

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Section number _____ Page _____

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 100001355

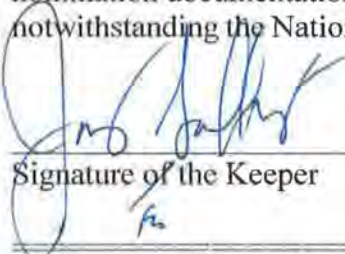
Date Listed: 7/24/2017

Property Name: Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School for Nursing

County: Douglas

State: NE

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper

7-25-2017

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 3 & 8: National Register Criteria

Criterion C is hereby deleted.

No architectural significance is ascribed to the building.

The Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file**
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School for Nursing

Other names/site number _____

Name of related multiple property listing _____
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & Number 3483 Larimore Avenue

City or town Omaha State Nebraska County Douglas

Not for publication Vicinity

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

[Signature] SHPO/Director
Signature of certifying official / title:

5/31/17
Date

Nebraska State Historical Society
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of Commenting Official

Date

Title State of Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

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

[Signature]
Signature of Keeper
For

7-24-2017
Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- Private
- Public-local
- Public-state
- Public-federal

Category of Property (Check only **one** box)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		Buildings
		Sites
		Structures
		Objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION: Dormitory
HEALTH CARE

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT

Materials (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK, STONE, OTHER

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Description

Summary Paragraph (Briefly describe the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

The Nurses' Home and School for Nursing was built in two phases – the original building on the east in 1944 and the addition to the west in 1954. The building is clad in red brick laid in a running bond and topped by stone coping. It is minimally detailed to reflect the Modern style, although each section has a slightly different aesthetic.

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable.)

The Nurses' Home and School for Nursing is located on the northwest corner of a block bound by Larimore Avenue at the north, Fowler Avenue at the south, N. 36th Street at the west and N. 34th Avenue at the east. The site slopes up as it moves from a low point at the southeast. The building is oriented towards the north and has grass on all sides. A parking lot connects to the east end of the building by a raised concrete patio. The surrounding area is primarily residential in character, with single family homes arranged along the adjoining streets.

The Nurses' Home (the east section) was built first. Constructed of red brick in a running pattern and topped with a stone parapet, the original building is two stories tall with a raised basement and has a rectangular plan. The main entry into this section is west of center on this portion of the north facade. It is accented with curved brickwork at the first floor, which switches to rectangular pilasters above. Decorative brickwork above the door adds interest to the design of the entry. A side entrance off the patio is set deep into a stone trimmed entry on the east facade. There are no doors on the south facade of this wing. Painted wood windows in punched openings with minimal stone sills are spaced evenly across all the facades on this section. Each window unit is an awning unit over a fixed unit, with the awning taking approximately 1/3 of the opening.

The School for Nursing (the west addition) is three stories tall with a raised basement and has an irregular plan, with the east end reaching north and south beyond the original building, and the west end turning south. This section of the building was constructed with matching red brick in a running pattern and again topped with a stone parapet. Painted wood casement windows wrap around the northeast corner of the north leg, and a set of 4 casement windows are evenly set into the remaining portion of the north facade on this section. Around the corner to the west, a glazed terra cotta cross is mounted over and to the side of the single story tall corner entry. Originally finished in unpainted aluminum storefront, all the windows in the entry have been boarded over. Painted wood casement windows are set in groups of three on the main body of this addition. Above and below each, green terra cotta panels create regularly spaced vertical elements on the north and west facades. Also on the west facade, a modern wood ramp and landing connect a single, boarded over pedestrian door to a sidewalk. The rear facade of this section contains sets of three painted wood casement windows set into punched openings with a simple stone sill, similar to the original building.

Overall, on the exterior, the building's clean lines, minimal detailing and low, linear form give an overall impression of the Modern style.

Interior

At all levels, a double loaded corridor provides access through the building. Stairs are positioned at the east and west ends, as well as the center of the building. A centrally located passenger elevator with an elevator lobby off the corridor also provides vertical access to all levels.

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In the basement, the center corridor is pushed to the north to provide larger classroom spaces on the south side of the building, including an auditorium with raked seating in the center of the building. Classroom space also extends to the north in the center of the building. The corridor terminates at the recreation room on the west end of the building.

On the first floor, the corridor continues to be offset in the east wing of the building, which allowed additional classroom space on the south side and administrative offices on the north. A short flight of stairs in the corridor connect it to the center of the building where a visitor's lounge and coat room on the north side of the corridor are directly accessed from the main building entrance. On the south side was a library reserved for the students. The corridor moves to the center of the building in the west wing and is flanked by dorm rooms, common restrooms and a common shower room. Many dorm rooms contain their original built in combination closets and desks.

On the second floor, the corridor is centered in both wings and is level all the way down the hallway. It is lined on either side by dorm rooms. At the center of the building, the matron's suite on the south side stops even with the main exterior wall. Across the corridor, half of the floor plan projection was a common lounge for students while the other half of the projection is a common restroom and shower room.

The third floor was only built over the west wing. The floor plan is the same as the second, although the matron's suite is replaced by two dorm rooms.

Construction History

The Nurses' Home is located on the former campus of the Immanuel Deaconess Institute. The Immanuel Deaconess Institute was founded on October 8th, 1887 by the Reverend E.A. Fogelstrom, a Swedish-Lutheran minister, and a group of Lutheran pastors and Swedish businessmen. According to Reverend Arthur Christenson, Fogelstrom was inspired to start the Immanuel Deaconess Institute after traveling to Europe and visiting Christian charity organizations there that cared for those afflicted with physical and mental health issues. Christenson noted that, "a visit to the well-ordered homes for these unfortunates and to see how they were cared for by consecrated deacons and deaconesses had made a lasting impression on the American pastor, who was then pioneering in the field of the Lutheran diaconate."¹



Figure 1: Aerial View of the Immanuel Institute Deaconess Campus from the east in 1947 (Alegent Health Immanuel Medical Center, memories.nebraska.gov)

The buildings that comprised the Immanuel Deaconess Institute campus went up on a site in north Omaha that, at the time, was well removed from the hustle and bustle of the city's commercial core and industrial activities. In August of 1888, Fogelstrom's organization purchased twelve lots in north Omaha's Monmouth Park addition for

¹ Rev. Arthur Christenson, *A Miracle of the Prairies: A Story of the Bethpage Mission at Axtell, Nebraska* (Axtell, NE: Bethpage Mission, 1944), 17, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~nechurch/Luth/motp/pages/motp0013.htm>.

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\$8,000. Construction began on the site's first building, a hospital, shortly thereafter, but lack of funds delayed its completion until December of 1890.² Over the years, the Immanuel Deaconess Institute campus grew to include 60 lots on five city blocks, and 17 buildings. The structures included two subsequent hospital buildings; housing for current and retired staff; a home for the elderly and disabled located in the original hospital building; an orphanage; a chapel; a gymnasium; the original Nurses' Home; the new Nurses' Home in 1944 and the new School for Nursing in 1955.³

In 1974, the Institute outgrew its site and reorganized. It relocated its hospital facilities to 72nd and Redick; changed its name to Immanuel Medical Center; and merged several of its programs with others in the area. The School of Nursing was combined with Midland Lutheran College in the mid 1970's to provide baccalaureate programs. The orphanage merged with Lutheran Family Social Services; and the Home for the Aged became a part of Fontenelle Boulevard Home.⁴

Most recently, the Immanuel Medical Center has merged with Bergan Mercy Medical Center to form Alegent Health. It continues its strong tradition of healthcare for the local community, providing a wide variety of services including an epilepsy program, respiratory therapy, imaging services, chest pain center, rehabilitation center, behavioral services, outreach nurse program, and the Immanuel Fontenelle Home, to name a few. In addition, it continues its tradition of pastoral services.⁵

Most buildings on the Immanuel Deaconess campus were removed in the decades after the hospital relocated. The Nurses' Home and School for Nursing is the only remaining building on the original Deaconess site.

Alterations

The building has undergone few alterations over time. In October 1964, the building was air conditioned. By this time, the west end of the basement had been dug out and finished as a recreation room for the residents. Recently, several of the dorm rooms have been combined into larger rooms on the upper floors. As class types changed, equipment in the classrooms changed.

Future Plans

The building was abandoned in 2009. The current plan is to convert it to senior living with a combination of small apartments and common living reminiscent of its original dorm room use.

Integrity*Setting and Location*

Historically, this building was part of a campus for the Immanuel Deaconess Institute, located at the south end of the site. In the late 1990s, all other buildings on the campus were removed and replaced by new single-family homes. The Nurses' Home and School for Nursing, however, maintains its portion of the site, including greenspace around the building, which is still graded and landscaped much as it was when the building was constructed.

Design, Materials and Workmanship

The design, materials and workmanship of the building are generally in fair condition. While vagrants have repeatedly broken into the building, breaking windows, lighting fires under the kitchen hood, stripping wires and pulling down lay-in ceilings, the building was generally constructed of durable materials such as terrazzo floors

² O.M.. Nelson, *The Swedish Element in Omaha: A Historical Record of the Cultural and Commercial Activities of Swedish-born Residents of Omaha and Their Descendants* (Omaha, NE, 1935) 18.

³ *Omaha World Herald*, "Immanuel's 5-fold Increase," November 11, 1945.

⁴ Alegent Health, "History," 2006, Alegent Health Immanuel Medical Center Library.

⁵ *Ibid.*

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and plaster walls, which are still unharmed on the interior, and brick and terra cotta on the exterior, which are still complete.

Feeling and Association

The overall feeling and association of the Nurses' Home and School for Nursing as a dorm and school are still very much intact.

In conclusion, the Nurses' Home and School for Nursing has a high level of integrity.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** Removed from its original location.
- C** A birthplace or a grave.
- D** A cemetery.
A reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- E** A commemorative property.
- F** Less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

HEALTH/MEDICINE

Period of Significance

1944-1967

Significant Dates

1944, 1954

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Leo A. Daly

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

The Immanuel Deaconess Nurses' Home and School for Nursing is significant from 1944 to 1974 under Criterion A in the realm of Health/Medicine for its association with the evolution of nurse training programs in Nebraska. It represents the government's assistance in meeting the mid-century nursing shortage and the focus during that period on balancing coursework and hands-on-training. The building is also significant under Criterion C for its representation of the combined nursing school and dorm building type.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion A: Health/Medicine

From 1890 until 1976, the Immanuel Deaconess Institute provided training in nursing and other charitable works in a three-year diploma school.⁶ The Immanuel nurse training program was one of the first in the state but originally only trained deaconesses, women professing religious vows who dedicated their lives to the care of the sick or poor. It was one of two early training schools that had restricted such training to religious women. Creighton St. Joseph was the other. In 1922, Immanuel began to accept all women, not just the religious and an official School for Nursing was established.⁷ At the time of its founding in 1890, nursing as a trained profession was a relatively novel idea that came about with the accession of modern hospitals as places where patients paid to receive expert care from skilled teams. Previously, the sick most often received care within their homes or from hospitals run by charitable institutions staffed by volunteers and religious orders.⁸

Between 1888 and 1926 at least seventy hospital nurse training schools opened in Nebraska. In Omaha, five opened as early as the 1890s. Immanuel's Deaconess training school opened in 1890-1891, around the same time the Institute's hospital was completed. Others included Clarkson Hospital around 1888, Methodist Episcopal Church's Omaha Hospital and Deaconess Home Association in 1891, Presbyterian Hospital in 1892, and Creighton St. Joseph in 1899. Additionally, five training schools opened outside of Omaha prior to 1900, three in Lincoln, one in Fremont, and one in Beatrice.⁹

At Immanuel and other early twentieth-century training schools, the students were expected to be single women. They were not paid for their work and were required to work and live at the school for the duration of the two- to three-year training period, hence the presence of nurses' dormitories like that at the Immanuel Deaconess Institute. The on-site residential requirement at Immanuel and the other programs allowed the schools to keep close tabs on their students, who were required to model moral virtues both in and outside of training. Wendell W. Oderkirk notes that Nebraska's nurse training programs maintained "strict behavior codes [which] regulated student activities on hospital wards and in student quarters."¹⁰ Students could be dismissed from the program for such infractions as falling asleep while on night duty or having an uninvited guest to their room.¹¹

The number of nurse training schools in Nebraska grew from ten in 1900 to nearly sixty by 1920. The rise in training programs coincided with the opening of more hospitals across the state. Omaha, in particular, boasted a

⁶ L. Dale Lund and O.M. Nelson, *Swedish Omaha Past and Present: Biographical Sketches of Swedish-Americans in the Omaha Area Gathered in 1933, 1935 and 1991* (Omaha, NE: Swedish Cultural Committee, c. 1991), 490.

⁷ Wendell W. Oderkirk, "A Peculiar and Valuable Service: Early Nebraska Nurse Training Schools, 1888-1926," *Nebraska History* 80 (1999): 68-69.

⁸ *Ibid.*, 66.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 66-68.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, 74.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

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large number of hospitals, with more hospital beds than nearby cities, such as Kansas City and Minneapolis, which had larger populations. Omaha hospitals attracted not just city residents, but those from the surrounding area as well. An *Omaha World Herald* article from 1916 noted that people from “many surrounding states, as well as from Nebraska, are being brought here [to Omaha] for treatment or operations.”¹² By the late 1910s, Omaha had acquired “an enviable reputation as a city of medical and surgical specialists” as skilled as those in Chicago or New York. In Omaha and elsewhere in Nebraska, as hospitals and a desire for skilled treatment continued to gain momentum, the demand for trained nurses far outweighed the available supply. This shortage of trained nurses was something that would continue to be a concern in the coming decades.¹³

As more hospitals and training programs emerged in Nebraska during the first two decades of the twentieth century, nurse training itself became more standardized. Early student nurses were primarily viewed as free labor by hospitals overseeing their training, with most of their time spent with hands-on training rather than classroom learning. But by the 1920s all schools seeking state accreditation had to provide students with similarly organized lectures and hours of work, in order to prepare them for a state license examination.¹⁴ The increase in regulations and standardization, along with the economic turmoil of the Great Depression, led to a sharp decline in nurse training programs between the late 1920s and 1940. By 1940, only 13 training schools remained in Nebraska, with six of those in Omaha. The six Omaha schools in 1940 were Bishop Clarkson Memorial, Nebraska Methodist, St. Catherine's (opened in 1910), University of Nebraska (opened in 1917), Creighton St. Joseph's, and of course Immanuel Deaconess.¹⁵

As the twentieth century progressed, preference for modern hospitals over private, in-home care continued to grow. In her article, “Nebraska Nursing Education During World War II,” Michele L. Fagan identifies three reasons for this – “the development of health insurance, public health programs, and social security benefits.”¹⁶ By the 1940s, hospitals, financially weakened by those unable to pay for services during the Great Depression, began to support the idea of prepaid health plans, which could provide a steady source of income for them. People would pay a specific hospital, or network of hospitals, for medical care in advance of being sick, knowing that when illness struck they would not have to worry about where to go to be treated or how to pay for their care.¹⁷ The Social Security Act of 1935 built on this by allowing an individual's monthly stipend to be spent on medical assistance. At the same time, the Federal Committee on the Costs of Medical Care recommended that medical professionals should be organized in groups rather than practice independently. The Social Security payment, however, was so minimal that for many receiving assistance, the money they received rarely made it beyond rent and food. To counteract this, beginning in the 1950s, a series of amendments were passed to the Social Security Act that allowed states to pay physicians, nurses and health care institutions directly. This encouraged those who counted on welfare to go to hospitals where they knew they could receive services.¹⁸

While hospitals experienced growth in their patient population, the need for qualified, registered nurses also increased but there were not enough trained professionals to fill the void. The start of World War II made the nursing shortage even more apparent. To alleviate this need, the federal government intervened, passing laws in the early 1940s to recruit people into the nursing field. First came the Labor-Federal Security Appropriation Act in 1942, which offered tuition assistance and subsidized some aspects of training such as faculty hires and adding

¹² *Omaha World Herald*, “Omaha is Known for its First Class Hospital Equipment,” May 28, 1916; Oderkirk, 69-70.

¹³ Oderkirk, 69-70.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 71-73.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 76-77.

¹⁶ Michele Fagan, “Nebraska Nursing Education During WWII,” *Nebraska History Magazine* (Fall 1992): 126.

¹⁷ Jordan Braverman, *Health Economics*, “History of Health Care Financing in the USA,” (Pharmaceutical Press, 2009), 6, http://www.pharmpress.com/files/docs/health_economics_sample.pdf.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, 7-9; Encyclopedia.com, “Public Health 1929-1941,” <http://www.encyclopedia.com/education/news-and-education-magazines/public-health-1929-1941>.

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necessary facilities. This Act soon proved to be bogged down in red tape, however, only providing scholarships to a small number of students who proved financial need and having deadlines that did not always align with school schedules. The Act did not have the desired result of increasing enrollment on a notable scale and it was soon overshadowed by the much more successful Bolton Act, which passed in 1943.¹⁹

The Bolton Act, or Nurse Training Act, called for a nation-wide uniformed corps of nursing students called the Cadet Nurse Corps. As Fagan explains, the Cadet Nurse Corps was “a centralized, nationwide recruiting drive specifically designed to attract interest and fill civilian hospitals with student nurses.”²⁰ To promote the program and attract participants, advertisements were distributed widely on television, radio, and in print. Cadets were given full scholarships, and could apply for postgraduate training grants, in exchange for their participation and their promise to remain in the nursing field for the duration of the war. A sense of unity and camaraderie was created amongst the Cadets through matching uniforms, a memorable induction ceremony conducted simultaneously on radio, and a national newsletter.²¹

Schools that participated in the Corps had to accelerate the students' coursework so that they would be available for employment faster. Training was shortened from thirty-six to thirty months, with students spending the final six months as Senior Cadets in either federal or civilian hospitals.²² This accelerated training period and marketing campaign resulted in a reversal of the trend toward more classroom learning for students. Additionally, much like their predecessors studying around the turn of the twentieth century, student nurses during World War II spent more hands-on time in the hospital than listening to lectures in the classroom. This reversal worried some in the nurse training profession, who thought it might jeopardize the quality of student nurses' education.²³

The Immanuel Deaconess Institute and the five other nurse training programs in Omaha all participated in the Cadet Nurse Corps. Together the schools had 685 cadets in 1944, with 56 cadets at Immanuel, 54 cadets at Clarkson Hospital, 168 at St. Joseph's, 128 at University of Nebraska, and 148 at Methodist. Immanuel's smaller cadet class was likely tied to its lower overall enrollment size.²⁴ The Bolton Act allowed existing students to participate in the Corps, with the first round of senior cadets in Omaha sent off to their various assignments after only one year of training. It appears that the first round of graduating senior cadets at Immanuel consisted of six women, five of whom went on to spend their six-month training period at O'Reilly General hospital in Springfield, Missouri and one of whom was assigned to the navy hospital in Seattle, Washington.²⁵

Federal funding carried with it several requirements on the part of training schools and resulted in more government oversight.²⁶ In addition to the requirement that schools shorten the length of training, both the Bolton Act and the Labor-Federal Security Act mandated that schools increase their enrollment sizes. This naturally brought with it the need for more staff and new and larger facilities, all while the schools dealt with the constraints of wartime finances.²⁷ Funds from either act could not be used outright to build or expand dormitories or training buildings so instead schools had to turn to another government source for their wartime building programs, the Lanham Act or National Defense Housing Act of 1940. The Federal Works Agency (FWA), an

¹⁹ Fagan, 131.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid., 131-133.

²² Ibid., 131.

²³ Ibid., 126.

²⁴ *Omaha World Herald*, “Cadet Nurse Corps Graduates Leave for Service,” June 30, 1944.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Fagan, 126.

²⁷ Ibid., 127.

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agency formed in 1939 to consolidate the federal agencies that then dealt with distributing funding for public works projects throughout the nation, oversaw dispersal of the funds.²⁸

The Immanuel Deaconess Institute was the first nurse training program in Nebraska to receive FWA funding for a nurses' home during the war.²⁹ Later, two other nurses' dorms in Omaha also received these funds. These were St. Catherine's Nurses' Home at S. 8th and William Streets and Clarkson Hospital Nurses' Home at 520 S. 26th Street.³⁰ Both buildings are extant. During this same period, a nurses' home was also constructed across the Missouri River in Council Bluffs, at Mercy Hospital. The Mercy Hospital nurses' home is no longer extant.³¹

The war had the effect of focusing a greater spotlight upon the importance of the nursing profession and its vitalness within the health care realm. After the war, Nebraska's nursing schools adopted some of the policies and recruitment measures utilized during that period, while doing away with others. A nursing shortage continued in the post-war period, and so nursing administrators adopted aspects of the marketing tactics that had proven successful under the Bolton Act. Rather than waiting for students to find them, many administrators undertook more pointed advertising campaigns to draw potential trainees.³² Additionally, many of the schools became less rigid with their students, granting them more independence, allowing entrance to married women, and some even

went so far as to set aside spaces within the dormitories for recreation. However, one aspect of training that did not carry forth from the war was the emphasis upon hands-on training over classroom learning. Instead, after the war the pre-war trend toward classroom learning again gained ascendancy.³³



Figure 2: Nurses' Home addition under construction, 1954 (Alegent Health Immanuel Medical Center, memories.nebraska.gov)

Ten years after the nurse's home was built, Immanuel built an addition for the Nurse's Home building to accommodate a growing student population and to better fit the model of classroom learning. The addition included classrooms and a lecture hall with raked seating into the building's addition. The nursing program would remain in active operation until the mid-1970s, when it merged with Midland Lutheran College.³⁴

In conclusion, Immanuel's nursing program emerged in the late 1800s, at a time when specialized training for that profession was beginning to attain legitimacy as a vital component of modern health care. By the time the Nurses' Home and School for Nursing addition were constructed in the mid-twentieth century, nursing education was viewed as a profession worth investing in on the part of the federal government and an adequate supply of trained nurses was considered vital to the success of hospitals. Though Immanuel's nursing program no longer

²⁸ United States Government Manual, "Federal Works Agency," 1945, <https://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/ATO/USGM/FWA.html>.

²⁹ *Omaha World Herald*, "How New Immanuel Nurses' Home Will Look," April 23, 1944.

³⁰ *Omaha World Herald*, "Clarkson, St. Catherine's Nurses' Homes Nearly Ready," May 5, 1945; *Omaha World Herald*, "FWA Projects are \$1,500,000," January 14, 1945.

³¹ *Ibid.*

³² Fagan, 134.

³³ *Ibid.*

³⁴ Lund and Nelson, *Swedish Omaha Past and Present*, 490.

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remains, the building nevertheless stands as a testament to the advances made in nursing education over the course of the twentieth century.

Criterion C: Architecture

The Immanuel Deaconess Nurses' Home and School for Nursing is also significant under Criterion C for its representation of the combined nursing school and dorm building type. It was constructed in two phases. The original building was completed in 1944 as the Nurses' Home and contained residential quarters for the students and the director of nurses, a classroom, library and recreational facilities.³⁵ The west addition was constructed ten years later as a School for Nursing, with 125 additional dorm rooms, a lecture hall with raked seating, additional classrooms, and a dietary kitchen and laboratory.³⁶ Both the original building and its addition were designed by Leo A. Daly and the building is in good condition today.

Of the five nurse training programs in Omaha during the mid-century (Immanuel, Clarkson, St Joseph, the University of Nebraska and Methodist Hospital) only three received FWA funding to build combination nurses' dorms and schools: Immanuel, St Catherine's and Clarkson.³⁷

Like the Immanuel Deaconess Institute's Nurses' Home and School for Nursing, St. Catherine's nurses' home was designed using fireproof masonry and reinforced concrete and stands three stories tall with a basement. The Leo A. Daly architecture firm designed the building to have simple, streamlined modern appearance. The dormitory could accommodate 44 students and a supervisor in its residential quarters. In addition to housing, it contained a laboratory, a demonstration room, a library, and two classrooms that could hold 124 people.³⁸ The St. Catherine's Hospital and Nurses' Home, both designed by Daly, were interconnected with other buildings on that campus, rather than the separate buildings of the Immanuel Deaconess Institute campus. The St. Catherine's Hospital and Nurses' Home is now part of the Grace University campus.

The Clarkson Hospital nurses' dorm is a second local example of this building type. It is also the third and last to receive FWA funding during World War II. The architectural firm of John Latenser & Sons designed the building to have a refined Tudor Revival appearance that reflected tradition, but with modernist sensibilities.³⁹ It was of fireproof construction, utilizing brick and reinforced concrete. Construction started in August 1944 and was complete by May 14, 1945. Upon completion, the Clarkson Nurses' home accommodated 104 student nurses. In addition to living quarters for the students, the building included residences for supervisors and house mothers, as well as classrooms, lecture rooms, and a laboratory.⁴⁰ The building remained in use as the Clarkson Hospital nurses' dorm until 1953. In that year, Clarkson sold the hospital and nurses' home to the Lutheran Hospital for \$1,500,000. The Lutheran Hospital transformed the building into the Lutheran Old People's Home, an elderly housing facility.

In conclusion, while the Immanuel Deaconess Institute is not the last or only representative of this building type in Omaha, it is a strong example of this phenomena. It stands with the other two combination nurses' dorm and school buildings that received FWA funding during World War II, although each has a different aesthetic, scale and relationship to its former medical campus.

³⁵ *Omaha World Herald*, "How New Immanuel Nurses' Home Will Look."

³⁶ *Omaha World Herald*, "Nurse School Addition Cited," September 20, 1954.

³⁷ *Omaha World Herald*, "Clarkson, St. Catherine's Nurses' Homes Nearly Ready."

³⁸ *Ibid.*, *Omaha World Herald*, "New St. Catherine's Hospital Addition," May 25, 1924.

³⁹ *Omaha World Herald*, "Fuel Limit to Influence Home Design," January 31, 1943.

⁴⁰ *Omaha World Herald*, "Clarkson, St. Catherine's Nurses' Homes Nearly Ready;" Sanborn Map Company. Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska (Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, 1934).

Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School
for Nursing

Douglas County, Nebraska

Name of Property

County and State

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography (Insert bibliography here – cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Alegent Health, "History," 2006, Alegent Health Immanuel Medical Center Library.

Braverman, Jordan. *Health Economics*. "History of Health Care Financing in the USA." Pharmaceutical Press, 2009. Accessed April 26, 2017. http://www.pharmpress.com/files/docs/health_economics_sample.pdf.

Christenson, Rev. Arthur. *A Miracle of the Prairies: A Story of the Bethpage Mission at Axtell, Nebraska*. Axtell, NE: Bethpage Mission, 1944. Accessed April 26, 2017. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~nechurch/Luth/motp/pages/motp0013.htm>.

Encyclopedia.com, "Public Health 1929-1941," Accessed April 26, 2017. <http://www.encyclopedia.com/education/news-and-education-magazines/public-health-1929-1941>.

Fagan, Michele. "Nebraska Nursing Education During WWII." *Nebraska History Magazine* (Fall 1992): 126-137.

Lund, L. Dale and O.M. Nelson. *Swedish Omaha Past and Present: Biographical Sketches of Swedish-Americans in the Omaha Area Gathered in 1933, 1935 and 1991*. Omaha, NE: Swedish Cultural Committee, c. 1991.

Nelson, O.M. *The Swedish Element in Omaha: A Historical Record of the Cultural and Commercial Activities of Swedish-born Residents of Omaha and Their Descendants*. Omaha, NE, 1935.

Omaha World Herald. Articles from 1924-1954. Accessed January-April 2017. <http://infoweb.newsbank.com>.

Oderkirk, Wendell W. "A Peculiar and Valuable Service: Early Nebraska Nurse Training Schools, 1888-1926." *Nebraska History* 80 (1999): 66-79.

Sanborn Map Company. Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska. Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, 1934.

United States Government Manual, "Federal Works Agency," 1945. Accessed April 26, 2017. <https://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/ATO/USGM/FWA.html>.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other (Name of repository)
Alegent Health Immanuel Medical Center
Library

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School
for Nursing

Douglas County, Nebraska

Name of Property

County and State

Acreage of property 1.05 acres

USGS Quadrangle _____

(Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates. Delete the other.)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

- | | | | | |
|----|----------|------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1. | Latitude | <u>41.302067</u> | Longitude | <u>-95.965725</u> |
| 2. | Latitude | _____ | Longitude | _____ |
| 3. | Latitude | _____ | Longitude | _____ |
| 4. | Latitude | _____ | Longitude | _____ |

OR

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map): _____

____ NAD 1927 or ____ NAD 1983

- | | | | | | | |
|----|------|-------|---------|-------|----------|-------|
| 1. | Zone | _____ | Easting | _____ | Northing | _____ |
| 2. | Zone | _____ | Easting | _____ | Northing | _____ |
| 3. | Zone | _____ | Easting | _____ | Northing | _____ |
| 4. | Zone | _____ | Easting | _____ | Northing | _____ |

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

ORIGINAL TOWN LT 1 BLK 65

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary of the property follows the legally recorded boundary lines.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jennifer Honebrink & Caitlin Kolb

organization Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture

date April 26, 2017

street & number 1516 Cuming Street

telephone 402-341-1544

city or town Omaha

state NE

zip code 68102

email jhonebrink@alleypoyner.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO for any additional items.)

Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School
for Nursing

Douglas County, Nebraska

Name of Property

County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School for Nursing

City or Vicinity Omaha County Douglas State Nebraska

Photographer Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture Date Photographed As indicated

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

- 001: North and West facades of 1954 addition. Looking southeast. April 25, 2017.
- 002: North façade of 1954 addition. Looking southeast to main entry. April 25, 2017.
- 003: North façade of original building. Looking southeast. April 25, 2017.
- 004: East and North facades of original building and addition. Looking southwest. April 25, 2017.
- 005: South and East facades of original building and addition. Looking northwest. April 25, 2017.
- 006: Interior. 1st Floor Auditorium. Looking south. January 31, 2017.
- 007: Interior. 2nd Floor East Stair. Looking southeast. January 31, 2017.
- 008: Interior. 3rd Floor Corridor at east end. Looking west. January 31, 2017.
- 009: Interior. 4th Floor Dorm Room. Looking southeast. January 31, 2017.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School for Nursing
Name of Property
Douglas County, Nebraska
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

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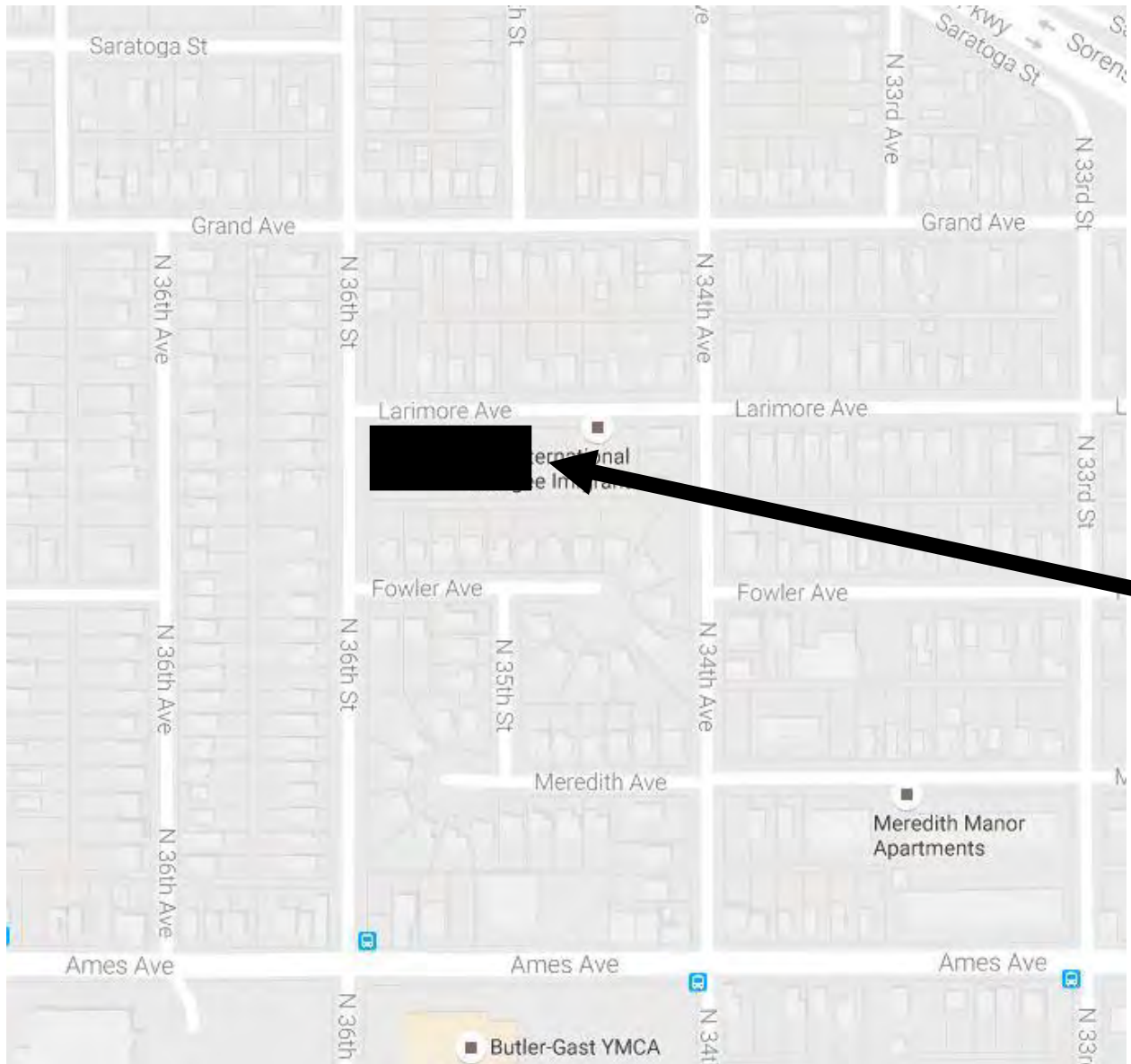


Figure 3: Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School for Nursing Vicinity Map. Building is located between Larimore Ave., N. 34th Ave., Fowler Ave., and N. 36th Street. Source: Google Maps, 2016.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School for Nursing
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Figure 4: Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School for Nursing Legal Boundary Map. Building is located between Larimore Ave., N. 34th Ave., Fowler Ave., and N. 36th Street. Dashed line indicates property location. Source: DOGIS website. www.dogis.org. Accessed October 26, 2016.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School for Nursing
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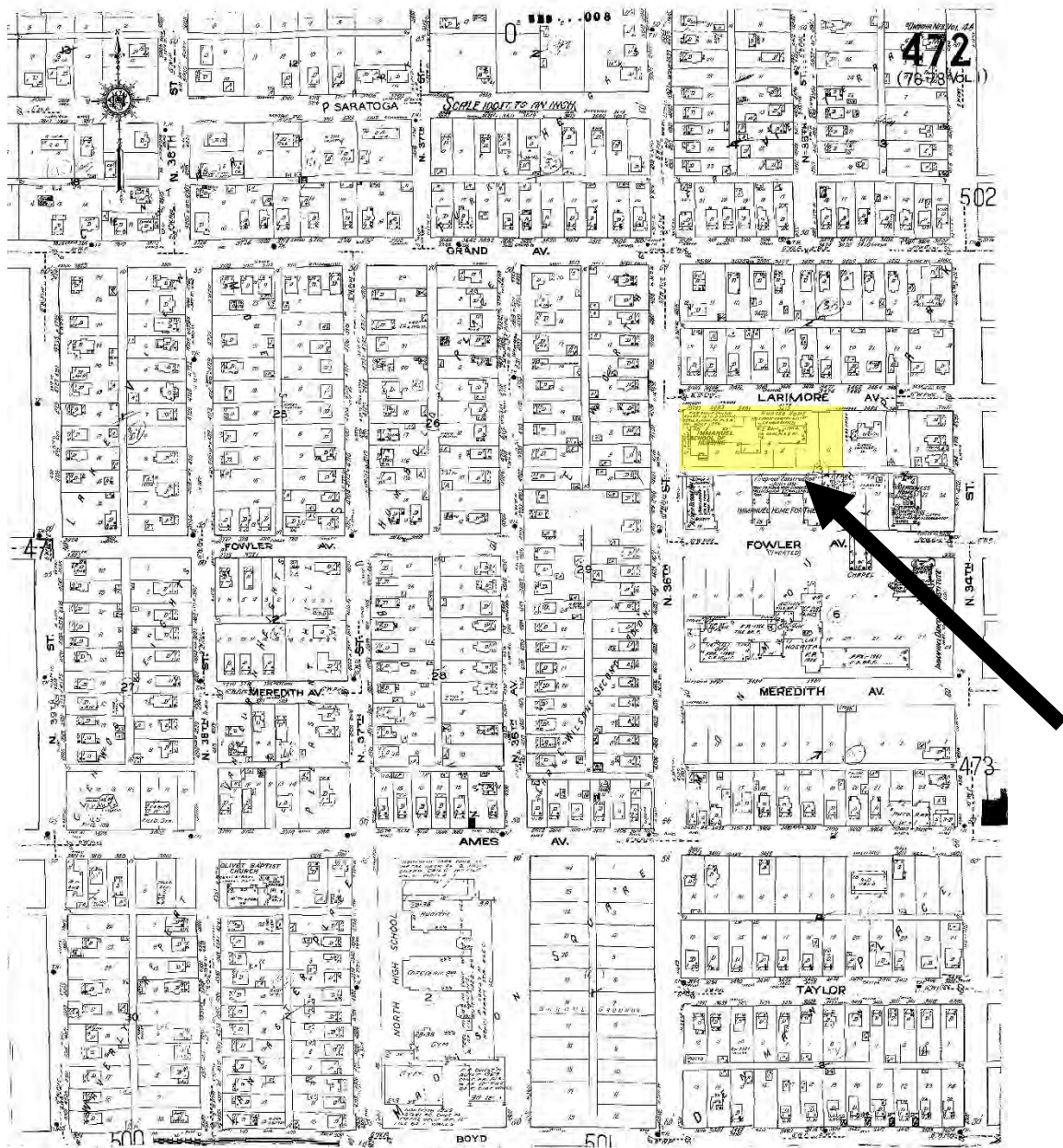


Figure 5: Sanborn Map Company. Insurance Maps for Omaha, NE. 1962. Shaded area indicates location of Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School for Nursing. Source: Digital, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Library. Lincoln, NE



NE_DouglasCounty_ImmanuelNursesHome_001



NE_DouglasCounty_ImmanuelNursesHome_002



NE_DouglasCounty_ImmanuelNursesHome_003



NE_DouglasCounty_ImmanuelNursesHome_004



NE_DouglasCounty_ImmanuelNursesHome_005



NE_DouglasCounty_ImmanuelNursesHome_006



NE_DouglasCounty_ImmanuelNursesHome_007



NE_DouglasCounty_ImmanuelNursesHome_008



NE_DouglasCounty_ImmanuelNursesHome_009





DANGER
CLOSED















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School for Nursing

Multiple Name: _____

State & County: NEBRASKA, Douglas

Date Received: 6/9/2017 Date of Pending List: 7/18/2017 Date of 16th Day: 8/2/2017 Date of 45th Day: 7/24/2017 Date of Weekly List: _____

Reference number: SG100001355

Nominator: State

Reason For Review:

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

Accept Return Reject 7/24/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Locally important nurses school

Comments: _____

Recommendation/ Criteria Accept / A

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : **Yes**

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



June 5, 2017

Ms. Alexis Abernathy
NPS – National Register of Historic Places
Mail Stop 7228
1849 C St, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Immanuel Deaconess Institute Nurses' Home and School for Nursing NRHP Nomination

Dear Ms. Abernathy,

Enclosed is the complete nomination packet for the Immanuel Nurses' Home in Douglas County, Nebraska. The enclosed contents are as follows:

1. The signed first page of the Immanuel Nurses' Home nomination
2. One archival disk with the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Immanuel Nurses' Home to the National Register of Historic Places in pdf format.
3. One archival disk with the photographs for the Immanuel Nurses' Home Building nomination.

If you have any questions regarding the submitted materials, please feel free to contact me at the number of email address below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jill Dolberg".

Jill E. Dolberg
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office

Phone: (402) 471-4773
Fax: (402) 471-3100
Jill.dolberg@nebraska.gov

Enclosures: 2 disks and one page

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