

Plots and Paperwork



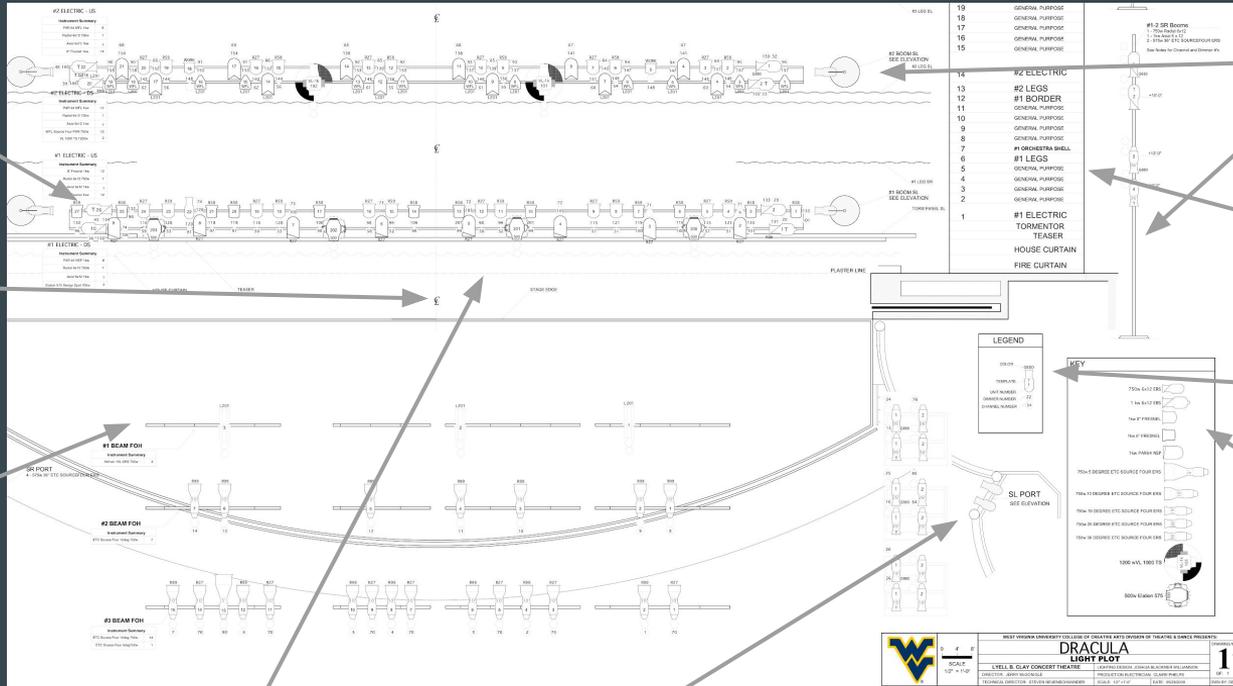
“It’s paper! Have you seen paper? Look at it. Smell it.”
-Waterworld (1995)

Lighting Paperwork

There are a few documents you'll be responsible for generating as a lighting designer:

- The Lighting Plot.
- Channel/ Dimmer Hookup.
- Lighting Cue Sheet.
- Spot Cue Sheet.

Parts of a Plot (and Position Review)



Electrics

Center Line

Front of House

Plaster Line

Side Lighting

Booms

Line Set Schedule

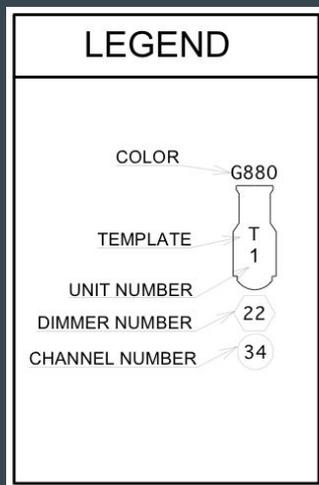
Label Legend

Key

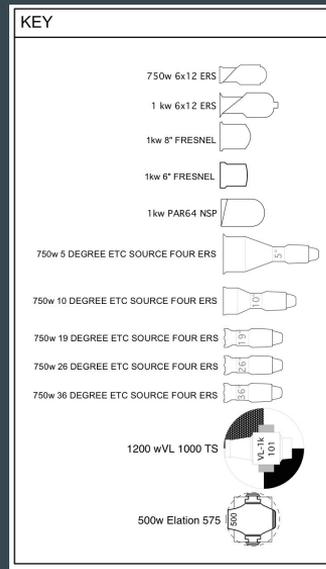
Title Block

Parts of a Plot (cont.)

The Lineset Schedule (not pictured) tells you what is on each pipe in the theatre including scenic pieces, electrics, legs and borders, etc.



The Label legend shows how to read what a light is doing. What type it is, the dimmer number, channel, whether it has gel, etc.



The key just shows us what light the symbols on the plot are referring to. These are mostly standardized, but you will see some variety depending on the designer, so always check the key.

Parts of a Plot (cont.)

	 <p>SCALE 1/2" = 1'-0"</p>	WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF CREATIVE ARTS DIVISION OF THEATRE & DANCE PRESENTS:		
		DRACULA		DRAWING NO.
		LIGHT PLOT		1
		LYELL B. CLAY CONCERT THEATRE	LIGHTING DESIGN; JOSHUA BLACKMER WILLIAMSON	
DIRECTOR: JERRY MCGONIGLE		PRODUCTION ELECTRICIAN: CLAIRE PHELPS		
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: STEVEN NEUENSCHWANDER		SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0"	DATE: 09/28/2009	DWN BY: DEW

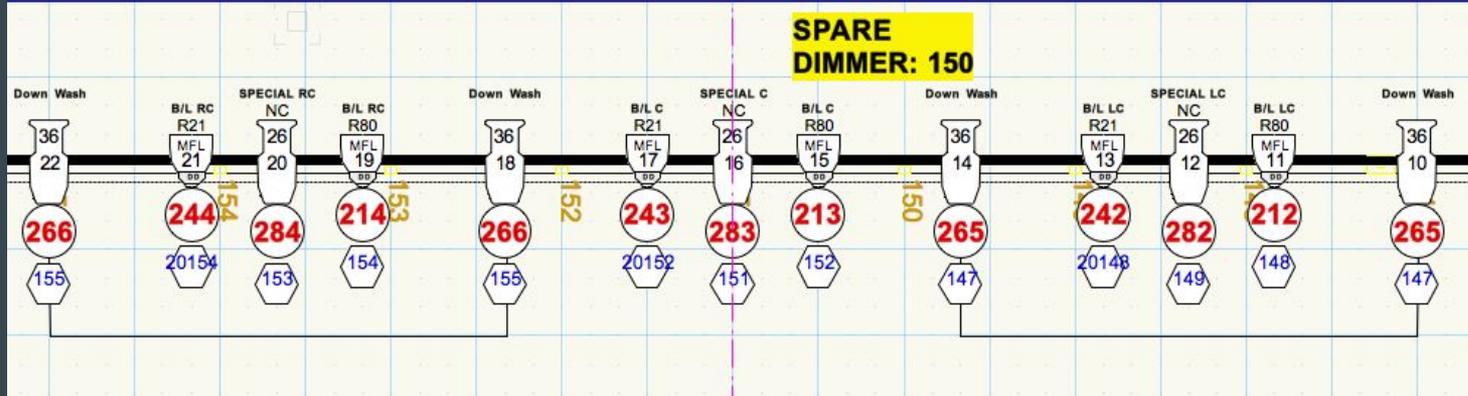
This is a title block, one of the most important parts of a light plot. There's a lot of information, and title blocks, while not standardized, almost always have a few key elements.

- The show Name.
- Scale: the drawing size as compared to real life. Important for determining real world distance between fixtures.
- The Lighting Designer
- The Master/ Production Electrician
- Other Important people on the show.
- The Date/ Revision Number. Make sure you're using the latest version!
- The Drawing number. Plots will often have multiple pages. This one is one page.



By the way, this is a scale ruler. You use this to translate the scale of the draft to real life feet.

Parts of a Plot (cont.)

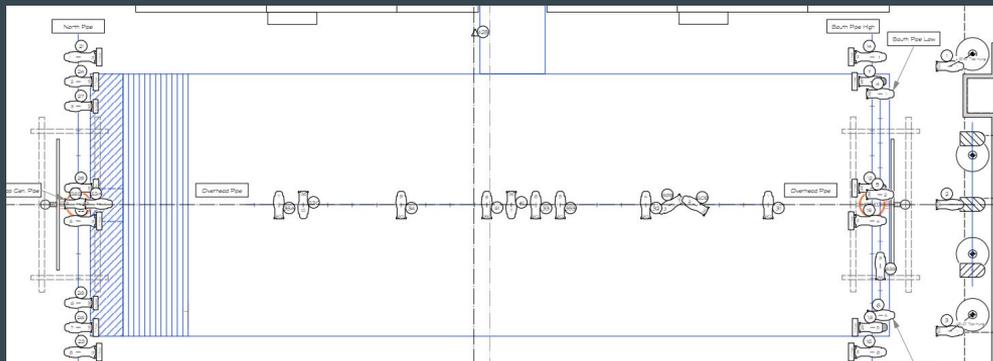


So here's a close up of a different light plot and from the actual drafting software. Here we can see lights what sort of lights and where they go. In this one, the number in the circle is the **channel** and the hexagon is the **dimmer**. That's standard, but not everyone does that, so be careful. Check the Label Legend. This one also lists the lights purpose. The line connecting the two lights indicates that the lights share a dimmer. This is called "Two-Ferring." There's also "three-ferring," and so on.

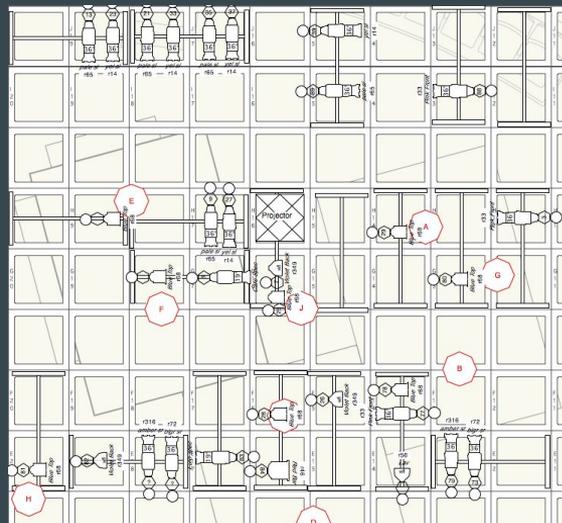
The purple line is center line. Center line always has a dot-dash pattern. It delineates the center of the stage. Using the scale, we can measure how far the lights are from center, or from each other if it's listed on the draft. Center Line often has a symbol on it that looks like this: Ⓢ

Light plots!!!

Those were lights plots in a standard theatre, but you'll often be working in an odd space.



Like the Gym of a Los Angeles Homeless Shelter.



Or a less rare Blackbox theatre (those red things are focus points, so you can tell where the light points).

Dimmer and Channel Hookups

Lighting Cue Sheet

Spot Cue Sheet