

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. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name 2678 W. Washington Boulevard

other names/site number John H. and Lucinda Howard Residence; Fred W. and Mary Morgan Residence; Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children; Florence Crittenton Anchorage; Volunteers of America Living Center for Girls; The Inner Voice, Inc. Shelter

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

2. Location

street & number 2678 W. Washington Boulevard not for publication

city or town Chicago vicinity

state Illinois county Cook zip code 60612

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 of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date _____

Illinois Department of Natural Resources - SHPO
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 or 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 of the Keeper 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	1	buildings
0	0	site
0	0	structure
1	1	object
2	2	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Hospital / Shelter

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS:

Other

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE: Limestone

walls: BRICK; STUCCO

roof: ASPHALT

other: STONE: Limestone

WOOD

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes 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).

Summary Paragraph

2678 W. Washington Boulevard in Chicago's East Garfield Park neighborhood is a large property containing three buildings, two of which are physically connected:

- A contributing three-story Queen Anne style **Main House** at the south center end of the property facing Washington Boulevard to the south, initially completed c. 1880 and remodeled in 1888, 1895, and 1910. The Main House and Dormitory are connected by a small, enclosed corridor and are considered a single building for the purposes of this nomination.
- A contributing one-story **Dormitory** at the northwest corner of site, visible from Maypole Avenue to the north, designed by architects Holabird & Roche and completed in 1924 with a 1948-1949 remodeling. The Main House and Dormitory are connected by a small, enclosed corridor and are considered a single building for the purposes of this nomination.
- A non-contributing **Coach House** at the center east end of the site, completed in 1895 with a 1926 addition and remodel.

The property's character-defining wrought iron fence with stone curbs is a contributing site feature running along the south (Washington Boulevard) edge of the property.

Another notable non-contributing object onsite is the bronze sculpture titled "Passage" in the property's southeast front yard, installed in 2011.

From the Main House's initial construction c. 1880 until 1923, the site served as a private residence, and from 1923 until 2015 as home for benevolent and nonprofit organizations providing housing, health care, and other services to Chicago's underprivileged. The site is currently vacant.

Narrative Description

National Register Boundary and Contributing / Non-Contributing Structures

2678 W. Washington Boulevard's National Register boundary encompasses the full parcel historically associated with the site, extending south to Washington Boulevard, north to Maypole Avenue, and east and west to respective property lines.

The National Register listing includes one contributing building – the connected Main House and Dormitory, both of which retain good integrity and are closely associated with the site's significance as a home of social service organizations.

The Coach House is considered a non-contributing building as it has always been a secondary ancillary structure onsite, as there is no evidence that it was primarily associated with the site's significance as a home of social service organizations, and as it displays poor integrity.

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The property's character-defining wrought iron fence with stone curbs running along the south (Washington Boulevard) property line is considered a contributing feature.

The "Passage" sculpture in the property's southeast front yard is considered a non-contributing feature as it was not installed until 2011, almost four decades after the end of the site's period of significance.

Site

2678 W. Washington Boulevard is located on a 28,000 square foot mostly rectangular-shaped site mid-block on a residential street in Chicago's East Garfield Park, approximately one mile east of Garfield Park. The parcel boundaries historically associated with the site faces Washington Boulevard to the south and Maypole Avenue to the north and abuts separate residential properties to the east and west. Three separate buildings currently occupy the site: the three-story Main House at the south center of the property, the Dormitory at the northwest corner of the property, and the Coach House at the center east end of the property.

The property is landscaped primarily with lawns and mature trees. The smaller courtyard west of the Dormitory is paved with concrete. An ornamental wrought iron fence on a rusticated limestone base extends along the south lot line. Chain link fencing lines the east, west, and south sides.

Main House

The three-story Main House facing Washington Boulevard was completed c. 1880 and remodeled and expanded in 1886, 1895 and 1910 by private owners before the site was purchased by the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children. The Main House displays the hallmark traits of late nineteenth century Queen Anne architecture with its asymmetrical plan and massing, its picturesque roofline, its red pressed brick cladding and limestone detailing at the building's primary south, east and west facades, and most notably its round three-story southeast corner turret with its conical roof.

The windows throughout the Main House are non-historic replacement windows set within the original openings.

The main massing of the house is roughly rectangular, with a projecting gable-front wing at the center of the south elevation. A prominent corner tower is situated at the southeast corner of the south wing. Shallower front gable wings are located on the east and west elevations. The primary entrance to the building is located near the south end of the east elevation, accessed by an open limestone porch.

The main roof of the house is hipped, with gables at the south, east, and west wings. The southeast corner tower features a conical roof. Hipped dormer windows are located on the west side of the south wing and the southeast end of the main roof. A shed roof dormer flanked by front-gabled dormer windows is located on the north side of the main hipped roof. Two large, corbeled brick chimneys project from the south end of the main hipped roof, and a smaller brick chimney is located just north of the southeast corner tower. All roofs and dormers are clad in non-historic asphalt shingles.

South Elevation and Southwest Corner Tower

The front-gabled south elevation is clad in red pressed brick. A flat limestone stringcourse extends above the raised basement, and a narrow molded limestone stringcourse extends between the first and second stories. Flat painted fascia boards are located under the roofline above the second story. The south side of the south wing is fenestrated at each level. The basement window opening features a segmental arched brick header and limestone sill, and is blocked with plywood infill. The first floor window opening is rectangular with a rusticated limestone header and smooth limestone sill. The second story window opening is rectangular and set between the molded stringcourse and fascia

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boards. The third story window opening, centered under the south gable, is round-arched with a rusticated arched header and smooth limestone sill.

The southeast corner tower is consistent in materials and detailing to the south elevation, with a molded limestone stringcourse separating the second and third stories. The basement window openings are segmental arched and infilled with plywood. The first and second story windows (three evenly spaced openings per floor) feature rusticated limestone headers and smooth limestone sills. The third story windows are shorter and set between the limestone stringcourse and circular eave.

East Elevation

The east elevation of the Main House is asymmetrical, clad in red pressed brick with limestone detailing, and regularly fenestrated with rectangular window openings with rusticated limestone headers and smooth limestone sills. This elevation is dominated by a shallow projecting wing, which is situated north of the primary entrance porch. The wing is three window bays wide and topped by an enclosed gable with painted wood clapboards. A pair of double-hung windows are located at the center of the gable. The primary entrance to the building is located south of the projecting wing, set in a slightly projecting brick surround with a rusticated stone lintel. The door itself is a wood paneled double door. The transom above the door is infilled with plywood. At the north end of the east elevation is a one-story, three-sided window bay clad in red pressed brick. The center window opening in this bay has been modified to hold a non-historic paneled door, accessed by non-historic concrete steps with a metal railing. Another non-historic entrance is located just south of the three-sided bay, also accessed by non-historic concrete steps.

West Elevation

The west elevation of the Main House is clad in red pressed brick, with a flat limestone stringcourse above the basement and a narrower molded stringcourse between the first and second stories. Flat painted fascia boards are located under the roofline above the second story. A projecting gable-front wing is situated at the center of the west elevation. The basement and first story of this wing is a curved window bay, with four segmental arched window openings at the basement level and a grouping of five windows with round-arched transoms at the first story. These windows are separated by limestone columns and feature rusticated limestone headers. The second story of the wing is fenestrated with two centered rectangular window openings set between the limestone stringcourse and the fascia. A third, smaller window opening is located north of these center windows. At the third story, the enclosed gable is clad in painted wood clapboards and houses a window (infilled with plywood) and adjacent wood paneled door that leads to a metal fire-escape.

South of the projecting wing, the west elevation houses two bays of windows. The south window bay features a segmental arched window opening at the basement level, a rectangular window opening with rusticated limestone header and smooth limestone sill at the first story, and a rectangular window opening between the stringcourse and fascia at the second floor. The north window bay is similar, but with smaller window openings.

North of the projecting wing, the basement and first story of the west elevation are obscured by a one-story, flat-roofed, L-shaped stucco addition set on a red brick base. This addition was constructed in 1923 to connect the Main House to the adjacent Dormitory. A non-historic flat panel door on the west side of this addition is accessed by a set of concrete steps. The addition is fenestrated with large, single-pane, fixed windows. The metal fire escape on the west elevation follows the roof of the addition and then extends west to the ground, just south of the Dormitory. Above the addition, at the second story, are two window openings that have been blocked with plywood. A door just south of these windows gives access to the fire escape.

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North Elevation

The secondary north elevation of the Main House is clad in common brick with no ornamental detailing. Windows on the first and second stories are non-historic replacement windows set within the original openings.

Basement Interior

The basement of the Main House is unfinished and utilitarian, with no significant features.

First Floor Interior

The first floor retains its historic plan and many original details and finishes with minor alterations. From the primary east entrance is a small, enclosed vestibule with stained wood paneled walls and ceilings. Wood double doors with glass panels open into foyer, which houses an ornamental open wood stair. The walls and ceilings are clad in stained wood paneling. The original flooring is covered with vinyl composite tile.

South of the foyer is a library/sitting room, accessed from the foyer by stained wood pocket doors. The original fireplace mantel and surround on the east wall has been replaced with a non-historic drywall surround, but the tile hearth remains intact. Historic flooring is covered with vinyl composite tile. However, this room does retain historic wood baseboards and decorative egg-and-dart plaster crown molding. The original stained wood doors surrounds and window casings are also extant, including the distinctive curved window casings within the southeast tower.

The dining room, north of the foyer, features stained wood wainscoting and baseboards with flat plaster walls above. The ceiling is drywall with a simple painted crown molding. Doors on the south, north, and west walls of the room feature original decorative stained wood doorframes and original doors. The original flooring is covered with vinyl composite tile.

West of the foyer is a large living room, which features a curved window bay and stained wood wainscoting on the west wall, an original fireplace on the north wall, and stained wood bookcases and trim on the east and south walls. The original stained wood window casings and door frames are intact. Although the fireplace has been modified with a non-historic wood mantle and framing, the original tile surround is intact.

The back-of-house kitchen, pantry, and service spaces at the north end of the first floor are utilitarian. The original tile flooring is intact in these spaces, and some original painted wood cabinets are extant. The walls are clad in drywall and the ceiling is flat plaster or drywall.

An enclosed servant's stair is located between the dining room and kitchen.

Second Floor Interior

The second floor of the Main House contains bedrooms and bathrooms arranged around the two central stairs. The landing around the primary open stair features original wood ceiling beams, wood wainscoting, and original door frames and doors. The original flooring is covered with vinyl composite tile. It is likely that this stair originally terminated at the second floor, and was extended after it was converted from a single family home into a facility for women and children. The flight of wood stairs that connects the second floor and basement is a simpler design, with a simple wood balustrade and square newel posts. An open doorway at the northwest end of the landing leads to a T-shaped hallway that provides access to the servant's stair and smaller bedrooms on the north side of the floor. The hallway has flat plaster ceilings and flat plaster walls with wood baseboards. The historic door frames and doors along this hallway are largely intact.

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The bedrooms throughout the second floor retain original baseboards, window casings, door frames, and doors, although some have been painted. Walls and ceilings are flat plaster or drywall. The original flooring throughout has been covered with non-historic tile. A highlight of the second floor is an original bathroom that retains mosaic tile walls and flooring with a Greek Key border.

Third Floor Interior

The third floor of the Main House was historically the servants' quarters and was originally accessed only from the servant's stair. It features bedrooms arranged along a central hallway, with flat plaster ceilings, flat plaster walls, and stained wood base trim. Original wood door frames and doors with transoms remain intact along this hallway. The original flooring has been covered with non-historic tile.

The bedrooms on the third floor feature simple painted wood trim and window casings, flat plaster or drywall walls and ceilings, and non-historic flooring.

Dormitory

Just north of the Main House, the one-story Dormitory at the rear northwest corner of the site was designed by architects Holabird & Roche and completed in 1924 by the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children, then expanded and remodeled for Florence Crittenton Anchorage according to a design by Holabird, Root & Burgee in 1948. The Main House and Dormitory are connected by a small, enclosed corridor.

The Dormitory is symmetrical in plan and elevation with a U-shaped footprint, composed of a main rectangular block facing the site's rear yard to the east and two wings at its north and south ends. The Dormitory is clad in white stucco above a red brick base, with symmetrically placed arched doors and windows with brick quoined surrounds. The steeply pitched hipped roofs are clad in asphalt shingles. The result is a one-story rear building highly institutional in character with elements typical of Italian Renaissance and French Eclectic style architecture.

Windows throughout the Dormitory are non-historic replacement windows set within the original openings.

East Elevation

The east elevation is symmetrical, with a central projecting entrance bay and projecting end bays. The entrance bay and end bays feature corner brick quoins. The central entrance bay is flat roofed with a parapet rising above a molded limestone cornice. The west face of the entrance bay features a central doorway flanked by single window openings, and the short north and south faces of the entrance bay house single window openings. The door is a non-historic flat panel door, and is accessed by a small open porch with concrete steps on the north and south ends and a metal railing.

North and south of the entrance bay, the east elevation is regularly fenestrated with three evenly spaced window openings—a central window opening with brick quoining that extends to the brick base of the building, flanked by windows openings with quoining only at the jambs.

The projecting north and south end wings feature two larger window openings with brick quoining that extends to the brick base of the building.

West Elevation

The west elevation of the Dormitory, between the two end wings, is regularly fenestrated with window openings that feature arched brick headers, brick quoining that extends to the brick base, and brick sills. The west-facing sides of the end wings are unfenestrated, with a flat stucco wall plane above the brick base, framed by corner quoins.

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North and South Elevations of End Wings

The outward facing elevations of the two end wings are identical, with six evenly spaced window openings with arched brick headers, brick quoining that extends to the brick base, and brick sills.

The elevations facing into the courtyard are also identical, with a secondary entrance located at the west end and two window openings to the east.

Interior

The Dormitory retains its original floor plan and some historic finishes, but the interior of the building has deteriorated due to significant water infiltration and is in poor condition. In contrast to the opulence of the Main House, the Dormitory is utilitarian on the interior with no little ornamentation. Small dorm rooms are arranged along a C-shaped corridor, which is double loaded in the center and single-loaded at the north and south wings. The walls and ceilings are flat plaster or drywall with minimal painted wood trim and simple painted wood door frames. Most of the original doors have been removed. The original flooring throughout is covered with non-historic tile. Window openings feature plaster returns and simple painted sills.

Coach House

The two-story Coach House was completed by the Fred W. Morgan family in 1895 with mansard roofs at its south and west facades. As noted in the Chicago Landmark designation report, “[a] 1926 permit called for a one-and-a-half-story addition and alterations and the permit document notes the phases of its construction from concrete foundation to construction of the walls and completion by December of that year. However, it is not clear where the work was done on the coach house and the 1950 Sanborn map does not reflect any changes. It is not until the circa 1975 Sanborn map that the footprint of the coach house is enlarged to reflect the current, substantially larger structure. It is not clear when this change took place.”

Today the Coach House displays brick cladding infilled with non-historic split-faced concrete block. Inside, the Coach House has been gutted and reused by later occupants as activity spaces. Simple wood stairs at the east and west ends of the Coach House provide access to the upper level.

Integrity

The Main House and Dormitory at 2678 West Washington Boulevard both retain excellent exterior integrity, with their overall historic massing, rooflines, and character-defining exterior design features intact. Alterations to the exterior of these two structures are limited to window replacement, roof replacement, and insertion of additional secondary entrances. On the interior, the Main House retains its original layout and many of its original decorative features and finishes. Alterations such as non-historic flooring and drywall soffits to conceal mechanicals are largely reversible. The Dormitory interior, although in poor condition, also retains its original floor plan. The Main House and Dormitory, their surrounding site, and their relationships to each other continue to express the historic location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association that make 2678 W. Washington Boulevard an important site in the social history of Chicago’s East Garfield Park.

The Coach House appears to have been heavily altered both inside and out in recent decades. As it has historically been a secondary ancillary structure onsite, the Coach House’s poor integrity does not affect the overall site’s historic 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 grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL HISTORY

Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

Architect/Builder

Architect unknown (c.1880 Main House)

William Longhurst (Main House 1888
remodeling and expansion)

Architect unknown (Main House 1895
remodeling)

David Robertson (Main House 1910
remodeling)

Holabird & Roche (1924 Dormitory)

Holabird, Root & Burgee (1949 Dormitory
remodeling)

Period of Significance

1923-1973

Significant Dates

1923-1973

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

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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).

2678 W. Washington Boulevard in Chicago, Illinois is eligible for National Register listing under Criterion A for Social History for the property's associations with two significant local charitable institutions – the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children (1923-1946) and the Florence Crittenton Anchorage (1949-1973) – that successively occupied the site and for five decades provided onsite shelter, health care, and other services for Chicago women and children in need.

Once a large single-family residence in Chicago's prosperous East Garfield Park neighborhood, the site's Main House was initially completed c. 1880 as a private home for the family of merchant John H. Howard and later housed the family of tire manufacturer Fred W. Morgan. In 1923 the home was purchased by the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children (CHCWC) which established their new headquarters in the Main House and completed the adjacent Holabird & Roche-designed Dormitory, operating this once-private residential site as a women's and children's post-hospital health care facility from 1923 to 1946. From 1949 to 1973, the Main House and Dormitory served as a maternity home operated by the Florence Crittenton Anchorage (or simply the Anchorage) which offered accommodations, health care, and social services to unmarried expectant mothers and their newborn babies. Supported by Chicago's economic and social elite, both the CHCWC and the Anchorage were well-known local philanthropic institutions that provided shelter and services to the city's most vulnerable. After the Anchorage dissolved in 1974, the site remained a home for non-profit service institutions until it was vacated in 2015.

The Main House and Dormitory at 2678 W. Washington Boulevard are rare intact local examples of privately-operated shelter and service facilities that once aided Chicago's underprivileged. These now-vacant facilities continue to express the values of philanthropy and service espoused by Chicago community leaders and the evolution of their attitudes toward poor mothers with children and unwed expectant mothers in early- and mid-20th century Chicago.

The property's period of significance spans from 1923 to 1973, the years the property was occupied by the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children and the Florence Crittenton Anchorage.

2678 W. Washington Boulevard was designated a Chicago local landmark in 2023.

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

Chicago's East Garfield Park Neighborhood

2678 W. Washington Boulevard is located in Chicago's East Garfield Park neighborhood approximately four miles west of Chicago's Loop downtown central business district and approximately one mile east of Garfield Park. The East Garfield Park community area is roughly bounded by Franklin Boulevard to the north, Arthington and Taylor Streets to the south, Hamlin Avenue and Independence Boulevard to the west, and Rockwell Street to the south.

Before White settlement, the Chicago area included the ancestral lands of Native American tribes, including the Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi, Miami, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, Sac, Fox, Kickapoo, and Illinois.¹ The West Side area today known as East Garfield Park remained sparsely settled until 1869 when it was annexed by the City of Chicago, the same year plans were begun for the 185-acre "Central Park" (later Garfield Park following the 1881 assassination of U.S. President James Garfield). The Great Fire of 1871 and the initial completion of Central Park in the 1870s spurred the development of the land east of the park into an upper middle class residential neighborhood.²

¹ American Library Association, "Indigenous Tribes of Chicago," American Library Association, accessed January 23, 2024, <https://www.ala.org/aboutala/offices/diversity/chicago-indigenous>.

² Amanda Seligman, "East Garfield Park," Encyclopedia of Chicago, <http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/404.html>, accessed January 23, 2024.

Julia Sniderman, Bart Rychbosch, and Joan Pomeranc, *National Register of Historic Places Nomination: Garfield Park* (Chicago, IL: Illinois State

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By the early 20th century, East Garfield Park became home to less affluent working families supported by employment with large nearby manufacturers, including Sears, Roebuck & Co. who built their main administrative and distribution campus along Arthington Street between Kedzie and Central Park Avenues along the south end of the community area. By the Great Depression of the 1930s, several charitable organizations found footholds in the community to support the increasing numbers of its needy, including the Chicago Convalescent Home for Women and Children and the Florence Crittenton Anchorage.³

Early Site History (1880-1923)

The subject property's large parcel spanning from Washington Boulevard north to Maypole Avenue (formerly Park Avenue) was developed after the American Civil War as a collection of smaller single-family home lots bisected by a center east-west running alley. The subject property's Main House appears to have been first constructed c. 1880 for the family of wool merchant John H. Howard and is likely the frame house at 1093 Washington Boulevard (today 2678 W. Washington Boulevard) seen in a *Robinson's Atlas of the City of Chicago* map from 1886; a large rear coach house seen in the 1886 map is no longer extant.

A piece in Chicago's *Inter-Ocean* described an 1888 remodeling and expansion of the Howard home directed by English-born architect William Longhurst:

Architect William Longhurst is completing a remarkable transformation in J.H. Howard's long-built residence out on Washington boulevard [sic], No. 1093. It has been veneered with pressed brick for the first story, and the second is covered with slate; a bow window now projects on the left, while to the right and in the rear is a large two-story addition. The front is enriched by [a] tower and gables, and, in short, the old has been transformed into charming newness.⁴

In 1895, the Howard family sold the home at 1093 Washington Boulevard to tire manufacturer Fred W. Morgan (1854-1921) who lived in the home with his family until his death in 1921. The Morgans remodeled the home twice, first in 1895 (architect unknown) shortly after purchasing the home, a \$10,000 which transformed the Main House into the multi-story brick-clad Queen Anne style residence seen today.⁵ An 1896 fire insurance map and a 1907 photograph show that the 1895 renovation likely did the most to bring the building to its current appearance, with its pressed red brick 1st and 2nd story facades, sweeping west bay window grouping, and circular tower (footprints for both are indicated on the 1896 insurance map).⁶

The Morgans also expanded and improved the parcel around the home in 1895, purchasing the double lot to the east along with the Main House and commissioning the current detached Coach House, later altered. Insurance maps show that before 1922, the Morgan family also took control of and demolished the alley and Maypole Avenue-facing homes north of their own home and incorporated these cleared lots into the Morgan family's much-enlarged 154-foot by 193-foot parcel, the current parcel at 2678 W. Washington Boulevard.⁷

A second Main House remodeling for the Morgan family undertaken in 1910 was directed by architect David Robertson, though little is known of the changes made or whether the renovation included interior work.⁸ Photographs of the Main

Historic Preservation Office, 1993), Section 8, 17-21.

³ "East Garfield Park."

⁴ "Busy Builders," *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), August 5, 1888.

⁵ "Application for Building Permits," *The Real Estate and Building Journal* (Volume 37), May 11, 1895, 451.

⁶ "Fred W. Morgan, Pioneer of Tire Industry Dies," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), May 29, 1921.

"Residences on the north side of Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois," 1907. Chicago History Museum, Charles R. Clark Collection. *Insurance Maps of Chicago, Illinois - 1896*, Volume 11, Sheet 103.

⁷ *Insurance Maps of Chicago, Illinois - 1896*, Volume 11, Sheet 103.

Insurance Maps of Chicago, Illinois - 1922, Volume 11, Sheet 103.

⁸ *The American Contractor* (Volume 31), May 21, 1910, 40.

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house taken in 1949 and 1957 show a home mostly unchanged from the 1907 photograph except for the conversion of a double to a single window in the east-facing 3rd story gable, possibly dating to the 1910 remodeling.⁹

Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children (1923-1946)

After Fred W. Morgan's death in 1921, his widow Mary Allen Morgan sold the property at 2678 W. Washington Boulevard to the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children (CHCWC), a benevolent organization informally founded in 1902 by health care worker and advocate Anne "Annie" Hibbert and officially incorporated in 1904 to provide post-hospital care for the city's poor.

While monied Chicagoans had always had their pick of medical care among local private doctors, small for-profit hospitals, and sanitariums, health care options for Chicago's poor were much more limited. However, by the second decade of the 20th century Chicago's city and county governments, along with religious institutions and wealthy benefactors, had constructed a huge array of low-cost and free non-profit hospitals with explicit mandates to treat the underprivileged.

Cook County Hospital, a public training hospital founded in 1866 on the Near West Side, was the city's largest provider of free medical care.¹⁰ Religious institutions built free and low-cost hospitals to aid the urban poor. The Roman Catholic church established a number of hospitals in the 19th and early 20th centuries, including its earliest and largest, Mercy Hospital (1849).¹¹ Other Christian-run religious hospitals in Chicago included the Episcopalian-founded St. Luke's Hospital (1863);¹² the Lutheran-founded Passavant (1865), Swedish Covenant (1886), and Norwegian-American (1894) Hospitals;¹³ the Presbyterian Hospital, one of the largest caregiving institutions in the city (1883);¹⁴ and the Methodist-led Wesley Memorial Hospital (1888).¹⁵ Chicago's Jews founded the largest private nonprofit hospital in the city, Michael Reese Hospital (1880), and would later open Mt. Sinai Hospital (1919).¹⁶

Secular private hospitals were also open to Chicago's poor. The Women's Christian Temperance Union (later influential in the creation of Chicago's Florence Crittenton Anchorage) founded the Frances E. Willard National Temperance Hospital in 1886.¹⁷ Some hospitals were founded to serve specific Chicago ethnic groups, including the Grant (originally German) Hospital (1883).¹⁸ Secular groups of philanthropists opened their own nonprofit institutions including the Mary Thompson Hospital for Women and Children (1865), Children's Memorial Hospital (1884), Englewood Hospital (1893), the Chicago Fresh Air Hospital (1909), and Ravenswood Hospital (1910).¹⁹ Poor African Americans on Chicago's South Side were served by Provident Hospital, a training hospital for Black nurses founded in 1891 and site of the first open heart surgery.²⁰

⁹ "Residences on the north side of Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois."

"Neighborhood Women Aid in Preparing Anchorage for Reopening on West Side," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), March 20, 1949. 1957 view of the Main House and Coach House at 2678 W. Washington, Chicago History Museum, *Chicago Sun-Times* collection.

¹⁰ John Raffensperger, "Cook County Hospital," *Encyclopedia of Chicago*, accessed May 1, 2024, <http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/336.html>.

¹¹ Paul A. Buelow, "Hospitals," *Encyclopedia of Chicago*, accessed May 1, 2024, <http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/602.html>. *Hospitals, Sanatoriums, State and Charitable Institutions of the United States and Canada* (Chicago, IL: American Medical Association, 1922), 23, 24.

¹² *Hospitals, Sanatoriums, State and Charitable Institutions of the United States and Canada*, 24.

¹³ "Hospitals."

Hospitals, Sanatoriums, State and Charitable Institutions of the United States and Canada, 22, 24.

¹⁴ *Hospitals, Sanatoriums, State and Charitable Institutions of the United States and Canada*, 24.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 24.

¹⁶ *Hospitals, Sanatoriums, State and Charitable Institutions of the United States and Canada*, 23.

Wallace Best, "Michael Reese Hospital," accessed May 1, 2024, <http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/1051.html>. "Hospitals."

¹⁷ *Hospitals, Sanatoriums, State and Charitable Institutions of the United States and Canada*, 23.

¹⁸ "Hospitals."

¹⁹ Eve Fine, "Mary Thompson Hospital," *Encyclopedia of Chicago*, accessed May 1, 2024,

<http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/1251.html>.

Karl A. Olsson, *Quality of Mercy: Swedish Covenant Hospital and Covenant Home; Seventy-Fifth Anniversary 1886-1951* (Chicago: Covenant Press, 1961), 4.

Hospitals, Sanatoriums, State and Charitable Institutions of the United States and Canada, 23.

²⁰ Paul A. Buelow, "Provident Hospital," *Encyclopedia of Chicago*, accessed May 1, 2024,

<http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/1017.html>.

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And Chicagoans with non-acute complaints could visit small charitable outpatient clinics and dispensaries throughout the city, including the Jewish-led West Side Dispensary, Central Free Dispensary (later “of West Chicago”), and a Near North Side clinic operated by Northwestern University.²¹

Though available beds in the city’s hospitals were always in short supply, by the first decade of the 20th century Chicago’s poorest had reliable access to an ever-increasing range of inexpensive and free hospitals, clinics, and dispensaries for most ailments and in most neighborhoods. However, even with a glut of public and nonprofit private hospitals available, what many of Chicago’s poorest patients found most wanting was dedicated care after their hospital discharge. When Chicagoans of wealth emerged from long illnesses or intensive medical interventions, their longer recuperations were made easier with comfortable confinement in their own homes or in private sanitariums and convalescent homes. Less affluent hospital patients, on the other hand, were often asked to vacate their hospital beds with few accommodations made for post-hospital care, leading to complications, ongoing infirmity, and even death.

While New York and Boston together boasted dozens of convalescent homes for the poor at the turn of the 20th century, poor Chicagoans had no free or low-cost convalescent homes to turn to. One exception was the Jackson Park Sanitarium (La Rabida Convent), founded in 1896 as a privately run fresh air hospital for children but which also could accommodate children recovering after hospital stays.²² A convalescent home for Chicago’s poor women had been established in 1894 on a remote farm in Laporte, Indiana, seventy miles by rail from downtown Chicago, but does not appear to have been a lasting institution.²³ Chicago’s clergy and newspapers decried that the poor of their city, emerging from intensive hospital stays weak or not fully recovered from illness, were left to fend for themselves. The Reverend John Rusk of Chicago’s Militant Church exclaimed in an 1896 sermon:

“We have many hospitals in this city of which we are proud and shall be glad of more. ...In addition to these great works we need an adjunct – that is, a convalescents’ home. Men and women are frequently turned out because there is room no longer for them. Others are sick. Those who go out are cured, but they are feeble. Their condition unfits them for work. They are poorly clad, maybe, they need warmth and food. They are driven to beg from door to door. They were first sick; they are now degraded. It is a scar and wound to the whole body politic.... Whilst this institution is necessary, I do not know of one in our great city.”²⁴

In May 1902, the *Chicago Tribune* decried pitiful scenes of the poor and sick ejected from Cook County Hospital before they were recovered:

“The City of Chicago needs a home or hospital for convalescents almost as much as it needs city or emergency hospital, and it needs it every day. Sixty new patients are admitted to the County Hospital daily, ... and in order to make room... sixty old patients – sixty convalescents – must be daily discharged... much earlier than would be the case were the County Hospital less crowded.

“Travelers on the West Harrison Street car line [which ran alongside Cook County Hospital] often notice delicate looking individuals who board the cars at Wood [S]treet and to get off at some point along the route with evident difficulty and weakness. One such individual, a woman, [recalled] ‘I’ve had typhoid fever... and I’m still quite weak. ...They were good to me while I was sick, but I wish I could have stayed longer. I am not strong enough to go to work yet and a cheap boarding-house is a poor place for a woman too weak to take good care of herself. I

²¹ Paul A. Buelow, “Clinics and Dispensaries,” *Encyclopedia of Chicago*, accessed May 1, 2024,

<http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/299.html>.

A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, 1915), 36.

²² “Only Place for Convalescents,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), April 26, 1903.

“La Rabida Sanitarium to be Completed in Spring,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), January 31, 1932.

²³ “For a Convalescents’ Home,” *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), July 3, 1895.

“For a Worthy Charity,” *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), December 15, 1895.

“Chicago Convalescent Home,” *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), June 26, 1894.

²⁴ “Rev. John Rusk. A Convalescent Home,” *The Chicago Chronicle* (Chicago, IL), December 28, 1896.

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haven't enough money to get milk and all sorts of things, either. But there! Lots of sicker people than me have to be taken care of always, and I'm not blaming the hospital people one bit."²⁵

The warden of Chicago's largest center for free medical care, Cook County Hospital, recommended "[a] separate building, either on the same grounds [of the hospital] or at some little distance... Plenty of convalescent patients would be better away from a building in which other patients suffering from countless diseases must be sheltered, and many a man or woman needs a period of rest, quietness, and outdoor living between the time passed and the hospital and the return to unhygienic homes or work."²⁶ Both religious and secular medical advocates called for an urban convalescent home for Chicago's recovering infirmed which could help spare them suffering and could very well save their lives.

The charge to create such an organization was taken up by English-born Anne "Annie" Hibbert (1869-1948) who had immigrated to Chicago's West Side with her parents and siblings and who was active in missionary efforts of the Episcopal Church, usually alongside the Reverend John M. Chattin, a minister with the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul (Hibbert would marry Chattin in 1906).²⁷ In 1903, Hibbert reported her inspiration for the CHCWC after taking into her own home a desperate young female patient just released from Cook County Hospital:

"I had ten years' of rich and varied experience among the poor of Chicago, visiting all the institutions of the city regularly, and the need for a home for convalescent women was pressed home to my soul, as it is pressed to the heart and soul of every charitable or philanthropic worker in Chicago over and over again. I saw so many women in the hospitals, continually, who must leave these havens of rest and regeneration long before physically able to do this, because of other sufferers who must take their places. ... When, compelled to leave the hospital, penniless, weak, and with no place to receive them, they ask me: 'What shall I do now? Where can I go tonight?'"²⁸

"It was then," Hibbert recalled, "I decided that something should be done for the poor women who are discharged from the charitable institutions cured but not well."²⁹

The resourceful 33-year old Hibbert located her new benevolent convalescent venture in a 3-story 24-room brick home at 521 W. Adams Street (address changed in 1909 to 1516 W. Adams Street, demolished) on Chicago's Near West Side, adjacent to Reverend Chattin's own recently-founded home for orphan boys at 515 W. Adams Street and just a few blocks away from the home Hibbert shared with her parents and siblings.³⁰ The site was purchased for \$14,000 backed by pledges from her board of fifteen directors and other supporters.³¹

With help from Reverend Chattin, donors, volunteers, and paid staff, Hibbert opened the doors of her convalescent home on November 23, 1902, ready to "receive poor women discharged from hospitals and care for them until they are able to return to work."³² On opening, the organization received donations of money, clothing, and furniture, and could publicize

²⁵ "Hospital Needed for Convalescents," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), May 18, 1902.

²⁶ "Hospital Needed for Convalescents."

²⁷ 1900 U.S. Census.

"Home for Poor Women," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), October 27, 1902.

Twenty-Fourth Annual Report of the Board of Inspectors of the House of Correction of the City of Chicago and Reports of the Superintendent and City Physician to the Board (Chicago, IL: John F. Higgins, Printer, 1896). 31

"Home for Friendless Boys," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), November 18, 1900.

²⁸ "Only Place for Convalescents," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), April 26, 1903.

²⁹ "Comfortable Home for Women Just Out of Hospitals is Opened in Permanent Quarters in West Adams Street," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), December 14, 1902.

³⁰ "Home for Friendless Boys," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), November 18, 1900.

1900 U.S. Census.

"Edward Morris and Wife Present House to Charity," *The Chicago Live Stock World* (Chicago, IL), March 12, 1910.

³¹ "Home for Poor Women."

Insurance Maps of Chicago, Illinois – 1917, Volume 7, Sheet 9.

"Comfortable Home for Women Just Out of Hospitals is Opened in Permanent Quarters in West Adams Street," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), December 14, 1902.

³² "Home for Poor Women."

"Home for Friendless Boys."

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support from local financial institutions and wealthy elite who were represented on her board, and notable interest paid to the organization by Jane Addams of the famed Hull House.³³ “Great care will be taken,” Hibbert promised, “to give the women a home that is a home and not an institution. They will not be so much patients as members of a family.”³⁴ In addition to housing recovering women patients, Hibbert planned an “employment department” and even planned limited financial support for women after they left the facility.³⁵

Initially organized as “Faith Home,” the site was soon renamed the “Chicago Convalescent Home for Women” and then in 1904 incorporated as the Chicago Convalescent Home for Women and Children.³⁶ Despite the Christian convictions of its founders, from the beginning the CHCWC appears to have welcomed women and children of all faiths.³⁷

The *Chicago Tribune* printed an image of the interior of the CHCWC just after its opening, presenting a domestic scene of a small sunlit parlor or work room decorated with carpeted floors and papered walls, brightened with small pictures and art objects, a bureau, table, and wicker rocking chair; an open door showed a small bedstead beyond (no staff or residents are visible in the photograph).³⁸ After five months in operation, Hibbert reported in April 1903 that her free convalescent home for poor women was immediately put to use. “Patients fairly thronged upon me from the first period many times, alas, I have been compelled to refuse them for lack of sufficient funds, but, ... we have managed to extend a helping hand to fifty-seven poor women since the first of last December [1902] and to keep them well fed and comfortably warm despite the crying problem of the cold question during the severest weather.”³⁹

Annie Hibbert appears to have left her position at the CHCWC sometime after 1905.⁴⁰ Hibbert married the Reverend John M. Chattin in May 1906.⁴¹ In 1908 the *Chicago Tribune* noted Mrs. Chattin was living in London, and records show the Chattins raising a family in Pennsylvania in 1909.⁴² Annie Hibbert Chattin died in Chicago in 1948 and is buried in Oak Woods Cemetery.⁴³

The CHCWC’s operation grew in its first two decades and early on there arose a need for a larger facility. A 1905 Chicago charities directory noted that the Adams Street facility “care[d] for women and children dismissed from hospitals before they are able to work,” and accommodated for about 130 convalescents a year.⁴⁴ In December 1908 the *Chicago Tribune* noted that the CHCWC had in its six years of existence housed more than 2,000 women and children and that the organization, “the only home of its kind in Chicago,” was fundraising for a larger building.⁴⁵ Attempts were made to expand the operation, including discussions in 1910 of demolishing the 1516 W. Adams Street home for a new facility.⁴⁶ A 1917 insurance map of the site shows that a rear one-story dormitory had been constructed behind the CHCWC, possibly a children’s ward planned as early as 1912.⁴⁷

In February 1923, the *Chicago Tribune* announced that the CHCWC would relocate to a new home at 2678 W. Washington Boulevard, which the organization had purchased from Mrs. Mary Allen Morgan.⁴⁸ The CHCWC held a formal opening tea

³³ “New Home for Convalescent Women Dedicated,” *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), October 27, 1902.

³⁴ “Home for Poor Women.”

³⁵ “Home Soon to be Opened for Convalescent Women,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), November 16, 1902.

³⁶ “Two of a Kind,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), November 17, 1902.

“New Illinois Corporations,” *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), January 14, 1904.

³⁷ “Theater Benefit to Aid Convalescent Home,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), December 15, 1929.

³⁸ “Comfortable Home for Women Just Out of Hospitals is Opened in Permanent Quarters in West Adams Street.”

³⁹ “Only Place for Convalescents.”

⁴⁰ Ida Sonneborn, ed. *Chicago Charities Directory* (Chicago: Chicago Charities Directory Association, 1905), 83.

⁴¹ Cook County, Illinois, U.S., Marriages Index, 1871-1920.

⁴² “To Aid Women’s Hospital,” *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), December 13, 1908.

“John Morgridge Chattin, Jr. - April 14, 1909,” Pennsylvania, U.S., Birth Certificates, 1906-1914.

⁴³ “Anna Hibbert Chattin,” Find a Grave, accessed May 1, 2024, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/20484662/anna-chattin>.

⁴⁴ Ida Sonneborn, ed. *Chicago Charities Directory* (Chicago: Chicago Charities Directory Association, 1905), 83.

⁴⁵ “To Aid Women’s Hospital,” *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), December 13, 1908.

⁴⁶ “Edward Morris and Wife Present House to Charity.”

⁴⁷ *Insurance Maps of Chicago, Illinois – 1917*, Volume 7, Sheet 9.

“Home for Convalescents to Add Ward for Children,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), May 26, 1912.

⁴⁸ “Plan for Building for Home for Convalescent Women,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), February 11, 1923.

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at the new site in early May 1924.⁴⁹ The CHCWC quickly made the Main House their new headquarters and commissioned prominent Chicago architects Holabird & Roche to design a new “hospital” for the empty rear north lot. This new building, ultimately called the Dormitory, was constructed by contractors at the Thomas G. Gage Company and was completed in June 1924 at an estimated cost of \$30,000.⁵⁰ The Dormitory’s Italian Renaissance and French Eclectic style exterior architectural features – its one-story height, symmetrical massing and plan layout, stucco walls, arched quoin window and door surrounds, and steep hipped roofs – made Holabird & Roche’s new building stand out from its red brick Queen Anne Main House neighbor and was a distinctly institutional addition to this once-residential site. Inside, the Dormitory was connected via a new corridor to the rear of the Main House and reportedly housed a vestibule, playroom, caretakers’ and nurses’ rooms, a six-bed ward (presumably for women residents), and two separate children’s wards.⁵¹

The move to 2678 W. Washington Boulevard and the construction of the new Dormitory allowed the CHCWC expand their operations, eventually providing in its 29-room facility a library and coursework for resident children unable to attend school.⁵² By the early 1930s, the CHCWC’s Washington Boulevard location reportedly had 56 beds available to women and girls over the age of 3 who could shelter there indefinitely; by 1938, there were 66 beds.⁵³ Though some residents could recover rent-free, others with more resources were asked to pay \$3 per week. A staff of two graduate nurses and a superintendent, supplemented by a physician who called weekly or when needed, were tasked with treating a variety of medical issues among the residents, including post-surgical cases “with and without dressings,” ongoing cardiac and orthopedic needs, and even “preventive care.” To avoid overcrowding, “no mental, post contagious, asthmatic, dietetic, or chronic cases [were] admitted.”⁵⁴ A 1931 national directory of convalescent homes noted that the CHCWC accepted “whites only.”⁵⁵

The CHCWC was led by a board of mostly women of means and was supported primarily through private donations. CHCWC fundraising campaigns and events appeared regularly in Chicago newspapers alongside notices of other local philanthropic activities from 1900s through the mid-1940s. In its first decade, the CHCWC was the only such establishment for the poor within the city of Chicago and in the following decades remained one of only a few free and low-cost convalescent homes in the city (Grove House in Evanston, founded in 1902, was the only other low income convalescent home in the Chicago area).⁵⁶ In 1912, the Sarah Greenebaum Lodge No. 16 of the United Order of True Sisters, a Jewish women’s group, opened a 21-bed convalescent home for Jewish women and girls at 3360 S. Park Avenue, calling it Resthaven (also called Rest Haven).⁵⁷ In 1915 the Baron Hirsch Woman’s Club established a 24-bed convalescent facility for men and boys at 3127 S. Calumet Avenue.⁵⁸ Larger free and low-cost hospitals began incorporating convalescent care

⁴⁹ “Civic Theater Plans to be Started When 20,000 Members Sign,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), May 6, 1924.

⁵⁰ Building Permit No. 84304 – Chi. Home for Conv. Women & Children, 2678 W. Washington Blvd., October 29, 1923.

⁵¹ Robert Bruegmann, *Holabird & Roche – Holabird & Root: An Illustrated Catalog of Works, Volume II, 1911-1927* (New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1991), 261.

⁵² Vivian E. Rankin, *The Development of the Home and Hospital Program of the Chicago Public Schools: 1899-1988* (Dissertation for Loyola University Chicago), 1993, 64, 65.

“Home Sheltering Convalescents Is to Have Tea Event,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), April 30, 1939.

“Director to Fete Retiring Leader of Convalescent Home,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), April 21, 1940.

“Children abed get degrees,” *Daily Times* (Chicago, IL), June 26, 1941.

“Education for the Ailing,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), January 27, 1943.

⁵³ Alice E. Paulsen and Grace M. Clarke, *Directory of Convalescent Homes in the United States* (White Plains, NY: Sturgis Research Fund of the Burke Foundation, 1931), 10.

“Convalescent Home to Raise Funds at Dance,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), September 25, 1938.

⁵⁴ Paulsen and Clarke, 10.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

⁵⁶ “Two of a Kind,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), November 17, 1902.

⁵⁷ Valeria D. McDermott and Annie Elizabeth Trotter, *Chicago Social Service Directory* (Chicago, IL: City of Chicago Department of Public Welfare, 1918), 161

A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce, 1920), 38.

“Break Ground On Rest Haven Wing in April,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), January 28, 1960.

“Throwback Thursday – Rest Haven Rehabilitation Hospital,” Epstein Global, accessed May 3, 2024, <https://www.epsteinglobal.com/news/throwback-thursday-rest-haven-rehabilitation-hospital>.

⁵⁸ *Chicago Social Service Directory*, 161.

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into their services but through the 1930s and 1940s, the West Side CHCWC and South Side Resthaven remained the only standalone post-hospital recovery facilities open to Chicago's poor.⁵⁹

While the organization flourished in the 1920s and 1930s, the CHCWC faltered in the early 1940s as did many of Chicago's nonprofit medical organizations in the wake of World War II. While some of the city's nonprofit health care organizations suffering from Great Depression and wartime hardships were absorbed by larger hospitals and universities, others, including the CHCWC, chose instead to fold.⁶⁰ Reportedly understaffed due to shortages of available nurses and trained medical staff, the CHCWC closed its doors at 2678 W. Washington Boulevard on March 21, 1946. Called by the *Chicago Tribune* at its closing "a landmark among the city's charitable institutions," the CHCWC had sheltered and treated more than 15,000 women and children over its 45-year run.⁶¹ The defunct organization distributed its remaining \$250,000 in assets, including its East Garfield Park complex, to the Chicago Community Trust for distribution to other local charities.⁶²

Florence Crittenton Anchorage (1949-1973)

The vacant CHCWC property soon caught the attention of members of the Florence Crittenton Anchorage (or the Anchorage), the resurrection of a previous benevolent organization of the same name which had operated on Chicago's Near South Side from 1886 to 1943 as a shelter for unmarried expectant mothers and their newborn babies. The Anchorage operated out of 2678 W. Washington Boulevard as a maternity home for unwed mothers for nearly twenty-five years, from 1949 to 1973.

The Florence Crittenton Anchorage was founded in 1886 in reaction to what was then considered a "blight" on the nation's women and families – unwed motherhood. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, mainstream American moral leaders called those who became pregnant outside of marriage, in the words of historian Joel Plattner, "'fallen' women, problem girls, delinquents, ... feeble-minded" and, worst of all, "enemies of the stable family."⁶³ As large cities like Chicago became home to more independent single working women, the issues of pregnancy out of wedlock and unwanted children increased and were widely perceived – as was poverty in this period – as moral afflictions not just of the women involved but of the city as a whole, failings rooted in the very nature of urban life. Men's roles in the plights of these women were often overlooked. While mainstream morality demanded that these "fallen women" be cast out and shunned, some turn-of-the-century reformers, most inspired by evangelical Christianity and the activism of the early Progressive Movement, instead believed these women worthy of pity and care and saw their periods of confinement, birth, and recovery as opportunities for moral redemption and, for poor women, practical education in professional and homemaking skills. Early pioneers of urban social work, most women themselves, created "maternity homes," or "refuge homes," where young and poor unwed expectant mothers could retreat into closed domestic settings, live (often anonymously) alongside other "unfortunate girls," be cared for by an all-female staff and visiting doctors and deliver in safety, then leave the homes with the skills and ambition to live upstanding lives. Well into the 20th century, unmarried women and girls sought out these maternity homes, either willingly or under duress, to hide their pregnancies from stigma and to avoid the professional and social ruin that exposure could bring.⁶⁴

⁵⁹ Paulsen and Clarke, 10, 11.

American & Canadian Hospitals (Chicago, IL: Physicians' Record Company, 1937), 121.

Hospitals: The Journal of the American Hospital Association, June 1950 (Part II), 97.

A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, 1930), 34-51.

A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, 1934), 32-46.

A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, 1941), 80-94.

A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, 1942), 81-94.

A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, 1943), 79-93.

A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, 1947), 86-101.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ "Noted Chicago Convalescent Home to Close," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), March 21, 1946.

⁶² Ibid.

⁶³ Joel Plattner, "Florence Crittenton and the Option of Motherhood," *Recounting the Past: A Student Journal of Historical Studies at Illinois State University* (Spring 2005), 4.

⁶⁴ Plattner, 1, 2, 4, 11.

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Many maternity homes like the Florence Crittenton Anchorage in Chicago were low-cost or free to those who were accepted based on their need and circumstances. The children born in these benevolent facilities sometimes went home with their mothers but were more often put up for adoption or placed in new homes through other arrangements. While most pre-World War II maternity homes for the urban poor were opened for the benefit of White women and girls only and rarely opened their doors to those of other races, the Florence Crittenton Anchorage was a notable exception to this norm and opened its doors to women and girls of all races.⁶⁵

Chicago's best-known and best-organized rescue accommodations for poor unwed mothers were a succession of South and West Side maternity homes operated by the Florence Crittenton Anchorage which merged the efforts of two separate maternity home organizations: the National Florence Crittenton Mission originally based in Atlanta, Georgia, and later headquartered in Chicago; and the Anchorage, based in Chicago. The National Florence Crittenton Mission was a nationwide system of charitable maternity homes founded in 1883 through the partnership of social reformer Dr. Katherine ("Kate") Waller Barnett (1857-1925), who initially led the organization, and New York philanthropist Charles N. Crittenton (1833-1909) who was inspired by the memory of his daughter Florence who died shortly after birth. The first Florence Crittenton Home opened in 1883 in New York City's Lower East Side and offered shelter and education to women and girls escaping unsafe living and working conditions, abusive relationships, sexual exploitation, and homelessness. National activists and politicians took notice of the Mission's maternity home efforts and in 1898 the U.S. Congress passed and President William McKinley signed a special act chartering the National Florence Crittenton Mission, spurring the creation of new Crittenton shelters across the United States.⁶⁶ By the 1940s, two national systems of maternity homes led the way in providing care for unwed mothers — the National Florence Crittenton Mission, to which Chicago's Florence Crittenton Anchorage belonged, and the Salvation Army.⁶⁷

In 1893, Barnett's and Crittenton's National Florence Crittenton Mission joined forces with the Anchorage, a Chicago women's shelter and service organization founded by Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) national president Frances Willard (1839-1898), activist and Willard's successor as WCTU president Matilda B. Carse (1835-1917), and Dr. Katharine ("Kate") C. Bushnell (1855-1946), creating Chicago's Florence Crittenton Anchorage dedicated to providing shelter and health care for the city's poor and "unfortunate" women. Like the CHCWC, its predecessor on Washington Boulevard, the Florence Crittenton Anchorage was supported mostly by donations from private individuals and overseen by a board made up mostly of men and women from Chicago's economic and social elite. Fundraising campaigns and events for the Anchorage appeared regularly in Chicago newspapers alongside notices of other local philanthropic activities from the late 19th century through the early 1970s.⁶⁸

For decades, Chicago's Anchorage had made do in an "antiquated" and "unsafe" 2-story home at 2615 S. Indiana Avenue but ultimately closed their Near South Side facility during World War II due to worsening accommodations.⁶⁹ After briefly and unsuccessfully planning a new facility in a former mansion in the Kenwood neighborhood, in 1948 the Anchorage was reestablished on Chicago's West Side when the organization took control of the former CHCWC site at 2678 W. Washington Boulevard, agreeing on a small regular rental payment to the site owner, the Chicago Community Trust.⁷⁰ Before opening, the Anchorage commissioned Holabird & Roche's successor firm Holabird, Root & Burgee and contractor Albert Bros. to complete remodeling work on the 1924 Dormitory at a cost of \$29,000. Onsite work began in the fall of 1948 and was

⁶⁵ Regina G. Kunzel, *Fallen Women, Problem Girls: Unmarried Mothers and the Professionalization of Social Work, 1890-1945* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1993), 10-16.

⁶⁶ "Reopen Haven for Unmarried Mothers Here," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), March 20, 1949. Kunzel, 9, 10-16.

⁶⁷ Kunzel, *Fallen Women, Problem Girls: Unmarried Mothers and the Professionalization of Social Work, 1890-1945* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1993), 10, 15-16.

⁶⁸ "Reopen Haven for Unmarried Mothers Here."

"Florence Crittenton Homes: A History," VCU Libraries Social Welfare History Project, accessed May 1, 2024, <https://socialwelfare.library.vcu.edu/programs/child-welfare/child-labor/florence-crittenton-homes-history/>.

⁶⁹ "Home for Crittenton Anchorage Will Be Ready in February," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), February 2, 1949.

⁷⁰ "Cradle Has Found Homes for 6,000 Babies in 25 Years," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), July 30, 1948.

Florence Crittenton Anchorage fundraising materials, c.1945, Florence Crittenton Anchorage records 1885-1974, Box 1, Folder 3, University of Illinois-Chicago Special Collections.

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completed at the close of February 1949.⁷¹ Also by the end of February 1949, the Main House had undergone a major refresh of “painting, modeling, and redecorating,” and sewing of draperies and linens, most work apparently undertaken by women volunteers.⁷²

One of a reported 52 Florence Crittenton maternity homes nationwide in the 1940s and 1950s, Chicago’s Florence Crittenton Anchorage offered room, board, and health care for mothers of limited means and their newborns.⁷³ When it reopened its doors as the renewed Anchorage in March 1949, the Washington Boulevard site closely aligned with direction offered nearly fifty years before by National Florence Crittenton Mission founder Dr. Kate Waller Barnett in her 1903 guide *Some Practical Suggestions on the Conduct of a Rescue Home*. “I would prefer,” Barnett wrote, “a big, old-fashioned, roomy house in a quiet part of the city; a house that could be remodelled [*sic*] to give the necessary apartments and conveniences, and yet one which breathes ‘Home’ from every angle.”⁷⁴ The former Washington Boulevard mansion’s large rooms fit Barnett’s prescriptions for sunny and bright sitting and work rooms which could be used for reading, writing, sewing, classes, and prayers (the National Florence Crittenton Mission and Chicago’s Florence Crittenton Anchorage were both overtly Christian organizations), plus rooms for the onsite matron who would report to the organization board, oversee the daily activities of residents, staff, and volunteers, and, when necessary, enforce discipline. To encourage a familial spirit and to better train them for life after their time at maternity home, Barnett encouraged her homes’ “inmates” to assist in food preparation in the kitchen and onsite workers to share meals with them in the dining room. Residents were also expected to complete laundry work for themselves and their babies. Barnett found that large old houses offered ample bedroom spaces with easily maintained metal bedframes for expectant and recovering mothers and for communal nurseries for newborns; the former CHCWC site supplied sleeping and nursery spaces in abundance in both the Main House and Holabird & Roche-designed Dormitory. And though men were often involved with these organizations as donors, board members, or doctors, Barnett recommended that rescue homes like the Anchorage exclude adult men from their premises.⁷⁵

Initially, Chicago’s Anchorage in East Garfield Park provided temporary housing not just for unmarried pregnant women and girls but also for expectant women struggling with a variety of challenges, including married women pregnant by men who were not their husbands. Throughout its history, Chicago’s Anchorage remained open to housing women of all ethnicities, religions, and racial groups, an especially progressive stance in early- and mid-20th century Chicago.⁷⁶

The Chicago Anchorage’s unwed and pregnant residents usually arrived at the East Garfield Park site after referral from hospitals, public welfare agencies, or religious organizations. Residents took up residence at the home about three months before giving birth, with delivery in hospitals planned by the referral agencies. Chicago’s Anchorage was not equipped to handle births onsite, though residents were regularly visited by hospital interns and were overseen by a medical advisory board made up of qualified doctors.⁷⁷ Residents then remained in the facility for about three weeks after delivery before departing. All medical care for residents and arrangements for their newborns were handled by outside case workers at area hospitals. The organization’s 1963 annual report noted that the Anchorage staff allowed residents to make their own decisions when it came to the future of their newborns but recounted that only a very small number – about 5% -- chose to keep their new babies as they left the home to resume their lives outside.⁷⁸

The Anchorage appears to have used the Main House primarily for daytime and staff facilities, with 1st floor group living and dining rooms, office, kitchen, and pantries, and upper floor recreation and craft rooms and staff quarters.⁷⁹ Connected via a passage off the rear of the Main House rear, the adjacent Dormitory was remodeled by architects Holabird, Root & Burgee for the Anchorage’s 1949 opening, providing sleeping quarters for 30 women with each room housing two or three

⁷¹ Building Permit No. 18257 – Florence Crittenton Anchorage, 2678 W. Washington Blvd., September 16, 1948.

⁷² “Home for Crittenton Anchorage Will Be Ready in February.”

⁷³ *Ibid.*

⁷⁴ Kate Waller Barrett, “Some Practical Suggestions on the Conduct of a Rescue Home,” *Women in America: From Colonial Times to the 20th Century* (New York, NY: Arno Press, 1974), 7.

⁷⁵ Barrett, 9-16, 24-26, 74-80.

⁷⁶ “Florence Crittenton Home For Unwed Mothers Lends Human Touch,” *Chicago Defender* (Chicago, IL), December 15, 1962.

⁷⁷ “Reopen Haven for Unmarried Mothers Here.”

⁷⁸ *Annual Report 1963: The Florence Crittenton Anchorage*, Florence Crittenton Anchorage records 1885-1974, Box 1, Folder 3, University of Illinois-Chicago Special Collections.

⁷⁹ “Neighborhood Women Aid in Preparing Anchorage for Reopening on West Side.”

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single beds, dressers, tables, wardrobe cabinets, and chairs. Holabird, Root & Burgee also created two new nurseries inside the existing Dormitory, one nursery for newborns under four weeks old and the other for older infants. The Anchorage's operations were orchestrated by a director, housekeeper, and housekeeper's assistant, a "house man," a cook, and maids. The two nurseries were manned by four nurses on regular eight-hour rotations.⁸⁰

Following the Florence Crittenton Mission's founder Dr. Kate Waller Barnett's vision for the organization, women were accepted based on their need and during their time there could consider the Anchorage simply as a home, with staff respecting their dignity and confidentiality with an eye toward their future. Residents in the Anchorage's early years at Washington Boulevard reportedly included women of all ages and backgrounds, among them teachers, airline stewardesses, registered nurses, high school administrators, and executive secretaries; in later years the Anchorage exclusively cared for young girls below the age of 18. Barnett's all-important "matron," by the 1940s renamed the home's "director," assigned residents household tasks, organized lessons in sewing, knitting, and ceramics, and even operated a beauty salon for residents on the premises. The Anchorage director alone had full information on each resident; fellow residents all called each other by a first name and initial. Extra precautions were taken with outgoing mail which was shipped to other states for mailing.⁸¹ As Anchorage director Maryon A. Leary told the *Chicago Defender* newspaper in 1963, "[w]e hope the girls will learn for themselves, the world is still their oyster. No one will ever know they've been here. If we can convince them of this, then, they'll be all right."⁸²

During the Anchorage's early years at their Washington Boulevard facility, other maternity home options for Chicago's poor and unmarried expectant mothers included the privately operated Chicago Foundlings' Home at 15 S. Wood Street and later 1720 W. Polk Street (founded 1871, organization closed in 1971);⁸³ the Catholic-operated St. Vincent's Orphanage at 721 N. LaSalle Street (founded 1883, organization closed in 1972);⁸⁴ the Catholic-operated Misericordia Hospital and Home for Infants at 2916 W. 47th Street (founded in 1921, but by 1954 the organization switched its focus to housing physically and mentally disabled children);⁸⁵ and the Salvation Army's Booth Memorial Hospital at 5040 N. Pulaski Road (founded 1926, extant but maternity home closed).⁸⁶ The Florence Crittenton Anchorage and the Salvation Army were the city's two best known charitable refuges for unmarried pregnant women and girls and in 1975 were named in the *Chicago Tribune* as the last of their kind in the city (the Anchorage had in fact dissolved the year before).⁸⁷

Anchorage resident numbers declined starting in the 1960s not for lack of women in need but due instead to fundraising challenges and new admission policies excluding residents below 18 years old (this age restriction was reversed later in the decade and the Anchorage soon only catered to teenage mothers). Broader societal shifts including changing attitudes to pregnancy out of wedlock and increased public access to and acceptance of contraception and abortion also raised questions about the need for organizations like the Anchorage.⁸⁸ A 1972 profile of the organization in the *Chicago Defender* showed changes in the organization, its clientele, and in the broader maternity home field. By that time, the Anchorage was one of only two state-licensed maternity homes for unwed mothers in the city (the Salvation Army's Booth Memorial Hospital at 5040 N. Pulaski Road was the other) and the only Chicago facility serving underage girls.⁸⁹ While a decade before the vast

⁸⁰ "Reopen Haven for Unmarried Mothers Here."

⁸¹ Ernestine Cofield, "Unwed Mothers Hide Babies in Home Here," *Chicago Defender* (Chicago, IL), March 16, 1963.

⁸² Ibid.

⁸³ Norma Lee Browning, "Problem of the Unwed Mother," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), November 1, 1959.

"Single Mothers, Babies Receive Second Chance," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), June 12, 1966.

"History of CFH," Chicago Foundlings Home, accessed May 19, 2024, <https://www.chicagofoundlingshome.org/history>.

⁸⁴ "Problem of the Unwed Mother."

Dennis Byrne, "St. Vincent's Orphanage and other good deeds," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), May 20, 2002.

⁸⁵ "Infant Smiles Light Haven of 9,000 Mothers," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), October 24, 1943.

A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, 1947), 96.

"Misericordia Group Will Hold Cocktail Dance as a Benefit," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), June 19, 1954.

"Problem of the Unwed Mother."

⁸⁶ "Unwed Mother Finds Friend in Salvation Army," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), December 9, 1938.

⁸⁷ "Many groups offer advice on nutrition," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), August 14, 1975.

"Last 2 homes for unwed mothers closing," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), May 24, 1982.

⁸⁸ Luci Horton, "Crittenton Anchorage Faces Financial Ills," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), August 17, 1972.

Sandra Pesmen, "Home for girls at end of line?" *Chicago Daily News* (Chicago, IL), July 27, 1972.

⁸⁹ Patricia Anstett, "Watching rebirth of a maternity home," *Chicago Sun-Times* (Chicago, IL), November 21, 1972.

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majority of Anchorage residents were White, early 1970s residents were mostly Black. The Anchorage had changed its focus from assisting adult women from ages 18 to 39 to exclusively housing pregnant teenagers from ages 12 to 18. In 1963 the Anchorage typically housed 38 women at a time in a facility designed to accommodate only 32; by 1972, the typical resident number was closer to 18 and less than 100 residents passed through its doors that year. Teenage residents were encouraged to leave the Anchorage daily for school and could return to 2678 W. Washington Boulevard where they were supported by an on-staff social worker and a psychiatric consultant specializing in childcare and psychoanalysis.⁹⁰

The Anchorage faced crisis in 1972 as operating funds dwindled and disagreements on the organization's board came to a head. While some board members sought to close the Anchorage permanently, other members led by Black community leader Irene King resisted closure and attempted to keep the Anchorage open as a refuge for Chicago women and girls in need.⁹¹ Multiple newspapers profiled the Anchorage and its executive director Sally McMahon in 1972, outlining the organization's challenges but touting hopes for its survival. Ultimately, however, the Anchorage's financial challenges proved fatal and in July 1973 Chicago's Florence Crittenton Anchorage closed its doors.⁹² The organization dissolved in 1974 after resolving its outstanding debts.⁹³

The larger Florence Crittenton Association of America (formerly the National Florence Crittenton Mission) joined the Child Welfare League of America in 1976, creating a Florence Crittenton Division within the larger organization. At the time of this merger, the national Crittenton organization was estimated to have housed and supported over 700,000 mothers and children.⁹⁴ In 2006, the National Florence Crittenton Mission separated from the Child Welfare League of America and once more functioned as a separate nonprofit service organization, renamed The National Crittenton Foundation (TNCF), with its headquarters in Portland, Oregon. In recent years, the TNCF has been renamed the Justice + Joy National Collaborative and operates with a "sharpened focus on elevating the needs and potential of girls, young women, and their families whose lives are impacted by violence and childhood adversity."⁹⁵

Later Site History (1973-2024)

After the Anchorage's closure, 2678 W. Washington Boulevard continued to house service institutions that served East Garfield Park. From c. 1977 to 1998, the property housed the Chicago chapter offices of the Volunteers of America (VOA), a national nonprofit provider of social services, and the VOA's Living Center for Girls, which housed abused and neglected teenage girls.⁹⁶

From c. 1998 to 2015, the property housed a family shelter for homeless individuals operated by Inner Voice, Inc. In 2011, Inner Voice installed "Passage," a 4-foot by 8-foot bronze sculpture designed and cast by students of the San Francisco Academy of Art, in the property's southeast front yard. The site has been vacant since Inner Voice's departure in 2015.⁹⁷

Following concerns that the site may be threatened with demolition, 2678 W. Washington Boulevard was designated a Chicago local landmark in December 2023 in recognition of the site's long history as a home of local service institutions, the Main House's Queen Anne style architecture, the Dormitory's Italian Renaissance and French Eclectic style architecture, and the Dormitory's important architects Holabird & Roche.⁹⁸

Melda Lynne, "Unwed Teen Mothers Find Help, Hope," *The Daily Herald* (Chicago, IL), August 24, 1961.

⁹⁰ Toni Anthony, "Florence Crittenton home sets new trend in social care," *Chicago Defender* (Chicago, IL), April 15, 1972.

"Crittenton Anchorage Faces Financial Ills."

"Maternity home here for unwed to close," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), July 16, 1973.

⁹¹ "Anchorage in drive to keep unwed haven door wide open," *Chicago Defender* (Chicago, IL), November 11, 1972.

⁹² "Home for youth to close," *Chicago Defender* (Chicago, IL), July 17, 1973.

"Maternity home here for unwed to close."

⁹³ Commission on Chicago Landmarks, *Preliminary Summary of Information – 2678 West Washington Boulevard* (Chicago: City of Chicago, 2023), 20.

⁹⁴ "Social agencies merge," *Chicago Defender* (Chicago, IL), March 27, 1976.

⁹⁵ "History," Justice + Joy National Collaborative, accessed April 30, 2024, <https://justiceandjoynatl.org/about/our-history/>.

⁹⁶ *Preliminary Summary of Information – 2678 West Washington Boulevard*, 20.

⁹⁷ *Ibid.*, 8, 20.

⁹⁸ Trey Arline, "West Side Women's Shelter Building Named A Chicago Landmark, Saving It From Wrecking Ball," accessed May 20, 2024, <https://blockclubchicago.org/2023/12/13/west-side-womens-shelter-building-named-a-chicago-landmark-saving-it-from-wrecking-ball/>.

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Related and Comparable Sites – Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children and Early 20th Century Convalescent Homes in Chicago

The Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children was housed in two successive locations:

- A 3-story former private home at **1516 W. Adams Street** (1902-1923). This building has been demolished.
- A 3-story former private home and purpose-built rear dormitory at **2678 W. Washington Boulevard** (1923-1946). This site remains extant.

The Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children was considered the first convalescent home establishment of its kind in the city to survive its early years and become a respected philanthropic institution. The only other two free and low-cost convalescent homes for Chicago's poor that remained open for more than a few years were:

- **Resthaven (also called Rest Haven)**, founded in 1912 by the Sarah Greenebaum Lodge No. 16 of the United Order of True Sisters, a Jewish women's group, as a convalescent home for Jewish women and children. The organization operated successively at 3360 South Park Avenue / Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive (demolished); 4401 Grand Boulevard / S. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive (demolished); and 1919 S. Prairie Avenue (the former Marshall Field, Jr. House, extant).⁹⁹ The Sarah Greenebaum Lodge group divested of the organization in 1937 but the convalescent home remained open under different control.¹⁰⁰ In the late 1940s, a purpose-built facility for Rest Haven was constructed at 1401-1417 S. California (extant).¹⁰¹ The Rest Haven convalescent home was renamed the Rest Haven Rehabilitation Hospital in 1957 and is now associated with Mt. Sinai Hospital.¹⁰²
- The **Baron Hirsch Woman's Club's Convalescent Care for Men and Boys (also called Rest Cottage)** was founded in 1915 and successively operated homes at 3127 S. Calumet Avenue (extant) and 2637 S. Prairie Avenue (demolished). By 1934, the organization was renamed the Chicago Philanthropic Club and had merged with the University of Chicago.¹⁰³

2678 W. Washington Boulevard remains the only extant site associated with the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children and is a rare surviving example of an early 20th century convalescent home for Chicago's needy.

⁹⁹ *A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations* (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce, 1920), 38.
A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce, 1921), 38.
A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce, 1924), 39.
A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce, 1930), 47.
A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce, 1934), 43.
A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce, 1947), 98.

¹⁰⁰ "Clubs to Hold Peace Meeting on Thursday," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), December 19, 1937.

¹⁰¹ "Work Started Upon Home for Convalescents," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), May 8, 1949.

"Break Ground On Rest Haven Wing in April," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), January 28, 1960.

"Throwback Thursday – Rest Haven Rehabilitation Hospital," Epstein Global, access May 3, 2024, <https://www.epsteinglobal.com/news/throwback-thursday-rest-haven-rehabilitation-hospital>.

Valeria D. McDermott and Annie Elizabeth Trotter, *Chicago Social Service Directory* (Chicago, IL: City of Chicago Department of Public Welfare, 1918), 161.

¹⁰² "Break Ground on Rest Haven Wing in April," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), January 28, 1960.

¹⁰³ *A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations* (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce, 1920), 38.

A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce, 1921), 38.

A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce, 1924), 39.

A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce, 1930), 34.

A Classified List of Local Philanthropic and Charitable Organizations (Chicago, IL: Chicago Association of Commerce, 1934), 36.

Chicago Social Service Directory, 161.

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Related and Comparable Sites – Florence Crittenton Anchorage and Early 20th Century Maternity Homes

The Florence Crittenton Anchorage operated several successive facilities in Chicago:

- The Anchorage began operations in 1886 at a location on “**Fourth Avenue,**” a downtown north-south running street between Dearborn and Clark Streets that is no longer extant. The exact location of the original Anchorage facility is unknown and is likely demolished;¹⁰⁴
- A 3-story private home at **125 Plymouth Place** (today 641 S. Plymouth Court) (c.1893). This building has been demolished;¹⁰⁵
- A 3-story former private home at **1349 S. Wabash Avenue** (c. 1898). This building has been demolished;¹⁰⁶
- A 2-story former private home at **2615 S. Indiana Avenue** (c.1910-1943). This building has been demolished;¹⁰⁷
- Though the Anchorage reported no operations between 1943 and 1949, in this interim the organization gained control of and planned (unsuccessfully) a new facility in a 3-story former private home at **4548 S. Drexel Boulevard**. This building has been demolished;¹⁰⁸ and
- A former 3-story home and purpose-built rear dormitory at **2678 W. Washington Boulevard** (1949-1973). This site remains extant.

Of Chicago’s mid-20th century charitable maternity homes, surviving facilities include the former **St. Vincent’s Orphanage** at 721 N. LaSalle Street on Chicago’s Near North Side, today offices for Catholic Charities for the Archdiocese of Chicago; and the **Misericordia Hospital and Home for Infants** at 2916 W. 47th Street.

Along with the Anchorage, Chicago’s best-known rescue home for poor unwed mothers through most of the 20th century was the **Salvation Army Rescue and Maternity Hospital** founded in 1895.¹⁰⁹ Operating in the early 20th century in a facility at 1332 N. LaSalle Street (demolished) in Chicago’s Near North Side neighborhood, in 1926 the Salvation Army moved their maternity home to a purpose-built facility, later called **Booth Memorial Hospital**, at 5040 N. Pulaski Road (extant) in the Northwest Side North Park neighborhood.¹¹⁰ After the Anchorage’s closure in 1973, Booth Memorial Hospital was noted as the city’s only remaining benevolent home for unwed mothers.¹¹¹ Booth Memorial Hospital closed in 1984 but the building remains extant.¹¹²

¹⁰⁴ “In Plymouth Place,” *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), December 24, 1893.

Greeley-Carlson Company, *Second Atlas of the City of Chicago – 1891*, Volume 1, Sheet 26.

¹⁰⁵ “In Plymouth Place.”

Greeley-Carlson Company, *Second Atlas of the City of Chicago – 1891*, Volume 1, Sheet 26.

Charlton Edholm, *Traffic in Girls and Florence Crittenton Missions* (Chicago: The Women’s Temperance Publishing Association, 1893), photo following pg. 280.

¹⁰⁶ “Benefit for Crittenton Mission,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), March 2, 1898.

Greeley-Carlson Company, *Second Atlas of the City of Chicago – 1891*, Volume 1, Sheet 13.

¹⁰⁷ “\$110,000 Loan is Secured,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), December 29, 1910.

“Reopen Haven for Unmarried Mothers Here.”

Greeley-Carlson Company, *Second Atlas of the City of Chicago – 1891*, Volume 1, Sheet 13.

¹⁰⁸ “Reopen Haven for Unmarried Mothers Here.”

“Cradle has Found Homes for 6,000 Babies in 25 Years.”

Florence Crittenton Anchorage fundraising materials, c.1945.

Insurance Maps of Chicago, Illinois – 1950, Volume 14, Sheet 44.

¹⁰⁹ “Unwed Mother Finds Friend in Salvation Army.”

¹¹⁰ “City Filled with Houses of Mercy,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), December 15, 1912.

“Unwed Mother Finds Friend in Salvation Army.”

¹¹¹ “Only one haven left for unwed mothers,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), July 22, 1973.

¹¹² “Help for the pregnant preteen,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), July 8, 1975.

“Last 2 homes for unwed mothers closing.”

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2678 W. Washington Boulevard remains the only extant site associated with the Florence Crittenton Anchorage and is a rare surviving local example of a charitable maternity home for unmarried expectant mothers.

William Longhurst, Architect of the 1888 Main House Remodeling

The earliest known architect associated with 2678 W. Washington Boulevard is the English-born William Longhurst (1822-1905) who remodeled the original c. 1880 Main House, expanding the home to its current size.

William Longhurst was born in 1822 in Warehorne, a village in the county of Kent, England. The Longhurst family immigrated to the United States in 1828, settling in Lyons, New York, and later Geneva, New York. After secondary school, young Longhurst worked for a New York timber company and then apprenticed in carpentry and architecture in the office of Geneva architect Calvin N. Otis (1814-1883), later known for his architectural work in Buffalo, New York. After his apprenticeship, Longhurst worked opened his own architectural office in Buffalo, New York, where he “[put] up numerous fine residences [and] two bank buildings,” and then in 1856 relocated to Dubuque, Iowa, where was designed “two public school-houses, a large hotel, and several blocks of mercantile houses.”¹¹³

In 1865, Longhurst relocated permanently to Chicago where he established a downtown office and became a respected architect of “a large number of costly dwelling houses, stately brick and marble blocks, etc.”¹¹⁴ Longhurst partnered in 1871 with Thomas Tilley (1834-1908) and Fritz Foltz (1843-1916) and after losing their office in the Great Chicago Fire that year reestablished their firm in the Nixon Block, one of the only downtown commercial buildings that survived the fire.¹¹⁵ In the wake of the city’s near destruction, Tilley, Longhurst & Foltz helped rebuild downtown Chicago with their designs for the Myers Opera House (1872, demolished), the Chicago Museum (1874, demolished), the Cook County Courthouse and Chicago City Hall (completed 1885, demolished), and other commercial and residential blocks.¹¹⁶

Longhurst appeared to be working on his own by the late 1870s and for the next two decades was mostly connected with large single- and multi-family residential commissions, including the renovation of the Howard family home at 1093 Washington Boulevard (today 2678 W. Washington Boulevard).¹¹⁷

¹¹³ *The United States Biographical Dictionary and Portrait Gallery of Eminent and Self-Made Men – Illinois Volume* (Chicago: American Biographical Publishing Company, 1883),197.

“Official Death Record,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), September 19, 1905.

“Neighborhood,” *Buffalo Weekly Express* (Buffalo, NY), January 25, 1883.

“Otis, Calvin Nicholas,” *Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Canada*, accessed April 27, 2024, <http://dictionaryofarchitectsincanada.org/node/129>.

¹¹⁴ *The United States Biographical Dictionary and Portrait Gallery of Eminent and Self-Made Men – Illinois Volume*, 197.

Advertisement for Wm. Longhurst, Architect, *Western Railroad Gazette* (Chicago, IL), April 17, 1869.

¹¹⁵ “Directory Column,” *Chicago Evening Post* (Chicago, IL), February 5, 1872.

“Death’s Harvest,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), June 1, 1909.

“The Courts,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), September 21, 1875.

“Obituary,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), February 3, 1916.

“Only Building Saved,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), June 4, 1893.

¹¹⁶ “Myers’s Opera House,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), September 18, 1872.

“The New Jail,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), April 28, 1872.

“The Chicago Museum, Part II,” *The Story of a House: Official Blog of Glessner House*, accessed April 26, 2024, <https://glessnerhouse.blogspot.com/2014/07/the-chicago-museum-part-ii.html>.

“The ‘Times’ and the Plans,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), May 2, 1873.

“New Chicago,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), May 17, 1872.

¹¹⁷ “Summary of the Week,” *The American Architect and Building News* (Volume 2, Issue 105), December 29, 1877, 240.

“Among the Architects,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), June 24, 1883.

“Among the Architects,” *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), October 20, 1883.

“Real Estate,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), June 29, 1884.

“Real Estate,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), October 18, 1885.

“Architects and Builders,” *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), November 7, 1885.

“Among Architects and Builders,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), August 22, 1886.

“Busy Builders.”

“Among Architects and Builders,” *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), September 22, 1889.

“For Higher Architecture,” *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), August 9, 1894.

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William Longhurst married twice, had four children, and lived in Chicago until his death in 1905 at the age of 83.¹¹⁸ Longhurst is buried in Chicago's Rosehill Cemetery.¹¹⁹

David Robertson, Architect of the 1910 Main House Remodeling

In 1910, the John T. Morgan family commissioned Chicago architect David Robertson to remodel their home, though the nature of the work remains unclear.¹²⁰ Robertson was born in London on February 18, 1873, and immigrated to Chicago in 1886. Robertson was reportedly college educated and beginning in 1892 worked in the offices of several local architects including Frost & Granger, Handy & Cady, Pond & Pond, and Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge.¹²¹ In 1904, Robertson was appointed the City of Chicago's deputy building commissioner and appeared to be working as an independent architect.¹²²

David Robertson was a designer of buildings of all sizes and types in Chicago of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, though none of his larger recorded projects appear completed or extant: a 4-story Woodlawn Masonic Temple near the corner of 63rd Street and Lexington (now University) Avenue (1905, demolished or unbuilt), a 1400-seat theater for the Englewood Theater company on Halsted Street at 63rd Street (1906, demolished), a 54-unit courtyard apartment complex at 3835-3845 S. Lake Park Avenue (1914, demolished), and a 10-story apartment building at 250 E. Chestnut Street (1917, demolished).¹²³

The Chicago Historic Resources Survey also notes Robertson's designs of several extant single- and multi-family residential buildings in Chicago's Hyde Park, South Shore, and Logan Square neighborhoods and four adjacent single-family bungalows in the National Register-listed Villa Historic District, all dating to the 1900s and 1910s.¹²⁴ Robertson's three-story commercial storefront building at 2337 S. Michigan Avenue (completed 1910) also remains extant and is located in the National Register-listed Motor Row Historic District.¹²⁵

Holabird & Roche, 1924 Dormitory Architect / Holabird, Root & Burgee, 1949 Dormitory Remodeling Architect

The architects with the closest and longest association with 2678 W. Washington Boulevard and its uses as a women's and children's hospital and shelter was the prominent Chicago firm Holabird & Roche, designer of the 1924 Dormitory for the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children, and its successor firms Holabird & Root (1928-1948) and Holabird, Root & Burgee (1948-1959) who returned to the site for a 1948-1949 renovation of the Dormitory for reuse by the Florence Crittenton Anchorage.

The firm was founded in 1881 by the New York-born William Holabird (1854-1923) and Ohio-born Martin Roche (1855-1927) who during their over 40-year collaboration made their name as pioneers of Chicago Style steel frame skyscraper design with well-known commissions including the Tacoma Building (completed 1889, demolished), the south block of the

¹¹⁸ *The United States Biographical Dictionary and Portrait Gallery of Eminent and Self-Made Men – Illinois Volume*, 197.

"William Longhurst," *Cook County, Illinois, U.S. Marriages Index, 1871-1920*.

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"Marriage Licenses," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), January 13, 1886.

¹¹⁹ *Cook County, Illinois, U.S. Deaths Index, 1878-1922*.

"William Longhurst," Find A Grave, accessed April 24, 2024, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/254703697/william-longhurst>.

¹²⁰ *The American Contractor* (Volume 31), May 21, 1910, 40.

¹²¹ "Our Birthdays," *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), February 18, 1914.

The Economist (Chicago, IL), January 16, 1904, 87.

¹²² "In Real Estate Fields," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), January 24, 1904.

"Our Birthdays," *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), February 18, 1914.

¹²³ "Realty Deals and News of the Day," *The Inter-Ocean* (Chicago, IL), July 21, 1905.

Warren A. Patrick, "Chicago's White City Thrown Open to Public," *The Billboard* (Volume 18, Issue 21), May 26, 1906, 8.

"In the Real Estate World," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), September 13, 1906.

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"In Streeterville," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), March 25, 1917.

¹²⁴ Jean F. Block, *Hyde Park Houses: An Informal History, 1856-1910* (Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 1978), 111.

The American Contractor (Volume 46, Issue 1), January 3, 1925, 50.

"Much Activity in Building," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), June 19, 1904.

¹²⁵ Commission on Chicago Landmarks, *Preliminary Landmark Recommendation – Motor Row District* (Chicago: City of Chicago, 2000), 47.

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Monadnock Building (completed 1893, extant), the Old Colony Building (completed 1894, extant), the Marquette Building (completed 1895, extant), the Chicago Building (completed 1904, extant), the Brooks Building (completed 1910, extant), and the Monroe Building (completed 1912, extant). The firm also designed some of the city's main centers of social and civic life, including the University Club (completed 1908, extant), Chicago City Hall–Cook County Courthouse (completed 1910, extant), Soldier Field (completed 1926, extant), and the Palmer House Hotel (completed 1927, extant).¹²⁶

After the deaths of its founders, leadership was transferred to William Holabird's son John Augur Holabird (1886-1945) and his friend and former École des Beaux-Arts classmate John Wellborn Root, Jr. (1887-1963), son of Burnham & Root partner John Wellborn Root (1850-1951). Operating under the name Holabird & Root starting in 1928, the firm's second generation built some of Chicago's best known examples of 1920s and 1930s Art Deco including 333 N. Michigan Avenue (completed 1928, extant), the Chicago Daily News Building (completed 1929, extant), the Palmolive Building (completed 1929, extant), and the Chicago Board of Trade Building (completed 1930, extant). By the 1930s, Holabird & Root was one of the country's best known and largest architectural practices.¹²⁷

A testament to the scale, renown, and influence of their late 19th and early 20th century work, all but two of the extant Holabird & Roche / Holabird & Root buildings in Chicago noted above are National Register listed, either individually or in historic districts. Notable exceptions are the Chicago River-facing Chicago Daily News Building (not National Register listed) and the lakefront Solider Field, previously designated as a National Historic Landmark but de-listed after a large addition was completed in 2003).¹²⁸

After the death of John A. Holabird in 1945, the firm was led by his Yale University-trained son William Holabird (1905-1992) along with John W. Root, Jr. and Joseph Z. Burgee (1898-1956), with the firm renamed Holabird, Root & Burgee in 1948.¹²⁹ Notable Chicago works by this third generation office included the University of Chicago's Administration Building (completed 1948, extant) and the Art Institute of Chicago's Ferguson Building (completed 1958, extant).¹³⁰ The firm's name reverted back to Holabird & Root in 1959, three years after Burgee's death.¹³¹ Holabird & Root remains in operation today as a Chicago-based architectural practice.

Conclusion

The Main House and Dormitory at 2678 W. Washington Boulevard in Chicago are locally significant for their associations with the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children and the Florence Crittenton Anchorage, both women-led benevolent institutions that supported poor women and children in early- and mid-20th century Chicago. The site continues to tell the story of the organizations that occupied the site, the women and children in need who they served, and Chicago's evolving approaches to aiding its most vulnerable citizens.

¹²⁶ Commission on Chicago Landmarks, 333 North Michigan Building, 333 N. Michigan Avenue – Chicago Landmark Designation Report, City of Chicago, 1997, 4.

Robert Brueggemann, *The Architects and the City: Holabird & Roche of Chicago, 1880-1918* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1997), 446, 448, 450, 451, 455, 456, 460, 462.

Alice Sinkevitch, ed. *AIA Guide to Chicago* (USA: Harcourt Books, 2004), 47, 59,

¹²⁷ *AIA Guide to Chicago*, 51, 76, 94, 113.

333 North Michigan Building, 333 N. Michigan Avenue, 4.

¹²⁸ National Park Service, "National Register of Historic Places 2006 Weekly List," accessed April 27, 2024, <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/weekly-list-2006-national-register-of-historic-places.pdf>

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Steven A. Reiss, "Soldier Field," Encyclopedia of Chicago, accessed April 27, 2024, <http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/1165.html>.

¹²⁹ Kenan Heise, "William Holabird; led architecture firm," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), February 11, 1992.

"Joseph Burgee, Architect, is Dead at Age 58," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), January 6, 1956.

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¹³⁰ *AIA Guide to Chicago*, 41, 444.

¹³¹ "Realty Notes," *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, IL), January 3, 1959.

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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: Chicago History Museum
University of Illinois-Chicago

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

2678 W. Washington Boulevard
Name of Property

Cook, Illinois
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>41.883173</u> Latitude	<u>-87.693996</u> Longitude	3	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude
2	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude	4	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude

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

2678 W. Washington Boulevard's National Register boundary encompasses the full parcel historically associated with the site, extending south to Washington Boulevard, north to Maypole Avenue, and east and west to respective property lines.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The National Register boundary encompasses the parcel historically associated with its occupancy by the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children (1923-1946) and Florence Crittenton Anchorage (1949-1973).

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John Cramer + Emily Ramsey date August 1, 2024
organization Ramsey Historic Consultants, Inc. telephone 337.781.1180
street & number 1105 W. Chicago Avenue, Suite 201 email john@ramseyhcinc.com
city or town Chicago state IL zip code 60642

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

2678 W. Washington Boulevard
Name of Property

Cook, Illinois
County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, 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: 2678 W. Washington Boulevard
City or Vicinity: Chicago
County: Cook **State:** Illinois
Photographer: Emily Ramsey, Ramsey Historic Consultants, Inc.
Date Photographed: December 7, 2023

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

- Photo 1 of 16. Main House (center), Dormitory (left) and Coach House (right), looking north from Washington Boulevard.
- Photo 2 of 16. Main House (left) and Coach House (right), looking northwest from Washington Boulevard.
- Photo 3 of 16. Main House east facade and main entrance, looking west.
- Photo 4 of 16. Main House rear (north) facade with Dormitory at right, looking south.
- Photo 5 of 16. Coach House west (left) and south (right) facades, looking northeast.
- Photo 6 of 16. Dormitory east facade, looking west.
- Photo 7 of 16. Dormitory north (right) and east (center) facades and Main House south facade beyond at left, looking south from Maypole Avenue.
- Photo 8 of 16. Dormitory (left) and Main House (right), looking northeast from Washington Boulevard.
- Photo 9 of 16. Main House, 1st floor foyer, looking northeast.
- Photo 10 of 16. Main House, 1st floor south library, looking east.
- Photo 11 of 16. Main House, 1st floor west living room, looking north.
- Photo 12 of 16. Main House, 1st floor dining room, looking west.
- Photo 13 of 16. Main House, 2nd floor stair hall, looking northeast.
- Photo 14 of 16. Main House, 2nd floor south bedroom, looking southeast.
- Photo 15 of 16. Dormitory corridor, looking north.
- Photo 16 of 16. Dormitory room, looking northeast.

2678 W. Washington Boulevard

Name of Property

Cook, Illinois

County and State

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.

Property name: 2678 W. Washington Boulevard
Illinois, County: Cook

List of Figures

(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all document should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.

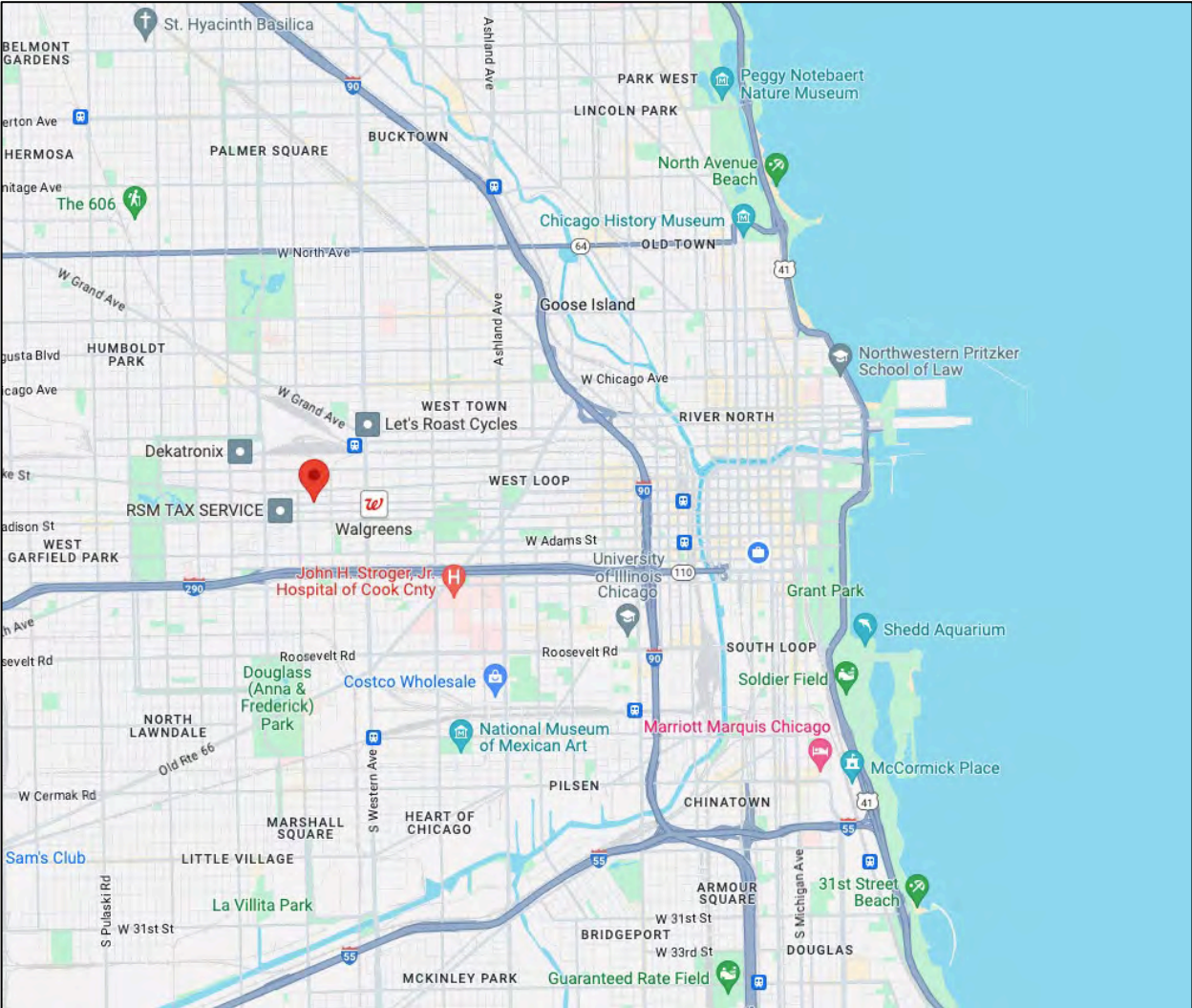
- Figure 1.** 2678 W. Washington Boulevard – Location map
- Figure 2.** 2678 W. Washington Boulevard – Bing GIS Map
- Figure 3.** 2678 W. Washington Boulevard – Site map and photo key
- Figure 4.** 2678 W. Washington Boulevard – Main House floor plans and photo key and National Register boundary
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- Figure 16.** Insurance Maps of Chicago, 1950. “Chicago Home for Convalescent Women & Children” is circled in red.
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- Figure 18.** “Residences on the north side of Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois,” 1907. Source: Chicago History Museum, Charles R. Clark Collection. The Main House at 1093 Washington Boulevard (today 2678 W. Washington Boulevard) is at right, a rare view of the building while it was a private family home.

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- Figure 19.** 1902 view and description of the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children's 521 W. Adams Street facility (address changed in 1909 to 1516 W. Adams Street, demolished), before moving to 2678 W. Washington Boulevard in 1923. Source: *Chicago Tribune*, December 14, 1902.
- Figure 20.** Top photo showing residents of the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children in 1941 receiving degrees from the Spaulding School for Crippled Children. Source: *Daily Times*, June 26, 1941.
- Figure 21.** A 1942 resident of the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children in 1941 with a visiting fish tank from Chicago's Field Museum. Source: *Chicago Sun*, March 31, 1942.
- Figure 22.** Statement of purpose from the Florence Crittenton Anchorage's 1902 annual report, before the Anchorage moved to 2678 W. Washington Boulevard in 1949. Source: Florence Crittenton Anchorage records 1885-1974, Box 1, Folder 1, University of Illinois-Chicago Special Collections.
- Figure 23.** The Florence Crittenton Anchorage's early home at 125 Plymouth Place in Chicago (demolished). Source: *Traffic in Girls and Florence Crittenton Missions* (1893).
- Figure 24.** c.1914 view of the Florence Crittenton Anchorage at 2615 S. Indiana Avenue in Chicago (demolished), the Anchorage's longtime home before 2678 W. Washington Boulevard. Source: Report of the National Florence Crittenton Mission and its Affiliated Branches (1914), Florence Crittenton Anchorage records 1885-1974, Folder 104, University of Illinois-Chicago Special Collections.
- Figure 25.** 1949 newspaper article with images showing preparations for the opening of the new Florence Crittenton Anchorage at 2678 W. Washington Boulevard. Source: *Chicago Tribune*, March 20, 1949.
- Figure 26.** 1957 view of the Main House and Coach House at 2678 W. Washington Boulevard. Source: Chicago History Museum, *Chicago Sun-Times*, collection.
- Figure 27.** A 1960 volunteer sewing teacher at the Florence Crittenton Anchorage. Source: *Chicago Tribune*, October 31, 1960.
- Figure 28.** 1972 newspaper article with images profiling the Florence Crittenton Anchorage. The Anchorage would close its doors the following year. Source: *Chicago Defender*, April 21, 1972.
- Figure 29.** 1972 view of the Main House when it was occupied by the Florence Crittenton Anchorage. Source: *Chicago Sun-Times*, November 21, 1972.
- Figure 30.** 1988 view of the Main House with Talmadge D. Betts of Volunteers of America. Source: *Chicago Tribune*, July 31, 1988.

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Figure 1. 2678 W. Washington Boulevard – Location map

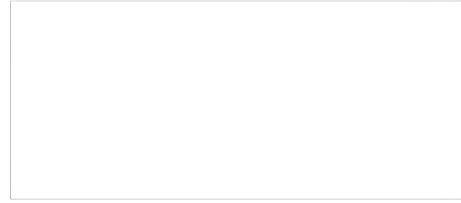


Property name: 2678 W. Washington Boulevard
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Figure 2. 2678 W. Washington Boulevard – Bing GIS Map

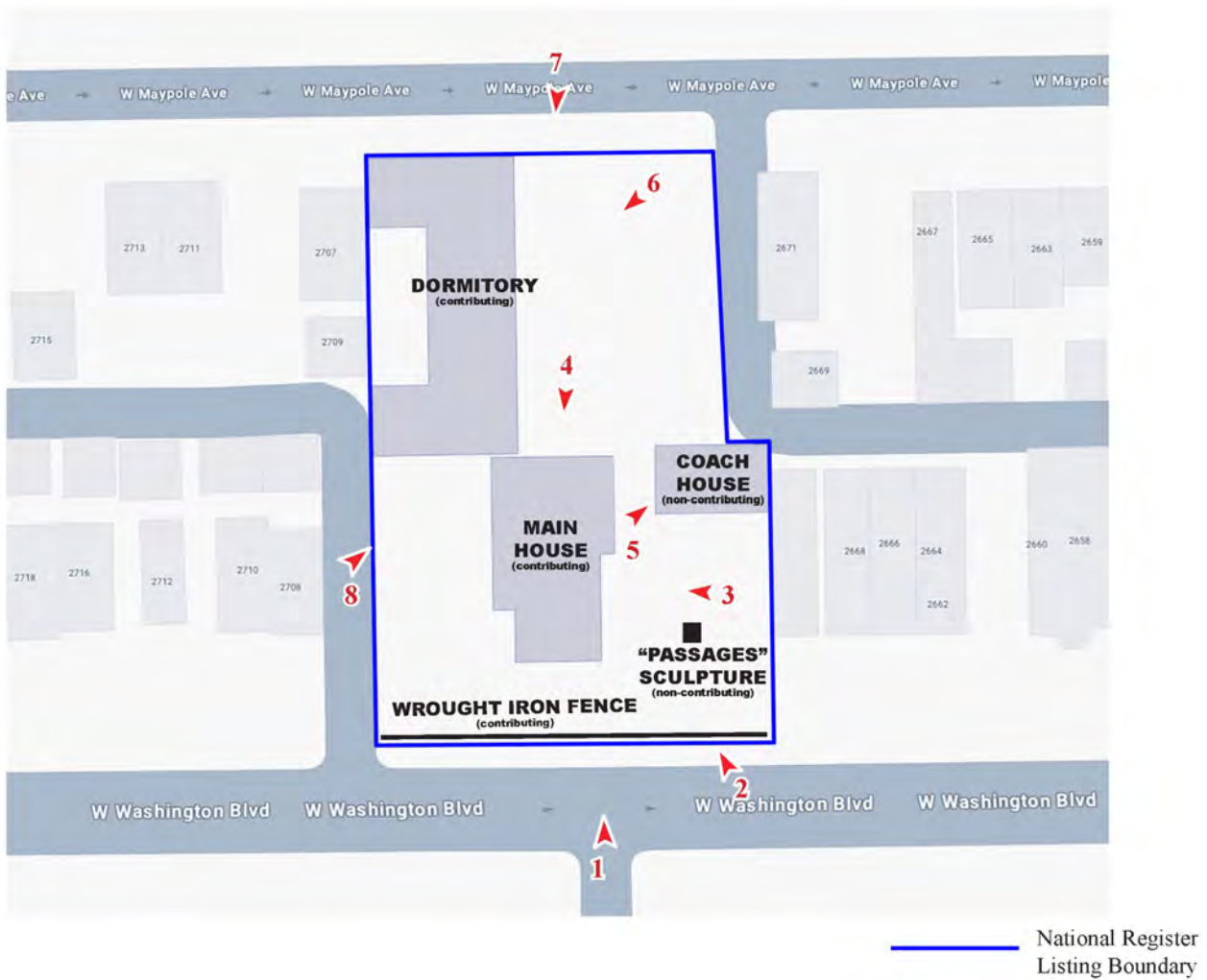


2678 W Washington Blvd, Chicago, IL 60612
Location: 41.883173, -87.693996



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Figure 3. 2678 W. Washington Boulevard – Site map and photo key and National Register boundary



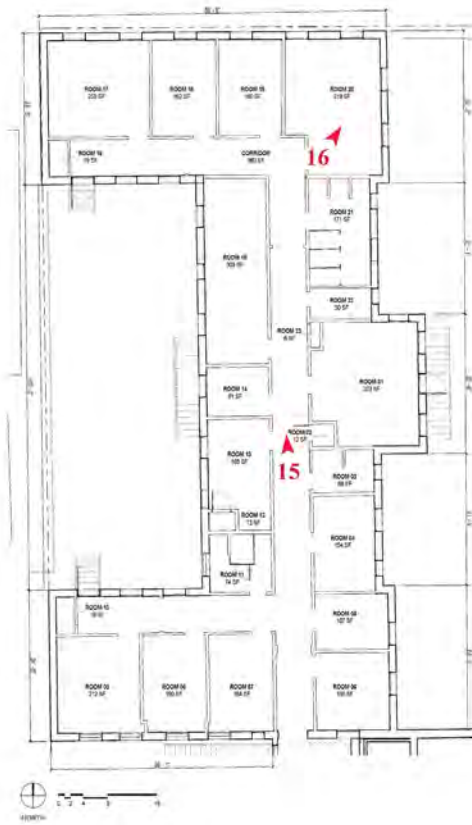
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Figure 4. 2678 W. Washington Boulevard – Main House floor plans and photo key



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Figure 5. 2678 W. Washington Boulevard – Dormitory floor plan and photo key



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Figure 6. Robinson's Atlas of the City of Chicago map, 1886. The single family residence at 1093 Washington Boulevard (today 2678 W. Washington Boulevard) is circled in red.

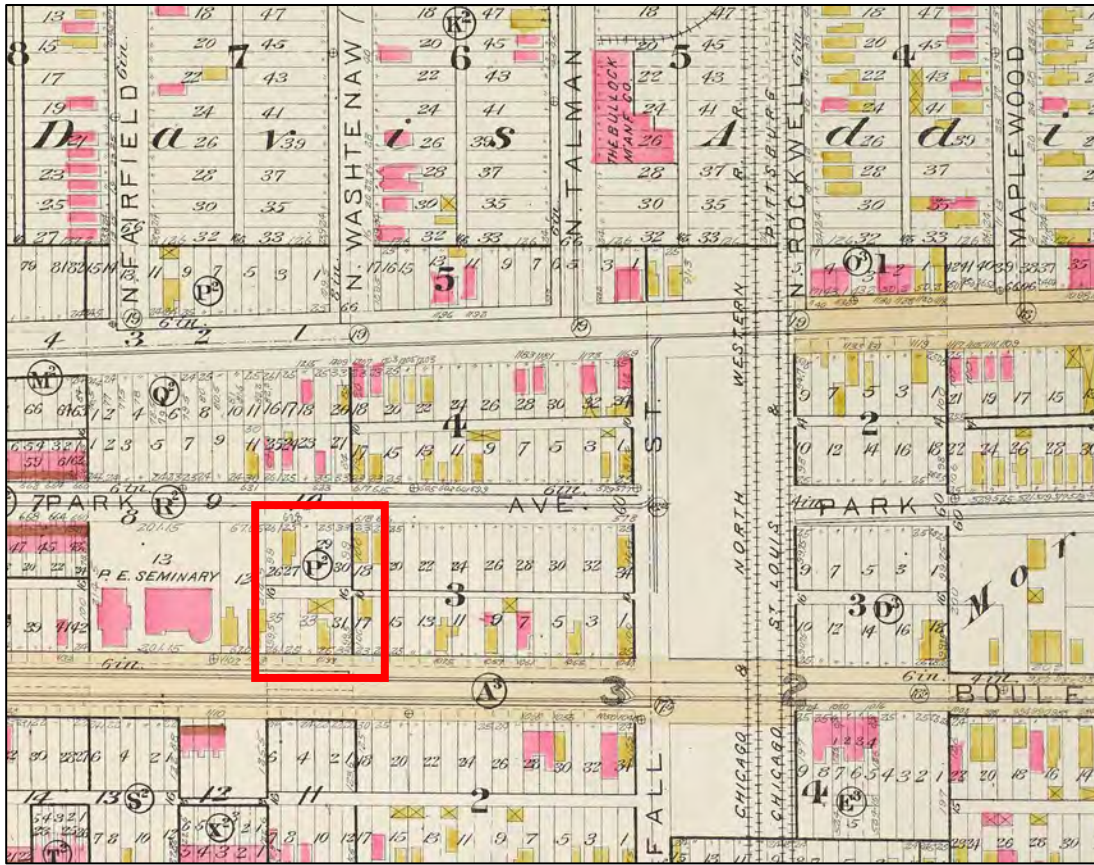
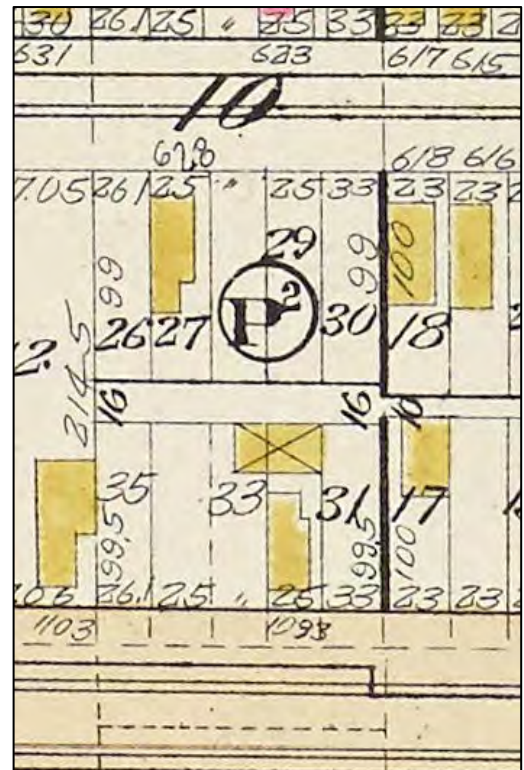


Figure 7. Robinson's Atlas of the City of Chicago map, 1886. Zoom in on the single family residence at 1093 Washington Boulevard (today 2678 W. Washington Boulevard). Original c. 1885 home is at bottom center with a now demolished coach house and alley to the north.



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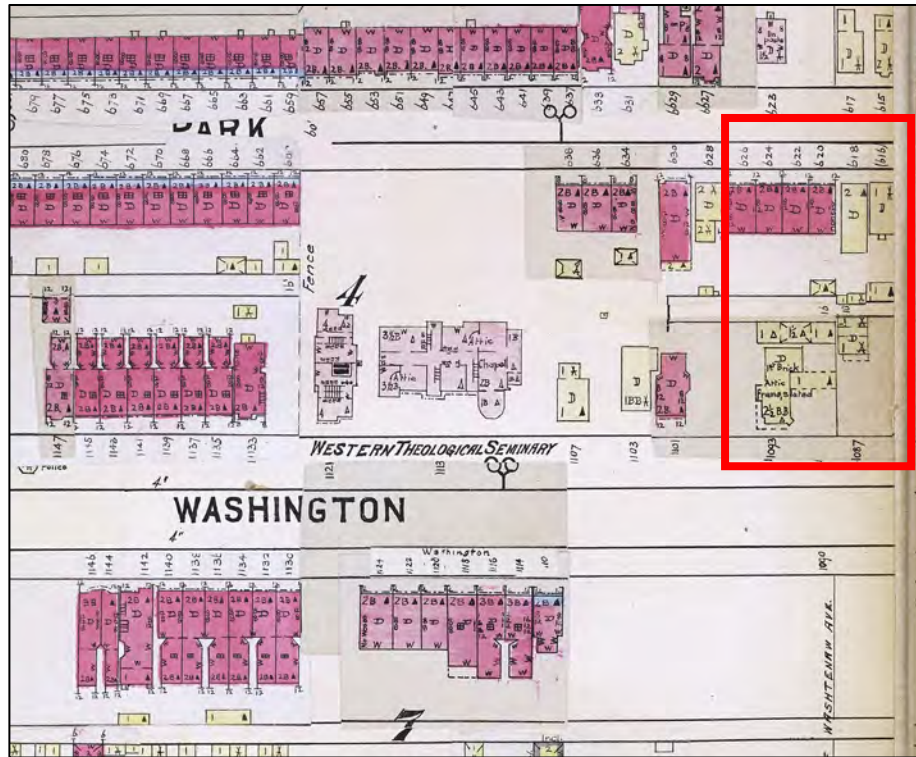
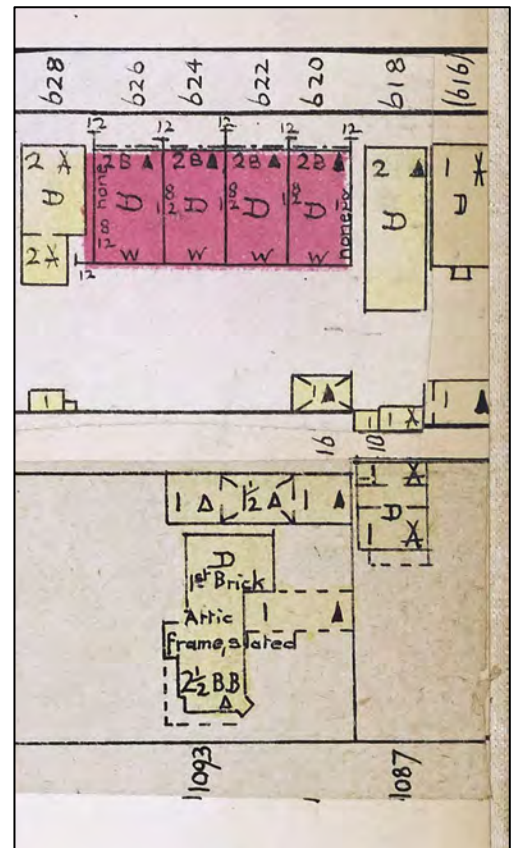


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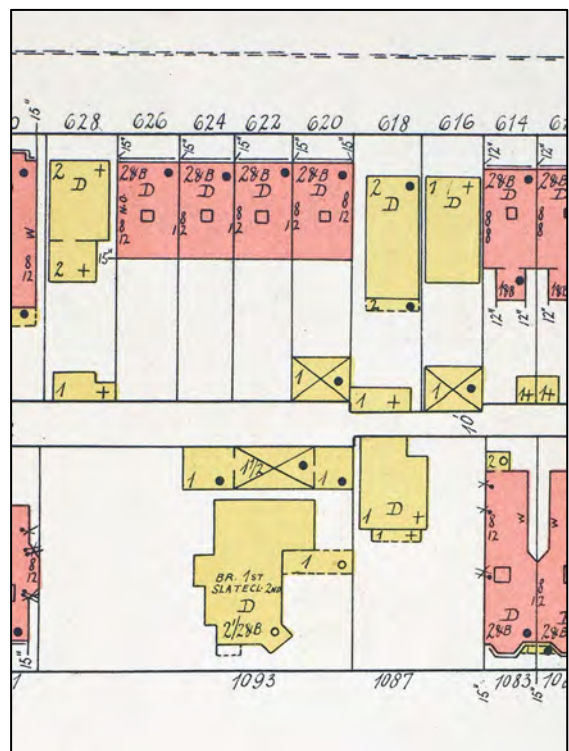


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Figure 10. Insurance Maps of Chicago, 1892. The single family residence at 1093 Washington Boulevard (today 2678 W. Washington Boulevard) is circled in red.



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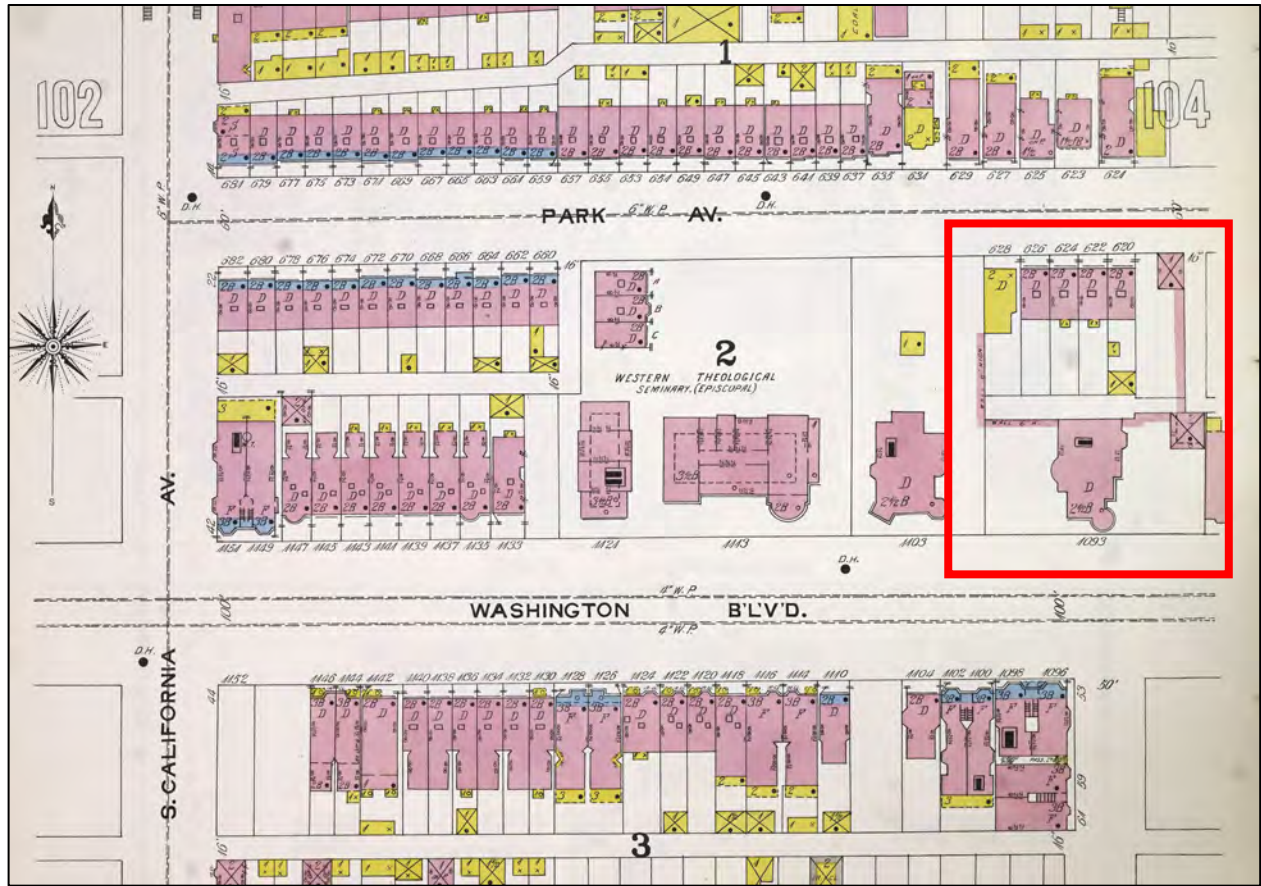
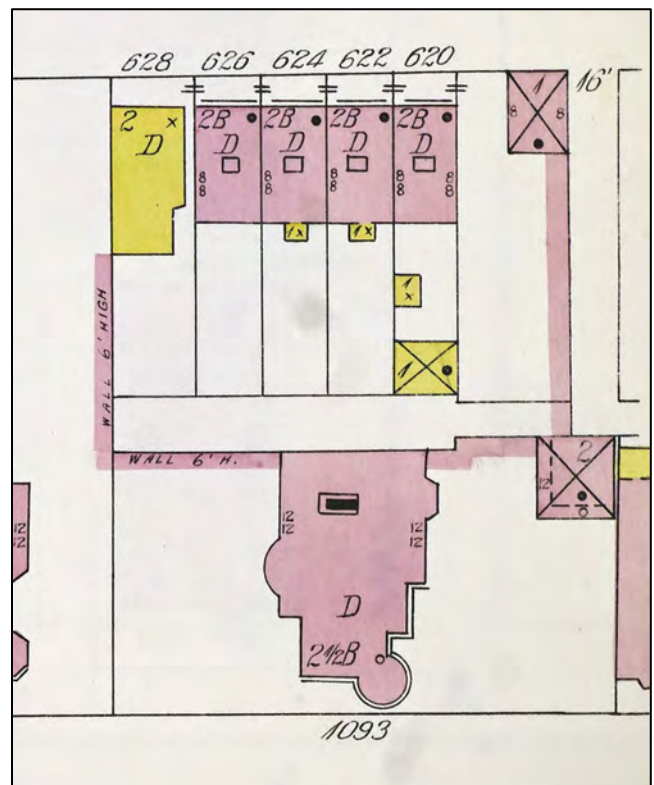


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Figure 14. Insurance Maps of Chicago, 1922. The single family residence at 2678 W. Washington Boulevard is circled in red.

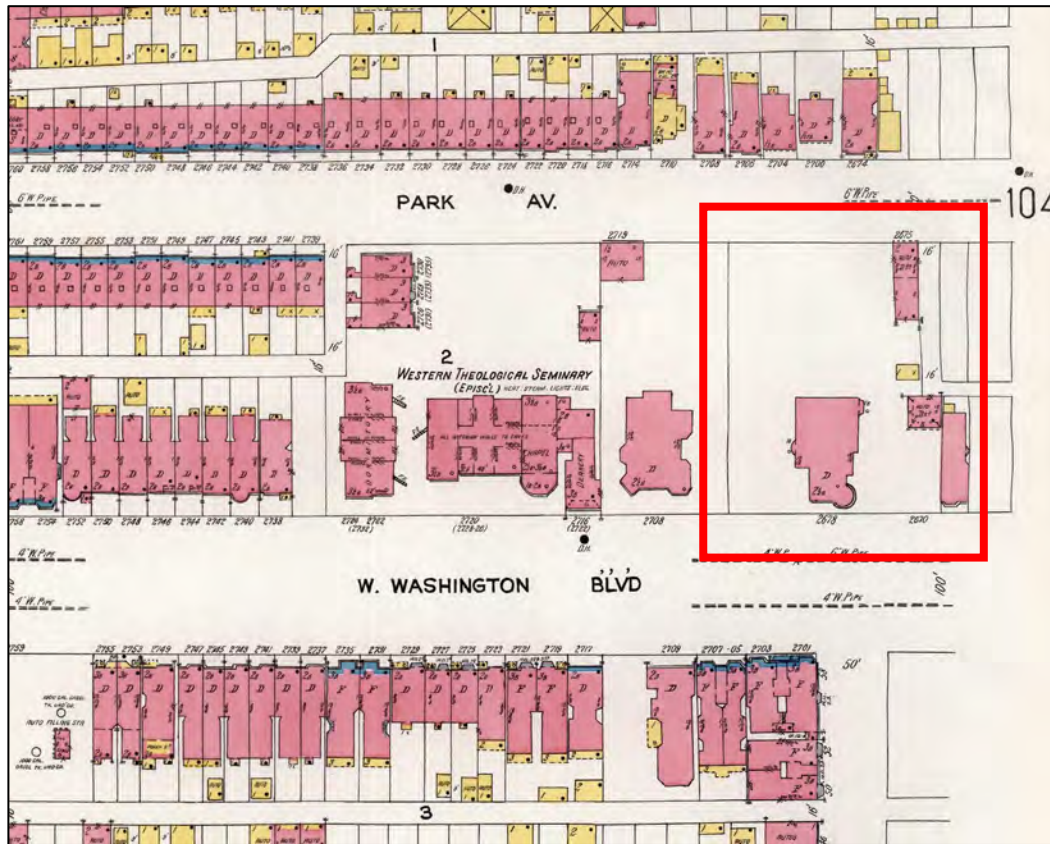
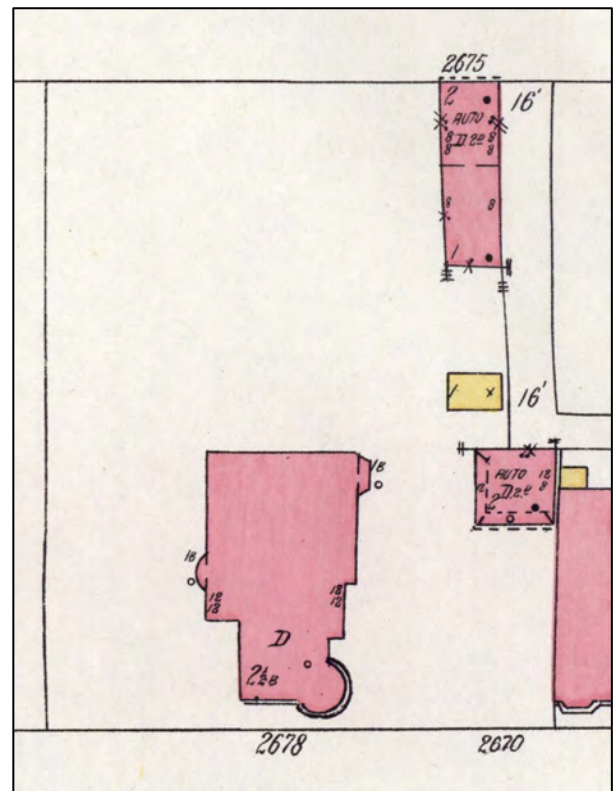


Figure 15. Insurance Maps of Chicago, 1922. Zoom in on the single family residence at 2678 W. Washington Boulevard, just before the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children purchased the property and constructed the 1924 Dormitory.



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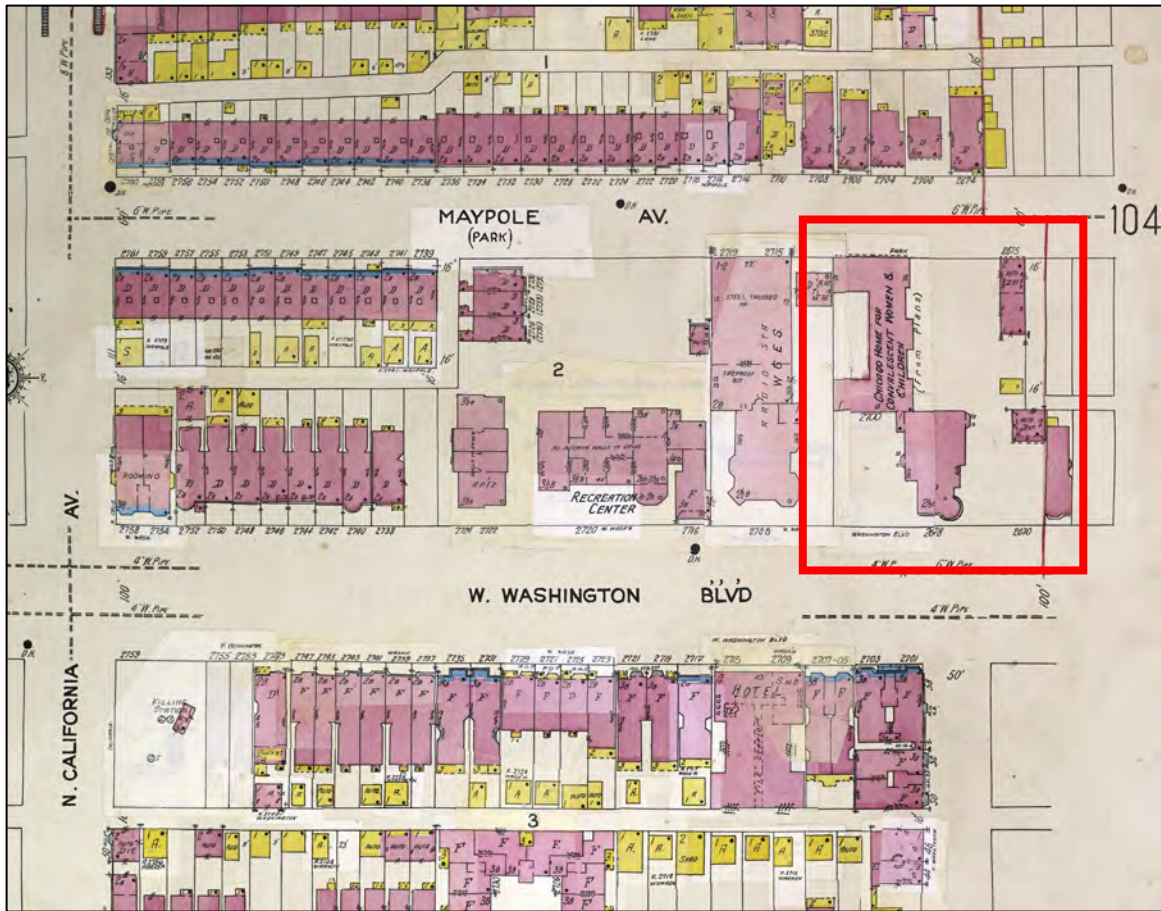
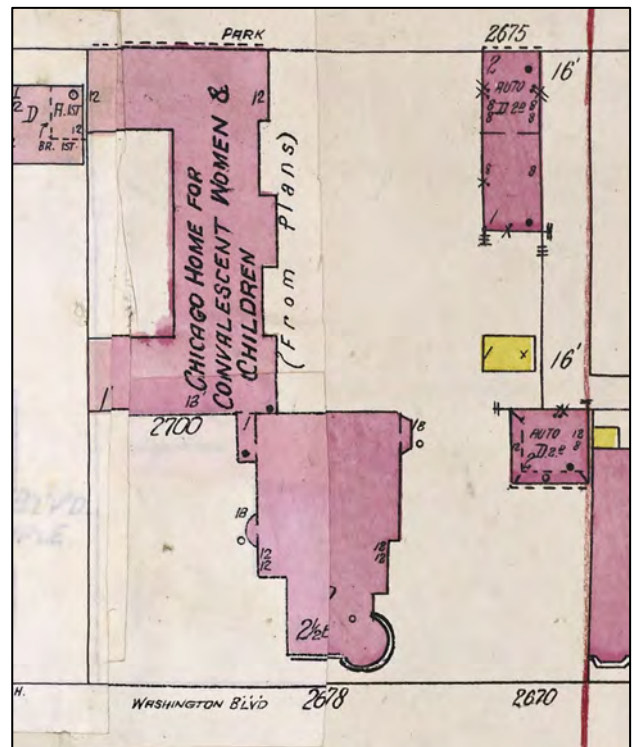


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Figure 18. “Residences on the north side of Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois,” 1907. Source: Chicago History Museum, Charles R. Clark Collection. The Main House at 1093 Washington Boulevard (today 2678 W. Washington Boulevard) is at right, a rare view of the building while it was a private family home.



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**COMFORTABLE HOME FOR WOMEN JUST OUT OF HOSPITALS
IS OPENED IN PERMANENT QUARTERS IN WEST ADAMS STREET.**

[From a photograph taken for THE TRIBUNE.]



The Chicago Home for Convalescent Women is a charitable institution that marks a new departure in the work that is being done in behalf of the needy women of this city. It is located at 521 West Adams street, in the residence occupied until recently by Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Dresden, and has been purchased by the association having the home in charge. The property was secured at a cost of about \$14,000, which will be paid by the subscriptions of those who are interested in the work. More than a third of this amount already has been pledged.

The undertaking had its origin in the efforts of Miss Annie Hibbert, who for the last ten years has been doing the work of a city missionary. One evening, as a woman patient was leaving the Cook County hospital, she was met by Miss Hibbert, who asked her where she was going.

"I do not know," was the woman's reply. "I must go to work. I have no money. If I was strong I could do all right, but I am so weak."

Miss Hibbert took her to her own home until she had recovered fully.

"It was then I decided that something should be done for the poor women who are discharged from the charitable institutions cured but not well," said Miss Hibbert: "Everywhere there has been a hearty support promised, and many gifts have already been made. Already there have been a number of patients in the home and many have been waiting to come."

According to the articles of incorporation the institution will be under the control of a board of fifteen directors. Five will be chosen each year by the members of the association. An annual payment of \$5 makes the contributor a member of the association.

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Figure 20. Top photo showing residents of the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children in 1941 receiving degrees from the Spaulding School for Crippled Children. Source: *Daily Times*, June 26, 1941.



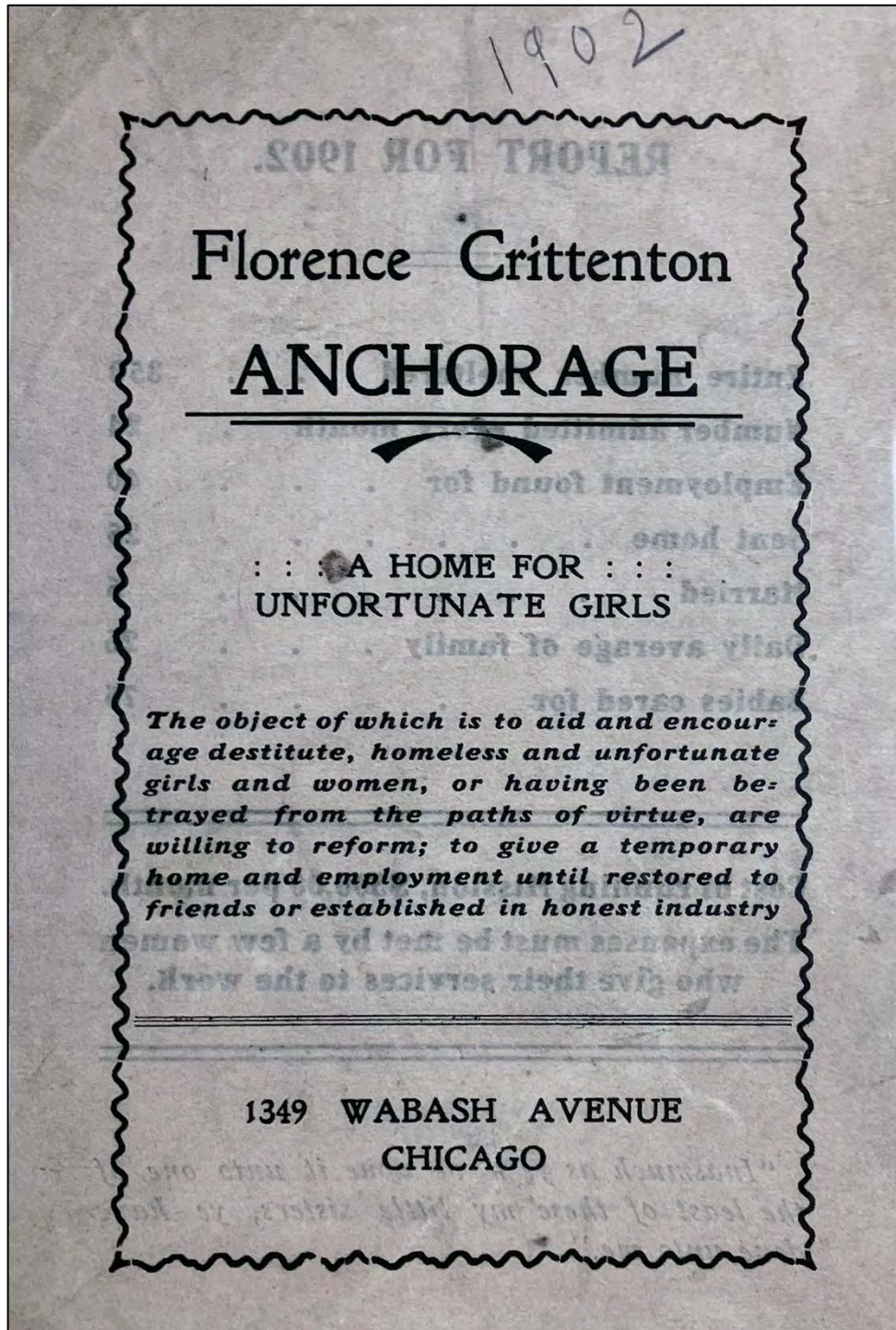
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Figure 21. A 1942 resident of the Chicago Home for Convalescent Women and Children in 1941 with a visiting fish tank from Chicago's Field Museum. Source: *Chicago Sun*, March 31, 1942.



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Figure 22. Statement of purpose from the Florence Crittenton Anchorage's 1902 annual report, before the Anchorage moved to 2678 W. Washington Boulevard in 1949. Source: Florence Crittenton Anchorage records 1885-1974, Box 1, Folder 1, University of Illinois-Chicago Special Collections.



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Figure 23. The Florence Crittenton Anchorage's early home at 125 Plymouth Place in Chicago (demolished). Source: *Traffic in Girls and Florence Crittenton Missions* (1893).



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Figure 24. c.1914 view of the Florence Critten Anchorage at 2615 S. Indiana Avenue in Chicago (demolished), the Anchorage's longtime home before 2678 W. Washington Boulevard. Source: Report of the National Florence Crittenton Mission and its Affiliated Branches (1914), Florence Crittenton Anchorage records 1885-1974, Box 13, Folder 104, University of Illinois-Chicago Special Collections.



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Figure 25. 1949 newspaper article with images showing preparations for the opening of the new Florence Crittenton Anchorage at 2678 W. Washington Boulevard. Source: *Chicago Tribune*, March 20, 1949.

Part
3
Metropolitan
Section

Chicago Sunday Tribune

THE WORLD'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER

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W MARCH 20, 1949

Neighborhood Women Aid in Preparing Anchorage for Reopening on West Side



Pink tinted walls, clean white beds, and shining windows! That's a good description of the nurseries in the new Florence Crittenton Anchorage, home for unmarried mothers and babies, which will reopen Tuesday at 2678 Washington blvd., after being closed six years. While Miss Mary Pearl Sharp, nurse in charge, prepares a bed, a few of the women, which who have been active in making ready the home. From left are Mrs. Paul F. Boehm, 340 S. Christiana av.; Mrs. Orland Paige, 3315 Maypole av.; Mrs. Clarence Cesafor, 8 N. Albany av.; Mrs. Edward J. Lewis, president of the board; Miss Gertrude Gehri, home director, and Miss Priscilla Levett, social worker in nearby Warren Avenue Congregational church, 3101 Warren blvd.

(Story on Page 7)



The former Convalescent Home for Women and Children has been acquired to house the Anchorage. The brick exterior has been changed little, most of the inside has been redecorated. First floor includes an entrance hall with wide staircase and an elevator, a living room, dining room, office, kitchen, and pantries. The dormitory wing opens from the dining room. Second floor has recreation room, crafts room, and staff quarters.



Partly because the church is in the neighborhood and partly because they just wanted to help, members of the Warren Avenue church have played a large part in preparing the home for its opening. Miss Levett shows her skill in polishing the living room mirror.



On the day the new dishes arrived, even the church pastor, the Rev. Julian Keiser, stopped by to congratulate the volunteer workers on their progress. Mrs. Hertha Compton, girls' supervisor, unpacks the china.



Adjusting curtains in the recreation room are Mrs. Cesafor (on ladder), a church member, and Mrs. Boehm, a friend of the church. Members have made curtains and slipcovers, and have helped place furniture, clean, and unpack supplies.



Dormitory rooms, equipped with two or three single beds, also have dresser, table, wardrobe cabinets, and chairs. Walls are blue, pink, or green, and windows are hung with venetian blinds.



Sewing brightens with a bit of conversation, agree Miss Gehri, right, director, and Mrs. Paige, as she takes last stitches in silk drapes for the living room.

(Tribune Photos by Robert Keigher)

COURT AIDS SIGH
IN RELIEF OVER
ENDING OF CASE

Halsted St. Hotel Gets
Safety Code O. K.

BY GLADYS PRIDDY
If that's the hotel at 215 S. Halsted st., discharge them. They deserve a medal for getting together, finally. There were three of them fighting it out to see who was responsible.
This new recommendation from a building inspector last week in Building and Housing court won a discharge from Judge J. M. Brunde for Seichi Onitsuka, who testified that the hotel premises at the Halsted st. address were now in full compliance with the city code for hotel fire and building safety. Also, the discharge won a sigh of relief from court attaches who, though long insured to the vagaries of surnames, couldn't manage "Onitsuka" without a bumble.
Ugo Covelli, the grocer who runs the store at 721 S. St. Louis av. in an area zoned for residence only and turns up in municipal courts frequently on that account, also appeared before Judge

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY
OF MEDICAL SOCIETY
TO MEET IN OAK PARK

New members and past presidents will be special guests when the women's auxiliary of the Aust Plaines branch of the Chicago Medical Society observes membership day at 2 p. m. Friday in the home of Mrs. Daniel J. Duggan, 515 N. East av., Oak Park.
Annette Victoria, poet and author, will review "Cheaper by the Dozen," by Ernesine Gilbreth Carey and Frank Gilbreth Jr. Mrs. Frank J. Kotalik will introduce the speaker. The program is under supervision of Mrs. C. David Brown and Mrs. A. C. Midkum.
Mrs. C. Gita Smith will be hostess, assisted by Mrs. Fred Glenn, Mrs. Edward G. Wamick, President, will conduct a board meeting at noon.
defendant protested, "Why should I pay that when I have so much trouble already?"
"You'll have more trouble if fire breaks out," the court replied.
Warrants were ordered for Carrie Fisher and Pleasie Brown for failure to have enough exits in an apartment at 1755 Washburne av. and also for Mrs. Eva Madison, 1837 Washington blvd., for basement apartment construction laws.

G.O.P. WOMEN
PLAN MEETING
IN LA GRANGE

Talk on Civil Service - Is Scheduled
Members of the West Suburban

NEW GOALS FOR AGED
WILL BE DISCUSSED
AT HEALTH MEETING

Dr. Herman N. Kamin, associate attending physician in Mount Sinai hospital, will talk on "Geriatrics—New Goals for Old Age" be-

ORGANIST AND CHOIR

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Figure 26. 1957 view of the Main House and Coach House at 2678 W. Washington Boulevard. Source: Chicago History Museum, *Chicago Sun-Times*, collection.



Figure 27. A 1960 volunteer sewing teacher at the Florence Crittenton Anchorage. Source: *Chicago Tribune*, October 31, 1960.



Miss Mary DeFond (left) teaches sewing to a resident of the Florence Crittenton Anchorage. She's been a volunteer there for five years, helps unmarried mothers make new wardrobes for themselves.

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Figure 28. 1972 newspaper article with images profiling the Florence Crittenton Anchorage. The Anchorage would close its doors the following year. Source: *Chicago Defender*, April 21, 1972.

Florence Crittenton home sets new trend in social service care

By TONI ANTHONY
 (Society Editor)

The Florence Crittenton Anchorage at 2678 W. Washington is a three story mansion with gleaming mahogany woodwork, spacious rooms and brightly painted walls.

At this moment the house is quiet, but soon it will be filled with the teenage excitement of the 18 girls who live there. Bouncy and bubbly with a passion for most teen pre-occupations, the girls could be anyone's daughter — your or my sister.

There is only one difference that distinguishes them from most teens their age — they're all pregnant, and their pleasant dormitory is a home for unwed girls.

But at Florence Crittenton, there is no stigma attached to their condition. On the contrary, the girls enjoy a loving, home-like atmosphere; and it's all because of two very special women who know what teenagers need most — love and understanding.

The director of the center is Mrs. Sally McMahon, a small dynamo of energy, and a 40 year veteran in social service work. Mrs. McMahon feels that the girls are nervous and should be treated humanely rather than as potential juvenile delinquents, and it is because of her unique approach that the Florence Crittenton home works.

Her administrative assistant is Barbara Bradford, a professional nurse, who has caught Mrs. McMahon's enthusiasm. "I felt the challenge from the beginning," Mrs. Bradford recalls. "When I first began four years ago, the black community didn't have too much knowledge about maternity homes. Now that has changed. Blacks are becoming aware of the services we provide, and for the first time, they feel that there is an option."

One of only two residential maternity homes in Chicago, Florence Crittenton is licensed by the state of Illinois, and accepts girls of all races, from 12 to 18 who need maternity care.

"Any girl who is pregnant out of wedlock, and who may be experiencing some trauma in the home is eligible to live at Florence Crittenton," Mrs. Bradford emphasized. "I think the girls need to know that they can receive counseling and good medical care here."

The teenagers are cared for during their confinement by a competent staff — a psychiatric consultant who is a child-care specialist, trained and certified in psycho-analysis; a psychiatric social worker; full-time nurses, nurses aids,

and a cook. "My concept is that we should all work as a team so that the kids can relate to any one of us," said Mrs. McMahon. "We're all on the same wave length."

The facilities at Florence Crittenton include dormitory style bedrooms in bright colors which the girls have decorated with treasures from home, including their stuffed animals; a pleasant lounge where the teens watch television; a newly equipped kitchen and dining room; a nurses station; and a work area with wash and a work area with wash and dryer.

A typical day begins very early for the teenagers, who are awakened by a 6:30 a.m. bell for breakfast at 7. Then the school-age girls are taken to school by the staff nurse, and the remaining teens get a chance to "jack in" for another hour.

On Fridays, they participate in a group therapy session conducted by another home nurse, who even goes along with the girls on their clinic appointments at Presbyterian-St. Luke Hospital.

"An institution they don't need," Mrs. McMahon stated. "They do need a temporary 'something' so that they can get their heads on straight. That's what we hope we are. It's a totally new concept in maternity home care."

How do the girls feel about their home away from home? "I like it here. It's easy and I don't have so many problems," was the average response. Some of the teens are even planning ahead to the time when their confinement ends. Some will give their babies up for adoption and return to school, while others keep their babies and find jobs.

Either way, it's not an easy choice. "There is a reluctance on the part of the black girl to place her baby for adoption because she's not at all convinced that black adoptions are going to be available, and she's known some pretty grim stories about infants placed in foster care," said Mrs. McMahon. "But that's beginning to change. There have been more adoptions in the last few years, and I think the trend will continue to develop; so there are alternatives."

Another problem frequently encountered by the teen is having a family opposed to the idea of adoption. Mrs. McMahon observes, "I personally feel that it is a tremendously heavy responsibility for a very young girl to keep her child and make a way for herself in the future."

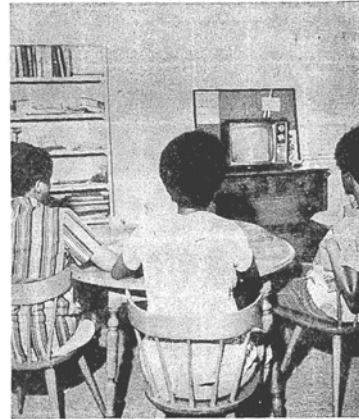
NEWS MANAGER:
 1. Mrs. Mary Armstrong
 2. Miss Leahy
 3. Miss Meehan



MRS. SALLY McMAHON



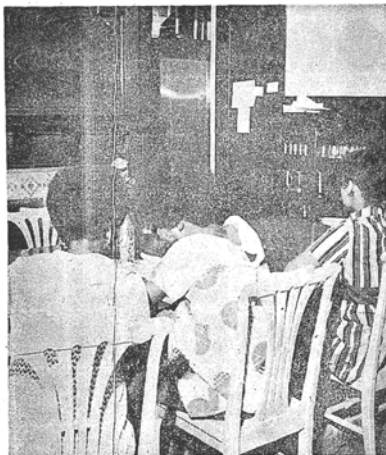
MRS. BARBARA BRADFORD



Recreation...

Residents at Florence Crittenton Anchorage on Chicago's West Side, relax while watching television in the center's attractive recreation room. Mostly teens, the

girls receive excellent maternity care, and are encouraged to attend school during their confinement. (Photos by Daily Defender photographer John Gunn).



It's lunch time!

Teenagers discuss day's experiences while waiting to receive nutritious lunch in Crittenton dining room. The 18 residents of the maternity center represent a cross-section of Chicago. They are shown away from the camera to preserve their

anonymity. Administrators say that any girl between the ages of 12 and 18, who is pregnant, is eligible to live at the center. Facilities include a lounge, a kitchen and dining area, dormitory style bedrooms, and a nurses station.

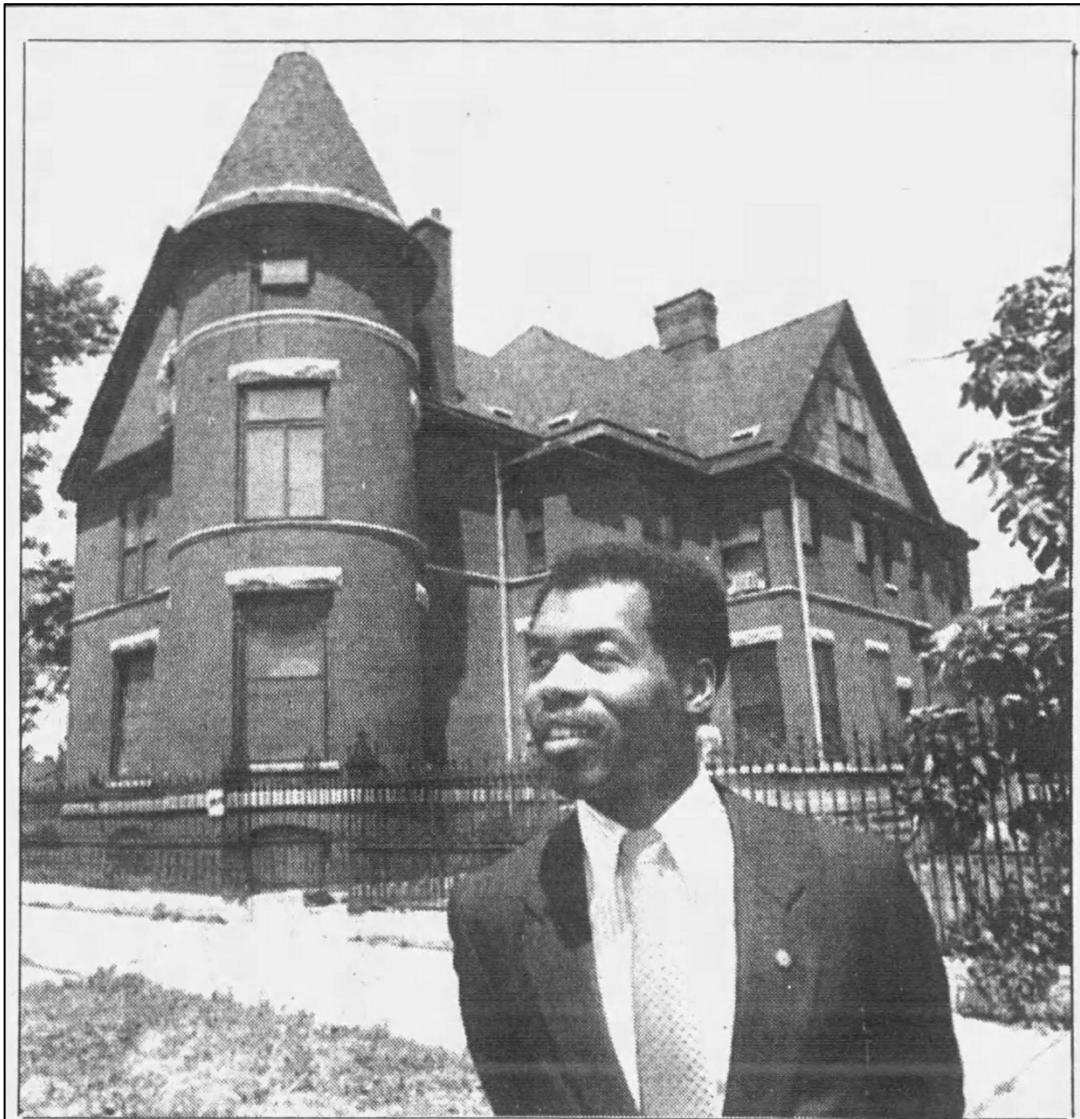
Property name: 2678 W. Washington Boulevard
Illinois, County: Cook

Figure 29. 1972 view of the Main House when it was occupied by the Florence Crittenton Anchorage. Source: *Chicago Sun-Times*, November 21, 1972.



Property name: 2678 W. Washington Boulevard
Illinois, County: Cook

Figure 30. 1988 view of the Main House with Talmadge D. Betts of Volunteers of America. Source: *Chicago Tribune*, July 31, 1988.



Tribune photo by Ernie Cox Jr.

Talmadge D. Betts, of Volunteers of America, advises would-be fundraisers to “know what’s going on in the for-profit sector—and be flexible.”

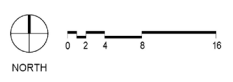
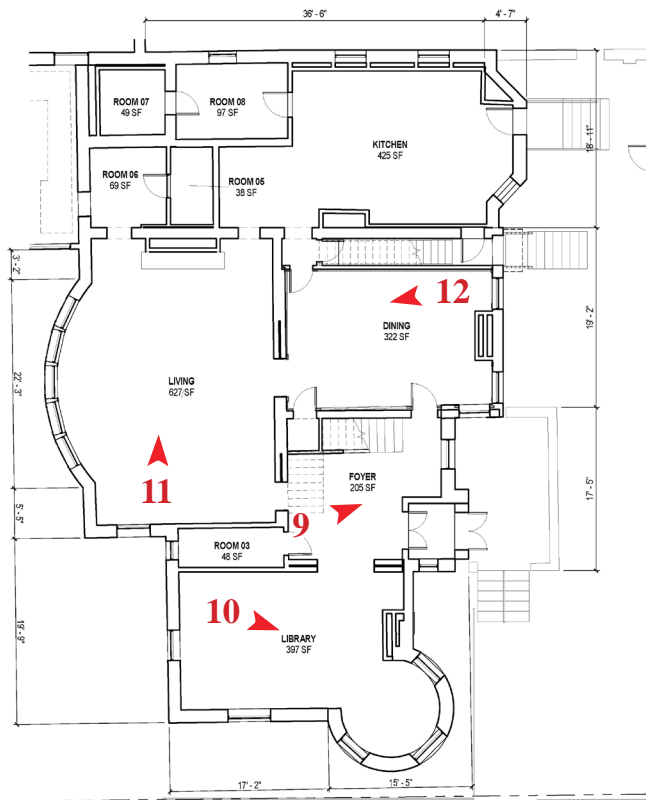


— National Register Listing Boundary

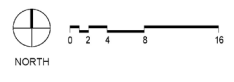
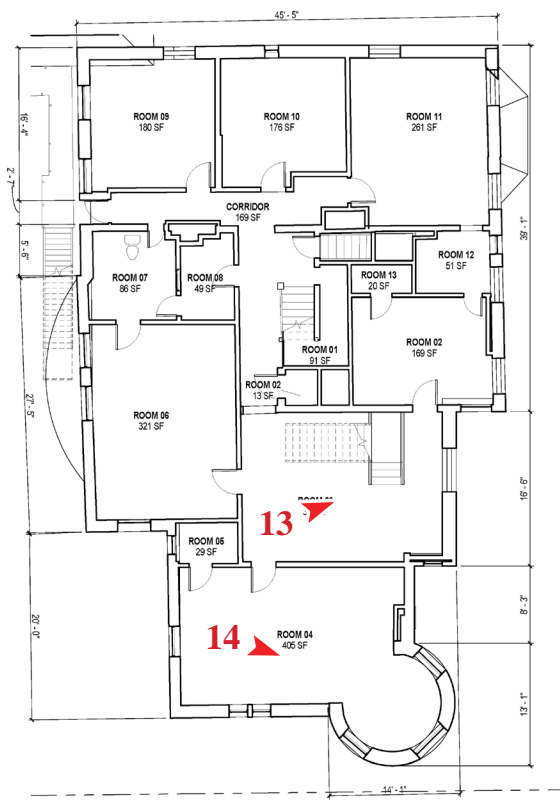
2678 W. Washington Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60612

NR Photo Key
Site Plan

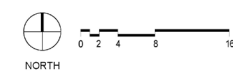
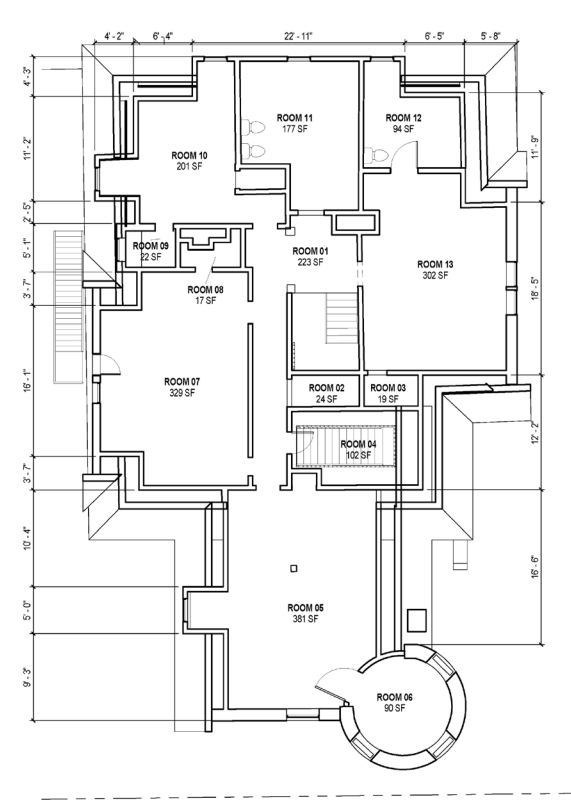




1st Floor



2nd Floor

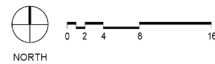
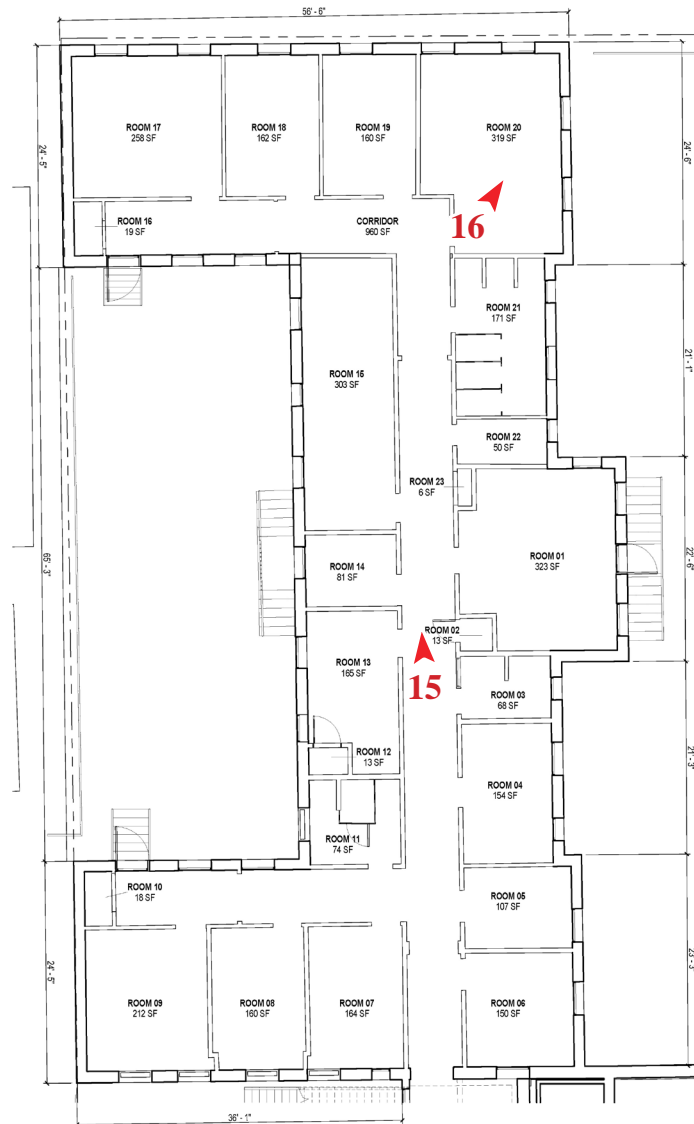


3rd Floor

Main House

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Chicago, Illinois 60612





Dormitory

2678 W. Washington Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60612

NR Photo Key

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Chicago, IL 60612



Photo 1. Main House (center), Dormitory (left) and Coach House (right), looking north from Washington Boulevard.

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Photo 2. Main House (left) and Coach House (right), looking northwest from Washington Boulevard.



Photo 3. Main House east facade and main entrance, looking west.

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Photo 4. Main House rear (north) facade with Dormitory at right, looking south.



Photo 5. Coach House west (left) and south (right) facades, looking northeast.

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Photo 6. Dormitory east facade, looking west.



Photo 7. Dormitory north (right) and east (center) facades and Main House south facade beyond at left, looking south from Maypole Avenue.

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Photo 8. Dormitory (left) and Main House (right), looking northeast from Washington Boulevard.

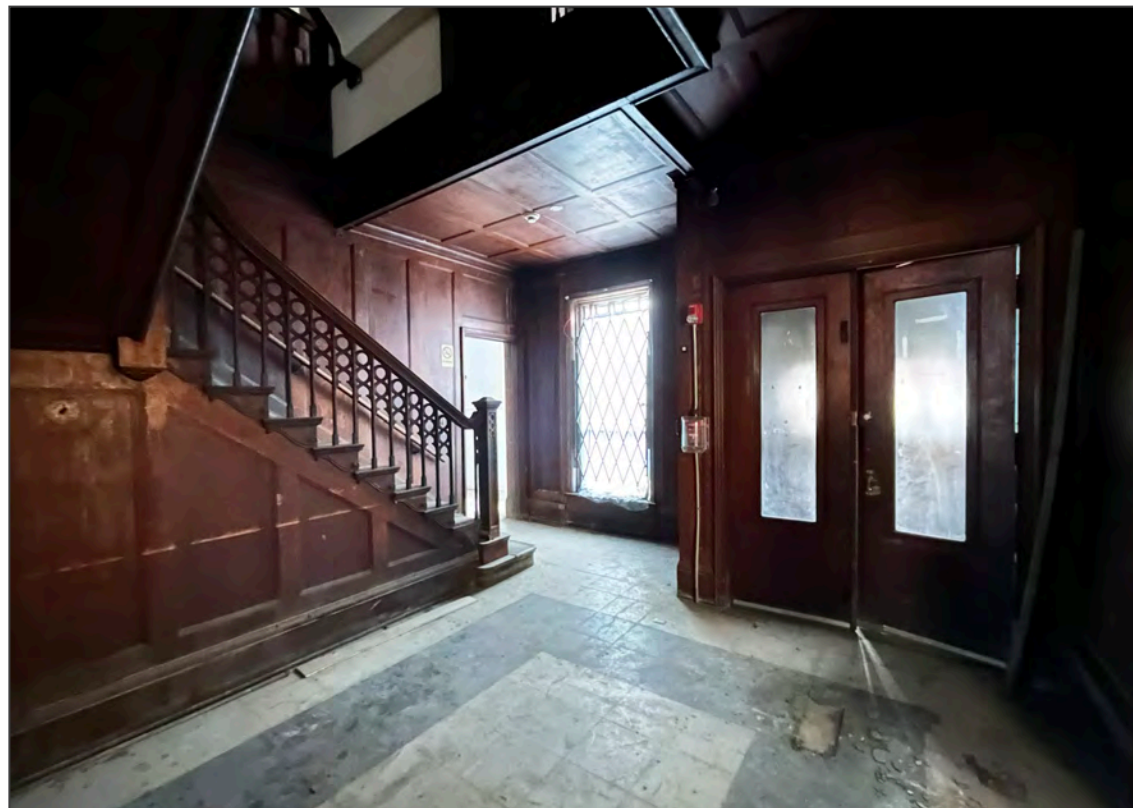


Photo 9. Main House, 1st floor foyer, looking northeast.

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Photo 10. Main House, 1st floor south library, looking east.



Photo 11. Main House, 1st floor west living room, looking north.

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Photo 12. Main House, 1st floor dining room, looking west.

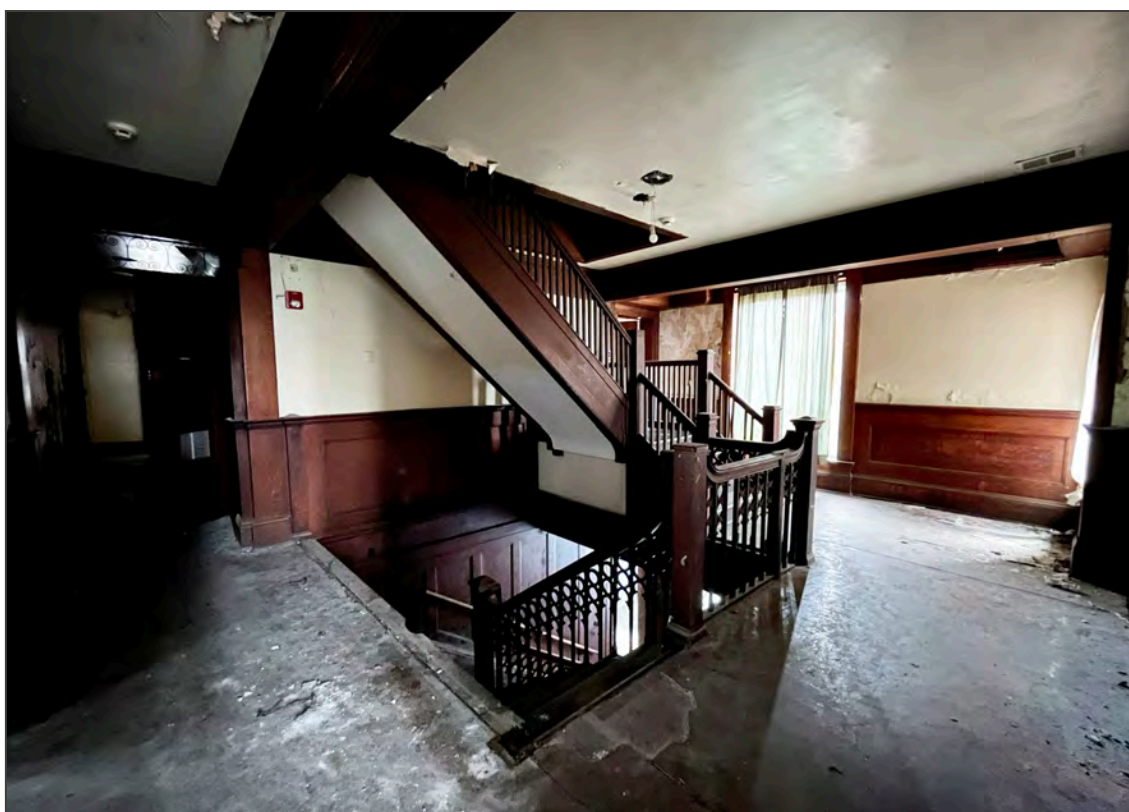


Photo 13. Main House, 2nd floor stair hall, looking northeast.

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Photo 14. Main House, 2nd floor south bedroom, looking southeast.



Photo 15. Dormitory corridor, looking north.



Photo 16. Dormitory room, looking northeast.