

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

JAN 28 1993

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh  
other names/site number Western Restoration Center

2. Location

street & number 2851 Bedford Avenue N/A  not for publication  
city, town Pittsburgh N/A  vicinity  
state Pennsylvania code PA county Allegheny code 003 zip code 15219

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	6	2 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		objects
		6	2 Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.  See continuation sheet.

Dr. Brent D. Glass *Brent D. Glass* Date 1/1/93

Signature of certifying official  
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Entered in the National Register 2/25/93

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:)

*for* Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

HEALTH CARE / sanitarium / clinic

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

VACANT / NOT IN USE

COMMERCE / business

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Italian Renaissance Revival

Other: (Northern) Italian Romanesque Revival  
Institutional Vernacular

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Brick

Limestone

roof Terra Cotta

other Concrete

Asphalt

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District is a complex of eight buildings that sits on a 4.9 acre site near the eastern edge of Pittsburgh's Hill District neighborhood. All the buildings were originally part of the complex operated by the Tuberculosis League of Pittsburgh. The site is park-like, on the crest of a hill that overlooks the Allegheny river valley to the North. Towards the Northwest, the site becomes thickly wooded and slopes steeply down to Bigelow Boulevard. Building 'D,' the main hospital building, dominates the site with its large mass and prominent, central location. All the buildings are brick, with one to five floors above grade and have a characteristic long, narrow footprint with repetitive window openings. All the buildings except for Building 'B' also have hip roof elements.

All the buildings face Bedford Avenue at right angles. The buildings at the center of the site have their long facades parallel to Bedford Avenue. The buildings on the west side of the site face the driveway loop and are perpendicular to Bedford Avenue (Photo 28). Development began at the rear of the site and progressed toward Bedford Avenue. The large lawn at the center of the complex responds to the emphasis on sunlight and fresh air in the early treatment of tuberculosis. (Photos 25 & 29).

The Tuberculosis Hospital buildings express a range of architectural styles. A 1962 renovation altered the earliest building on the site, the Power and Service Building, erected in 1912. A drawing of the building when originally built shows a simple vernacular brick structure with a hip roof. The Children's Ward Building of 1915-1917 is more architecturally expressive, done in the Italian Renaissance Revival. When built, it would have been more visible from Bedford Avenue since the McConway House, where a dispensary for tuberculosis treatment was established in 1907, was much smaller than the 1929 hospital building that replaced it. The next two buildings built on the site are, like the Power and Service Building, simple brick vernacular structures. The simplicity of the design of the 1917 Christmas Seal Building and the 1921 Men's Pavilion befits their location at the rear side of the site. Brick detailing found on the cornice of the Men's Pavilion is elaborated on extensively in the next building built, the 1929 hospital. With its arched openings and setbacks, the building is a somewhat loose interpretation of (Northern) Italian Romanesque Revival. The architects for the latest two buildings, the 1940 Marcy Building and the 1949 Nurses Residence also employed the Italian Romanesque Revival. This stylistic continuity was appropriate in unifying the most dominant buildings on the site.

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The Tuberculosis League built the Power and Service Building (Building 'B' on the site plan) c. 1912. They then built the Children's Ward Building, later known as the East Wing (Building 'C' on the site plan) from 1915 to 1917. These two buildings, which are now connected, have a combined length of 250 feet. Building 'B' has an average width of 33 feet, and Building 'C' has an average width of 42 feet. Due to the steeply sloping site, these buildings have a two story height exposure above grade on the south elevation and a four story height on the north elevation.

The Building 'B' segment is a steel-framed structural system combined with an exterior masonry bearing wall system. Its exterior masonry walls are clad with red brick laid in common bond in primarily flat, unadorned planes (*Photo 20*). Window heads are soldier course bricks, with the soldier course continuous above windows on the top floor. Window sills are stone. There are two small panels of recessed brickwork on the south and west elevations below the fourth floor windows (*Photo 10*). Two large arched openings on the west elevation were bricked-in during a 1962 remodeling by architect Alfred M. Marks (*Photo 10*). Various window openings had sill heights raised or were totally bricked-in at that time (*Photo 11*). A cafeteria and new passageway were built also, connecting Building 'B' to Building 'D.' The remodeling removed the original clay tile hip roof on Building 'B' and replaced it with a flat built-up asphalt roof and brick parapet (*Photo 9*). All original double-hung sashes have been replaced by aluminum jalousie windows except at below-grade areaways.

Building 'C,' the East Wing or Children's Ward Building is Italian Renaissance Revival in style. The two stories above grade on the south elevation are clad in molded brick panels above a molded sandstone base that rises out of grade approximately two feet (*Photo 19*). The north, east and west elevations have the same molded brick treatment resting on what is now a two story high exposure of heavy uncoursed sandstone ashlar with voussoired stone arches (*Photos 12 & 13*). Exterior masonry is generally in good condition.

On the north elevation, windows in the two-story stone base align vertically in an arched opening (*Photo 12*). The windows in the lowest level are casements centered in the masonry opening, flanked by smooth stone on each side. A stone panel separates these windows from those in the floor above, which are wider units, one-over-one double-hung with rounded upper sash. At the projecting portion of the north elevation (the east side) is a one story bay window with wood casements on the lowest level. Above this bay are three double-hung round top one-over-one double-hung wood units in arched openings (*Photo 13*). Original units remaining are one-over-one wood double-hung. All existing windows are in poor to fair condition. At the west side of the first floor, renovators modified some openings to install aluminum jalousie windows as in Building 'B' (*Photo 12*). This is the only portion of Building 'C' affected by the 1960's remodeling. The wood jalousie windows of the large open rooms on the second and third floors of the building connect to geared rods that originally operated all the windows simultaneously (*Photos 12 & 19*).

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At the east side of the south elevation is a small entrance portico (*Photo 18*). The portico has a flat roof, tuscan composite wood columns and wood entablature with a triglyphed frieze. The metopies between the triglyphs are flat and unornamented. The original red clay tile hip roof remains and is in reasonably good condition. Exposed wood rafter ends support the broad overhangs. Gutters and downspouts are copper (*Photo 17*).

The lower two floors of Building 'B' contain mechanical equipment and are utilitarian in finish. The first floor contains a large kitchen. The second floor consists of a series of patient rooms flanking a central corridor. The stair tower at the west end of the building dates from the 1960's remodeling, as does the intersecting ramp on the south elevation. Finishes are 1960's institutional: tile or painted concrete floors, plaster or tile walls and ceilings.

The lowest level of Building 'C' is partially unexcavated. The upper basement level consists of a series of small rooms flanking a central corridor (*Photo 22*). A larger room and the corridor at the east end lead out to a concrete porch covered with a flat roof. The concrete walls have deteriorated badly in some areas. Neglect and vandalism have largely destroyed the steel sash windows in the porch (*Photo 15*). The porch is an early addition to the building, dating from the 1920's or 1930's. The first and second floors have the large rooms with jalousie windows at the west side of the central corridor (*Photo 23*). There is an additional such room on the second floor at the north side of the corridor. The interiors of Building 'C' survived the 1960's renovation without major alterations. However, since the building has been largely unused since that time, interiors are considerably more deteriorated. Doors and casings are wood, walls and ceilings are plaster or brick, and floors are resilient tile or painted concrete.

The former Christmas Seal Building is a one story, thirteen bay t-shaped brick building built in the late 1910's (*Photo 25*). Its institutional vernacular style is a direct response to its original use as open-air wards for patient treatment. The roof is an asphalt shingled hip with jerkin-head gable. There is a hip roof projection at the center of the building. Windows are wood six-over-six double-hung pairs with wood panels below to floor level; doors are wood pairs with four glass panels and glass transoms. The interior consists of large rooms at the center front and two ends of the building. At the back of the building is a series of simply constructed smaller rooms. There is a projecting bay at the center rear of the building containing toilet rooms. Brick walls enclose a mechanical room at the center of the building.

The West Wing or Men's Pavilion Building is a two story, seven bay brick structure. Records at the American Lung Association indicate that the Tuberculosis League built the building in the early 1920's (*Photo 24*). The architect was E. P. Mellon of New York. Its stylistic simplicity and small windows nonetheless suggest that the building dates from an earlier era. Corbeled brickwork ornaments the doorways on

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the east elevation. Windows are six-over-six double-hung wood, with exterior metal storm units. Asphalt shingles cover the hip roof. Small, simply detailed rooms flank a central corridor on the second floor. Partitions on the first floor were partially removed in the 1970's. A homeless shelter most recently occupied the building. To the **North of the West Wing is a garage, a simple utilitarian structure that is noncontributing.**

Building 'D,' the main tuberculosis hospital building, is a five story structure with full basement and a partial sixth floor penthouse. It is nine bays wide, with masses that step back successively at roof lines (*Photo 1*). The structure is steel frame with exterior masonry cladding. Its style is a somewhat bland interpretation of (Northern) Italian Romanesque Revival.

Limestone ashlar capped with a dentilled limestone cornice veneers the foundation and first floor walls. The arched entrance is trimmed with limestone (*Photo 2*). Above this limestone base, the exterior cladding is brick in a variegated red to tan color range laid in common bond. The fifth story is fenestrated roman arcading. The fourth story terminates in a heavy corbelled brick cornice that surmounts arcuated bracketing also done in brick (*Photo 3*). The second and third stories have a smaller scale repetition of roman arcading. Limestone caps all cornices. Despite noticeable repairs, areas of brickwork show signs of deterioration. Bulges and protruding brick are evident primarily at corners and at parapets (*Photo 3*). The penthouse has a sloped clay tile perimeter roof and a flat roof at its center. All remaining roofs at the fifth floor and lower story set-backs are flat built-up roofs with parapets.

This building was built in 1929 to the design of architect E. P. Mellon. A 1962 renovation by Pittsburgh architect Alfred M. Marks modified it in the following ways. Arcaded porch areas on the second, third and fifth floors on the south, east and west sides became interior spaces (*Photos 1, 2, 5 & 8*). Remaining exterior terraces at building setbacks were no longer used when the building functioned as a mental health hospital. New construction at the north (rear) elevation included an elevator shaft, dining hall and connecting corridor to Building 'B' (*Photos 6 & 7*). Aluminum jalousie windows replaced all existing windows between the first floor and penthouse. Six-over-six double-hung steel windows remain on the first floor (*Photo 2*) as do three light casement steel windows in the penthouse (*Photo 1*).

The entrance vestibule leads directly into a large main lobby. The lobby is circular in plan with black and white checkered terrazzo floor, and curved travertine marble walls terminating in a molded plaster cornice. The ceiling is painted plaster. This main lobby leads directly to the elevator lobby towards the rear of the building and to the main corridor. Wood panelling covers the elevator lobby walls. Terrazzo floors and painted plaster walls are typical finishes throughout the first floor.

On the upper floors the corridors are double-loaded with patient rooms. Each upper floor has a nurse's station near the elevator lobby. Corridor walls have painted plaster with ceramic tile wainscots and windows into the patient rooms (*Photo 21*). Vinyl-wallcovered plaster walls, asphalt tile flooring and suspended acoustical ceilings are typical room finishes. All finishes date from the 1960's renovation.

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E. P. Mellon also designed the Marcy Memorial Building, built in 1940 as the new Tuberculosis League dispensary. Today it serves as local headquarters for the American Lung Association. The building is a seven by three bay, two story brick structure with a tile hip roof (*Photo 26.*) It is stylistically similar to the hospital building's Italian Romanesque Revival. There is a corbelled brick cornice and a continuous stone sill course below the second floor windows. Two bays on the second floor originally contained recessed balconies and have perforated brickwork below the sill course. Windows are multi-pane metal; first floor windows are eight-over-eight pairs with divided light arched heads. Second floor windows are eight-over-eight double-hung pairs. The central arched entryway on the east facade has a stone surround with double wood-paneled doors and metal grille work above in a semi-circular arched transom. A series of steps leads up to the entrance. Smooth limestone ashlar topped with a sill course veneers the raised basement story.

The interior was remodeled in 1970 to better accommodate the offices of the Lung Association. Offices flanking the central corridor occupy the former first floor exam rooms and second floor staff quarters. Current finishes are painted drywall, carpet, and acoustic ceiling. Drywall covers the arched window transoms on the interior.

Building 'A,' the former Nurses Residence faces Bedford Avenue. The League built this building in 1949 to the design of Pittsburgh architects Ingham, Boyd and Pratt. Due to the advances in tuberculosis treatment in the 1950's, the building served its original function for less than fifteen years. Although too new to be included as a contributing resource in the Tuberculosis Hospital District, the building is stylistically similar to the Italian Romanesque Revival of the Hospital and Marcy buildings. It is four stories, red brick, with an ashlar base and stone sill course (*Photo 27*). Windows are metal casement. There is a corbeled transition between wall and roof; the clay tile hip roof has copper gutters. There are outdoor terraces at the east and west ends of the building at the fourth floor level. The interior was entirely renovated in the 1960's to function as part of the Western Restoration mental health hospital.

Despite some extensive interior renovations the overall integrity of the Tuberculosis Hospital complex is quite high. The arrangement of the buildings, their siting, and the wooded setting overlooking the river tells much of the story of tuberculosis treatment in the first half of the twentieth century. The buildings themselves, with their long length and narrow width proportions were designed to maximize the penetration of natural light. This theme is further exemplified by the large number of windows and the exterior balconies for fresh-air therapy.

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The mental health hospital interior renovations in the 1960's maintained the essential layout of treatment rooms and central corridors of the tuberculosis hospital buildings. Window replacement and the enclosure of some exterior spaces were the most significant changes to the buildings' exteriors. The alterations to Building 'B' were unfortunate, particularly the loss of the hip roof found on other buildings in the District. Building 'B,' however, is the most utilitarian in design, befitting its original function as the Power and Service Building, and is also the least visible on the site. The three buildings at the west side of the site, which remain under the ownership of the American Lung Association, have been well maintained with a high level of historic integrity.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
HEALTH / MEDICINE

Period of Significance  
c. 1912-1940

Significant Dates  
N/A

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A

Significant Person  
N/A

Architect/Builder  
Mellon, E.P.  
Ingham, Boyd & Pratt

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

The Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh is significant in the history of tuberculosis treatment in western Pennsylvania. It was the headquarters for tuberculosis treatment and research performed by the Tuberculosis League of Pittsburgh. The site, the setting and the buildings themselves are representative of the efforts to treat this infectious disease prior to the development of effective drug therapies. The building complex is close to neighborhoods where large numbers of people lived in crowded and often unsanitary conditions. Along the rivers, steel mills and other industrial complexes were the focuses of high density row house communities.

In contrast to the dense residential neighborhoods nearby, the Tuberculosis Hospital complex is park-like, with a broad lawn in front of the main hospital building. The hilltop site above the Allegheny River maximizes natural ventilation to the buildings. Early twentieth century tuberculosis consisted largely of rest, good nutrition, fresh air and sunshine. The Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh provided these essentials as they could best establish within the dense, industrialized urban environment. The buildings were all long and narrow with central corridors and many windows which permitted plenty of ventilation and natural light. Although the complex was altered to serve as a mental health treatment center, the basic configuration of the buildings and their siting remain intact. Even in the current largely unoccupied state, the green surroundings and the many windowed interior spaces convey the concept of early twentieth century tuberculosis treatment.

In 1900, pulmonary tuberculosis was the leading cause of death from infectious disease in Pittsburgh. Approximately 15,000 residents of the city died of the disease between 1890 and 1910. Robert Koch discovered the tubercle bacillus as the cause of tuberculosis in 1882. However, crowded and unsanitary conditions common at the turn of the century made infection easy. Because general hospitals refused to admit tuberculosis patients, treatment had to be undertaken at specialized facilities. Dispensaries served outpatient screening and medication, and sanitarium housed advanced cases. Public education was an important component in the fight to control tuberculosis.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Annual Reports, Tuberculosis League of Pittsburgh, 1960-61, 1955, 1949, 1947, 1946, 1941, 1940, 1938, 1935.

Bulletin of the Bureau of Health, City of Pittsburgh, Dec. 5, 1908 & Dec. 29, 1908.

Maurice Davis, Health Survey of Pittsburgh. (Pittsburgh, 1920).

Frank Donahue, director of Lung Association of Western PA, Telephone interview, May 24, 1991.

Insurance Map of City of Pittsburgh. (Philadelphia, PA.: C.M. Hopkins Co.) 1900, 1914 & 1923.

Insurance Map of Pittsburgh, PA. (Pelham, N.Y.: Sanborn Map Co.) 1924, with updates through 1951.

See continuation sheet

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 4.9

**UTM References**

A 17 587430 4478380  
 Zone Easting Northing

C \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zone Easting Northing

D \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary of The Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District is shown on the accompanying site map entitled Existing Site Plan, Western Restoration/ American Lung Association of Western Pennsylvania, former Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh.

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes the building and grounds historically associated with the Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh. This boundary includes the original McConway property and an annexed area to the northeast which was acquired when the Women's and Children's Building was built in 1915. It also includes an unimproved area to the northwest which was acquired by the League in the 1910's or 1920's and used for parking.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kevin G. Scott, R.A.  
 organization Lorenzi, Dodds & Gunnill, Inc. date September 2, 1992  
 street & number 100 Wood Street Building telephone (412) 261-6062  
 city or town Pittsburgh state PA zip code 15222

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The first organized effort against tuberculosis in the city was a private undertaking with the formation of the Pittsburgh Society for the Prevention and Treatment of Tuberculosis in December 1906. The Society, organized by a group of business and community leaders, opened the first dispensary in the city for tuberculosis treatment in January 1907. In February 1907 the Pittsburgh Sanitarium opened in a converted house on Bedford Avenue donated by William McConway, along with approximately four acres of land. In May 1908 the Society and the Sanitarium merged to form the Tuberculosis League of Pittsburgh, and they named the hospital the Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Due to space limitations in the McConway House, the League constructed five open-face shacks on the site that housed up to 40 beds. Such inadequate facilities hampered effective treatment and therefore the League expanded its physical plant. The first building built was the original dispensary, a two story frame structure, in 1909. The Power and Service Building (Building 'B' on the site plan) was built c. 1912. This building housed the League's library and laboratory facilities in time, as well as boarding rooms for employees. Its red brick, hip roof, and repetitive double-hung windows became features common to later buildings on the site. The building's long, narrow floor plan also became a pattern that would be later repeated.

The Tuberculosis League next built the Children's Ward Building with a grant from R. B. Mellon. This building, built from 1915 to 1917, was later known as the Women's and Children's Building or the East Wing (Building 'C' on the site plan). The Children's Ward Building was more architecturally stylized than the Power and Service Building, befitting its more public function. The architects adopted the Italian Renaissance Revival style for the building's design. An aluminum box placed in the cornerstone contained a history of tuberculosis treatment to that time. Recovering children could continue their education in a healthy environment in the building's "Open Air School." The building was the first of its kind in the state devoted primarily to the care of children with tuberculosis.

Construction of the building known as the Christmas Seal Building to the North of the Dispensary Building commenced in the late 1910's. An interview with the director of the American Lung Association (successor to the Tuberculosis League) revealed that the building was used to treat veterans returning from World War I. A 1924 Sanborn Map labeled the building as "Open Air Wards" which may indicate that the large windows and doors are a later addition. This simple institutional vernacular building served as headquarters in subsequent years for volunteers to coordinate the annual Christmas Seal campaign. Sometime in the early 1920's the building known as the Men's Pavilion or West Wing was built to the North of the Christmas Seal Building. Lung Association records indicate that this simply detailed building is the work of architect E. P. Mellon. The first floor functioned for a time before the construction of the 1929 hospital as a morgue. A Sanborn map covering the period 1924-1951 shows two houses on the east side of the site. The larger building was part of the McConway property, while the smaller

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building was one of several properties acquired to allow for construction of the East Wing. These buildings are no longer standing.

Later construction on the Bedford Avenue site culminated with the razing of the McConway house in 1927 and the construction of the new hospital building (Building 'D' on the site plan). Although the building now dominated the site (being as long as Buildings 'B' and 'C' combined), its exterior expression was clearly sympathetic to the earlier buildings'. Architect E. P. Mellon designed the elaborately detailed brickwork and setbacks that broke down its large mass. The building is in a somewhat bland interpretation of (Northern) Italian Romanesque Revival. All patient treatment floors originally had open porches facing south or west. Although later enclosed, these spaces remain expressed on the exterior as arcaded elements.

With the completion of the new facility, the League now could carry on its work with a fully equipped teaching hospital of 150 beds. The hospital staff instructed University of Pittsburgh medical students on techniques for prevention and treatment of tuberculosis and trained nurses at its new facility. A library was opened in the new building to all members of the medical profession.

In understanding the role of the Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh, it is important to recognize the public efforts which augmented the work of this private organization. At the beginning of this century, the only public health facility to treat tuberculosis was the state hospital at Mt. Alto. By 1916, the Mt. Alto facility accommodated 1150 patients. Two smaller state operated sanitarium at Cresson and Hamburg accommodated another 1180 patients. Yet all three hospitals were full in 1916, with a waiting list of 800.

The need for additional facilities close to the city was apparent, and in 1909 the voters of Pittsburgh approved a bond issue to construct a public tuberculosis hospital. The hospital opened in September 1915 on the ninety-seven acre Leech farm site along the Allegheny River. Expansion of the hospital in the 1920's and 1930's raised the number of beds from 140 to 450. This was still short of the estimated 830 beds needed in the city as determined in the 1936 *Survey of the Department of Public Health*. The Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh was unique, however, in providing bed space at its Bedford Avenue site for patients from outside the city.

By 1930 the death rate from tuberculosis had fallen at a faster rate in the Pittsburgh area than it had in either the state as a whole or the nation. The League began to concentrate its efforts on public education and out-patient treatment for prevention of the disease. By 1938, the death rate from tuberculosis had decreased to 400 per year in Pittsburgh, making it the seventh leading cause of death in the city. They razed the 1907 dispensary building and constructed a new, larger dispensary on the same site in 1940, perpendicular to Bedford Avenue. With the construction of this building, the League was better equipped to execute its mission of providing chest examinations to all individuals regardless of ability to pay. The number of outpatient

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examinations grew from 800 in 1907 to 18,000 in 1946. Pittsburgh architects Ingham, Boyd & Pratt designed the Nurses Residence built in 1949 (Building 'A' on the site plan). This new building freed additional space for patients in the hospital. Both the Nurses Residence and the Dispensary express an architectural style similar to that of the Hospital.

Medical advances in the 1950's dramatically affected the Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh. The development of new drug therapies (especially streptomycin) drastically reduced the time period required for treatment. In the years 1953 and 1954 the patient bed shortage suddenly ended and the Tuberculosis League ceased inpatient hospital care in 1955. Buildings 'A,' 'B,' 'C' and 'D' at its Bedford Avenue site were then sold to the State. The Tuberculosis League continued to operate out of the 1940 dispensary (later named the Marcy Memorial Building), which it renovated entirely for office space in 1970. They also maintained ownership of the Christmas Seal building and the West Wing. The State converted the former hospital buildings and Nurses Residence into a mental health treatment facility known as Western Restoration Center, which operated into the mid 1980's.

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Pittsburgh Gazette Times, September 18, 1910, "Improved Methods of Pittsburgh Tuberculosis League."

Pittsburgh Gazette Times, October 27, 1912, "Power and Service Building for the Tuberculosis Hospital."

Pittsburgh Gazette Times, April 20, 1917, "Tuberculosis League Opens New Building for Children."

Pittsburgh Gazette Times, May 24, 1926, "Plan New Hospital to Cost \$600,000."

Pittsburgh Post, October 4, 1915, "Tuberculosis History to be in Cornerstone."

Pittsburgh Post, October 30, 1915, "Tuberculosis League's Children's Building to be First of Kind in Country."

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, December 19, 1928, "Hospital Will Have Library."

Pittsburgh Press, April 18, 1915, "Church Money, May 2, to Aid in Fight against Plague."

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Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph, October 29, 1915, "Cornerstone of Children's Ward Building is Laid."

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Survey Report, Department of Public Health, Pittsburgh, PA. (Pittsburgh: U.S. Public Health Service) 1948, pp. 173-190.

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The following information is common to photographs 1 through 23:

- 2) Pittsburgh, PA
- 3) Thomas Grden
- 5) Lorenzi, Dodds & Gunnill, Inc.  
100 Wood Street Building  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Note: Due to the steep slope of the site and the limited space between Buildings 'D' and 'B', rear elevations could only be photographed obliquely.

I.

- 1) Building 'D', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) November 1989
- 6) Front (south) elevation, looking north
- 7) 1

II.

- 1) Building 'D', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) November 1989
- 6) Front (south) elevation, looking northwest
- 7) 2

III.

- 1) Building 'D', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) November 1989
- 6) East end of south elevation, looking north
- 7) 3

IV.

- 1) Building 'D', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) November 1989
- 6) Front and right side, looking northwest
- 7)

V.

- 1) Building 'D', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) October 1989
- 6) Right (east) and rear (north) elevations, looking south
- 7) 5

VI.

- 1) Building 'D', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) October 1989
- 6) Rear elevation, showing 1962 elevator shaft and connection to Building B/C
- 7) 6

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh  
Historic District  
Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, PA

Section number Photos Page 2

---

VII.

- 1) Building 'D', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) October 1989
- 6) Rear elevation, looking southeast
- 7) 7

VIII.

- 1) Building 'D', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) October 1989
- 6) Left (west) elevation, looking northeast
- 7) 8

IX.

- 1) Building 'D', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) November 1989
- 6) South elevation, looking north. Note brick parapet added when hipped roof was removed in 1962.
- 7) 9

X.

- 1) Building 'B', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) November 1989
- 6) West elevation, looking east. Building 'C' is beyond to the left, Building 'D' is beyond to the right.
- 7) 10

XI.

- 1) Building 'B', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) November 1989
- 6) North elevation, looking southeast
- 7) 11

XII.

- 1) Building 'C', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) November 1989
- 6) West and north elevations, looking east. Edge of Building 'B' is at the right.
- 7) 12

XIII.

- 1) Building 'C', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) September 1989
- 6) Detail of north elevation at stone base
- 7) 13

XIV.

NOT USED

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh  
Historic District  
Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, PA

Section number Photos Page 3

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XV.

- 1) Building 'C', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) November 1989
- 6) East elevation, showing concrete porch addition
- 7) 15

XVI.

- 1) Building 'C', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) September 1989
- 6) South elevation, east side. Roof of concrete porch on east elevation is at ground level at right.
- 7) 16

XVII.

- 1) Building 'C', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) November 1989
- 6) South elevation, looking northwest
- 7) 17

XVIII.

- 1) Building 'C', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) September 1989
- 6) Entrance portico
- 7) 18

XIX.

- 1) Building 'C', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) November 1989
- 6) South & west elevations, looking northeast
- 7) 19

XX.

- 1) Building 'B', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) September 1989
- 6) Portion of north elevation between Building 'C' and passage to Building 'C'.
- 7) 20

XXI.

- 1) Building 'D', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) September 1989
- 6) Corridor looking to Building 'B'.
- 7) 21

XXII.

- 1) Building 'C', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) November 1989
- 6) Interior
- 7) 22

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh  
Historic District  
Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, PA

Section number Photos Page 4

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XXIII.

- 1) Building 'C', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 4) November 1989
- 6) Interior, showing geared windows at large open rooms.
- 7) 23

The following information is common to photographs 24 through 29:

- 2) Pittsburgh, PA
- 3) Kevin Scott
- 4) August 1992
- 5) Lorenzi, Dodds & Gunnill, Inc.  
100 Wood Street Building  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

XXIV.

- 1) West Wing, Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 6) Front elevation, looking west
- 7) 24

XXV.

- 1) Christmas Seal Bldg., Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 6) Front elevation, looking southwest
- 7) 25

XXVI.

- 1) Marcy Memorial Bldg., Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 6) Front elevation, looking southwest
- 7) 26

XXVII.

- 1) Building 'A', Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 6) Bedford Avenue elevation, looking north
- 7) 27

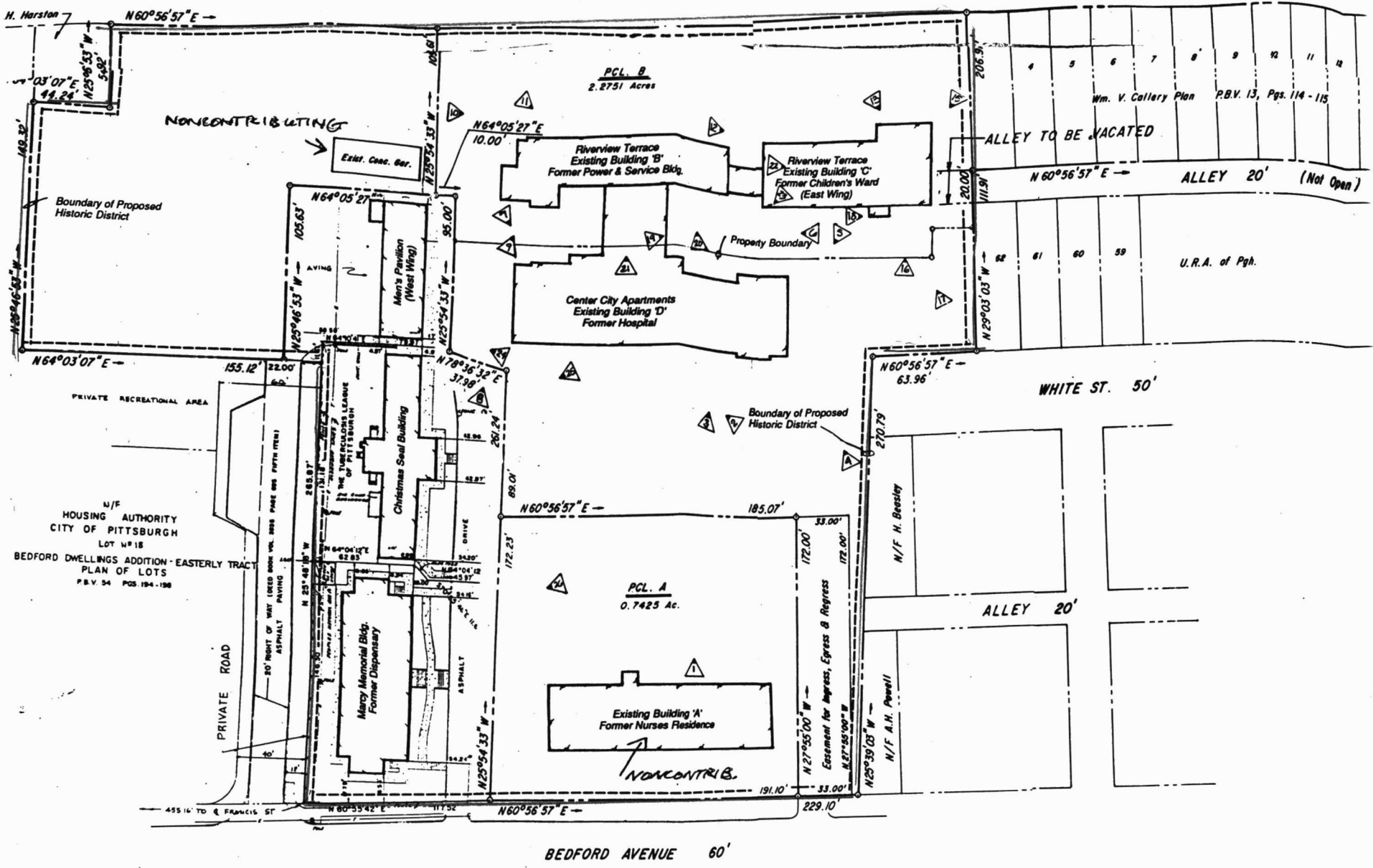
XXVIII.

- 1) West Wing, Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 6) View into site from Bedford Avenue, looking northwest. Marcy Memorial Bldg. is at the right.
- 7) 28

XXIX.

- 1) Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh Historic District
- 6) View of lawn between Buildings 'D' & 'A', looking south.
- 7) 29

RIDGEWAY STREET 60' (Not Open)



H. Horston

Wm. V. Coltery Plan P.B.V. 13, Pgs. 114 - 115

U.R.A. of Pgh.

Boundary of Proposed Historic District

PRIVATE RECREATIONAL AREA

N/F HOUSING AUTHORITY CITY OF PITTSBURGH LOT W/18

BEDFORD DWELLINGS ADDITION - EASTERLY TRACT PLAN OF LOTS P.B.V. 34 PGS. 194 - 198

PRIVATE ROAD

50' RIGHT OF WAY (SEE BOOK VOL. 2088 PAGE 608 FIFTH ITEM) ASPHALT PAVING

CHRISTMAS SEAL BUILDING

THE TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH

PCL. B  
2.2751 Acres

PCL. A  
0.7425 Ac.

NONCONTRIB.

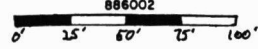
△ - PHOTO NUMBER

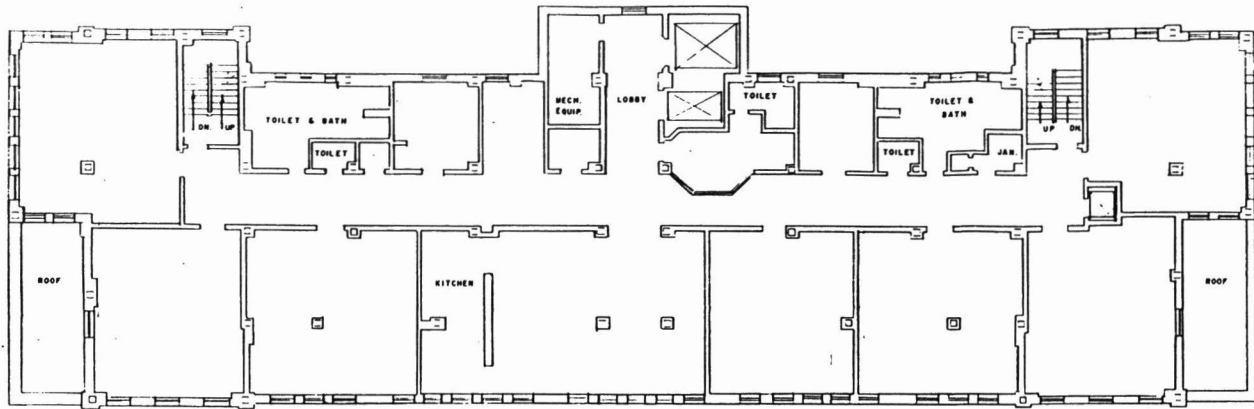
**EXISTING SITE PLAN**

WESTERN RESTORATION/  
AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA  
FORMER TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH

LORENZI, DODDS & GUNNILL INC.  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

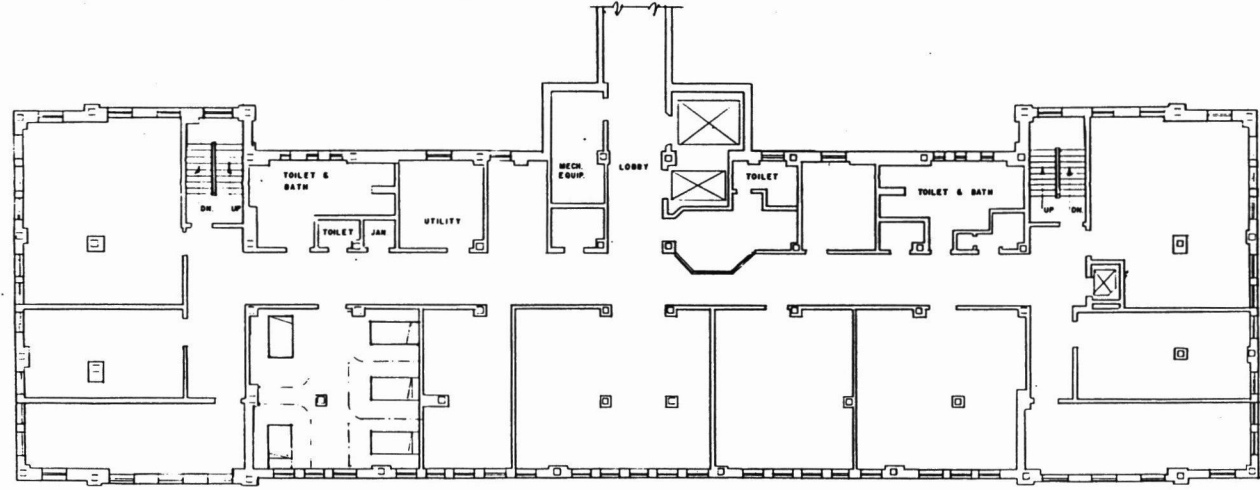
PITTSBURGH, PA  
SCALE: 1" = 50' DECEMBER, 1989





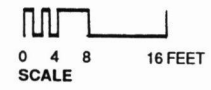
THIRD FLOOR PLAN

BUILDING "D"



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

BUILDING "D"



BLDG. B, C & D: EXISTING PLANS.	
REVISIONS	<b>TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH</b>
	Bedford Avenue 5th Ward Pittsburgh, PA
	<b>BUILDING "D"</b> SCALE
	EXIST. SECOND & THIRD FLOOR PLANS
DRAWN	CONTRACT 888-002
CHECKED	REFERENCE
APPROVED	FIELD BOOK
	<b>LORENZI, DODDS AND GUNNILL,</b>
	PITTSBURGH, PA. ARCHITECTS WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: PENNSYLVANIA, Allegheny

DATE RECEIVED: 1/28/93      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/09/93  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/25/93      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/14/93  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 93000073

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    2/25/93 DATE

Entered in the  
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

---

CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

---

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

---

FUNCTION

historic       current

---

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

---

SIGNIFICANCE

Period              Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates                      Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph  
 completeness  
 clarity  
 applicable criteria  
 justification of areas checked  
 relating significance to the resource  
 context  
 relationship of integrity to significance  
 justification of exception  
 other

---

BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage               verbal boundary description  
 UTM's               boundary justification

---

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps       USGS maps       photographs       presentation

---

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY, COUNTY, PA 1.



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 3



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 4



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 5



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 6



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 7



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 8



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 9



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 10



THE TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 15



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 17



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 18



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 19



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 20



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 21



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 27



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 23



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 24



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 25



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 26



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 27



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 28



TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA 29

## Missing Core Documentation

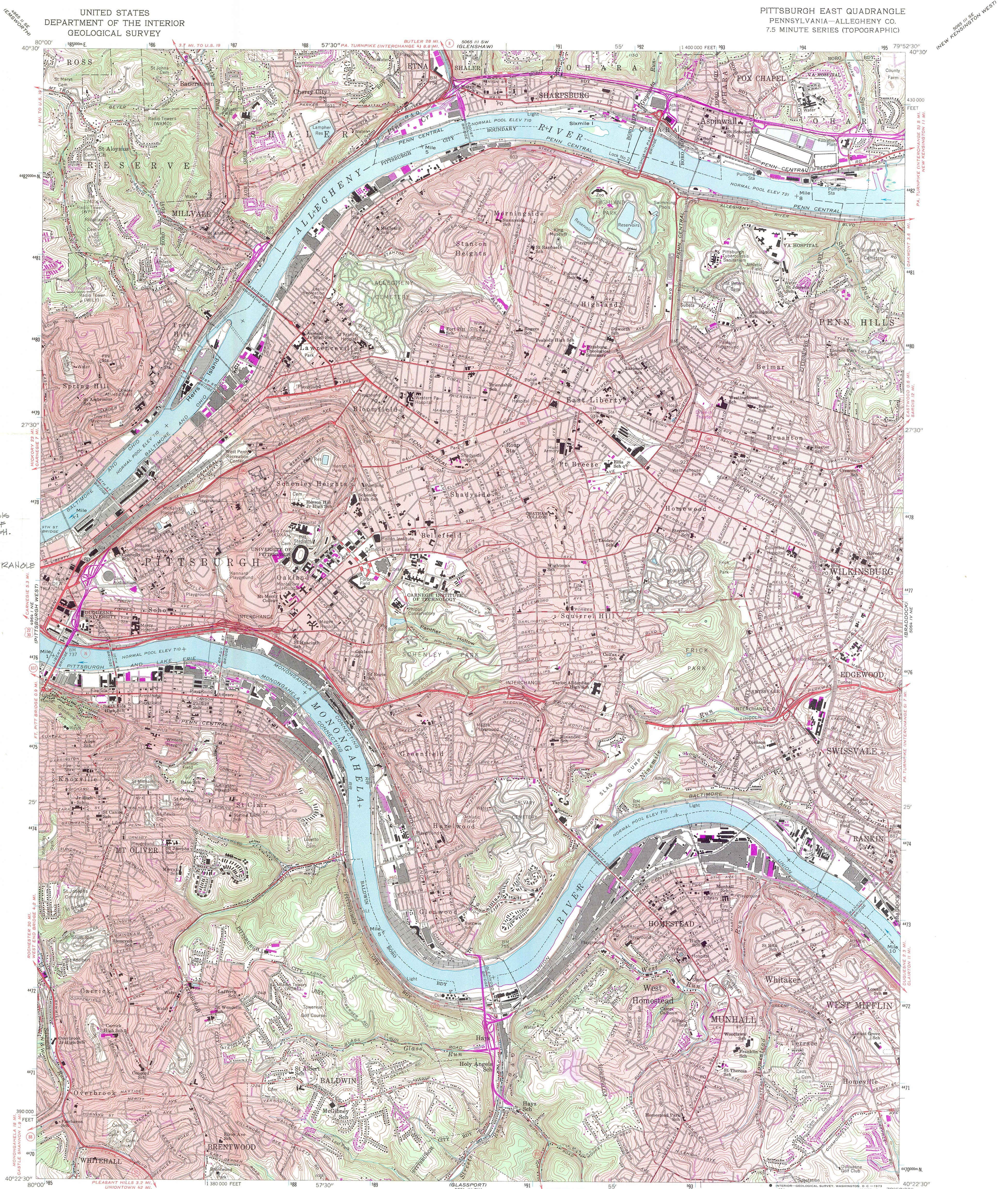
<b>Property Name</b>	<b>County, State</b>	<b>Reference Number</b>
Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh	Allegheny County, Pennsylvania	93000073

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

Nomination Form

Photographs (missing #14)

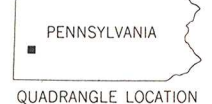
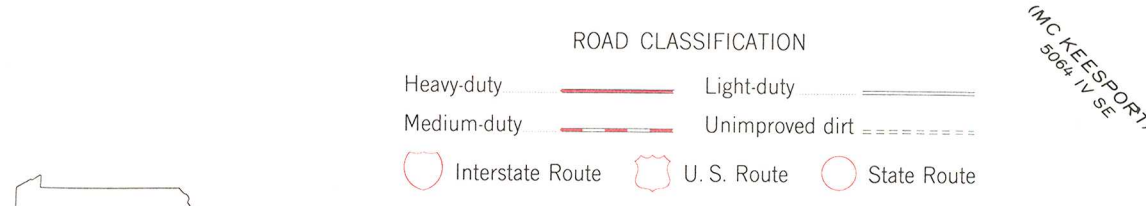
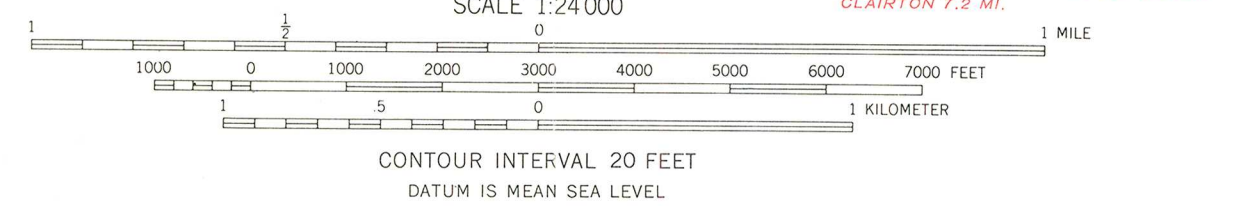
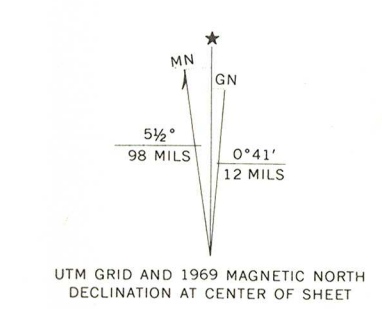
USGS Map



TUBERCULOSIS  
HOSPITAL OF  
PITTSBURGH,  
ALLEGHENY  
COUNTY,  
PITTSBURGH  
EAST QUADRANGLE  
ZONE 17  
E587430  
N4178350

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and the City of Pittsburgh  
Topography by planetable surveys 1925-1941, and 1948  
Culture revised by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1959. Field check 1960  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Pennsylvania coordinate system, south zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 17, shown in blue  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial  
photographs taken 1969. This information not  
field checked  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

PITTSBURGH EAST, PA.  
N4022.5—W7952.5/7.5  
1960  
PHOTOREVISED 1969  
AMS 5064 IV NW—SERIES V831



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION  
BUREAU FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
BOX 1026  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17108-1026

National Register of Historic Places  
US Dept. of Interior  
Carol Shull, Chief of Registration  
P.O. Box 37127  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

Re: NR Nomination Forms

Dear Ms. Shull:

The following National Register nomination forms are being submitted/resubmitted for your review and response:

*Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh  
Allegheny*

The proposed action is:

listing in the National Register

determination of eligibility (owner objection)

If you have any questions regarding the nominations please call us at (717) 783-8947.

Sincerely,

Greg Ramsey, Chief  
Division of Preservation Services

GR:sk

U R B A N  
REDEVELOPMENT  
A U T H O R I T Y  
OF  
P I T T S B U R G H

JOHN P. ROBIN, CHAIRMAN

DAVID E. EPPERSON, VICE CHAIRMAN

ANN OSTERGAARD, TREASURER

IAKE MILLONES, MEMBER

JOHN J. SCILIGO, MEMBER

November 9, 1992

Mr. Dan Deible  
Chief, Division of Preservation Services  
Bureau for Historic Preservation  
P.O. Box 1026  
Harrisburg, PA 17108-1026

**Subject: Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh  
2851 Bedford Avenue, Pittsburgh**

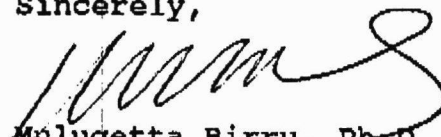
Dear Mr. Deible:

I am writing to express the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh's (URA) support of the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places of the subject property. The former Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh is comprised primarily of property acquired by the URA from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. For several years, the URA has worked with a consortium of neighborhood institutions to convert the site's former nurses' quarters, nursing home and hospital into a 120-unit housing campus for the elderly. The first phase of the development, which is the conversion of the nurses' quarters into 32 residential units, is under construction; and the apartments should be ready for occupancy by mid Spring of 1993.

The proposed historic designation is critical to development of the second and third phases of the site. With the equity raised through the syndication of the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits, the not-for-profit developer will be able to convert the nursing home and hospital into two senior housing projects. The Center City Apartments development will include 40 residential units, a community health center and a senior day-care center. The Riverview Terrace facility, which is the third phase of the development, will provide 48 residential units for the frail elderly and supportive services.

Your favorable consideration of the developer's request will provide significant financial support to this very important project which will represent an investment of \$10.7 million. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Mulugetta Birru, Ph.D.  
Executive Director



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
**Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission**  
Bureau for Historic Preservation  
Post Office Box 1026  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108-1026

January 22, 1993

JAN 23 1993

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

Carol Shull, Chief of Registration  
National Register of Historic Places  
U.S. Department of Interior  
1100 L Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: NR nomination forms

Dear Ms. Shull:

The following National Register nomination forms are being submitted for your review:

Tuberculosis Hospital of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County

The proposed action is :

listing in the National Register

determination of eligibility (owner objection)

If you have any questions regarding the nominations please call us at (717) 783-8947.

Sincerely,

Dan G. Deibler, Chief  
Division of Preservation  
Services

Enclosures  
DGD/dc