

PH#354180

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUN 6 1977
DATE ENTERED	AUG 29 1977

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  Greenville Hall

AND/OR COMMON

Administration Building, Dominican College

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 7214 St. Charles Avenue

CITY, TOWN

New Orleans

VICINITY OF

2nd - Lindy Boggs

STATE

Louisiana

CODE

22

COUNTY

Orleans

CODE

071

**CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME St. Mary's Dominican College

STREET & NUMBER

7214 St. Charles Avenue

CITY, TOWN

New Orleans

VICINITY OF

STATE

Louisiana

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Conveyance Office, Civil Districts Courts Building

STREET & NUMBER

421 Loyola Avenue

CITY, TOWN

New Orleans,

STATE

Louisiana

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Historic Areas and Structures, Community Renewal Program

DATE

1967

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

New Orleans City Planning Commission

CITY, TOWN

New Orleans

STATE

Louisiana

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

According to its cornerstone inscription, construction of Greenville Hall began on August 15, 1882. The architect was William Fitzner and the builder was Murray Construction Company.

Greenville Hall is a well-preserved example of the Italianate style of architecture expressed in wood. This white-painted building is set five feet above grade on a continuous brick foundation wall. The exterior is covered with ship-lapped siding on the front, clapboarding on the other sides, and corner boards with applied raised wood panels to form simulated quoins.

The front facade has deep galleries at first and second floor levels with square wood columns connected by segmental arches springing from carved wood brackets at the side of the columns. Two broad stairs provide access from the front garden to the first floor gallery, one at the main entrance and one at the chapel entrance. The main entrance, at the center of the front facade, is elaborately detailed in cypress of modified Classic motifs. The door and sidelites are glazed with leaded beveled glass with the Dominican ensignia etched on the door panel.

Windows on the first floor have semi-circular heads. Those on the second floor have segmental-arched heads. Square windows at the third floor-attic form an integral part of a continuous frieze below bracketed eaves.

The Venetian-arched dormers on the front facade were added in 1911. The center dormer is larger than the other two and accents the location of the main entrance. Five gabled dormers were also added on the northeast elevation and two on the rear of the front wing of the building. Dormers were obviously added to provide additional light to classrooms under the roof structure. Centered on the ridge of the slate roof is an ornately detailed cupola that is surrounded by a balustraded balcony.

The original building is L-shaped in plan, with the front wing parallel to St. Charles Avenue and the rear wing off its northeast end. A somewhat wider extension of the rear wing was added in 1906 by Baxter Construction Company. The octagonal-ended, four level tower was added to the southwest corner of the front wing in 1921. These additions are not conspicuous as such. The same materials and details of the original building were used on the additions. Photographs of the original building are the revealing evidence.

Primary circulation between interior spaces is provided by open, colonnaded and balustraded galleries at the first and second floors across the rear of the front wing and along the Broadway Street side of the rear wing. Stairs from each wing lead from the first floor galleries to a planted courtyard formed by the two wings of Greenville Hall and by a contemporary building and a 1929 neo-gothic building on the other two sides. The octagonal-ended tower of the old building accents the main entrance to this quiet, secluded outdoor space from the larger, open garden fronting St. Charles Avenue.

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CONTINUATION SHEET 1

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

7. Description (cont'd)

This rear courtyard provides a restful outdoor space for study and contemplation. In addition to their circulation function, the open galleries provide a delightful view of the courtyard.

INTERIOR

First Floor (Refer to attached Floor Plan for numbered reference)

The main entrance opens into a spacious entrance hall (13). An information office (12) is on the right and double parlors (14,15) are on the left. The entrance hall leads to a cross corridor (16) that provides interior access to offices and the chapel (10). Flooring of the circulation areas is ceramic tile in an unique pattern, predominately a deep warm tan with bright accents of red and blue. The plaster ceiling of the entrance hall is ornamented with a diamond-shaped filigreed plaster medallion and crystal chandelier. There are ornately detailed plaster arches at the intersection of entrance hall and corridor, at two locations across the corridor and at the entrance of the main stair hall.

Ceiling height of the first floor is 16'0". All doors are uniform in design with four recessed panels framed in heavy, shaped molding and with glazed transoms. Frames are five inches wide. The outer edge is trimmed with molding. The dimension from the floor to the top of door casing is 11'4" and lines up with the window casings.

The double parlors show no signs of alteration and are typical of the spacious parlors found in large residences in the area. Flooring is of oak boards. Plaster walls are trimmed with a heavy, multi-voluted plaster cornice. The parlors are divided by a plastered arch of the same design as those in corridors. Centered on the ceiling of each parlor is a filigreed plaster rosette and a crystal chandelier suspended from its center. Each parlor has an extremely simple fireplace and mantel. Fireplace facing and mantels are of underterminate stone because they have been painted.

The main stairhall is located approximately at the center of the administration wing and is entered through an open archway from the corridor. The stair is finely detailed with oak treads, shaped mahogany handrail, turned balusters and elaborately detailed newel post in a tapered octagonal shape in mahogany with applied oak panels of a lighter color. The second stairway (9) has the same detailing.

The President's office (18) is a large room with a semi-octagonal southwest end. The floor level of this room is three feet above the first floor

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CONTINUATION SHEET 2

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 3

Description (cont'd)

of the main building, accessible by stairs from the open gallery and a secretary's office (17). The floor level of this additon was erected above the adjoining level to provide a room below at grade.

A chapel is located at the northeast end of the front wing and was converted from two or three rooms that previously existed there. Two fire-places have been closed.

The extension of the rear wing houses painting and sculpture studios.

Second Floor

Second floor rooms have a 13'8" ceiling height. The entire second floor houses classrooms and faculty offices.

Circulation on this floor is also provided by limited interior corridors but primarily by exterior galleries.

Third Floor

Classrooms are housed under the roof structure of the original portion of the building. These rooms have an interesting spatial quality formed by sloping sections of the roof structure, dormers and low windows. Attic space in the extension of the rear wing is unfinished.

Greenville Hall is set back about 250' from St. Charles Avenue. Between the front of the building and the street is a formally laid out forecourt with walkways, fountains, lawns, trees and shrubs. Within the space formed by the rear ell is a courtyard, as has been described previously. To the rear of this and to the sides are other Dominican College buildings and tennis courts.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1882

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Fitzner

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Greenville Hall, or the Administration Building of St. Mary's Dominican College, is locally important because of its architecture and because of the role it has played in the educational training of young women since the late nineteenth century.

Greenville Hall is one of the best preserved examples in New Orleans of the Italianate style expressed in wood and adapted to regional climatic conditions. Its overhanging roof, cupola, decorative bracketed eaves, round and segmental arched windows, ship-lapped siding with corner quoins, and arcaded and balustraded galleries are typical of the Italianate style. Features such as the so-called Venetian dormers are unusual. Skilled nineteenth-century craftsmanship is evident in both exterior and interior details.

Greenville Hall, for which the cornerstone was laid on August 15, 1882, is the oldest building remaining on the Dominican College campus. Dominican College fits into the tradition of Catholic education of girls in New Orleans which was begun with the Ursulines in the eighteenth century.

St. John the Baptist School for Girls, which opened on December 3, 1860 on Dryades Street, was chartered under Louisiana state law in 1861 under the new name New Orleans Female Dominican Academy. In 1863 the name was again changed to St. Mary's Dominican Academy, a boarding school for girls.

The present site with its then-existing buildings was purchased on January 5, 1865 from Mace Academy in Greenville, Jefferson Parish. (None of these buildings remain.) Students were transferred to the present site on April 17, 1865. Construction of Greenville Hall began in 1882.

As one of its programs, St. Mary's Dominican Training School for Teachers was authorized by the State on December 8, 1908.

St. Mary's Dominican Academy became St. Mary's Dominican College and was chartered by the State as such on June 17, 1910, becoming the first Catholic college for women in Louisiana. Dominican College continues to provide education for young women, with a current enrollment of around 850 students, and a teacher-student ration of 1:11.

Greenville Hall is not only the oldest remaining Dominican College building, but also serves as the Administration Building and focal point of the campus.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

City Archives, New Orleans, Louisiana. (Clerk of Court, Civil Courts Building).  
 New Orleans Chapter, American Institute of Architects. A Guide to New Orleans Architecture. New Orleans, 1976.  
 St. Mary's Dominican College Annals. (7214 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, La.).  
 Wilson, Samuel Jr. A Guide to Architecture of New Orleans 1699-1959. Reinhold Publishing Co., 1959.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately 3

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>15</u>	<u>777290</u>	<u>3315100</u>	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Refer to property outlined in red on attached site plan.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Raymond J. Boudreaux, A. I. A. - Architect

ORGANIZATION St. Mary's Dominican College DATE February 1977

STREET & NUMBER 510 Dumaine Street TELEPHONE 525-0760

CITY OR TOWN New Orleans STATE Louisiana 70116

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

SIGNATURE

*Jandra Thompson*

TITLE

SHPO

DATE

6/2/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

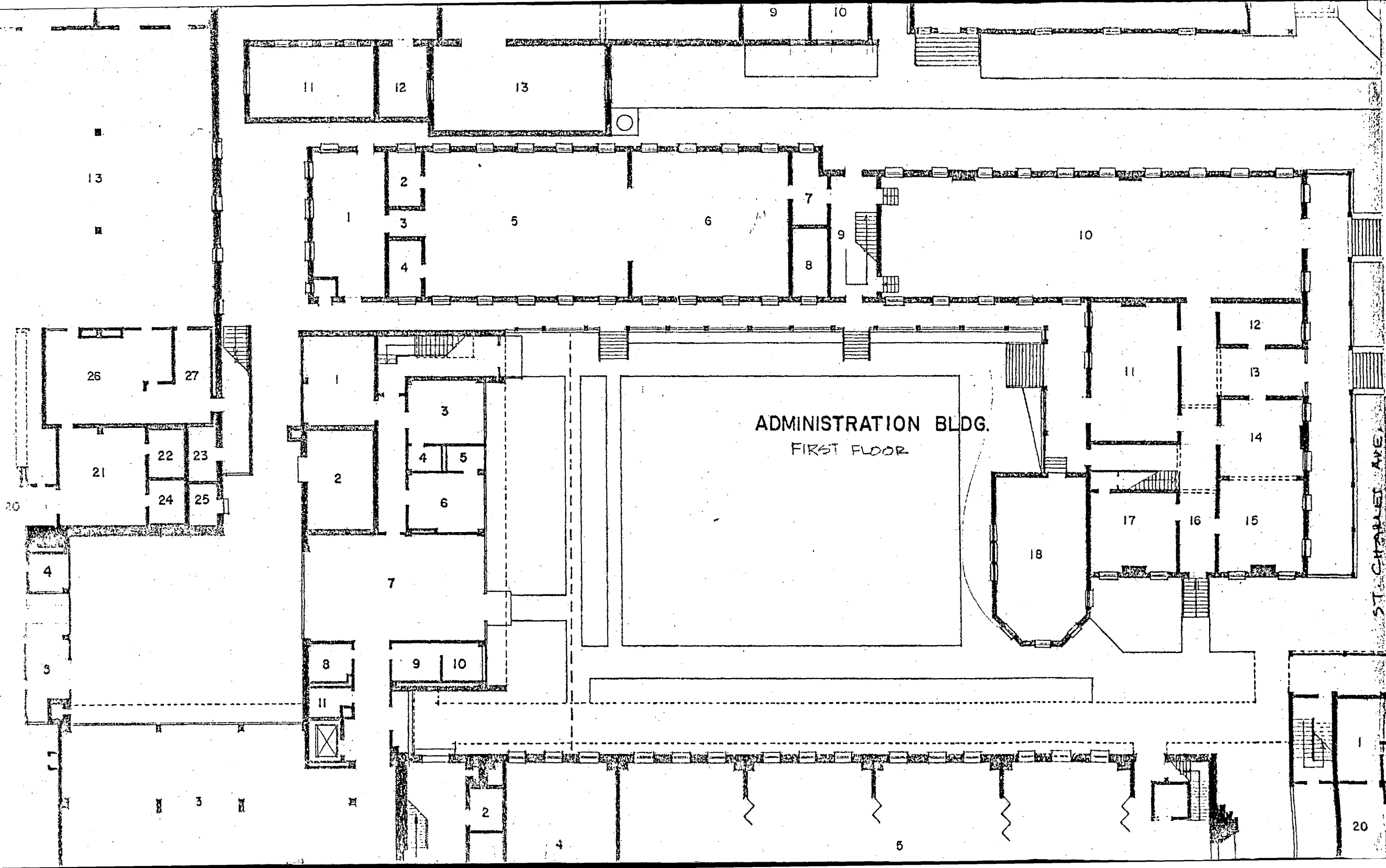
ATTEST:

*Charles A. [Signature]*  
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DATE

8/29/77  
8-26-77



ADMINISTRATION BLDG.  
FIRST FLOOR

ST. CHARLES AVE.

11 12 13

9 10

13

2

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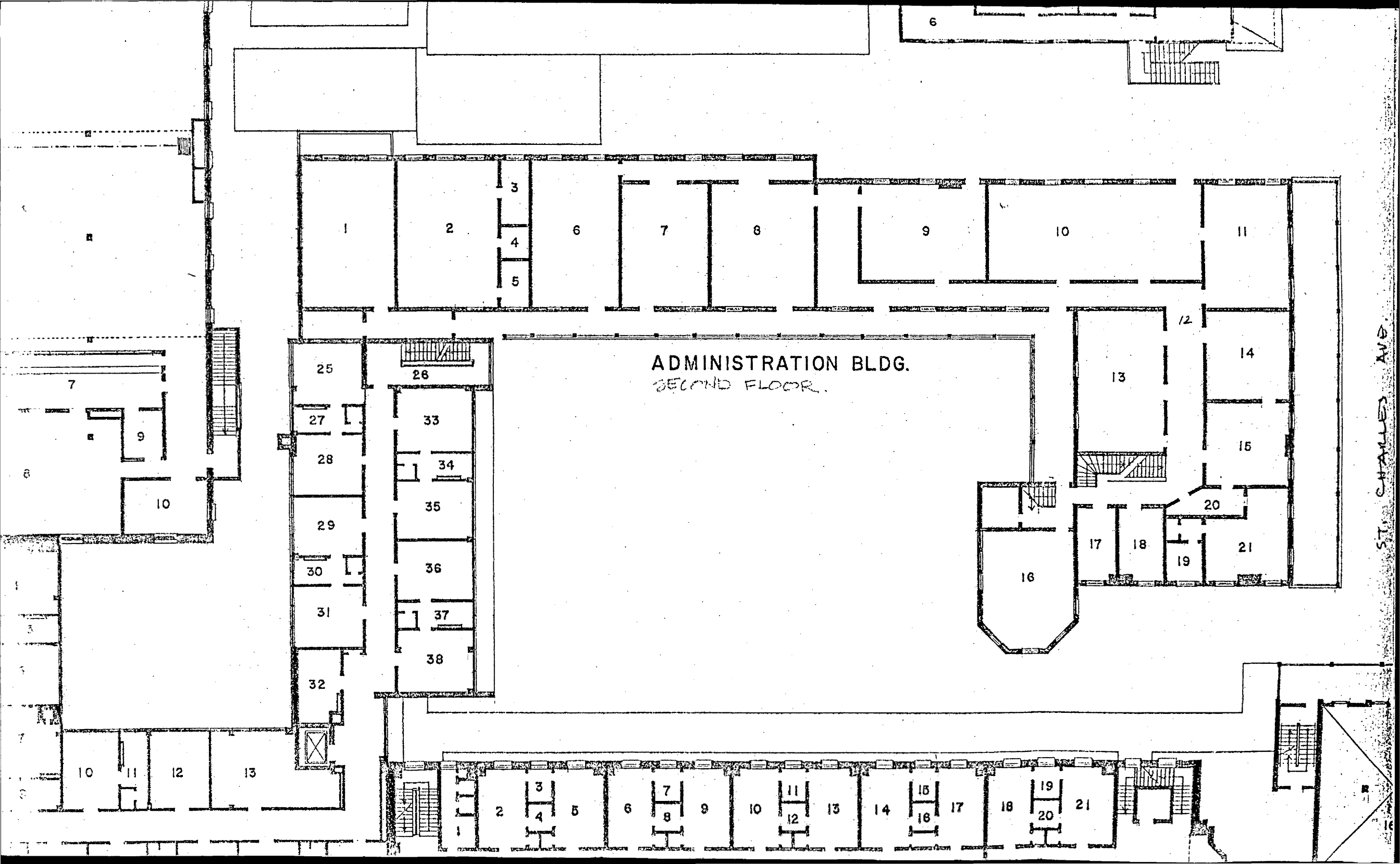
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20



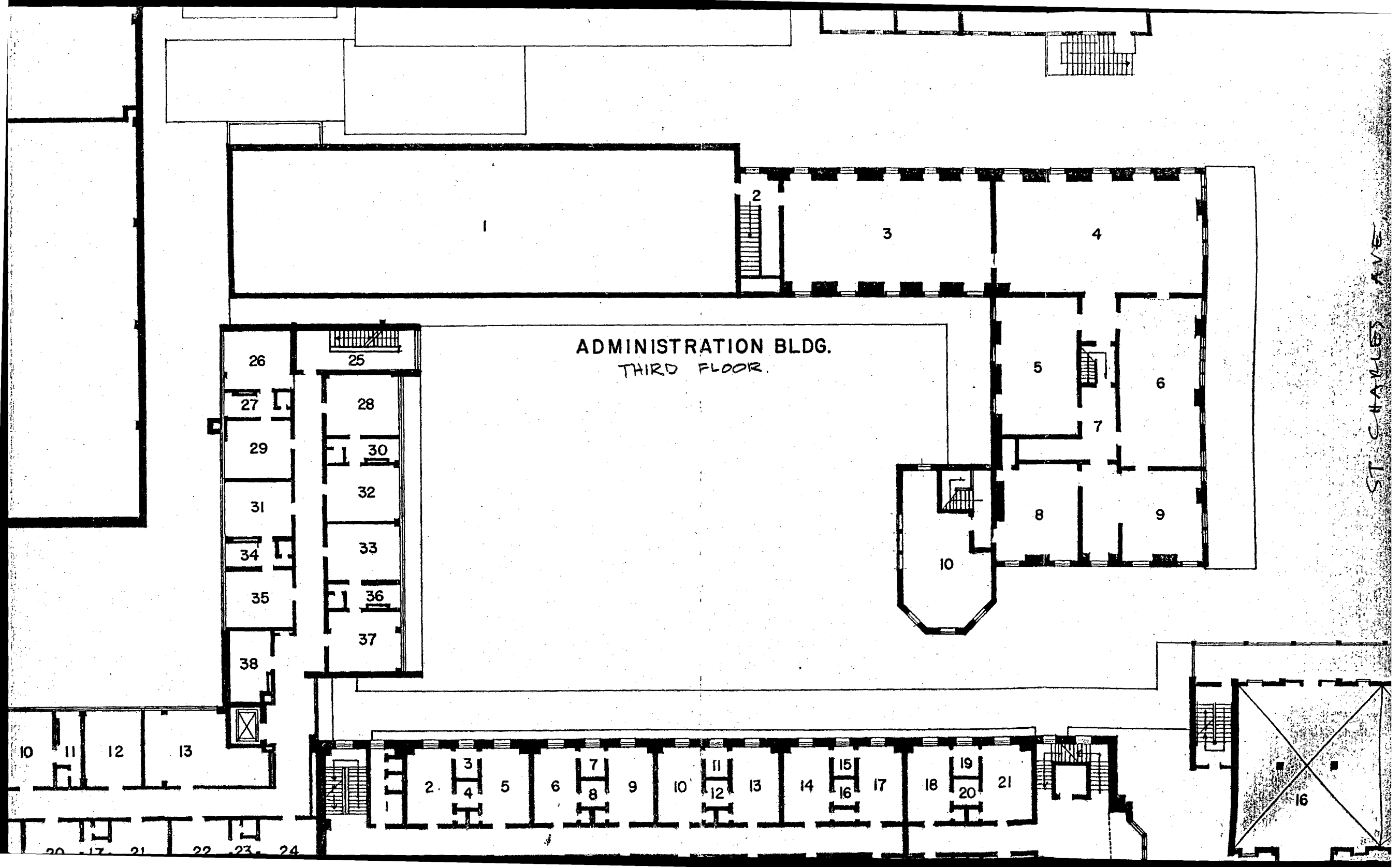
ADMINISTRATION BLDG.  
SECOND FLOOR.

ST. CHARLES AVE.



ADMINISTRATION BLDG.  
THIRD FLOOR.

ST. CHARLES AVE





PINE STREET

MECHANICAL PLANT

ARTS AND SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

ARBOR

FOUNTAIN

COURTYARD

WOMEN'S RESIDENCE HALL

ALUMNAE HALL

FOUNDERS HALL

BROADWAY

DOMINICAN STREET

ST. CHARLES AVENUE

PARTIAL PLAN OF CAMPUS  
ST. MARY'S DOMINICAN COLLEGE  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

1" = 40'-0"

