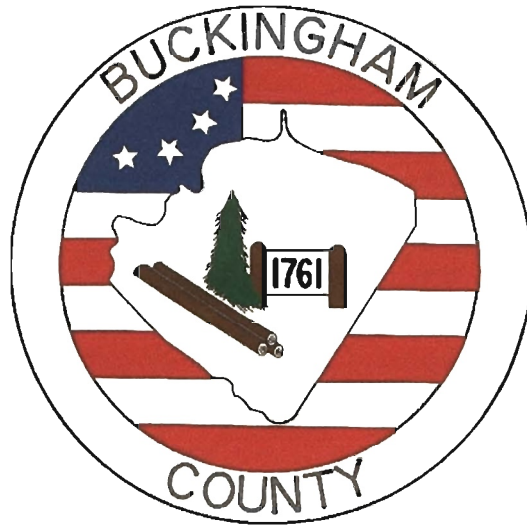


# 2010 VACo Achievement Award Application



Buckingham County  
Burn Building Facility

# Overview

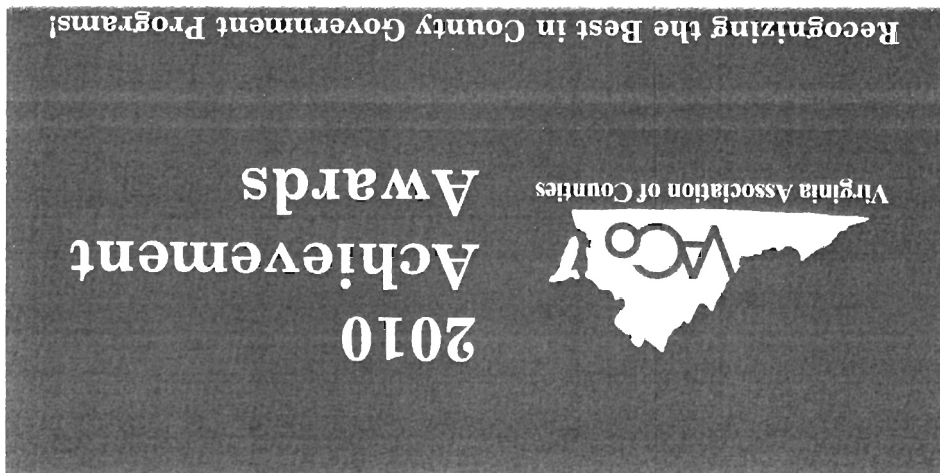
## Buckingham County Burn Building Facility

### Overview

Buckingham County Administration respectfully submits this application for the 2010 VACo Achievement Awards under the category of Regional Collaboration. Buckingham County falls into Population Category 2. There are four Fire Departments serving this wide spread population, all of them Volunteer Departments. This centrally located Burn Building Facility drastically improves the delivery of emergency services for our citizens by providing convenient access to training opportunities where volunteers can learn the skills necessary for the safety of themselves and their fellow citizens. The Buckingham County Burn Building Facility opened in October of 2009. Classes are currently being held two evenings a week. This allows Volunteers from Buckingham and surrounding areas to attend classes regularly without excessive travel time and jeopardizing their job schedules.

The success of the Buckingham County Burn Building Facility project is a direct result of the combined efforts of the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors, County Administrator Rebecca Carter and County Administration Staff, and Buckingham County Volunteer Firefighters. Talks concerning the growing need for a local, centrally located Fire Training Facility began early in the year 2005. Together, these three groups worked to identify and clarify the problem, come up with a reasonable solution, and obtain the funding to make the project possible. Buckingham County is proud to have this Fire Training Facility available, especially because it is due to the efforts of individuals working together in order to benefit their fellow citizens.

# Application



ATTN: 2010 Achievement Awards Program  
 Virginia Association of Counties  
 1207 East Main Street, Suite 300  
 Richmond, Va. 23219-3627

address service requested

Call for Entries



### Application Form

All applications must include the following information. Separate applications must be submitted for each eligible program. Deadline: June 1, 2010.

**Program Information**

Locality Buckingham County  
 Program Title Burn Building Facility  
 Program Category Regional Colloration  
 Population Category 2

**Contact Information**

Name Kevin Flippen  
 Title E-911 Coordinator  
 Department E-911  
 Complete Mailing Address PO Box 252, Buckingham, VA 23921  
 Telephone # 434-969-4242 Fax # 434-969-1638  
 E-mail kflippen@buckinghamcounty.virginia.gov

**Signature of county administrator or chief administrative officer**

Name Rebecca S. Carter  
 Title County Administrator  
 Signature *Rebecca S. Carter*

\*Entries without this signature will not be accepted.

**Narrative**

## Buckingham County Fire Training Facility

Early in the year of 2005, the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors and County Administrator Rebecca Carter together with Buckingham County's Volunteer Fire Departments acknowledged the growing need for a Fire Training Facility located within Buckingham County. Without this facility, our Volunteers had to travel a minimum of an hour to and from trainings in other areas. This travel time is especially difficult for volunteers, as many of them must work around job schedules. It is a serious safety problem for any location, including Buckingham County, if Fire Fighters are not able to easily access training opportunities and gain the skills needed in order to provide safe emergency response services. Providing frequent and high quality training is essential for the safety of these volunteers and our public citizens. We also hope that this facility helps to show our appreciation for the skills, hard-work, and dedication shown by our Buckingham County Volunteers.

Buckingham is part of Population Category 2, with 15,623 citizens residing within the 584 square miles of the County. There are four Fire Departments serving this wide spread population, all of them Volunteer Departments. This centrally located Fire Training Facility drastically improves the delivery of emergency services for our citizens by providing more volunteers and aspiring volunteers with more opportunities to learn the skills necessary for the safety of themselves and their fellow citizens. Having easier access to these trainings allows our volunteers to obtain more advanced training, as well as training on a larger variety of subjects. We are also pleased to be able to offer these opportunities to volunteers in neighboring areas, many of whom faced the same logistical

difficulties in obtaining training as Buckingham. Volunteers from counties other than Buckingham may choose to attend classes scheduled by Buckingham Volunteers or schedule trainings of their own by calling to reserve use of the building. Having volunteers from different areas attend trainings together provides many advantages. It provides an opportunity for volunteers to discuss different methods of doing things and form new ideas together. It also provides an opportunity for volunteers from different areas to meet and work together, making any combined emergency efforts more effective. A larger number of class registrants with a state of the art facility helps to attract instructors who are in demand, and also helps to counteract any travel difficulties they may anticipate.

We were very pleased to be able to open the Buckingham County Fire Training Facility in October of 2009, a mere five years after our initial grant application. (Please see appendix A) The Buckingham County Fire Training Facility is a true symbol of what can be accomplished through regional collaboration and cooperation between Local, State, and Federal entities. The success of this project is a direct result of the combined efforts of the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors, County Administrator Rebecca Carter and County Administration Staff, and Buckingham County Volunteer Firefighters. Together, they worked to be sure that the assistance provided by State Representative Watkins Abbott Jr. and the Fire Programs Office was well utilized and appreciated.

The building itself is a state-of-the-art facility built using up-to-date codes and standards. The burn building is a two-story concrete building of 1,050 square feet. (Please see



appendix B) The lower story contains four rooms with different types of entrances that firefighters may encounter in the field. The building includes various types of stairs, stairwells, and landings both inside and on the outside of the building. There are sloping roof sections and flat roof sections and various access points for simulating roof rescues. With all of these options, the number of rescue scenarios that can be simulated, practiced and improved upon is limited only by the imagination.

Another unique feature of the Buckingham County Fire Training Facility is the classroom area housed in a separate building. This building was donated to Buckingham County for use at this site by the Buckingham County School System when they replaced some of their classroom trailers. (Please see appendix C) The twenty by thirty foot classroom building provides a comfortable place for people to gather and organize before the burn building training; and a place to provide refreshments, restroom facilities, and classroom discussion after the training. Classroom discussions are more effective with chalkboards and writing desks available, and it is also nice after a physically intense training exercise to be able to cool down or warm up and get comfortable before focusing on the mentally intense discussions of the exercise. The classroom is also used for trainings that do not include the burn building facility, currently classes are scheduled every Tuesday and Thursday through the end of June.

This project did encounter several obstacles during the construction of this facility. These complications were due to changes in the building specifications required to meet National Fire Service Code. Through persistent work and communication efforts by Don

Brown of the Fire Programs Office, State Representative Abbott, Buckingham County Administrator Rebecca Carter, and Buckingham County Building Inspector Tommy Ranson, these complications were able to be worked through and the facility completed to the standards of the National Fire Service Code. This project also encountered challenges in locating grant funding and staying within budget, not unusual challenges for a project of this scope. Again, through diligence and persistence from individuals working together these challenges were overcome. Grant funding was provided by Virginia Fire Services Program with matching in-kind by Buckingham County. The Board of Supervisors voted to approve the recommendation of County Administrator Rebecca Carter to accept these terms. Buckingham County Administration staff worked hard to provide the required hours of in-kind labor, however these hours were fueled not by requirements of the grant, but by their desire to create a quality facility that would help to improve the safety of their friends and neighbors. Buckingham County is proud to have this Fire Training Facility available, especially because it is due to the efforts of individuals working together in order to benefit their fellow citizens.

# Appendix A

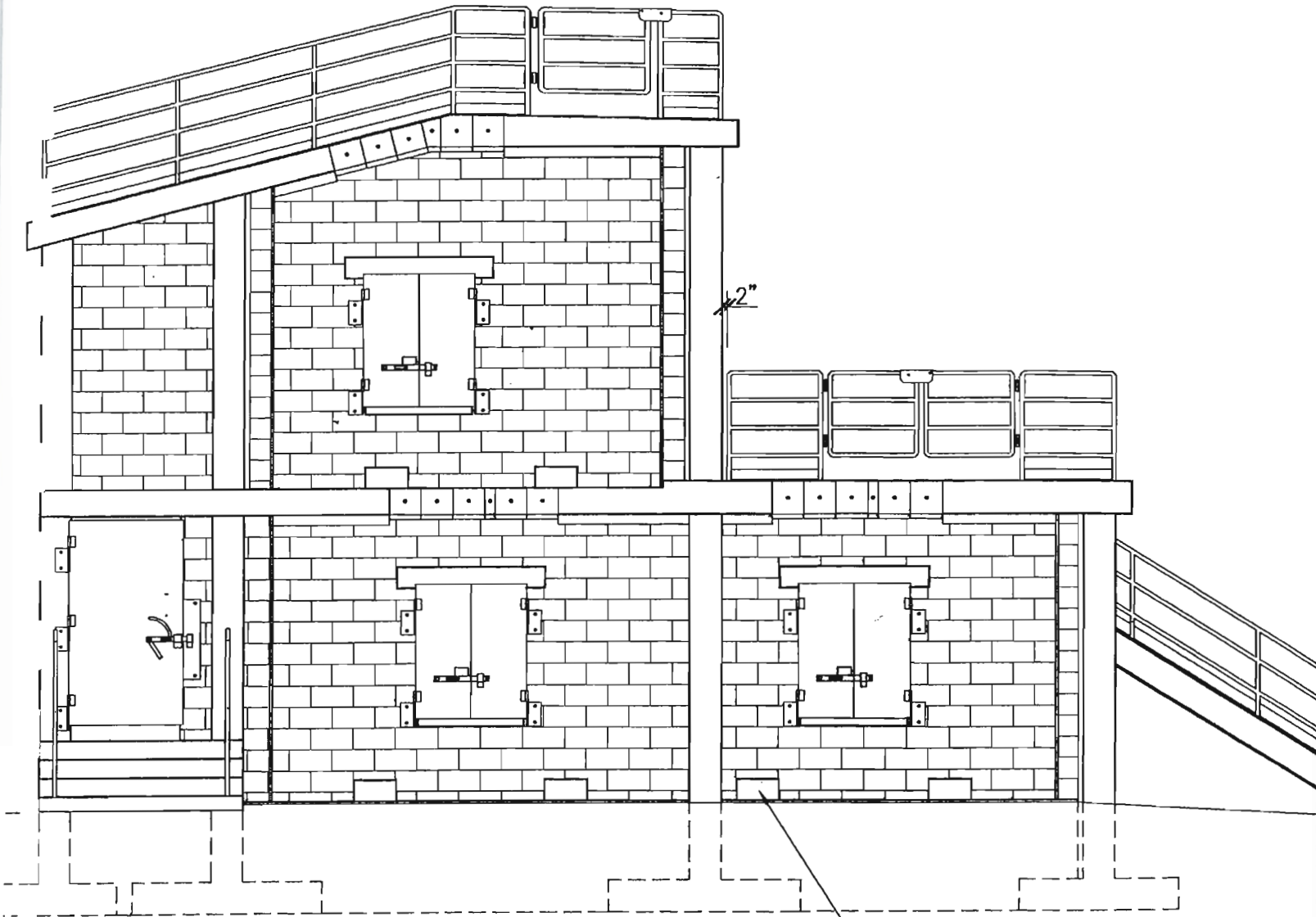


Buckingham County Burn Building  
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony  
October 28, 2009

# Appendix B



Buckingham County Burn Building



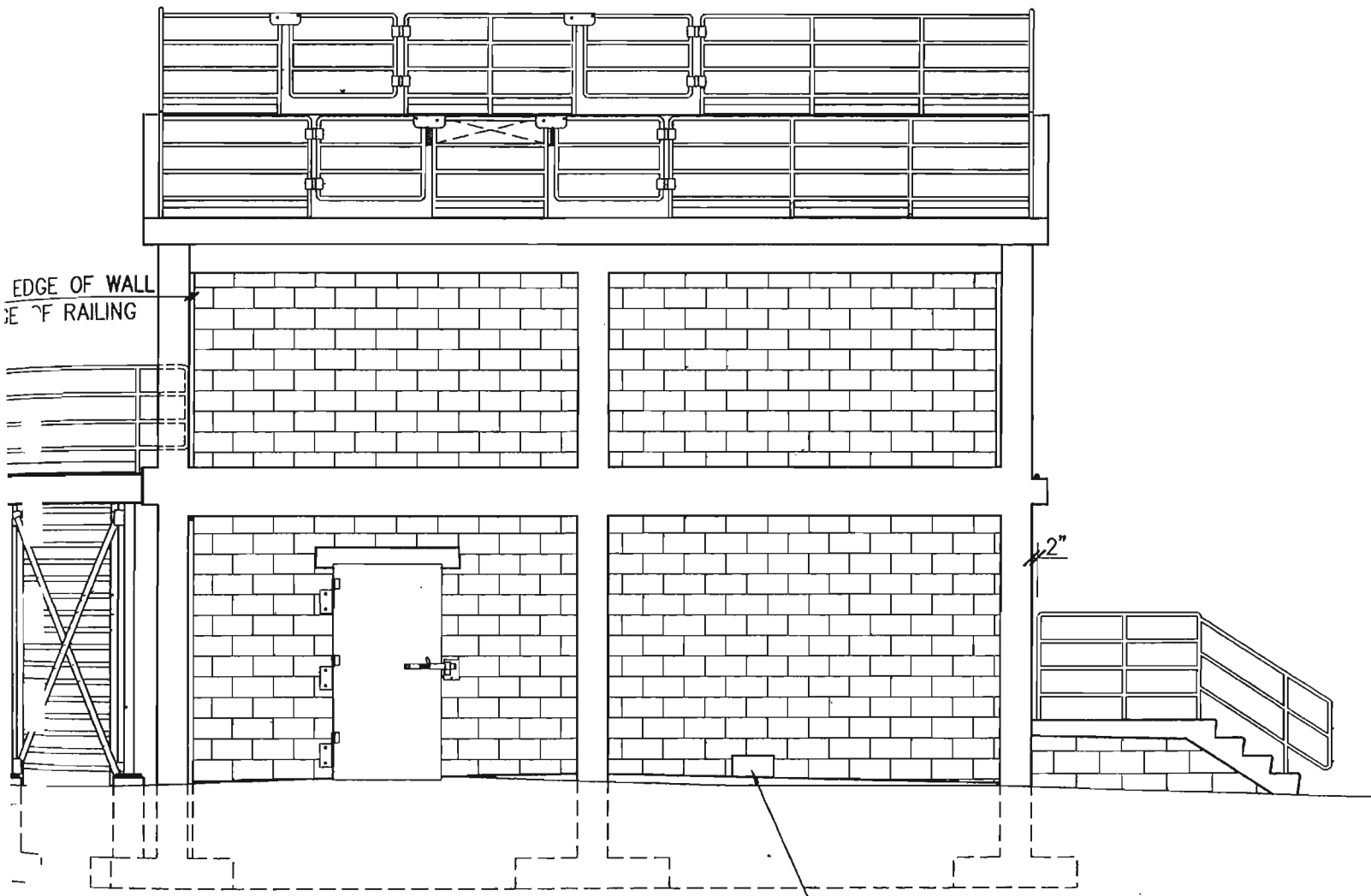
6 SCUPPERS THIS ELEVATION  
PER SHEET BB401



# NORTH ELEVATION

BB100, BB101 | BB102 SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

NOTE:  
MASO  
ELEV  
THEY  
COUR:



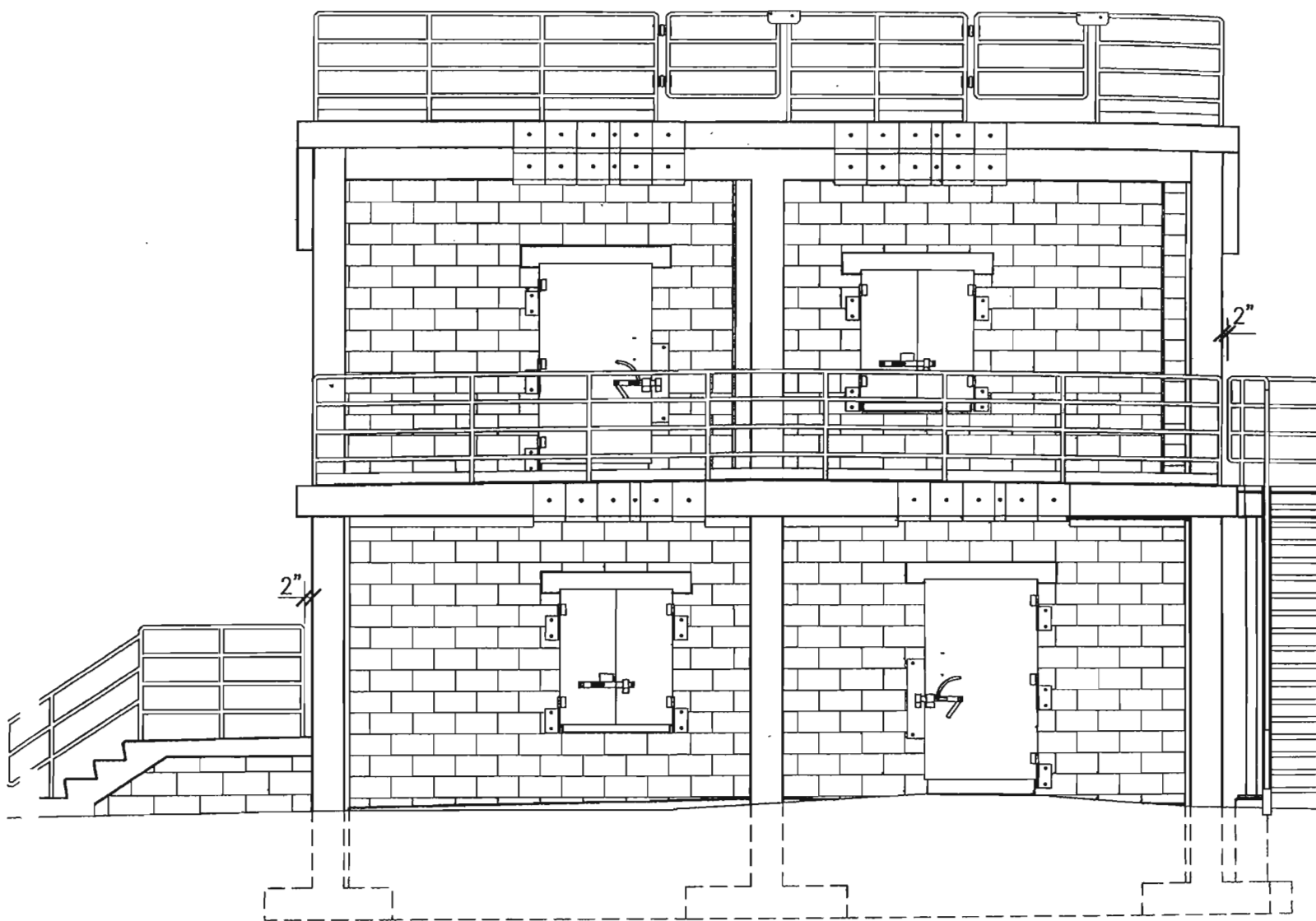
1 SCUPPER THIS ELEVATION  
PER SHEET BB401

4

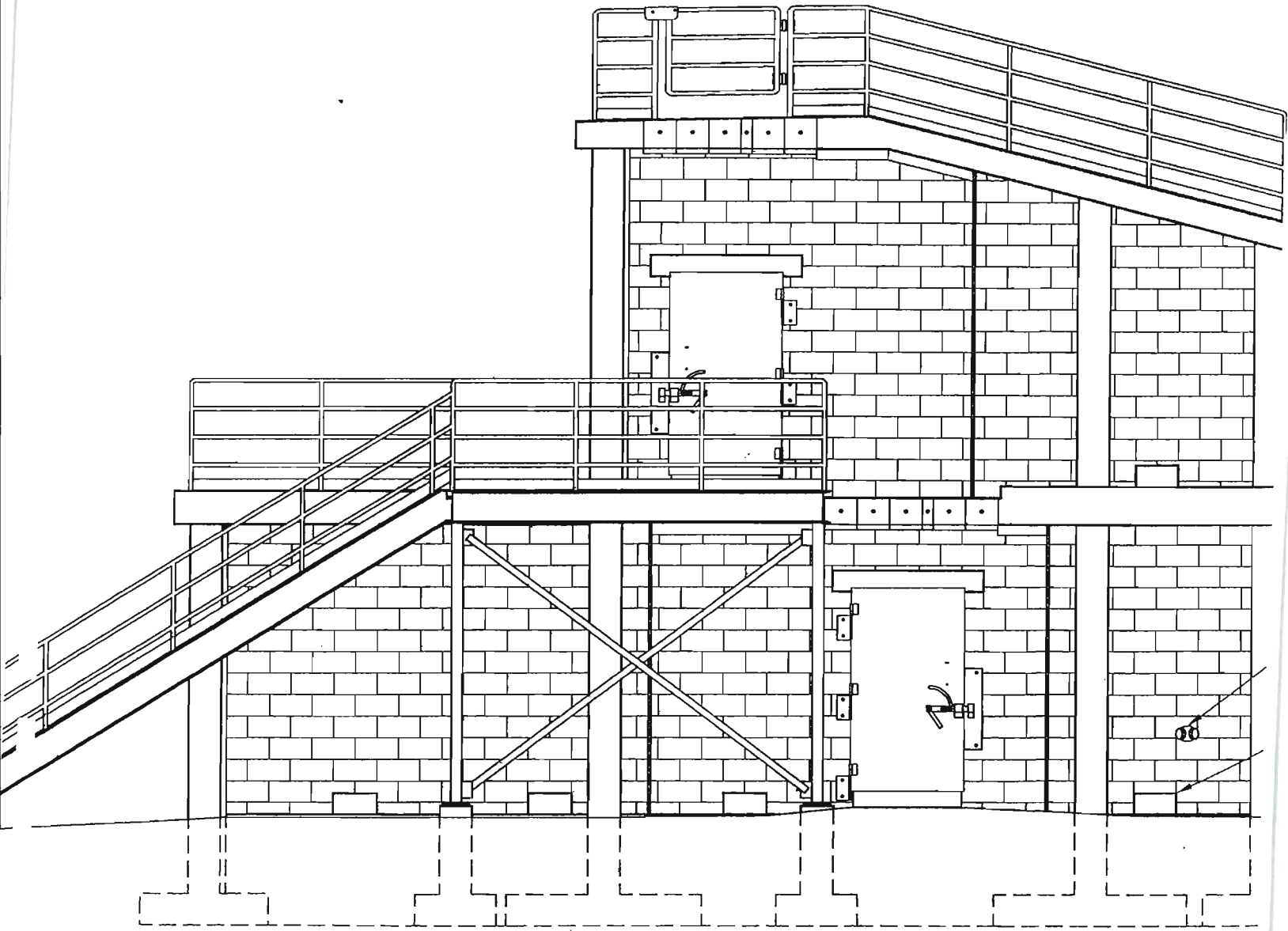
**EAST ELEVATION**

BB100, BB101 | BB102 SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"





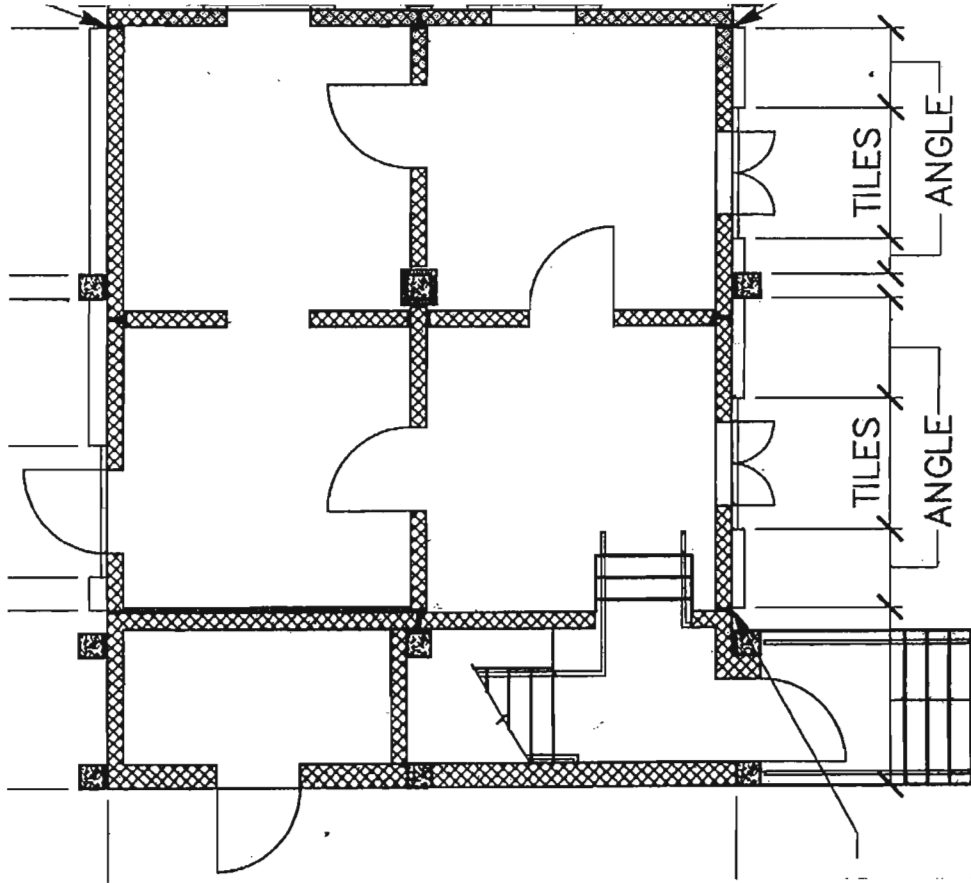
2 WEST ELEVATION  
BB100, BB101 | BB102 SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



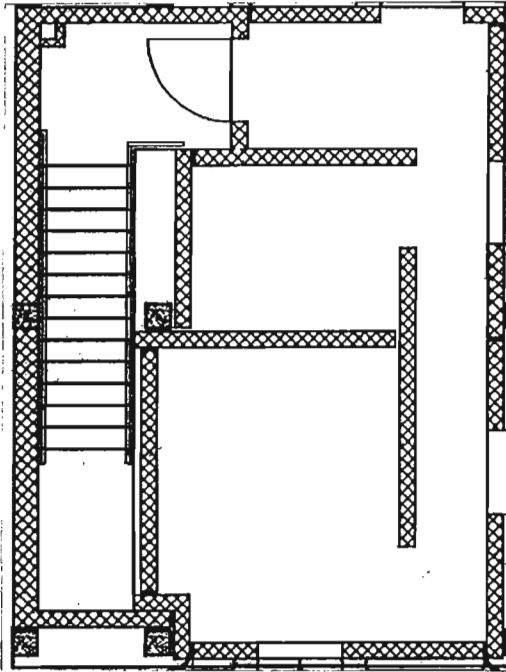
3

# SOUTH ELEVATION

BB100, BB101 | BB102 SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



Buckingham County Burn Building  
First Floor



Buckingham County Burn Building  
Second Floor

# Appendix C



Buckingham County Burn Building and Classroom Facility