

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Fitzgibbon Hospital

other names/site number N/A

## 2. Location

street & number 868 S. Brunswick Avenue N/A not for publication

city or town Marshall N/A vicinity

state Missouri code MO county Saline code 195 zip code 65340

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

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

August 23, 2012  
Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register

other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Name of Property

Saline County, Missouri  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	0	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

HEALTH CARE/Hospital  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)  
LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY  
REVIVALS/Classical Revival

MODERN MOVEMENT/Moderne  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE  
walls: BRICK  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof: ASPHALT  
other: STONE  
TERRA COTTA

Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Name of Property

Saline County, Missouri  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

HEALTH/MEDICINE

**Period of Significance**

1923-1962

**Significant Dates**

1923

1955

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Shepard and Wiser (Architect, 1923)

Pratt-Thompson Construction Company (builder, 1923)

Gentry and Voskamp (Architect, 1955)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Missouri Valley Special Collections, KCPL

Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Name of Property

Saline County, Missouri  
County and State

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 3.5 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>483611</u>	<u>4329279</u>	3	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	4	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kristen Ottesen, Associate  
organization Rosin Preservation, LLC date May 2012  
street & number 215 W. 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste. 150 telephone 816-472-4950  
city or town Kansas City state MO zip code 64108  
e-mail kristen@rosinpreservation.com

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Photographs.**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**Property Owner:**

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

name Patrick O'Hanlon  
street & number 868 South Brunswick telephone   
city or town Marshall state MO zip code 65340

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Saline County, Missouri

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## SUMMARY

Fitzgibbon Hospital is located at 868 South Brunswick Avenue in Marshall, Saline County, Missouri. It occupies a large lot (approximately 3.5 acres) bordered by Brunswick Avenue on the west, Summit Street on the north, Conway Avenue on the east, and Mitchell Street on the south. The hospital is located approximately one mile southeast of downtown Marshall and the Saline County courthouse square. T-shaped in plan, the building sits at the center of the large block, surrounded by grassy lawns. The two-story west block of the "T" was built in 1923 and is Classical Revival in style. The long five-story east block was added in 1955 and has a Modern Movement design. Most of the interior finishes and features that date to the 1955 renovation and addition are extant, including the configuration of corridors and patient rooms. While it has experienced some alterations, primarily the replacement of windows and doors in the 1923 block, these changes do not diminish one's understanding of the building as a hospital from the era of its construction. It maintains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association with its period of significance (1923-1962).

## ELABORATION

### SETTING

Fitzgibbon Hospital occupies a large lot in a residential neighborhood in the southeast area of Marshall, Missouri. The front of the 1923 building is set well back from Brunswick Avenue and faces west. Large deciduous trees dot the front lawn. A paved driveway and parking lot occupy the southeast quadrant of the lot. A large grassy lawn covers the northeast quadrant. Residences from the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century dot the neighborhood to the north and east of the hospital. Single family homes from the early and middle twentieth century occupy the neighborhood to the south and east of the nominated property.

A wide concrete walk stretches from Brunswick Street to the front steps. Smaller concrete walks encircle the 1923 block. A wide asphalt driveway cuts into the center of the property along the south edge to access the south side of the building. A paved parking lot fills the southeast corner of the property. A free-standing, one-story, non-historic Butler building stands just southeast of the hospital. It was likely used for storage. Playground equipment encircled by a chain link fence occupies the northeast corner of the property.

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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Saline County, Missouri

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**EXTERIOR**

1923 Block

The two-story 1923 block has a rectangular plan that faces west. A flat roof tops the building. The symmetrical front façade has nine bays defined by a regular pattern of single window openings. A two-story portico projects from the center of the front elevation, spanning the center three bays. Limestone trims the red brick walls. A dentiled metal cornice lines the front (west), south, and north walls. Limestone panels carved with garlands are inset into the parapet wall that rises above the projecting cornice. A limestone water table encircles the building above the lower level windows. Below the water table the brick has a rusticated pattern. Brick quoining defines the corners of the building.

A two-story window-lined sun porch projects from the south elevation. It is centered on this wall, inset one bay from the west and the east.

A low one-story window-less block projects from the north elevation. It sits back slightly from the front (west) wall but aligns with the east wall. Square in plan, the block has a flat roof and rises only to the bottom of the first floor windows on the main block. It has rusticated red brick cladding and a limestone cornice that aligns with the water table on the main block. The limestone base also aligns with the foundation of the main block.

The two-story portico on the front elevation shelters the main building entrance at the center of the façade. This feature contributes significantly to the building's Classical Revival style. A wide set of limestone stairs flanked by stone cheek walls rises from the sidewalk to the covered portico, which spans the three central bays. A rusticated limestone base supports the concrete deck at the first story. There is also a concrete porch deck with a historic metal railing at the second story. Four two-story entasis columns with modified Corinthian capitals rise along the front of the portico to support the flat roof. The dentiled cornice of the portico aligns with the cornice on the building. A semi-circular roof projects from the front of the portico at the first story to shelter the stairs. A historic metal scupper in the shape of a fish drains water from the second story deck. A historic photograph depicts multi-light doors in the main entrance. Currently the opening has a non-historic aluminum-framed glazed assembly with paired doors and a transom.

Fenestration generally consists of regularly-spaced single window openings. First floor openings have arched headers outlined in rowlock bricks and filled with stucco. Each arch has a limestone keystone and square limestone blocks that anchor the lower corners. A diamond-shaped limestone square is inset into the stucco. Limestone panels are inset into the brick wall below the first floor windows. Jack arches with limestone keystones and end blocks top the second floor windows. These openings have limestone windowsills.

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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Saline County, Missouri

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The historic windows were double-hung wood sashes topped by a paneled wood transom. On both floors the windows had an eight-over-one configuration. These windows have been replaced with non-historic one-over-one hung aluminum sashes. The new windows sit within the historic frames, below the wood transoms. The basement windows had an eight-over-eight configuration. Many of these windows remain, but they are in poor condition.

Fenestration of the sun porch is distinct from the rest of the building. Windows on the west and east (side) elevations of the sun porch are paired, while the south elevation has a ribbon of four windows at each level. All of the sun porch openings have six-over-six double-hung wood sashes topped by three light transom.

On the east elevation, first floor window openings are filled with brick. The first floor opening in the central bay of the north elevation has a large three-part window topped by multi-light transoms. The historic hung sashes have been replaced, but the historic transoms remain. The opening at the east end of the second story on the north elevation has been enlarged and filled with glass block.

1955 Block

The five-story 1955 block attaches to the rear (east) elevation of the 1923 block. Its long rectangular footprint stretches east from the original building. Several irregularly massed blocks at different heights indicate distinct functions, provide asymmetrical visual interest, and contribute to the building's Modern Movement styling. An elevator shaft near the west end of the south elevation rises six stories, as does a block at the southeast corner of the building. A low rectangular one-story block spans the north wall, terminating on the east end into a one-and-a-half-story square block that houses mechanical equipment.

The north and south elevations have regular bays defined by single and grouped windows. Red brick trimmed with limestone clads the walls. On both the north and south elevations, limestone bands distinguish the fifth floor. These bands run the length of the façade above and below the window openings. Brown brick clads the wall between the limestone bands, contrasting with the red brick that clads the majority of the building. A wide limestone beltcourse spans the south façade above the ground floor windows. The brick below the beltcourse on the south elevation and on the one-story block on the north elevation is rusticated, matching the rustication on the 1923 block.

Abundant window openings on the north and south elevations contribute to the building's Modern architectural style and character. The steel-framed windows appear in a variety of configurations. Most have six parts, featuring two vertical mullions and a low horizontal mullion.

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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
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A large fixed single-light fills the center frame of the window. It is flanked by operable casements. Below the fixed light is an operable hopper sash. Fixed square lights below the casements flank the hopper sash. The one story north block has paired four-light windows with horizontal mullions. The single upper light is fixed; the two central lights operate as a single pivot or awning sash; and the lower light is an operable hopper sash. At the west end of the south elevation a row of three windows on floors two through five have single-light casement sashes in tall, rectangular openings. Many of the windows on the fifth floor of the north and south elevations have paired casements atop a single fixed horizontal light. At the west end of the north elevation three-light windows with a pivot sash fill the window openings into a stairwell. Four-light windows with pivot sashes pierce the center of the east elevation and open into a stairwell.

Several doorways provide entry into the 1955 block. The main entrance is situated at the west end of the south elevation. Located in the one-story block at the southwest corner of the building, the doorway is recessed beneath a portico that extends from an adjacent flat roof. A doorway at the east end of the south elevation is flanked by full-height brick wing walls topped by a flat-roof. This doorway enters the kitchen. A doorway on the west end of the north elevation opens into the stairwell. It has a concrete stoop sheltered by a flat roof supported on metal posts. A single door is centered on the east elevation of the one-and-a-half-story mechanical block.

**INTERIOR**

The interior of the 1923 block was updated when the 1955 block was built, although it retains its original arrangement of double-loaded corridors flanked by patient rooms and offices. The 1955 block retains most of its original configuration and finishes. The two building components intersect at the center of the rear (east) elevation of the 1923 block, forming a T-plan. Although the buildings intersect seamlessly, they retain a physical differentiation based on corridor width, doorway placement, ceiling height, and fenestration.

**1923 Block**

The original building plan generally remains intact. Double-loaded corridors running north-south bisect the basement, first, and second floors. Patient rooms and offices are located behind the corridor walls. The first floor retains the central entry and a small lobby. The light-filled rooms of the sun porch remain, although a non-original staircase was installed along the east wall. The original staircase that provided vertical circulation through the building was removed during the 1955 renovation. Most vertical circulation now occurs in the 1955 block, which connects to the 1923 block on all three levels. There is a historic elevator along the east wall. The windowless one-story block at the north end of the basement contains offices.

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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Saline County, Missouri

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1955 Block

Few changes have been made to the plan of the 1955 block. Wide double-loaded corridors run east-west down the center of each floor. Patient rooms, offices, and specialized treatment rooms (operating, delivery rooms) are located behind the corridors. The main vertical circulation is located near the west end of the building near the junction with the 1923 block. The elevator occupies the south wall of the circulation core. A stairwell sits across the hall from the elevator, and there is a reception desk next to the elevator on each floor. There is a secondary stairwell at the east end of each floor. The kitchen and mechanical equipment are located on the ground level. Operating rooms were located on the fifth (top) floor.

Finishes

Most of the historic simple, utilitarian finishes remain including the original wide slab doors into the patient rooms and painted plaster walls. A mixture of original and new vinyl/linoleum covers floors in the corridors and patient rooms. A few areas (kitchenettes, showers, bathrooms, etc.) have historic ceramic mosaic tile floors. Dropped grids with lay-in panels hang below the historic plaster ceilings. The 1955 block has metal door and window casings. Metal door casings were installed in most areas of the 1923 block, although a few openings retain simple historic wood casings. The historic window frames and casing remain in the 1923 block.

Integrity

On the exterior and interior, Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital clearly conveys its historic function, while the massing, materials, and ornament communicate Classical Revival (1923) and Moderne (1955) styling. Although many of the original windows and doors have been replaced on the 1923 block, the new windows and doors fill the historic masonry openings. The 1955 addition retains all of its historic fenestration. The organization of the interior, featuring double-loaded corridors, patient rooms, offices, and treatment rooms, remains intact. The building communicates feelings about and associations with its original design and hospital function.

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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Saline County, Missouri

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SUMMARY

Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital at 868 South Brunswick Avenue is locally significant under National Register Criterion A for the area of HEALTH/MEDICINE. It has served Marshall and Saline County as the area's primary non-sectarian hospital since its opening in 1923. A bequest to the City of Marshall by local citizen John Fitzgibbon in 1916 created the hospital's Board of Trustees, established an endowment fund, and provided the funds necessary to construct the area's first purpose-built hospital. The building functioned as the city and county's primary medical facility until 1991.

The Classical Revival design developed in 1923 communicates the staid, reliable, and authoritative role of the hospital, while structural systems, interior layout, and finishes are typical of an institutional building from this period. A five-story block was added to the rear of the building in 1955. The strong rectilinear form of the addition coupled with the wide metal windows communicates distinct elements of Moderne architecture, yet it remains highly complementary to the design of the original block. This expansion enabled the hospital to continue serving its intended purpose for another 40 years. The Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital is an excellent example of an early- to mid-twentieth century hospital building. It retains all of the historic interior features that identify it as a healthcare facility, including its prominent placement on an expansive lot, wide double-loaded corridors, individual patient rooms and nursing stations, and sun porches lined with tall multi-light windows. The period of significance for the property begins in 1923 with the construction of the Classical Revival building and concludes in 1962 with the fifty-year closing date for periods of significance where activities begun historically continue to have importance but no more-specific date can be defined.

ELABORATION

**PROPERTY HISTORY**

In 1914, John Fitzgibbon, a wealthy farmer and stock dealer, drew up a will that bequeathed the majority of his estate for the founding of a hospital in the town of Marshall to provide medical care to citizens of Saline County. The Marshall newspapers published the contents of the will after Fitzgibbon died on April 28, 1916.<sup>1</sup> In his will, Fitzgibbon established a Board of Trustees (Board) made up of specific individuals and designated \$50,000 to acquire a site and erect and equip a new fireproof hospital building. The remaining funds were used to establish an

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<sup>1</sup> "A Hospital for Marshall," *The Weekly Democrat-News*, May 4, 1916, Microfilm, Maggie Duggins Genealogy Room, Marshall Public Library.

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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Saline County, Missouri

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operating endowment. Stipulations included naming the building "The John Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital" and selecting Board members that were residents of Saline County.<sup>2</sup>

Several factors prevented the immediate construction of the hospital. Although it was believed that Mr. Fitzgibbon did not have any close relatives, the Board of Trustees decided to wait two years for the statute of limitations for contesting a will to expire. By then, the federal government had imposed a moratorium on private construction projects due to the country's involvement in World War I. At the end of the war, the Board of Trustees was ready to resume preparations for building the hospital. They purchased a full block between Brunswick and Conway Avenues and the unpaved Summit and Mitchell Streets in the southeast quarter of town and advertised for bids.<sup>3</sup> When the bids for construction came in much higher than expected and over the amount provided in the will, the Board was forced to halt the process once again. The unanticipated benefit to the delay, in addition to waiting out the inflationary prices of the post-war economy, was that the value of the estate increased by fifty percent. The Board filed suit in circuit court to make the additional funds eligible for construction costs. The court found in favor of the Board's request, effectively doubling the acquisition and construction budget.<sup>4</sup>

The Board awarded the general construction contract to the Pratt-Thompson Company of Kansas City on March 16, 1922 and broke ground one week later.<sup>5</sup> When the hospital opened at the end of April, 1923, it was praised for its modern equipment and superior quality of design, which was directly related to the ability of the Board to utilize the additional funds from the increase in the value of the Fitzgibbon estate.<sup>6</sup>

Kansas City architects Shepard & Wiser designed the 28-bed hospital to be a state-of-the-art facility capable of handling the medical needs of the citizens of Marshall, of Saline County, and the surrounding area. The building featured specially-designed spaces for the emergency room, operating rooms, x-ray department, orthopedic department, and a laboratory with a technician who would travel to collect specimens.<sup>7</sup> The first two patients were admitted for operations

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<sup>2</sup> John Fitzgibbon, *Will*, Saline County, Missouri, May 6, 1914, Vertical File: John Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital, Maggie Duggins Genealogy Room, Marshall Public Library.

<sup>3</sup> In 1896, the block contained only one large residence and was identified as the property of A. J. Haynes. *Plat Book of Saline County*, (Minneapolis, MN: Northwest Publishing Co., 1896).

<sup>4</sup> "Board Asks Bids for Hospital," *The Weekly Democrat-News*, March 3, 1922, Microfilm, Maggie Duggins Genealogy Room, Marshall Public Library.

<sup>5</sup> "Contracts for Hospital Let," *The Weekly Democrat-News*, March 16, 1922, Microfilm, Maggie Duggins Genealogy Room, Marshall Public Library. "Break Ground for Hospital," *The Weekly Democrat-News*, March 23, 1922, Microfilm, Maggie Duggins Genealogy Room, Marshall Public Library.

<sup>6</sup> "Hospital Proves Wisdom of Board," *The Weekly Democrat-News*, Vol. XLIX, April 26, 1923, Microfilm, Maggie Duggins Genealogy Room, Marshall Public Library.

<sup>7</sup> "Hospital Proves Wisdom of Board."

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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
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performed on April 25, 1923.<sup>8</sup> In the first year after it opened, Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital admitted 291 patients, performed 170 operations and celebrated 5 births.<sup>9</sup> A separate ward in the basement held patient rooms and an operating room for patients "of color."

As the primary hospital in Saline County, the Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital treated an increasing number of patients as the local population grew. In 1941 the hospital admitted 752 patients by doubling the occupancy of each room. That year there were 539 operations and 101 births.<sup>10</sup> By the 1950s, the hospital had added multiple beds to every available space, including the basement and the sun porches, to increase the daily capacity to 54 patients.<sup>11</sup> When hospital services in 1954 reached 1,829 admitted patients, 1,003 operations, and 310 births, it became clear that more space was needed. The Board of Trustees utilized funds from the hospital endowment, two large bequests, and numerous smaller donations from the citizens of Saline County to renovate the original building and construct a new five-story wing.<sup>12</sup>

Kansas City architects Voskamp and Gentry were selected to design the addition and renovate the 1923 building. When the new wing opened in 1955, the capacity of the hospital nearly doubled to 90 beds. The new wing also included multiple operating rooms, a cafeteria, and a kitchen. Although the addition is Moderne in design and styling, its juxtaposition with the original building, its massing, materials, and architectural detailing complement the architecture of the original building.

The Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital continued to perform its intended function until it could no longer meet the needs of its patients. In 1991 the Board built a new, larger Fitzgibbon Hospital on the outskirts of Marshall, south and west of the municipal airport. The old hospital stood vacant until 1996 when various county departments and private companies utilized the building as office space. It is currently vacant and slated for redevelopment as senior housing.

### JOHN FITZGIBBON<sup>13</sup>

John Fitzgibbon was born in Ireland around 1846. After his father died in 1848, Fitzgibbon moved with his mother to Canada and then Cincinnati, Ohio. They moved to Marshall, Missouri

<sup>8</sup> "Hospital Gets 'Under Way,'" *The Weekly Democrat-News*, Vol. XLIX, April 26, 1923, Microfilm, Maggie Duggins Genealogy Room, Marshall Public Library.

<sup>9</sup> "1,829 Patients Admitted During Year of 1954," *Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital Dedication and Open House Sunday Afternoon, June 12, 1955*, Vertical File: John Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital, Maggie Duggins Genealogy Room, Marshall Public Library.

<sup>10</sup> "1,829 Patients Admitted During Year of 1954."

<sup>11</sup> "Fitzgibbon is a Monument to Generosity for Those Who Suffer," *Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital Dedication and Open House Sunday Afternoon, June 12, 1955*, Vertical File: John Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital, Maggie Duggins Genealogy Room, Marshall Public Library.

<sup>12</sup> "Wingfield Fund was Large Gift to the Campaign," and "George Wolfskill Left \$47,000 to the Hospital for Poor," *Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital Dedication and Open House Sunday Afternoon, June 12, 1955*, Vertical File: John Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital, Maggie Duggins Genealogy Room, Marshall Public Library.

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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
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after the Civil War. After a short time, Fitzgibbon purchased a farm roughly three miles northwest of Marshall and began a successful career as a stock dealer. He had amassed 320 acres of land by 1896.<sup>14</sup> When his mother died in 1905, Fitzgibbon moved to a residential hotel in Marshall. In his last few years, Fitzgibbon rented the farm to a couple who maintained the property and cared for Fitzgibbon when he was there. His health gradually failed until he was both deaf and blind, significantly limiting his ability to interact with others. During his life he was highly regarded for his integrity and his interest in the welfare of the county. With no known relatives in the country, Fitzgibbon's will bequeathed a small amount to his caregivers while the bulk of the estate was given for construction of the hospital.

**THE HISTORY OF HEALTH CARE IN MARSHALL AND SALINE COUNTY, MISSOURI**

When Saline County was founded in 1820, medical care was limited. Often people treated themselves when plagued with illness and injury. They were encouraged to take matters into their own hands with folk remedies, superstitious rituals, patent medicines, and medical books (even cookbooks) that were written for laymen and do-it-yourselfers.<sup>15</sup> For the rural doctor, such as those in Saline County, traveling to their patient meant many miles on horseback in all types of weather conditions. These early physicians were not well-compensated for their work. Often they received no cash payment, but were traded goods and services. Many doctors owned farms to support themselves. It was not unusual for doctors with offices in town or in their homes to be financially supported by their families.

The earliest doctor in Saline County was Dr. John Sappington who was practicing medicine when Saline County was established in 1820.<sup>16</sup> Dr. Sappington lived in Arrow Rock, a town east of Marshall. He learned the art of medicine as an apprentice under his father near Nashville, Tennessee before earning a medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania. Sappington moved to Missouri in 1817. He became renowned for successfully treating malaria with quinine, which bucked the generally unsuccessful trend of treatment with purging, blistering, and bloodletting.<sup>17</sup>

By the mid-nineteenth century the medical field became more professional. Medical societies formed across the country to promote ethics, education, and standardized practices. The American Medical Association was established in 1847. The Missouri State Medical

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<sup>13</sup> "John Fitzgibbon," *The Weekly Democrat News*, May 4, 1916, Vertical File: John Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital, Maggie Duggins Genealogy Room, Marshall Public Library.

<sup>14</sup> *Plat Book of Saline County*.

<sup>15</sup> Barbara M. Gorman, Richard D. McKinzie and Theodore A. Wilson, *From Shamans to Specialists: A History of Medicine and Health Care in Jackson County Missouri*, (Kansas City, MO: Jackson County Medical Society, 1981) 16.

<sup>16</sup> "History of Saline County," (Marceline, MO: Walsworth Publishing Company, 1967) 412.

<sup>17</sup> Gorman, 13.

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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Saline County, Missouri

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Association was established in 1850.<sup>18</sup> The Saline County Medical Society formed in 1874 with eleven physicians.<sup>19</sup> The organization met on a regular basis to "increase medical information and dissemination of knowledge among individuals in the profession."<sup>20</sup>

By the late 1800s medical colleges and educational institutions were popping up around the country to formally train doctors. In Missouri most of these were located in Kansas City and St. Louis. Many of the physicians in Saline County received their education at these institutions such as the Missouri Medical College in St. Louis, the Medico-Chirurgical College in Kansas City, St. Louis College of Physicians and Surgeons in both St. Louis and Kansas City, St. Louis University, the University Medical College in Kansas City, and Washington University in St. Louis. However, untrained "doctors" were still prevalent throughout the country. In 1883 the Missouri Medical Practice Act required that self-proclaimed physicians without a medical diploma or certificate pass an examination administered by the State Board of Health in order to continue practicing.<sup>21</sup>

In addition to professional requirements, advancements in science and technology helped change the landscape of medicine. By the turn of the twentieth century researchers were beginning to understand the cause of many formerly mysterious diseases and how to treat them. Diagnostic tools such as microscopes and radiology came into use. Surgical procedures were improved with the use of antiseptics and anesthetics.<sup>22</sup> Physicians gradually moved from treating patients in their homes to offering treatment in a doctor's office or a hospital.

From the eighteenth century to the early twentieth century hospitals were places of last resort, where people, many of them poor, went to spend their dying days.<sup>23</sup> Most hospitals were private, often charitable, institutions, usually located in urban areas. Many hospitals were installed in modified houses that were not ideally set up for medical treatment. As medicine changed in the early twentieth century, so did the culture of the hospital. Doctors gradually came to see the hospital as a place where they could do their best work to alleviate and cure their patient's illnesses. Wealthy patients opted to go to the hospital for treatment instead of staying home, which helped transform the hospital environment.<sup>24</sup>

Homeopathic doctor, Arthur C. Putnam established the first hospital in Marshall in 1910. Putnam's private hospital was housed in his residence on South English Street. In 1917 Dr.

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<sup>18</sup> Gorman, 28.

<sup>19</sup> *History of Saline County, Missouri*, (St. Louis, MO: Missouri Historical Company, 1881) 395.

<sup>20</sup> *History of Saline County*, 403.

<sup>21</sup> Gorman, 57.

<sup>22</sup> Gorman, 65.

<sup>23</sup> Gorman, 71.

<sup>24</sup> Gorman, 71.

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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Saline County, Missouri

Putnam purchased a much larger home on East Yerby Street, renovating it to create The Marshall Hospital.<sup>25</sup> Dr. Putnam was aware of Fitzgibbon's bequest but he believed he could fulfill a more-immediate need for a hospital in the community. He stated that he would close his hospital once the Fitzgibbon facility was completed. The Marshall Hospital accommodated a total of ten patients, including four in the emergency room. The Putnam family lived on the first floor of the house, and the hospital occupied the upper floors and a wing. While the Marshall Hospital was considered an "open hospital," meaning any doctor or surgeon was permitted to use the building, the service was limited to white people.<sup>26</sup>

In contrast to Marshall Hospital, Fitzgibbon Hospital was architect designed with functional spaces to accommodate the specialized needs of modern medicine. When the Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital opened in 1923, Dr. Putnam joined the staff and closed his hospital as promised. After twelve years, however, Dr. Putnam re-opened the Marshall Hospital and practiced there until his death in 1955.<sup>27</sup> The building still stands at the southeast corner of East Yerby Street and Redman Avenue.

Several other institutions in Saline County provided health care for certain segments of the local population. As early as the mid-1800s the county provided doctors and medical care for those who could not afford it. In 1860 a "poor farm" was established two miles north of Marshall.<sup>28</sup> There, the county provided basic medical care, as well as shelter, food, and education, to its residents. In 1932 the Blosser Home for Crippled Children and the Blosser Home for the Aged opened. The Home for Crippled Children was a permanent residence for physically disabled children. The Home for the Aged housed elderly indigent women of the Methodist Episcopal Church.<sup>29</sup> Saline County doctors regularly provided health care for these institutions. In 1899 the State of Missouri established the Missouri Colony for the Feeble-Minded and Epileptic (later known as the Marshall Habilitation Center) in Marshall. The state hospital provided custodial care to mentally ill youth until the late twentieth century.

Besides individual physicians and perhaps a few clinics, all of Saline County's large health care institutions were located in or near Marshall until the late 1960s when a new hospital was constructed in Sweet Springs, Missouri at the western edge of Saline County. However, the I-70 Community Hospital was relatively small compared to Fitzgibbon Hospital, which remains the largest private health-care provider in the region.

<sup>25</sup> "New Private Hospital," *The Weekly Democrat News*, October 11, 1917, Microfilm, Maggie Duggins Genealogy Room, Marshall Public Library.

<sup>26</sup> "Hospital Aid for Marshall," *The Weekly Democrat News*, October 11, 1917, Microfilm, Maggie Duggins Genealogy Room, Marshall Public Library.

<sup>27</sup> "Dr. Arthur C. Putnam," *Marshall, Missouri Sesquicentennial 1839-1989* (Marshall, MO: Saline County Courthouse, 1989) 35.

<sup>28</sup> *History of Saline County*, 383.

<sup>29</sup> *History of Saline County*, 396-97.

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**SHEPARD & WISER (ARCHITECTS-1923 BUILDING)<sup>30</sup>**

Shepard and Wisser was one of Kansas City's most prolific architecture firms of the early twentieth century. During their thirty-three year partnership, Charles Shepard and Albert Wisser designed hundreds of residential, commercial, institutional, and religious buildings. In addition to Kansas City, their designs are found in big cities and small towns throughout the region.

Charles Shepard was born in 1868 and attended the University of Iowa. He moved to Kansas City in 1887 after participating in the design of the Iowa State Capitol in Des Moines. In Kansas City he first partnered with architect Martin Vrydagh. Vrydagh left the firm in 1893, and Shepard formed a partnership with Ernest H. Farrar. A year later Albert Wisser, an apprentice and draftsman in the firm, joined the partnership and the firm became Shepard, Farrar and Wisser. Farrar retired and moved to Maine in 1910, and the firm dropped his name, becoming Shepard and Wisser. Between 1919 and 1926, Wisser worked to expand the firm's presence by establishing offices in Tulsa, Oklahoma; Wichita, Kansas; and Amarillo, Texas. It was during this period that Shepard and Wisser designed the Fitzgibbon Memorial Hospital.

Shepard was the firm's chief designer, while Wisser concentrated on marketing and client relations. The depth of Shepard and Wisser's capabilities is reflected in the variety of commissions they received. In Kansas City alone, these include the Sunset Hill School (1919), the Sophian Plaza Apartments (1922),<sup>31</sup> the Montrose Hotel (1923),<sup>32</sup> Central Presbyterian Church (1923),<sup>33</sup> the President Hotel (1925),<sup>34</sup> and the Lowe and Campbell Sporting Goods Building (1925).<sup>35</sup> The firm's portfolio included numerous private residential designs as well. It is unclear if they designed any other hospital facilities. Although the designs were primarily historical revival styles, Shepard and Wisser also designed several Prairie style buildings, illustrating an understanding of popular trends in architecture.

In 1927 Wisser left the firm to set up his own practice. Shepard formed his last partnership with Frederick C. Pickett, who had been a draftsman at the firm since in 1908. Their partnership

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<sup>30</sup> Unless otherwise noted, the information in this section on Shepard & Wisser is taken from Rosin Preservation, "Lowe & Campbell Sporting Goods Building" National Register Nomination, January 12, 2012.

<sup>31</sup> Individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. Located at 4618 Warwick Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri.

<sup>32</sup> Listed as a contributing building in the National Register of Historic Places listed *Southside Historic District* in 1982. Located at 10 East 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

<sup>33</sup> Listed as a contributing building in the National Register of Historic Places listed *Armour Boulevard MPS District III* in 1983. Located at 3501 Campbell (901 E. Armour Boulevard), Kansas City, Missouri.

<sup>34</sup> Individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. Located at 1327-1335 Baltimore Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri.

<sup>35</sup> Individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places on January 12, 2012. Located at 1509-13 Baltimore Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri.

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lasted four years until 1931. Shepard died in 1932 at the age of 64. Albert Wiser died in 1937 at the age of 55.<sup>36</sup>

**GENTRY AND VOSKAMP (ARCHITECTS-1955 ADDITION)**

The Kansas City architecture firm Gentry and Voskamp designed many of the area's notable buildings during the middle twentieth century.

Alonzo Gentry was born on February 14, 1886 in Independence, Missouri. He earned a degree in military and civil engineering from Virginia Military Institute in 1908 and a degree in architecture from Columbia University in 1916.<sup>37</sup> Upon graduation from Columbia he became employed with the architecture firm of George B. Post and Sons in New York City. After several years in New York City, Post transferred Gentry to its office in Cleveland and then to Kansas City.<sup>38</sup> In 1923 Gentry established his own firm in Kansas City. It appears that he practiced solo until the early 1930s when Edgar B. Voskamp and Homer F. Neville joined the firm. Under his solo practice, Gentry designed several notable buildings including the Villa Serena Apartments (1927)<sup>39</sup>; the Locarno Apartments (1928) near the Country Club Plaza; the Brownhardt Apartments (1929)<sup>40</sup>; and the TWA Administrative Offices (1931) at the downtown airport.

As Gentry, Voskamp and Neville, the firms most notable design was Municipal Auditorium in downtown Kansas City (1933). The monumental building has an art deco design with hints of Moderne influence. It was designed and constructed during the Great Depression using city bond funds. When it was completed *Architectural Record* named it one of the best ten buildings in the world in 1935.<sup>41</sup>

Neville left the firm in 1939 to start another architecture firm (Neville and Sharp), but Voskamp remained in the partnership until Gentry retired in 1961. During the 1940s Gentry and Voskamp's design aesthetic evolved to incorporate the rising popularity of modern styling. Their commissions during the middle twentieth century included President Gardens, a planned

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<sup>36</sup> "Albert Wiser," obituary. *Kansas City Times*. May 18, 1937.

<sup>37</sup> The AIA Historical Directory of American Architects, 1956 American Architects Directory, page 193. accessed April 11, 2012, [http://communities.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/American%20Architects%20Directories/1956%20American%20Architects%20Directory/Bowker\\_1956\\_G.pdf](http://communities.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/American%20Architects%20Directories/1956%20American%20Architects%20Directory/Bowker_1956_G.pdf)

<sup>38</sup> "Alonzo H. Gentry, Architect, is Dead," *Kansas City Times*, February 7, 1967.

<sup>39</sup> Individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2009. Located at 325 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, Missouri.

<sup>40</sup> Listed as a contributing building in the National Register of Historic Places listed *Armour Boulevard MPS District III* in 1983. Located at 801 East Armour Blvd, Kansas City, Missouri.

<sup>41</sup> "Alonzo H. Gentry, Architect, is Dead," *Kansas City Times*, February 7, 1967.

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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
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residential community for wartime plant workers (1944)<sup>42</sup>; Summit House on the Plaza (1950); Phyllis Wheatley Elementary School (1955); the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library in Independence, Missouri (1957); and Research Hospital and Medical Center (1956-1961).

Gentry retired in 1961 and he died in February 1967.

Edgar Bartman Voskamp was born on July 7, 1896 in Pierce City, Missouri. He studied architecture and engineering at the University of Missouri. He worked for two years doing structural utilities and machine design for the Natural Zinc Company before joining Gentry in architecture practice in 1924.<sup>43</sup> It is not clear if or how Voskamp's architectural career continued after Gentry's retirement in 1961. Voskamp died in Johnson County, Kansas in November of 1986.<sup>44</sup>

### **Conclusion**

Fitzgibbon Hospital was constructed in 1923 with an addition in 1955 to serve as the primary public hospital in Saline County, Missouri and its surrounding region. Kansas City architects Shepard and Wisner adopted the stately Classical Revival style for the building, in keeping with popular design trends of the early twentieth century. Thirty-two years later, Kansas City architects Gentry and Voskamp designed the addition in the simplified, clean Moderne style that was popular in the mid-twentieth century. Both the original building and the addition contained state-of-the-art, specialized health care design and equipment when they were built. The building retains configuration and finishes dating to the 1955 addition and renovation. The corridors, individual patient rooms, nurse stations, and specialized spaces all remain intact. The building clearly communicates its historic function as a hospital.

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<sup>42</sup> Individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in the *President Gardens Apartment Historic District* in 1998. Located at 83<sup>rd</sup> Street and 82<sup>nd</sup> Terrace between Lydia and Troost Avenues, Kansas City, Missouri.

<sup>43</sup> The AIA Historical Directory of American Architects, 1956 American Architects Directory, page 579. [http://communities.aia.org/sites/hcoaa/wiki/American%20Architects%20Directories/1956%20American%20Architects%20Directory/Bowker\\_1956\\_V.pdf](http://communities.aia.org/sites/hcoaa/wiki/American%20Architects%20Directories/1956%20American%20Architects%20Directory/Bowker_1956_V.pdf) accessed April 11, 2012.

<sup>44</sup> "United States Social Security Death Index," Edgar Voskamp (1986), Family Search website, <https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/JY19-NPB>, accessed April 12, 2012.

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Section number 9 Page 15

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Saline County, Missouri

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[http://communities.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/American%20Architects%20Directories/1956%20American%20Architects%20Directory/Bowker\\_1956\\_V.pdf](http://communities.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/American%20Architects%20Directories/1956%20American%20Architects%20Directory/Bowker_1956_V.pdf) (accessed April 11, 2012).
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Rosin Preservation, "Lowe & Campbell Sporting Goods Building" National Register Nomination, January 12, 2012.

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Saline County, Missouri

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**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Parcel Number: 030017-601403-009-001000

Legal Description: Tract in Blk 29 Mar Park Place

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The boundary of the nominated resource includes the parcels of land historically associated with the property.

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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Saline County, Missouri

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**PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION**

**Name of Property:** Fitzgibbon Hospital

**City or Vicinity:** Marshall

**County:** Saline                      **State:** Missouri

**Photographer:** Kristen Ottesen

**Date Photographed:** March 2012

**Description of Photograph(s) and number:**

All digital images labeled as follows: MO\_SalineCounty\_FitzgibbonHospital\_#.tif

**1 of 16.** Front (west) elevation, view east

**2 of 16.** Southwest corner, view northeast

**3 of 16.** South elevation, view north

**4 of 16.** South elevation of 1955 addition, view north

**5 of 16.** Southeast corner, view northwest

**6 of 16.** Southeast corner, view northwest

**7 of 16.** Northeast corner, view southwest

**8 of 16.** Southeast corner of 1923 building and one-story addition, view southwest

**9 of 16.** Northwest corner, view southeast

**10 of 16.** View east along Mitchell Street and the south side of the building

**11 of 16.** Front portico, view east

**12 of 16.** Front entry/foyer, 1923 building

**13 of 16.** Typical sun porch, south side of 1923 building

**14 of 16.** 4<sup>th</sup> floor hallway, 1955 addition

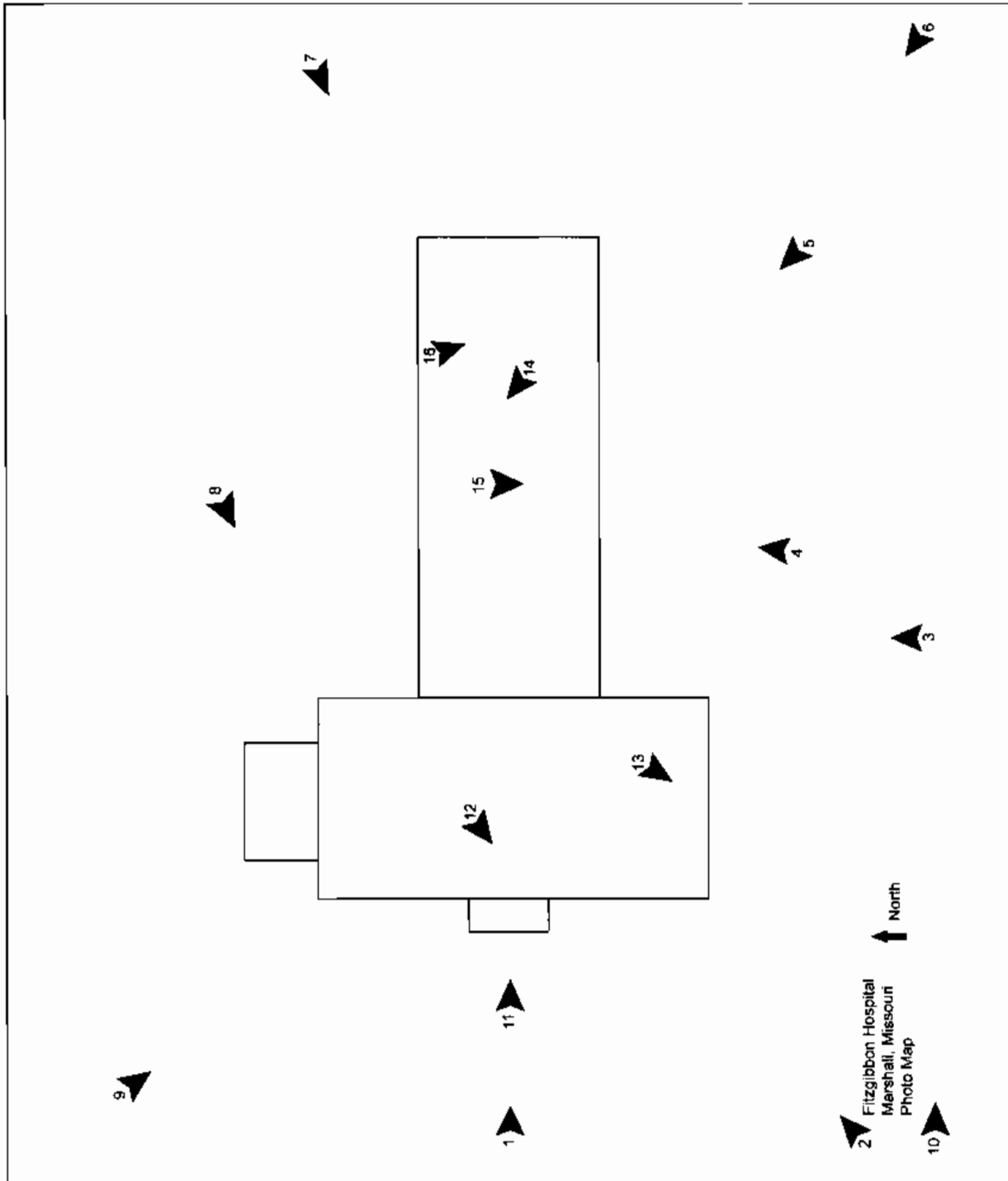
**15 of 16.** Typical hallway/patient room doorways, 1955 addition

**16 of 16.** Typical patient room, 1955 addition

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**List of Figures**

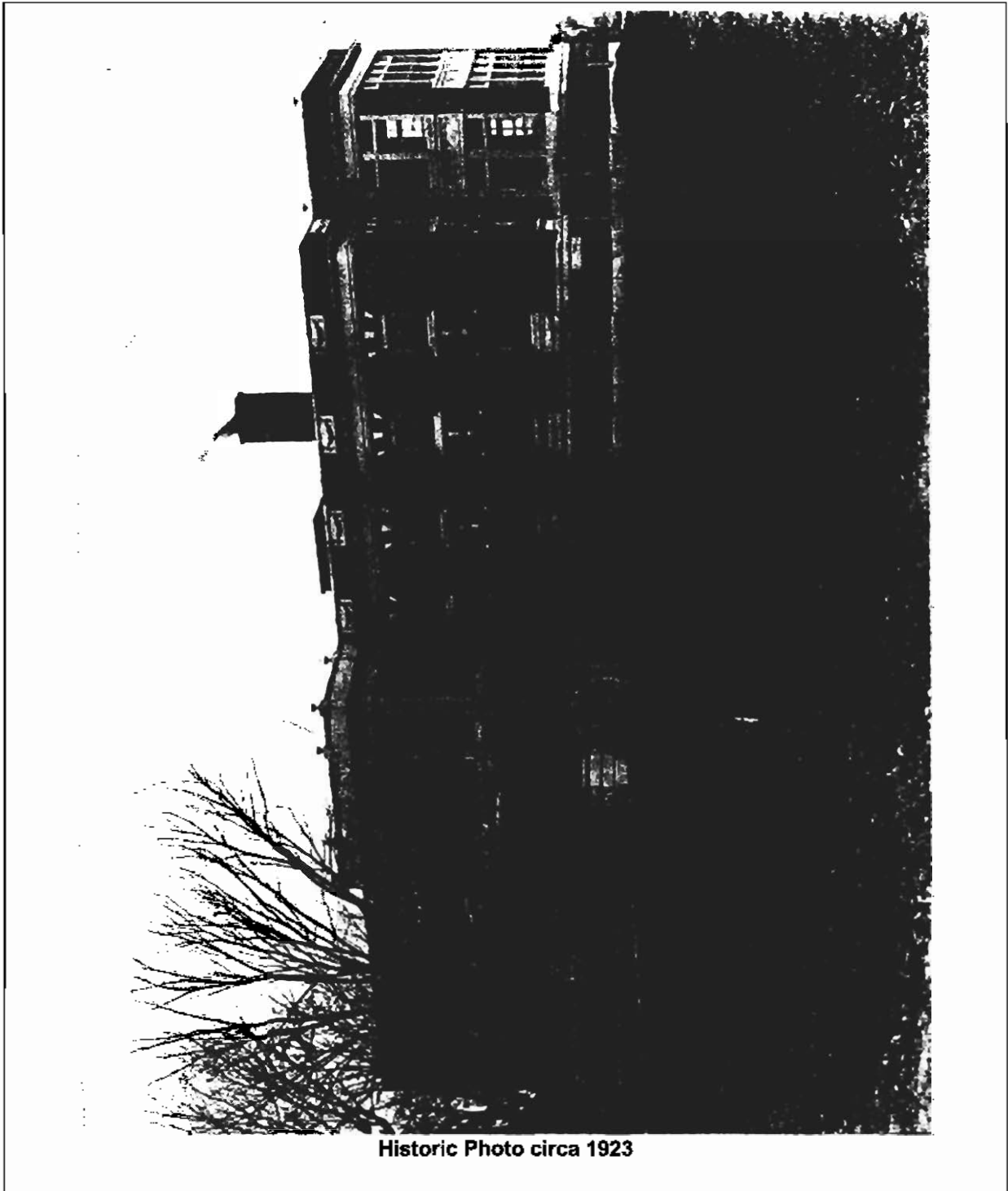
- Figure 1.** Historic photo circa 1923
- Figure 2.** Lower Level Plan 1923 block, 1955 renovation plans
- Figure 3.** First Floor Plan 1923 block, 1955 renovation plans
- Figure 4.** Second Floor Plan 1923 block, 1955 renovation plans
- Figure 5.** First Floor Plan, 1955 addition
- Figure 6.** Second Floor Plan, 1955 addition
- Figure 7.** Fourth Floor Plan, 1955 addition

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**Figure 1**

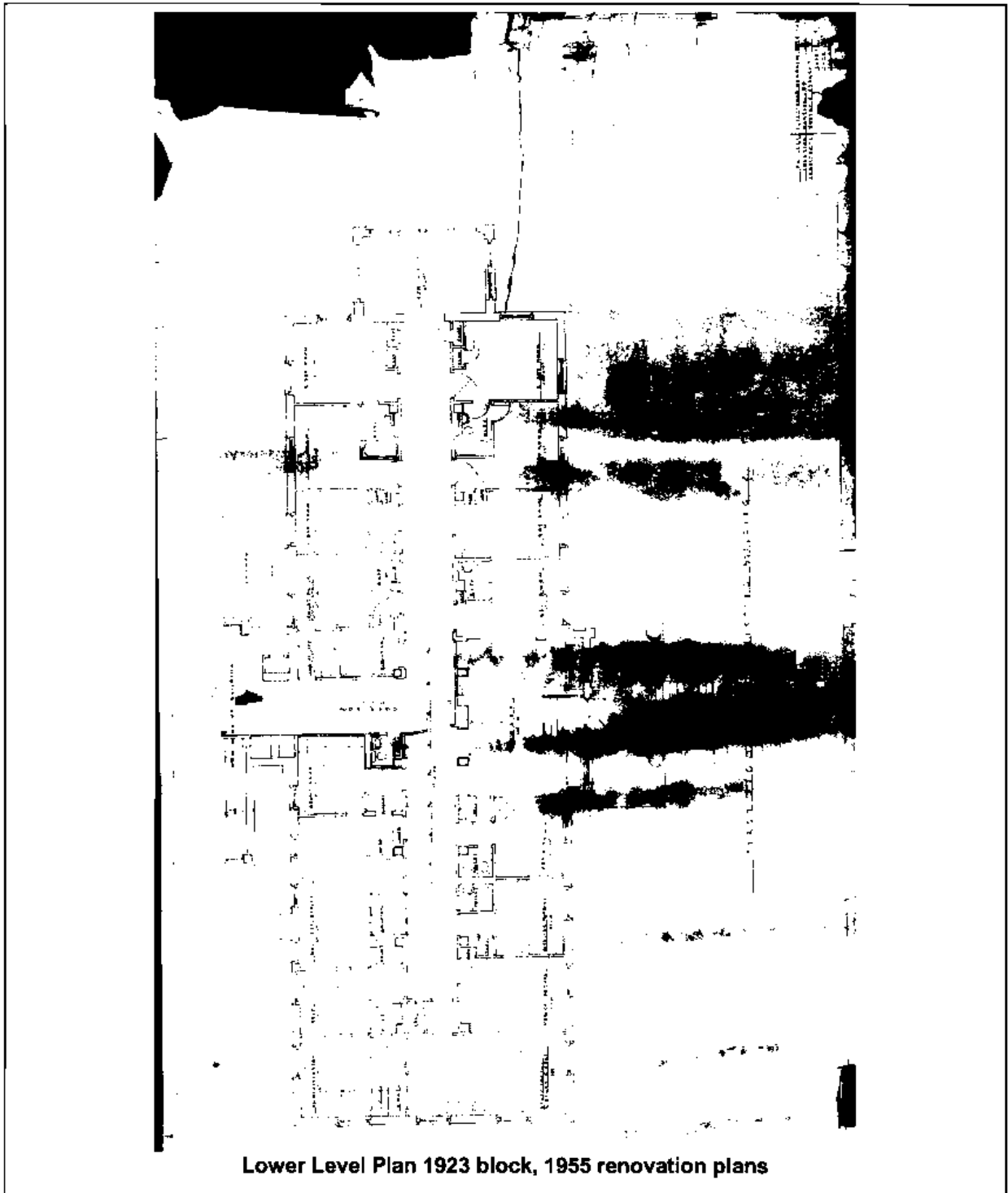


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**Figure 2**

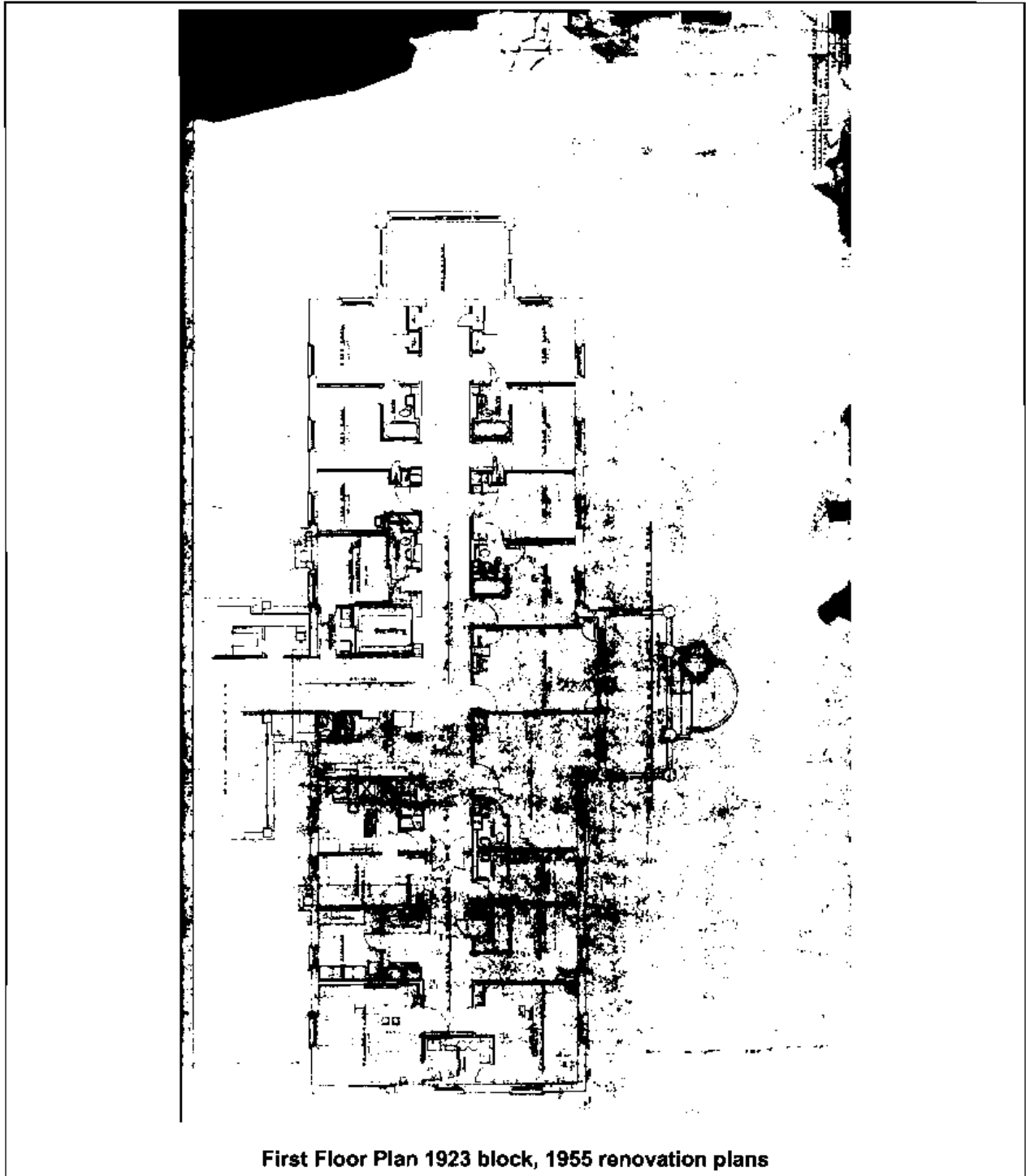


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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
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Figure 3

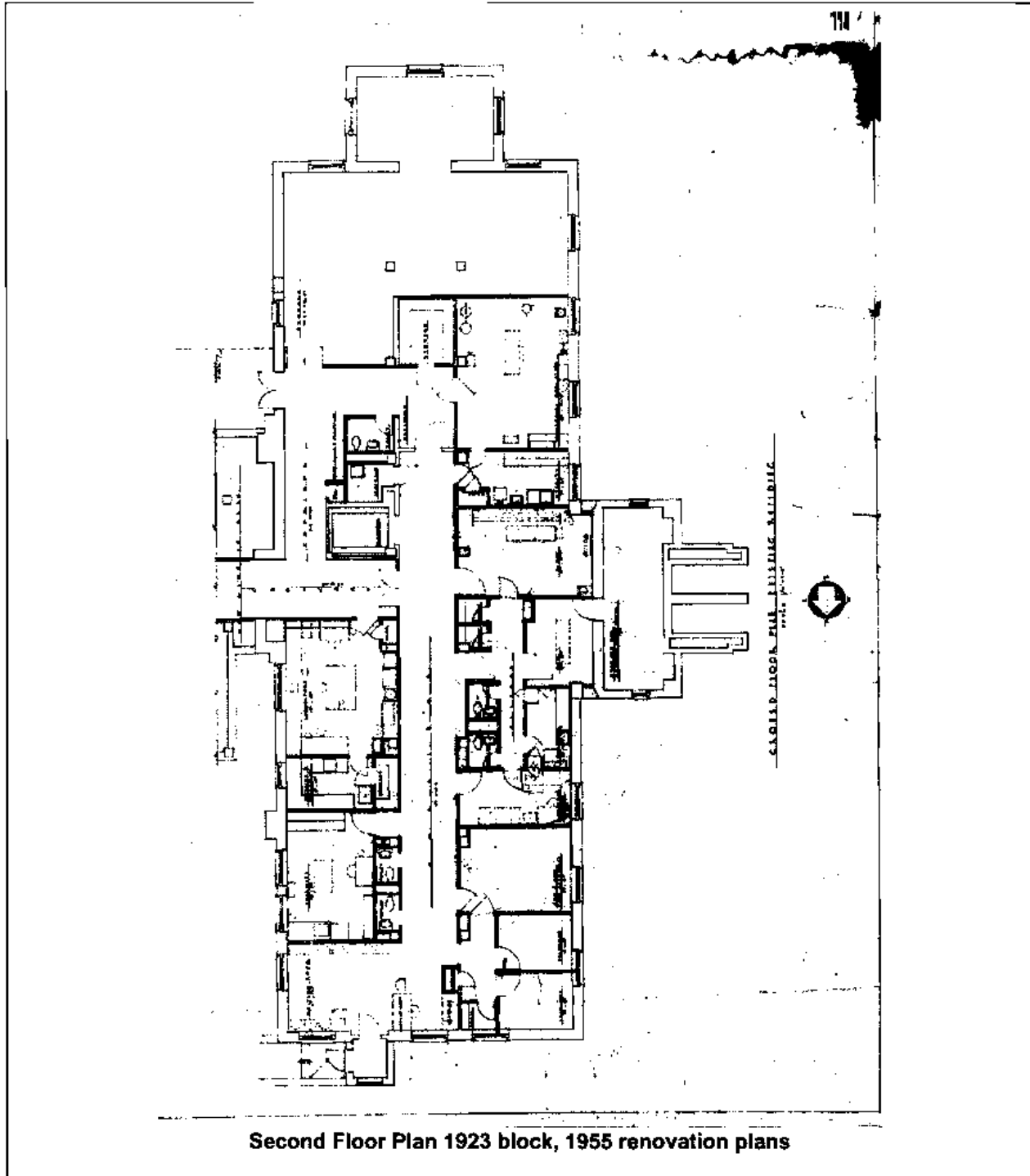


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Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Saline County, Missouri

Figure 4



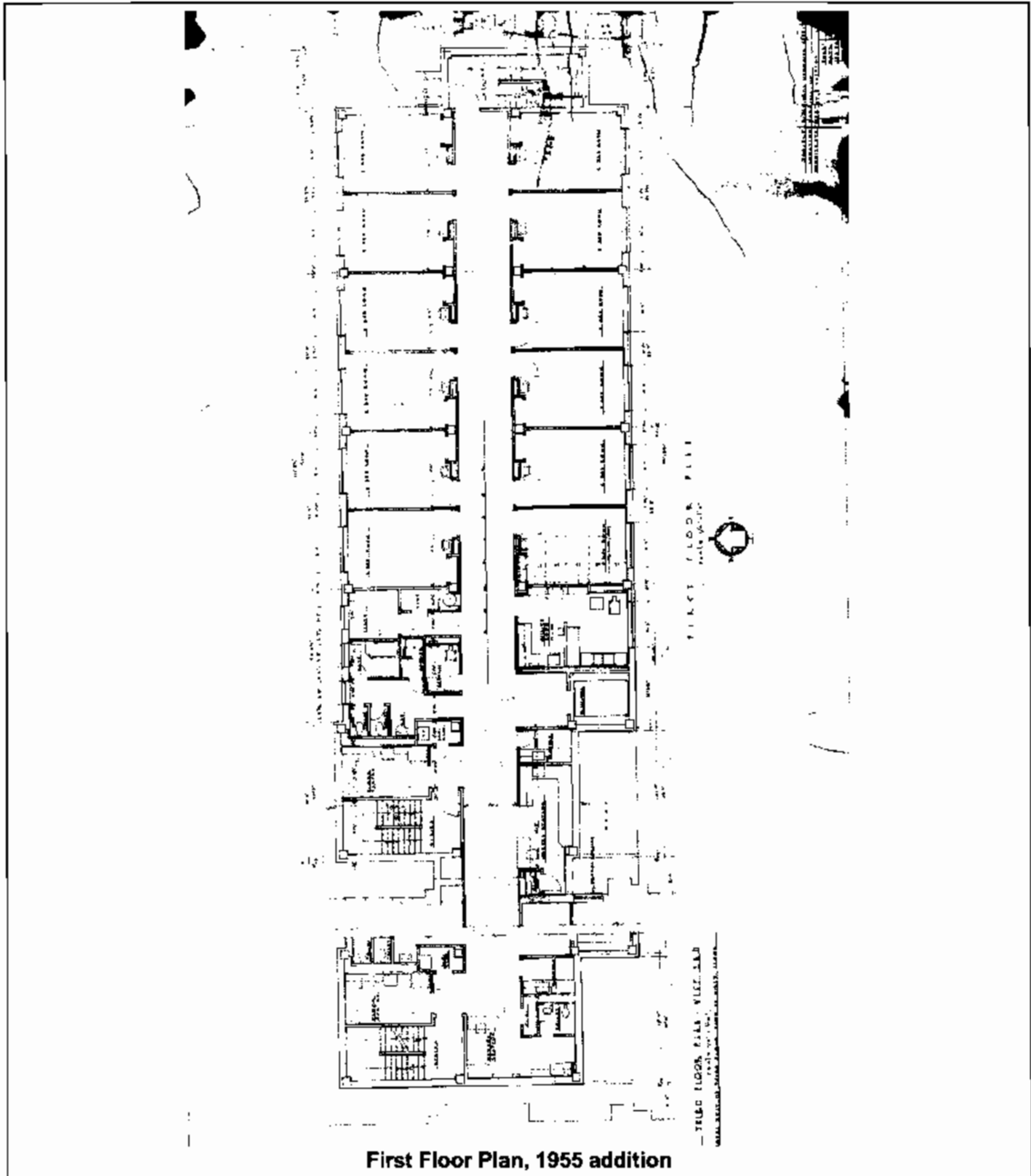
Second Floor Plan 1923 block, 1955 renovation plans

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Figure 5

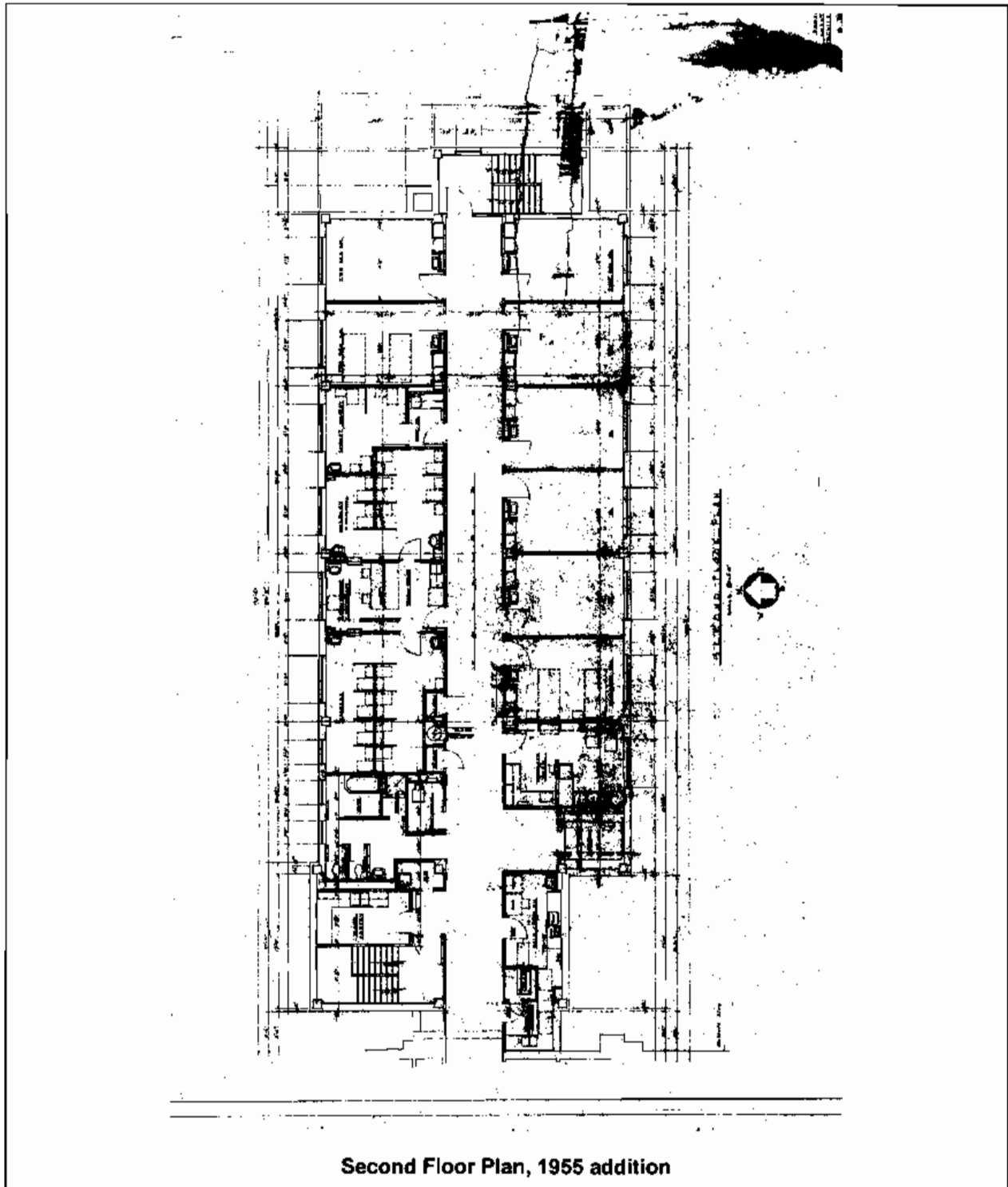


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Figure 6

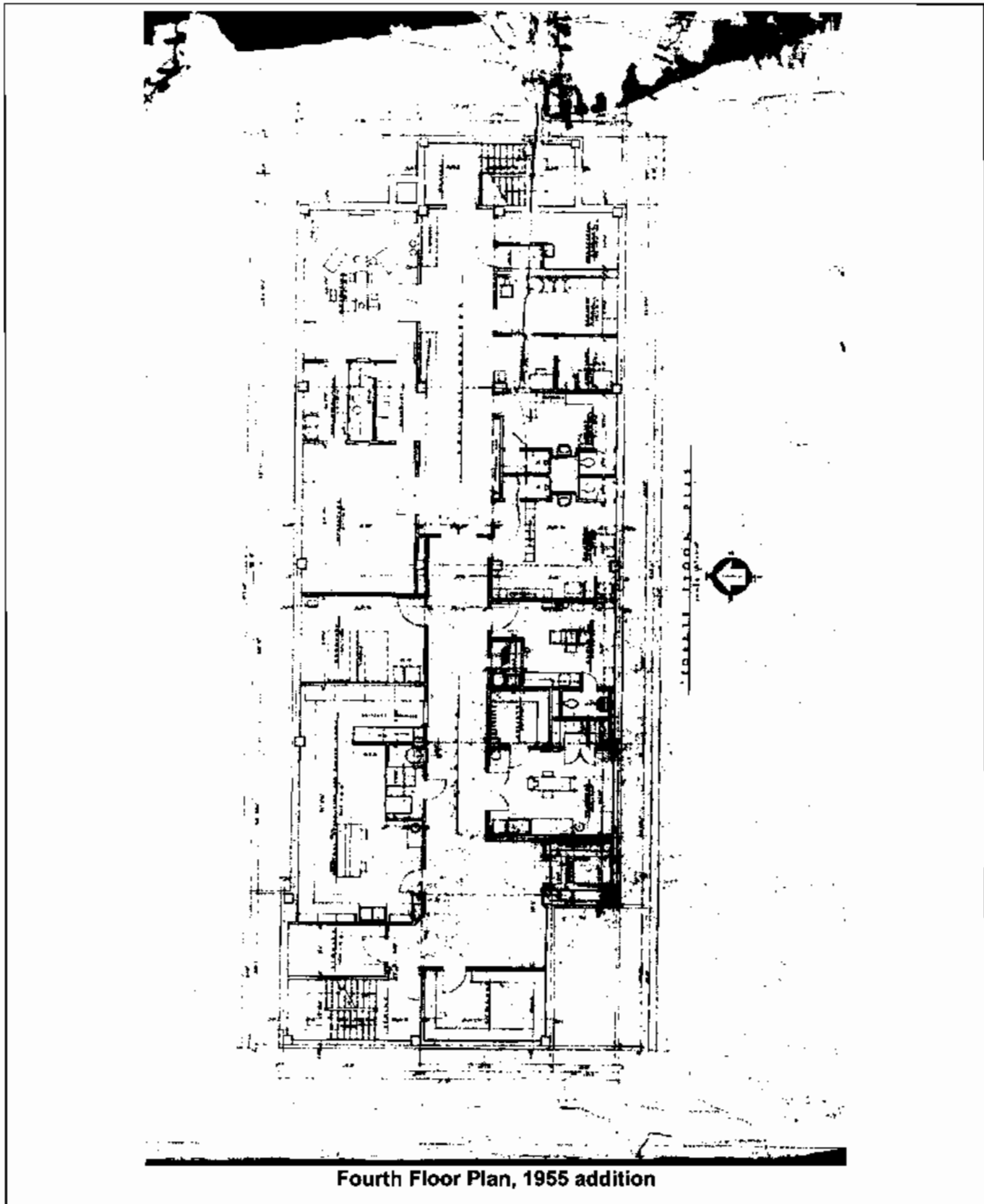


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Figure 7



Fourth Floor Plan, 1955 addition

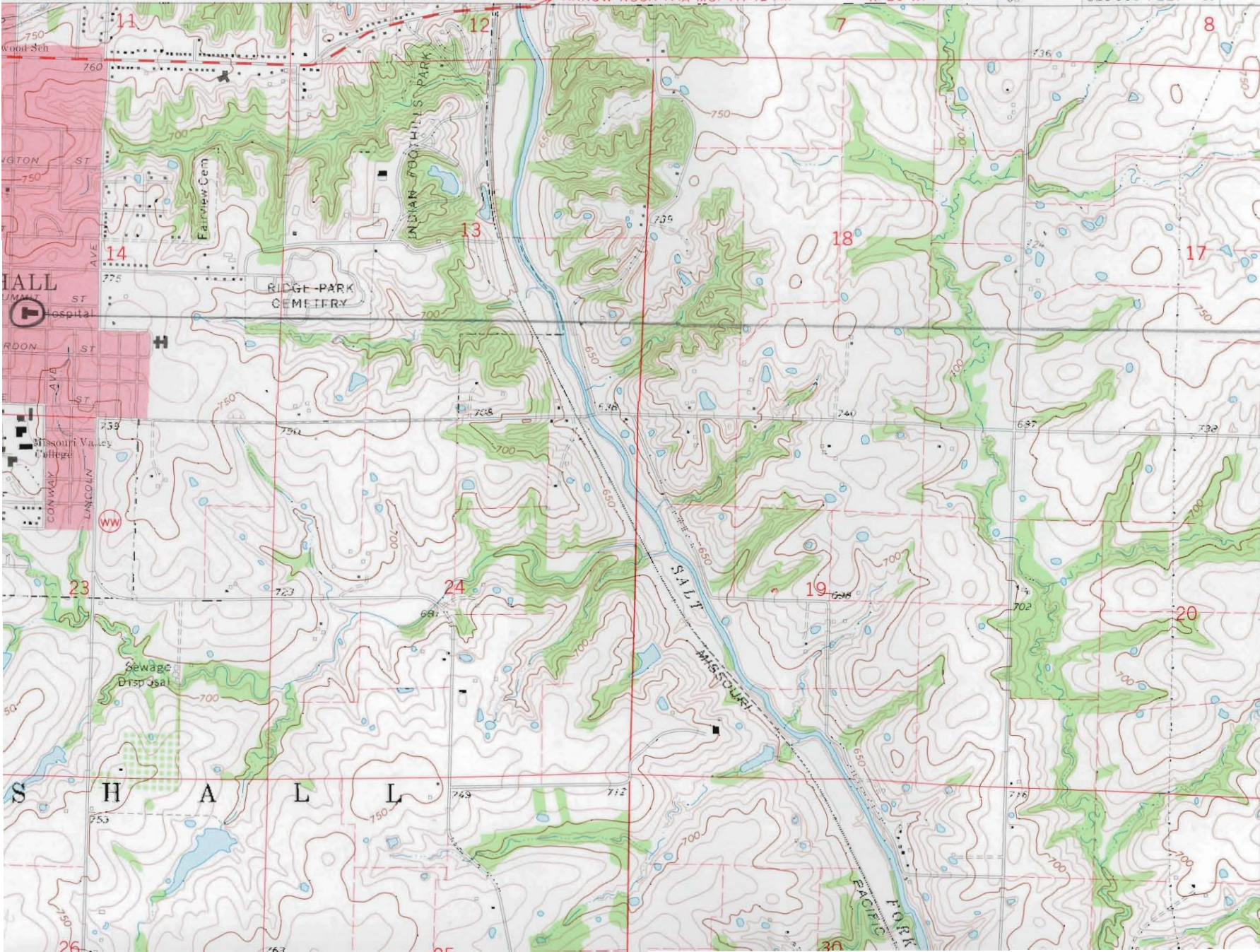
7362 II NW  
MARSHALL NORTH)

MARSHALL SOUTH QUADRANGLE  
MISSOURI-SALINE CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SW 1/4 MARSHALL 15' QUADRANGLE

7362 II NW  
(SLATER)

485 R. 21 W. 10' (240) (41) 25 MI. TO INTERSTATE 70  
ARROW ROCK (VIA MO. 41) 12 MI. R. 20 W. 488 320 000 FEET 489 93° 07' 30"  
39° 07' 30"



Fitzgibbon Hospital  
Marshall, Saline Co, MO  
UTM Reference:  
15J483611/4329279

1 190 000  
FEET



Public Art Refectory & Gallery







Three small, narrow windows on the second floor of the left wing.

Three small, narrow windows on the third floor of the left wing.

Three small, narrow windows on the fourth floor of the left wing.

Three small, narrow windows on the fifth floor of the left wing.

A row of seven larger windows on the top floor of the main building.

A row of five windows on the second floor of the main building.

A row of five windows on the third floor of the main building.

A row of five windows on the fourth floor of the main building.

A black awning with a white letter 'K' over a window.

A black awning with a red circular logo over a window.

A black awning with a yellow and red logo over a window.

A white travel trailer with orange and red stripes and a logo on the side.

A silver sedan parked in the parking lot.

A silver minivan parked in the parking lot.















HANDICAP  
ACCESSIBLE  
ESKY AT  
SOUTH ENTRANCE

CAUTION: STEPS



EXIT EXIT

PORTAL

GADJET







24

27

27

