



*Crime Scene
Sketching...What's the
big deal?*

DISADVANTAGES OF PHOTOS TO RECORD CRIME SCENES:

- ✪ LACK DEPTH
- ✪ FAIL TO PROVIDE ACCURATE REPRESENTATION OF DISTANCES BETWEEN ITEMS OF EVIDENCE
- ✪ CAMERA ANGLE AND DISTANCE FROM WHICH PHOTOGRAPH IS TAKEN CAN LEAD TO FALSE INTERPRETATION OF CRITICAL RELATIONSHIPS AMONG OBJECTS



THE ADVANTAGE OF USING SCENE SKETCHES AND DETAILED DRAWINGS ARE:

- It accurately portrays the physical facts.
- It relates to the sequence of events at the scene.
- Establishes the precise location and relationship of objects and evidence at the scene.



THE ADVANTAGE OF USING SCENE SKETCHES AND DETAILED DRAWINGS ARE (continued):

- A permanent record of the scene.
- Usually is admissible in court.
- Assists in interviewing and interrogating.



Objective: MAKING A CRIME SCENE SKETCH

- ✪ **Draw a rough outline of the room or area**
- ✪ **Include the dimensions of the room or area drawn**
- ✪ **Include distances between objects shown**
- ✪ **Include dimensions of large pieces of furniture**
- ✪ **Have another officer verify your measurements**
- ✪ **Show all measurements on the drawing**



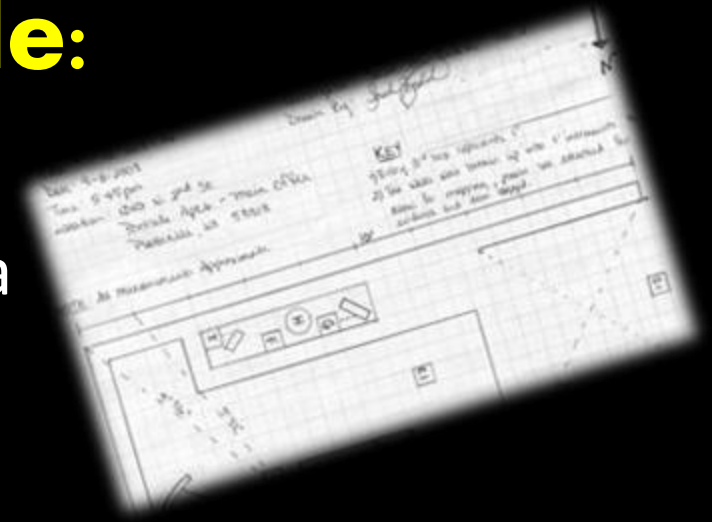
SCALE “411”

- Indicate with arrow and the letter “N”, true North
- Include a disclaimer if “not to scale”
- Include a Key of identified items



Create a legend on the sketch and include:

- Case number
- Address of building or area
- Date
- Victim's name, if known
- Name of officer who made sketch
- Name of other officers present
- Type of crime



🔦 Indicate location of all fixed objects:

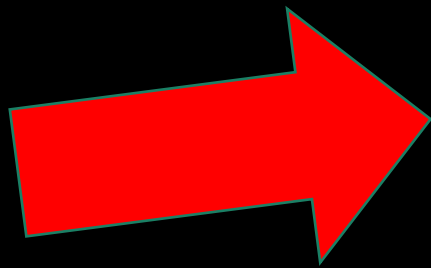
- Doors
- Windows
- Shelves

🔦 Indicate, with numbers, the location of all moveable objects and any object to be removed from the scene:

- Lamps
- Statues
- Large pictures
- Pieces of furniture

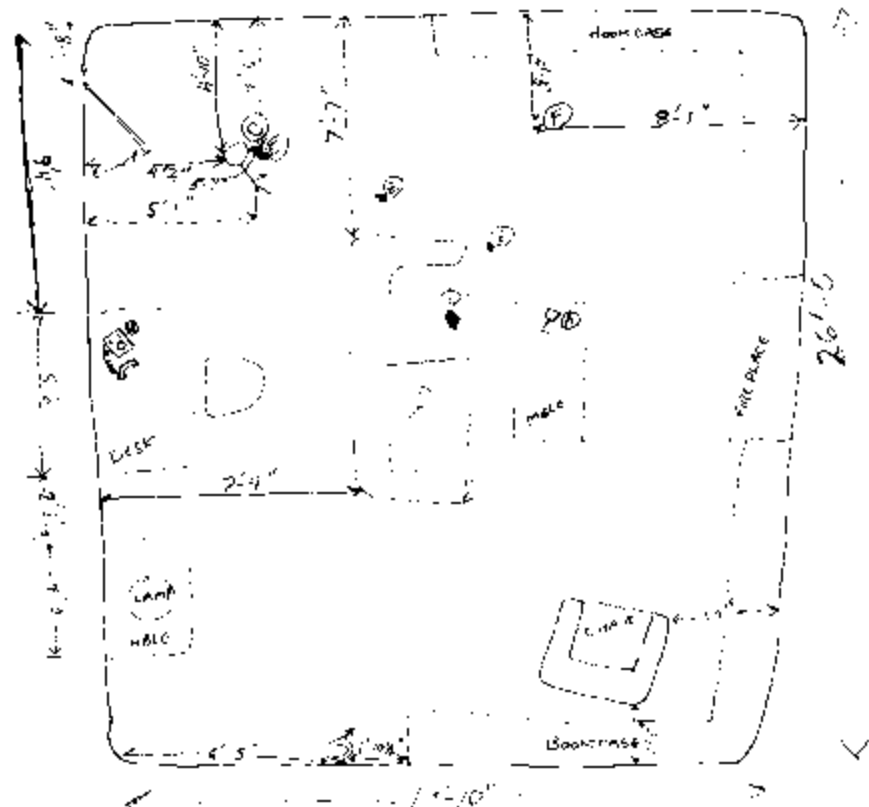


WHAT DO YOU NOTICE?



CASE 10-784-88
301 N CENTRE ST
OCT 6, 1988 11:40 AM
HOMICIDE

VICTIM LESTER W BROWN
"WASHHEAD" BOY LA BOYF
AGE 34 PLM. RW MINS



- A - CHAIR
- B - DESK
- C - LAMP
- D - BUILT-IN
- E - BLOOD STAINS
- F - BUILT-IN

Not to scale

3' 4" from front

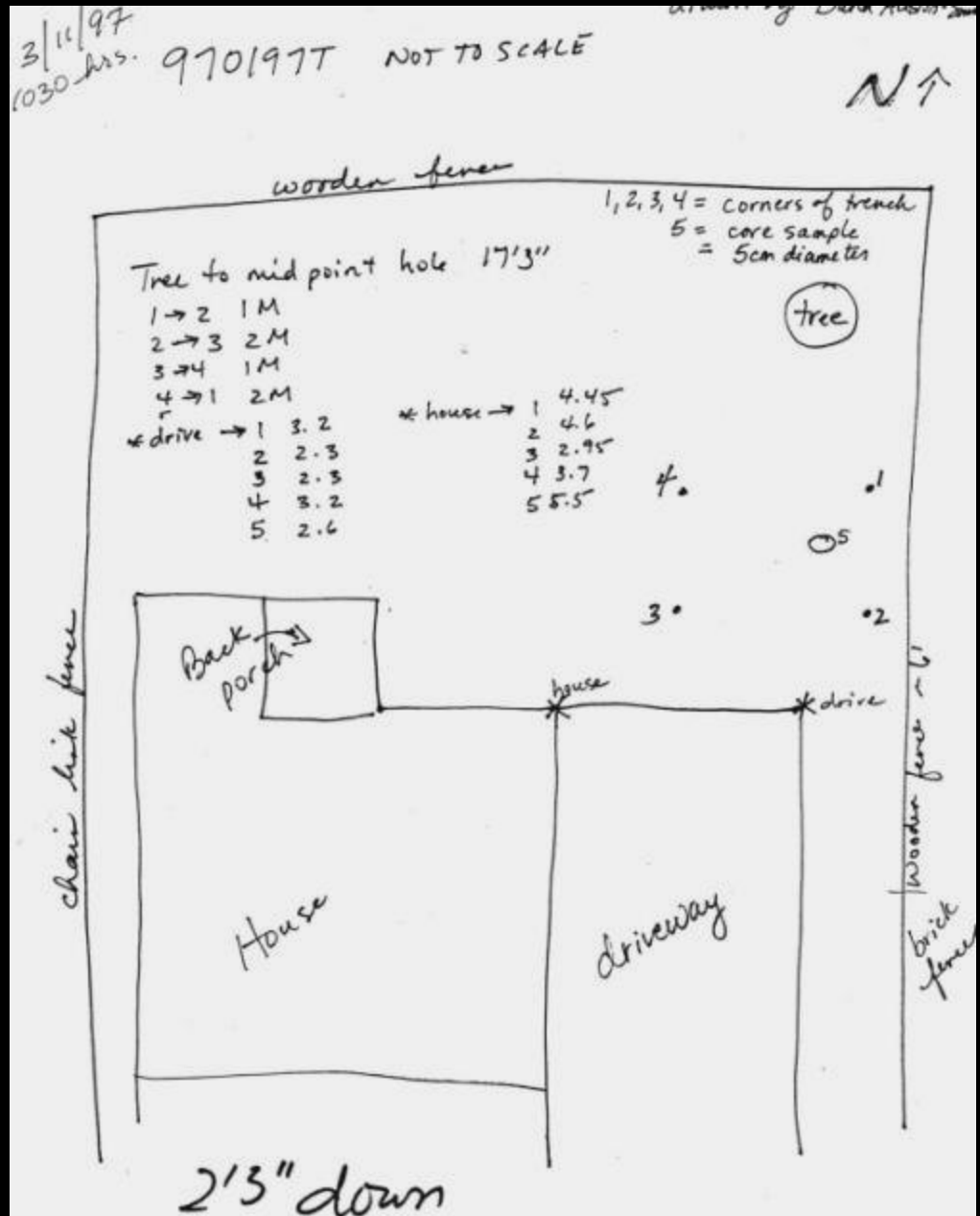
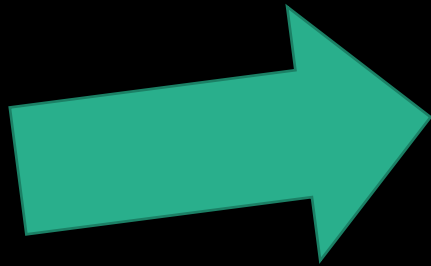


FIG NO. 1
ROUGH SKETCH

INITIAL SKETCHES

- Rough Sketches are developed on the scene
- Not done to scale
- Can be drawn with any medium (chalk, pencil, crayon)
- “Rough” artistically speaking

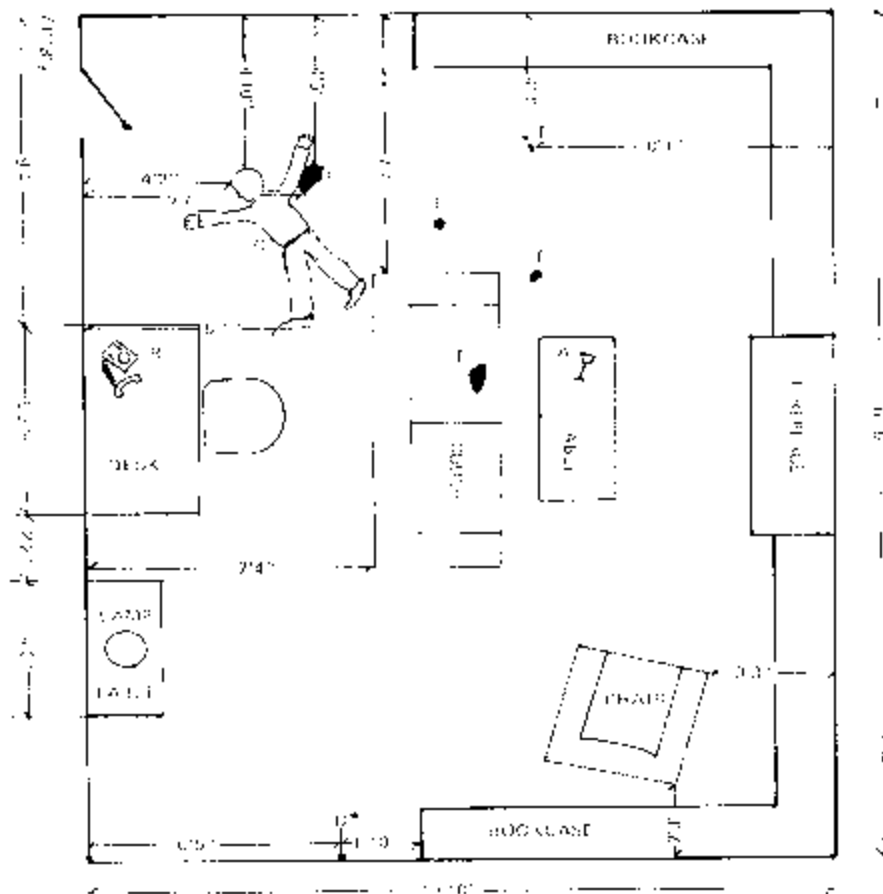
INITIAL SKETCH



**What is
the
difference
of this
sketch?**

CASE 1D - 789 -88
301 N. CENTRE ST.
OCTOBER 6, 1988 11:40 PM
HOMICIDE

V CTIM: LESTER W. BROWN
INVESTIGATOR: SGT. L.A. DUFFY
ASST BY: PTLM. R.W. HICKS



LEGEND.

- A COCKTAIL GLASS
- B TELEPHONE
- C VICTIM
- D BULLET HOLE
- E BLOOD STAINS
- F SHELL CASING

"D - 3' 4\" FROM FLOOR

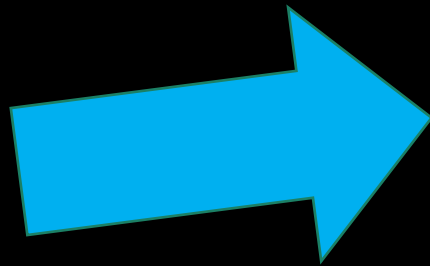
SCALE: 1/4\" = 1 FOOT

Not to scale



FIG. NO. 2
FINISHED SKETCH

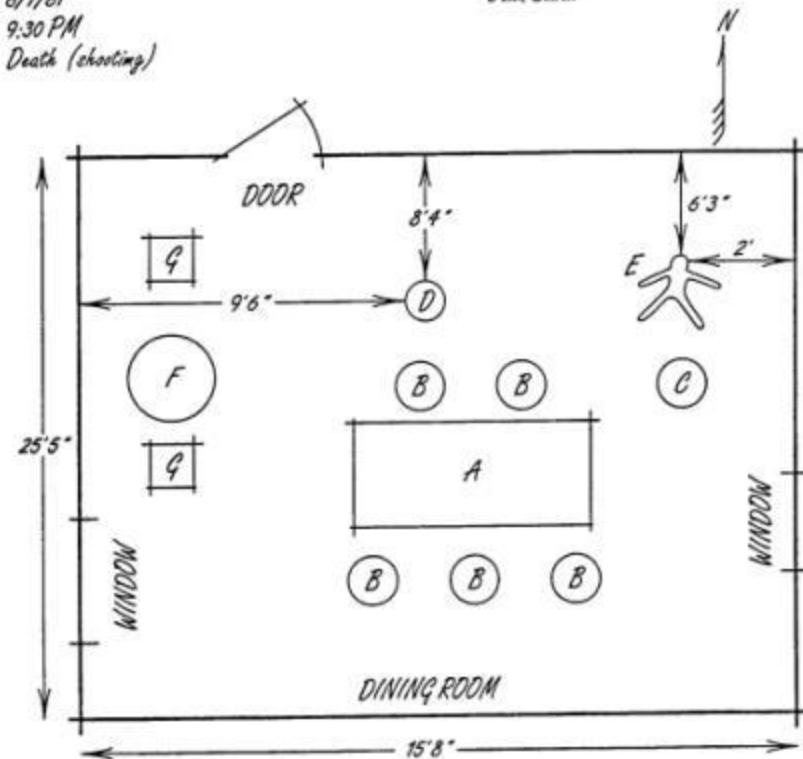
FINAL SKETCH



T1 Figure 2-2 Diagram of a Crime Scene

2741 Aragon St.
6/7/81
9:30 PM
Death (shooting)

Sketch by Officer
John Smith

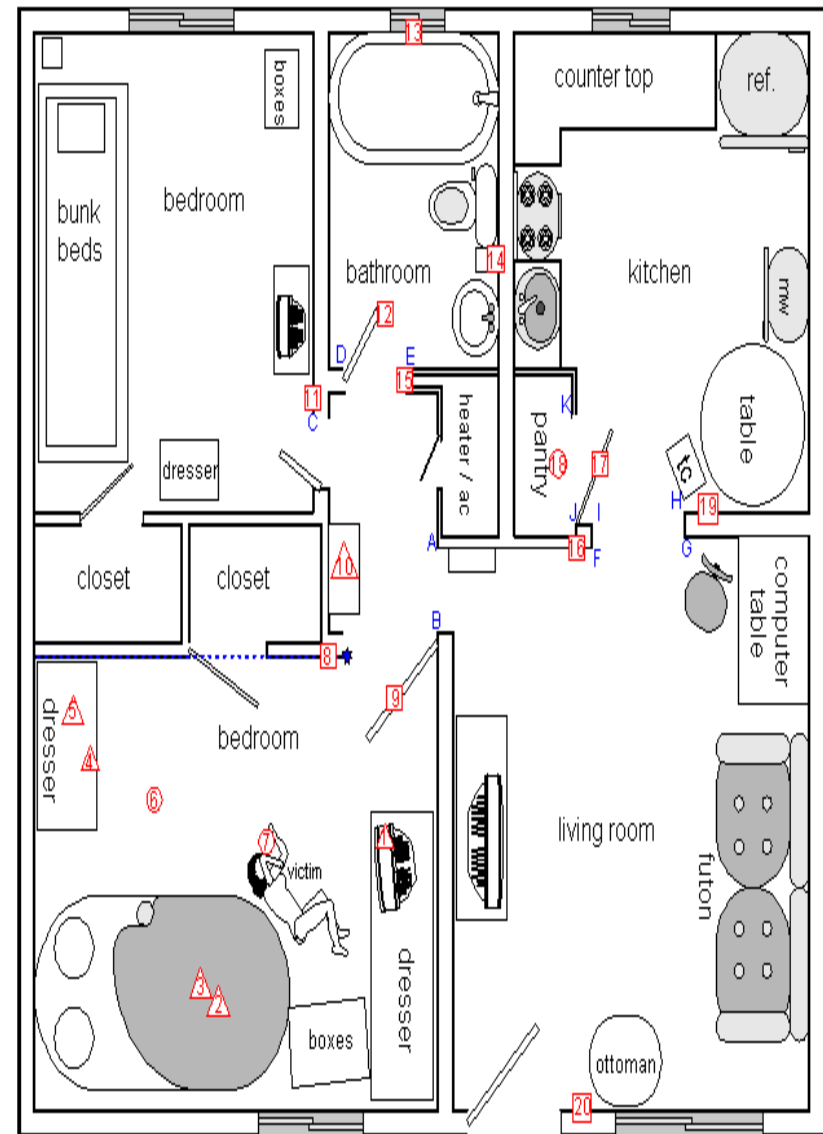
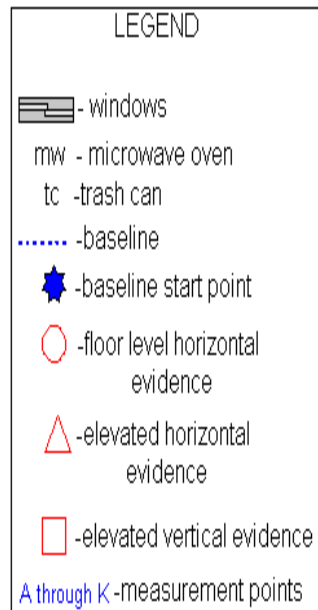


- A - Dining room table
- B - Chair
- C - Overturned chair
- D - 0.38 Revolver
- E - Male body
- F - Table
- G - Chair

FINAL SKETCH



Homicide
9-20-08 / 1619-08
3005 Pleasant av. apt. 2B
diagram by investigator
E.M. Henderson
NOT TO SCALE



MAKING A DETAILED, FINAL DRAWING

- Finished product of the rough sketch.
- Prepared for courtroom presentation and often will not show all measurements and distances originally recorded on the rough sketch.
- Only significant items and structures are typically present within a final sketch.
-

MAKING A DETAILED, FINAL DRAWING

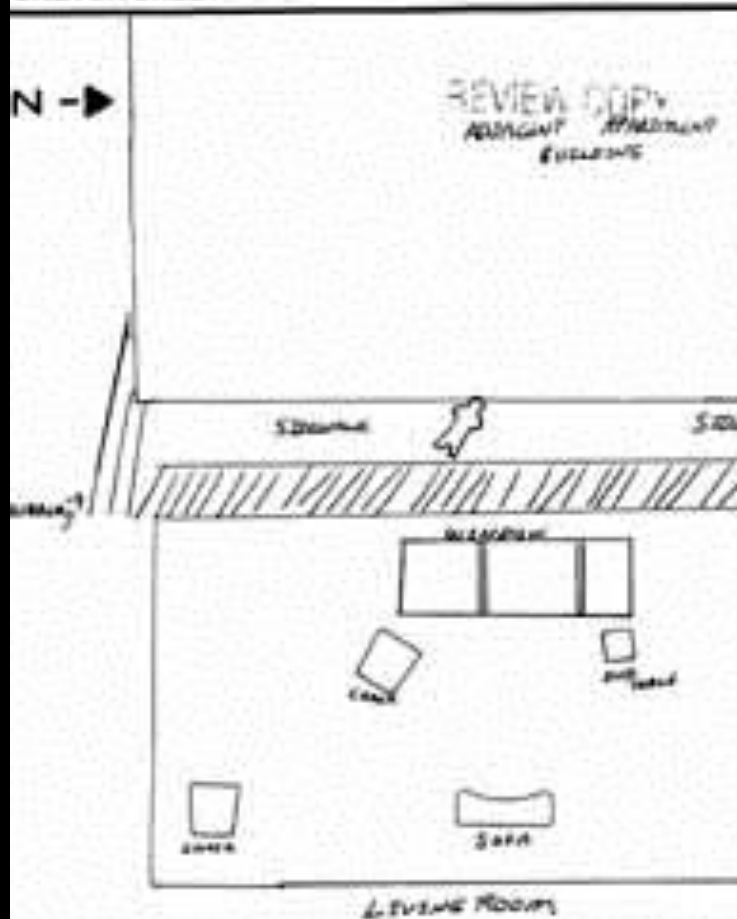
- ★ INCLUDE A DISCLAIMER IF DETAILED DRAWING IS NOT TO SCALE
- ★ STRAIGHTEN ALL LINES – USE TEMPLATE
- ★ ROUND ALL CIRCLES – USE TEMPLATE
- ★ TYPE ALL LABELS AND MEASUREMENTS
- ★ CREATE A DRAWING IN A SIZE EASILY DUPLICATED
- ★ USE PERMANENT MARKER DRAWING



SKETCH SHEET

☒ CRIME SCENE SKETCH☐ ACCIDENT SCENE SKETCH

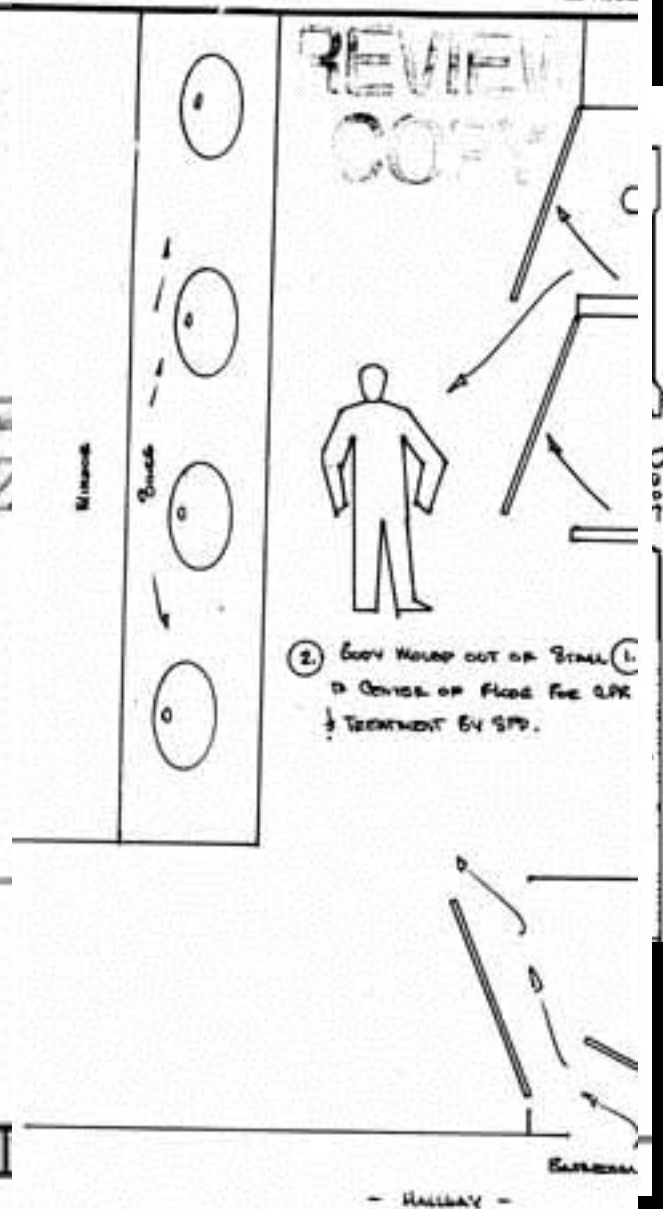
SKETCH SHEET

☒ CRIME☐ ACCIDENT

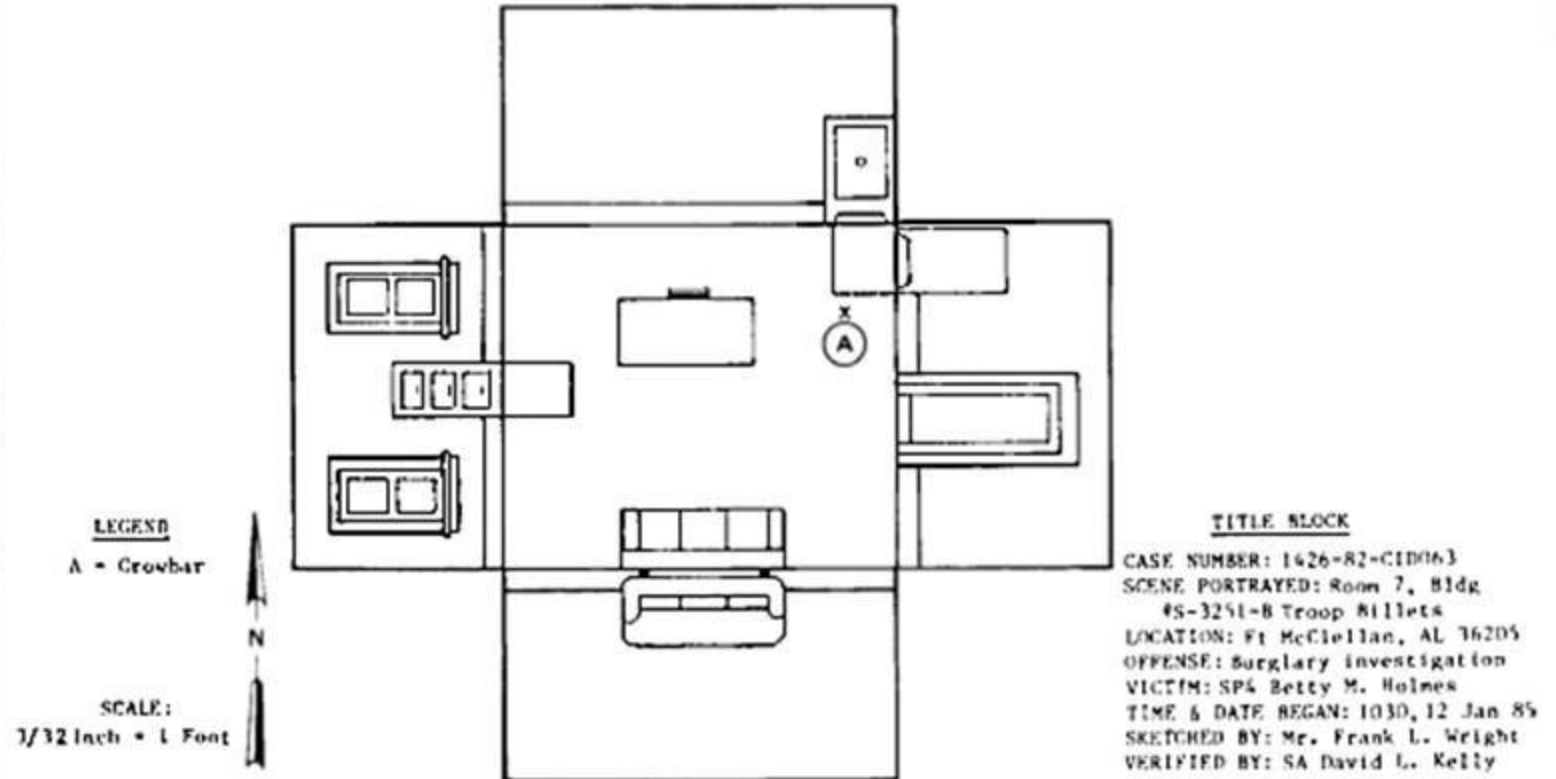
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DATE	TIME	1720 HRS
DISTRICT 5720 442		

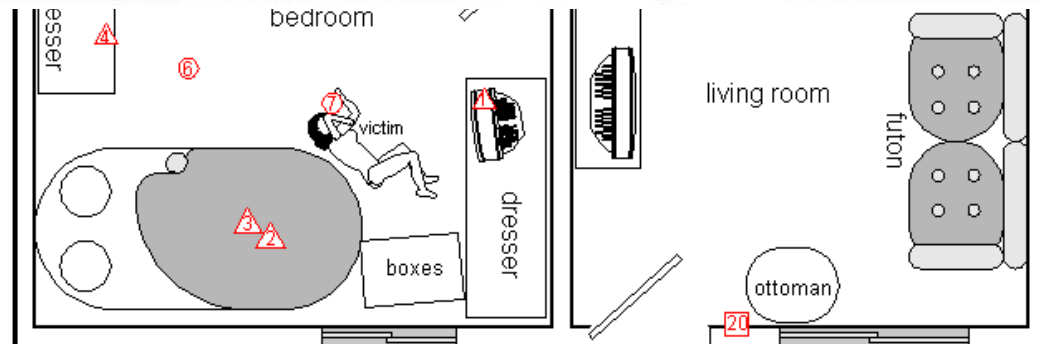
8.01



A CROSS-PROJECTION SKETCH



A through K - measurement points



verified by: Sgt Betty L. Goodwin



**Now let's
practice....Use the clues
to create your sketch!**

CRIME REPORT 1A

POLICE REPORT:

I was called to 1524 Hummingbird Lane at 10:30 p.m. The neighbors, Ron (65 years old) and Shirley (60) Ross, met me as I pulled up. They stated that they had arrived home at 10:15pm to see a man running from their neighbor's home. They called the police.

The front door was slightly ajar. Upon entering the house, I noticed that the TV was still on but nothing seemed out of the ordinary. In the kitchen area, there was a broken glass next to the sink with what appeared to be blood droplets. The bedroom was neatly arranged except for an overturned jewelry box. The contents were scattered on the carpeted floor. A search of the rest of the house, revealed the body of a female lying in a prone position submerged in a bathtub of water. I felt for a pulse but the body had no visible signs of life. There were no signs of rigor. I called for the coroners office and then went to interview the witnesses.

CRIME REPORT 1A

EYEWITNESS EVIDENCE

RON ROSS:



“My wife and I arrived home at approximately 10:15 and saw a man running from my neighbor’s house. We don’t know her very well. She only moved in a month ago. I think her name is Beth or something like that, but I don’t know her last name at all. The guy was in such a hurry that he didn’t even shut the front door. That worried us and my wife ran into the house and called the police.”

CRIME REPORT 1A

EYEWITNESS EVIDENCE

SHIRLEY ROSS:



“I think her name is actually Bethany. Everything is usually quiet at her house during the day, but I have heard cars coming and going at night. I think she has a boyfriend who visits often.”

AUTOPSY REPORT

BAC: .09



Formal.

CRIME REPORT 1A

EVIDENCE TECHNICIAN REPORT

11x17



CRIME REPORT 1A

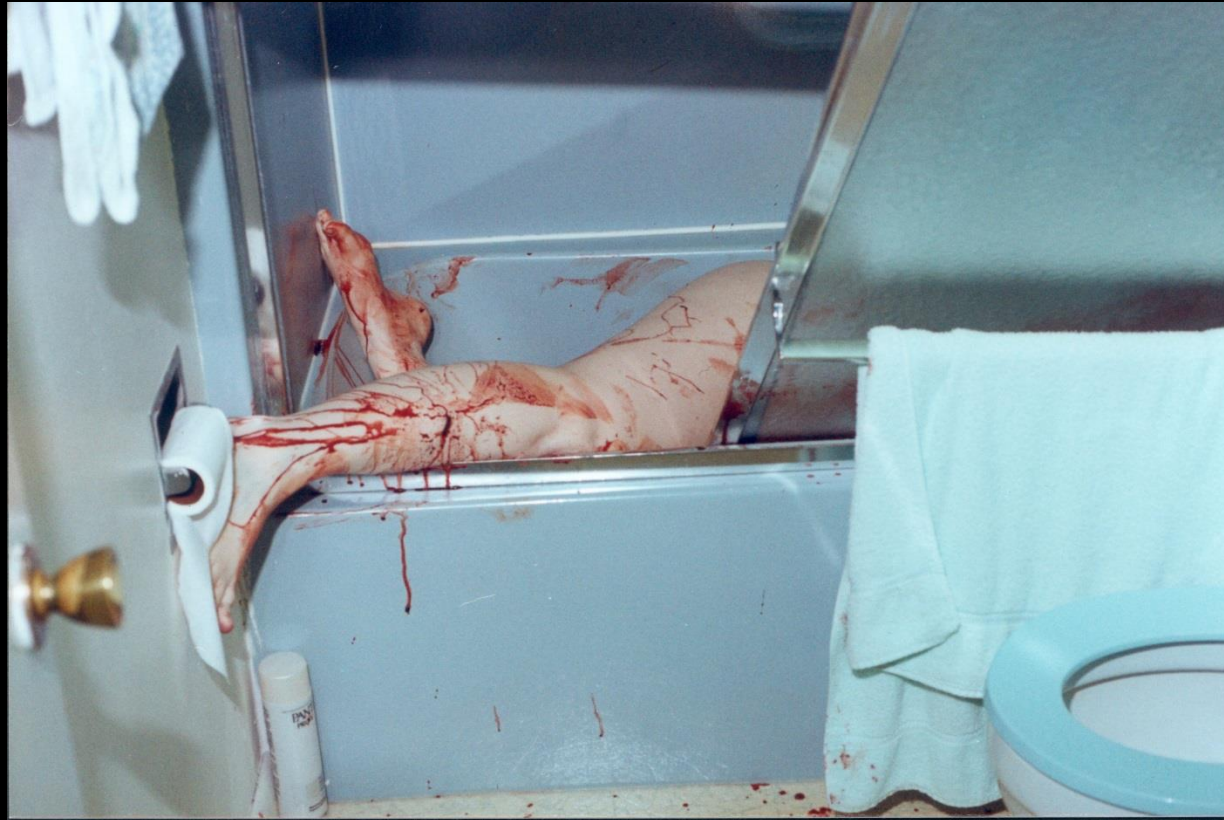
EVIDENCE TECHNICIAN REPORT



Kitchen: 10X14

CRIME REPORT 1A

EVIDENCE TECHNICIAN REPORT



BATHROOM: 6X6

CRIME REPORT 1A

OTHER INFORMATION

RANCH/BUNGALOW HOME

2 BEDROOMS

ONE BATHROOM

KITCHEN

LAUNDRY ROOM OFF KITCHEN



CLOSING QUESTIONS:

1. WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN A CRIME SCENE SKETCH?
2. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A ROUGH SKETCH AND FINAL SKETCH?
3. WHY ARE SKETCHES IMPORTANT TO CRIME CASES?