

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JUN 13 1983

date entered JUL 26 1983

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

1. Name

historic

and/or common MESTA PARK (DIST)

2. Location

16th and
street & number Roughly bounded by NW 23rd Street on the north, Walker Avenue on the east, NW 16th Street on the south, and Western Avenue on the west. not for publication
city, town Oklahoma City vicinity of 16th and Walker Aves

state Oklahoma code 40 county Oklahoma code 109

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	NA in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	NA being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership (see addendum, item 4)

street & number

city, town Oklahoma City vicinity of state Oklahoma

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Oklahoma County Courthouse

street & number 321 Park Avenue

city, town Oklahoma City state Oklahoma

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Oklahoma Comprehensive Survey/
Oklahoma City Historical Re-sources Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1978/1981-82 federal state county local

depository for survey records Oklahoma Historical Society, Historical Preservation Office

city, town Oklahoma City state Oklahoma

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Mesta Park residential area was built in stages between 1906-1930, with half of the construction completed by 1915. More than 80% of the buildings in the district are detached single-family dwellings that are presently occupied. The overall condition of these houses is good to excellent. The typical house in Mesta Park is a two-story, wood frame structure, with clapboard siding (some have brick veneers), featuring a hipped roof, a wide entrance porch, sash windows with a variety of glazing patterns, asymmetrical fenestration, and includes dormers, either an interior or endwall brick chimney, and an ornamented panel and glass entrance door. Other decorative details include gable motifs, art glass, and special porch piers or posts. Most of the houses have a detached, one car garage.

Stylistically the picturesque cottage dominates the Mesta Park area but bungalows, plains cottages, and houses or apartment buildings with historic detailing punctuate the district. Mesta Park's proximity to the Central Business District and its adjacency to the prominent Heritage Hills Historic district (National Register 1979) made Mesta Park an attractive area for development and settlement. Historically most residents have had close ties to the entrepreneurial activity of the business district. Mesta Park also served as interim housing for Oklahoma City's more ambitious and more successful businessmen and politicians.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1906-1930

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Like the other nationally recognized historic districts in Oklahoma City (Edgemere Park, Heritage Hills, Putnam Heights and Capitol Lincoln Terrace) Mesta Park is a neighborhood of significant architecture. It differs from the other districts in that the neighborhood contains an extremely harmonious blend of different housing types.

Duplexes, four-plexes, eight-plexes and larger apartment buildings were designed to be compatible with and to complement each other as well as the single family structures. This mixture of housing types allowed for an economic mix of people; leaders of business and government were neighbors with those who contributed to the community from less lofty social and professional positions. Some significant and typical buildings contributing to the character of the district include:

1. The William B. Skirvin House (700 NW 16th): 1909, Cottage, 2 stories, hipped roof with terra cotta shingles, triple upper windows, wide eaves, double fascia board on first and second floors, Tuscon order paired columns. The original owner, William B. Skirvin, developer of the Skirvin and Skirvin Tower Hotels in Oklahoma City, also had oil interests.
2. The Dr. Thomas A. Cravens House (720 NW 16th): 1910, Cottage, 2 1/2 stories, clapboarded, hipped roof, boxed eaves, cornerboards, porte cochre. Thomas A. Cravens, a physician, was the original owner.
3. The Fred S. Gum House (801 NW 16th): 1907, Cottage, 1 1/2 stories, clapboarded, hipped roof, large dormers, large entrance porch, cornerboards, bay windows, fretwork covering eaves, balcony on 2nd floor. Fred Gum was an investor with Gum Brothers.
4. The Orrie D. Steen House (814 NW 16th): Renaissance Revival, 2 stories, stucco, flat roof, arcaded porch, French doors. Steen was president of Owatonna Oil Company.
5. The James W. Wilson House (821 NW 16th): 1910, Plains Cottage, 1 story, various clapboards, band the house horizontally. In 1910 Wilson was with the Elk Pioneer Telephone and Telegraph Company.
6. 500 NW 17th: Airplane Bungalow: 1 1/2 stories, clapboarded.
7. The Frank B. Burford House (513 NW 17th): Cottage, 1 1/2 stories, clapboarded, large dormers with balcony, gable kingpost, bungalow piers. Burford was a prominent Oklahoma City lawyer and sportsman; he was an international vice-president of the Issac Walton League.
8. The Louis Levy House (629 NW 17th): 1910, Cottage, 2 storied, brick and clapboard, hipped roof, veranda.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Chandler, Alison and Maguire, Stephen D. When Oklahoma Took the Trolley.
Oklahoma City: Alison Chandler and Stephen D. Maguire, 1980.
Stewart, Roy P. Born:Grown. Oklahoma City: Eidelity Bank, 1976.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approx. 165

Quadrangle name Oklahoma City

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	4	6	3	4	6	4	0	3	9	2	8	5	1	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B

1	4	6	3	4	6	4	0	3	9	2	8	4	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

C

1	4	6	3	4	1	7	0	3	9	2	8	3	9	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

D

1	4	6	3	4	1	8	0	3	9	2	7	7	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

E

1	4	6	3	3	4	8	0	3	9	2	7	7	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

F

1	4	6	3	3	4	3	0	3	9	2	7	7	5	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

G

1	4	6	3	3	3	8	0	3	9	2	7	7	5	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

H

1	4	6	3	3	3	8	0	3	9	2	8	4	9	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification

Boundaries were chosen as a result of an intensive architectural survey, historical research, and major physical boundaries. The northern boundary is the alley between NW 22nd and NW 23rd Streets because (see addendum, item 10)

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

state NA code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jennings, Gottfried, Cheek/Preservationists and the Oklahoma

organization City Planning Division

date 2/17/83

street & number 201 Channing Square

telephone (405) 231-2287

city or town Oklahoma City

state Oklahoma

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

C. M. Metcalf

5/31/83

title

date

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

John Beth Grosvenor
Keeper of the National Register

date 7/26/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 1

Item number 8

Page

9. The George Swisher House (709 NW 17th): 1909, Cottage, 2 stories, clapboarded, hipped roof, corbelled soffit with 2" boards (detail repeated in dormer), 20/1 triple windows, Wrightonian planters. T. S. Hutton, the original owner was a traveling salesman.
10. The George Gerson House (901 NW 17th): 1911, Renaissance Revival, 2 stories, brick, hipped tile roof, eave brackets, watertable, temple front. Gerson was the bookkeeper for Goffman Optical.
11. 926 NW 17th: Cottage, 2 stories, clapboarded, veranda, cornerboards, pendants on 2nd floor.
12. The Bryan Shear House (929 NW 17th): 1915, Cottage, 2 stories, brick, intersecting gable roof with wide eaves, concave barge boards, 2 story columns with free-form capitals, brick frieze used as lintels. Mrs. Sarah Turk was the original owner. Shear was living in this house when he was mayor.
13. The Carl P. Sipes House (1801 Shartel): 1909, Swiss Chalet Cottage, 2 stories, clapboarded, intersecting gables, eave brackets with knee braces, spider web pattern in lower windows. Mr. Sipes was in real estate.
14. The Hugh D. Driscoll House (510 NW 18th): 1928, Cottage, 2 stories, brick, hipped roof, lintels over windows, Doric order temple entrance. Mr. Driscoll was a lawyer.
15. The Andrew Crahaw House (824 NW 18th): 1912, Plains Cottage, 1 story, clapboarded, hipped roof, hipped dormer, entablature wraps house, Tuscan order porch columns. In 1916 Mr. Crahaw was secretary-treasurer for Williamson-Halsell-Frasier Company.
16. The Mrs. Mary J. Thompson House (831 NW 18th): 1907, Plains Cottage, 1 story, clapboarded, square Tuscan columns on porch, gable has pent roof with paired windows and lintel.
17. The Carl B. Kellogg House (917 NW 18th): 1911, Cottage, 2 stories, stucco and clapboard, hipped roof with cresting, entrance porch covers front. In 1911 Kellogg was the divisional sales agent for McAlester Fuel Company.
18. The Milton Scott House (1005 NW 18th): 1912, Cottage, 2 stories, clapboarded, hipped roof, portico and cornerboards carry frieze. Scott was president of Halliburton Company.

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NCRS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 2

Item number 8

Page

19. 507-509 NW 19th: 1927, Cottage, quadriplex apartment, dumb-bell plan, 2 stories, stucco and brick, Tudor trim in stucco, intersecting gable roof with clipped gables, roof cresting.
20. 609 NW 19th: 1929, Cottage, duplex, 2 stories, running bond brick, hipped roof.
21. The J. F. Harbour House (713 NW 19th): 1909, Cottage, 1 1/2 stories, clapboarded, gable roof, large dormer creates 1/2 story, flat arches on porch, glazed front door with side lights. J. F. Harbour was a founder and partner in Harbour-Longmire Furniture Company. The company manufactured and retailed furniture in Oklahoma and in the early 1930's ranked second in size in the United States.
22. 1011 NW 20th: 1930, Cottage, duplex, 2 stories, brick, hipped roof, side porch, flat arches over triple front windows.
23. The Walker Plaza Apartments (500 NW 21st): 1928, Mission Revival, apartment, 2 stories, brick, flat roof, parapet wall. The Walker Plaza had thirty apartments in 1930.
24. The Alex Slitt House (731 NW 21st): Bungalow, 1 story, clapboarded, gable roof, bay window, front windows have vertical glazing bars. Slitt was a salesman for the Scannell-Slitt Commercial Company.
25. The William O. Wallace House (906 NW 21st): 1906, Cottage, 2 stories, clapboarded, hipped roof, port cochere. This was the first house built on NW 21st Street. Wallace was the editor of the Western Newspaper Union.
26. The Sidney L. Brutsche House (931 NW 21st): 1910, Cottage, 2 stories, clapboarded, hipped roof, panel front door with transom. Mr. Brutsche was a bookkeeper with the New State Brewing Association.
27. 1001 NW 21st: Steven Chandler House, 2 stories, buff brick, flat roof, ornamented entrance, round headed front door with round window, bay window, generally modern motifs.
28. Wilson School (2215 Walker): Renaissance Revival, 2 stories, brick, flat roof with parapet wall, corbelling, watertable, Tudor arched entrance, double doors. Wilson School is an elementary school and the only school within the Mesta Park District.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet ³

Item number 8

Page

29. Windsor Court Apartments (509-511 NW 22nd): 1930, Mission Revival, 2 stories, brick, Spanish tile roof over some portions, arcade joins units.

Nonconforming intrusions detracting from the integrity of the district.

30. Southwestern Bell Office Building (2301 N. Olie): 1974, 3 story.
31. Apartment building (901 NW 22nd): 1965, 2 story, red brick.
32. Apartment building (819/821 NW 22nd): 1960, 2 story, red brick.
33. Apartment building (815 NW 22nd): 1960, 2 story, red brick.
34. Apartment building (809/811 NW 22nd): 1960, 2 story, red brick.
35. Apartment building (2220 Shartel): 1965, 2 story, yellow brick.
36. Tri-plex structure (928 NW 21st): 1981, 2 story, red brick.
37. Apartment building (922 NW 21st): 1963, 2 story, red brick.
38. Apartment building (804 NW 21st): 1965, 2 story, brick.
39. Sunbeam Family Services (620 NW 21st): 1 story, brick.
40. Residential structure (621 NW 20th): 1975, 1 story, masonry.
41. Residential structure (615 NW 20th): 1975, 1 story, masonry.
42. Residential structure (609 NW 20th): 1975, 1 story, masonry.
43. Apartment building (2101/2103 N. Walker): 1960, 2 story, beige brick.
44. Apartment building (2020 N. Shartel): 1965, 2 story, beige brick.
45. Apartment building (801 NW 19th): 1965, 2 story, beige brick.
46. Apartment building (731 N. 18th): 1965, 2 story, brick.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet	Item number	Page
47. Office building (1018 NW 18th):	1960, 1 story, brick.	
48. Residential structure (500 NW 18th):	1981, 2 story, brick.	
49. Office building (1802 Shartel):	1978, 2 story, brick.	
50. Apartment building (700/710/712 NW 17th):	1970, 2 story brick.	
51. Office building (716/718 NW 17th):	1970, 1 story, brick.	
52. Residential structure (530 NW 16th):	1970, 1 story, brick.	

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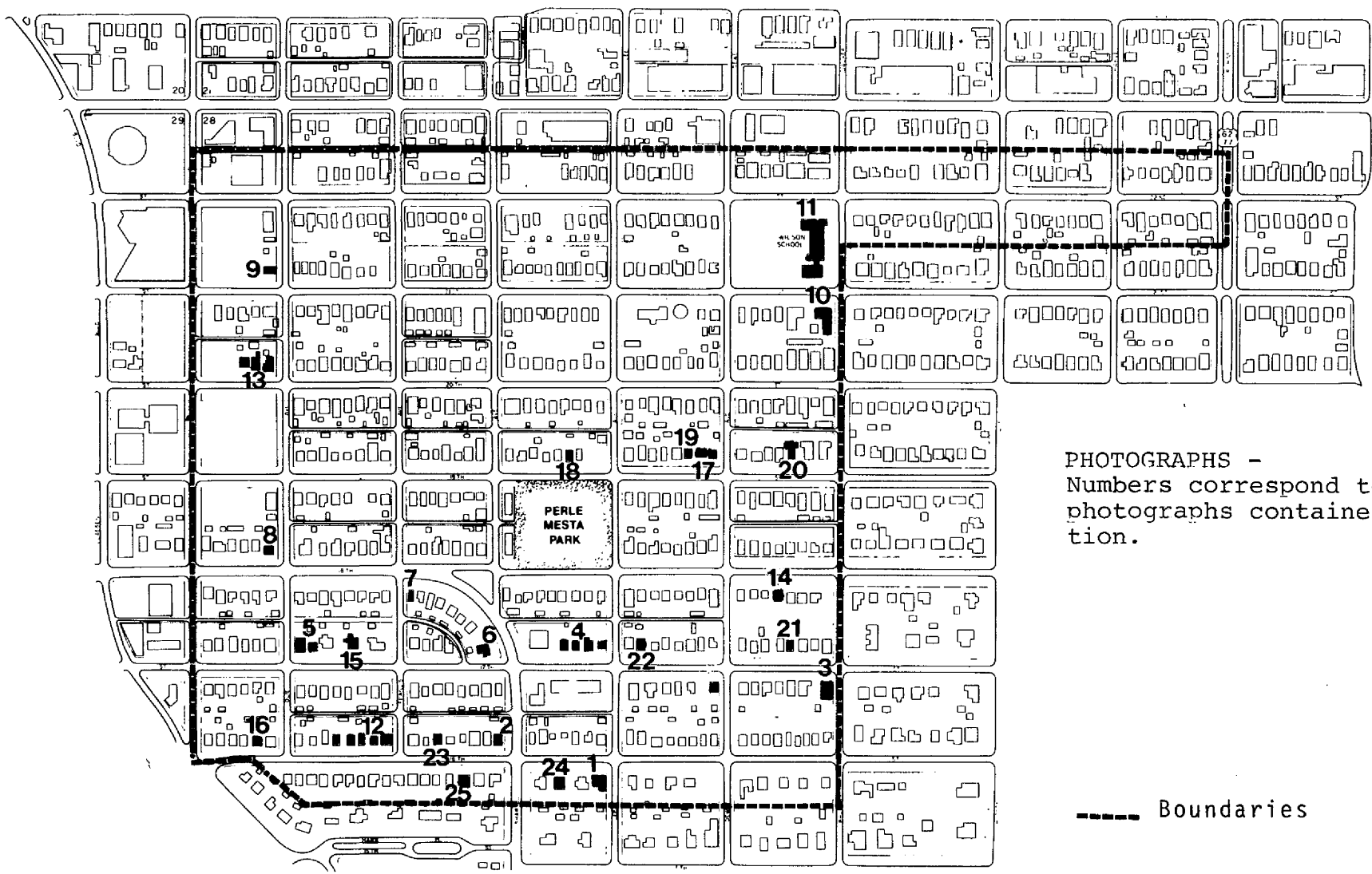
date entered

Continuation sheet 4

Item number 10

Page

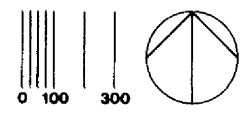
NW 23rd Street is a major commercial street. The eastern boundary is the west side of Walker Avenue; Walker is the western edge of the Heritage Hills Historic District (National Register 1979). The "panhandle" of the Mesta Park District includes both sides of NW 22nd Street from Robinson to Walker. This area was not included in the Heritage Hills nomination because the age, type, and style of buildings is more compatible with the Mesta Park area. The southern boundary includes both sides of NW 16th Street. The east side of Western Avenue is the western boundary because it is a primary arterial, historically and currently. The neighborhood includes all of the following described property: Lots 17-32 of Block 1, Lots 17-32 of Block 2, Lots 18-34 of Block 3, Lots 14-26 of Block 4; Lots 17-32 of Block 5, Lots 13-24 of Block 6, Blocks 23-24, Blocks 43-54, Blocks 63-74 of University Addition; Lots 1-5 of Block 1, Lots 1-5 of Block 2, Lots 1-4 of Block 3 of Classen's West Highland Parked Addition; Lots 71-87 of Harndale Addition; Lots 8-14 of Block 1, Lots 8-14 of Block 2, Lots 1-7 of Block 3, and Lots 1-7 of Block 4 of Winan's Second Addition; Lots 1-10 of Block 11 and Lots 11-20 of Block 12 of Winans Highland Terrace.



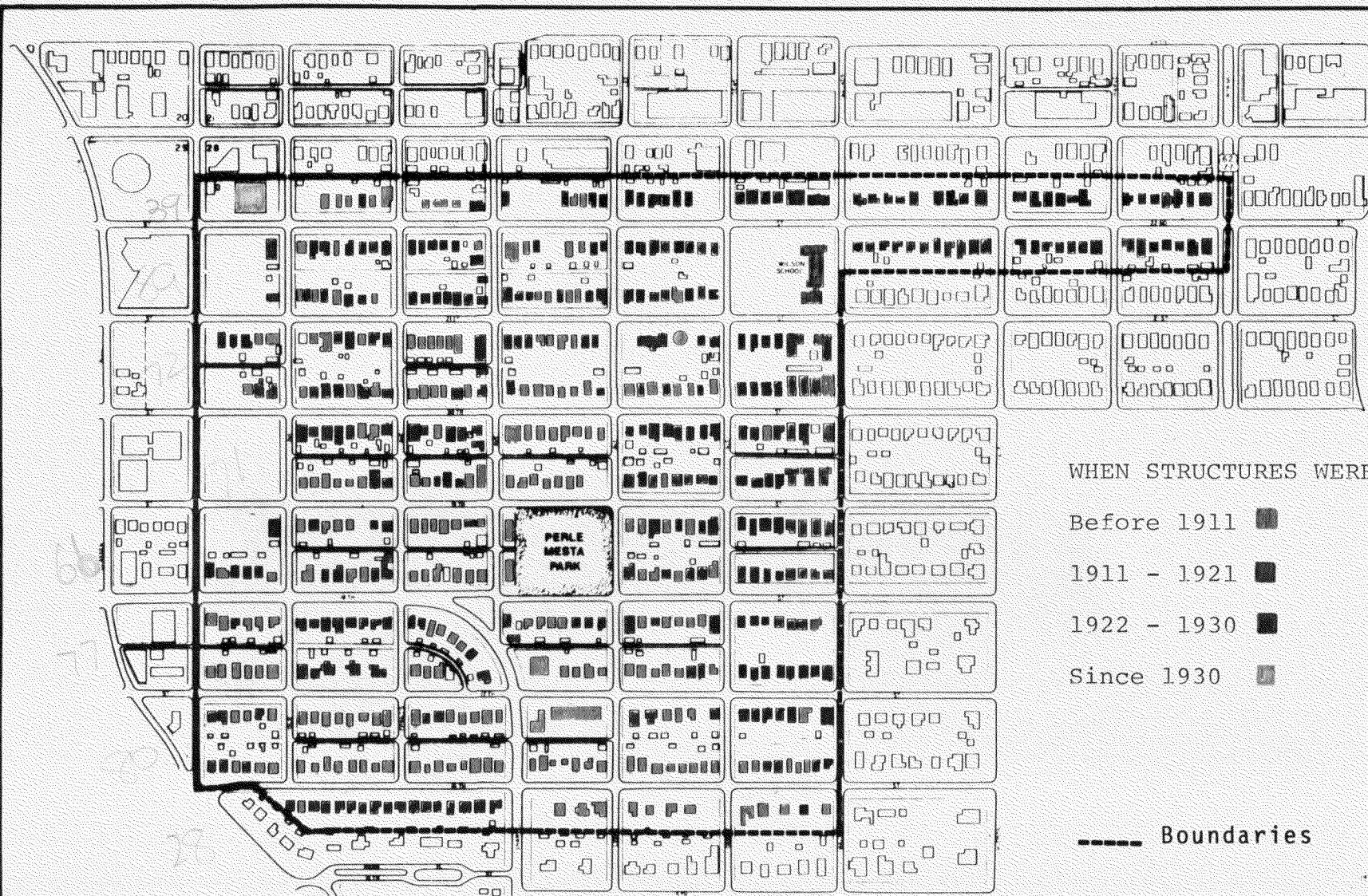
PHOTOGRAPHS -
 Numbers correspond to numbered
 photographs contained in applica-
 tion.

----- Boundaries

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
 Planning Division
 June, 1981



MESTA PARK
 Urban Conservation District Study



WHEN STRUCTURES WERE BUILT

Before 1911 ■

1911 - 1921 ■

1922 - 1930 ■

Since 1930 ■

----- Boundaries

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Planning Division

June, 1981



MESTA PARK

Urban Conservation District Study