

1421

RECEIVED
AUG 13 1990

OMB NO. 1014-0018
NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS/CHS Word Processor Format
(Approved 03/88)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable". For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Use letter quality printers in 12 pitch. Use only 25% or greater cotton content bond paper.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Flagler Hospital

other names/site number: Hotel Flagler, Flagler Municipal Building, 5KC 91

2. Location

street & number: 311 Main Ave. P. O. Box 126 (NA) not for publication

city, town: Flagler (NA) vicinity

state: Colorado code: CO county: Kit Carson code: 063 zip code: 80815

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of Resources within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
() private	(X) building(s)		
(X) public-local	() district	<u>2</u>	<u> </u> buildings
() public-State	() site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
() public-Federal	() structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	() object	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
		<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total
Name of related multiple property listing:		No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register	
<u>N/A</u>		<u>N/A</u>	

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this (x) 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 (x) meets () does not meet the National Register criteria.
 () See continuation sheet.

Barbara Sudler 8.3.90
 Signature of certifying official Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Colorado Historical Society
 State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property () meets () does not meet the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

 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.
 () See continuation sheet
- () determined eligible for the National Register. () See continuation sheet
- () determined not eligible for the National Register.
- () removed from the National Register.
- () other, (explain:) _____

Carol D. Shull 1-30-91

 Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Functions or Use**Historic Functions**

(enter categories from instructions)

Health Care: Hospital**Current Functions**

(enter categories from instructions)

Government: City HallEducation: Library**7. Description****Architectural Classification**

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Vernacular**Materials**

(enter categories from instructions)

foundations Concretewalls Brick, stuccoroof Asphaltother**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The Hotel Flagler was built by W.L. Price and W.H. Lavington in 1909. It is unlikely that W.L. Price or W.H. Lavington did the construction themselves. It should be assumed that W.H. Lavington hired someone to have the hotel constructed. The two story hotel is a vernacular style with a rectangular plan constructed of brick, covered with stucco. The large, flat roofed front porch has wood pillar supports and balustrade enclosing a second story balcony. The double hung windows are tall and narrow with stone sills. Originally, the brick building was laid in a header and stretcher bond with the top of the building finished off in Flemish Bond with a single vertical row of brick over the windows. The brick is now covered with stucco. This hotel was the first brick building in early Flagler.

From 1909 to approximately 1930, the building was operated as a hotel. The upstairs had sleeping rooms on either side of a long hallway that ended up opening out into the balcony on the front of the building. In 1937, Dr. William L. McBride purchased the hotel and remodeled it into a nine bed hospital. The remodeling included addition of up-to-date wiring, heating and plumbing systems. The upstairs included nine patient rooms, an operating room, developing room, x-ray room, nursery and a lab room. The floors of the operating room were designed to be grounded and static free. During remodeling, the front porch received a new concrete floor and the entrance was changed from the front to the south side to provide access for ambulatory patients. According to an article in The Flagler News on October 11, 1962, the exterior of the building was stuccoed at this time. Around the fascia of the porch roof there was neon lighting in a zig-zag pattern with the word "HOSPITAL" in the center. This neon lighting is no longer present. Dr. McBride, his wife and a duty nurse (Mrs. Vivienne Williams) lived on the first floor of the building when it was a hospital. The first floor

(X) See continuation sheet

NPS Form 10-900a
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS/CHS Word Processor Format
(Approved 03/88)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 2

Hotel Flagler

included a waiting area, doctors office, drug dispensary and the living quarters which included living room, dining room, two bedrooms, bath and the nurses living quarters. These alterations are historic and are directly related to the buildings significance in the fields of health and medicine.

In 1963, the hospital went out of business because it was no longer economically feasible to upgrade the facility to the standards that were required during this time. In 1967, the town of Flagler purchased the building and moved the city government offices into the building. Presently, the building is as it was during the time it was a hospital. The town library, Hal Borland memorial room and the city offices occupy the first floor of the structure.

Alterations to the building include, rewiring, plumbing and removal of one interior wall in 1969 to accommodate the town library. The town jail was added to the north side of the building in November, 1970. As far as major structural changes, the only significant ones were the addition of the jail and removal of one partition in the downstairs living quarters. The addition does not detract from the original building, and is finished with the same stucco coat as the original building. The style and scale of the addition is compatible with the original building and does not compromise the integrity of the building.

A contributing garage, built in 1938, is located at the rear of the Hotel Flagler. It is also stuccoed and does not detract from the nominated building. Minor remodeling for the town library reached completion in March, 1969.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: () nationally () statewide (X) locally

Applicable National Register Criteria () A (X) B () C () D
 Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) () A () B () C () D () E () F (X) G

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions) **Period of Significance** **Significant Dates**

Health/Medicine 1937-1951 1937, 1951

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person

Dr. William L. McBride

Architect/Builder

Not known

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Hotel Flagler, or the Flagler Hospital, is eligible under criterion consideration G and criterion B for its association with Dr. William McBride and his importance to the area of Health and Medicine in eastern Colorado from 1937 - 1951. This hospital was one of the first privately financed full care hospitals on the eastern plains of Colorado serving people in Kit Carson County and the surrounding area.

Dr. William L. McBride came to Eastern Colorado to practice medicine, but knew that to provide adequate care, he needed more than an office. He received additional training in Chicago and brought that information back to the Eastern Plains and started first, a small emergency hospital in Seibert and then the hospital in Flagler. His continued efforts to upgrade the medical facilities in the Eastern plains, by forming the Medical Association of Kit Carson County and the opening of the only private fully functioning hospital within 100 miles of Seibert, helped the small communities and many rural families.

The nominated building was originally constructed in 1909 as a hotel, but its primary significance derives from the period of 1937, when Dr. McBride purchased the hotel through 1951, the year of the air show disaster and his awards and recognition by the American Medical Association and the Colorado Medical Society. McBride purchased the hotel in 1937 and with a minimum amount of structural remodeling, turned the hotel into a hospital. His career culminated in 1951 and he left the hospital for a small private practice and retirement in the early 1960s.

(X) See continuation sheet

NPS Form 10-900a
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS/CHS Word Processor Format
(Approved 03/88)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 2

Hotel Flagler

The hospital in Hugo, Colorado was constructed in 1959, and Burlington's hospital was constructed in 1948. Akron, sixty miles north, and Cheyenne Wells, sixty-five miles south, had medical facilities, but travel was over very primitive roads. It is this association with Dr. McBride that the property is presented for nomination under criteria B and criteria consideration G. Criteria consideration G was chosen because of the hospital's significance extended beyond the 50 year age requirement.

Dr. McBride's impact on medicine in Kit Carson and surrounding areas is documented from 1918 to 1960, when Dr. McBride left the hospital. From 1960, the Flagler Hospital was operated by Dr. Straub who was Dr. McBride's stepson, until 1963 when it closed.

The Hotel Flagler was constructed in 1909 by W.H. Lavington and his brother-in-law, W.L. Price, to accommodate the growing number of homesteaders and cowboys who worked on the large cattle ranches in the area. W.H. Lavington came to Flagler in 1887 to work on the railroad. Flagler was a stop for the Rock Island Railroad and a shipping point for the cattle and sheep that were raised in the surrounding ranches. Mr. Lavington became the local banker in 1909.

The early history of the building is closely associated with the development of the community of Flagler. The hotel provided first class lodging that provided meals, baths and accommodations for the families in and around Flagler and travelers on the Rock Island Railroad. The building served as a hotel from 1909 until approximately the early 1930's. The depression and the dust bowl quickened the hotel's demise. In July of 1937, the hotel was purchased by Dr. William L. McBride and was converted into a modern hospital with minimal alteration to the structure.

William Lucien McBride was born on October 19, 1885, in Formosa, Kansas. During his early childhood, William McBride witnessed disease and suffering when his sister Emma suffered miserably with scarlet fever. He also contracted the disease and remembered these afflictions of his youth.

NPS Form 10-900a
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS/CHS Word Processor Format
(Approved 03/88)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 3

Hotel Flagler

Dr. McBride finished high school in Mankato, Kansas. He married Bessie Pearl Omer of Jewell, Kansas. He attended college in Woodward, Oklahoma for two years then moved to Kansas City, Kansas where he and his wife studied medicine. Dr. McBride graduated from Kansas City College of Medicine and Surgery in 1917 and opened up a practice in Burr Oak, Kansas with his wife as a nurse. Dr. McBride moved to Seibert, Colorado, 11 miles east of Flagler, Colorado in June of 1918. When asked why he moved there, he answered, "Because a doctor friend, Dr. L.R. Nutter of Joes, Colorado heard that doctors were needed out here."

As a rural doctor, it was common practice for McBride to make house calls. Dr. McBride's admiration for horses suggests many of his early calls were made by horseback and by horse and buggy. The automobile also provided transportation. It is said that Dr. W.L. McBride wore out a flivver (Model T Ford) during his first year in Seibert, when the influenza of World War I was at its worst. Typical of Dr. McBride's early practice, was a trip by railroad hand car from Seibert to Vona to assist rural families in childbirth. Blizzards of winter drifted roads shut, so even though automobiles were available, emergencies in the area required Dr. McBride to make calls by horseback and horse drawn sled.

Dr. McBride was also involved in the local professional organization. In September of 1918, Dr. McBride and Dr. J.V. Beachley of Stratton, Colorado organized the Kit Carson Medical Association. Dr. McBride served as secretary for twenty years. In 1937, the Kit Carson Medical Association changed its name to Eastern Colorado Medical Society, to better reflect the areas needs.

Dr. McBride is significant in the area of Health and Medicine for providing the best, fully equipped hospital between Goodland, Kansas and Denver, Colorado and for initiating the practice of antiseptic surgery in the Colorado plains. A dire need for a hospital in the Colorado Eastern plains area became very apparent to Dr. McBride. Patients needing surgery had to be sent to Denver by rail in those early days. Many were not able to withstand such a trip and died. Mr. Brown, a patient, died of a ruptured appendix in the winter of 1924. He was hauled by horse drawn sled to the railroad station and sent to Denver by train. Dr. McBride is quoted, "By the time Mr. Brown reached the operating table, it was too late; peritonitis had developed. With a hospital near at hand, I could have saved him."

NPS Form 10-900a
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS/CHS Word Processor Format
(Approved 03/88)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 4

Hotel Flagler

In 1925, Dr. McBride traveled to Chicago where he attended classes in surgical techniques and antiseptic procedures at Cook County Hospital. Best sources tell us his instructor was Dr. Max Thorek, renowned surgeon of this time. Dr. McBride was driven to establish an emergency hospital in Seibert because patients needing immediate surgery could not make the trip to Denver. The procedures and expertise he learned in Chicago were put into practice at the emergency facility in Seibert. Dr. McBride was the first to practice antiseptic surgery in this plains area, introducing antiseptic surgical techniques to eastern Colorado. These techniques were later made standard procedure in most medical facilities. The Seibert building served only as an emergency operating facility, it did not fulfill Dr. McBride's desire to provide a full care facility to the people in Flagler and the surrounding communities. There have been major alterations to the Seibert building and it no longer represents Dr. McBride's significant achievements. This building was very small and did not address all the needs of the people in the area.

On January 28, 1933, Bessie McBride contracted influenza and died. Dr. McBride realized that his emergency operation in Seibert was not sufficient. On June 2, 1934, Dr. William L. McBride married Zetah Straub of Flagler. In 1937, the former Hotel Flagler became available and Dr. McBride thought it was perfect for a larger hospital. W.H. Lavington, builder and owner of the hotel, sold it to Dr. McBride. Although it meant relocating in another town, a desire to establish a large hospital in the area compelled Dr. W.L. McBride to purchase this building. The red brick building was structurally sound and remodeling began.

The first patient in the new hospital was Mr. Ernest Miller on October 17, 1937. The first baby born here was William Sigurd Olson born on November 6, 1937. During the hospital's operation from 1937 to 1963, there were 2,100 babies born and 9,023 admissions. There were originally 5 employees, eventually averaging 13.

NPS Form 10-900a
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS/GHS Word Processor Format
(Approved 03/88)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 5

Hotel Flagler

Dr. John C. Straub, stepson of Dr. McBride, attended the University of Colorado Medical School in Denver and joined his step-father at Flagler Hospital in 1947, serving as Administrator. Thus was formed, a "family operating team" with Doctors McBride and Straub. Mrs. McBride as anesthetist, Mrs. Marie Straub as nurse, and Douglas, proficient in operating room technique, as scrub nurse. This team gained national recognition for speed and proficiency. The hospital was a busy place, gaining a reputation as the best equipped, private hospital between Goodland, Kansas and Denver, Colorado.

It was on September 15, 1951 that the entire medical team and staff met a supreme test. In lieu of a rodeo, Flagler chose to sponsor an air show at the Flagler Fall Festival in 1951. It was during this air show that one of the airplanes crashed into the spectators. Cars were crushed and bodies of the injured and dead were everywhere. The medical team at Flagler Hospital was given a traumatic task in the next hours. Doctors McBride and Straub aided by Douglas and Marie Straub and regular nurses on duty, bore the shock of the first casualties arriving on pickup and flat bed trucks because the ambulance sat at the airport with a side caved in.

The twelve beds for adults and six for children of the hospital soon filled with patients. Speed and efficiency of those first critical minutes, becoming hours, availability of plasma, oxygen, penicillin, facilities of the hospital and its staff were invaluable to the injured. Of the many times Flagler Hospital played a vital roll in saving lives, in countless emergencies, the air crash of 1951 was among the greatest medical feats performed there.

In 1951, at a mid-winter meeting of the American Medical Association, Dr. McBride was honored as medical doctor of the year. He was awarded a 50 year gold pin by the Colorado Medical Society at a meeting in Colorado Springs. After a brief retirement in the early 1960's, Dr. McBride opened an office in the Flagler News building, continuing to see patients until the summer of 1962 when he closed his office.

On April 21, 1963, Dr. Straub announced that the Flagler Hospital would close on May 15th. With the closure of the hospital, this was the last privately financed medical facility to operate in this eastern Colorado area. It was rented during 1964 and 1965 by Ponderosa Industries. Dr. Straub then donated the building to the Methodist Church in Limon, Colorado.

NPS Form 10-900a
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS/CHS Word Processor Format
(Approved 03/88)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 6

Hotel Flagler

On October 4, 1967, lacking two weeks of being 82 years old, Dr. W.L. McBride passed away. The town of Flagler purchased the hospital (former Hotel Flagler) and received a Warranty Deed on October 14, 1967. Offices of the town were moved to the building in December. Minor remodeling for the town library reached completion in March, 1969. In November, 1970, an addition was added to the north side of the building to house the jail. The addition does not detract from the original building and is finished with the same stucco coat as the original building.

The building still serves the Flagler community as a public center, housing offices for the town of Flagler and a very neat and efficient library, including a room which serves as a memorial to author, Hal Borland. The Borland room houses artifacts and material which was written by him. Hal Borland grew up in the town of Flagler, finishing high school here.

Though there have been some modifications to the Flagler Hospital, the building continues to convey its significance from its historic period, 1937 to 1951. Historical alterations from 1937 include the stucco over the brick exterior, the change in the porch entrance and interior modifications. The jail addition to the side of the building is non-historic but does not significantly detract from the building's appearance as it was during its period of significance as a hospital.

9. Major Bibliographical References

9. Interviews and Ledger

- Garrett, Wayne. Personal recollections. 20 Sept. 1989.
- Gorton, Fosha. Personal recollections. 20 Sept. 1989.
- McBride, W.L. Personal Ledger. 1937-1940.
- Stone, Lyle. Personal recollections. 20 Sept. 1989.
- Williams, Vivienne. Personal recollections. 20 Sept. 1989.

(X) See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested <input type="checkbox"/> previously listed in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> previously determined eligible by the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> designated a National Historic Landmark <input type="checkbox"/> recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____ | <p>Primary location of additional data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> State Historic Preservation Office <input type="checkbox"/> Other State agency <input type="checkbox"/> Federal agency <input type="checkbox"/> Local government <input type="checkbox"/> University <input type="checkbox"/> Other <p>Specify Repository: _____</p> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property: under one

UTM References

A	<u>1 3</u>	<u>6 6 5 6 6 0 </u>	<u>4 3 5 0 8 8 0 </u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting		Northing						
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting		Northing						

() See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 9, 10, 11 Block 10, Resubdivision 1951. (Town of Flagler)

() See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the property historically associated with Hotel Flagler.

() See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: <u>John Valentine and Kathy Trujillo</u>	Date: <u>4/30/90</u>
Organization: <u>Sangre de Cristo RC&D</u>	Telephone: <u>(719) 543-8385</u>
Street & Number: _____	State: <u>CO</u> Zip Code: <u>81001</u>
City or Town: <u>Pueblo</u>	

NPS Form 10-900a
 (Rev. 8/86)
 NPS/CHS Word Processor Format
 (Approved 03/88)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
 National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9 Page 2

Hotel Flagler

Books

Borland, Hal. Country Editors Boy. New York: J.B. Lippincott, 1970.

Thorek, Max, M.D. A Surgeons' World. New York: J.B. Lippincott, 1943.

Newspapers

Barker, William. "Assignment Flagler". Denver Post. 22 Sept. 1951.

(Unknown). "Dr. McBride awarded 50 year pin by State Medical Society".
The Flagler News.

(Unknown). "Good Morning, Dr. Straub". Limon Leader. 12 Sept. 1962.

(Unknown). "Horse & Buggy Keeps up with times". Denver Post. Date
 unknown.

(Unknown). "Services Held for Dr. McBride". The Flagler News. 12 Oct. 1967.

(Unknown). "Town Offices Moving to Former Hospital Building." The Flagler News.
 14 Dec. 1967.

(Unknown). "Tragic Death in Flagler". The Flagler News. 1 April 1938.

(Unknown). "Celebrating 25th Anniversary". The Flagler News. 11 October 1962.

Periodicals

Obituaries. Journal of the American Medical Association. Vol 103, No. 3, 15
 Jan. 1968 #247.

Obituaries. Rocky Mountain Medical Journal. Vol 64, No. 12, 1968.

Correspondence

Cook County Hospital. Letter. 17 May, 1989.

Flagler Historical Society Photographs.

McBride, W.L. Dr. Family documents and photographs.

AUG 13 1990

NPS Form 10-900a
(Rev. 8/86)
NPS/CHS Word Processor Format
(Approved 03/88)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number _____ Page _____

Photo Log Flagler Hospital

Flagler Hospital

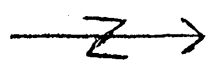
1. Flager Hospital
2. Flagler, Colorado
3. Kit Carson County
4. John Valentine
5. April 1990

Photograph Number:

1. East front of building, View SW
2. East front and south side, View NW
3. South side, View W
4. West rear and south side, portion of garage, View NE
5. South side, View W
6. Bedpan sterilizer in second floor bathroom
7. Stairs to second floor
8. Stairwell from second floor
9. Dumbwaiter (L) for foodtrays and linen, laundry chute to basement (R).
10. Door and transom from original construction

AUG 13 1990

2 CAR GARAGE

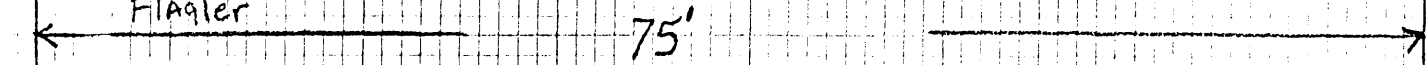


BACK PORCH
1 STORY

2 STORY Hotel (original)
HOSPITAL
NOW MUNICIPAL BLDG

JAIL

FRONT PORCH



LOTS 9, 10, 11
BLOCK 10
FLAGLER

75'

MAIN STREET

NOT TO SCALE

DEC 21 1990

