

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Long, Crawford W., Memorial Hospital
other names/site number Davis-Fischer Sanatorium

2. Location

street & number 35 Linden Avenue, NE
city, town Atlanta
state Georgia code GA county Fulton code GA121 zip code 30365

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, and Number of Resources within Property. Includes checkboxes for private/public ownership and building/site/structure/object categories.

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. Signature of certifying official Elizabeth A. Lyon, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Date 7/28/88.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official. State or Federal agency and bureau.

5. 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:)

Entered in the National Register 9/1/88
Signature of the Keeper
Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
HEALTH CARE/hospital

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
HEALTH CARE/hospital

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival/Georgian Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls brick

roof concrete

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Crawford W. Long Memorial Hospital nomination consists of two historic hospital buildings in the Georgian Revival style with a historic 2-bay connector link which joins the two. The complex faces Linden Avenue in the "midtown" area of Atlanta. The 1911 building, the original hospital building now known as building A, was originally built in an H-shape. It contains four stories and a basement, and has a one-story portico supported by groupings of Doric columns. The portico's central portion, which rises to two stories, is supported by six fluted colossal Ionic columns. The porticos shelter the main entrances and are elevated above the sidewalks. The A building is embellished with classical features consistent with its Georgian Revival design. The historic annex and nurses' home (building B) and infill complement and continue the original design. Building B (the annex), added in 1921, reflects the same architectural details but rises to six stories over a basement. It was built in a simple rectangular shape facing Linden Avenue. Both buildings have red-brick exterior walls, with concrete keystones above the original front facade window openings. The windows retain their original style, numbers of panes, and wooden trim. Those on the portico level of the A Building are roundheaded. Other special details include the original cornice atop each building, terrazzo flooring on the portico floors, and terrazzo stairs leading to the porch on Building A. On the first floor of Building B the brickwork is arranged in raised bands reminiscent of rustication.

Each building is entered through the main doors leading into a lobby and central hallway from the porticos. Originally, these were columned entryways, but due to partitioning, the entry lobbies are now much smaller and more functional. The columns/pilasters are still visible in the entrance lobby of Building A. Some of the original light fixtures also survive in the lobby of Building A. The entry halls are flanked by rooms and lead to historic stairwells. Original details that have survived on the inside of the hospital include marble wainscoting in some upstairs halls and original wooden handrails. Other original details were lost in the modernization of the interior. The buildings were built of reinforced concrete, a fireproof construction technique, most noticeable in the basement level, which remains virtually unchanged. Much of the original historic mechanical systems as well as their updated counterparts remain in the basement, including the 1921 laundry, heating plant, and ice plant.

The boundary set for this nomination includes only two buildings and the small amount of landscaping around the front porticos of the two buildings.

See continuation sheet

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

This includes some grass and foundation shrubs. This is consistent with the landscaping seen in 1921 photographs. Historic street trees along the sidewalk have long since disappeared. There are no historic outbuildings associated with these two buildings.

The hospital is in a commercial area. To the east, beyond the modern Crawford Long Hospital building, there is a ca. 1900 historic house used as a museum and a small commercial area with two restaurants. To the north, there are parking lots and a modern medical building. To the west and south are other hospital-owned medical buildings, two of which were built in the 1940s and have potential historical significance.

Changes to the two nominated buildings include the joining of the two historic structures in 1938 by an historic connector link designed by a renowned architectural firm. The hospital offices, operating rooms, and patient rooms have all been modernized several times since they were built, as would be expected, befitting a modern, university-owned hospital, although much of the original floor plan remains on some floors. The two buildings originally had balustrades and roof gardens, which have been removed from both of them, although the roofs are still accessible. Building B retains the Sun Parlor, now used as a storage room on the roof. The original foundation at the lower level of the Building A entrance steps has been removed and converted to an entrance. The terrazzo floor of the lobby has been covered with modern tiles. Various infill additions usually do not rise to the full height of the original structures, making these infill additions much less obvious. An original courtyard area, to the left rear of the front entrance of Building A was enclosed in 1961 to create a chapel. It is only two stories high, one of which is the basement. The entrance to Building A is all modern, while that to Building B retains its original sidelights and door size. Despite these changes, the exterior of the two historic, nominated buildings remains virtually the same as it did in 1921 upon the completion of the second building, "B". All major links to the surrounding buildings have been done in more modern materials, making them rather obvious.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

architecture
medicine

Period of Significance

1911-1938
1911-1938

Significant Dates

1911, 1921
1911

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Wachendorff, Eugene C.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Statement of Significance

The Crawford W. Long Memorial Hospital is significant in the areas of architecture and medicine.

Known from 1911 to 1931 as the Davis-Fischer Sanatorium at this location, the hospital is significant in architecture because both buildings reflect the prevailing principles of functionally designed hospitals and medical institutions of the early 20th century when they were built. Both were designed by Atlanta-born architect Eugene C. Wachendorff (1880 - 1957). They reflect his mastery of such design, for during this same time he was designing other hospitals in smaller Georgia cities, such as Columbus and Thomasville. The use of the Georgian Revival style motifs was typical of this period. Details of this style include use of red brick, classical details in the cornice, porches, and keystones as well as the overall symmetry of the buildings. However, the large porches and former roof gardens reflect the prevailing ideas that fresh air was a major part of a patient's recovery. The complex also was built of reinforced concrete to make it fireproof, and had battery-operated electrical reserves for important equipment. In medicine, the hospital is significant as the second oldest surviving medical building in the city and the oldest surviving privately built medical building in the city. It is an example of a hospital which has survived from an early attempt at creating and operating a privately owned and operated hospital and as one that always exemplified the latest in medical technology. Many other similar ventures in Atlanta failed over the years, for there were 22 in 1915. It is also significant for having remained at the same location for over seventy-five years. Founded by Dr. Edward C. Davis and Dr. Luther C. Fischer, it was one of only three "large" hospitals in the city in 1911. It was noted for several achievements including housing the first blood bank, being the first Atlanta hospital with a recovery room for surgery patients, instituting a baby identification program by footprinting babies in 1921 and electric signaling for nurses, also 1921. Renamed in 1931 for Georgia's famed Dr.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Roberts, Peter. "Davis-Fischer Sanitarium (sic)..." Historic Property Information Form, May 30, 1986, as a student project at Georgia State University. On file at the Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Clendenen, Lois and Nancy Yarn. 75 Years Between the Peachtrees: A History of Crawford W. Long Memorial Hospital of Emory University. Atlanta: Susan Hunter Publishing Co., 1987.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approximately one acre

UTM References

A

1	6
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7	4	2	1	0	0
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3	7	3	9	4	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property consists of that part of the hospital complex containing the two historic buildings, both facing Linden Avenue. The boundary is delineated on the enclosed Sanborn Insurance Map.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated parcel consists of that part of the hospital complex containing the two historic buildings, known as A and B today. They are the only two buildings in the complex which are over fifty years old which were also built to be a part of the hospital. The land upon which they rest has been owned by the hospital since it moved to this location in 1911.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian
organization Historic Preservation Section date July 28, 1988
street & number Georgia Department of Natural Resources telephone 404/656-2840
city or town 205 Butler Street, SE, Suite 1462 state Georgia zip code 30334
Atlanta

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

Crawford W. Long (who is one of Georgia's two representatives in the United States Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol), the hospital has remained a forerunner in medical activities as part of Emory University since 1940.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 3

Criteria Justification

The Crawford W. Long Memorial Hospital meets National Register Criteria A and C.

The hospital meets criteria A, the "significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history", because as a hospital for over seventy-five years at this location, it has not only served the needs for a medical facility in Atlanta as a regular hospital, starting in 1911 at this location as one of the three largest in the city, one of 2 that remains, offering normal patient services, but it has also been a forerunner and innovator in medical services in the community. It housed the city's first blood bank, and the first recovery room for surgery patients, among other innovations. While it began as a private hospital owned by two local doctors, like so many other newly formed ones in the early 20th century, it became a teaching hospital when it became part of Emory University in 1940.

The hospital meets criteria C, "distinctive characteristics", "method of construction", or "work of a master", because it was designed by a locally born and well-trained architect, Eugene C. Wachendorff, who became well-known in the state for his hospital designs, using the latest technology in them. He employed the Georgian Revival style in building not only the original 1911 building but also the 1921 one as well. Important details of this style reflected in these buildings are the use of red brick for the front facades, the classically inspired porches, and on building "A", the two-story portico, the cornice at the top of both buildings, and the use of keystones at every window opening on the front facades. A special feature he employed on both buildings is the long front porch which allowed the recovering patients the opportunity to obtain fresh air. Originally, both hospitals had roof gardens as well, although the details of those features have been removed. The hospital buildings were also an early example in the city of reinforced concrete, fireproof construction, an important feature for any new building, but especially a hospital. This strong, inner construction has no doubt been a major factor in the survival and continued use of these two historic buildings.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

Historical Narrative/Context Statement

The Davis-Fischer Sanatorium was founded in 1908 by two young surgeons, Drs. Edward Campbell Davis (1867-1931) and Luther C. Fischer (1873-1953). The doctors were motivated to begin their own practice because most of the survey taking place at the time was being performed by the more established Atlanta doctors.

The first hospital was a 26-bed facility located on Crew Street in downtown Atlanta. It opened October 21, 1908. Within a year the demand for their health care had exceeded their capacity. Their rapid growth paralleled that of Atlanta's. To achieve more space required moving into the quieter suburban northside. In 1909 they contacted Mrs. Morris Brandon and purchased her property between West Peachtree and Peachtree Streets on Linden Avenue. This site was considered by the public and the medical profession to be too far out in the country.

The doctors had less regard for the location than they had for the design. They were concerned with the numerous hospital fires across the United States, especially one in Michigan which had seriously injured several patients. They were therefore determined to build a fireproof building despite the increased cost. Captain Robert Lowry, President of the Lowry National Bank, believed in their dream and gave them partial financing for their project. The doctors then contacted Atlanta architect Eugene C. Wachendorff (1880-1957) who had recently opened his own architectural firm. For this hospital, Wachendorff designed an up-to-date fireproof construction consisting of reinforced concrete with a brick exterior.

The 85-bed hospital was begun in the latter part of 1909 or early 1910 and completed February 24, 1911. The finished design was embellished with classical features, in keeping with the Georgian Revival Style. The result, Building A, along with its complementary rooftop garden (now gone), was intended to provide the recovering patient every comfort and convenience.

This grand new resident of the neighborhood, along with its contemporary, the Georgian Terrace Hotel, two blocks north played a crucial role in transforming the character of the area from that of a residential one. In the following years, residential Peachtree Street was overshadowed by commercial development. The noise resulting from increased traffic prompted Dr. Fischer on March 22, 1914 to gather the signatures of 200 of Atlanta's most prominent surgeons and physicians in order to initiate legislative measures to establish "quite zones" in Atlanta. The hospital was one of 22 medical facilities in Atlanta in 1915. Many of these were operated in private homes. This hospital was built larger to start with, and thus survived. It is the second oldest medical building in the city.

The hospital's success continued after World War I and the doctors' new

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 5

feeling of optimism, a reflection of the confidence felt across the country, was expressed in the ambitious construction of a seven-story "Annex and Nurses' Home" west of the original building. It was opened August 10, 1921. The doctors were evidently pleased with the original 1911 building and chose the same architect and construction company. By this time Wachendorff had gained substantial experience in hospital design and utilized his skills to create the most modern medical facility in the city.

The fireproof 110 patient-bed annex, later known as the "B" building, cost \$235,000 and was hailed as the model hospital of the south. It contained wards, private suites, and private apartments on each floor, as well as two floors used as a nurses' dormitory. At the same time, \$50,000 in improvements were made to the 1911 building, including a new X-ray laboratory. A novel light signalling system was installed in the new annex which allowed patients to alert nurses by switching on a light instead of by the annoying ringing of bells.

There was a problem in connecting this new facility with the original building. Because Benton Street, which ran between them, was considered a public thoroughfare, the hospital was unable to have it closed. However, they succeeded in connecting the two buildings with corridors running underneath the street connecting the basements, and a pedestrian bridge connecting the fourth floors, thus creating one of Atlanta's earliest pedestrian bridges.

Shortly after Dr. Davis, one of the two founders died, the hospital was renamed the Crawford W. Long Memorial Hospital and dedicated as such on March 30, 1931.

Other modern features were continuously being instituted at the hospital. In the late fall of 1934 air conditioning was added to the operating rooms and obstetrical departments.

The Great Depression had a stagnating effect on the Southeast and Atlanta. On numerous occasions, Dr. Fischer loaned the institution money from his private funds so that bills could be paid. By 1938, however, economic conditions had sufficiently improved to allow for additional improvements. The hospital had finally received permission to close off Benton Street. The connecting link was added to connect the A and B buildings by filling in the alley. This addition is believed to have been designed by the architectural firm of Hentz, Adler, and Shutze. They were given the difficult task of creating a complementary addition to the structures while maintaining a sense of the original symmetry.

Unlike other hospitals that left the downtown region in the 1950s, Crawford

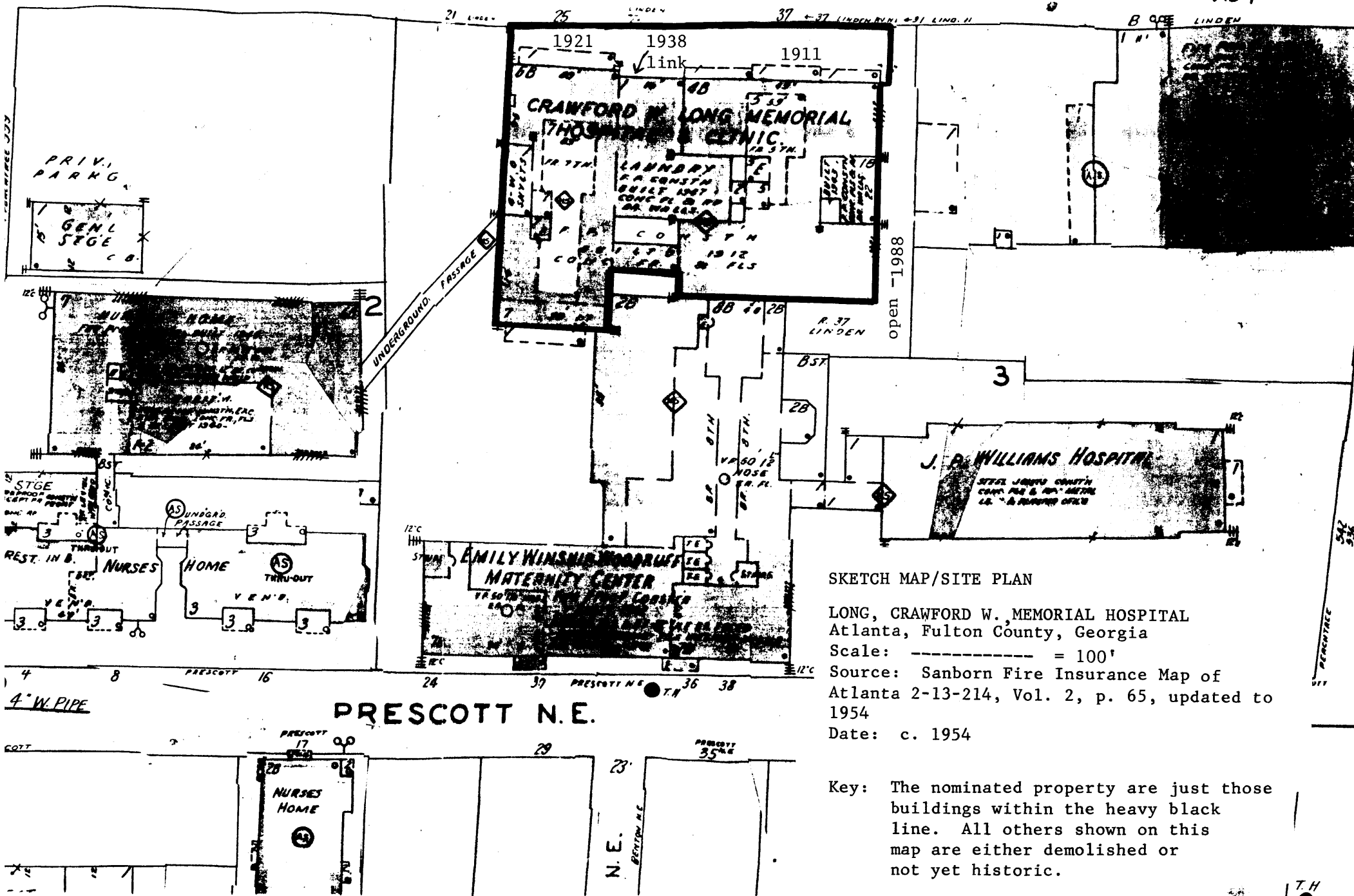
**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 6

Long has remained close to the heart of the city and has retained its essential character despite the transformations of the surrounding landscape. The original buildings have survived primarily because of the significance of the architectural features and the caring of the pioneering founders of the institution and succeeding administrators. The hospital complex has grown during the past fifty years to include several surrounding blocks. In October, 1988 the hospital will celebrate its 80th anniversary as an institution.

LINDEN AV. N. E.



SKETCH MAP/SITE PLAN

LONG, CRAWFORD W. MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia

Scale: ----- = 100'

Source: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of
Atlanta 2-13-214, Vol. 2, p. 65, updated to
1954

Date: c. 1954

Key: The nominated property are just those
buildings within the heavy black
line. All others shown on this
map are either demolished or
not yet historic.