

SUPPLEMENT TO HUNTSVILLE GROTTO NSS OFFICE PROPOSAL, October 2009

As a result of the discussions at the 2009 NSS Convention and other developments, the Huntsville Grotto is providing the following Supplement to its proposal previously submitted to the NSS Board of Governors.

1] Office Building Location

In summer, 2009, the NSS purchased a lot on the corner of Pulaski Pike and Link Avenue that is contiguous with the other land owned by the Society near Shelta Cave and the present NSS office complex. The newly acquired lot is not over Shelta Cave. Its location is shown in a revised Figure IV.1-1. Revised Figure IV.1-2 shows a possible division of land between a Shelta Cave Nature Preserve and an NSS Office Grounds. The new lot is part of a recommended Office Grounds. The lot is cleared, formally having had a residence on it. The Grotto recommends that part of a new Office Building should be on the new lot facing Link Avenue. Revised Figure IV.1-3 shows a possible building location.

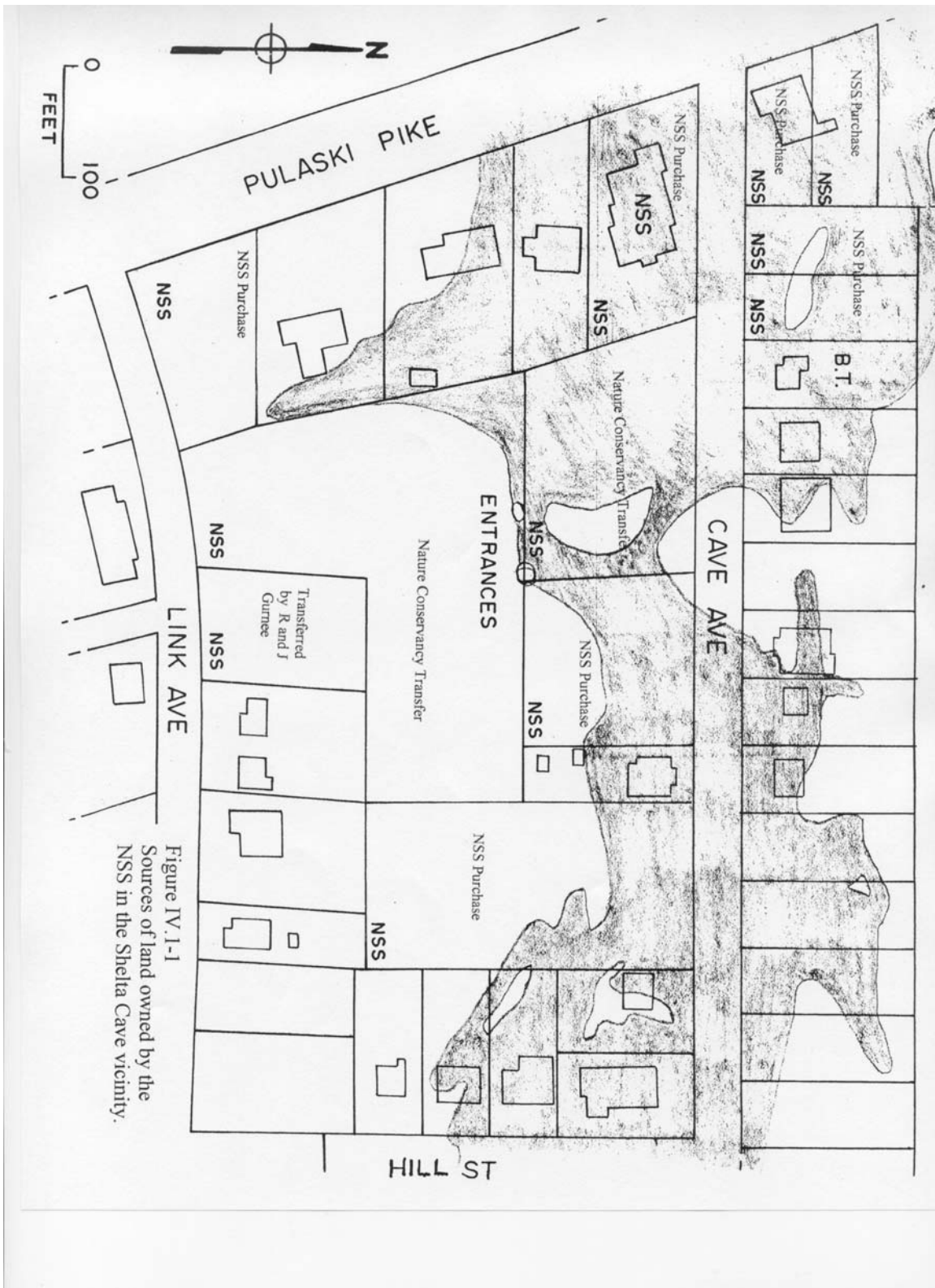


Figure IV.1-1
Sources of land owned by the
NSS in the Shelta Cave vicinity.

2] Representative Office Building

To illustrate a possible office footprint on the NSS property, the Huntsville Grotto sketched a building of the general size desired by the NSS BoG and with an appropriate allocation of space to the several functions to be housed in the building. Discussions at the Convention convinced the Grotto that a larger general storage room would be appropriate to accommodate collections of potential exhibit materials that members may donate to the Society. Therefore the storage area in the Representative Office Building was doubled from 2,250 sq ft to 4,500 sq ft.

To better fit the elevation profile of the new lot, the room configuration of the Representative Office Building was reflected in the east-west direction to put the upper level on the higher elevation of the new lot. This is illustrated in revised Figure A.1 and Figure A.2.

Of course, the Grotto understands that the sketch of the Representative Office Building may have little or no resemblance to an Office Building ultimately designed by an architect to BoG specifications. For example, the ultimate building may better be narrower and longer to better fit the new lot and the adjacent land. The Representative Building was offered merely to illustrate one possible layout that could be accommodated nicely on the available land not over Shelta Cave.

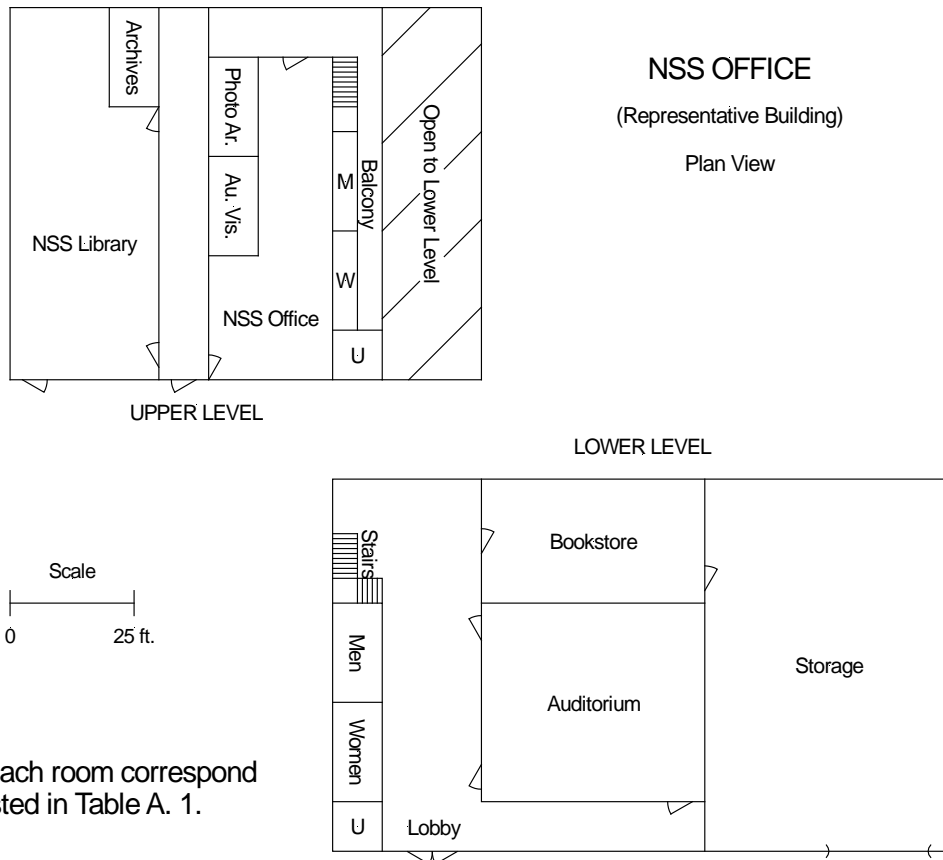


Figure A. 1.
The areas of each room correspond to the areas listed in Table A. 1.

NSS OFFICE

(Representative Building)

Front Profile View
(Roof not shown)

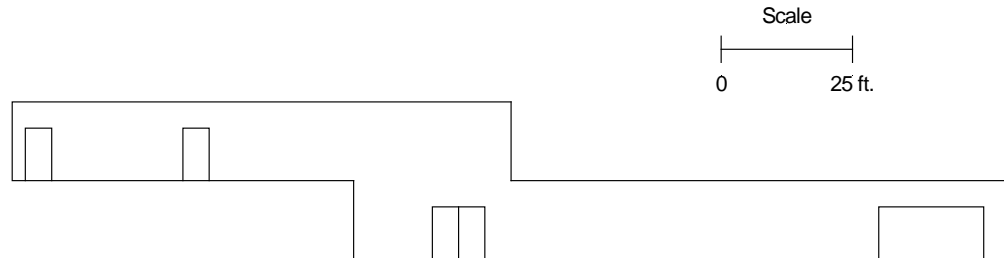


Figure A. 2.
The door at the right is access to the storage area.
All doors shown are at ground level due to the slope of the grade.

3] Potential Funding Sources

One recommendation voiced at the Convention was to compile a list of granting organizations in and around Alabama to which the Society might submit funding proposals for appropriate areas or functions in the new Office Building. The Outreach Hall and its educational functions might be an example of an element of the Office complex that could seek outside funding. The list below contains potential granting foundations:

This list from the Foundation Center database names foundations and grant makers in Alabama and the surrounding area that fund organizations similar in nature to the NSS.

A] Alabama (Organizations having funding interests matching the NSS. These are the best matches):

Alabama Power Foundation
Rucker and Margaret Agee Fund
The Anchor Charitable Foundation
Andrews Foundation
Bradley-Murphy Forestry Natural Resources Extension Trust
The Goodrich Foundation
The Hugh Kaul Foundation
The Kuehlthau Family Foundation
Vulcan Materials Company Foundation
The Thompson Foundation, Inc.

B] Matches to the NSS mission and that also fund capital campaigns in Alabama:

Alabama Power Foundation
The Harry B and Jane H Brock Foundation
Hearin-Chandler Foundation
The Hugh Kaul Foundation
Robert R. Meyer Foundation
Reese Phifer Jr. Memorial Foundation Trust
Vulcan Materials Company Foundation

C] Regional organizations that match the NSS mission and fund capital campaigns:

The Bridgestone Americas Trust (Nashville, TN)
Lyndhurst Foundation (Chattanooga, TN)

D] Nationwide foundations with environment/conservation/capital campaign focus and Alabama listed as a primary place of support:

Carrier Corporation Contributions Program
Georgia Pacific Foundation Inc.
Olin Corporation Charitable Trust
Southern Company Charitable Foundation
Steelcase Foundation
United States Steel Foundation

E] A short example list of corporate donors in Huntsville that frequently support local nonprofit functions:

Allied Waste Services
Boeing
ERC, Inc.
Johnson Controls
Operation Green Team
Turner Universal
Teledyne Brown Engineering
Adtran
Lockheed Martin
SAIC
Regions Bank
Compass Bank
Publix Supermarkets
Toyota
Englehard Corporation
Aerojet
BAE Systems
UBS

4] Cost Estimates

The cost estimates in the original proposal reflected costs in Huntsville for finished commercial structures. Some members have made the observation that there are ways to cut costs by semi-finishing some areas of a building that could later be finished by volunteers or by a contractor when funds became available. That observation is certainly true. The large storage area could be an example. Its floor might be left as bare concrete to be tiled later.

Any meaningful estimate of such cost savings seems premature, since an architect ultimately will be employed by the Society to design any building to BoG specifications. A workable plan could be to give the architect a cost target for the building and ask him to offer options for a larger building if some parts are left semi-finished.