

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

1. Name of Property

historic name Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri

other names/site number Farmington Children's Home, Presbyterian Children's Home

2. Location

street & number 412 West Liberty Street [N/A] not for publication

city or town Farmington [N/A] vicinity

state Missouri code MO county St. Francois code 187 zip code 63640

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 nationally statewide locally.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments .)

Mark A Miles

14 MARCH, 2006

Signature of certifying official/Title Mark A. Miles/Deputy SHPO

Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments .)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

entered in the National Register.
See continuation sheet .

determined eligible for the National Register.
See continuation sheet .

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure
	<input type="checkbox"/> object

Number of Resources Within Property	
Contributing	Non-contributing
5	1 buildings
0	0 sites
0	0 structures
0	0 objects
5	1 Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

DOMESTIC/institutional housing

Current Functions

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural classification

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Georgian Revival

Materials

foundation concrete

walls brick

weatherboard

roof asphalt

slate

other limestone

wood

See continuation sheet []

Narrative Description See continuation sheet [x].

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

**8. Statement of Significance
Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

See continuation sheet [x].

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography See continuation sheet [x].

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

Areas of Significance

Social History

Period of Significance

1939-1956

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person(s)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Architect/Stiegemeyer, O.W.

Architect/Cook, John McM.

Architect/Klingensmith, Paul

Builder/ Stamm Construction

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency

Federal Agency

Local Government

University

Other:

Name of repository:

Western Historical Manuscripts, Columbia, Rolla

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property: approximately 4.3 acres.

UTM References

A. Zone	Easting	Northing	B. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	726502	4184746	15	726659	4184736
C. Zone	Easting	Northing	D. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	726659	4184736	15	726491	4184639

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Debbie Sheals (with Becky Snider)
organization Private Contractor
date November 7, 2005
street & number 29 S. 9th St. Suite 204 telephone 573-874-3779
city or town Columbia state Missouri zip code 65201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FOP for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name see continuation sheet
street & number _____
telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri

Summary: The Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri is located just a few blocks west of the commercial center of Farmington, in St. Francois County, Missouri. The boundaries of the Presbyterian Orphanage Historic District encompass the entire historic campus of the Children's Home, which is also known as the Farmington Children's Home. The orphanage occupies an open, level lot located along the 400 block of West Cayce and West Liberty Streets; the park-like grounds cover approximately four and one-half acres. There are six buildings in the district, five of which are contributing. All are highly intact, inside and out, and most are in fair to good condition. Contributing buildings include a large administration building and dining hall, three residential and support buildings, and a very small frame garage. With the exception of the garage, all of the contributing resources in the district are relatively large brick buildings with formal Georgian Revival styling. They include the Administration Building and Dining Hall, built in 1939 and enlarged in the 1940s, two large dormitories which were built in the early 1950s, and a smaller "hospital" which was built in 1940. The one non-contributing resource on the property is a low brick dormitory which was constructed in 1978. All of the brick buildings in the district were constructed for use by the Children's Home, and all continued in that function until the Presbyterian Church moved to another location in 1999. They are highly intact, inside and out, and they continue to reflect their original function. The period of significance for the district runs from 1939, the construction date for the oldest building, to 1956, the standard fifty year cut-off point. The setting for the resources is also of note; the grounds are well-kept, with open, grassy lawns and large mature trees.

Elaboration:

The orphanage is located in a residential neighborhood, three blocks west of the St. Francois County Courthouse. The grounds occupy all of a large city block, which is bounded by West Cayce Street on the south, Potosi Street on the west, residential properties on the east, and West Liberty Street on the north. (See Figure One, Site Plan.) Liberty Street is one of the main east-west streets through town, and Potosi Street is a major route into the downtown area from the north. The block directly south of the district is occupied by the Presbyterian Church, which was built ca. 1885, and expanded several times over the years to cover most of that block. A modern nursing home, also operated by the Presbyterian Church, occupies the property immediately southwest of the district.

The buildings are arranged around a landscaped quadrangle which is open to West Liberty Street on the north. The administration building anchors the west end of the quadrangle, and the dormitory buildings are arranged along the south and east ends, leaving the north side open. Holmes Cottage, the smallest of the four brick buildings, is tucked behind and to the side of the administration building, at the northwest corner of the

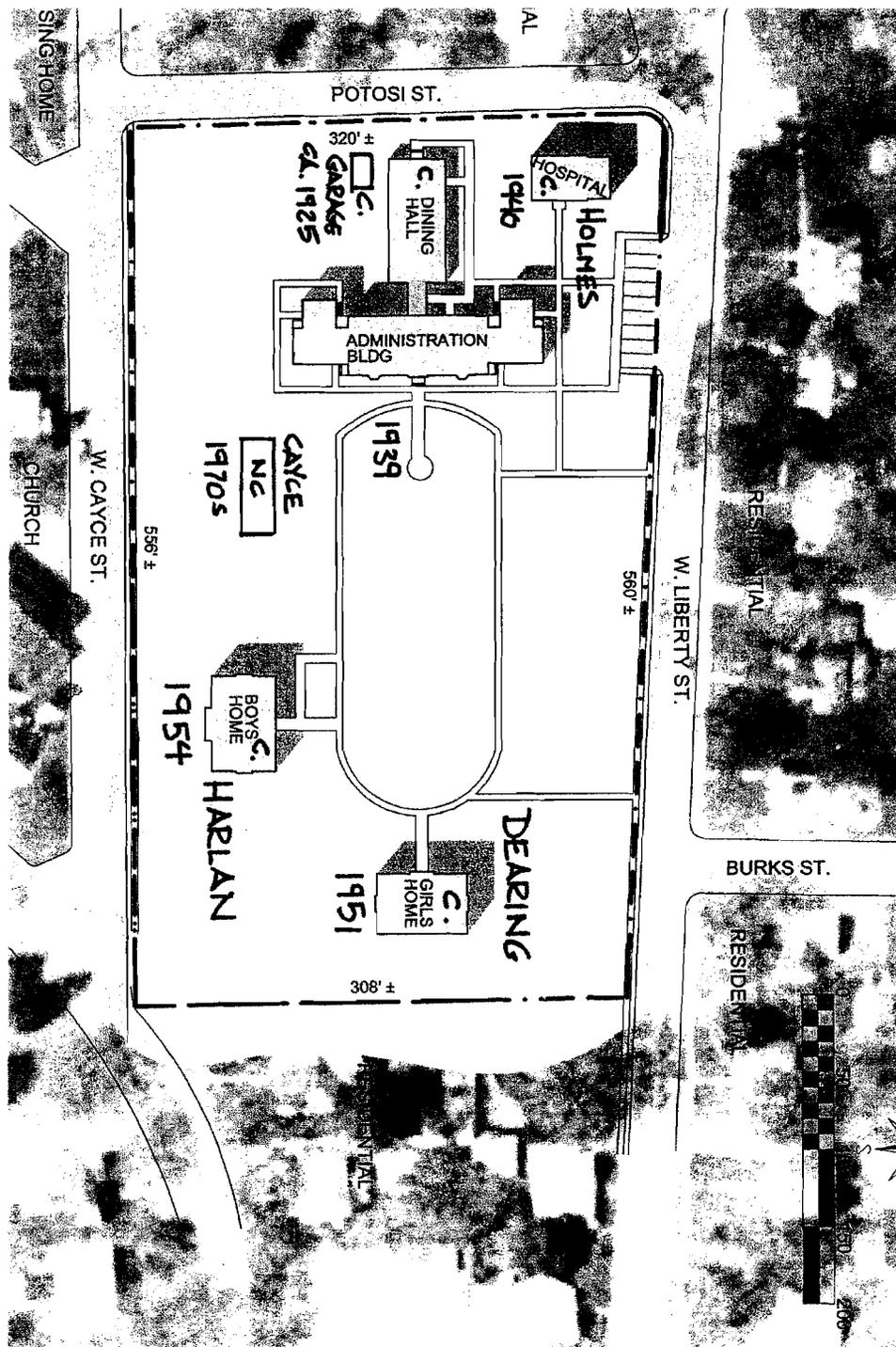
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri

Figure One: Site Plan. Drawn by Central Design Group, LLC, Architects, Columbia MO.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri

property, and the small frame garage is located off the southwest corner of the dining hall. There are small paved parking lots off of all three bordering streets, and a series of narrow concrete sidewalks link all of the buildings on the campus.

Individual Property Descriptions

Construction dates and historic names are based upon information gathered during an architectural and historical survey of Farmington which was conducted in 2003, as well as surviving historic architectural plans for the buildings. Inventory forms are on file with the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office.

[c] denotes a contributing resources; [nc], non-contributing.

1.) Administration Building; 1939. Architect: O.W. Stiegemeyer, St. Louis, MO (original building plus 1940s additions.) The administration building is the largest and oldest building in the district. It is a Georgian Revival style building with red brick walls and a concrete foundation. It has a side-gabled slate roof, multi-light wood windows that are early or original, and brick quoins at all corners. The building is T-shaped, with a wide front block and a long narrow rear ell. This front part of the building has a two-story main block and one-story side wings. The main block was built in 1939, and the wings were added in the mid-1940s. A date stone on the east wall of the main block reads "Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri 1939". The facade is symmetrical, with a pedimented central entrance bay, small bay windows, and large corbelled end chimneys. (See photos 1 and 2.) A simple, wide cornice with small dentils accents the eavelines and the pediment of the front entranceway. The front door surround features fluted pilasters with a simple entablature, and the door opening is topped by an elliptical fanlight that is early or original. The front doors themselves are modern; the surround is early or original. The detailing of the lower side wings closely matches that of the original section; they have side-facing gable roofs, and cross gables on their back walls. (See photo 6.) There is also a large one-story dining room ell centered on the rear elevation; the dining room was added to the building in 1945 or 1946. (See photo 5.) The rear ell has the same type of ornamental detailing used on the front sections, with the exception of its cornice, which has a scalloped edge. [c] **Photos 1, 2, 5, 6, 12.**

Garage, ca. 1925. There is a small frame garage behind and southwest of the administration building. It has a front facing gable roof, exposed rafter ends, and early or original weatherboard wall sheathing. It is in poor condition. [c] **Photos 5 and 6.**

2.) Presbyterian Orphanage: Dearing Hall; ca. 1951. Architect: Paul Klingensmith, Paul Klingensmith & Associates, St. Louis. Plans dated 1946. This large, highly intact,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri

Georgian Revival style building sits at the east end of the campus, across the quadrangle from the Administration Building. It is similar to nearby Harlan Hall, which was built about the same time. It is two stories tall, with a compact form, rectangular plan and a side-facing gable roof. It has brick walls, asphalt roofing, and a concrete foundation. It has very large paired chimneys in its end walls, a wide dentiled cornice at the roofline, and an ornamental brick string course at the level of the second floor window sills. The 8/8 and 8/12 wood windows are early or original. The windows are flanked by louvered and paneled shutters, and many have matching wooden panels below them. The elevation facing the quadrangle has a wide pedimented central entrance bay, which is topped by a wide cross gable and ornamented with rusticated brick pilasters. The front doorway features an elaborate wooden surround which includes a tall arched window above the door. The surround has a simple classical entablature, and the words DEARING HALL are set into a panel above the double doorway. The doorway is intact; the paneled metal and glass doors are newer. [c] **Photos 9 and 10.**

3.) Presbyterian Orphanage: Harlan Hall; 1954. Architect: Paul Klingensmith, Paul Klingensmith & Associates, St. Louis. Plans dated 1953. Harlan Hall is the largest of the dormitories. It sits just southwest of Dearing Hall, on the south side of the quadrangle. It, too, is a highly intact Georgian Revival style building with red brick walls and a concrete foundation. It is two and one-half stories tall with a side facing gable roof and early 8/8 wood windows. It has a pair of very large corbelled brick chimneys in each end wall and slightly more detailed brickwork than that of its neighbors. It has rustication along the upper foundation walls and a brick string course at the sill line of the upper windows that matches the one on Dearing Hall. Unlike other buildings on the campus, Harlan Hall has two main elevations: the south wall, which faces Cayce Avenue, and the north wall, which faces the open lawn of the campus. The main entrance is centered on the north elevation; it features a wide wooden surround topped by a smaller six-light wood window. The words HARLAN HALL are set into a panel above the doorway; the lettering matches that on Dearing Hall. (See photo7.) The double doors of that entranceway are early or original; they each have a six-light window set above a single square panel. The south wall of the dorm has a center bay which extends out a few feet from the main wall and is topped by a cross gable. (See photo 8.) That bay also has an entrance way, which is less prominent than the one on the north wall. The south doors are set much lower in the wall, at the basement level, and they do not have any surrounding woodwork. There are two elaborate sets of windows in the bay above the south doors; a large Palladian window is at the top floor and a wide wooden bay window sits directly above the doors. [c] **Photos 7, 8, and 11.**

4.) Presbyterian Orphanage: Holmes Cottage, 1940. Architect: John Mc M Cook, St Louis, MO. This building, which is labeled as a hospital on early drawings, is the smallest of the brick buildings on the campus. It is two stories tall with the same type of Georgian Revival styling used on the other buildings. There is a small, one-story brick side ell on the north end of

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

the building that is early, but not original. The roof of the ell serves as a deck and has a newer railing. The building has red brick walls, a concrete foundation, and a side-facing gable roof with slate roofing. There is a large, corbelled brick chimney on the south side wall and all of the corners are accented by heavy brick quoins. (See photo 4.) The narrow cornice of the main section features small dentils, while the cornice on the side ell is plain. The central front door, which faces east to the main quadrangle, is sheltered by a small, hip-roofed hood with slate roofing. The wide front door is early or original, as is the surrounding woodwork. The door has a single light over arched panels, and the lights in the transom have the same arched profile. The door is flanked by sidelights that have small rectangular glass panes. A plaque in the front ground floor hallway reads "A Memorial to Belle R. Holmes, given by her daughter, Mrs. Frederick E. Woodruff, 1940." [c] **Photos 3 and 4.**

5.) Presbyterian Orphanage: Cayce Cottage, 1978.

This one-story building is one of the smaller buildings on campus and the only non-contributing resource. It is one story tall, with red brick walls, a gable roof, and a concrete foundation. There is a central entrance in both the south and north elevations and each is sheltered by a gabled porch. The corners of the building have simple quoins and the gabled porches are supported by simple round columns. [nc] **Photo 11.**

The grounds of the Presbyterian Children's Home of Farmington offer a notably intact collection of historic resources. There is only one building in the district that is non-contributing, and all of the contributing buildings are highly intact, both inside and out. The interiors of all of the buildings reflect their utilitarian functions; finishes are quite simple and architectural embellishments are minimal. As a group, these buildings strongly reflect their long service as the Presbyterian Children's Home, and the campus today looks very much as it did the day Harlan Hall was dedicated in 1954.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 6

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

Summary: The Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri, located in Farmington, St. Francois County, Missouri, is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of SOCIAL HISTORY. It is significant as the first orphanage in southeast Missouri, and as the only Presbyterian childcare facility in the nation which was jointly affiliated with both the northern and the southern Presbyterian Churches. As such, it also meets registration requirements associated with Criterion Consideration A. Originally known as the Elmwood Presbyterian Home, the institution was founded in 1914, on the grounds of the former Elmwood Seminary. Established to help the homeless children of the "lead belt" area, many of whom were orphaned as a result of the frequent accidents in the lead mines, the orphanage was the first institution for orphaned and neglected children in southeastern Missouri. The orphanage struggled to survive for the first several years with funding from individual donations and the local Presbyterian churches in the Presbyterian Church, U.S Synod of Missouri, the southern Presbyterian Church body. However, in 1917, the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Synod of Missouri, the northern Presbyterian Church, joined in the support of the orphanage. As a result, the Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri in Farmington became the only Presbyterian childcare facility in the nation which was a jointly affiliated with both the northern and the southern Presbyterian churches. The orphanage retained this status from 1917 until 1984, when the two branches of the church reunited. Between 1939 and 1954, a building campaign led to the construction of a new administration building, two dormitories and a hospital on the orphanage campus. The original Elmwood Seminary building was demolished in 1952. The Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri, now known as the Farmington Children's Home, is still in operation today and has provided a home and a Christian education to hundreds of children over the years. In 1999, the original campus was vacated, and the property was put up for sale. The Administration Building, the two dormitories, known as Dearing and Harlan Halls, the hospital, known as Holmes Hall, and a small frame garage are all contributing buildings. Only one resource on the property is non-contributing. Cayce Cottage, built in 1978, served as a cottage-style dormitory. The period of significance for the Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri Historic District begins in 1939, the year the Administration Building was constructed, and extends to 1956, the standard fifty-year cut-off date. The district looks today much as it did in the mid-twentieth century, and the buildings retain a high level of integrity in all areas of consideration: location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, setting and association.

Elaboration:

Euro-American settlement in the Farmington area pre-dates the Louisiana Purchase. Rich iron and lead deposits in the region encouraged exploration during the late 1700s. Many explorers traveled by boat to the Mississippi River town of Ste. Genevieve, and then proceeded inland. One such traveler was Tennessee resident, Rev. William Murphy, who arrived at what is now Farmington with his three sons in 1798. He and each of his sons, David, Joseph and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri

William, laid claim to a 640 acre parcel of land.¹ Once their claims were established, the Murphy men returned home to Tennessee. Tragically, Rev. Murphy never made it; he died within a day's journey of home. In 1800, his sons returned to the claims they had filed, and established what became known as Murphy's Settlement. Their mother, Sarah Murphy, joined them in 1802, and soon became a respected civic and religious leader in the community. Shortly after moving to the area, she donated an acre of her land for a church, one of the earliest in the area, and a few years later, she organized a Sunday School for the local children.² According to Tom Miles, the author of a Brief Authentic History of St. Francois County, the religious fervor brought to the Farmington area by Sarah Murphy "has remained as a deep seated religious trait among later generations born in this community."³

Settlement in the region greatly increased with the Louisiana Purchase, and by 1821, the population of the area had grown enough to warrant the creation of St. Francois County. Named after the St. Francois River, the county was organized from Jefferson, Ste. Genevieve, and Washington Counties. Shortly thereafter, Farmington became the seat of St. Francois County. In 1822, David Murphy donated 52 acres of his original 640-acre claim "to fix a county seat," after which the area was surveyed and divided into lots. The plat for the Original Town of Farmington was filed on February 27, 1822.⁴

Buildings began appearing on the streets created by David Murphy almost immediately. The town's first store opened on the south side of the square in 1823, the first hotel opened in the late 1820s, the first county jail was opened in 1824, and the first courthouse was completed in 1827. Development continued at a moderate pace, and by 1856, the settlement had grown enough to be incorporated as a Village, with a population of about 500.⁵ In 1879, Farmington became a Fourth Class City. The entry for the town, which appeared in the State Gazetteer and Business Directory that year, included listings for 84 different businesses, and noted a population of about 1,500.⁶ At least part of that growth can be attributed to mining activities in the area. A description of Farmington written in 1879 echoes numerous other 19th and early 20th century narratives: Farmington ... "is in the centre of one of the richest mining sections of the State, being equidistant from Mine la Motte, Flat River, and Iron Mountain."⁷

1 Marcus Kirkland, A History of Farmington, Typescript on file with the Farmington Public Library, Farmington, MO. ca. 1979.

2 Bicentennial History Book Committee, Farmington, Missouri: The First 200 Years, 1798-1998, (Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 2000) pp. 34, 40.

3 Tom Miles, Brief Authentic History of St. Francois County, Missouri. Series published in the Farmington News, Sept. 13 to Nov. 15, 1935. Reprinted, p. 51.

4 Ibid, and City of Farmington Planning Department, Copy of Original Plat of Farmington.

5 Flat River Daily Journal, March 19, 1979, n.p. Clipping in "General History of Farmington," (Binder with assorted clippings, part of the Genealogy Collection of the Farmington Public Library, Farmington, MO, n.d.)

6 Missouri State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1879-1880, (St. Louis, MO: R.L. Polk & Co. and A.C. Danser, 1880) p. 237.

7 Missouri State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1879-1880, p. 237.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 8

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

The Gazetteer also mentioned that the town had “a very good public library and 2 hotels,” in addition to 5 churches.⁸

Presbyterian Church services in Farmington began in 1830 when, at the request of several local citizens, Reverend J. M. Sadd, a missionary from Fredricktown, came to Farmington. According to the history of the Presbyterian Church included in Farmington, Missouri: The First 200 Years, Reverend Sadd and his wife moved to Farmington and lived in a two-room log cabin on the Courthouse Square. Mrs. Sadd held Sunday School and prayer meetings and taught weekday school classes in the cabin. Reverend Sadd continued his missionary work and “preached in the Circuit Courtroom in the brick courthouse when in Farmington.”⁹ The Farmington Presbyterian Church was officially organized in 1832, and four years later, a brick church building was constructed.

In 1847, Milton P. Cayce, a local businessman and one of the elders in the Farmington Presbyterian Church, established a school for his children and other children in the neighborhood. The school, known as Elmwood Academy, was located just north of Presbyterian Church, on what are now the grounds of the Presbyterian Orphanage.¹⁰ In 1885, the Presbyterian Church acquired the school and established the Elmwood Seminary and Presbyterian Normal School.¹¹ Five years later, the building that would become the Elmwood Presbyterian Home was constructed for the seminary and normal school. For twenty-eight years, the Elmwood Seminary and Presbyterian Normal School offered two and four-year college degrees in a non-sectarian setting. By 1913, enrollment had declined, however, and faced with mounting debt, the Seminary closed its doors.¹²

Around the same time, “several ministers of the Potosi Presbytery became touched by the plight of homeless children of the lead belt.”¹³ In response to this problem, the Potosi Presbytery, led by Reverend George W. Harlan and Reverend E. O. Sutherland, proposed the establishment of an orphanage on the former Elmwood Seminary campus. Between December 1913 and April 1915, the “Elmwood Home Proposition” was debated by the Presbytery of St. Louis (U.S.), by both the Presbyteries of the Synods of Missouri (U. S. and U. S. A.), and by the Presbyterian Synod of Illinois U. P.¹⁴ The original Elmwood Home

⁸ Missouri State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1879-1880, p. 237.

⁹ Farmington, Missouri: The First 200 Years, 1798-1998, p. 41.

¹⁰ Presbyterian Children’s Services, “It’s a Home and not an Institution: an historical perspective of the first eighty-nine years.” (St. Louis: Presbyterian Children’s Services, 2003), p. 2

¹¹ Farmington, Missouri - The School City of the Ozarks. (Farmington, MO: The Commercial Club, n.d), p. 7.

¹² Unsigned correspondence to Miss Eudora W. Dickson, Independence, MO dated June 30, 1913 and Unsigned correspondence to Miss Jean Demuth, Euhrichville, Ohio dated June 30, 1913, Elmwood Seminary, Farmington, Missouri, Records, 1911-1914, Collection # C0602 Western Historical Manuscripts Collection.

¹³ Farmington, Missouri: The First 200 Years, 1798-1998, p. 56.

¹⁴ “History of the Elmwood Home Proposition,” Presbyterian Church of Farmington, Missouri, Records, 1832-1982, Collection #R114, Folder 14: Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri (Elmwood Seminary), 1914-1961. Western Historical Manuscripts Collection.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 9

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

Proposition stated:

Presbytery of Potosi overtures the Presbytery of St. Louis (U.S.) to unite with it in offering Elmwood Seminary to the Synod of Missouri (U.S.) to be used as an orphanage, and also "Presbytery overtures the Synod of Missouri (U.S.) to assume ownership and control of Elmwood Seminary on the following conditions: (1) A transfer of title, provided, Synod assume the floating indebtedness: (2) That Presbytery pledges itself to carry the Building and Loan on the school to the amount of Ten Thousand (\$10,000) dollars.¹⁵

A position paper written December 21, 1914 by Reverend E. O. Sutherland outlined the need for the Elmwood Presbyterian Home, the interest in the proposal by the Presbyterian churches throughout the state, the benefits to the Presbyterian Church, the requirement for quick action on the issue, and the financial implications related to operating the orphanage. In section one of the paper, which is subtitled "IT IS NEEDED," Rev. Sutherland recounts some of the stories told to him about the children in need and the lack of adequate facilities for orphans, half-orphans and children in destitute families. Rev. Sutherland writes:

The superintendent of the Children's Home Society in this district who lives in Farmington, tell us that there are probably 200 children in this district who need a home, but cannot be helped by his society. They cannot find homes fast enough. Their temporary home in St. Louis is full, and recently they instituted a new line of procedure. Ten children were taken from the home to Cape Girardeau and on a Sabbath afternoon at a public meeting these children were given away from the platform. It reminds one of the slave market.¹⁶

The Children's Home Society mentioned in Reverend Sutherland's paper was an adoption agency based in St. Louis. According to the 1910 Census Report of Benevolent Institutions, it was one of only five "Societies for the Protection and Care of Children" in Missouri.¹⁷ Three of the other societies, which placed children in foster or adoptive families, were also based in St. Louis, and one was based in St. Joseph. The Children's

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ E. O. Sutherland, "Reasons for the Elmwood Presbyterian Home," Presbyterian Church of Farmington, Missouri, Records, 1832-1982, Collection #R114, Folder 14: Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri (Elmwood Seminary), 1914-1961. Western Historical Manuscripts Collection, p. 1.

¹⁷ Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Benevolent Institutions: 1910. (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1913), p. 164.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 10

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

Home Society placed 179 children in 1910, almost twice as many as the Humane Society of Missouri, which was also located in St. Louis and more than twice as many as the other three agencies combined.¹⁸

A comparison of the summaries in the Benevolent Institution Reports for 1904 and 1910 shows the increase in the number of children in these institutions. Although Missouri gained only one additional institution for the care of children, the number of children in those facilities almost doubled during that 6-year time period.¹⁹ Twenty-two of the thirty-two Institutions for the Care of Children listed in the 1910 report were operated by religious organizations; nine were operated by private, non-religious organizations or corporations and one was operated by Jackson County. All of these institutions were licensed and supervised by the State Board of Charities and Corrections.²⁰

Twenty of those thirty-two institutions were located in or around St. Louis; five were in Kansas City; three were in St. Joseph; and one was located in Springfield. Only three of the institutions for the care of children in Missouri were located outside the large cities. The St. James Industrial School, operated by the Benedictine Sisters in northwest Missouri town of Conception, accepted only orphan girls between the ages of 2 and 16; the St. Francis Academy, operated by the Sisters of St. Francis in the southwest Missouri town of Nevada, accepted indigent children; and the Central Wesleyan Orphan Asylum, operated by the Methodist Episcopal Church in the east-central Missouri town of Warrenton, accepted orphan children from the ages of 3 to 12.²¹ Census figures from 1910 show that none of the institutions for the care of children located in outstate Missouri were located in the southeast part of the state. Thus, the need described by Reverend Sutherland was very real, and it would continue to increase for decades. According to Marshall B. Jones, the author of Decline of the American Orphanage, 1941-1980, "from 1909 to 1933, the number of children in U. S. orphanages increased from 115,000 to 144,000."²²

In the second part of the position paper about the Elmwood Presbyterian Home, Reverend Sutherland discussed the support for the orphanage by the Presbyterian Churches around the state. In the section subtitled "OUR PEOPLE WANT IT," he reported that

18 Ibid. p. 28.

19 Ibid, p. 31 and Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Benevolent Institutions: 1904. Special Reports (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1905), pp. 26-27.

20 Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Benevolent Institutions: 1910, pp. 13-14.

21 Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Benevolent Institutions: 1910. (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1913), pp. 118-119.

22 Marshall B. Jones, "Decline of the American Orphanage: 1941-1980," Social Service Review. Volume 67, No. 3, September 1993, p. 461.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 11

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

They are already supporting orphanage work under other management, and feel glad that our church is now to give them a chance to help such work in the name of our church.... Also, since the cause of needy children always touches hearts, is it safe to assume, as one pastor expressed it, to have this institution within our bounds will put new life into our churches.²³

None of the institutions for the care of children or the societies for the placement of children in Missouri enumerated in the 1910 Benevolent Institutions Report was affiliated with the Presbyterian Church. Thus, the orphanage was proposed as an important and necessary mission of the Presbyterian Church in Missouri. As LeRoy Ashby, the author of Endangered Children: Dependency, Neglect and Abuse in American History, notes "although dedicated to rescuing the 'precious little ones,' most church-supported orphanages also wanted to protect the faith."²⁴

Support for the proposed establishment of the orphanage by all the Presbyterian churches in the state was also viewed as a step toward reunification of the northern and southern branches of the church. Reverend Sutherland wrote in the section of his position paper subtitled "COMITY OF THE SYNODS," that

The plan as proposed is in keeping with the oft expressed desire that we "all may be one." To adopt it will afford a chance for us to remove in some degree the reproach which many feel is upon Presbyterianism by reason of our existence as two separate Synods. To fail to enter into the cooperation in orphanage work as this plan proposes, will afford a new chance for those who want to cast aspersions to do so, as well as seriously interfere with present hopeful efforts towards union of the Synods.²⁵

Reverend Sutherland referred in his position paper to the two Synods of the church, the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America and the Presbyterian Church in the United States. In the book The Presbyterians, the authors, Randall Balmer and John R. Fitzmier, discuss the origins of these two divisions. According to Balmer and Fitzmier, "American Presbyterians found themselves divided over several issues during the early decades of the nineteenth century, chief among them the New-School-Old School split of 1837."²⁶ That year, the church split into two divisions, New

23 "Reasons for the Elmwood Presbyterian Home," p. 2.

24 LeRoy Ashby, Endangered Children: Dependency, Neglect and Abuse in American History. (New York: Twayne Publishers, 1997), p. 84.

25 "Reasons for the Elmwood Presbyterian Home," p. 2.

26 Randall Balmer and John R. Fitzmier, The Presbyterians, (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1993), p. 55.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri

School and Old School as a result of doctrinal interpretation differences.

It was the issue of slavery, however, that ultimately caused a major rift in the church. The New School Assembly of the Presbyterian Church split into northern and southern branches in 1857, after several anti-slavery resolutions were passed. The southern churches of the New School Assembly formed the United Synod of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.²⁷ The Old School Assembly held together until 1861 when the "Gardiner Spring Resolutions" were adopted. Those resolutions, which "called upon all Presbyterians, North and South, to support the Federal Government in Washington in its conflict with the states which had seceded," resulted in the withdrawal of most of the Southern presbyteries from the Old School Assembly, and the creation of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States of America.²⁸

After the Civil War, doctrinal differences were put aside in the name of reconciliation, but the north/south division in the church remained for more than a century. The "northern" churches were known as the United Presbyterian Church of the U. S. A., and the "southern" churches were known as the Presbyterian Church of the United States. "On 10 June 1983, at the 195th anniversary of the first meeting of an American General Assembly, the two bodies formalized their reunion, and changed the name of the reunited church to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)."²⁹

Reverend Sutherland's eloquent position paper on the "Reasons for the Elmwood Presbyterian Home" also briefly discussed the requirement for quick action on the issue, and the financial implications related to operating the orphanage:

We have only four months in which to fulfill the terms of the guarantee or bond which secures the property from the mortgage. Unless the plan is adopted now, nobody can give any assurance that the Elmwood property may not pass out of the hands of the Presbyterian people entirely, and be lost to the church. That would not only deprive us of our present chance to get a desirable property at a very low price, but would in itself be a great discouragement and impediment to both Northern and Southern Presbyterian work in South-east Missouri.³⁰

Reverend Sutherland also projected that a donation of 20 cents from each Presbyterian in Missouri and from some Presbyterians in Illinois would be enough to establish the orphanage and that some large private gifts would help sustain the institution once it was in operation.³¹

²⁷ Ibid, p. 66-67.

²⁸ Walter L. Lingle, Presbyterians: Their History and Beliefs. (Richmond, VA and Texarkana, ARK-TEX, Presbyterian Committee of Publication, 1928), p. 134-135, 140.

²⁹ Balmer and Fitzmier, pp. 108-109.

³⁰ E. O. Sutherland, p. 2.

³¹ Ibid.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 13

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

**Figure Two: Elmwood
Presbyterian Home,
original building, circa
1916.**

Source: Farmington Chamber
of Commerce.



PRESBYTERIAN ORPHANAGE, FARMINGTON, MO.

In early 1915, the Presbytery of St. Louis (U.S.), both the Presbyteries of the Synods of Missouri (U. S. and U. S. A.), and by the Presbyterian Synod of Illinois U. P. approved the Elmwood Home Proposition, and the Potosi Presbytery received a donation for the orphanage in the amount of \$15,000 from Mrs. Margaret Butler, a member of Second Presbyterian Church in St. Louis.³² Mrs. Butler's generous donation covered the \$12,000 purchase price of the Elmwood Seminary property and paid for some repairs to the buildings and furnishings for the orphanage. The main building was renamed Butler Hall in honor of Mrs. Butler.³³

On May 15, 1915, the Elmwood Presbyterian Home opened its doors. The Elmwood Home Board of Trustees chose Reverend E. O. Sutherland to be the first superintendent, and Miss Nettie Ward was hired to be the orphanage's first supervisor. The first two children to call the orphanage home were Elbert Kyle, age 6, and his sister, Hazel, age 4.³⁴ According to the "First Annual Report of the Superintendent," which was included in the "Report of the Board of Trustees of Elmwood Home," at the end of the first year of operation, the orphanage had twenty-six children in residence.³⁵ In his report, Superintendent Sutherland recounted

³² Presbyterian Children's Services, p. 2.

³³ *Farmington, Missouri: The First 200 Years, 1798-1998*, p. 56.

³⁴ Presbyterian Children's Services, p. 2.

³⁵ E. O. Sutherland, "First Annual Report of the Superintendent," in the "Report of the Board of Trustees of Elmwood Home," April 6, 1916. Presbyterian Church of Farmington, Missouri, Records, 1832-1982, Collection #R114, Folder 14: Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri (Elmwood Seminary), 1914-1961. Western Historical Manuscripts Collection.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 14

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

the work that had been done to the buildings during the course of the year, the generous donations of food and clothing that had been received, the needs of the orphanage for the future year, and the condition of the children.

In addition to describing the problems with illness among the children and the responsibilities of the children in the care and operation of the orphanage, Rev. Sutherland noted that "Besides industrial training, the children receive constant cultural helps and religious training, with special religious instruction on Sabbath afternoons."³⁶ From its inception, the children who lived at the orphanage attended the local public schools, and they also received religious and vocational training from orphanage staff. Religious activities included "reading the Scripture, leading prayer, sharing some thought for the day and singing together" and the orphanage residents attended worship services, Sunday school and youth meetings at the local Presbyterian church.³⁷ Children at the orphanage were assigned chores and duties around the orphanage based on their age to teach them responsibility as well as useful skills such as cooking, cleaning, carpentry and farming. Some of the boys at the orphanage lived offsite at a farm outside of town where they tended a kitchen garden and cared for dairy cattle and hogs.³⁸ One of the training opportunities provided to the children was work on a printing press that the orphanage had acquired. In 1915, the orphanage began publishing a regular newsletter, which was printed onsite. The newsletter, originally titled the Elmwood Home News, has changed names several times, but it is still published.

The Potosi Presbytery and the Synod of Missouri-Presbyterian Church, U.S. struggled to provide financial support for the Elmwood Presbyterian Home during its first few years in operation. Although the Synod of Missouri-United Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A. had supported the establishment of the orphanage, it had not provided any financial assistance for it. That changed in 1917, when the Synod of Missouri-United Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A. joined in sponsoring the orphanage. That year, the Elmwood Presbyterian Home "became the Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri - the only Presbyterian childcare facility in the nation directly related to both the northern (UPCUSA) and the southern (PCUS) Presbyterian churches."³⁹

36 Ibid.

37 George T. Wingard, (ed.) "A Brighter Way of Life," Children's Voice. Vol. 29, No. 4, August 1960, p. 3.

38 "A Brief History of the Home", p. 4.

39 Presbyterian Children's Services, p. 3.

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

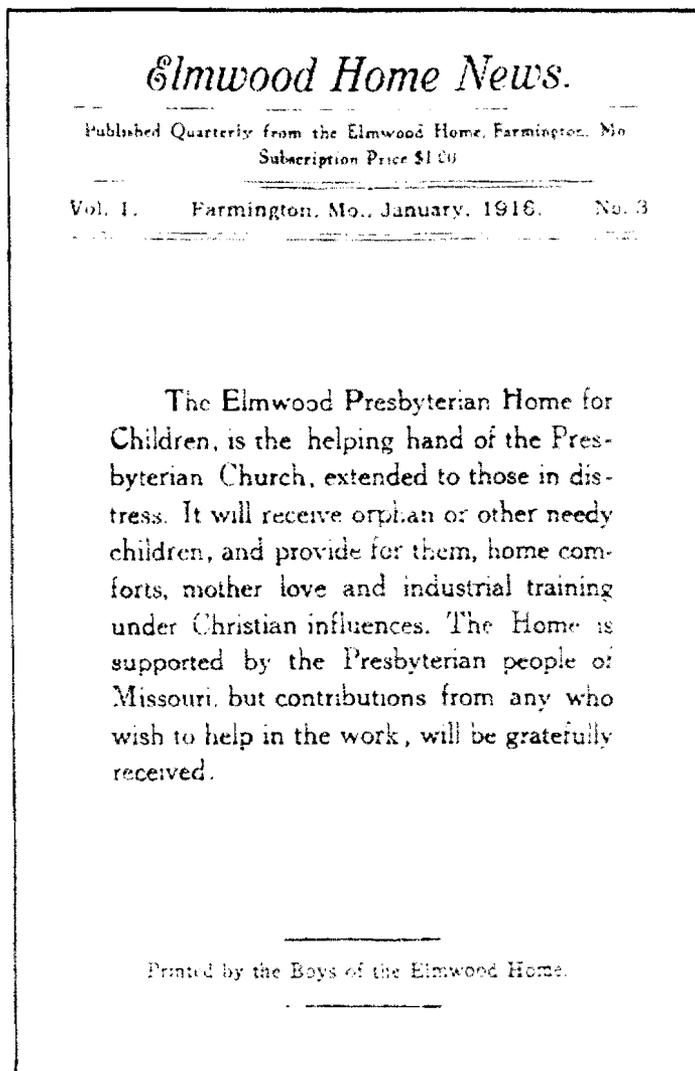
**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 15

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

Figure Three: Elmwood Home News

Source: Presbyterian Children's Services, "It's a Home and not an Institution: an historical perspective of the first eighty-nine years," p. 3.



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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 16

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

Reverend Sutherland retired in 1919. In the Winter Bulletin of the orphanage published February 15, 1919, Robert S. Boyd, the Secretary of the Board of Trustees lauded the accomplishments of Reverend Sutherland and his wife during their tenure at the orphanage. Mr. Boyd wrote

The Presbyterian Church, and especially the Board of the Home, recognizes the splendid and praise-worthy work done by Rev. and Mrs. Sutherland in the four years that they have been connected with the institution.... They leave it free of debt, with hundreds of dollars of improvements made on the property, and with seventy children receiving motherly care and Christian training.⁴⁰

The 1920 Census recorded 83 children and 10 staff people residing at the Presbyterian Orphanage in Farmington. The fifty-one boys and thirty-two girls in the orphanage ranged in age from 3 to 14; all were white, and most were born in Missouri. In addition to the superintendent, who lived off-site, the staff of the orphanage consisted of two housekeepers, two dormitory-keepers, two cooks, two laundresses and two other young women listed as students.⁴¹

The orphanage in Farmington grew so quickly that it was difficult to keep up with the needs of the increasing number of residents. In the April 20, 1920 Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri Newsletter, Superintendent Stinson, Reverend Sutherland's successor, reported that "we are now caring for 104 children [and] our balance sheet for the past six months shows an average current expense account of \$1350.00 per month."⁴² He also provided an update on the recent improvements to and the many needs of the orphanage. Prior to the addition of two new bathrooms that year, the more than fifty boys at the orphanage had to share one lavatory and one bathtub. At the top of the list of needs enumerated by Superintendent Stinson were additional and improved bathroom facilities for the girls. Like the boys, the thirty-five girls also only had one bathroom, and it had a washbasin instead of a lavatory.⁴³ Although the Presbyterian Orphanage made every effort to provide adequate facilities for their wards, it was precisely these conditions that promoted criticism of these institutional settings. In Endangered Children: Dependency, Neglect and Abuse in American History, the author notes

40 Robert S. Boyd, "Winter Bulletin." (Farmington, MO: The Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri, February 15, 1919) p. 1. Presbyterian Church of Farmington, Missouri, Records, 1832-1982, Collection #R114, Folder 14: Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri (Elmwood Seminary), 1914-1961. Western Historical Manuscripts Collection.

41 Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Fourteenth Census of the United States: 1920 - Population, (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1921), Enumeration District 105, Sheet No. 15A-B.

42 W. S. Stinson, Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri Newsletter, April 20, 1920. Presbyterian Church of Farmington, Missouri, Records, 1832-1982, Collection #R114, Folder 14: Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri (Elmwood Seminary), 1914-1961. Western Historical Manuscripts Collection.

43 Ibid.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 17

Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri

that the expanding size of these orphanages

tested mightily the quality of care they could deliver. The challenge of overseeing dozens, and in some cases hundreds, of children often overwhelmed the staff.... Supplies of food, clothing and support staff in asylums were usually inadequate.”⁴⁴

When Mr. Stinson passed away in 1930, his wife, who had helped him manage the orphanage, assumed the job of superintendent.⁴⁵ Mrs. Stinson’s tenure as superintendent coincided with the depression years. As was the case all over the country, the number of orphans continued to increase in the early 1930s, and donations declined. As a result, the orphanage struggled to meet its monthly expenses. However, a gift of 600 shares of International Shoe Company stock from the F. H. Peters Family in 1932 marked a turning point in the orphanage’s history. The gift from the Peters Family, which was to be used specifically for the erection of a new building and had to be matched by \$15,000 in other donations, spurred planning for a building program and brought a renewed commitment to fundraising by the orphanage’s Board of Trustees.⁴⁶

On February 25, 1937, the Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian Orphanage held a special meeting with local business leaders “to discuss the proposed plans of rebuilding the institution along the cottage plan.”⁴⁷ The cottage plan for caring for homeless children emerged in the early twentieth century as an alternative to the traditional institutional accommodations. “Rather than living in congregate settings, children resided with small groups in cottages, each with a matron or supervisor.”⁴⁸

The specific plans for the orphanage’s building program were revealed in an article in The Farmington News published on March 26, 1937. The article reported that

Because of the great need for repairs in the present building of the Presbyterian Orphanage in Farmington and because of the fact that considerable money is available to erect a modern set of buildings at the home, the Board of Trustees has decide to go ahead in a plan to raise enough additional money to erect six cottages, each accommodating 21 children, and an Administration Building for

44 LeRoy Ashby, p. 85.

45 George T. Wingard, ed. “A Brief History of the Home” The Children’s Voice. Volume 29, No. 4, August 1960, p. 4. Presbyterian Church of Farmington, Missouri, Records, 1832-1982, Collection #R114, Folder 14: Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri (Elmwood Seminary), 1914-1961. Western Historical Manuscripts Collection.

46 “Board of Trustees Hold Annual Fall Meeting,” The Elmwood Quarterly. October 1, 1935. Presbyterian Church of Farmington, Missouri, Records, 1832-1982, Collection #R114, Folder 14: Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri (Elmwood Seminary), 1914-1961. Western Historical Manuscripts Collection.

47 “Special Orphanage Meeting Held Here Last Night,” The Farmington News. February 26, 1937.

48 LeRoy Ashby, p. 90.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 18

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

dining hall, superintendent's offices, guest rooms and study rooms.⁴⁹

A few weeks after the announcement of the Orphanage's building program, the local newspaper began publishing regular updates on the design and planning of the buildings and on the statewide fundraising efforts, which lasted almost two years.⁵⁰ One such article, which announced a local public meeting about the orphanage's rebuilding plans noted that

The Elmwood Orphanage has through the years become an institution of great value to this community, not for any material reason, but because it has provided a home with Christian training and high ideals for neglected and homeless children. Many of our local people hold its welfare as one of their utmost concerns. ⁵¹

That statement was certainly reflected in the response of the local community not only to the fundraising efforts for the new buildings, but also to the year-round needs of the orphanage. Each issue of the orphanage newsletter noted donations of clothing, food, furnishings and services from local citizens, community organizations, and businesses.

In 1939, the same year that construction began on the new buildings at the Presbyterian Orphanage, Mrs. Stinson retired, and Reverend Peter Fischer took over as superintendent. During his six-year tenure at the orphanage, he supervised the construction of the new Administration Building, its three wings, and the new orphanage hospital. The central section of the Administration Building and the dining hall wing were completed in the early part of 1940, and the side wings were added a few years later. The hospital was completed in 1940 as well.

49 "Local Orphanage to Erect New Bldgs.," The Farmington News. March 26, 1937.

50 "Orphanage Campaign Away to a Good Start," The Farmington News. May 7, 1937.

51 "An Orphanage Mass Meeting Here Apr. 20," The Farmington News. April 16, 1937.

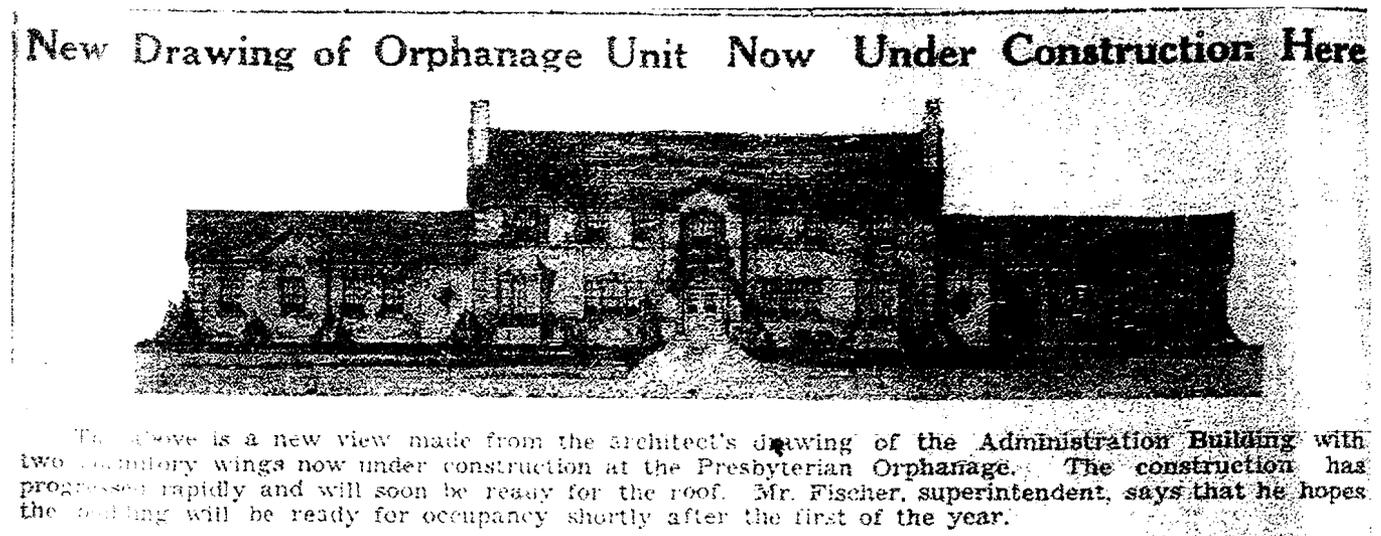
**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 19

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

Figure Four. Article and Drawing from The Farmington News. November 3, 1939, p. 1.



The Belle R. Holmes Hospital, which was the second building in the Orphanage's mid-century building plan, was dedicated on September 22, 1940. Mrs. Frederick E. Woodruff of St. Louis donated the funds for the construction of the hospital as a memorial to her mother.⁵² The two-story hospital building was designed by St. Louis architect, John McM. Cook.⁵³ The first floor of the building contained an operating room, a kitchen/dining room, a nurse's room, two hospital rooms and two bathrooms. On the second floor, there were four multi-bed wards.

The deadly Ringling Brothers Circus Fire of 1944 resulted in a heightened awareness about fire safety, and Butler Hall was determined to be unsafe as a residence for the orphanage's large number of children. This development spurred the second phase of the Orphanage's building plan, which added the dormitory space. In 1946, the north and south dormitory wings of the Administration Building were completed and dedicated.⁵⁴ O. W. Stiegmeyer, the architect who designed the central part of the building, had included those wings in the original drawings, which made it easy to expand when the funds became

⁵² "Dedication of the Belle R. Holmes Hospital, Sunday, September 22, 1940, 3 P. M." *The Orphan's Messenger*. Volume 9, No. 3, August 1940. Presbyterian Church of Farmington, Missouri, Records, 1832-1982, Collection #R114, Folder 14: Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri (Elmwood Seminary), 1914-1961. Western Historical Manuscripts Collection.

⁵³ Architect's Plans for the Belle R. Holmes Memorial Hospital drawn by John McM. Cook.

⁵⁴ Presbyterian Children's Services, p. 9.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 20

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

available. The north wing was used as a dormitory for small boys and the south wing housed small girls.

Figure Five: The Belle R. Holmes Hospital, 1940.

Source: The Orphan's Messenger, Vol. 9, No. 3, August 1940.



THE BELLE R. HOLMES HOSPITAL

The same year the dormitory wings were completed, Reverend Fred A. Walker moved to Farmington from a pastorate in Dallas to succeed Reverend Fischer as the orphanage's fifth superintendent. Reverend Walker left after just two years, however, to become president of the University of the Ozarks in Arkansas. Reverend William M. Griffin took over the management of the orphanage in 1948. His legacy included many improvements to the orphanage's farm program, which had begun in earnest in 1943 when a donation from Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sunnen was used to purchase an 85-farm northeast of Farmington.⁵⁵

In 1951, Reverend Walker resumed leadership of the Farmington Presbyterian

⁵⁵ Ibid., p. 7, 9.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 21

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

Orphanage.⁵⁶ Under his leadership, two large cottage-style dormitories were constructed on the east end of the orphanage campus. Dearing Hall, a cottage-style dormitory for nine girls and a counselor, was dedicated in 1951. Mrs. Ada M. Dearing donated the funds for the construction of Dearing Hall, as a memorial to her late husband F. H. Dearing. Harlan Hall, a cottage for boys between the aged of 11 and 13, was completed in 1954. It was named in honor of William M. Harlan, who was a member of the original organizing committee for the orphanage and served on the Board of Trustees from 1917 until 1954.⁵⁷ The St. Louis architectural firm of Paul Klingensmith and Associates designed both Dearing and Harlan Halls.⁵⁸

Klingensmith and Associates' design for Dearing and Harlan Halls continued the Georgian Revival theme begun with the Administration Building and Holmes Hall. All four of those buildings feature red brick walls, symmetrical fenestration and simple Colonial Revival detailing, especially at the entranceways. The designs for Dearing and Harlan Halls are further unified though similar massing and nearly identical detailing in the brickwork. Those simple but elegant exteriors had the added advantage of being very easy to maintain, and as a result, the buildings have seen very few changes since the time of their construction. The interiors of all four buildings also continue to reflect their utilitarian function; with the exception of the administrative offices and the main dining room, interior spaces throughout the complex have little architectural detailing.

Under the seventeen-year leadership of Reverend Walker, a number of changes were instituted in response to the changing needs of the children and the community and the changing philosophies of child welfare agencies. A concerted effort was made to make the orphanage more homelike. In 1953, the name of the institution was also changed. The Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri became the Presbyterian Home for Children.⁵⁹ A description of the home, which was published in the August 1960 issue of the *Children's Voice*, illustrates the changes that Reverend Walker put in place.

The Home is licensed by the State of Missouri to care for 98 children in usual groups of twelve. Each group has a supervisor who is really a housemother. The boys at the farm have couples in charge of each cottage. Counting also two relief matrons there is an immediate child-care staff of thirteen. Then, there are the cooks, maintenance people and the farm manager and assistant, a laundress, the secretaries and the Superintendent and the assistant Superintendent. A staff of

56 "Fred A. Walker Returns As Supt. of Presbyterian Orphanage," *The Farmington News*. September 21, 1951.

57 Pioneer Board Member Died December 8, 1956, *Children's Voice*. Volume 26, No. 1, March 1957, p. 1. Presbyterian Church of Farmington, Missouri, Records, 1832-1982, Collection #R114, Folder 14: Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri (Elmwood Seminary), 1914-1961. Western Historical Manuscripts Collection.

58 Architect's Plans for Dearing and Harlan Halls. Drawn by Paul Klingensmith & Associates.

59 Presbyterian Children's Services, p. 11.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 22

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

twenty-four is needed for this large “family.”⁶⁰

The selection of Fred Showalter as Executive Director at the Presbyterian Home for Children in 1970 marked a shift in the administration of the home. All of the previous leaders of the institution had come from a religious background. Mr. Showalter was first person with a background in professional social work to manage the home. Under his leadership, the Presbyterian Home for Children continued to provide residential care for adolescents. During the 1970s, the Presbyterian Home for Children greatly expanded its programming, and the institution “became a multi-service agency providing a full range of assistance to families and children.”⁶¹ New programs begun by the home during that period included the creation of an on-grounds classroom program for children who had difficulty succeeding in the public school environment, and a family counseling center. In 1978, Cayce Cottage was constructed to replace two smaller frame cottages that had been lost to fires in 1974 and 1978.⁶²

The continued expansion of services offered by the Presbyterian Home for Children ultimately resulted in a restructuring of the organization. In 1983, an umbrella organization known as Presbyterian Children’s Services was created to manage the Presbyterian Children’s Home in Farmington, as well as several other facilities and services around the state.⁶³ In 1996, Presbyterian Children’s Services opened the Midwest Learning Center on its Pine Street Campus on the eastern edge Farmington, and in 1999, the Presbyterian Children’s Home vacated the historic Liberty Street campus.⁶⁴

The Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri Historic District is a significant complex of intact historic buildings. The buildings in the district are representative of the long history and important work of the Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri. The orphanage provided a home for several thousand children during its eighty-five year history on the campus of the former Elmwood Seminary, and from 1917 to 1984, it was the only residential child-care facility in the nation affiliated with both the northern and the southern Presbyterian churches.

60 “A Brighter Way of Life,” *Children’s Voice*. Volume 29, No. 4, August 1960. p. 3. Presbyterian Church of Farmington, Missouri, Records, 1832-1982, Collection #R114, Folder 14: Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri (Elmwood Seminary), 1914-1961. Western Historical Manuscripts Collection.

61 Presbyterian Children’s Services, p. 13.

62 Ibid, p. 14.

63 Ibid., p. 15.

64 “Farmington Children’s Home History and Update,” St. Francois County Historical Society Newsletter, July 1993, p. 8.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 23

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 24

Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri

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United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 25

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St. Francois County, Missouri

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 26

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10, photographs Page 27

Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries are shown as a heavy dashed line on the enclosed boundary map.
(Scale 1" =200")

Boundary Justification

The current boundaries encompass all of the land currently and historically associated with the orphanage.

Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Farmington Children's Home
West Liberty Street, Farmington
St. Francois County, MO
Debbie Sheals, 29 South Ninth Street, Suite 204, Columbia, MO 65201
July, 2005

List of Photographs

See photo key for description of camera angle.

1. Quadrangle and façade of Administration building, looking west
2. Administration Building, façade, east elevation.
3. Holmes Cottage, façade, west elevation.
4. Homes Cottage, southeast corner.
5. Administration Building, Dining Hall Ell, northwest corner.
6. Back of the Administration Building, from the southwest.
7. Harlan Hall, north elevation.
8. Harlan Hall, south elevation.
9. Dearing Hall, façade, west elevation.
10. Northeast corner of Dearing Hall, with Harlan Hall in the background.
11. East end of the quadrangle, with Harlan Hall to the left and Cayce Cottage to the right.
12. The north edge of the quadrangle, along West Liberty Street, looking west to the Administration Building, (left), and Holmes Cottage (right).

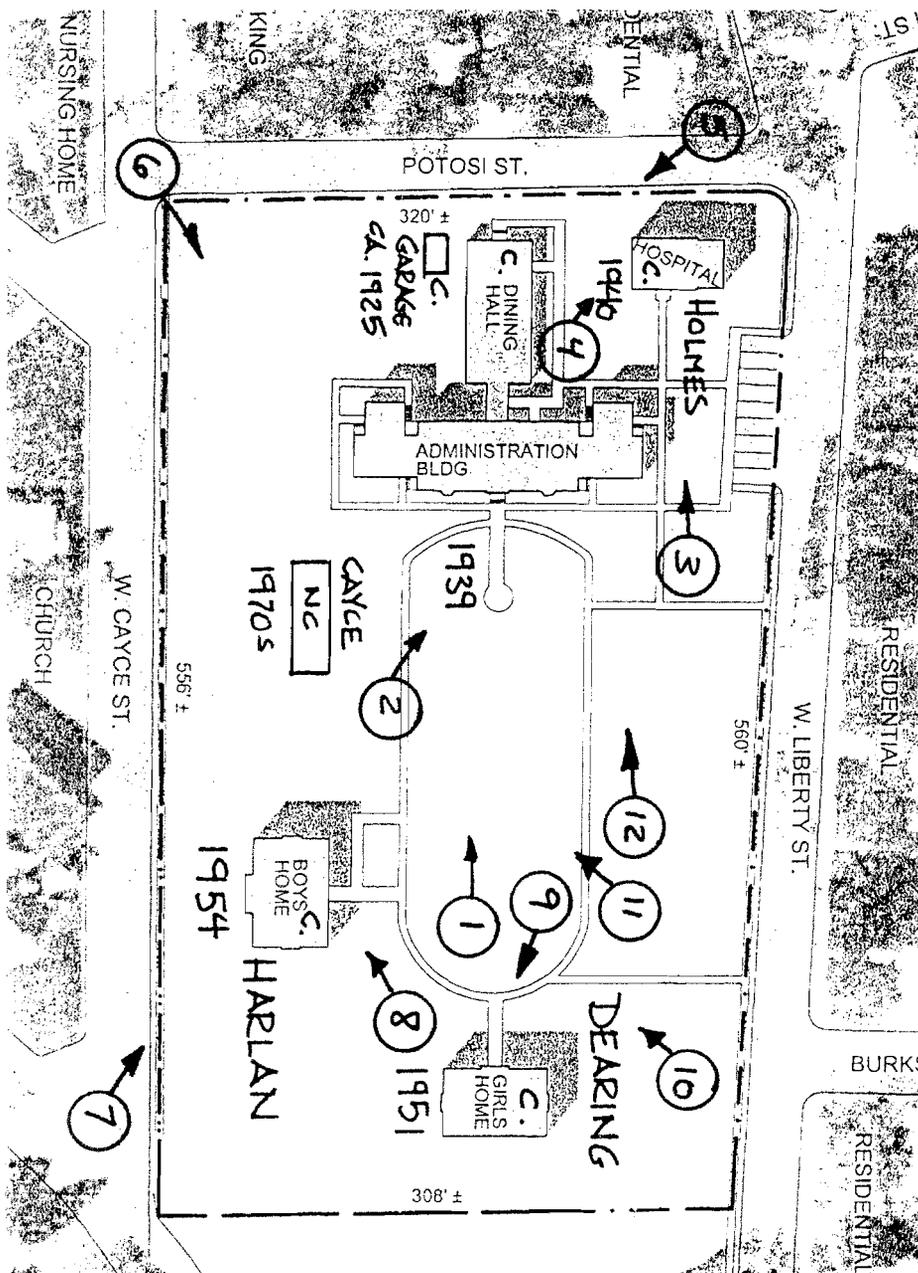
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number photo key Page 28

Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri

Photo Key



**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number owners Page 29

**Presbyterian Orphanage of Missouri
St. Francois County, Missouri**

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

Current Owner:

name Children's Foundation of Mid-America; James Thurman, President
street & number 1353 North Warson Road
telephone 314-989-9727
city or town St. Louis state MO zip code 63132

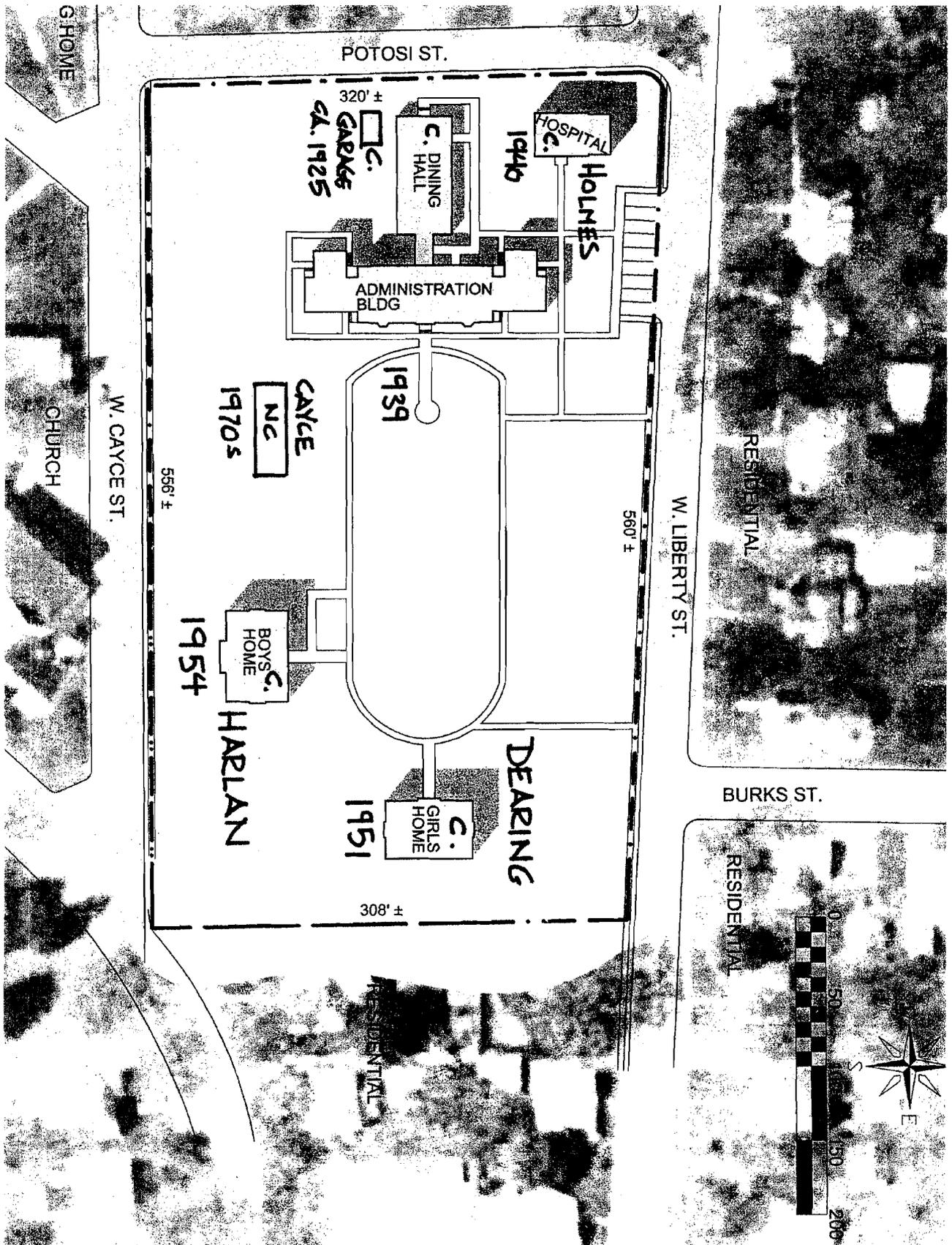
Future Owner: (As of December, 2005)

name Forrest D. Nye – Nye Development, LLC
street & number 1 East Main St, Suite 201
telephone 573-756-8013
city or town Doe Run state MO zip code 63637

BOUNDARY MAP

PRESBYTERIAN ORPHANAGE OF MISSOURI. FARMINGTON, ST. FRANCOIS COUNTY, MO

Drawn by Central Design Group L. L. C., 2511 Old Hwy 63 South, Suite B, Columbia, MO 65201 573-441-9391













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HARLAN



DEARBY HALL





