

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 5475 Cabanne not for publication

city, town St. Louis vicinity of congressional district

state Missouri code 29 county City of St. Louis code 63

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial /Apts.
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name MELVIN DUBINSKY AND ASSOCIATES

street & number 721 Olive Street

city, town St. Louis vicinity of state Missouri 63101

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Louis City Hall (Copy attached.)

street & number Market Street at Tucker Boulevard

city, town St. Louis state Missouri 63103

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title VISITATION LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1974  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CDA)

city, town St. Louis state Missouri 63101

## 7. Description

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The building known as the Winston Churchill Apartments is a U-shaped red brick building eight stories high, which was constructed in 1927. Designed by the St. Louis architecture firm of Hall and Proetz, the building is located on the northeast corner of Cabanne and Belt Avenues in the west end of St. Louis. Through the use of a recessed entry, projecting wings that form the sides of the U, and a conscious effort to blend into the existing neighborhood, in spite of its height, the building represents an important development in St. Louis apartment building design.

The land upon which the building was constructed is a corner lot measuring 170 feet along Cabanne Avenue, and 202 feet along Belt to a right of way that formerly served as a trolley line. The building is situated at the sidewalk. This setback is in line with the earlier large single family houses that were constructed at the time that Cabanne Road was laid out for development during the 1880's.

The building faces a large city park that was once the site of the Visitation Academy and Convent. The once fashionable area has lost numerous buildings since 1940.

The Winston Churchill was constructed for middle and upper income people interested in living in one of St. Louis's most exclusive areas. Its setback, materials, non-institutional detailing at the first two levels and yard-like setting are all successful attempts to harmonize with its surroundings--in spite of being more than twice as high as any other building on the street.

Symmetrically divided into two projecting wings, the recessed entrance at the center of the U-shaped plan forms the main focal point of the primary facade. The entrance is marked by cut limestone enframements and restrained classical ornamentation. The drama of the entrance is heightened by the steps and wide sidewalk leading from the street to the front door. Facing the front of the building, the eye is carried up to a decorative pediment stone and brick "cap", that--if built today--would probably be called Postmodern.

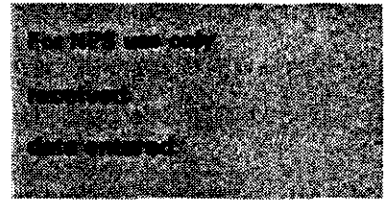
Decorative elements which tie the Cabanne elevation with the west (Belt) elevation include the cut limestone facing which extend from ground level to above the second story windows, limestone sills, multiple-light windows, and ironwork railings.

The building measures 167 feet across the widest side (rear), and 143 feet along each side.

Windows above the first level are double-hung, wood sash, that appear to be original. An early architectural rendering (attached) shows multi-light windows and shutters, but there is no indication that these were ever installed.

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In all other respects the building appears very much as it does in the rendering. No major alterations have occurred.

The west elevation, located on the sidewalk line at Belt Avenue, contains an entrance into the 90-car garage, and a small confectionery. Materials are a continuation of the primary facade: cut limestone base, red brick continuing to the top of the building, wood window sash, limestone sills, brick and limestone pediment cap.

The north and east elevations are unadorned. A small wooden addition has been added to a second story apartment.

The interior of the building, both in the public spaces and individual units, was designed to appeal to potential tenants of the middle- and upper-middle incomes. The first floor includes an exceptionally spacious lobby with two elevators, fireplace, terrazzo floors, and restrained but gracious paneling. The wing to the left once contained a tearoom and dining area for residents and passersby, part of which is now used as a storefront confectionery accessible from Belt Avenue. The other wing contained a large meeting room. The three-room and studio apartments remain essentially unchanged, and still retain most of their original features, including oak flooring and wide base moulding.

The building is constructed of concrete forms, floors and walls, with 12" brick curtain walls. It is structurally in good condition.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1927

Builder/Architect HALL & PROETZ & ASSOCIATES

### Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

The Winston Churchill Apartments on the northeast corner of Cabanne and Belt Avenues are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria C, and are significant in the category of Architecture. The building is a well-preserved example of St. Louis apartment house design during its transition from traditional to modern. Designed in 1927 by the well-known St. Louis architecture firm of Hall and Proetz, the building is distinguished by its restrained classical ornamentation, use of indigenous materials, and successful blending of an eight-story building into an area of single family residences.

The Winston Churchill Apartments are located in the Cabanne district of the city's Central West End, an area historically defined by Kingshighway, Martin Luther King Drive, Delmar Boulevard and Union. In 1877, Dr. J. S. Cabanne built a road from Union to De Hodiamont north of Delmar, dedicated the strip and its improvements to the public, and prepared for development of large houses for some of the city's finest families. The architectural styles included Gothic, "St. Louis Tudor", Italian Renaissance, and Georgian in the same mix that is found on other Central West End streets.<sup>1</sup> Shortly after the building's construction, the area's residents began moving westward as population patterns changed, and many of the earlier buildings were demolished.

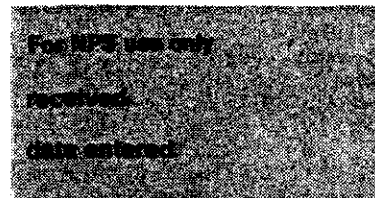
Among the architects who were earning respected reputations for residential and apartment design was the firm of Hall and Proetz, most notably Victor Proetz, who formed a partnership with Ralph Cole Hall in 1924 and continued an active practice for ten years.<sup>2</sup> Proetz's concern with residential design carried through to interior design, furniture, and the decorative arts, which culminated in exhibits held in New York and St. Louis beginning in 1937. A catalog accompanying the New York show also discussed Proetz's desire to "form a transition between the spirit of the past and that of today."<sup>3</sup>

The catalog describes the firm's work as "domestic," and the adaptation of native forms which was developed so skillfully by him and his partner, Ralph Cole Hall, in their residence work has had an extremely happy effect upon the more recent domestic architecture of the whole St. Louis area."

After 1937, Proetz broadened his repertoire and produced over two thousand designs for furniture, textiles, ceramics, lighting fixtures, glass, etc., while continuing his architectural practice in several American cities and in London.

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Ralph C. Hall attained somewhat of an international reputation after ending the partnership in 1934. After World War II he became Chief of the Department of Design for the State Department in Washington, D.C., and designed embassies in Peru, Iran and Rome. Locally he is credited with the design of Country Day School and the Peabody Coal Building.

The Winston Churchill Apartments appeared in St. Louis at a time when apartment living had become accepted and popular, with the Central West End offering the widest variety of styles and sizes to choose from in the city. There was considerable resistance to the idea of apartment living around the turn of the century, since efforts at multi-family living at that time consisted of row houses and flats--a form that many St. Louisans found unpleasant and ugly.<sup>5</sup>

The building was named for popular St. Louis author Winston Churchill, who wrote several best-selling novels. He had no personal connection with the building.

Footnotes

<sup>1</sup>West End Word. 15 September 1984.

<sup>2</sup>St. Louis Globe-Democrat. 15 February 1977.

<sup>3</sup>Architecture and the Decorative Arts. St Louis City Art Museum.  
p.8.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid.

<sup>5</sup>St. Louis Builder. December, 1904, n.p.

<sup>6</sup>New York Sunday News. 5 October 1947.

<sup>7</sup>St. Louis Globe-Democrat. 27 October 1946.

<sup>8</sup>Ibid.

<sup>9</sup>St. Louis Globe-Democrat. 1 March 1947.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Clayton, Mo.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UMT References

A 

1	5	7	3	7	0	1	0	1	0	4	2	8	2	2	4	1	0
Zone	Easting				Northing												

B 

Zone	Easting				Northing												

C 

Zone	Easting				Northing												

D 

Zone	Easting				Northing												

E 

Zone	Easting				Northing												

F 

Zone	Easting				Northing												

G 

Zone	Easting				Northing												

H 

Zone	Easting				Northing												

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The Winston Churchill Apartments are located in St. Louis City Block 3866 and are situated in lots 29, 30, and 31 in Block 3-N of Cabanne's Subdivision. The building runs 170 feet along Cabanne and 202 feet along Belt.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title CAROL B. COREY

organization FOURSQUARE PRODUCTIONS date 09/30/84

street & number 3612 North 19th Street telephone (314) 241-5374

city or town St. Louis state Missouri 63107

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*John Karel*  
John Karel, Director & Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

title Division of Parks and Historic Preservation

date 2-20-85

For HCRRS use only:

Elementary certifying that this property is included in the National Register

date:

Director of the National Register

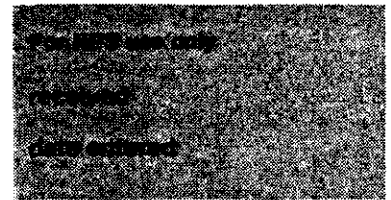
Assistant

date:

Chief of Registration

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
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Continuation sheet WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS Item number 9

Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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St. Louis Globe-Democrat. 15 December 1964.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. 15 February 1977.

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West End Word. September 15, 1984.

Whiffen, Marcus. American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles. Cambridge, Ma. MIT Press, 1969.

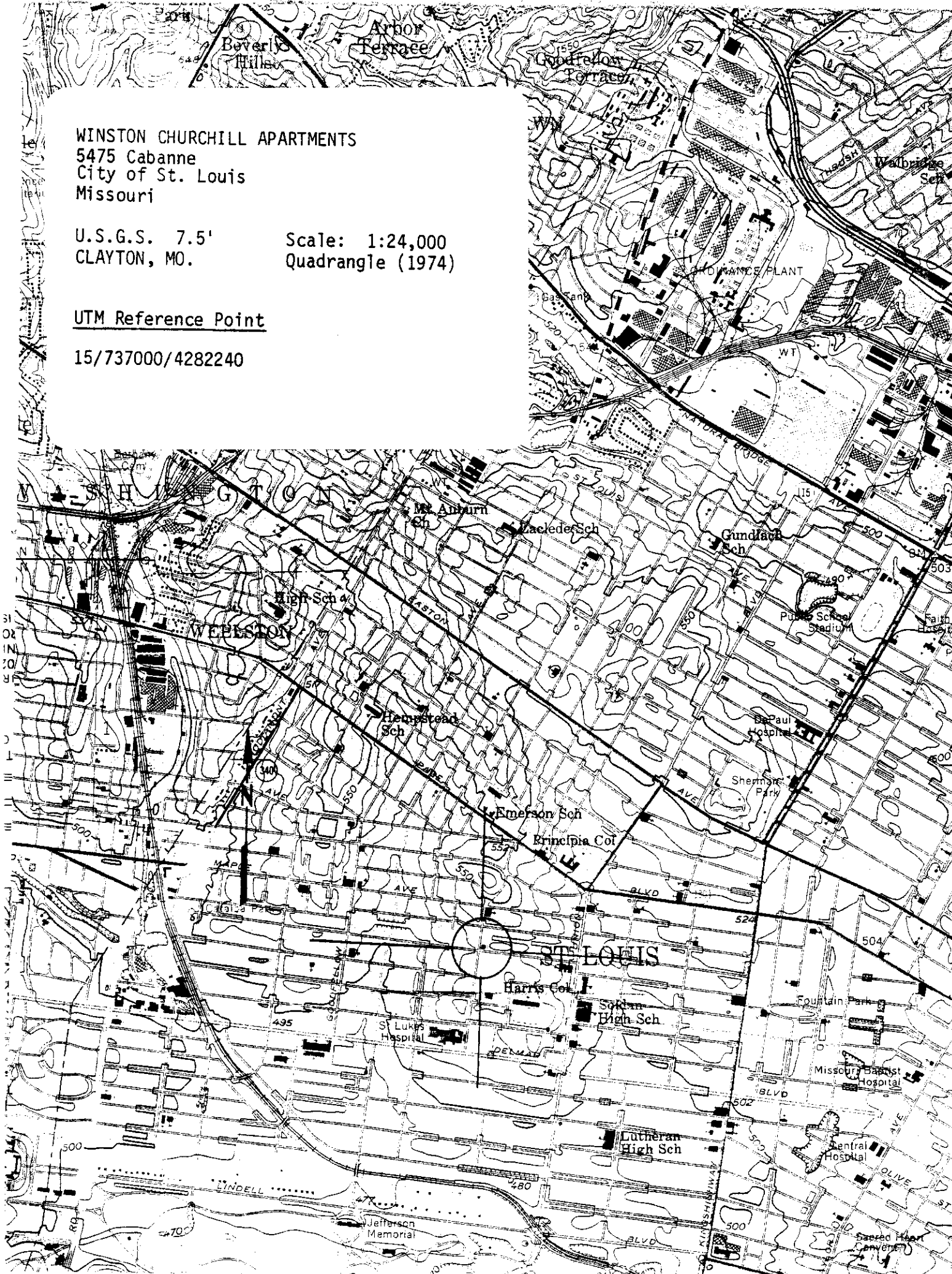
WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS  
5475 Cabanne  
City of St. Louis  
Missouri

U.S.G.S. 7.5'  
CLAYTON, MO.

Scale: 1:24,000  
Quadrangle (1974)

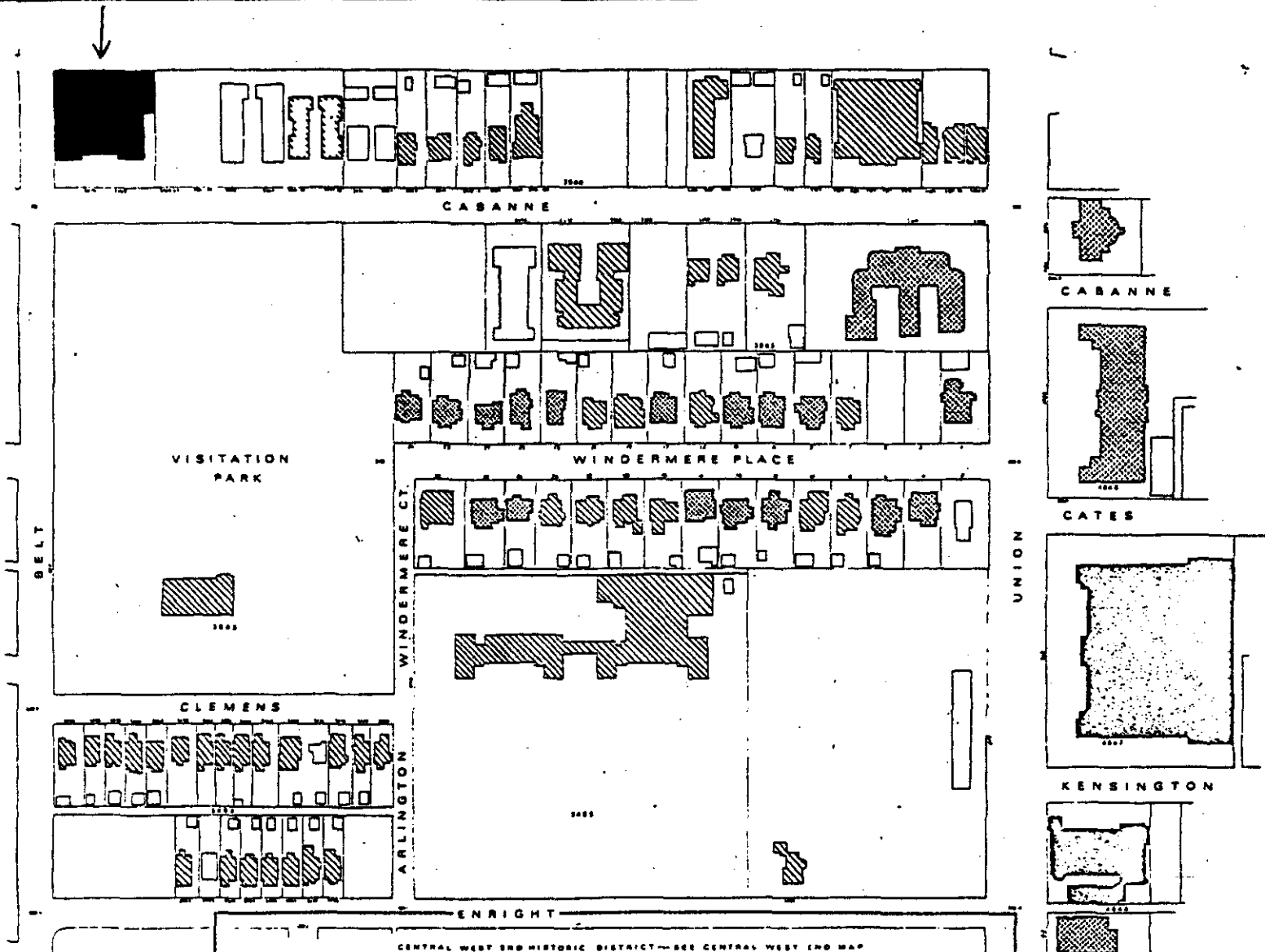
UTM Reference Point

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WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS  
 5475 CABANNE AVENUE  
 ST. LOUIS CITY, MISSOURI



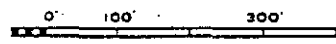
# ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY OF VISITATION PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT

## HERITAGE / ST. LOUIS

722 CHESTNUT - ROOM 221 - ST. LOUIS, MO. 63101

### LEGEND:

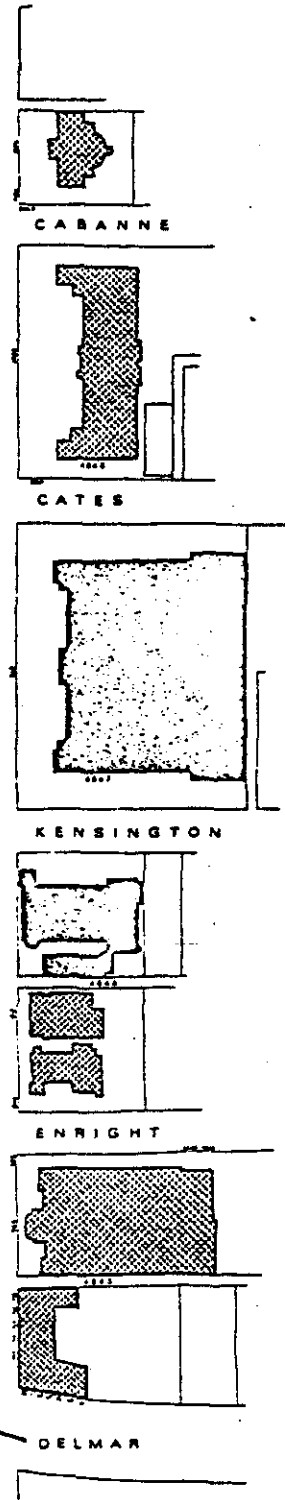
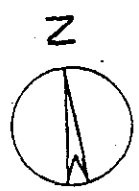
- MOST SIGNIFICANT ARCHITECTURALLY
- ARCHITECTURALLY SIGNIFICANT
- ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST FOR NEIGHBORHOOD
- LITTLE OR NO ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST
- VANDALIZED OR BURNED

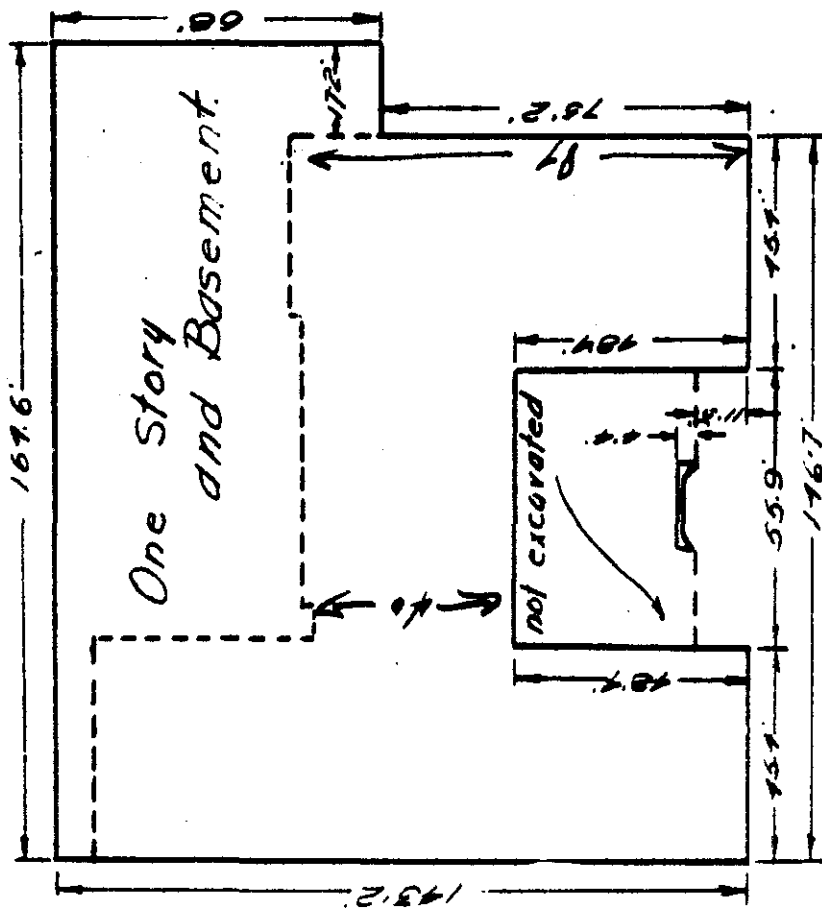


OCTOBER 1974

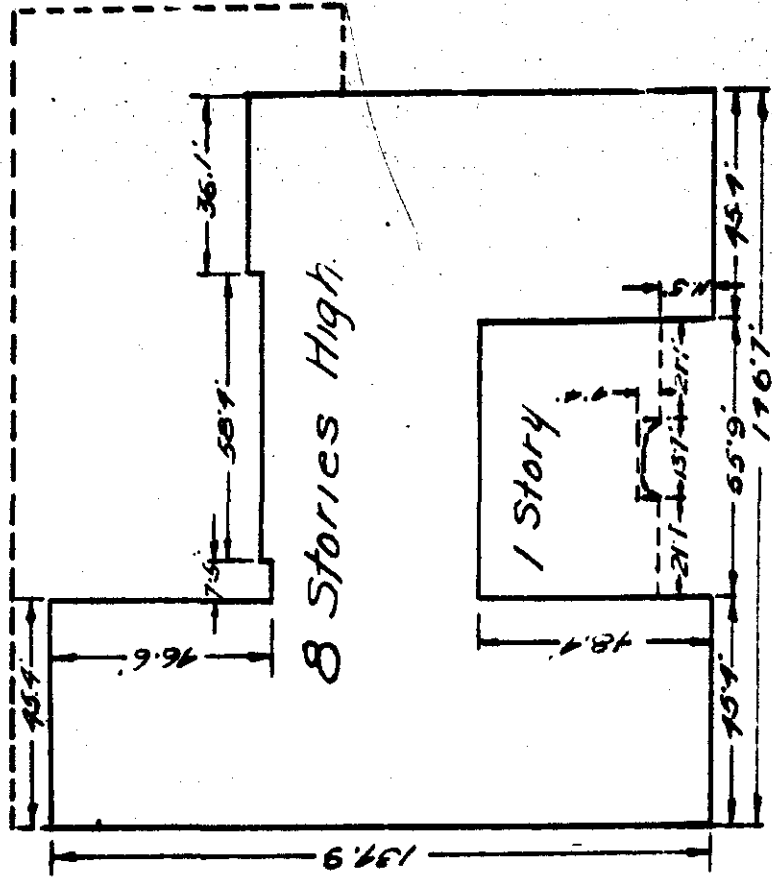
BY WEA-AR-02-004-02-00-000

PREPARATION OF THIS SURVEY WAS  
 AIDED BY MATCHING FUNDS FROM  
 THE STATE OF MISSOURI DEPARTMENT  
 OF NATURAL RESOURCES





Basement Plan



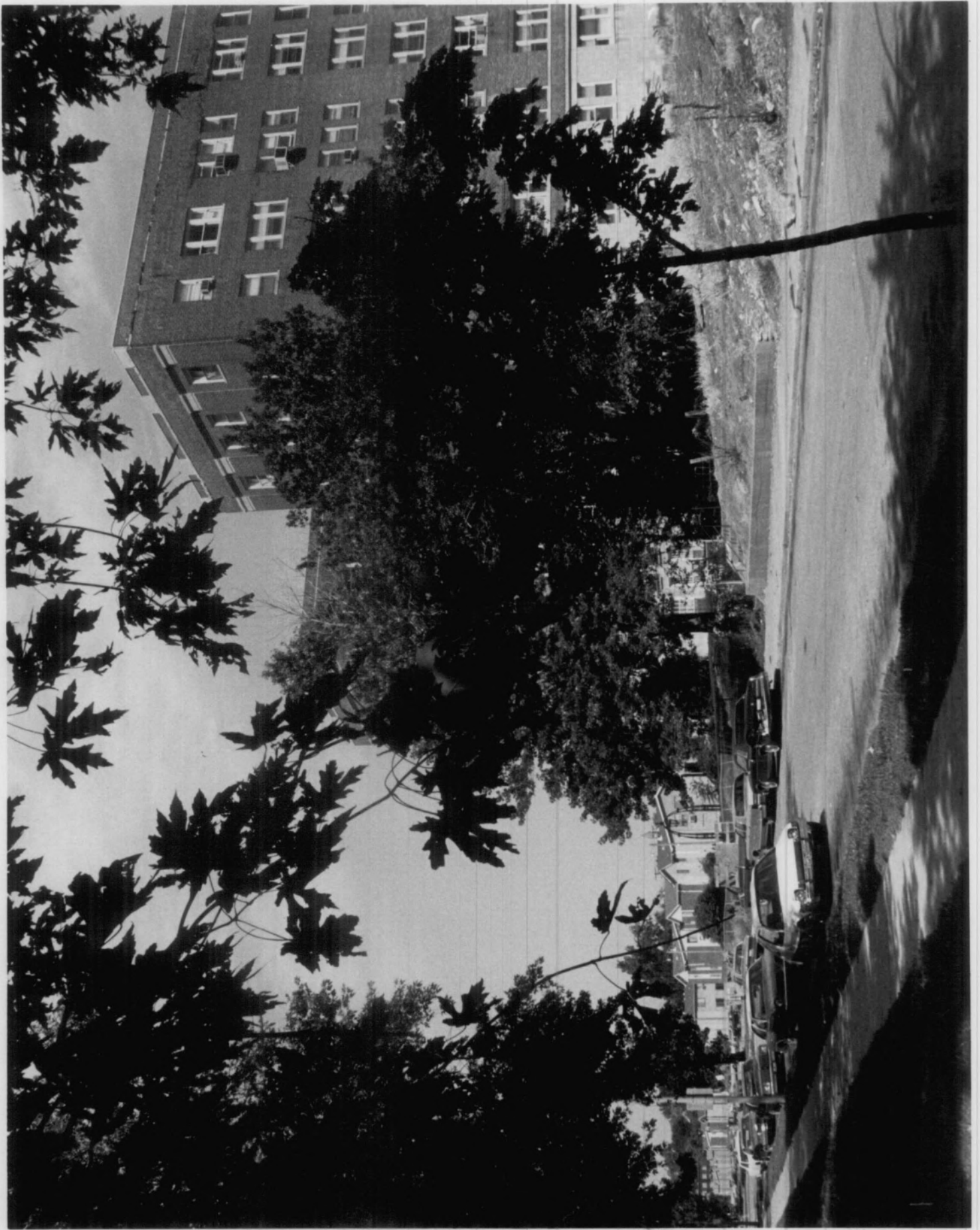
Typical Plan

WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS  
 5475 CABANNE AVENUE  
 ST. LOUIS CITY, MISSOURI  
 (Perm. 561.6)

WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS 1 of 12  
5475 Cabanne Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri

Photographer: Carol Corey  
Date: Sept., 1984  
Neg. Loc.: 3612 N. 19th Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63107

View of street from east



WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS 2 of 12  
5475 Cabanne Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri

Photographer: Carol Corey  
Date: Sept., 1984  
Neg. Loc.: 3612 N. 19th Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63107

View of front and side from west



WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS      3 of 12  
5475 Cabanne Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri

Photographer: Carol Corey  
Date: Sept., 1984  
Neg. Loc.: 3612 N. 19th Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63107

View of front elevation, facing north

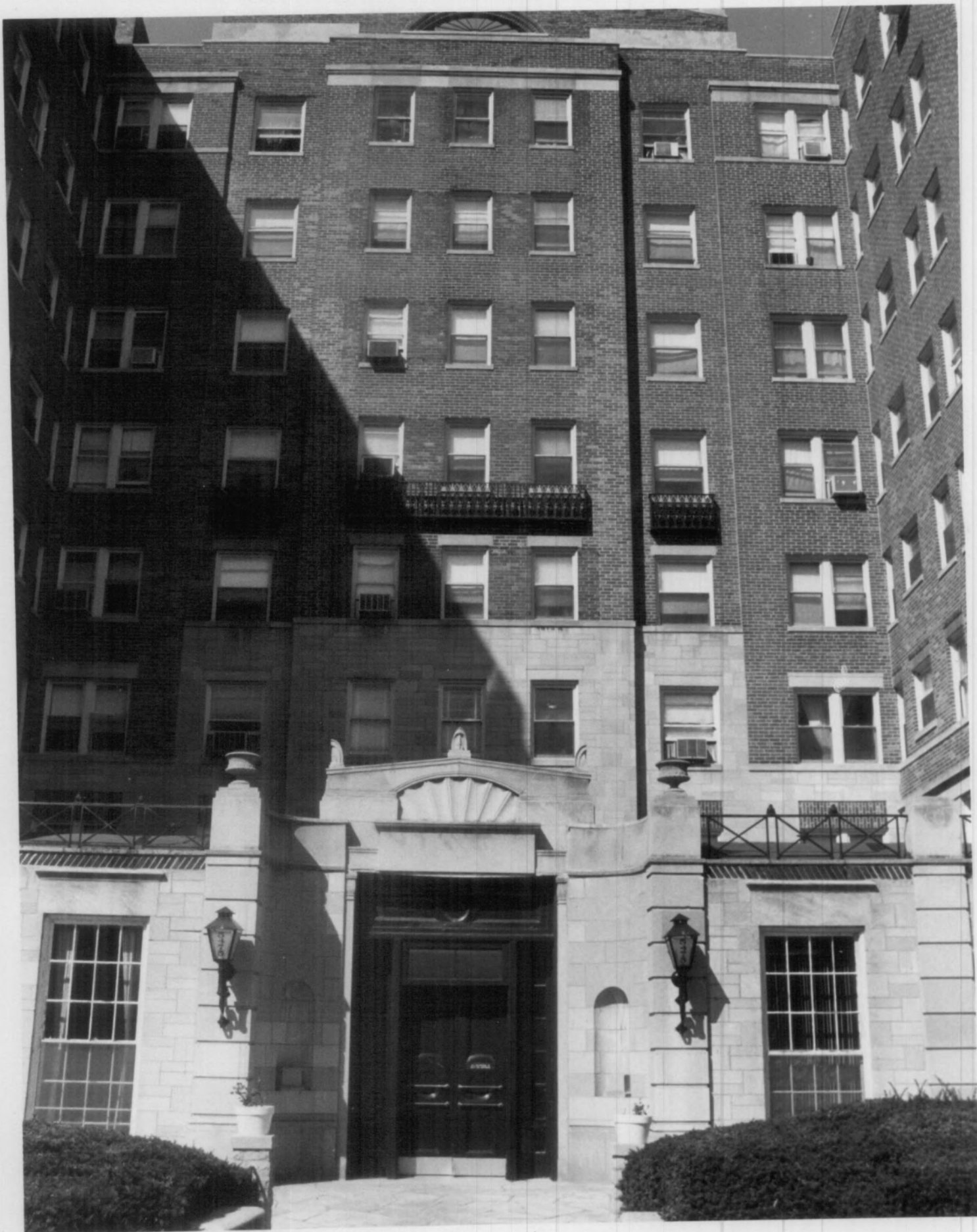




WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS 4 of 12  
5475 Cabanne  
St. Louis, Missouri

Photographer: Carol Corey  
Date: Sept., 1984  
Neg. Loc.: 3612 N. 19th Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63107

Center portion, front elevation



WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS      5 of 12  
5475 Cabanne Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri

Photographer: Carol Corey  
Date: Sept., 1984  
Neg. Loc.: 3612 N. 19th Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63107

View of rear, facing south



WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS 6 of 12  
5475 Cabanne Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri

Photographer: Carol Corey  
Date: Sept., 1984  
Neg. Loc.: 3612 N. 19th Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63107

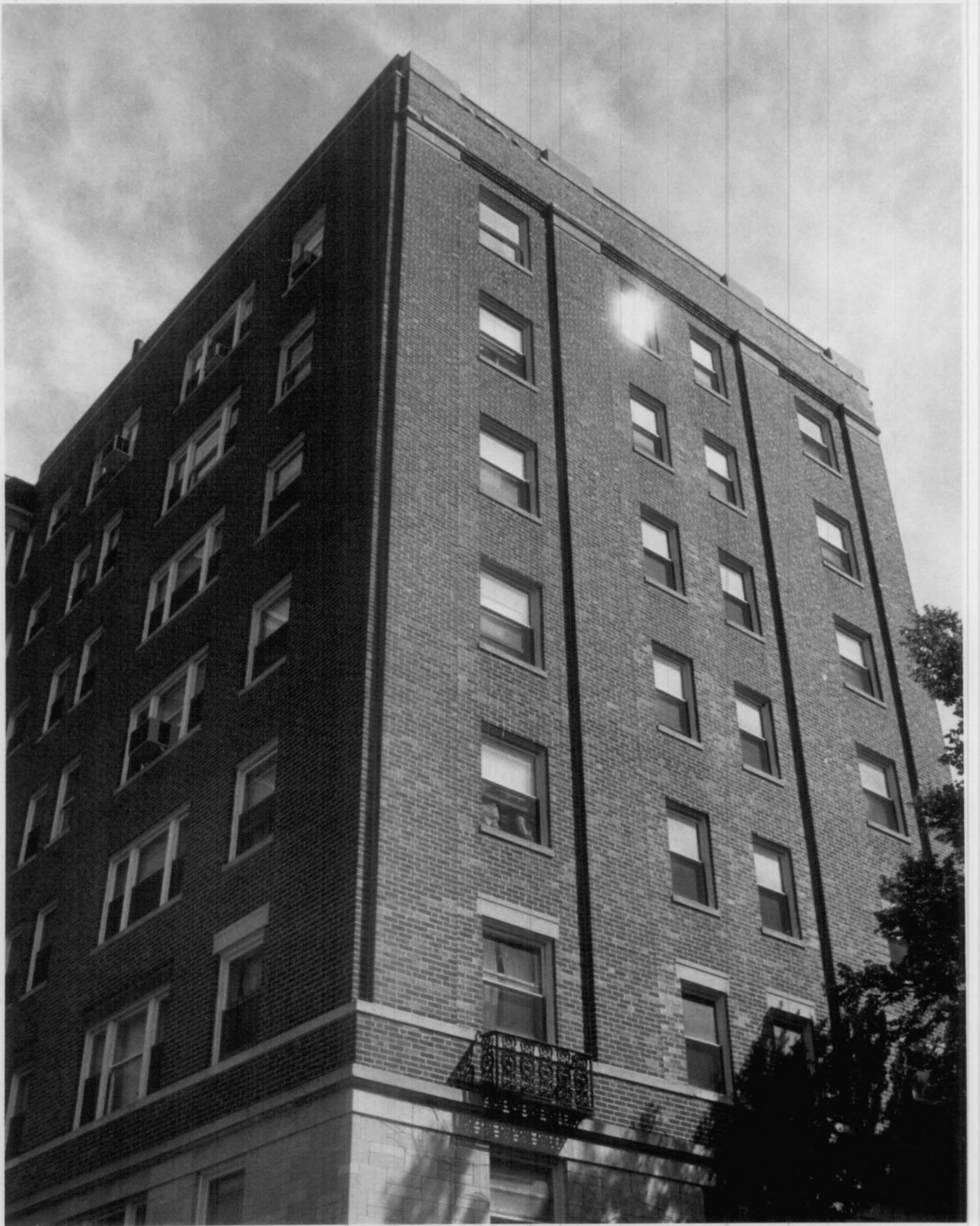
Side elevation facing west



WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS      7 of 12  
5475 Cabanne Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri

Photographer: Carol Corey  
Date:                Sept., 1984  
Neg. Loc.:         3612 N. 19th Street  
                         St. Louis, Missouri 63107

Northwest corner

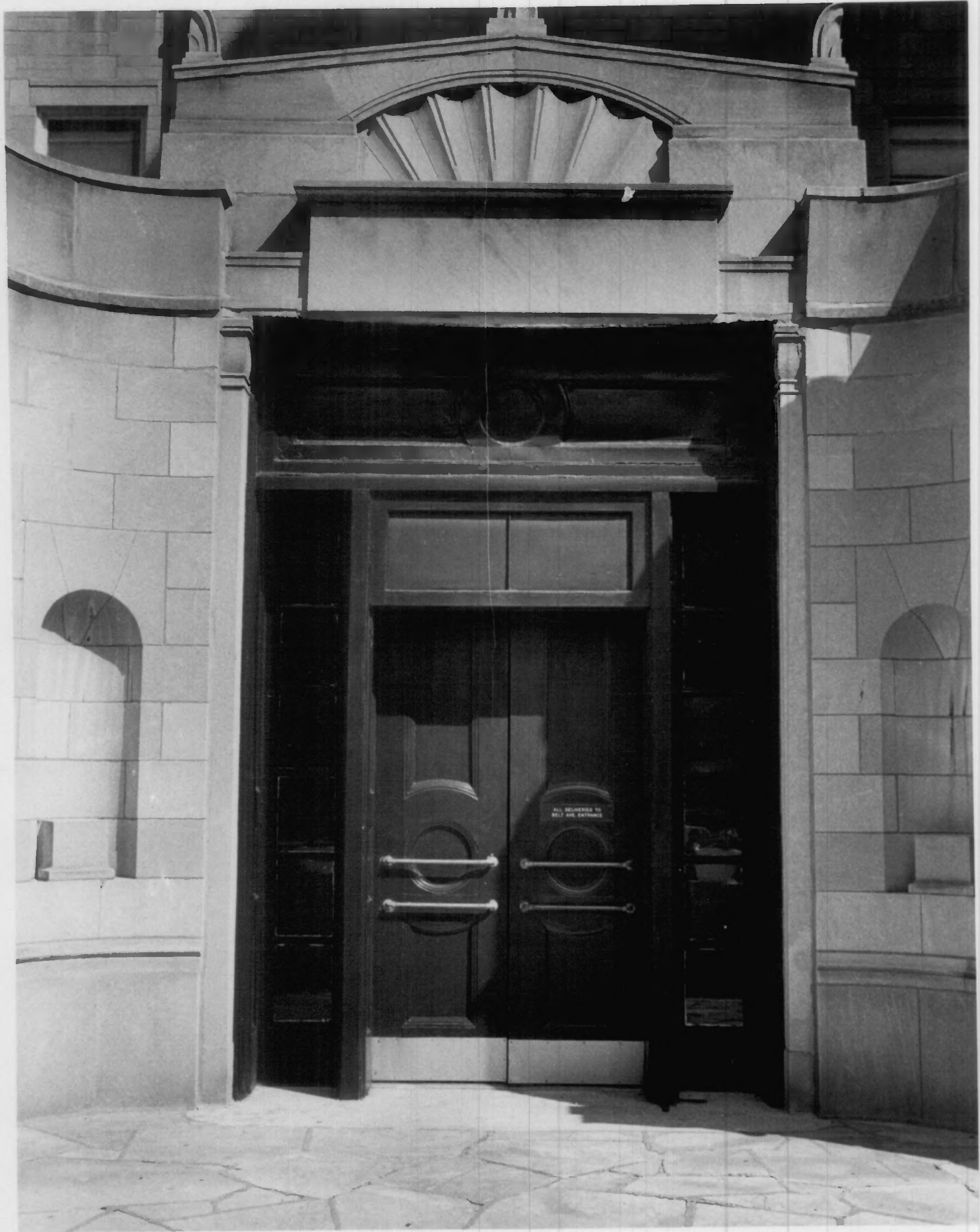




WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS      8 of 12  
5475 Cabanne Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri

Photographer: Carol Corey  
Date:            Sept., 1984  
Neg. Loc.:      3612 N. 19th Street  
                    St. Louis, Missouri 63107

*View of main entry door*



ALL BELONGERS TO  
MELI AND ENTRANCE

WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS 9 of 12  
5475 Cabanne Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri

Photographer: Carol Corey  
Date: Sept., 1984  
Neg. Loc.: 3612 N. 19th Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63107

Lower level, side elevation, facing east



WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS 10 of 12  
5475 Cabanne Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri

Photographer: Carol Corey  
Date: Sept., 1984  
Neg. Loc.: 3612 N. 19th Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63107

First floor lobby



WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS 11 of 12  
5475 Cabanne Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri

Photographer: Carol Corey  
Date: Sept., 1984  
Neg. Loc.: 3612 N. 19th Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63107

First floor lobby





WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS 12 of 12  
5475 Cabanne Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri

Photographer: Carol Corey  
Date: Sept., 1984  
Neg. Loc.: 3612 N. 19th Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63107

First floor lobby



WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS  
5475 Cabanne St. Louis, MO

Front Elevation viewed from  
Cabane. Bldg faces south.

June 1984

Photographed by Carol B. Corey



Rear Elevation

WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS  
5475 Cabanne . St. Louis, MO

Entry and center section of front  
facade, viewed from Cabanne

June 1984

Photos by Carol Corey



West Elevation photographed from  
Belt Avenue



WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS  
5475 Cabanne . St. Louis, MO

Front entry

June 1984

Photos by Carol Corey



First floor lobby facing front  
entry.



WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS  
5475 Cabanne St. Louis, MO

Doors opening from first floor  
lobby to front of building.

June 1984

Photos by Carol Corey



First floor lobby facing  
front doors



WINSTON CHURCHILL APARTMENTS  
5475 Cabanne St. Louis, MO

Fireplace located in first  
floor lobby.

June 1984

Photo by Carol Corey

