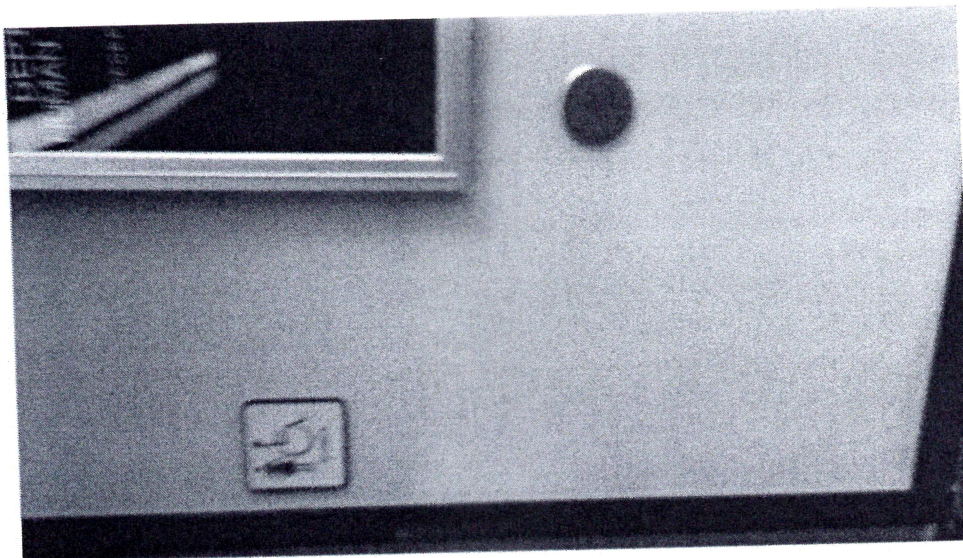


<< Photos and Associated DataOf ND Capitol Building as >>
<< Regards Handicapped Accessibility >>
<< Done by Carel Two-Eagle During the 2019 Legislative Session >>



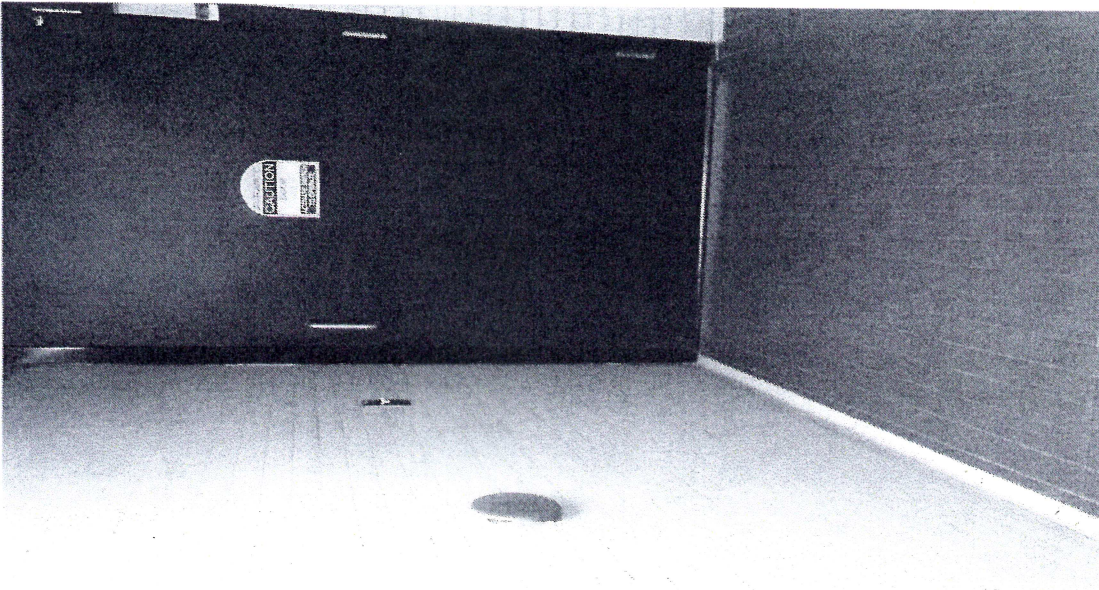
Judicial Wing has door-opener

every other floor.

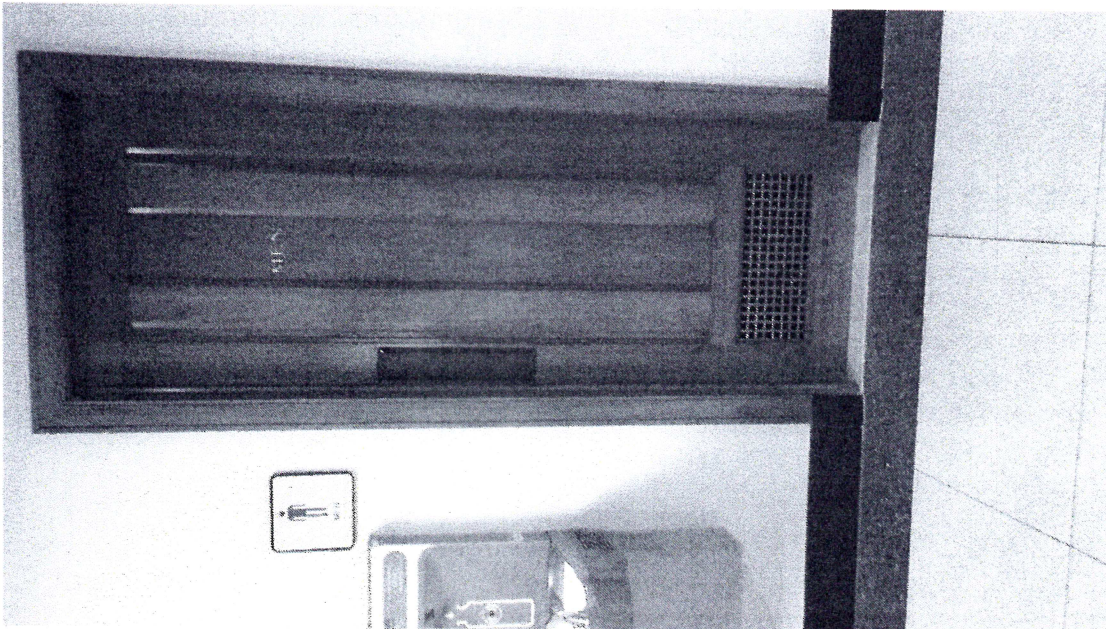


But the signs claim

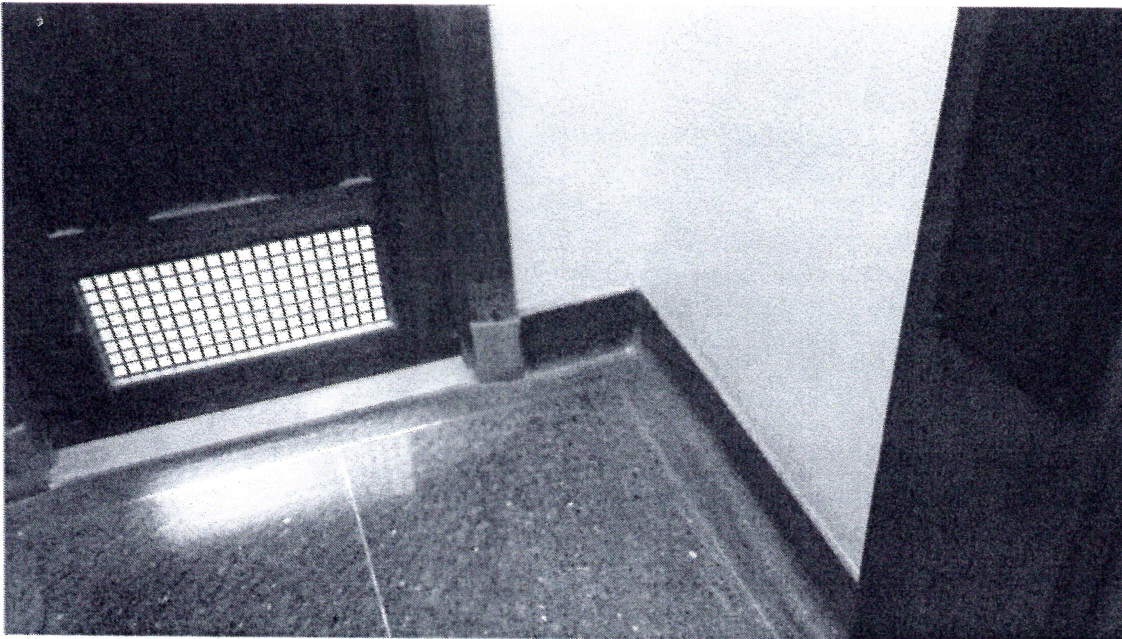
every floor has Handicapped access according to ADA. Apparently NOT 2010 or even 1990 standards.



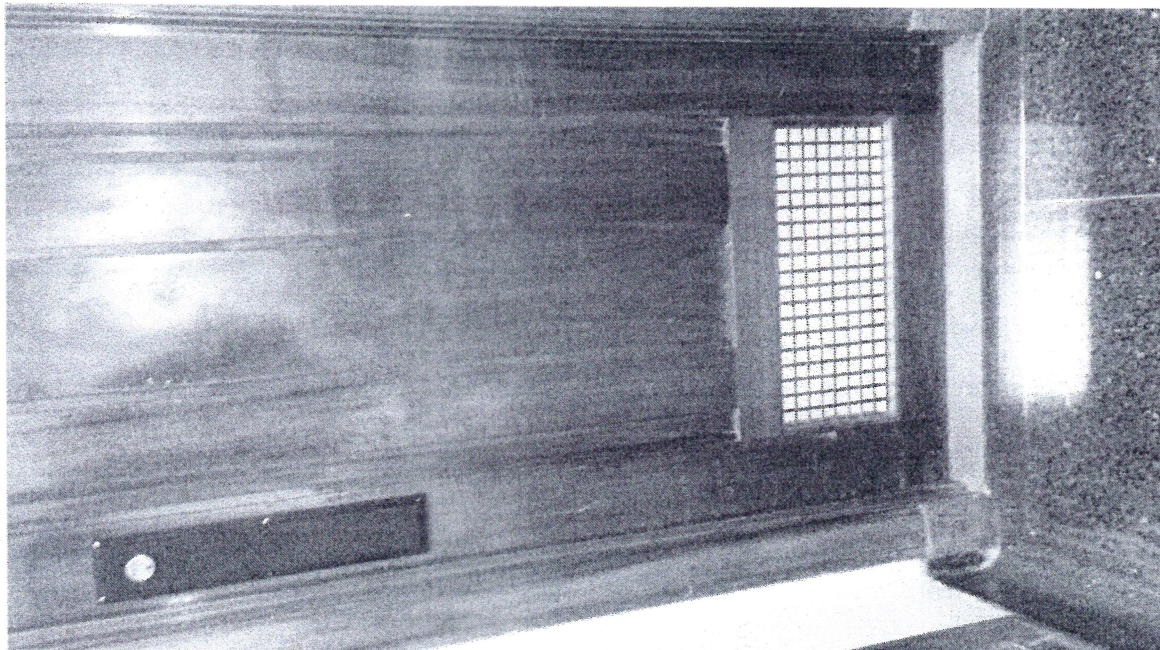
Leaving the women's Handicapped bathroom in Judicial wing is blind. Most women coming in are coming at a fast walk or a jog. Anyone on the inside is endangered, but especially handicapped people. Incoming women seldom use the button – the door opens slowly & they are in a hurry due to time constraints re their jobs.



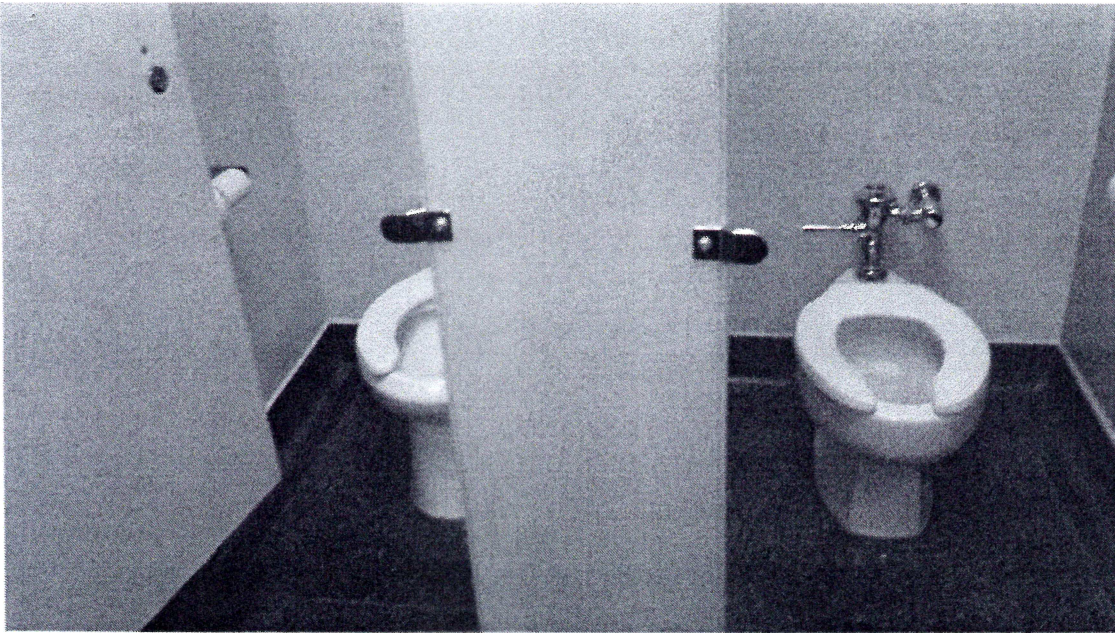
Men's bathroom on any floor of the tower. Doors are too narrow to accommodate a manual wheelchair, let alone a powered chair. While the sign says "Men", the Handicapped Access rooms are not wide enough, either. There is no signage telling visitors where the Handicapped bathrooms are, either, so they must hunt for the gender-appropriate room. There is one Handicapped accessible bathroom for men and one for women in the Tower. Width is not the only consideration.



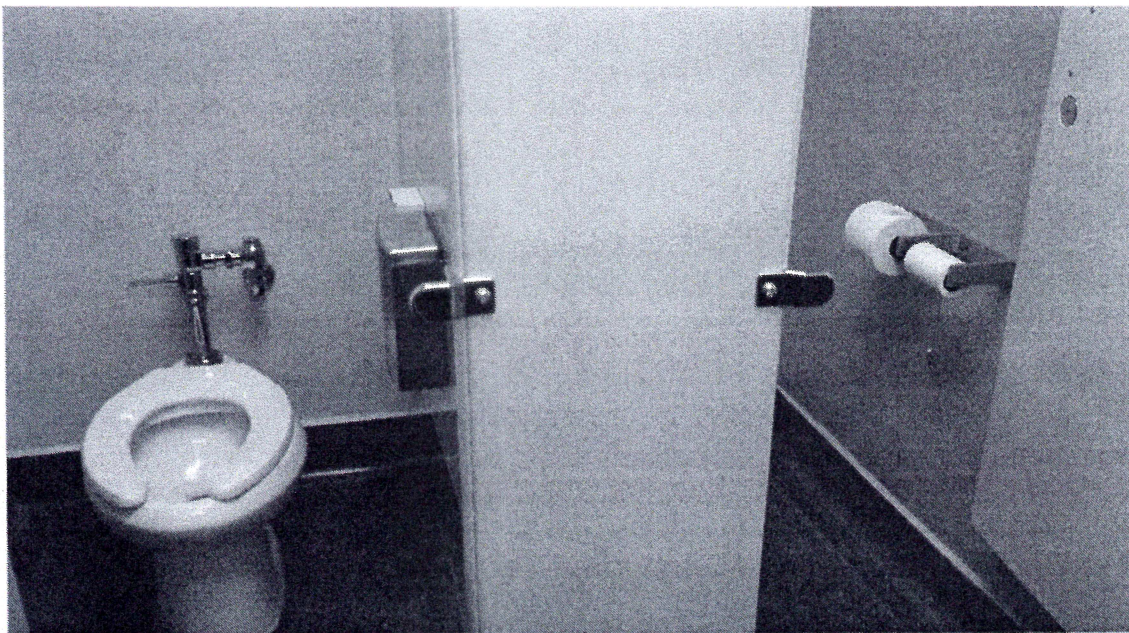
Inside a bathroom in the tower. These doors open in. IF a handicapped person can get in, they have a hard time exiting, since the door-assist mechanisms are not adjusted to meet ADA requirements. The doors are heavy & the mechanisms require considerable effort to open the door. Elderly people on canes, walkers, or crutches have a hard time with these. The standard is 5 lbs. of force needed to open these doors, whether specifically for Handicapped people or not. These doors currently are at considerably more than 5 lbs.

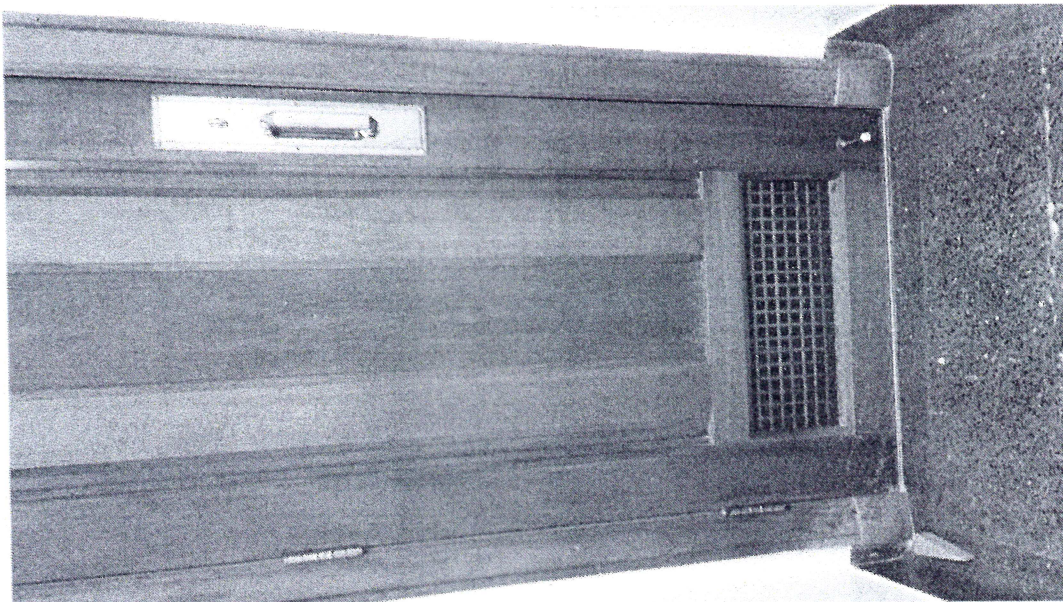


Again, blind access whether entering or exiting.

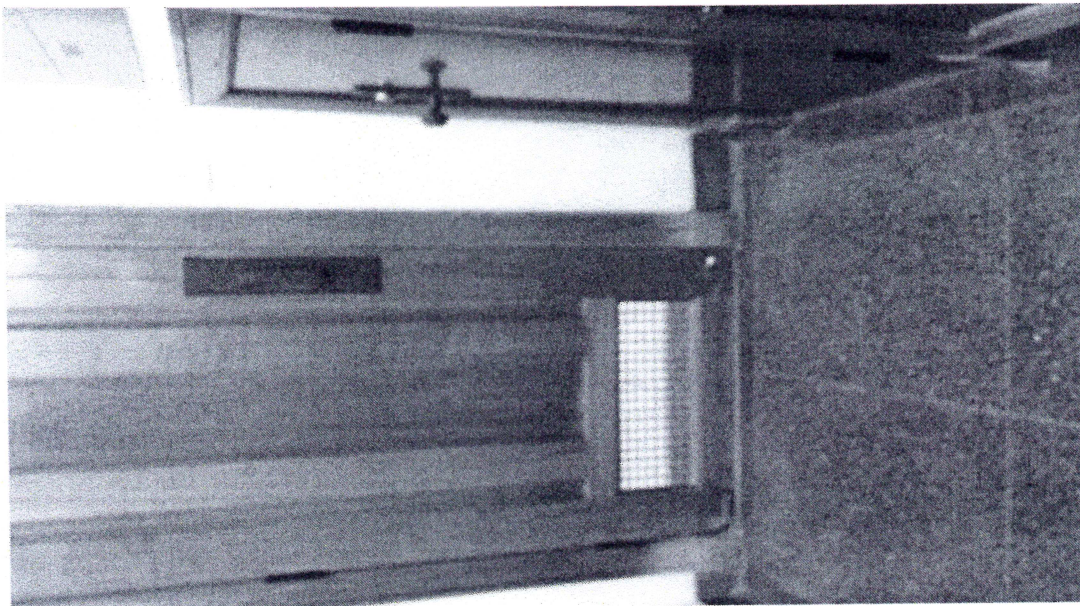


Typical of most bathrooms in the tower, these can be difficult for handicapped people to use. Grab bars are not expensive to buy or to install. I installed many when I was "the" carpenter who repaired the new care center at Beulah so it could pass its inspection and could open. Whoever built the center did not put backing blocks behind the grab bars, but merely hung them on drywall. Drywall (aka sheetrock) is not load-bearing. I spent perhaps 20 minutes per stall installing grab bars correctly. Even at \$22/hour, that is less than \$8 / bar for labor. Certainly the handicapped citizens of ND are worth that..



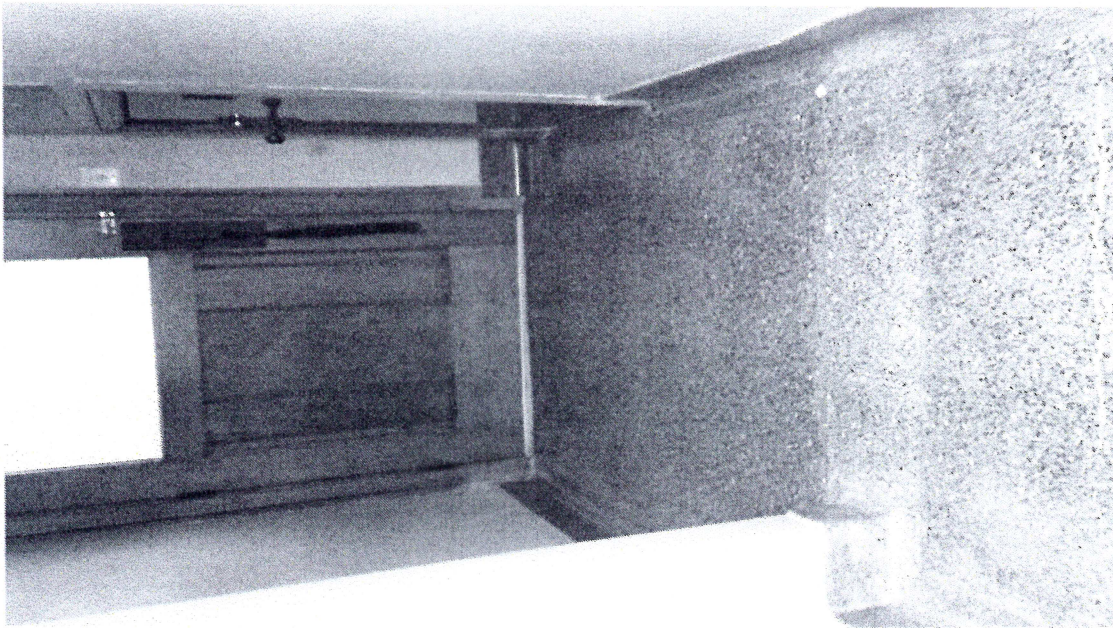


Typical of most of the doors in the tower bathrooms. IF a person in a wheelchair can get it, s/he has no way to open the door to leave.

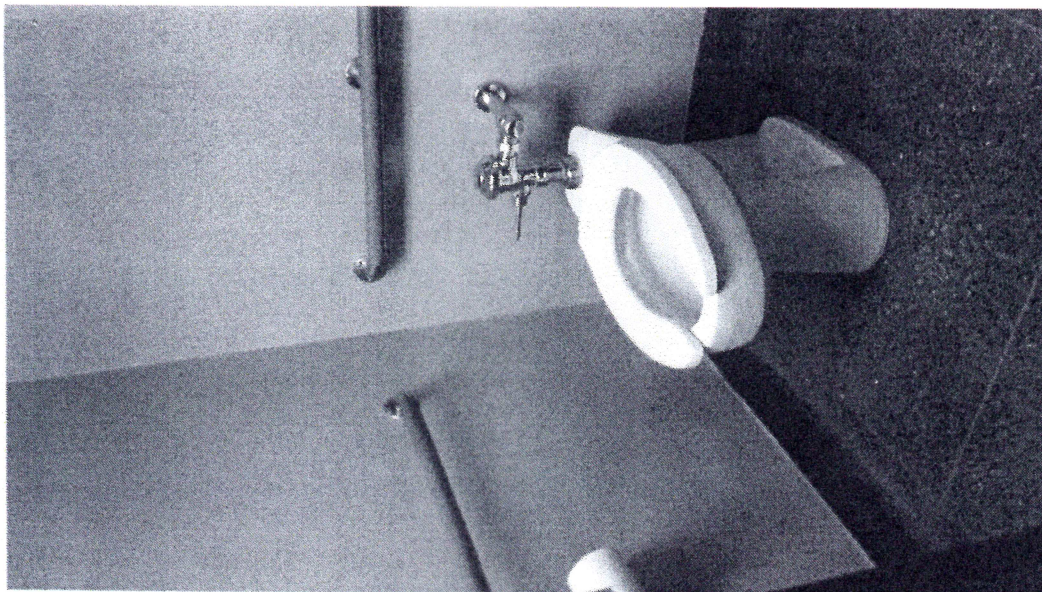




Handicapped women's bathroom in the tower. But there are no signs in the tower telling visitors where this bathroom is. Same for handicapped men's.

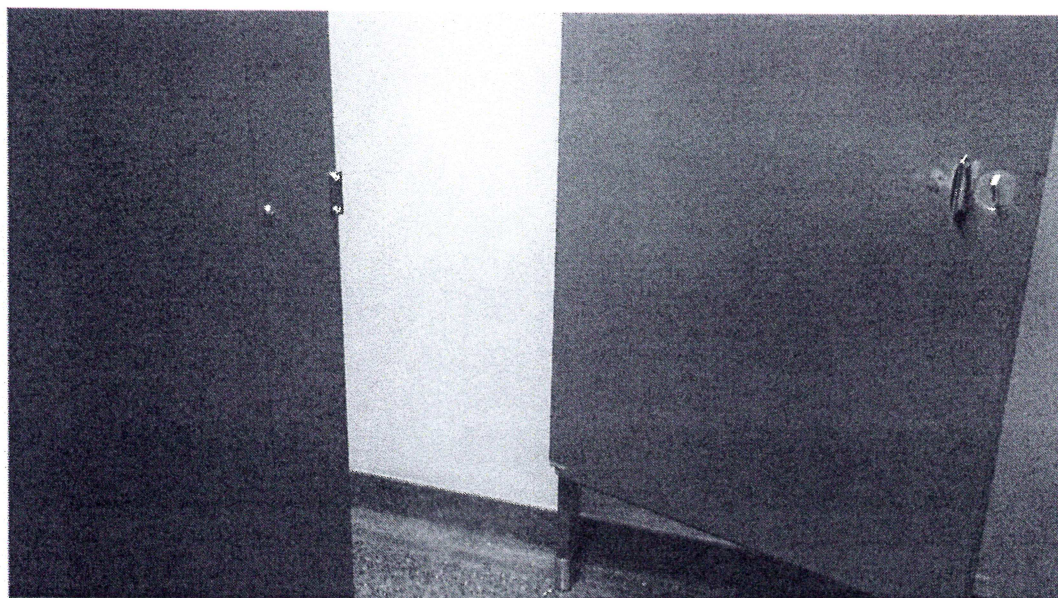


Note the long strap hanging from the handle of the door on this handicapped bathroom in the tower. IF a person in a wheelchair can get hold of it, s/he then must hold on to it while manually pushing his/her chair backwards to open the door. There is no way to keep the door open while passing through the doorway, however. Currently, with this arrangement, the only alternative is to have someone go with the handicapped person so they can use the bathroom. How demeaning! What a slam to their already-limited INdependence.



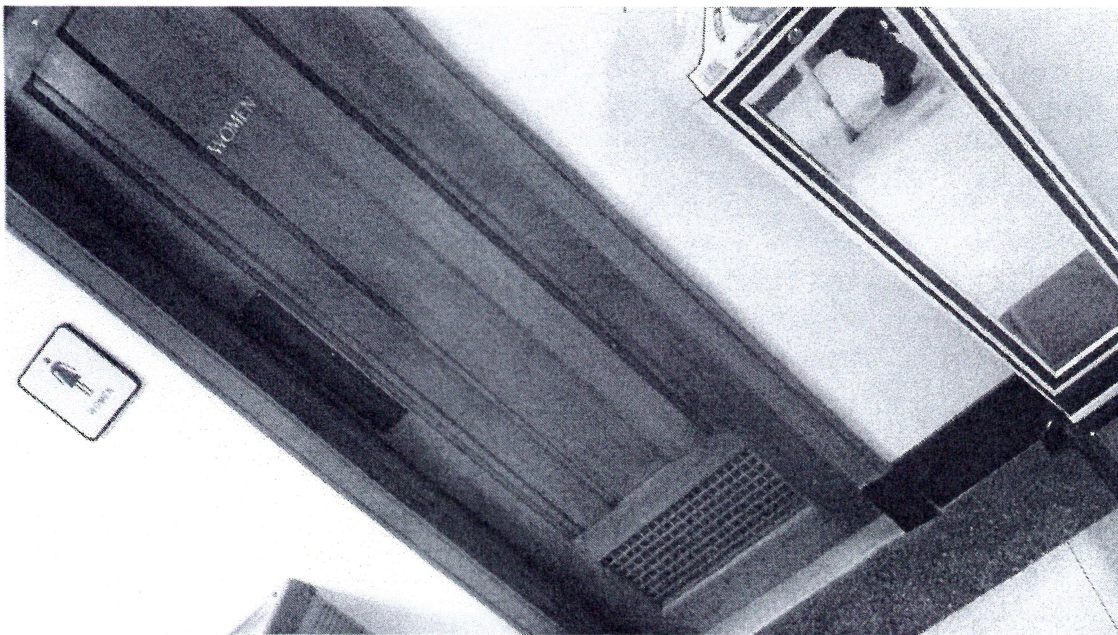
handicapped women's stall.

First floor Judicial wing



handicapped women's stall inside of door.

First floor Judicial wing



note the width of the door.

In the tower. Again,



note the width of the door.

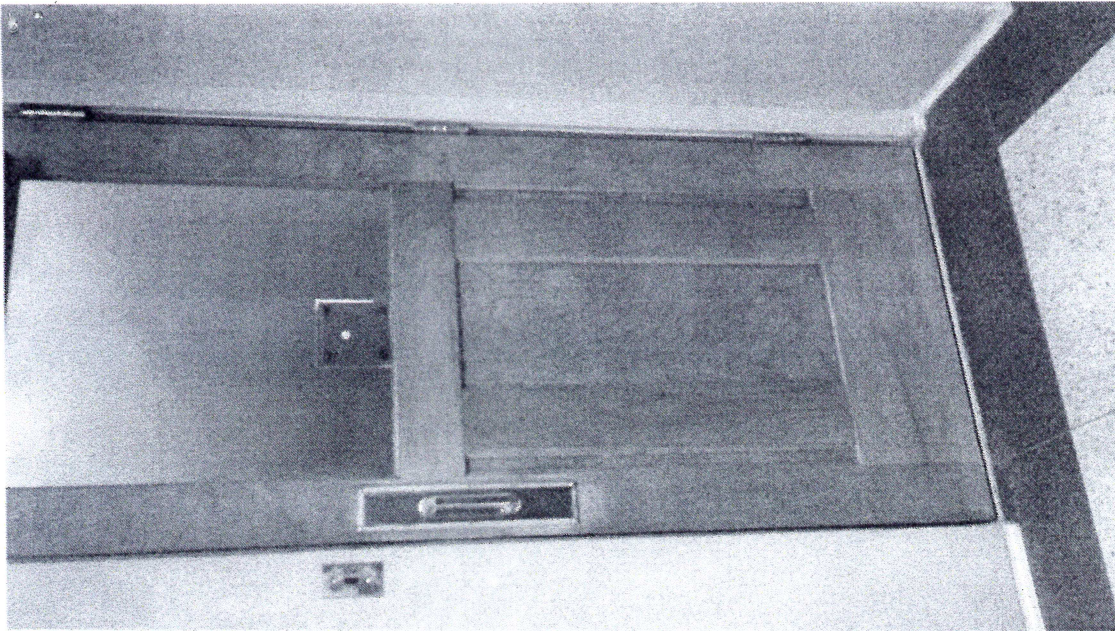
In the tower. Again,

Mar 4 to Mar 08

14th FLOOR - Q₃, NO Q₅
 15th " - Q₃, NO Q₅
 16th " - Q₃, NO Q₅
 17th " - Q₃ FOR EMPLOYEES
 ONLY (photo)
 18th " - NO Q₃

My notes on the
 bathrooms I evaluated.

19th FLOOR - Q₃, NO Q₅
 20th " - Q₃, NO Q₅
 21st " - Q₃, NO Q₅
 22nd " - Q₃, NO Q₅
 23rd " - Q₃, NO Q₅
 24th " - Q₃, NO Q₅
 25th " - Q₃, NO Q₅
 26th " - Q₃, NO Q₅
 27th " - Q₃, NO Q₅
 28th " - Q₃, NO Q₅
 29th " - Q₃, NO Q₅
 30th " - Q₃, NO Q₅

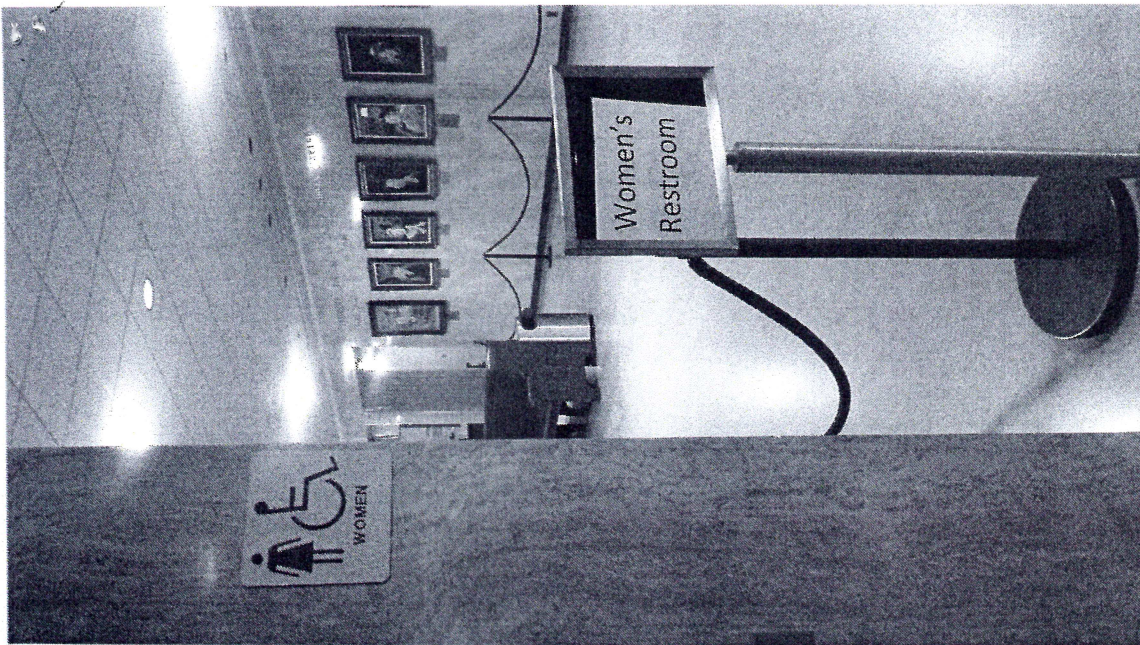


First floor women bathroom next to the Senate cloakroom. No opener & blind access from both sides. I've lost count of how many times someone has blasted through the door & nearly knocked me down. No wonder I get snarly about this..



Sort of handicapped accessible..

Photo of handrail at Brynhild Handland room would not print. It is about 12" too short for anyone's safety.



Sign in Hall of Fame.

But no arrows or subsequent signs directing visitors.

Assessment: Signage improvements with an eye to visitors' needs are much needed. This includes some kind of audio for visually-impaired people. Many of them walk around alone & they cannot be expected to find Braille signs they cannot see. Not all visually-impaired people read Braille.

Elimination of blind access from both sides of doors is needed. A small clear pane would allow safety without compromising privacy, & no one's privacy is at risk at a doorway anyway. But their safety is, currently.

Door openers on every handicapped bathroom are needed.

Doors on non-Handicapped bathrooms need to be easier to open. I'm still pretty athletic, but I sometimes have difficulty managing those doors due to the force needed to get them open; & then there's blocking them with my crutch while I pass through the opening.

There are no "family" bathrooms anywhere in the ND Capitol. Recently, I was in a handicapped stall in another building when a power-chair-bound man and his female attendant came in. She remarked that she could not accompany him into the men's, and there were no men available to help him, so they came into the women's. They didn't ask me to hurry, etc., but he carries a portable urinal so she helped him with that in the common area of the women's bathroom, then emptied it & rinsed it for him. They might have made peace with this kind of arrangement, but I doubt I ever could, & I sincerely strive to never be in that position. No one should be. The Capitol building & campus are The People's. All of them. Every building should have at least one "family" bathroom with aids that meet current ADA requirements, or surpass them. It is not difficult or expensive. Ask people who live under the ADA for input.

Carel Two-Eagle, activist.