

THE MADISON/WELLS STREET ELEVATED RAILROAD STATION WAS DESIGNED BY JOHN ALEXANDER LOW WADDELL, A CONSULTING ENGINEER FROM KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, AND A.M. HEDLEY, A CONSULTING ARCHITECT FROM CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. A NUMBER OF DRAWINGS AND DETAILS OF THIS STATION EXIST IN THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY DRAWING ARCHIVES. THE EARLIEST IS DATED 1895 AND THE LAST 1897. THE STATION WAS DESIGNED FOR THE UNION ELEVATED RAILROAD WHICH BEGAN OPERATION IN OCTOBER 1897.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE UNION ELEVATED RAILROAD CAN BE CREDITED TO THE EFFORTS OF CHARLES T. YERKES, JR. WHO CAME TO CHICAGO IN 1882 AND SOON BEGAN TO ACQUIRE VARIOUS PASSENGER RAIL LINES HOPING TO ORGANIZE THEM INTO A UNIFIED SYSTEM. HE FORMED EIGHT DISTINCT CORPORATIONS WHICH EITHER BOUGHT OR CONSTRUCTED RAIL LINES IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE CITY. THE UNION ELEVATED RAILROAD WAS INCORPORATED IN 1896 AS THE ENTITY THAT WOULD OPERATE THE RAIL LINE POPULARLY KNOWN AS THE "LOOP L."

THE UNION ELEVATED RAILROAD CONNECTED VARIOUS ELEVATED LINES WHICH RAN INTO THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT OF THE CITY AND THEREBY FACILITATED PASSENGER MOVEMENT. AS AN UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCE, THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO BECAME KNOWN AS THE "LOOP" SINCE THIS LOOP LINE RAN ALONG ITS PERIMETER.

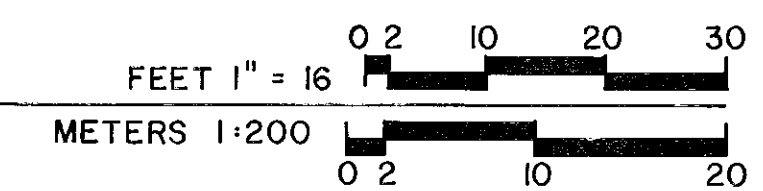
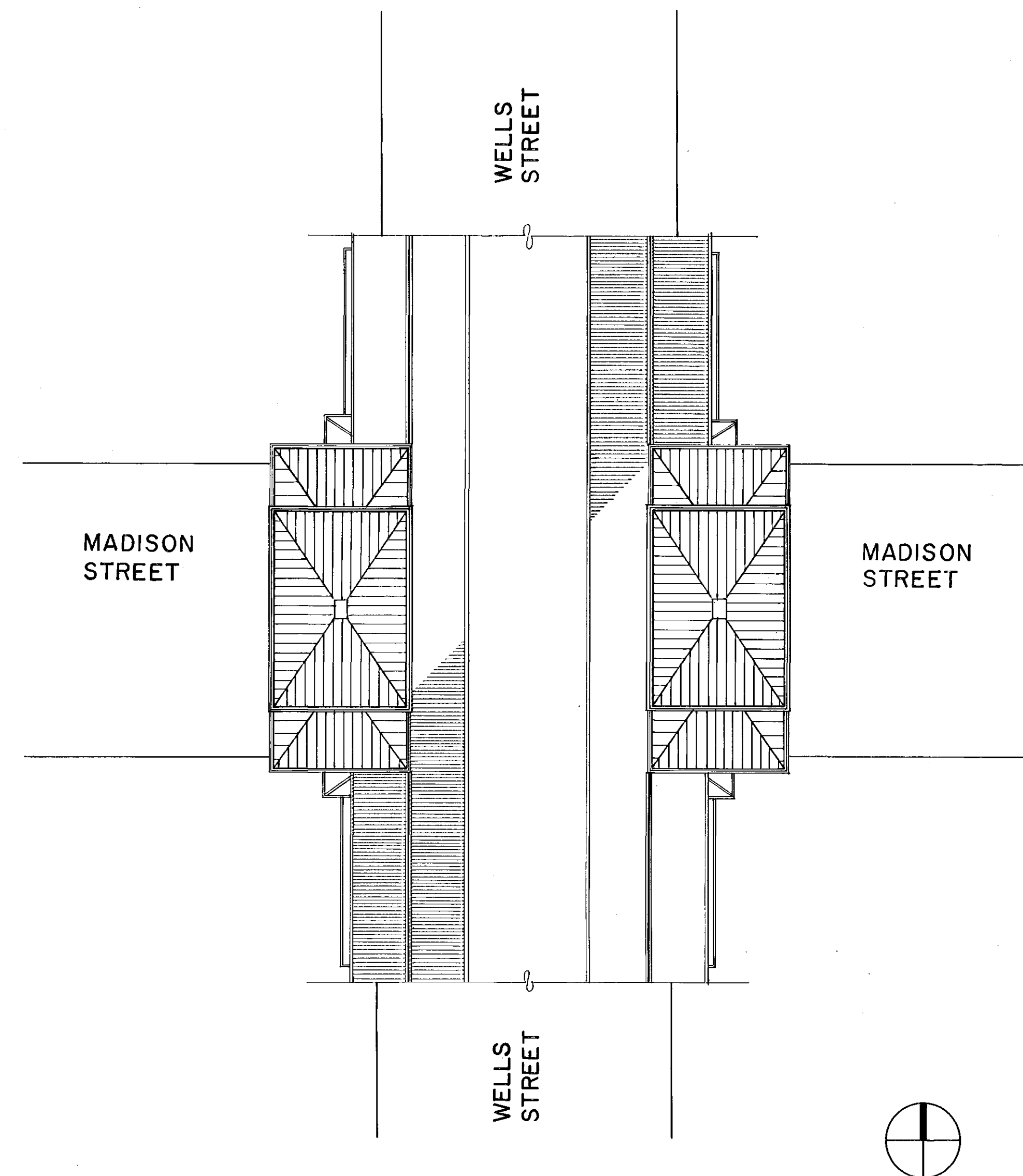
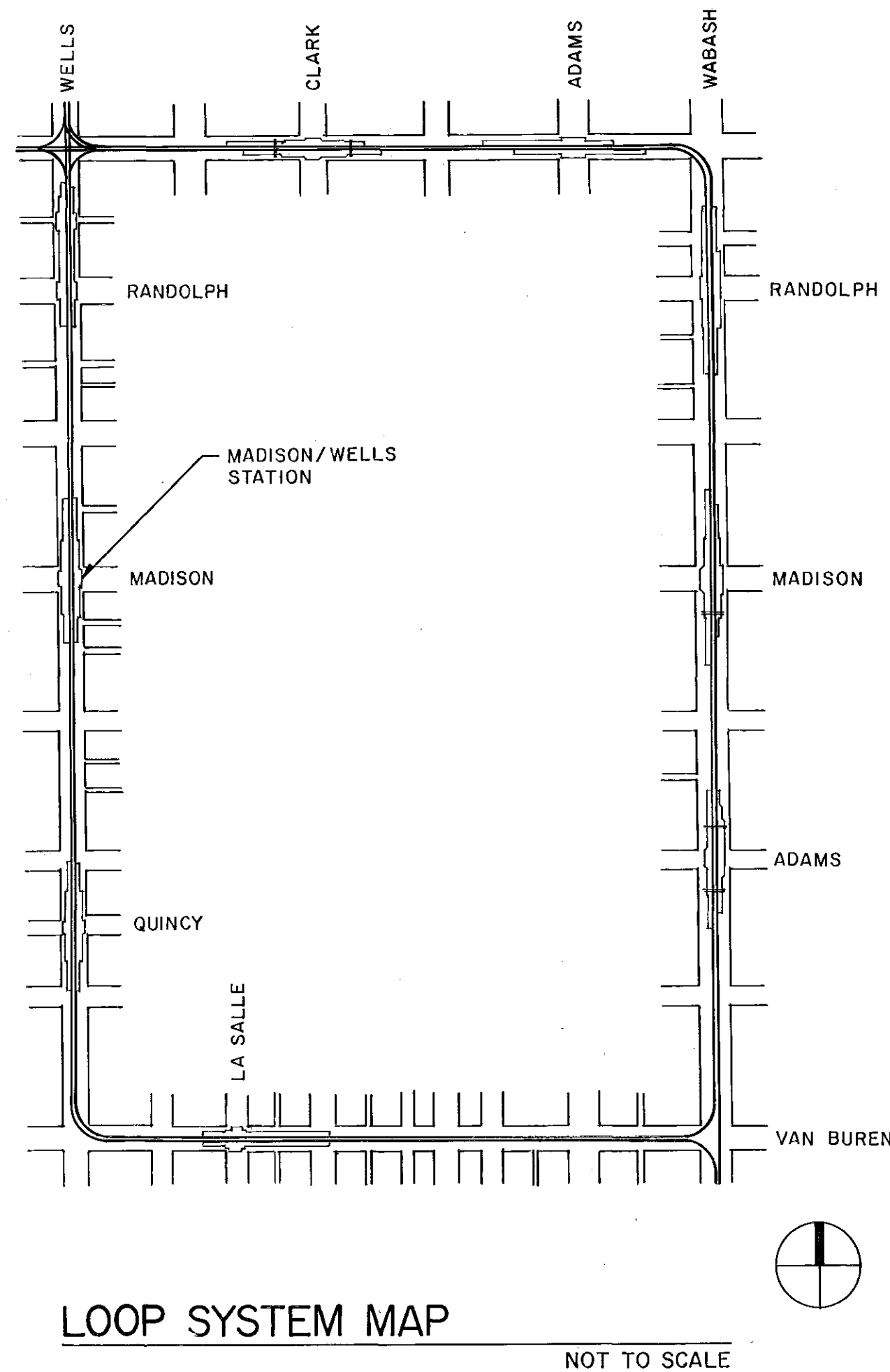
THE MADISON/WELLS ELEVATED STATION IS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL STATIONS CONSTRUCTED ALONG THE UNION ELEVATED RAILROAD LINE. IT IS AN INTACT EXAMPLE OF A 19TH CENTURY URBAN TRANSPORTATION RAIL STATION. SPANNING MADISON STREET ARE TWO PLATFORMS, EACH WITH A RECTANGULAR PAVILION OF CLASSICAL DESIGN. THE OUTER WALLS OF THE PAVILIONS HAVE A SHEET METAL SHEATHING DECORATED WITH FLUTED PILASTERS TOPPED BY IONIC CAPITALS. FIVE WINDOWS ARE SURROUNDED BY MOLDINGS AND TOPPED BY LINTELS SUPPORTED BY SCROLL BRACKETS. FOUR WREATHS ARE APPLIED TO THE FASCIA ABOVE THE WINDOWS. THE PAVILIONS ARE TOPPED BY SHALLOW HIPPED ROOFS. IN 1921, THE STATION WAS CONVERTED TO A ONE AGENT OPERATION AND THE EAST PAVILION CLOSED.

THE WEST PAVILION IS STILL IN USE AND LARGELY INTACT. THE INTERIOR WALLS AND CEILING ARE FACED WITH STAMPED TIN IN FLORAL MOTIFS. A WOOD TONGUE AND GROOVE WAINSCOT IS IN PLACE AS ARE CLASSICAL PILASTERS EXTENDED FROM THE TOP OF THE WAINSCOT. THE PLATFORM ITSELF HAS A LONG SHALLOW HIPPED ROOF OF CORRUGATED GALVANIZED IRON SUPPORTED ON STEEL ANGLE COLUMNS. THESE COLUMNS ARE PLACED IN THE CENTER OF THE DECK AND FLARE INTO TWO ARMS EXTENDING EAST AND WEST AS IT MEETS THE ROOF.

THE PLATFORM WAS APPARENTLY EXTENDED IN 1903 AND AGAIN IN 1913 WHEN AN ADDITIONAL STAIRCASE WAS ADDED. THE ORIGINAL EXIT KIOSKS AT STREET LEVEL WERE ELIMINATED IN 1907 WHEN A NEW EXIT STAIRCASE WAS CONSTRUCTED. A TRANSFER BRIDGE WAS BUILT IN 1926 AT THE SOUTH END OF THE PLATFORM. A TRANSFER PLATFORM ABOVE STREET LEVEL ALSO EXISTS BELOW THE TRACKS CONNECTING THE TWO PAVILIONS.

THE PRESENT PROJECT WAS UNDERTAKEN BY THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY TO PARTIALLY FULFILL SECTION 106 COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS. THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY CONTRACTED WITH ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH INCORPORATED (ARI) FOR FORMAL HAER DOCUMENTATION UNDER PROJECT DIRECTOR DAVID KEENE AND PROJECT ASSOCIATE DR. JOHN N. VOGEL. MR. TOM YANUL ACTED AS PHOTOGRAPHER AND MS. JOAN POMERANC PROVIDED HISTORICAL RESEARCH SERVICE. DRAWINGS WERE PREPARED BY LOURDES MESA GONZALEZ, LESLEY GILMORE, DAVID SCHULZ, SALLY GUREGIAN, EDWARD MALNAR, JEANNINE CRANE, AND WILLIAM POSPISHIL, ALL STAFF MEMBERS AT HASBROUCK PETERSON ZIMMICH SIRIRATTUMRONG UNDER THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF W.R. HASBROUCK. ADDITIONAL FIELD MEASUREMENTS WERE PROVIDED BY CHICAGOLAND SURVEY COMPANY.

The Union Elevated Railroad Madison/Wells Station



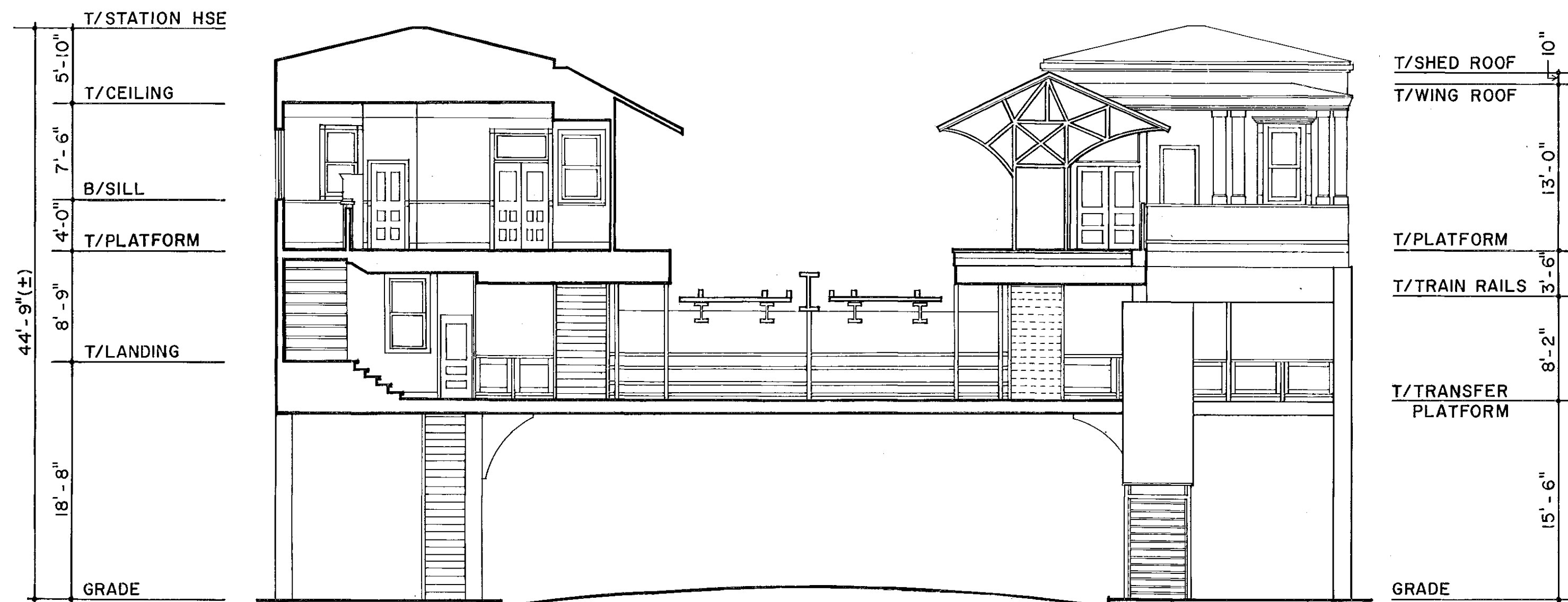
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THE UNION ELEVATED RAILROAD, MADISON/WELLS STATION
MADISON/WELLS STREETS
CHICAGO
COOK COUNTY
ILLINOIS

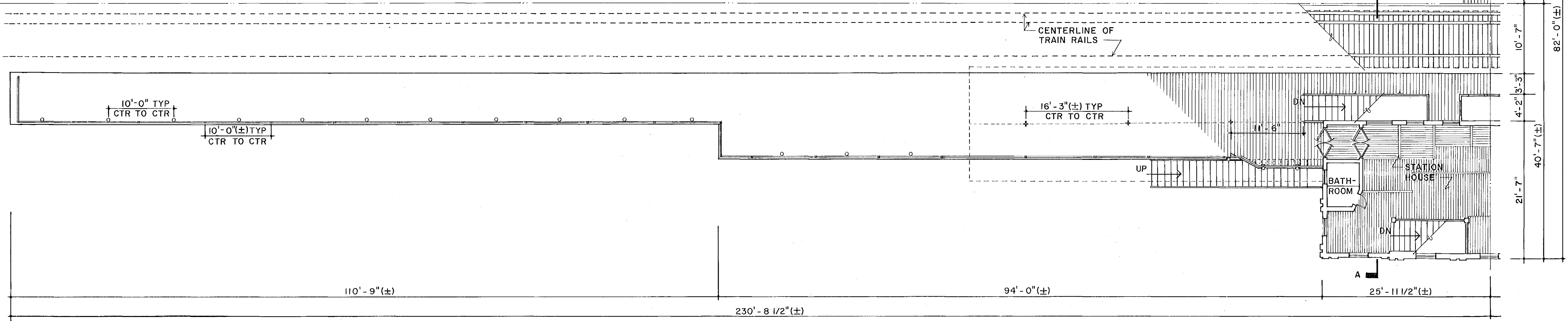
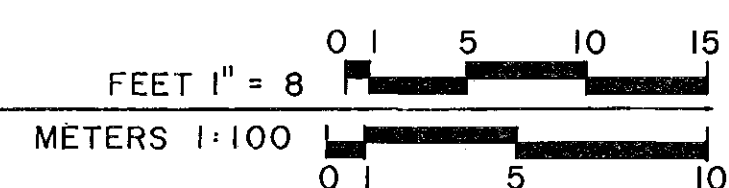
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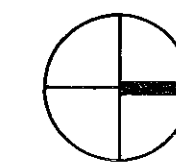
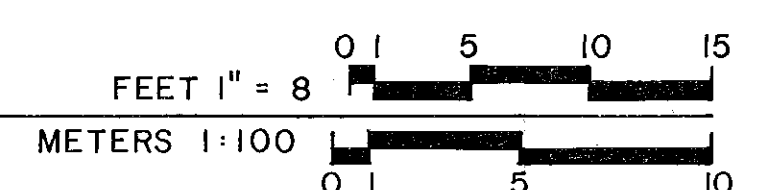
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SECTION A - A
WELLS STREET



PARTIAL PLAN OF NORTH STATION PLATFORM AND LOWER
LEVEL TRANSFER PLATFORM



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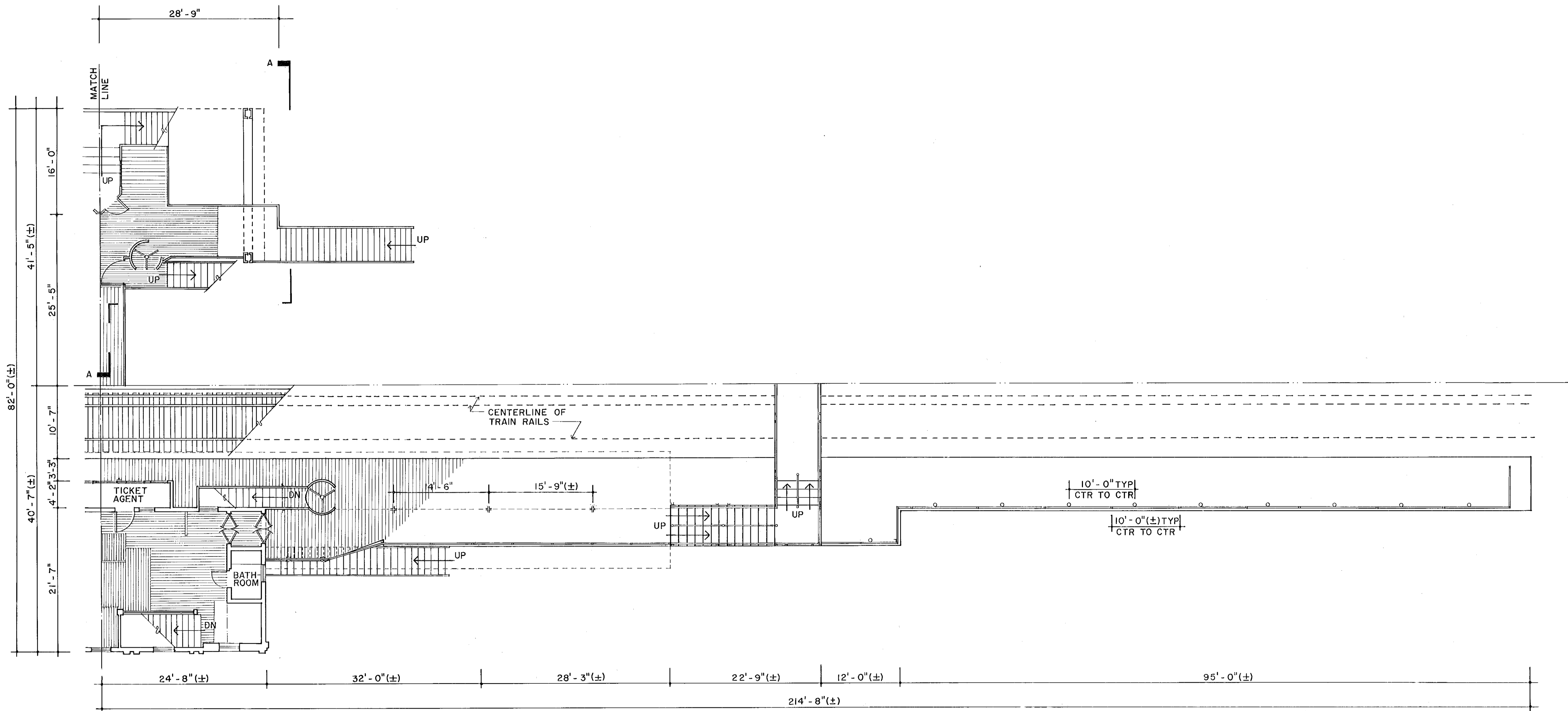
MADISON/WELLS STREETS
CHICAGO

THE UNION ELEVATED RAILROAD, MADISON/WELLS STATION
COOK COUNTY
ILLINOIS

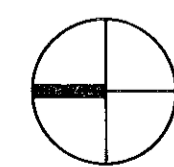
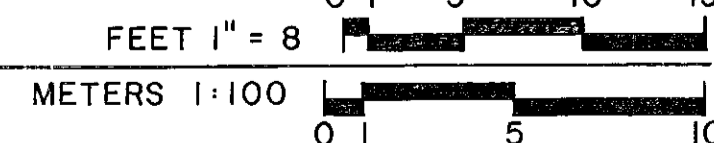
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PARTIAL PLAN OF SOUTH STATION PLATFORM AND LOWER LEVEL TRANSFER PLATFORM



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ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL OFFICE/DENVER
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MADISON/WELLS STREETS
CHICAGO

THE UNION ELEVATED RAILROAD, MADISON/WELLS STATION
COOK COUNTY
ILLINOIS

SHEET
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