

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received AUG 14 1987

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Louise Home Hospital and Residence Hall

and/or common Kerr Youth and Family Center

Number of contributing features: 1  
Number of non-contributing features: 1  
(garage)

2. Location

street & number 722 NE 162nd Avenue

N/A not for publication

city, town Gresham

N/A vicinity of Third Congressional District

state Oregon

code 041

county Multnomah

code 051

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: residential

4. Owner of Property

name Albertina Kerr Centers For Children

street & number 424 NE 22nd Avenue

city, town Portland

N/A vicinity of

state Oregon 97232

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Multnomah County Recorder

street & number 610 SW Alder

city, town Portland

state Oregon 97204

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Inventory of  
Historic Properties

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1986  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office, 525 Trade Street SE

city, town Salem state Oregon 97310

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____ N/A _____

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The 17.15-acre campus of the Louise Home now in the corporate limits of the City of Gresham in east Multnomah County, Oregon, for many years supported a farm to supply food to both the Louise Home and the Albertina Kerr Nursery. It is the setting of the historic institution's flagship and oldest standing building. The Louise Home Hospital and Residence Hall, for which design and construction commenced in 1925, was opened for use in 1927. It is a two and a half story brick building having a modified "V" or "U"-shaped plan, hipped roof and exterior elevations detailed in the Georgian style. It is nominated with an area of 2.19 acres in the southwest corner of the campus containing the remnants of a grove of Douglas Fir trees which is one of the very few stands of virgin old growth timber remaining in the Portland area. The grove has been scrupulously preserved by the institutions which have occupied the site since 1912.

When St. Elisabeth's House, a home for "wayward" girls operated by the Episcopal Sisters of St. John the Baptist, moved in 1912 to this site (722 NE 162nd Avenue), the campus was nine acres. In 1915, St. Elisabeth's House was closed, whereupon it was leased and then sold in 1917 to The Pacific Coast Rescue & Protective Society (later to become Albertina Kerr Centers for Children ) for use by its agency, the Louise Home. Additional land was purchased through the years and now the campus area is 17.15 acres. For many years a large portion was called "the Farm," and it supplied dairy products, meat, vegetables and fruit to both the Louise Home and the Albertina Kerr Nursery. All of the original frame buildings of St. Elisabeth's House and of the early years of the Louise Home are now gone.

"The Louise Home" is the name commonly used for the entire campus at 722 NE 162nd Avenue and is a carryover from the agency's founding in 1908 when the Louise Home was a residence building for "wayward" girls at 373 Cable Street, Portland. The original main building on the property was a frame structure in the Craftsman, or "Foursquare" tradition, known as St. Elisabeth's House.

For adequate medical treatment of the girls in residence (few, if any, other hospitals would accept venereally diseased pregnant girls), it soon became evident that a larger juvenile hospital would be required. The hospital was constructed in 1925-1927. With the more recent advent of "wonder drugs" for treatment of venereal diseases, the hospital made a transition to use as a residence hall for pregnant girls and was renamed "Kathryne Carlson Residence Hall" in honor of Kathryne Carlson, able administrator of the Louise Home from the early 1940s to the early 1970s. The original main building (St. Elisabeth's House) was removed to make way for a receiving clinic started in 1950. The preferred and official name for the campus today is the "Kerr Youth and Family Center."

The Hospital and Residence Hall had a capacity of about 65. Fund-raising and design started in 1925, and the structure was completed in 1927. Plans were provided by the firm of Johnson, Parker & Wallwork with Carl H. Wallwork as principal architect. The Albertina Kerr Nursery building of 1921, located at 424 NE 22nd Avenue in Portland, and listed in the National Register in 1979, was designed by the same firm, and both buildings are distinctive examples locally of historic period architecture in the Georgian style.

The Louise Home Hospital and Residence Hall is oriented to the west facing onto NE 162nd Avenue and is partially surrounded by the grove of Douglas Firs mentioned above. The neighborhood surrounding the campus is predominantly single family residential. NE 162nd Avenue is a through street between NE Halsey, about a mile to the north, and NE Glisan, about 500 feet to the south. Glisan is zoned for commercial use. There are scattered fir trees in the neighborhood that probably were part of a forest. The "Jim Smith Grove" on the Louise Home campus is a rare sizable remnant of that forest. Many of the trees

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are from 150 to 200 years old and some are older than 250 years. All are in healthy condition. In Oregon today, there are groves of old growth fir in mountainous regions, but rarely are such stands found in urban areas on the floor of the Willamette Valley.

The plan of the Hospital and Residence Hall is a modified "U" or "V" shape, with the legs, or wings, at 45° angles to the main portion. The wings are about 25 feet wide and 45 feet long and the main portion is about 30 feet wide and 74 feet long. The building has a full basement, two floors and an attic and partial third floor. The basement foundation is of concrete construction and the main and second floors have solid brick exterior walls with wood framed and plaster interior walls. The attic and partial third floor is wood framed with plaster walls and segmental-arched dormers and a long shed dormer on the rear. The hipped roof is covered with composition shingles. The major brick outside end chimney with corbeled cap rises above the roofline at the outer end of the north wing to vent the boiler and kitchen range. The living room fireplace chimney rises above the rear slope of the south wing roof.

Exterior elevations faced with Flemish bond brick are formally composed, having regular fenestration in upper and lower stories. Generous window openings are unframed and fitted with six-over-six, double-hung sash. A continuous string course divides the stories at the second story window sill line. In the main block, lower story window openings are headed by blind relieving arches accented by keystones and impost blocks. The principal, west-facing facade, approached by a semi-circular driveway, is organized into three bays on either side of a central projecting entrance pavilion which is two stories in height and is terminated by a pediment above the full classical entablature which encompasses the entire main block. The pediment with its modillioned raking cornice is embellished with plaster relief ornament in the tympanum. The ornament consists of garlands and an escutcheon bearing the initials of the Pacific Protective Society. The entrance is gained through a recessed porch framed by a classical portico with segmental-arched pediment supported by two round Tuscan columns. Brick quoining at the corners of the main block and entrance pavilion are rusticated.

Interior spaces are arranged with a recreation room in the basement of the main block and heating plant and storage in the basement of the north wing. On the main floor, the central circulation hall separates the living room, or common room from the matron's suite and other staff quarters. The large dining hall and original kitchen space are contained in the north wing; original receiving rooms in the south. The second story, laid out on a double-loaded central corridor plan throughout, was originally allocated to hospital wards in the wings and treatment rooms in the main block. In the main block, a partial third story was utilized as a convalescent ward.

Except for a small brick-faced kitchen extension measuring 12 feet wide and 20 feet long added to the end of the north wing in 1945, the building is essentially unchanged on the exterior. About the only change to the interior original walls was to open two doors, one each side of the fireplace in the living room to provide access to residence areas when the building was changed from a hospital use to a residence for emotionally and behaviorly disturbed girls. Also, for this change, the sliding doors to the entry hall were closed and a non-bearing partition was placed in front of the sliding doors and

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another non-bearing partition was placed to separate the main stairs and livingroom from the public entrance. Plans are underway to remove these later partitions and restore the entrance hall, stairway and livingroom to their original configuration. The building will then be wholly used for administrative offices, clinic staff offices and treatment rooms. Lakin Cottage, located elsewhere on the campus, is being remodeled to accommodate the emotionally and behaviorly disturbed girls now in residence at the historic hospital and residence hall.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1925-1927      **Builder/Architect** Carl H. Wallwork, Architect

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The hospital and residence hall of the Louise Home, a brick masonry building in the Georgian style, is proposed for nomination with slightly over two acres, a small portion of a 17-acre institutional campus recently annexed by the City of Gresham, Oregon. The historic Louise Home is one of several components of the Albertina Kerr Centers for Children maintained at various locations in the Portland metropolitan area. The Louise Home is presently operated as the Kerr Youth and Family Center.

The history of the institution on NE 162nd Avenue outlying Portland's easterly city limits opened in 1912 when St. Elisabeth's Home for wayward girls acquired nine acres at the site. The enterprise of the Episcopal Sisters was eventually sold to the Pacific Coast Rescue and Protective Society, which moved to the site in 1915. The Society transferred to this place the title of its own home for wayward girls which it had operated in Portland since 1908. Thus, the Louise Home was a carry-over name which applied to the institution's campus as a whole.

Today, the oldest building on the campus is the Juvenile Hospital, later named Kathryn Carlson Residence Hall, which was designed in 1925 and completed and opened for use in 1927. Two and a half stories in height and taking the shape of a modified V, it was designed by Portland architect Carl H. Wallwork, who had earlier (1921) designed the Albertina Kerr Nursery in association with Folger Johnson and Jamieson Parker. The Albertina Kerr Nursery has been listed in the National Register.

The hospital's finely-detailed exterior elevations are well preserved. While the building is locally noteworthy as an example of institutional architecture of the 1920s in an appropriately traditional style, it meets National Register Criterion A, primarily, as the discretely-sited flagship of the Louise Home campus. Specifically, it represents an historic continuum of social services fulfilled by private philanthropy where public facilities were lacking. Like the Multnomah County Poor Farm and more precisely comparable institutions elsewhere in the state, such as the Children's Farm Home near Corvallis, the Louise Home was situated on the outskirts of the city where undeveloped acreage was affordable and such land could provide a healthful environment, contribute to the subsistence of the institution and remove the clients from unwholesome distractions of city life.

The Wynne Watts School, also located on the Louise Home campus, is nearly an historic feature having been opened in 1938, but more recent buildings intervene, and it is difficult to bridge the hospital and school in a cohesive district. Therefore, the nomination focuses on the discrete, historic unit of the Juvenile Hospital and the virgin fir grove surrounding it which has been carefully preserved by the institutions which have occupied the site since 1912.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 2.19

Quadrangle name Camas, Washington-Oregon

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	0	5	3	9	4	8	0	5	0	4	1	5	6	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The nominated property is comprised of the south-westernmost 2.19 acres of the 17-acre campus of the Kerr Youth and Family Center located in the Beaver Acres Subdivision in NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 31, T. 1N., R. 3E., W.M. in the city limits of Gresham, Multnomah County Oregon. The nominated area is more particularly described (cont'd

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Allen J. and Jan A. Johannesen

organization Abertina Kerr Centers For Children date March 12, 1987

street & number 424 NE 22nd Avenue telephone (503) 239-8101

city or town Portland state Oregon 97232

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

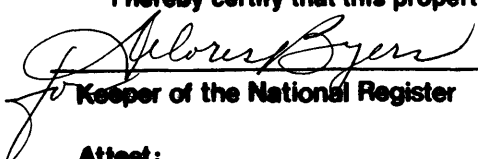
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date August 12, 1987

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

  
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the National Register date 9-10-87

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration

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No safe haven or institution for unwed mothers existed in Portland before 1908. With characteristic Christian vision and pragmatic approach, humanitarian William G. MacLaren sought to provide asylum in establishing the Louise Home. The plethora of pregnancies among wayward girls which accompanied the greater than normal population increase in Portland in the early years of the 20th Century was recognized as a root cause of related societal problems by the Pacific Coast Rescue and Protective Society, founded by MacLaren, and the Portland Police Bureau. MacLaren's objective in arousing public concern for indigent and unfortunate persons was reinforced by the work of Alexander Kerr, Dr. Wynne Watts, and others. The specialized medical care required by unwed mothers who had venereal diseases could not be given readily in regular hospitals before the advent of penicillin and other "wonder drugs" in the 1940s. Delivery rooms to accommodate the mothers were thus provided at the Louise Home. The Louise Home was opened in 1908 at 373 Cable Street in Portland and operated there until moving to the present site in 1915. The evolution from need to solution spanned the years from 1908-1927, and in these years St. Elisabeth's House, Albertina Kerr Nursery, and the Louise Home all aided the unwed mother population. The year 1927 was the completion date of the Louise Home Juvenile Hospital, a culminating development which provided the latest in clinical services and an attractive home-like residence for the girls during their time of waiting and recuperation.

Following the founding of the Pacific Coast Rescue and Protective Society by W. G. MacLaren, the Albertina Kerr Nursery was established by Alexander Kerr for the purpose of providing care for infants, usually orphans and children of unwed mothers, while the Louise Home was a residence for pregnant girls, of whom some needed treatment for venereal disease. Inevitably, administration of the separate but related institutions was meshed. Laundry and sewing services and food production for both agencies were centered at the Louise Home in rural Multnomah County. The "farm" provided meat, poultry, dairy products, vegetables and fruit. The Louise Home also had a cannery to process food.

Formal education and useful occupations were integral parts of the daily routine for residents of the Louise Home. In earlier days, when a resident's stay was six months or so, there was training or work to be done in the gardens, cannery, laundry, sewing rooms, dairy, or general running of the institution. Domestic science and commercial arts skills were practiced by the young women, as were secretarial skills such as typing. While regular classroom education always was a part of the program provided by the Louise Home, the Wynne Watts School was established in 1933 as one of the first publicly assisted special schools in the state. The school's specially-designed facility was opened for use on the Louise Home campus in 1938. The curriculum extended through high school grades. The school on campus was initiated in part, because it was not thought fitting for pregnant girls to be among other teenagers in the public schools.

The broader significance of the Louise Home and its sister institution founded at the inspiration of W. G. MacLaren in the early years of the 20th Century is that they set a standard for treatment of pregnant teenagers, their infants, and behaviorally disturbed youth elsewhere in the state and region. The following, more detailed discussion, is taken from a typescript prepared by Anne Joachim, 1987-1980, and compiled as a history of the Louise Home by Allen and Jan Johannesen in 1987.

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The Louise Home, in considerable measure, owes its existence to the genius of William Gordon MacLaren, born in 1869 in Aberdeen, Scotland, to a family with a heritage in tea. Both his grandfather and great-grandfather owned tea plantations in the East Indies. MacLaren, himself, became an apprentice tea blender as a youth, eventually becoming a journeyman in a Glasgow firm for three years.

Then, in 1893, he came to Chicago as a salesman for a tea and coffee import company. It was while in Chicago that MacLaren became active in religious pursuits. He subsequently attended the Moody Bible School, being licensed to preach finally in 1898. His first appointment, thereafter, was as the superintendent of a Chicago mission and settlement house. During this latter period, he continued his religious studies and later was ordained as a Free Methodist minister in Chicago.

It was, also, in Chicago that MacLaren married Nellie Ainslie, to whom he had been engaged prior to leaving Scotland.

According to his own account, MacLaren held the position of superintendent of rescue missions in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Denver, Colorado; and Kansas City, Missouri before becoming involved in similar work in Portland, Oregon. Apparently, he was, also at one time, the Vice President of the National Mission and Protective Society, headquartered in Chicago.

In 1908, The Portland Commons was founded as a consequence of Rev. MacLaren's leadership. According to MacLaren's own accounts, he sold the equity in his home in order to acquire the funds to furnish and to open the Commons in June, 1908.

During the early years, various programs were operated in Portland under the auspices of The Pacific Coast Rescue & Protective Society, including several associated with the Portland Commons: Commons Prison League, Commons Mission, Commons Settlement, Commons Free Employment Bureau, Commons Brotherhood League, Commons Medical Service, the Industrial Farm, and something known as "The Rockpile". The work of the Commons Prison League was summarized as follows: "Discharged prisoners befriended, Guardianship of paroled prisoners, Legal advice, Temporary assistance, Aid of families of imprisoned men".



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The stated purpose of The Pacific Coast Rescue & Protective Society was: "to conduct missions for the uplifting of fallen humanity and to do any and all things necessary for the physical, mental and moral betterment of those who come under its custody and care." The original work was to include prison work, homes for discharged prisoners, and field missionaries. The income of the Society was to be received "from those charitably inclined."

The work of the Society was to cover the states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and California, though it later spread, for a time, to Montana and Alaska, and even Mexico was cursorily explored. Each state was considered a division of the main organization, with the exception of California, which in 1928 divided into two divisions; Northern and Southern California divisions. The various divisions were supervised by MacLaren and followed policy set by the General Conference Board, on which each division had members. In addition, each division had its own local Board.

The work of The Society was to be overseen by the twenty members of the General Conference Board, 2/3 of whom were to be "active" members, i.e., certified missionaries and evangelists, and 1/3 to be "lay", all of whom were to be Christians of high moral character.

The year The Portland Commons opened, also, marked the opening of The Louise Home, a rescue home "for the care of unfortunate girls and women". It opened in the summer of 1908 and was located at 373 Cable Street in The Goose Hollow area of Portland. The location would now be 1737 S.W. Cable Ave., a site within the east portal area of The Vista Ridge Tunnel of U.S. Highway 26. The home provided care and medical treatment for three types of cases: maternity cases, usually young unwed girls; girls infected with venereal diseases; and delinquent girls.

As the years went on, this Portland program, also, became a model for similar programs in other states: the Washington Girls' Home in Everett (1917), the California Rescue Home for Girls in Oakland (1924), and the Ruth Sanitarium for Girls (later The Ruth Home) in Los Angeles (1924, named in honor of Ruth Kerr).

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Girls were admitted without regard to race, creed, color, or physical condition. Pregnancy cases were admitted three months before the birth of the children anticipated and remained three months after the birth. These mothers, unless deemed unfit to care for thier babies, were compelled to keep them. Fathers of the babies, when identified, were pressured to provide child support.

Infectious cases remained in The Home until a physician gave a clear certificate of health. Further, a thorough investigation by "field operatives" was undertaken in each case to locate the "associates in evil" and insist that they get treatment, also.

Delinquent cases in the early years came to The Home through court commitment, ultimately being placed in private homes - an early use of the now-prevalent foster home concept.

In addition to giving care and medical treatment to these girls, The Louise Home provided training and employment to sustain these girls in life after leaving The Home, as well as provided a religious/spiritual orientation, all by means of which a general reform of the girl was to occur. For these services, The Louise Home in 1913 was granted \$7 per month per girl in state aid.

Within a short time after The Louise Home was opened, it was filled to capacity. The building, a large 12-room frame house located at the top of one side of the steep ravine into which Cable Street dead ends, could accomodate from 30 to 50 girls and was usually overcrowded. During it fifth year of operation it had reportedly cared for 174 girls and 70 babies.

In charge of the program was one housemother and a number of volunteer workers. Included among the latter was Dr. C. J. McCusker, a doctor who donated his services to The Louise Home for 25 years, from the time it opened until his death in 1932.

In addition to cramped quarters, much of the equipment in the early days had to be improvised. At the time of the first delivery at The Louise Home, there was no delivery table. Dr. McCusker ordered the door of a closet to be taken down and covered with a mattress and clean sheets for the delivery.

During these early years, MacLaren spent a great deal of time traveling throughout the state, often by stage or on horseback, campaigning against vice and juvenile delinquency, and

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relating the work of The Louise Home. Often communities would ask Maclaren or one of The Pacific Coast Rescue & Protective Society field operatives to come and investigate situations of delinquency or family break-ups. Not infrequently such visits resulted in girls being referred to The Louise Home. Girls began to arrive there from all parts of the state and occasionally from Washington and California as well.

It was clear that the facilities on Cable Street were inadequate for the work which needed to be done. Within several years after its opening, Maclaren wrote to the State Health Officer:

"I am thoroughly convinced that the great need in Portland to take care of the women and girls is a rescue home in the suburbs, with one main building with a medical ward for the treatment of venereal cases; a maternity ward for the treatment of pregnant cases; and at least thirty single rooms to take care of the delinquent cases."

This dream was not to be realized in its entirety until more than a decade later with the construction of the Juvenile Hospital. But it was clear that The Louise Home had to move to more spacious quarters.

The State Health Officer underscored that decision several months after Maclaren wrote to him by reporting that the State Board of Health, which was responsible for examining and endorsing institutions taking care of dependent children, would never issue a certificate to The Louise Home as long as it remained in the current building or location.

The decision was made in 1913 to build a new Louise Home. However, construction was delayed for some time due to financial difficulties. In 1915, the Pacific Coast Rescue & Protective Society leased (for its agency The Louise Home) the 9 acre site of the St. Elisabeth's House, a home for "wayward" girls which had been conducted by the Sisterhood of St. John the Baptist of the Episcopal Church. St. Elisabeth's House had been at 613 E. 82nd St. North (now a gravel pit in the 2800 block of N.E. 82nd Ave., across from Madison High School. It was moved in 1912 to the 9-acre site on Barker Road (now N.E. 162nd Ave..) between Sandy and Base Line Road (Base Line is now S.E. Stark St.) about 1/4 mile north of Elwood Station on the Mt. Hood Railroad Co.'s streetcar line to Gresham and Sandy (now the 162nd Ave. Station of Portland's light rail MAX to Gresham). It is possible the buildings might have been moved from the 82nd St. site to the new location. The Episcopal periodical "The Oregon Churchman"

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did not have continuous publication at that time. The first advertisement discovered for St. Elisabeth's House was February, 1911 at 613 E. 82nd St. North and the last at that address was

June 1912. There were no issues for July and August and the September, 1912 issue listed the address at Elwood. It seems doubtful that the buildings would have been moved judging by the new appearance and size (two and a half storeys and basement) evident in a photograph in the April, 1913 issue. No photographs appeared for the 82nd St. address. However, primary interest here is in The Louise Home and its move to its present location. In 1916, an agreement of sale was made and terms of purchase were completed in 1917. By 1921, the site was 20 acres in size. Maclaren insisted that all additional land be paid for in cash, so that additional land be paid for in cash, so that additional acreage was bought piecemeal over the years as cash permitted.

The site had housing for 60 to 100 girls, with modern equipment in the building, vegetable gardens, a dairy farm and pigery, and a small country-type school, which had been opened by 1916. Different cottages on the campus were set aside for separating "clean maternity", infectious, and delinquent cases.

In its rural site the program expanded in scope. In 1920, 117 girls were cared for, half of which were under the age of 16. Eighty-eight of the girls were committed by courts, 27 voluntarily committed, and 2 committed by the State Board of Health. At the year's end, 43 girls still remained in the home, the remainder having been released to parents or other family, paroled to work, married, or admitted to other institutions. The 117 girls admitted to The Louise Home were only a part of the 511 cases investigated by The Pacific Protective League of The Pacific Coast Rescue & protective Society.

Still unsatisfied with their ability to deliver quality medical care on a large scale, The Pacific Coast Rescue & Protective Society began discussing the possibility of building a new hospital for treatment of venereal disease on The Louise Home grounds. The increase of venereal cases during World War I had pointed up the need for such facilities to serve venereally infected children in the Portland area. The existing cottage for the treatment of venereal cases at The Louise Home, known as the Little Hospital, was inadequate for the task. No other facility in the area took on the primary responsibility for treating venereal disease.

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The first major step in that direction was accomplished by Mrs. R. E. Bondurant, a Pacific Coast Rescue & Protective Society Board member, who in 1925 was credited with obtaining from the legislature an appropriation of \$17,500 on the condition that the Pacific Coast Rescue & Protective Society raise a matching amount. Blueprints were drawn up by Architect Carl H. Wallwork, and a fund-raising committee was appointed, with Mrs. Bondurant as Chairman.

After about two years of fund-raising and construction, the Juvenile Hospital was ready for occupancy at the end of 1927, although the formal dedication did not take place until June, 1928. All medical treatment for venereal cases took place in the hospital. The main Louise Home cottage was still the residence for delinquent, non-infected girls, and the maternity cottage housed clean maternity cases. The Program usually had around 100 girls.

The Depression years had relatively little impact on The Louise Home, despite the decrease of contributions to the program, due to its self-sufficiency in produce, milk, and meat. The girls canned thousands of quarts of fruits and vegetables during the summer months.

In the late 1930s, the need of a new, larger, more modern school became increasingly apparent. Roy Cannon, County Superintendent of Schools at that time, presented plans for a new school to the government and construction by the W.P.A. was approved. Dr. Thomas Wynne Watts was informed shortly before his death, as he lay in his hospital bed terminally ill, that the new school was to be named in his honor. He had devoted much time and energy to the care of children at both The Louise Home and The Nursery. He was a member of The Pacific Coast Rescue & Protective Society for over 17 years, a member of The Albertina Kerr Nursery Home Board for even longer, and had been the first Medical Director of the Pacific Protective Society.

The new Wynne Watts School opened in 1938, with grade school and two years of high school (later to expand to four complete years of high school). The teachers and materials were paid for by the school district, while maintenance and upkeep of the building was the responsibility of The Oregon Protective Society. The school was one of the first special schools opened in the state of Oregon.

As the years of World War II approached, again money was tight. With regard to the "belt-tightening" mandated by the

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Community Chest, The Louise Home proudly pointed to its policy of asking families to pay part of their children's care at The Home if possible, as well as the fact that the girls assisted with work in the garden, kitchen, laundry, yard and night watch, where otherwise workers would have been paid to do so.

The staff in 1941 consisted of a head supervisor, a doctor (on call), two nurses, seven supervisors, two cooks, and several people to supervise the laundry, farming, maintenance, and to drive The Home's car. Salaries were rather meager, but food and board were free to workers.

During the 1940s and into the '50s, the program stabilized fairly much year after year. The girls attended school during the day, learning commercial and home economics courses in addition to regular academic subjects. Daily chores were attended to before and after school. The religious program consisted of a short devotional each morning after breakfast, church services on Sunday conducted by ministers from various demoninations who donated their services, and one night during the week for Bible study.

Recreational activities included basketball and skating in the gymnasium, hiking and swimming in the summer, radio, piano, and games in The Homes. Saturday night was treat night. One night each week was "huddle" for girls and staff to engage in constructive criticism, ending with a "sing" around the piano.

The girls had an opportunity to work by helping nearby farmers harvest their crops. The girls were sometimes paid in cash, sometimes given a portion of the harvest.

Of the program, Mrs. Kathryne Carlson, who arrived at The Home in 1942 and was superintendent from 1951-73, admits that the workers in the program over the years were not the best qualified from the standpoint of training and college degrees. Rather they had qualities of commitment, common sense, understanding of the situation of these girls, and a willingness to work with them in, what amounted to, a large family-style setting. Mrs. Carlson commented that when she thinks about the history of The Louise Home, she does not think as much about the program itself as the people who were making the program what it was.

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As of 1940 The Louise Home Auxiliary was formed. Many of these women were wives of Oregon Protective Society Board members or other women who were interested in the plight of the girls at The Louise Home and committed to assisting in their reform and their comfort. In its first year of operation, the Auxiliary provided material for the girls to make graduation dresses and helped establish a dental clinic at The Home for the girls; made sure that each girl leaving The Home was materially prepared to establish herself in the community, such as providing her with a new suit; displayed the girls' handicrafts at an exhibit in the Portland Hotel; worked towards providing new dinnerware and linens for The Louise Home.

With the advent of penicillin in the mid '40s and its "quick cure" for venereal disease, the eclipse of The Juvenile Hospital was set in motion. By 1948, the program had in effect ceased operation due to lack of admittances.

Beginning in 1949, a series of events was set in motion that ultimately culminated in the demise of The Nursery program. It was in that year that the Child Welfare League of America was retained by the Oregon State Public Welfare Commission to conduct a study of private and public facilities providing care and services for dependent, neglected children in the state.

The conclusion of the study, which was to have a devastating impact on The Nursery, was that "institutional care for infants and preschool children should be displaced by foster home care". Specifically, children receiving care from three Oregon institutions (The Albertina Kerr Nursery, Waverly Baby Home, and Our Lady of Providence Nursery) were to be transferred to foster homes, and the facilities of these institutions were to be converted to other uses, such as services for the handicapped or the aged. At the heart of The Child Welfare League's recommendation was the belief that children in an institutional setting were not receiving the kind of love, affection, and attention that was necessary for them to grow into secure, happy and loving individuals.

At this same time The Louise Home campus began to undergo changes in its campus. In 1948, The Louise Home cottage was razed as a fire hazard. All the girls were moved into the Juvenile Hospital, which then came to be called the Louise Home, with its capacity of about 65 girls. In 1950, the pigs and cows were sold, and the pasteurization plant was dismantled and sold. The decision had been made to modernize the program.

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Section number 8 Page 10

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In 1950, it was decided that a bequest of \$25,000 left to The Louise Home by Max Tucker would be used to construct an admittance cottage, as there was a need for such a medical facility. Five years later, as the facility was becoming a reality, The Ford Foundation awarded a grant of \$27,000 as one of a number of grants being given to assist non-profit hospitals in improving their services. Construction took place, and the Max D. Tucker Cottage has formally dedicated in November, 1956. In 1986, it was converted to a residence to house 15 emotionally and behaviorally disturbed boys. It was funded again, primarily, by The Max D. Tucker Foundation.

Lakin Cottage was constructed in 1960 as a utility building housing a cannery, laundry, commissary and equipment storage. It, also, is a brick building. A partial second storey contains three apartments intended for youths underway at this time (1987) to convert it into a facility for 17 emotionally and behaviorally disturbed teenage girls; 8 in residence and 9 in day care. The three apartments are retained for parents' short term use.

1957 marked the year that Wilbur Hood, James Lakin, and Jean Johnson decided that a new chapel should be built. At that time Chapel services were being held in the basement of The Louise Home. Fund-raising took place over the following 13 years until sufficient money was acquired from both individuals and corporations that the building could be entirely paid for. The Chapel was formally dedicated on June 6, 1971.

In 1958, The Wynne Watts School became part of The Reynolds School District. Subsequently it was returned to The Louise Home and is now (1987) under the direction of The Multnomah County Special Education Program though owned and operated by (The Louise Home) Albertina Kerr Centers for Children.

In 1986, two group homes were constructed, each designed for 5 persons. These group homes are for multihandicapped persons in transition to being self supporting. The addresses are 945 N.E. 165th and 959 N.E. 165th. However, they are located on The Louise Home campus.



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The Louise Home campus address is 722 N.E. 162nd Ave., and is located in the NW 1/4 of Sec 31 1N3E. The property is identified by Multomah County as these parcels of Beaver Acres Addition (contiguous except for the undeveloped portion of N.E. 165th Ave. which crosses the property):

a/c 06180-0870	TL 11 of Lots 36,39 & 40	5.93 ac
a/c 06180-0874	TL 14 of Lots 36,39 & 40	1.01 ac
a/c 06180-0990	TL 1 of Lot 40	2.28 ac
a/c 06180-0990	TL 2 of Lot 40	0.54 ac
a/c 06180-2700	(No TL) Lot 38 & 41	<u>7.39 ac</u>

Net Area 17.15 acres

The Albertina Kerr Centers for Children has designated that The Louise Home be known for its function and be named "The Kerr Youth and Family Center". It currently (1987) serves:

Residents - 15 boys and 8 girls

Out patients - include 9 for all day treatment.  
100 to 150 for appointment outpatient treatment.

School Students - 80 which include students from surrounding community. Next year there will be about 33 from The Louise Home only.

Families - 100 persons in the family clinic and 10 in the group homes for multihandicapped.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number   9   Page   1  

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Joachim, Anne, "Notes on the History of the Albertina Kerr Centers for Children,"  
1978-1980, Oregon Historical Society Library.

Johannesen, Allen J. and Jan A. Johannesen, "The Louise Home, a History, 1908-1987,"  
Albertina Kerr Centers for Children, 1987.

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

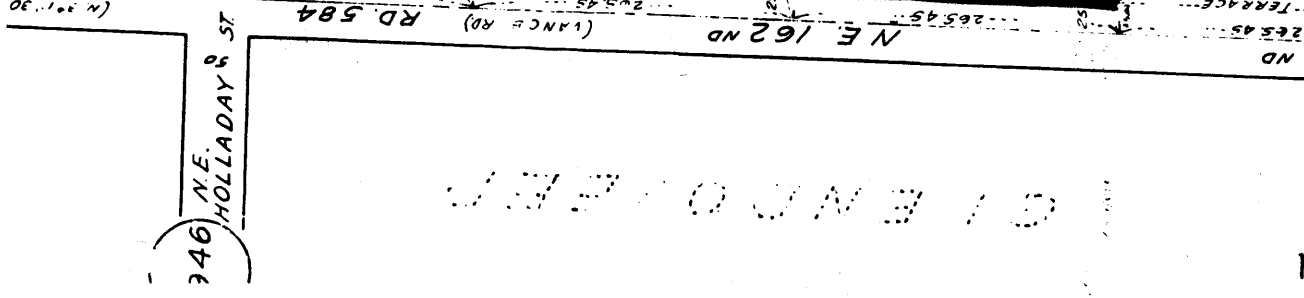
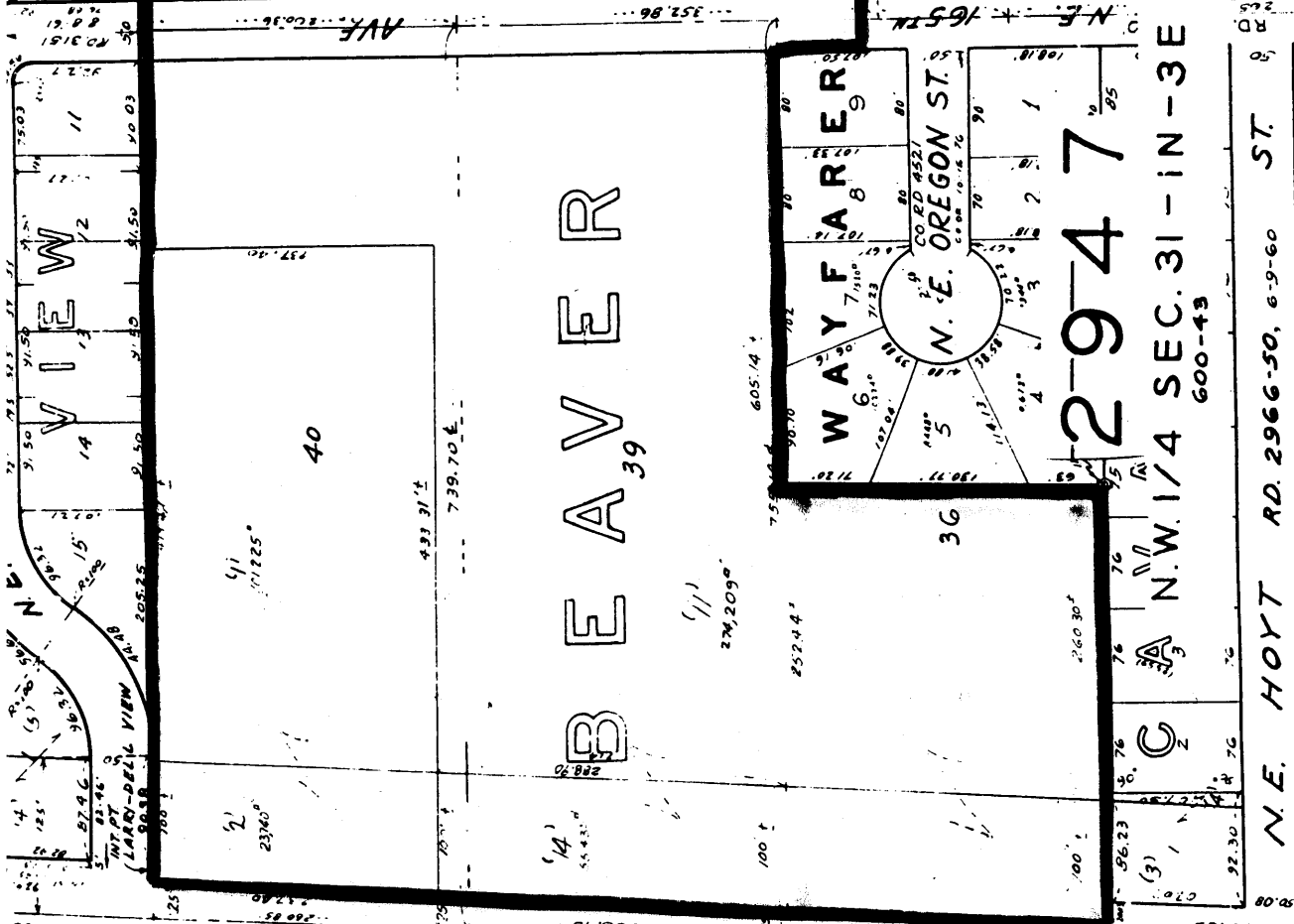
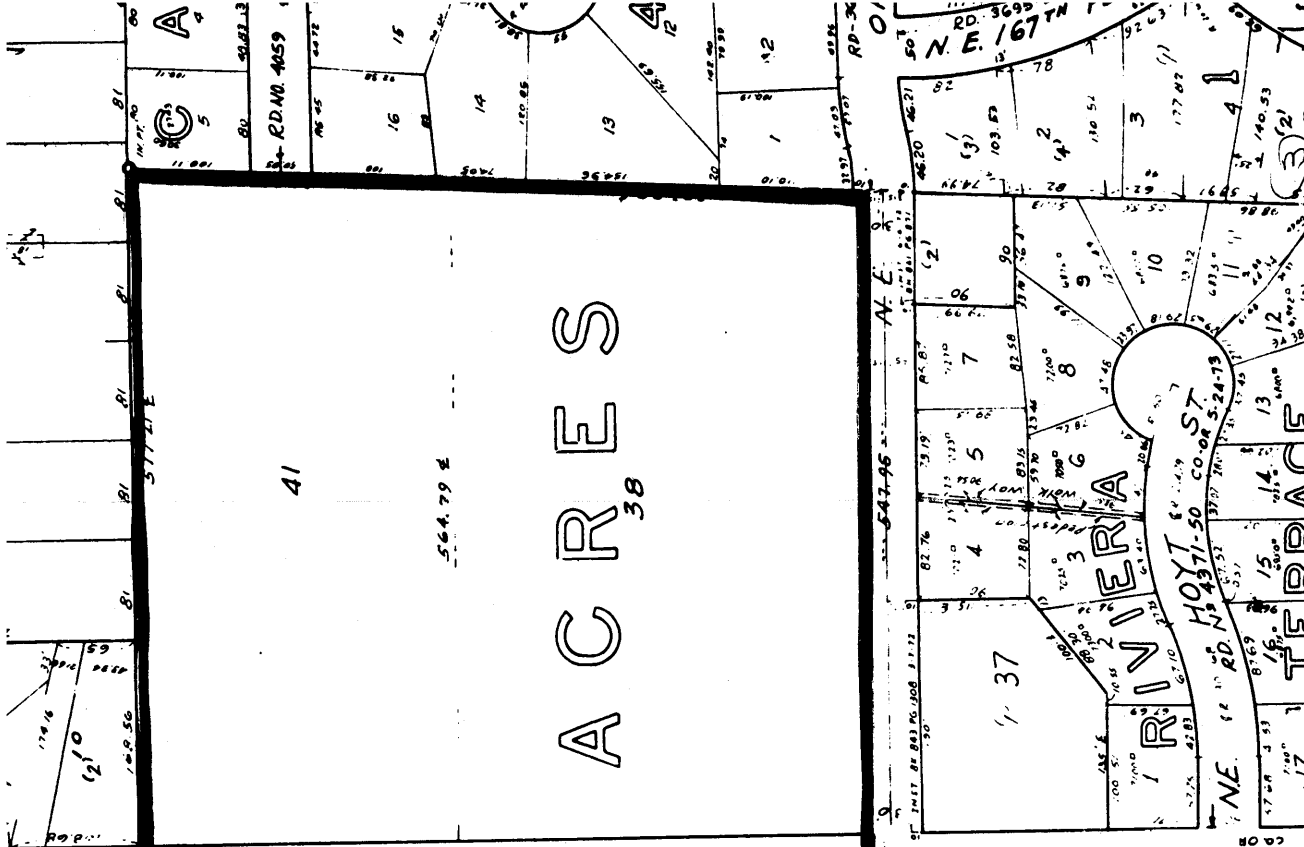
**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

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as follows: It encompasses the hospital building and its immediate grounds and the grove of fir trees historically preserved by the institution and lying immediately behind the hospital to the east. The property is further described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the southwest corner of the Wayfarer Subdivision, as shown on Multnomah County Assessor's Plat Map 2947, thence westerly in a line perpendicular to NE 162nd Avenue approximately 360.30 feet to the east edge of NE 162nd Avenue; thence north along the east edge of said 162nd Avenue 265.45 feet; thence east in a line perpendicular to 162nd Avenue approximately 352.44 feet; thence south along the western boundary of the Wayfarer Subdivision 264.97 feet to the point of beginning, containing in all 2.19 acres, more or less.



346 N.E. HOLLADAY ST. RD 584 (LANCER RD) N.E. 162 ND 265.45 TERRACE 30.08

RD. 3699 N.E. 167TH 1

RD. 4659 1

RD. 4659 1

RD. 4659 1

RD. 4659 1

RD. 4659 1

RD. 4659 1

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RD. 4659 1

# THE LOUISE HOME

722 N.E. 162<sup>ND</sup> AVE.  
PORTLAND, OREGON

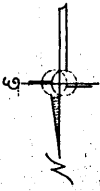
DUKEHART & KINNE ARCHITECTS

## LEGEND

- EXISTING BUILDINGS TO REMAIN
- 1 WYNNE WATTS SCHOOL
- 2 RECEIVING HALL & CLINIC
- 3 GARAGE HOME
- 4 INCINERATOR
- 5 INCINERATOR
- NEW BUILDINGS IN ORDER OF COMPLETION
- 6 UTILITY BUILDING
- 7 COMMISSARY CANNING KITCHEN
- 8 STAFF APARTMENTS
- 9 CARAGES
- 10 FARM MACHINERY
- 11 LAUNDRY
- 12 CHAPEL
- 13 ADDITION TO SCHOOL
- 14 SWIMMING POOL
- EXISTING BUILDINGS TO BE REMOVED
- 10 UTILITY BUILDING
- 11 UTILITY BUILDING
- 12 OLD BARN
- 13 GARAGE

F A R M

F A R M



WINDMILL

DELIVERY COURT

SOFTBALL DIAMOND

PROPERTY LINES

JOHN STATION

APPROXIMATE PLANNING

AUTOMOBILE PARKING

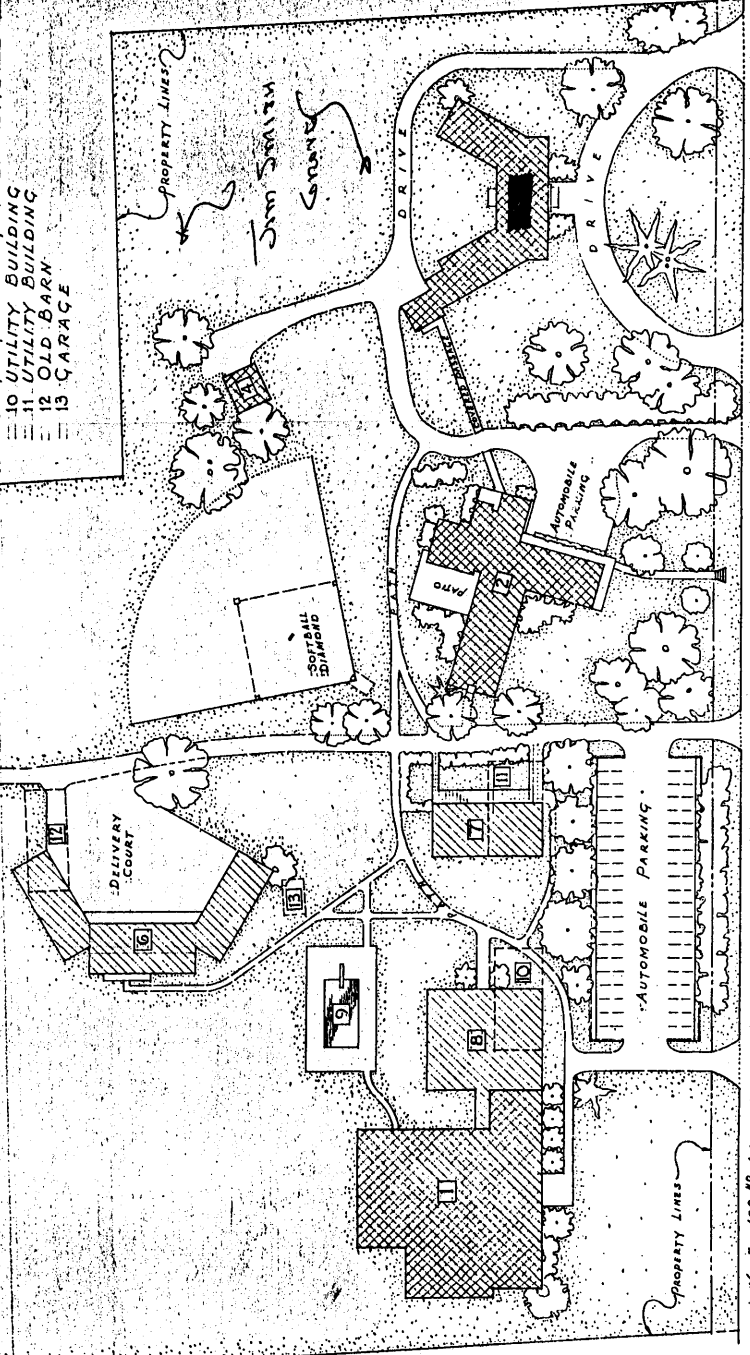
PROPERTY LINES

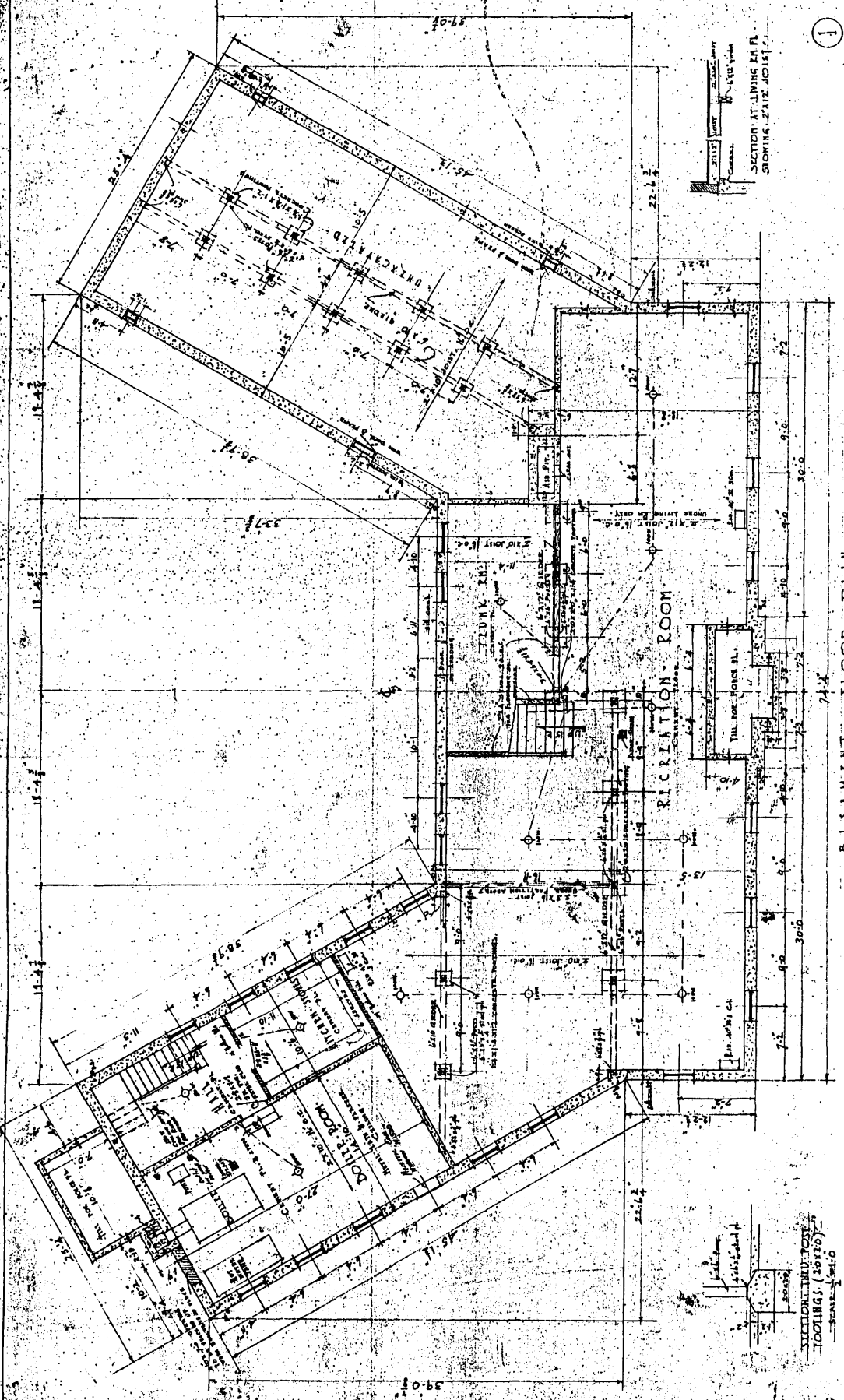
N. E. 162<sup>ND</sup> AVE.

PLOT PLAN

SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

JUNE 26, 1957





1

JUN 20 1915

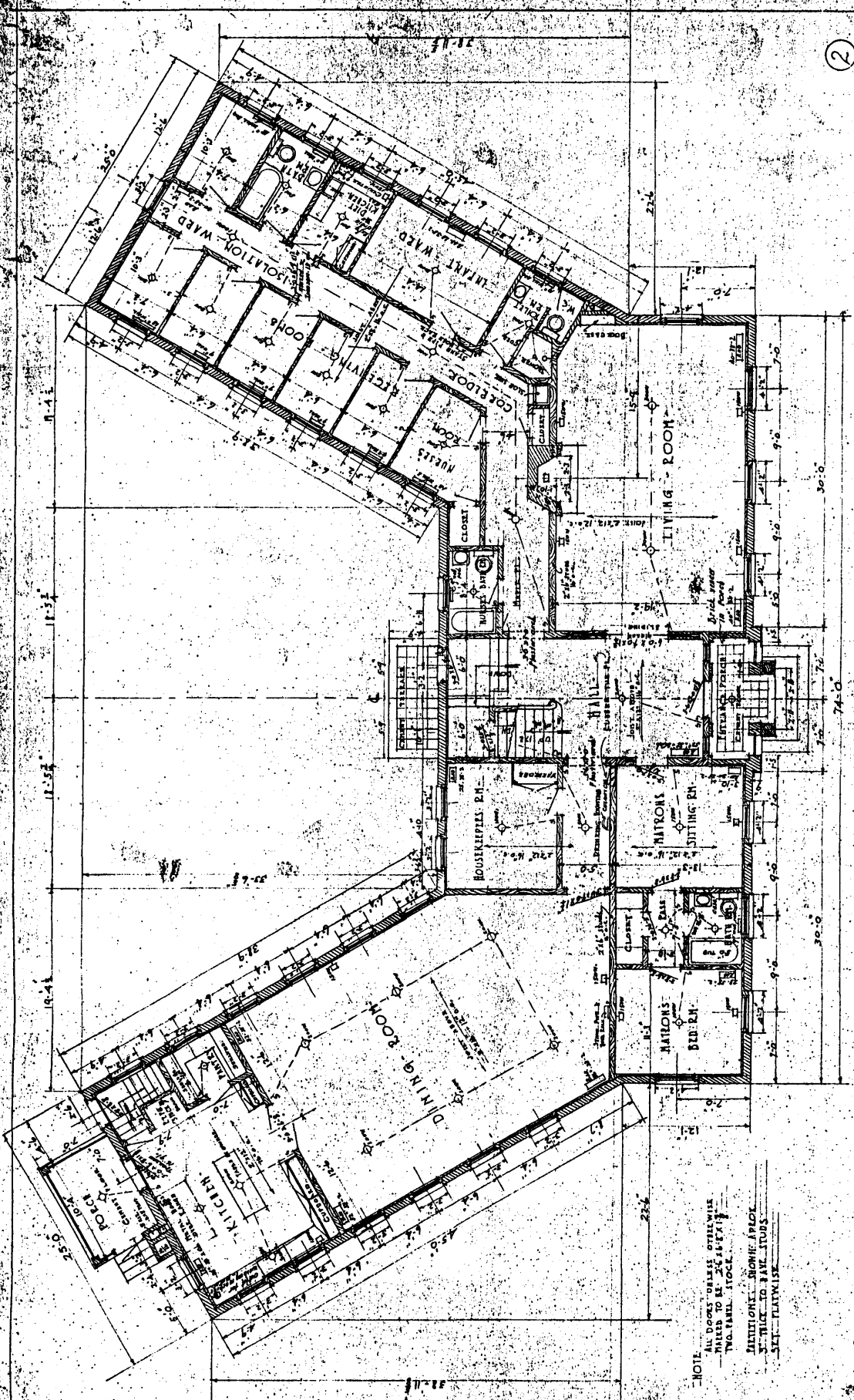
BUILDING AT LOUISE HOME  
 FOR THE  
 PACIFIC COAST RESCUE & PROTECTIVE  
 SOCIETY  
 CRAWFORD ARCHITECT

BASMENT FLOOR PLAN

SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

SECTION THROUGH  
 FOOTINGS (28x20)  
 SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

SECTION THROUGH  
 FOOTINGS (28x20)  
 SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



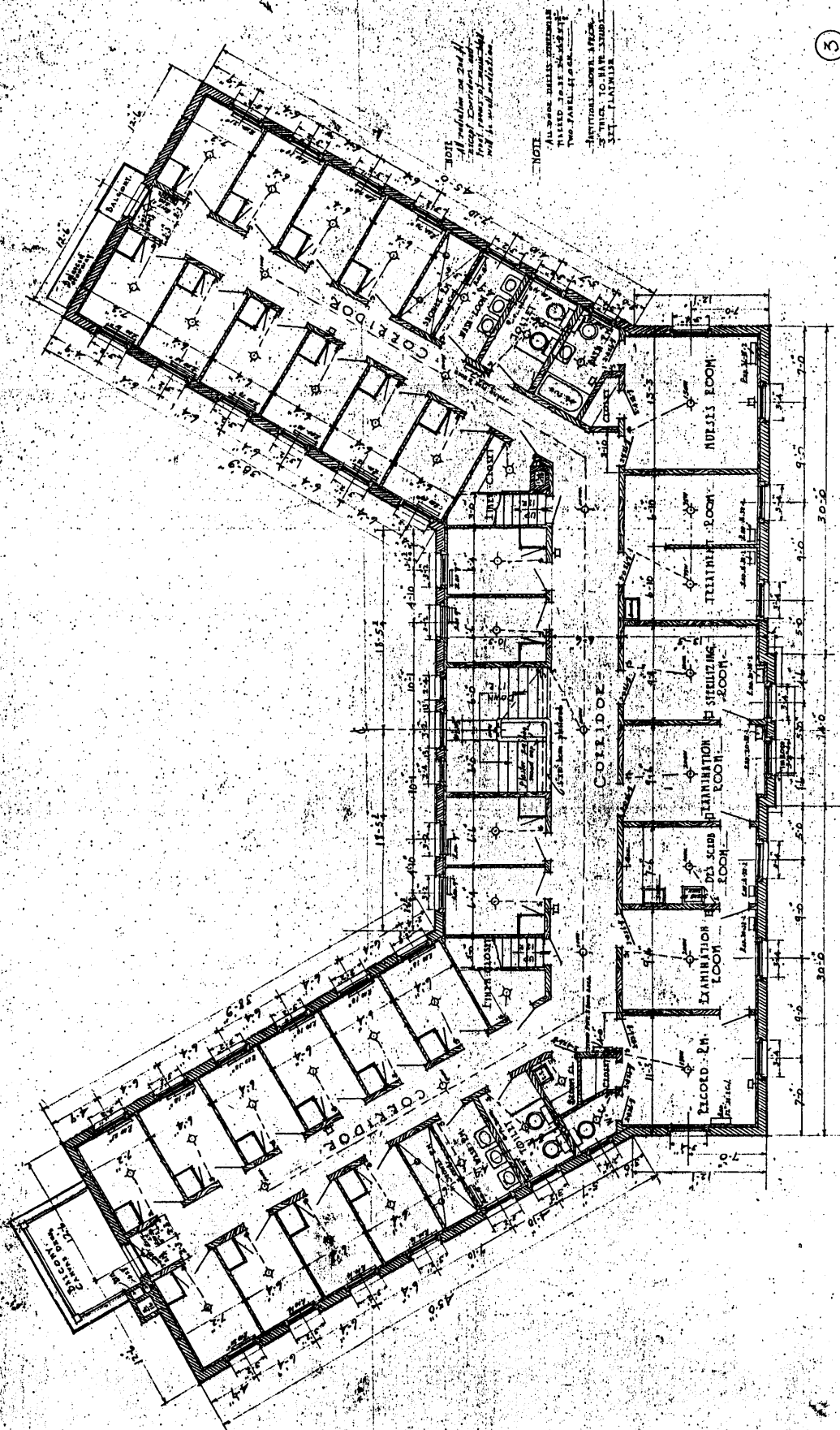
JUN 20 1915  
 BUILDING AT LOUISE HOME  
 FOR THE  
 PACIFIC COAST PLACERS' PROTECTIVE  
 SOCIETY  
 C. F. WALLINGER ARCHITECT

2

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

-NOTE- ALL DOORS UNLESS OTHERWISE  
 NOTED TO BE 2'-0" x 6'-6"  
 TWO PANEL STOCK  
 DIMENSIONS SHOWN FROM  
 CENTER LINE UNLESS  
 SPECIFIED OTHERWISE



BUILDING - AT LOUISE HOME  
 FOR THE  
 PACIFIC COAST RESCUE & PROTECTIVE  
 SOCIETY  
 C.B. WALLWORK - ARCHITECT

JULY 20, 1925

3

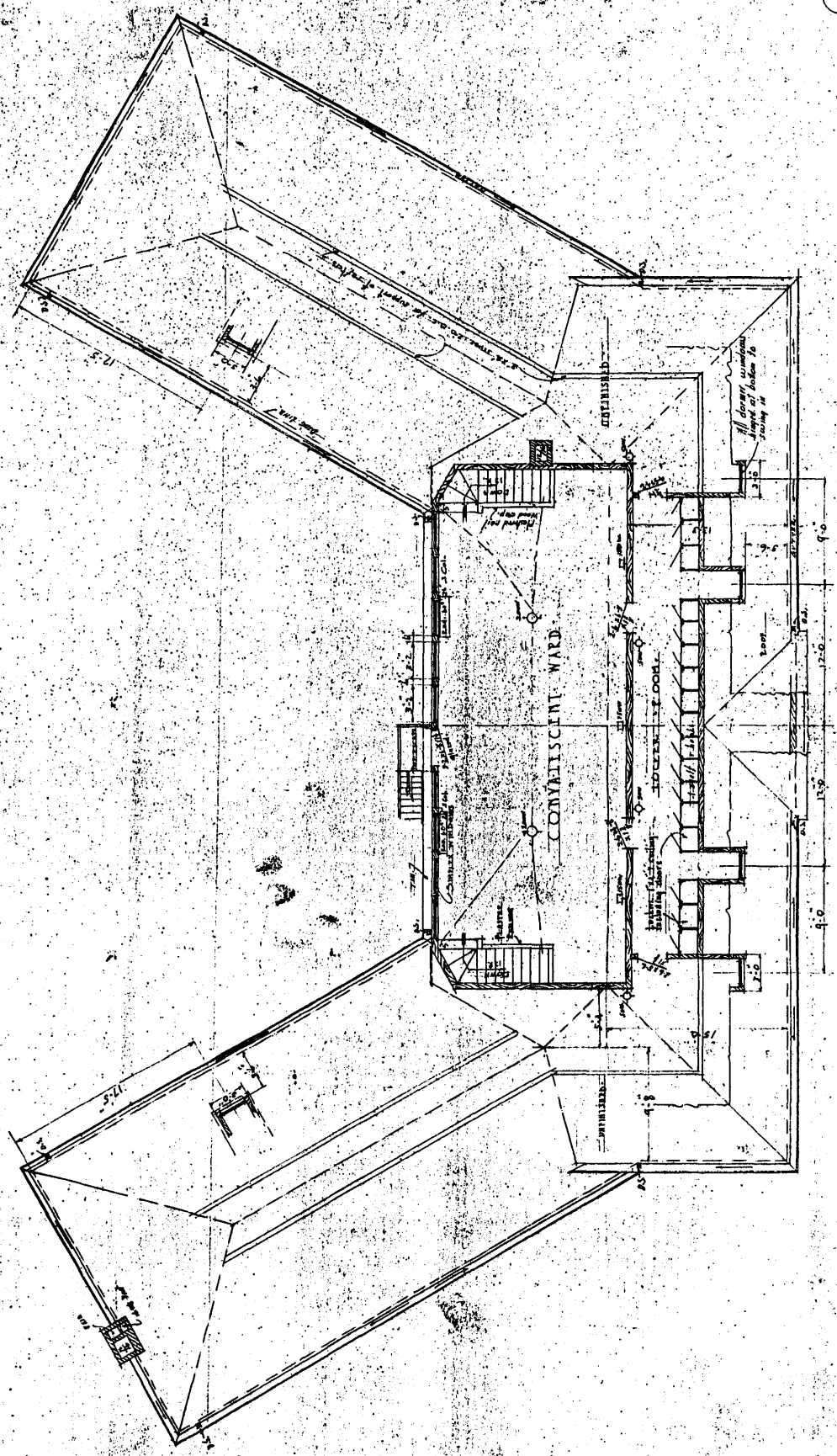
SECOND FLOOR - PLAN -  
 SCALE - 1/4" = 1'-0"

NOTE  
 ALL WORK SHALL BE DONE IN  
 ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
 BUILDING CODE OF THE CITY OF  
 PORTLAND, OREGON, AND THE  
 NATIONAL BOARD OF FIRE UNDERWRITERS  
 REQUIREMENTS.

NOTE  
 ALL WORK SHALL BE DONE IN  
 ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
 BUILDING CODE OF THE CITY OF  
 PORTLAND, OREGON, AND THE  
 NATIONAL BOARD OF FIRE UNDERWRITERS  
 REQUIREMENTS.

8





ATTIC & ROOF - PLAN  
 SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

4  
 JULY 20

ENGINEERS-ARCHITECTS  
 FOR THE  
 PACIFIC COAST RELIEF & PEACE  
 SOCIETY  
 C. B. WALLWORK, ARCHT.

5



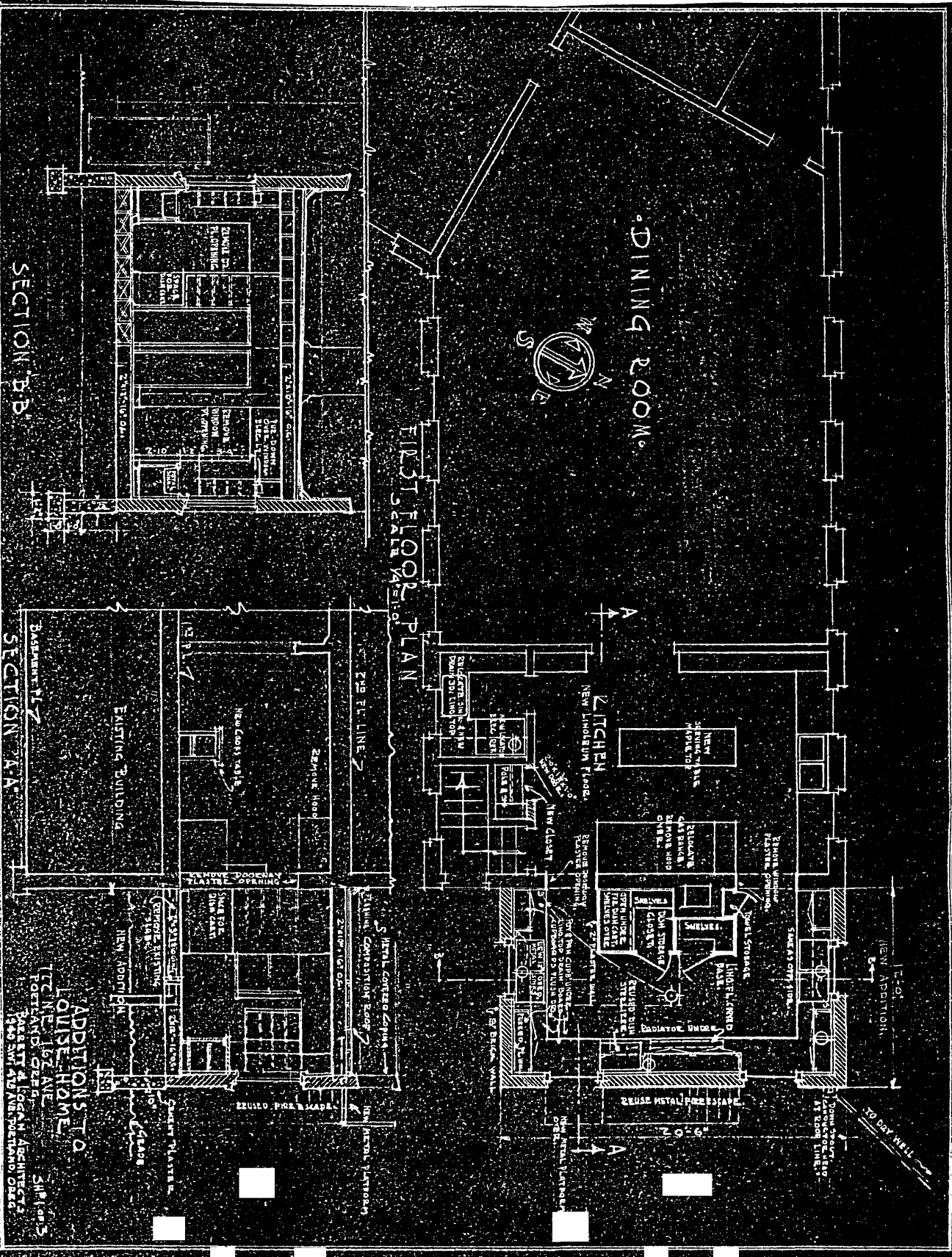
DINING ROOM



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

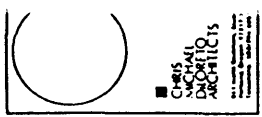
SECTION B-B

SECTION A-A



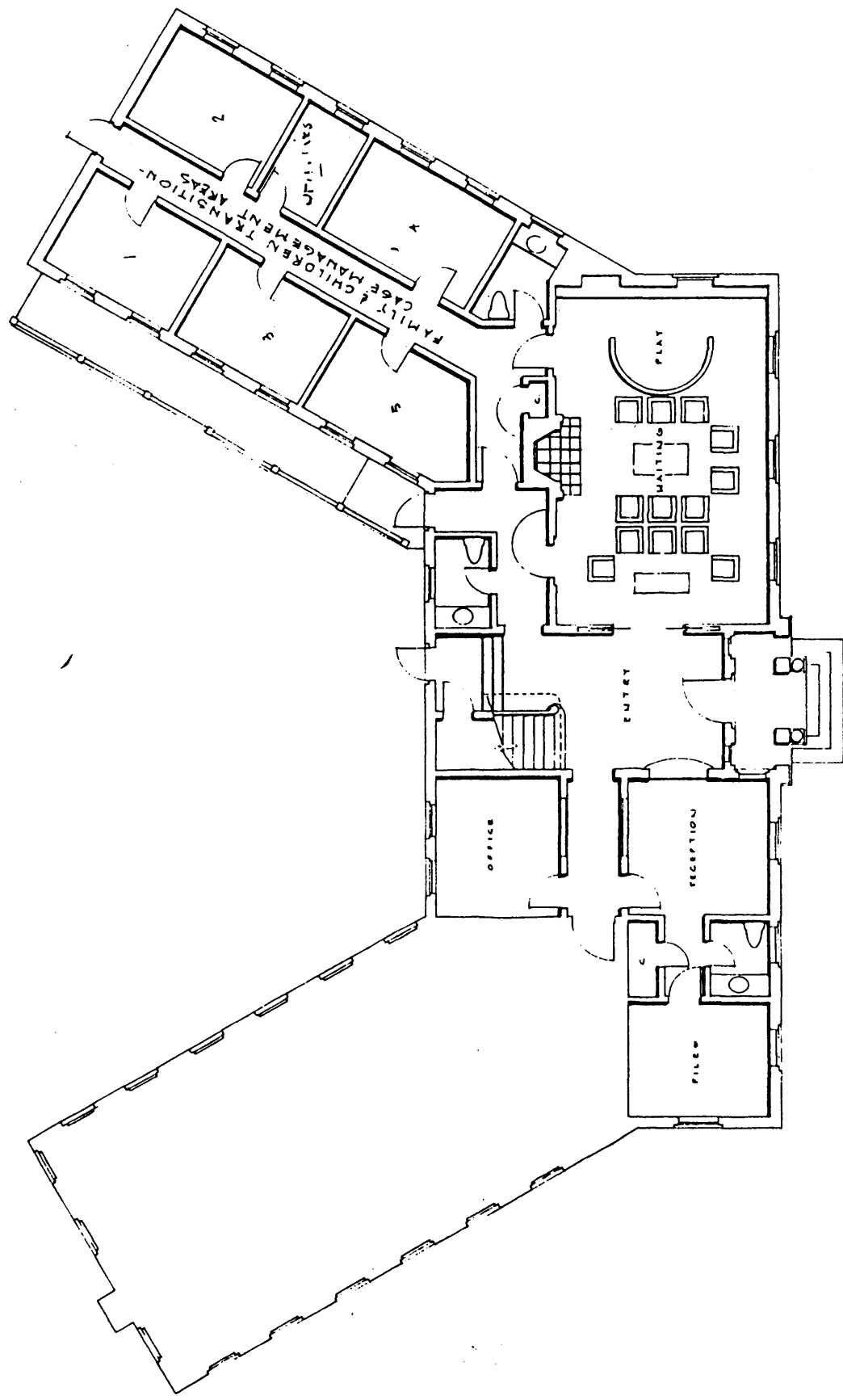
ADDITIONS TO  
LOUISE HOME  
177 N. P. 102 AVE.  
PORTLAND, ORE.  
FRASER & LOGAN ARCHITECTS  
190 SW 4TH AVE. PORTLAND, ORE.

12



# LOUISE HOME RENOVATION

KERR YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTER  
PORTLAND, OREGON



MAIN FLOOR PLAN ⊕