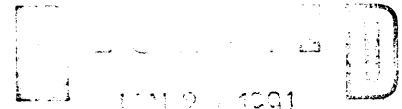


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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 Murphy, Paul F., House  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 850 NW Powhatan Terrace N/A not for publication  
city, town Portland N/A vicinity  
state Oregon code OR county Multnomah code 051 zip code 97210

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>2</u>	_____ objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

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.  See continuation sheet.

James M. Hornick January 3, 1991  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Albion Byers 2/22/91  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

*for*

Entered in the  
National Register

---

**6. Function or Use**

---

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

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---

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

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**7. Description**

---

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th Century and 20th Century Revivals:  
English Cottage

---

---

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

---

walls brick

---

wood: weatherboard

---

roof wood: shake

---

other

---

---

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

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Section number 7 Page 2

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### Setting and Description

The 1934 Paul F. Murphy Residence is located at 850 SW Powhatan Terrace on Lots 16 and 17, Block 17, Westover Addition to the City of Portland Multnomah County, Oregon.

Designed by the prominent architect Richard W. Sundeleaf, this is a romantic Old World Cottage. Sundeleaf himself described it to the present owners as being in the French Norman style. While the scale of the house gives it a cottage appearance, it is not a small house having a total finished area on three floors of about 6,000 square feet.

The house is beautifully sited on what to many would have seemed an awkward building lot, with a steep compound slope and adjoining an alley on one side and at the rear, besides its street frontage on Powhatan Terrace. Architect Sundeleaf solved these problems, turning disadvantage into opportunity by building a high brick wall to retain the earth at the rear of the house. The wall is constructed on the property line following the curve of the alley at the rear corner and repeating the curve at the basement entrance off the alley. This curved wall is echoed by the round stair tower which contains a spiral stair from the kitchen to the basement level. The double garage at basement level also fronts inconspicuously on the alley.

At the front of the house there is a low brick wall at the sidewalk and a brick walk leads to the front entrance. The house is mostly faced with brick, some of the brickwork in combination with half-timber. Gables are clad in clapboards which have a band resawn surface, although painting has obscured some of the texture. The roof is shingled with hand-split shakes. Gutters, downspouts and flashings are copper.

A decorative, heavy timbered, gabled porch is at the entrance. The front door of oak is unusual, with vertical panels arranged in staggered fashion. Windows are wood casements with lead comes, some in diamond pattern, some in a rectangular pattern. Two small dormers are set in the roof at the front of the house.

At the rear of the house the present owners in 1979 added a covered patio with a sun deck above off the master bedroom upstairs. This

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Section number 7 Page 3

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construction was designed by Richard Sundeleaf, the original architect, who insisted that the whole construction be made of heavy timbers to be in keeping with the half-timbering of the house. He said, "You could park a Buick up there."

The brick work of the house and walls surrounding the property is done well although very simply. The brick is common brick with normal kiln variation in color and laid in common bond. What makes the brick so successful is that it was used brick when incorporated in this house, and all the edges are slightly rounded giving the wall a soft, weathered appearance. The owners recall that Sundeleaf told them that the brick came from an old building demolished at the Lake Oswego Iron Works. The going rate for used brick at that time was one cent apiece, or two cents if cleaned. These bricks had been cleaned, but were only \$20 per thousand!

When one enters the house one comes into a long, transverse hallway on two levels, the lower level floored with green slate, the upper level in oak. The hall is paneled with 8" oak boards applied vertically. The boards have a bead and groove detail at the edge. Doors in the hall use the same detail. The ceiling is beamed in oak.

An oak stairway to the second floor parallels the hall. The stair rail has heavy, turned oak balusters; and the rectangular newel post has a squirrel carved in oak perched on it. A second squirrel in a different pose is perched on the newel post at the top of the stair. These anticipated the carved newels at Timberline Lodge by several years.

The living room is large with a travertine marble fireplace surrounded by oak paneling. A concealed door in this paneling opens into a closet with a wood lift. The oak mantle at the fireplace has a carved panel. Sundeleaf told the owners that this carving, and the squirrels on the newel posts, were all done by a man they found down on Burnside Street. The walls in the living room are plaster with a brocaded finish.

Three steps lead up through an arched opening to the dining room and beyond that a pantry, breakfast room and the kitchen. In the corner of the house between the kitchen and the entrance hall is the maid's room and bath.

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Continuation Sheet

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The dining room walls are wallpapered with a paneled effect created by a pattern of applied moldings. The paper is not original but the moldings are.

The breakfast room is a delightful space paneled in knotty pine which was newly popular in the 1930s. The room has a pyramidal ceiling and windows on three sides looking out on the garden. The lighting fixture is not original but very much in keeping with the space. The only other alteration here is an opening made to the kitchen to facilitate serving.

The kitchen was completely remodeled in 1981 with the design by architect Ralph Cereghino. In this remodeling walls were removed opening up the kitchen to the spiral stairway in the tower and to the back hall where a wood stove was installed. A skylight was installed over the sink and two new windows installed in the stair tower matching the original single window. This remodeling was very sympathetically done and fits in well with the existing work.

The balance of the first floor is in its original condition. All base and trim as well as doors and floors are oak.

On the second floor the stair hall has a barrel vaulted ceiling. Walls and ceiling have the same brocaded plaster finish as the living room. The doors in this hall are unique, having the shape of Gothic arches so as to fit in with the vaulted ceiling when at the side of the hall. On this floor are two moderate sized bedrooms, a large master bedroom, and two bathrooms. The one bath is original, but the master bath, which was originally very small, has been completely remodeled and increased in size using what was originally attic space and lighted by a skylight which is not visible from the alley outside. The master bedroom has a fireplace and a very large bay over the breakfast room, with windows on three sides. A door leads to the sun deck which was added in 1979. Doors, base, trim and floors are oak on this floor also.

In the basement which has just received some remodeling and renewal of finishes, is a game room and various utilitarian spaces as well as the garage. The basement is reached by a stair under the stair to the second floor as well as by the spiral stair in the tower.

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This is a charming house built with fine materials and workmanship and with careful attention to detail by its architect, Richard Sundeleaf. The remodeling which it has received has been done tastefully and with careful consideration of the original concept and details; and the house has been carefully maintained in excellent condition both inside and out.

Architect Sundeleaf was versatile and worked effectively in many different styles. This house is one of his unique productions, is in excellent condition and demonstrates a high degree of integrity.

**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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
Architecture

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance  
1934

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates  
1934

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person  
N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Richard Sundeleaf, architect

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property 0.21 acres Portland, Oregon-Washington 1:24000

UTM References

A 

1	0
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5	2	2	5	7	0
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5	0	4	1	5	5	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 area is legally identified as Lot 16 and North 31 feet of Lot 17, Block 17, Westover Terrace Addition to the City of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon. The west elevation fronts on NW Powhatan Terrace, and a narrow 15-foot alleyway bounds the lot on the north and east.

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The nominated area follows legally recorded lot lines of the parcel historically occupied by the house built for Paul F. Murphy in 1934.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title John M. Tess, President with Richard E. Ritz, FAIA

organization Heritage Investment Corporation date July, 1990

street & number 123 NW Second Avenue, Suite 200 telephone (503) 228-02072

city or town Portland state Oregon zip code 97207



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SUMMARY

The two-story, brick-faced English Cottage-style house located on NW Powhatan Terrace in the Westover Terraces neighborhood of northwest Portland, Oregon that was built for Paul F. Murphy, son of influential real estate developer Paul C. Murphy, was designed by Richard Sundeleaf and constructed in 1934. At about the time the house was being completed, the client commenced working for his father as vice president of the Ladd Estate Company. The house is significant under National Register Criterion C as a well-preserved and locally distinctive example of historic period architecture designed by Richard Sundeleaf shortly after his entry into independent practice in 1928.

Richard Sundeleaf (1900-1984), one of the state's leading designers of the mid-20th Century and a native of Portland, was trained in architecture at the University of Oregon and gained his early professional experience with such leading firms as A. E. Doyle and Sutton and Whitney. Although overlooked in the Portland Historic Resource Inventory, the Murphy House ranks very high as an exemplar of Sundeleaf's early work in the traditional English Cottage style. Accordingly, it is locally significant under National Register Criterion C.

The rectangular volume is well settled into its limited hillside site. The ridge of its shake-covered gable roof is parallel with the facade, which faces west onto Powhatan Terrace. The core is intersected by a cross-gabled section with close verges at the south end and, on the north end a garage/service wing with an apsidal stairwell bay descends to a narrow service lane bordering the property boundary. In fact, the northerly edge of the lot is contained within an attractive retaining wall of used brick matching that of the house, and because this wall also serves to relate the house to its setting, it is counted a separately-contributing feature.

Exterior elevations are clad with the used brick laid up in a stretcher bond. Gable ends on the north elevation are finished with weatherboards. The principal street facade is very nearly enveloped by the forward slope of the roof, a dominating expanse that is broken only by novel, narrow hip-roofed dormers, one of them a wall dormer low on the facade, and the other at mid-slope adjacent to the front gable. Characteristic features of the

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English Cottage style embodied in the design are multi-paned windows, some of them having diapered leaded panes; half-timbering, and a charming Gothic porch of pegged timber framing having brick bulkheads that is crowned by a steep bellcast gable fronted by a decorative king post truss. Such inventiveness within the framework of restrained historicism is typical of Sundeleaf's work of the 1930s. On the rear, or east-facing elevation, a heavy timber sundeck with railing designed by the original architect was added off the master bedroom in 1979. The interior exhibits superior craftsmanship in its handsome carved and paneled oak woodwork and plaster walls with brocaded finish. The house is well preserved throughout.

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The Paul F. Murphy Residence is located in the Westover Terrace Addition.

### Westover Terrace

The Westover Terrace Addition was platted between the years 1911-1914. The hillside was previously know as Goldsmith Hill, named after landowner and Portland mayor(1869-71), Bernard Goldsmith. The terrain of the hillside was quite steep and the project of terracing the hillside was the creation of Charles S. Wiley and William H. Lewis. The two had previously worked on terracing projects in Seattle. They purchased the Portland property in 1909. The Lewis-Wiley Hydraulic Company, whose business it was to move earth by water troughs, was part of an organization which included John C. Ainsworth the younger, Henry L. Corbett, Henry Pittock, and realtor Don E. Keasey. The project began in 1910 and was completed by 1914.

The Westover Terrace development included 142 acres of land, 41 of which was the shallow water region of Guild's Lake. Guild's Lake, the site of the 1905 Lewis and Clark Exposition, was used to supply water for the pumping process in creating the terraces. Portland's largest lake was soon filled with land from the hillside and was eventually developed for industrial use.

The Westover Terrace development project was featured in the September 12, 1914 issue of the New York published magazine, Engineering Record. It was reported in the Engineering Record that the Westover project was one of the largest hydraulic excavations in the country. The article stated: "The carving of this scenic residential district out of the inaccessible hillside has been a tremendous task and the work ranks as one of the largest pieces of hydraulic excavation in the country and has attracted attention from all localities." The project was unique in Portland real estate development and was significant for its size and well-thought out planning design.

The plan of the streets in the Westover Terrace addition did not follow a grid pattern, but rather outlined the configuration of the hillside. The streets in the Westover Terrace plat were named after 12 Virginia counties- Albemarle, Colpeper, Cumberland,

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Dinwiddie, Fairfax, Greenbriar, Luray, Powhatan, Rapidan, Roanoke, Shenandoah, and Winchester.

Fine residences were built on the hill and Henry L. Pittock's mansion, built in 1914, looked down upon the terraces. The hillside properties gave a commanding view of the city. The Westover Terrace project did not prove profitable until the 1920s when a significant number of residences were constructed in the area. Buildings in the area already on the National Register: the Mark A. M. Ashley House at 2847 N.W. Westover, Clarissa McKeyes Inman House(1926) at 2884 N.W. Cumberland Road, William H. Lewis House(1911) at 2877 N.W. Westover, and the Frank M. Warren, Jr. House(1905, 1919) at 2545 N.W. Westover.

Paul F. Murphy

Paul F. Murphy was first listed at 850 Powhatan Terrace in 1934 and he lived in the house until 1942. Murphy served as vice-president of the Ladd Estate company at this time, his father, Paul C. Murphy acting as president. Paul C. Murphy was a prominent Portland real estate developer. He had worked in the Seattle area and in 1898 he was involved with real estate and banking in Everett. In 1908, Murphy entered into a real estate development corporation in Portland. Murphy was the principal developer and he named the project after his successful Laurelhurst development in Seattle. Murphy moved to Portland with his family around 1914 and they lived in the Laurelhurst district, in a residence on Burnside. In 1918 he was elected president of the Portland Realty Board and in 1926 he purchased the Ladd estate holdings. He continued to work with development of the Laurelhurst, and also with Eastmoreland, Westmoreland, Ladd's addition, Irvington, Westover Terraces, Lake Oswego and Lake Grove residential subdivisions. He died in California in 1957 at the age of 81.

Paul F. Murphy started to work for his father as vice president of the Ladd Estate Company in 1927. He had attended school in Portland and lived with his parents until he moved into the house on Powhatan in 1934. He became president of the Ladd Estate

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Company, later called Ladd Estate Inc. and started several other businesses in Portland, such as Paul F. Murphy Inc., and Gas-Heat, Inc. During the years he lived in the residence on Powhatan he worked as vice-president of the Ladd Estate Company.

Paul F. Murphy and his wife Kathryn moved to Lake Oswego in 1942 and in 1978 they moved to Wilsonville.

Edward and Helda Weinstein lived in the house from 1943 to 1949.

Dr. Herman Dickel resided in the house from 1950-1974. Dickel was born in Washington state in 1912. He graduated from Northwestern University Medical school in 1938 with a medical degree. He joined the department of psychiatry at the University of Oregon Medical school in 1938 and opened his private practice in Portland in 1942. He was involved in the Multnomah County and Oregon state medical societies and worked with various public service companies in Oregon. He died in Portland in 1974.

James K. Wright lived in the house from 1975-1979.

Richard Wilhelm Sundeleaf

Richard Wilhelm Sundeleaf practiced architecture in Portland for more than 60 years, gaining particular notice for his designs of industrial buildings in the 1920s, '30s and '40s but also well known as a designer of houses.

Sundeleaf was born in Portland on February 8, 1900, son of Charles August Sundeleaf who managed the long-popular Oyster Loaf restaurant in downtown Portland. Born in the Goose Hollow neighborhood, he moved to the Sellwood area in 1906. He attended Sellwood Grade School and Washington High School and then went on to the University of Oregon to study architecture. He worked his way through college, working at odd jobs, graduating in 1923 with a Bachelor of Architecture degree.

Upon graduation from architecture school he went to work as a draftsman in the office of A.E. Doyle, Portland's leading architect at the time. Sundeleaf once told the author that he laid out the tile pattern for the pavement at the Broadway entrance to the U.S. National Bank. According to Sundeleaf's own account, Doyle didn't

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think highly of his talents and told him that he ought to follow a career in some other field.

When Sutton & Whitney, another important architectural firm, called Doyle when they were looking for a draftsman. Doyle sent them Sundeleaf without a recommendation. Sundeleaf was evidently not without talent for he stayed on in the Sutton & Whitney office from 1924 until 1928, while much of that firm's most important work was being designed and learned much while working with their talented chief designer Fred Fritsch.

In 1928 Sundeleaf opened his own office and his special talents soon became evident with his first projects. Shortly after opening his office he was asked by the Jantzen Knitting Mills to design a number of buildings for them including buildings in Australia and England as well as their headquarters building and a factory in Portland. At this time he was also commissioned by Carl Jantzen to design his estate to be constructed on an island in Lake Oswego; however, it was not completed by Sundeleaf. Sundeleaf's projects for the Jantzen Knitting Mills brought him immediate recognition nationally and internationally as well as in Portland, so that despite the great depression of the 1930s he had work when most Portland architects had none. In addition to his Jantzen buildings he designed outstanding buildings for Mailwell Envelope (1931), Oregon Portland Cement (1929) and Woodbury & Co. (1939) among others. In 1931 Sundeleaf also remodeled the Fliedner Building, applying Art Deco detailing in plaster with terra cotta trim.

Not all his projects were industrial and commercial. He also designed many houses. His house designs were more conservative but nevertheless forward looking and generally not in traditional styles.

In 1949 he designed the Francis-Hopkins Motor showroom, one of his best designs. In 1955 he designed the Portland Medical Center Building which was built around the frame of the 1929 Eastern Outfitting Building. The building is a curtain wall building which unfortunately suffers from the fading of its panel material.

In 1955 he formed a partnership with Wallace P. Hagestad, a long-time employee, and Norman Peace, with the firm name of Sundeleaf, Hagestad & Peace which continued to about 1960 when Sundeleaf

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returned to solo practice. Sundeleaf continued his practice when he was well over 80 years old and is said to have done more than 3000 projects in his career.

He was a member of the American Institute of Architects, having joined in 1923. He had a lifelong interest in athletics and played handball for 75 years. In 1934 he was a member of the team which produced the Historic American Buildings Survey in Oregon.

Richard Sundeleaf died at his Lake Oswego home on March 1, 1987 at the age of 87. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

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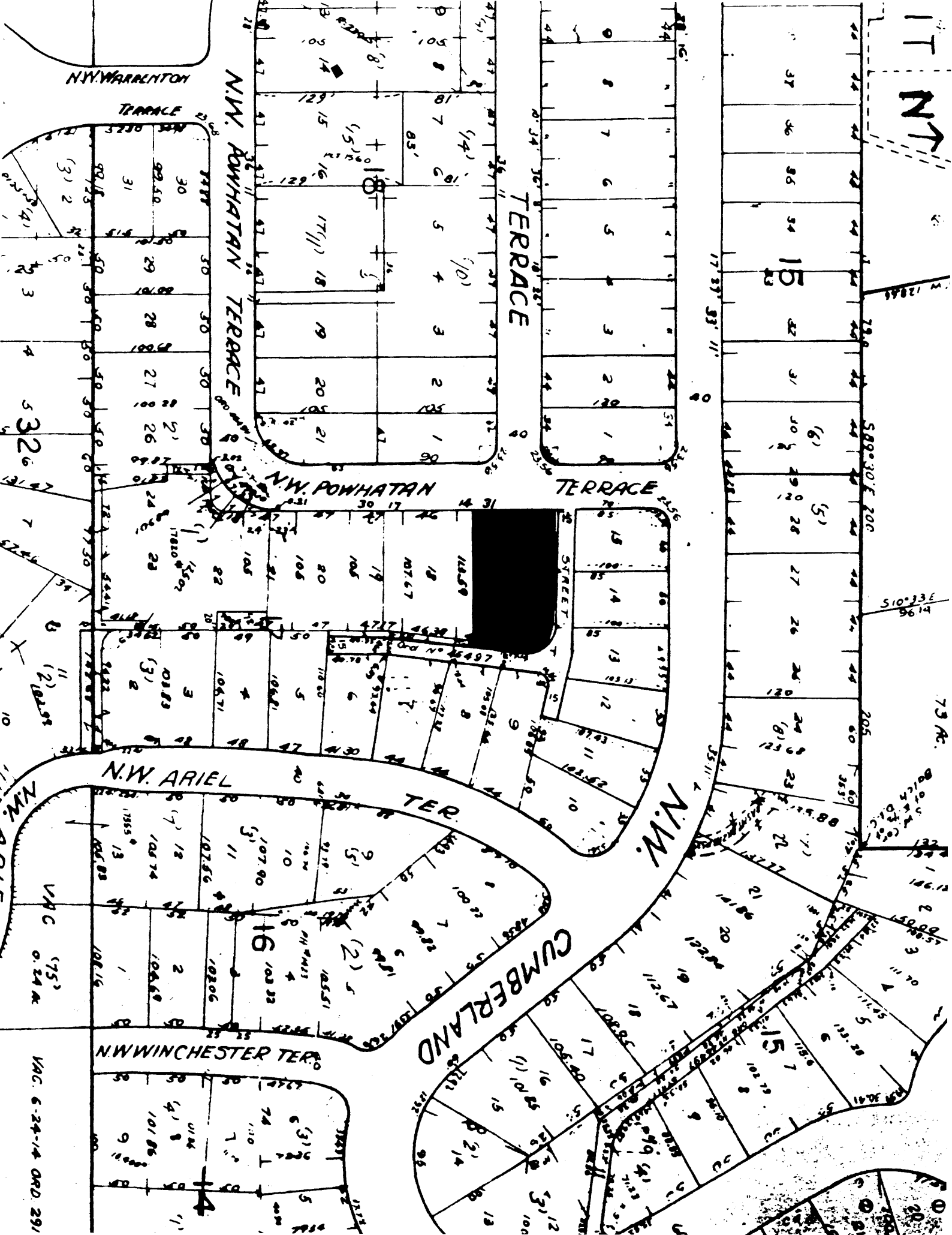
Obituary (Paul C. Murphy) "Real Estate Developer, Paul Murphy, 81, Dies, The Oregonian (22 Sept. 1957), p. 38.

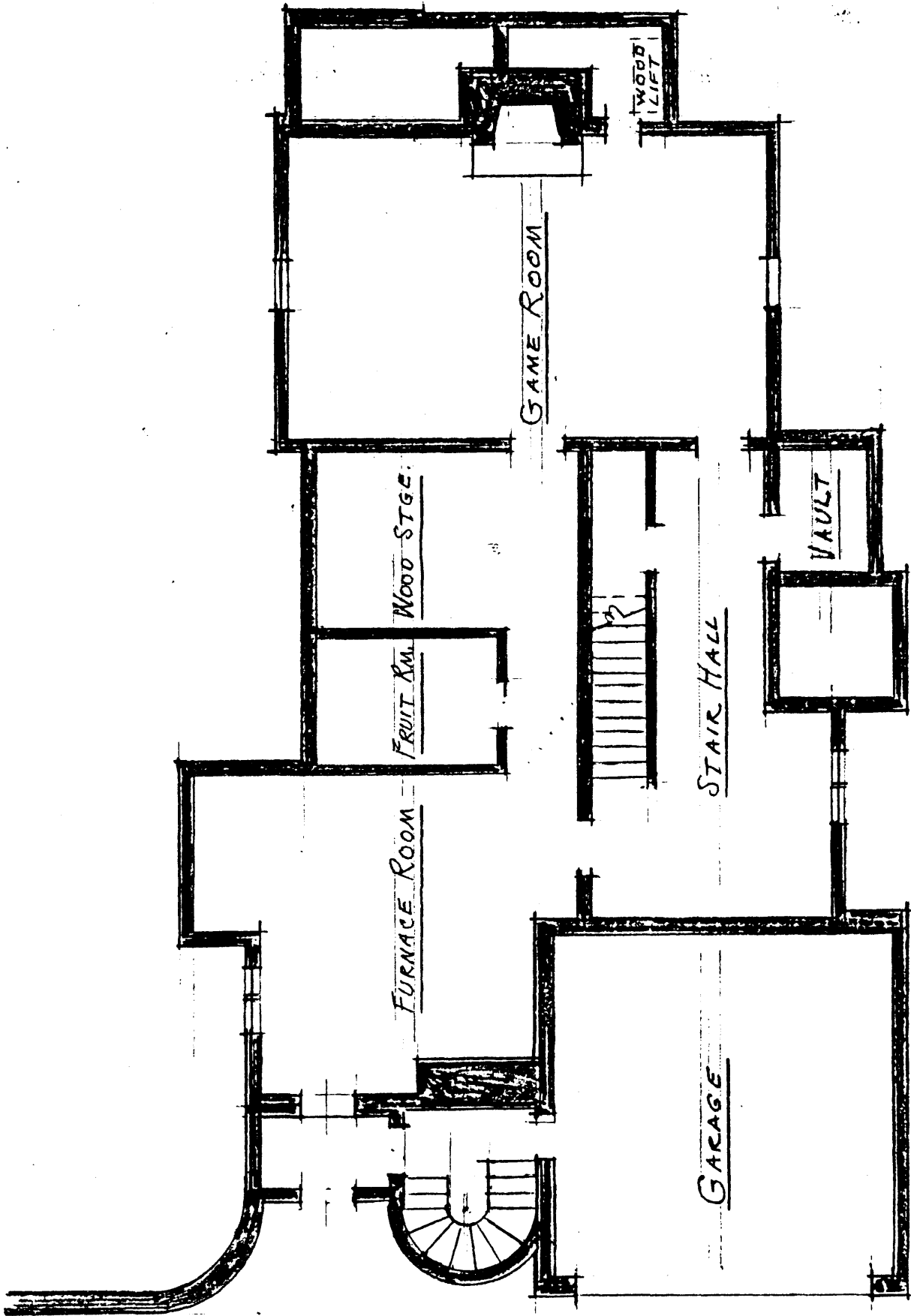
"Westover Homes Rising," The Oregonian (28 June 1925), p. 2.

"Westover Project," The Oregonian (20 Sept. 1914), p. 8.

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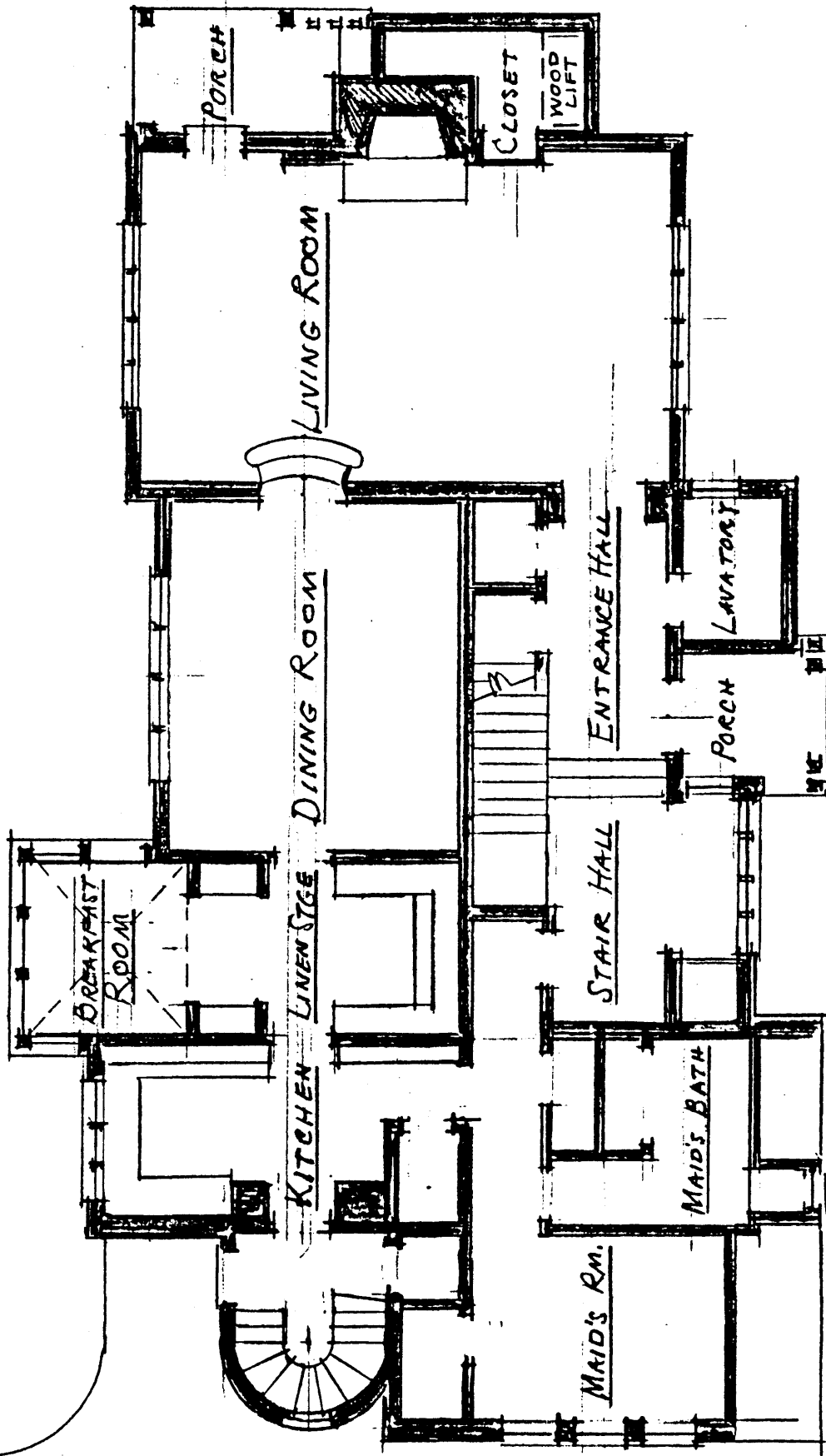




BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

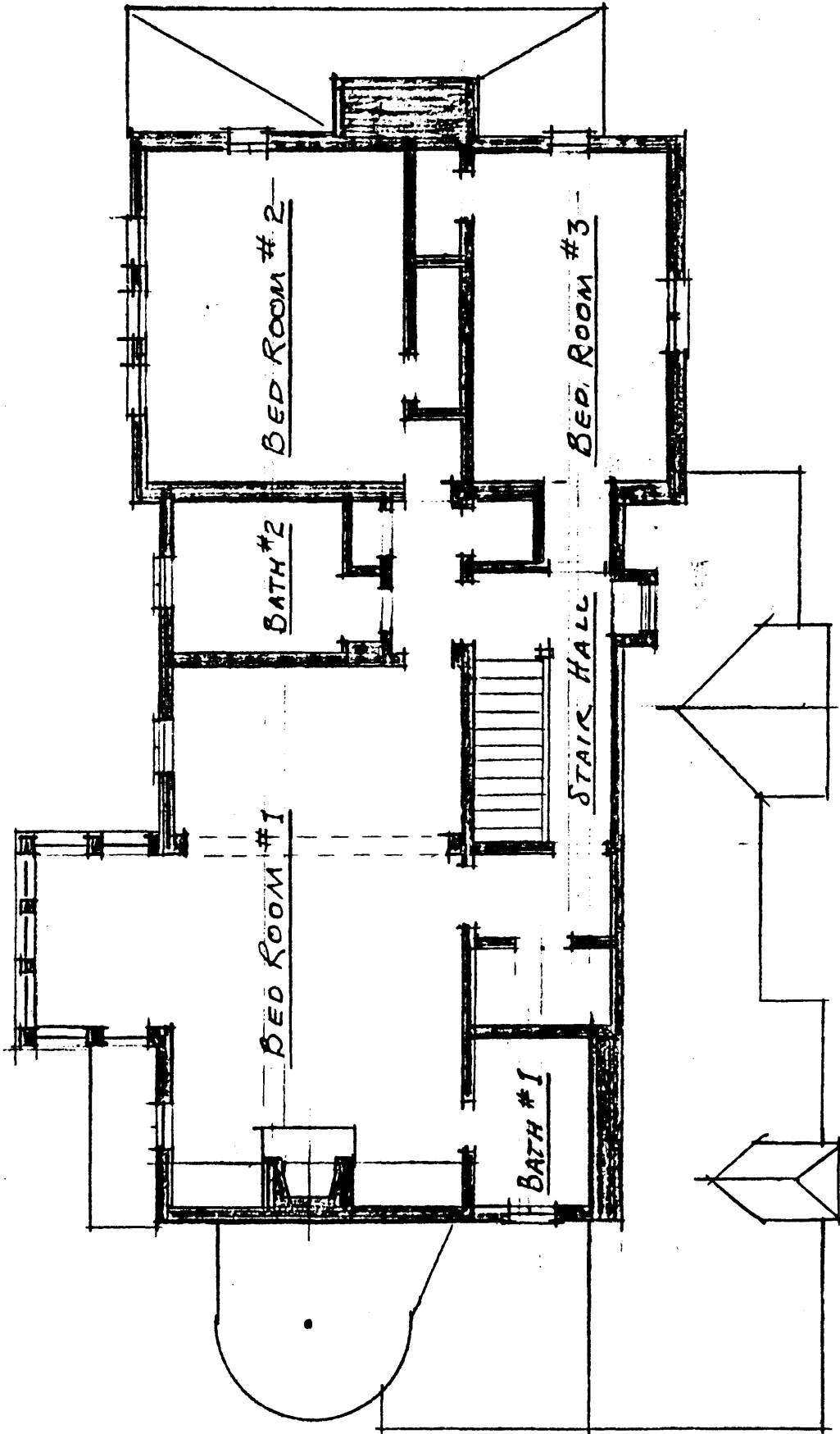
HOUSE FOR PAUL F. MURPHY

RICHARD SUNDELEAF ARCHITECT



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

HOUSE FOR PAUL F. MURPHY  
 RICHARD SUNDELEAF ARCHITECT



SECOND FLOOR PLAN scale:  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$

HOUSE FOR PAUL F. MURPHY  
RICHARD SUNDELEAF - ARCHITECT

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

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**7. Description**

---

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th Century and 20th Century Revivals:

---

English Cottage

---

---

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

---

walls brick

---

wood: weatherboard

---

roof wood: shake

---

other

---

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

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Setting and Description

The 1934 Paul F. Murphy Residence is located at 850 SW Powhatan Terrace on Lots 16 and 17, Block 17, Westover Addition to the City of Portland Multnomah County, Oregon.

Designed by the prominent architect Richard W. Sundeleaf, this is a romantic Old World Cottage. Sundeleaf himself described it to the present owners as being in the French Norman style. While the scale of the house gives it a cottage appearance, it is not a small house having a total finished area on three floors of about 6,000 square feet.

The house is beautifully sited on what to many would have seemed an awkward building lot, with a steep compound slope and adjoining an alley on one side and at the rear, besides its street frontage on Powhatan Terrace. Architect Sundeleaf solved these problems, turning disadvantage into opportunity by building a high brick wall to retain the earth at the rear of the house. The wall is constructed on the property line following the curve of the alley at the rear corner and repeating the curve at the basement entrance off the alley. This curved wall is echoed by the round stair tower which contains a spiral stair from the kitchen to the basement level. The double garage at basement level also fronts inconspicuously on the alley.

At the front of the house there is a low brick wall at the sidewalk and a brick walk leads to the front entrance. The house is mostly faced with brick, some of the brickwork in combination with half-timber. Gables are clad in clapboards which have a band resawn surface, although painting has obscured some of the texture. The roof is shingled with hand-split shakes. Gutters, downspouts and flashings are copper.

A decorative, heavy timbered, gabled porch is at the entrance. The front door of oak is unusual, with vertical panels arranged in staggered fashion. Windows are wood casements with lead comes, some in diamond pattern, some in a rectangular pattern. Two small dormers are set in the roof at the front of the house.

At the rear of the house the present owners in 1979 added a covered patio with a sun deck above off the master bedroom upstairs. This

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construction was designed by Richard Sundeleaf, the original architect, who insisted that the whole construction be made of heavy timbers to be in keeping with the half-timbering of the house. He said, "You could park a Buick up there."

The brick work of the house and walls surrounding the property is done well although very simply. The brick is common brick with normal kiln variation in color and laid in common bond. What makes the brick so successful is that it was used brick when incorporated in this house, and all the edges are slightly rounded giving the wall a soft, weathered appearance. The owners recall that Sundeleaf told them that the brick came from an old building demolished at the Lake Oswego Iron Works. The going rate for used brick at that time was one cent apiece, or two cents if cleaned. These bricks had been cleaned, but were only \$20 per thousand!

When one enters the house one comes into a long, transverse hallway on two levels, the lower level floored with green slate, the upper level in oak. The hall is paneled with 8" oak boards applied vertically. The boards have a bead and groove detail at the edge. Doors in the hall use the same detail. The ceiling is beamed in oak.

An oak stairway to the second floor parallels the hall. The stair rail has heavy, turned oak balusters; and the rectangular newel post has a squirrel carved in oak perched on it. A second squirrel in a different pose is perched on the newel post at the top of the stair. These anticipated the carved newels at Timberline Lodge by several years.

The living room is large with a travertine marble fireplace surrounded by oak paneling. A concealed door in this paneling opens into a closet with a wood lift. The oak mantle at the fireplace has a carved panel. Sundeleaf told the owners that this carving, and the squirrels on the newel posts, were all done by a man they found down on Burnside Street. The walls in the living room are plaster with a brocaded finish.

Three steps lead up through an arched opening to the dining room and beyond that a pantry, breakfast room and the kitchen. In the corner of the house between the kitchen and the entrance hall is the maid's room and bath.

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The dining room walls are wallpapered with a paneled effect created by a pattern of applied moldings. The paper is not original but the moldings are.

The breakfast room is a delightful space paneled in knotty pine which was newly popular in the 1930s. The room has a pyramidal ceiling and windows on three sides looking out on the garden. The lighting fixture is not original but very much in keeping with the space. The only other alteration here is an opening made to the kitchen to facilitate serving.

The kitchen was completely remodeled in 1981 with the design by architect Ralph Cereghino. In this remodeling walls were removed opening up the kitchen to the spiral stairway in the tower and to the back hall where a wood stove was installed. A skylight was installed over the sink and two new windows installed in the stair tower matching the original single window. This remodeling was very sympathetically done and fits in well with the existing work.

The balance of the first floor is in its original condition. All base and trim as well as doors and floors are oak.

On the second floor the stair hall has a barrel vaulted ceiling. Walls and ceiling have the same brocaded plaster finish as the living room. The doors in this hall are unique, having the shape of Gothic arches so as to fit in with the vaulted ceiling when at the side of the hall. On this floor are two moderate sized bedrooms, a large master bedroom, and two bathrooms. The one bath is original, but the master bath, which was originally very small, has been completely remodeled and increased in size using what was originally attic space and lighted by a skylight which is not visible from the alley outside. The master bedroom has a fireplace and a very large bay over the breakfast room, with windows on three sides. A door leads to the sun deck which was added in 1979. Doors, base, trim and floors are oak on this floor also.

In the basement which has just received some remodeling and renewal of finishes, is a game room and various utilitarian spaces as well as the garage. The basement is reached by a stair under the stair to the second floor as well as by the spiral stair in the tower.



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This is a charming house built with fine materials and workmanship and with careful attention to detail by its architect, Richard Sundeleaf. The remodeling which it has received has been done tastefully and with careful consideration of the original concept and details; and the house has been carefully maintained in excellent condition both inside and out.

Architect Sundeleaf was versatile and worked effectively in many different styles. This house is one of his unique productions, is in excellent condition and demonstrates a high degree of integrity.

**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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1934  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1934  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Richard Sundeleaf, architect  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property 0.21 acres Portland, Oregon-Washington 1:24000

UTM References

A 10 522570 5041550  
 Zone Easting Northing

C \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zone Easting Northing

D \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated area is legally identified as Lot 16 and North 31 feet of Lot 17, Block 17, Westover Terrace Addition to the City of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon. The west elevation fronts on NW Powhatan Terrace, and a narrow 15-foot alleyway bounds the lot on the north and east.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated area follows legally recorded lot lines of the parcel historically occupied by the house built for Paul F. Murphy in 1934.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title John M. Tess, President with Richard E. Ritz, FAIA

organization Heritage Investment Corporation date July, 1990

street & number 123 NW Second Avenue, Suite 200 telephone (503) 228-0202

city or town Portland state Oregon zip code 97207

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### SUMMARY

The two-story, brick-faced English Cottage-style house located on NW Powhatan Terrace in the Westover Terraces neighborhood of northwest Portland, Oregon that was built for Paul F. Murphy, son of influential real estate developer Paul C. Murphy, was designed by Richard Sundeleaf and constructed in 1934. At about the time the house was being completed, the client commenced working for his father as vice president of the Ladd Estate Company. The house is significant under National Register Criterion C as a well-preserved and locally distinctive example of historic period architecture designed by Richard Sundeleaf shortly after his entry into independent practice in 1928.

Richard Sundeleaf (1900-1984), one of the state's leading designers of the mid-20th Century and a native of Portland, was trained in architecture at the University of Oregon and gained his early professional experience with such leading firms as A. E. Doyle and Sutton and Whitney. Although overlooked in the Portland Historic Resource Inventory, the Murphy House ranks very high as an exemplar of Sundeleaf's early work in the traditional English Cottage style. Accordingly, it is locally significant under National Register Criterion C.

The rectangular volume is well settled into its limited hillside site. The ridge of its shake-covered gable roof is parallel with the facade, which faces west onto Powhatan Terrace. The core is intersected by a cross-gabled section with close verges at the south end and, on the north end a garage/service wing with an apsidal stairwell bay descends to a narrow service lane bordering the property boundary. In fact, the northerly edge of the lot is contained within an attractive retaining wall of used brick matching that of the house, and because this wall also serves to relate the house to its setting, it is counted a separately-contributing feature.

Exterior elevations are clad with the used brick laid up in a stretcher bond. Gable ends on the north elevation are finished with weatherboards. The principal street facade is very nearly enveloped by the forward slope of the roof, a dominating expanse that is broken only by novel, narrow hip-roofed dormers, one of them a wall dormer low on the facade, and the other at mid-slope adjacent to the front gable. Characteristic features of the

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English Cottage style embodied in the design are multi-paned windows, some of them having diapered leaded panes; half-timbering, and a charming Gothic porch of pegged timber framing having brick bulkheads that is crowned by a steep bellcast gable fronted by a decorative king post truss. Such inventiveness within the framework of restrained historicism is typical of Sundeleaf's work of the 1930s. On the rear, or east-facing elevation, a heavy timber sundeck with railing designed by the original architect was added off the master bedroom in 1979. The interior exhibits superior craftsmanship in its handsome carved and paneled oak woodwork and plaster walls with brocaded finish. The house is well preserved throughout.

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The Paul F. Murphy Residence is located in the Westover Terrace Addition.

Westover Terrace

The Westover Terrace Addition was platted between the years 1911-1914. The hillside was previously know as Goldsmith Hill, named after landowner and Portland mayor(1869-71), Bernard Goldsmith. The terrain of the hillside was quite steep and the project of terracing the hillside was the creation of Charles S. Wiley and William H. Lewis. The two had previously worked on terracing projects in Seattle. They purchased the Portland property in 1909. The Lewis-Wiley Hydraulic Company, whose business it was to move earth by water troughs, was part of an organization which included John C. Ainsworth the younger, Henry L. Corbett, Henry Pittock, and realtor Don E. Keasey. The project began in 1910 and was completed by 1914.

The Westover Terrace development included 142 acres of land, 41 of which was the shallow water region of Guild's Lake. Guild's Lake, the site of the 1905 Lewis and Clark Exposition, was used to supply water for the pumping process in creating the terraces. Portland's largest lake was soon filled with land from the hillside and was eventually developed for industrial use.

The Westover Terrace development project was featured in the September 12, 1914 issue of the New York published magazine, Engineering Record. It was reported in the Engineering Record that the Westover project was one of the largest hydraulic excavations in the country. The article stated: "The carving of this scenic residential district out of the inaccessible hillside has been a tremendous task and the work ranks as one of the largest pieces of hydraulic excavation in the country and has attracted attention from all localities." The project was unique in Portland real estate development and was significant for its size and well-thought out planning design.

The plan of the streets in the Westover Terrace addition did not follow a grid pattern, but rather outlined the configuration of the hillside. The streets in the Westover Terrace plat were named after 12 Virginia counties- Albemarle, Colpeper, Cumberland,

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Dinwiddie, Fairfax, Greenbriar, Luray, Powhatan, Rapidan, Roanoke, Shenandoah, and Winchester.

Fine residences were built on the hill and Henry L. Pittock's mansion, built in 1914, looked down upon the terraces. The hillside properties gave a commanding view of the city. The Westover Terrace project did not prove profitable until the 1920s when a significant number of residences were constructed in the area. Buildings in the area already on the National Register: the Mark A. M. Ashley House at 2847 N.W. Westover, Clarissa McKeyes Inman House(1926) at 2884 N.W. Cumberland Road, William H. Lewis House(1911) at 2877 N.W. Westover, and the Frank M. Warren, Jr. House(1905, 1919) at 2545 N.W. Westover.

Paul F. Murphy

Paul F. Murphy was first listed at 850 Powhatan Terrace in 1934 and he lived in the house until 1942. Murphy served as vice-president of the Ladd Estate company at this time, his father, Paul C. Murphy acting as president. Paul C. Murphy was a prominent Portland real estate developer. He had worked in the Seattle area and in 1898 he was involved with real estate and banking in Everett. In 1908, Murphy entered into a real estate development corporation in Portland. Murphy was the principal developer and he named the project after his successful Laurelhurst development in Seattle. Murphy moved to Portland with his family around 1914 and they lived in the Laurelhurst district, in a residence on Burnside. In 1918 he was elected president of the Portland Realty Board and in 1926 he purchased the Ladd estate holdings. He continued to work with development of the Laurelhurst, and also with Eastmoreland, Westmoreland, Ladd's addition, Irvington, Westover Terraces, Lake Oswego and Lake Grove residential subdivisions. He died in California in 1957 at the age of 81.

Paul F. Murphy started to work for his father as vice president of the Ladd Estate Company in 1927. He had attended school in Portland and lived with his parents until he moved into the house on Powhatan in 1934. He became president of the Ladd Estate

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Company, later called Ladd Estate Inc. and started several other businesses in Portland, such as Paul F. Murphy Inc., and Gas-Heat, Inc. During the years he lived in the residence on Powhatan he worked as vice-president of the Ladd Estate Company.

Paul F. Murphy and his wife Kathryn moved to Lake Oswego in 1942 and in 1978 they moved to Wilsonville.

Edward and Helda Weinstein lived in the house from 1943 to 1949.

Dr. Herman Dickel resided in the house from 1950-1974. Dickel was born in Washington state in 1912. He graduated from Northwestern University Medical school in 1938 with a medical degree. He joined the department of psychiatry at the University of Oregon Medical school in 1938 and opened his private practice in Portland in 1942. He was involved in the Multnomah County and Oregon state medical societies and worked with various public service companies in Oregon. He died in Portland in 1974.

James K. Wright lived in the house from 1975-1979.

Richard Wilhelm Sundeleaf

Richard Wilhelm Sundeleaf practiced architecture in Portland for more than 60 years, gaining particular notice for his designs of industrial buildings in the 1920s, '30s and '40s but also well known as a designer of houses.

Sundeleaf was born in Portland on February 8, 1900, son of Charles August Sundeleaf who managed the long-popular Oyster Loaf restaurant in downtown Portland. Born in the Goose Hollow neighborhood, he moved to the Sellwood area in 1906. He attended Sellwood Grade School and Washington High School and then went on to the University of Oregon to study architecture. He worked his way through college, working at odd jobs, graduating in 1923 with a Bachelor of Architecture degree.

Upon graduation from architecture school he went to work as a draftsman in the office of A.E. Doyle, Portland's leading architect at the time. Sundeleaf once told the author that he laid out the tile pattern for the pavement at the Broadway entrance to the U.S. National Bank. According to Sundeleaf's own account, Doyle didn't



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think highly of his talents and told him that he ought to follow a career in some other field.

When Sutton & Whitney, another important architectural firm, called Doyle when they were looking for a draftsman. Doyle sent them Sundeleaf without a recommendation. Sundeleaf was evidently not without talent for he stayed on in the Sutton & Whitney office from 1924 until 1928, while much of that firm's most important work was being designed and learned much while working with their talented chief designer Fred Fritsch.

In 1928 Sundeleaf opened his own office and his special talents soon became evident with his first projects. Shortly after opening his office he was asked by the Jantzen Knitting Mills to design a number of buildings for them including buildings in Australia and England as well as their headquarters building and a factory in Portland. At this time he was also commissioned by Carl Jantzen to design his estate to be constructed on an island in Lake Oswego; however, it was not completed by Sundeleaf. Sundeleaf's projects for the Jantzen Knitting Mills brought him immediate recognition nationally and internationally as well as in Portland, so that despite the great depression of the 1930s he had work when most Portland architects had none. In addition to his Jantzen buildings he designed outstanding buildings for Mailwell Envelope (1931), Oregon Portland Cement (1929) and Woodbury & Co. (1939) among others. In 1931 Sundeleaf also remodeled the Fliedner Building, applying Art Deco detailing in plaster with terra cotta trim.

Not all his projects were industrial and commercial. He also designed many houses. His house designs were more conservative but nevertheless forward looking and generally not in traditional styles.

In 1949 he designed the Francis-Hopkins Motor showroom, one of his best designs. In 1955 he designed the Portland Medical Center Building which was built around the frame of the 1929 Eastern Outfitting Building. The building is a curtain wall building which unfortunately suffers from the fading of its panel material.

In 1955 he formed a partnership with Wallace P. Hagestad, a long-time employee, and Norman Peace, with the firm name of Sundeleaf, Hagestad & Peace which continued to about 1960 when Sundeleaf

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returned to solo practice. Sundeleaf continued his practice when he was well over 80 years old and is said to have done more than 3000 projects in his career.

He was a member of the American Institute of Architects, having joined in 1923. He had a lifelong interest in athletics and played handball for 75 years. In 1934 he was a member of the team which produced the Historic American Buildings Survey in Oregon.

Richard Sundeleaf died at his Lake Oswego home on March 1, 1987 at the age of 87. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

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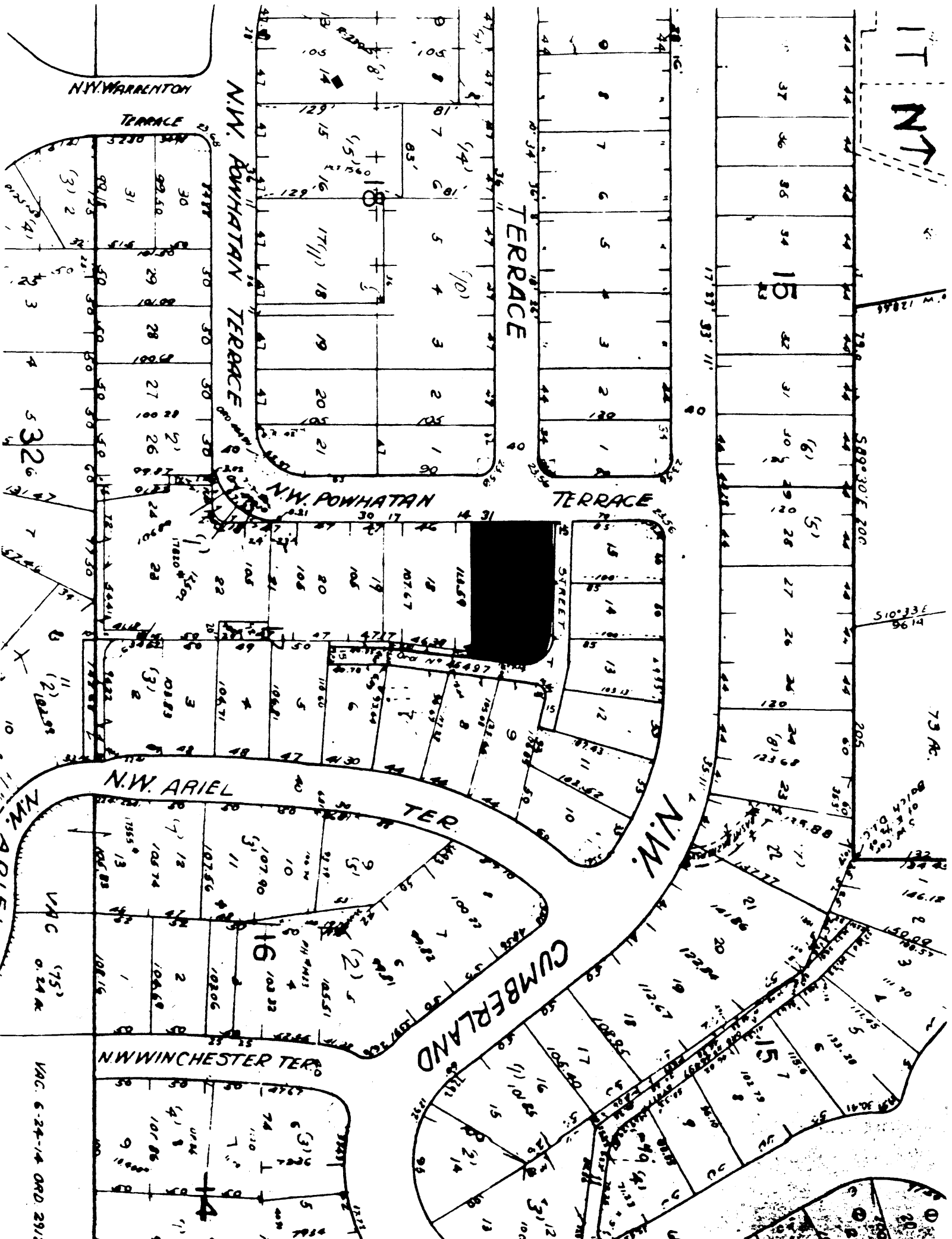
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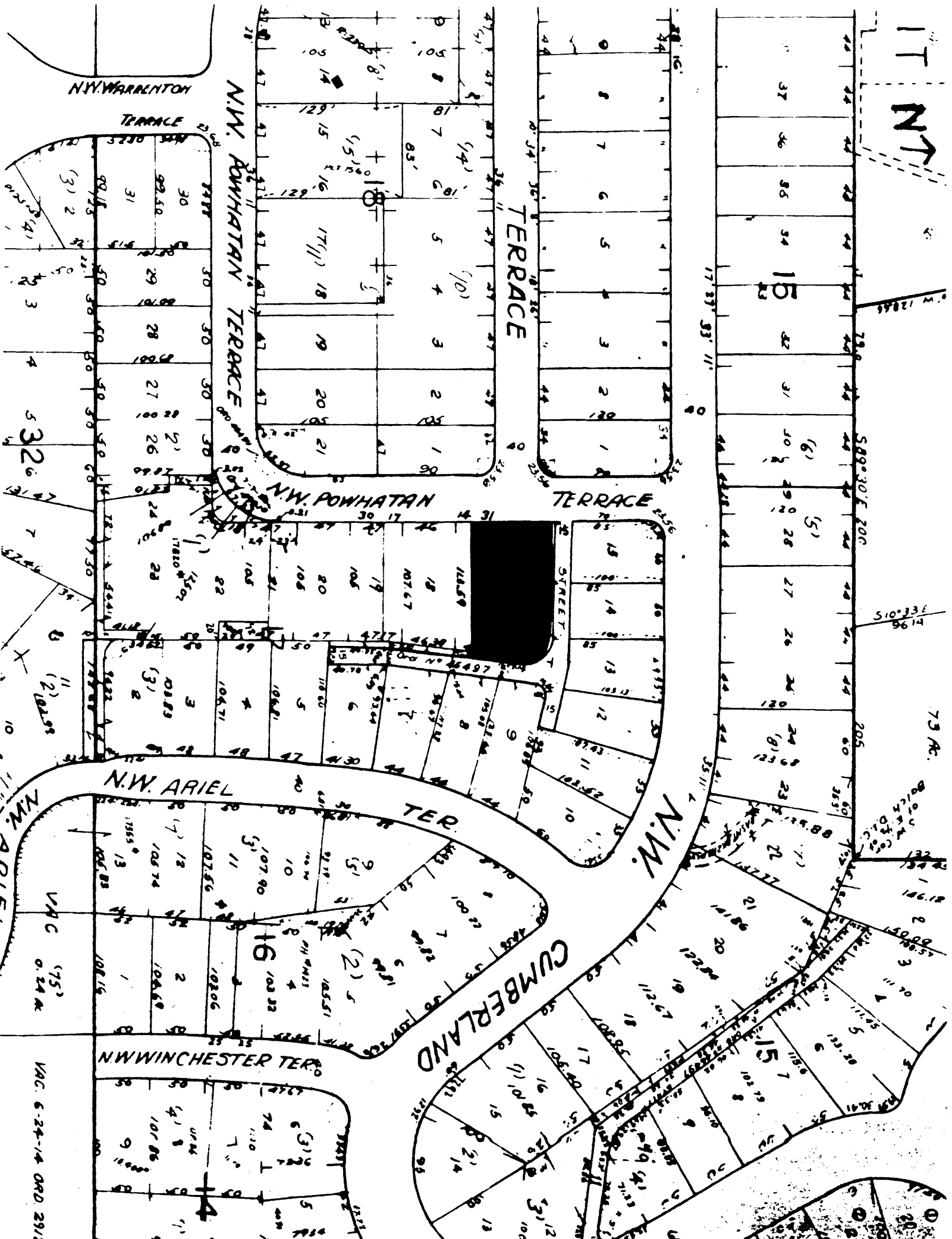
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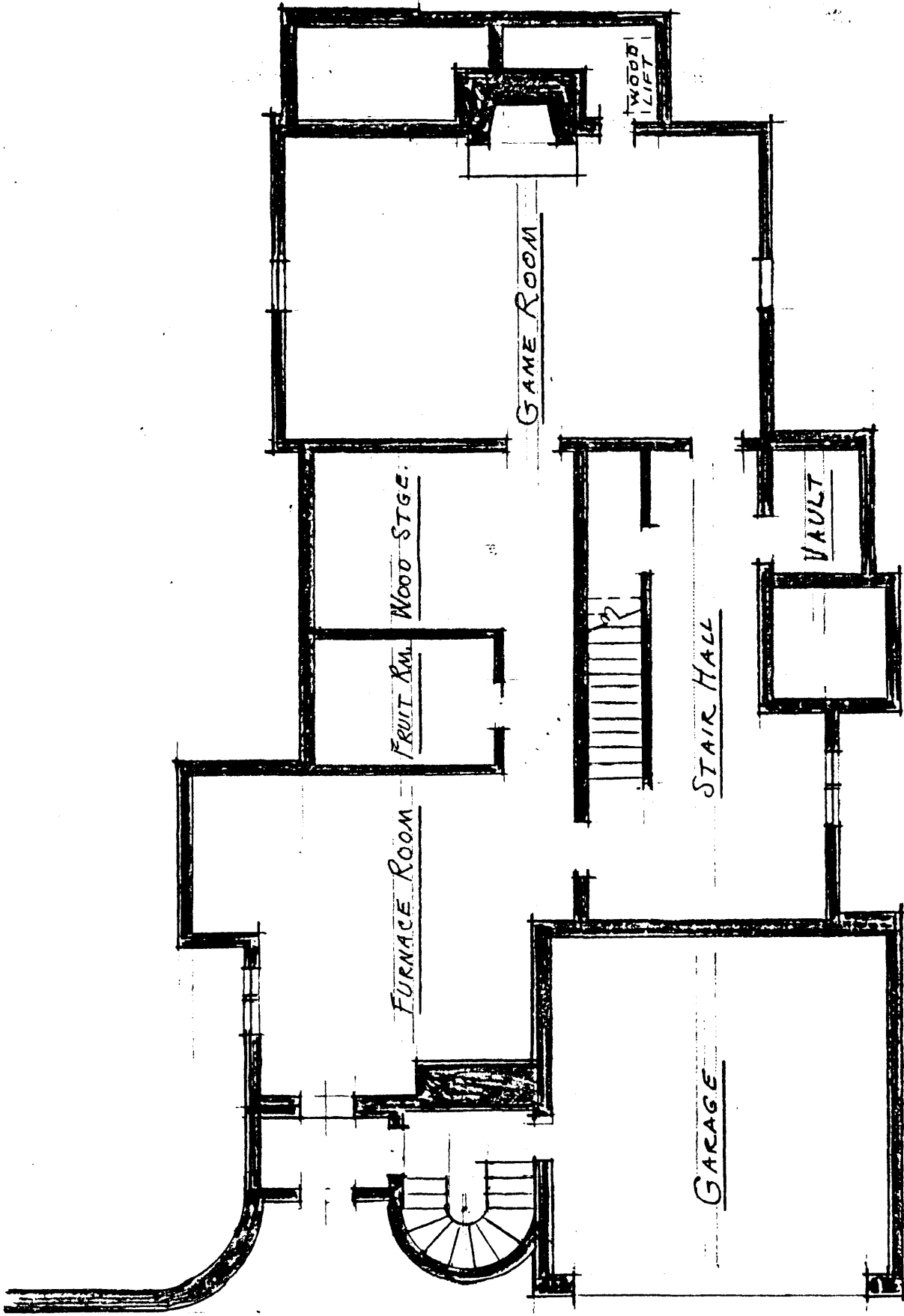
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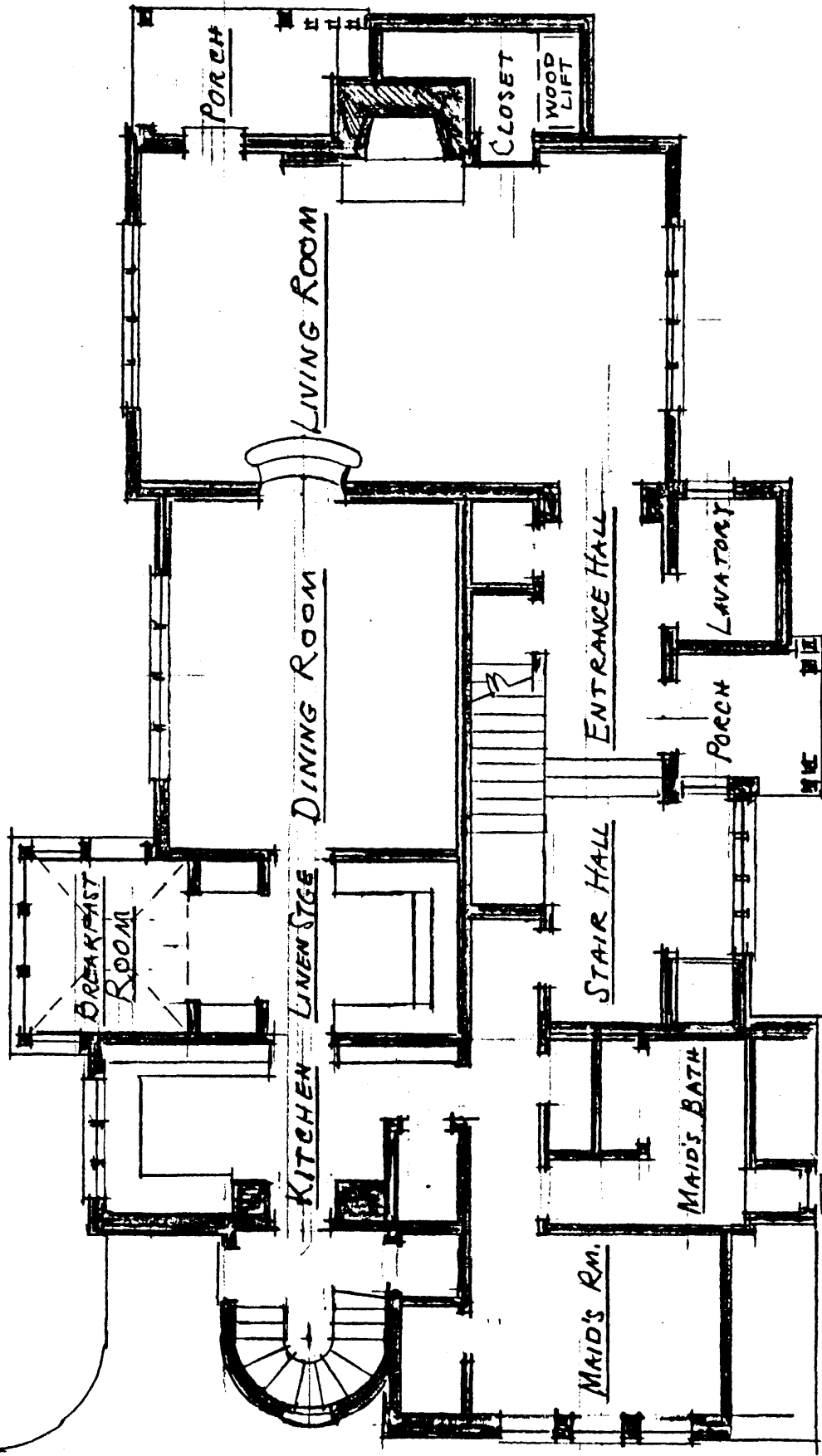




BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

HOUSE FOR PAUL F. MURPHY

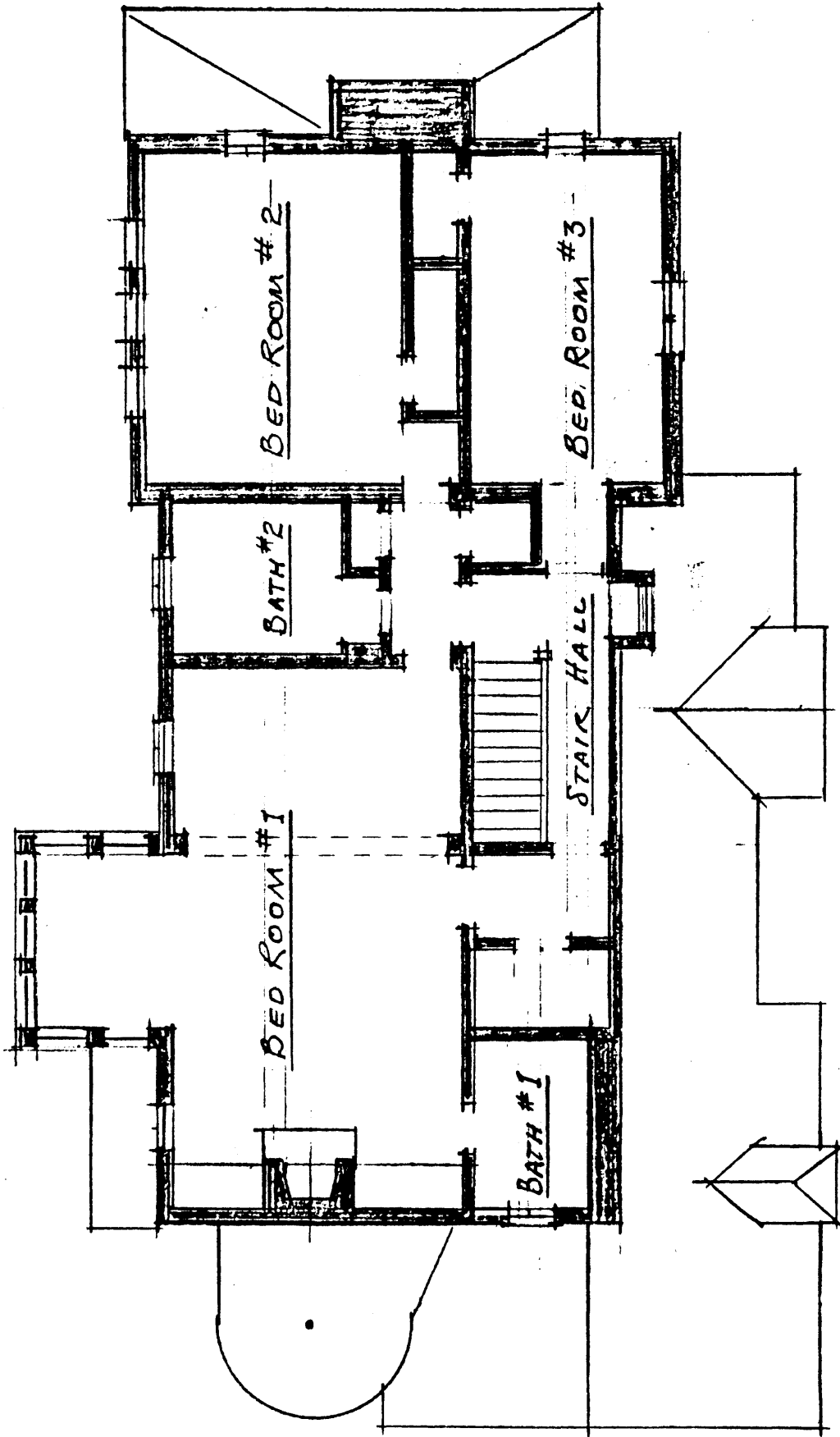
RICHARD SUNDELEAF ARCHITECT



FIRST FLOOR PLAN SCALE:  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$

HOUSE FOR PAUL F. MURPHY

RICHARD SUNDELEAF ARCHITECT



SECOND FLOOR PLAN SCALE:  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$

HOUSE for PAUL F. MURPHY  
RICHARD SUNDELEAF - ARCHITECT