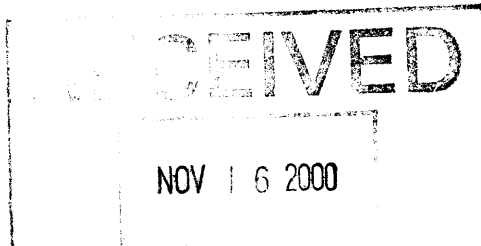


**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If 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 instruction. 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: J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory  
other names/site number: West Electronics Company

**2. Location**

street and number: 231 Penn Avenue  
city or town: Burlington City  
state: New Jersey county: Burlington County zip code: 08016  
N/A not for publication  
N/A vicinity

**3. State/Federal/Tribal 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.)

*[Signature]* *11/6/00*  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
Assistant Commissioner, Natural & Historic Resources/DSHPO  
State or Federal agency and bureau American Indian Tribe

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 American Indian Tribe

**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]*  
Signature of the Keeper  
*Edson H. Beall*  
Date of Action  
*12/13/00*

**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	0	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**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Industry/Processing/Extraction

**Historic Subfunctions**

(Enter subcategories from instructions)

Manufacturing Facility

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/Not In Use

**Current Subfunctions**

(Enter subcategories from instructions)

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

No Style Listed

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation	Stone
Walls	Brick
Roof	Asphalt

**Narrative Description**

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

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad 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 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)

Industry

**Period of Significance**

1892-1920

**Significant Dates**

Circa 1900

**Significant Person**

(Complete if criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

N/A

**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
- See continuation sheet for additional HABS/HAER documentation.

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other (Repository Name: Burlington County Historical Society)

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property:**

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	513680	4436500
	Zone	Easting	Northing

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

2

4

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.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

---

name/title: Shelby Weaver Splain, Associate

organization: Noble Preservation Services, Inc.

date: 6/19/2000

street & number: 10 Log House Road

telephone: (215) 679-5110

city or town: Zionsville

state: Pennsylvania

zip code: 18092-

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**Additional Documentation**

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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)

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**Property Owner**

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

name: City of Burlington Redevelopment Agency, c/o Frank Storm

street & number: 437 High Street

telephone: (609) 386-0200

city or town: Burlington

state: New Jersey

zip code: 08106-

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**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 obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.* ).

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

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington County, NJ

Constructed in 1892 and expanded ca. 1900, the J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory is a large, three-story brick industrial building at the corner of Dilwyn and Penn Streets in Burlington City. It is situated amongst late nineteenth and early twentieth century residential properties along the Delaware River, a neighborhood which forms a section of the northern boundary of the city. This sparsely-detailed historic factory building has a modified "U"-shaped plan with a late twentieth century concrete block addition in the interior courtyard. Its stark exterior brick walls, dominated by regularly spaced bays of windows, have little ornamentation, a condition typical of turn of the century industrial buildings. The interior of the building reflects its industrial heritage with open manufacturing and office spaces. The property is in poor condition but retains a high degree of integrity as the only surviving historic shoe factory building in Burlington City.

The J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory is situated on the southern two-thirds of its .54 acre parcel, which is defined by Penn Street to the south, Dilwyn Street to the west, Pearl Boulevard to the North, and St. Mary's Street to the east. It is located within a residential neighborhood, and is bordered to the east by small frame houses and by a parking lot to the north. The south and west facades are bordered by the sidewalks, and the rear elevation is shielded from Pearl Street by tall trees. Currently, the building follows a modified "U"-shaped plan, with the main (south) façade twenty-two bays long, the west elevation fifteen bays wide, the east elevation seven bays long, and the rear (north) elevation's nineteen bays broken by access to the courtyard (see site plan). Because of the modified "U"-shaped floor plan, the building is naturally divided into distinct wings: the south wing along Penn Street, the west wing along Dilwyn Street, the north wing along the parking lot, and a short east wing at the end of the south wing.

The plan of the original 1892 building is a "U"-shape with the interior courtyard facing west. The north elevation and south facade were equal in length (see enclosed 1896 Sanborn map) and contained approximately thirteen bays. The ca. 1900 addition was added to the east of the Penn Street (south) wing and consisted of a large square block ten bays wide along Penn Street with seven bays extending along the east elevation (see enclosed 1902 Sanborn map). With the completion of the ca. 1900 addition, the building reached its existing plan and dimensions. A one-story concrete block addition from the mid-twentieth century occupies the entire courtyard space and another extends along the first floor of the northwestern corner of the rear (north) elevation (Photograph #3).

Rising three full stories from its stone foundation, the J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory is defined by its expansive brick walls laid in a running bond and the many bays of two-over-two wood windows that dominate each elevation (Photographs #1-4). The building is finished with a hipped asphalt roof that supports six tall hipped-roof wood monitors that are positioned along the ridge. Currently, these monitors are covered with wood boards; originally, they featured six two-over-two windows per unit. Little ornamentation accents this former industrial facility. Aside from the arched brick headers above

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J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington County, NJ

the windows, decoration is limited to a few courses of brick corbelling which functions as the cornice. The various elevations are identical to each other, save for the presence of entrances and the large smokestack near the northeastern corner of the rear (north) elevation (Photograph #5). Although the existing building was constructed in two different phases, the phases are not distinguishable as such. The brick bond, ornamentation, and window types are uniform throughout the building, giving it the appearance of simultaneous construction.

There are six entrances for this building. The original main entrance leading to the office is located in the 1892 section of the building in the southwest corner of the south façade. It features a contemporary steel door set into a steel frame with the original three-lite wood transom above. A hipped shed roof extends over the concrete stoop and features chamfered wood supports and an open spindle cornice. A second entrance on the south façade is located in the southeast corner in the ca. 1900 section of the building and is recessed several feet in a large arched opening. The door itself is steel set into a wood frame with a three-lite wood transom above. On the north elevation, two entrances are located in the loading dock area created by a modern concrete addition, and are not original to the building. A former delivery entrance is located in the center of the west elevation and a second floor doorway is located on the courtyard's east elevation; both of these openings are in the original 1892 building and are no longer operable because they are boarded up.

On the interior, the J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory reflects the utilitarian, functional atmosphere of an early twentieth century industrial facility. Generally, it lacks detail as on the exterior, and features both original and modern changes to the use and function of the building. The building is constructed with masonry load-bearing walls and heavy timber framing elements on all floors. The first floor is divided into several different types of work spaces that are all accessed through a central east/west corridor in the south wing and through a north/south corridor in the west wing. The south wing has elements of the original 1892 construction to the west, and the ca. 1900 addition to the east. Two sets of stairs, the main stair in the center of the west wing and a secondary stair along the eastern wall, facilitate access through the building along with a freight elevator in the center of the west wing. On the first and third floor, the main stair is encased in vertical board walls and drywall on the second floor. The secondary stair, which is located in the ca. 1900 addition, is enclosed within drywall on all floors.

The original manufacturing offices are in the 1892 section of the building and located in the southwest corner of the first floor immediately inside the main entrance. The offices occupy most of the west wing. These spaces are defined by vertical and horizontal board walls and ceilings, simple window and door trim, and wood floors (Photographs #7 and 8). The walls that line the corridor between the main entrance and the main stair feature fixed windows and narrow vertical board sheathing (Photograph #6). The remainder of the south wing is divided into large manufacturing spaces by drywall partitions in between wood columns which span the length of the rooms. As on the exterior, the 1892 and ca. 1900

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J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington County, NJ

section of the south wing are indistinguishable. The rooms are characterized by a combination of historic and modern materials such as wood and vinyl tile floors and plaster, brick, and wallboard-covered walls. Plaster, board, and wallboard forms the ceiling throughout the building (Photograph #9). In one section within the 1892 building, an area of the original board ceiling survives and features narrow vertical boards that extend from each edge to meet at a center square.; each of the five sections is marked by wider boards with decorative blocks at their intersections (Photograph #10). Simple wood trim frames the window and door openings throughout the building. The north wing, including both the original 1892 building and the modern 20<sup>th</sup> century courtyard addition, is divided into light manufacturing spaces marked by rows of wood columns. These rooms are very similar to the other manufacturing spaces on the first floor and feature vinyl tile and wood floors, and plaster and drywall partitions and ceilings.

The second floor reflects some modern improvements, distinguishable by the drywall partitions, carpeting, and dropped ceilings. It has been subdivided into different types of work spaces, often along the straight lines of structural wood columns. With the exception of the large room in the northwestern corner, this floor was primarily used as administrative and meeting space. The former conference or cafeteria room was located in the northeastern corner and is finished with modern wood paneled walls and a vinyl tile floor. The northwestern corner of the building was likely used as light manufacturing space. This large room has both wallboard and painted brick walls, wallboard ceilings, and tile and carpeted floors. As on the first floor, simple wood trim around the window provides the only original ornamentation on this floor (Photographs #11 and 12).

The third floor is largely unaltered. It is primarily open space with only one drywall partition wall in the east wing (the ca. 1900 addition) and wood supports along the center of each wing. The space is characterized by wood board floors with the slats laid on the diagonal, exposed brick walls, simple wood trim around the windows, and board ceilings (Photographs #13 and 14). Attic space above this floor is occupied by the roof trusses and provides access to the roof monitors.

Historically, within the period of significance of 1892-ca. 1920, the J. F. Budd Baby Shoe factory operated with steam for the power and heat, electric lighting, and coal for fuel.<sup>1</sup> While no original equipment survives, typically steam powered a system of leather belts which powered individual manufacturing machinery. The ubiquitous factory plan of large open floors lit and ventilated by large windows allowed for a flexibility in placement and design of the machinery and processes necessary for wholesale shoe manufacture. Based on standards established in England and Massachusetts, the seat of American shoe manufacturing, the factory was arranged to operate as efficiently as possible.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sanborn Map Company, *Burlington, NJ*, (New York: Sanborn map Company, 1896-1915).

<sup>2</sup> Frank Plucknett, *Boot and Shoe Manufacture*, (London: Pittman and Sons, 1931), 268.



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J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington County, NJ

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Raw materials were shipped to the top floor and the shoes assembled piece by piece as they moved down through the building, probably on some type of gravity conveyor belt system. In the J.F. Budd factory, the top floor was used for cutting the leather uppers and fitting them over the wood lasts, or molds. The partially assembled unit then traveled to the second floor for bottoming, where the heavy leather soles were sewn to the body of the shoe. The first floor, with its easy transportation access, was used for packing, stock, and office space.<sup>3</sup>

The J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory is in poor condition on both the interior and exterior, due largely in part to moisture infiltration. However, the building's condition does not affect its integrity. Largely unaltered from its early twentieth century condition, this building still has the ability to convey its significance as the only surviving example of the numerous shoe manufacturing facilities that once contributed to Burlington City's industrial heritage.

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<sup>3</sup> Sanborn Map Company, *Burlington, NJ*, (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1896-1915).

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J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington County, NJ

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The J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory was built in 1892 and expanded ca. 1900 at the corner of Penn and Dilwyn Streets in Burlington City. This large factory building is locally significant under Criteria A because of its association with the development of Burlington City's shoe industry and locally significant under Criteria C as an rare surviving representative example of a traditional late nineteenth/early twentieth century industrial building in Burlington City. The factory building's period of significance begins with its construction in 1892 and ends ca. 1920 when the company closed.

Burlington City's industrial heritage began in the eighteenth century and continued to grow along the city's waterfront well into the twentieth, much like New Jersey's other coastal cities. While the city hosted a number of successful industries – shipbuilding, canning, carriages – the manufacture of shoes was among the most prominent and prosperous. As is supported in the following narrative, the J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory is part of the shoe industry that developed in Burlington City in the mid- to late-nineteenth century and was the largest of the numerous shoe companies located in the city over the three decades that this local industry prospered. During Budd's period of significance, it was physically larger than its two main competitors and employed more hands and produced more shoes than the many other shoe factories in existence at the turn of the twentieth century. Of the seven shoe companies listed in 1891, the eleven shoe factories in 1896, and the seven manufacturers in 1915, the J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory is the only extant shoe factory building that represents Burlington City's once prominent industry. A survey of the shoe factories in Burlington City shows that all of them were demolished within the last century.

As the only surviving shoe factory in the city, the J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory retains its integrity, with the same appearance, plan, and detailing it had when this company occupied the building. In addition to being the only surviving shoe factory, the building is also one of the few surviving industrial buildings within the city and represents an important period of Burlington City's economic and commercial growth. Its traditional, modestly detailed style and masonry construction reflects late nineteenth century trends in factory design. The brick construction creates a more fireproof structure while the number of windows and large roof monitors provide adequate light and ventilation for workers. Both of these concepts guided international factory design in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory stands as one of Burlington City's last surviving examples of this type of construction interpreted at the local level.

The shoe industry has a long established tradition in the United States as one of the earliest and most lucrative industrial enterprises, particularly along the East Coast. As early as the mid seventeenth century, shoemakers and tanners – the sister occupation of shoemaking – were well established in the colonies of

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J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington County, NJ

Massachusetts and Virginia.<sup>1</sup> In New Jersey, the first established shoemaker was located in Newark around 1680 along with an associated tannery.<sup>2</sup> The Combs shoe factory of 1798 is considered the first established shoe "factory" in New Jersey and the success and draw of this industry helped establish Newark as a one of New Jersey's most important cities.<sup>3</sup> By 1826, almost one third of Newark's workforce was employed by the shoe industry, most working in small craftsmen-oriented shops of about twenty workers.<sup>4</sup> In the early nineteenth century, prior to industrialization of the industry, "factories" were essentially a small collection of independent shoemakers who focused on creating one pair at a time.<sup>5</sup> A more efficient assembly-line approach to shoe manufacturing did not occur until later that century with the introduction of time and labor-saving devices. By 1836, Newark workers were producing shoes at a value of \$1.5 million dollars, a high revenue within the city and state markets.<sup>6</sup> Inventions like Seth Boyden's patent leather also focused attention on Newark as one of the nation's premiere shoe centers, next to the factories growing throughout Massachusetts.<sup>7</sup>

Despite New England's role as the country's leading shoe manufacturing center and Newark's role as New Jersey's leading shoe manufacturing city, two other cities in New Jersey were historically noted as centers of shoe manufacturing: Camden and Burlington City.<sup>8</sup> Camden reached its shoe manufacturing heyday in the 1880s, with upwards of fourteen companies producing more than 21,000 pairs weekly.<sup>9</sup> Burlington City's place in the New Jersey industry was similar to that in Camden with approximately one million shoes produced annually.<sup>10</sup> Newark, however, continued to dominate the New Jersey shoe manufacturing market. As historian John C. Cunningham noted: "Camden and Burlington combined to make 2,000,000 pairs of shoes annually by 1885, but if proof be needed of Newark's supremacy in the field, it is a matter of record that the Essex County city reached the 2,000,000-per-year mark in the 1840s."<sup>11</sup>

The west New Jersey city of Burlington has historically been known for the quality and quantity of its many types of industries, particularly shoe manufacturing. Beginning in the 1820s and 1830s, the city is documented as having an unusual number of private and corporate shoemakers who traded locally and along the eastern seaboard, particularly into the South, and into Philadelphia and New York. The shoe

<sup>1</sup> Albert Bolles, *Industrial History of the United States*, (New York: Augustus M. Kelly Publishers, 1966, reprint of 1881 edition), 446-447.

<sup>2</sup> John Cunningham, *Made in New Jersey* (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1954), 25.

<sup>3</sup> James P. Johnson, *New Jersey: History of Ingenuity and Industry* (Northridge, CA: Windsor Publications, 1987), 85.

<sup>4</sup> Johnson, 136-138.

<sup>5</sup> Harold Quimby, *Pacemakers of Progress* (Chicago, Ill: Hide and Leather Publishing Company, 1946) 22.

<sup>6</sup> Johnson, 136-138. See also, Cunningham, 26.

<sup>7</sup> Cunningham, 26-27.

<sup>8</sup> Cunningham, 28.

<sup>9</sup> Cunningham, 28.

<sup>10</sup> Cunningham, 28.

<sup>11</sup> Cunningham, 29.

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J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington County, NJ

industry rivaled shipbuilding and canning in prominence.<sup>12</sup> Like their numerous industrial counterparts, many of these early shoe enterprises were located in the northeast quadrant of the city, created by the intersection of High and Broad Streets, and along the waterfront on Delaware Avenue and Pearl Streets. By 1850, the Federal census shows that the shoe industry employed the largest number of men in Burlington City, followed closely by carpentry and bricklaying.<sup>13</sup>

When the Civil War began in 1860, it hampered the production of shoes throughout the Northern states, particularly affecting New Jersey and Massachusetts. By this date, Massachusetts was leading the country in shoe manufacture as it produced at least 80% of the shoes for domestic trade.<sup>14</sup> Shoe companies all over the Mid-Atlantic and New England States all suffered from the lack of trade with their biggest markets, the Southern states. At the close of the war in 1865, the shoe industry recovered and became a small part of the many industries which sprouted up in New Jersey in the latter part of the nineteenth century.<sup>15</sup> By 1880, New Jersey ranked ninth of all incorporated states with sixty-seven shoe factories, a total of \$777,900 capital invested, and a value of production of \$2,830,322. Massachusetts lead the survey with 1,123 factories, over \$19 million in invested capital and of \$86 million in the value of produced goods. New York, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Maine, Ohio, Missouri, and Illinois fell into the second to eighth positions, respectively.<sup>16</sup> In comparing New Jersey's ranking to those much larger states above it, it is obvious that shoes played a major role in the economy of the state.

The Burlington City manufacturing climate into which the J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory was born was one marked by impressive industrial growth in the latter half of the nineteenth century, particularly for the shoe industry. James Birch established his renown carriage business in Burlington City in 1862, and J.T. Severns established a large lumber yard and wood factory that same year. Several foundries were established along the riverfront along with a terra cotta factory and ice factory. Two of Burlington City's largest shoe manufacturing interests were established immediately after the close of the Civil War: R.T. Wood & Co. in 1867 and G.W. Lewis & Co. in 1874. By 1875, there were nine documented shoe manufacturers within the city, the majority located in industrial area of the city, primarily north of East Broad Street and to east of North High Street.<sup>17</sup> Approximately 10% of the entire city population was engaged in some type of shoe manufacturing.<sup>18</sup> The majority of the factories produced women's, children's, and infant shoes.<sup>19</sup> Other prominent shoe manufacturers included Kimble & Weest in 1875,

<sup>12</sup> Maj. E.M. Woodward, *History of Burlington County, NJ* (Philadelphia, PA: Everts & Peck, 1883), 139-141.

<sup>13</sup> 1850 Federal census.

<sup>14</sup> Quimby, 37.

<sup>15</sup> William E. Schermerhorn, *The History of Burlington, NJ* (Burlington, NJ: Enterprise Publishing Co., 1927) 311.

<sup>16</sup> Bolles, 454.

<sup>17</sup> Henry Bisbee, "Actual Surveys by Harry C. Woolman, 1875" in *The Island of Burlington* (Burlington, NJ: Heidelberg Press, Inc., 1977).

<sup>18</sup> 1870 Federal census.

<sup>19</sup> Woodward, 139.

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J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington County, NJ

Rogers and Woodington in 1879, T.P. and S.S. Smith in 1881, and W.T. Bunting and Thomas Stokely in the mid 1880s.<sup>20</sup>

In 1884, J. Frank Budd and another gentleman left the Wood factory and started their own shoe enterprise on Delaware Ave. along the banks of the Delaware River.<sup>21</sup> Budd's partner soon retired and it was not long after that Budd moved his business to its current location. Budd entered a market that was competitive yet financially viable. At this point in the late nineteenth century, the shoe industry as a whole had migrated from its center in Massachusetts down through the Mid-Atlantic states and had begun to expand in the Midwest to growing urban areas such as Chicago and St. Louis.<sup>22</sup> New advances in shoe making technology – such as a sewing machine that could handle the stitching of the leather uppers and soles – brought the efficiency of the factory concept to the forefront and made it the norm rather than the exception. By the last quarter of the nineteenth century, most of the small, independent shoe makers had given way to the larger wholesale factories. The Burlington City industries as a whole were producing approximately one million pairs of shoes annually with sales amounting to over \$500,000.<sup>23</sup>

In 1887, J.F. Budd broke ground for his children's "shoe-works" at the corner of Penn and Dilwyn Streets in the northeast quadrant of the city.<sup>24</sup> The original factory was a three-story wood frame building that extended primarily along Dilwyn Street with sewing, packing, stock and fitting on the first floor, shoe making on the second floor, and fitting on the third.<sup>25</sup>

On September 7, 1892, the first Budd factory building and nine houses on the block were destroyed by fire.<sup>26</sup> The company immediately rebuilt, and the building which currently stands at the corner of Penn and Dilwyn streets replaced the wood factory which once stood at the same location.<sup>27</sup> The company rebuilt the factory using fireproof brick construction and incorporated design elements typical of late nineteenth century American factories. The factory was built with a large percentage of its exterior wall space devoted to large windows for lighting and ventilation, a characteristic of both American and English factory buildings.<sup>28</sup> Large monitors positioned along the roof provided additional light to the workers on the third floor who were involved in the critical process of cutting and fitting the leather uppers.

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<sup>20</sup> Woodward, 139-140.

<sup>21</sup> Schermerhorn, 311.

<sup>22</sup> Quimby, 37.

<sup>23</sup> Woodward, 141.

<sup>24</sup> Henry Bisbee, *The Burlington Story* (Burlington, NJ: The Burlington Press, 1952) 24.

<sup>25</sup> Sanborn Map Company, *Burlington, NJ*, (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1891).

<sup>26</sup> Schermerhorn, 168.

<sup>27</sup> *Burlington, NJ: It's Merchants and Manufacturers*, (Burlington, NJ: Burlington Board of Trade, 1910) 30.

<sup>28</sup> Frank Plucknett, *Boot and Shoe Manufacture*, (London: Pittman and Son, 1931) 263-264.

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J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington County, NJ

Constructed in a U-shape, the long narrow wings were laid out to take advantage of the long, open expanses needed to accommodate the various types of machinery required for each stage of shoe manufacture. The factory was also arranged to operate as efficiently as possible with the raw materials sent to the top floor and the individual children's shoes made in different stages as they passed through the factory.<sup>29</sup> Cutting and fitting (cutting the leather and preparing the uppers) was located on the third floor, bottoming (attaching the sole to the leather upper) on the second, and packaging and office space on the first floor.<sup>30</sup> The company employed, on average, approximately 325 people.<sup>31</sup> Circa 1900, as documented on the Sanborn maps between 1896 and 1902, the building was expanded with a small addition to the east.<sup>32</sup> This addition increased manufacturing space on each floor and allowed the company to increase its weekly output. The factory operated six days a week for a minimum of ten hours a day.<sup>33</sup>

J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory quickly became one of the three largest shoe manufacturers in Burlington City, in league with R.T. Wood & Co. and G.W. Lewis & Co. The company had its sales and marketing offices headquartered in Chicago and only the one manufacturing plant in Burlington City. A company sales booklet listed markets along the East Coast and throughout the Midwest, including Texas and Louisiana. Billed in its catalogs and advertisements as the "largest baby shoe plant in the world", the J.F. Budd Factory promoted their varied product line through an extensive network of travelling salesmen and catalog mailings. A ca. 1900-1905 undated Budd Company catalog entitled "Budd's Blossoms" highlights at least nine different types of popular kid and slipper shoes in fabrics ranging from silk to velvet in colors including red, brown, blue, and plum.<sup>34</sup> Their basic shoe line for children and infants was a "square" or "opera" slipper that ranged in price from \$.60 to \$1.25 per pair. They list their more popular styles as the Dongola shoe button or lace with or without the patent leather tip, the Fine Dongola shoe, the Kangaroo Calf button shoe, the "Viscol" kid slipper, the Dull Dongola shoe, and the Nevils Olive kid slipper.

The J.F. Budd baby Shoe Factory continued to grow physically and financially through the first two decades of the twentieth century. By 1910, R.T. Wood & Co. and G.W. Lewis & Co. were still Budd's biggest competitors, there were eight smaller shoe manufacturers, and there were still seven independent shoemakers living within the city limits.<sup>35</sup> With a population over 10,000, Burlington City made great improvements to the city's public works; upgrades in the transportation routes between Burlington City and major metropolitan ports continued to make Burlington City one of South Jersey's more important

<sup>29</sup> Plucknett, 268.

<sup>30</sup> Sanborn, 1896-1915.

<sup>31</sup> Sanborn, 1896.

<sup>32</sup> See Sanborn maps from 1896 and 1902.

<sup>33</sup> J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Company, "Budd's Blossom's", undated ca. 1900-1905 company catalog, 11.

<sup>34</sup> "Budd's Blossoms", MSS 41 at the Burlington County Historical Society, Burlington, NJ.

<sup>35</sup> *Directory of the City of Burlington*, (Burlington, NJ: Enterprise Co., 1910), 19. Sanborn, 1896.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 6

J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington County, NJ

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industrial centers.<sup>36</sup> At the turn of the century, approximately 15% of the city's working population was employed in some type of shoe business.<sup>37</sup> The Budd Factory was the largest in Burlington City employing over 325 people compared to the R.T. Wood & Co. that employed only 280.

The early twentieth century witnessed changes in the shoe industry on both regional and national levels as the market changed. In New Jersey, factories closed and moved from the smaller cities into larger regional manufacturing centers like Newark, Patterson, and Camden. The heart of the industry remained in Massachusetts, but more and more companies relocated to the Midwest and Pacific Coasts. By the mid-twentieth century, all of the shoe manufacturers had left Burlington City, and there were only approximately twenty-seven companies in all of New Jersey.<sup>38</sup>

By 1918, the factory was already in decline as several former Budd employees left the Budd Company and started the Burlington Turn Shoe Company for the manufacture of high grade children's and infant's shoes that were primarily sent to the Pacific Coast.<sup>39</sup> After the closing of the J.F. Budd Factory in ca. 1920, the building served a number of different companies until the Dubrow Electronic Equipment Co. bought the property in the early 1950s. In the early 1970s, West Electronics Company purchased and occupied the building until the late 1980s when the facility was vacated in favor of a new location.

As the last surviving shoe manufacturing facility in Burlington City and as an intact traditional late nineteenth century industrial building, the J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory is locally significant to the city of Burlington and represents Burlington City's role in New Jersey's industrial heritage.

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<sup>36</sup> Burlington Board of Trade, 8.

<sup>37</sup> 1900 Census. Category defined by employed persons over the age of ten years.

<sup>38</sup> Cunningham, 30.

<sup>39</sup> Schermerhorn, 319.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington County, NJ

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**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington County, NJ

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Verbal Boundary Description

The National Register boundary follows the .54 acre (23,702 sq. ft.) lot designated for the current tax parcel, Lots 1 and 19 in Block #123. It is defined by Penn Street to the south, Dilwyn Street to the west, Pearl Blvd. to the north, and residential properties to the east.

Boundary Justification

The boundary for the J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory encompasses the entire building and the surrounding open space. This parcel as designated has historically been associated with the factory since its construction, and has not been subdivided or altered.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photos Page 1

J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory, Burlington County, NJ

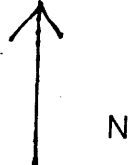
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Photographs

The following information is common to all photographs:

J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory  
Burlington County, NJ  
Tim Noble, Photographer  
July 1999  
Negatives held at: 10 Log House Road, Zionsville, PA 18092

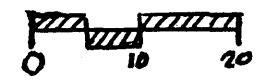
1. Looking northwest at south and east facades
2. West façade looking north
3. Looking southeast at west and north facades
4. North façade looking south
5. View of roof and smokestack
6. Looking through first floor corridor from main entrance
7. First floor office space looking west
8. First floor office space looking south
9. First floor manufacturing space
10. First floor work space. Note ceiling
11. Second floor manufacturing space
12. Second floor manufacturing space
13. Third floor manufacturing space
14. Main stair at third floor



J.F. Budd  
Baby Shoe Factory

231 Penn Street  
Burlington City, NJ

1 inch = 20 feet



Lot Boundary     

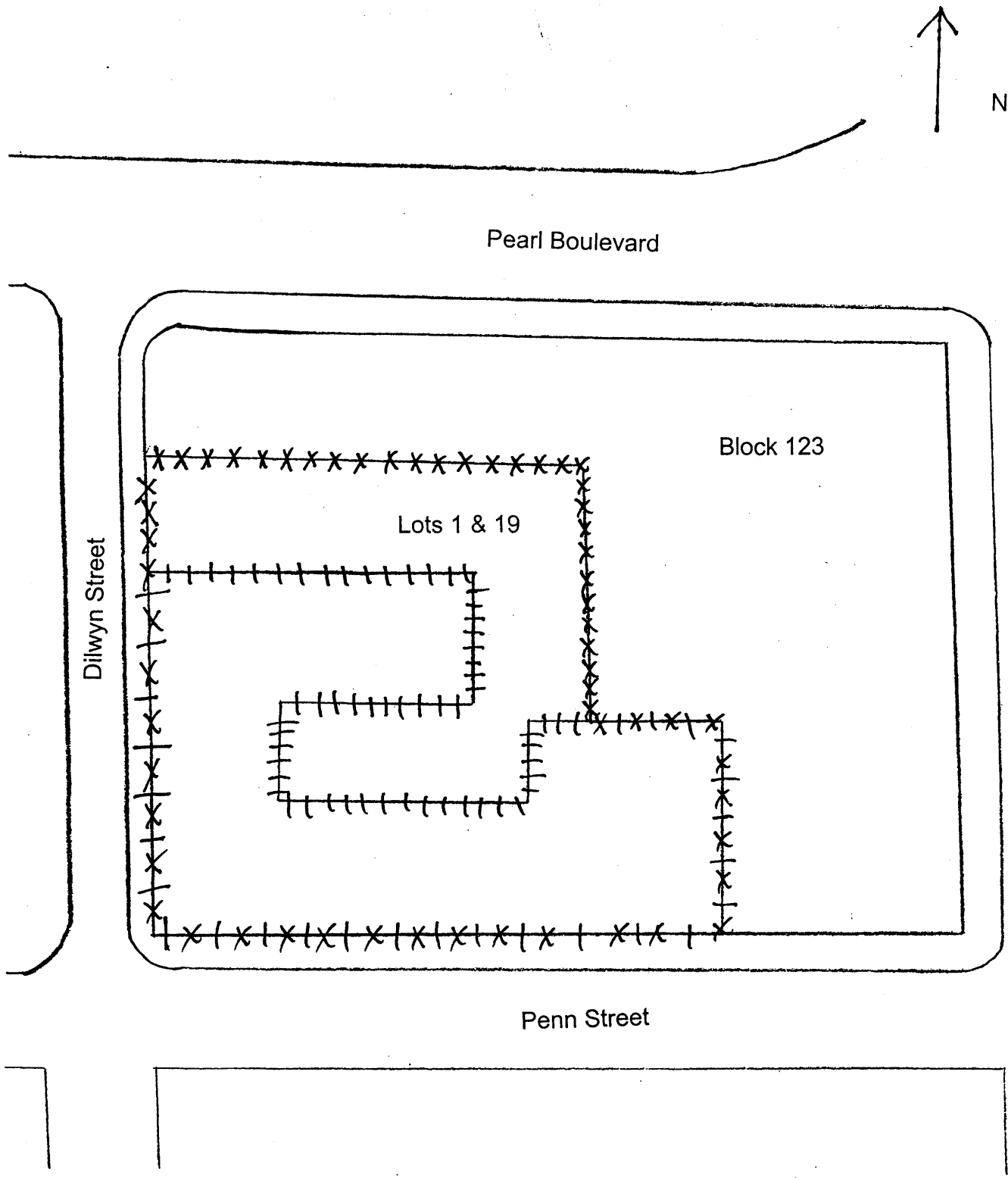
Building Footprint     

Block Boundary     

Adapted from the site plan by:

Robert Lord  
Lord Anderson Worrell Barnett  
Civil Engineers and Surveyors  
Burlington, NJ

August 2000



Pearl Boulevard

Block 123

Lots 1 & 19

Dilwyn Street

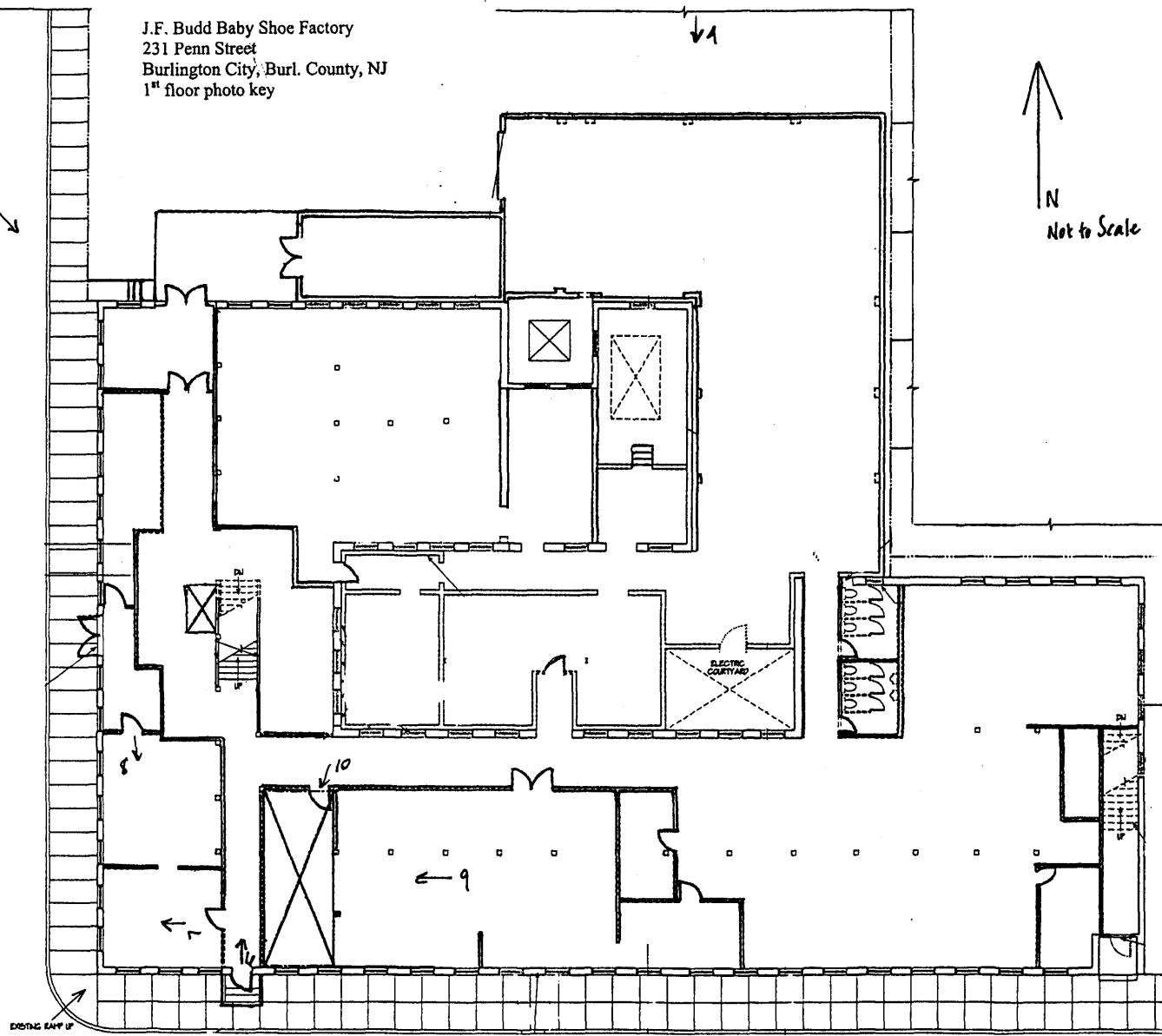
St. Mary Street

Penn Street

J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory  
231 Penn Street  
Burlington City, Burl. County, NJ  
1<sup>st</sup> floor photo key

DILWYN STREET

N  
Not to Scale



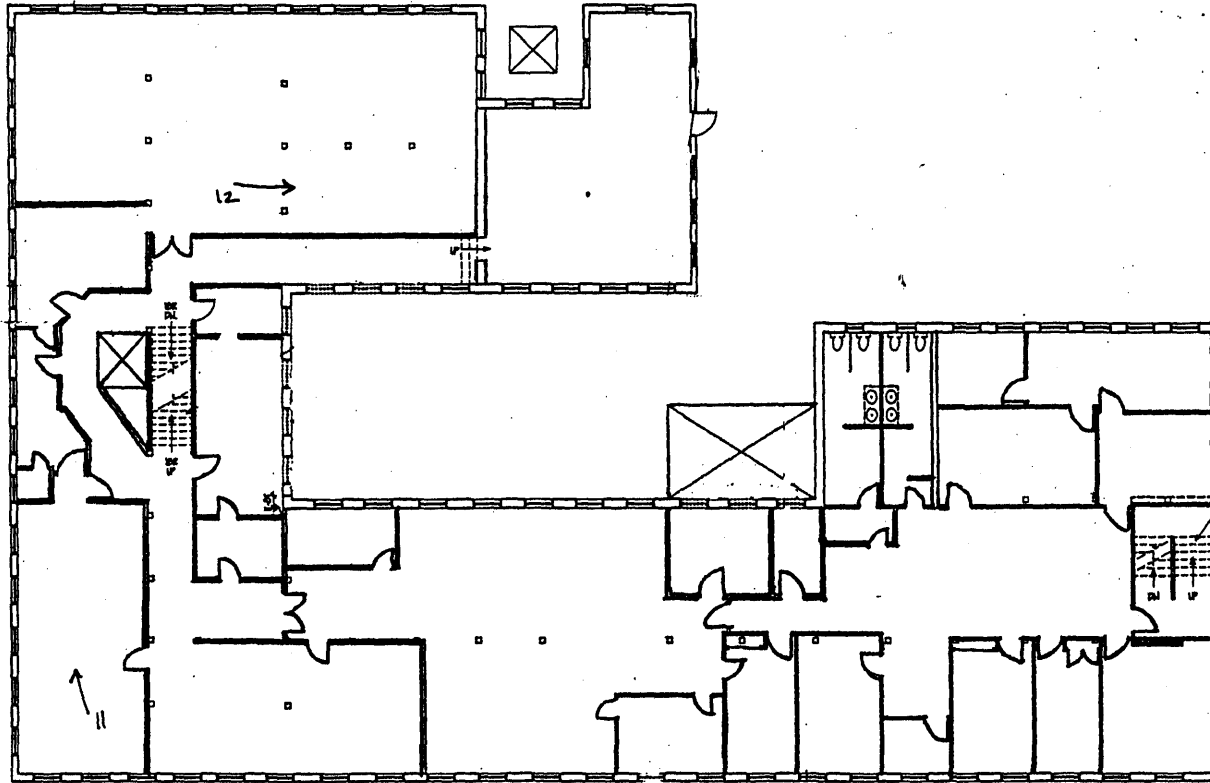
1 FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

PENN STREET

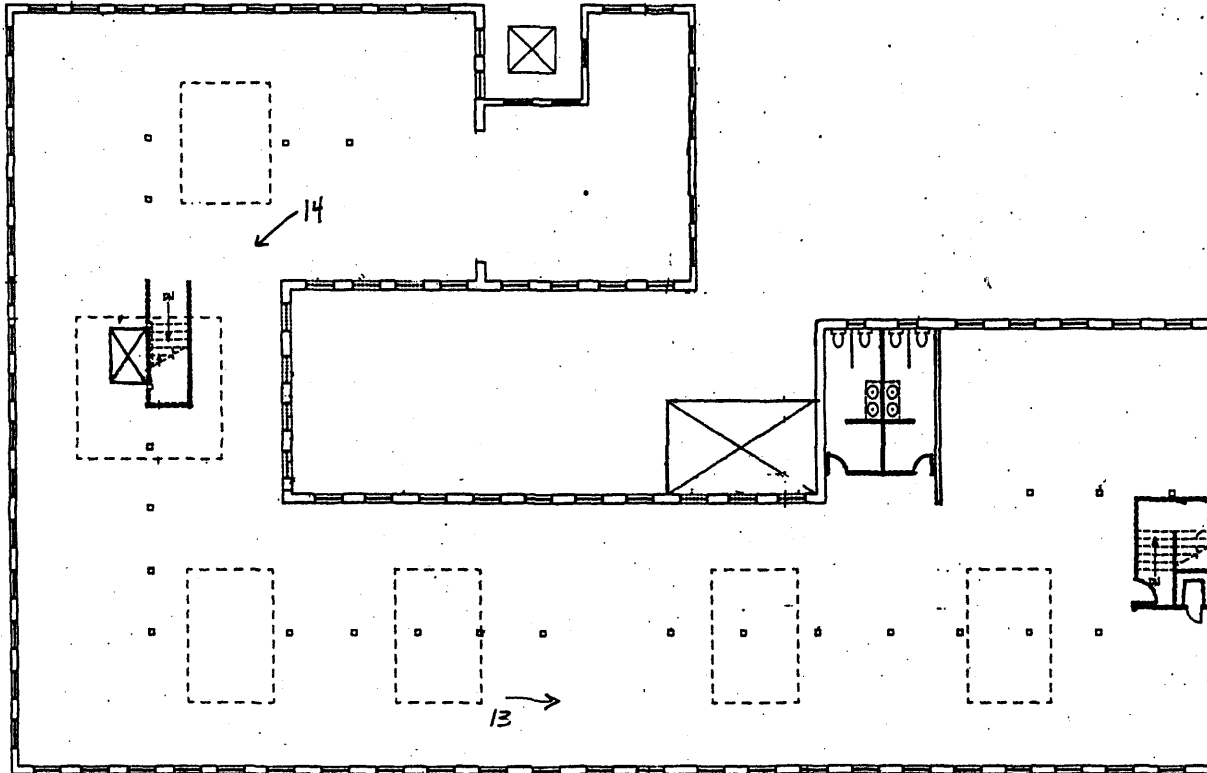
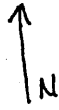
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MAR 3 2000  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory  
231 Penn Street  
Burlington City, Burl. County, NJ  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor photo key

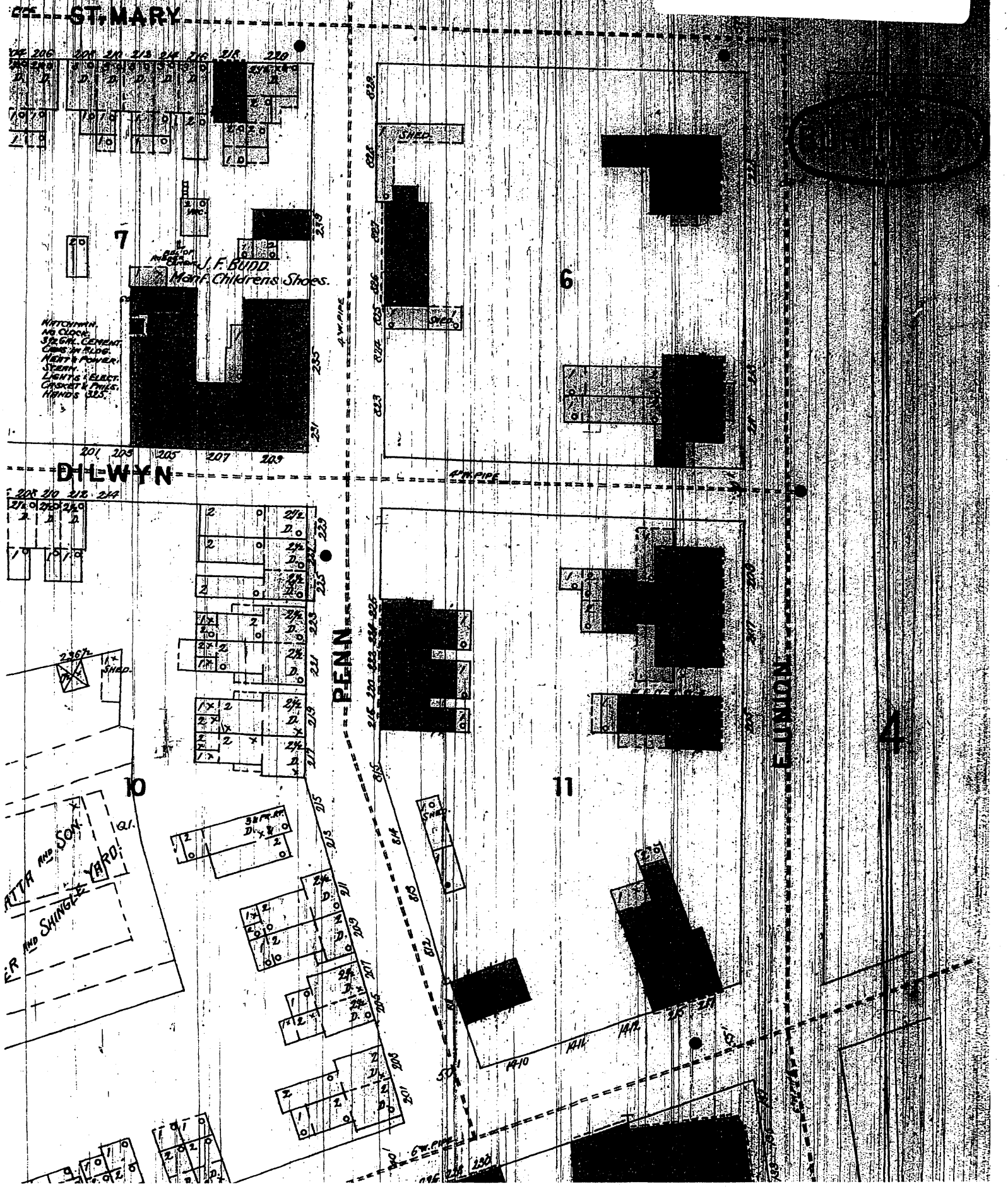
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J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory  
231 Penn Street  
Burlington City, Burl. County, NJ  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor photo key



J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory  
Burlington City, NJ  
Sanborn Fire Insurance Co. Map  
1896



ST. MARY

DILWYN

PENN

UNION

J.F. BUDD  
Baby Childrens Shoes.

ATCHMANN  
AS CLOS.  
SP. GR. CEMENT  
COPS. IN BLDG.  
MORT & POWER  
STEAM  
LIGHTS SELECT  
CONCRETE & PAIS.  
HARD'S SLS.

ATVA AND SON  
SHINGLES YARD

6

7

6

11

4

BURLINGTON

J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory  
Burlington City, NJ  
Sanborn Fire Insurance Co. Map  
1902

ST. MARY

DILWYN

PENN

UNION

YORK

J.F. BUDD SHOE CO.

SCHOOL

UNION M. CHURCH

LUMBER YARD  
umber Mile.

2" W.P.P.

1" A.C.P.

4" W.P.P.

4" W.P.P.

2" W.P.P.

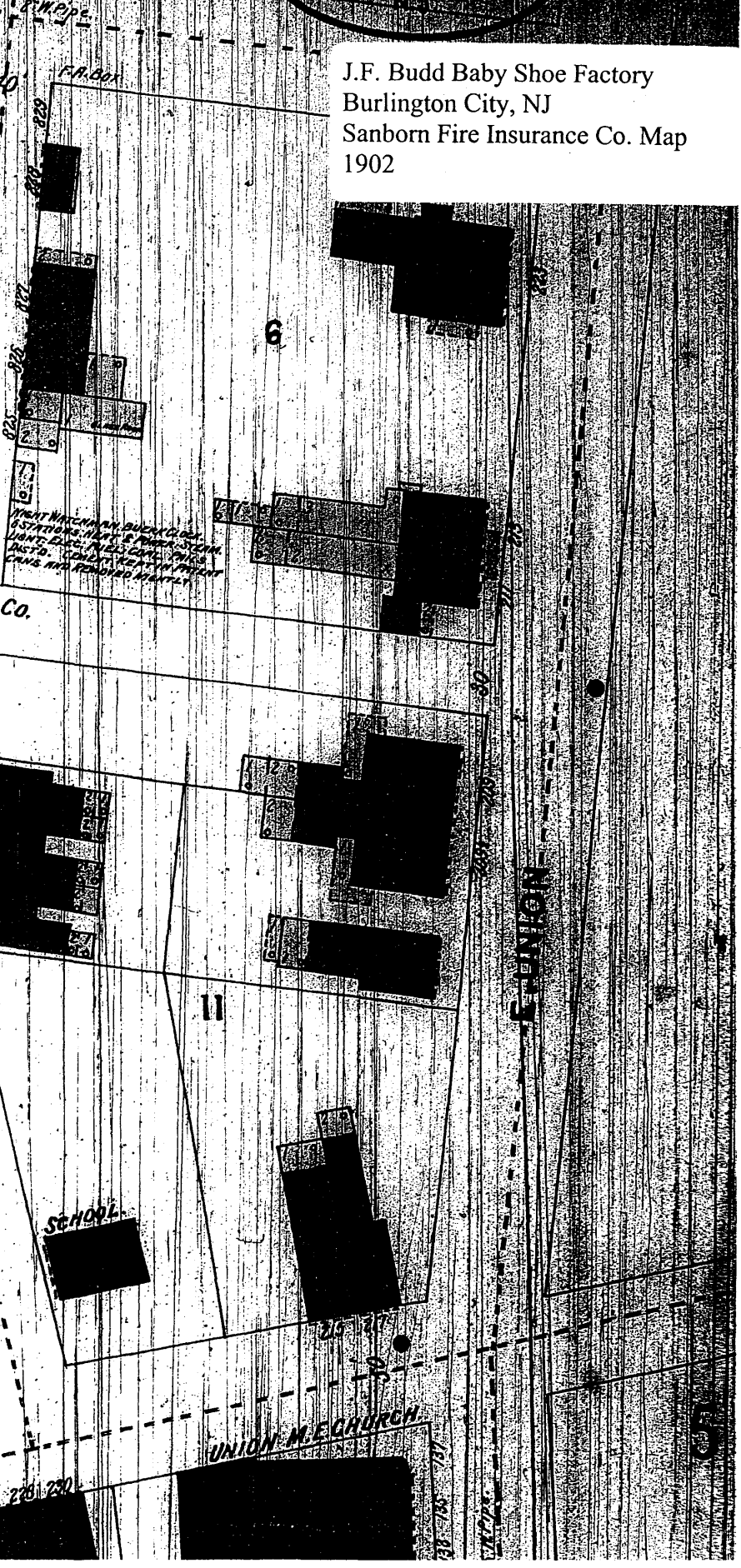
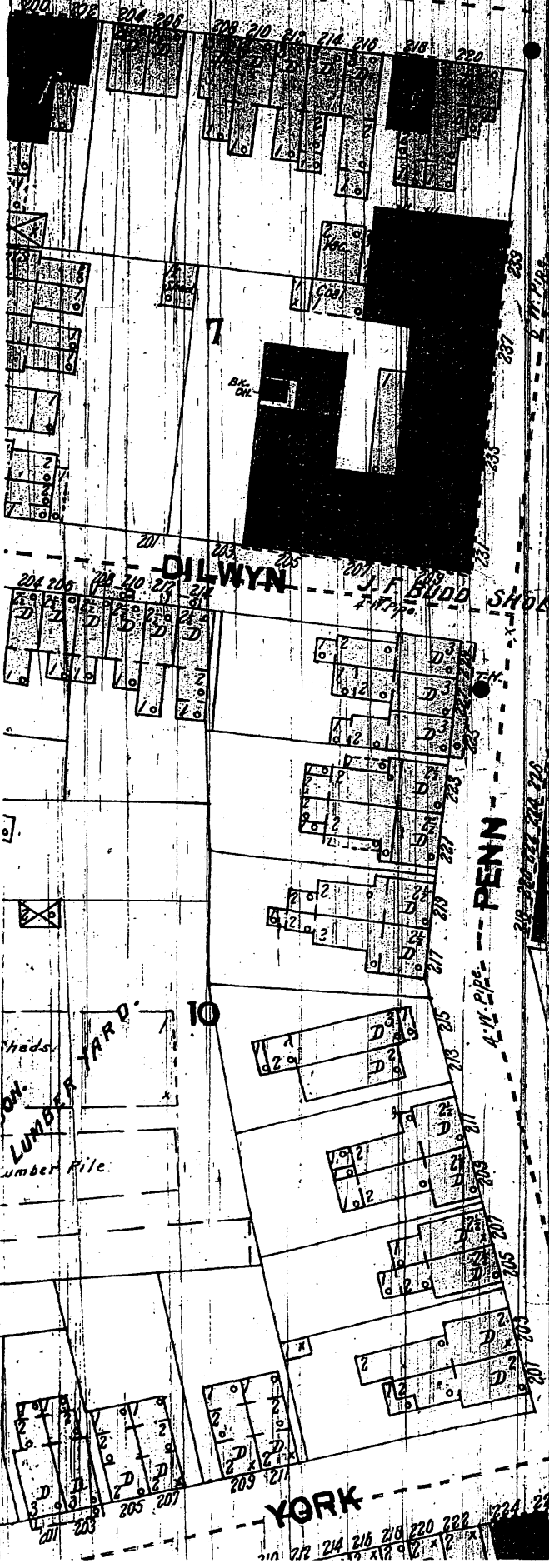
2" W.P.P.

2" W.P.P.

2" W.P.P.

2" W.P.P.

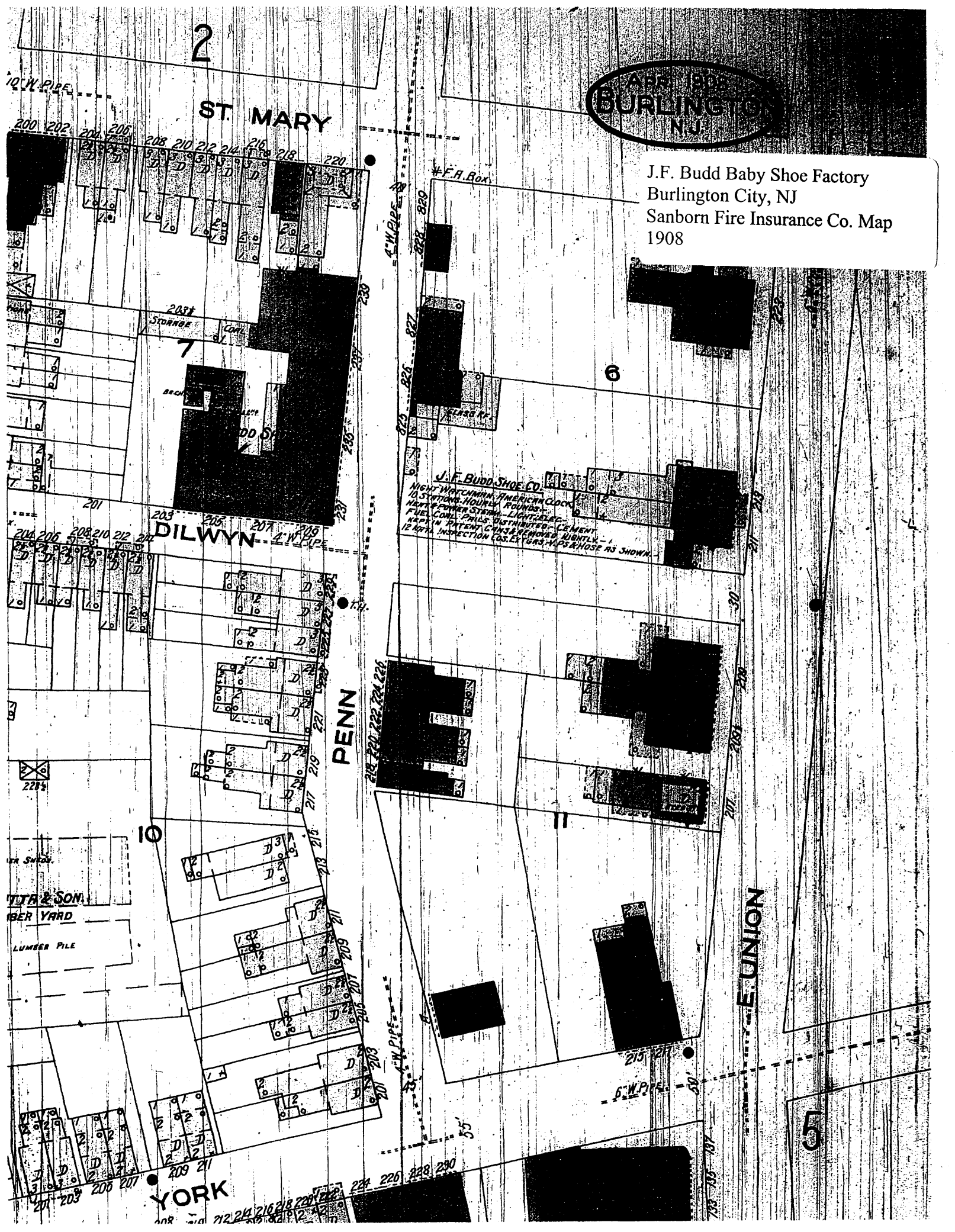
2" W.P.P.





APR 1907  
BURLINGTON  
NJ

J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory  
Burlington City, NJ  
Sanborn Fire Insurance Co. Map  
1908



**J.F. BUDD SHOES CO.**

RIGHT WITNESS...  
HOURLY...  
ELECTRIC...  
INTERNATIONAL CHEMICAL EXTINGUISHERS...  
FIRE PILES DISTRIBUTED...

2



J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory  
Burlington City, NJ  
Sanborn Fire Insurance Co. Map  
1915

**ST MARY**

7

J.F. BUDD SHOES

**DILWYN**

**PENN**

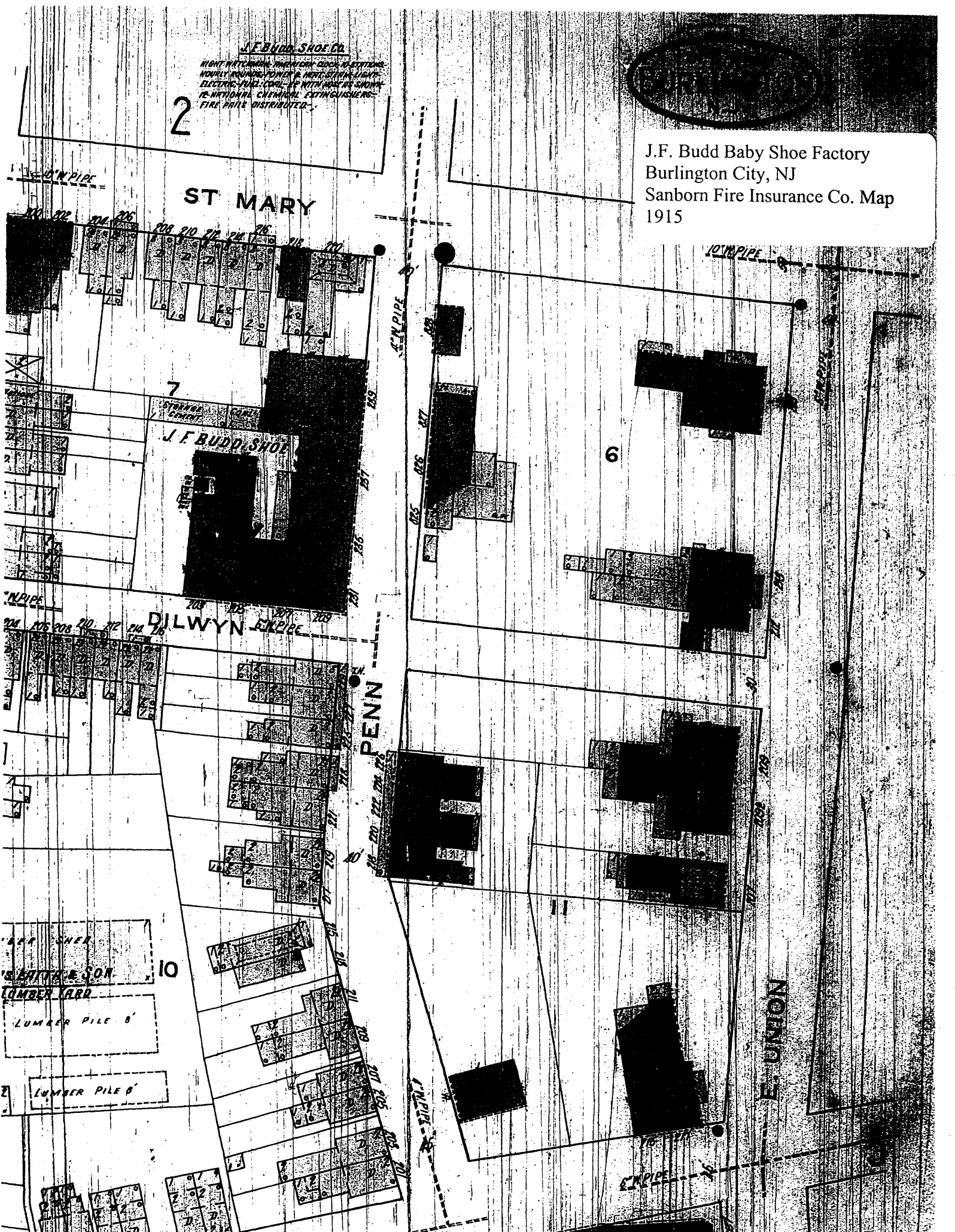
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10

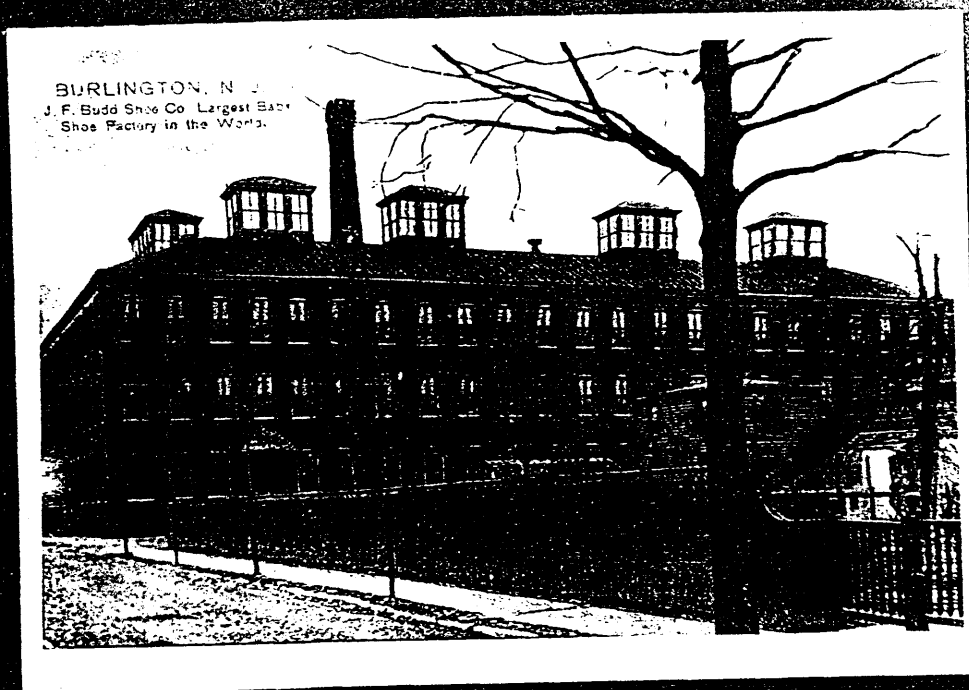
W. B. SHEP...  
S. B. BATH & SON...  
LUMBER YARD...  
LUMBER PILE B

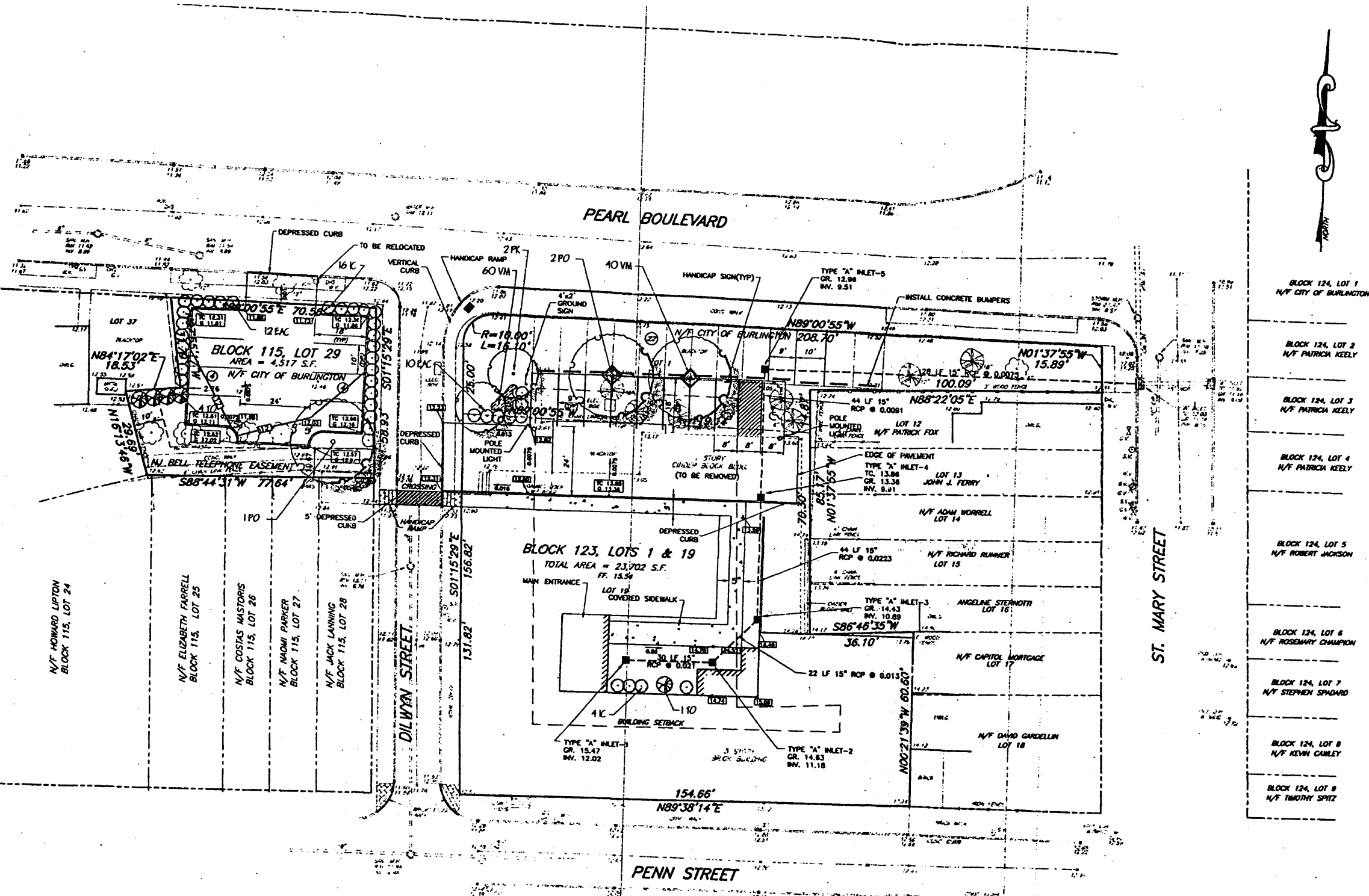
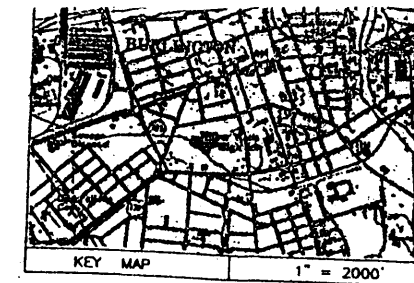
LUMBER PILE B

**E. UNION**



J.F. Budd Baby Shoe Factory  
Burlington City, NJ  
Ca. 1910 historic photograph from  
Burlington County Hist. Society





THIS MAP IS APPROVED BY THE PLANNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ PLANNING BOARD CHAIRMAN  
 DATE \_\_\_\_\_ PLANNING BOARD SECRETARY  
 DATE \_\_\_\_\_ PLANNING BOARD ENGINEER

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THAT THE LANDS SHOWN BY THIS MAP ARE OWNED BY TITLE OF RECORD AND THAT CONSENT TO THE APPROVAL OF SAID MAP IS GIVEN.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ CHARLES M. LEWIS  
 PENNROSE PROPERTIES, INC.

**GENERAL NOTES**

1. APPLICANT/OWNER: PENNROSE PROPERTIES, INC.  
 1 LIBERTY PLACE, SUITE 3810  
 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103  
 215-979-1100
2. THE PROPERTY IS KNOWN AS BLOCK 115, LOT 29; BLOCK 123, LOTS 1 & 19, AS SHOWN ON SHEETS 32 & 33 OF THE TAX MAPS OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON.
3. THE SITE PLAN IS BASED ON A SURVEY PLAN PREPARED BY LORD, ANDERSON, WORRELL & BARNETT, INC., DATED 1/12/99, DRAWING NUMBER 05-59.  
 EXISTING TOPOGRAPHIC INFORMATION IS BASED ON A SURVEY ENTITLED "SURVEY", PREPARED BY LORD, ANDERSON, WORRELL & BARNETT, INC., DRAWING NUMBER 05-59.
4. THE PARCEL IS SUBJECT TO ALL RIGHTS-OF-WAY, EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD.
5. THE PROPERTY IS ZONED R-3. THE EXISTING USE IS VACANT. THE PROPOSED USE IS HOUSING.  
 \*USE VARIANCE REQUIRED  
 PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS:  
 1 PARKING SPACE REQUIRED/ 2 PER DWELLING UNIT  
 6. CONCRETE SIDEWALK WILL BE REPLACED AS REQUIRED.

**PLANT LEGEND**

KEY	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	QUAN	HEIGHT	ROOT
EAC	ELONANILUS ALATUS COMPACTA	DWARF PLUMING BUSH	29	18-24"	B&B
K	LEX CRENATA COMPACTA	JAPANESE HOLLY	29	18-24"	#SCAN
PO	PLATANUS OCCIDENTALIS	AMERICAN Sycamore	5	2" CAL	B&B
PK	PRUNUS SEROTINA KWANZAN	KWANZAN CHERRY	2	11/2" CAL	B&B
YO	YUCCA OCCIDENTALIS 'SMARAGD'	EMERALD GREEN ABOVITIAE	5	5-6'	B&B
VM	VINCA MINOR	PERIWINKLE	100	2" PEAT POT	

- BLOCK 124, LOT 1  
N/F CITY OF BURLINGTON
- BLOCK 124, LOT 2  
N/F PATRICIA KEELY
- BLOCK 124, LOT 3  
N/F PATRICIA KEELY
- BLOCK 124, LOT 4  
N/F PATRICIA KEELY
- BLOCK 124, LOT 5  
N/F ROBERT JACKSON
- BLOCK 124, LOT 6  
N/F ROSEMARY CHAMPION
- BLOCK 124, LOT 7  
N/F STEPHEN SPANARD
- BLOCK 124, LOT 8  
N/F KEVIN CUMLEY
- BLOCK 124, LOT 9  
N/F TIMOTHY SPITZ

RECEIVED  
 AUG 3 2000  
 HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

WEST ELECTRONICS

*Robert W. Lord*  
**ROBERT W. LORD**  
 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER & LAND SURVEYOR  
 NEW JERSEY LIC. NO. 9591

11/19/99	REV. PER ARCHITECT LETTER DATED 10/22/99
02/17/99	AS PER TOWNSHIP ENGINEER REVIEW LETTER
02/03/99	VARIOUS REVISIONS
REVISED	DESCRIPTION
<b>SITE PLAN</b> <b>BLOCK 115, LOT 29</b> <b>BLOCK 123, LOTS 1 &amp; 19</b> CITY OF BURLINGTON BURLINGTON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY	
	SCALE <b>1" = 20'</b> DRAWN BY LML DATE 12/21/98
CIVIL ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING PLANNING, PARKS AND RECREATION 614 HIGH STREET BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08016 (609) 387-2000	JOB NO. 10777B DRAWING NO. 05-59