

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Multnomah County Poor Farm
other names/site number Multnomah Farm
Edgefield Manor

2. Location

street & number 2126 SW Halsey
city, town Troutdale
state Oregon code OR county Multnomah code 051 zip code 97060

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: [X] private, [] public-local, [] public-State, [] public-Federal
Category of Property: [X] building(s), [] district, [] site, [X] structure, [] object
Number of Resources within Property: Contributing (9 buildings, 1 structures, 0 objects), Noncontributing (0 buildings, 0 sites, 0 structures, 0 objects), Total (10)

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 [X] 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 [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. [] See continuation sheet.
Signature of certifying official: Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
Date: April 15, 1990

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:
[X] 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:)

Entered in the National Register

Signature of the Keeper: Melvyn Byers Date of Action: 6/1/90

Signature of the Keeper: Date of Action:

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DomesticInstitutional housingSecondary structures

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

VacantDomesticMultiple dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century Revivals:Georgian RevivalLate 19th and Early 20th American Movements:Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concretewalls brickroof asbestosother woodstone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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The Multnomah County Poor Farm Ensemble, or Multnomah Farm as it was known throughout the historic period, consists of nine buildings and one structure. The buildings include the primary residential unit which is the focal point of the ensemble; a Power Station; Administrator's House; greenhouse; duplex; cannery; and, three small outbuildings of unknown use. All of the buildings are vacant with the exception of the Administrator's House and the duplex which are used as residential care facilities for children, and the cannery which is used for storage by the Red Cross. The structure is a water tower which is no longer in use. The buildings illustrate a variety of early 20th Century styles from the Craftsman style Administrator's House to the more formal Georgian style of the primary residential unit. The buildings were constructed over a period of time starting with the primary residence in 1911, and ending with the duplex which was constructed in the late 30s. The architects for the primary residence were Weber and Bridges. All the buildings are in fair to good condition and structurally sound.

The ensemble is located at the center of a 330-acre parcel--owned by Multnomah County--on the western periphery of the City of Troutdale in East Multnomah County. The parcel stretches from Sandy Boulevard on the north to Cherry Park Road on the south; and roughly from Fairview on the west to 257th Street on the east. In general the land slopes gradually upward from north to south. The nominated property has approximately a 5.5% slope. The land south of the ensemble rises abruptly at more than a 25% grade before leveling off near Cherry Park Road.

Most of the 330-acre parcel consists of vacant land--with clusters of buildings interspersed throughout--although most of it is slated for industrial development in the near future; the southern third of the parcel is slated for residential. The Multnomah County Correctional Facility is located to the southeast of the ensemble; the Multnomah County Barns and Animal Shelter to the extreme northwest; and, the Edgefield Children's Center to the southwest.

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A land use analysis conducted in 1985 shows the 330-acre parcel divided into several small sections on the basis of topography, and existing and potential uses, as indicated on Attachment A. The nominated property occupies approximately ten acres within the 83.5 acre parcel designated as Parcel E, and is zoned as Industrial Park.

Sole access to the ensemble is from N.E. Halsey Street which forms the northern-most boundary of the designated area. Halsey is a two-lane major thoroughfare which provides access to Interstate 84, approximately one mile to the north. The site provides panoramic views of the Columbia River and Mount St. Helens to the north.

Main Dormitory Building

The focal point of the ensemble is the large, Georgian style main dormitory building. Constructed in 1911, it is one of the two oldest buildings in the complex. It remains basically intact as built with two floors above a full basement, plus an additional finished story at the attic level. In simplified form the floor plan can be approximated as an "H". The wings of the H consist of central corridors with rooms on either side. The plan allows nearly all rooms above the basement to have windows for natural light and ventilation. It also creates a fairly complex exterior form, with a great deal of exterior wall area.

A two-story infirmary wing was constructed on the southeast corner of the building in the 30s. The wing was structurally designed to allow for an additional floor which was never built. There is also a small, one-story addition on the south side of the main building. Its thick walls are constructed of sandstone. It may have been constructed at the same time as the main building, possibly for use as a cool room for food storage.

The main building is capped by intersecting hipped roofs covered with asbestos shingles. The roofs are pierced by three types of dormers and a belvedere dominates the center of the main roof. A large, centrally located dormer with a stepped and curvilinear parapet dominates the facade. It is flanked by smaller, barrel-vaulted dormers sheathed in sheet metal. Larger, hip-roofed dormers are located on all elevations. The barrel-vaulted dormers and the belvedere have sheet metal roofs although they

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were probably originally galvanized iron. These roofs are rusting through and the belvedere leaks. The building also has three skylights, believed to be original, which consist of sloped steel frames and wire-glass panels. They are located above the kitchen and the two main stairwells.

The load bearing masonry walls are faced with red brick in a common bond pattern, as are the exterior walls of the infirmary; however, the style and detailing of the brickwork on the latter are not as fine as the original building. The exterior walls of the entire building show evidence of weathering, and are in need of repointing, especially at the east and south elevations and where exposed to overflowing or leaking downspouts.

Fenestration on the building consists of single-glazed, double-hung sash windows, some with fanlights. Most of the windows have been boarded over to decrease vandalism. The type of doors, and their condition, are unknown as they too have been boarded over; however, it is believed that most of the original doors have been replaced with fire doors.

The primary entrance to the building is located on the north elevation in the center of the H plan. Here, a wide porch faces out into the courtyard formed by the arms of the H, and focuses on what was once a fountain (now in disrepair and with sculpture missing). A wide set of concrete steps provides access to the porch from the courtyard.

Additionally, two-story wood porches are also located on the west and east elevations (sides) of the building, each with its own concrete entry stairs. Both of these porches are badly deteriorated and will require major reconstruction before they can be safely utilized.

Overall the porches are the most distinctive architectural element on the building. Of particular note are the classically inspired decorative motifs including grill balustrade, clustered columns set on wood piers, pilasters, and prominent frieze.

Decorative brickwork is also of interest and includes quoining, dentil course at eaveline, polychrome beltcourse at second floor window heads, radiating voussoirs with exaggerated keystones, and recessed white crosses in the upper corners of the building.

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The interior walls of the building are wood-framed and load-bearing. Finishes are simple common materials probably selected for durability and ease of maintenance, as well as compatibility with the "no frills" philosophy of a Poor Farm. The walls and ceilings are finished in plaster, generally in good condition, except where vandalism or leaking water have taken their toll. Some walls have been wallpapered. Wood moldings around doors and windows are simple, flat rectangular pieces. Some of the resident rooms have a chair rail.

Most flooring is linoleum tile with the exception of the basement which is concrete; the dining room which is oak; and the kitchen which is quarry tile, sloped away from the floor drain.

The basement has several service spaces, such as electrical room, storage and a single large central space that appears to have been used for tenant activities and recreation. It has low clearance in several places due to pipes hanging from the ceiling. The basement levels of the infirmary wing and the north ends of the two main building wings are built about halfway out of the ground, presumably for good natural light and ventilation.

The major space on the main floor is the large dining room, which provides access to the infirmary wing. Two main stairwells, in either wing of the H, provide entry to the second floor. The open balustrade on the stairways terminates in a simple square newel post.

The large Day Room/Activity Room at the second floor is the most elegant of the interior spaces, largely due to its many arched windows and high ceiling. The room is also unique for its wood-panel wainscoting. The floor is now covered in tile, but it is likely that it covers a hardwood floor beneath.

The third floor is actually a finished attic. The central room of the attic is interrupted by numerous wood columns that support the roof structure. There are several resident rooms located above the main east and west wings with dormers that provide ventilation, light, and headroom.

The doors to rooms opening off the corridors of the first and second floors were probably originally wood panel doors with transoms. The originals, however, were replaced with flush solid

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core fire doors, equipped with hospital type hardware, probably for fire safety reasons. Interior doors at the end of the corridors, where present, are a simple, single-leaf glazed type.

Common restrooms are located in each wing, at each floor. Many of the fixtures appear to be original although overall the rooms are quite dilapidated. There are a number of claw-foot tubs, although there is at least one tile "wheelchair roll-in" shower room, that appears to be of fairly recent vintage.

Power House (1911)

The Power House, constructed in the same year as the main dormitory, carries on the same massing and decorative motifs as the larger building. Rectangular in plan, it has a truncated hip roof pierced with hip-roofed dormers. The building rests on a concrete foundation and there is no basement. It is clad in red brick in a common bond pattern. A watertable encircles the building at the ground level.

The original windows were nine-over-three double-hung sash with simple surrounds. Most have been broken or boarded over following a fire last year which gutted the interior. The central entry consists of paired, paneled and glazed doors with multi-light transom. Two minor entrances are located on either end of the main facade: one consists of an overhead door and the other has paired, paneled and glazed doors. A two-story gabled, brick wing was added on the rear of the building (n.d.).

Administrator's House (1911)

The Bungalow-Craftsman style Administrator's House is a wood-frame, two-and-one-half story building, which is asymmetrical in plan. It rests on a concrete foundation and has a partial basement. The gabled roof has deep eaves with exposed rafters, purlins and braces, and decorative bargeboards. The roof is covered with composition shingles.

Exterior walls are sheathed with horizontal lap siding. Fenestration consists primarily of wide, multi-light, double-hung sash windows with plain surrounds. One "Chicago" style window is located on the facade to the left of the primary entry, and each gable end has a pair of multi-light casement windows

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with decorative heads. The primary entrance consists of a simple concrete stoop with a single, paneled and glazed door. A full-width, second-story balcony--with decorative balustrade--extends across the facade.

The building has had numerous additions to the exterior, the most substantial of which is a one-and-one-half story shed-roof attachment on the west (side) elevation with aluminum windows; and, a one-story attachment on the east elevation. Both additions are sheathed in horizontal lap siding. A small single-car garage, located off the northwest corner of the house, appears to be contemporary with the house.

The Administrator's House is the only building in the ensemble which retains historic landscaping features including mature ornamental foundation plantings.

Duplex (c.1940)

Designed in the Colonial Revival style, the two-and-one-half story wood-frame Duplex building is capped by a gable roof. Rectangular in plan, the building rests on a concrete foundation and has no basement. The building is clad with horizontal tongue-and-groove siding with the exception of the upper gable ends which are clad in wood shingles.

Fenestration is regular and consists of paired six-over-one double-hung windows on the second floor, and wide fifteen-over-one windows flanked by smaller six-over-one windows on the first floor. All windows have plain surrounds and those on the facade have decorative shutters. Small casement windows with lattice glass are located in the upper gable ends.

There are entrances on either end of the facade. They consist of small single-bay pedimented porches--with decorative tympanum--supported by stout red-brick piers. The porch decks and stairs are concrete trimmed with red brick.

Attached, hip-roofed garages are located on either end of the building. The building is surrounded by lawn, and a large willow tree is located in the frontyard.

The spatial arrangement of the interior is intact as built. The

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first floor consists of living room and kitchen, with bedrooms and bath on the second floor. The finishes are simple and unadorned.

Cannery (c.1937)

The cannery is a one-and-one-half story wood-frame building, rectangular in plan and capped with a gable roof. Exterior walls are covered with stucco. The foundation is post and beam. There is no basement. Windows have been boarded over.

A full-width hip-roofed porch supported by simple rectangular posts extends across the facade. It has a concrete deck. The door is a single-leaf paneled and glazed type common to the period. A secondary entrance, located on the east (side) elevation, is sheltered by a flat hood supported by simple brackets.

Greenhouse (c.1930)

The one-story greenhouse is an elongated rectangular building with gable roof and glass walls. A small one-story building is attached on the east elevation. It has a hip roof and the exterior walls are stuccoed over. Windows are multi-light fixed sash. A simple paneled and glazed door is located on the east elevation. Both buildings rest on concrete foundations and neither has a basement.

Outbuildings (c. 1930-1940)

There are 3 1-story wood frame ^{and concrete} outbuildings on the property. One is located between the Cannery and the Infirmary wing of the main building and two others are found beyond the Power Station.

Water Tower (c.1930)

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)

Social History

Period of Significance

1911-1940

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Bridges & Weber

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

INTRODUCTION

The Multnomah County Poor Farm is located on NE Halsey Street at the western edge of Troutdale in East Multnomah County, Oregon. Essentially all that remains of the ~~complex~~ administrative core is concentrated in an area of 10.65 acres and meets National Register Criterion A for its significance in the state's social welfare history.*

The first site for poor relief in Multnomah County was established in 1868 under authority of Oregon Territorial poor laws of 1854. Known as Hillside Farm, it was located in Portland Heights. Its condemnation by the County in 1910 and development of the poor farm in East Multnomah County in the years 1909-1911 owed to a strong movement for welfare reform in the Progressive era.

Public health and welfare institutions of the early 20th Century were distinguished by the concept of self sufficiency through farm operations, a secondary purpose of which was to provide inmates of the institution healthful occupation in a rural environment. State institutions in Salem, the capital city, such as the Cottage Farm associated with the State Hospital, and the farms and industries of the State Prison and Training School, were based on this principle. Including its outlying acreage, Multnomah Farm was the largest social welfare institution sponsored by a local unit of government in Oregon in the period 1911-1947. However, the historic period of significance for purposes of this nomination is drawn to 1940, when the last important expansion of facilities was undertaken to meet the service needs brought on by severe economic depression. Among the other noted farm-supported welfare institutions active in this period were the Louise Home for Wayward Girls in Gresham and the Children's Farm Home near Corvallis, but these were founded under private auspices. Multnomah Farm has been surplusd by Multnomah County, and the area is zoned for industrial park development.

The hub of the administrative complex is the north-facing dormitory of 1911, a large brick building having the H-shaped configuration that was typical of early day institutional housing. It was designed in the Georgian Revival style by the

*The historic holding was 330 acres overall.

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 10.65 acres Camas, Washington-Oregon 1:24000

UTM References

A 110 5465000 5042770
 Zone Easting Northing

C 110 5462500 5042500

B 10 5465000 5042500
 Zone Easting Northing

D 10 5462500 5042770

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification The boundary of the nominated area of 10.65 acres is drawn to encompass essentially in its entirety what remains of the historic administrative core of the 330-acre Multnomah County Poor Farm, including nine buildings and one structure -- all of them contributing features. There are no non-contributing features within the nominated area. The contributing features include: main dormitory (1911) with its infirmary wing added in the 1930s, the power house (1911), administrator's house (1911), cannery (c. 1937), greenhouse (c.1930), water tower (c. 1930), See continuation sheet a duplex (1940), and three small sheds of the historic period 1911-194

11. Form Prepared By

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firm of Weber and Bridges. The hip-roofed building is symmetrically organized around a central court overlooked by a single-story veranda on the innermost facade. The stylistic features which mark the dormitory as a Georgian Revival design are brick quoins, formally placed polygonal bays, semi-circular pedimented dormers, and a central belvedere or cupola. The central stepped and curvilinear dormer gable over the main entry is an eclectic touch consistent with Free Classic design of this period. The dormitory was enlarged by a rear infirmary wing in the 1930s, a period which brought major improvements to the Farm in response to the Great Depression.

Other components of the complex dating from the initial development of 1911 are the Craftsman bungalow which is the administrator's residence and a brick powerhouse. Functionally interdependent buildings and structures introduced in the growth period of the 1930s are a duplex for staff (1940), a greenhouse (c. 1930), water tower (c. 1930) and cannery (c. 1937). Completing the nominated complex are three small sheds or outbuildings. The most important barns of the historic operation are no longer extant.

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The Multnomah County Poor Farm Ensemble has statewide significance under criterion "a" for its association with the social welfare movement in the first half of the 20th Century. The Multnomah Farm--as it was known throughout the historic period--was the largest locally sponsored welfare institution in the state in the period 1911-1947, and reflects the broad national and international trends in the development of social welfare concerns and systems as they were reflected at the local level.

Public health and welfare institutions of the early 20th Century were generally distinguished by the concept of self-sufficiency through farming, a secondary purpose of which was to provide residents of the institution with a healthful occupation in a semi-rural environment. State institutions in Salem, such as the Cottage Farm associated with the State Hospital, and the farms and industries of the State Prison and Training School, were based on this principle. The subject property was the largest non-State institution of its type in the state. The only other institution of comparable scope was the Children's Farm Home near Corvallis, a foster care and placement facility for orphaned and dependent children. It too, however, was founded under private

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auspices, having been the inspiration of the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Multnomah Farm found its source in the Oregon Territorial Legislature of 1854. On January 23, 1854, the first territorial legislation dealing with the care and support of "every poor person who shall be able to earn a livelihood in consequence of bodily infirmity, idiocy, lunacy or other cause" was passed into law. This legislation laid the foundation for the implementation of all Oregon poor laws for the next 82 years, reading:

Section 1. That the county courts of the several counties of this state are hereby vested with th entire and exclusive superintendence of the poor in their respective counties.

As 17th and 18th Century colonial poor laws had their initial inception in the famous English poor laws, "43rd Elizabeth", so with western expansion this concept of parish or county administered and maintained poor relief emigrated west to Oregon. While colonial poor laws were primarily outdoor oriented (home relief, doles, non-institutional relief), by the early 19th Century indoor relief (institutional relief) was becoming more popular as a means of keeping the rising costs down. Industrialization, immigration, labor laws (or the lack thereof) and the first two economically based depressions, 1819 and 1837, had simply created a larger number of indigent poor in the eastern cities. Merritt Lerley, in With Charity for All, refers to the 19th Century as the "Age of Almshouses". The Oregon poor laws of 1854 reflect not only their derivation from English poor laws, but also the very "Age" in which they were formulated, as in paragraph nine:

Section Nine. The county court of any county in this state may, if it thinks proper, cause to be built or provided in its respective counties, work-houses for the accommodation and employment of such paupers as may from time to time become a county charge; and said work-house shall be under such rules and regulations as said courts may deem proper and just.

Both the necesssity for and the significance of this territorial legislation became evident early in the historical period.

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Eleven months after passage, December 22, 1854, Multnomah County was formally organized under law; and at the third meeting of the newly created board of county commissioners--in 1855--the very first transaction for the transfer and payment of county funds was approved in the form of a draft for 15 dollars payable to H. W. Clayton for boarding Henry Marshall, "an insane pauper" (County Commissioners' Journal, V.I). For the following 14 years (1855-1869) Multnomah County administered its poor laws by this means of temporary "contractual-bid and approval" relief, or by direct "out-of-pocket doles" for the maintenance and care of the ever increasing indigent population.

Between 1855 and 1870 the county's population grew from less than 2800 to 11,510. Several major factors account for this population increase and the accompanying rise in the number of indigent and chronically poor. First, the continued arrival of settlers kept the county's growth steady, as did the influx of a large population of miners and entrepreneurs attracted to the gold mines of eastern Oregon and Idaho in the early 60s. In addition, with the instigation of the railroad land grants came a steady rise in the number of immigrants--rapid during times of depression (1873-77, 1893)--and migration of "casual" laborers. As farm, field, mine or line was found unproductive, dry, wanting or simply "not on line" financially; the number of these early "pioneers" tended to increase the population of the county's poor. With this growing burden on the county's relief funds and basic operating procedures for accommodating the demand on a case by case basis; the county found it necessary to follow the lead of the industrial east by establishing its first indoor relief project or poor farm.

Purchased from Stephen Coffin in 1868, the 170-180 acre site for the farm was located near what is now the southwest corner of Washington Park or, as Chauncy Thomas wrote in The Oregonian in 1907:

If one takes the Portland Heights car to the Ford Street bridge and from there follows Canyon Road on foot for about two miles one comes to a large prosperous-looking place on the right of the road that vies in general appearance with any farm in Oregon. The walk...on a Sunday afternoon...is a pleasure in itself.

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Thomas goes on to describe not only the setting, but the tone and attitude that persisted in the general population with regard to the poor farm through the 19th and well into the 20th century:

At the Multnomah poor farm are flower beds, open fields, and swaying trees through which blows the clean fresh wind. On the hillside belonging to the farm are 1000 cords of wood to burn in the big ward stoves in winter. One leaves the place wondering why it is not crowded by thousands instead of less than 200. But it is the "poor farm;" and the pride of the white race to die with its face to the fight keeps untold thousands in the harness till they drop rather than surrender--"and go to the poor farm." The horror of the place is all in the name--but that is enough.

Americans have starved, and will starve by the millions rather than acknowledge themselves conquered by the world. They die fighting. And pleasant as the poor farm is, it contains less than 200. An American coming away from the pleasant place feels a strange, peculiar pride in his race because so few are there, while millions struggle desperately and die with fists clenched to the last.

Although Hillside Farm, as it was known, grew to accommodate as many as 180 residents, representing the most chronically poor and destitute of the County, its idealic setting and generous accommodations as described by Thomas in 1907, would be labeled as inadequate and even life threatening by 1910.

In November of 1910, Hillside Farm was condemned by several charitable committees (Fruit and Flower Mission and the Associated Charities) who had toured the facility and found the tuberculosis ward in "deplorable condition" and infirmary conditions inadequate. Charitable organizations and committees had been growing in number throughout the last half of the 19th Century. Concerned with the plight of the poor, almshouse, asylum, institutional care, temperance and general welfare reform, these organizations had gained considerable strength and power in implementing reforms by the turn of the century.

Coupled with local charitable organizations there were several national and international movements that directly or indirectly

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led to the dismantling of Hillside Farm and the creation of Multnomah Farm the following year.

Robert Brenner, in From the Depths, writes:

The charity organization movement, originating in 1869, in London, seemed such a practical method of obtaining the desired end of efficiency in dispensing aid to the poor that it was widely and rapidly copied in American cities. Like the various Associations for Improving the Condition of the Poor...the new Charity Organization Societies, or Associated Charities, as they were called in some cities, sought to foster better administration of private charitable activities...and monitor and report on institutional care.

With charitable concerns growing throughout the latter half of the 19th Century, health, labor and pension movements combined to make social welfare "the concern of the century." Internationally, Germany passed the "Sickness Insurance Act," the "Accident Insurance Act" and the "Invalidity and Old Age Insurance Act" in the 1880s, considered the cornerstones of international legislation related to modern social security.

In what has been characterized as a reaction to ameliorate the growing pressures from communism, socialism, anarchy and a multitude of labor and social upheavals that marked this period of time, England passed the "Old Age Pension Act of 1908" and the "National Insurance Act of 1911." In the United States the AFL made major strides towards the ultimate passage in 1914 of the Clayton Anti-Trust Act, and elsewhere the eight-hour work day, workman's compensation, the six-day work week and State (1906) and Federal (1916) legislation for Child labor laws were becoming the issues of the day. Labor laws, old age pensions, and poor relief--when combined with a growing concern for sanitation and health care--made the undifferentiated workhouse (poor farm) a primary target for early 20th Century reform.

The Portland Associated Charities and Fruit and Flower Mission found Hillside Farm such a target: a poor farm that housed the old and young, alcoholic and drug addict, leper and tuberculosis patient, and the needy with the indigent vagrant, all on one site. Although it was the condition of the single-story, board and batten tuberculosis ward that caused the initial concern,

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even after it was cleaned, the roof was patched, and promises from the commissioners insured that more qualified help would be provided, the united charities still exerted enough pressure that within 12 days of the initial complaint--the first Journal headline was run on November 19--the County Commissioners unveiled their plans for establishing Multnomah Farm, December 11, 1910. The site for the farm had been purchased in 1909 but the pressure of the Associated Charities expedited construction of the facility.

When completed the new facility included among other things an operating dairy, and residents also raised hogs and poultry and grew a wide variety of fruit and produce. Others worked in the laundry, kitchen, and hospital. The operation proved successful and surplus food was distributed for use in other county facilities such as the jail, hospital and juvenile home. During World War I, sick and wounded soldiers recuperated at the farm. During the Depression the population of the farm swelled to over 600 with those who lost their jobs and homes. After World War II the population of the farm began to decline. Many of the able-bodied residents left to take better paying jobs. Many others, eligible for welfare and social security programs, also left.

In 1947, the farm was renamed the Multnomah County Home and Farm. In 1960, County Commissioners separated the farm and home functions and each operated independently, with its own administrator. The tuberculosis ward, later a convalescent hospital, was combined with the Home and this facility was named Edgefield Manor. In 1964 the complex was renamed Edgefield Center and provided nursing and hospital services for 270 patients as well as a residential facility for emotionally disturbed children. In that same year occupational and physical therapy programs were implemented with limited success. In 1972 the movement to close the facility began and it was officially shut down in 1982.

Multnomah Farm, from its inception as a "child" of the welfare reform age, was a model of its type. It reflected not only the broad social welfare themes which engendered it, but the farm colonization movement and "back-to-the-land" movements emerging across the nation. No effort was spared in the early financing and scientific management of the farm. The Oregon Agricultural College set up and managed the poultry, dairy, and truck farms.

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By 1914 the farm was showing a profit in excess of \$2000. Another aspect that reflected the mood of the age was that while the population--ranging from several hundred to as high as 587 in the 30s--was encouraged to stay active and work, the main intent behind the farm was one of self-sufficiency rather than the "ethical imperative" that "one should work for what one gets."

The residents reflected these changing attitudes. The population was primarily old age "pensioners" and truly destitute individuals. In 1910 the County Hospital had been moved into Portland (2nd and Hooker) to accommodate the ill. With the construction of the Tuberculosis Pavillion the main building was indeed more a home for the aged and chronically poor.

The State opened its tuberculosis hospital in Salem in 1910. The State Institution for the feeble-minded was opened in 1908, and these, in conjunction with the "Industrial School for Girls," "The State Training School," and many privately funded charities for the aged and dependent young made the "differentiation" in care and subsequent specialization in indoor relief of a high quality.

The Multnomah Farm is significant as the largest County-funded relief institution in the State during the period 1911 to 1947. Although several other counties built and maintained farms during this period, the only comparable one was the Lane County Farm (1911-1948); however, in overall productivity and size the Multnomah Farm far surpassed the Lane County Farm. At its busiest the Lane County Farm had an average of 30 residents as compared to an average of 200 for the Multnomah Farm. From 1918 to 1938 agricultural output at the Lane County Farm was at a subsistence level at best. In contrast, in 1918 the Multnomah Farm produced over \$20,000 worth of products showing a profit of \$7,600. The Multnomah Farm gave employment to over 10 county farm hands, while in the winter it was used as a work relief station for those seeking outdoor relief: if qualified and married a man could work on the farm without the stigma of being "in" the institution. No other County Farm could compare in size, function (indoor, outdoor, old age relief, and tuberculosis care) or output to Multnomah Farm.

Several contemporary newspaper accounts in the Oregon Journal and The Oregonian during this period illustrate the changing

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attitude towards poor relief and the pride the County found in this landmark institution. In 1913, Di Geary, Chief Multnomah County health officer, summed up the state of affairs in Oregon poor relief in an article published for the State Health Department:

In this state, outside of Portland and one of two other of the larger cities, the county hospitals and poor houses are combined. In more sparsely settled portions of the state the number to be taken care of either as simply destitute or as destitute and sick is small and a modern hospital for their accommodation is deemed unnecessary and extravagant. The custom which prevails is to let by contract to the lowest responsible bidder the keeping of the door, including in the contract medical attendance and medicine, and in case of death, burial of the pauper.

The treatment of the poor depends largely on the character of the man who takes the contract and the qualifications of the physician whom he or the court employs. The appearance of one of these county farms or hospitals is generally not inviting. The building has no external adornments and its interior is crude. One or two rooms with beds and a large box stove form the customary equipment.

Multnomah County had advanced far beyond the first contractual settlement of poor relief in 1855. It was the only county in Oregon that could boast of a poor farm, up to date tubercular pavillion and agriculturally advanced methods that made poor relief (indoor) self-sustaining and "profitable."

On the state level, Oregon ran cottage farms for the asylum and penitentiary that were comparable in size, and actually exceeded the Multnomah Farm's production at times. These operations, along with the "State Institution for the Feeble-minded" (Fairview)--which produced on a smaller scale but was largely self-sufficient--are comparable in agricultural terms to Multnomah Farm, but were at once State supported and "institutionally" engendered. Any comparison with Multnomah Farm should hinge on its generation from the Oregon Territorial poor laws of 1854.

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In the private sector the only viable comparison to the Multnomah Farm is the Womens Christian Temperance Union's Farm Home near Corvallis. Built in 1923--relatively late in the historic period--the home encompassed 285 acres and housed a population of approximately 150 children during the historic period. Built as a family home and training school, it also reflected the concepts of self-sufficiency through farming and the secondary purpose of providing the residents with a healthful rural setting. Similarities with the subject property, however, end here, as it was privately funded and not directly associated with Oregon's 1854 poor laws which spoke to county administered and maintained poor relief.

The years between 1920-1929 saw the focus of the Multnomah County Poor Farm (MCPF) begin to shift away from the destitute and indigent of the county population, towards that of providing relief for the poor and infirm among the elderly population. During this decade the MCPF population fluctuated between 250-350 persons per year. It is significant that the average age of the inmates steadily rose from 51.5 years of age in 1920, to slightly over 57 years of age in 1929. This trend towards providing relief for the aging continued through the depression years and defined the very nature of the institution in the late 40s, 50s and early 60s.

Between 1930-1933, with the Federal and State relief agencies in their formative stages, and privately funded agencies unable to handle the demands placed on them, the population of the MCPF witnessed rapid growth and overcrowding. Superintendent O.A. Johnson reported on 22 December 1930 that, "for the first time in the history the population of the farm had reached 500 persons." With only four vacant beds available at the time Johnson suggested that "additional space might be made available by placing six additional beds at the ends of the east and west corridors on the first floor, which would allow a maximum capacity of 510." (MCPF Budget Report 1930:2) Even the expansion of the dormitory space in 1932, overcrowding continued to be a serious issue for the following two years, the population exceeding 600 inmates by the end of 1933.

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Increased demands brought about a tightening of admission standards, with age becoming a significant factor in admittance. By June of 1934 the average age had risen to 62 years of age. Associated with the rising age of the inmates was the construction and expansion of the infirmary space, and the need for labor other than that provided by the MCPF population, as an ever increasing percentage was unable to work. In response the county implemented work relief between 1931-1935 on the farm, affording daily labor to county residents without the stigma of institutionalization, and, consequently, diminishing the demand for bed space.

Roosevelt's inauguration in March of 1933 heralded the beginning of the New Deal. With the AAA, the Federal Relief Administration (FERA) and the CWA, came a lessening of the direct demand on the county resources. In September of 1934 the MCPF reported its population at 550, with little reduction through 1941, while the average age of the inmates reached 64 by the end of the decade.

Two WPA Programs were instituted at the MCPF during the late 30s and early 40s. It is unclear what was entailed in the first; however, in March of 1940 the WPA began construction of an incinerator building, pumphouse and arbor, and completed these and fences, sunporch, irrigation system, pipe line, sprinkler system and improvements in the horse and dairy barns by the end of the year.

Throughout the 1920s and 30s the farm division expanded and diversified, showing profits throughout the depression years and supplying other county programs with produce, dairy products and meats (hogs). The farm continued to meet the needs of the its resident population and those of other county agencies through the war, but declined in the late 40s, becoming a financial liability by the late 50s. The Oregonian reported in October of 1962 that the MCPF was "short on customers" and in need of "ambulatory old men" to work the farm. The county began to instigate certain fundamental changes at this time, as the concept of the "poor farm" no longer reflected the attitudes and needs of the community.

May of 1964 saw the opening of the new medical-rehabilitation center, Edgefield Manor, which included the nursing home. Edgefield Lodge, the home for emotionally disturbed children opened soon after. The farm division was discontinued at a this time.

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A tract of land situated in the southwest one-quarter of Section 26, T1N, W.M., Multnomah County, and more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a 3/4" iron pipe on the southerly right-of-way line of Halsey Street (County Road No. 1180 as located in 1929) and being N 00 20'10" W, along the west line of Section 26, 1,470.44 feet and N 79 06' E, parallel to the centerline of said N.E. Halsey Street, 1,329.09 feet from the southwest corner of said Section 26, said point of the beginning also being 45.00 feet southerly when measured at right angles of Engineers Centerline Station 320+02.69 of said N.E. Halsey Street; thence from said point of beginning S 44 57'50" E, 21.01 feet to a 3/4" iron pipe; thence S 00 27'56" E, 291.47 feet to a 3/4" iron pipe; thence N 85 09'14" E, 173.36 feet to a 3/4" iron pipe; thence S 07 40'11" E, 321.00 feet to a 3/4" iron pipe; thence southeasterly along the arc of a 51.50 foot radius tangent curve to the left (an arc distance of 84.49 feet), the long chord of which bears S 54 40'11" E, 73.33 feet to a 3/4" iron pipe; thence southeasterly an arc of a 57.47 foot radius of a reverse curve to the right (an arc distance of 102.51 feet), the long chord of which bears S 50 34'05" E 89.45 feet to a 3/4" iron pipe; thence N 88 30'06" E 461.39 feet to a 3/4" iron pipe; thence N 06 28'29" E, 215.42 feet to a 3/4" iron pipe; thence N 70 31'53" W, 116.34 feet to a 3/4" iron pipe; thence northwesterly along the arc of a 95.32 foot radius tangent curve to the right (an arc distance of 120.82 feet), the long chord of which bears N 34 13'09" W, 112.90 feet to a 3/4" iron pipe; thence N 02 05'29" E, 466.75 feet to a 3/4" iron pipe on the southerly right-of-way line, along the arc of a 5,684.94 foot radius non-tangent curve to the left (an arc distance of 460.99 feet), the long chord of which bears S 81 24'36" W, 460.82 feet of said Halsey Street, S 79 06' W, 241.39 feet to the place of the beginning.

Note: The basis of bearings is from the 1929 survey of N.E. Halsey Street.

Reserving a non-exclusive easement 25.00 feet in width, the centerline of which is described as follows:

Beginning as a point on the southerly right-of-way line of N.E. Halsey Street and being N 79 06' E, 35.11 feet from the northwest

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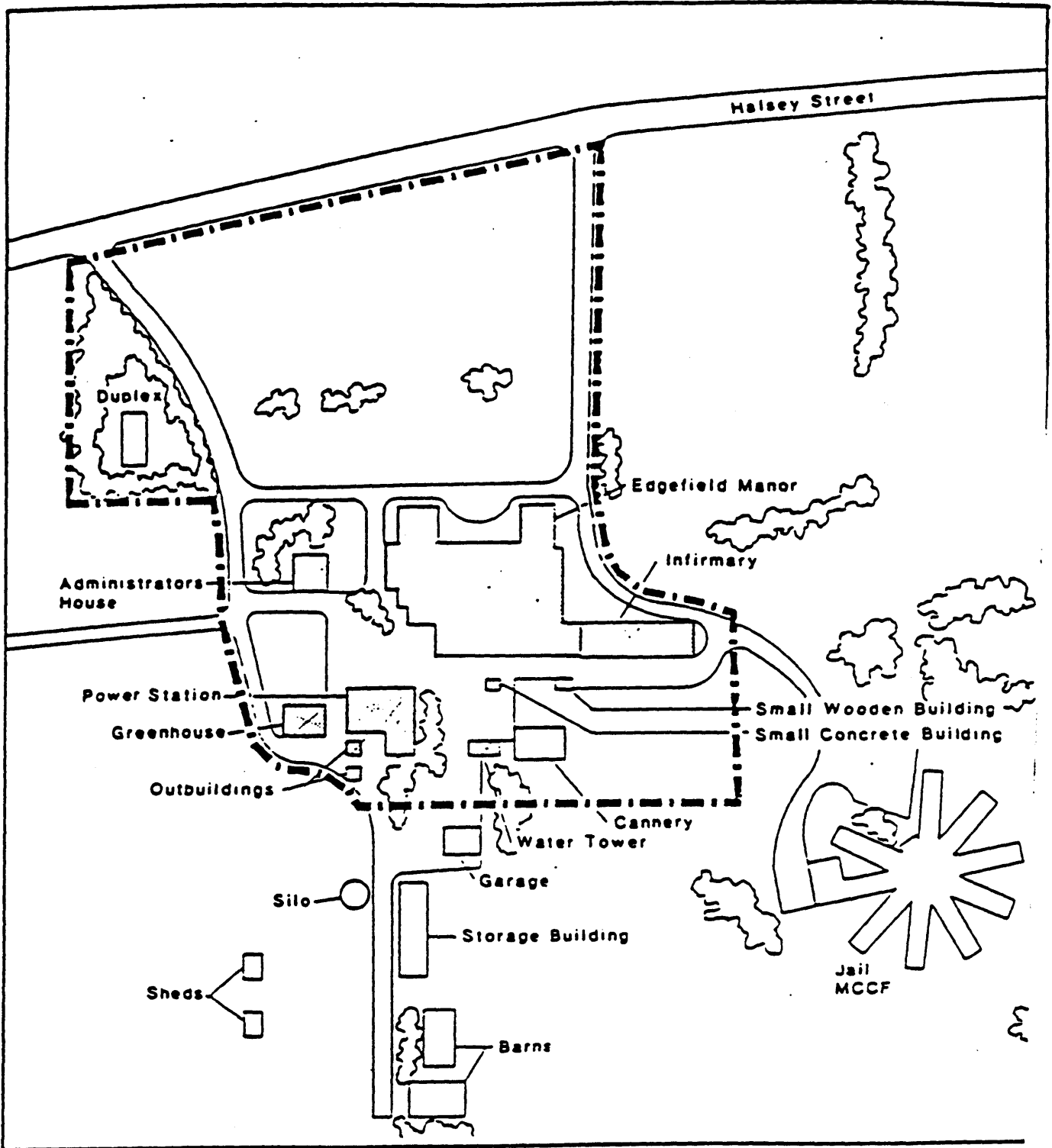
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corner of the above described tract of land; thence S 33 55'46" E 227.21 feet; thence S 07 40'11" E, 320.39 feet; thence southeasterly along an arc of 39.00 foot radius tangent curve to the left (an arc distance of 63.98 feet) the long chord of which bears S 54 40'11" E, 57.05 feet; thence southeasterly along an arc of a 69.97 foot radius reverse curve which bears S 50 45'03" E, 108.63 feet to a point on the southerly line of the above described tract of land and being N 88 30'06 E, 12.51 feet from the most southerly southwest corner of said tract of land.

Also reserving a non-exclusive easement 25.00 in width, the centerline of which is described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the southerly right-of-way line of the N.E. Halsey Street and being S 83 41'02" W, 12.64 feet from the northeast corner of the above described tract of land; thence S 02 05'28" W, 464.90 feet; thence southeasterly along an arc of a 107.82 foot radius tangent curve to the left (an arc distance of 136.66 feet), the long chord of which bears S 34 13'15" E, 127.70 feet; thence S 70 31'53" E, 119.22 feet to a point on the east line of the above described tract of land and being S 06 28'29" W, 12.82 feet from the most southerly northeast corner of said tract of land.

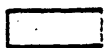
Note: The right-of-way boundaries of the two above described easements are to be shortened or extended at the property lines, angle points and curve point intersections, so as to form a continuous boundary.



Legend



Site Boundary



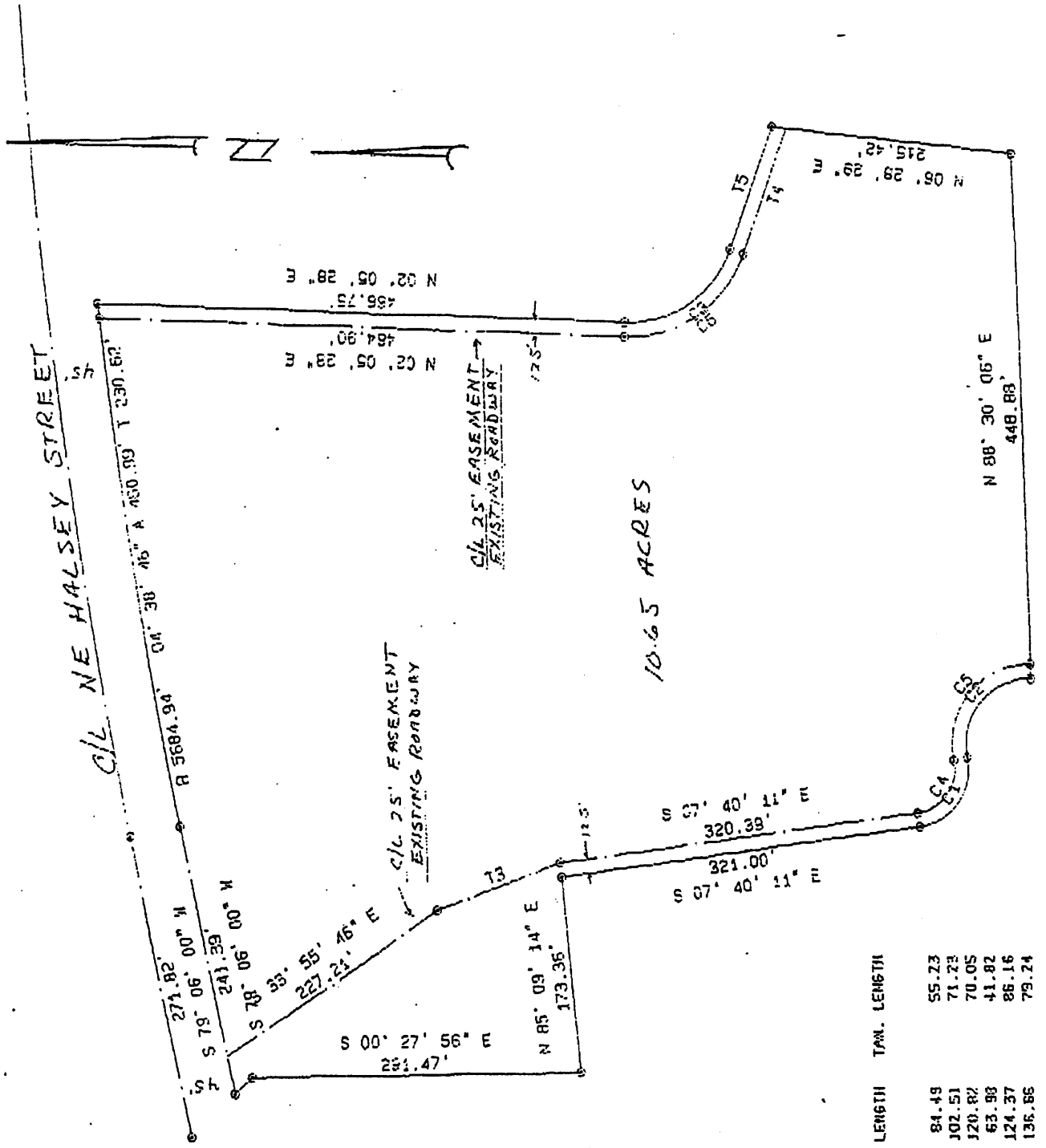
Contributing Historic Structures



0 100 200

Edgfield Manor Site

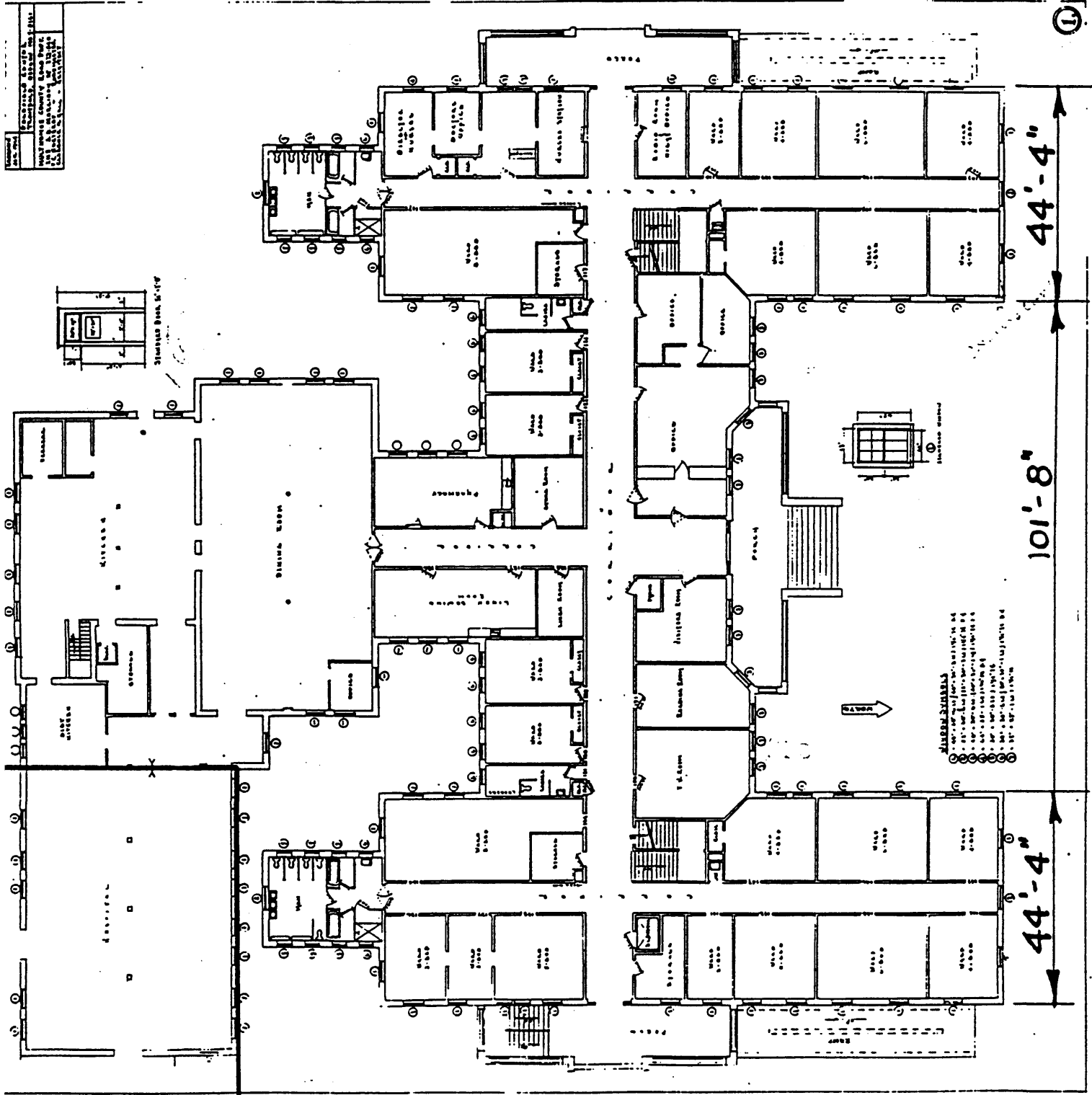
Source:
1987 Goal 5 Analysis by The Benkendorf Associates and
Northwest Heritage Property Assoc.



LABEL	BEARING	DISTANCE
T1	S 44° 57' 50" E	21.01
T2	N 88° 30' 07" E	12.51
T3	S 20° 43' 05" E	116.26
T4	N 70° 31' 53" W	119.22
T5	N 70° 31' 53" W	116.34

LABEL	RADIUS	CENTRAL ANGLE	ARC LENGTH	TAN. LENGTH
C1	51.50	94° 00' 00"	84.49	55.23
C2	57.47	102° 12' 11"	102.51	71.23
C3	35.32	72° 37' 26"	120.82	70.05
C4	39.00	94° 00' 00"	63.98	41.82
C5	63.97	101° 50' 24"	124.37	86.16
C6	107.82	72° 37' 26"	136.86	79.74

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
 COUNTY CLERK
 COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE
 1000 G STREET, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101
 TEL: (619) 534-5000 FAX: (619) 534-5001
 WWW.SANDIEGO.COUNTY.CA.GOV



B

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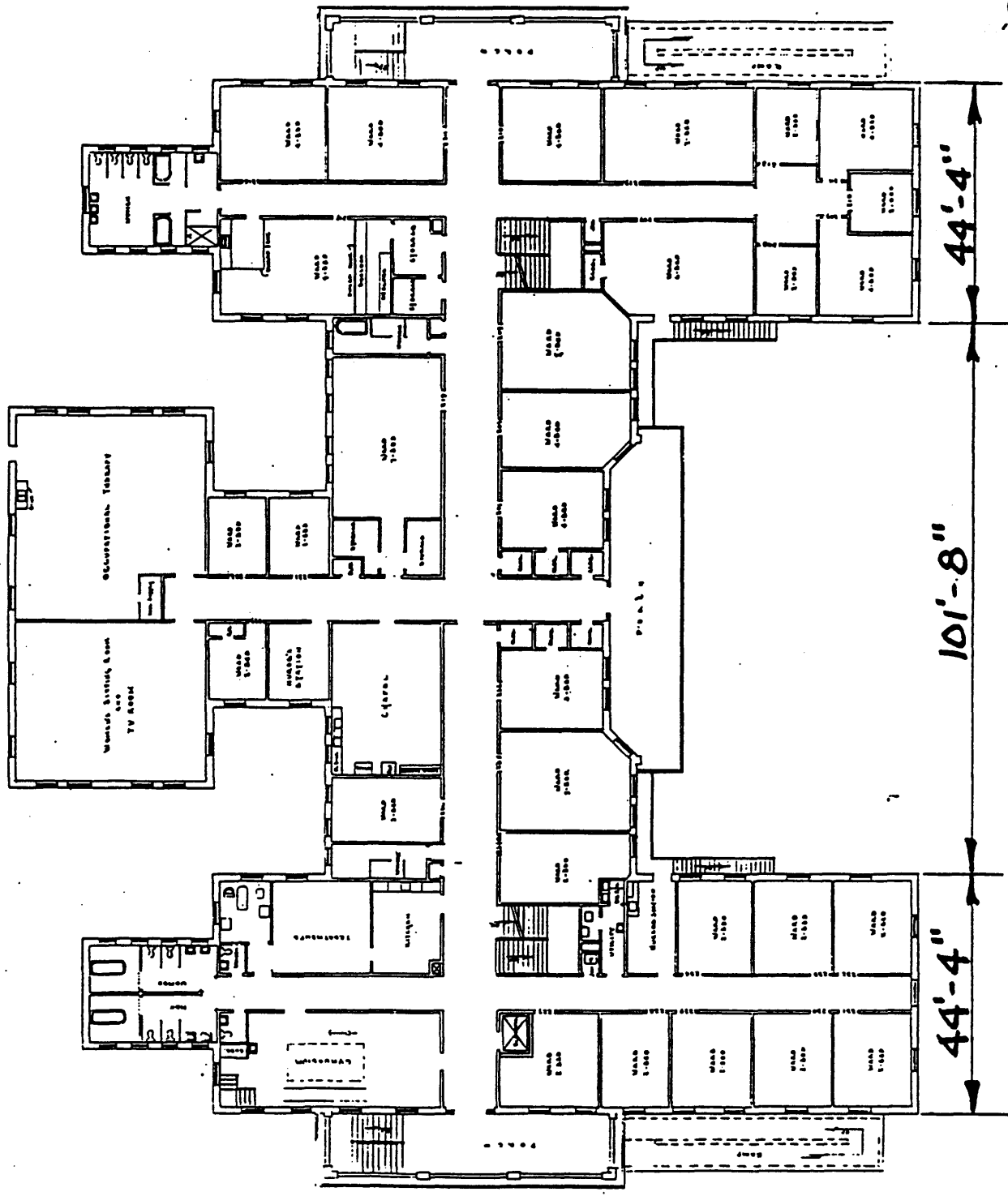
44'-4"

101'-8"

44'-4"

DIMENSIONED PER ARCHITECT'S RECORDS
 ALL DIMENSIONS ARE TO FACE UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE
 ALL WALLS ARE 1/2" THICK UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE
 ALL DOORS ARE 3'0" WIDE UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE
 ALL WINDOWS ARE 4'0" WIDE UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE
 ALL STAIRS ARE 4'0" WIDE UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE
 ALL CEILING AREAS ARE 8'0" HIGH UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE
 ALL FLOOR AREAS ARE 4'0" HIGH UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

6 - FLOOR
 PROJECT: [illegible]
 DRAWING NO.: [illegible]
 DATE: [illegible]
 ARCHITECT: [illegible]
 ENGINEER: [illegible]



CONTRACTOR'S PLAN
 CONTRACT NO. 11111
 CONTRACT VALUE \$100,000.00
 CONTRACT DATE 11/11/11

