

Montgomery County Department of Public Safety
Recommended Practice 2007-3
DRAFT

Subject: Building Side / Quadrant / Exposure Designation System

A. Purpose

This system has been established to uniformly identify particular building segments and exposures, which will allow companies to carry out these operating procedures in a coordinated manner

B. Procedures

1. Building Sides (Refer to Figure 1)

a. Side Alpha

- i. This is normally the front or main entrance / access to the building and usually the side bearing the building address
- ii. For buildings with an unusual configuration, side Alpha will be identified by the first arriving unit, utilizing a suitable landmark (Refer to Figure 2) such as the parking lot, swimming pool, boiler room, etc.

b. Side Bravo is the left side of the building when facing side Alpha

c. Side Charlie is the side opposite side Alpha

d. Side Delta is the right side of the building when facing side Alpha

2. Building Wings (Refer to Figure 2)

Where configuration is such that sides cannot be easily identified, the building will be broken down into wings (see attachment drawings). Side Alpha will be the identified utilizing landmark. The remaining sides shall be identified by clockwise rotation similar to the above.

3. Quadrants (Refer to Figure 1)

- a. The building interior shall be divided into quadrants A, B, C & D starting at the left front of side Alpha and moving in a clockwise rotation.
- b. The wings are to be broken down into quadrants when this will enhance safety and / or operations.
- c. Floor numbers will identify building levels (Refer to Figure 3)

4. Exposures

Corresponds to sides of building, i.e. building on side Bravo is exposure Bravo, etc.

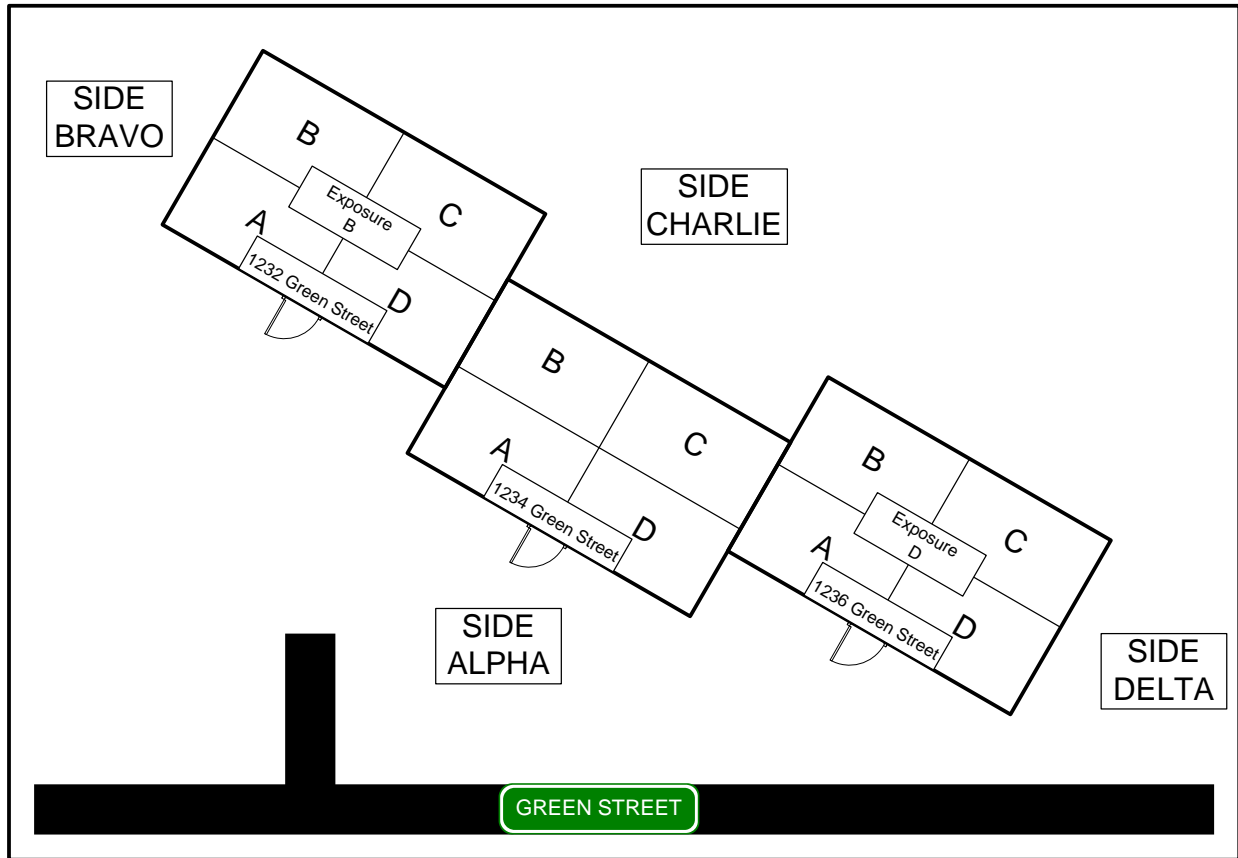


Figure 1: Side Alpha of the building shall be the side bearing the street address, or what is “normally considered the front” of the building. Sides Bravo, Charlie and Delta shall be determined by a clockwise rotation from Side Alpha. Exposures shall be designated by name, in the same manner as the sides. The building interior shall be divided into quadrants, (A, B, C & D), starting at the left front of Side Alpha and moving in a clockwise rotation. The levels shall be designated by floor number, and will be assigned as Divisions.

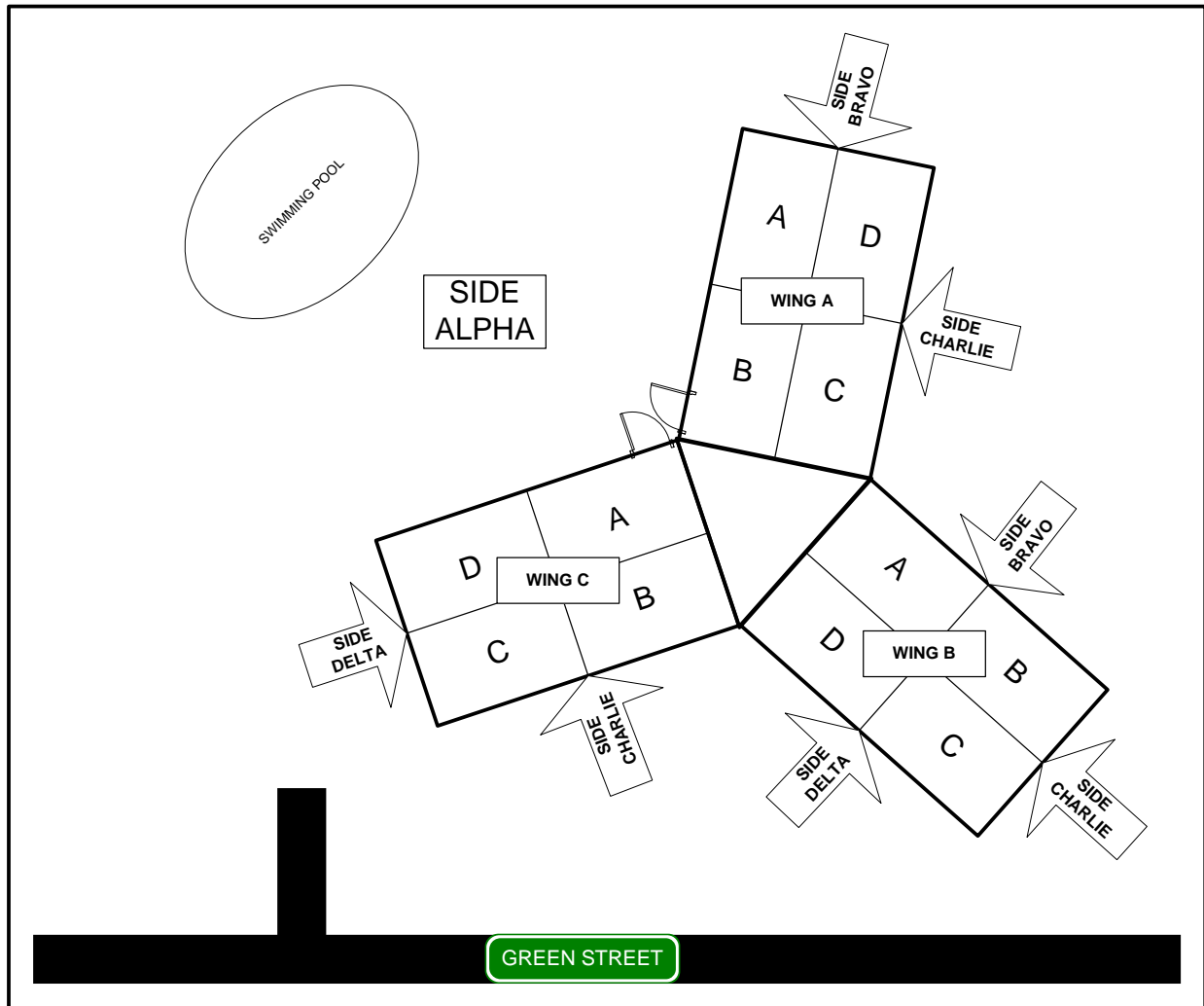


Figure 2: For buildings with an unusual configuration, side Alpha will be identified by the first arriving unit, utilizing a suitable landmark such as a swimming pool. Where configuration is such that sides cannot be easily identified, the building will be broken down into wings. Identify side Alpha utilizing an appropriate landmark and designate wings by clockwise rotation starting with Wing A. The building interior shall be divided into quadrants (A, B, C & D), starting at the left front of side Alpha and moving in a clockwise rotation. The levels shall be designated by floor number, and will be assigned Division