

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property

St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State

5. Classification

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

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

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION:
Processing site, manufacturing facility, industrial storage

COMMERCE/TRADE: business, warehouse

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE:
warehouse, commercial storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other/Industrial Warehouse

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Brick, concrete

roof: Synthetics, plastic

other: _____

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUATION PAGES

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property

St. Louis [Independent City] MO
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.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUATION PAGES

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: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Areas of Significance

Agriculture

Period of Significance

1920-1971

Significant Dates

1920

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Haeger, Leonhard, Architect

Murch Brothers, Builder

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property

St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 4.3

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1 38.5914975 -90.259540 3 _____
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

2 _____ 4 _____
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

_____ NAD 1927 or _____ NAD 1983

1 _____ 3 _____
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

2 _____ 4 _____
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (On continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (On continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Christina Clagett, architect & historic consultant

organization _____ date 10/11/2022, 11/15/2022, 1/8/2023, 2/14/2023,

Homegrown Studio date 7/10/2023, 8/15/2023, 2/17/2024

street & number 4129 Russell Blvd telephone (314) 920-0739

city or town St. Louis state MO zip code 63110

e-mail christina@homegrownstudio-stl.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**
- **Owner Name and Contact Information**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations 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.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property

St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log:

Name of Property: LeGear Medicine Company Building

City or Vicinity: St. Louis

County: Independent City State: MO

Photographer: Christina Clagett

Date Photographed: 5/27/2021, 10/6/2022, 11/10/2022, 11/14/2022, 2/3/2023 (all verified 1/26/2024)

Photo Log:

- 1 of 32: Southeast corner and south (primary) elevation standing on Beck Ave., looking NW
- 2 of 32: East elevation of all sections, looking W
- 3 of 32: South (primary) elevation looking NE
- 4 of 32: Southwest corner of building and railroad crossing over Beck Ave., looking N
- 5 of 32: Building from the SW looking NE. Exterior loading dock and railroad branch in foreground
- 6 of 32: West elevation looking E to exterior loading dock
- 7 of 32: Northwest corner, looking SE from railroad tracks
- 8 of 32: Exterior loading dock and metal awning, looking S
- 9 of 32: Northeast corner looking SW
- 10 of 32: Block B, east elevation looking W
- 11 of 32: North elevation of office wing looking South
- 12 of 32: Primary elevation at Beck Ave., looking N to office (Block C) entrance
- 13 of 32: Interior Block B, basement, looking SE
- 14 of 32: Interior Block B, basement, looking NE
- 15 of 32: Interior Block C, basement, looking NW
- 16 of 32: Interior of office entrance at Beck Ave. (Block C), first floor, looking N
- 17 of 32: Interior Block B, first floor, looking SE
- 18 of 32: Interior of office/reception (Block C), second floor, reception area looking South down entry stair
- 19 of 32: Interior of office/reception (Block C), second floor reception area looking SW
- 20 of 32: Interior of office/reception (Block C), second floor looking SE
- 21 of 32: Interior vehicular loading dock at Beck Ave., second floor, Block B, looking N
- 22 of 32: Interior factory space (Block B) second floor and sawtooth skylight looking NW
- 23 of 32: Interior factory space (Block B) second floor looking S down column bay
- 24 of 32: Interior of office (Block A) second floor looking NE down column bay
- 25 of 32: Interior factory space (Block A) second floor looking SW
- 26 of 32: Interior factory space (Block A) third floor looking NW
- 27 of 32: Interior factory space (Block A) third floor looking NE

LeGear Medicine Company Building

St. Louis [Independent City] MO

Name of Property

County and State

- 28 of 32: Interior factory space (Block A) third floor looking NE
- 29 of 32: Interior factory space (Block A) fourth floor looking NW
- 30 of 32: Interior factory space (Block A) fourth floor looking W down column bay
- 31 of 32: Interior factory space (Block A) fourth floor looking NE
- 32 of 32: Interior clean room (Block A) fourth floor looking E

Figure Log:

1. Aerial photo map from Google Earth with scale. Accessed October 2022. Edited by Homegrown studio.
2. Aerial photo map from Google Earth with scale. Accessed October 2022. Edited by Homegrown Studio.
3. Property Map with National Register Property Boundaries outlined in red. City of St. Louis address and property search. stlouis-mo.gov. Accessed September 2022. NR Boundary enhanced for clarity.
4. Setting, image facing northwest. Map from Google Earth with scale. Accessed January 2023.
5. Site photo key plan. Aerial photo map from Google Earth with scale modified by Homegrown Studio, 2023. Accessed March 2022.
6. Basement floor plan with photo keys. Homegrown Studio, 2023.
7. First floor plan with photo keys. Homegrown Studio, 2023.
8. Second floor plan with photo keys. Homegrown Studio, 2023.
9. Third floor plan with photo keys. Homegrown Studio, 2023.
10. Fourth floor plan with photo keys. Homegrown Studio, 2023.
11. Historic elements and interior details that remain to indicate agricultural processes in the L.D. LeGear Building: Factory processes. Photos and diagrams by Homegrown Studio, 2023.
12. Historic diagram in the L.D. LeGear Building: Factory agricultural processes and workflow. Photos and diagrams by Homegrown Studio, 2023.
13. 2023 Survey of original windows. Diagrammatic elevations by Homegrown Studio.
14. 2023 Survey of original windows. Diagrammatic elevations by Homegrown Studio.
15. Detail photos of concrete infill installation from interior. Top: Note the air cavity between steel window frames and masonry infill. Bottom: Note that modern exterior louvers are placed within the concrete blocks, and steel window frames remain intact in a parallel plane. Photos by Homegrown Studio, 2021-2022.
16. Various covered windows from interior. All sections. Photos by Homegrown Studio, 2021-2022.
17. Sample areas where exterior concrete block removed during eligibility assessment process. Photos by Ruth Keenoy, 2020.
18. Historic elements and interior details that remain in building: laboratories on 1st floor. Photos and diagrams by Homegrown Studio, 2023.
19. Historic elements and interior details that remain in building: factory and warehouse on 2nd floor. Photos and diagrams by Homegrown Studio, 2023.
20. Historic elements and interior details that remain in building: main office and reception on 2nd floor. Photos and diagrams by Homegrown Studio, 2023.
21. Illustration of LeGear facility on Beck Ave. and interior facility photos from inside cover of 1942 Poultry Manual.
22. Examples of nonhistoric superficial partition walls and claddings. Photos and diagrams by Homegrown Studio, 2023
23. The LeGear headquarters at 121-123 Congress Avenue in Austin, Texas 1902-1905. Bateman, Audrey. "Dr. LeGear—Congress Avenue veterinarian." *The Austin American-Statesman*. July 24, 1976. Page B12.
24. The LeGear headquarters at Howard and Broadway in St. Louis, MO, 1905-1917. Image clipped from form promotional letter to vendor dated November 16, 1917. Ebay.com. accessed March 22, 2021.
25. "Building News." St. Louis Daily Record, March 10, 1920.
26. Exterior photo of LeGear's Beck Ave. building from Livestock Manual, 1951.
27. Interior photo of chemists working in LeGear's Beck Ave. building from Livestock Manual, 1951
28. Dr. LeGear's Poultry Manual cover, 1942
29. Dr. LeGear's Livestock Manual cover, 1951.
30. Various Dr. LeGear products from present-day collectable market. Ebay.com and veterinarycollectibles.com. accessed March 22, 2021, and February 9, 2023.
31. Dr. David Roberts promotional postcard. Ebay.com. accessed October 2022.
32. Pratt Food Company booklet and memorabilia. Ebay.com. accessed October 2022.
33. "Dr. LeGear" promotional postcard and instructions. products from present-day collectable market. Ebay.com. accessed March 22, 2021.
34. Miscellaneous historic elements and interior details that remain at building. Top: horseshoes embedded in steps and pavement in front of (2) entrances at Beck Ave. Bottom L to R: Original commercial scale Block A 3rd floor, (ref. Figures 9 and 21), bathroom sink Block A 3rd floor, clean room Block A 4th floor. Photos by Homegrown Studio, 2022.

LeGear Medicine Company Building

Name of Property

St. Louis [Independent City] MO

County and State

35. LeGear Medicine Co. building and site. Sanborn Map Co. Insurance Maps of Saint Louis, Missouri: Volume 9, Sheet 105. Published 1903, revised March 1951. North facing up.
36. LeGear Medicine Co. application to the FDA to produce antibiotics. November 14, 1957.
37. The Luyties Pharmacal Co. Building. Photo by Homegrown Studio. February 22, 2024.
38. The Ralston Purina Complex in 1960, as seen from the MacArthur Bridge, St. Louis, MO. St. Louis Post-Dispatch. January 3, 1960.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Summary

The Dr. L. D. LeGear Medicine Company Building at 4155 Beck Ave. in southwest St. Louis [Independent City] (Figure 1), Missouri is an approximately 100,000 square foot mixed-use reinforced concrete building constructed in 1920 as the headquarters and production facility for a leading producer of veterinary medicines and products (Photo 1). The building has a poured concrete flat-slab structural system, and a reinforced concrete frame that is visible on the exterior (Photo 2). The building design and form are derived from the juxtaposition of clean offices and laboratory spaces with a large factory and warehouse; resulting in a segmented design that conveys the functions within and distribution paths outside. The LeGear Company Building is characterized by housing a variety of complex functions under one roof; with a more decorative character along the primary elevation along Beck Ave., and an unadorned design that cleanly expresses its structural system on the secondary elevations. The functions in each section are located relative to the intersection of the railroad and Beck Ave; the connections to major transportation networks. Interior firewalls separate the building into three blocks, ranging from 1-5 stories above grade, as the site slopes down from the southwest corner high point to the low points along the east elevation and northeast corner of the building. The naming convention, “A”, “B”, and “C” are a reference to the (3) sections of the building as indicated on Sanborn maps (Figure 35). Block “A” is the 5-story section at the north end of the building, Block “B” is the trapezoidal middle section of the building, and Block “C” is the easternmost section that contained the corporate offices.

The building features flat and gently sloping roofs with parapets that include some sawtooth skylights (Blocks B, C) and penthouses (Block A). The “clean” functions such as corporate offices (Block C) and laboratories (Blocks B, C) were oriented on the Beck Ave. half of the building, where the public had vehicular access. The “dirty” functions such as manufacturing and shipping occurred throughout the rest of the building. The center section (Block B) is oriented at the corner of the railroad and Beck Ave. and serviced both railroad and vehicular shipping and receiving (Photo 4). The east side of the building also had a vehicular shipping and receiving area in that section at a lower level. This section of the building functioned as the warehouse on multiple levels as well. The manufacturing portion of the building (A) was located at the center rear of the site adjacent to the railroad. It has a taller form and is comprised of five total levels (Figure 4). Block A housed the mechanical room and the building utilized a heat and steam powered boiler for electricity. At the interior, there is a fire wall that separates the two volumes. At the north and east elevations, the exteriors are arranged on a simple grid plan, with a structural concrete frame filled in with brick below the window openings. Most of the window openings have been covered with block. In most cases, the block was applied over original still multilight windows, which are still intact and usually visible from the interior.

Setting

The land that is now St. Louis City was the territory of the Mississippian cultures (c. 1200–1400) and prior to European colorization a variety of Native American tribes lived in the area. The Osage were the dominant tribe in Eastern Missouri when the French founded St. Louis in 1764. The site was clear at the turn of the 20th century as indicated in the 1903 Sanborn Map

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

(Figure 35). In 1920, this site was about a mile south of the geographic and population center of St. Louis City (Figure 1). The four-acre property (Figure 2) containing the LeGear Co. building exists in a quiet area with a combination of industrial and residential structures (Figure 4). The railroad line has a low level of traffic in 2022 and Beck Ave. is a tertiary street. The west edge is aligned with the main line of the Oak Hill & Carondelet Railroad (Photo 5) and the south edge runs along Beck Ave., a secondary street. The overall property is a trapezoidal shape that is wider on the north edge than the south (Figure 3). The rail line was historically flanked by industrial uses but many of the factories are no longer extant. Presently, there are large single-story industrial buildings across Beck Ave. to the south and southwest (Figure 4). There is another single-story industrial building with various construction dates starting in the 1930s directly north of the LeGear building on the opposite side of Tholozan. Across the railroad tracks to the west, there is an industrial property with a large gravel lot extending the length of the LeGear property.

A few years after construction of the LeGear building, single-story brick residential housing began to fill-in the blocks to the east and north (Figure 5). The residences directly east fronting Holt Ave. were constructed in the 1920s and 30s. They have typical size backyards for the area with garages opening to an alley that is directly adjacent to the eastern edge of the LeGear property. The houses to the north across Tholozan were constructed in the 1940s and 50s. The topography of the property has high points at the southwest, north, and northeast edges and slopes downward generally to the southeast corner. There is a tree-covered hillside to the north of the building with a steep grade. It curves around clockwise through the north central portion of the site. The grade flattens out at the top of the hill and the northern portion of the site along Tholozan is the highest area of the site (Figure 4). The LeGear property is closed with a 7-foot-tall chain link metal fence with barbed wire along the top, there was historically a 7-foot-tall wire fence enclosing the property. There is a large curb cut at the southeast corner just outside the property line that turns into a gravel road and lot within the property. The gravel loosely curves around the building and up the back hill to access a loading area along the north elevation. On the public elevation along Beck Ave., there is another curb cut outside the property line leading to the interior vehicle loading dock. A concrete city sidewalk of about six feet wide runs the entire length of the site along Beck Ave. just outside the property line, with a grassy right-of-way between that and the street. There is a fifteen-foot-wide grassy lawn between the sidewalk and building and two sidewalks that branch off to the building entrances within the property. The east of the two sidewalks leads to a set of two steps. There is an embedded horseshoe in the first step. The west of the two sidewalks does not have steps but has a horseshoe embedded in the concrete sidewalk slab near the building (Figure 34).

Architectural Description

Generally, the building is designed on a rectangular 20' x 20' grid system that manifests as an orderly array of columns on the interior, and consistent bays on the exterior elevations of about 18' wide separated by 2' wide pilasters. Each opening holds a spandrel panel of red brick in a running bond 3' in height including sill, with metal windows filling in the remainder of the rough opening from the sill to the deck above. Most commonly, the openings hold (3) windows

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

that extend the full length between pilasters. The height of window depends on the floor height of the individual level, but the brick below maintains a consistent sill height throughout.

Another general condition on the building at the time of nomination is that most windows are currently covered on the exterior side by mortared concrete block unit walls. The installations are nonhistoric but have been in place for several decades to protect the building. The installation was completed on top of the original brick knee walls, with a small air cavity between the new masonry and the existing windows (Figure 24). All windows on the major elevations were surveyed for this nomination (Figures 13-14) and 95.3% of the original window openings have historic steel window frames intact. Of the 130 rough window openings: (99) have the steel confirmed from the interior, (25) are currently exposed from interior and exterior, (5) are covered on the interior by sheathing difficult to remove for the survey, and (1) section was confirmed to have been completely removed. Penthouse windows in Block A are intact and visible from interior and exterior and are not included in the window survey. The roof sawtooth skylight windows are also not in the survey, but confirmed to be intact, although some are painted over or covered presently. The windows will be described here as they appear on exterior elevations as well in the interior descriptions.¹

Primary/South Elevation – Block B and Block C

The south elevation of the building was designed as the primary public face of the L.D. LeGear Medicine Co. (Photo 1, Photo 3). The elevation is (9) bays across divided by 2' wide concrete piers visible on the exterior (Photo 12). This elevation is currently painted white and the top story windows are uncovered in the office portion. The westernmost bay includes the driveway and door that leads to a recessed interior loading dock (Photo 4, Photo 21). With the slope, only one story is above grade at the west end. Although the elevation is monolithic, there are clear differences on the more formal eastern portion, consisting of four bays. The office section, Block C, is the short tail of the L-shaped plan and stories of this section are visible from Beck Ave. (Photo 12). This section housed the reception area and corporate offices. There is a taller and more formalized decorative concrete motif on the parapet wall over the center two bays, the language of which extends symmetrically to the two bays on either side. The ceremonial entrance is placed asymmetrically on the right of the middle two bays and features industrial-modern style decoration on either side of the door; this was the public entrance to the corporate offices and is the only one to feature this detail (Photo 12). On the (4) easternmost bays on the upper level, level 2 in plan (Figure 8), three historic multi-light metal windows fill each of the four openings in bays 6-9. Bay 9 at the east end has a configuration of (3) windows across, each 5 lights high, with 30 lights in the center window and 25 on either side. The (3) openings going west each hold (3) windows, 5 lights high, with 25 lights in the center window and 30 lights on either side. Typically, on levels 2-5, the (3) window configuration has a historic pattern of one operable awning comprised of 6-8 lights on either side window and (2) awnings in the center window one over one (Figures 21 and 26). Under each window is a brick sill with 3' tall brick infill below completing each bay. The level at entry grade on Beck Ave. is level 1 in plan and has similar openings at each bay, although the windows are currently covered over on the

¹ The exposed windows in block A were removed in 2020 by the building owner as part of the eligibility assessment process, to demonstrate how the windows are typically intact beyond the block units (Figure 17).

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

LeGear Medicine Company Building

Name of Property

St. Louis [Independent City] MO

County and State

n/a

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

exterior with a rough face type of concrete masonry unit. The entry door bay has smaller windows on either side that are currently covered over and it has a decorative concrete motif surround that is industrial-modern in style. There is currently a nonhistoric awning over the door, however, it is not the awning depicted in the historic illustration (Figure 21). The western half has five bays and is in Block B. There is a secondary entrance along Beck Ave. accessible to level 1, located directly to the west of the division between Blocks B and C. This door has a simpler concrete surround and has a nonhistoric awning where there was historically an awning. On the upper level, level 2 in plan (Figure 8), a large opening at each bay between the concrete piers are currently covered over on the exterior with a rough face type of concrete masonry unit and six large louvres are currently installed in a plane over the historic windows. The second bay from the west end has a narrow overhead metal coiling door and covered windows on either side. The last bay houses the large metal overhead loading dock door (Photo 3) and there is a curb-cut and driveway leading to it. The interior driveway steps up several feet to the loading dock at level 2. Beyond the garage door, or when open, an interior loading dock is visible (Photo 4) stepping up to level 3 from entry grade. The Block C roof gently slopes to the north in section toward the rear of the building. In Block B, there is a shallow central gable running north to south that slopes gently to shed water toward the east and west of the building. All roofs across the various blocks utilize white synthetic membrane roofing. Each of these roof planes have a slight slope toward the building rear for proper drainage but appear nearly flat. There is a south elevation that pops up on the northernmost section, Block A, and will be discussed with that volume.

West Elevation – Block B and Block A

The western elevation along Block B is (6) bays wide and runs along the main line of the Oak Hill & Carondelet Railroad (Photo 6). The exterior walls are painted over with a uniform white color. At section B, there is one story exposed plus the loading platform that is raised several feet above the grade of the railroad and interior vehicle dock (Photos 4, 21). The southernmost (2) bays have large openings between piers over brick sills and walls with a concrete unit wall with rough face currently covering the window opening. The third opening appears to have been modified from its historic configuration. It has a tall overhead door that does not appear to be historic with a nonhistoric man-door to the north. Heading north, the next (2) bays have large openings between piers over brick sills and walls with a concrete unit wall with rough face currently covering the window opening. The last bay in Block B is brick and has a former opening and small window that has been covered with rough concrete masonry units. The sawtooth skylights of Section B are visible from the grade (Photo 5, Photo 6). The roof in Block A has a shallow gable running east/west that is visible from the west elevation and is covered by white synthetic membrane roofing (Photo 7). There is a steel shed roof over the loading platform (Photo 8), attached to the building with riveted truss brackets. Although constructed at the same time as the rest of the building, the form of Block A rises two additional stories above the rest of the building at the north end (Photo 5), so that three stories are exposed at railroad grade (Photo 7).

Block A has four equal bays across. On the second level (first level above loading dock), there is an overlap of the loading dock language and awning. The wall is brick and has a former

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

LeGear Medicine Company Building

Name of Property

St. Louis [Independent City] MO

County and State

n/a

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

opening and small window that has been covered with rough concrete masonry units. This opening aligns with the vertical circulation tower that terminates in a penthouse rising a story above the rest of Block A and including (2) small intact windows. The openings in this circulation column are slightly different than the balance of the elevation, including (2) smaller infilled window openings within brick that continues between them. The division explains the interior stair and elevator functions within. The remaining (3) bays each have 3' of brick with brick sill in the same plane was the concrete framework. Each opening is infilled with smooth finish concrete masonry units that have been mortared and painted in most cases. (2) of these infill areas on the south center on levels 4 and 5 have a louver that is installed in the infill. The south portion of Block A that rises above the roof in Block B, is two levels tall with 6 bays across (Photo 5). There is a door to the roof coming off the 3rd floor stairwell in the first bay, and a smaller window opening that has been infilled with painted concrete masonry units on the exterior side of that bay, with sill and height matching those across the elevation. The same shape and size of window repeats and aligns vertically with this one on the 4th level.

Going east, the next two bays over on both levels have large window openings covered in painted concrete masonry units with a centralized louver within the concrete infill on both levels. The remainder of bays going east were exposed per requests in the eligibility assessment process and illustrate the typical conditions once the concrete units are removed from windows. The next two bays on both levels hold (3) windows, 5 lights high, with 25 lights in the center window and 30 lights on either side. Typically, on levels 2-5, the (3) window configuration has a historic pattern of one operable awning comprised of 6-8 lights on either side window and (2) operable awnings in the center window one over one. Under each window is a brick sill with 3' tall brick infill below completing each bay. The last bay to the east (Photo 7, Figure 17) is in another circulation tower with penthouse above and has (2) windows of matching vertical alignment divided by brick where an interior wall encloses a freight elevator. The left opening has two windows with 20 lights each and a four light operable awning unit in the center. The right opening at elevator shaft is 30 lights wide. This occurs on both levels.

North Elevation – Block A and C

The North Elevation has (6) bays across and four levels above grade. A difference on the north and east elevations is that the triangular edges of the concrete grid system slightly protrude from the building beyond the red brick, creating a look of small platforms that catch shadows throughout the day (Photos 8, 9). All window openings are covered with the concrete masonry units painted red on this entire elevation, with several louvers that are placed within the concrete. The 3' brick walls and sills below are maintained as well as the concrete structural grid. The first level has a garage door and man door near the northeast corner.

The North elevation of Block C is four bays across (Photo 11). The top openings are at level 2 in plan (Figure 8). Three historic multi-light metal windows fill each of the four openings (Figure 14). The east and west bays have a configuration of (3) windows across, each 5 lights high, with 30 lights in the center window and 25 on either side. The (2) middle openings each hold (3) windows, 5 lights high, with 25 lights in the center window and 30 lights on either side. Typically, on levels 2-5, the (3) window configuration has a historic pattern of one operable awning comprised of 6-8 lights on either side window and (2) awnings in the center window one

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

over one. Under each window is a brick sill with 3' tall brick infill below completing each bay. One the first level, 2 and a half of the openings are visible but the windows have been covered with painted concrete block. The basement level is exposed on this elevation and features 2 and a half bays from the west. The first is infilled with concrete block over the glass and has a louver installed in the concrete block. There is a long nonhistoric overhang at the center of the elevation (Figure 6.) The second has a nonhistoric metal overhead garage door with a nonhistoric man-door to the west in the same bay. The third bay is infilled over the windows and is partly obscured by a vinyl-clad storage cube that is nonhistoric and constructed on the exterior.

East Elevation – Block C, B, A

Block C is on the far east end and housed the corporate offices of the company, and can be seen prominently from down east Beck Ave. For this reason, it matches the language and materials of the primary elevation (Photo 1). The east elevation is (3) bays wide with 2.5 levels exposed as the grade drops (Photo 2). The (3) openings on the 2nd level going north each hold (3) windows. The center opening has 25 lights in the center window and 30 lights on either side, while the outer openings each have 30 lights in the center window and 25 on either side. A light or two is covered by a window air conditioning unit in the northern bay. Typically, on levels 2-4, the (3) window configuration has a historic pattern of one operable awning comprised of 6-8 lights on either side window and (2) awnings in the center window one over one. Under each window is a brick sill with 3' tall brick infill below completing each bay. The first level has an opening at each bay matching that on the second level, but currently infilled above the brick with rough-face concrete masonry units. The basement level is exposed for the (2) northern bays but are also infilled with concrete block. There is a large metal louver set within the infill units. The roof over Block C is a synthetic membrane roof that slopes slightly to the north.

Block B is the central portion of the building and consists of (3) levels of (5) bays. There is a nonhistoric series of structures built into the corner between Blocks C and B (Photo 10, Figure 6) including a vinyl clad unit, a block structure with garage door, and metal linear awning stretching north for the full extent of Block B (Photo 10). The vehicular receiving door in the center of the basement level is the original opening and the first exposed part of the historic wall. The next (2) bays to the north have large window openings over brick that are currently infilled on the exterior with painted concrete masonry units. On the first level, the second bay to the north is the first exposed and holds (3) windows with 25 lights in the center and 30 lights on either side. The opening in the third bay has the same configuration. In the fourth bay, concrete infill has been installed over the windows and this one has its own (2) window openings and air conditioning unit opening. The window opening in bay 5 is infilled similarly, with (2) windows and a louver—all are installed in a separate plane from the original windows beyond. One the second level, all five bays are exposed but have painted concrete unit infill installed over the windows. Each has a large louver installed in the concrete units, except the second bay that has (2) louvers. In section B, there is a shallow central gable running north to south that slopes gently to shed water toward the east and west of the building. All roofs across the various blocks utilize white synthetic membrane roofing.

Finally, Block A is located on the north end of the east elevation, all five stories are exposed on the north end with four equal bays across (Photo 9). On the south end, the vertical

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

circulation tower housing the freight elevator terminates in a penthouse one story above the rest of Block A. The openings in this circulation column are slightly different than the balance of the elevation, including (2) smaller window openings within the brick that continues between them. This pattern of openings is repeated on all five levels. Four of the window openings have had the infill removed recently as part of the eligibility assessment process. They are in the first and second bays of the third and fourth levels. On both levels, the smaller openings in the circulation tower are (2) windows wide with 25 lights each with an operable section in the center. The next bay to the north features (3) windows with 30 lights on each end and 25 lights in the center. All the openings have the standard 3' of brick with brick sill in the same plane was the concrete framework. The balance of window openings on this elevation are covered with smooth finish concrete masonry units that have been mortared and painted in most cases and (6) have louvers built in. There is a door hatch on the first level in the third bay and a garage door in the historic location at basement level/grade. The concrete grid system protrudes from the building beyond the red brick on the north and east elevations of Block A, creating a look of small platforms that catch shadows throughout the day (Photo 9). The white synthetic membrane roof in Block A has a shallow gable running east/west that is visible from the east elevation and is covered by white synthetic membrane roofing. There are three rooftop penthouses over the vertical circulation towers that are visible across the elevations.

Interior Descriptions

Basement

The basement level is underground along Beck Ave. and along the railroad, but open to grade on the rear elevations (Figure 6). The drop slab ceilings are lower relative to other levels. Overall, the basement was an asset to the vehicular shipping and receiving along east where open to grade, providing space for efficient processes and storage. In Block C, the space was most recently used as a parking garage (Photo 15). The spaces are largely open (Photo 14). with 2' diameter columns on a 20' grid center to center (Photo 13). Where there are windows, they are covered up from the exterior and some are visible from the interior (Photo 13, far left).

First Level

While the basement, second floor, third floor, and fourth floor retain integrity of their historic floor plans across most spaces (Figures 6, 8, 9, 10), there are integrity concerns on the first floor across all sections as visible in the floor plan (Figure 7) as well as photos. This is due to nonhistoric treatments and structures that are prevalent on this level, especially in the office area section C. Many walls on this level cannot be determined to be historic due to coverings, while other obviously new stud walls have been added in blocks A and B as part of leasing out portions (Figure 7) of the building to keep it occupied and useful. The open drop slab ceilings and mushroom top columns are visible in block A and B, but section C. has a ceiling concealed by acoustic tile in most areas.

The entry point for guests and some white-collar workers coming off Beck Ave. was at the first level of the building, although they immediately climbed a stair to the second level (Photo 16). This area and Block C on the same level includes some new walls, drop acoustic tile ceilings, and claddings installed either during the later period of significance or after it. We know

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

for certain that stairwells down from the second level are original as seen in historic photos. In Block C, the public entry from Beck Ave. was located on the first floor (Photo 12). Visitors were taken up an open stair to the second level reception area. Otherwise, this section is assumed to have been used as offices of some kind during the period of significance because of the restrooms and location below the other open office. It is currently subdivided into offices arranged around the perimeter with a narrow interior loop corridor. The walls have nonhistoric finishes such as faux-wood paneling and the floors have various material finishes. Block B opens up north and northwest of the laboratories and has mushroom-cap columns similar to the other warehouse and factory spaces (Photo 17). There are some superficial coverings and nonhistoric walls in this area. In Block A, nonhistoric walls break the space into approximately half. The mushroom-cap columns are spaced approximately 20' center to center for lots of open space

Second Level

The second level (Figure 8) was designed to service various shipping and receiving points including the vehicular loading dock along Beck Ave. (Photo 21) and rail loading dock along the west elevation (Figure 19). The large factory zone in Block B catered to those functions and was also a functioning daylight factory space with mushroom-top columns on a 20' grid center to center. While there were not enough exterior walls to light the entire space, (2) sawtooth skylights helped bring light to the central area (Photo 22). The second level in Block C housed the main reception and white-collar offices for LeGear Co. (Photos 19 & 20). The second level main office is accessed from the open stair that comes up from the Beck Ave. entrance (Photo 18). The floor by the stair is open and served as reception area adjacent to desks during the period of significance (Photo 19). There are currently offices along the east of the building. Nonhistoric partition walls, wall cladding materials (Figure 16), drop ceilings concealing what is above, portions of failing nonhistoric ceilings, and HVAC equipment are currently installed in the office areas (Photo 20). The space is adjacent and opens via man-doors to the larger factory floor of Block B (Photo 23). Block B has a minimal amount of nonhistoric partitions on the south end such as an office that does not go to deck (Figure 8, Figure 20; Photo 23). The interior of the building is largely open within each of the three sections. There are 15 columns in the factory space of Block A (Photos 24, 25; Figure 8).

Third Level

The third level only exists in Block A (Figure 9). The factory area on this level facilitated the weighing and packaging of products as described in various LeGear manuals (Figures 21, 26-29). A historic scale remains embedded in the floor and appears to be functional. Concrete bins still align the exterior wall in the northeast corner (Photo 28). There are 15 loose mushroom-cap columns in the factory space (Figure 9) and many more embedded in the perimeter walls. It is a large space with windows on all sides, a freight elevator in each south corner (Photo 26), and two stairwells in opposite corners. The drop slab ceiling has many large openings, currently covered, above concrete bins aligning the northern wall (Figure 12). There is one nonhistoric partial partition wall running east west and another in the next column bay the date of which has not been determined (Photo 26). The openings were critical for smooth process and aided by the beamless floor system. It is suspected that this was to facilitate the functions of machinery or

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

equipment that overlapped the top two levels. The perimeter is surrounded by windows that are visible from the interior such as on the south wall (Photo 27). Most openings hold three windows with 80 total lights. See the exterior descriptions where windows are exposed for typical layouts.

Fourth Level

The fourth level (Figure 10) was also an open factory space that aided in manufacturing and only exists in Block A. The fourth level features a historic daylit clean room (Photo 32) with concrete walls going all the way up to deck. Historic signage and items remain in the clean room (Figure 11). The slight gable roof profile is visible from the interior (Photo 30). There are 15 loose mushroom-cap columns in the factory space (Figure 10, Photo 29) and many more embedded in the perimeter walls. It is a large space with windows on all sides, two freight elevators, and two stairwells in opposite corners (Photo 31). The perimeter is surrounded by windows that are visible from the interior. Most openings hold three windows with 80 total lights. The northern edge of the building is lined with pulleys along the ceiling and several large openings in the floor that align with exhaust openings in the windows (Figure 12). The floor openings align with concrete bins on the third floor below. See the exterior descriptions where windows are exposed for typical layouts.

Integrity

The LeGear Medicine Company Building retains the essential physical features to convey the character and appearance of an industrial agricultural building significant from 1920-1971. The nominated property retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. It is a representative early twentieth century reinforced concrete industrial building in St. Louis, MO. It retains a majority of the features that illustrate its style in terms of the massing, spatial relationships, proportion, pattern of windows and doors, texture of materials, and ornamentation on the interior and exterior (Photos 9, 31; Figures 18-21, 26). Any physical changes to the building and site since the period of significance have occurred in service of keeping the building useful. Industrial buildings of this era still extant have commonly needed to adapt to continue to be useful and ensure their survival and ability to interpret industrial architecture to future generations. Industrial facilities of this construction type were diverse in use overall, from automobile dealerships to warehouses. Diversity and flexibility within the structures themselves is also a hallmark of the type—extents of fenestration were often reduced in this building type to accommodate wall storage, or to subdivide into rentable space. The use of concrete block units installed over windows and openings is a recommended mothballing treatment per the National Park Service to minimize deterioration of the building while it is unoccupied, or sudden loss by fire or vandalism. In the LeGear building, the concrete block installation is recessed about an inch from the reinforced concrete frame so that it is distinguishable from the historic elements on the exterior. On the interior, the block treatment also has an interior gap, so the material is not touching the intact steel windows and glazing (Figure 15). Water infiltration and freeze/thaw cycles are more of a danger to the structure of a reinforced “fire-proof” concrete building than a fire.

The building maintains its historic association and feeling (Figure 21). Reinforced concrete was the singular solution to accommodate the fireproofing, loads, spatial requirements,

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 10

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

and construction schedule needed for the plant to be feasible in 1920. The building continues to express its concrete structural grid across all exterior elevations in 2023 (Photos 2, 5, 9, 12). While some portions have been painted over, the grid is still visible by differences in texture. The exterior concrete skeleton is in good condition, with very little visual defects or deterioration.

On the interior, the drop slab construction system with mushroom cap top on each column is exposed in a majority of spaces. The structural reinforcing rods extend laterally and radially at the top of each column to meet the drop panel and slab, creating the repetitive industrial element that, while iconic, are also critical to the integrity of the design. The mushroom column tops, drop panel slabs, flat slab ceilings, and ceiling space free of obstructions are still visible throughout the interiors because there have been little instances of installed ceilings to obscure them (Photos 14, 17, 23, 25, 27, 30). The interior mushroom cap columns are in great condition as well as the load-carrying reinforced concrete flooring/ceilings throughout. There are no major failures evident so far after over one-hundred years.

Another important material in a daylight factory is the large steel sash window. A sizable amount of the windows are visible from the interior factory spaces, even though many are concealed from the exterior side (Photo 29). Overall, 95% of the (130) original window openings have historic steel window frames intact and 20% of the windows are currently exposed on both the interior and the exterior, letting some daylight stream into factory spaces in present-day (Photos 26, 31; Figures 13-14).

The building has been a constant presence at 4155 Beck Avenue for over a century. The location was chosen deliberately by LeGear when he began the process of having his own custom factory built. The four-acre site was chosen for optimal distribution; being adjacent to railroad tracks and on a small street near the intersection of major automobile thoroughfares, Gravois and Chippewa. All those conditions are still extant.

In general, the building and site are remarkably similar to when the LeGear Medicine Company was operating there (Figures 18-21, 26; Photos 2, 9). The site circulation and parking areas are in the same location as the historic configuration and remain clean and well-defined. The railroad line continues to run along the west edge of the site and trains roll by on the tracks periodically. Some items on the site have naturally degraded such as the railroad loading platform and other exterior infrastructure.

Conclusion

The LeGear Medicine Company Building and site maintain a critical mass of historic features to evoke the association and feeling of the agricultural industrial building and site of 1920 (Photo 9). The building itself remains as the only major structure on the site. The building has never been vacant and has been taken care of while serving various manufacturing, warehouse, and office functions in the years since the LeGear Company vacated. There are no areas of severe deterioration and investments have been made over time to protect and maintain the building such as a contemporary white roofing membrane added in recent years. The infill of the window openings from the exterior with concrete block, (estimated installation in the 1970s) has done a service protecting the building from the elements and security concerns over many decades. Where this block is concealing the windows from the exterior, they are still visible from the interior in many cases.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 11

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

There have been no major additions, renovations, demolitions, or alterations to the building. The known alterations to the building since 1971 include exterior infill over original windows and the addition of new interior partition walls and fire separation walls at existing stairs. There are countless wall, floor, and ceiling finish materials that have been added on top of the originals and there have been updates of some bathrooms. The small storage additions and structures to the east (Section B) were added at some point after 1971 and do not connect to the interior of the building. The site has not been developed in any way and maintains the open space and topography of the original complex.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Summary

Dr. L. D. LeGear Medicine Company building at 4155 Beck Ave. in southwest St. Louis [Independent City] (Figure 1), Missouri, is locally significant under Criterion A in Agriculture. The building was designed and constructed in 1920 for one of the nation's largest producers of animal medicines. The L.D. LeGear Company was a national player in the veterinary medicine industry for an extensive period during which there were significant transitions in the industry. The company was significant as the area's largest producer of veterinary pharmaceuticals, and one of the region's larger medicine producers overall during the period of significance.² The LeGear Company standards for quality in veterinary medicine made them an industry pioneer, and the building was one of the largest and best-equipped plants in the world for dog, poultry, and livestock prescriptions.³ The LeGear Company continued to drive the transitions in veterinary medicine that defined its practice in the 20th century; innovating standardized pre-mixed patent medicines, as well as advances in shipping, advertising, and marketing. The building on Beck Ave. was designed to facilitate all the company's functions including laboratory research and mass production at high quality standards, with efficient access to interstate distribution. Once constructed, the Beck Ave. building was consistently featured in company advertising and promotional materials. Dr. LeGear's Company used the Beck facility as a selling point; advertising the factory's size, manufacturing capacity, modernity, laboratories, and quality control.⁴ The LeGear Company continued operations in the building under new ownership from 1960 until 1971. The period of significance is from 1920-1971.

Dr. L.D. LeGear Company

Louis D. LeGear was born in about 1870 and grew up on a farm in St. Clair County, Michigan.⁵ A lover of animals, he attended the Veterinary College of Toronto, Canada, from which he graduated in 1892.⁶ He began his professional career in Austin, Texas, as a young veterinary surgeon. It wasn't long before he began selling his own recipes of animal medicines out of a small office and laboratory at 113 West Sixth Street in Austin (Figure 23).⁷ The building still exists but has been remodeled with a contemporary façade. His profile rose rapidly and he published the first iteration of "Dr. LeGear's Stock Book" in 1897, under the approval and endorsement of The Texas Stockman and Farmer Publishing Company. One of his brothers, veterinarian N.G. LeGear is credited equally with Louis in the first stock book and all five LeGear brothers were involved in the business at various points during the period of significance. The stock book included practical advice and recipes for animal remedies. Within a

² "This Former FARM BOY Does a Million Dollar Business in Poultry and Livestock Medicines." St. Louis Globe-Democrat Magazine, December 25, 1927. p. 2.

³ Meyer, A.C. The History of the Earlier Years of Drug and Allied Trades in the Mississippi Valley. Privately Printed. St. Louis, MO, 1948. Courtesy of Central Library St. Louis, MO. Pages 65-66.

⁴ Meyer, A.C. The History of the Earlier Years of Drug and Allied Trades in the Mississippi Valley. Privately Printed. St. Louis, MO, 1948. Courtesy of Central Library St. Louis, MO. Pages 65-66.

⁵ "This Former FARM BOY Does a Million Dollar Business in Poultry and Livestock Medicines." St. Louis Globe-Democrat Magazine, December 25, 1927. p. 2.

⁶ Dr. LeGear's Complete Poultry Guide. Dr. L.D. LeGear Medicine Co., St. Louis, MO, U.S.A., 1942.

⁷ Meyer, A.C. The History of the Earlier Years of Drug and Allied Trades in the Mississippi Valley. Privately Printed. St. Louis, MO, 1948. Courtesy of Central Library St. Louis, MO. Pages 65-66.

National Register of Historic Places
 Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 13

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

decade of starting out, the L.D. LeGear Company was shipping products nationwide and moved to a two-story brick building at 121-123 Congress Avenue in Austin in 1902.⁸ It was reported to be the largest stock remedy facility in the entire south and had around 14,000 square feet of floor space.⁹

Table 1:
L.D. LeGear Co. Products 1902¹⁰

1.	Dr. LeGear's Stock Powder
2.	Dr. LeGear's Liniment
3.	Dr. LeGear's Colic Cure
4.	Dr. LeGear's Stock Book

By this point, L.D. LeGear was well-known in Austin for his veterinary remedies and personal practice as a local veterinarian.¹¹ Just a couple years later, however, he decided to move his company to St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. LeGear was an ambitious person and decided that a more centralized location with greater access to vast transportation networks was necessary for the growth he desired. The company first moved into a five-story factory building at Howard and North Broadway in downtown St. Louis in 1905 (Figure 24). The Company continued its steady growth during their first decade-plus in St. Louis; continuing to add new products and publish advice booklets while they purchased adjacent buildings to accommodate the growth.¹² The main building was severely burned in a 1917 fire.¹³ LeGear began the process of having his own custom factory built. It was designed to the Company's exact specifications and standards, located and sited for optimal distribution, and was "absolutely fireproof."¹⁴ The company would not need to move again. LeGear chose a four-acre site adjacent to railroad tracks in southwest St. Louis City. LeGear's products stood out against competitors in a confusing market, and the company's initial rise occurred as consumers began to trust the LeGear name and products on an increasingly larger scale.

In 1920, LeGear built the subject building at 4161 Beck Avenue at a cost of \$300,000 (Figure 25). The new site was located on the Oak Hill and Carondelet branch of the Missouri Pacific Railroad in south St. Louis' industrial corridor. Architect Leonhard Haeger and contractor Murch Brothers built the new fireproof facility. The same team was responsible for the Alligator Oil Clothing Company Buildings of 1918-1919, located a few blocks to the south (NRHP 2013).¹⁵ In a 1927 St. Louis Globe-Democrat profile, the Beck facility was said to turn out over

⁸ "Dr. L.D. LeGear & Brothers" The Austin Daily Tribune. June 17, 1902.

⁹ "Dr. L.D. LeGear & Brothers" The Austin Daily Tribune. June 17, 1902.

¹⁰ This list may be incomplete. Derived from: "Dr. L.D. LeGear & Brothers" The Austin Daily Tribune. June 17, 1902., "Dr. LeGear's Stock Book," the first of LeGear's advice and promotional booklets, 1897.

¹¹ "Dr. L.D. LeGear & Brothers" The Austin Daily Tribune. June 17, 1902.

¹² "This Former FARM BOY Does a Million Dollar Business in Poultry and Livestock Medicines." St. Louis Globe-Democrat Magazine, December 25, 1927. p. 2.

¹³ "50 Girls in Panic at \$37,000 Factory Fire." *The St. Louis Star and Times*. April 11, 1917. Page B4.

¹⁴ Dr. LeGear's Complete Poultry Guide. Dr. L.D. LeGear Medicine Co., St. Louis, MO, U.S.A., 1942.

¹⁵ Allen, Michael. *National Register of Historic Places Inventory Form: Alligator Oil Clothing Company Buildings*. St. Louis, MO, 2012.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14

LeGear Medicine Company Building

Name of Property

St. Louis [Independent City] MO

County and State

n/a

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

\$1,000,000 in product per year and distributed worldwide and was called the “largest of its kind in the world.”¹⁶

Dr. LeGear continued as president of the company until 1930, when he transferred leadership to his brother Sidney so he could focus on lecturing to farmers directly. He traveled the country advising family farmers on how to make the most of their poultry and livestock while competing against ever-larger commercial farms.¹⁷ In 1938, when the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) was passed, it further strengthened the FDA's powers. From that point, manufacturers were required to show evidence that their products were safe before they could sell them.¹⁸ The highest quality standards had been a fundamental tenant of the LeGear Co. business philosophy from the beginning, and the Beck Ave. building was able to facilitate those high standards for research and efficiency (Figure 18). In 1943, Dr. L.D. LeGear died at the age of 75 after a sudden illness.¹⁹ Distribution of various veterinary advice booklets, such as the stock guide, continued to be an integral marketing strategy for the company (Figure 29). The booklets indicated Dr. LeGear's solutions to many common animal maladies, advice, and even formulas for homemade medicines. There were booklets on horses, cattle, poultry, dogs, cats, etc. (Figures 28 and 29). Each booklet proudly featured Louis in his surgical gear and many boasted the capacity and quality control of the Beck facility.²⁰ Most included photos featuring the various functions in the Beck facility including support staff working in the offices, the packaging floor,²¹ and chemists working in the laboratory.²²

The LeGear Co. continued steady in the U.S. veterinary medicine industry into the early 1940s, when they had five chemists on staff at the Beck Ave. facility.²³ By 1942, the capacity of the Beck Ave. plant was noted at 150,000 packages per day.²⁴ The LeGear Co. was classified as an essential industry by the United States Government during WWII. Management used this designation in efforts to retain a recently graduated young chemist and prevent him from being sent off to the war, to ensure the company could continue operations.²⁵ The LeGear Medicine Co. was a leader in the industry for decades continuing beyond the 1940s.²⁶ According to company literature, the building on Beck housed laboratories that facilitated the lengthy scientific research and field experimentation required to offer new prescriptions (Figure 27).²⁷ The building was one of the largest and best-equipped plants in the world with the highest

¹⁶ "This Former FARM BOY Does a Million Dollar Business in Poultry and Livestock Medicines." *St. Louis Globe-Democrat Magazine*, December 25, 1927. p. 2.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ Bren, Linda. Animal Health and Consumer Protection. FDA Consumer magazine The Centennial Edition/January-February 2006.

¹⁹ "Dr. Louis LeGear, Veterinary Medicine Man, Dies in the West." *St. Louis Star and Times*. April 29, 1943. Page 18.

²⁰ Dr. LeGear's Complete Poultry Guide. Dr. L.D. LeGear Medicine Co., St. Louis, MO, U.S.A., 1951.

²¹ Dr. LeGear's Complete Poultry Guide. Dr. L.D. LeGear Medicine Co., St. Louis, MO, U.S.A., 1942.

²² Dr. LeGear's Complete Poultry Guide. Dr. L.D. LeGear Medicine Co., St. Louis, MO, U.S.A., 1951.

²³ "Chemist in Draft Dispute Willing to Go." *St. Louis Star and Times*, 2 December 1943. Page 1.

²⁴ Dr. LeGear's Complete Poultry Guide. Dr. L.D. LeGear Medicine Co., St. Louis, MO, U.S.A., 1942.

²⁵ "Chemist in Draft Dispute Willing to Go." *St. Louis Star and Times*, 2 December 1943. Page 1.

²⁶ Meyer, A.C. *The History of the Earlier Years of Drug and Allied Trades in the Mississippi Valley*. Privately Printed. St. Louis, MO, 1948. Courtesy of Central Library St. Louis, MO. Pages 65-66

²⁷ *Ibid.*

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 15

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

manufacturing capacity for prescriptions for livestock, poultry, and dogs.²⁸ Research, development, manufacturing, and distribution of products were key functions facilitated by the Beck Ave. building.

St. Louis Drug and Chemical Industries

The LeGear Co. transitioned smoothly into this more regulated era because they were a progressive animal health company that adhered to standards at the level of traditional pharmaceutical companies. By 1949, the St. Louis drug and chemical industries were important national players during the long transition from patent medicines to heavily regulated pharmaceuticals. The central location and favorable geography for distribution is why St. Louis was the home to industry giants like Monsanto and Mallinckrodt Chemical Works. Both of those companies had early buildings and complexes in downtown St. Louis that are not extant, although the companies had prolonged success into the 21st century. The L.D. LeGear Company is not only significant in the area of agriculture but was also a notable contributor to the drug and chemical industries of St. Louis.²⁹ No other animal medicine companies are listed among the drug and chemical companies of St. Louis, except the L.D. LeGear Company.³⁰ Research has not turned up any comparable companies in the region or state. Similar, but one-off, veterinary medicine products from nearby cities such as Quincy, Il and Kansas City, MO can be found on the collectibles market, but the volume and limited variety indicate these were not significant players in the industry. Locally, comparable companies to LeGear in the drug and chemical industry are the Luyties Homeopathic Pharmacy and Grove Laboratories, although neither company prepared medicines expressly for animals.³¹

Luyties Pharmacal Company started a few decades earlier than LeGear, also with a small laboratory and store, but became an important local contemporary in the drug and chemical industry during the LeGear period of significance from 1920-1971.³² The Luyties Company Building constructed in 1915 is listed on the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A (Medicine) along with C (Engineering) and the building remains at 4200 Laclede Avenue. (Figure 37). The company followed a similar pattern of moving from industrial areas in downtown westward toward the new geographic and population center of the still-growing St. Louis City. The Luyties Company designed the 1915 building to facilitate their growing business manufacturing and shipping of pharmaceutical products across the world. In contrast to the LeGear Building, the Luyties Company Building employs a singular design in terms of the

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Klein, Francis A. "What Makes St. Louis Great? The Drug and Chemical Industry Has Brought Fame and Fortune to the City Since Civil War Days." *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*. May 22, 1949. Page 49.

³⁰ Meyer, A.C. *The History of the Earlier Years of Drug and Allied Trades in the Mississippi Valley*. Privately Printed. St. Louis, MO, 1948. Courtesy of Central Library St. Louis, MO.

³¹ Klein, Francis A. "What Makes St. Louis Great? The Drug and Chemical Industry Has Brought Fame and Fortune to the City Since Civil War Days." *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*. May 22, 1949. Page 49.

³² Josse, Lynn. *National Register of Historic Places Inventory Form: Luyties Homeopathic Pharmacy Company Building*. St. Louis [Independent City], Missouri. Listed March 6, 2003.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 16

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

rectangular form and language. Luyties continued to operate out of the building until at least the 1960s.³³

The Grove Laboratories, Incorporated, was a proprietary medicine and toilet goods manufacturer established by E.W. Grove as “The Paris Medical Company” of Tennessee in 1878. The company moved to downtown St. Louis in 1891, for similar reasons to L.D. LeGear moving his company from Texas. The company grew so quickly, that they expanded to a campus of buildings on Pine at Beaumont west of downtown St. Louis in 1900.³⁴ The buildings are not extant and the land is part of the Wells Fargo Campus in 2023. Grove Laboratories, Inc., had products in millions of homes by the 1930s such as “Grove’s Chill Tonic,” “Bromine Quinine Cold Tablets,” and “Dr. Porter’s Oil.” The Grove Laboratories, Inc. was acquired by Bristol-Myers Company in 1957.

The Animal Health Industry and Patent Veterinary Medicines

Dr. LeGear’s career was focused on improving outcomes for average American farmers. His background growing up on a farm and veterinary education put him in a position to empathize with the issues of the everyday farmer and innovate solutions for better outcomes. In a 1927 newspaper profile, Dr. LeGear described his industry at the time:

Did you know that there are 18,000,000 horses and mules in the United States? And we still have the dairy cattle and the hogs—and the chickens. Poultry raising is a billion-dollar industry, and it is just getting started. And the pathetic thing is that we all know so little about it. Why, several years ago I wrote a book on it, and I have to correct every edition that is printed. We are always discovering new things.

At the transition between the 19th and 20th centuries, the practice of veterinary medicine largely relied on preparations compounded by individuals, and not necessarily trained veterinarians. Although the LeGear Co. made medicines and advice booklets for a variety of animals from large stock to domestic pets, farmers were the focus. Farmers at the time usually had to deal with animal health issues on their own, due to remoteness and budgetary reasons. The farmers looked to advice books to maximize their output, and medicines they could use to treat their animals on their own. The medical industry overall began to rely heavily on standardized pre-mixed medicines for the same reasons. The markets for both human and animal medications were oversaturated and unregulated, making it difficult for consumers to make informed decisions with their purchases and health. There was a growing demand from consumers for products that were easy to use and effective, while also meeting the strict standards of increasing regulations. When Congress passed the Pure Food and Drugs Act in 1906, it introduced the regulation of food and drugs in interstate commerce for “man or other animals,” meaning that in

³³ Josse, Lynn. *National Register of Historic Places Inventory Form: Luyties Homeopathic Pharmacy Company Building*. St. Louis [Independent City], Missouri. Listed March 6, 2003

³⁴ Meyer, A.C. *The History of the Earlier Years of Drug and Allied Trades in the Mississippi Valley*. Privately Printed. St. Louis, MO, 1948. Courtesy of Central Library St. Louis, MO. Pages 60-62.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 17

LeGear Medicine Company Building

Name of Property

St. Louis [Independent City] MO

County and State

n/a

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

the United States, animal food and drugs have been regulated for as long as human food and drugs.³⁵

While Grove Laboratories and Luyties Pharmacal are good comparisons for size, industry, and product types, Ralston Purina was and remains a nationally dominant and iconic animal care products business that was established and grown in St. Louis, Missouri. The two companies were not direct competitors, however, because LeGear's core products were medications while Purina's were food stuffs. In 1926, Purina Dog Chow was launched—the first dry food for dogs in the world.³⁶ Ralston Purina did espouse similar values to the LeGear Co. regarding quality, once using the slogan, “Where purity is supreme,” and deriving the name “Purina” from “purity.” Purina was originally founded as a mill under a different name in 1894, and by 1923 had expanded with mills in many U.S. cities and Canada³⁷—They did business on a notably larger scale than the LeGear Company at any point. In 1962, the iconic Checkerboard Square mill (Figure 38) was destroyed by a grain dust fire.³⁸ The Purina complex has, however, stayed on the same site on the south edge of downtown St. Louis, despite being acquired by Nestle in 2001, and remains there in 2024.

The LeGear company helped set the trends in the area of agriculture and veterinary medicine. Trenton Boyd, the Distinguished Librarian Curator of Medical and Veterinary Historical Collections at University of Missouri, has written about how some the history of the practice of veterinary medicine in the United States is currently missing from libraries and textbooks.³⁹ Examples of gray literature chronicling the history of veterinary medicine include veterinary supply catalogs and materials from patent medicine companies. Much of the information available on the L.D. LeGear Company has been determined from stock books and product catalogs. According to Boyd, there were about 60 patent veterinary medicine companies operating in the United States at the industry peak, and there are no gray literature holdings found for about a third of those.⁴⁰ An unscientific, but extensive, search in 2022 of patent medicine antiques collectibles on the resale market turned up several patent veterinary medicine companies in each Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, New York state, New Jersey, and Ohio.⁴¹ The LeGear Company's dominance in the patent veterinary medicine industry, as well as marketing acumen, is evident by the staggering amount of surviving material continuing to re-sell in the collectible market (Figure 30).

As mentioned, there was no comparable veterinary medicine company in the St. Louis region. The Dr. David Roberts Veterinary Co. was a LeGear Co. competitor out of Wisconsin.

³⁵ Bren, Linda. Animal Health and Consumer Protection. FDA Consumer magazine The Centennial Edition/January-February 2006.

³⁶ Stroud, Jerri. “Will St. Louisans Vote to Move Ralston? On Board, Most Have Local Ties.” *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. February 16, 1997. Page 55.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ Ibid.

³⁹ Boyd, Trenton C. “The lost history of American veterinary medicine: the need for preservation”. Journal of the Medical Library Association. January 11, 2009. Accessed February 10, 2023. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3016659/>.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Veterinary Collectibles Roundtable. Survey of auction items February 2020, September 2020, March 2021, August 2021 and March 12, 2022. veterinarycollectibles.com.

National Register of Historic Places
 Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 18

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

This brand also published booklets on various animal care topics. Dr. David Roberts was a proud face of his Company like Louis LeGear; appearing in similar promotional materials, many of which are still around on the collector market (Figure 31). The office building for Dr. David Roberts company is still extant in downtown Waukesha, WI and is listed as part of the Downtown Waukesha Historic District. Another similar player in the industry was the Pratt Food Company, headquartered out of Philadelphia in a collection of buildings near the waterfront that are not extant. Pratt was doing a large-scale business in veterinary medicine products during approximately the same era as LeGear and claimed to be the largest company of its type in self-published literature (Figure 32). They also produced advice booklets like LeGear but those available to view do not mention production facilities. Neither of these companies lasted significantly longer than the L.D. LeGear Company.

Postwar Changes to the Industry

The decades post-WWII saw a large transition in animal medicine. The early dominant industry players, patent medicine companies like LeGear, began to lose market share to newly-established animal divisions within the established human pharmaceutical giants such as Pfizer, Merck, and Eli Lilly. Each of those three mentioned are based outside the region. They each established animal divisions between the 1940s and 1950s and began producing animal medications and vaccines. As of 2019, they are three of the top five animal health companies in the world by revenue: 1. Zoetis (Pfizer), 3. Merck Animal Health, and 4. Elanco (Eli Lilly).⁴² Missing from that list are all the direct competitors from the period of significance; those established specifically to develop animal medicines. LeGear Co. continued to have a wide reach in the U.S. veterinary medicine industry into the 1950s and was still a familiar brand to farmers across the country.⁴³ The Beck Ave. facility was producing over 50 LeGear Co. products in 1956 including the flagship “Dr. LeGear’s Stock Powder.”

**Table 2:
 L.D. LeGear Co. Products 1956⁴⁴**

1.	Dr. LeGear’s A-A Poultry Tabs	29.	Dr. LeGear’s Kill-Germ
2.	Dr. LeGear’s Ant and Roach Killer	30.	Dr. LeGear’s Liniment
3.	Dr. LeGear’s Antihistamine Tabs	31.	Dr. LeGear’s Liquid Broil-O-Wormer
4.	Dr. LeGear’s Anti-pick salve	32.	Dr. LeGear’s Liquid Wormer for Poultry
5.	Dr. LeGear’s Antiseptic Oil	33.	Dr. LeGear’s Louse Powder
6.	Dr. LeGear’s Antiseptic Powder	34.	Dr. LeGear’s Mange Medicine for Dogs
7.	Dr. LeGear’s Bovextra	35.	Dr. LeGear’s Mange Treatment
8.	Dr. LeGear’s Broil-O-Wormer	36.	Dr. LeGear’s Mastitis Treatment
9.	Dr. LeGear’s Calf Dewormer	37.	Dr. LeGear’s Phenothiazine, 100%
10.	Dr. LeGear’s Calf Vitamins	38.	Dr. LeGear’s Pig Swig
11.	Dr. LeGear’s Colic Medicine	39.	Dr. LeGear’s Pink-Eye Powder

⁴² Chakravarty, Sudeep. “Top 10 Animal Health Companies.” Blog entry September 5, 2019. Accessed February 10, 2023.

⁴³ Bateman, Audrey “Dr. LeGear—Congress Avenue veterinarian.” *The Austin American-Statesman*. July 24, 1976. Page B12.

⁴⁴ This list may be incomplete. Derived from: Dr. LeGear Prescriptions Catalog and product index, 1956.

National Register of Historic Places
 Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 19

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

12.	Dr. LeGear's Cow Clean	40.	Dr. LeGear's PLUS Combined with Poultry Prescription
13.	Dr. LeGear's Cow Prescription	41.	Dr. LeGear's PLUS Combined with Poultry Prescription w/ Vitamins K and E
14.	Dr. LeGear's 50% Cresylic Disinfectant	42.	Dr. LeGear's Poultry Inhalant
15.	Dr. LeGear's Dip and Disinfectant	43.	Dr. LeGear's Poultry Red Caps
16.	Dr. LeGear's Dog Shampoo	44.	Dr. LeGear's Poultry Worm Powder
17.	Dr. LeGear's Dog Worm Caps	44.	Dr. LeGear's Puppy Worm Caps
18.	Dr. LeGear's Dry Insecticide	45.	Dr. LeGear's Roost Paint
19.	Dr. LeGear's Flea and Tick Powder	46.	Dr. LeGear's Screw Worm Killer
20.	Dr. LeGear's Flea Soap	47.	Dr. LeGear's EQ 335 Screw Worm Remedy
21.	Dr. LeGear's Fly Spray	48.	Dr. LeGear's Screw Worm Smear
22.	Dr. LeGear's Grub Dust	49.	Dr. LeGear's Stock Powder
23.	Dr. LeGear's Hog Plus	50.	Dr. LeGear's Strepcin
24.	Dr. LeGear's Hog Prescription	51.	Dr. LeGear's Sulfaquinoxaline Solution
25.	Dr. LeGear's Hog Worm Powder	52.	Dr. LeGear's Tape Worm Tabs for Dogs
26.	Dr. LeGear's Household Insect Spray	53.	Dr. LeGear's Tonic Tabs
27.	Dr. LeGear's Hypo-Zyme 6	54.	Dr. LeGear's Udder Ointment
28.	Dr. LeGear's Insect Powder	55.	Dr. LeGear's Wormall

A 1957 application to the FDA to produce antibiotics at the factory demonstrates that ambition, innovation, and high standards were still driving factors for the company (Figure 36). The company remained in the family until it was sold to O'Neal, Jones and Feldman Pharmaceuticals of St. Louis in 1960. It was being run at the time by Dr. Daniel H. LeGear, a veterinarian and nephew of Louis LeGear, who then retired to California.⁴⁵ The company did continue operations in the building under the new ownership until 1971, at which point the brand continued to be produced by yet another company at another location. The company brand recognition was solidified in the American consciousness anyway, as most horse owners and stock raisers in the United States were still familiar with LeGear veterinary medicines well into the 1970s.⁴⁶

Although the company was sold long ago, there are two LeGear products that continue to be produced and sold under the original recipes and brand name. The Goodwinol Animal Health Products Company sells LeGear Udder Ointment and LeGear Stock Powder. The Goodwinol spokesperson related that "his products were the real deal... We bought it (in 1991) because we wanted to continue to sell his products as they were: good products that work." The image of Dr. LeGear and that of the Beck Ave. building continued to be used in branding up into the 1960s. There is an additional marketing innovation that persists as well: "Dr. LeGear," the largest horse in the world (1902-1919). A quick image search will pull up countless images of the giant horse named after his Owner. The horse was purchased to use in advertising media and was shown at fairs across the country. Souvenir cards, posters, and calendars were distributed widely (Figure 33) and many still populate the online veterinary collectibles market.

⁴⁵ "Funeral in California for Daniel H. LeGear." *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. May 13, 1966, Page 19.

⁴⁶ Bateman, Audrey "Dr. LeGear—Congress Avenue veterinarian." *The Austin American-Statesman*. July 24, 1976. Page B12.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 20

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Conclusion

Dr. LeGear is remembered for his insistence that products for animals deserved and demanded the same quality medicines as human medicines. He was able to achieve this mandate by having his own building constructed at a specifically chosen site to his exact standards. This building stands in good condition over one-hundred years later and continues to convey integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The building is recognizable from the period of significance (Figure 26). Almost every unfortunate alternation since the period of significance is easily removable or reversable (Figure 22). The Company was led by LeGear family members from its establishment in 1892 until the 1960 sale. Although the LeGear brand was no longer owned by the family from that point, Dr. LeGear continued to be a familiar entity in American culture beyond 1971—a result of persistent branding and marketing. By the amount of LeGear material still circulating in the collectible market, it is estimated they produced medicines in the millions of pounds; it is possible they were the largest veterinary medicine company in the United States for a time.⁴⁷ The building conveys its association as a large agricultural factory with laboratories and a functioning company headquarters. The property is nominated under Criterion A for Agriculture with a period of significance from the construction year of 1920 to the final year LeGear product operations were housed there, 1971.

⁴⁷ Smith, Dr. Michael W., D.V.M. Editor: Veterinary Collectibles Roundtable, Member of American Veterinary Medical History Society. Phone interview April 2021.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 21

LeGear Medicine Company Building

Name of Property

St. Louis [Independent City] MO

County and State

n/a

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Bibliography

“50 Girls in Panic at \$37,000 Factory Fire.” *The St. Louis Star and Times*. April 11, 1917. Page B4.

Allen, Michael. *National Register of Historic Places Inventory Form: Alligator Oil Clothing Company Buildings*. St. Louis, MO, 2012.

Chakravarty, Sudeep. “Top 10 Animal Health Companies.” Blog entry September 5, 2019. Accessed February 10, 2023. www.marketresearchreports.com/blog/2019/09/05.

“Chemist in Draft Dispute Willing to GO.” *St. Louis Star and Times*, 2 December 1943. Page 1.

Bateman, Audray “Dr. LeGear—Congress Avenue veterinarian.” *The Austin American-Statesman*. July 24, 1976. Page B12.

Bivens, Matthew Scott. *National Register of Historic Places Inventory Form: Ramsey Accessories*

Boyd, Trenton C. “The lost history of American veterinary medicine: the need for preservation”. *Journal of the Medical Library Association*. January 11, 2009. Accessed February 10, 2023. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3016659/>.

Bren, Linda. *Animal Health and Consumer Protection*. FDA Consumer magazine The Centennial Edition/January-February 2006.

“Dr. L.D. LeGear & Brothers” *The Austin Daily Tribune*. June 17, 1902.

Dr. LeGear’s Complete Poultry Guide. Dr. L.D. LeGear Medicine Co., St. Louis, MO, U.S.A., 1942, 1951.

Dr. LeGear’s Livestock Manual, A Modern Practical Guide to the treatment and Care of HORSES, MULES, CATTLE, SHEEP, and HOGS. Dr. LeGear Medicine Co., St. Louis 16, Missouri, U.S.A., 1951.

“Dr. Louis LeGear, Veterinary Medicine Man, Dies in the West.” *St. Louis Star and Times*. April 29, 1943. Page 18.

“Funeral in California for Daniel H. LeGear.” *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. May 13, 1966, Page 19.

Klein, Francis A. “What Makes St. Louis Great? The Drug and Chemical Industry Has Brought Fame and Fortune to the City Since Civil War Days.” *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*. May 22, 1949. Page 49.

Josse, Lynn. Keenoy, Ruth. Eligibility Assessment and additional information for the LeGear Medicine Co. 2013, 2020. EASLC092A.

Josse, Lynn. *National Register of Historic Places Inventory Form: Luyties Homeopathic Pharmacy Company Building*. St. Louis [Independent City], Missouri. Listed March 6, 2003.

LeGear, Louis D. and N.G. *Dr. LeGear’s Stock Book*. The Texas Stockman and Farmer Publishing Co. San Antonio, 1897.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 22

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Meyer, A.C. *The History of the Earlier Years of Drug and Allied Trades in the Mississippi Valley*. Privately Printed. St. Louis, MO, 1948. Courtesy of Central Library St. Louis, MO. Pages 65-66.

Meyer Brothers Druggist. Vol. 38-39. United States: Meyer Brothers & Company. The University of Wisconsin – Madison, 1917.

Pratt's Pointers on Cows, Hogs & Sheep. Pratt Food Company. Philadelphia, 1897, 1911.

Rathburn, Elli of Goodwinol Products Company. Email message to author. March 30, 2021

Smith, Dr. Michael W., D.V.M. Editor: Veterinary Collectibles Roundtable, Member of American Veterinary Medical History Society. Phone interview April 2021.

Stroud, Jerri. "Will St. Louisans Vote to Move Ralston? On Board, Most Have Local Ties." *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. February 16, 1997. Page 55.

"This Former FARM BOY Does a Million Dollar Business in Poultry and Livestock Medicines." *St. Louis Globe-Democrat Magazine*, December 25, 1927. p. 2.

Veterinary Collectibles Roundtable. Survey of auction items February 2020, September 2020, March 2021, August 2021 and March 12, 2022. Veterinarycollectibles.com.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 23

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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

The boundaries of the property are shown as a thick red line on the property line map in Figure Three.

Boundary Justification

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

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 24

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 1. Aerial photo map from Google Earth with scale. Accessed October 2022. Edited by Homegrown studio.

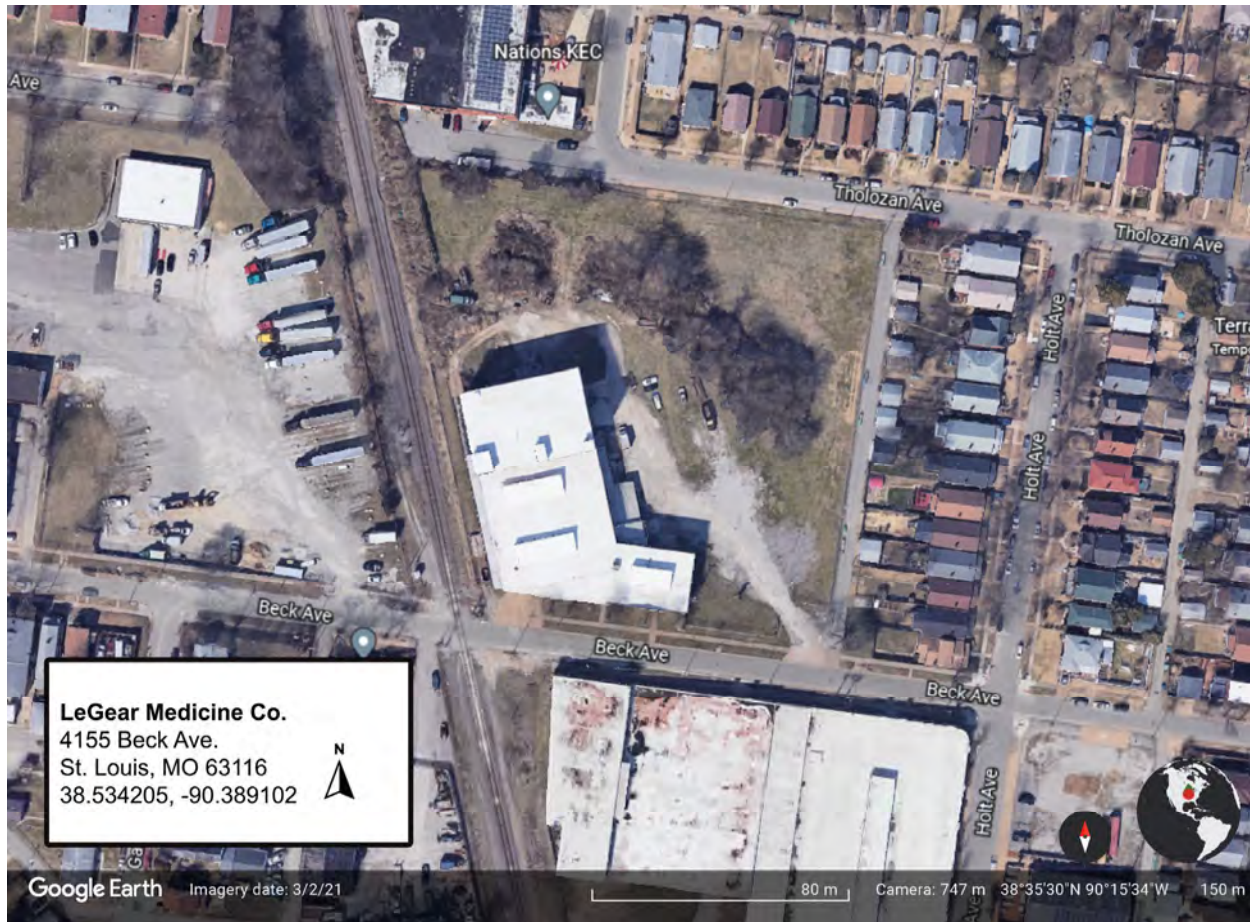


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 25

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 2. Aerial photo map from Google Earth with scale. Accessed October 2022. Edited by Homegrown Studio.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 26

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 3. Property Map with National Register Property Boundaries outlined in red. City of St. Louis address and property search. stlouis-mo.gov. Accessed September 2022. NR Boundary enhanced for clarity.

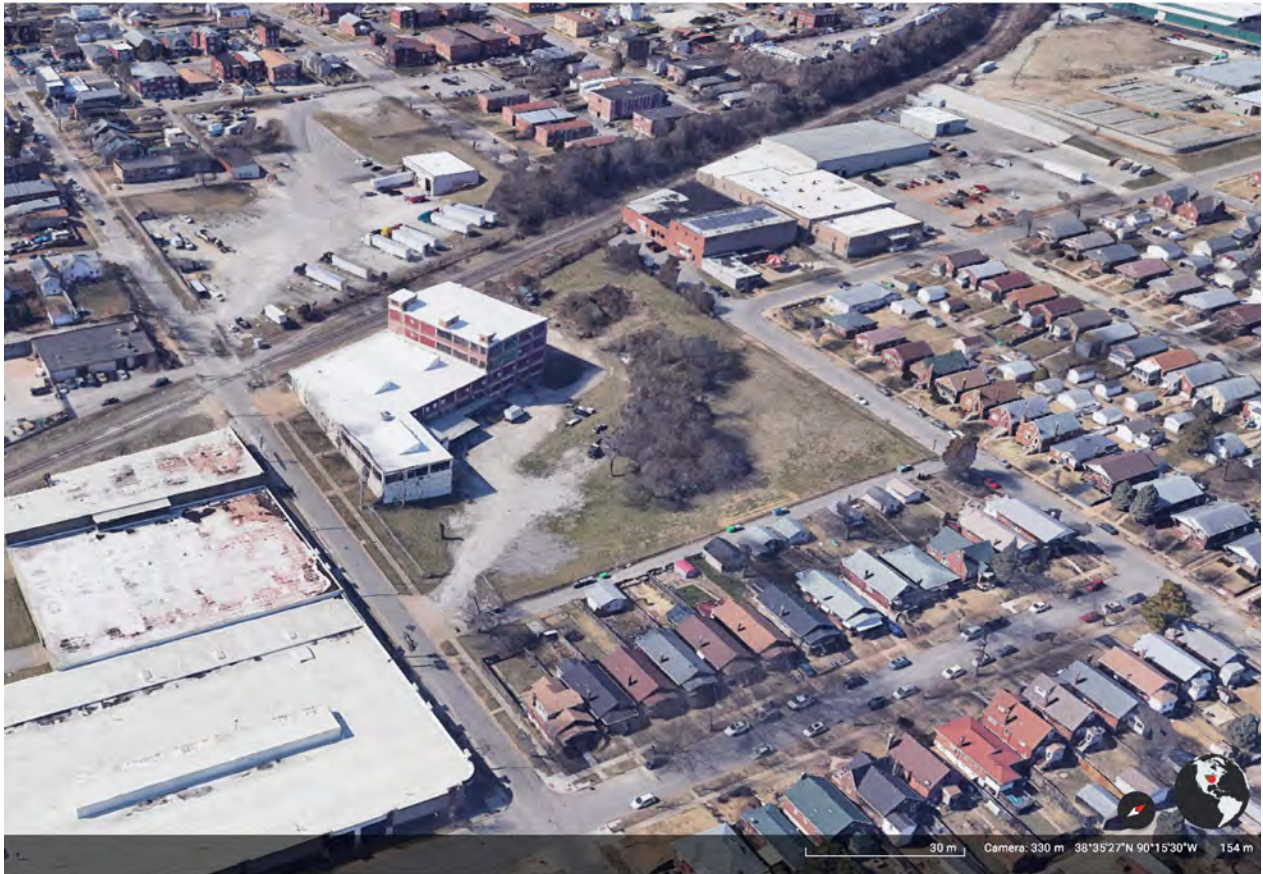


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 27

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 4. Setting, image facing northwest. Map from Google Earth with scale. Accessed January 2023.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 28

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 5. Site photo key plan. Aerial photo map from Google Earth with scale modified by Homegrown Studio, 2023. Accessed March 2022.

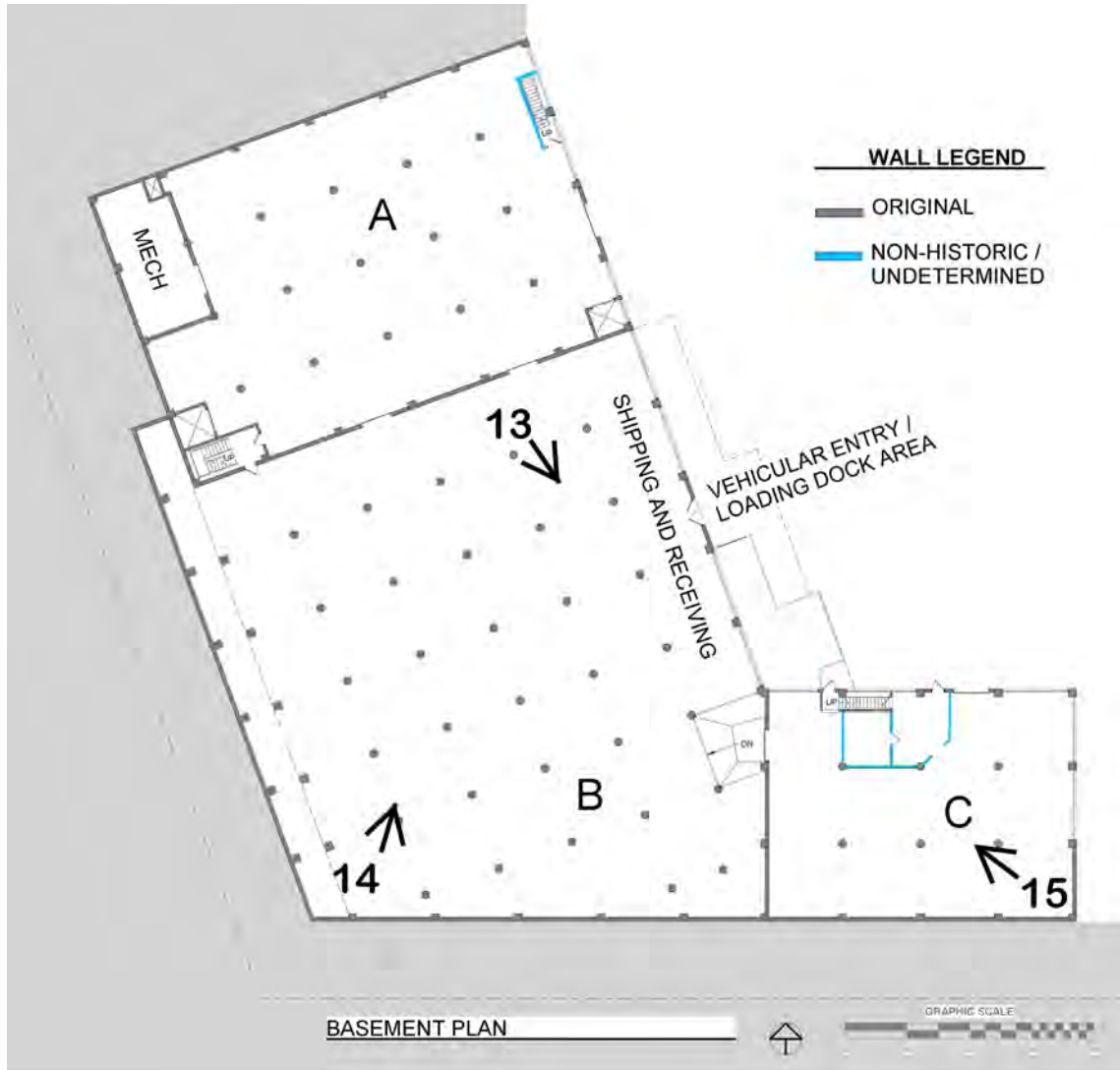


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 29

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 6. Current basement floor plan with photo keys. Homegrown Studio, 2023.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 30

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 7. Current first floor plan with photo keys. Homegrown Studio, 2023.

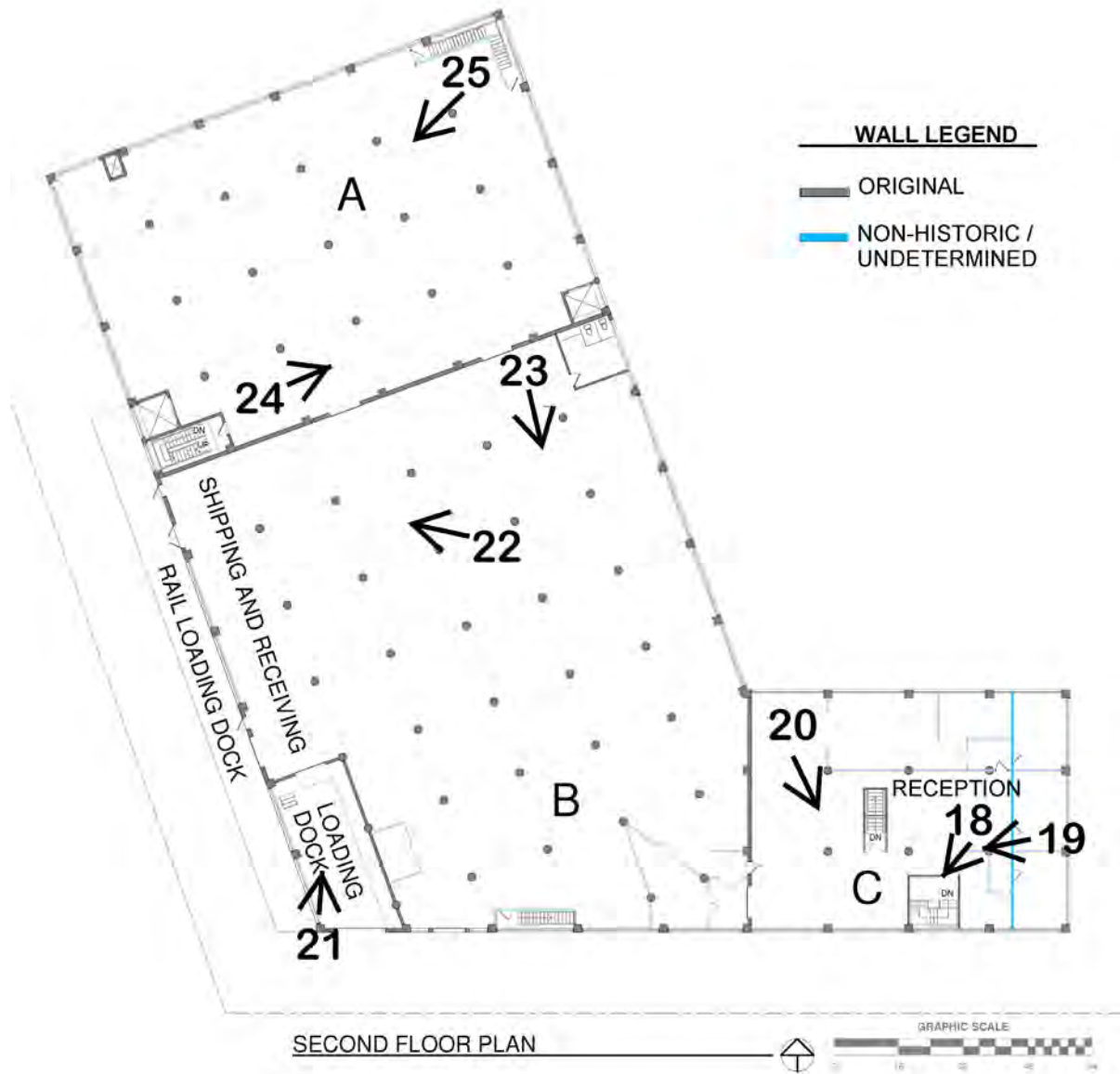


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 31

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 8. Current Second floor plan with photo keys. Homegrown Studio, 2023.

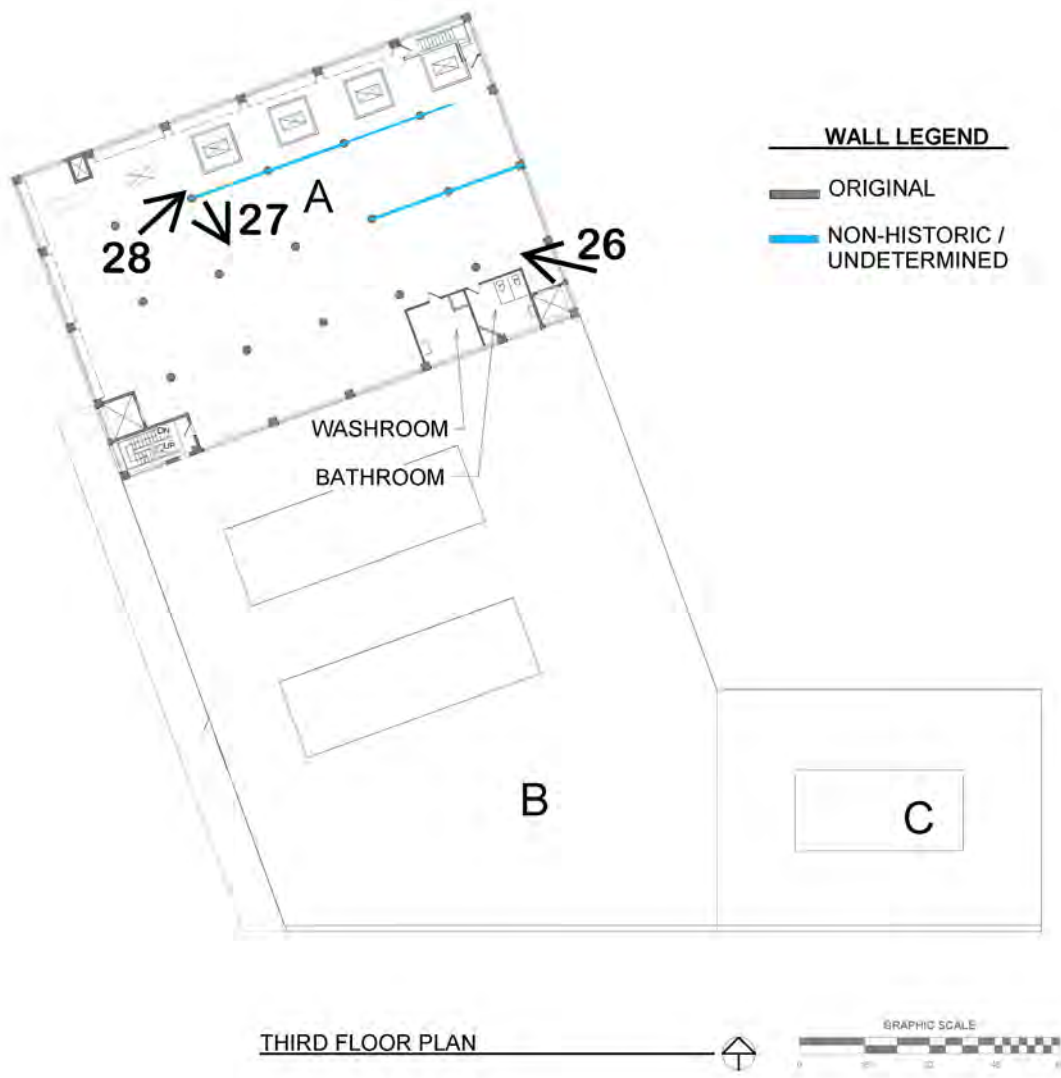


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 32

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 9. Current third floor plan with photo key. Homegrown Studio, 2023.

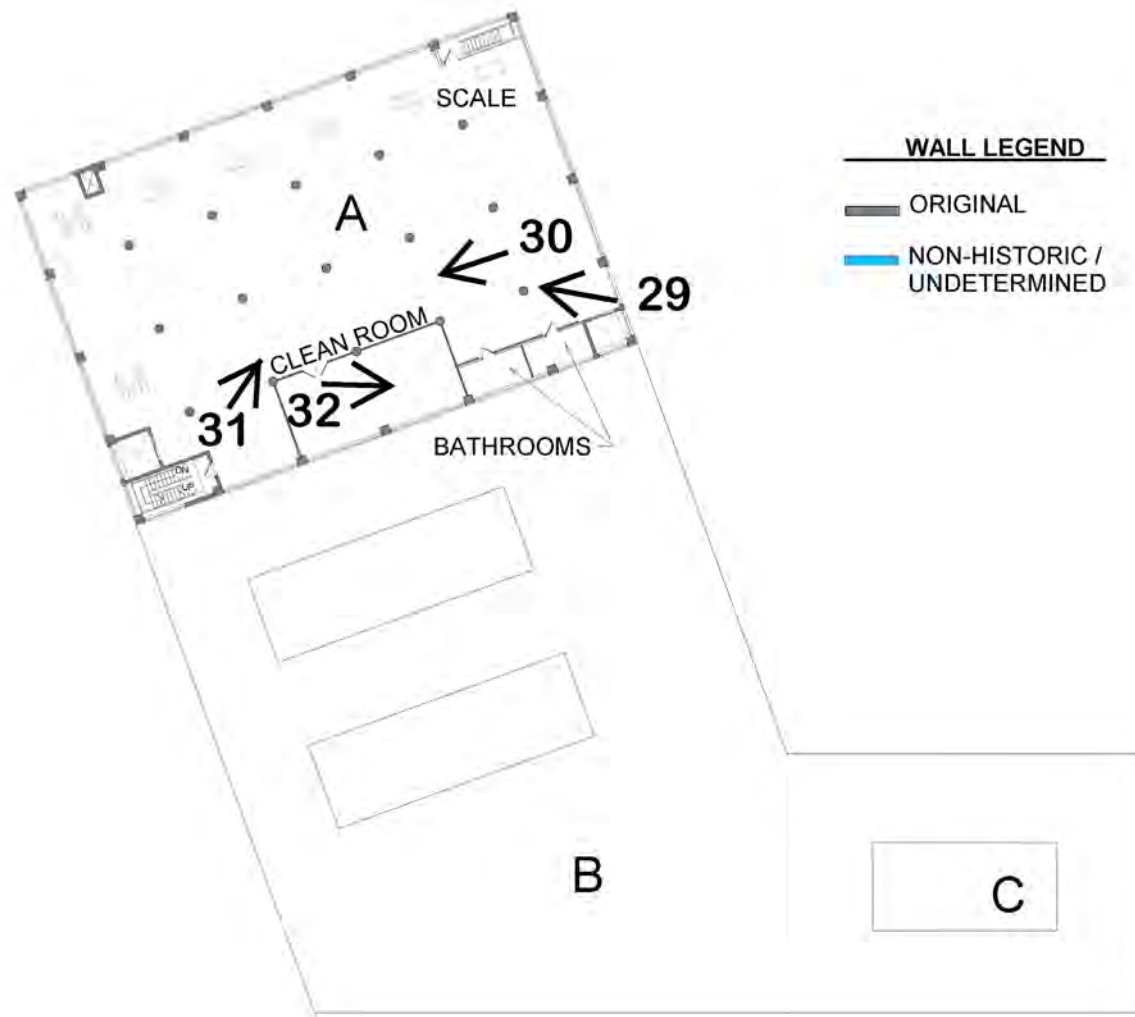


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 33

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 10. Current fourth floor plan with photo key. Homegrown Studio, 2023.



FOURTH FLOOR PLAN

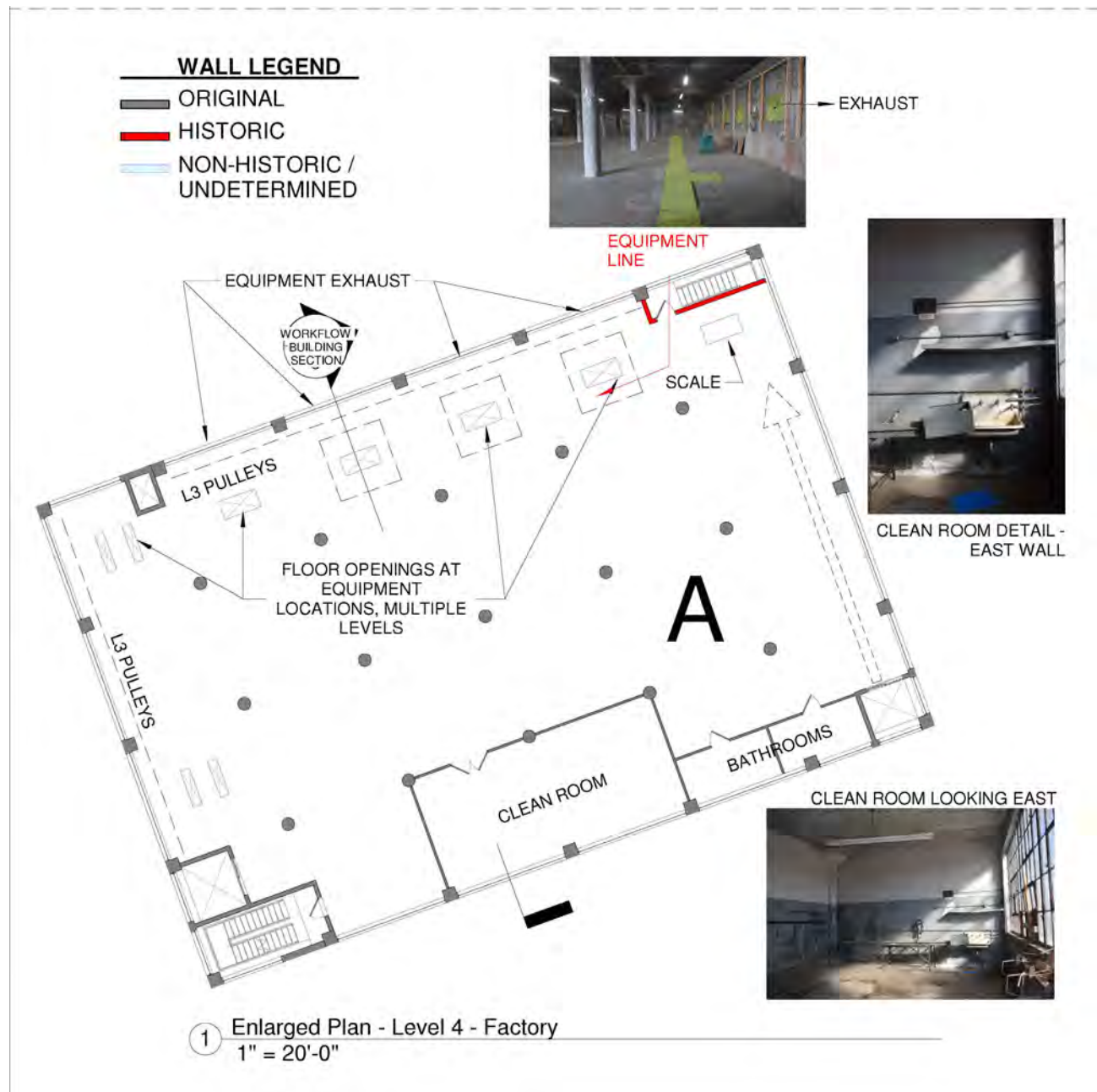


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 34

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 11. Historic elements and interior details that remain to indicate agricultural processes in the L.D. LeGear Building: Factory processes. Photos and diagrams by Homegrown Studio, 2023.



National Register of Historic Places
 Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 35

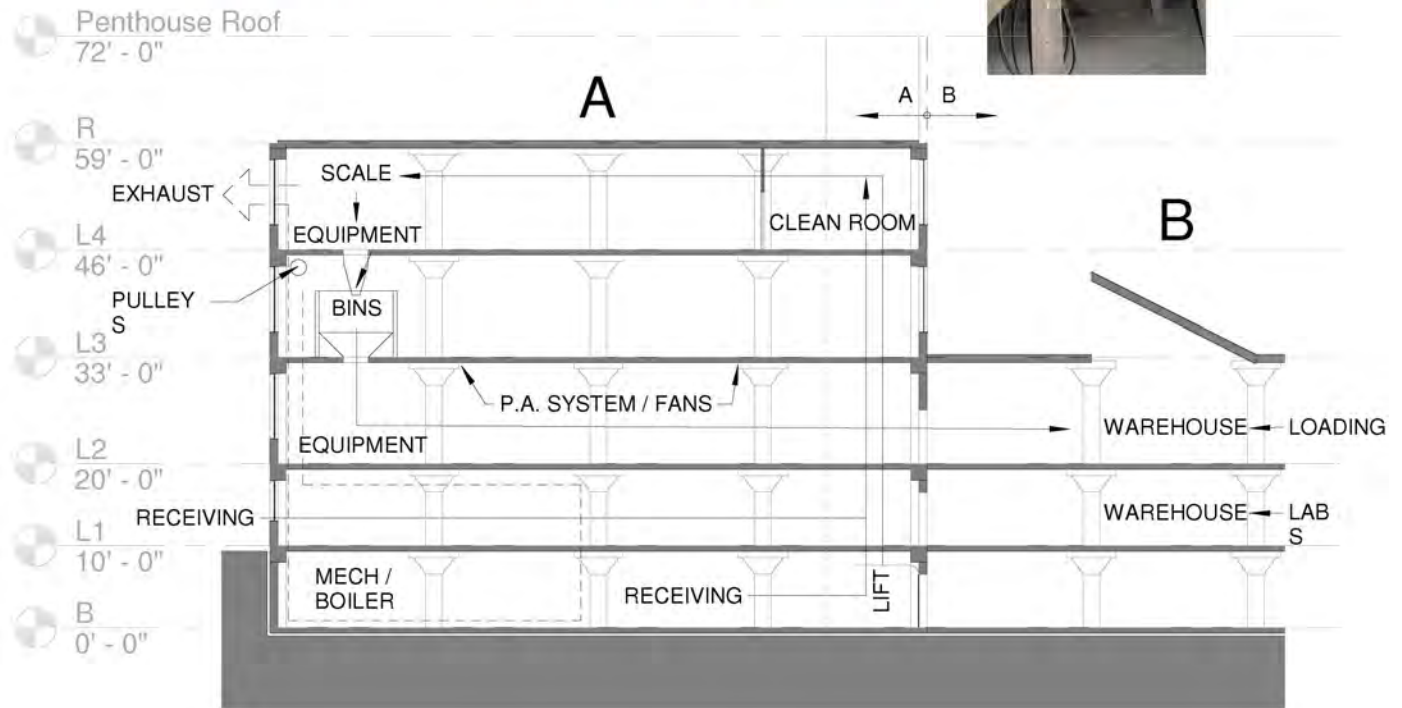
LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 12. Historic diagram in the L.D. LeGear Building: Factory agricultural processes and workflow. Photos and diagrams by Homegrown Studio, 2023.

THIRD LEVEL LOOKING EAST



THIRD LEVEL: HISTORIC PULLEYS AND EXHAUST, CONCRETE BINS



① Building Section- Workflow Looking East
 1" = 20'-0"

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 36

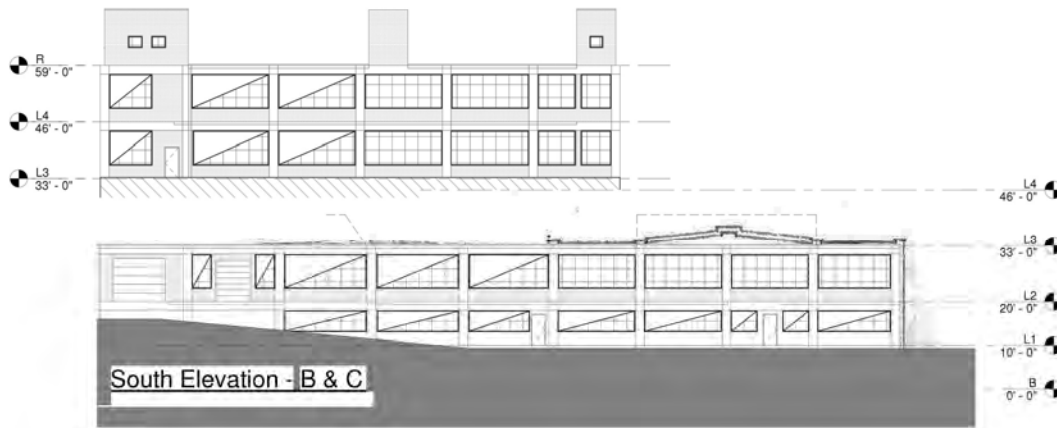
LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 13. 2023 Survey of original windows. Diagrammatic elevations by Homegrown Studio.

Original Steel Frame Window Survey - 130 total

-  Original Steel Frame Confirmed - Exposed Interior and Exterior (25)
-  Original Steel Frame Confirmed - Exposed on Interior (99)
-  Original Steel Frame Suspected - Covered Interior & Exterior (5)
-  Original Steel Frame Confirmed Gone (1)

South Elevation - A



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

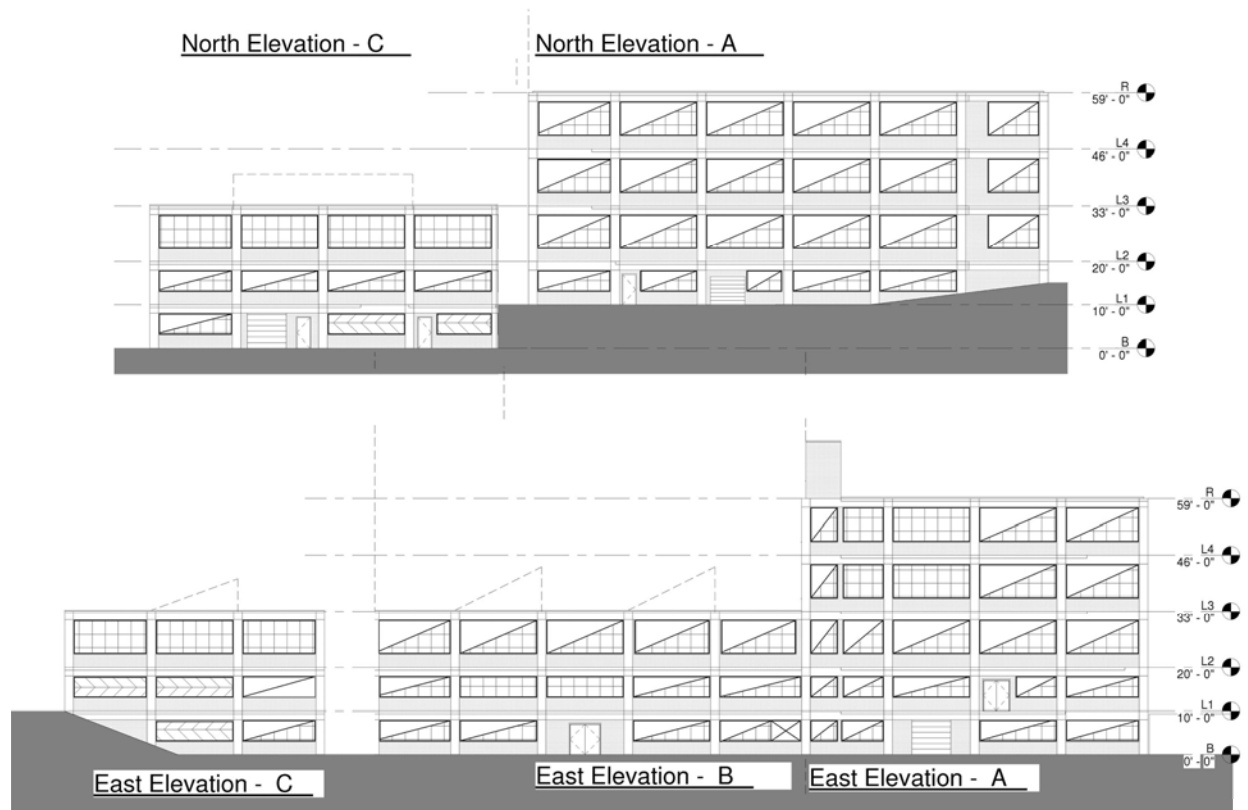
Section number Figures Page 37

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 14. 2023 Survey of original windows. Diagrammatic elevations by Homegrown Studio.

Original Steel Frame Window Survey - 130 total

-  Original Steel Frame Confirmed - Exposed Interior and Exterior (25)
-  Original Steel Frame Confirmed - Exposed on Interior (99)
-  Original Steel Frame Suspected - Covered Interior & Exterior (5)
-  Original Steel Frame Confirmed Gone (1)



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 38

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 15. Detail photos of concrete infill installation from interior. Top: Note the air cavity between steel window frames and masonry infill. Bottom: Note that modern exterior louvers are placed within the concrete blocks, and steel window frames remain intact in a parallel plane. Photos by Homegrown Studio, 2021-2022.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 39

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 16. Various covered windows from interior. All sections. Photos by Homegrown Studio, 2021-2022.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 40

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 17. Sample areas where exterior concrete block removed during eligibility assessment process. Photos by Ruth Keenoy, 2020.

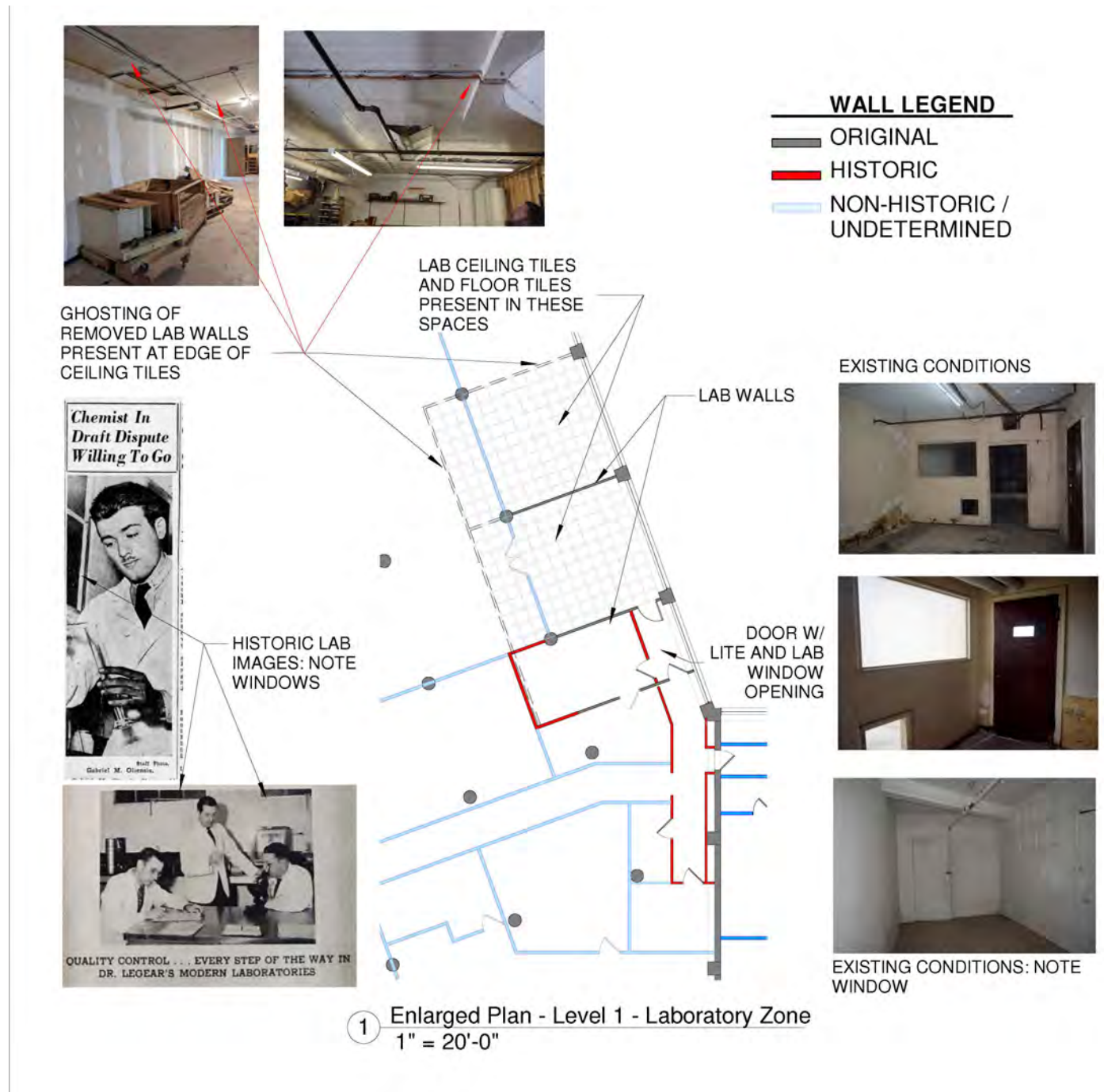


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 41

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 18. Historic elements and interior details that remain in building: laboratories on 1st floor. Photos and diagrams by Homegrown Studio, 2023.

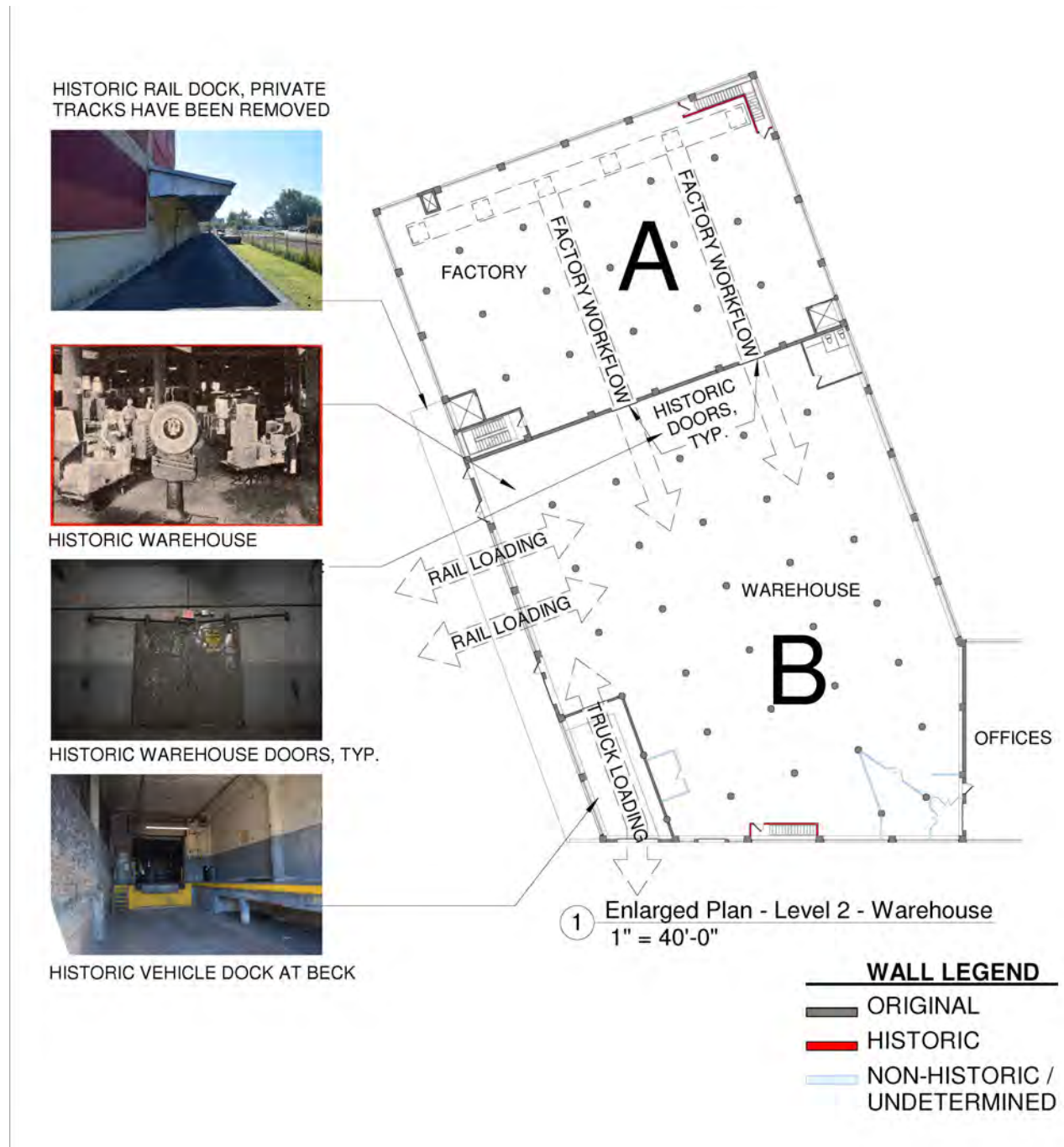


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 42

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 19. Historic elements and interior details that remain in building: factory and warehouse on 2nd floor. Photos and diagrams by Homegrown Studio, 2023.

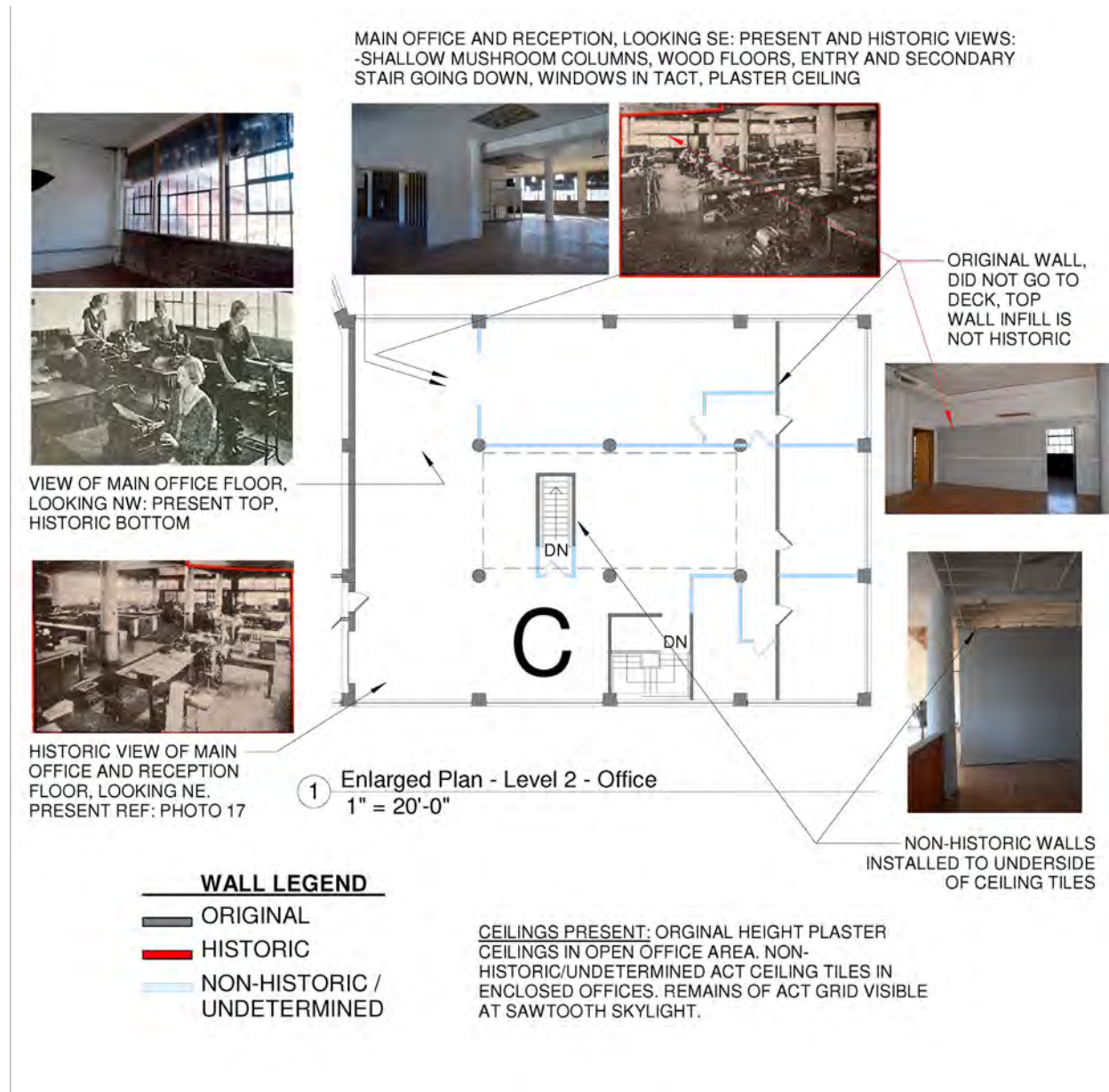


National Register of Historic Places
 Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 43

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 20. Historic elements and interior details that remain in building: main office and reception on 2nd floor. Photos and diagrams by Homegrown Studio, 2023.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 44

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 21. Illustration of LeGear facility on Beck Ave. and interior facility photos from inside cover of 1942 Poultry Manual.

Factory and a Few Interior Views of the Dr. L. D. LeGear Medicine Co.



One of the largest and best equipped plants in the world for the manufacture of Prescriptions for Live Stock, Poultry and Dogs.



Manufacturing capacity is over 150,000 packages daily.



Where packages are filled, weighed, sealed and labeled.



Office, factory and laboratory covers more than four acres of floor space.



This modern plant helps in the production of Higher Quality at Lower Cost.

Copyright 1942

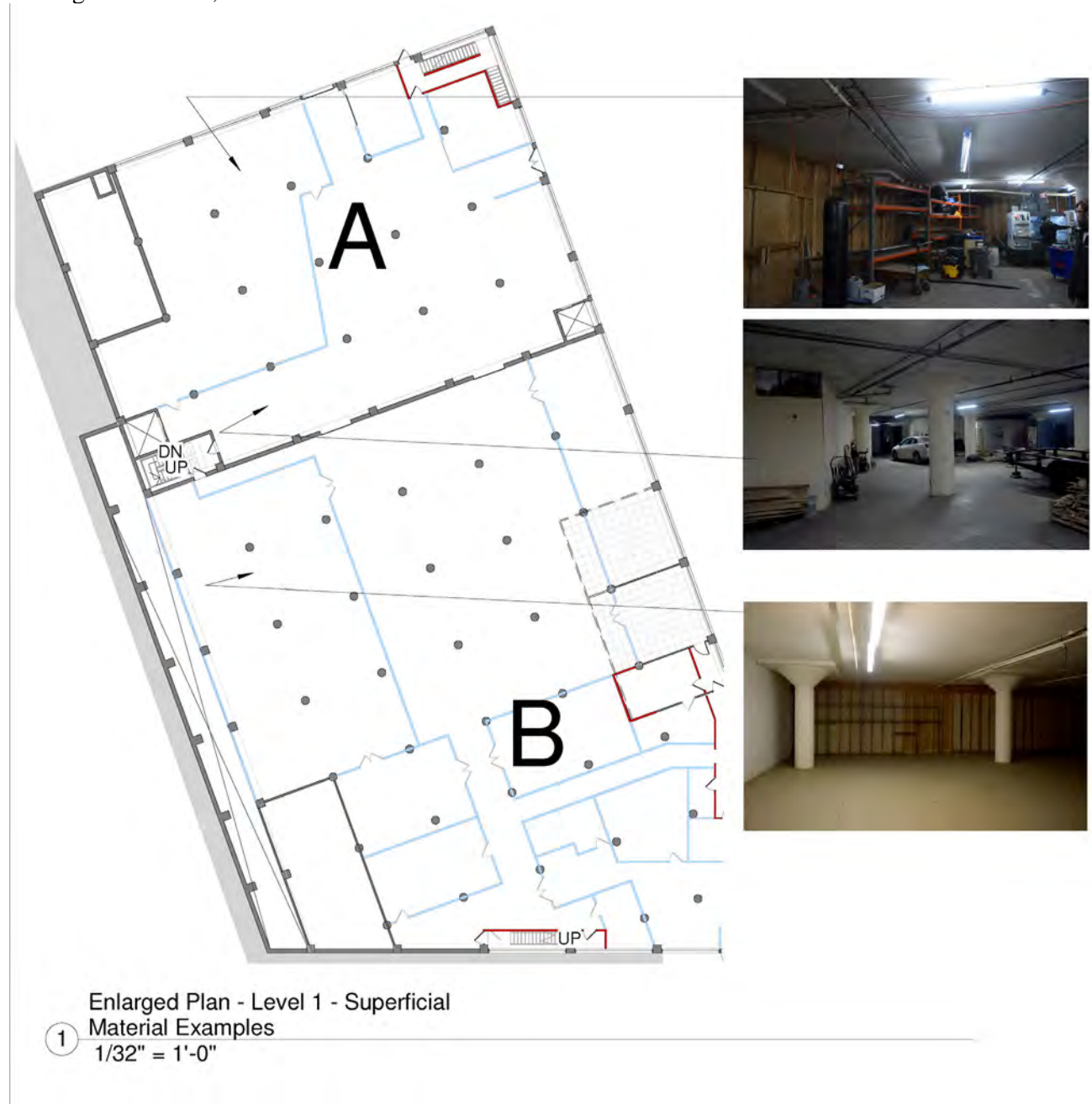
Dr. L. D. LeGear Medicine Co., St. Louis, Mo., U. S. A.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 45

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 22. Examples of nonhistoric superficial partition walls and claddings. Photos and diagrams by Homegrown Studio, 2023.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 46

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 23. The LeGear headquarters at 121-123 Congress Avenue in Austin, Texas 1902-1905. Bateman, Audray. "Dr. LeGear—Congress Avenue veterinarian." *The Austin American-Statesman*. July 24, 1976. Page B12.

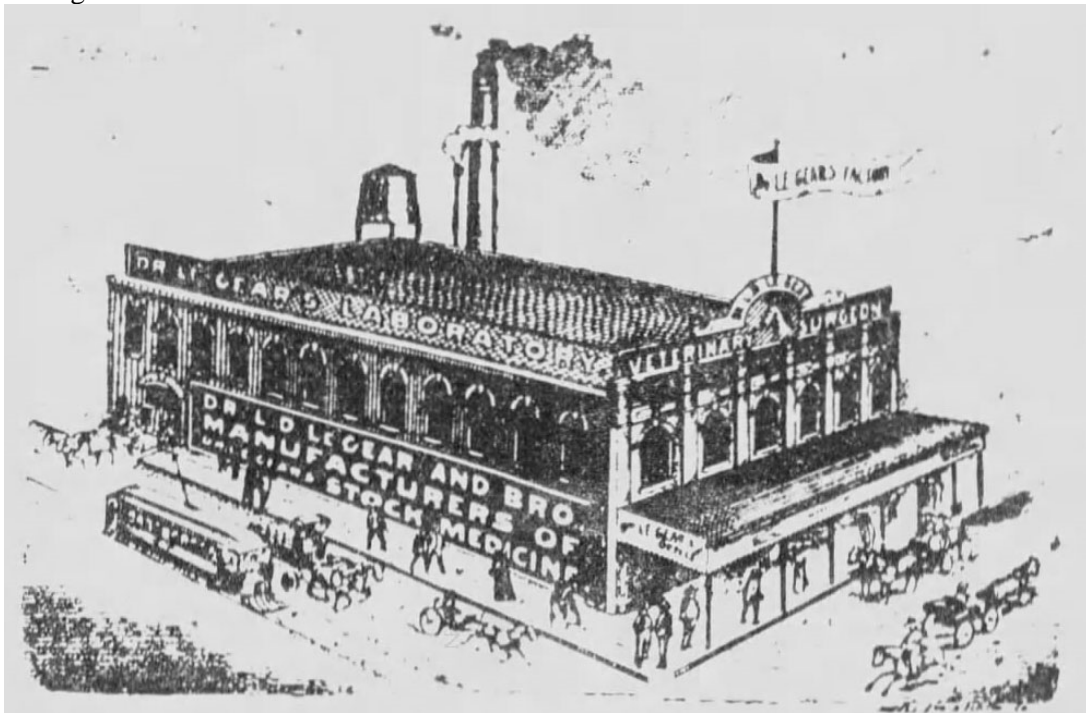


Figure 24. The LeGear headquarters at Howard and Broadway in St. Louis, MO, 1905-1917. Image clipped from form promotional letter to vendor dated November 16, 1917. Ebay.com. accessed March 22, 2021.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 47

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 25. "Building News." St. Louis Daily Record, March 10, 1920.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 48

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 26. Exterior photo of LeGear's Beck Ave. building from Livestock Manual, 1951.

**CARRYING ON
DR. LEGEAR'S
High Ideals
Of Service**

Long, conscientious study and much practical experience qualify the Dr. L. D. LeGear Medicine Company to recognize livestock conditions and needs and to develop Prescriptions, proven by actual use, to meet those needs.

From time to time, as modern, scientific research points the way, basic products are developed and marketed to aid livestock owners in the battle for disease prevention and treatment. Each one of these new products is backed by the Dr. LeGear "Satisfaction or Money Back Guarantee" in keeping with our policy of being certain that our customers are always satisfied.

Dr. L. D. LeGear, V.S.
In Surgeon's Robe
Trade Mark Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

A PIONEER in livestock, poultry and dog care, and a nationally known veterinarian. Devoted over half a century to the practical prevention and treatment of diseases affecting domestic animals. Countless livestock raisers have "looked to Dr. LeGear" for reliable assistance.

The Plant of the Dr. L. D. LeGear Medicine Company, St. Louis, Missouri, covers more than four acres of floor space. Contains most modern equipment and manufacturing capacity second to none in the business. This is one of the largest and best equipped plants in the world for the manufacture of Prescriptions for Livestock, Poultry, and Dogs.

Copyright 1951 — Dr. L. D. LeGear Medicine Company, St. Louis, Missouri

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

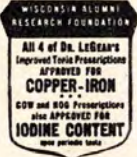
Section number Figures Page 49

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 27. Interior photo of chemists working in LeGear's Beck Ave. building from Livestock Manual, 1951



**For More Than 50 Years The
DR. LEGEAR ORGANIZATION
Has Faithfully Served Livestock Raisers**

Through the years, Dr. LeGear and his veterinarians responsible for the formulation and unfailing high quality of Dr. LeGear Prescriptions have dedicated their training, talents, and practical experience to the prevention and treatment of diseases affecting domestic animals and poultry. They know the symptoms, conditions, and needs confronting you as a livestock raiser, and are glad to have the opportunity to help you in your efforts to get good service and production, prevent losses and set-backs, and increase profits—with tested Prescriptions best adapted to particular ailments and uses—and containing the most effective ingredients known to veterinary science.



The Dr. L. D. LeGear Medicine Company has been licensed by the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation for the use of the Hart Copper - Iron Patent in *all* of Dr. LeGear's Tonic Prescriptions, and its Iodine-Stabilization Patent in Dr. LeGear's Cow and Hog Prescriptions as well.

There is no place for guess-work at any stage in the manufacture of Dr. LeGear's Prescriptions. Exhaustive tests in the laboratory and under actual farm conditions, checking and re-checking such as pictured below, are back of every formula. Each product is **proved** conclusively before it is ever offered on the market in the familiar package bearing the Trade Mark "Dr. LeGear in Surgeon's Robe". No product bearing the Dr. LeGear name can be anything but the best for the purpose intended. That pledge is backed by a **GUARANTEE OF COMPLETE SATISFACTION OR YOUR MONEY BACK.**



**QUALITY CONTROL . . . EVERY STEP OF THE WAY IN
DR. LEGEAR'S MODERN LABORATORIES**

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 50

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 28. Dr. LeGear's Poultry Manual cover, 1942.

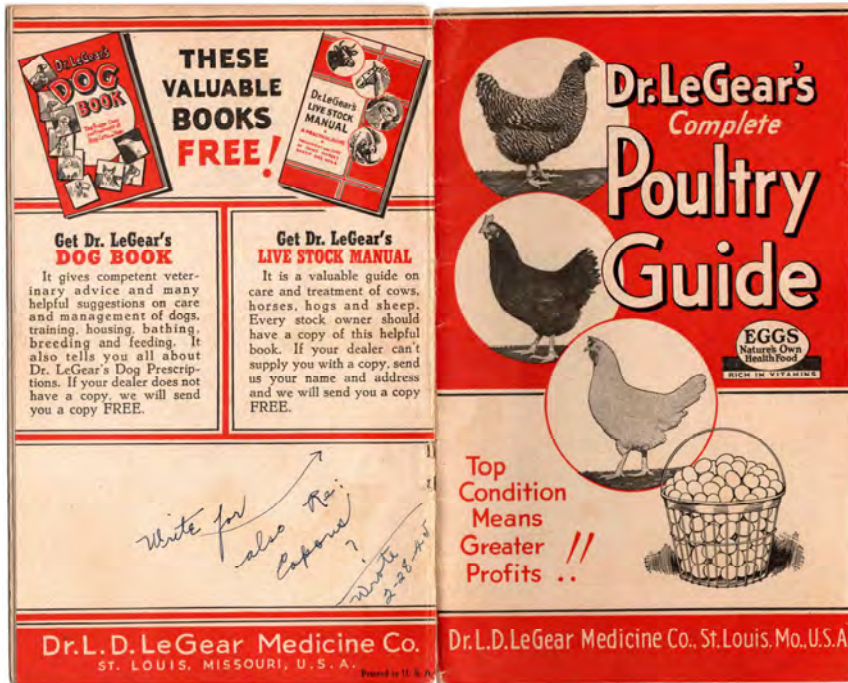


Figure 29. Dr. LeGear's Livestock Manual cover, 1951.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 51

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 30. Various Dr. LeGear products from present-day collectable market. Ebay.com and veterinarycollectibles.com. accessed March 22, 2021, and February 9, 2023.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 52

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 31. Dr. David Roberts promotional postcard. Ebay.com. accessed October, 2022.

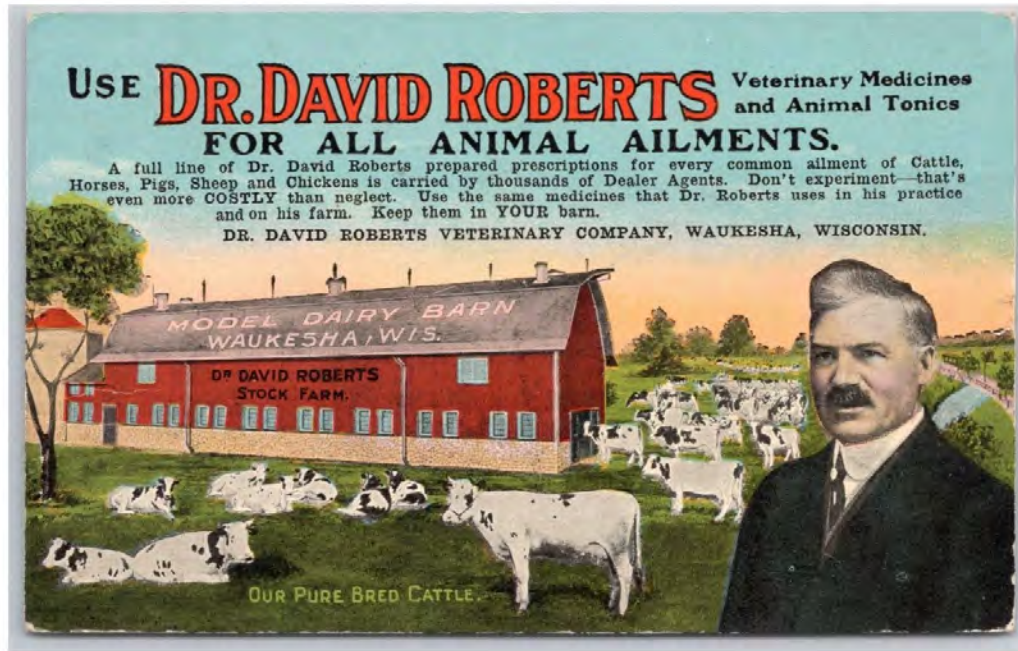


Figure 32. Pratt Food Company booklet and memorabilia. Ebay.com. accessed October, 2022.

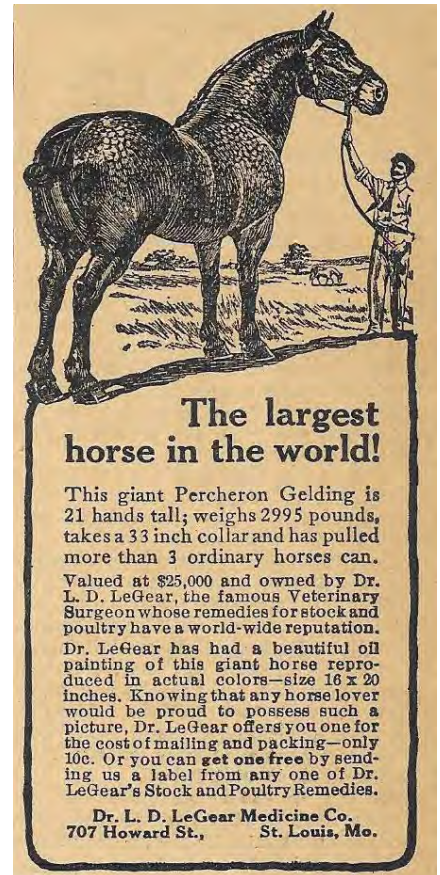
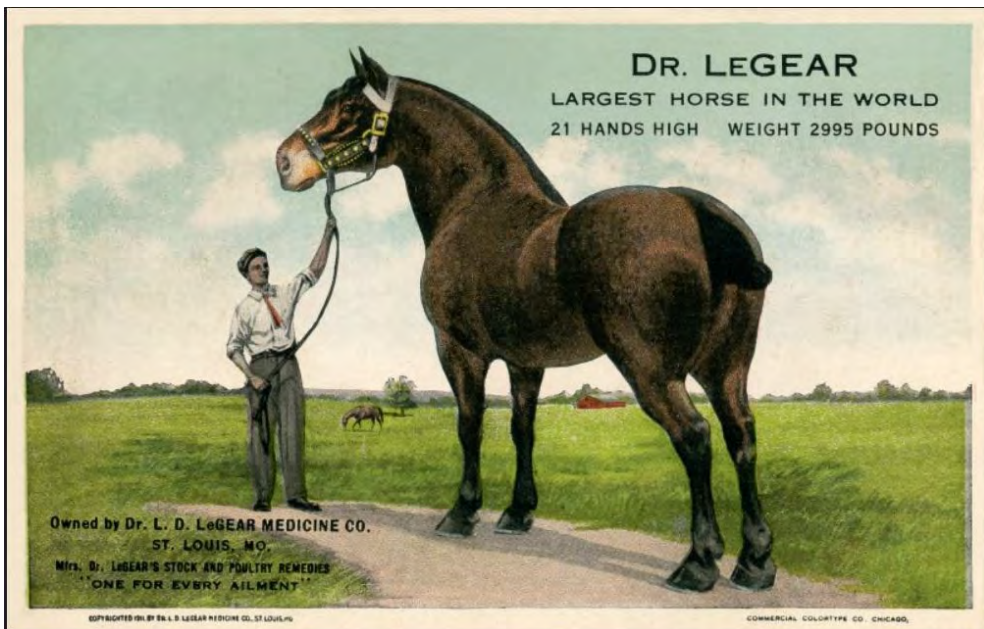


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 53

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 33. “Dr. LeGear” promotional postcard and instructions. products from present-day collectable market. Ebay.com. accessed March 22, 2021.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 54

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 34. Miscellaneous historic elements and interior details that remain at building. Top: horseshoes embedded in steps and pavement in front of (2) entrances at Beck Ave. Bottom L to R: Original commercial scale Block A 3rd floor, (ref. Figures 9 and 21), bathroom sink Block A 3rd floor, clean room Block A 4th floor. Photos by Homegrown Studio, 2022.

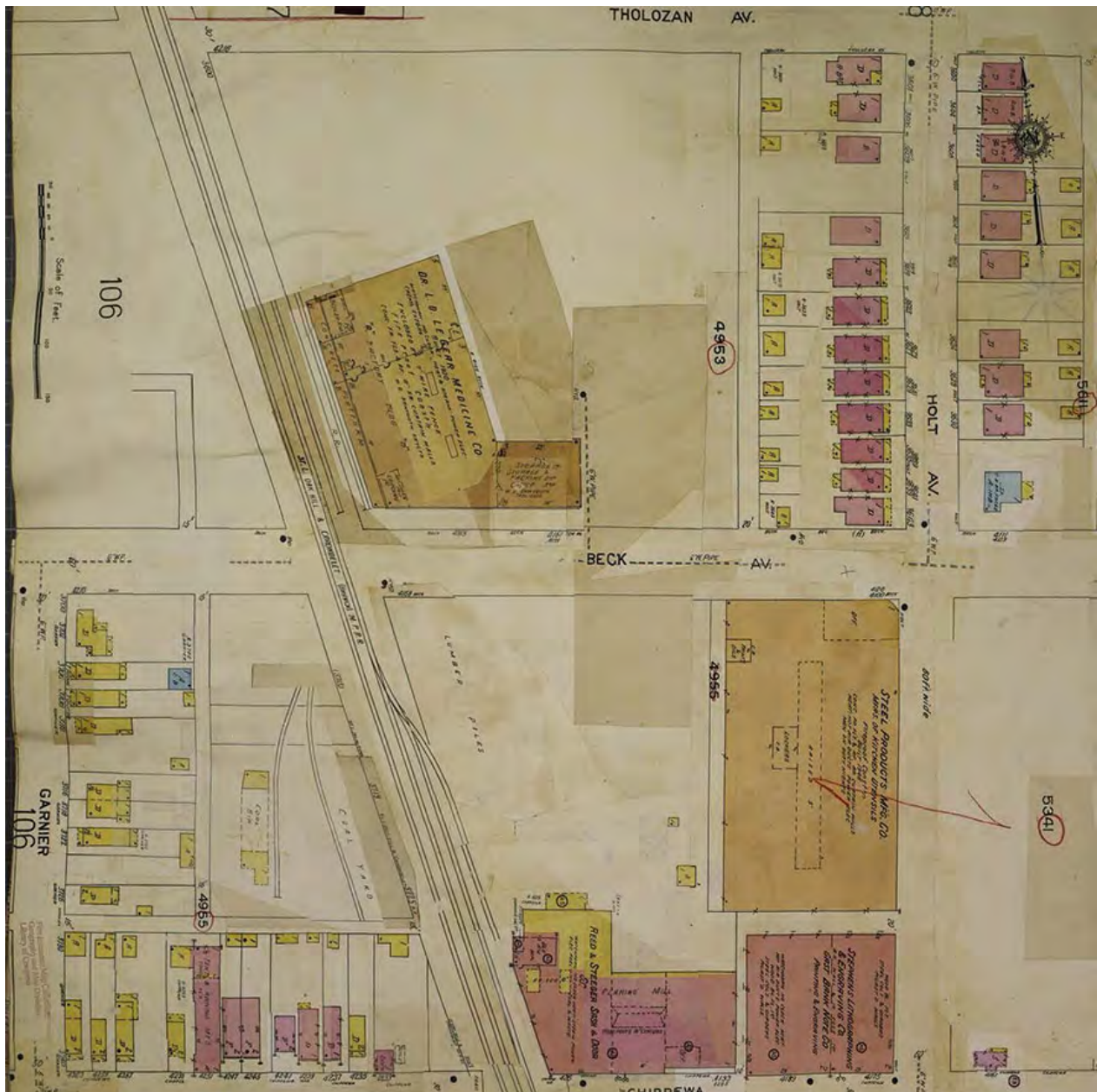


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 55

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 35. LeGear Medicine Co. building and site. Sanborn Map Co. Insurance Maps of Saint Louis, Missouri: Volume 9, Sheet 105. Published 1903, revised March 1951. North facing up.

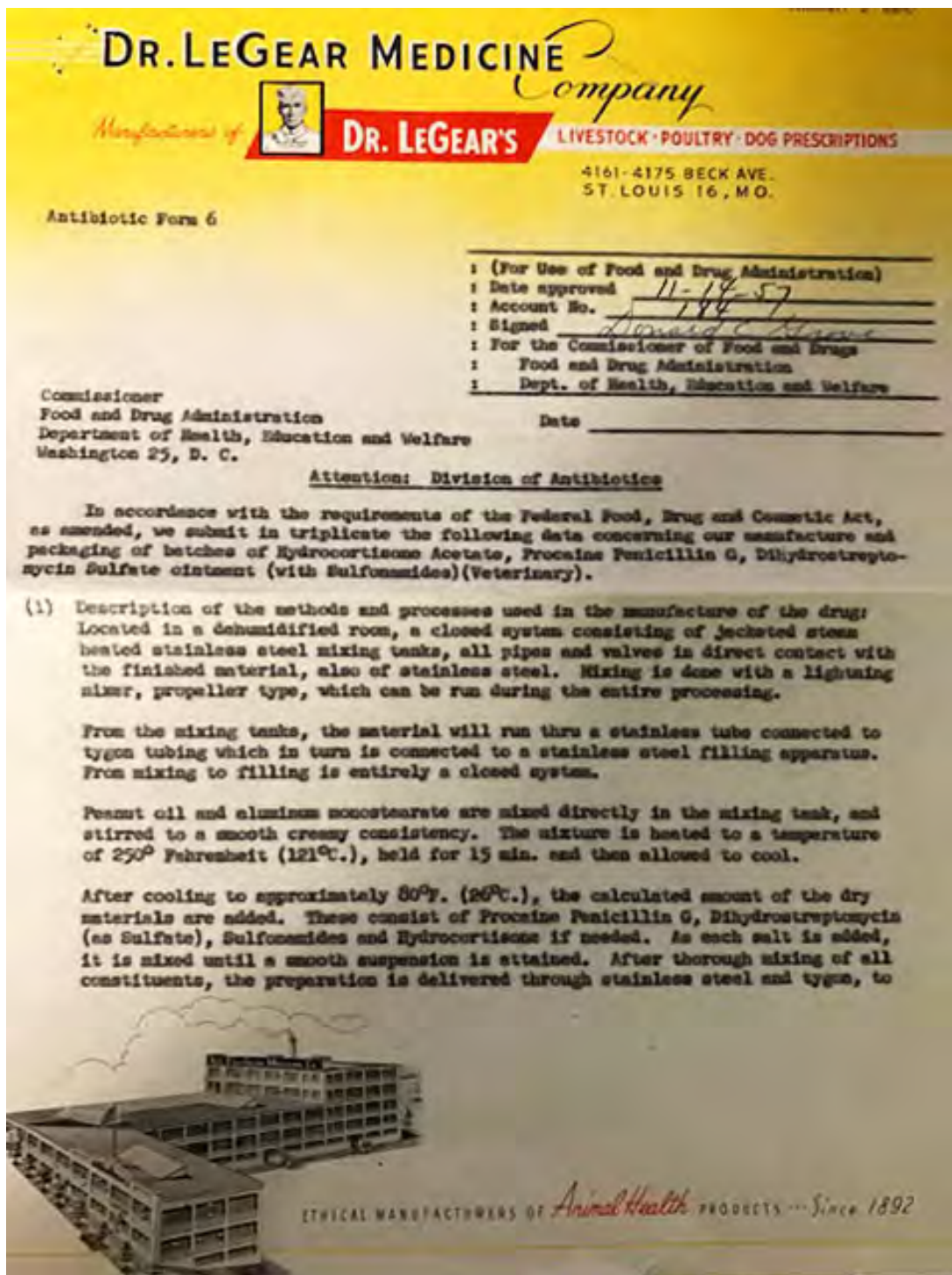


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 56

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 36. LeGear Medicine Co. application to the FDA to produce antibiotics. November 14, 1957.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 57

LeGear Medicine Company Building
Name of Property
St. Louis [Independent City] MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 37. The Luyties Pharmacial Co. Building. Photo by Homegrown Studio. February 22, 2024.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 58

LeGear Medicine Company Building

Name of Property

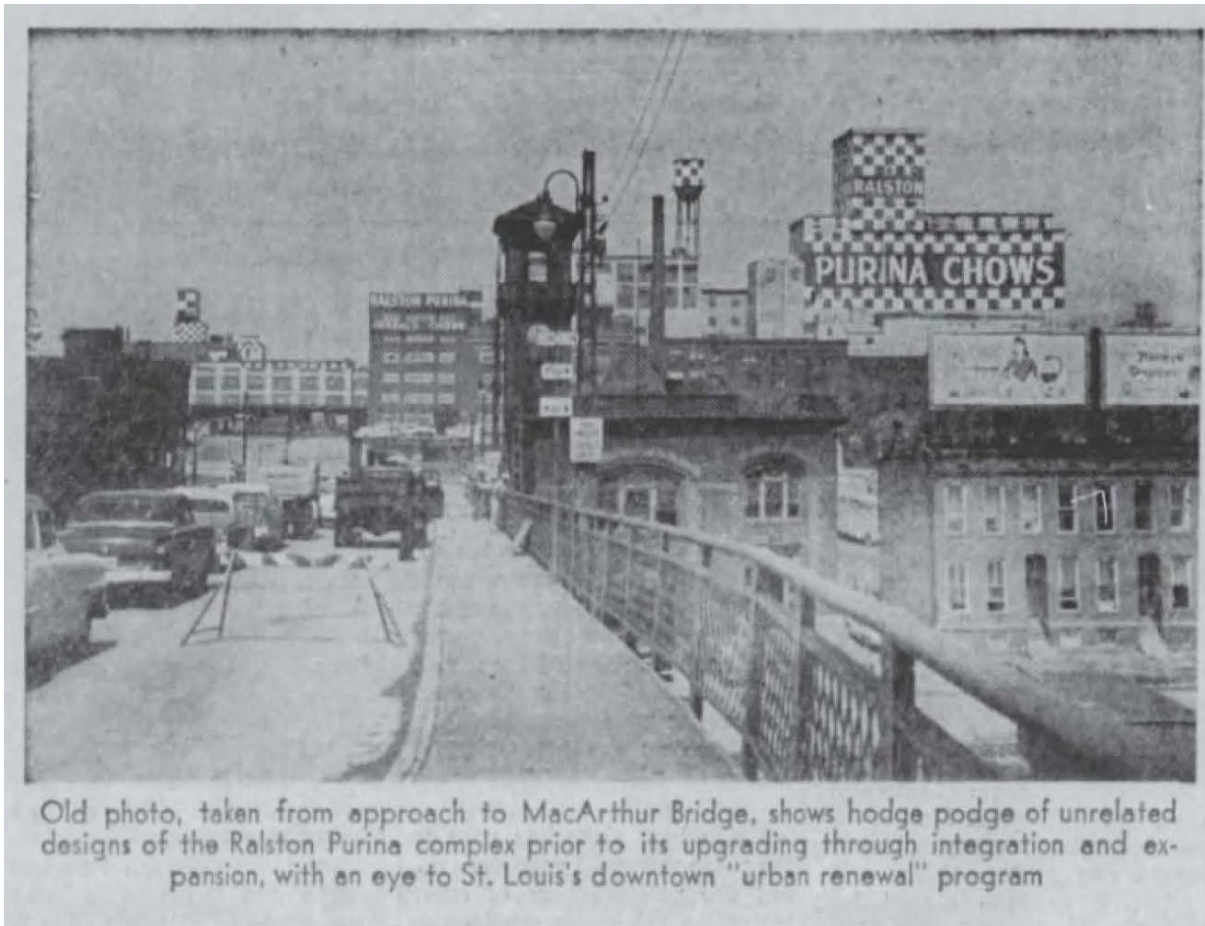
St. Louis [Independent City] MO

County and State

n/a

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 38. The Ralston Purina Complex in 1960, as seen from the MacArthur Bridge, St. Louis, MO. St. Louis Post-Dispatch. January 3, 1960.













































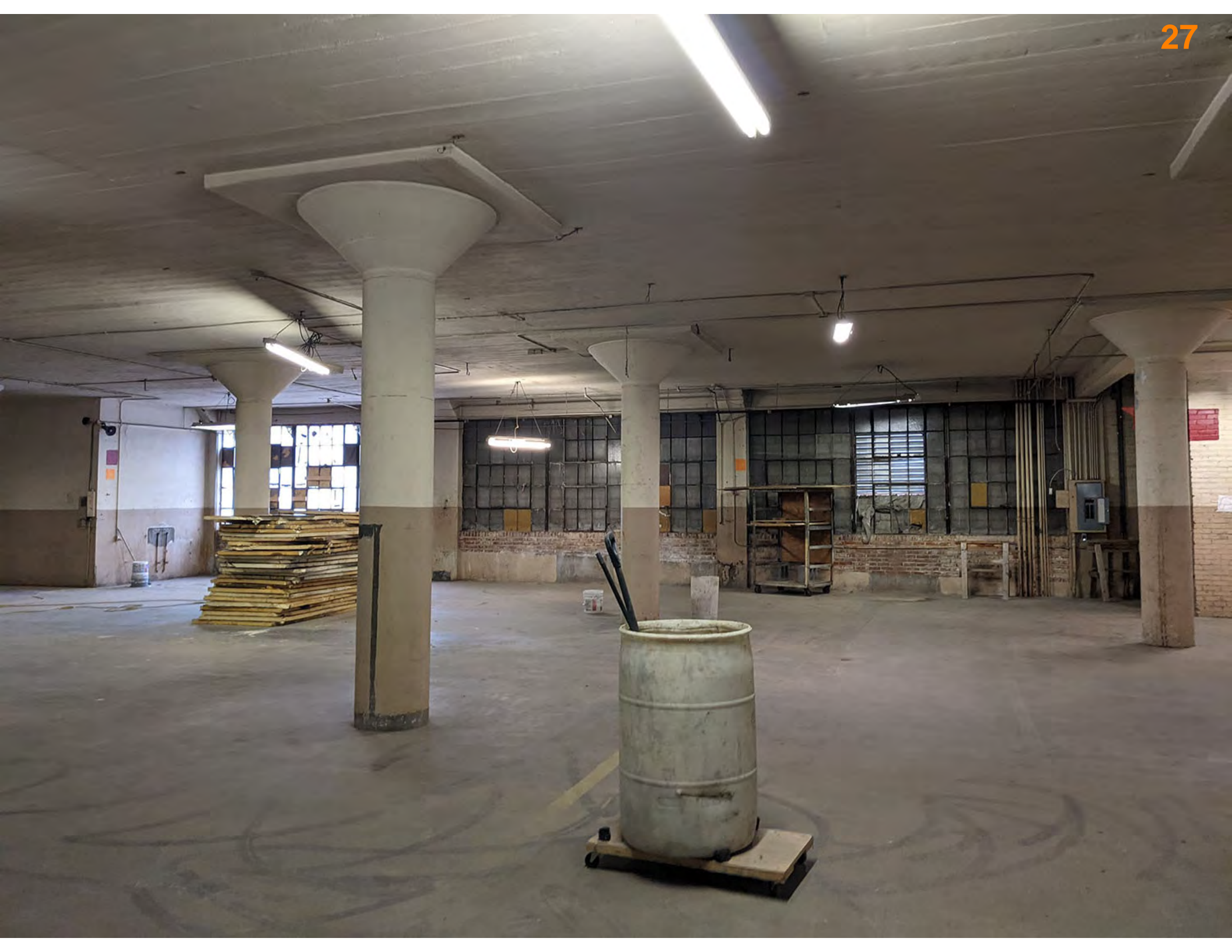




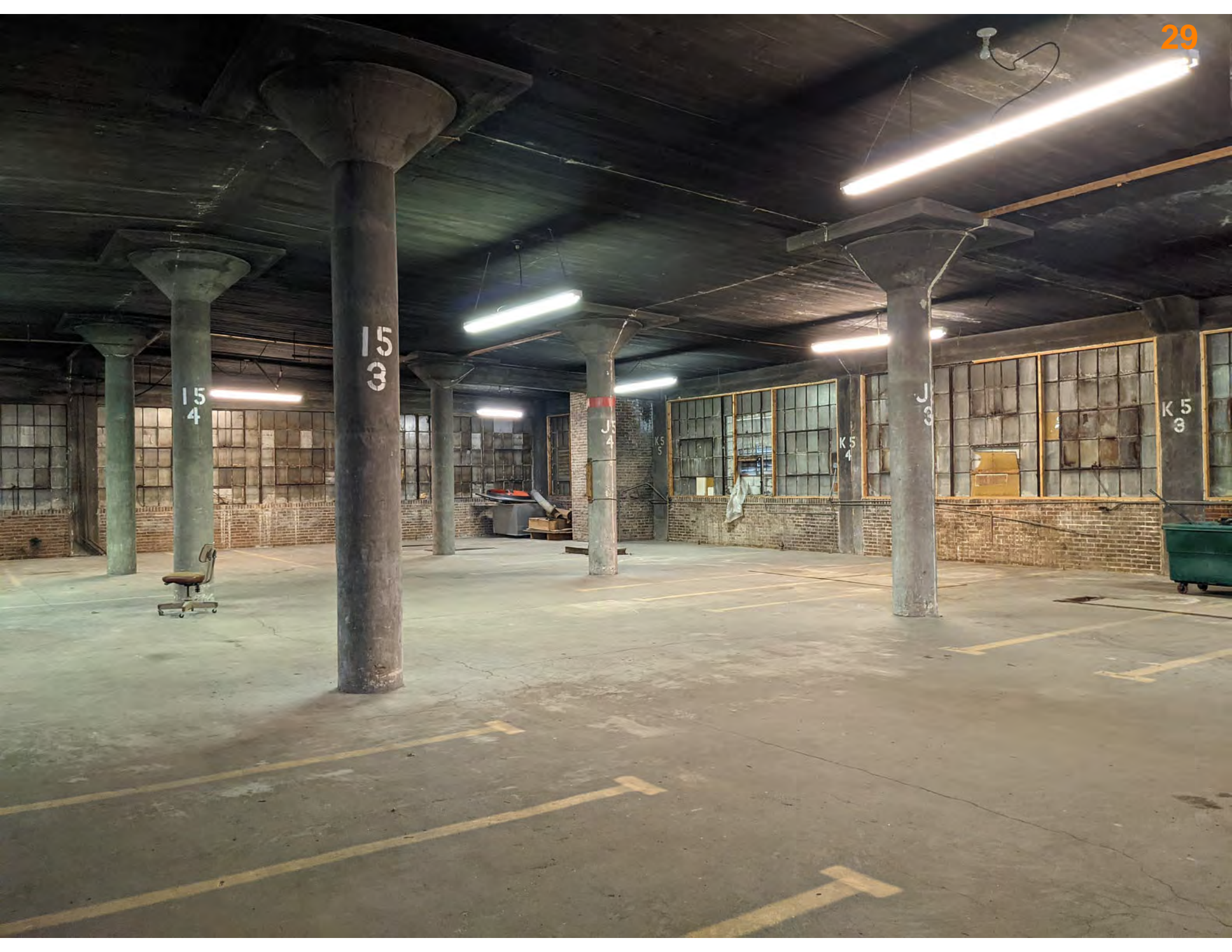












15
3

15
4

J
4

K
5

J
3

K
4

K
5
3

