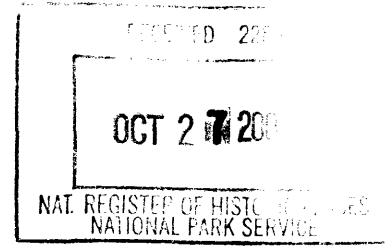


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Children's Country Home  
other names Hospital for Sick Children (preferred)

**2. Location**

street & number 1731 Bunker Hill Road  not for publication  
city or town Washington, D.C.  vicinity  
state District of Columbia code DC county \_\_\_\_\_ code 001 zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).  
[Signature] DC SHPO 10/27/03  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
DC Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

- I hereby, certify that this property is:
- entered in the National Register.
    - See continuation sheet.
  - determined eligible for the National Register.
    - See continuation sheet.
  - Determined not eligible for the National Register.
  - removed from the National Register.
  - other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper Patrick Andrus Date of Action 12/9/2003

Children's Country Home  
Name of Property

Washington, D.C.  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

**number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

HEALTH CARE/hospital

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

HEALTH CARE/hospital

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/Norman Cottage style

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick  
walls Wood frame with brick infill and facing  
roof Slate  
other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our History.
- B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A** Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

**Previous documentation on files (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Area of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1929-30

**Significant Dates**

1929-30

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Nathan Wyeth and Francis Sullivan

Children's Country Home  
Name of Property

Washington, D.C.  
County and State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 4 acres

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	1 8 Zone	3 2 8 1 9 3 Easting	4 3 1 2 0 2 1 Northing	3	1 8 Zone	3 2 8 3 5 6 Easting	4 3 1 1 8 2 8 Northing
2	1 8 Zone	3 2 8 3 5 6 Easting	4 3 1 1 9 1 9 Northing	4	1 8 Zone	3 2 8 1 7 3 Easting	4 3 1 1 9 5 5 Northing

See continuation sheet

#### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

#### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kim Williams/Architectural Historian  
Organization D.C. Historic Preservation Office date October 2003  
street & number 801 North Capitol Street telephone 202 442-8800  
city or town Washington, D.C. state District of Columbia zip code 20002

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

- X A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- X A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

- X Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

#### Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

Name Children's Convalescent Hospital  
street & number 1731 Bunker Hill Road telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Washington, D.C. state District of Columbia zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et. seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Children's Country Home

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 7 Page 1

## Description Summary:

The present-day Hospital for Sick Children consists of the surviving core of a larger 1929-30 Norman cottage-style brick building designed by the Washington architectural firm of Wyeth and Sullivan, as well as an expansive, one-story brick addition constructed in 1967 on the western portion of the site, and a large contemporary building, constructed 1991-92 to the south and east of the original structure. The 1991-92 building is connected to the rear and sides of both the original building and the 1967 additions. Although only the central pavilion and two radiating wings of the original 1929-30 building survive (the building originally consisted of a central core and five radiating wings), the original cottage design concept, along with the massing, survive intact. Further, the historic building dominates the site with the clearly distinguished additions located towards the rear of the property, thereby retaining integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

Originally called the "Children's Country Home," the 1929-30 brick building was designed to reflect a Norman cottage or farmhouse appearance. This original structure was composed of a central, two-story core with five, asymmetrically arranged one-story, connecting wings, all covered with steeply pitched gable roofs featuring dormers and chimneys. The building featured a "connected corridor plan" layout with the wings radiating from the central core. This plan, which allows for maximum natural light and air to the interior spaces, was implemented in response to early-to mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century philosophies for children's hospital design.

## General Description:

### Site:

The Hospital for Sick Children is located at 1731 Bunker Hill Road, N.E. in the Brookland neighborhood in Washington, D.C. The hospital building sits on an approximately four-acre pentagonal tract of land bounded by Bunker Hill Road to the northeast, 18<sup>th</sup> Street to the east, Taylor Avenue to the south, South Dakota Avenue to the west and a residential subdivision to the north. Much of the charm and rustic character of the building is due to its skillful placement on its wooded lot in the midst of an urban area. The hospital is set back from Bunker Hill Road with a grassy lawn and mature shade trees buffering it from the road. A semi-circular drive off of Bunker Hill Road provides access to the main, gable-fronted entrance of the original building. From the entrance driveway, the flanking one-story wings create an open courtyard that envelops the visitor. The building was sited to take advantage of natural light and breezes.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Children's Country Home

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 7 Page 2

The hospital originally occupied a six-acre tract of land in what was then a remote and rural area of the city. Today, the hospital occupies a reduced, four-acre site that was separated from the larger tract when South Dakota Avenue was cut through and paved. A church occupies the remainder of the original six-acre tract, while two-story, mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century red brick row houses surround the site.

### Exterior Description:

The original 1929-30 building is a white painted brick structure designed in a picturesque and "storybook" manner reminiscent of a Normandy farmhouse. In plan, the building originally consisted of a central section with five wings radiating from the central core. Today, the central core and two front wings angled off of the central pavilion to the northeast and northwest survive. Both the surviving central pavilion and its flanking wings are characterized by asymmetrical arrangement of architectural features, including steeply pitched slate roofs with irregularly placed dormers, tall chimney stacks, and wood casement windows. In addition, exposed and un-cut stones are randomly found along the otherwise, plain brick walls (painted white), contributing to the building's cottage-like appearance.

The primary elevation of the central pavilion, facing the semi-circular driveway and Bunker Hill Road, is a three-bay-wide, flat-fronted, front-gable end wall. The first story features a contemporary metal entry porch (1991-92) sheltering the central entrance. The central entry, characterized by an exposed stone door surround, features double, wood replacement doors built during the 1991-92 period of construction to match the original 1929-30 entry doors. Two, large casement windows are located to the left of the door, while a series of four narrower casement windows are located to the right of the door.

The second story consists of three equally spaced and paired casement windows, all set beneath red brick inset arches left unpainted and thus clearly standing out from the white wall surface. The central window has been greater emphasis—it is slightly recessed from the main surface and it features a round-arch, rather than a segmental arch surround, as is found on the outside windows. This round arch springs from unpainted stone imposts and features an elongated stone keystone. A single oculus window, with unpainted brick surrounds, is located on center at the attic level of the gable.

The side wings, angled off of the central pavilion to the northeast and northwest are low and horizontal brick structures with wood casement windows, and all encompassing gable roofs, featuring a selective use of shed and eyebrow dormers and projecting chimney stacks. The northeast wing is rectangular in plan, while the northwest wing is L-shaped. The primary elevations face the circular drive, while the L-shaped legs of the northwestern wing combine with the western side wall of the central pavilion to form an open and landscaped courtyard. This courtyard has an enclosed and intimate feel, featuring planting beds and water features. A circular stair tower with a conical roof, clad with slate, occupies the intersection of the two legs forming the northwest wing of the building. This stair tower, the asymmetrical layout and massing of the building, and the intimacy of the courtyard, along with steeply

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Children's Country Home

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 7 Page 3

pitched gable dormers and shed-roof dormers together add to the "storybook" quality of the building's design. Wood casement windows and double French doors open onto the courtyard, making this outdoor space an integral component of the building.

Although the original rear wall of the central pavilion is no longer exposed, being encased in later additions, the side and end walls of the two wings are still exposed, and the wings clearly differentiated from the additions. Sidewalks leading between the wings of the original building and the new construction provide a clear sense of old and new. Like the principal elevations, these secondary elevations are defined by their asymmetrical use of dormers and chimneys, along with all encompassing slate roofs, randomly exposed stone, and wood casement windows.

The 1968 one-story addition is located at the western wide of the site and connected to the original hospital building through a passageway. The building is a fairly utilitarian, flat-roofed, unpainted buff brick structure with metal windows set between brick bays.

The 1991-92 addition is located to the south and east of the original building. It was the construction of this addition that engendered the demolition of three of the original five wings of the building. However, the 1991-92 construction also involved the renovation of the central pavilion and surviving two wings, including the removal of incompatible 1950s additions to them. Although large, this new building was deliberately set back and away from the historic structure to avoid competition with it. The 1991-92 building is a raised, two-story, flat-roofed structure, featuring two-toned exterior brick walls, laid in horizontal bands and featuring a variety of brickwork, including diapering, and quoining and arches derived from the historic structure.

### Interior Description:

The interior of the hospital, significantly altered in the 1950s, was completely rebuilt in 1991-92. However, a 1932 description of the hospital survives, providing a mental image of the interior:

The entry hall is suggestive of the care of little children; for in each of the four walls are set nursery rhyme pictures in tile. One shows Little Bo-Peep guarding her sheep. Another is of Tom the Piper's Son, running away with the pig. In another wall is little Boy Blue most industriously blowing his horn. In the fourth is Humpty Dumpty; a very well

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Children's Country Home

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 7 Page 4

dressed and cheerful egg, sitting upon a wall and evidently preparing for the great fall which came to him. Interest in little children is there from the very beginning.<sup>1</sup>

The original nursery rhyme tiles have been reused as a fireplace surround located in the main entrance hall. According to newspaper articles, the central pavilion housed the dining room and playroom (known as the Charles C. Glover Kindergarten), while each of the wings housed various wards, including a baby ward, a girls' ward, a boys' ward, and an isolation ward.

<sup>1</sup> Radio Broadcast: Station W.R.C.; 4:45 pm, June 25, 1932. Third in a series of "Little Visits to the Homes of Great Services." Elwood Street, Commentator.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Children's Country Home

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 1

## Summary Statement of Significance:

The original 1929-30 building of the Hospital for Sick Children is the work of the noted architectural firm of Wyeth and Sullivan, a partnership established by two prominent local architects whose work independently and together included some of Washington's most notable public, residential, and institutional buildings. Constructed as a Norman cottage, or farmhouse, the Hospital for Sick Children (originally the "Children's Country Home") is a fine example of Wyeth and Sullivan's work. Further, the hospital building exemplifies early 20<sup>th</sup>-century trends in children's hospital design. Specifically, it is an innovative example of the adaptation of a cottage-like design to suit an institution. The building was acknowledged during its day and deemed the "Outstanding Building of the Year" in 1931 by the Washington Board of Trade.<sup>2</sup>

The surviving remnant of the original 1929-30 building, including the central pavilion and two attached wings, is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C. The building embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type of construction and is representative of the work of a master architect. The building retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The period of significance extends from 1929, when the site for the new building was selected, to 1930 when construction of the building was completed and the hospital was dedicated.

## Resource History and Historic Context:

When the Hospital for Sick Children opened on Bunker Hill Road in 1930, it was the third location of the institution. It was originally founded in 1883, by "a few young ladies of St. John's Parish,"<sup>3</sup> and was called "The Children's Country Home." At that time, the Home occupied a leased building on Grant Road and was open only during the summer months. The intention of the Home was to enable children "in feeble health" to benefit from a change in air and exercise.<sup>4</sup> From the beginning, the Home was non-sectarian and non-discriminatory. The first summer of operation saw a total of 48 patients.

Several factors probably influenced the founding of The Children's Country Home. Firstly, the concept that the well-to-do should provide charity to the "worthy poor" was gaining popularity.<sup>5</sup> Secondly, there was a growing awareness of the conditions of the city's most indigent areas

<sup>2</sup> As cited in Robinson & Associates, "The Hospital for Sick Children: Historical Summary and Evaluation for Purposes of Compliance with Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act of 1966," July 1989.

<sup>3</sup> *The Washington Star*, November 4, 1962. (No headline).

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> Constance Green, *Washington: A History of the Capital, 1800-1950*, Vol. 2, Princeton: Princeton Architectural Press, 1962.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Children's Country Home

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 2

where "ignorance of the most elementary principles of hygiene ...results in a tremendous infant death rate and also warps or stunts the 'fittest' who survive in this struggle for existence."<sup>6</sup>

Five years after its founding, the Children's Country Home moved to a wooden building located at the corner of Grant Road and Broad Branch Road in Rock Creek Park. Charles C. Glover, then president of Riggs Bank, purchased the land and building, deeding it to the Children's Country Home in memory of his daughter Janet Percy Glover who died at the age of four. In 1889, the Home had reorganized to serve convalescent children and their mothers. Meeting changing medical needs, the Hospital's staff treated turn-of-the-century illnesses, including rheumatic fever, polio, and mongoloidism. By 1927 the need for a year round "more permanent, fireproof" facility prompted the Children's Country Home to begin looking for a new location. Colonel and Mrs. Arthur O'Brien (nee Roebing) donated a six-acre site in the Cuckold's Delight section of Brookland on Bunker Hill Road. Sale of the Grant Road land helped finance construction of the new \$90,000 facility. The Home opened at its present site in 1930.

The new Children's Country Home was the first building designed in Washington D.C. as a purpose-built children's convalescent home. First Lady Mrs. Herbert Hoover laid the cornerstone at the groundbreaking ceremony. With the new building, the function of the Children's Country Home expanded to a year-round convalescent home with a more professional nursing staff. The new Children's Country Home provided care to children under 6 years of age with non-communicable diseases. Ailments ranged from broken bones to malnutrition. Children would be referred to the Home from hospitals, where beds were needed for more seriously ill patients. The average stay was two months.

The architectural firm of Wyeth and Sullivan was commissioned to design the new facility, with Francis P. Sullivan acting as principal designer.<sup>7</sup> The architects, Wyeth and Sullivan, were well-equipped to design a children's hospital. Wyeth's earlier firm completed construction of the Columbia Hospital for Women and Lying-In Asylum, with Francis P. Sullivan as principal designer. In addition, Wyeth's firm had designed Emergency Hospital and several hospitals for the military. Sullivan had designed Loudoun County Hospital for the firm as well.

In designing the building, Wyeth and Sullivan chose an asymmetrical layout or "connected corridor plan" that was designed in a style reminiscent of a Normandy cottage. This layout and style not only befitted the then-rural nature of Brookland, but also gave the institutional building

<sup>6</sup> Weller, Charles Frederick. *Neglected Neighbors: Stories of Life in the Alleys, Tenements and Shanties of the Nation's Capital*, Philadelphia: The John Winston Co., 1909, p. 32.

<sup>7</sup> The original sketch of the Children's Country Home is housed with the Francis P. Sullivan papers at the Special Collections Division of Georgetown University.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Children's Country Home

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 3

a domestic feeling. At the time of its completion, the building received great praise, winning a Washington Board of Trade Certificate for outstanding building of 1931.

In a radio broadcast on local radio station, WRC on Saturday, June 25, 1932, commentator Elwood Street described the Children's Country Home:

There is no lovelier spot in Washington than the Children's Country Home. It is the city's only institution for convalescent care of sick and undernourished children under six years of age. It is lovely in its location, in its construction and furnishings, and in the health and strength which its kindly treatment brings its little charges.<sup>8</sup>

In the 1950s, the Home changed its name to the Children's Convalescent Hospital in order to qualify for federal funds. Around the same time, the hospital underwent a series of renovations and upgrades, including a new clinic building, and extension of the southwest wing of the original structure, all designed by local architect Leon Chatelain, Jr. and dedicated in 1956.

In the 1960s, in order to avoid confusion with Children's Hospital, the Home changed its name to Hospital for Sick Children. In 1968, a new \$1.5 million building, designed by Vosbeck-Vosbeck + Associates Architects, AIA, was constructed, increasing the number of hospital beds from 30 to 80.

In 1991-92, the Hospital for Sick Children was partially demolished and a significant addition was constructed behind the surviving core of the building. At the same time, the original building, reduced from a central pavilion and five wings to a central pavilion and two wings, was rehabilitated on the exterior and entirely renovated on the interior. Many of the 1950s additions to the original building were removed and original features rebuilt, based upon historic photographs and historic drawings. The large, new addition was built behind the original building to the south and east, respecting the original building's dominance on the site as well as its massing and configuration.

### Early Children's Hospital Designs:

The concern for light, air, outdoor recreation, and a homelike atmosphere, within the context of current trends in children's asylum design, are evident in the building's layout and non-institutional character. A great deal of discussion occurred during the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century regarding the ideal organization of children's institutions. Three types of plans were used to design children's institutions during these years: 1) the Congregate Plan, 2) the Cottage System, and 3) the Foster Home System. The Congregate Plan placed all the functions of the

<sup>8</sup> Radio Broadcast, Station WRC, 4:45 pm, Saturday, June 25, 1932.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Children's Country Home

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 4

facility within one large building; the Cottage Plan spread out the functions in a series of buildings; and the Foster System placed the children in private homes, usually locating the administrative functions in an extant office building.

The design for the Hospital for Sick Children reflects many of the aspects of the cottage system, but varies from its tenets in that the children are not housed in separate buildings. Because it is a hospital and not an orphanage, it was important that the residential facilities and the medical facilities occupied shared spaces. However, in its "homelike" cottage atmosphere, the building clearly was designed as a variant of the "Cottage Plan." In writing about the hospital, architect Appleton P. Clark described the building's layout as a "Connected Corridor Plan."

Beyond its floor plan and homelike character, the building had other popular attributes: the building was fireproof, had walls of masonry, slate roofs, and minimal interior embellishments. In addition, the architects ensured that the children's beds were all located on the ground floor to eliminate fire risk and to eliminate the need for stairs. A large playroom offered a place where the children could gather around a fire in the evening. Multiple door openings from the hospital to the exterior permitted access to and from the courtyard and a play area (no longer extant).

### Nathan C. Wyeth:<sup>9</sup>

Nathan C. Wyeth was the star pupil of both the 1889 graduating class of the Art School of New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art, and of the 1899 class of the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. Well trained in the Beaux Arts tradition, Wyeth began his first professional experience with the noted New York firm of Carrere and Hastings. In 1901, he joined the Treasury Department as an architectural designer, and by 1904 had become the chief designer for the Architect of the Capitol under the Department of the Interior. In 1905, Wyeth started his own practice.

At the outbreak of World War I, Wyeth joined the Army as a Major where he worked in the Construction Division. During the war, he designed hospitals and military installations. His designs for The Columbia Hospital for Women and Old Emergency Hospital were possibly done at this time. After the War, Wyeth resumed his architectural practice, and designed many of his residential and public commissions that continue to grace the city. Among these are the Key and Tidal Basin Bridges, the Battleship Maine Monument at Arlington Cemetery, 2829 16th Street, the Pullman Residence at 1125 16<sup>th</sup> Street, The Fahrenstock Residence at 2311 Massachusetts Avenue, and 2305 Massachusetts Ave. He also designed the no longer extant Glover Residence at 4200 Massachusetts Avenue.

<sup>9</sup> Biographies of Nathan Wyeth and Francis P. Sullivan are from Robinson & Associates, "The Hospital for Sick Children: Historical Summary and Evaluation."

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Children's Country Home

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 5

In 1926, Wyeth entered into a partnership with Francis P. Sullivan which lasted until 1933. Among the important residences Wyeth and Sullivan designed during this period was the Duncan Phillips Residence at 2101 Foxhall Road (designed in 1929, now demolished) and the Hospital for Sick Children. In 1934, Nathan Wyeth was appointed municipal architect for the District of Columbia.

### Francis P. Sullivan:

Francis P. Sullivan was a remarkable man of both architectural and literary talent. After graduating from Georgetown in 1904, Sullivan went on to receive his degree in architecture from George Washington University. In 1905, he entered the office of Wyeth and Cresson as a draftsman, and by 1909, had become the principal assistant in the office. During his tenure with Wyeth and Cresson, Sullivan was principal assistant on the designs of the Swedish Legation, the Chilean Embassy, the Mexican Embassy, Columbia Hospital for Women, Emergency Hospital and Loudoun County Hospital.

As a partner to Wyeth beginning in 1926, Sullivan designed several residences, in addition to institutional work and public buildings. Sullivan served on several committees of the American institute of Architects and as a consultant to several government agencies, including the National Park Service for its proposal for a sports stadium on the banks of the Anacostia; to the architect of the Capitol for the renovations of the Capitol building; and to the Public Alley Dwelling Authority for low-cost housing in the southwest quadrant of the city.

In 1955, he became principal in the firm of Sullivan, Smith and Burcham. Throughout his busy architectural career, Sullivan was a prolific fictional writer, contributing regular short stories and commentary to *House Beautiful* and the *AIA Journal*.

### Conclusion:

The Hospital for Sick Children is an important example of the work of the architectural firm of Wyeth and Sullivan. The building's asymmetrical and cottage-style design and its use of the "connected corridor plan" responded to the most up-to-date design philosophies of children's hospitals in the early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The building provided ample light and air, appropriate siting, and attention to image. Although significantly altered and added onto in the 1950s, 1960s and again in 1991-92, the original 1929-30 core of the building is set apart from these newer buildings and clearly dominates the site. The 1929-30 core survives as an example of early 20<sup>th</sup>-century state-of-the art children's hospital design and retains a high integrity of design.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Children's Country Home

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 9 Page 1

## Major Bibliographical References:

"Children's Convalescent Home," *Medical Annals of the District of Columbia*, April 1954, p.233

"Children's Home Fight is Settled," *Washington Star*, October 3, 1929.

"Children's Home Permit is Issued," *Washington Star*, October 19, 1929.

"Director will Aid Children," *Washington Star*, January 10, December 1954.

"Famed Institution has Anniversary," *Washington Post*, August 1, 1947.

"First Lady of Land Lays Cornerstone of Welfare," *The Washington Post*, November 26, 1929.

"Hospital to Add Another Building," *Washington Post*, 1, 1964.

McDaniel, George W., ed., *Images of Brookland: The History and Architecture of a Washington Suburb*, Washington D.C.: George Washington University, 1982.

"Nathan C. Wyeth, Obituary," *Washington Post*, August 30, 1963.

"Nathan Wyeth, Obituary," *Washington Star*, August 31, 1970.

"New Children's Home is Planned," *Washington Star*, June 26, 1928.

"New Country Home for Children Here," *The Washington Daily News*, May 22, 1929.

"New Wing Dedicated at Convalescent Home," *Washington Post*, January, 24, 1956.

"\$1.3 Million Addition to Open in May," *Washington Post*, April 14, 1968.

Robinson & Associates, "The Hospital for Sick Children: Historical Summary and Evaluation for Purposes of Compliance with Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act of 1966," July 1989.

Smith, Kathryn Schneider, ed. *Washington At Home*, Washington, D.C.: Windsor Publications, 1988

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Children's Country Home

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 9 Page 2

Transcript of Radio Broadcast: Station W.R.C.; 4:45 pm, June 25, 1932. Third in a series of "Little Visits to the Homes of Great Services," Elwood Street, Commentator.

The *Washington Star*, Nov 4, 1962. (No headline, but article provides a description of the hospital and its mission.)

Weller, Charles Frederick. *Neglected Neighbors: Stories of Life in the Alley's, Tenements, and Shanties of the Nation's Capital*, Philadelphia: The John Winston Co., 1909.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Children's Country Home

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 10 Page 1

## Verbal Boundary Description:

The Hospital for Sick Children is located at 1731 Bunker Hill Road, N.E. in Washington, D.C. The building occupies a four-acre site designated as Lot 4 in Square 4163. The boundary of the property is the entire lot. +

## Boundary Justification:

This four-acre site is the remnant of the original six-acre site upon which the original hospital building was constructed. The wooded setting was considered an early attribute and one of the reasons the site was selected for construction of the hospital in 1929-30. Since its original construction, the hospital has been enlarged, filling in much of what had been open space surrounding the original structure. The boundaries include the contributing 1929-30 building and the non-contributing 1956 and 1991-92 additions to the hospital. +



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

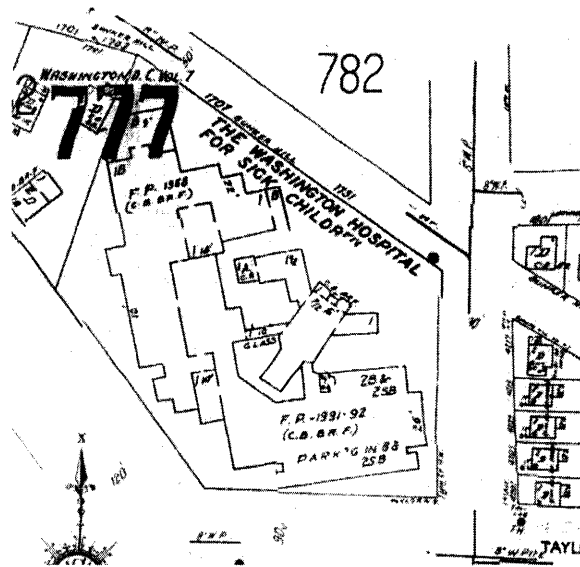
Children's Country Home

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

## SITE MAP



Hospital for Sick Children  
1731 Bunker Hill Road, N.E.  
Washington, D.C.  
(Sanborn Building and Property Atlas, 1991)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Children's Country Home

---

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

---

County and State

---

### PHOTOGRAPHS

- 1) Hospital for Sick Children  
1731 Bunker Hill Road  
Washington, DC  
Kim Williams  
June 2003  
DCHPO  
View of northeast (front) elevation from Bunker Hill Road  
1/7
- 2) Hospital for Sick Children  
1731 Bunker Hill Road  
Washington, DC  
Kim Williams  
June 2003  
DCHPO  
View of northeast (front) elevation from circular drive  
3/7
- 3) Hospital for Sick Children  
1731 Bunker Hill Road  
Washington, DC  
Kim Williams  
June 2003  
DCHPO  
View of 1991-92 addition behind 1929-30 building  
3/7
- 4) Hospital for Sick Children  
1731 Bunker Hill Road  
Washington, DC  
Kim Williams  
June 2003  
DCHPO  
View of front entry  
4/7

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Hospital for Sick Children

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

### PHOTOGRAPHS

- 5) Hospital for Sick Children  
1731 Bunker Hill Road  
Washington, DC  
Kim Williams  
June 2003  
DCHPO  
View of interior courtyard, southwest elevation  
5/7
- 6) Hospital for Sick Children  
1731 Bunker Hill Road  
Washington, DC  
Kim Williams  
June 2003  
DCHPO  
View of interior courtyard, west elevation  
6/7
- 7) Hospital for Sick Children  
1731 Bunker Hill Road  
Washington, DC  
Kim Williams  
June 2003  
DCHPO.  
Northeast elevation of original 1929-30 building with 1991-92 building next to it.  
7/12