Form No. 10-300 REV. (9/77)

# UNITED STATES DEPART AT A TAPE STATE FIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

0699284

FEB 1 2 1979

DATE ENTERED

	•••	MAIN	L 0 1313
SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW T	O COMPLETE NATIONA COMPLETE APPLICABL		
NAME	OOM LETE AT LOOK DE		
HISTORIC			- '
Gilbert Mansion			•
AND/OR COMMON Lindsey House		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
LOCATION			
<del>.</del> ,			•
STREET & NUMBER			
1906 West End Avenue		NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	ıct
Nashville	VICINITY OF	Fifth	
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Tennessee	047	Davidson	037
CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESI	ENT USE
DISTRICTPUBLIC	X_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X_BUILDING(S) XPRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTUREBOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	XPRIVATE RESIDENCE
_SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
_OBJECTIN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
	X_NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
OWNER OF PROPERTY			
Stanley D. Lindsey			
STREET & NUMBER			
3716 Hillsboro Road			•
CITY, TOWN		STATE	
Nashville	VICINITY OF	Tennessee 3	7215
LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCR	IPTION		•
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Davidson County, 1	Register of Deeds	•	· ,
STREET & NUMBER	negister of beeds	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	······································
Metro Courthouse			
CITY, TOWN		STATE	
Nashville		Tennesse	e 37201
REPRESENTATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS	•	
' ΤΪΤLE			
Historical and Archite	ectural Survey		
DATE			
September, 1978	FEDERAL X_S	TATECOUNTYLOCAL	·
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Tennessee Historical C	ommission, 170 Seco	nd Avenue, North	,
CITY, TOWN		STATE	
<u>Nashville</u>		Tennesse	e 37201

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

**CHECK ONE** 

X\_EXCELLENT

\_\_DETERIORATED

\_\_RUINS

\_\_ALTERED

**x**\_ORIGINAL SITE

\_\_GOOD

\_\_UNEXPOSED

\_\_MOVED

ATE\_\_\_\_

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

#### The Site:

In its original setting, the Gilbert Mansion was located in a fine residential area. Just two blocks away from one of the earlier Tennessee State Governor's Mansions, the Gilbert House was surrounded by other similar residences constructed on the site of the old Boyd family property.

Today, however, it is one of the last remaining residences from an area of larger town-houses which is quickly giving way to commercial development. Although its surrounding environs have changed substantially, the house and grounds have not. As can be seen on the enclosed site plan, the house sits on a narrow 50' wide lot fronting West End Avenue. The house is set back about 25' behind the front property line and is sheltered from the bustle of traffic by two large magnolia trees. The lot extends north 175 feet from the street and terminates at an alley. The grounds at the rear of the house which used to be filled with gardens of flowers are now barren.

#### The House Exterior:

The exterior design of the Gilbert Mansion reflects the influence of the then popular "four-square" design. However, having been built by a local stone mason, the house features stone details instead of the more usual wooden ones familiar in that design; examples of this substitution include the stone balustrade and pillars of the front porch. The south (front) elevation of the house is typical of this construction. Across the entire width of the house runs a limestone faced porch. The concrete floor of the porch is approximately 3' above the level of the ground and a single grouping of steps placed towards the southwest corner of the house allows access to the porch. Flanking these entrance steps on either side are stone columns which support a tiled roof over the southwest portion of the porth of centered on the entrance steps is the entrance to the house which is recessed slightly and features a pair of wood doors which are glazed with leaded glass. Alongside these doors are sidelights glazed in a similar manner. Directly above this low roofed entry area is a large bay window that looks out onto the street below. The southeast portion of the front porch is not covered by a roof and features a stone railing with stone balusters and heavy stone corner posts. Sculptured stone scuppers projecting from the base of the porch allow the drainage of water from the floor area. Looking out onto this section of the porch is a group of three transomed window openings. Set deeply into the stone wall above these windows in the same wall plane are a pair of regularly spaced window openings. The main roof of the house, a clay tiled hip roof, provides a wide overhang over these windows and the bay window adjacent to them on the second floor. The soffit at the roof overhang appears to be supported by rough cut limestone brackets. Punctuating this upper roof line is a hipped dormer which provides light into the attic.

The west elevation of the Gilbert Mansion shows very little modeling with the principal features being a very large wall plane beginning at the front porch at the southwest corner of the building and terminating with the porch enclosure at the rear of the house. Here the house illustrates its basic rectangular planning and reveals the subleties of its stonework very clearly. The roughly cut limestone is laid in an ashlar pattern with alternating courses of 6" and 12" high stone. The masonry pattern is further accented by belts of raised stone that circle the house, primarily at the first floor line and

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY RECEIVED FEB 1 2 1979

DATE ENTERED

MAR 28 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

at the sills of both first floor and second floor windows. The window pattern in the wall is slightly irregular, owing to the arrangement of the windows at the intermediate landings of two interior stairs. Typical double hung wood windows are used here with an exception of several windows toward the front of the house which are glazed with stained glass. Penetrating the roof line above the two stone chimneys and another dormer window unit also with a hipped roof and wood shingled walls. Towards the northwest corner of the house, a set of concrete steps rise toward a partially enclosed porch. The porch which rests on stone piers is fashioned entirely out of wood. From a painted wood strip floor and wooden joists rise wood balusters and a wood handrail approximately 2'-6" high. Above that the west face of the porch is screened with diagonal painted wood latticework that extends to the second floor line. Wood columns support the structure above. This pattern is repeated in the porch off of the second level and is terminated in the horizontal line of the tiled, hipped roof above.

The north or rear elevation is dominated by the wood framed porches which overhang the exterior entrance to the basement. These porches extend from the northwest corner of the house to the middle of the house where the exterior stone wall projects outward. At this point, the porches are connected with the interior spaces of the house by means of a single wood half-glass door. Descending from the east side of the porch wooden stairs connect the first and second floors with the grade below. On the north elevation of the porches there is no latticework above the handrail and the porches have a much more open feeling about them. The porches are covered by a roof which runs slightly below the level of the main roof of the house. Window treatment is much more regular at the north elevation with openings usually aligning both horizontally and vertically. One window on each floor looks out onto the rear porch while a pair of windows on each floor penetrate the stone wall to the left of the porches.

Almost masked from view completely by an adjacent building, the east elevation is nevertheless very interesting. Extending from the main mass of the house is the entry porch to the south or left. From there the house rises to its full 2 story height and exhibits the same pattern of stonework that was noted on the west elevation. This stonework is broken by a pair of painted wood double hung windows aligned vertically. Further modeling is achieved through the design of the projecting bay windows in the middle of the elevation. This bay window arrangement features a fireplace in the center of the projection flanked by windows on each side. This projection extends up to the second floor where the same window pattern is repeated and finally penetrates the roof line forming a dormer window unit which is squared up with small windows on either side of the chimney. Towards the rear of the house the exterior stone wall is broken only by the regular penetration of windows on both floors.

Overall the house is in very good condition today. The house has a new tiled roof and many of the 1 x 4 wood eaves have been replaced already by the new owner. This work has been performed in a very sensitive manner, matching the existing construction. The area of the house that is in the worst need of repair is the rear porch area. Due to lack of maintenance, its wood frame structure is deteriorating rapidly. This entire

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS	LISE ON	Ji Y	X 1520	2.53.280.y	(2154) X	40000
	, 4,2 m/s 34° 3	시간에 있었습니				
	F	EB 1	2 19/	빙		
RECEIVE	<b>)</b>					
		Section y			<b>7</b> 68	
DATE EN	TEOEN	47.7	A.A.	1P 2	୍ଷ ାସ	7Q

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 3

section of the house needs to be replaced. Other than this work, however, it appears that the major portion of the exterior restoration will involve cleaning the stonework and repainting and refinishing doors and windows.

The House Interiors:

The Gilbert Mansion contains 3400 square feet of net enclosed area on two levels, plus it has a full basement and a large attic. The house has a living room, study, dining room, pantry, kitchen, bedroom, bath and small storage room on the first level, and it has five bedrooms and a bath on the second floor. A monumental staircase connects the first floor with the second floor while a second service staircase connects the basement, first bloor, second floor and attic. A description of each of the spaces follows.

The entry hall or living room of the house is 20' x 23' and is, along with the study and dining room, one of the most architecturally prominent rooms of the house. Mahogany paneled wainscoting adorns all of the walls in this room up to a height of about 4'-6". This woodwork was done by Edgefield and Nashville Manufacturing Company and is in excellent condition today. Above the paneling all of the wall surfaces are papered in a cream colored geometric pattern. The plaster ceiling in this space is covered by a stenciled canvas of an original design. A one inch wide green line on a tan background borders the room and in the corners the design is accented by an olive leaf pattern in sienna and green. The canvas is in good condition except for several small cracks in one area. A limestone faced fireplace is located on the west wall of the room. A stone hearth extends out from the fireplace on the same level with the wood strip flooring in The firebox is moderately sized and faced with firebrick, and alongside it the stonework on the front face of the fireplace provides several small ledges which were used for display. The stone mantel which is approximately seven feet wide also provides display space, and above the mantel the stone facing is inlaid with glazed ceramic mosaic tiles. The entire fireplace is in excellent condition. To either side of the fireplace and above the wainscot are located wood-framed stained glass windows. Directly ahead upon entering the entry hall a monumental staircase leads to the bedrooms on the second floor. The walls enclosing the area beneath the staircase are faced with mahogany paneling which matches the wainscot paneling in the rest of the room. The stair treads and risers are oak and the stair features wood handrails, balusters and newel-posts which match the mahogany paneling. In an alcove behind the stair a small bathroom is located. A chandelier centered in the room provides artificial illumination for the space. The ceilings are approximately 10'-6" in height.

A 7' wide framed opening in the east wall of the entry hall leads to the study or parlor. This framed opening is similar to several others in the dining room and study. It features fluted mahogany Ionic columns on either side of the opening which sit on the chair rail at the top of the wainscot. These columns and the complete entablature which they support frame the passageway. The parlor is approximately 16' square and has a 10'-6" ceiling. A large double-hung window looks out upon the front porch from this room and aids the large chandelier in illuminating the space. Against the east

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY RECEIVED FEB 1 2 1979 MAR 28 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER PAGE 4

DATE ENTERED

wall of the room sits another fireplace, one which is typical of most of the fireplaces in the house. This fireplace has a ceramic tile hearth at the floor level and features 8" diameter mahogany Ionic columns which frame the firebox and support a matching mahogany mantel which is 5'6" wide and 20" deep. Above the mantel Ionic columns corresponding to the ones below support a mahogany overmantel and border a large mirror. The walls of the study also have mahogany paneled wainscoting and original patterned simulated leather wall coverings. These wall coverings are brown with dark brown and green stripes bordered with gold running up to the head of the framed openings in the room. From there an ogee pattern in gold and dark brown extends upward. The wall covering is terminated at a wood cornice molding which is denticulated. The ceiling of the study is canvassed and stenciled in a manner very similar to the one in the living room or entry hall. This design, however, has a blue ogee pattern in the corners of the ceiling with a black border strip running along the walls of the room.

The dining room is adjacent to both the parlor and entry area and shares many architectural features with both rooms. The dining room is a hexagonal room (16 x 18) with a fireplace on the exterior wall of the room which is virtually identical to the one in the study. The walls are also paneled with mahogany; however, unlike the living room and the study, there is a wide plate above the paneling. This area has been used to display china and crystal. A built-in china cabinet is also employed along the north wall of the room. The walls of the dinding room are also covered with simulated leather wall coverings. These wallcoverings are tan with a club pattern in green, blue, and red with a tooled gold border. The ceiling in the dining room which is 10'-6" high is unique in that it features a grid of exposed mahogany-faced box beams with brown and gold geometrically patterned wall paper applied to the areas in relief.

Sandwiched between the dining room and kitchen is a pantry which also features wood strip flooring. It is a very narrow room approximately 3'-6" x 15'-6" with painted plaster walls and several built-in wood cabinets.

The kitchen is located in the northeast corner of the house and still retains the original plumbing fixtures. Flooring in the kitchen is vinyl tile. The walls and ceiling are painted plaster.

A five foot wide hall joins the living room with the kitchen, bedroom and a service stair. The bedroom which is 12'-6" x 15'-0" is directly across the hall from the kitchen in the northwest corner of the house. It is finished with wood strip flooring, painted plaster walls and ceiling. This bedroom also features a fireplace and a built-in wood cabinet.

The service stair is located off the hallway between the living room and the breakfast room. This stair was designed with wood treads and risers, wood handrails, balusters and newel-posts but of much simpler design than the monumental stair. Painted plaster walls enclose the space under the intermediate landing and form a small storage room.

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED LS 1979

MAR 28 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 5

The service stair leads down to the basement where there is a large open storage area with smaller storage areas opening off of it. Also in the basement are located the furnace, servants's bath, coal bin and water heater. Finishes are minimal with exposed concrete floor slab, unpainted plywood partitions, and exposed ceilings. Although partially depressed below the outside grade, the basement does not seem to have any waterproofing problems.

The second floor is accessible from both the service stair and the monumental stair. A 5' wide corridor running from the front of the house to the back connects these stairs with the five bedrooms and one bathroom that are located on this level. The bedrooms range in size from a small one of 11' x 16' to a large six sided room located over the dining room which is approximately 17' x 18'. All of these bedrooms feature high (10'-6") painted plaster ceilings, wood strip flooring, painted plaster walls, a fireplace similar to the one described in the study, and two or more double hung painted wood windows. The bedroom in the southwest corner of the house, also has a bay window arrangement which overlooks the front porch roof out to the street.

In between two bedrooms at the rear of the house is located the only bathroom on the second floor. The original bathroom fixtures are retained here - a pedestal type lavatory, a footed bathtub, and small toilet. The floors here are ceramic mosaid tile. The walls are painted plaster with marble wainscoting and the ceiling is painted plaster.

Access to the attic is achieved by climbing up the service stairs from the second floor. The attic is a large floored open space approximately 25' x 36'. The roof construction is exposed as are the interior surfaces of the dormer window projections which emit light into the space.

#### Mechanical-Electrical

The house is presently heated by means of a gas fired furnace which provides hot water that is piped to radiators throughout the house. Originally, the house was heated by a hand-fed coal furnace. Subsequently, it was converted to a stoker fed coal furnace, then to a gas installation. All of the original radiators have been retained, however. Supplemental heat is furnished by the nine wood burning fireplaces inthe house. The house is also presently air conditioned by means of several window mounted unit air conditioners.

The plumbing in the house is also original. The plumbing fixtures with the exception of one toilet water tank are also the original units installed in the house.

The electrical system in the house is little changed from the original construction.

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ECEIVED FEB 1 2 1979

MAR 2.8 1979

DATE ENTERED

**CONTINUATION SHEET** 

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 6

Few changes have been made because the power demands of the house have changed little--the original kitchen appliances are still retained, and few new appliances have been added. The wood-enclosed fuse boxes on the first and second floor are still being used. The light fixtures in the house are interesting in that many of them were combination gas and electric fixtures. The gas connections to these fixtures have long since been capped, but the original fixtures remain in most cases. Those original fixtures which have been replaced are now in storage in the attic and are available for future use.

#### Structure

The Gilbert House rests on solid 20" thick masonry foundation walls around its perimeter. Wood floor joists span from this exterior wall to heavy timber beams which span between 2'-0" square solid masonry piers in the middle of the basement area. This pattern is repeated at the second floor as the joists span east to west from the exterior walls to bearing partitions at the corridor which bisects the house. The exterior walls at the first and second floors are limestone faced with brick on the interior. These walls are lathed and plastered. The interior partitions are of wood stud construction with a plaster finish. The roof construction consists of clay tile roofing units over building felts and wood sheathing. This is, in turn, supported by trussed wood rafters.

The structure of the house seems well preserved generally. There does not seem to be termite damage, nor any rotting problems other than those evidenced at the rear porch area. That specific area is to be replaced altogether.

In the northwest corner of the lot stands a rectangular, two-story garage. It is contemporaneous to the house and of similar construction. The building has deteriorated considerably.

The property nominated is the entire parcel owned by Stanley D. Lindsey. It is a rectangular tract which contains the house and garage andmeasures 50 feet by 175 feet and contains approximately .2 acre.

SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1908	BUILDER/ARCI	HITECT Joseph Light:	man	
	odo 781£	INVENTION 39::-	na r . co . o rizau	T.	
<b>⊻</b> _1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)	
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION	
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER	
1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	EDUCÁTION	MILITARY	' 'SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<del></del> 1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE	
1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION	
PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Much of Nashville's social, political and economic life in the early 1900's revolved around the area in which this house is located. This house was one of several similar structures built on the grounds of an old estate. The Governor's Mansion was located just two blocks away. Therefore, a great number of people important to the community and state lived in neighboring homes. In addition to the officials who occupied the Governor's Mansion from 1923-1949, other neighbors included: Leslie Cheek, who founded the Tennessee Botanical Gardens and Fine Arts Center; H. G. Hill, millionaire, founder of a prominent chain of grocery stores; and many others. Joseph Lightman, who built the house, was a prominent stone mason in the area. Harris Gilbert, who subsequently bought the house in 1911, was a prosperous clothing merchant. After the death of Harris Gilbert, the house was inherited by his son, Mr. Leon Gilbert, a prominent lawyer in Nashville who has been honored by the local bar association for his contributions.

This house is significant in that it is representative of a period in American architecture which has passed. As an entirely custom, handmade residence, it stands as an example of the concern and craftsmanship which its original owner/builder had in constructing a dwelling. The stonework, the mahogany paneling, the ceramic mosaics in the fireplaces, the wallcoverings, and many other features, make the house unique and in a sense irreplaceable.

The house is remarkable in that throughout its 70 year lifespan it has known basically only two owners, Harris Gilbert and Leon Gilbert, and they are members of the same family. Therefore, the house, its interiors and even its furniture have almost entirely been preserved and, in most cases, are in remarkably good condition.

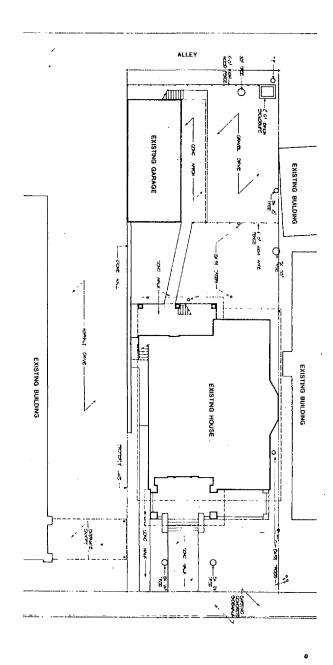
It stands, then, as one of the last surviving residences in a formerly exclusive neighborhood that has now become almost entirely commercial. In its unaltered state it is a perfect example of expensive residential construction at the turn of the twentieth century in Nashville.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Information provided by Stanley D. Lindsey

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA	
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY	
QUADRANGLE NAME <u>Nashville, West, Tennessee</u> UTM REFERENCES	QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000
A 1 16 5 1 18 1 13 10 4 10 10 10 16 15 10 B TONE  ZONE EASTING NORTHING ZONE  C	EASTING NORTHING
EL LILI FLI	
GLI LILI LILI HII	Alan A confidence of the confi
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION  The property nominated is a rectangular tract which parcel is designated as Lot 151 of the Boyd Home Trabook 21, page 39.  LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING.	act; see Davidson County Deed
TO THE STATE AND SOCIETIES TON THOSE ENTRES OF ENEXITS	TO STATE ON COOKIT BOOKDAMES
STATE CODE COUNTY	CODE
STATE CODE COUNTY	CODE
11 FORM PREPARED BY  NAME/TITLE Stanley D. Lindsey	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Stanley D. Lindsey and Associates, Ltd.	August 25, 1978
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
3716 Hillsboro Road	(615) 383-0345 STATE
Nashville	Tennessee
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY	RCERTIFICATION
NATIONAL STATE	LOCAL <u>*</u>
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic P hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certific criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.  STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE	
TITLE Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commis	ssion DATE 2/6/79
FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL PROPERTY.	DATE 3/17/29
ATTER OF REGISTRATION	J 21/1/

Gilbert Mansion
FEB 1 2 199911e, Tennessee



STAN LINDSEY
PROPERTY
1906 WEST END
NASHVOLE, TENN' SSEE

SITE PLAN

-6

-8

Gilbert Mansion Nashville, Tennessee FEB 12 1975 STORAGE RM. ENIKVISE SPOIG WALKHAT

PROPERTY
1908 WEST END
1908 WEST END

PIOOR PLAN

