

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate

other names/site number Harbor Light Center

**2. Location**

street & number 3010 Washington Ave. [N/A] not for publication

city or town St. Louis [N/A] vicinity

state Missouri code MO county St. Louis (Independent City) code 510 zip code 63103

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  
 nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National  
Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  
 meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally   
statewide  locally.  
( See continuation sheet for additional comments [ ]. )

*Mark A. Miles* 30 June 2010  
Signature of certifying official/Title Mark A. Miles/Deputy SHPO Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title

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

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register  
See continuation sheet [ ].
- determined eligible for the  
National Register  
See continuation sheet [ ].
- determined not eligible for the  
National Register.
- removed from the  
National Register
- other, explain  
See continuation sheet [ ].

Signature of the Keeper

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Classification**

| Ownership of Property                       | Category of Property                            | Number of Resources within Property |                 |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
|   |   | Contributing                        | Noncontributing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | 1                                   | 0               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-local       | <input type="checkbox"/> district               |                                     |                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State       | <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | 0                                   | 0               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal     | <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | 0                                   | 0               |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | 0                                   | 0               |
|   |   | 1                                   | 0               |

buildings  
sites  
structures  
objects  
Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Function**

DOMESTIC: Institutional Housing  
RELIGION: Religious Facility  
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION:  
Communications Facility

**Current Functions**

DOMESTIC: Institutional Housing  
SOCIAL: Civic  
RELIGION: Religious Facility

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

LATE VICTORIAN: Second Renaissance Revival  
LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque Revival

**Materials**

foundation LIMESTONE  
walls BRICK  
roof SYNTHETIC  
roof SLATE  
other TERRA COTTA

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

**A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

**B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

**C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

**D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

Property is:

**A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

**B** removed from its original location.

**C** a birthplace or grave.

**D** a cemetery.

**E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

**F** a commemorative property.

**G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**  
SOCIAL HISTORY

**Periods of Significance**  
1907-1939

**Significant Dates**  
1907  
1911

**Significant Person(s)**  
N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**  
N/A

**Architect/Builder**  
Dunne, Father Peter Joseph  
Fruin Construction Company

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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:

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Less than 1 acre

**UTM References**

A. Zone Easting Northing  
15 741840 4280100

B. Zone Easting Northing

C. Zone Easting Northing

D. Zone Easting Northing

[ ] See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

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

**Boundary Justification**

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

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Karen Bode Baxter, Ruth Keenoy, Timothy P. Maloney

organization Karen Bode Baxter, Preservation Consultant date June 22, 2010

street & number 5811 Delor St. telephone 314-353-0593

city or town St. Louis state MO zip code 63109

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional Items**

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

**Property Owner**

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

name The Salvation Army, c/o Major Lonneal Richardson

street & number 1130 Hampton Ave. telephone (314) 807-5454

city or town St. Louis state MO zip code 63139

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Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate  
St. Louis (Independent City), MO

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### Summary

The Father Dunne's News Boys' Home & Protectorate, located at 3010 Washington Avenue, St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri (see Figure 1), has four wings that were constructed as follows: the North Dormitory (1907), the East Dormitory (1911), the Chapel (1907), and the Laundry Facility (constructed separately in 1907 and attached to the building in 1911). The building, courtyard, and adjacent patio encompass the historical complex. The property is visually separated from newer buildings and a parking lot situated west of the original building complex. The building exhibits features of Second Renaissance Revival detailing with exterior brick walls, a limestone foundation, and a slate covered roof (portions of which have been covered with synthetic materials). The building is irregular in plan, comprised of the multiple wings, which create an open central courtyard (see Figures 4-6). The North Dormitory comprises the oldest part of the complex and faces north toward Washington Avenue. This wing and its central hallway extend parallel to the street and is attached at the east end to the East Dormitory wing, which also has an entry facing north onto Washington Avenue but its central hallway parallels Garrison Avenue on the east end of the property. The chapel wing (at the south end of the building complex) is attached to the south wall of the North Dormitory wing via narrow three story masonry hyphen connectors. The laundry wing is also situated at the south end of the building, between the chapel (west) and East Dormitory wing (east) (see Figure 2 and 3). The flat roofed, brick two story Laundry wing and the East Dormitory have a narrow walkway between them leading to the alley. The courtyard has a large walk-in chiller connected to the kitchen and has a concrete patio. West of the chapel wing is a gravel patio with a strip of grass. The area has metal benches installed in the ground. A metal canopy roof at the south end of the complex covers a sidewalk that parallels an alley that borders the property's south boundary. West of the patio is mechanical equipment surrounded by a chain link and wood privacy fence. This area is excluded from the property's boundaries as it also supports non-historic buildings and a parking lot. East of the building is a large parking lot that extends nearly to the end of the block. The lot is enclosed by a brick pier and cast iron fence. South of this parking lot (next to the alley) are more modern buildings of three story brick and one story concrete block construction. The northern boundary of the Locust Street Automotive District (NR listed 9/15/2005) is situated south of the property. Within the remaining vicinity are vacant lots, warehouse type facilities, modern buildings, and a few late nineteenth/early twentieth-century churches that serve as reminders of the neighborhood's former residential character, during which time the Father Dunne's News Boys' Home & Protectorate was established.

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### **NORTH DORMITORY**

#### Front Façade

The North Dormitory is a three story Second Renaissance Revival red brick wing with a parapeted flat roof. The brick parapet has terra cotta parapet caps and there is a projecting terra cotta cornice with modillions and copper cap that spans the façade and wraps the corners. There are rectangular stone details in the frieze above each window. The frieze has a projecting brick string course as its base. On either side of the central entry, there are five window bays with one over one sashed windows with transoms on the second and third floor and one over one first floor windows without transoms. A continuous finished stone sill forms a belt course above the rough cut stone foundation while the other windows on the façade have smooth limestone sills. The central bay has a tripartite one over one wood sashed window unit with narrower operating sashed windows flanking the center window on the third floor while the similarly configured second floor window unit below also has transoms. The front façade entry is located mid-wing and has darker red brick pilasters with terra cotta acanthus leaf capitals that extend to the top of the second floor windows. There is a frieze between the second floor window and the entry that has the same darker red brick as the pilasters. The entry is a double doorway that is now paired steel doors with sidelights; its transom retains its stained glass window.

#### West Elevation

The west elevation does not have a cornice (except for the return from the façade) and has clay tile caps for the parapet although the rectangular terra cotta details are still present above the two window bays. There is a broad, end wall, brick chimney in the first bay from the façade and a small (boarded in) window with a stone sill on either side of the chimney. There are two bays behind the chimney, with the central bay containing one over one sashed tripartite windows with stone sills and a stone course. There is different brick between the openings in this bay. The southernmost bay has one over one, segmental arched, sashed windows for the landings in the stairwell. All the windows have stone sills. The entrance has an aluminum framed full light door with sidelights and the words "MAIN ENTRANCE" painted on the canvas awning above the door. The rock faced ashlar limestone foundation forms a high watertable on this elevation.

#### East Elevation

The three story, red brick, Second Renaissance Revival East Dormitory is basically rectangular but is "U"-shaped on the second and third floors with the base of the "U" facing Washington. It contains the historic main entrance to the complex facing Washington Avenue with the length of the building extending to the alley at the rear of the property. The east side of the wing mirrors the cornice returns of the west side. There is a three story hyphen connector to the East Dormitory across in the middle bay and there is only a single window in the bay to the north and stairwell windows in the bay to the south behind the hyphen connector. The hyphen connector

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itself has a single bay of windows on both the north and south elevations on the upper floors. There are segmental arched windows with simple brick sills.

### South Elevation

The south side of the North Dormitory has the old copper gutters connecting to round downspouts and a rectangular terra cotta detail in the parapet above each window. There are five window bays to either side of the hyphen connector to the Chapel except the second bay in from each side of the building, where there is an entry door with a transom, also with an arched brick lintel. The windows are transomed one over one sashed windows with arched brick lintels but the first floor one over one sashed windows do not have transoms. All of the windows have stone sills. There is a three story brick connector to the Chapel mid-wing, across from the front entry, which has a single window bay on each side with similar segmental arched lintels. The ashlar limestone foundation is visible on this elevation. The three story, gabled roof, brick Romanesque Revival Chapel is not only connected to the North Dormitory by a brick three story hyphen connector, it is also connected by a two story brick hyphen connector to the Laundry Building wing to its east. Both the Chapel and the Laundry Building wing abut the alley at the rear of the property.

### Interior Features

The North Dormitory has a central hall running east-west the length of the building on all three floors. In the center of the wing on the first floor there is a short north south entry hall and another hall across from the entry to the cafeteria below the chapel. On the second and third floors, there is a hall in the center of the wing leading to the hyphen connector to the Chapel on the second floor and the organ loft on the third floor. To the north and south of the central hall there are rooms divided into offices and classrooms on the second and third floors while there are two large rooms for the kitchen on the first floor south of the hall with offices north of the hall. There is a large shower/toilet room on the first floor in the southeast corner and toilets in the southwest corner on each floor. The hallways on the first floor have newer tile floors, with vinyl tile to the west and ceramic tile in the other halls. The second and third floors have vinyl tile flooring. The plaster walls retain the double back band wainscoting trim and dropped ceilings have been installed and there are pipes and ductwork running along the ceilings. The historic doors are half-light two panel doors, but there are some replacement six panel doors. The doors have transoms but some of the transoms have been boarded over while others have stained glass. The dining area has terrazzo floors but the offices and classrooms have linoleum tile floors. There are stairways in the east and west ends of the building with terrazzo stairs and wood railings and newel posts. The offices and classrooms have double back band trim with corner blocks around the windows and the doors have matching trim. On the third floor directly above the entry is an office with extensive plaster detailing, including panels and brackets with acanthus leave motifs and a semi-coffered ceiling with plaster bands and dentils (apparently this was originally an open lounge without a wall to the hallway).

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### **EAST DORMITORY**

#### Front Façade

The East Dormitory is a three-story Second Renaissance Revival red brick wing with a flat roof. The brick parapet has glazed terra cotta caps and a projecting metal cornice as well as brick dentils, corner supports, and a string course forming a frieze below the cornice. There is a terra cotta diamond in the central bay of the stepped parapet. The central bay of the wing itself projects slightly and has a terra cotta shield with a cross centered below the stone diamond in the parapet. There is a tripartite window with a central wood sashed one over one window and wood transoms, all of leaded, stained glass that has a continuous stone sill course separating these windows from the historic main entry below. This entry has flat paneled stone pilasters supporting a pediment with an unadorned entablature. The pilasters rest on limestone plinth blocks with limestone steps spanning the opening. The paired doors have been replaced but it retains the wood framed sidelights and transoms. There are three symmetrical window bays on either side of the central entry. The outermost and innermost of each window bay have paired sashed windows with transoms with a single narrow sashed window between the paired windows. Each window has a terra cotta splayed keystone lintel and a continuous stone sill, with second and third floors having matching windows. There are also ground level windows, with paired double windows flanking a single window, in line with the upper floor windows, but these windows have a continuous soldier course lintel and no transoms. There is a single stone quoin on each corner of the wing at the ends of the soldier course. There is a finished stone foundation. There is also a large medallion on the east side of the wing and a lighted plastic sign (both more recent ornamentations).

#### East Elevation

The east elevation faces North Garrison Avenue and is a secondary façade, with less adornment than the primary façade. There are thirteen vertical bays on this elevation. The cornice treatment wraps the first two bays from the façade. At the corners of the elevation, there are brick panners immediately below the parapet. The parapet projects slightly with a brick dentil course below. It has clay tile caps, a simple brick string course below the parapet projection and terra cotta insets in this brick band that forms a frieze. The windows are flatheaded sashed windows with a transom. On the first and third floor levels, there are continuous brick soldier course lintels while the second floor has separate soldier course lintels. The first two bays from the front façade are separated from the next bay by a section of wall. The third bay has paired one over one wood sashed windows with transoms. Then there are ten windows. All upper floor windows have individual stone sills. The second and third floors have matching window patterns while the ground floor windows are not transomed and follow the fenestration patterns of the second and third floor but the windows have a continuous sill formed by finished stone on the uppermost bond of the rockfaced, course limestone foundation. There is an entry on the south end of the east elevation with a terra cotta pediment with bracket supports and a transom, although the door itself is a newer steel fire door. To the south of that entrance there is an area



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that has been infilled with brick and it has a second fire door, with a window in the stair landing above the door.

### South Elevation

The south elevation of the wing faces the alley with a shorter parapet capped with clay tiles. The south side is largely unadorned and the window fenestration matches the front façade. There is a central entry with a blocked in doorway on the first floor level, but above, there is a roof top since upper two floors of the building are "U"-shaped, with a light well and matching windows on each side. A replacement metal railing spans over the central doorway section. There is a square brick chimney flue at the southwest corner.

### West Elevation

The west elevation of the building mirrors the east side on the upper levels but the first floor openings are less symmetrically positioned. There are also two small sashed windows with stone sills to the south of the transomed double doorway that is just two bays south of the connector to the North Dormitory. There is a single transomed door mid wing. The rockfaced, ashlar limestone foundation forms a high water table.

### Interior Features

The double entry doors open into a vestibule with a small hexagonal tile floor with a central staircase to the second floor and two straight run staircases on either side to the ground floor. The staircases have wood banisters and newel posts and terrazzo stairs. On the first floor the stairs open onto a large room with cast iron columns and terrazzo floors. There are offices on either side of the stairs and a toilet/shower room mid wing on the west side. There are offices on the east side and another larger room in the southwest corner. There are stairs in the southeast column by the elevator and a second toilet/shower room. The walls and ceilings are plaster but there are pipes and ductwork on the ceiling on the first floor. This level originally served as the printing facility. On the second and third floors the stairs open onto an east-west hall running to the hyphen connector to the North Dormitory. The historic walls are plaster, but the walls creating the rooms are non-historic partition frame and drywall walls. The historic walls have double back band wainscoting trim. The ceilings have been dropped with acoustic tile ceilings. There are two long halls running north-south off of the east west hall, with a lightwell between the two halls, creating the building's "U" shape on the upper floors. There are staircases in the south end of each north-south hall, with terrazzo stairs and wood newel posts and railings. The second floor has small rooms constructed in both hallways with a toilet and shower room at the south end. On the third floor there are simple masonite dividers forming partitions for a degree of privacy and there are toilet-shower rooms at the south end of the hall. The second floor rooms have steel frame doors with some five panel doors that appear to be replacement doors and some doors are single light doors. The floors on the second and third floor are vinyl tile floors and the

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baseboards are three member baseboards. The windows have double back band trim with bullseye corner blocks.

### CHAPEL

#### North Elevation

The red brick Romanesque Revival Chapel is two stories with a gabled slate roof. At the base, the building has a rock faced ashlar limestone foundation that extends to the first floor sills. Unlike a free standing church, this Chapel does not have a prominent exterior entry since primary access is from the interior North Dormitory hallway on the north end. The north side of the Chapel is largely unadorned and taken up by the hyphen connector to the North Dormitory.

#### South Elevation

The south elevation of the Chapel faces the alley and has a stone cross on top of the gable and there is a narrow arched window vent in the gable end. Below is a fixed round stained glass window. There are two second floor one over one wood sashed windows with segmental arched brick lintels and stone sills, one in each of the two end bays. On the first floor level, there are three one over one wood sashed windows with arched brick lintels and stone sills (with sills that are directly above the stone foundation). There are four equally spaced brick flat buttress-like piers with two stone sloped caps, one at the height of the second floor windows and the other at the top of the pilaster.

#### West Elevation

The west Elevation of the Chapel has copper gutters at the roof line with round copper downspouts near each end of the building. There are five brick buttress-like piers similar to the south elevation evenly spaced along the west wall. At the south end along the west wall is the projecting secondary entry, which has a gabled roof nestled below the main eaves. It has parapet side walls and an arched transom doorway on the second floor over paired doors on the first floor. The second floor exit has a steel staircase leading to the ground. The four second floor windows have transoms above tripartite one over one sashed windows (narrower sashes flanking the middle window) – all stained glass. The windows have stone sills. The four first floor windows are paired one over one windows with segmental arched brick lintels and stone sills.

#### East Elevation

The east side of the Chapel mirrors the west side of the Chapel, except instead of an entrance on the east side, there is a very narrow two story hyphen connector to the Laundry Building wing. Since this connector is deeper on the first floor, there are only three first floor windows but still four windows in the Chapel. The rest of the east side matches the pilasters, windows, and stone detailing on the west side.

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### Interior Features

The first floor of the Chapel houses the open dining hall with its entry through the hyphen connector to the North Dormitory where there is a wood framed wall of paired doors, transoms and sidelights. The doors have horizontal panels and six light, half height lights positioned at the North Dormitory hallway. Since the dining hall spans the entire first floor, windows flank both sides and even the ends of the room, with double back band trim with corner blocks. Below the windows, the walls are thicker, with a ledge around the room capped by a chair rail. There are exposed beams on the ceiling and the walls and ceilings are plaster. The floors are terrazzo. Overhead pipes and modern ductwork appear to be the only major alterations.

The actual chapel is the second floor of the main building. It is reached by double half-light doors with a single panel; there are sidelights to either side of the door and a transom above positioned where the hyphen connector meets the Chapel with a sidelighted and transomed opening (as well as a single step riser) formed by the connector hallway to serve as a vestibule for the Chapel. There are two rows of pews and a center aisle with a carpet runner. The Chapel has a vaulted ceiling and exposed plaster beams. The altar is recessed under an arch and there are smaller wood arch niches to either side of the altar. The walls are plaster with a high marble wainscoting. The windows are stained glass, including the circular window behind the altar and the transom and sidelights at the entry. There is a pulpit to the west side. There is a third floor organ balcony across the rear of the Chapel with a wood railing and it retains the original pipe organ. It has similar transoms and sidelighted paired doors but these have been painted while most woodwork is stained.

### **LAUNDRY BUILDING / WING**

Built in two sections, the east half first, the Laundry Building is a two story, flat roofed, brick wing between the Chapel and the East Dormitory. The brick parapet has clay tile caps except on the south (alley) elevation which has a copper gutter and downspouts. There is a rockfaced ashlar limestone foundation visible on all elevations but not as high as on the adjacent building wings. It is connected to the Chapel along most of its west wall by the narrow two story hyphen connector and it has a single window near the north end of that elevation on both levels of the building.

### North Elevation

The north side of the laundry building wing has three windows in the western bay, with segmental arched brick lintels and one over one wood sashed windows with stone sills on the second floor, although there are only two first floor windows, flanking a door. There is a single rectangular stone detail above the easternmost window. The entries, one in each half of the wing, have segmental arched doorways with steel fire doors. There is a small segmental arched wood sash window with a stone sill on the second floor at the top of the stairs.

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### East Elevation

The east elevation of the laundry building wing has three second floor windows with segmental arched brick lintels, stone sills, and one over one sashed windows. On the first floor there are two windows toward the south end and an entry door to the north, with the windows matching the others on the building wing.

### South Elevation

The south wall faces the alley and has three unevenly spaced second floor windows and four unevenly spaced first floor windows, all with one over one segmental arched brick lintels and stone sills.

### Interior Features

The first floor of the laundry building wing has exposed painted brick walls with concrete floors and exposed wood joists overhead supporting the second floor's wood floors. Doorways have segmental arched openings. The west side of the wing is a large maintenance room with two small storage areas to the west, one of which also acts as a connector to the first floor of the Chapel. The east side has four small rooms devoted to maintenance equipment. In the northwest corner is a wooden staircase with a beadboard half-wall of railing.

The connector to the Chapel has wood floors and plaster walls. There is a toilet room to the south of the central hall, two rooms to the west of the hall, three rooms to the east of the hall, and another staircase on the north end. There is a skylight in the center of the connector, with a gable shape and six lights.

### **ALTERATIONS AND INTEGRITY ISSUES**

The complex retains the great majority of its historic integrity. The original complex extended most of the way down the block to the west but always had a large open lot just west of the North Dormitory. The historic buildings to the west (the residence for the African American boys and the garage) have been demolished and replaced with newer buildings that function as part of the complex. The large parking lot also occupies an area that was historically devoid of buildings. The stables and the old house used for the printing facility were demolished during the period of significance and were replaced with the existing Laundry Building wing and East Dormitory (to the west end of the North Dormitory). The pool was removed in 1965 after the period of significance. The area being nominated retains its layout and historic configuration of buildings. The rest of the complex is newer buildings that occupy the south side of the west portion of the original property and a large parking area next to the historic section of the complex. As a result the lots and their associated newer buildings west of the historic building complex are excluded from the nominated property.

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Although there are some windows that have had replacement windows installed, the windows openings and mullions remain intact. Many of the stained glass windows remain, especially in transoms and throughout the Chapel, although stained glass pieces are missing in some of the windows. One Chapel window was removed and is in storage, hoping to be repaired. For security reasons most lower-level windows have security screens and some windows have been blocked in. The entries have been retained in their original locations and have the same surrounds and transoms, but the entry doors themselves have been replaced. Most halls retain the historic rhythm of door openings. One of the largest changes is that the second floor dormitories have had individual rooms installed but the layout maintains the original central corridors. The third floor has separation partitions between beds to allow for some privacy. There are areas with some trim missing but most of the trim and original doors are intact. Some areas where ceilings have been lowered in a few rooms obscure the window trim, but it is believe to remain above. Extra rooms have been converted into toilet rooms and shower rooms and some of the individual offices and classrooms have had the wall partitions altered. Terrazzo and tile flooring remain in the stairwells. The stairs still retain there historic wood railings and newel posts and the Chapel retains its original details. Throughout the complex, the buildings retain a sense of the historic spaces and uses and have most of the historic details (ceiling heights, cast iron columns, interior trim and decorative plaster moldings) intact in each of the building wings in the complex. The alterations to the wings were mostly minor cosmetic changes and have only a minimal effect on the historic integrity of the building. Its current use by the Salvation Army closely mirrors its original uses (offices, chapel, dining facilities and dormitories) and only the printing facility is being used for different purposes (as meeting rooms and lounges).

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### SUMMARY

Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate was established in 1906 by Father Peter Joseph Dunne at 3010 Washington Avenue, St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri. In 1907, a three-story home was constructed on the parcel, as was a two-story chapel (attached to the three-story home) and a detached laundry building. The home was substantially enlarged in 1911, when a three-story addition was constructed at the east end of the protectorate and the laundry facility was attached to the building. The complex provided shelter for St. Louis' orphaned, half-orphaned, abandoned, and neglected boys; many of whom worked selling newspapers. Father Peter Dunne, who initiated the project, served as the home's administrator until his death in 1939. The protectorate and boys' home on Washington Avenue provided housing, education, and care for boys regardless of age or background; many of whom were viewed as delinquents or lost causes. Throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, homeless boys in St. Louis received scant public assistance. Most boys were expected to work at a very young age and few institutions provided housing for boys older than 12 years of age. Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate is an exemplary example of the social services movement in St. Louis that after 1900 heavily campaigned for the elimination of juvenile delinquency and child labor. The property is locally eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in relation to Criterion A: Social History. The period of significance extends from 1907 – the building's year of construction through 1939 – the year of Father Dunne's death.

### ORPHANAGES AND CHILDREN'S HOMES – ST. LOUIS, 1827-1900

In 1850, a local manufacturer, Thomas Morrison, established what became known as the St. Louis Provident Association – one of the city's early efforts to assist poverty-stricken citizens. St. Louis' indigent population rose rapidly during the early-to-mid 1800s, brought about by a series of unpredictable events that included a burgeoning immigrant population, a cholera epidemic, and a fire in 1849 that burned several blocks adjacent to the riverfront between Olive (north) and Market (south) Streets. These events left thousands without work and hundreds homeless.<sup>1</sup> St. Louis' cholera epidemic was particularly devastating, beginning with outbreaks in 1832 that continued through the

<sup>1</sup> Western Historical Manuscripts Collection, University of Missouri-St. Louis, Online description for Collection: sl 174 "Family and Children's Service of Greater St. Louis Records, 1861 – 1860," Available at: <http://www.umsl.edu/~whmc/guides/whm0174.htm> (Access date: 14 May 2009); James Neal Primm, *Lion of the Valley St. Louis, Missouri* (Boulder, CO: Pruett Publishing Company, 1981), 174.

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mid-1860s. These events left many children orphaned; others were forced by their poverty-stricken circumstances to support themselves or seek care elsewhere. In response, benevolent societies began to crop up around the city. Most of these agencies were associated with religious organizations.

Most orphan asylums established outside of major northeastern cities were in response to epidemics.<sup>2</sup> This appears to be the case for St. Louis, at least during the early-to-mid-1800s. A single cholera outbreak in 1849 wiped out nearly one-tenth of the city's total population.<sup>3</sup> St. Louis was "hit harder by cholera than any other city" and "a majority of the victims were recent immigrants . . . about one-third were children five years and younger."<sup>4</sup> By 1850, almost 50 percent of the city's total population was German or Irish; and most that arrived after 1846 were impoverished.<sup>5</sup> As a result, many of St. Louis' orphans were immigrant children whose parents' deaths left them with no extended family in the area. Additionally, St. Louis had a large number of needy children due to illegitimacy, single and dual working parents (unable to care for their children), physical and emotional handicaps, abuse and abandonment. Though there is no way to fully substantiate the number of institutionalized children living in St. Louis during the nineteenth century, an estimated 11,000 passed through institutions during the 1870s-1890s.<sup>6</sup>

Certain individuals and organizations made great strides in St. Louis' early social movement. Of note is the Mullanphy Family, which provided funds to organize homes and agencies that assisted Irish immigrants. Examples include two agencies established in c. 1827: the Mullanphy Orphanage for Girls, administered by the Convent of the Religious of the Sacred Heart; and Mullanphy Hospital, operated by the Sisters of Charity.<sup>7</sup> In addition to their work at Mullanphy Hospital, the Sisters of Charity oversaw a number of early children's homes including: St. Ann's Foundling Asylum and Widow's Home, which opened in 1853 to care for illegitimate babies and their mothers; the House of Guardian Angels, a girls' home that opened in 1859; and St. Philomena's Technical

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<sup>2</sup> Timothy A. Hacsí, *Second Home: Orphan Asylums and Poor Families in America* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1997), 23.

<sup>3</sup> Primm, 161-164; "History's Time Portal," Website available at: <http://www.usgennet.org/usa/mo/county/stlouis/> (Access date: 9 June 2009).

<sup>4</sup> Primm, 163.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid, 173.

<sup>6</sup> Peggy Thompson Greenwood, "St. Louis Orphanages," Available online at: <http://genealogyinstlouis.accessgenealogy.com/greenwood.htm> (Access date: 8 June 2009), 11.

<sup>7</sup> Greenwood, 3; Primm, 172-173.

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School (for girls) established in 1864.<sup>8</sup> The Sisters of St. Joseph is another organization that provided early assistance for St. Louis' indigent children. In 1835, the sisters opened St. Joseph's Home for Boys in Carondelet. By 1850, St. Louis held no less than five Catholic and three Protestant orphanages (see Table 1). Most children's agencies placed restrictions on the children they would accept. Examples include the German St. Vincent Home for Children established in 1851 that restricted admission to children (boys and girls) of German parentage.<sup>9</sup> The St. Louis Protestant Orphans' Asylum, established in 1834 for children orphaned by the cholera epidemic, only accepted children aged 3-14 by the 1850s.<sup>10</sup> In 1851, the House of Refuge opened under a state charter as a "progressive social reform" institution intended to address the problem of juvenile delinquency.<sup>11</sup> This agency was an exception as few provided assistance for children deemed too old and/or too difficult to manage.

Throughout the nineteenth century, social workers and communities utilized a number of ways to care for orphaned and needy children. Many parents voluntarily placed their children in institutions – usually to prevent children from living in a poor house or on the streets. Nearly all of St. Louis' children's homes provided a means for education, either conducted at the institution or adjacent schools (public and private). This was another incentive for parents to place their children in institutions, at least temporarily.<sup>12</sup> Outside of orphanages, the most common treatment of indigent children was to place them in servitude, either as apprentices or indentured servants. Although this method of placement was less common by the late nineteenth century, it was nonetheless widely accepted in St. Louis, particularly among immigrants. A less obvious practice of dealing with orphaned children was to place them on trains and send them into rural areas where they would (hopefully) be adopted. This latter method of caring for homeless children came about when large cities, such as New York and Boston, became overwhelmed by the number of homeless children living on the streets. Missouri attempted to ban the orphan trains in 1901, but the law was never enforced and the practice continued through

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<sup>8</sup> Francis H. McLean, "Survey of Charities in St. Louis," Unpublished document, 1916. Available at Western Historical Manuscripts Collection (UMSL), Collection sl 434, Health and Welfare Council, Box 11, pp. 220-225.

<sup>9</sup> Greenwood, 4-5; J. Thomas Scharf, *History of St. Louis City and County*, Vol. II (Philadelphia: Louis H. Evers & Co., 1883), 1760.

<sup>10</sup> Fran Mannino, "Edgewood Kicks off 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year," *Webster-Kirkwood Times* (January 30 – February 2, 2009), 8-A.

<sup>11</sup> Greenwood, 5.

<sup>12</sup> Hacsí, 107-108.



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the 1920s.<sup>13</sup> Statistics regarding the trains' direct relationship to St. Louis' are vague; though it is believed that a small percentage of orphan train children settled in the area.<sup>14</sup>

By the 1890s, American social mores began to shift to more modern ideas about child care. The school of thought was perpetuated by publications such as ladies journals and child rearing literature, which depicted children as innocents influenced by the care of mothers, exposure to healthy lifestyles, and religious values. Though child labor existed after 1900, ideas about working children shifted away from earlier views that children "were idle too much of the time" and should therefore be employed to prevent delinquency.<sup>15</sup> Societal views about child labor continued to evolve after 1900; yet there was no changing the fact that many individuals – particularly children – remained destitute and in need of employment for survival. "Hard times, factory accidents, unwanted pregnancies, lost wages, illness, or the death of a family member" all contributed to the growing need for institutions and programs to care for unwanted and uncared for children.<sup>16</sup> Children who worked in street trades presented a greater challenge for social workers than those working in factories. Street traders were visibly engaged in the social sector and permeated nearly every setting of urban life; their presence indicates that underage labor remained acceptable to most Americans long after factories stopped using children.<sup>17</sup> In 1938, the United States passed a Fair Labor Standards Act that for the first time in American history, placed restrictions on the hours and ages of employed children.<sup>18</sup>

African American children fared poorly in terms of agencies willing to care for them – though two such institutions were organized in St. Louis during the late 1800s. In 1888, Sarah Newton established the St. Louis Colored Orphans' Home at 1427 North 12<sup>th</sup> Street, a "ramshackle two story frame building" constructed as a home for Civil War era black soldiers.<sup>19</sup> In 1922, the orphanage moved into a new building funded by African-American philanthropist, Annie Malone, who served as the agency's president. The establishment was renamed in 1946 as the Annie Malone Children's Home and continues

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<sup>13</sup> Greenwood, 15; Marilyn Irvin Holt, *The Orphan Trains: Placing Out in America* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1992), 4-5, 67.

<sup>14</sup> Greenwood, 15.

<sup>15</sup> Hugh D. Hindman, *Child Labor: An American History* (Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, 2002), 45.

<sup>16</sup> Holt, 22.

<sup>17</sup> Hindman, 214.

<sup>18</sup> United States Department of Labor, "Child Labor Public Education Project," Available at: [http://www.continuetolearn.uiowa.edu/laborctr/child\\_labor/](http://www.continuetolearn.uiowa.edu/laborctr/child_labor/) (Access date: 27 March 2010).

<sup>19</sup> McLean, 178-180; Greenwood, 13.

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as such today.<sup>20</sup> In 1881, the Oblate Sisters of Providence opened St. Francis Orphan Asylum, a home for African-American girls ages 2-12. The orphanage accepted girls regardless of their religious background and trained them for domestic service employment.<sup>21</sup> Despite these two organizations' efforts, African-American children, particularly boys, continued to be neglected by most public agencies after the turn of the century.

The number of children entering St. Louis' orphanages did not decrease after 1900; however, the situational associations of these children began to shift. After 1900, most children were placed in homes by courts and charitable organizations, not by their parents.<sup>22</sup> Boys, who had always been more difficult to place than girls, became increasingly at risk as juvenile delinquency claims rose and became increasingly associated with unemployed young men.<sup>23</sup> In 1890, St. Louis held an estimated 2,500 children living in institutions; twenty-three percent were identified as "half-orphans" or children with single parents who could not properly care for their children on their own. Twenty-four percent were "boarders," – children with two working parents who paid to have their children cared for and educated, and five percent were full orphans. The remainder and bulk of the population living in orphanages were children "abandoned by [their] parents" or "picked off the streets by civil officials, police officers, and do-gooders."<sup>24</sup> This category of children included newspaper boys, the children that gained the attention of Father Peter Dunne, who established the St. Louis' News Boys' Home and Protectorate in 1906 (see Figure 9).

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<sup>20</sup> Tim Fox (ed.), *Where We Live: A Guide to St. Louis Communities* (St. Louis: Missouri Historical Society Press, 1995), 152; Heritage and Urban Design Division, City of St. Louis, "A Preservation plan for St. Louis" (September, 1995, unpublished), 274; Greenwood, 13.

<sup>21</sup> McLean, pp. 178-180; Greenwood, 14.

<sup>22</sup> Hacsí, 111.

<sup>23</sup> Hacsí, 123.

<sup>24</sup> Greenwood, 11.

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## FATHER DUNNE'S NEWS BOYS' HOME AND PROTECTORATE, 1906-2006

Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate opened on February 6, 1906 in a rented house at 1013 Selby Place (no longer extant). The home was funded by donations through the Catholic Benevolent Society and directed by St. Louis Archbishop, John Glennon.<sup>25</sup> The institution welcomed all "poor boys . . . obliged to earn their living as newsboys, or bootblacks," particularly those who were "too old to find shelter in an orphan asylum."<sup>26</sup> At the turn of the twentieth-century, newspaper boys were a common urban street scene. Many newsboys were orphaned, abandoned, and runaway children forced to obtain jobs to feed themselves. The newspaper business was a magnet for young boys living on the street. Newspaper sales were not profitable (most paid about one penny per paper sold), but the incentive of a job with no experience necessary was effective enough to draw a large supply of labor. Newspapers once provided the nation's most up-to-date source of information; most publishers printed two papers daily. Breaking news called for the sale of "extra" editions; therefore, newsboys were expected to remain on-call. Most worked six days per week, an average of twelve hours per day.<sup>27</sup> Newsboys were stereotypically viewed as delinquents, young people engaged in "questionable petty trade," who used profanity, and/or "frequented saloons" and taverns.<sup>28</sup> These children, particularly those over the age of ten, seldom found public assistance.

With industrialization came urbanization. And with urbanization came the street trades. And into the street trades came the children. Children provided services driving delivery wagons, working as bootblacks, messengers, and organ grinders. They sold all manner of goods such as flowers, fruit, candy bars, and, most commonly, newspapers. They seemed to be everywhere. Every busy corner of every substantial city offered a sales outlet to some enterprising child. At strategic locations where foot traffic was especially heavy, such as at train stations, a cluster of children

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<sup>25</sup> Rev. J.W. Gormley, *History of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate* (St. Louis: Father Dunne's Newsboys, [1908]), 7, 52.

<sup>26</sup> John Rothensteiner, *History of the Archdiocese of St. Louis*, Vol. II (St. Louis: [Archdiocese of St. Louis], 1928), 652.

<sup>27</sup> Michael D. Patrick and Evelyn Goodrich Trickel, *Orphan Trains to Missouri* (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1997), 12.

<sup>28</sup> Holt, 25.

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chased after potential customers or hawked their wares from an array of booths and stands.<sup>29</sup>

One of the earliest individuals known to work specifically with newsboys was Charles Loring Brace, who in 1852 established the Children's Aid Society of New York.<sup>30</sup> By the late 1800s, New York City had several newspaper boys' homes, most of which, but not all, were administrated by Loring's Society.<sup>31</sup> In St. Louis, Father Peter J. Dunne worked as the city's primary advocate for boys engaged in street trade. St. Louis' newspaper boys were largely between the ages of ten and fourteen; though it was not uncommon for much younger children to work in the trade. A study conducted by Washington University's School of Social Economy, published in 1913, evaluated 507 newsboys from all corners of St. Louis. The findings indicated that most boys (426) attended public school, at least on a semi-regular basis. On the days that these boys attended school, they also worked up to seventeen hours selling newspapers. Most boys in the study group were not orphaned; in fact, 74.3 percent of the boys had both parents living at home. About half of the cases (53.6 percent) were children of immigrants who worked primarily as teamsters, factory workers, painters, bricklayers, and carpenters. Eighty-two of the boys were immigrants themselves, and fifty were African-American.<sup>32</sup>

Dunne's life experience led him to a great awareness of the dilemma for St. Louis' neglected and homeless children, particularly those unable to find care through family or social agencies. Peter Joseph Dunne was born in Chicago on June 29, 1870, to Patric and Christina Dunne. In 1873, the Dunnes moved to a farm near Council Grove, Kansas. Peter's mother, Christina, died the following year, and the family moved in 1882 to Kansas City where Patric obtained steady work. Without the assistance of his wife, Patric Dunne was unable to care for his children and placed all but Peter in institutions.<sup>33</sup> Peter's older sister, Taressa, resided at a home administered by the Sisters of St. Joseph, St. Teresa's Academy; while his youngest sibling, Joseph, was placed at the Catholic Orphan's Home in St. Joseph. Two younger sisters, Sarah and Mary, were sent to the Girls' Orphans Home in Kansas City.<sup>34</sup> Peter obtained work in a newsprint shop, and his

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<sup>29</sup> Hindman, 214.

<sup>30</sup> Patrick and Trickel, 9, 14.

<sup>31</sup> "No 9. Duane Street - The Newspaper Boys' Lodging House history site," Available at: <http://nineduane.queenitsy.com/index.html> (Access date: 8 June 2009).

<sup>32</sup> Washington University, School of Social Economy. *The Newsboy of Saint Louis*, (St. Louis: Self-published, 1913), 3-10.

<sup>33</sup> Rothensteiner, 653.

<sup>34</sup> Gormley, 20.

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father died shortly afterward in 1882. Peter held a number of jobs following his father's death – he worked at a dairy, in a blacksmith's shop, and as a horse trader. Peter also attempted to educate himself by attending evening classes.<sup>35</sup>

Peter Dunne moved to St. Louis in 1891 to work as a waterworks teamster, hauling macadam for road construction. He later worked at a stone quarry for the Mississippi Valley Glass Company.<sup>36</sup> A subsequent job as a night watchman for St. Louis University brought about his acquaintance with Father James J. O'Brien and Archbishop John Joseph Kain, both of whom assisted Dunne in his endeavors to become a priest. In 1894, Dunne was recommended – and accepted – to receive instruction at St. Benedict's College in Atchison, Kansas. After five years at St. Benedict, Dunne returned to St. Louis where he attended Kenrick Seminary. He was ordained as a priest in 1903 and celebrated his first mass at St. Margaret's in south St. Louis City (see Figure 7).<sup>37</sup>

Dunne's first assignment was at St. Coumbkille's parish in south St. Louis, where he served as a spiritual director for boys. He later gained an assignment at St. Rose's (in north St. Louis City) as an assistant pastor. At St. Rose's, Father Dunne “began to devote his energies actively to the welfare of homeless boys.”<sup>38</sup> While working at St. Rose's, Father Dunne met a newsboy, James (“Jimmy”) Fleming, a ten-year-old half-orphan who had been abandoned by his father. Jimmy became Dunne's primary inspiration to establish a newsboys' home (see Figure 8). In 1906, Father Dunne left St. Rose's to work with Father Timothy Dempsey at St. Patrick's – a working men's hostel located “in the tenement district of the city” – and at St. Ann's Infant Asylum (both agencies located in north St. Louis City).<sup>39</sup>

Though Father Dunne's home was the city's first permanent facility without age restrictions for indigent boys, an earlier newsboys' facility opened in 1897, sponsored by a group of “society women” – the St. Louis Newsboys Home. The agency was not an orphanage; it served as a temporary lodging facility that provided wholesome forms of entertainment to prevent boys from wandering the streets at night.<sup>40</sup> Until Father Dunne moved three boys (including “Little Jimmy” Fleming) into the house on Selby Street in

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<sup>35</sup> Rothensteiner, 653-654.

<sup>36</sup> Gormley, 24.

<sup>37</sup> Gormley, 26-35.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid, 44.

<sup>39</sup> Ibid, 44-50; Bonnie Stepenoff, “Child Savers and St. Louis Newsboys, 1896 – 1948,” *Missouri Historical Review* (pending publication, April 2010), 11.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid, 9-10.

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1906, St. Louis did not provide any full-time housing facility without age restrictions for impoverished boys. The house on Selby Street was sparse in terms of comforts. The boys spent their first night alone, sleeping on blankets loaned by a local shop owner, as Father Dunne had to return to work that evening. Within a week, Dunne hired a woman to cook and care for the boys in his absence. Neighbors, however, were far less supportive. Upon hearing of the home's occupants, many began to blame the boys for nearly "every local disturbance."<sup>41</sup> Father Dunne received an eviction notice and began to diligently search for another location.<sup>42</sup>

On May 4, 1906, less than six months after opening the first boys' home on Selby Place Father Dunne moved thirty-five boys to a house at 2737 Locust Street (no longer extant). The house rented for \$100 per month, funded through a local fundraiser held by St. Patrick's and a one-time donation from the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Dunne resigned both positions at St. Patrick and St. Ann's, and began to diligently search for a larger and permanent site for his home.<sup>43</sup> In addition to providing care for newsboys and homeless young men, Father Dunne was assigned the task (by the archdiocese) of attending juvenile court in 1906, as he undertook "the rescue and the alleviation of the conditions of destitute and derelict boys."<sup>44</sup> In an effort to create a self-sufficient means of supporting the boys' home financially, as well as to provide a source of training and trade for the older boys, Father Dunne opened a printing press in the house on Locust Street in September 1906. Situated on the second floor of the building, the press produced a monthly newsletter about the boys, which the boys (with the assistance of an experienced printer) produced and sold themselves.<sup>45</sup>

In 1907, Dunne discovered a parcel for sale at the corner of Washington Avenue and Garrison Street. The priest raised \$30,000 to purchase the lot by requesting \$1,000 donations from local businesses.<sup>46</sup> Father Dunne constructed a three-story housing facility on Washington Avenue that opened on November 10, 1907. The building – in addition to the chapel, also constructed in 1907 (see Figure 10) – housed the dormitories (see Figure 13), one or more classrooms, a music room, visitor parlor(s), a dining hall,

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<sup>41</sup> Gormley, 52-57.

<sup>42</sup> Ibid, 57.

<sup>43</sup> Rothensteiner, 653; *Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate* (St. Louis: Self-published, [1907]), 7.

<sup>44</sup> Gormley, 49.

<sup>45</sup> *Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home* (St. Louis: Self-published, [1915]), 19.

<sup>46</sup> Rothensteiner, 653.

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kitchen (see Figure 15), and the priest's office.<sup>47</sup> The goal of the new home was not only to provide shelter and education, but to secure reliable employment for the older boys and train younger boys in "light and useful trades," which included printing and publishing (see Figures 11-12).<sup>48</sup> By the end of 1907, the printery occupied a building (on the same parcel) at 521 North Garrison Street, southeast of the new three-story home.

Father Dunne's Boys' Home and Protectorate accepted all boys who needed assistance. A detailed description of the agency during the early 1900s indicates that boys with the following situations were acceptable candidates: homeless; orphaned; those with parents who could not care for them due to illness or injury; illegitimate; children of single parents due to death, divorce, or desertion; boys who could not be managed "by their natural parents, yet are tractable enough and docile to others;" from broken homes due to death or other disaster; those adopted by relatives who could not handle or mistreated the boys; young men enrolled in monastic or military schools; boys identified as stubborn in nature, rebellious, or banished from other facilities; "victims" of "some violent temporary misfortune;" temporary residents (placed by parents); runaways; boys whose only other options were prison or reform homes; and boys who attempted, but failed, to support themselves.<sup>49</sup> Most of the boys living in the home ranged between ages 5–15, but no boy was turned away who sought assistance at the home.<sup>50</sup> As noted by Father Dunne in an interview conducted shortly after the new home opened,

The Newsboys' Home is open to every homeless boy...It matters not whether he is two years old or fifteen or even older; if he is homeless, no matter what his age or what his creed, the doors of the Newsboys' Home are opened wide to him, and he is as welcome to its hospitality as are the flowers of the field to the warmth of the springtime.<sup>51</sup>

A report issued in 1916 by the St. Louis Health and Welfare Council provides the results of a survey of the city's "children's institutions." The study evaluated factors such as living and sleeping quarters, dietary provisions, educational opportunities, and access to medical care. Father Dunne's Home, one of the sites included in the study, was favorably

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<sup>47</sup> Gormley, 66-70

<sup>48</sup> Gormley, 7.

<sup>49</sup> Ibid, 76-82.

<sup>50</sup> *Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate* ([1907]), 2.

<sup>51</sup> Ibid, 18.

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noted by inspectors as being operated as a home, rather than an institution.<sup>52</sup> In 1916, Father Dunne had 125 boys living in the home; the building's capacity at that time was for 166 residents.<sup>53</sup> Boys under the age of 14 attended public school (which was a state law); whereas older boys were employed either at the printery or in local "commercial and manufacturing" jobs. A few of the home's boys attended college or the seminary.<sup>54</sup>

The boys who lived at Father Dunne's were given a great deal of personal responsibility. They completed a number of kitchen and dining chores, such as setting tables, picking up dishes, sweeping, and cleaning. Dormitories were assigned as sleeping quarters based on boys' ages; there were no monitors or prefects. The boys were expected to honor the "unwritten rule that silence must reign [in the dormitories] not only at bed time but in the morning also" and few instances occurred in which this was not the case. Boys also worked in the laundry building, where they ironed, washed, and sorted clothes (see Figure 14). Recreation was encouraged. By 1915, the complex held an enclosed swimming pool, a playground area, a horse stable, and music room where a sixty piece band practiced regularly.<sup>55</sup> As indicated in an early publication about the home, "boys in this institution are taught one of two trades if they choose to learn – cobbling or printing. Nothing, however, is compulsory except the duty of being good."<sup>56</sup>

As indicated, Father Dunne's home had a facility that produced a regular newspaper (about the boys' home) and accepted all types of printing jobs (see Figure 16). Initially, the boys published their newspaper once a month; but by the 1910s, the paper was published weekly. Eight to ten boys worked full-time in the printery. These young men were taught by the printing foreman to complete the typesetting, feed the pressing machines, and fold/bind newspapers and journals. Wednesdays and Thursdays were dedicated to getting the newspaper ready for mailing. After school, younger boys assisted with folding, stuffing, and binding the papers. These were the printery's busiest days – utilizing up to 25 boys at a time. The papers not only had to be "stitched" and folded, they were also trimmed, addressed, and put into envelopes for mailing. The printery also turned out "thousands of hand-bills, programmes [sic] for schools and societies,

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<sup>52</sup> McLean, 113.

<sup>53</sup> Ibid.

<sup>54</sup> *Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home*, 2.

<sup>55</sup> *Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home*, 8-12; *Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate* ([1907]), 6-7.

<sup>56</sup> *Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate* ([1907]), 5



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pamphlets and catalogues of colleges and academies” and printed newspapers for other clients.<sup>57</sup>

In 1931, the boys' home property was expanded when Father Dunne purchased an adjacent dwelling just west of the complex at 3028 Washington (of note, this dwelling is identified incorrectly as 3033 Washington in a *Post-Dispatch* article). The house served as segregated housing for up to forty African-American boys. Two boys moved into the house in August 1931.<sup>58</sup>

Eight years later, in March 1939, Father Dunne died at the age of 68.<sup>59</sup> The Newsboys' home on Washington Avenue continued under the direction of the St. Louis Archdiocese. The agency merged in 2006 with Catholic Services for Children and Youth, St. Joseph's Home and Family Support Services, and Marian Hall Agencies.<sup>60</sup> Today, Father Dunne's Newsboys' Home is associated with Aquinas Academy at 853 Dunn Road in Florissant, Missouri. The agency is no longer an orphanage; it serves instead as a counseling center for troubled boys and men, 13 to 20 years of age.<sup>61</sup>

## CONSTRUCTION HISTORY, 1907-1972

Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate underwent a number of changes following the property's acquisition in 1907, as illustrated in Figures 2 and 3. When the property was purchased, a two-story residence at 521 N. Garrison Street was located on the parcel. Some assume that this building was converted for use as the printery; though there is no solid information to support the assumption. A 1909 Sanborn Map (see Figure 2) depicts a “printery” building at 521 North Garrison. The building is also noted on a revised (c. 1910) Whipple Fire Insurance Map originally published in 1897 (no image available). A copy of this map, located at the Missouri Historical Society Library (St. Louis), provides evidence of an earlier building footprint (pasted over c. 1910) at 521

<sup>57</sup> Gormley, 122.

<sup>58</sup> “Father Dunne's Colored Orphans' Home Dedicated,” *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* (3 August 1931).

<sup>59</sup> “Building Construction News,” *St. Louis Daily Record* (17 February 1940), p. 9; Missouri State Board of Health, “Certificate of Death,” Peter J. Dunne (issued 17 March 1939).

<sup>60</sup> “6 Catholic Charities agencies meld into 2,” *St. Louis Review* (29 June 2006). Online at: <http://stlouisreview.com/article/2006-06-29/6-catholic-charities-agencies-meld-2> (Access date: 6 May 2009).

<sup>61</sup> “Father Dunne's News Boys Suffer Abuse, Neglect, Emotional Problems,” *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* (20 October 1996). Online at: [http://goliath.ecnext.com/coms2/gi\\_0199-8415786/FATHER-DUNNE-S-NEWS-BOYS.html](http://goliath.ecnext.com/coms2/gi_0199-8415786/FATHER-DUNNE-S-NEWS-BOYS.html) (Access date: 23 December 2009).

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North Garrison. The earlier property was possibly the home of Dr. G. Engelman, who received a building permit in 1833 for a two-story brick dwelling along the west side of North Garrison between the blocks of Locust and Washington. A demolition permit was issued in 1907 to remove an unidentified brick building at 521 North Garrison and (also in 1907) permits were issued to Father Dunne for two foundations – one measuring 110 by 50 feet (3010 Washington) and another measuring 30 x 64 feet (probably the chapel).<sup>62</sup> It is therefore conceivable that the dwelling (noted by Rothensteiner) was demolished in 1907 and replaced by another building used as a printery.

Construction of the brick three-story boys' home at 3010 Washington Avenue began in June, 1907. Also completed in 1907 were a two-story brick boiler house/laundry, situated southeast of the main wing, and a two-story chapel wing at the main building's south elevation. The 1907 construction was completed for an estimated \$25,000, and Father Dunne was noted as architect and contractor on all of the building permits.<sup>63</sup> When the protectorate and home opened on November 10, 1907, first-floor space held one or two classrooms, an office, visitor parlor(s), a dining room, and kitchen. Second and third floor space was primarily used as dormitories.<sup>64</sup>

In 1907, a brick boiler house and laundry was completed at the back of the property, expanded in 1912 to accommodate the growth of the complex. In 1911, the boys' home was enlarged with the addition of a three-story wing situated at the east end of the main building. At that time, the building which served as the printery at 521 North Garrison was demolished, and the printery relocated to the first floor of the new wing. An enclosed swimming pool was constructed in 1909 southwest of the chapel wing. The swimming pool building was demolished (and the pool infilled) in 1965. Additional alterations to the Newsboys' Home property included construction of a brick stable in 1915, located near 3028 Washington Avenue (demolished, date unknown). Alterations were made to the building in 1919 (not specified in records) that estimated \$750.<sup>65</sup> A dwelling at 3028 Washington was purchased in 1931 and converted for use as segregated housing for African-American boys. That building was demolished in 1940 and replaced in 1941 by a

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<sup>62</sup> Sanborn Map, 1909; Alphonse Whipple. *Fire Insurance Map of St. Louis, Missouri* (St. Louis: A. Whipple, 1897, rev. c. 1910); St. Louis City. Building Permits, Comptroller's Office.

<sup>63</sup> St. Louis City Building Permits, 1905 – 1907.

<sup>64</sup> *Ibid.*, 64-69.

<sup>65</sup> *St. Louis Daily Record* (1 September 1915), p. 3 (19 July 1919), p. 9.

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brick garage measuring 12 x 22 feet (demolished, date unknown). Alterations (not specified) for an estimated \$1,500 were completed in 1957.<sup>66</sup>

The building at 3010 Washington Avenue served as the News Boys' Home until it was purchased by the Salvation Army in 1970. At that time, Father Dunne's Home relocated to Florissant, Missouri.<sup>67</sup> Today, the former News Boys' Home property at 3010 Washington / 521 North Garrison remains under the ownership of the Salvation Army, which renovated the building as the Harbor Light Center in 1971. The renovation included minimal changes to the major historical buildings that include the 1907-1911 main building/wing, the chapel, and the attached boiler/laundry facility. The extant complex vividly illustrates the significance of the home throughout its years of operation, 1907 - 1970.

For nearly a century, Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate served a great need in the City of St. Louis – housing, educating, and caring for homeless boys. The building played a significant role in St. Louis' early twentieth-century social movement. The home filled a critical need that most of the city's child advocates overlooked – caring for homeless, abandoned, and neglected boys that were rejected by other institutions because they were either too old or too difficult to manage. The home provided not only offered boys food and lodging; it offered industrial training through the operation of its printing industry. This unique institution is well represented today by the building that held all of its daily operations and served as a home for St. Louis' indigent boys throughout the early twentieth-century.

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<sup>66</sup> City of St. Louis Building Permits, On file at St. Louis Comptroller's Office (City Hall, Active and Inactive Files for Block No. 1022) Microfilm; *St. Louis Daily Record* (10 July 1957, p. 8; 29 June 1965, p. 8; 27 January 1971, p. 8); Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, St. Louis, Missouri, Vol. 2 (1909), 28, (1932), 29.

<sup>67</sup> City of St. Louis Building Permit, 3/10/70; "6 Catholic Charities . . ." (2006).

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**Boundary Description**

The historic buildings occupy Lots 32 through 38 of City Block 1022E in the Stoddard Addition.

**Boundary Justification**

This encompasses all of the remaining historic buildings associated with Father Dunne's News Boys Home and Protectorate and excludes the adjacent parking lot and modern buildings.



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**Photo Log**

Photographer: Sheila Findall

March 2010

Negatives with Karen Bode Baxter, 5811 Delor Street, St. Louis, MO 63109

Photo #1: Exterior, looking southwest at north façade and east elevation

Photo #2: Exterior, looking east at west building and chapel west elevations

Photo #3: Exterior, looking northeast at chapel south and west elevations

Photo #4: Interior, first floor, west building, cafeteria, from mid north wall looking south

Photo #5: Interior, second floor, east building, north hall, from east end looking northwest

Photo #6: Interior, second floor, west building, hall, from east end looking southwest

Photo #7: Interior, second floor, west building, chapel, from mid south end looking north

Photo #8: Interior, third floor, west building, mid north room, from mid west wall looking east

Photo #9: Interior, third floor, east building, north stairs, from mid south wall looking north

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- Figure 2: Sanborn Map 1909
- Figure 3: Sanborn Map 1932
- Figure 4: Basement and First Floor Plans, Courtesy of Trivers Architecture
- Figure 5: Second Floor Plan, Courtesy of Trivers Architecture
- Figure 6: Third Floor Plan, Courtesy of Trivers Architecture
- Figure 7: Photo of Rev. P. J. Dunne, Inside Cover of *Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home*. St. Louis. Self-published 1915
- Figure 8: Photos of Little Jimmy and Father Dunne greeting a homeless boy, Pages 9 and 4 of *Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate*. St. Louis, MO. Self-published 1907
- Figure 9: Photo of St. Louis newsboys at Jefferson and Washington, taken by Lewis Hine, 1910. "Mornings on Maple Street" <http://www.morningsonmaplestreet.com/newsboystlouis1.html>
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- Figure 13: Photo of a Sleeping Room, Page 9 of *Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home*. St. Louis. Self-published 1915
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- Figure 15: Photo of the Kitchen. Page 18 of *Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home*. St. Louis. Self-published 1915
- Figure 16: Photo of the Binding Department and a Print Ad, Rear Inside Cover of *Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home*. St. Louis. Self-published 1915
- Figure 17: *St. Louis Daily Globe Democrat* article, February 1, 1931

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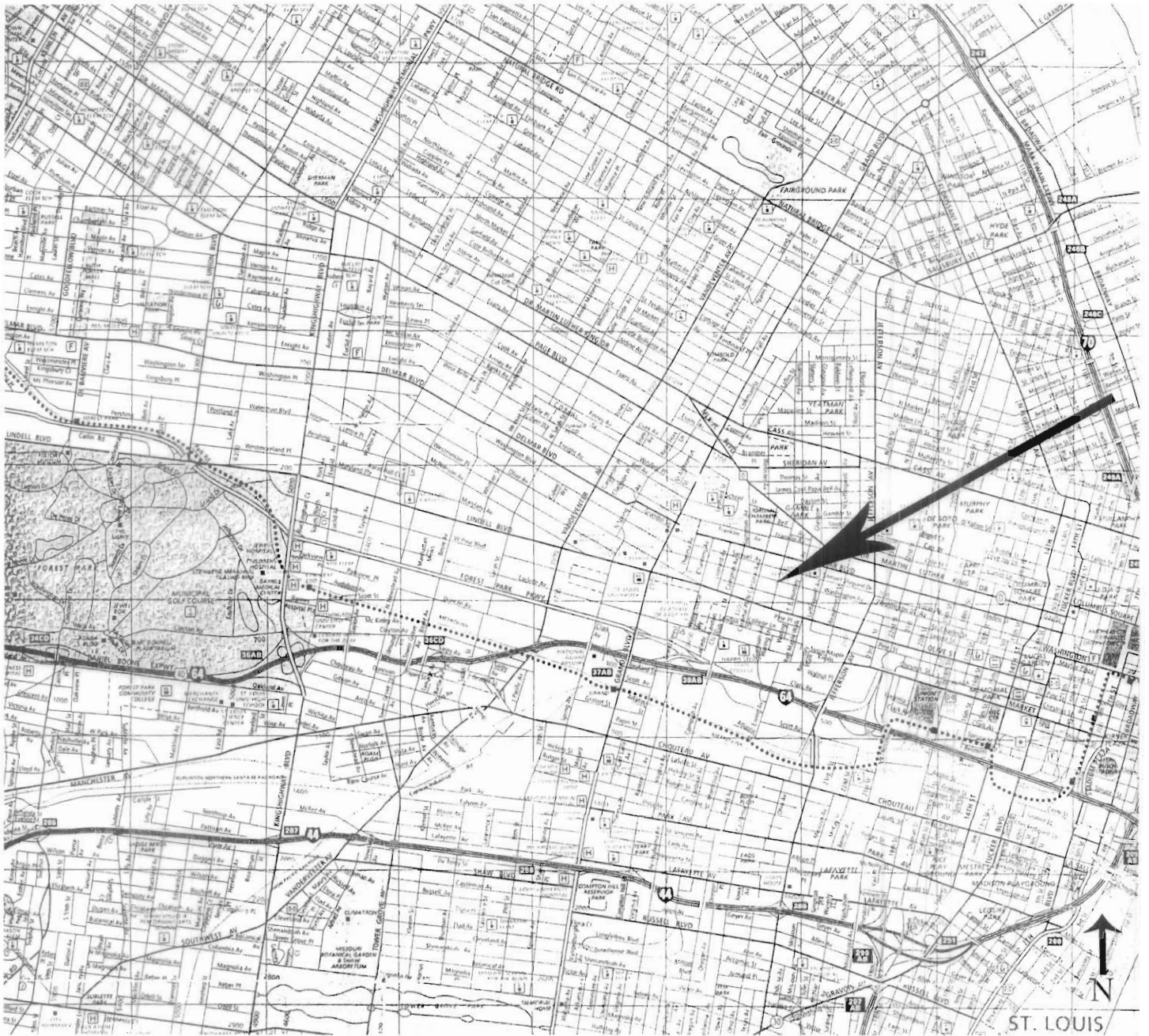
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Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate  
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Map of City of St. Louis, MO Locating Property

Figure 1



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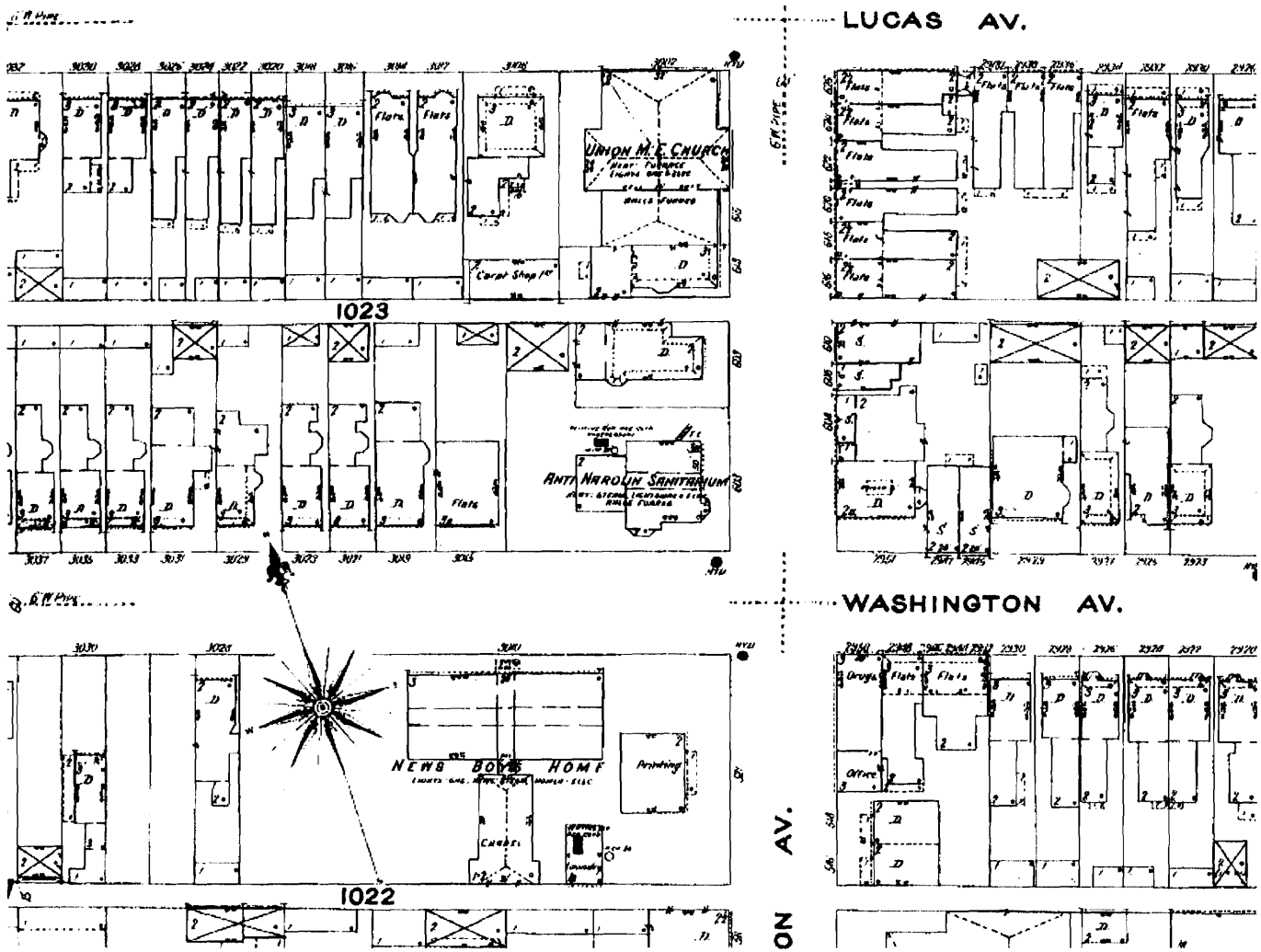
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Sanborn Map 1909

Figure 2



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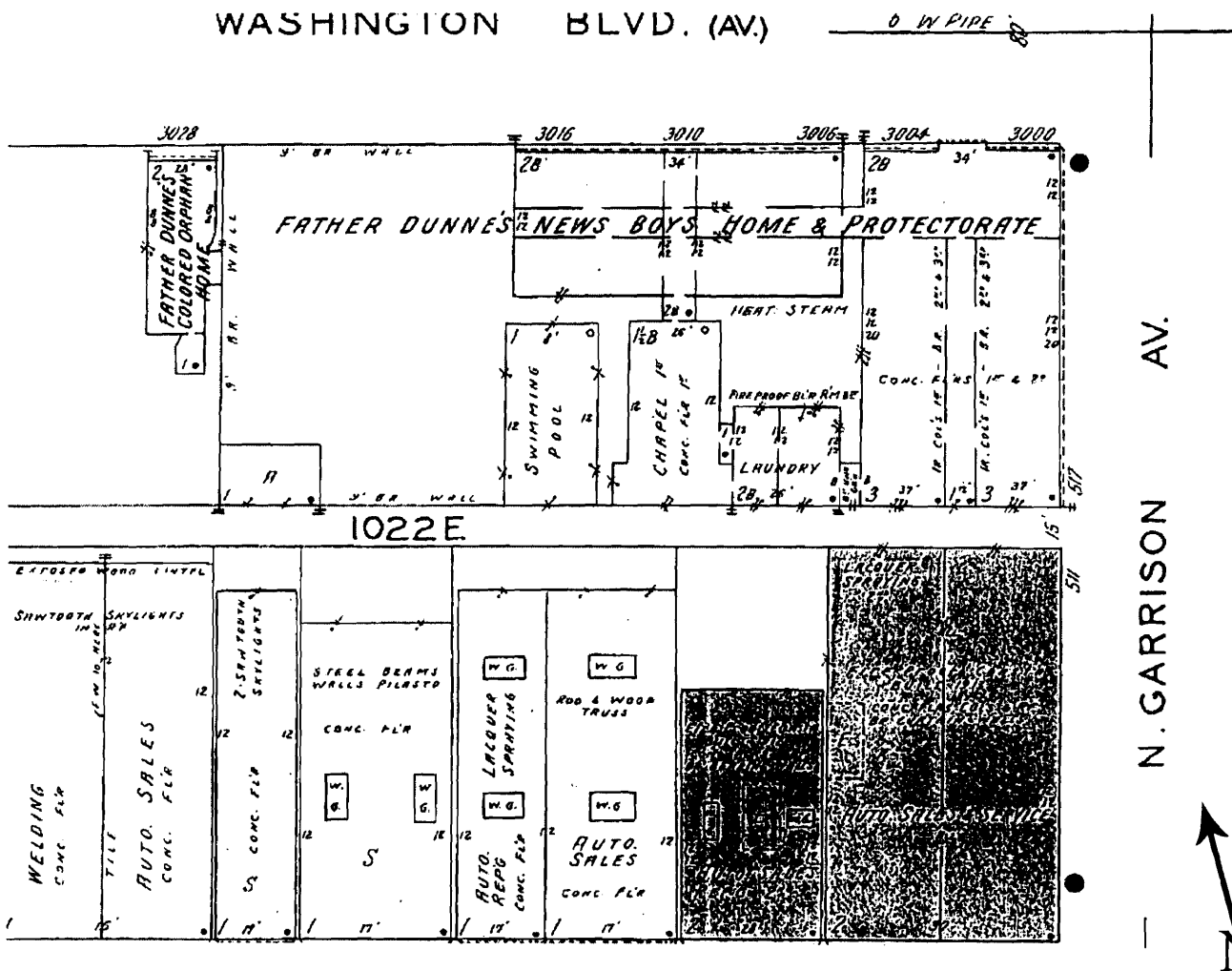
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Sanborn Map 1932

Figure 3



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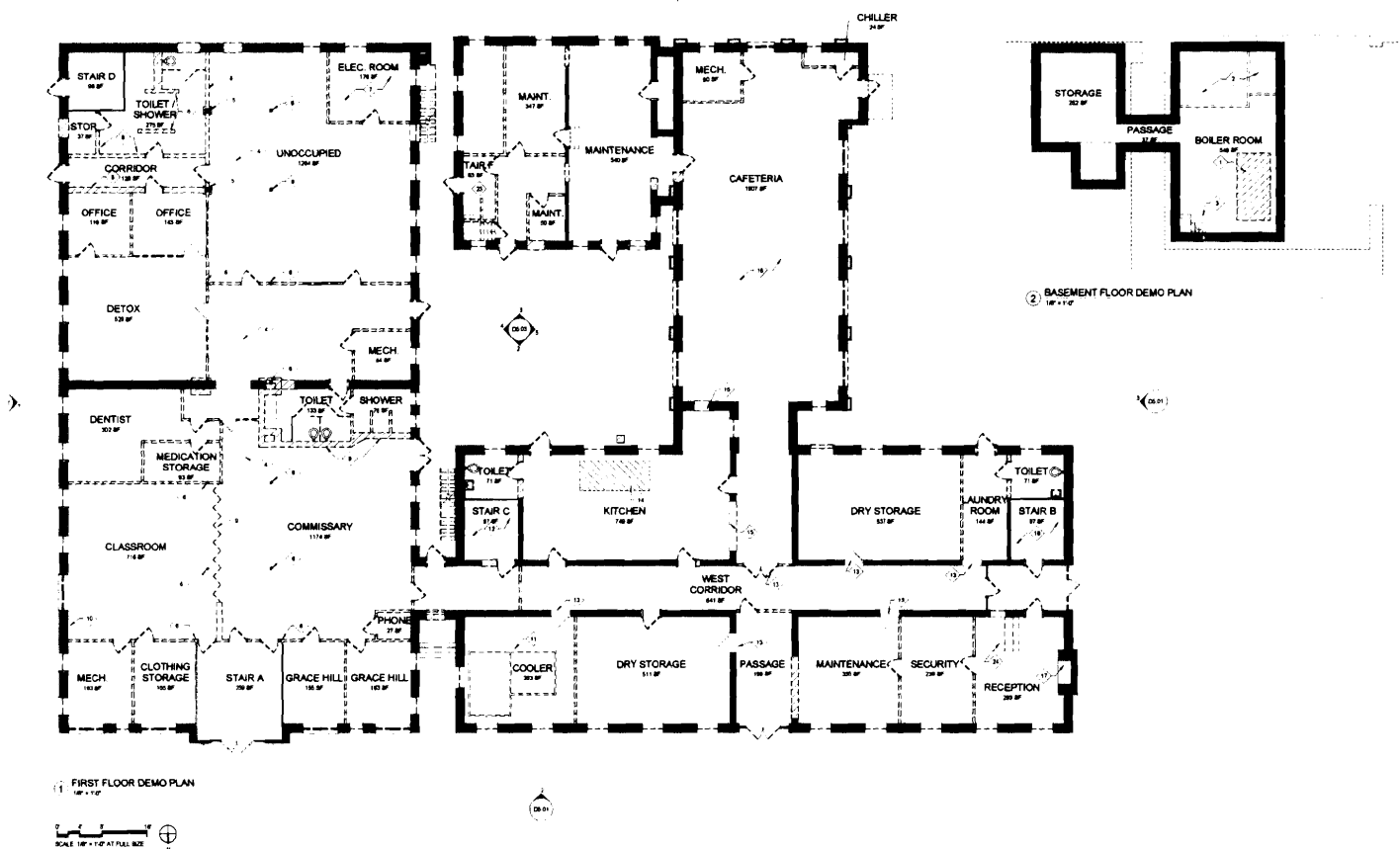
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Courtesy of Trivers Architecture  
Basement and First Floor Plans

Figure 4



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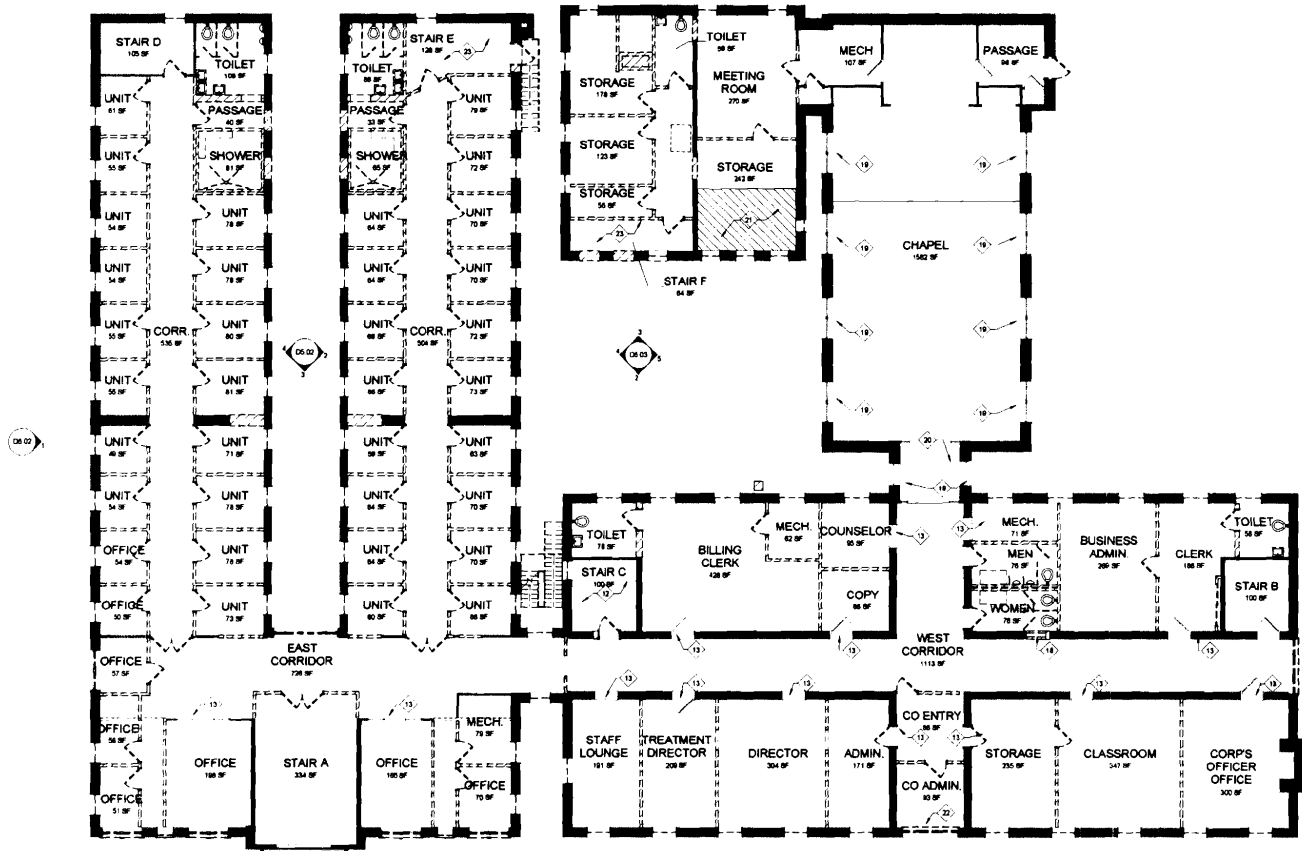
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Courtesy of Trivers Architecture  
Second Floor Plan

Figure 5



1 SECOND FLOOR RENOVATION DEMO PLAN  
1/8" = 1'-0"  
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0" AT FULL SIZE



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National Park Service

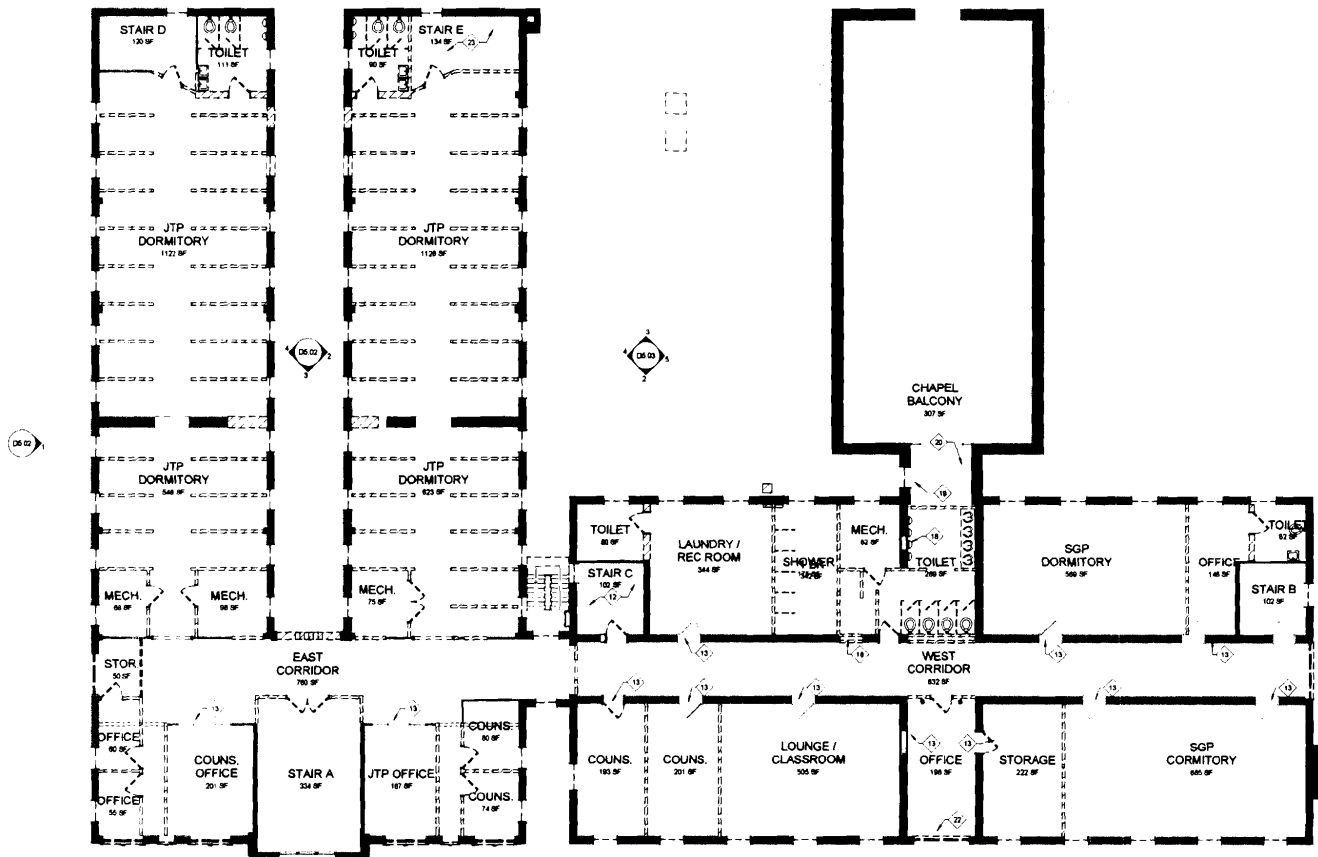
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Courtesy of Trivers Architecture  
Third Floor Plan

Figure 6



① THIRD FLOOR DEMO PLAN  
1/8" = 1'-0"  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0" AT FULL SIZE





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*Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home.*  
St. Louis. Self-published 1915  
Inside cover

Figure 7



REV. P. J. DUNNE

Founder and Manager of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

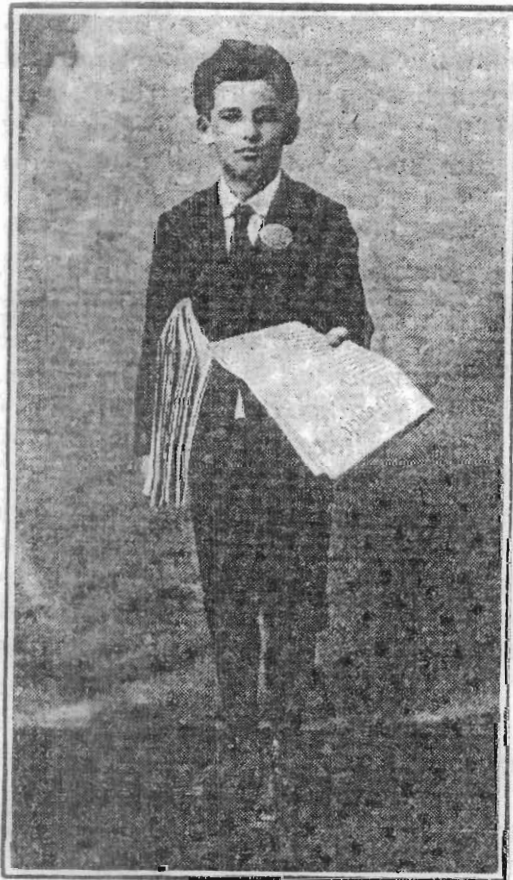
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*Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate.*  
St. Louis, MO. Self-published 1907  
Page 9 and 4

Figure 8



Little Jimmy, Our First Boy.



Father Dunne Greeting a Homeless Boy.

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Photo by Lewis Hine, 1910  
St. Louis newsboys at Jefferson and Washington  
"Mornings on Maple Street"  
<http://www.morningsonmaplestreet.com/newsboystlouis1.html>

Figure 9



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*Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home.*  
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Figure 10



THE NEWSBOYS' CHAPEL

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National Park Service

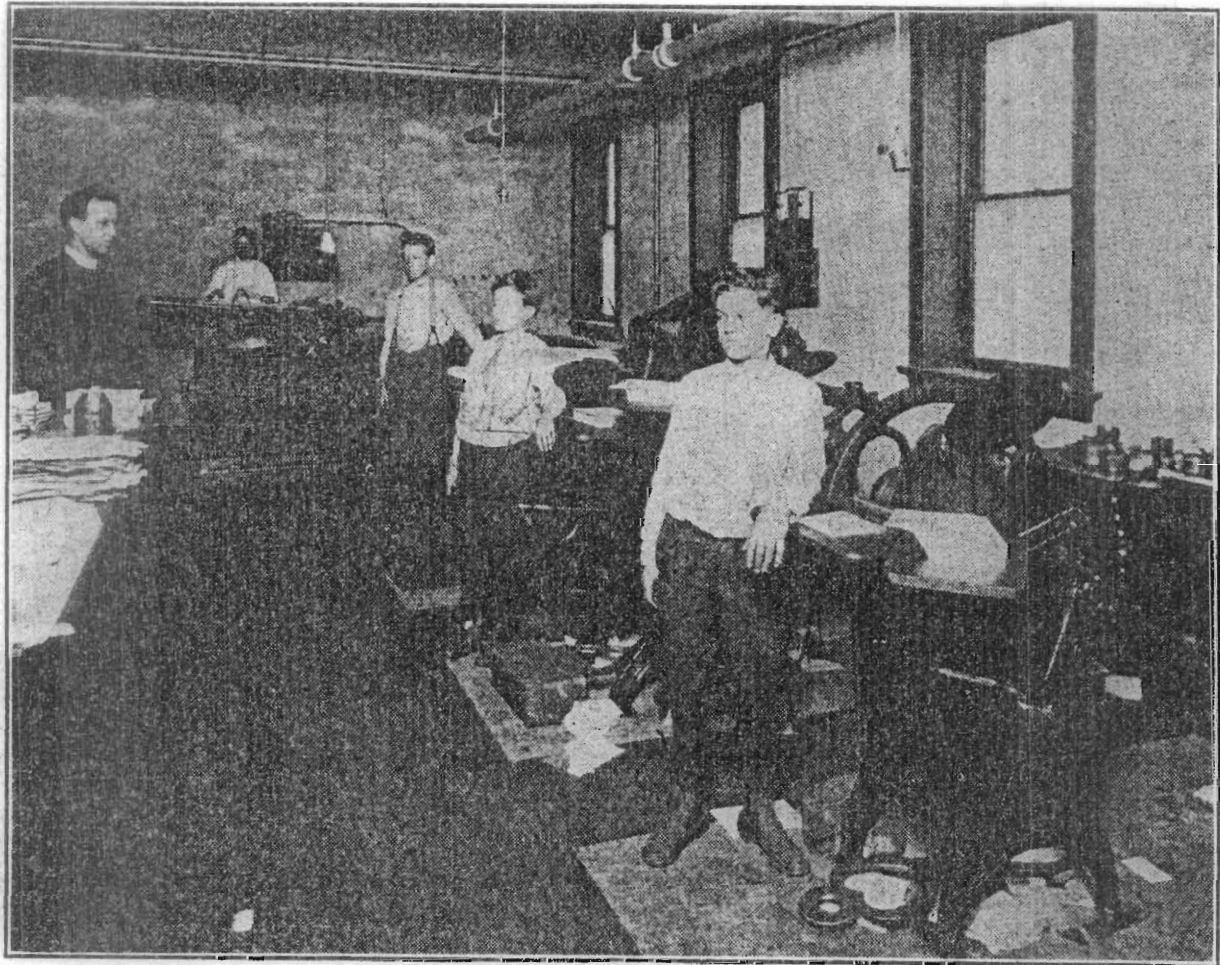
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*Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home.*  
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Figure 11



THE PRESS ROOM

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*Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home.*  
St. Louis. Self-published 1915  
Page 10

Figure 12



A BUSY DAY IN THE PRINTERY

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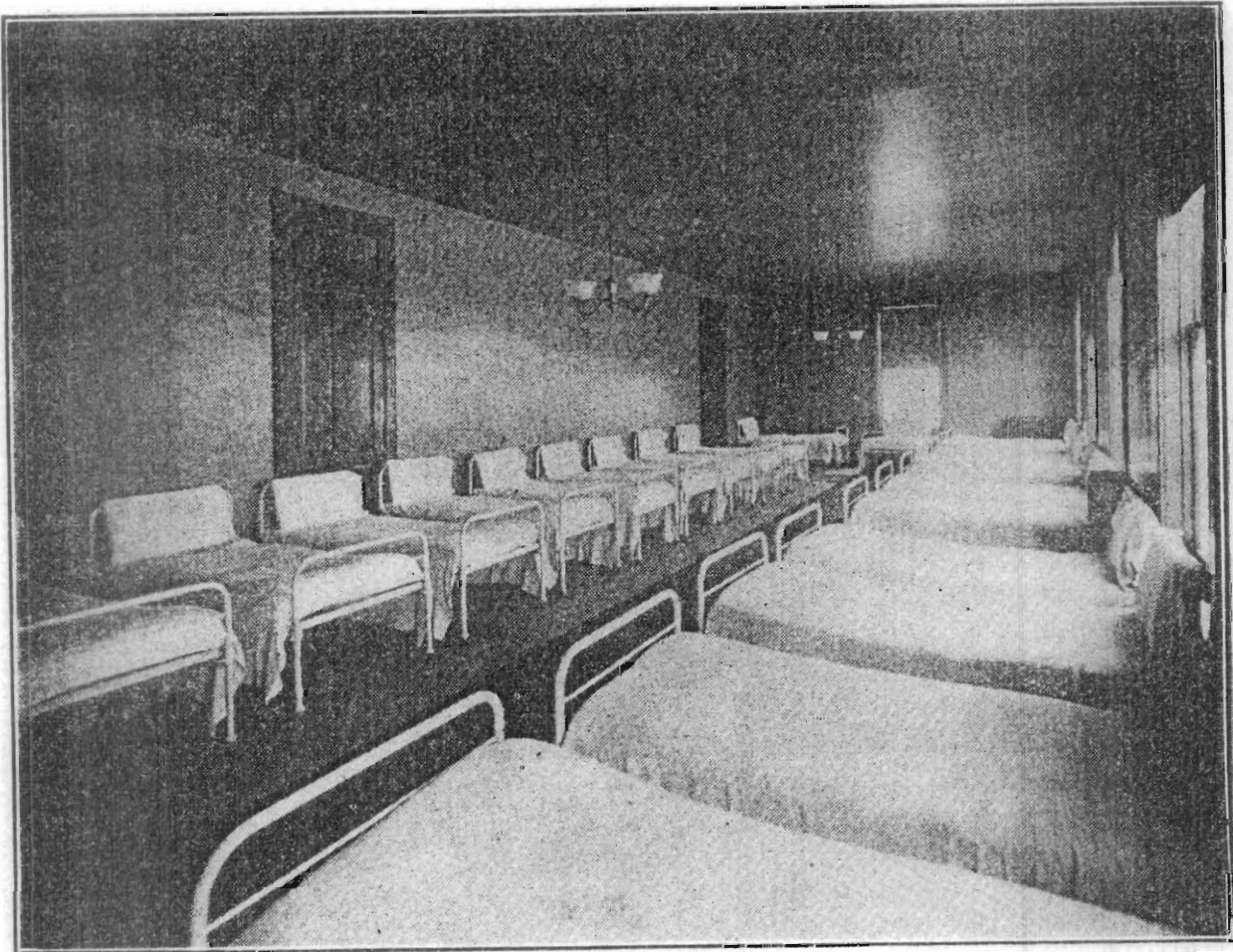
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*Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home.*  
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Figure 13



ONE OF OUR SLEEPING ROOMS

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National Park Service

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*Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home.*  
St. Louis. Self-published 1915  
Page 16

Figure 14



OUR LAUNDRY



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National Park Service

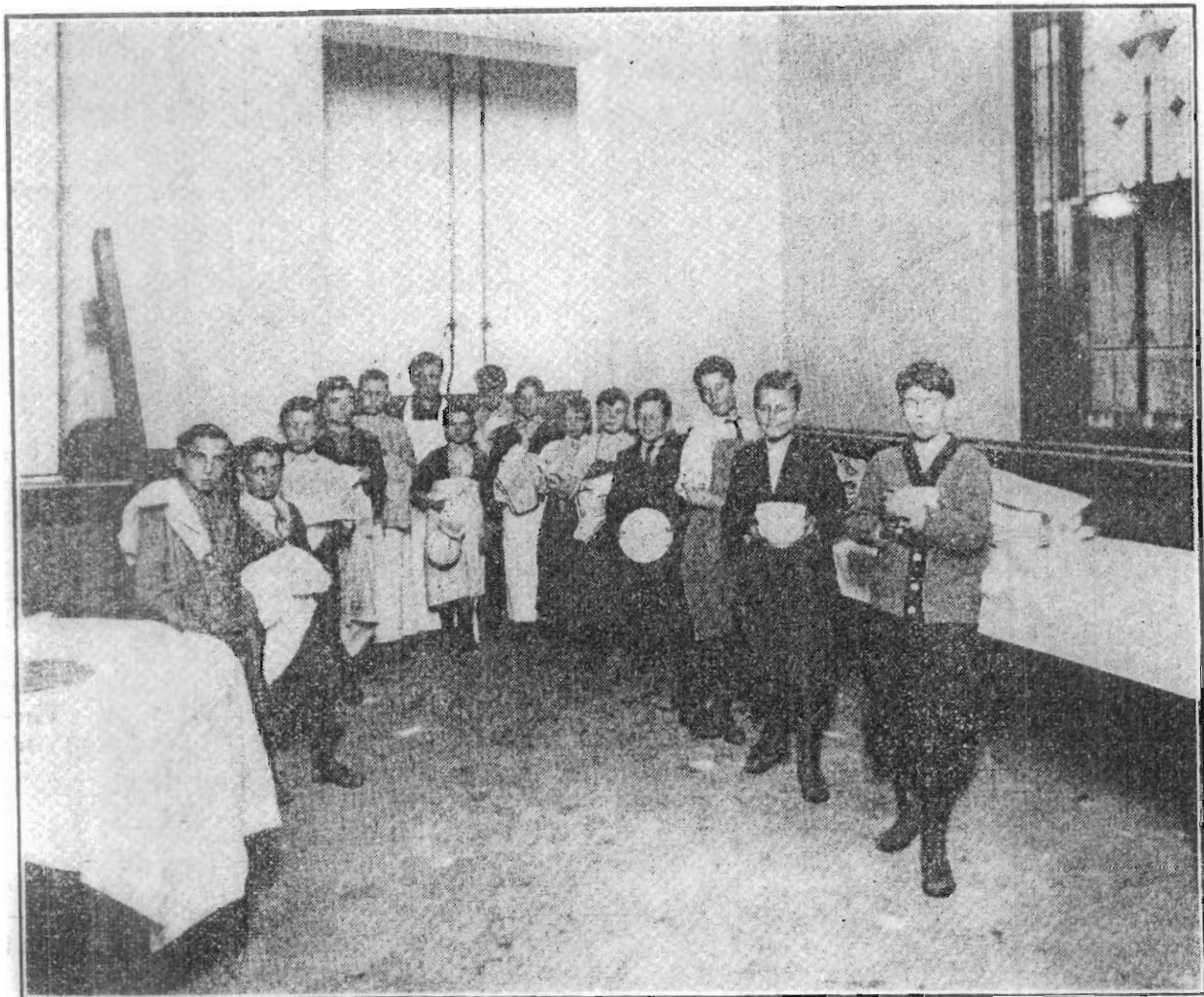
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*Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home.*  
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Page 18

Figure 15



OUR KITCHEN

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National Park Service

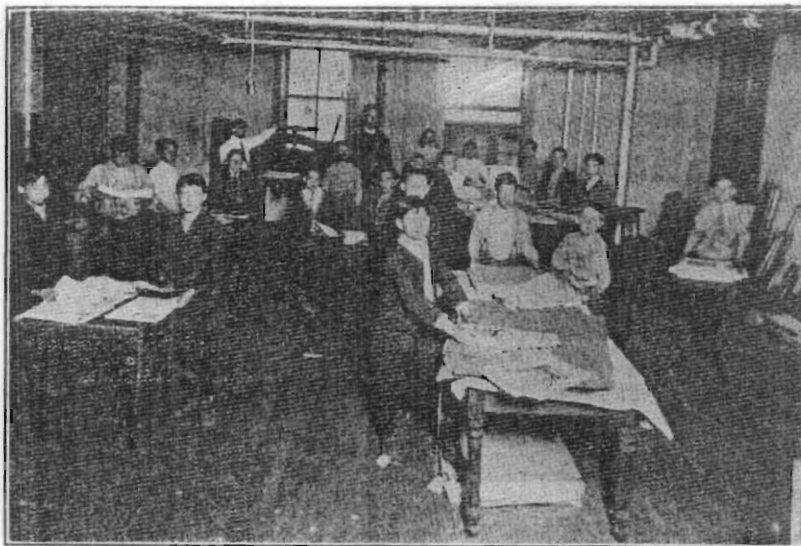
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*Historical Number of Father Dunne's News Boys' Home.*  
St. Louis. Self-published 1915  
Rear inside cover

Figure 16



OUR BINDING DEPARTMENT.

Let Us Do Your Printing

**Father Dunne's News Boy's Home**

*Does All Kinds Of*

**PRINTING**

Kinloch, Central 8994-L      PHONES:      Bell, Bonmont 746

AN ORDER FROM YOU MEANS MORE BUSINESS FOR BOTH OF US

Garrison and Washington Aves.

HIGH GRADE PRINTING  
CARDS, ENVELOPES, LETTER HEADS, NOTE HEADS, BILL HEADS, STATEMENTS, ETC., ETC.

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St. Louis Daily Globe Democrat  
February 1, 1931

Figure 17

### Father Dunne's Home Nears 25th Year as Haven for Poor Boys

Many Have Received  
Lasting Benefits in Guidance of Monsignor.

Father Dunne's Newsboys' Home and Protectorate will be twenty-five years old next Saturday. There is no one in St. Louis but knows of this home at 3010 Washington avenue. Were it possible for all the boys who lived there at some time to reassemble now for jubilee greetings there would be 5000. Some of them are married, with families. Many of them are independent business men. Four are in holy orders. Younger members are trusted employees in various commercial enterprises. Not one of them has landed in prison or "gone wrong." They all by their works attest that Msgr. Peter J. Dunne's principle of control brings out good lads, even though these lads come originally from unpromising environment.

**Understands Problems.**

Father Dunne was himself once a lonely boy, a street urchin, orphaned and poor from 12 years on. Perhaps that is why he understands so well how to appeal to the best there is in boy nature. It was when he was only three years a priest that Archbishop Glennon gave him his life commission "to investigate the conditions of poor boys and children generally in the poorer districts of the city and to discuss ways and means of giving them practical help, joining thereto the religious help.

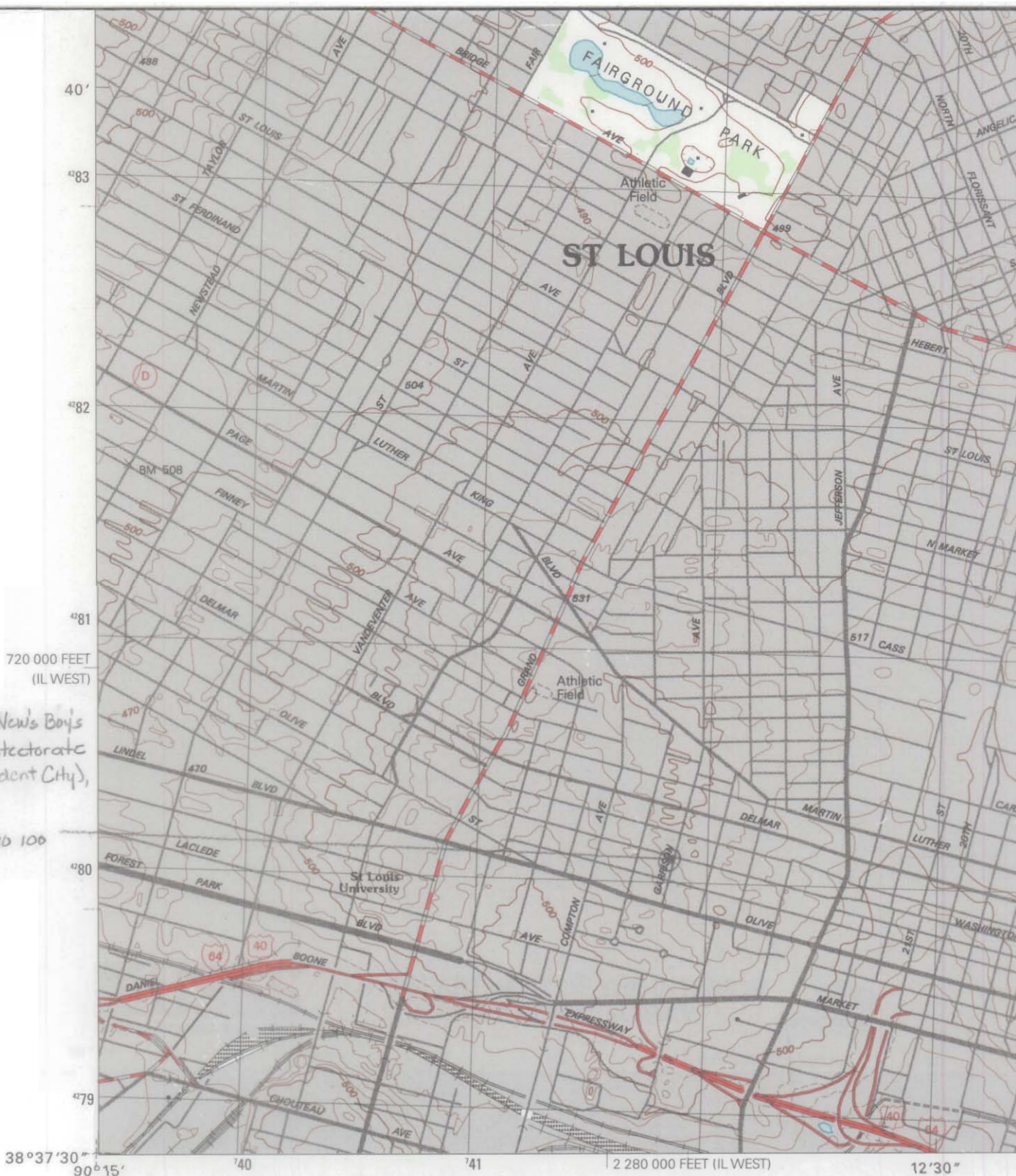
### MSGR. DUNNE WINS CONFIDENCE OF HIS BOYS



MSGR. DUNNE TELLING HIS BOYS A STORY

Father Dunne's News Boys  
Home and Protectorate  
St. Louis (Independent City),  
Mo.

15 741 840 4280 100



**Produced by the United States Geological Survey**

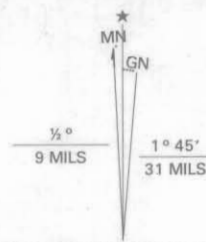
Topography compiled 1952. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1993 and other sources. Photoinspected using imagery dated 1998; no major culture or drainage changes observed. PLSS and survey control current as of 1954. Boundaries, other than corporate, verified 1999

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 15  
10 000-foot ticks: Illinois (west zone) and Missouri (east zone) Coordinate Systems of 1983

North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software

Contours that conflict with revised planimetry are dashed

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map



UTM GRID AND 1999 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



20%  
TOTAL RECOVERED FIBER



Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate  
St. Louis (Independent City), MO  
Photo No. 1



Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protective  
St. Louis (Independent City), MO  
Photo No. 2



Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate  
St. Louis (Independent City), MO  
Photo No. 3



Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate  
St Louis (Independent City), MO  
Plate No. 4





Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate  
St. Louis (Independent City), MO  
Photo No. 5



Father Dunne's Boys' Home and Protectorate  
St Louis (Independent City), Mo  
Photo No. 6



Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate  
St Louis (Independent City), MO  
Photo No. 7



Father Dunne's News Boys' Home and Protectorate  
St Louis (Independent City), MO  
Plants No. 8



Father Dunne's News Boys' home and protestorate  
St. Louis (Independent City), MO  
Photo No. 9