

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NOV 16 2018

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Larkin Home for Children
other names/site number N/A
Name of Multiple Property Listing N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

street & number 1212 Larkin Avenue not for publication
city or town Elgin vicinity
state Illinois county Kane zip code 60123

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 at the following level(s) of significance: national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Robert J. Apple Nov 9, 2018
Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date

Illinois Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
 other (explain): _____

Barbara Wyall 12-31-18
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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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	
3	2	buildings
1		site
		structure
		object
4	2	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: institutional housing

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY
AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE
walls: BRICK, STONE, WOOD

roof: SYNTHETICS
other: _____

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity).

Summary Paragraph

The Larkin Home for Children property is comprised of five extant buildings located on a 3.4-acre parcel at 1212 Larkin Avenue in Elgin, Kane County, Illinois, approximately one and a half miles west of downtown Elgin and the Fox River. The nominated property is bound by Larkin Avenue to the south, N. Clifton Avenue to the west, Wolff Avenue to the north, and N. Melrose Avenue to the east. The property consists of three contributing buildings, the Main Building (1912), the Hospital Building (1925-1926), and a three-bay garage (1964). Two non-contributing buildings on the property are the dormitory (1971-1972) and a metal trailer (post 1974). The site is also contributing. The three-story Main Building was designed by local architect George Morris in the Georgian Revival style. It features brick quoining, a symmetrical façade, and a dentiled cornice. The Larkin Home for Children is significant at the local level under Criterion A for Social History for the distinct role it served in housing and educating the city of Elgin's children in need. The period of significance of the property begins in 1912 with the construction of the Main Building and ends in 1966 when the institution's mission was changed. The two non-contributing buildings are less than fifty years of age and were constructed after the period of significance. The property has been vacant since 2013. The Larkin Home for Children complex retains sufficient architectural integrity to express its local significance as a Progressive Era children's home.

Narrative Description

Site and Buildings

The former Larkin Home for Children is comprised of five extant buildings on a 3.4-acre parcel at 1212 Larkin Avenue in Elgin, Kane County, Illinois. The property is approximately one and a half miles west of downtown Elgin and the Fox River. The buildings are set on a landscaped rectangular parcel bounded by Larkin Avenue on the south, N. Melrose Avenue on the east, Wolff Avenue on the north, and N. Clifton Avenue on the west.

Historically located on the outskirts of Elgin, the Larkin Home for Children maintains its large open lot. The surrounding residential area was developed from the early through the mid-twentieth century. Early twentieth century houses are located to the south of the property while single-family Ranch houses built from the 1950s through the 1970s fill adjacent blocks along narrow residential streets to the east, north, and west. Larkin Avenue, a wider arterial road that bounds the southern edge of the property, runs at a slight southwesterly angle relative to the area street grid. Larkin Avenue is characterized with houses set between commercial establishments and religious facilities with paved parking lots. To north of the nominated property is a large landscaped block occupied by a one-story brick elementary school built in the 1970s.

The front (south) portion of the property features the historic Larkin Home for Children buildings. The terrain slopes down from south to north, limiting the visibility of the rear (north) portion of the property from Larkin Avenue. The south, east, and north edges of the property are lined with concrete pedestrian sidewalks and concrete curbing. The Larkin Home for Children's Main Building, constructed in 1912, is situated at the center of the front portion of the lot, facing Larkin Avenue. The Main Building is fronted by an asphalt paved crescent-shaped drive, a historic design feature of the site. Several mature deciduous trees dot the grass lawn on this portion of the property. Two short non-historic brick piers with concrete caps are situated at the center of the south edge of the property; the piers supported a non-historic marquee sign that was removed after the institution closed in 2013. The property's Hospital, constructed in 1925-1926, and a non-historic metal trailer are located to the northwest of the Main Building. An east-west oriented asphalt paved driveway with abutting paved vehicular parking slots along its north edge runs between the Main Building and the Hospital, connecting Clifton and Melrose avenues. Historic aerials indicate the driveway historically functioned as a circulation pathway with a small parking area. A non-historic concrete pathway leads between the Hospital and the metal trailer. A brick garage constructed in 1964 is situated to the northeast of the Main Building. It

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sits almost entirely below grade with three vehicular bays facing east toward Melrose Avenue. Curved concrete retaining walls flank the east façade of the garage. A non-historic dormitory is situated on the east side of the rear portion of the property. Non-historic concrete pathways lead from the driveway to the metal trailer and the dormitory. The rear portion of the property was historically undeveloped. It currently retains an open grass lawn sparsely dotted with deciduous trees.

The site contains five buildings completed during Larkin's occupancy of the property. Three of these buildings are contributing and two are non-contributing. The three contributing buildings, all located in the south portion of the site, are the 1912 Main Building, the 1925-1926 Hospital Building, and the 1964 garage. All were completed during the period of significance (1912-1966) when the property served as a home for children. The two non-contributing buildings were constructed after the period of significance and are located at the middle and northern (rear) portions of the site. These are a dormitory built in 1972 and a metal trailer added after 1974.

The resources in the nomination are as follows:

- **Site (Contributing)**
 - 3.4 acres, bounded by Larkin Avenue on the south, N. Melrose Avenue on the east, Wolff Avenue on the north, and N. Clifton Avenue on the west.
- **Main Building (Contributing)**
 - Constructed 1912, designed by architect George Morris
 - The first building constructed on the site for the Larkin Home for Children and the site's oldest and largest building
- **Hospital (Contributing)**
 - Constructed 1925 -1926 by Illinois Hydraulic Stone & Construction Company
 - Constructed to serve Larkin Home for Children residents
- **Garage (Contributing)**
 - Constructed in 1964 to hold three service vehicles
- **Dormitory (Non-Contributing)**
 - Constructed between 1971 and 1972, designed by Schmidtke & Layer Architects of Elgin¹
 - Constructed when the Larkin Home for Children was reorganized as a group home and renamed Larkin Center. The dormitory is non-contributing because it was constructed after the period of significance.
- **Metal Trailer (Non-Contributing)**
 - Installed after 1974
 - Archival documentation indicates that four trailers were installed north of the Main Building between 1974 and 1979 following the reorganization of the Larkin Home for Children into a group home. Only one metal trailer is extant, and it is non-contributing because it was installed after the period of significance.

Site (contributing)

The site consists of 3.4 acres and is bounded by Larkin Avenue on the south, N. Melrose Avenue on the east, Wolff Avenue on the north, and N. Clifton Avenue on the west. The south, east, and north edges of the property are lined

¹ "Set Open House for New Larkin Home," *Cardinal Free Press*, January 21, 1972.

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with concrete pedestrian sidewalks and concrete curbing. An asphalt paved crescent-shaped drive, a historic design feature of the site is located in front of the Main Building. Several mature deciduous trees dot the grass lawn on this portion of the property. Two short non-historic brick piers that supported a non-historic marquee sign that was removed after the institution closed in 2013. An east-west oriented asphalt paved driveway with abutting paved vehicular parking slots along its north edge runs between the Main Building and the Hospital, connecting Clifton and Melrose avenues. Historic aerials indicate the driveway historically functioned as a circulation pathway with a small parking area. A non-historic concrete pathway leads between the Hospital and a metal trailer. The brick garage is flanked by curved concrete retaining walls. Non-historic concrete pathways lead from the driveway to the metal trailer and the dormitory. The rear portion of the property was historically undeveloped. It currently retains an open grass lawn sparsely dotted with deciduous trees.

Main Building (Contributing)

Exterior

The Larkin Home for Children's Main Building was designed by Elgin architect George Morris in the Georgian Revival style and constructed by the Illinois Hydraulic Stone and Construction Company in 1912. The three-story brick building faces south and has a rectangular footprint, a full basement, a symmetrical façade, and a hipped roof with dormer windows. A nearly full-width one-story brick porch spans the center of the primary (south) façade. A small two-story brick addition with a square footprint and a hipped roof was constructed on the Main Building's northeast corner in 1934. The Main Building's architectural ornamentation, including brick quoining, elliptical entrance door fanlight, and dentiled eaves, reflects the Georgian Revival style.

The Main Building's primary (south) façade features full-height brick quoining at the corners, symmetrically arranged fenestration, and a stone beltcourse between the basement and first story that continues on all elevations. A wood dentiled cornice and shallow eaves with wood modillions ornaments the primary façade and secondary elevations. All window bays on the primary façade feature stone sills and flat arch lintels with brick voussoirs and a stone keystone. The primary façade has seven bays on the first and second stories. A historic one-story brick porch with a flat roof spans the five inner bays of the first floor. The porch features brick kneewalls and piers with stone coping and historic wood plank flooring. The brick piers are flanked by short wood Ionic columns supporting a plain wood entablature. The brick piers continue through the roofline; they are joined with a historic geometric wood balustrade and topped with stone caps. The center of the porch features a set of concrete steps flanked with stepped brick sidewalls with stone coping. On the first story, the center (fourth) bay aligns with the porch entrance and features a stone threshold with non-historic double-leaf wood entrance doors with glazed panels. The doors are set within a historic wood door surround featuring plain wood pilasters, historic twelve-light sidelights, and an elliptical fanlight with a sunburst muntin pattern. The segmented arch lintel above the doors contains brick voussoirs and a stone keystone.

The remaining bays on the first floor each contain a historic ten-over-one wood sash window. The second story's center (fourth) bay contains a historic six-over-one wood sash window flanked with four-over-one wood sashes. The fifth bay contains a pair of historic four-over-one and six-over-one wood sash windows, and the remaining bays contain historic ten-over-one wood sash windows. The third story is expressed through three evenly-spaced dormer windows with front-gabled roofs, cornice returns, and wood cladding. The center dormer window is widest and contains an arched wood double-hung window with a tracery upper sash flanked by three-over-one wood sash windows. The smaller outer dormers each contain an arched wood double-hung window with a tracery upper sash.

The east elevation contains punched openings at the ground level and regularly spaced window bays at the first and second stories. The window bays contain historic ten-over-one wood sash windows, stone sills, and flat arch lintels with brick voussoirs and stone keystones. A chimney rises from the north side of the east elevation and continues through the roof eave. At the third story is a wide front-gabled dormer with a historic arched wood window containing a tracery upper sash. A two-story addition at the northeast corner of the building has a hipped roof and matching brick

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cladding. The first floor of the addition contains a kitchen and was completed in the 1930s, while the second story was added in the 1950s. It features a non-historic wood single-leaf door and non-historic window infill with stone sills and flat arch brick lintels with stone keystones.

The north elevation is abutted by a paved driveway and parking area. The elevation features irregularly spaced fenestration at the ground level and first through second stories. The window openings retain historic stone sills and flat arch brick lintels with stone keystones. Most openings are boarded with painted plywood and others contain non-historic infill windows. Two non-historic single-leaf doors are at the first story. The third story features a long shed-roof dormer with seven irregularly spaced bays containing non-historic fire exit doors and wood sash windows. Two large, modern metal fire escapes are affixed to the façade. Alterations were made to the cornice at the third floor to accommodate the addition of the fire exit doors. A large chimney rises along the west side of the north elevation.

The west elevation faces part of the paved parking area and the lawn. This elevation has had few alterations. It contains two punched openings at the ground level, and two regularly spaced bays at the first and second stories. Each bay contains a historic ten-over-one wood window with stone sill and flat arch brick lintel with stone keystone. At the third story, a wide front-gabled dormer with wood cladding contains two pairs of historic three-over-one wood sash windows.

Interior

The Main Building retains characteristic features of the historic layout and historic finishes on all floors, such as the overall plan, plaster partitions, and wood trim and doors. The Larkin Home converted the interior to administrative offices circa 1966. Each floor is organized into east and west halves on either side of a central stair hall extending the depth of the building from north to south. A secondary stair runs parallel to the main stair. Both sets of stairs have shallow landings and wood treads and balusters.

The basement has a central stair hall, and both halves of the floor are divided evenly by masonry walls into quadrants. The southwest quadrant is divided into four storage rooms. The northwest quadrant has two storage spaces and the main boiler room with an auxiliary exterior entrance. The northeast quadrant has the secondary stair at its west end, followed by two storage rooms and an auxiliary entrance through the 1930s addition on the building's northeast corner. The southeast quadrant contains one large storage room with an auxiliary entrance on its east wall. A large storage room with shelving is also located beneath the front porch along the building's south side. Historic finishes include exposed brick walls, concrete floors, and metal fire doors. Many rooms were subdivided after the initial construction of the building and were finished with non-historic dropped ceilings and vinyl tile floors.

The first floor retains its historic floor plan. The central hall has an entrance vestibule at the south end and a main circulation stair at the north end, which is separated from the hall by a non-historic partition with twin doors. The entrance vestibule features a set of wood double-leaf doors set within a historic door surround with a wood frame elliptical fanlight and twelve-light sidelights. The vestibule and central hall are floored with non-historic small square ceramic tiles. The main circulation stair runs from the first floor up to the third floor; it features historic wood newel posts with peaked caps and historic wood railings with square balusters and flat handrails. The stair treads and risers are wood with non-historic vinyl covering. The stair hall has non-historic wood wainscoting. The southeast quadrant of the first floor, formerly a single large room, has been subdivided with temporary partitions into a corridor with four smaller adjoining offices. The northeast quadrant is a larger lunchroom space that connects to a 1930s kitchen addition at the building's northeast corner. The west half of the first floor contains a large room that is subdivided into a main conference room to the west side and two small reception rooms on the east side. The conference room extends the depth of the building along the west wall and features an original brick-front fireplace mantle centered on the west wall. Historic finishes remain including wood door and window frames, wood floors, and select wood doors. Non-historic finishes are also present, including vinyl floors, baseboard heating units, non-historic partitions, and non-historic door infill.

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The second floor is similarly organized to the first, with a central stair hall. The west half is accessed by an L-shaped corridor that extends west and then turns northward, connecting a series of six offices on the building's perimeter. The east half contains a large conference room that extends the depth of the building along the east wall, with the enclosed secondary stair at the northwest corner of the space and an office at the southwest corner. An office located in the 1950s second-floor addition on the building's northeast corner connects to the east half. Historic finishes include wood window and door surrounds and wood built-in cabinets. Non-historic finishes include carpet and vinyl flooring, baseboard heating units, dropped ceiling tiles, wood wainscot and wall paneling, and non-historic partitions.

The third floor is also organized around a central hall that runs east-west from the stair hall. A second corridor was created to the south in the west half that connects later subdivided rooms. Offices are located to the south, east, and west of the stair corridor. Historic finishes include wood window surrounds, wood door surrounds, wood doors, wood baseboards, and sloped roofs, following the line of the exterior dormers. Non-historic finishes include vinyl tile floors, dropped ceilings, fluorescent lights, and non-historic partitions.

Hospital (Contributing)

Exterior

The Hospital was constructed from 1925 through 1926 and is located to the northwest of the Main Building. A paved asphalt driveway with integrated parking runs between the Main Building and the Hospital. The one-story brick Hospital has a rectangular footprint with a basement, a symmetrical façade, and a hipped roof with asphalt shingles. A stone water table ornaments the building on all elevations. Thin rectangular openings at the ground level contain three-light fixed wood windows. Very few alterations have been made to the exterior of the building.

The primary (south) façade of the Hospital has seven bays. The center (fourth) bay contains the primary entrance consisting of a non-historic single-leaf entrance door flanked by thin brick pilasters and historic wood sidelights with six lights. The entrance is accessed from a brick and concrete stoop and sheltered by a painted wood door hood with simple wood brackets. The remaining bays contain historic window openings with stone sills and flat arch brick lintels with stone keystones. The openings contain non-historic one-over-one windows. The east and west elevations each contain two bays with non-historic one-over-one windows set within historic masonry openings. The rear (north) elevation has seven bays. The center (fourth) bay contains a non-historic wood slab door with glazing and a short one-over-one window. The door is accessed from a non-historic wood deck with a metal handrail and wood steps. A non-historic door below the deck accesses the basement. A brick chimney rises from the rear slope of the roof.

Interior

The one-story and basement Hospital building retains its basic historic layout and open circulation plan. The small building's layout features interconnected rooms with no central circulation corridors. Some non-historic partitions were constructed to subdivide the historic spaces. Historic finishes remain and include a fireplace and brick mantel surround, wood built-in cabinets, simple wood window surrounds, plaster walls, and wood baseboard and ceiling trim. Non-historic finishes include carpet and vinyl tile flooring, dropped ceiling tiles, and non-historic partitions.

Brick Garage (Contributing)

Exterior

A brick garage constructed in 1964 is located directly east of the Hospital building. From the Hospital building, only the flat roof of the garage is visible, as the one-story structure is built into the slope of the site, surrounded by a sloped concrete retaining wall, and accessed from North Melrose Avenue to the east.

The east elevation of the garage, facing North Melrose Avenue, contains three garage openings, infilled with replacement metal roll-down doors. Brick piers divide the openings. The north, west, and south elevations are only

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minimally visible, as the garage is built into the slope of the ground. A portion of the garage's concrete base is visible above the ground.

Interior

The garage is a utilitarian space with concrete floors and exposed brick walls.

Northeast Dormitory (Non-Contributing)

Exterior

A brick and wood-clad dormitory designed by the Elgin-based architectural firm of Schmidtke & Layer and constructed between 1971 and 1972 is located to the north of the garage and is the second-largest building on the site, after the Main Building. The building also takes advantage of the sloped site to the east and is partially built into this grade change. The two-story building has a staggered, peaked roof, with the gable ends facing north and south. The dormitory was constructed after the Center's mission shifted in 1971 from housing children to expanded services to treat adults. As the building is constructed outside of the Center's period of significance, the northeast dormitory is considered non-contributing.

The long east and west elevations of the building contain recessed bays clad in wood board with window openings infilled with non-historic windows. The projecting bays contain expanses of unarticulated brick. The site slopes down to the north, exposing an additional floor of space. On the east elevation, a large wood deck with stairs provides access to an entrance on the second floor. A projecting clerestory row of windows rises above the roof's peak to the north. On the west, a discreet entrance is located at the center.

The north and south entrances feature recesses in the brick at the peak of the gable. At the top of the building, the opening is infilled with wood boards, and a narrow window. Below, the brick is open to access the recessed entrances.

Interior

The non-contributing dormitory building is divided among two floors. Central, double-loaded corridors make up the spine of the building, capped by stairwells, and double-height, community rooms. Finishes include non-historic vinyl tile floors, metal doors, dropped ceiling tiles, fluorescent lights, and simple wood balustrades.

Metal Trailer (Non-Contributing)

Exterior

A metal trailer installed at the site after 1974 is located to the northeast of the Hospital. The existing trailer is the only one of four trailers installed at the rear (north) of the Main Building following the reorganization of the Larkin Home for Children as a group home. Archival documentation shows that four trailers were installed north of the Main Building in 1970, but have been either moved off-site or demolished since.

The trailer consists of several rooms to accommodate expanded administrative needs and was one of four trailers installed onsite to accommodate later organization needs. The one-story, multi-room trailer is considered a temporary structure and was installed after 1966, and therefore is considered non-contributing.

All elevations are clad in hexagonal, projecting metal siding, with a wood slat base. Entrances to the trailer are found on the east and west ends. Projecting canopies with wood entrance stairs lead to non-historic entrance doors. Four punched window openings are found on the south and north elevations. The building is covered in green biological growth, highlighting the poor condition and temporary nature of the building.

Interior

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The non-contributing trailer is divided into two primary spaces and finished with vinyl tile floor, wood panels, dropped ceiling tiles, and fluorescent lights. No historic finishes are found on the interior.

Integrity

The Larkin Home for Children site, and particularly its highly visible southern end facing Larkin Avenue, maintains excellent historic integrity. The character-defining south lawn and circular drive continue to frame the Main Building's Georgian Revival style façade, resulting in a site that looks much as it did when the children's home opened in 1912. Despite the construction of the non-contributing northeast dormitory and metal trailer (neither of which are visible from Larkin Avenue), the Larkin site remains highly intact.

The Larkin Home for Children's 1912 Main Building, 1925-1926 Hospital, and 1964 garage exhibit a high degree of architectural integrity. The three buildings maintain their historic proximity and site relationships, and retain significant historic features including overall building form and footprint. Each building also retains significant exterior features including brick cladding, window openings and infill, and rooflines. Significant interior features are also retained including wood flooring, wood trim (baseboards, window and door surrounds, and trim at the ceiling), wood built-ins, wood stairs and balustrades, and circulation patterns.

Overall the Larkin Home for Children site features and contributing buildings retain good integrity and continue to tell the story of this site's importance to the social history of Elgin and the Fox River Valley.

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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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social History

Period of Significance

1912-1966

Significant Dates

1912, 1925-1926, 1964, 1966

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

N/A

Architect/Builder

Morris, George

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

Summary of Significance Statement

The Larkin Home for Children, located at 1212 Larkin Avenue in Elgin, Kane County, Illinois, is locally significant under National Register Criterion A for Social History as an excellent and well-preserved example of a Progressive Era children's home that served the Elgin community and represented a distinct alternative to the government-operated orphanages of the nineteenth century. The Larkin Home for Children complex is comprised of three contributing buildings; a Georgian Revival style main residence building constructed in 1912, a small hospital constructed in 1926, and a three-vehicle garage constructed in 1964. The Larkin Home for Children, operated by a private organization of the same name, played a major role in the welfare of Elgin's children since the late nineteenth century. The Larkin Home for Children was a successor organization of the Elgin Children's Home Society, established in 1898 to house children without sufficient guardianship. After the society outgrew the donated 11-room Larkin Home for Children located at 320 S. State Street in Elgin (not extant), the Society purchased land in 1911 at 1212 Larkin Avenue on the outskirts of the city and raised money for the construction of a larger residence to house their ever-growing numbers of charges. The Larkin Home's mission was sustained through donations from forward-thinking private individuals with the intention of providing a nurturing atmosphere for smaller groups of children. The mission of the Larkin Home for Children was not to function merely as an orphanage (in fact, the organization rejected this term) but to provide a temporary or longer-term stable home-like environment for children in their care. The small size and domestic setting of the Larkin Home for Children reflected Progressive Era tenets about childcare and created an intimate and nurturing environment for its charges that was believed to be more beneficial in comparison to the previous century's traditional institutional orphanages. The additional of a small hospital building to the rear of the main residence building in 1926 and a three-vehicle service garage in 1964 further supported the Larkin Home's mission.

In 1966, the organization underwent mission changes and became a group home for both children and adults. By the early 1970s, the organization started providing mental health services. During this time of later change and expansion, a dormitory was constructed onsite. Temporary trailers were also installed after 1974; only one of these trailers remains. In the late 1980s, the organization and site were renamed the Larkin Center. Larkin Center closed its doors in 2013, and the nominated property is currently vacant. The period of significance for the Larkin Home for Children spans from 1912, the year the main residence building was constructed, to 1966 when the main building was converted from residential to office use and the organization expanded to offer group home services for both children and adults, a major change from its early-twentieth-century mission. The nominated property includes three contributing buildings constructed within the period of significance to meet the organization's mission. These are the main residence building, designed by local architect Georgie Morris (1875-1941) and completed in 1912, a small hospital constructed in 1925-1926 to the rear of the main residence, and a three-vehicle garage completed in 1964 to the east of the hospital. Two non-contributing buildings on the property were constructed or installed after the period of the significance and are less than fifty years of age. These are a dormitory, constructed in 1971-1972 at the east side of the rear of the property, and a metal trailer, installed after 1974. The Larkin Home for Children's contributing buildings retain their original massing, exterior design and architectural ornamentation, and many historic interior finishes, features, and spaces. The Larkin Home for Children retains integrity to express its significance. The non-contributing buildings were constructed by the Larkin Center at the rear of the property and are not visible from Larkin Avenue.

The Larkin Home for Children is a City of Elgin local landmark. As of 2018, the Larkin Home for Children retains a high degree of architectural integrity and is National Register eligible as locally significant under Criterion A for Social History in recognition of the important role the Larkin Home for Children played in supporting children in need in early twentieth century Elgin and the greater Fox River Valley region.

Late 19th and Early 20th Century Orphanages and "Children's Homes"

In the late nineteenth century, American orphanages, hospitals, asylums, alms houses, and other institutions established to permanently or temporarily house the needy all served a specific subset of the population, and were operated either by the

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state or local governments, religious organizations, fraternal organizations, or by private founders. The orphanage as social institution was an established component, during the early twentieth century, of this even greater system of charitable welfare institutions which were aimed at housing children whose guardians were dead, absent, or deemed incapable of caring for them. By the early twentieth century, such organizations claimed the self-professed goal of improving the lives of children of families whose economic and social positions were determined unstable or limited. Well-intended but sometimes flawed perceptions of families' socioeconomic status frequently formed the basis in determining who could or should enter the institution for assistance and ultimate improvement.

Orphanages were first organized in the United States during the 19th century as a residential institution to care for children who had either lost one or both parents or whose families could no longer provide suitable care. In Illinois, as in other states, the first orphanages were established in the wake of cholera epidemics during the 1840s. Disease, war, and other events contributed to more children being orphaned, but more often children were placed in orphanages by their parent(s) who used the institutions as boarding houses during times of financial hardship or other burden. The child would leave the orphanage once the parent(s) had regained financial stability or found a permanent home for the child. However, in some cases, children were not returned home before institution administrators found a home.

Debate over how best to raise orphaned children continued through the late-19th century. Proponents of institutions felt that such facilities were superior to the family home, because they provided a stable and structured environment. The institutional plan had its roots in the reformation of criminals and the isolation from society of persons with perceived hereditary diseases. Institutions, such as orphanages, were ultimately designed to shape individuals from poor environments into moral citizens. Opponents argued that, "the tendency of institutional life is to repress individuality, to destroy initiative, and to render the child permanently dependent."² Progressive reformers, like Jane Addams, also opposed vast orphanages, because they were frequently overcrowded and unsanitary. Several large institutions with dormitory-like facilities that could hold hundreds of children were built across Illinois during the late-19th century; most held fewer than one-hundred children.

At the same time, there was growing support for "placing-out" children into foster homes. The individualized care available in a home was seen as more effective and positive than the mass care provided by institutions. Yet, without the thorough review of potential foster care providers, cases of neglect and abuse or servitude made the process less desirable. Concern for child welfare became an important component of progressive thinking. Protecting children from undue harm guided new policies and led to the development of child labor laws and school requirements. In 1883, Rev. Martin Van Arsdale founded the Children's Home Society in Bloomington, Illinois, which focused its efforts on free-of-charge placement of children in carefully selected foster families. "Receiving homes" were organized to care for orphans until proper foster homes could be found. By 1897, the Society had become a movement with twenty-three branches in several states. The influence of this movement was felt across the United States as local branches were established to save children from harmful environments and to place them in nurturing foster care. By 1897, twenty-three branches operated in several states, with operations in thirty-six states by 1916.³ By the turn-of-the century, the method of placing children in carefully selected foster families had become widely accepted. In 1909, the first White House Conference on Children, convened by President Theodore Roosevelt, drew a consensus on child welfare and determined that foster families were the ideal placement for dependent children.⁴ Despite a strong Progressive drive for child welfare through foster care, or through "Children's Homes," large orphanages continued to operate and even grow through the 1920s.

At the same time several smaller home-like facilities were opened, including as the Larkin Home for Children in Elgin, IL. These small facilities, often privately operated, were supported by reformers and served as short-term "receiving homes" for children seeking permanent foster homes. While many of these were established in connection with what became the Children's Home and Aid Society of Illinois, others were likely influenced by the Children's Home movement.

Typical so-called "Children's Homes" were intended to house smaller groups of children and were designed to look like ordinary houses, often in a range of sizes and architectural styles. Like Larkin, many were set near residential areas and

² Rev. Hastings H. Hart, "The Child-Saving Movement," *The Bibliotheca Sacra*, July 1901. 524.

³ Dante Cicchetti, *Developmental Psychopathology, Maladaptation and Psychopathology* (New York: John Wiley & Sons, 2016).

⁴ *Orphanages: An Historical Overview*, Family and Children's Services Division, Minnesota Department of Human Services, March 1995. 3-4.

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therefore integrated into the domestic life of the communities they served.⁵ Children's Homes like that at Larkin often had large yards for outdoor activities. Inside, these homes contained larger social areas for dining, instruction, and recreation. Small dormitories housed sleeping areas for children, and service spaces housed kitchens, offices, and sleeping areas for staff.

The United States Census completed decennial statistical assessments of orphanages, children's homes, and nurseries across the country beginning in 1880. In 1904, the U.S. Census identified approximately sixty-eight facilities in Illinois.⁶ By 1933, the number of institutions had doubled to over 140.⁷ However, the ideals of home life advocated by turn-of-the-century reformers finally began to influence how orphaned children were handled beginning in the 1940s. Following World War II, orphanages began to reduce in size and close following pressure from welfare advocates. Many closed facilities often became group homes or shifted housing and treating adults, senior citizens, or emotionally disturbed children. This change was advanced during the 1960s and 1970s as part of a broader movement to de-institutional individuals. The idea of foster care and foster families quickly replaced the position of and treatment offered by orphanages.

U.S. Census records identify the Larkin Home for Children as the only orphanage in Elgin in 1904, but found at least two additional facilities in the nearby Fox River Valley in its 1933 census.⁸ Unlike the Larkin Home for Children which was governed by a private board, these two nearby orphanages mentioned in the 1933 census – the Yeoman City of Childhood near Elgin and Mooseheart near Batavia – were founded and operated by fraternal organizations. The Yeoman City of Childhood was opened in 1926 on a 680 acre farm along the Fox River near Elgin, Illinois. It was founded by the Brotherhood of American Yeomen, a fraternal organization of the American Mutual Life Insurance company, as a facility to care for the children of policy holders; it housed around 125. The Yeoman City of Childhood closed during World War II and only one brick building remains. Mooseheart was organized near Batavia, Illinois in 1913 by the Loyal Order of the Moose as an orphanage and training school. It served over one thousand children in 1933. The order espoused the belief that a moral education consisted of training children in practical work rather than academic pursuits.⁹ Mooseheart continues to serve as a large residential childcare facility.

Early History of the Larkin Home for Children Organization (1893-1912)

The organization that became the Larkin Home for Children began in 1893 with humble beginnings. That year, a Ms. Mary Peabody of Elgin, IL became a caretaker for the children of a widowed father, taking the needy children into her own home. Ms. Peabody came to the aid of other children in single-parent households during the late 1890s, forming a temporary home known as "The Miss Mary Peabody's Home for Babies." Volunteers helped raise funds to support Ms. Peabody's cause, which was formally organized in June 1896 as the Elgin Children's Home Association. As an Illinois corporation, the Association could formally solicit donations from the community to support the thirty children under Ms. Peabody's care in a house at 685 East Chicago Street in Elgin. The inclusion of "Children's Home" in the Association's name likely was done to draw on the success and popularity of Martin Van Arsdale's Children's Home and Aid Society, which was first founded in 1883. Although the Elgin home was likely influenced by the Children's Home movement, there is no evidence of a direct connection to Arsdale's organization.

In 1902, local farmer and politician Cyrus H. Larkin (1830-1902) donated a large house and land at 320 South State Street in Elgin to the Elgin Children's Home Association for use as a new home, with the requirement that the new facility be named the Larkin Home for Children in honor of his late mother Sarah A. Larkin (1803-1887). This first Larkin Home for Children is no longer extant.

⁵ At least six similar buildings were identified in the Illinois Historic Structures Survey and are scattered across the state. The connection between these Children's Homes and Arsdale's Children's Home movement is not known.

⁶ Department of Commerce and Labor, Bureau of the Census, S. N. D. North, Director, *Special Reports: Benevolent Institutions, 1904* (Washington, D.C., Government Printing Office, 1905) 64-68.

⁷ Dr. Leon E. Truesdell, *Children Under Institutional Care and in Foster Homes, 1933* (Washington, D.C., United States Government Printing Office, 1935) 72-75.

⁸ Trusdell, 1935; "Farm Near Elgin for an Orphanage," *True Republican*, February 23, 1929.

⁹ Guy H. Fuller, Ed., *Loyal Order of Moose and Mooseheart* (Mooseheart, Illinois: Mooseheart Press, 1918) 52.

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History of the Larkin Home for Children (1912-1966)

As the Larkin Home for Children organization began to outgrow its 320 South State Street home, a campaign was raised to purchase the current 3.5 acre parcel and to build a new and larger facility to care for orphaned children.

The trustees of the organization were careful to separate their proposed facility from orphanages, which were viewed and portrayed in news accounts as overcrowded and unsanitary. A trustee was quoted in a local newspaper as noting:

[T]he Larkin home is not an Orphanage, it is a real home. It is a home for those children whose parents—for most of them have one living parent, at least—are for one reason or another unable to provide for them and give them the care that they should have.... The object of this institution is to provide good homes for the children until their parents can reclaim them or until it is found possible to obtain permanent homes for them.¹⁰

Positioning itself as a home-like setting, the Larkin Home for Children organization appealed to reformers as a progressive institution deserving of philanthropic contributions from forward-thinking citizens. Donations from over 300 Elgin residents helped cover nearly the entire cost of construction. Additional donations from citizens, societies, and businesses provided new furnishings and materials for the Larkin Home for Children. The Georgian Revival home was designed by local architect George Morris, who designed other institutional buildings in Elgin, and it opened in June 1912 with accommodations for 37 children.¹¹

The Larkin Home for Children was the first institution in the Elgin area to provide care for orphaned children ages three to fourteen. Larkin was also significantly smaller than most orphanages in Illinois, including the nearby Mooseheart and Yeoman institutions, which opened in 1913 and 1926 respectively. These larger institutions accepted a wider age range of children from newborns through age twenty. Instead of housing for dozens or hundreds, Larkin provided as close to a home-life atmosphere as possible, with room for fewer than fifty children at a time. Larkin followed the ideals promoted by reformers and advocates of child welfare by approximating the small scale and intimate level of care offered in a proper home.

Despite set limits on accommodations, the number of children in the home varied widely from around twenty to nearly 70. During World War I, according to Board meeting minutes, there were sixty-two children in the home's care one year, of which ten found homes that year. During the 1930s, at the height of the Great Depression, Larkin held only between twenty and forty children, many of whom were placed by parents who could not afford keep them, but anticipated returning them home when they could. In the case of more than one child, the inability of parents to pay the daily cost of care sometimes resulted in the child finding a new home entirely if a potential adoptive family showed interest. The cost of care was high, which meant that Larkin had to raise funds and keep to strict age limits. One a child was too old the home would assist in finding new accommodations. In 1933, after more children were arriving and staying for short durations, Larkin established a minimum rate of one dollar for children who were placed in their care for a day.¹² In 1934, a wing was added to the main building, which increased its capacity to 50 children.¹³

Though archival documentation is unclear as to the racial and ethnic backgrounds of the children who lived at the Larkin Home for Children in its early years, U.S. census records did not explicitly categorize the Larkin Home as a "whites only" institution as were other early twentieth century orphanages and children's homes in Illinois, like the Mooseheart orphanage near Batavia, which overtly excluded non-white children.

The Larkin Home for Children was not only a home but also a place where care of all kinds was required. Childhood diseases were very common and some of the home's children had physical issues that needed medical attention. As such, from an

¹⁰ "Trustees explain Larkin Home Aim," 1911.

¹¹ "New Larkin Home for Children Opened Today; Completion Event in History of Elgin Philanthropy," *The Elgin Daily News*, June 10, 1912. 4.

¹² *Larkin Board Meeting Minutes*, Elgin Historical Society.

¹³ William C. Folk, "The Larkin Center," City of Elgin, Application for Landmark Designation, 2004.

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early date, Larkin endeavored to add its own infirmary. For over a decade during the 1910s, according meeting minutes, the Board had looked for ways to finance and establish an onsite hospital. Initial plans for a separate hospital building proposed after the opening of the home were halted due to a Government limit set on new construction during World War I. As an alternative the Board proposed creating a hospital in the home's then-unfinished third-floor attic space, but this too was beyond the means of the Board's financial resources. In 1918, the year of the great influenza pandemic, Larkin was strongly affected, but found that outside assistance was "absolutely impossible." The Board recognized the need for an onsite infirmary and worked to raise funds for such an addition, resulting in the Hospital Building completed in 1926 to the north and west of the Main Building.

Later History of the Larkin Home for Children and Larkin Center (1966-2013)

The Larkin Home for Children remained the only non-institutional home for orphans in the Elgin area and Fox River Valley until the 1960s when the institution gradually transitioned from primarily serving homeless children to caring for and treating an increasing number of emotionally-disturbed children from dysfunctional or abusive homes. These children often had great emotional or behavioral issues that made them difficult for foster care. As early as 1951, the Home appointed Joan Havercroft as its first director with special training in sociology and psychology. By 1966, Larkin Home had built a large staff, including a part-time social worker, a psychologist, and a psychiatric consultant, to treat the home's children. In the same year Larkin also opened its first group home, which moved children out of the Main Building and placed them in groups of up to eight children together in Elgin homes offsite. With these changes in the organization's mission in 1966, the 1912 Main Building was converted to administrative offices and was no longer used as housing. A new institutional dormitory, called the Clara Thatcher Center, was opened behind the main building along Melrose Avenue in 1972.¹⁴

Larkin's support of children widened in 1981 with a transitional living program to help teenagers with mental illnesses live independently; the program later expanded to include adults. Around the same time, an outpatient family counseling program and other programs for at-risk youth were organized to serve the local community. During the late 1980s the Larkin Home for Children was renamed the Larkin Center for Children and Adolescents to better reflect the organization's broader programming. The name was changed again in 1993 to simply The Larkin Center.¹⁵

The expansion of the organization's services helped cover the construction of new buildings on the Larkin Home for Children site. A small brick garage was built northeast of the Main Building in 1964. In 1968, Larkin opened a school to tutor children in its care, which developed into a larger program and resulted in the addition of mobile classroom trailers to the north of the Main Building during the 1970s. The additional classroom space allowed Larkin to enroll day students with learning and other disabilities that were not living at Larkin. The school grew quickly and in 2001 was relocated to a renovated school building at 515 Sports Way. Of the trailers added to the site, only one remains.¹⁶

Larkin Center served the city of Elgin and the Fox River Valley until it closed in 2013. The former Larkin Home for Children is currently vacant.

Architect George Morris (1875-1941)

George Morris, architect of the Larkin Home for Children's 1912 Main Building, was born in Ravenna, Ohio in 1875. He studied at the Armour Institute of Technology in Chicago (currently the Illinois Institute of Technology) and graduated in 1898. Morris spent two years working in Chicago before moving to Elgin, IL, where he designed several notable residential, commercial, and institutional buildings. He designed the Scanlan Bath House in Wing Park, which was completed in 1927, and the Sherman and St. Joseph's Hospitals (1914). In addition, Morris designed dozens of private homes and many school buildings. Morris designed additions to many of Elgin's elementary schools and became associated with Elgin architect Ralph E. Abeil, with whom he designed additions to the Elgin High School building, which included a gymnasium and a

¹⁴ David Siegenthaler, "Larkin Home for Children, 1896-2013: Part 2," *The Crackerbarrel*, May 2014: 3-4.

¹⁵ Siegenthaler, 4.

¹⁶ City of Elgin, Building Permit Records; Siegenthaler, 4.

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manual training school wing. In 1934, Morris designed several large additions to the Elgin National Watch Company factory complex. Buildings of his design can be found around Illinois and in Wisconsin.¹⁷

Comparable Sites

Surviving orphanages in Illinois are easily divided between large institutional campuses and smaller buildings like the Larkin Home for Children. Because the construction and use of the traditional orphanage programs declined between the Great Depression and the post-World War II period, few new facilities were built after 1933. Consequently, the United States Census of 1933, which lists all orphanages, children's homes, and other pre-foster care facilities, offers an accurate list of orphanage-type sites in Illinois that are comparable to the Larkin Home for Children.

Of the over 140 sites identified in Illinois in 1933, only one site in addition to Larkin existed in the vicinity of Elgin – the Yeoman City of Childhood in West Dundee (15N395 II Route 31, Dundee Township, Kane County, Illinois) completed in 1926. The Brotherhood of American Yeomen, a fraternal organization of the American Mutual Life Insurance company, acquired the former estate of sea captain Thomas H. Thompson along Route 31, south of West Dundee, in 1926 as a facility to care for the children of policy holders. The 500-acre farmland hosted a tent city with events and had a capacity in permanent buildings for fifty orphans. Several temporary and permanent buildings were erected across the estate for the purposes of the Yeoman and the City of Childhood orphanage. The former Thompson house was converted to use as the administrative offices of the Yeoman.¹⁸ Today only a few of the outbuildings remain, in addition to the Thompson house.

Conclusion

The Larkin Home for Children at 1212 Larkin Avenue was unique in Elgin and in the Fox River Valley as a privately-funded home for homeless children. The Home's limited accommodations were believed to benefit its young residents by providing an intimate and home-like environment that was nurturing for their early development. For 44 years, Larkin served primarily as a children's home, and continued its service and commitment for another 47 years as an expanded facility treating children and young adults with deeper emotional wounds.

The Larkin Home for Children site on Larkin Avenue has two significant surviving buildings from the organization's first period as a home for children from 1912 to 1966. The Main Building (1912) and the Hospital Building (1926) retain good integrity through their overall form, masonry finishes, pattern of fenestration, and interior layout and finishes. The buildings continue to express the early history of this locally innovation and unique Elgin philanthropic organization.

¹⁷ "Geo. Morris, Architect, Dead at 66," *The Elgin Daily Courier-News*, August 21, 1941. 1.

¹⁸ "Metropolitan Church Group Buys Estes Home Landmark for Business Headquarters," *The Chicago Tribune*, November 1, 1953. 3-1.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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“Trustees Explain Larkin Home Aim.” [Elgin newspaper] 1911. Copied in William C. Folk, “The Larkin Center.” City of Elgin, Application for Landmark Designation, 2004.

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3.44

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>42.036350</u>	<u>-88.308818</u>	3	_____	_____
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude
2	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Lots 1 through 22 in Block 10 of Theo. F. Swan's Subdivision, part of the East 1/2 Section 15-41-8, in Kane County, Illinois.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary encompasses the area of the land historically associated with the Larkin Home for Children in Kane County, Illinois.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rachel Firgens, Associate, and Matt Wicklund date August 8, 2018
organization MacRostie Historic Advisors, LLC telephone 312-973-3903
street & number 53 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1142 email rfirgens@mac-ha.com
city or town Chicago state Illinois zip code 60604

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

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Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Larkin Home for Children
City or Vicinity: Chicago
County: Kane **State:** Illinois
Photographer: John Cramer
Date Photographed: March 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- Photo 1 of 14:** Site and West and south elevations of Main Building, looking northeast
- Photo 2 of 14:** West and south elevations of Main Building, looking northeast
- Photo 3 of 14:** South and east elevations of Main Building, looking northwest
- Photo 4 of 14:** North elevation of Main Building, looking south
- Photo 5 of 14:** South and east elevations of the Hospital Building, looking northwest
- Photo 6 of 14:** North elevations of Main Building, metal trailer (non-contributing), and Hospital Building, looking south
- Photo 7 of 14:** First floor of Main Building, entrance vestibule, looking south
- Photo 8 of 14:** Entry room of Hospital Building, looking southeast
- Photo 9 of 14:** First floor of Main Building, typical room, looking southwest
- Photo 10 of 14:** First floor of Main Building, typical room, looking northwest
- Photo 11 of 14:** Third floor, main stair of Main Building, looking northeast
- Photo 12 of 14:** Third floor of Main Building, typical room, looking northeast
- Photo 13 of 14:** East elevation of garage, looking west
- Photo 14 of 14:** South and east elevations of Dormitory (non-contributing), looking northwest

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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List of Figures

(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all document should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.

Figure 1: Aerial Map with National Register boundary, 2018.

Figure 2: Site Map with Contributing/Non-Contributing resources, 2018.

Figure 3: Context Map, 2018.

Figure 4: Photo Key, Site.

Figure 5: Photo Key, Main Building, 1st Floor.

Figure 6: Photo Key, Main Building, 3rd Floor.

Figure 7: Photo Key, Hospital, 1st Floor.

Figure 8: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1939.

Figure 9: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1950.

Figure 10: Aerial Map, 1954.

Figure 11: Aerial Map, 1962.

Figure 12: Aerial Map, 1970.

Figure 13: Aerial Map, 1995.

Figure 14: Postcard showing the Larkin Home for Children with Hospital, c 1920s.

Figure 15: Main Building, 1912.

Figure 16: Front porch of Main Building, c. 1920s

Figure 17: Front porch of Main Building, c. 1920s

Figure 18: Children in front of Main Building, 1928.

Figure 19: Main Building, 1933.

Figure 20: Main Building, c.1930s.

Figure 21: Main Building, c.1950s.

Figure 22: Main Building, main stairway group photo, c.1950s.

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Figure 1: Aerial Map with National Register boundary, 2018.

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1212 Larkin Avenue, Elgin, Kane County, IL
42.036350, -88.308818



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Figure 2: Site Map with Contributing/Non-Contributing resources, 2018.



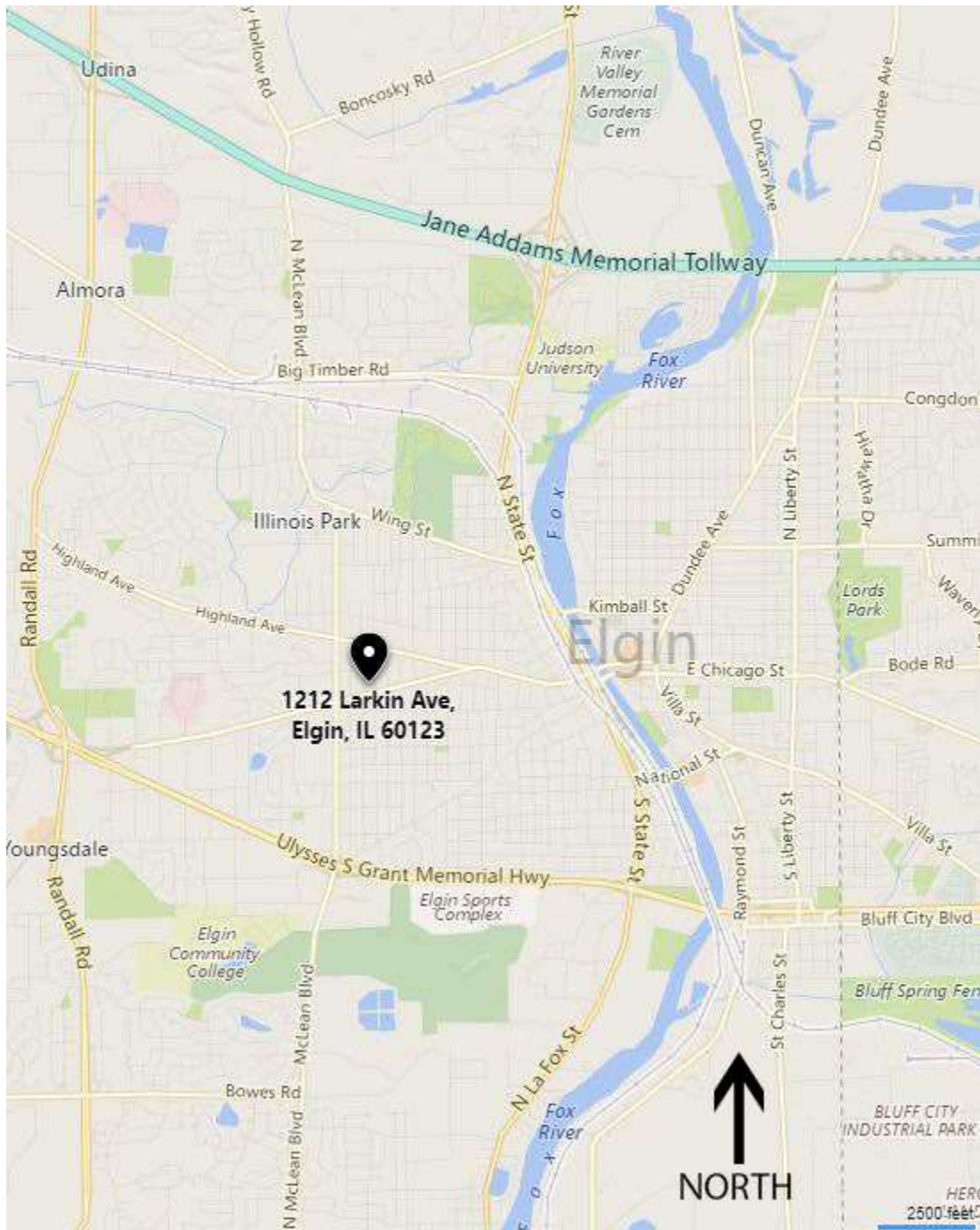
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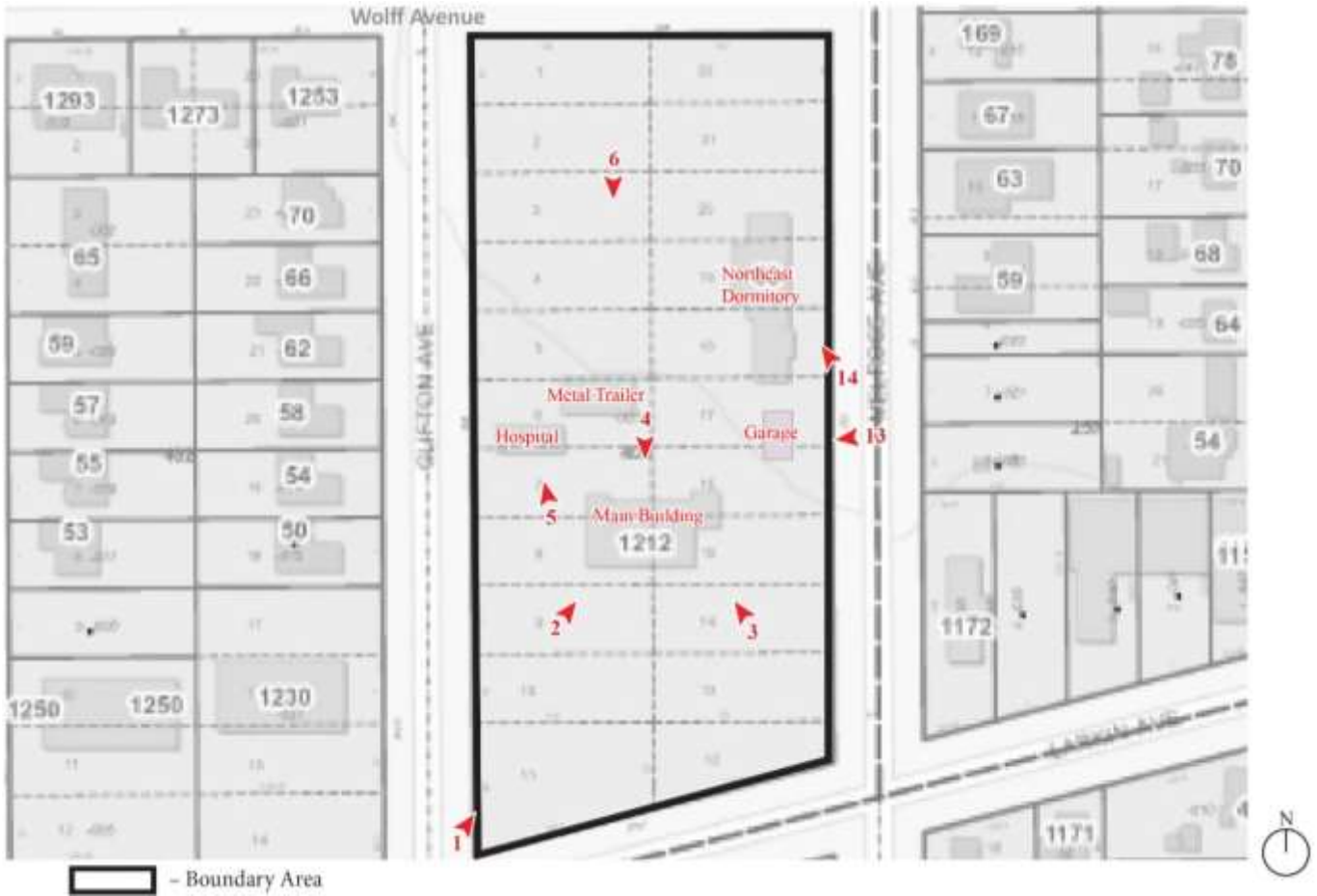
Figure 3: Context Map, 2018.



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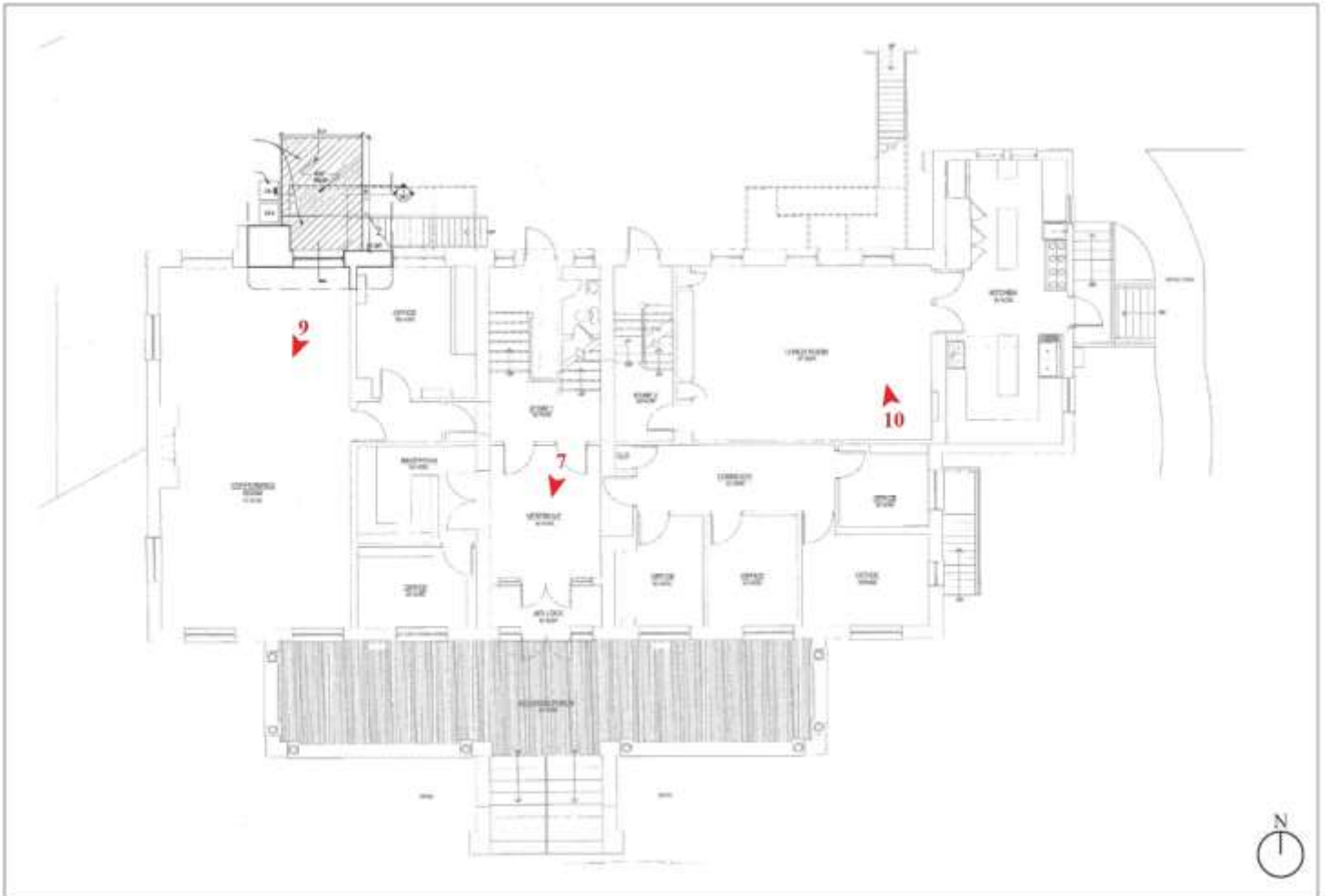
Figure 4: Photo Key, Site.



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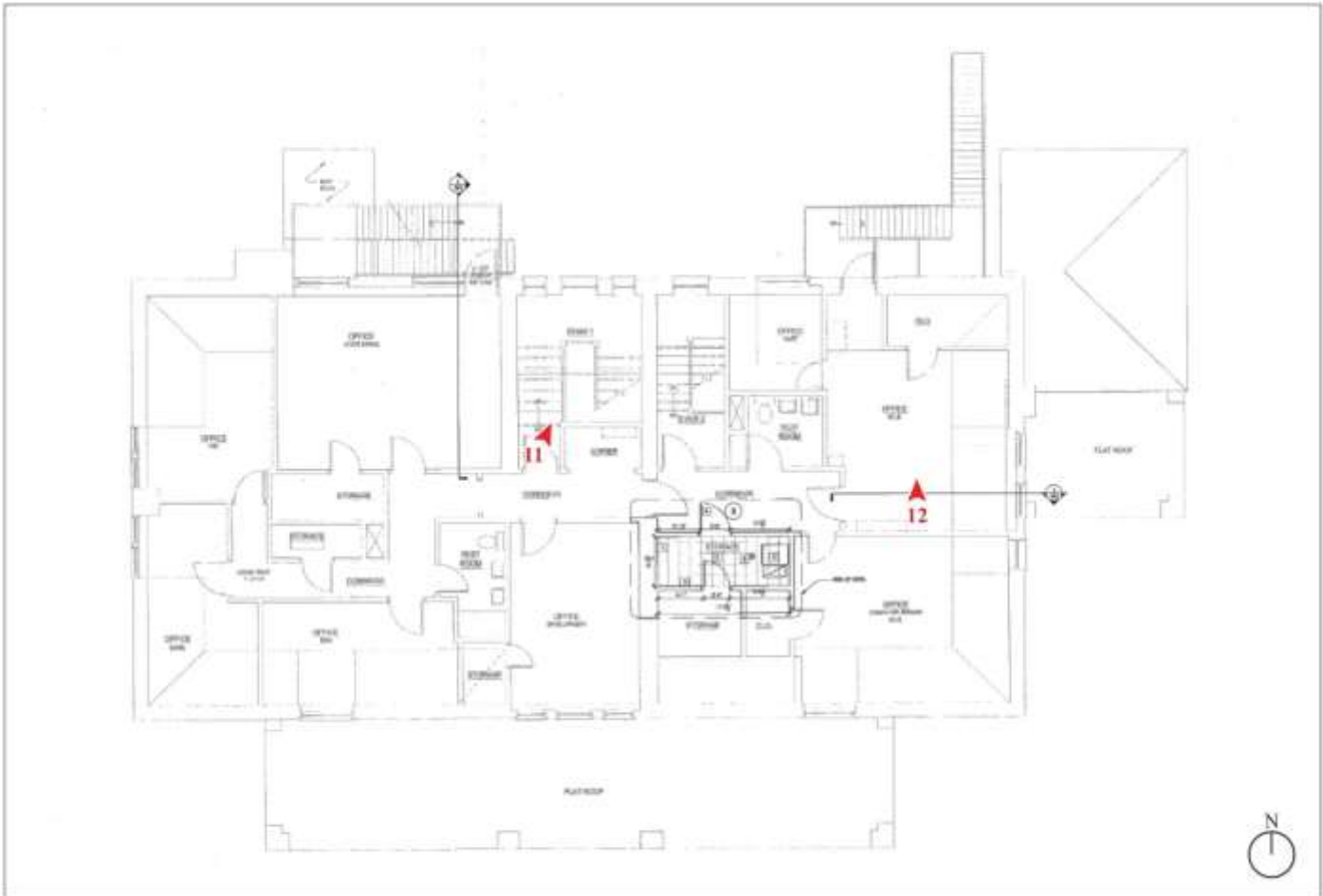
Figure 5: Photo Key and Floor Plan, Main Building, 1st Floor.



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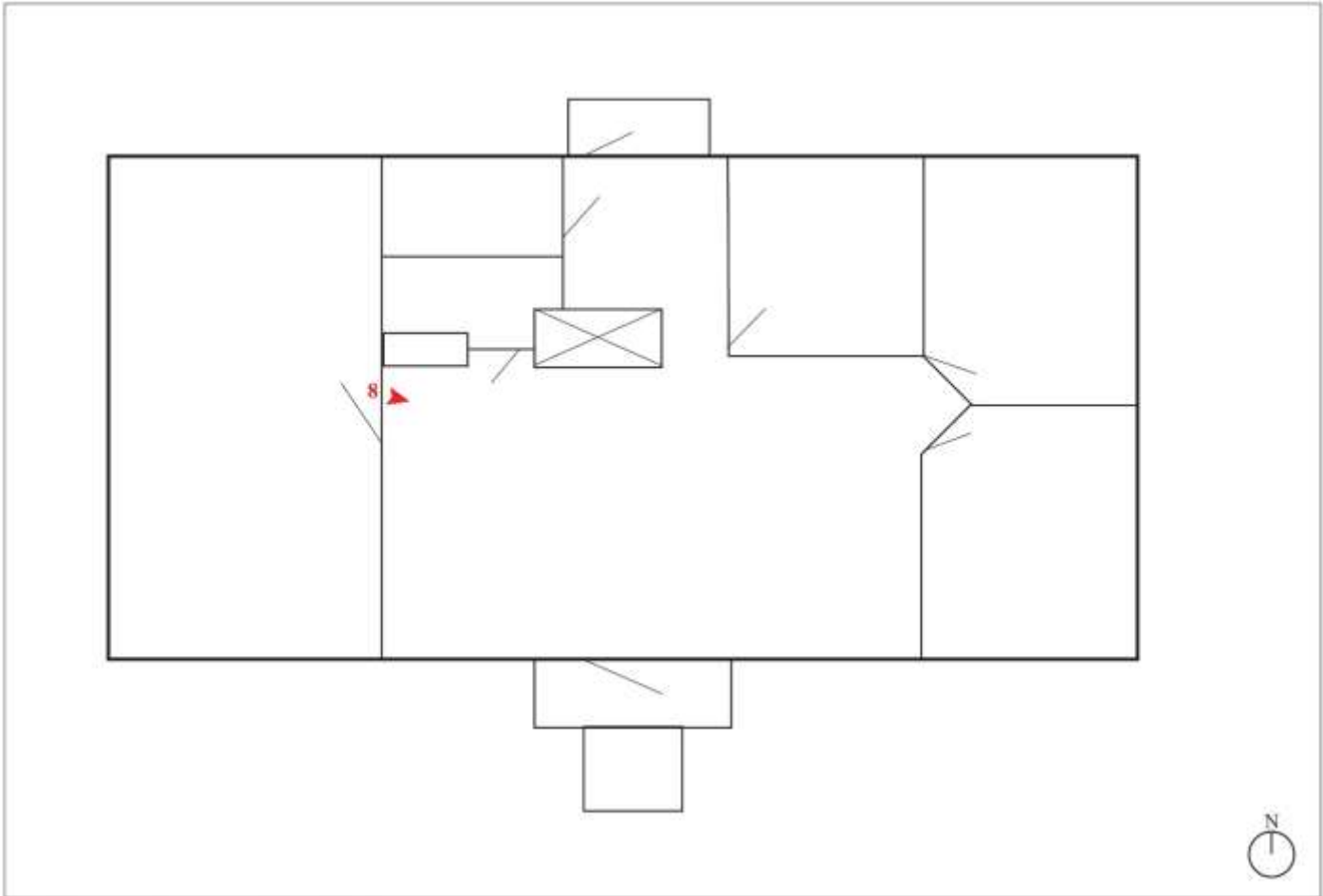
Figure 6: Photo Key and Floor Plan, Main Building, 3rd Floor.



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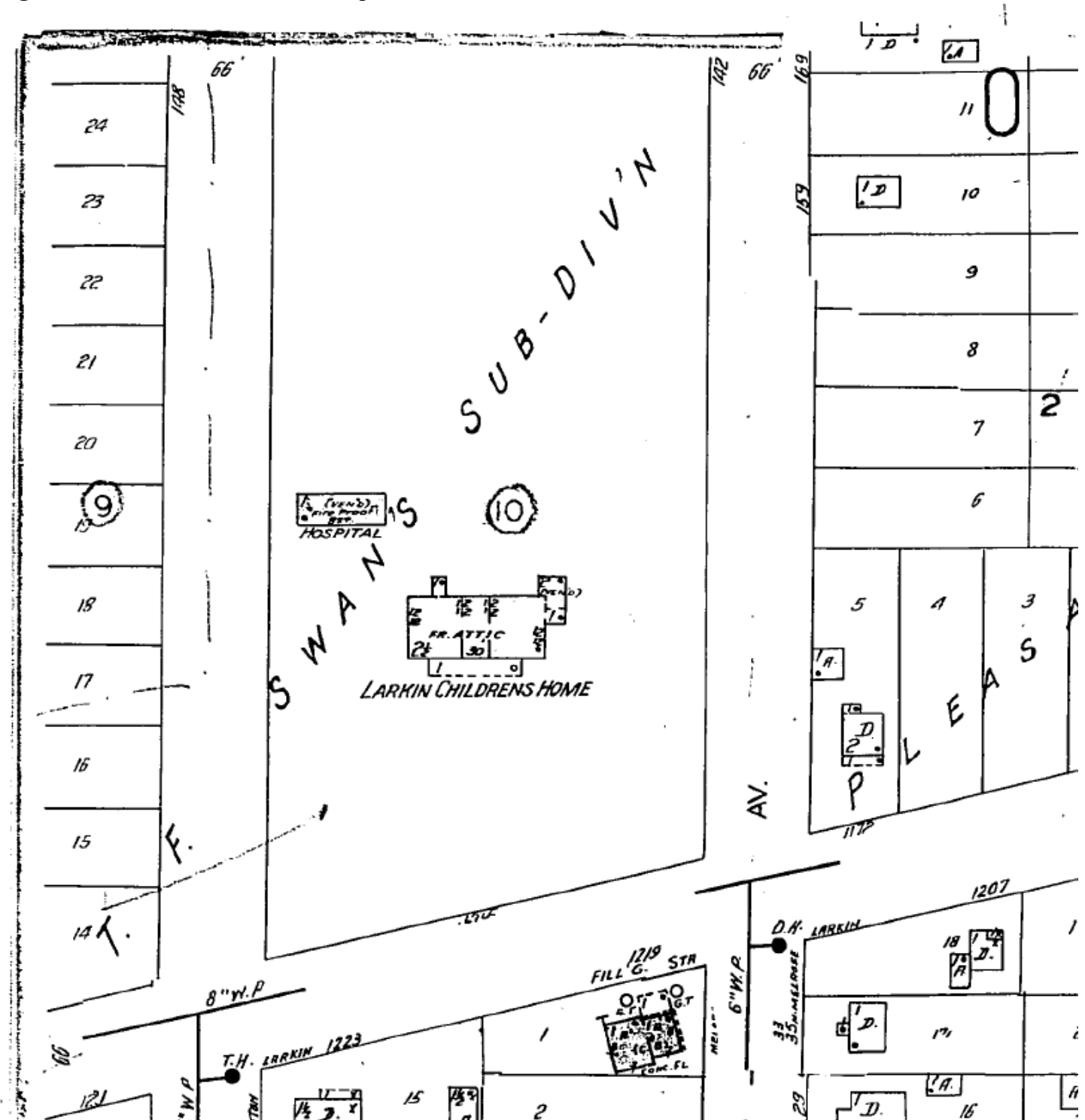
Figure 7: Photo Key and Floor Plan, Hospital, 1st Floor.



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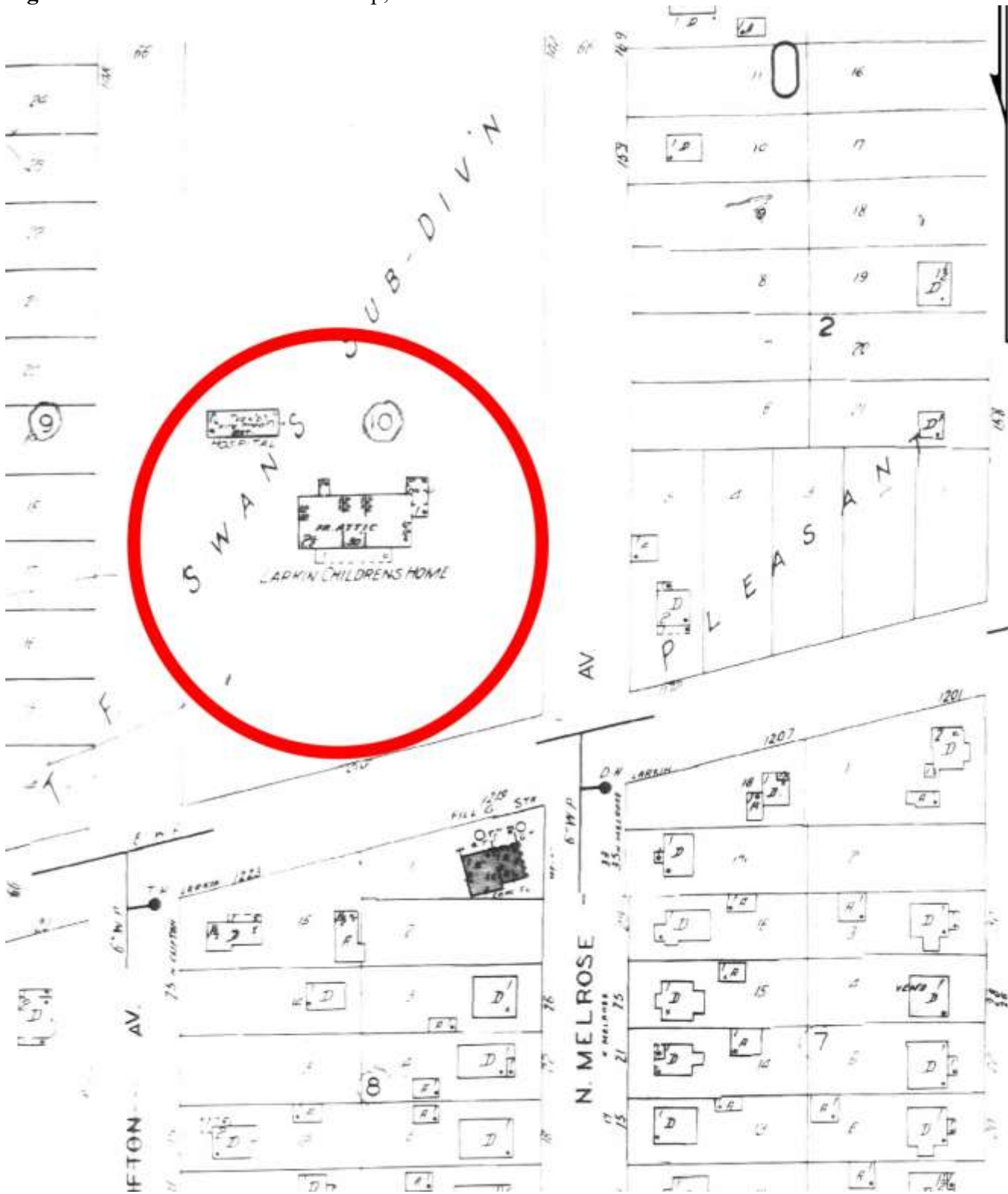
Figure 8: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1939.



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Figure 9: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1950.



Larkin Home for Children
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Figure 10: Aerial Map, 1954.



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Figure 11: Aerial Map, 1962.



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Figure 12: Aerial Map, 1970.



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Figure 13: Aerial Map, 1995.



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Figure 14: Postcard showing the Larkin Home for Children with Hospital (Contributing) (left) and Main Building (Contributing) (right), c. 1920s.



Figure 15: Main Building, 1912.



Larkin Home for Children
Name of Property

Kane, Illinois
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Figure 16: Front porch of Main Building, c. 1920s



Figure 17: Front porch of Main Building, c. 1920s



Larkin Home for Children
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Figure 18: Children in front of Main Building, 1928.



Figure 19: Main Building, 1933.



Larkin Home for Children

Name of Property

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Figure 20: Main Building, c.1930s.



Figure 21: Main Building, c.1950s.

Larkin Home for Children

Name of Property

Kane, Illinois

County and State



Figure 22: Main Building, main stairway group photo, c.1950s.

Larkin Home for Children

Name of Property

Kane, Illinois

County and State







1712



















EXIT







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 11/15/2018 Date of Pending List: 12/10/2018 Date of 16th Day: 12/26/2018 Date of 45th Day: 12/31/2018 Date of Weekly List: 2/1/2019

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 12/31/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Barbara Wyatt Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2252 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

Bruce Rauner, Governor
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

November 9, 2018

Ms. Barbara Wyatt, National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Wyatt:

Enclosed are the disks that contain the true and correct copies of the National Register nomination recommended for nomination by the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council at its October 26, 2018 meeting and signed by the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer:

Larkin Home for Children, Elgin, Kane County
Hermosa Bungalow Historic District, Chicago, Cook County
Rochelle Downtown Historic District, Rochelle, Ogle County (includes USPS notification)

Please note that that the following documentation is also included:

Reference Number 12000040, Chicago Park Boulevard System Historic District. A new cover, disk with the corrected nomination, and 22 disks with photographs are included.

Reference Number 100002826, Downtown Peoria Historic District. A copy of the correspondence between the SHPO, the USPS and the GSA regarding the federally-owned property located within the district is included. A new cover and continuation sheets are included regarding the contributing designation of the properties at 124 1/2 NE Adams Street (Annex) and 124 SW Adams Street (Block and Kuhl Department Store).

Please contact me at 217/785-4324 if you need any additional information. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Andrew Heckenkamp, Coordinator,
Survey and National Register program
Illinois State Historic Preservation Office/Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Attachments