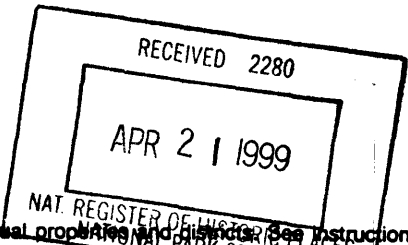


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



605

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 an 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 Holden, William B. Residence

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 6347 S.E. Yamhill  not for publication

city or town Portland  vicinity

state Oregon code Or county Multnomah code 051 zip code 97215

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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.)  
James M. Hamrick April 14, 1999  
Signature of certifying official/Title Deputy SHPO Date  
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office  
State of 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 the 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): \_\_\_\_\_

Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 5/26/99

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Holden, William B., House, Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

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### **HOLDEN, WILLIAM, B., HOUSE (1929)**

6347 SE Yamhill

Portland, Multnomah County, OR

### **COMMENTS OF THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE:**

The William B. Holden house, built in 1929, is a large one-and-one-half story building with 4,675 square feet. It is located on the southwest boundary of Mt. Tabor Park. This house was designed for Dr. William B. Holden, a prominent Portland physician, and his wife, Faye. The architect, Roscoe Hememway, teamed up John A. Grant, a landscape architect, to site and build this structure so that it has a sweeping view of downtown Portland and Mt. Tabor Park.

William B. Holden was born in New York in 1873. He received a degree in medicine in 1897 from Rush Medical College in Chicago, had an active practice in Chicago, and taught anatomy. In 1901, after being badly burned, he visited Oregon en route to California and chose the Pacific Northwest as his future home. He arrived in Portland in 1903 with his wife, Worthie, and daughter. He established his medical practice in downtown Portland in 1903 specializing in intestinal disorders, developing an operative technique for addressing intestinal obstructions which was described in numerous medical journals. Holden became one of the leading surgeons on the Pacific Coast during the next 50 years. After being hired as the residential surgeon at the Portland Sanitarium (later Seventh Day Adventist Health Center) he helped guide the organization over the next 45 years. The site of the Sanitarium was chosen near Mt. Tabor because of its elevation and its desirable suburban surroundings above the city's dust and noise. The original wood structure was replaced in 1921 with a "modern brick and concrete structure". It is reported that Dr. Holden performed the first emergency appendectomy while the painters and plasterers were still working on the interiors. The Sanitarium continued to grow under Holden's leadership and the hospital was moved in 1974 to 10123 SE Market Street. The original hospital grounds were converted into the Portland Adventist Convalescent Center. In addition to his work at the Sanitarium, Holden taught at the University of Oregon Medical School where he was a professor of surgery. He also maintained an active private medical practice.

His wife, Worthie, died in 1921. He and his second wife, Faye, had this house built in 1929. When William married Faye Briggs in 1922 it was in a double ceremony with his daughter, Margaret, who married Edward Rippey. Edward decided to study medicine and after his father-in-law's death in 1955, became medical director for the Portland Sanitarium. Holden's obituary stated that he "left a legacy of guiding the field of medicine in Portland for over 50 years".

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Holden, William B., House, Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

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The Holden house is a modified Tudor style house with some English Cottage features. The architect, Hememway, appears to have abstracted the Tudor stylistic form and create a new version of an understated modern house loosely based on a historical style. Hememway is considered to have been one of the foremost architects in Portland from this period and the Holden house represents one of his earliest commissions in which he did not rely entirely on historical precedents. Hememway breaks away from traditional styling by changing the overall definition of the building, shears off the chimney, stretches out the gabled dormer on the eastern elevation and defines it with a clerestory window. Decorative detailing is understated. He appears to have combined "elements from different historic periods to produce attractive eclectic designs that are difficult to categorize by style" (Clark). Hememway studied under Ellis Lawrence at the University of Oregon, a school known for its progressive approach to architectural design.

John Alexander Grant was one of the foremost landscape designers in Portland, designing many of the private gardens during the 1940s. He took full advantage of the Holden lot to create an informal plan and take advantage of the sloping lot. He was part of a movement in the United States that occurred between WWI and WWII in which garden design became more understated and in which simplicity, and integration of materials, function, and adaptation to the site helped facilitate the change from traditional and classical gardens to more contemporary designs where plantings were to appear to have happened naturally. The intent with the design of the Holden lot was to integrate the house and landscaping so that both spaces relate seamlessly. The site was to have no beginning or end, but be juxtaposed against the majestic backdrop of Mt. Tabor Park. Grant and his wife, Carol, published a series of 22 gardening articles featured in House Beautiful magazine during 1947-51, allowing the layperson to follow the principal techniques to create soothing gardens and landscaping touched with a hint of romanticism achieved through clarity of design. The Grants' articles were also published in several other magazines, and they wrote several books.

The Holden house is of wood frame construction with brick veneer, wood siding, and stone veneer quarried from Rocky Butte. The varied roofline is created through the use of steeply pitched gables and dormers. Detailing includes corbelled brickwork beneath the gables, decorative brickwork surrounding the oculus window and a herringbone patterned sidewalk on the east side. This house incorporates contrasting stonework, brick work, board-and-batten siding, and shingles with the definitive roof lines to create a modified, modern looking house. The windows also provide a more contemporary appearance to the building. Although multi-light windows were specified in the original drawings, single light casement windows were actually used originally (based on physical inspection and research done by the preparer of the nomination.) The house has a garage integrated into a smaller projecting gable and provides access to the kitchen through a hallway. Alternations to the house are minimal. The exterior remains as it was originally built. Modifications to the interior are primarily based on the need for repair and maintenance.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Holden, William B., House, Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon

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Hememway designed the residence as an asymmetrical volume. He designed 254 residences throughout his career in many of Portland's exclusive neighborhoods such as Alameda, Dunthorpe, and Kings Heights. Most of his work was completed in historic period styles: Tudor, Arts and Crafts and Twentieth Century Colonial Revival, and date from the 1920s to 1957. There are 17 properties inventories by the city of Portland that were designed by Hememway and constructed between 1926 and 1941. The other residence in the Mt. Tabor neighborhood, the E.C. Dwyer residence at 1304 SE 58th St. is of Colonial Revival design. Two Hememway-designed houses are listed on the National Register: the Clara and Samuel Weinstein residence, a Norman farmhouse, at 16847 SW Greenbriar Road in Lake Oswego, and the Roy and Leola Gangware residence at 4848 SW Humphrey Blvd in Portland, an English Tudor residence. These residences are based more on the traditional styles and are located in a different urban context.

The Holden house is architecturally significant for its unique stylistic features. It is representative of the kinds of homes that prominent professional people could have constructed in a desirable location. The home is located a few blocks from the Portland Sanitarium, affording the Dr. Holden the opportunity to work close to his home. This house is also historically significant for its association with Dr. William B. Holden, a physician whose work influenced the medical profession in Portland.

Name of Property

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
(1)		sites
		structures
		objects
		Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic Single Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th Century

Early 20th Century Revival

Tudor Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Wood Brick

roof Composition

other

Narrative Description

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

See attached

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Description:

The W.B.Holden residence is a large 1-1/2-story dwelling located at 6347 S.E. Yamhill, Portland, Oregon. The 4,675 square foot house is located on Lot I, Belmont Villa on the southwest boundaries of Mt. Tabor Park on S.E. Yamhill Street. Roscoe Hememway designed the house for prominent Portland physician Dr. William B. Holden and his wife Faye. Date of construction is verified by architectural plans signed by Roscoe Hememway in 1929. Supplementing Roscoe Hememways plans was the contribution of John A. Grant who designed the landscaping of the 3/4 acre lot and the formal rose garden. The house has always served as a private residence with only two owners: Dr. William B. Holden (1929-1955) and Geneva Culberson/Maier from 1956 to 1998. The residence is located on a quiet curvilinear road that provides vehicular access to the park three blocks away. It shares a sweeping view of downtown Portland and Mt. Tabor Park to the east.

Hememway designed the residence as essentially an asymmetrical mass with projecting extensions which include a secondary gabled mass that encloses the garage and service entry and a breakfast room that extends out from the southern elevation. The residence is built over a full basement with a concrete foundation. Wood frame construction was utilized and completed with an exterior finish of brick and wood siding. The exterior surface on all four elevations is a combination of two siding materials; brick on the first level and beveled siding on the second level. Capping off the residence is a multi gabled roof covered with composition shingles. A red brick fluted chimney centrally located accents the roofline. Additional exterior brick detailing includes the stepped brickwork beneath the gables, decorative brickwork surrounding the oculus window and a herringbone patterned sidewalk on the eastern elevation, which introduces the main entry on the eastern elevation.

The salient features that identify it as a Tudor styled design include the steeply pitched gabled roofline with intersecting projecting gables, combination of brick and wood cladding, contrasting stone work and bay window. Specific Tudor elements include the use of brick with contrasting stone work, projecting dormers and window fenestration.

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**Eastern elevation:**

The eastern elevation's main distinguishing features is the steeply pitched gabled roofline with projecting gables, shed roofed entry porch, brick chimney and repetitive window fenestration. Decorative brickwork is used to define the brick stoop, main entry porch and stepped brickwork underneath the projecting gable. The main entry is situated inside a shed roofed porch framed with hand azed squared timbers that contribute to the vernacular feel of the residence. A handsome battened door with decorative wrought iron pull work completes the definition of the porch. Stepped brickwork is used to introduce the first story gabled dormer which intersects with the entry porch. The garage is integrated into a smaller projecting gable and provides access to the kitchen via a hallway. The eastern elevation is further characterized by stone quarried from Rocky Butte utilized in a rusticated stone pattern with a key stone encircling a three part banded window enclosed within the primary dormer. The first floor is clad in stretcher bond brick and the second story is sheathed in cedar batten siding. Windows reflect a combination of styles: three part banded windows on the first floor, an oculus window in the kitchen and a additional large clerestory window is enclosed within the minor gable on the second story. Windows have brick sills and the oculus window features decorative brick work. Exterior lamps on both the east and west porches are original.

**Southern Elevation:**

The southern elevation features the most simplistic exterior treatment. Its most distinctive architectural element is the breakfast room that juts out into the sloping landscape. The breakfast room extends out as a square mass and has banded windows on three elevations. The southern elevation continues the definition initiated on the eastern elevation with brick used for the first story and horizontal and vertical board and batten siding defining the second story gables. The rusticated stone work wraps around the corner from the eastern elevation terminating under a bank of windows that outline the single story breakfast room. Further defining the facade is a second set of four part banded windows located on the second floor and enclosed with the master bedroom suite.

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**Western Elevation:**

The western elevation features a steeply pitched roofline that sweeps down to the first floor and slightly flares out over the brick clad veneer. Encased within the roofline are multi projecting dormers. Three part banded windows are found in the hipped dormers and two part banded windows define the central dormer. Centrally located in the facade is the entry porch whose peaked entry extends up through the second floor to terminate directly below the central dormer. A braced half arch with flared post brackets frames the entry and anchors the brick stoop. The front porch stoop terminates at a stone path, which parallels the boundaries of the house and leads to the formal rose garden. The self-contained rose garden includes 125 heritage roses and is located in the northwest elevation. A three-foot stone retaining wall constructed in 1929 defines the garden and introduces the western slope.

**Northern Elevation:**

The northern elevation clearly shows the gabled composition of the house with its overlapping gables and projecting dormers. Brick is used to define the first floor and beveled siding on the second story. An oculus shaped window is located on second story and multi paned leaded glass windows can be viewed in the garage.

**Interior:**

The interior of the Holden residence is remarkable for its understated sense of elegance and simplicity. The house is well appointed with spacious rooms that still retain their original interior finishing details. The main entry on the eastern elevation leads into an



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entrance hall that contains the staircase to the upper floor. The stairway is illuminated by the clerestory window in the landing. The paneled stairwell is defined by square newel posts, turned balusters with molded handrails and finial caps. A door at the south end of the hall leads to a small bedroom and full bathroom. The doorway on the north end of the hall leads to the kitchen and service entry. Directly ahead the entrance hall introduces the dining room, living room and breakfast room all located on a longitudinal axis. The living room and dining room feature handsome arched doorways with leaded glass pocket doors enhanced by gumwood moldings, oak floors, built in bookcases and expansive windows. Windows on the western elevation are tailored to enhance views of downtown Portland. The living room fireplace, mantel and built in bookcases are simply executed with a minimal amount of detailing. The kitchen retains its original cabinetry and tile work which has been compromised by water damage and aging. Additional rooms located on the first floor include a breakfast room with windows on three elevations and a kitchen nook.

The second floor contains a master bedroom with built in cedar closets and a smaller bedroom on the northern elevation. A connecting bathroom separates the two rooms. The second floor bathroom retains its original fixtures and tile work and has not been updated. Again the rooms are simple in execution with minimal ornamentation.

### Alterations:

The house was originally designed to have multi paned leaded glass windows installed throughout the residence. Instead casement styled plate glass windows were installed on three elevations. Interior lighting fixtures have been updated and will need to be retrofitted. The kitchen has had leakage problems that will necessitate some updating.

A half bath was originally installed between the kitchen and garage and this has been dismantled by the previous owner. The room is now used for storage. The fireplace also has deterioration in its marble hearth and mantle and repair work will be needed to restore it. Some of the interior walls have cracks. The current owner's plan on completing the necessary repairs to the kitchen, walls, fireplace and mantle. They will be restoring the rose garden and stabilizing the landscaping. Current owners will be completing routine maintenance that has been neglected.

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**Addendum:**

**Garden design:**

John A. Grant incorporated numerous landscaping elements into the garden design of the William B. Holden residence. The most obvious formal element of the design is the triangular shaped rose garden located on the elevation. It features over 125 heritage roses, which are contained within an enclosed retaining wall. Grant did not often feature formal elements such as this so it assumed that the original owners requested this particular feature. The roses remain intact albeit overgrown in their original state. The remaining acreage fits well within John A. Grant's approach to landscape design which demanded a landscape design that seems totally integrated into the local environment and utilized local plantings to define it.

**Original plantings from the historic period of significance include the following:**

**Trees and Shrubs:** Apple, Port Orford Cedar, Ponderosa Pine, Japanese Pine, Portuguese Laurel, Japanese Maple, Photinia, Birch, Dogwood and Magnolia.

**Bushes and Shrubs:** Rhododendrons, Azalea, Abelia, Hydrangeas, Camellia, Hibiscus, fuschias, aucuba, skimmia, pyracantha, privet, forsythia, yew, holly, astilbe, mahonia (Oregon grape).

**Additional plants that currently exist within the site include:** Iris, Water Lilies, hellebore, Solomon's seal, St. John's Wort, Dahlias, Sunflowers, clematis, fox glove, hostas, geranium, ferns, sedum, nasturtium.

Holden, W.B.

Name of Property

Multnomah, Oregon

County and State

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 patterns of our history.
B Property is 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Landscape Architecture

Health/Medicine

Period of Significance

1929-1949

Significant Dates

1929

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Holden, William B.

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Roscoe Hememway

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 file (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 #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

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The William B. Holden residence is locally significant under Criterion "C" as a distinguished and notable early example of a Roscoe Hememway Tudor Revival residential design in Southeast Portland. The finely crafted brick and wood clad dwelling was constructed in 1929 at a cost of \$15,000.00. It combines a dramatic interpretation of a Tudor Revival style that capitalizes on a spectacular sloping lot that overlooks downtown Portland from the 600-foot extinct volcano known as Mt. Tabor. Hememway was a prolific architect who designed 254 residences throughout his career in many of Portland's exclusive neighborhoods such as Alemeda, Dunthorpe, and Kings Heights.

The bulk of his work was completed in historic period styles: Tudor, Arts and Crafts and Twentieth Century Colonial Revival residential commissions which date primarily from the 1920's to 1957. The Holden residence is unusual in that it exhibits simplicity and restraint in its Tudor Revival definition, which anticipates architectural trends of the 1930's. (1) Hememway was able to abstract the basic form of the Tudor Revival style and create a fresh new vision of an understated modern house loosely based on a historical style. Hememway is considered to be one of the foremost architects of Portland from this period and this house represents one of his earliest commissions in which he did not rely entirely on historical precedents.

The residence is also significant under Criterion "B" for the association with prominent physician Dr. W.B. Holden who resided there from 1929 until his death in 1955. He is accredited with "shaping Portland Adventist Medical Center into an acute medical facility" developing from 1903 to 1955. Holden would be noted upon his death as the "Dean of Oregon Surgeons" due to his work with the Portland Sanitarium, Professor Emeritus at the University of Oregon Medical School and serving as a leader in the Oregon medical community for over 50 years. (2)

Of equal historical significance is the unique landscaping design completed by John Alexander Grant that is still intact? Grant took full advantage of the magnificent lot to create a sophisticated informal plan that includes an unusual formal rose garden on the northwestern elevation. Grant was a progressive thinker who had a profound influence in developing a regional landscaping style suitable to the climate of the Pacific Northwest. His philosophies were communicated through numerous publications, which included popular magazines such as House Beautiful, gardening books, lectures and radio shows.

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He became one of the most foremost landscape designers in the Pacific Northwest and was responsible for "designing many of the private gardens in Portland in the 1940's. These gardens include the Edmund Hayes garden, David Lloyd Davies garden and the Vollum estate. Grant was particularly noted for his expertise in dealing with sloping lots such as exemplified in the Holden residence. (3)

Tudor Revival was one of many historic styles that were created out of the beaux-arts tradition and popular with successful Portland architects between 1900-1930. Hememway was well versed in historical styles and his shelf list of architectural plans included in the Oregon Historical Society archives include designs for numerous Arts and Crafts, English Cottage, Tudor and Twentieth Century Colonial residences in Portland. Hememway seemed to favor Arts and Crafts and Tudor styles for his residential commissions prior to his work completed with the Historic American Buildings Survey in the 1930's and subsequent commissions in the Dunthorpe area in the 1940's. (4)

The salient features that identify it as a Tudor residence according to Virginia and Lee McAlester's Field Guide to American Architecture primarily include the: "use of steeply pitched roof dominated by one or more prominent cross gables." The Holden residence further matches one of six prototypes of Tudor design that include using brick wall cladding in which the brick was contrasted with stone, stucco or wooden cladding on the principle gables or upper stories. Additional Tudor features exemplified in the Holden residence include the following variants: slight overhang of the gabled roof, overlapping gables, round arched doorway and casement windows grouped into strings of three or more located below the main gable.(5)

Hememway goes a step farther in combining these elements to create a new architectural description. He breaks away from traditional styling by changing the overall definition of the building, shears off the chimney, stretches out the gabled dormer on the eastern elevation and defines it with a clerestory window. He then utilizes two; three and four part banded casement windows with plate glass windows on three elevations and includes a bay window on the western elevation. Decorative detailing is understated with the exception of rusticated stone work found on the eastern elevation and hand hewn beams defining both entry porches. Hememway's design elements pull it's architectural definition away from its Tudor origins yet retains essential Tudor design elements. The house harmonizes with its surroundings with a carefully disciplined sense of space and

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scale. This blending of styles was used by many architects trained in the beaux-arts tradition between 1900-1930 and is discussed in Oregon Style in which "architects combined elements from different historic periods to produce attractive eclectic designs that are difficult to categorize by style."(6). The Holden residence represents a unique design that deviates from the bulk of Hememway's work that focused primarily on the formality of historic period styles. It was built in 1929 when the United States was on the precipice of change. The great depression signaled a change in architectural styles. Popular styles such as Arts and Crafts, Tudor, English Farmhouse and Colonial style would soon be discarded in the 1930's for more streamlined designs. Other Portland architects such as Van Evera Bailey would pursue this evolution by creating new stylistic definitions such as the Northwest Regional Style. Yet many affluent Portlanders still preferred the design work of Roscoe Hememway and his adherence to historic styles. Hememway would continue to be noted for the next 28 years for his designs that were clearly based on historical origins. The Holden residence is a distinct example in his portfolio of designs.

The building site that Holden chose was within the Mt. Tabor neighborhood in S.E. Portland noted for Mt. Tabor Park and the Portland Sanitarium. In 1888 the Willamette Bridge Railway Company had completed an extension of the streetcar line from downtown Portland to Mt. Tabor via the Sunnyside district. Land development and residential construction occurred quickly as speculators purchased farmland close to the streetcar line on S.E. Belmont, platted it and sold off individual building sites. Holden's future home site in Belmont Villa was platted during this period of expansion in the 1890's. (7)

This settlement pattern was repeated throughout Portland's urban neighborhoods, which were connected by the rapidly expanding grid of interurban streetcar lines that flourished between 1890-1930. The Mt. Tabor neighborhood thrived after the streetcar line arrived and quickly developed from a rural farming community into an affluent residential neighborhood. It became noted for its fine residential homes that now surround the 200-acre Mt. Tabor Park. Many home sites were chosen such because of their unique views of downtown Portland. Anne Brewster Clarke in her book Wade Hampton Pipes Arts and

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Crafts Architect in Portland, Oregon defines this period of expansion in which "Portland's hills were recognized as desirable view properties as soon as the city began to expand beyond the core area close to the Willamette River."(8)

Holden purchased Lots H, I and a portion of Lot E within the plat of Belmont Villa from the Security Savings and Trust Company in 1929. The lots were platted directly above the boundaries of the Portland Sanitarium and adjacent to Mt. Tabor Park. Mt. Tabor Park had originally been established in 1909 as City Park and is an important visual feature of Southeast Portland. After construction of his residence in 1929 Holden sold the adjacent Lot (H) to his son in law Edward Rippey. Rippey also used Roscoe Hememway to design his residence and John A. Grant as his landscape designer. The Rippey residence was constructed at a cost of \$10, 000.00 yet it lacks the unique geographical vista and scale of the Holden residence. Multnomah County Tax Records indicate that Holden eventually sold his remaining partial lot (E) in Belmont Villa to the Cook Company in 1935. Holden would reside in his newly constructed residence on Lot I from 1929 until his death in 1955(9).

John A. Grant landscape architect was responsible for the imaginative setting that sets the tone for the residence and grounds. Grant believed that modern architecture did not call for "clipped shrubbery" but rather a sympathetic handling of plant material and an understanding of naturalistic principles. He was part of a movement in the United States that occurred between WWI and WWII in which garden design became more thoughtful and understated and in which simplicity, integrity of materials, function, adaptation to the site helped facilitate the change from traditional and classical gardens to more contemporary designs. (10)

His philosophy was simple: He believed that the garden was an outgrowth of the site, locality and function, integrating native and imported materials. Influenced by his predecessor Gertrude Jekyll; Grant believed that plantings should appear to have happened naturally than artificially designed. He further stated that "there is an intimate relationship between the house and garden and natural forms and textures can be manipulated to organize space instead of architectural devices." Wallace Kay Huntington describes John A. Grant in the article titled "Parks and Gardens of the Northwest" as a

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dedicated plantsman, believed in the romantic tradition and strove for pictorial effects, skillful plant composition and sensitive grading of sloping lawns minimized by the use of straight lines. He was able to juxtapose natural forms of trees, shrubs and rocks with the seemingly artless landscape that belies the careful calculation behind the creative effort.” (11)

His influence in garden design was substantial thanks to numerous publications generated between 1930-1951. From 1947-1951 John A. Grant and his wife Carol published a series of 22 gardening articles featured in House Beautiful magazine. Their articles allowed the layman to follow the principal techniques of a trained professional to create soothing gardens and landscaping touched with a hint of romanticism achieved through clarity of design. Sunset magazine also featured his articles along with The Home Gardner and numerous other gardening publications.

In addition the University of Washington Press published numerous titles authored by Grant. In his book Garden Design Illustrated he carefully sets out these principles in designing gardens which echo the landscaping completed on the Holden residence. These concepts include: Informal gardening must include asymmetrical balance, melting and merging, no straight lines of planting, and nothing clipped with free flowing contours. The Holden landscape meets all of the above criteria. The book allows gardeners to understand “the fundamental principles of garden layout and planting that were so widely accepted but seldom so well analyzed”. And in Trees and Shrubs for the Northwest (1943) Grant describes fully the line pattern possibilities of trees and shrubs “the ultimate design effects.” Grant also wrote a third book: Pruning is simple which is no longer available in print. Grant served as a landscape instructor for the University of Washington Arboretum, gave weekly broadcasts for the University of Washington and held special broadcasts for his Portland audience. Grant was born in Wales, and lived in China and Canada before immigrating to the United States. It is unknown when he died although his retirement years were spent in California.

Grant was able in the Holden residence to take the above mentioned principles of landscape design to create a subtle and mysterious landscape which has no beginning or end. Juxtaposed against the majestic backdrop of Mt. Tabor Park the house and landscaping have created their own distinct identity and flow quietly into each other. His skill was being able to integrate house and landscaping so that both spaces relate seamlessly.(12)



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Both the residence and landscaping retain their historic integrity and reflect essential design elements that define Hememway and John. A Grant throughout their careers. These characteristics include careful consideration of the building site, integration of structure and landscape into the environment and meticulous attention paid to finishing details.

**William B Holden:**

William B. Holden, a native of West Valley, Cattaraugus, New York was born in 1873 the son of Charles O. and Melissa W (Burroughs) Holden. After completing public schooling in West Valley, New York, he attended Battle Creek College in Michigan and Griffith Institute at Springville, New York. He followed this by a year's study at the Medical Department of the University of Michigan. Holden then matriculated to Rush Medical College in Chicago, Illinois and graduated with a degree in medicine in 1897. From 1897 to 1903 he was in active practice in Chicago, Illinois taught anatomy and "did dispensary work for the American Medical Missionary College" in Chicago, Illinois.(13) In 1901 he took a 1-year sabbatical which led him to London, England. While in London he completed postgraduate work while teaching anatomy and physiology.

In 1901 he was badly burned in the face and hands and so in the process of recuperating traveled to California for rest and relaxation. In 1902 he visited Oregon en route to California and chose the Pacific Northwest as his future home. Holden arrived in Portland in 1903 with his wife Worthie and daughter Margaret prior to the opening of the Lewis and Clark Exposition in Portland in 1905. One of the main objectives of the Exposition was to market Portland to prospective homeowners, businessmen and professionals. The fair brought three million people to Portland and was an immediate success. Portland would soon go through an explosive period of growth in which the population of Portland would double between 1900-1910 much of that due to the success of the Lewis and Clark Exposition. Holden was part of that migration pattern and established strong professional and personal ties in Portland, Oregon. (14)

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Holden established his medical practice in downtown Portland in 1903 specializing in Intestinal Disorders. He had developed an operative technique for addressing intestinal obstructions which was described in numerous medical journals such as "Surgical, Gynecology and Obstetrics (Jan 1930) and the California and Western Medical Journal in 1935. Holden continued to publish in professional journals drawing upon his professional experiences in Portland, Oregon. He became one of the leading surgeons on the Pacific Coast through out the next 50 years.

Shortly after arriving in Portland in 1903 Holden was hired as the residential surgeon at the Portland Sanitarium. Holden was a Seventh Day Adventist and had trained at the Battle Creek Sanitarium prior to moving to Portland. His role expanded throughout the next 45 years and he helped guide the organization from the Portland Sanitarium into the Seventh Day Adventist Health Center. The Seventh Day Adventists had recently chosen the Mt. Tabor district as the building site for the new Portland Sanitarium in 1902. The Sanitarium treated diseases of the mind with education; diet and exercise were also emphasized as suggested cures. Here on a 3-acre site near the intersection of 60<sup>th</sup> and Belmont they built a four-story wood frame building that housed 75 patients. Suggested treatments included water-cure treatments, electric light baths, hydrotherapy, rest cure and massages. Advertising literature for the Portland Sanitarium (1902) states that Mt. Tabor was specifically chosen for the Sanitarium site because "at an elevation of 400 feet above the city proper and in Portland's most desirable suburb it is above ordinary fog level and out of the city's dust and noise. ... It is a beautiful suburban town with many elegant residences, churches etc. It's broad streets and driveways enable one to get pleasant views of the surrounding country. The park at the summit of the mountain affords ample ground for recreation.... The principle of the Sanitarium idea is that nature heals."(15) The Willamette Bridge Railway Company streetcars allowed easy access to the Portland Sanitarium and Mt. Tabor Park was a few minutes away by foot.

By 1910 W.B. Holden Polk City Directories list W.B. Holden as the Medical Superintendent, a position he would hold until his death in 1955. It was a volunteer position in which he gave freely of his "time, services and advice." He also began teaching in 1917 at the University of Oregon Medical School then located at N.W. 23<sup>rd</sup> and Lovejoy. By 1920 he had become a Professor of Surgery for the University of Oregon Medical School. At the time of his death he was a Professor Emeritus.

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His skill as a surgeon brought so many new clients to the Sanitarium that by 1919 50% of the services provided were surgical consultations. The Seventh Day Adventists were a crossroads philosophically: whether to continue Sanitarium work or to encourage use of the facility as a medical facility. The decision was facilitated by the condemnation of the upper floors of the Sanitarium by the Portland Fire Bureau in 1920. On 9/21/20 the Sanitarium was closed and the building demolished. Mt. Tabor residents strongly supported the reconstruction project and actively supported the fundraising. Petitions were circulated and signed containing signatures of 116 Mt. Tabor residents whom supported the efforts to rebuild the Sanitarium. Within a year \$90, 000 was raised and a "modern brick and concrete structure" was constructed in 1921. At that time the hospital became fully accredited by the American College of Surgeons (1920) and was subsequently approved for internships and nurses training. It is reported that Dr. Holden performed the first emergency appendectomy while the painters and plasterers were still working on the interiors. By 1928 the Portland Sanitarium had 126 employees which included 44 nurses in training.

The Sanitarium continued to grow under the leadership of Holden ultimately adding four additions before moving to a larger site in 1974. The original hospital grounds and buildings in Mt. Tabor were converted into the Portland Adventist Convalescent Center after the hospital moved in 1974 to it's new site at 10123 S.E. Market Street. In 1968 Portland Sanitarium changed its name from the Portland Sanitarium and Hospital to Portland Adventist Hospital. This change also signified a shift from Sanitarium type care to general hospital services. (16)

W.C.Holden also maintained an active practice while he was associated with the Portland Sanitarium. Throughout his distinguished career he had only two partners; Carl Moran from 1924-27 and Edward Rippey from 1927-1955. He was also on staff at Dornbecker Hospital and the Multnomah County Hospital. He maintained professional offices in downtown Portland from 1903 to 1952. In 1952 Holden and Rippey moved to 5925 SE Belmont.

W.B. Holden's wife Worthie had died in 1921. In 1922 at the age of 49 William B.Holden married Faye Briggs and his daughter Margaret married Edward Rippey in double ceremony. Rippey was subsequently influenced by his father in law to change career plans transferring from theology into medicine Rippey studied medicine at Loma

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Linda University and then interned at White Memorial Hospital in Los Angeles, California. The 1925 Portland Polk City Directory lists him as working at the Portland Sanitarium as a physician. After his father in law died in 1955 Rippey took over his position serving as the Medical Director for the Portland Sanitarium and Hospital.

One year before his death in 1955 over 1,000 friends of William B. Holden held a testimonial dinner in his honor. Earl Rippey former mayor of Portland spoke and recognized his achievements which included being the oldest practicing surgeon still in active practice, teaching at the University of Oregon Medical School for 30 years, and serving as the Medical Director of the Portland Sanitarium/ Seventh Day Adventist Complex for over 45 years. When he died on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1955 his obituary stated that his "ability and his devotion to work won him many honors." He had served as the president of the Multnomah County Medical Society and was a charter member of the American College of Surgeons since 1917 noted as the veteran healer of mankind's ills... a sure courageous and expert surgeon. He left a legacy of guiding the field of medicine in Portland for over 50 years. (17)

Roscoe Hememway:

Roscoe Hememway was born on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 1899 in Cottage Grove, Oregon. He was the son of De Leur H. and Daisy (Wallace Hememway). His grandfather, William Hememway moved to Cottage Grove in 1890. Roscoe Hememway was one of six children born to DeLeur and Daisy Hememway. Roscoe D. Hememway attended public schools in Cottage Grove and Portland. He served in the U.S. army in 1918 and graduated with a BA from the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts in 1922-23. (18)

Hememway was fortunate to be educated at the University of Oregon under the guidance of Ellis Lawrence. Historian Marion Ross in his treatise: 125 years of Oregon Architecture describes this unique period as "Ellis Lawrence organized the school in 1914 and he served as the Dean until his death in 1946. Under his tutelage the school became known for " its progressive approach to architectural design and it became a center of influence not only in Oregon but in the country as a whole. In 1922 Dean Lawrence brought W.B.R. Wilcox to the University of Oregon as a professor of architecture. His personal influence on student architects during the following quarter

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Century was certainly one of the most important reasons for the distinguished position of Oregon Architecture today". (19)

From 1923 -24 Hememway worked for the firm of Edmond Gilchrist and Samuel Hellin in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Gilchrist was noted for designing homes in the Chestnut Hill area of Philadelphia in which "homes were more English than anything else and represented an attempt to supply moderately priced housing of higher quality". (20) The year spent in Philadelphia allowed Hememway an opportunity to work with beaux art styles. The City of Portland Polk City Directory in 1924 list Hememway as having offices in Portland employed as a designer and the 1925 Portland Polk City Directory identifies him as a draftsman. He was licensed as an architect in the State of Oregon in 1927. In 1928 he worked with landscape architect George Otten in the Oregonian building. Capitol's Who's Who of Oregon (1947-48) indicates that he won an architectural award by Better Homes and Gardens magazine, which was featured in 1936. Between 1929 -1943 his offices were in the Bedell Building in downtown Portland. Hememway essentially worked by himself with some exceptions: the 1943-44 Polk City Directory cites him working with Natt McDougall general contractor. The 1950 Polk City Directory lists him as having offices at 520 SW 6<sup>th</sup>, Portland, Oregon in the Cascade building. Listings terminate in 1957 and he subsequently died in 1959.

The National Register Nomination for the Clara and Samuel B. Weinstein residence indicates that Hememway served in the 1930's as one of the "seven member field squads of the Historic American Buildings Survey. Hememway measured 22 of the HABS properties in Oregon and gained a clear understanding of the vernacular expressions of the Greek Revival style."(21) Many architects in the 1930's employed themselves in this fashion during the depression. This review of historical styles may have translated to Hememway designing a number of commissions in the Dunthorpe area in the 1940's. Margaret Pietsch describes the bulk of these residential commissions as 20th Century Colonial styles.

Notable clients throughout Hememway's career included the Hamilton Corbetts, Milton Gervertz, Leslie and Dorothy Frank Sherman, George Atyieh, J Forrest Cobb and W.C. Delbrueck. Residences constructed in Dunthorpe included homes for Max and Rose Tucker (1940), James and Lady McDonald (1940) Stewart Butler (1941) Carl Davies

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(1941) George Powers (1941) and Charles and Connie Green Butler (1941) Beverly Hancock (1941) and Ralph and Beatrice Compton Knighton (1941). (22)

At the time of his death in 1959 Hememway was a member of the American Institute of Architects Oregon Chapter, Portland Yacht Club and the Waverly Country Club. His obituary states that he was one of the "top domestic architects in Portland". (23)

### Comparative Analysis

The City of Portland Historic Resource Inventory lists 17 properties designed by Roscoe Hememway constructed between 1926 and 1941. The Inventory also lists one property located in the Mt. Tabor neighborhood; the E.C.Dwyer residence located at 1304 S.E. 58<sup>th</sup> Street. Constructed in 1940 it is described in the Inventory as a 20<sup>th</sup> Century Colonial design. One additional residential commission completed in 1929 is listed in the City of Portland Historic Resource Inventory; an English Cottage located at 3146 N.E. Alameda. It shares some of the same primary characteristics of the Holden residence via the use of brick and beveled siding and projecting dormers yet lacks the scale, ambiance and geographical setting of the Holden residence. (24)

Two Hememway residences have been listed on the National Register. The first is the Clara and Samuel Weinstein residence a Norman farmhouse residence located at 16847 SW Greenbriar Road in Lake Oswego, Oregon. The second example is the Roy and Leola Gangware residence located at 4848 SW Humphrey Blvd in Portland and styled as an English Tudor residence. Both of these residential properties listed are substantially different than the Holden commission. They are based on traditional styles set into an entirely different urban context and are of a different scale and scope. In addition the Turner, Frederick B. four plex (1928) and the Senate Court Apartments (1944) in N.E. Portland have been listed on the National Register.

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### Conclusion:

The Holden residence reflects a period in the 1920's prior to the great depression in when architects and landscape architects were affordable and accessible to affluent clients such as William Holden. Holden had this residence constructed at the apex of his career and it signifies his personal and professional success. He chose prominent Portland architect Roscoe Hememway to design the Tudor Revival styled residence and innovative landscape architect John A. Grant to redefine the lot that anchors the western slope of Mt. Tabor. The house sits directly above the grounds of the Portland Sanitarium. Holden chose a Tudor Revival style popular throughout the United States in the 1920's and 1930's and its essential Tudor elements are immediately recognizable.

Roscoe Hememway is noted for his classical interpretations of period styles yet he was willing to manipulate and experiment with historic design templates to create this unique Tudor Revival style. Hememway designed it as he was beginning his prolific career as an architect and is an important example from his formative early years. The architectural significance is due to its date of construction, historic integrity, finishing materials and design work. There are no other examples of Hememway designs in the Mt. Tabor neighborhood that mirror the scale, style, scope and geographical vista of this residence.

The Holden residence was completed in 1929 just at the beginning of Hememway's long and successful career. The design completed by Hememway shows his technical knowledge and skill in interpreting beaux-arts design's and his ability to reinterpret them. Hememway is now accredited with designing 254 residences throughout Portland distinctive neighborhoods prior to his retirement in 1957. He is considered to be one of Portland's foremost architects.

Hememway was an extremely popular architect for many affluent Portland families yet archives from the Oregon Historical Society and Multnomah County Library reveal little information about the prolific architect. The Oregon Historical Society retains 254 architectural plans which reflect his knowledge of the beaux-arts tradition and which were used to create both historical prototypes and rare experimental designs such as the Holden commission.

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John A. Grant created the landscaping plan that sets off the residence and wraps itself around the boundaries of Mt. Tabor Park. Grant became one of the foremost landscape architects in the Pacific Northwest after completing the Holden residence. He changed the context of landscape architecture in the Pacific Northwest via writing for numerous national gardening magazines and through designing gardens in Seattle and Portland. The Holden residence serves is one of his earliest examples that is still intact.



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The nominated area encompasses  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre and includes Tax Lot I, Belmont Villa, Portland, Oregon. The lot line corresponds with originally platting boundaries as surveyed in 1891. The lot contains two historic resources one contributing building and one contributing historic site.

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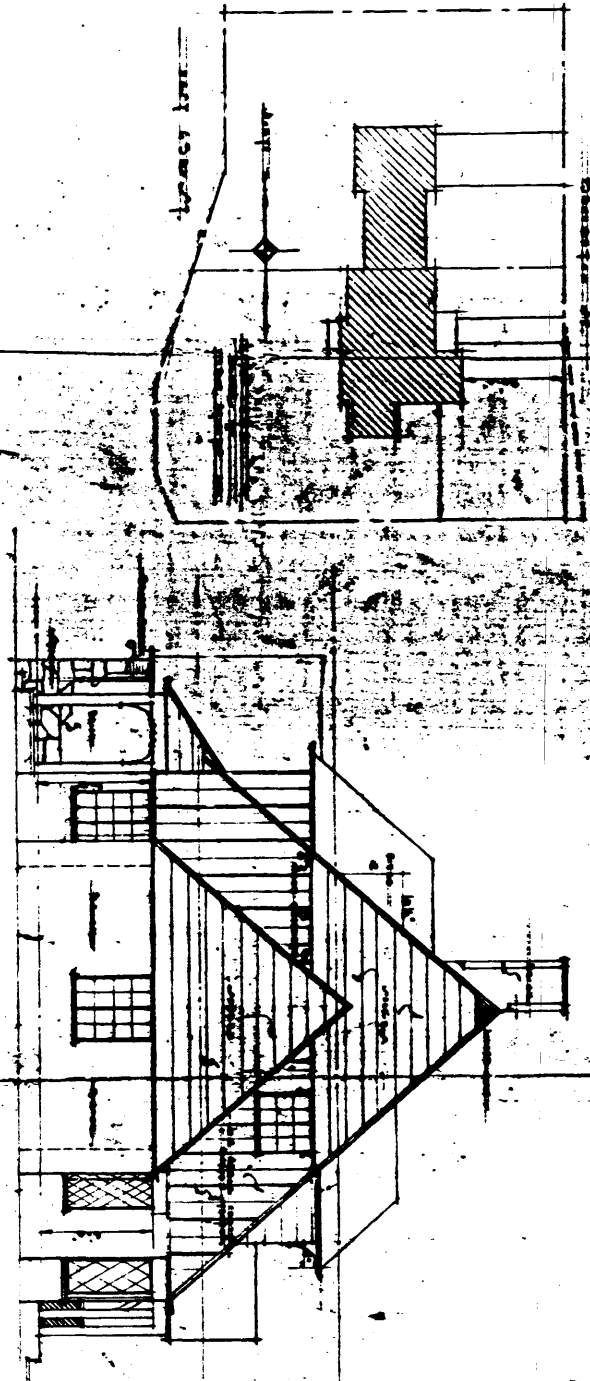
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The nominated area encompasses  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an acre and includes the entire tax lot of Lot I Belmont Villa, Portland, Oregon.



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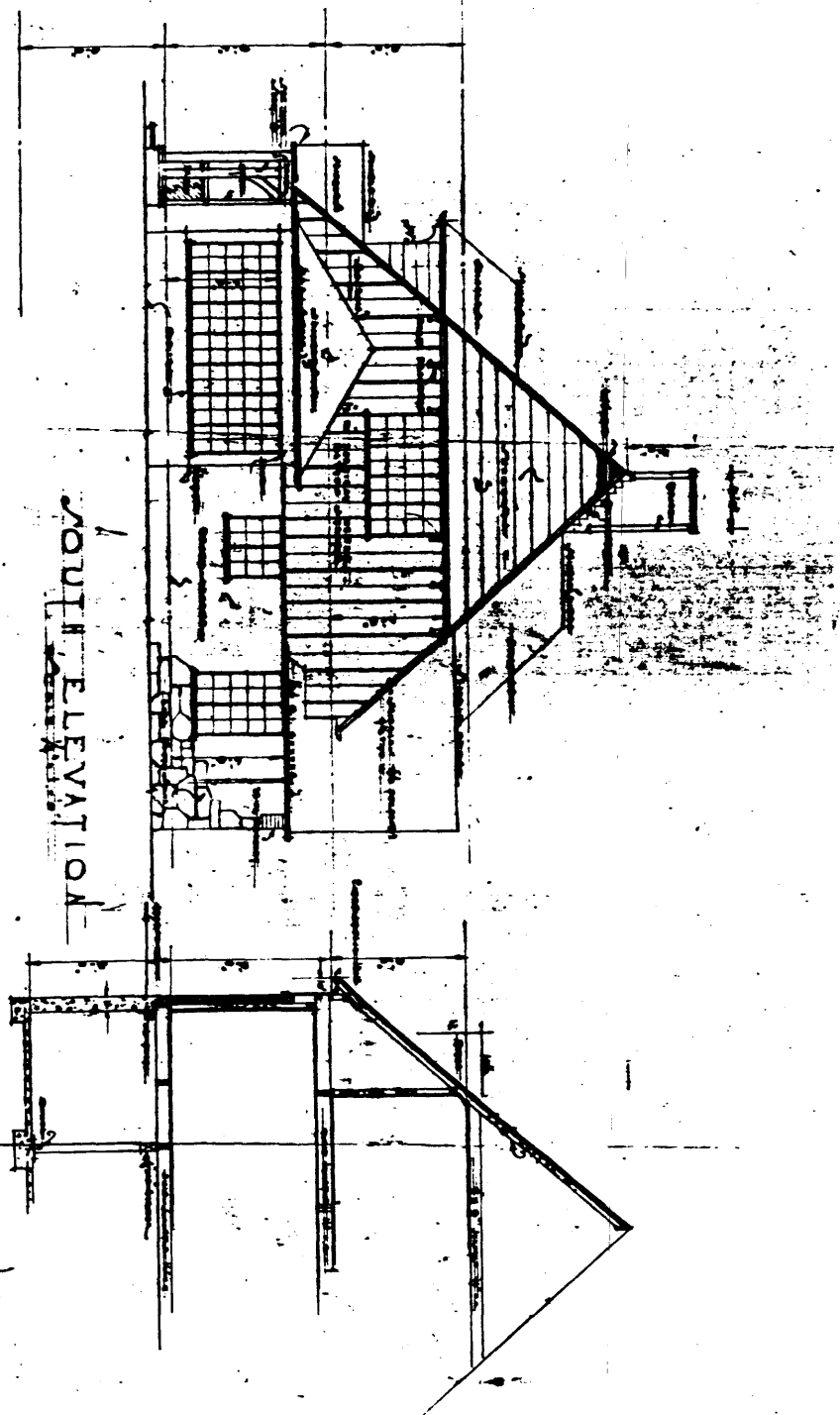
DR. G. W. GOLDEN

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SOUTH ELEVATION

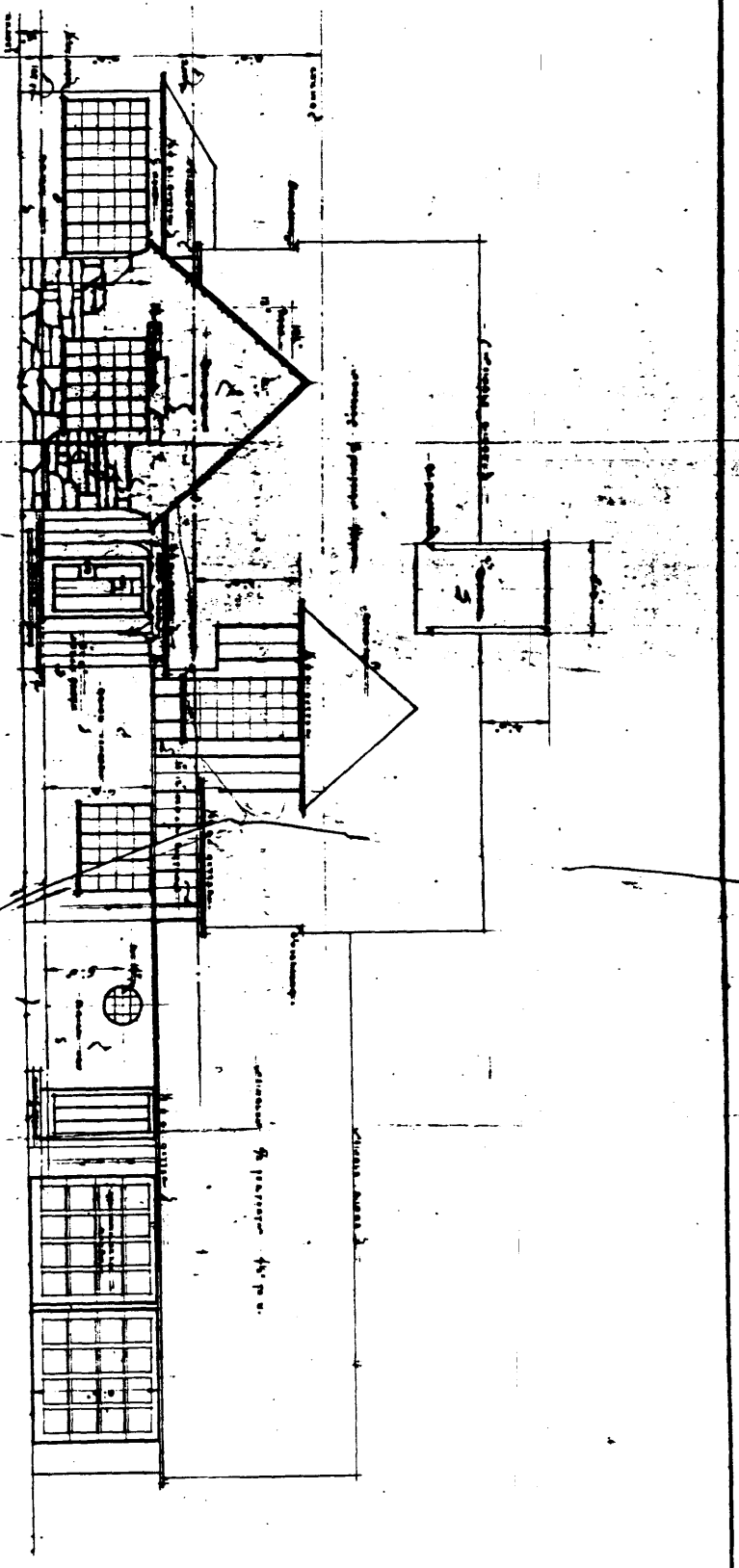
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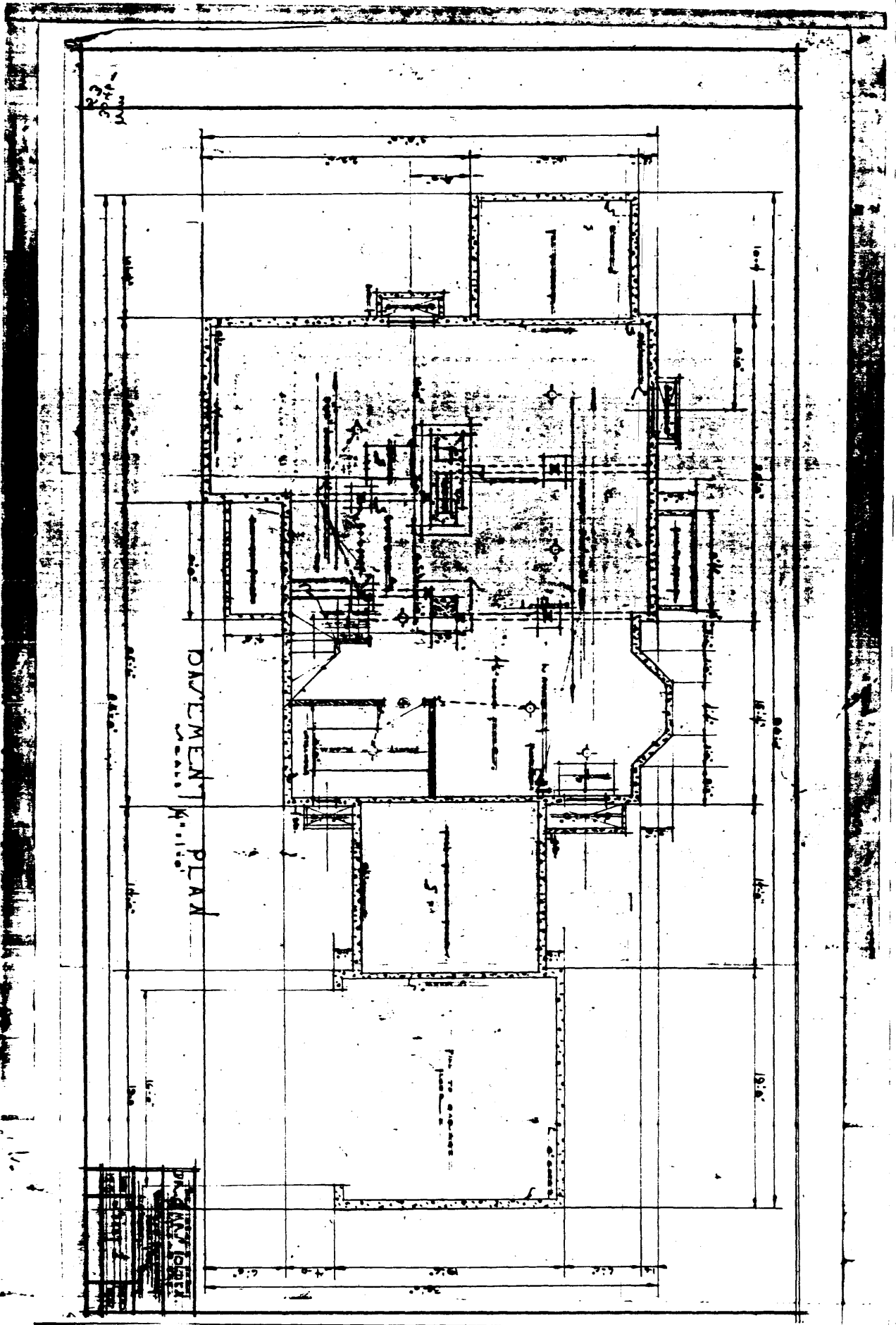
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EAST ELEVATION



ARCHITECTURE  
 JOHN J. FORD  
 1234 5th St  
 NEW YORK, N.Y.





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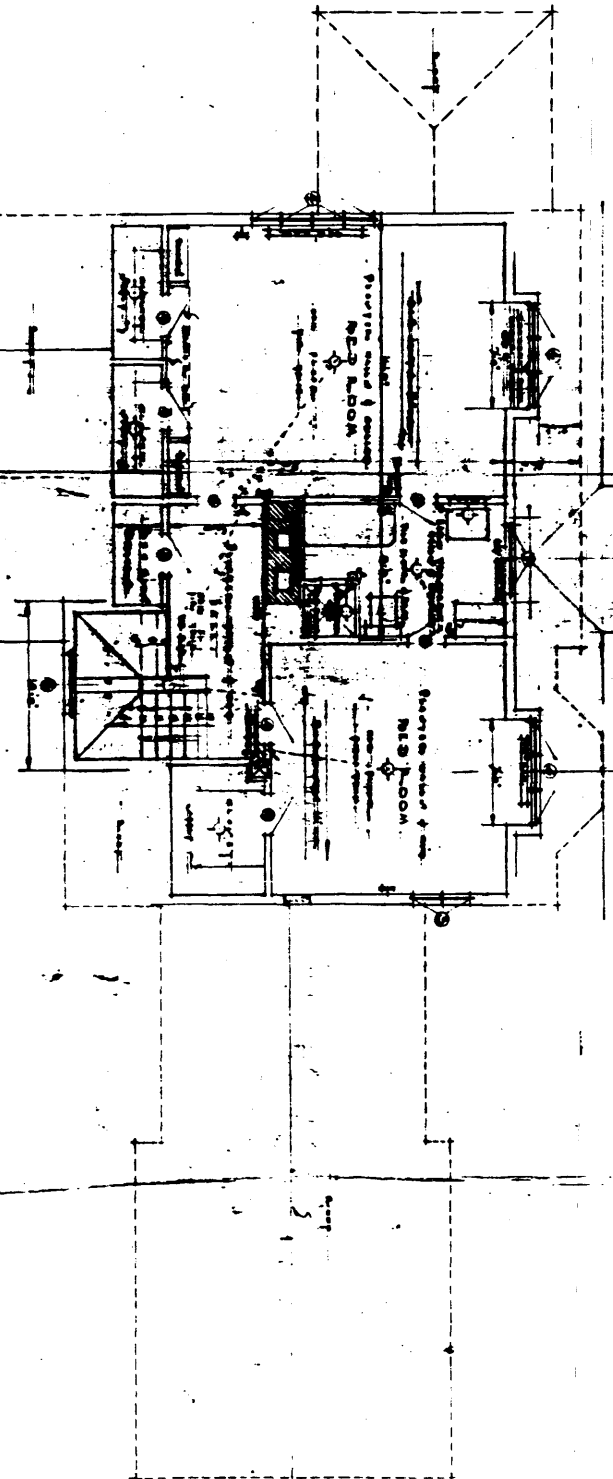
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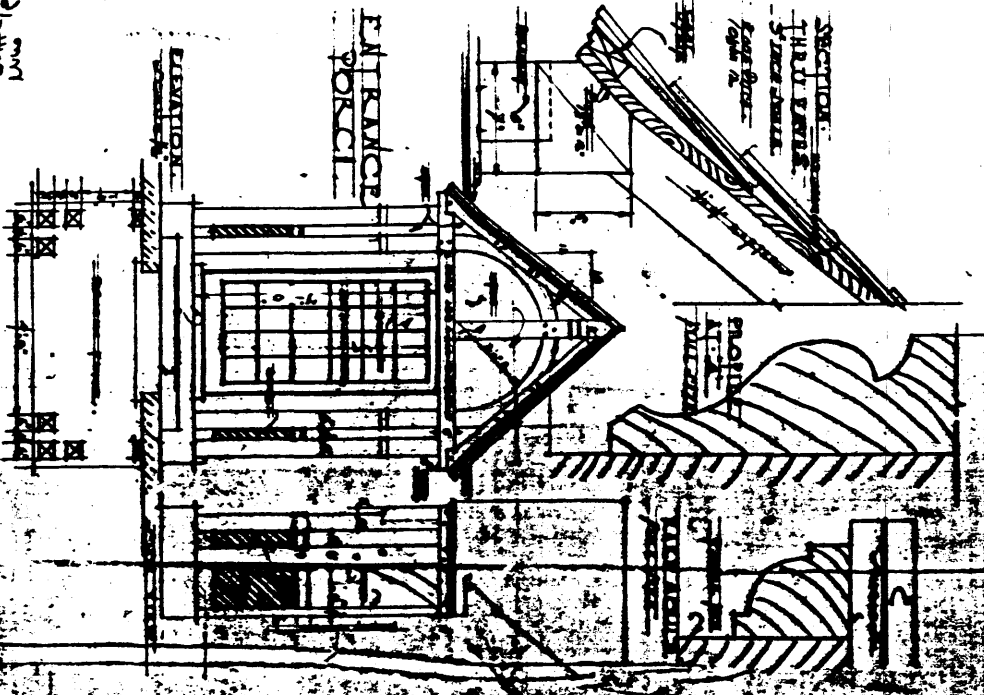
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ENTRANCE PORCH

ELEVATION

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TUBULAR  
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East face  
April 2



F.S.D. PORTER, ARCHT.  
CITY OF NEW YORK

SECTION THROUGH  
TUBULAR  
STAIR CASE



F.S.D. PORTER, ARCHT.  
CITY OF NEW YORK

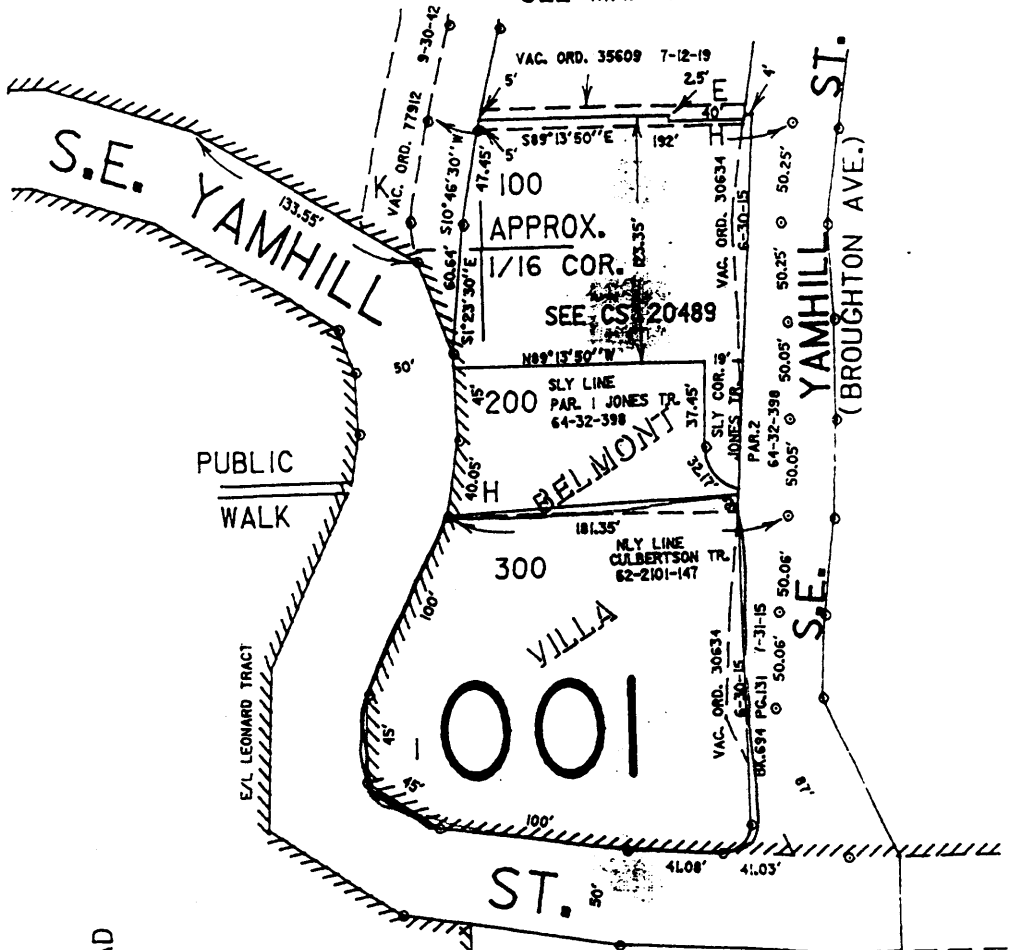
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THIS MAP WAS PREPARED FOR  
ASSESSMENT PURPOSE ONLY

SW1/4

SEE MAP IS 2E 5BB



SEE MAP IS 2E 6AD

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