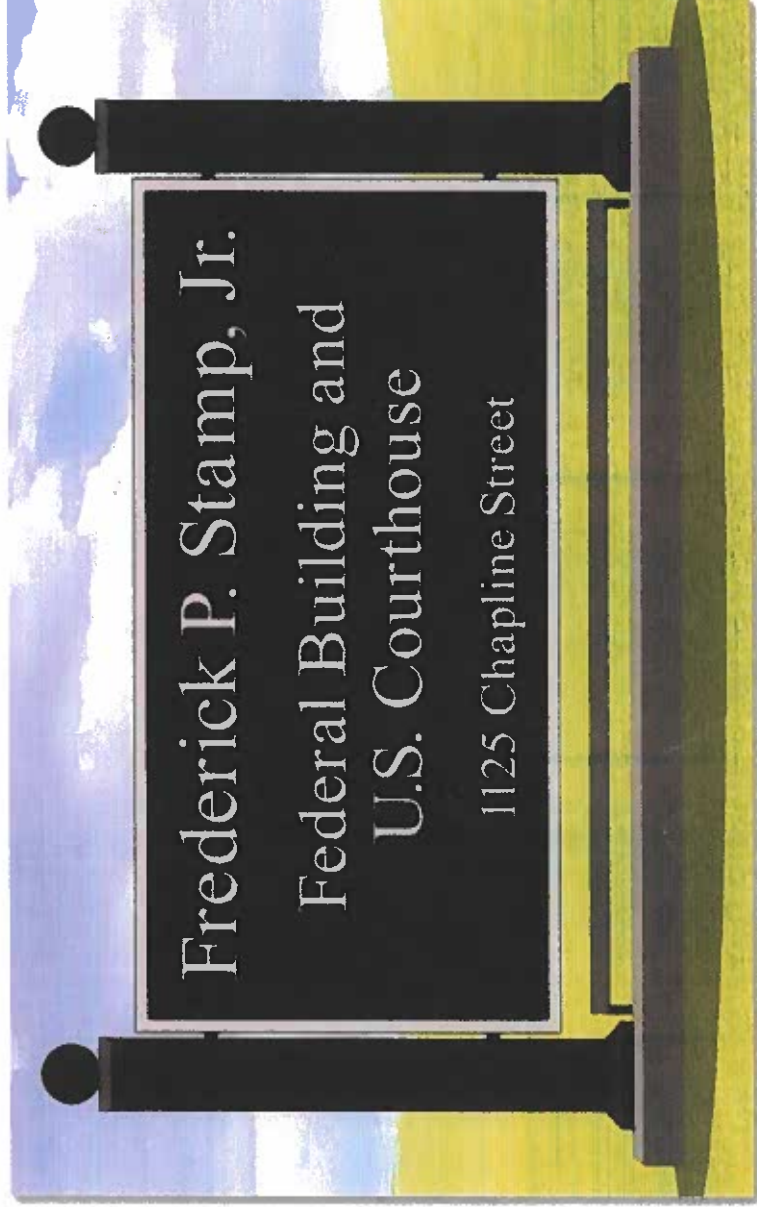
Cc: Charles J. Kaiser – Wheeling Historic Landmarks Commission

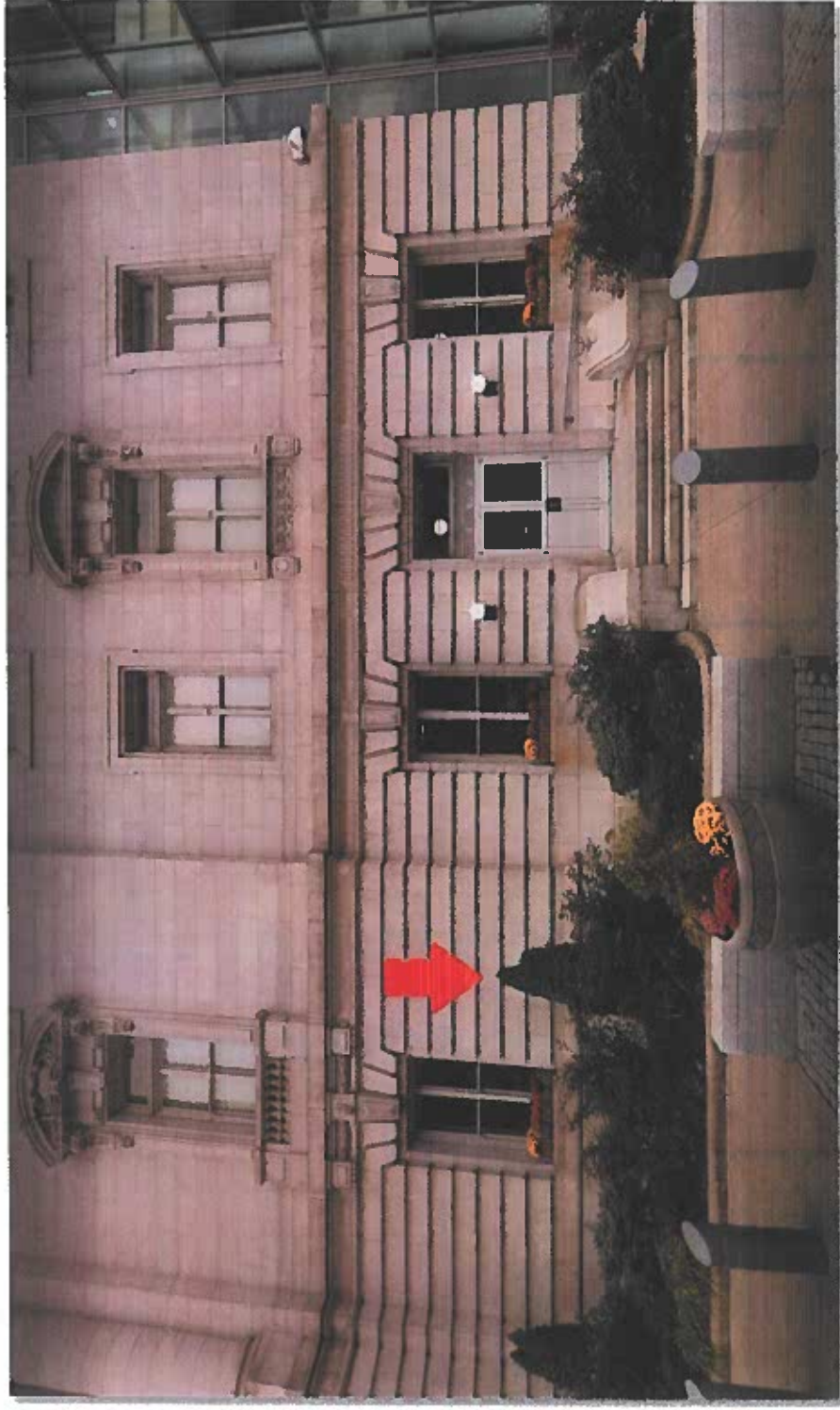
**Attachment 1 – Preliminary Consulting Party List**

*Project: Signage – Frederick P. Stamp Jr. Federal Building and United States Courthouse*

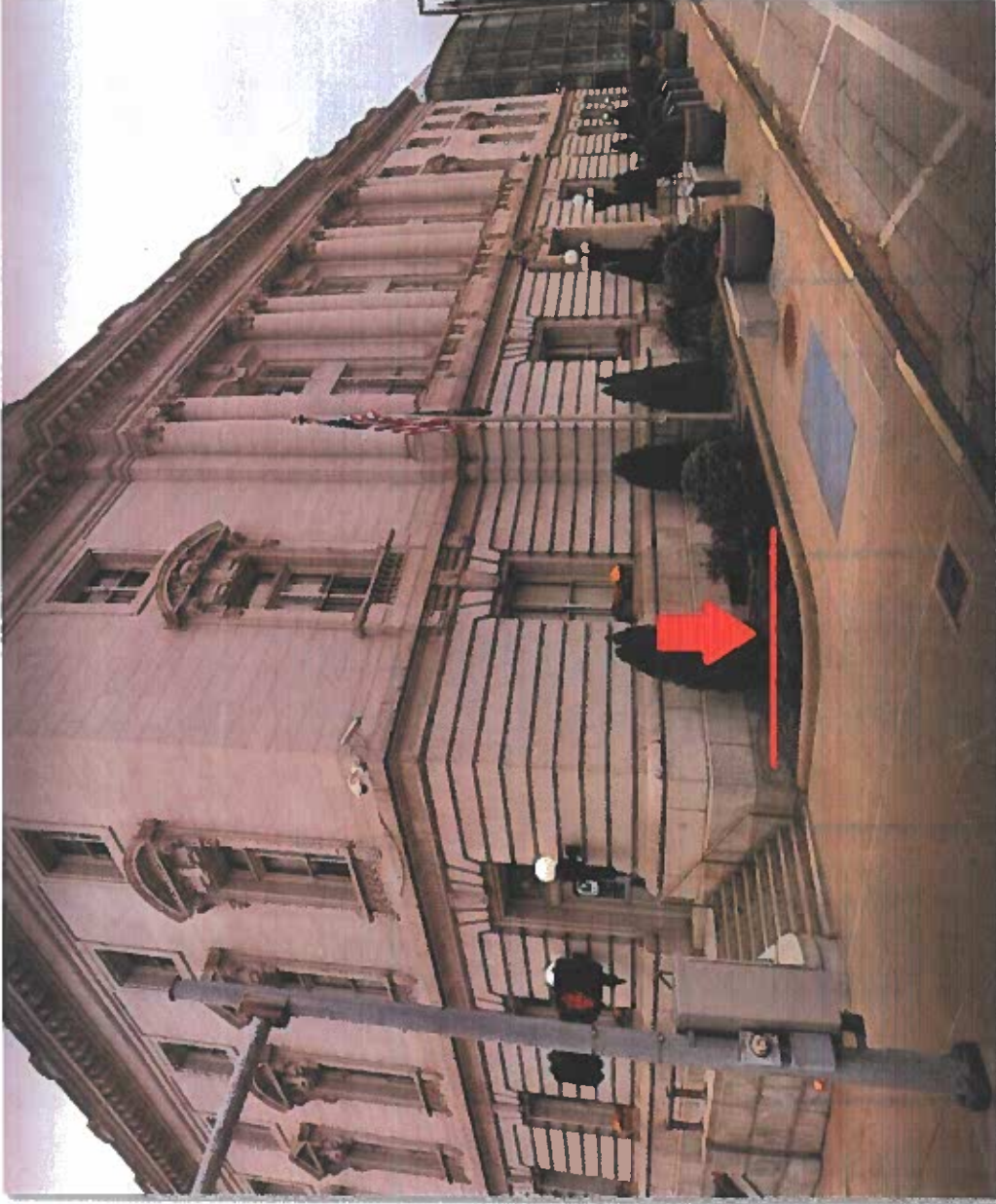
*Revision 1 – 3/22/2022*

Signage Option 1



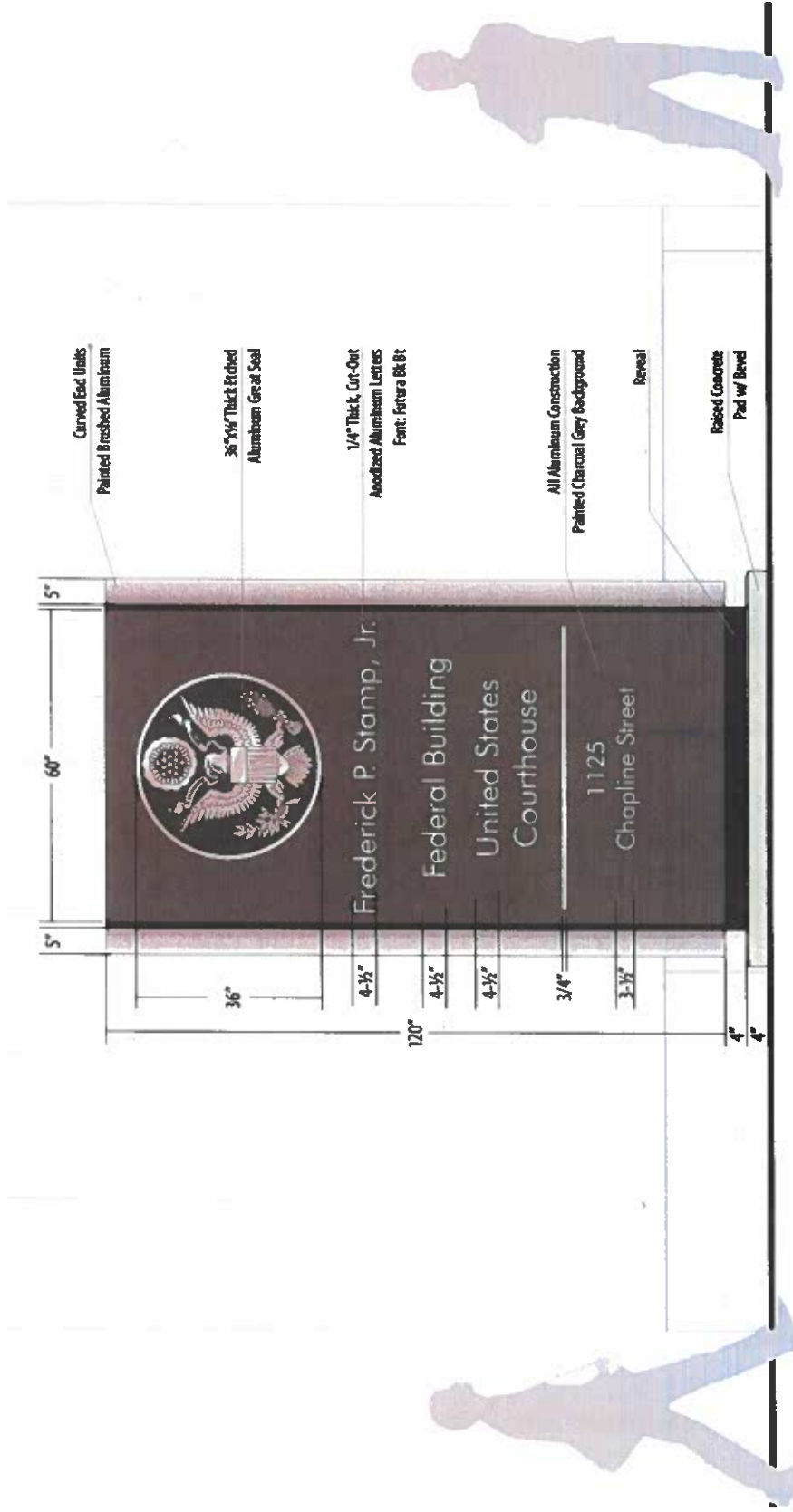


*Landscaping – electrical service – allows for lighting*



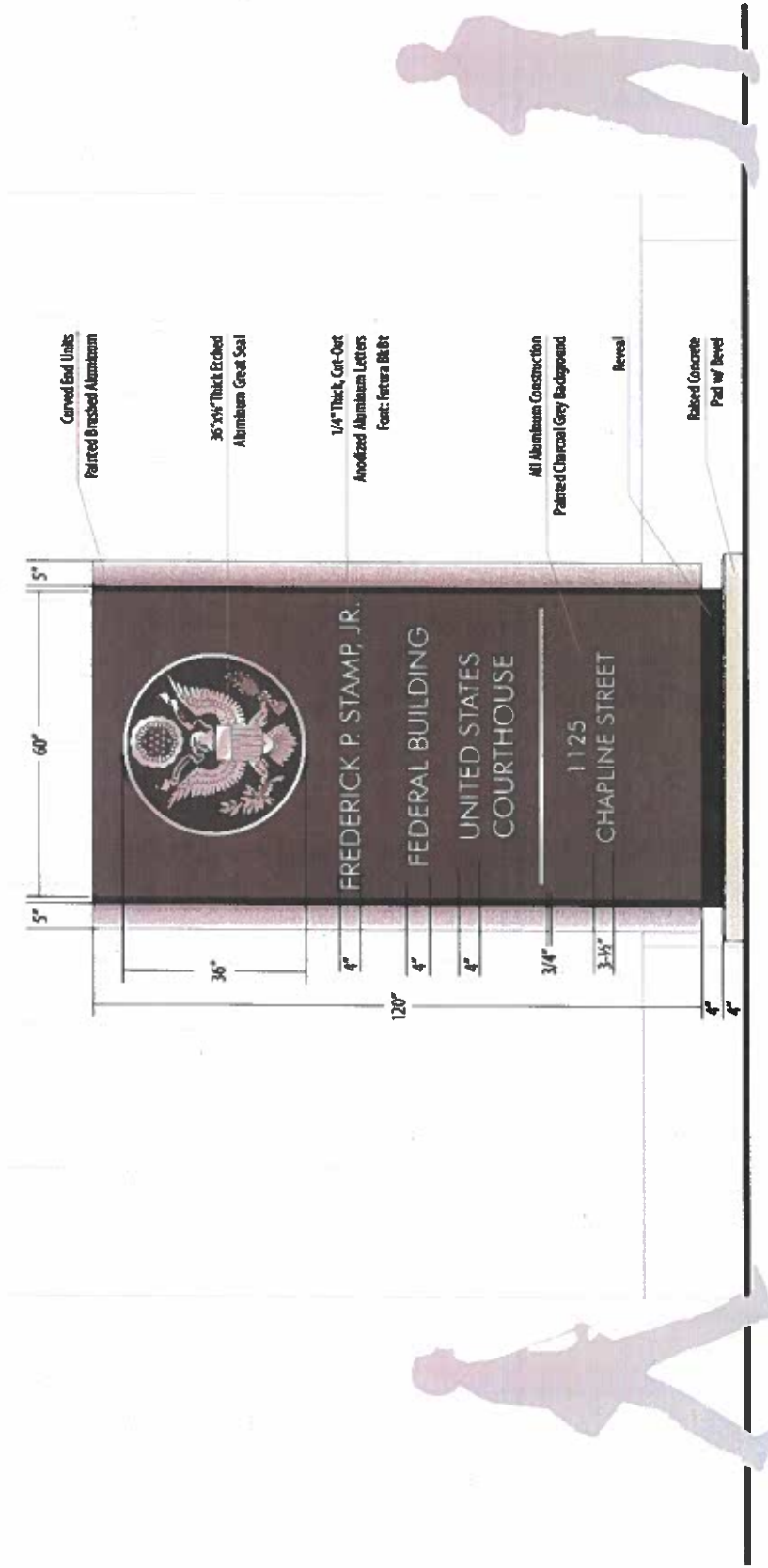
*Landscaping – electrical service – allows for lighting*

Option 2



Option 2 with modern font (upper and lower case)

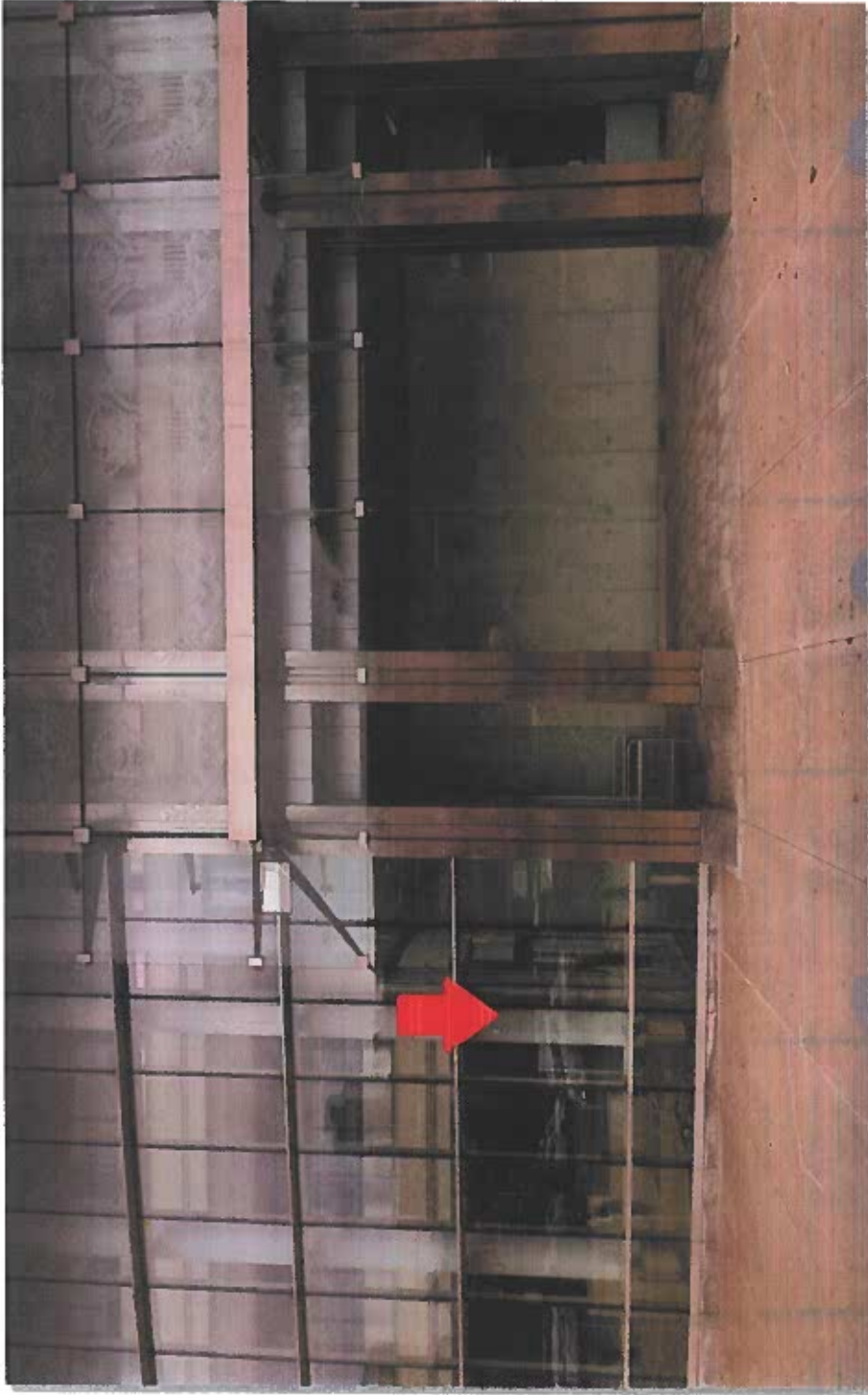
\* "&" Removed in this revision



Option 2 with modern font (all uppercase)  
\* "&" Removed in this revision



Landscaping – no established electrical circuit – no lighting



*Landscaping -- no established electrical circuit -- no lighting*