

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 02000824

Date Listed: 8/1/02

Balfour-Gutherie Building  
Property Name

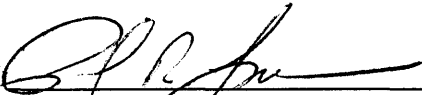
Multnomah  
County

OR  
State

N/A

Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
Signature of the Keeper

9/1/02  
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Description:

The architectural classification should add: *20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals/Classical Revival*

Significance:

The correct areas of significance are: *Architecture and Community Planning & Development*  
[The current areas are deleted as they do not meet the National Register standards]

Verbal Boundary Description:

The verbal boundary justification should also read: *The boundary coincides with the full extent of the historic lot associated with this building.*

This information was confirmed with the Oregon SHPO office.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

824

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 Balfour-Guthrie Building

other names/site number Portland Rubber Stamp Co.

2. Location

street & number 733 SW Oak Street  not for publication

city or town Portland  vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Multnomah code 051 zip code 97205

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.)

Jane H. Smith June 13, 2002  
Signature of certifying official/Title /Deputy SHPO Date

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): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

[Signature] 8/1/02

Balfour-Guthrie Building  
Name of Property

Multnomah, Oregon  
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)

Commerce (Business)

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

Commerce (Business)

**7. Description**

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

American Renaissance or 20th Century

Classical

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Reinforced concrete

walls Sandstone, cast concrete

roof Built-up Bituminous

other Wood windows, glass, metal (tin) trim,  
coping

**Narrative Description**

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

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## Description

### SUMMARY

The Balfour-Guthrie Building is a two-story office building in the midtown blocks of downtown Portland. It is designed with a classical vocabulary and ordering system. Stylistically, it is a 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Renaissance building. When it was built, it became part of the continuing westward expansion of the city. This expansion was at its peak in the years 1910 to 1915, and the 1913 Balfour-Guthrie Building took its place among the banks, hotels and office/retail buildings that were rising at this time. The record indicates that the developer of the original building was the Trimble Estate. It is likely that it was built "to suit" for the Balfour-Guthrie Company, the building's first and long-time tenant. The company was ready to leave the smaller space it occupied at the Board of Trade Building, three blocks east. The company remained in the building until 1978.

The block on which construction took place was one of several blocks to the south that were slated to become park blocks that would link with blocks north of Burnside Street to create a natural open space the length of downtown. The City was gradually assembling the designated properties as they became available. But the building boom so dramatically inflated land values that the city could not afford to purchase the remaining blocks that were in private ownership. The Balfour-Guthrie block is bounded by SW Oak on the south, SW Broadway on the east, SW Ankeny on the north and SW Park on the west. It is the westernmost building on this odd-shaped block that occurred where the city streets of the downtown core, that parallel the Willamette River, meet the northern blocks that are shifted to a north-south axis.

### GENERAL AND STRUCTURAL

This collision of the two primary city grids results in some very odd real estate that produced, in the Balfour-Guthrie, a trapezoidal footprint. The east wall, shared with the building to the east and which has no openings, is 120 feet long. At a right angle to it is the south wall fronting SW Oak Street. It is 50 feet long and is divided into three bays, one of which contains the main entry. The west wall begins at SW Oak and, running parallel to SW Park Avenue, continues for 98 feet until it reaches SW Ankeny, "splaying" away from the east wall as it moves north. The north wall, on Ankeny, is just over 71 feet long, is divided into four bays and includes the secondary entry. This north wall and the west wall are neither parallel nor perpendicular to any of the other three walls. The building is divided into six bays in the north-south dimension.

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The structure is reinforced, poured-in-place concrete. Vertical loads are carried by the solid eastwall, by piers in the three exterior walls and columns on the interior. Horizontal loads are carried through one-way reinforced slabs to beams and girders that transfer loads to the vertical elements. It was known at the time as a "fireproof" building. It includes a basement and was designed to carry a future third and fourth floor. The height from the basement floor to the top of the first floor slab is 11 feet 0 inches. From the top of the first floor slab to the top of the second is 15 feet 0 inches, and from the top of the second floor to the top of the future third floor is 11 feet 3 inches. With the 6-foot plus parapet, the overall building height is approximately 34 feet. This increases on the north side, due to the grade change, to about 37 feet.

The choice of reinforced concrete for the primary structure may have been influenced by several factors. The 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire (in which the San Francisco office of the Balfour-Guthrie Company was completely destroyed) and the general prevalence of building fires would have made this "fireproof" construction appealing. Two other relevant events included the loss of one of the company's Portland flour mills to fire in 1911 and the fact that Balfour-Guthrie's Tacoma headquarters was located in the Perkin's Building (1906), the first large reinforced concrete office building in the northwest. The choice was also a natural one for a company that had only recently built a cement plant (in Bellingham, Washington) to sell this material that was in high demand in the very active Northwest building industry. A survey of Portland Landmarks and NRHP listings did not locate any other downtown office buildings of this type of construction, so it is reasonable to assume that the Balfour-Guthrie, while probably not the first such construction in Portland, might have been among a small handful of non-industrial reinforced concrete structures at the time it was built.

If, in fact, there was determination to build a concrete building, this may very well have led to the choice of Morris Whitehouse to be the architect. He had been using this method on the grandstands at the Multnomah Athletic Club. This method, in common use for bridge and industrial structures, was in its infancy as a method of constructing buildings for everyday use.

The concrete frame is clad with cut sandstone masonry units. The assemblage of these stone units describes the base, columns and entablature of the classical language that also represents the building's structural order. Large windows are continuous on all three street frontages, almost filling each of the structural bays. The windows are wood, double-hung units, conventional for the time. These are inserted into a thin "frame" of concrete head, jambs and mullions that sit between the stone columns. This concrete frame is left exposed with concrete spandrel panels that cover the floor edge structure and span vertically between the windows of the two stories. Since the ceiling of the second floor is a concrete deck designed to accommodate the future floors, a "temporary" wood-framed roof has been built above this to create slope and the means of draining rain and melted snow. The existing roof is a conventional built-up system.

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The front (Oak Street) and back (Ankeny Street) entries are opposite each other and occur in the first bay adjacent to the east wall. The original classical pediment, pilasters and brackets have been removed from the Oak Street entry. These were replaced in a 1957 remodel by a slanting wall/soffit that runs from the head of the recessed entry doors to the bottom of the spandrel panel above. The original wood entry doors have been replaced with aluminum-framed glass doors and sidelights at both entrances.

### EXTERIOR FEATURES

Architecturally, the entire building sits on a sandstone plinth that rises three feet above the sidewalk at the southeast corner and approximately six feet above the sidewalk at the northwest corner where the grade drops away. Thirteen sandstone columns rise from this plinth to carry an entablature above the second floor windows. This entablature girds the three exposed facades. The columns are comprised of the classical base, shaft and capital that are defined by subtle relief cut into the sandstone units of which they are composed. Since the footprint is trapezoidal, the Oak Street side of the building, being narrower than the north side, is divided into three bays, whereas the Ankeny Street façade has four bays.

The entries were originally marked with gabled pediments held up by door casings comprised of head and jambs. The main and secondary entrances were composed of exactly the same number and scale of these elements. The only exception was the addition of brackets, or consoles, at the top of the two supporting jambs on the Oak Street side. These consoles cause the pediment to extend forward a few inches more than the pediment at the secondary entrance.

The architecture appears to express two simultaneous "readings." The first, on the scale of the whole building describes a "temple" with large openings of voids (windows). This reading seems reinforced by early photographs that show dark tones for the windows and spandrel panels between the lighter sandstone columns. The secondary reading, experienced at closer range, clearly describes the two-floor scheme. This reading is made explicit at the entries, creating a more human scale at the point of arrival and departure for the building's users.

### INTERIOR FEATURES

The current interior configuration is the outcome of use by the most recent tenant, the City Rubber Stamp Company. The main floor area of the first floor has accommodated a

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variety of large production machines, several of which required large ventilation hoods. Around the edges of the space are built-in workbenches, and in the northwest corner an office and an etching room are partitioned off. The original vault (a room enclosed with clay tile blocks) remains. The main lobby is much larger than the original and takes up the full structural bay at that corner of the building. Most of the original stair leading to the second level remains, but the cast iron balustrade and rail has been painted. An elevator (not in the original construction) connects the two floors and the basement.

The entry lobby and stair on the Ankeny side of the building have seen very little change from the original construction. Since the exterior grade drops here, this creates a "split level" entry. Immediately inside the doors is a landing with a run of stairs at the left that connects to the basement. Straight ahead is a short flight of steps to a landing at the first floor level. One can enter the office or tenant space on this floor or proceed up stairs to the second floor. The original west wall of this stairwell has been moved at the first floor making the stairwell narrower. The wall interrupts the windows in this bay in an awkward way.

The second floor has been partitioned for office use by the City Rubber Stamp Company. An original women's toilet remains, and additional toilet rooms have been added. The partitioned spaces include a paneled conference room at the southeast corner of the floor, above the main entry.

The basement is primarily used for storage and for the building central mechanical and electrical equipment. There are toilets and a lounge/kitchen room along the north basement wall. There are a series of "daylight" windows just above the sidewalk level that provide some natural light into these rooms.

There are no individual significant interior rooms aside from the entry spaces and integral stairwells. The most important feature to recover in the prospective renovation is the large open floor plate that receives daylight from the south, west and north window walls.

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### DEVELOPMENTAL HISTORY

The building was originally built for the Balfour-Guthrie Company. It was fully occupied by them from 1913 to around 1957. During this period there is little record or evidence of major changes to the building. The Portland Building Bureau's files show that a remodel project was permitted in 1957. At this time the main entry vestibule was altered in a manner that appears to make the building accommodate another tenant or possibly a subdivision of the company. Partitions were changed at the first and second floors.

From a review of Portland business directories it appears that there were three Balfour-Guthrie companies in the 1960's and 1970's. In 1968 TransAmerica Insurance is listed at 733 SW Oak, with the Balfour-Guthrie Companies assuming the new address of 731 SW Oak. This clearly had to be in the same building since the adjacent addresses showed no changes. In 1970, the City Rubber Stamp Company appears at the 733 address. During this period there are records of three remodel projects.

In 1969 the office of Willard Martin designed a major remodel to accommodate the needs of the City Rubber Stamp Company. The entry was modified with removal of all the earlier vestibule work. The elevator was added at this time, and the lobby was given its present day configuration. Partitions were added in the basement and modified at the second floor. It appears that there may have been a suite created at this level to provide space for the now much smaller Balfour-Guthrie staff.

In 1973 modifications were made to the basement to provide additional offices and work areas. This work was designed by the new firm of Martin Soderstrom Matteson.

In 1977 or 1978, again from the Business Directory, the Balfour-Guthrie Companies moved out of their long-term home into the 200 Market Street Building. Presumably the City Rubber Stamp Company then occupied the entire building. Accordingly there was a remodel in 1978 that again rearranged offices on the second floor. No changes appear to have been made to other levels and very few of these changes affected the exterior integrity of the building. Examples of these included things like exhaust louvers inserted in windows or glass that has been painted to appear opaque.



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The most significant change to the exterior is the loss of the classical elements making up the Oak Street entrance. The documents indicate these items may have been removed during the 1957 remodel of the vestibule. This obviously greatly diminishes the strength of the front elevation of the building, as can be seen in the photographs.

**PROPOSED REHABILITATION**

The building is in the process of being purchased, and the new owners plan a rehabilitation of the exterior, code and system upgrades, and a remodel of the basement and upper floors for office use.

Balfour-Guthrie Building

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)

Growth of downtown Portland
Good example of work of well-known Architect

Period of Significance

1913 - 1957

Significant Dates

1913 Buiding constructed
1957 Alteration to Oak street entry

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Morris H. Whitehouse
Builder: Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibilography

(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:

Oregon History Center

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## Statement of Significance

### SUMMARY

The Balfour-Guthrie Building is significant under Criteria A and C. It was built during a very important period of expansion in Portland from 1905 to World War 1. It was designed by Morris Whitehouse, an architect who, during his 36-year Portland practice, was responsible for a number of Oregon's significant public buildings, country clubs and private residences. The Balfour-Guthrie Building also appears to be unique among works of Whitehouse as perhaps the only commercial office building he designed.

### CIVIC/HISTORIC CONTEXT

#### Downtown Portland

At the turn of the century, Portland was a proud city with leaders ready to promote and build a first rate Pacific Coast center of culture and commerce. The 1905 Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition brought together all this civic energy with the intention of showing the nation and the world what Portland and the State of Oregon had to offer. Portland wanted to be an "Ideal City" along the lines of the "City Beautiful" movement that was the outgrowth of another big fair—the Chicago World's Fair of 1893. The Lewis and Clark Exposition was a huge success. Visitors injected a lot of money into the local economy and saw the natural beauty of the region and opportunities for themselves if they wanted to come and participate.

Even larger influences than the Exposition were at work to make this time a real growth period for Portland. The country as a whole was growing rapidly in population and in manufacturing output. Demand for the Northwest's agricultural products and wood construction materials was high. The financial and business base, as well as the need for mills and transportation to support this commerce, were located in or near the city. Rail passenger travel to Portland had become a reality just before the Exposition when Northern Pacific completed the connection to the east. New bridges were being built to span the Willamette River alongside older ones that were being renovated. The Hawthorne Bridge was given a major upgrade in 1910. The old Steel Bridge was replaced in 1912. A new bridge was also built at Broadway in 1912. The Columbia Scenic Highway was constructed from 1914 to 1916. Then a bold, new interstate bridge was completed across the Columbia in 1917. The Panama Canal opened in 1914 and quickly accelerated the expansion of

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Pacific Coast cities. Portland's population grew from 160,000 to 240,000 between the Exposition and 1915—a 50% increase. The value of the construction for which building permits were issued went from \$4 million in 1905 to \$20 million annually in 1911 and 1912.

### **The Balfour-Guthrie Company**

Among the many commercial beneficiaries of Portland's economic boom was the Balfour-Guthrie Company, for which this building was constructed and named. Originally a Scottish multi-national corporation, the company's first West Coast office had been established in San Francisco in 1869. This company represented one facet of a 19<sup>th</sup> century Scottish entrepreneurial movement that established banking and trading companies around the world. The San Francisco branch focused on selling mining equipment and construction materials and, later, wheat and other grains. The firm was very successful, and in 1878, following a tour of the agricultural production of Oregon and southern Washington, the managers set up a Portland office. There were also offices in Tacoma and Seattle. Through these offices Balfour-Guthrie traded grain, flour, coal, wood, and numerous construction material products such as steel and cement. They also developed a lending bank for farmers and provided insurance for clients of agriculture and industry.

Walter J. Burns, a manager in the San Francisco office who had just been made a partner in the company, moved to Portland to lead the new office. He quickly established the office in the grain trading market as well as flour production and sales. Burns also established himself in the business and social circles of Portland. When he first arrived in Portland, he asked a prominent citizen what he needed to do to succeed. The response was to "join Trinity Episcopal Church and marry a Couch." He did both. And he and his company were quite successful. He also had a large house built on SW 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue among other homes of the city's elite. He started and promoted the Balfour-Guthrie Club which had annual dinner meetings with the apparent purpose of providing a platform for patriotic speakers and vocalists. He was active in a variety of clubs.

The Balfour Guthrie Company also had an indirect connection with a well known Oregon shipwreck. Through its worldwide network of offices, the company arranged for shipping the goods they sold. The Pacific Coast offices regularly chartered ships for moving goods globally. One such charter unfortunately resulted in the loss of a ship that has become famously associated with Oregon. On October 24, 1906, the Peter Iredale, which had been chartered by the Balfour-Guthrie Company to receive a load of wheat in Portland and take it to Great Britain, foundered near the mouth of the Columbia. The ship became grounded at Clatsop Spit, and her steel hull has been gradually reduced by the weather and salt water but is still visible and a tourist attraction today.

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## THE ARCHITECT

This building was designed by Morris Homans Whitehouse early in his professional career in Portland. He was a native to Portland who had studied at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and apprenticed with two Portland architectural firms, that of Rolph Miller and Joseph Jacobberger. He followed these apprenticeship years with three additional years at MIT from which he graduated in 1906. He then spent a year in Europe on a travel scholarship before returning to Portland where he set up an office with Bruce Honeyman, an MIT classmate, in 1908. In 1909 Whitehouse joined with Edgar Lazarus and Andre Fouilhoux, and a year later the firm became simply Whitehouse and Fouilhoux. This partnership remained constant until World War I. Following the war, Whitehouse formed several partnerships and was professionally active until his death in 1944.

Whitehouse's architectural reputation was built on both practice and teaching. He was either the principal designer or central collaborator on many significant buildings in Portland and Salem. Among these were the Multnomah Amateur Athletic Club and Grandstands—now PGE Field (1910 onward), the original Lincoln (1909) and Jefferson High Schools, the University Club (1913), Temple Beth Israel (1926), and the U.S. Courthouse (1933) in Portland. Country clubs in and around Portland made up a significant part of his practice, including the Waverly (1910), Oswego and Eastmorland Clubs. In collaboration with nationally known architects, he also designed buildings at the Capitol in Salem, including the State Capitol Building and the State Library.

During the early years of his practice Whitehouse was very active in the Portland Atelier. The Portland Atelier was formed in 1909 with about 20 local draftsmen under the guidance of Ellis F. Lawrence and his assistants, A.E. Doyle and Whitehouse. This was an "after hours" studio convened for the discussion and advancement of the Beaux Arts (after the Ecole de Beaux Arts in Paris) school of thinking about architectural design and education. In addition to regular gatherings, the group organized annual exhibitions of art and architecture projects, both built and unbuilt. Ellis Lawrence eventually went on to help found the Architecture and Allied Arts School at the University of Oregon, but A.E. Doyle, Whitehouse and other Portland architects, most notable among them, Pietro Belluschi, also exemplified a strong tradition of teacher-practitioners that has continued to characterize the Portland architectural community.

## THE BUILDING'S SIGNIFICANCE

The Balfour-Guthrie Building was one of the early projects in the office of Whitehouse and Fouilhoux. It is perhaps the only commercial office building designed by Morris Whitehouse. Research did not uncover any additional examples. In its design, Whitehouse sought to find the appropriate architectural

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expression of commerce. In doing so he, of course, drew from the classical vocabulary as understood within the Beaux Arts school of design.

As noted above, Whitehouse was thoroughly engaged with the other leading Portland architects of the time. Whitehouse would have been aware of the designs for the Benson Hotel (finished in 1913) and the Pacific Telephone Company Building (1914) in construction across the street to the south. Both of these buildings were designed in A.E. Doyle's office. They were plusher by comparison to the Balfour-Guthrie and utilized glazed white terra cotta that was very popular with Portland architects at the time. The architecture of Benson Hotel expressed the luxury and comfort awaiting the weary traveler of means. The Telephone Company desired to create a headquarters that reflected the importance of this communications service company but that also would be a suitable next-door neighbor to the Benson. Bank headquarters buildings were also rising nearby during this explosive period of growth. The rendition of this building type, again within the Beaux Arts vocabulary, was with massive classical elements, usually executed in the most permanent stones such as marble or granite. Columns on the principal elevations would often be full forms rather than mere pilasters, and the entablatures would be highly ornamented.

In contrast to these larger and more prestigious nearby buildings, and his own larger, more public projects, Whitehouse developed the Balfour-Guthrie—using the same basic classical language—in a very spare, business-like manner. The building's sixteen foot bay width is expressed in the three street elevations on Oak Street, Park Avenue and Ankeny Street. The classical order Whitehouse used is a highly simplified Doric or even Tuscan Order, with flat, thin pilasters supporting a very simple entablature which in turn supports a parapet that has compressed, column-like elements at the same frequency as the columns below. The only ornament, if it can be called that, is in the two consoles (brackets) that support the entry pediment on Oak Street.

In addition to the simple ordering system, Whitehouse used other means to express the commercial character of the building. The stone selected for the building was sandstone that was very economical compared with the harder, more expensive granites and marbles used in the big bank headquarters. The corner columns that might have been detailed to look like full columns were cut in a way that reveals the "truth" that the stonework was an applied veneer. All these choices—no doubt influenced too by the available budget—serve to convey the message that this was a place to do business in a trustworthy, straightforward and economical way.

The name of Morris Whitehouse eventually became associated with many larger and more public projects, some of the more notable of which are listed above. Among this body of work the relatively small Balfour-Guthrie Building stands out as a strong early example of Whitehouse architecture. As an

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architectural type—commercial office building—it also stands out as unique among Whitehouse buildings.

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Balfour-Guthrie Building

Name of Property

Multnomah, Oregon

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .148

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 1 | 0 | | 5 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 7 | | 5 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 0 |
Zone Easting Northing

3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Zone Easting 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 David Shelman

organization Thomas Hacker and Associates Architects, Inc. date July 20, 2001

street & number 733 SW Oak Street telephone 503.227.1254

city or town Portland state OR zip code 97205

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

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 Balfour Guthrie, LLC

street & number P.O. Box 23516 telephone 503.639.6127

city or town Portland state OR zip code 97281

Paperwork Reduction Act 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 receive 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 time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any other 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 Reduction Project (1024-0018) Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
*Continuation Sheet*

Section 10 Page 1

Balfour-Guthrie Building  
Name of Property

Multnomah County, Oregon  
County and State

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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The nominated area is a trapezoidal shaped parcel, less than one acre (.148) in size, and includes lots 10, 11, and 12 of Tax Lot 1400 in Block 85 of the Portland Addition to the City of Portland; Township 1N, Range 1E, Section 34.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

This boundary encompasses the area currently included in the legal description of the property. The lot sits on the western edge of the block; SW Oak St. is located on the south side of the property, SW Ankeny is located on the north side of the property, and SW Park Ave. is located on the west side of the property.

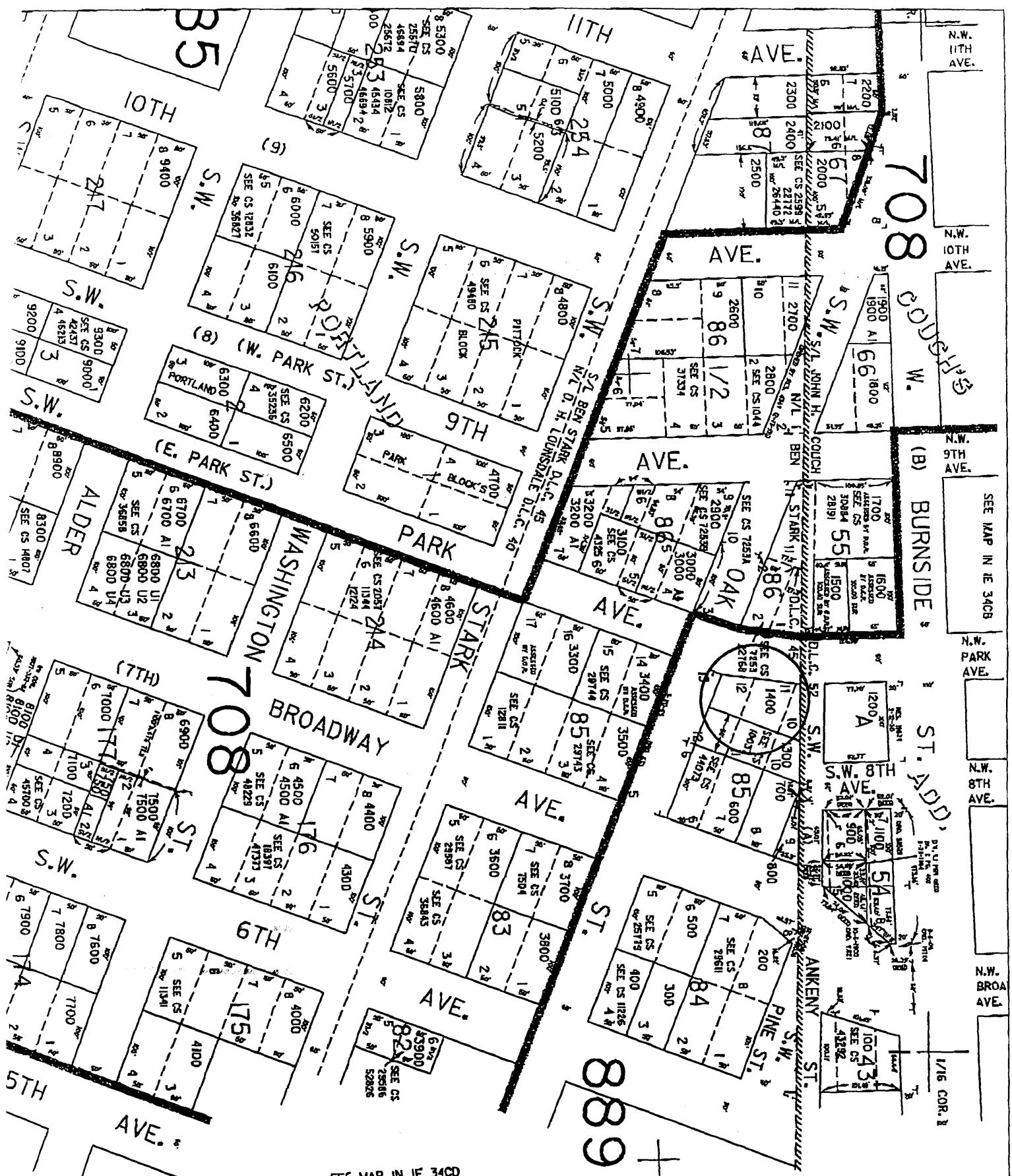
CANCELLED NO.  
4200  
7300  
7400

Jun-30-01 03:22pm

From Norris Beegs & Simpson

+503 2730256

T-137 P.005/008 F-990



SEE MAP IN IE 340D

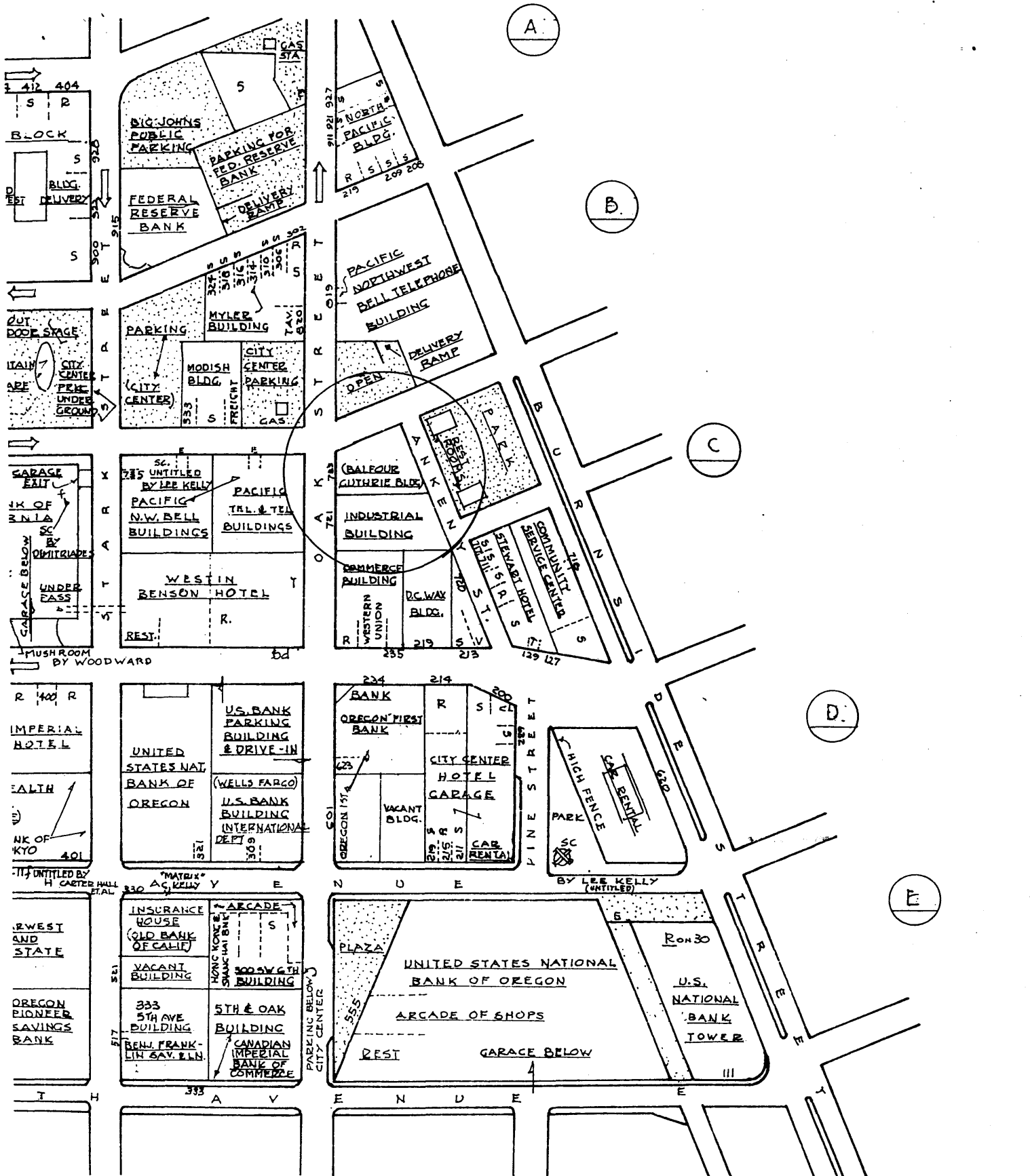
SEE MAP IN IE 340B

SEE MAP IN IE 340C

SEE MAP IN IE 340E

SEE MAP IN IE 340F

SEE MAP IN IE 340G

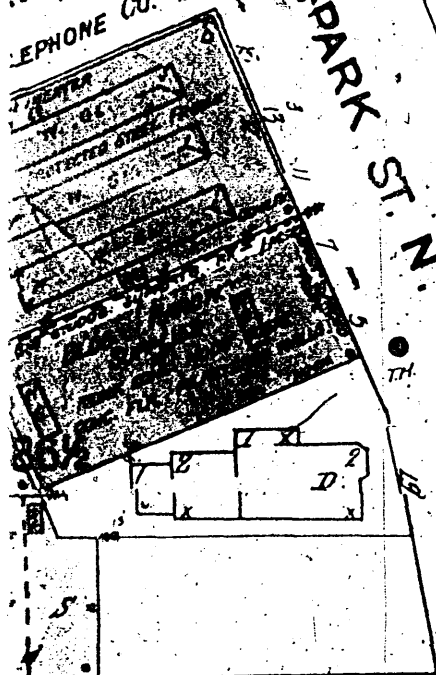


3	6	9	12
2	5	8	11
1	4	7	10

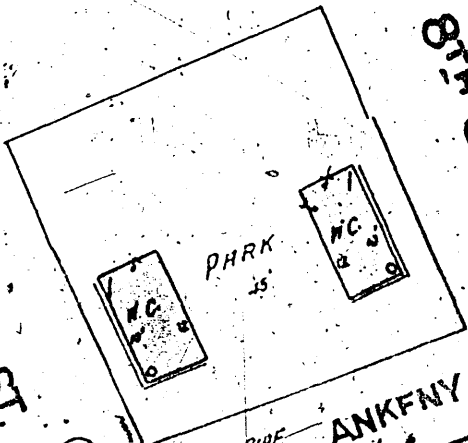
MAP

8

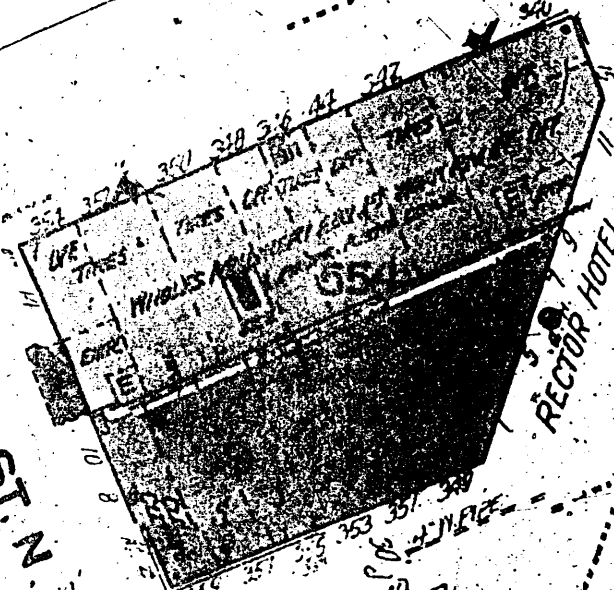
INSIDE  
PHONE CO.



PARK ST. N



8TH ST. N



RECTOR HOTEL

ANKFNY



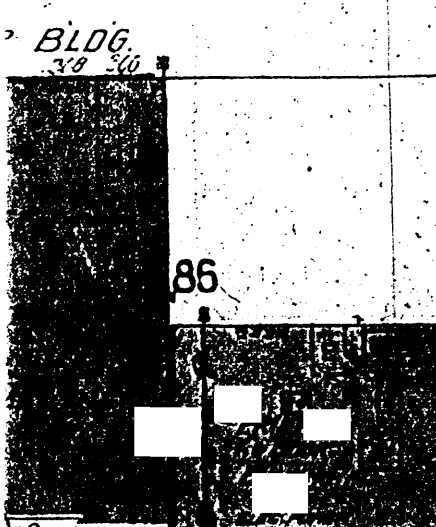
BALFOUR  
GUTHRIE & COS  
OFF'S BLDG.

REINF. CONCR.  
FIREPROOF  
CONSTR.

1913

BECK BLDG.

OAK



86



PACIFIC TEL. & TEL. CO.

HOTEL BENSON

AN 1924 SANBORN  
MAP

BURNSIDE

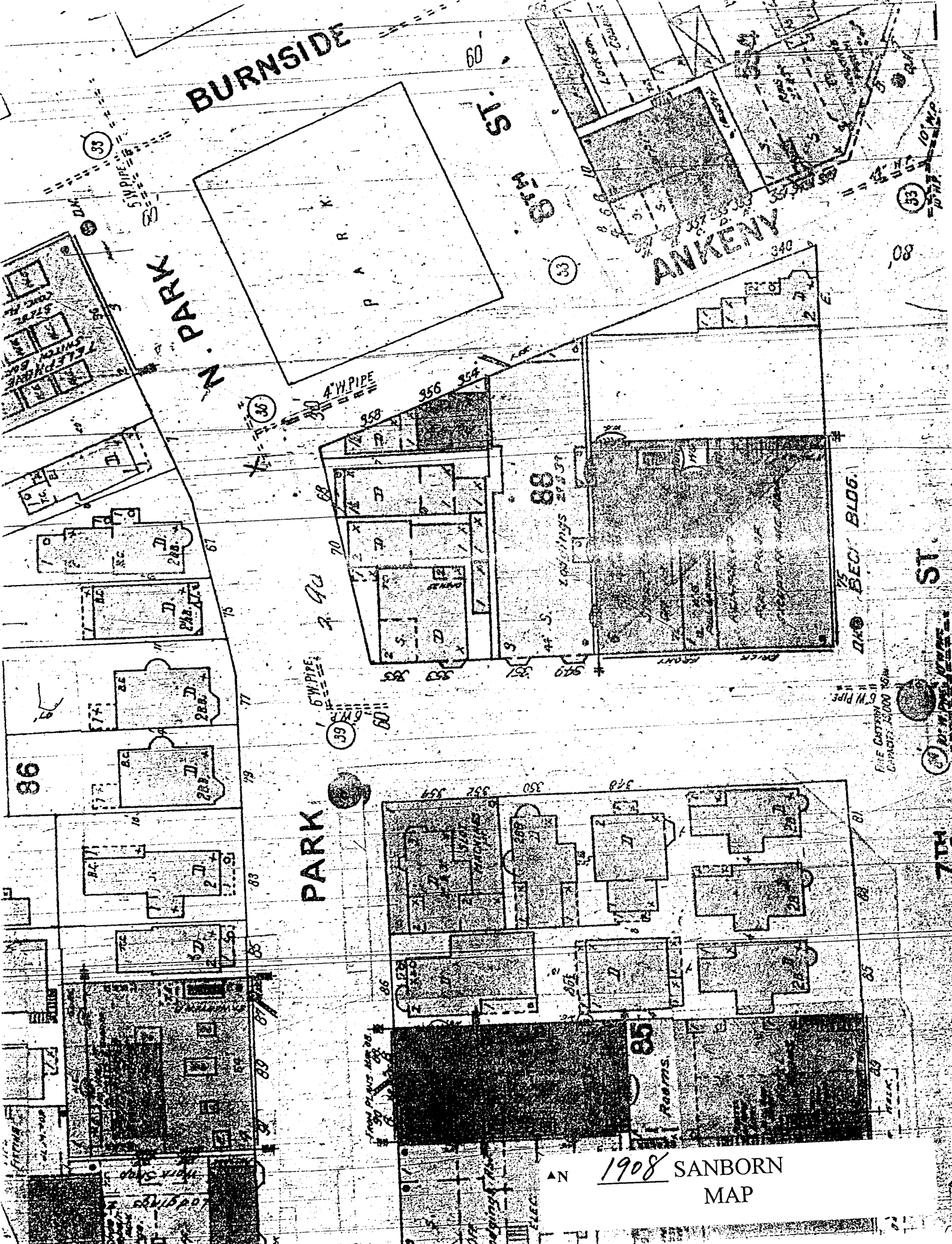
ST.

N. PARK

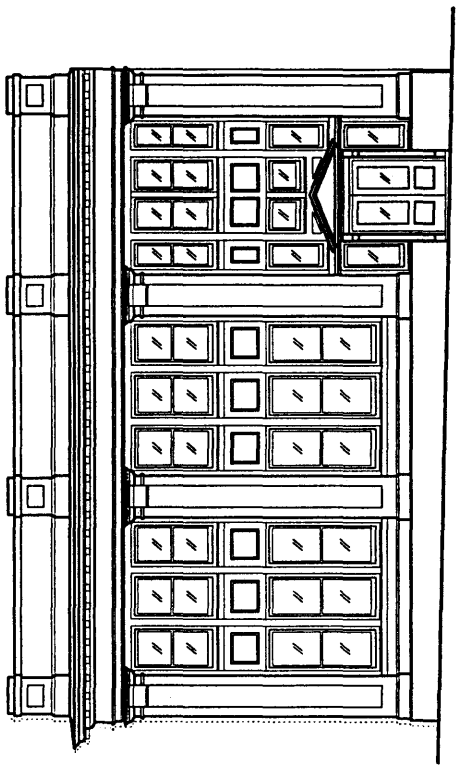
ANKENY

ST.

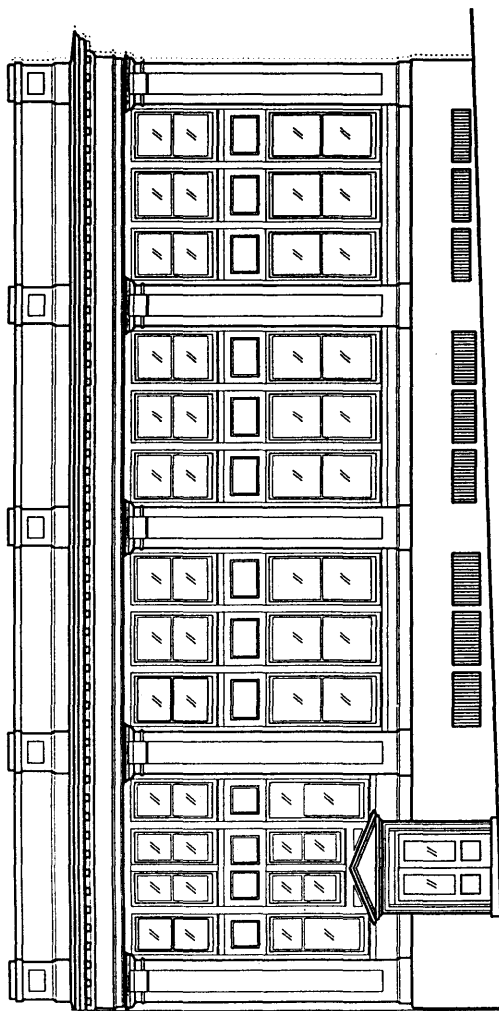
7TH



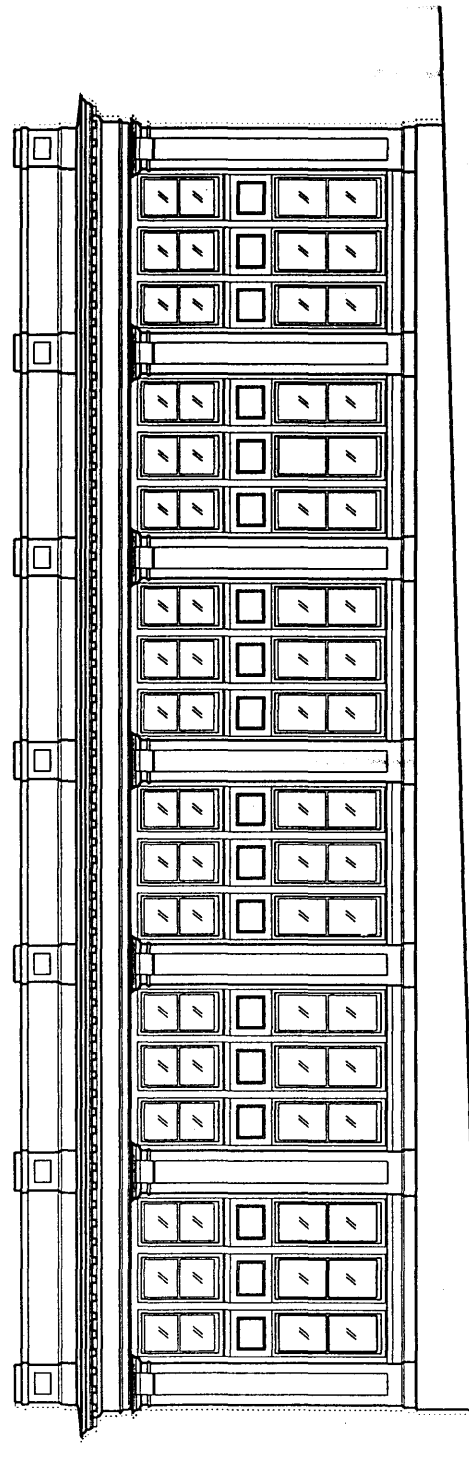
1908 SANBORN MAP



3.3.1 SOUTH ELEVATION  
1/4" = 1'-0"



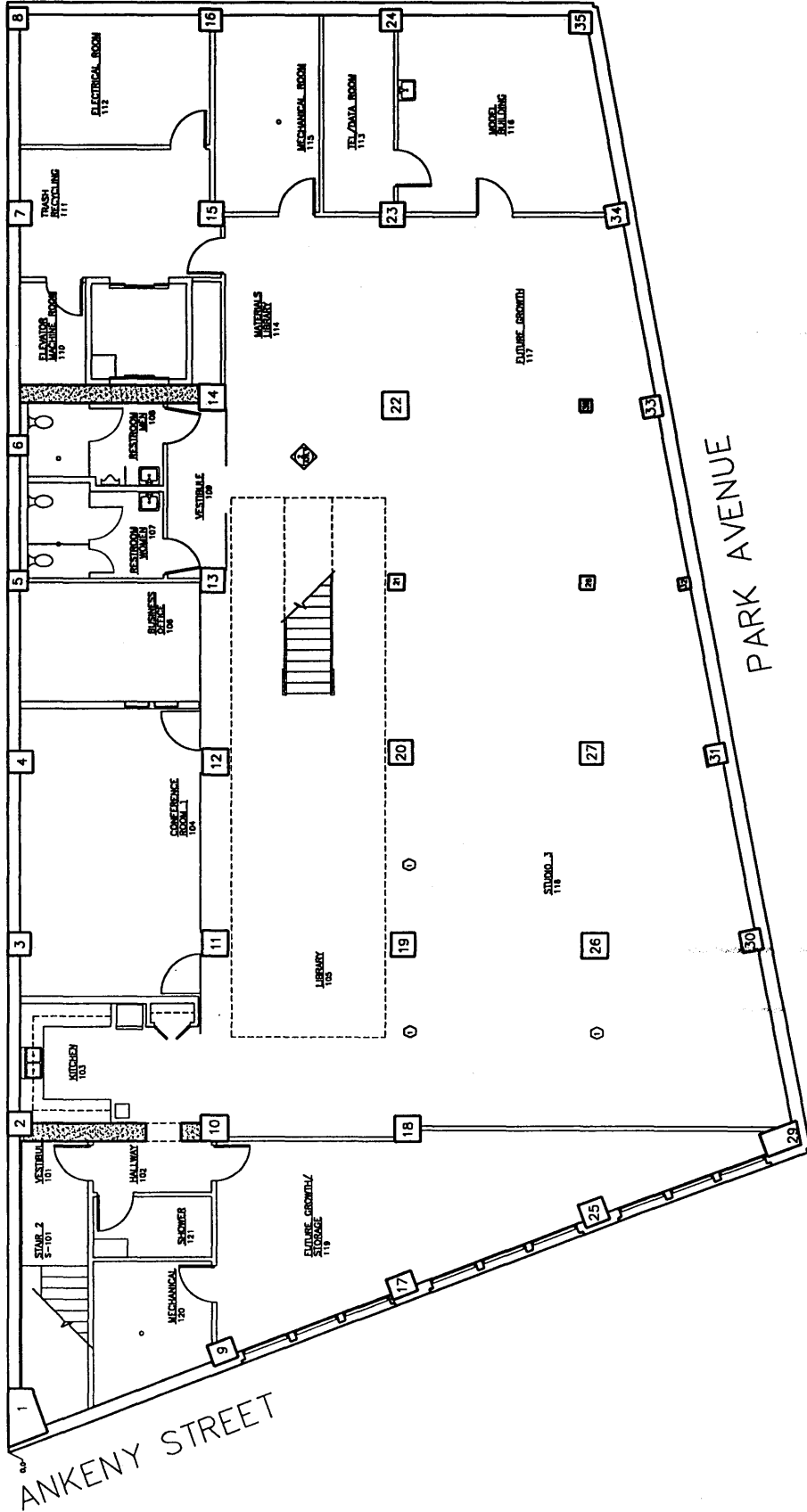
3.3.2 NORTH ELEVATION  
1/4" = 1'-0"



3.3.3 WEST ELEVATION  
1/4" = 1'-0"



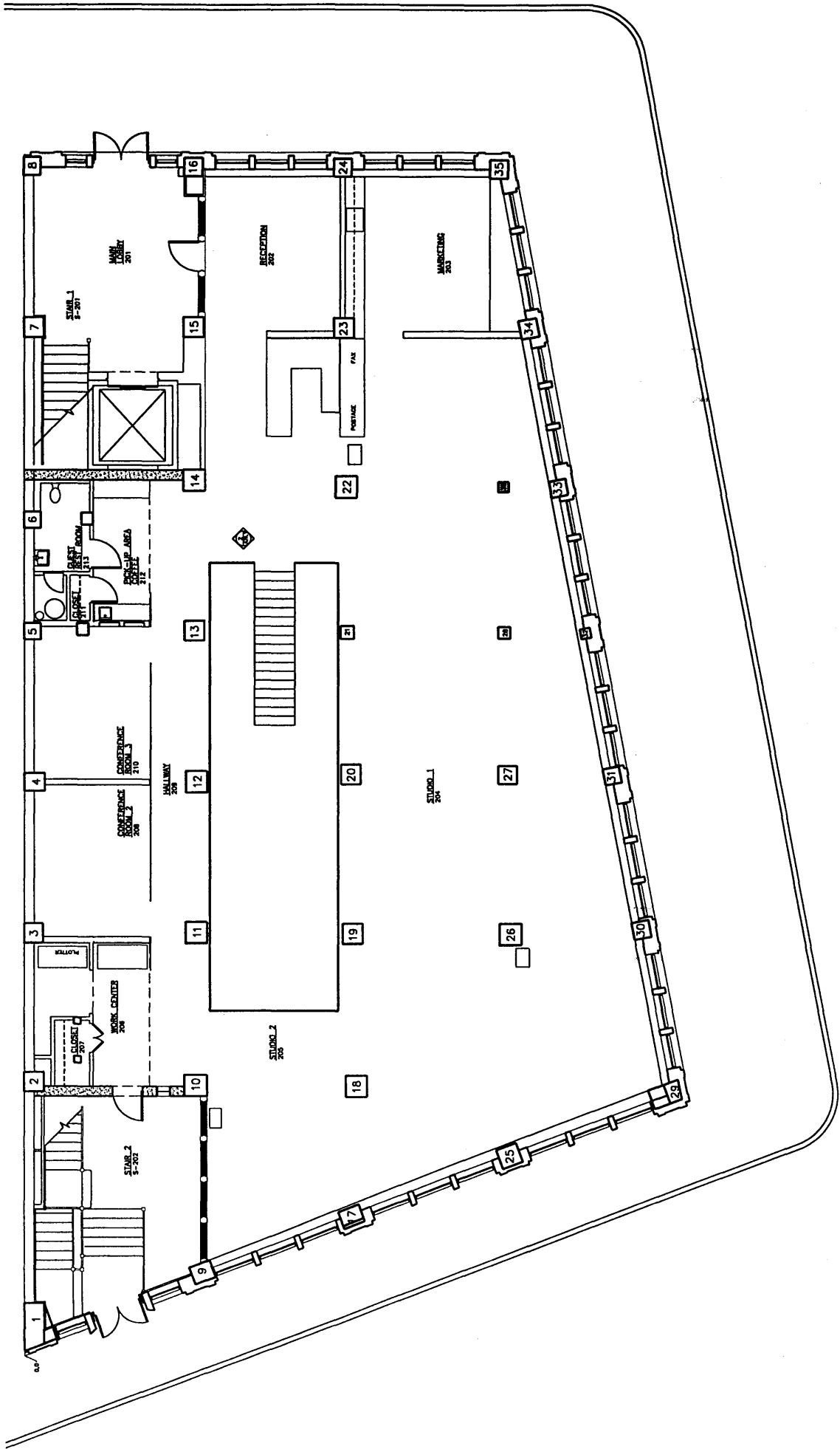
OAK STREET



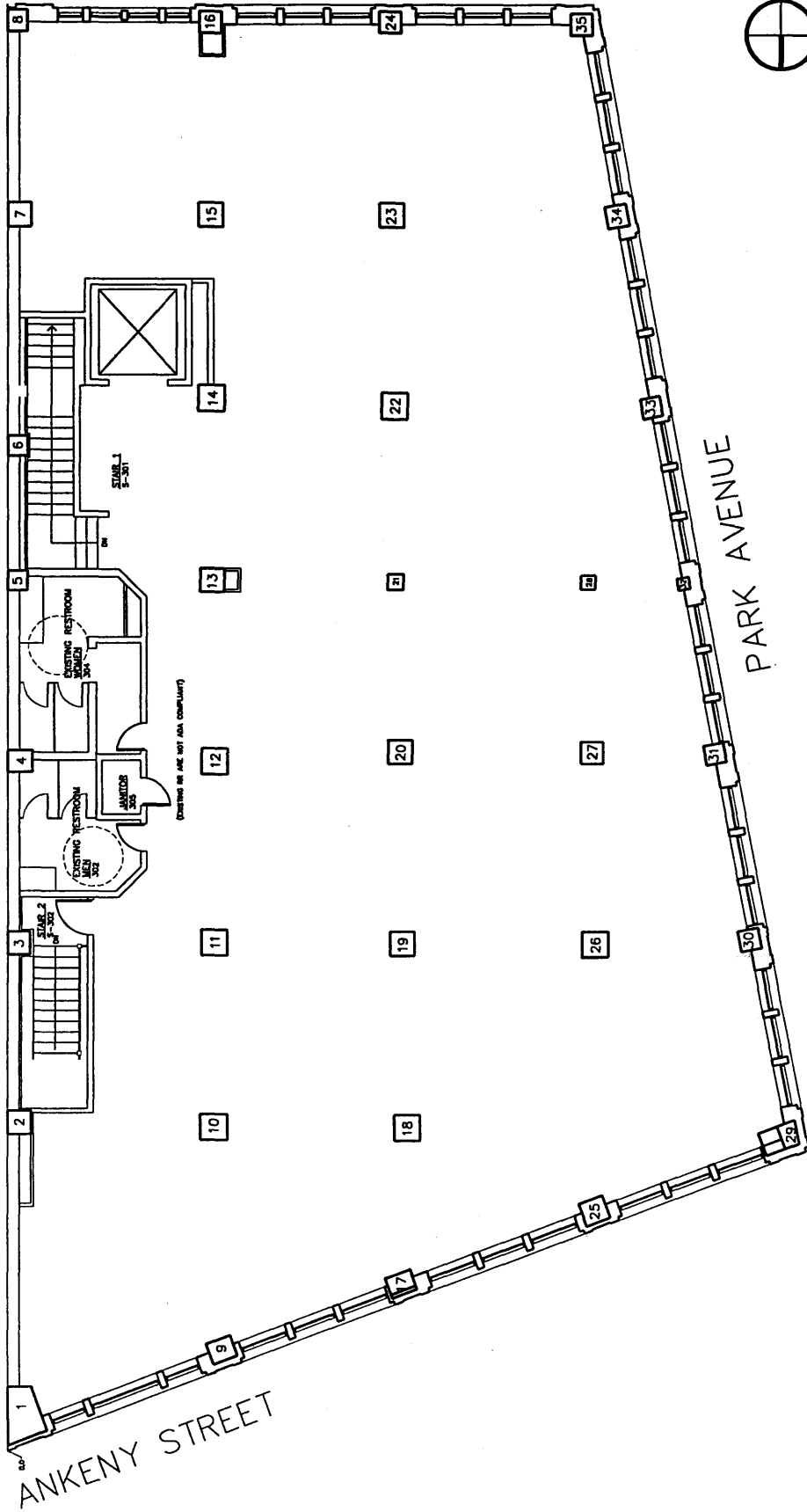
ANKENY STREET

PARK AVENUE

A PLAN - LOWER LEVEL  
1/4" = 1' - 0"



OAK STREET



PLAN - SECOND LEVEL  
 1/4"=1'-0"

# Photographs

July, 2001

Property:	<b>Balfour-Guthrie</b>
City:	Portland
County:	Multnomah
State:	Oregon
Photographer:	Stephen Miller
Negative Holder:	Thomas Hacker and Associates Inc. 34 NW 1st Ave, Suite 406 Portland, OR 97209 503.227.1254

## 1 of 14

exterior  
west / north façade  
current condition

## 2 of 14

exterior  
west / south facade (main entrance)  
current condition

## 3 of 14

exterior  
north façade (rear entrance)  
current condition

## 4 of 14

exterior detail  
main entrance (south façade)  
current condition

## 5 of 14

exterior detail  
wall / window frame detail, typical  
current condition

## 6 of 14

interior  
main level - facing north  
current condition

## 7 of 14

interior  
main level - facing south / southwest  
current condition

**8 of 14**

interior detail  
main level - facing north along west wall  
current conditions

**9 of 14**

interior  
main level - north wall - facing north / northwest  
current conditions

**10 of 14**

interior  
main level - northwest building corner - facing west  
current conditions

**11 of 14**

interior detail  
main level north wall windows and columns - facing north  
current conditions

**12 of 14**

interior  
stairs - northeast building corner - facing north  
current conditions

**13 of 14**

interior  
stairs - northeast building corner - facing south  
current conditions

**14 of 14**

interior  
lower level - facing south  
current conditions