United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: _Hebrew Home for the Aged & Jewish Social Service Agency _____

Other names/site number: _District of Columbia Government-Mental Health Department, Community Mental Health Center North_____

Name of related multiple property listing**:**

__N/A_____

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

2. Location

Street & number: _1125-1131 Spring Road, NW_____

City or town: _District of Columbia_____ State: _DC_____ County: _N/A_____

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

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

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

___national **___statewide** **_X__local**

Applicable National Register Criteria:

_X__A **___B** **_X__C** **___D**

Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	☐
Public – Local	X
Public – State	☐
Public – Federal	☐

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	X
District	☐
Site	☐
Structure	☐
Object	☐

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	1	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use
Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
HEALTH CARE/Sanitarium
SOCIAL/Civic

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
HEALTH CARE/Clinic

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
20th CENTURY REVIVAL/Romanesque/Moorish Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick and Terra Cotta

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Hebrew Home for the Aged campus occupies the central part of a trapezoidal-shaped block on the north side of Spring Road between 10th and 13th streets NW in the Columbia Heights/Park View neighborhoods of northwest Washington, D.C. The 1.75-acre property is bounded on the south by Spring Road, defined primarily by large apartment buildings; on the north by Quebec Place, NW, which is lined with row houses; on the west by a large apartment building; and on the east by the Paul Robeson School for Growth and Development. The National Register boundaries of the property include three buildings: a large Romanesque/Moorish Revival-style brick building constructed as the Hebrew Home for the Aged in two phases, 1924-1925 and 1951-1953; a smaller freestanding building to its west erected in 1940 to house the Jewish Social Service Agency; and a non-contributing utility building located at the rear of the Hebrew Home, constructed circa 1974 along with the adjacent Paul Robeson School. The Paul Robeson School is not included in the National Register boundaries.

The Hebrew Home for the Aged was constructed in two independent phases. The first phase, designed in 1924 and constructed in 1925, is the western end pavilion of the present building. It

was designed as the first phase of what was to be a larger building to be executed in phases as money allowed. The second phase of construction, completed in 1953 and architecturally seamless, however, was built according to a new design from that conceived in 1924. The building served as the Hebrew Home for the Aged from 1925 when it first opened until 1969 when the facility moved to Montgomery County, Maryland.

The 1924 plan for the Hebrew Home for the Aged, of which only the western wing was executed, was designed by architect Appleton P. Clark, Jr. in a Romanesque/Moorish Revival style, reminiscent of synagogue architecture particularly for Sephardic Jews. The general layout of Clark's design as gleaned from architectural drawings, consisted of a three-part building with an entrance pavilion and domed synagogue on-center and one-story cloistered hyphens connecting to flanking end pavilions. The west pavilion was intended to house the retirement community, and the east pavilion was designed as a hospital. A general service building was also designed at the rear of the complex. The residential (western) end pavilion of this scheme was completed and opened in November 1925. In 1951-1953, a large addition was built to abut the east elevation of the building to relieve overcrowded conditions at the Home. This addition increased the building's housing capacity from a 35-bed nursing home to a 165-bed one. The addition, designed by architect William St. Cyr Barrington, did not follow Appleton P. Clark's 1924 design. However, the addition was done in a stylistically sympathetic manner that gives the impression that the building was constructed as part of a single building campaign.

The Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA) building, designed in 1940 by Julius Wenig, is a freestanding building to the west of, but on the same lot as, the Hebrew Home for the Aged. The Jewish Social Service Agency building is designed in a reduced Neo-Moorish style of brown brick with terra cotta trim that complements the neighboring Hebrew Home both stylistically and by its use of similar materials.

A non-contributing, hollow tile utility building is located at the rear of the Hebrew Home. It is a double-height building with only a single door opening on its south elevation. The utility building is located at the rear of the Hebrew Home and does not detract from the historic character of it.

Narrative Description

Site

The Hebrew Home for the Aged and Jewish Social Service Agency campus is located on part of a five-acre parcel of land on the north side of Spring Road between 10th and 13th streets NW. The property contains three buildings—the large Romanesque-Moorish Revival-style Hebrew Home for the Aged building; the smaller Jewish Social Service Agency building of similar style and building vocabulary; and a non-contributing utility building at the rear of the Hebrew Home. The parcel was historically part of the A.K. Tingle property which had remained as an un-subdivided farm until the acreage was purchased by the Hebrew Home in 1922.

Exterior Description: Hebrew Home for the Aged

The Hebrew Home for the Aged is a solid, beige-brick structure executed in a simplified Romanesque Revival or Moorish Revival style, articulated by paired arch openings, blind arcading in the cornice, and terra cotta *bas reliefs* ornamented with Stars of David. As constructed in two phases, the building is four stories in height, has a rectangular footprint with an open court in the center of the building and an asymmetrical, three-part façade facing Spring Road, including a central wing and two projecting end pavilions. This asymmetry is likely due to the expectation in 1951-53 when the building was enlarged, that it would be extended again in the future. Under this assumption, the present east end pavilion would have become the central pavilion, while another eastern addition would have included a new east end pavilion.

The building's walls are brick, laid in American bond with the ground level set off by a water table and an attic level (fourth story) separated from the lower floors by a terra cotta cornice. The building's original multi-light casement and double-hung windows have been replaced with 1/1 double-hung sash throughout.

The principal (south) elevation of the building facing Spring Street is divided into three primary parts including a nine-bay-long central block and two projecting end pavilions. The original 1925 building forms the western end pavilion of the building today, while the central wing and eastern end pavilion constitute the 1951-1953 annex. The 1925 western wing was originally constructed as a freestanding building with a rectangular footprint. It presented its short end wall to Spring Road and extended north towards Quebec Street. The south Spring Road elevation of the 1925 building features a four-story (originally three-story) projecting bay on-center of its façade, divided into three bays. The projecting bay has, on the first story a central entryway with a limestone architrave surrounded and a pair of 1/1 windows to either side. The second level is separated from the first level by a limestone water table and features three bays of paired arch windows set within a larger, blind arch giving the building its Romanesque Revival-style character. Directly above these, on the third level, are three pairs of 1/1 replacement windows. The third level of the projecting bay terminates in a terra cotta cornice of Moorish-inspired blind arcading; the fourth story of the bay was added sometime in the mid-1950s, obscuring the historic elevation of the pavilion at this level.[1] A cornerstone, historically inscribed in Hebrew and located on the east corner of the first story of this original building, has been de-faced.

In 1951-1953, a four-story annex was built against the east elevation of the 1925 building, more than tripling the original size of the building and giving it its current footprint. The annex was toothed into the Spring Road façade and is flush with it, and is stylistically consistent to it, making it almost indiscernible as an addition. The central block extends nine bays long to a three-bay pavilion towards the east end. Another five-bay wing extends east of this end pavilion. The central block is divided vertically into three parts including the building base (first story), shaft (floors 2-3) and attic (4th floor). Within each of these vertical divisions, the wing is defined

[1] The 1951 drawings indicate that the projecting bay of the 1925 building did not have the present fourth floor. However, a mid-1950s photograph of the buiding, including the 1953 addition, shows the added floor.

by seven bays of paired 1/1 replacement windows and two bays of single windows next to the projecting pavilions.

The base (first story) has an entrance framed by a limestone architrave surround, in the center, fifth bay of the main block. The windows in all of the bays to either side of the entrance are punched into the brick walls with concrete sills. A concrete water table separates the base from the first and second stories above. These two stories have paired window bays that are slightly recessed giving the impression of a double-height space. Wide spandrels between the two floors have bricks laid in an all-header coursing with *bas reliefs* panels on-center of each spandrel and green tile blocks at the four corners. The center of each square is ornamented with an alternating rhythm consisting of a stylized terra cotta Star of David and brickwork with a diamond-shaped pattern. A recessed frieze above the third-story windows is ornamented with decorative brickwork with diamond-shaped green tile squares located on-center, framed in brick and filled with stucco.

A cornice with parallel concrete stringcourses separates the third story from the fourth story (attic level). The fourth story windows are identical in treatment to those of the third story, with a frieze above the windows formed by ornamental brickwork and featuring central tiles with brick and stucco diamond patterns on-center. A concrete cornice caps the fourth story of the wing.

The eastern end pavilion matches that of the western one and was based upon it (though in this case the fourth story is part of the original design and not an addition). It is three bays wide and four stories tall and extends toward the rear of lot. The base, or first story, contains a central entrance with metal and glass replacement doors surrounded by a limestone architrave and flanked by paired replacement windows. The second story of the pavilion is characterized by its blind round arches within which are paired arched window openings. Brick roundels are located in the intrados of the blind arches with stucco cladding. The third story consists of three bays of triple windows. The third story is capped by a cornice line with Moorish-inspired blind arcading. The fourth story and attic level of the pavilion has three bays of paired 1/1 replacement sash, each set within a slightly recessed bay framed at the head by brick blind arcading. In each of the panels below the blind arcading is a stylized Star of David. A wrought iron balcony caps the roofline of this eastern end pavilion. A cornerstone, located at the eastern corner of this eastern pavilion was historically inscribed in Hebrew, but has been de-faced as on the original pavilion.

Behind the projecting pavilion there is a fifth story penthouse level rising above the main block of the building. This penthouse has three doors opening onto a balcony that is the roof of the projecting pavilion. To the east and west of these doors, are two circular windows whose muntins divide the glass panes to form a Star of David. The penthouse level terminates in a terra cotta frieze with a repeating motif of a quatrefoil separated by an “X” formed by crossing leaves. The frieze is capped with a terra cotta cornice and coping.

A four-bay side wing extends east of the eastern pavilion and suggests that at the time of construction in 1953, another end pavilion was anticipated for the future. This eastern side wing

is similarly detailed to the central wing with pairs of windows on all four floors, brick spandrels with Stars of David *bas reliefs*, and diamond-shaped brick and terra cotta panels in the frieze above the third-story windows.

A one-story causeway at the rear of the building connects the 1925 and the 1953 end pavilions, thereby forming a courtyard between the two structures.

The east end elevation of the main block of the building is four bays wide and is defined by single window openings on all levels of the brick wall. The second and third-story windows are separated by recessed brick spandrels. Frieze boards above the third- and fourth-story windows are decorated with diamond-shaped tile panels, like those on the front elevation. .

The west elevation of the building is the original west elevation of the 1925 building. It is built into the site's hillside, so that only three of the building's four stories are above grade beyond the Spring Road façade. The elevation extends from Spring Road to Quebec Street in three planes—a central projecting wing and recessed side wings. The elevation extends eleven bays long in total with each bay being defined primarily by single window openings. The windows in the top floor of the building's outer bays feature blind arcading with a stylized Star of David in a recessed panel below. This motif in the 1925 wing is found consistently throughout the 1953 building.

The north (rear) elevation of the building is devoid of decoration. Only floors two through four are visible. The elevation contains two brick chimneys and single bays on the third and fourth floors. The bays on the second level have been bricked in.

The building is covered by a flat concrete slab roof which is concealed by parapet walls on the south, east, and west.

Interior Description:

As originally constructed, the 1925 Hebrew Home for the Aged provided living quarters for residents on floors two through four. The first floor contained the superintendent's quarters, a dining room, kitchen, sitting room, reception room and entrance hall. The basement contained recreation rooms for men and women as well as laundry and heating facilities.

The 1953 annex to the Hebrew Home contained offices, a small chapel, and a synagogue that seated 200. The second floor contained the main dining room, nurses' dining room, recreation room, medical examining and treatment rooms, laboratory, X-ray room, dental room and pharmacy. This level was also designed to contain the nurses' quarters, diet kitchen, visitors' alcove, solarium and residents' rooms. The third and fourth floors were devoted to residents' quarters. A sun deck, occupational therapy room and roof solarium were contained on the fifth (penthouse) level.

The interior of the building was heavily renovated in the late 20th century, has been vacant since 2009, and retains limited historic fabric. All of the original ceilings were removed, walls were furred out, windows and doors were replaced and room configurations altered. The original stairwells and some sections of original terrazzo flooring are all that remain of the historic interiors. The synagogue sanctuary still survives as an open space with its shallow ogee-arched window openings and their lamb's-tongue stops visible from the interior, but it no longer retains any other historic features or feeling as a synagogue.

Exterior Description: Jewish Social Service Agency (1131 Spring Road, NW)

The JCCA building at 1131 Spring Road is a freestanding, two-story beige-brick building with a rectangular footprint set upon a raised berm. The building's primary façade and short end faces Spring Road and extends back towards Quebec Street. The relatively simple building has its architectural articulation and ornamentation limited to the façade which reflects a Romanesque Revival style sympathetic to the Hebrew Home to its east. Set upon a berm with a retaining wall at the sidewalk level, the building is set upon a brick foundation, has walls laid in five-course American bond, and is covered with a flat roof with a front parapet. The Spring Road façade is divided into three bays, including a central entry bay and flanking end bays.

The first story consists of the central entry and flanking windows. The central entry is reached from the sidewalk level by two flights of stairs with wrought iron railings and is defined by a limestone architrave framing a pair of replacement doors. The architrave features a wide, unornamented frieze board with a slightly projecting cornice above. To either side of this entry are two pairs of single windows with 1/1 replacement sash and concrete sills. The second story includes a pair of round-arched window openings above the entry, set within a blind arch formed by a brick arch with limestone imposts and a limestone keystone. A diamond-shaped terra cotta panel is set into the brick tympanum area below the central keystone.

The elevation culminates with an ornate cornice atop the parapet wall featuring vaulted brick arcading capped by limestone coping.

The east and west elevations extend seven unequal bays deep with each bay consisting of single window openings punched into the plain brick wall. The windows have 1/1 replacement sash and concrete lintels. The northern-most window on the east elevation has been bricked in, as have many of the windows on the west elevation. Two tall chimney stacks rise above the roofline between the 5th and 6th bay and at the east elevation.

Interior Description of the JSSA:

As originally constructed, the Jewish Social Service Agency contained offices on the second floor and a reception area, waiting room on the first story. It also historically contained a dental clinic on the first story. The building is presently in use, but was not accessible.

INTEGRITY

The Hebrew Home for the Aged and the Jewish Social Service Agency buildings retain integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The buildings are in their original locations. Although the setting is in an urban residential neighborhood and no longer rural, the property occupies a large lot that differs from the urban-sized rowhouse lots around it and thus identifies itself as somewhat of a rural remnant. Like many institutions, the Hebrew Home purchased a five-acre farm upon which it built its first purpose-built home. The buildings are intact with few exterior alterations beyond the major 1953 addition that is significant to the property. High quality craftsmanship in terms of brickwork and terra cotta detailing, is found across the buildings' exterior walls. The Hebrew Home for the Aged, with its ornamental Stars of David has strong integrity of feeling and association.

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.)

- [x] 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.
- [x] 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.)

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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
ARCHITECTURE
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
HEALTH/MEDICINE

Period of Significance
1925-1969

Significant Dates
1925; 1940; 1953

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Clark, Appleton P., Jr.
Wenig, Julius
Barrington, William St. Cyr

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Hebrew Home for the Aged was constructed in 1925 to provide social support for destitute Jews, many of whom were immigrants who neither spoke nor understood English. The Hebrew Home, located in what was at the time considered the northern fringe of Washington, D.C. was built to serve Washington's growing Jewish community, particularly in the nearby Columbia Heights, Petworth, and Park View neighborhoods. The building was designed by Washington architect Appleton P. Clark, Jr., and was expanded between 1951 and 1953 to the designs of Washington architect William St. Cyr Barrington. In 1940, the Jewish Social Service Agency was constructed to the west of the Hebrew Home to the designs of Washington architect Julius Wenig.

The Hebrew Home for the Aged and the Jewish Social Service Agency property is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the **local level of significance under Criterion A** as it is closely associated with the growing need to provide social service and housing – the buildings primary function – to the growing number of Jewish residents in the District of Columbia, particularly those who had immigrated to the United States due to displacement, to escape persecution, or to seek a better life. The building is located in a section of Washington that once had a sizable Jewish population that has since largely moved to Montgomery County, Maryland. The Hebrew Home is one of only two known buildings in the immediate area directly associated with the Jewish community that once lived in the area.

The Hebrew Home for the Aged and neighboring Jewish Social Service Building also meets **Criterion C** as an outstanding example of an early retirement home designed by local architect Appleton P. Clark Jr., an architect in private practice at the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century. The Hebrew Home for the Aged is significant to the work of Clark due to both its building type and its style. While Clark's commissions include a wide range of building types such as office buildings, banks, churches, schools, theaters, apartment buildings, and private residences, this is Clark's only known design for a building devoted to the needs of seniors. As the Hebrew Home for the Aged desired a building that would serve as a residence, hospital, and place of worship, this commission challenged Clark to design a building that would contain several of the functions he had previously only addressed singularly in his buildings.

Architecturally, the Hebrew Home is also notable as the work of Appleton P. Clark, Jr. Although much of Clark's later work is in the Classical Revival style, his early work, which includes late Victorian row houses on Capitol Hill, as well Owl's Nest, an early 20th-century country residence designed in a distinctive Shingle Style, provides examples of popular late Victorian styles inspired by medieval and Jacobean prototypes. This is Clark's only known design showing Moorish Revival design influences. It was also designed at a time when Clark had largely moved away from the revival styles of the nineteenth century.

The period of significance for the property extends from 1925 when the building opened until 1969 when the Hebrew Home left the site for a new facility in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Architecture: The Hebrew Home is significant in the Area of Architecture as a rare surviving example of a purpose-built residential institution and as a good example of Moorish Revival-style architecture in Washington, D.C., as designed by local architect Appleton P. Clark, Jr. The Hebrew Home is Clark's only known building designed in the Moorish Revival style, clearly chosen by him as the style reflects centuries-old traditions in Jewish architecture. During the Moorish occupation of southern Europe, many synagogues, particularly among the substantial population of Jews of Spain, were designed by Moorish architects. It was thereafter considered an appropriate aesthetic for synagogues, resulting in innumerable examples both internationally and in the U.S.

In terms of its building type, the Hebrew Home is one of only a few known extant examples city-wide of a purpose-built residential institution. Historically, most of DC's orphanages, homes for the aged, indigent, or other welfare cases initially occupied buildings constructed for another purpose (just as the Hebrew Home was originally located in a former row house on M Street). Of those which had purpose-built facilities, only a handful survive, such as the Methodist Home on Connecticut Avenue, Masonic and Eastern Star Home on New Hampshire Avenue, and the Home for the Aged and Infirm near Blue Plains.

Community Planning & Development: The Hebrew Home for the Aged was constructed on an undeveloped five-acre site at what was in the early 1920s, still the northern edge of Washington, D.C. It was built to support the growing Jewish community in the nearby Columbia Heights, Petworth, and Park View neighborhoods. It is closely associated with the growing need to provide social services and housing – the buildings primary function – to the growing number of Jewish residents in the District of Columbia, particularly those who had immigrated to the United States due to displacement, to escape persecution, or to seek a better life. Its establishment presaged not only a growth of the Jewish community in the neighborhood, but also Jewish interest in the neighborhood – two notable examples being developer Morris Cafritz's development of Petworth beginning in 1922 and the birth of the modern supermarket when N.M. Cohen and Samuel Lehrman founded Giant Food's in Park View, located in the former Park View Market built by Morris Cafritz in 1923.

Health/Medicine: The Hebrew Home for the Aged is significant in the Area of Health and Medicine because of the role the home played in its mission to provide quality elder care to Washington's Jewish community and others. The growing need to care for elder Jewish immigrants, many of whom did not speak English and would not have availed themselves to other elder care alternatives, was a critical and growing need when the Hebrew Home was established. During the period of significance, the Hebrew Home provided care that would not

have been available otherwise. Upon its opening in 1925, the Hebrew Home had a capacity of 50 beds. Care grew to support 76 residents requiring the need to build an annex in 1953 to increase capacity to 192 beds. The Hebrew Home moved to Montgomery County, Maryland in 1969, to remain accessible to the Jewish Community – which had largely relocated to Maryland by that time – and to increase capacity with a new facility that that could support 266 residents.

Historic Context

The Hebrew Home for the Aged

The Hebrew Home for the Aged was established in 1914. In May of that year, Bernard Danzansky, president of the Hebrew Aged Home Association, opened a meeting at Ahove Sholem Temple at 5th and I Streets, NW with a strong plea for funds for the maintenance and operation of a home. Danzansky and eleven other persons associated with him, argued that the "Jews of Washington [were] willing and anxious to support a home for the aged."[2] Prior to 1914, there was no establishment in Washington to look after the wants of destitute Jews. While "public institutions were open to [Jews] … the inability of many of them to speak and understand the English language, and the natural reluctance to tell their troubles to people other than people of their own race, they preferred to suffer in silence and get along as best they could."[3]

Although the initial collection netted a mere seventeen dollars, the Association was able to raise $9,000 by October of that year to purchase a home for the aged. This first home, located in a pre-Civil War dwelling-cum-synagogue at 415 M Street NW[4], was purchased from the Young Men's Hebrew Association for $10,000.00. The main concern of the Home was to provide room, board, and a religious atmosphere. From the day the doors of the institution were first thrown open, the home was packed beyond capacity. In 1914, it was estimated that the home would be able to accommodate as many as fifty people, but a long waiting list of applicants soon developed.[5]

In June 1922, the board of directors of the Washington Hebrew Home announced that in order to accommodate more residents, it would sell the house at 415 M Street and move to a five acre-site on Spring Road between 10th and 13th Streets, NW which it had purchased in the spring for $53,000. Proceeds from the sale of the M Street property, along with $10,000 in funds raised from a four-day carnival held on the Spring Road property, were put toward a planned $200,000 home and hospital with hopes for early construction.

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[2] "Hebrews of City Plan Home For Aged Women." *The Evening Star,* May 11, 1914. p. 20.
[3] Shreve, Harry. "Board of Hebrew Home, in Midst of $150,000 Campaign, Plans New Comfortable Refuge for Needy, Aged Jews." *Washington Times-Herald,* Dec. 3, 1922, p. 5.
[4] Renovation work in 1993 in the still-extant building at 415 M Street, NW revealed a portion of a painted wall mural that historically surrounded the synagogue's ark. The mural was hidden beneath layers of old paint and wallpaper. In 2013, the house was purchased by a home building company that plans to convert the building into a multi-family condominium . The Jewish Historical Society is presently working to restore the celestial scene, Jewish star, and a portion of the biblical quote that encircled the ark, along with a winged lion.
[5] "New Home is Opened." *The Washington Post,* Oct. 19, 1914, p. 14.

Preliminary plans for a large three-story home and hospital on Spring Road were completed in August 1922 by architect Harry A. Brandt. Brandt's plan called for two buildings, a hospital and a home, with the only connection between the two being a bridge. Brandt designed the buildings with maroon-colored brick with buff limestone trim in "the pure American style, devoid of all ornamentation, and fireproof throughout." In addition to the two principal buildings, Brandt planned the complex with a power-plant building, an ambulance garage, and a 350 seat synagogue. The hospital was also designed so that it could be constructed in three phases.[6]

Raising funds for the new home progressed well. By November 1922, $125,000 of the $150,000 fund-raising goal had been committed to the Home in cash or pledges. By February 1923, enough funds had been raised that the board of directors was able to pay off the remaining $30,000 debt on the Spring Road property. A ceremony to lay the corner-stone of the new building in June 1923 was also scheduled. However, ground was not broken for the Hebrew Home until June 1924 – and then not to the plans of architect Harry A. Brandt.

In February 1924, architect Appleton P. Clark, Jr. had designed a new set of plans for the Hebrew Home. While the new plans adhered to the original functions identified for the Home in 1922, Clark's overall configuration and design could more readily be constructed in phases over time. This approach was no doubt in response to the Home's non-profit nature and its continual need to raise funds for its endeavors. The building permit application was filed in April 1924 and construction on the first building began in June 1924.

Unlike Brandt's functional looking design, Clark's design was more stylish, with hints of simplified Moorish-revival decoration reminiscent of Sephardic synagogues. The first building of the complex built in 1924 is the three-story west wing of the building designed to house fifty persons. The first floor contained the superintendent's quarters, a dining room, kitchen, sitting room, reception room, and entrance hall. The second floor contained the living quarters, and the below-grade areas contained recreation rooms for men and women as well as laundry and heating facilities. Upon completion, work was to commence immediately on the hospital wing, which was planned as a nonsectarian institution for the Columbia Heights neighborhood.

The first building of the Hebrew Home was rapidly nearing completion in March 1925, but construction of the hospital building was postponed due to unpaid pledges of support. Of the nearly $200,000 in pledges made in 1923, only $110,000 had been paid by early 1925. In the end, the hospital wing would not occur for nearly thirty years.

With completion of the residential wing of the Hebrew Home, dedication exercises were scheduled for November 29, 1925. According to the local press, the new building was estimated to cost $200,000, with the entire complex – including the hospital and synagogue designed by Clark – estimated to cost $750,000. During the dedication, Commissioner Cuno H. Rudolph, attorney Frank J. Hogan, and Col. William Mitchell made the principal addresses. The

[6] "Home and Hospital Begun by Hebrews." *The Washington Post,* Aug. 27, 1922, p. 37; "Plan for Hebrew Home Announced." *The Evening Star,* Aug. 26, 1922, p. 13.

ceremonies were attended by nearly all of the local rabbis and included a 60 member chorus which sang Hebrew folk songs and patriotic melodies. Commissioner Rudolph, assisted by a squad of former service men from the Vincent B. Costello post of the American Legion, raised the American colors over the building during the ceremony. Maryland Representative Fred N. Zihlman, chairman of the House District Committee, closed the dedication ceremonies. Following the dedication, the ladies' auxiliary of the home held a two day housewarming in the building.[7]

During the ensuing years, the Hebrew Home became over crowded. By 1950, the facility had far exceeded its 50 person limit, with some residents sleeping in hallways and on porches. To alleviate the overcrowding, architect Edward William St. Cyr Barrington designed an annex that would increase capacity to 192 residents. Due to the pressing need for residential space, the original plan designed by Clark with a central synagogue and hospital wing was abandoned. None-the-less, Barrington's design retained the architectural vocabulary inherent in Clark's building and seamlessly attached to it giving the appearance that the entire building was constructed at one time. Barrington also designed the new annex in such a manner that a future addition could be constructed to the east of the building to create a symmetrical Spring Road elevation – a goal inherent in the original Clark design.

Barrington's addition was designed to have 60 rooms for single patients and 4 wards. The first floor contained offices and a small chapel and a synagogue seating 200. The second floor was designed to have the main dining room, nurses' dining room, a recreation room, medical examining and treatment rooms, a laboratory, X-ray room, dental room and pharmacy, a solarium and residents' rooms. The third and fourth floors were dedicated to residents' rooms. A sun deck, occupational therapy room and roof solarium were planned for the penthouse level.[8]

The cornerstone for the annex was laid on November 11, 1951. The $1 Million addition was completed in 1953 and formally dedicated on December 6, 1953.[9]

Ten years later, the facility on Spring Road was deemed inadequate to meet the needs of the elderly population and seriously defective in terms of anticipated future needs. With an estimated need to provide housing for 400 elderly by 1980, and the need to upgrade outdated mechanical systems in the Spring Road building, the Home – under the leadership of president Charles E. Smith – decided to look for a new location closer to the Jewish population which had largely migrated beyond this area of northwest, D.C. In 1956, Washington was home for half of the Jews

[7] "Rudolph to Attend Hebrew Ceremonies." *The Evening Star,* Nov. 4, 1925, p. 14; "New Hebrew Home Dedication Nov. 29." *The Evening Star,* Part I, p. 26; "New Hebrew Home Dedicated Today." *The Sunday Star,* Nov. 29, 1925, Part I, p. 20; "Zihlman to Speak at Hebrew Fete." *The Sunday Star,* Nov. 22, 1925, Part I, p. 24; "Mitchell to Speak Today at Dedicationh of Hebrew Home." *The Washington Post,* Nov. 29, 1925, p. 14.
[8] "Cornerstone Laying Set at Hebrew Home." *The Washington Post,* Nov. 10, 1951, p. 9.
[9] "$1 Million Wing Dedicated At Hebrew Home for Aged." *The Washington Post,* Dec. 7, 1953, p. 1.

who lived in the area. By 1969, this had changed, with half of the area's 110,000 Jews identified as residents of Montgomery County, Maryland.[10]

In 1964, a survey[11] indicated a need for a new facility that could provide complete medical and nursing care. Charles E. Smith, president of the Home, was instrumental in selecting the site and raising the funds that made it possible for the Hebrew Home, Jewish Social Service Agency, and Jewish Community Center to purchase land in Montgomery County. When these agencies moved to the Rockville campus in 1969, the Honorable Arthur J. Goldberg, Supreme Court Justice and former United Nations Ambassador, gave the opening address.

The DC National Guard and American Red Cross participated in the complex task of moving 172 senior citizens from Spring Road to the new Hebrew Home of Greater Washington. The Wasserman Residence contained 266 beds and an innovative shopping arcade. The opening of the Smith-Kogod Residence in 1981 increased their capacity to 556 residents, and the Rakusin Rehabilitation Center in the Wasserman Residence made it possible to offer rehabilitation services to short-stay patients.

The Spring Road property was sold to the District of Columbia in 1968 for $13 million and, after the residents moved to their new facility in Montgomery County the following year, the District government converted the property into a local community health center. A new free-standing building was constructed on the easternmost portion of the property around 1974 for youth with emotional and behavioral problems. This new building was most recently known as the Paul Robeson School for Growth and Development. After years of deferred maintenance the campus was considered dilapidated, leaking, and unsafe. It has been officially closed since 2009.

The Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA)[12]

The Jewish Social Service Agency of Metropolitan Washington has its origins in two different agencies. The United Hebrew Charities was incorporated in 1893 "to assist in relief of needy Hebrews" in Northwest Washington. The Hebrew Relief Society of the District of Columbia was organized to "provide relief for needy Orthodox Hebrews" in Southeast Washington.
The two merged and incorporated in 1921 as the United Hebrew Relief Society of D.C.

Services, delivered by volunteers, were tangible and personal – money, food, clothing and coal for widows with children, needy families, and new immigrants.

The Great Depression brought the realization that a few dedicated volunteers couldn't meet growing social and emotional problems. The United Hebrew Relief Society hired an executive

[10] "Isaacs, Stephen and Lawrence Feinberg. "Half of Area's Jewish Residents Now Live in Montgomery." *The Washington Post*, May 18, 1969, p. 57.
[11] The 1964 survey is referenced on the Hebrew Home of Greater Washington's Web site but now additional details have been found. The reference is available at: http://www.hebrew-home.org/site/PageServer?pagename=ceslc_about_history
[12] Historical sketch based on Jewish Social Service Agency of Metropolitan Washington. *A Century of Caring: 1893-1993*, [Rockville, MD: JSSA, 1993].

director, Arthur Rosichan, in 1932, changed its name to the Jewish Social Service Agency in 1933 and began keeping regular written records.

The Agency's funds came predominantly from allocations from the Community Chest, the predecessor of today's United Way. Expenditures focused principally on rent, food, and coal for clients – about $4,500 per month. Every eligible relief case was referred to the public Emergency Relief Division (ERD), and a cooperative effort emerged in which JSSA provided casework, while the ERD provided the direct financial assistance. JSSA also subsidized start-up costs of small businesses for needy families, in its earliest effort to focus on keeping families independent.

The early 1930s witnessed the establishment of a group of volunteer physicians and dentists to treat JSSA clients. A new executive director, Morris Klass, arrived in 1934. The middle of the decade brought a wave of European refugees, which prompted efforts to find employment for the newcomers and to encourage refugees to become naturalized citizens, so as to be eligible for public benefits.

JSSA also carried casework responsibility for Jewish foster children in the Jewish Foster Home on Q Street, Northwest Washington, and in individual foster homes. JSSA was serving 44 foster children – almost 20 percent of its 245 clients – in 1937. By the end of the decade, Klass was redefining the focus of JSSA's programs from subsistence to prevention and rehabilitation, a change that had already reduced by one-third the number of Jewish children placed outside their homes.

By 1939, JSSA was making plans for a child welfare program, in anticipation of the July closing of the Jewish Foster Home, a move generated by the growing awareness that the emotional and physical needs of foster children could be best met in individual foster homes. By March 1940, JSSA had reduced the number of children in foster care to 13, and in September 1942, the last "child" joined the U.S. Coast Guard. At that time, JFH and JSSA casework staff and services were combined.

Also in 1939, the Hebrew Home agreed to lease to JSSA grounds adjacent to its Spring Road building for $1 per year, and JSSA began plans to construct its own building. JSSA had been operating out of the basement of the Community Chest building on M Street. Washington architect Julius Wenig was chosen to design the new building and a building permit was applied for in December 1939. However, following the unexpected death of Julius Wenig on May 9, 1940, the JSSA contracted with Consulting Engineer John J. Widmayer to complete Wenig's plans and supervise construction of the Spring Road building.

The new decade found JSSA already grappling with refugee services. The employment and relief needs of European refugees were draining the Agency's budget and time, as United Jewish Appeal (UJA) allocations were not sufficient to cover refugee relief and administrative costs.

The Employment Committee had already found jobs for 273 refugees, lowering the caseload to 34.

The cornerstone for the new building at 1131 Spring Road was laid on July 16, 1940.[13] The Agency chose December 29, 1940, to dedicate the new building, marking the fiftieth anniversary of the Agency. A committee headed by Washington developer Morris Cafritz made arrangements for the dedication ceremony of the new $40,000. The opening of the new building culminated a three-year plan to centralize Jewish welfare services in Washington.[14] The principal address at the dedication was delivered by Senator William Henry King of Utah, chairman of the Senate District Committee. King's address was broadcast over the Columbia Broadcasting System. In his address, he contrasted the dedication of a building constructed for charity with the cruelty and oppression in Europe. "The very contrast of our gathering [on Spring Road] to dedicate a noble edifice – expresses the fruits and benefits of liberty and democratic institutions which represent the American way of life," stated King. He continued by commending the tolerance and spirit of the agency, declaring that in building the first private family casework agency in Washington, the JSSA had also led the way for other groups to follow.[15]

On March 18, 1941, the JSSA opened a dental clinic in the building with donated equipment and volunteer dentists. With more than 20 adult patients waiting for admission when it opened, the clinic cared for 4 to 5 patients per day. The clinic operated until 1944, at which time it closed with the volunteer dentists who had staffed it continuing to see JSSA clients in their own offices.

The entry of the United States into World War II had a direct effect on JSSA: more foster homes for "children whose mothers are engaged in industry;" increased food allowances for relief cases because of soaring food costs; the use of JSSA's basement as a Zone Warden's post and as a Canteen for servicemen; and staff working overtime to help the Selective Service investigate deferment claims for dependents. But the booming economy allowed JSSA to return $3,594 of its $50,000 budget to the Community Chest.

JSSA had always taken particular care to distribute extra food and money at Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah and Passover, and 1943 was no exception. JSSA hosted a 1943 Passover Seder for 950 service men and women in Washington.

Around this time, Jewish families on public assistance became an issue. Regulations forbade public assistance clients from accepting money from any other organization, yet the public allocations left Jewish clients with an unacceptable standard of living. JSSA could not afford to take full financial responsibility for these mostly long-term relief cases. The issue was discussed repeatedly at Board meetings, with no definitive resolution.

[13] "Cornerstone Laying Marks Milestone In Child Care Here." *The Evening Star*, July 16, 1940, Section B, p. 1.
[14] "Jewish Agency Plans To Dedicate Home Decembeer 29: New $40,000 Structure Will Centralize Welfare Work." *The Sunday Star*, Dec. 15, 1940, Part One, p. A-23.
[15] "Jewish Social Work Agency Dedicates $40,000 Building: Senator King Delivers Address; Civic Leaders Attend Ceremony," *The Evening Star*, Dec. 30, 1940, Section B, p. 1.

In 1947, JSSA faced a new challenge. The Community Chest had failed to reach its campaign goal, as it would for the next several years. The closing years of the decade witnessed the most severe relief crisis since 1935. Newly hired executive director Manuel Kaufman faced soaring deficits, escalating family tensions, public assistance cuts, and case loads of 56 clients per worker. JSSA also opened its arms to the refugees from European displaced persons camps.

The refugees posed the greatest challenge to the Agency's resources. The Holocaust survivors needed extensive medical care, dental care, housing, employment, and skilled psychological assistance. Despite JSSA's commitment to refugees, it was forced to stop accepting its quota for lack of funds to assist them.

In 1948, the Agency launched its first membership drive, raising $5,000. The newly hired executive director, George Pikser, warned that the Board must either raise more money or curtail Agency functions. The Agency began accepting only true emergencies for assistance, leaving long-term maintenance up to public agencies and giving JSSA assistance to those families for whom the limited available funds could accomplish the most.

In 1949, 1131 Spring Road was considered as a location for the College of Jewish Studies. Registration for fall classes were held at the JSSA headquarters from October 10th through the 13th. Classes were scheduled to begin on October 17th with courses including studies in Bible liturgy, religion, language, literature, history and sociology. Chartered in 1946 as a non-profit educational institution, the College of Jewish Studies was established as an institution of higher Jewish learning and to train individuals for Jewish communal leadership and for professional careers in Jewish educational, social and religious institutions. However, in response to many students requesting a downtown location, classes were held instead at the George Washington University Hillel Foundation building at 2129 F Street, NW.[16]

During the next 10 years, JSSA completed the transformation from a mostly relief agency to a mostly social service agency. The greatest accomplishment of this decade was the establishment of the Child Guidance Clinic, a project spearheaded by Miriam Bazelon, a Board member and chairman of the Child Welfare Committee. The committee found that in 1953, more than 75 percent of JSSA children's cases were for "children in families who have not physical, but mental health problerns ... Just as early treatment of tuberculosis will prevent serious illness later, so early treatment of personality disorders will prevent serious mental illness later."

Four years later, the Child Guidance Clinic opened in January 1957. It was the first outpatient treatment center for children in the Washington metropolitan area. Within two years, the Clinic had served 562 children and parents.

The Agency's finances were an ongoing problem – the decade opened with a $4,000 deficit on a $100,000 budget. The Board conducted various fundraising efforts to supplement the funds it received from UJA for refugee resettlement, and from United Community Services for its other

[16] "College of Jewish Studies To Be in Hillel Building." *The Sunday Star*, Oct. 16, 1949, p. E-15.

programs. The critical refugee situation that opened the decade eased within a few years, as intensive casework by staff, and the active involvement of the Board's Employment Committee, helped most refugee families become self-sufficient.

Another change early in the decade helped ease the Agency's financial burden. JSSA had opted to provide total relief to needy Jewish families because of the insufficient allocations from public welfare agencies; that relief totaled $50,000 in 1951. In May 1952, the regulation forbidding public relief recipients from accepting funds from other organizations was lifted; JSSA transferred eligible families to public assistance and provided supplements, reducing the Agency's overall relief expenditures.

Another issue that surfaced in this decade was that of "fee for service." The Board had rejected the idea in 1950, saying fees were contrary to the Agency's charter. The issue was raised again in late 1952, "not as an important revenue source, but as therapeutic value to those who need help and can afford to pay, which would include many more than who then availed themselves of the Agency's services. ln December 1954, the Board established a trial policy of fees for counseling.

An extensive volunteer training program was established in 1958. In its first 19 months of operation, the Volunteer Committee graduated 69 "mature and well-educated women," who provided 3,878 hours of service to JSSA.

JSSA also began serving greater numbers of clients from Maryland and Virginia, and overall demand for service prompted the Agency to open two evenings each week. The adoption program also grew in this decade. Greater numbers of childless couples were seeking to adopt, and the waiting list was 2 to 3 years.

The 1960s witnessed the continuing evolution of JSSA into a full-service family service agency. Demographics changed greatly; by 1962, about 60 percent of clients were from the suburbs. In July 1965,JSSA opened a branch office in Wheaton Plaza.

Raising operating funds continued to be a major theme of the 1960s. While the idea of a Jewish federation had percolated for years, local Jewish agencies still conducted their own fundraising events, and UJA raised funds for overseas programs. JSSA had tried membership maillngs, contribution cards, return coupons in the Jewish Week, stag parties, theatre parties, parlor meetings, office gatherings, and individual solicitations with varying degrees of success.

In 1961, JSSA and the JCC conducted a $92,500 joint fundraising campaign, sharing the proceeds. ln 1962, UJA agreed to distribute a "second card" with its regular pledge card, providing the opportunity for UJA givers to contribute to the JCC and JSSA. This card, known as the "Blue Card," netted JSSA $37,500 in its first year, and $41,000 the next. In 1965 the Jewish Community Council was added to the Blue Card charities. The Blue Card was abolished in the 1967 campaign; overseas and local appeals were combined on one pledge card for the first time. UJA's allocation to JSSA grew to $120,000 by 1969.

Programmatically, changes in the Agency reflected societal changes. The adoption program realized phenomenal growth in this decade, with waiting periods down from three years to one. The availability of infants for adoption and the decrease in applications from adoptive couples led to the relaxation of eligibility requirements. In 1968, 44 infants were placed; a year later, the trend dramatically reversed, and placements fell 50 percent.

Group counseling found its way into almost every Agency program in the 1960s. This relatively new form of therapy was used for adolescents, prospective adoptive parents, parents of children in treatment, couples with marital difficulties, engaged couples, widowed and divorced mothers, and adolescent girls and their mothers.

As civil rights issues came to the forefront in the late 1960s, JSSA reached out to the greater community, donating social work services to Martin Luther King Jr.'s Poor People's Campaign. The Agency also began counseling groups for single mothers and fatherless boys at Valley Green, a public housing complex in Southeast Washington. And after the 1968 riots, JSSA not only assisted Jewish business owners whose stores had been damaged or destroyed, but tried to facilitate the transfer of some of these businesses to "Negro entrepreneurs."

Services for children and adolescents mushroomed in this decade. JSSA began a program of foster care, casework, and psychiatric treatment for emotionally disturbed children who would otherwise need institutional care. An adolescent counseling service began, initially housed in the Wheaton office, to provide individual and group treatment. The volunteer Friend-to-Friend program, in which older teens befriend younger, troubled teens, began as part of this program; it is still a part of Adolescent Services today.

At the same time, JSSA, the Jewish Community Center and the Hebrew Home were studying a joint purchase of land. In January 1965, a group of individuals not affiliated with any one agency bought land on Montrose Road in Rockville, Maryland, in their own names and at their own expense, to hold until the agencies decided whether they wanted to purchase it. JSSA voted to become a part of that complex in June.

The Greater Washington Jewish Community Foundation (JCF) was created to raise $6.5 million for construction and furnishings for the three-agency complex. Ground was broken in June 1967; the Spring Road building was transferred to the JCF for sale, and JSSA rented an office in the Woodward Building at 15th and H Streets, N.W., to continue downtown services. JSSA moved into the Rockville campus building in March 1969 and closed the Wheaton office.

Architects of the Hebrew Home for the Aged and the Jewish Social Service Agency Buildings

Appleton P. Clark, Jr. (Hebrew Home for the Aged, 1924):

Appleton P. Clark, Jr., was born in Washington in 1865 and graduated from Central High School in 1883. He had no formal architectural training beyond a course in high school. He made a tour of Europe, studying different styles of architecture, and served an apprenticeship under Alfred B. Mullett in the mid-1880s before launching his own architectural practice at the age of twenty in 1886.

Clark's commissions included a wide range of building types: office buildings, banks, churches, schools, theaters, apartment buildings, and private residences. Among these are Foundry Methodist Church (1903-04), the Washington Post Building (1893; demolished 1954), additions to Riggs National Bank at 15th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, the Willard Office building (1902, demolished 1964), and the Homer (1913) and Victor (1909) buildings. The 27 apartment houses he designed include the Presidential Apartments (1922), the Roosevelt Hotel (1919) and apartments for the Washington Sanitary Housing Company. Large private residences designed by Clark include the Owl's Nest, located at 3031 Gates Road, N.W., (1897), a Georgian Revival mansion at 2300 S Street, NW (Thomas M. Gales House, 1902) and a Craftsman style house built at 1609 16th Street, NW, for H. Cornell Wilson in 1911. At least seven of Clark's buildings have been individually designated as District of Columbia Landmarks. In addition, approximately 30 buildings known to have been designed by Clark are included in historic districts in the District of Columbia.

Clark served as the President of the Washington Chapter of the A.I.A in 1919. As president, he initiated the effort to obtain a registration law for Washington architects. He was a real estate investor and a director of a number of local business enterprises including the Washington Hotel Company, the Equitable Life Insurance Company, Citizen's Savings Bank, and the Washington Sanitary Housing Company. Clark was active in the Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Trade, and was often called upon to oversee matters of design and architecture. His publications include *The History of Architecture in Washington*, and important and influential writings on institutional homes for children. Through his architectural accomplishments and endeavors throughout the city, Clark became one of Washington's most influential architects.

Although much of Clark's later work is in Classical Revival style, his early work, which includes the Washington Post Building, houses on Capitol Hill and the Owl's Nest, provides examples of popular late Victorian styles inspired by medieval and Jacobean prototypes. Clark held a particular interest in the design of public schools. He designed five schools for the District of Columbia, including the Eckington (1897), Petworth (1901), Langston (1901), Wheatley (1902-1903) and Eaton Schools (1909). Because of Clark's interest in public school construction he was appointed by the District Commissioners, in 1909, to chair a volunteer committee of architects and builders to investigate conditions affecting the safety of children in public schools.

Clark died in 1955 at his winter home in St. Petersburg, Florida. In his obituary, the *Washington Post* deemed Appleton P. Clark the "Dean of Architects."

Edward William St. Cyr Barrington (Hebrew Home, 1953 Addition):

Edward William St. Cyr Barrington was an architect best known for his night club interiors and the houses he designed in the Washington, D.C., neighborhoods of Georgetown and Kalorama. A native Washingtonian, he went by William or Billie St. Cyr Barrington. He began practicing as an independent architect in Washington, D.C., in March 1920. As a child, his family friend Jules Henri de Sibour, prominent Washington, D.C., architect, encouraged his artistic tendencies and Barrington flourished under the master's tutelage. Barrington worked as a draftsman for de Sibour from the age of thirteen to twenty-five—de Sibour's grand dwellings and embassy buildings in the Beaux-Arts style influenced Barrington's aesthetic.

From 1917 to 1918, Barrington spent six months in the armed forces during World War I. The first building permit that lists Barrington as architect was issued in 1924 for the office building at 1332 Wisconsin Avenue, NW. The design of this two-story brick building was influenced by the Classical Revival style; the building is an early and relatively modest example of Barrington's work.

In 1925, Barrington began working in the field which would define his career. He designed the interior of the Spanish Village night club at 1304 G Street, NW. Barrington went on to design elaborate interiors of other clubs and restaurants including the Lotus Restaurant, Heigh-Ho Tap Room, the Press Grill, Lucky Strike Tap Room, and the Press Grill. These interiors were all elaborately ornamented in keeping with the themes of the institutions.

From 1929 to 1931, Barrington worked for prolific Washington architect B. Stanley Simmons, gaining experience in designing large apartment buildings and hotels. He then worked independently for most of the 1930s, designing buildings like the Art Deco styled Bari-Arms in 1939 (1727 R Street, NW) in Dupont Circle. Also in 1939, Barrington was working with the Home Construction Corporation to move the houses along Conduit Road when it was widened and renamed MacArthur Boulevard. He designed many of the rowhouses along the new boulevard, including 4814-4836.

Barrington's work represents a diversity of styles and forms. His 1951 addition to the Hebrew Home for the Aged is among his last designs. Barrington was listed in the DC architects directory through 1960. He died of a heart attack on June 27, 1976, at Georgetown University Hospital.

Julius Wenig (Jewish Social Service Agency building):

Born in Frankfurt, Germany, Julius Wenig maintained a thriving architectural firm in Washington, D.C., from 1898 until his death in 1940. He immigrated to the United States at the

age of 17 and was a resident of Washington, D.C., by 1892. In the 1892 -1895 city directories, Wenig is listed as a draftsman, but any previous education or employment is unknown. From 1915 until 1940, Wenig's offices were located in the Mercantile Bank Building, a building he designed for the Mercantile Savings Fund in 1912. The two-story Classical Revival-style bank with details associated with the Craftsman movement is an important example of neighborhood savings banks which appeared in Washington around the turn of the century. The elements of classical architecture present in the building present an image of stability and financial security.

Julius Wenig's work consists of a variety of building types that spans the first four decades of the twentieth century. He designed apartment buildings, commercial buildings, residences, and an automobile showroom during the years 1899-1938. Most of the buildings Wenig designed are classical in style with simplified detailing. He was responsible for introducing numerous single-story stores throughout the city, often featuring a central show window and a parapet roof. A few examples of his more notable work are highlighted below:

- St. Mary's Orphanage, located at 471 G Place, and constructed in 1902, is a 3-story Gothic styled building, which continues to serve as an adjunct building for St. Mary's congregation. The main elevation is highlighted by a rich stone ornament placed above the entrance with an elaborate quatrefoil design and Gothic arch.

- The apartment building at 115 New York Avenue, N.W. was also designed in 1902. Wenig's understanding of apartment architecture is clearly illustrated in his use of the rowhouse form with squared projecting bays and his reliance on elements typical of Victorian architecture.

- The rowhouse structures at 440-442 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. date to 1910, and are fine examples of early 20th-century residential architecture. Although constructed at a later date than the other buildings in the row, Wenig carefully presents a strong design compatible in scale and detail to the other buildings.

- The Livingston Clothing Store located at 908 7th Street, N.W. was designed by Wenig in 1916. The architect employs the same textured buff brick, and Craftsman style brick work and patterns found on the Mercantile Savings Bank Building.

- Wenig designed the fine Italian Renaissance style commercial structures at 2160-62 California Street, N.W. in Sheridan-Kalorama in 1917. They are superb examples of the corner retail structures which are found throughout the city.

Wenig was one of the founders of the Washington Savings Bank along with the treasurer of the Mercantile Savings Fund Society, John D. Leonard. Wenig was an active member of the Washington Architectural Club, a social organization of architects that promoted the study of architecture through exhibits and lectures. In 1902, he was a member of the Washington Architectural Club's House Committee and presented pencil sketches of St. Mary's School and

Sisters' Residences at the Annual Exhibition. Later, Wenig exhibited drawings of the National Permanent Building Association at the 1911 Washington Architectural Club Exhibition at the Corcoran Gallery of Art. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus.

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____ 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): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.75 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 38.936279 Longitude: -77.027802
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or
UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☐ NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:
2. Zone: Easting: Northing:
3. Zone: Easting: Northing:
4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)
The property includes the Hebrew Home for the Aged and the Jewish Social Service Agency buildings located at 1125 and 1131 Spring Road, NW. The property is located on Square 2902 and occupies lots 804 and 805 and part of lot 807.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
The boundary includes lots 804 and 805 and part of lot 807 which are part of a larger tract of land upon which the Hebrew Home and the Jewish Social Service Agency were constructed. The boundaries exclude other buildings on the historic tract that are not associated with the institutional campus.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kent C. Boese/President
organization: Historic Washington Architecture
street & number: 608 Rock Creek Church Road, NW
city or town: Washington, D.C. state: zip code: 20010
e-mail kcboese@hotmail.com
telephone: 202 904-8111
date: June 2014

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

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: Hebrew Home for the Aged and Jewish Social Service Agency buildings
City or Vicinity: Washington, D.C.
County: State:
Photographer: Kent Boese
Date Photographed: January 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

General view of property looking northwest from the intersection of Spring Road and 10th Street showing Hebrew Home at center and Jewish Social Service Agency building in background
1 of 21

View of east end pavilion of 1953 annex of Hebrew Home looking northwest
2 of 21

View of 1953 annex of Hebrew Home for the Aged looking north from 11th Street
3 of 21

View of east end pavilion of 1953 annex of Hebrew Home from 11th Street and Spring Road looking northerly
4 of 21

Detail view of 1953 annex of Hebrew Home looking northwest from Spring Road
5 of 21

Detail view of east end pavilion of 1953 annex of Hebrew Home showing terra cotta and brickwork
6 of 21

View of west end pavilion (original 1925 building) of Hebrew Home looking north
7 of 21

View of Jewish Social Service Agency building looking northwest from Spring Road
8 of 21

View of Jewish Social Service Agency building looking north from Spring Road
9 of 21

View of Jewish Social Service Agency building looking northeast from Spring Road
10 of 21

View looking northeast east showing Jewish Social Service Agency building in foreground and Hebrew Home at center of photo
11 of 21

View looking northeast showing east elevation of west end pavilion (original 1925 building) of Hebrew Home
12 of 21

View looking southeast showing rear wing of 1953 annex of Hebrew Home
13 of 21

View looking northeast from 10th Street showing Hebrew Home in center of photo and Jewish Social Service Agency in background. (The Paul Robeson School in foreground is outside of NR boundaries)
14 of 21

View looking southwest from rear of property showing west end wing of Hebrew Home
15 of 21

Interior view of former sanctuary in 1953 annex of Hebrew Home
16 of 21

Interior view of corridor at rear of 1953 annex of Hebrew Home
17 of 21

Interior view of corridor at rear of 1953 annex of Hebrew Home with former sanctuary on right
18 of 21

Interior stair in 1925 wing showing terrazzo flooring
19 of 21

Detail of window in sanctuary of 1953 annex of Hebrew Home
20 of 21

View of non-contributing utility building at rear of Hebrew Home
21 of 21

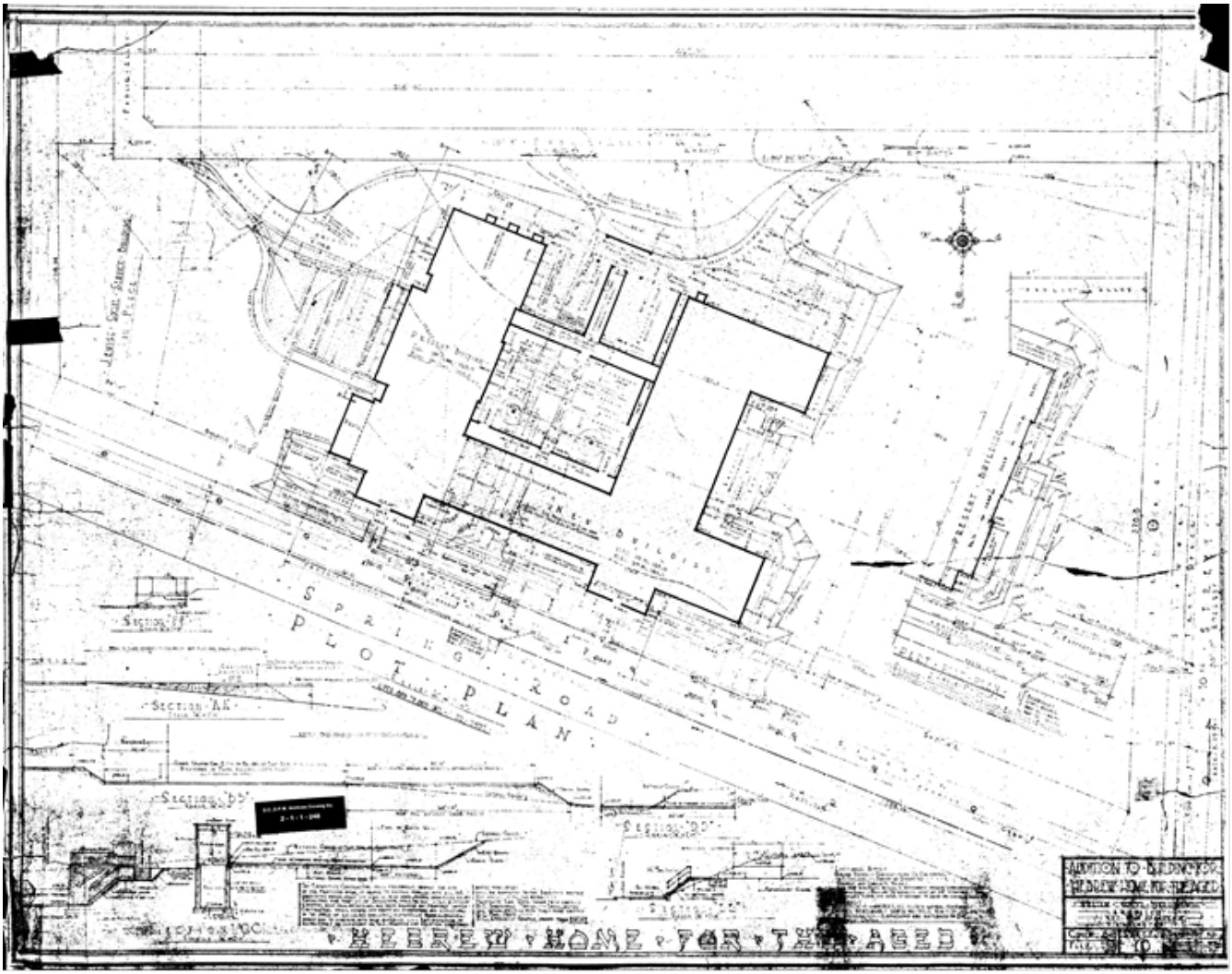
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Architectural Sketch of design for Hebrew Home proposed by Harry A. Brandt, 1922
(From *Washington Times-Herald*, December 3, 1922, p. 5)

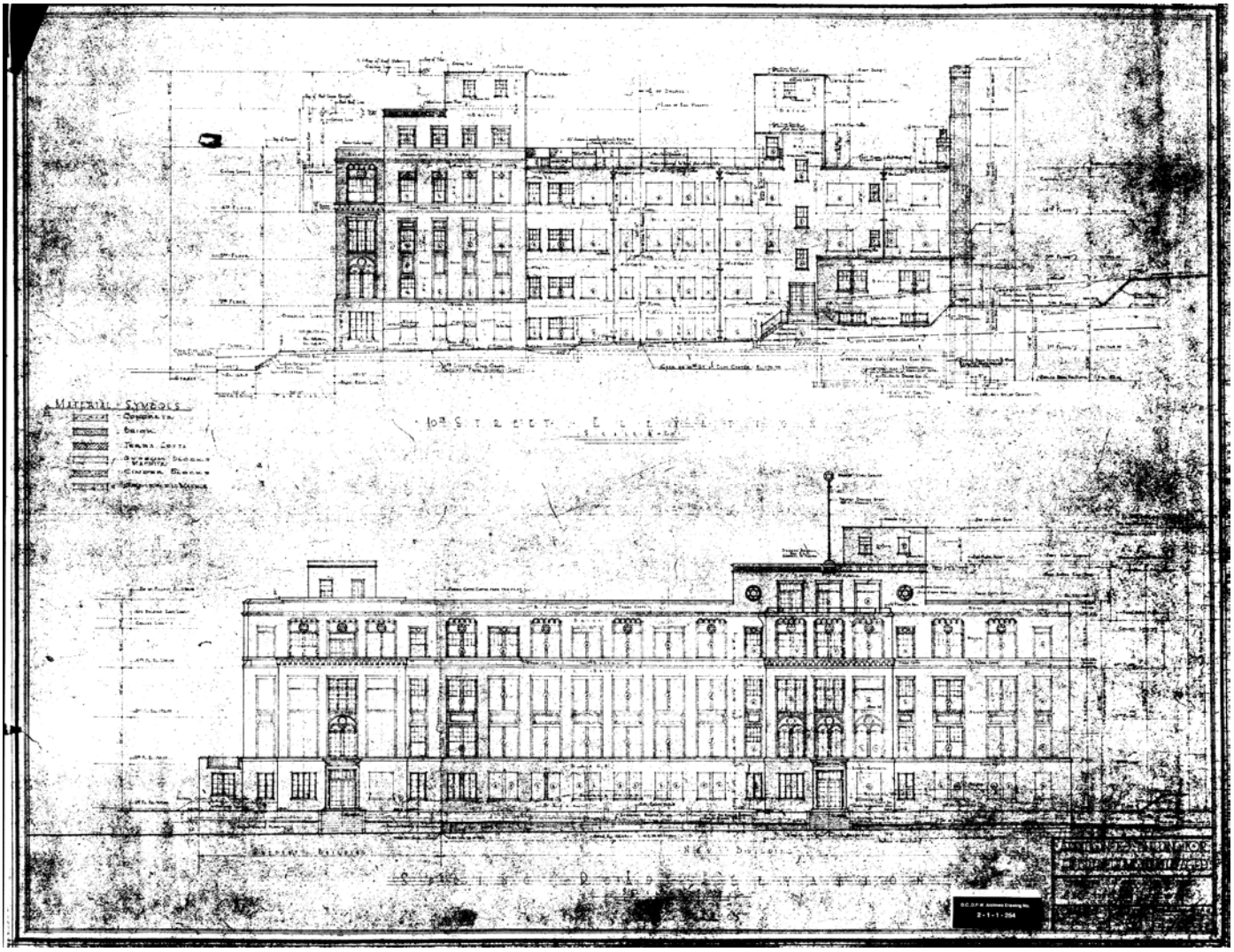
Architectural Sketch of Hebrew Home by Appleton P. Clark, Jr., 1924
(From the Evening Star, June 14, 1924, p. 16)

Dedication of the Hebrew Home for the Aged, November 29, 1925. View from the southeast.

Rendering of addition to Hebrew Home for the Aged showing Barrington's initial scheme for the site, dated November 10, 1951
(From Washington Star Collection, D.C. Public Library)

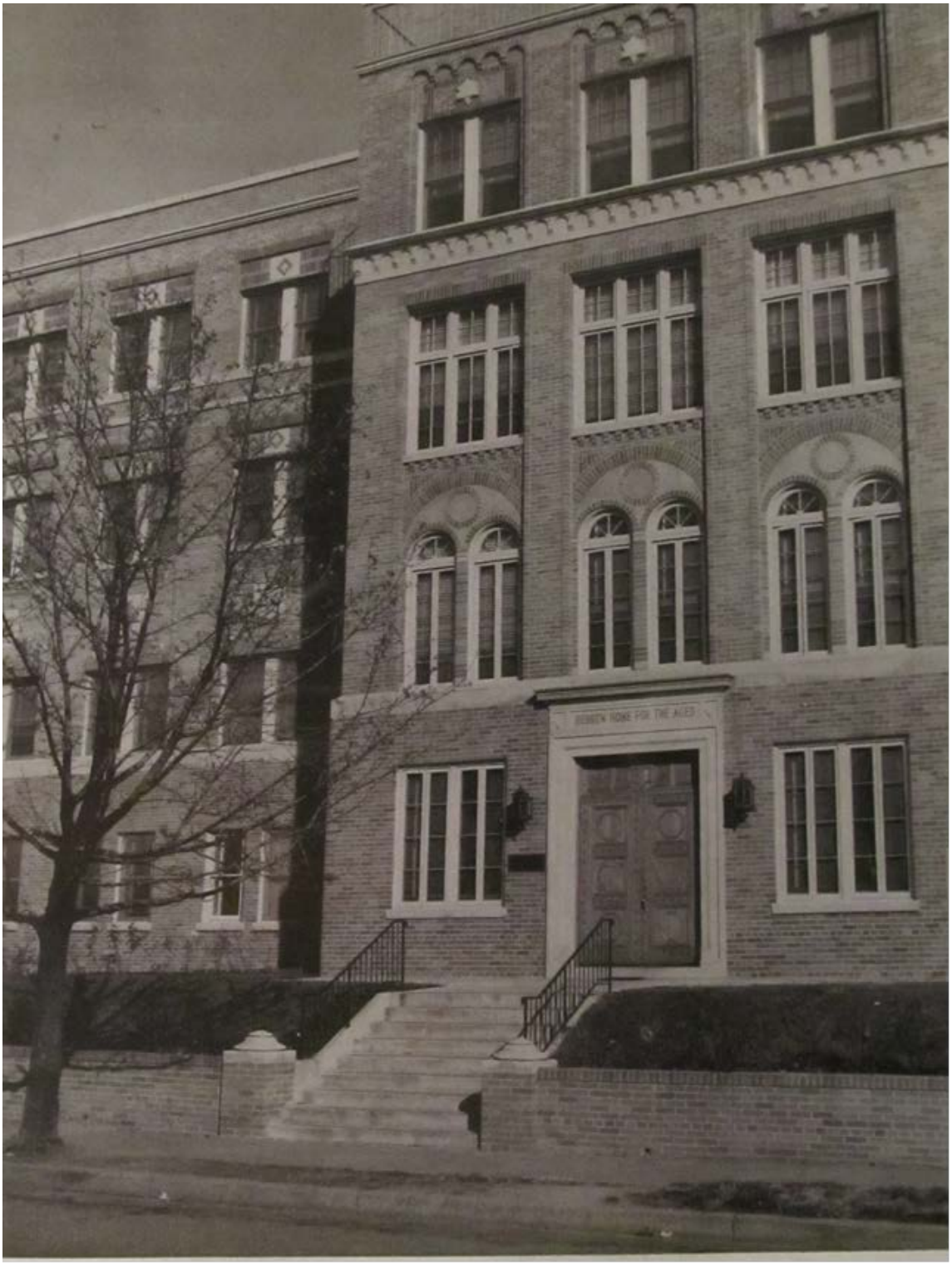


Site plan showing Hebrew Home for the Aged (1925) and its addition designed by William St. Cyr Barrington, ca. 1951



Drawings of Spring Road and 10th Street elevations, designed by William St. Cyr Barrington, ca. 1951

Hebrew Home residents viewing construction of addition from the 1925 building, November 1951
(From DC Public Library, Washingtoniana Collection)



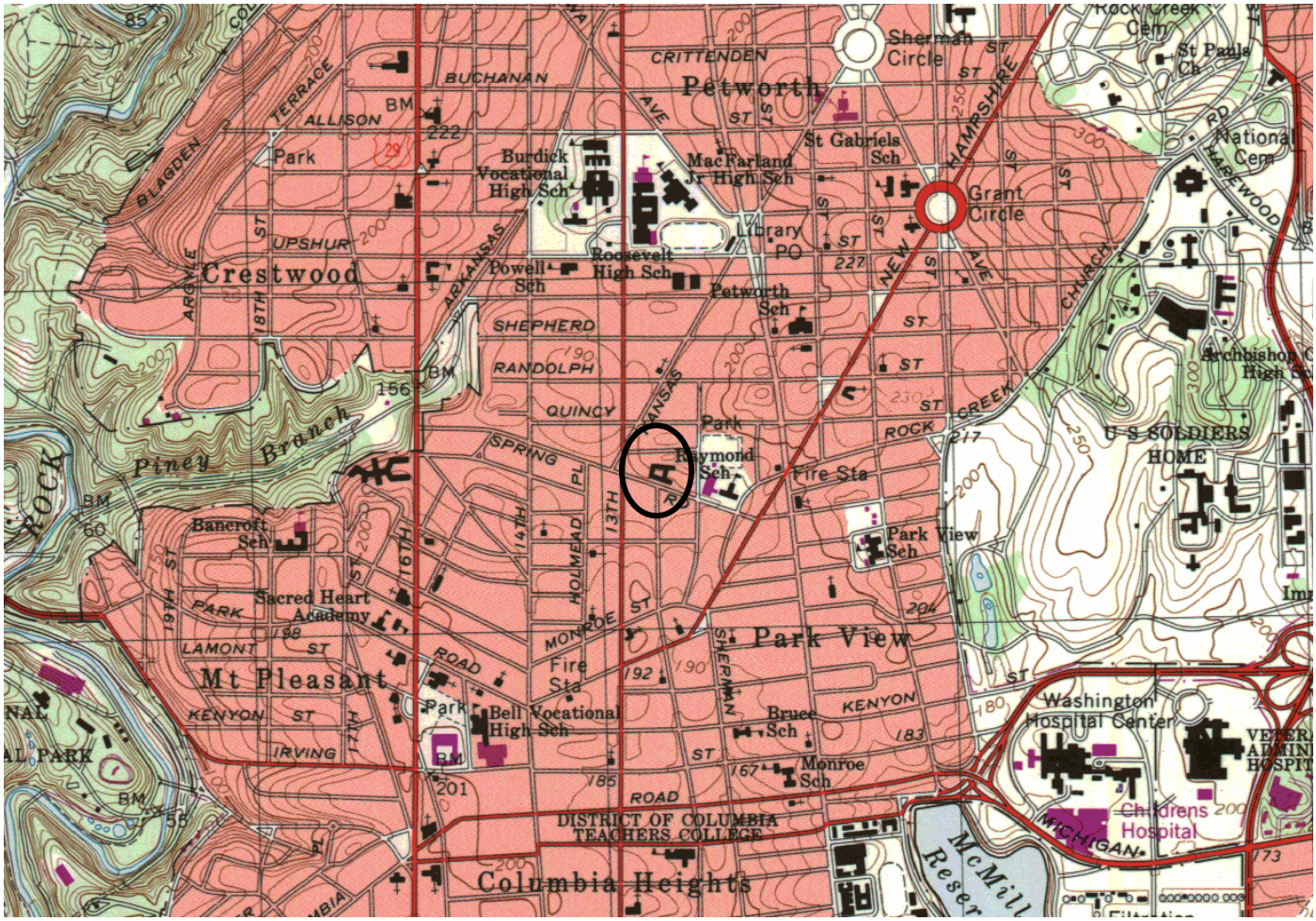
Photograph of east end pavilion of 1953 addition, December 5, 1953
(DC Public Library, Washingtoniana Star Collection)

View of the Hebrew Home for the Aged, mid-1950s, from the southeast

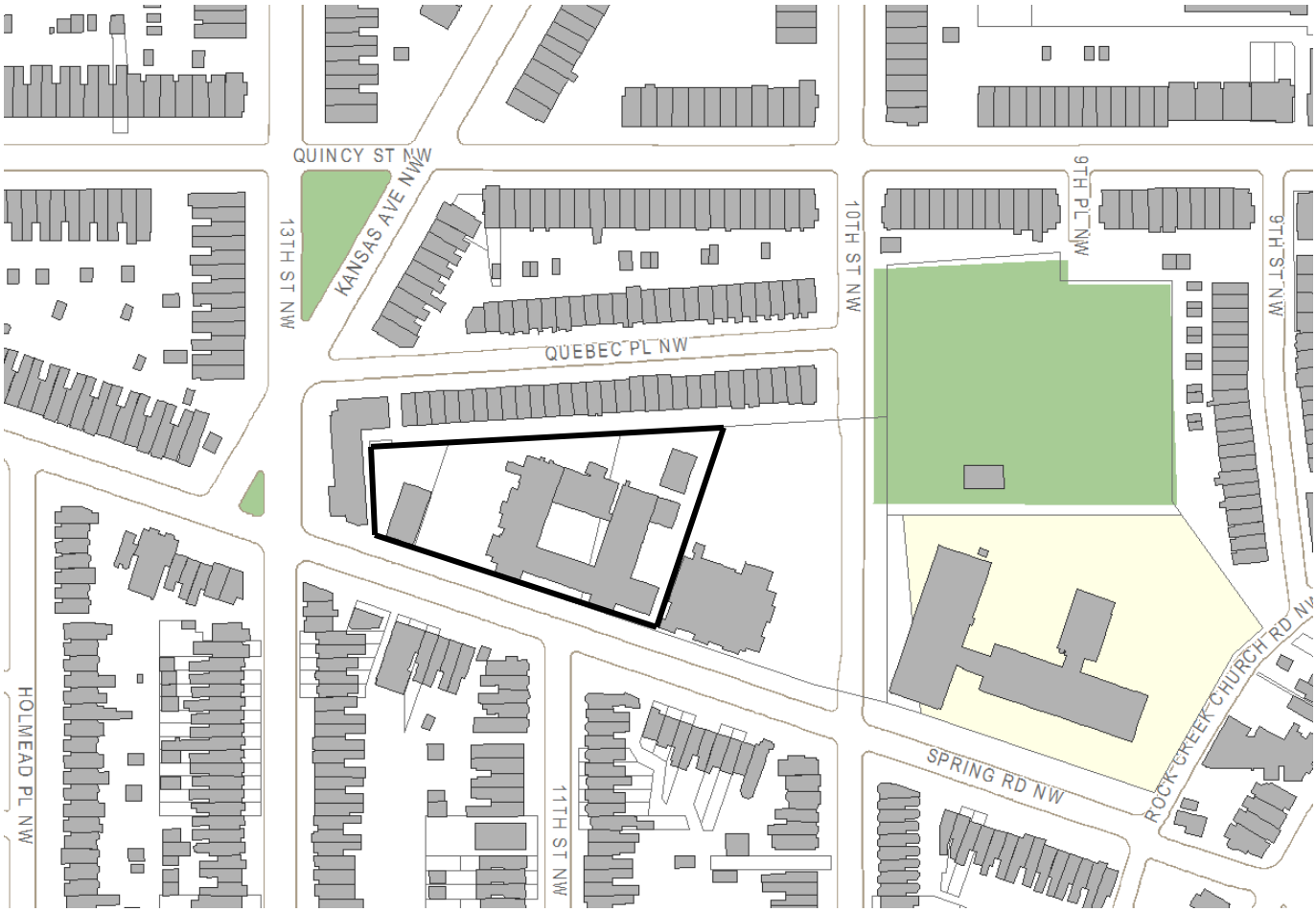
Groundbreaking, Jewish Social Service Agency, 1131 Spring Road, NW, ca. 1939

Jewish Social Service Agency building, 1131 Spring Road, NW, ca. 1940s
(from Jewish Social Service Agency)

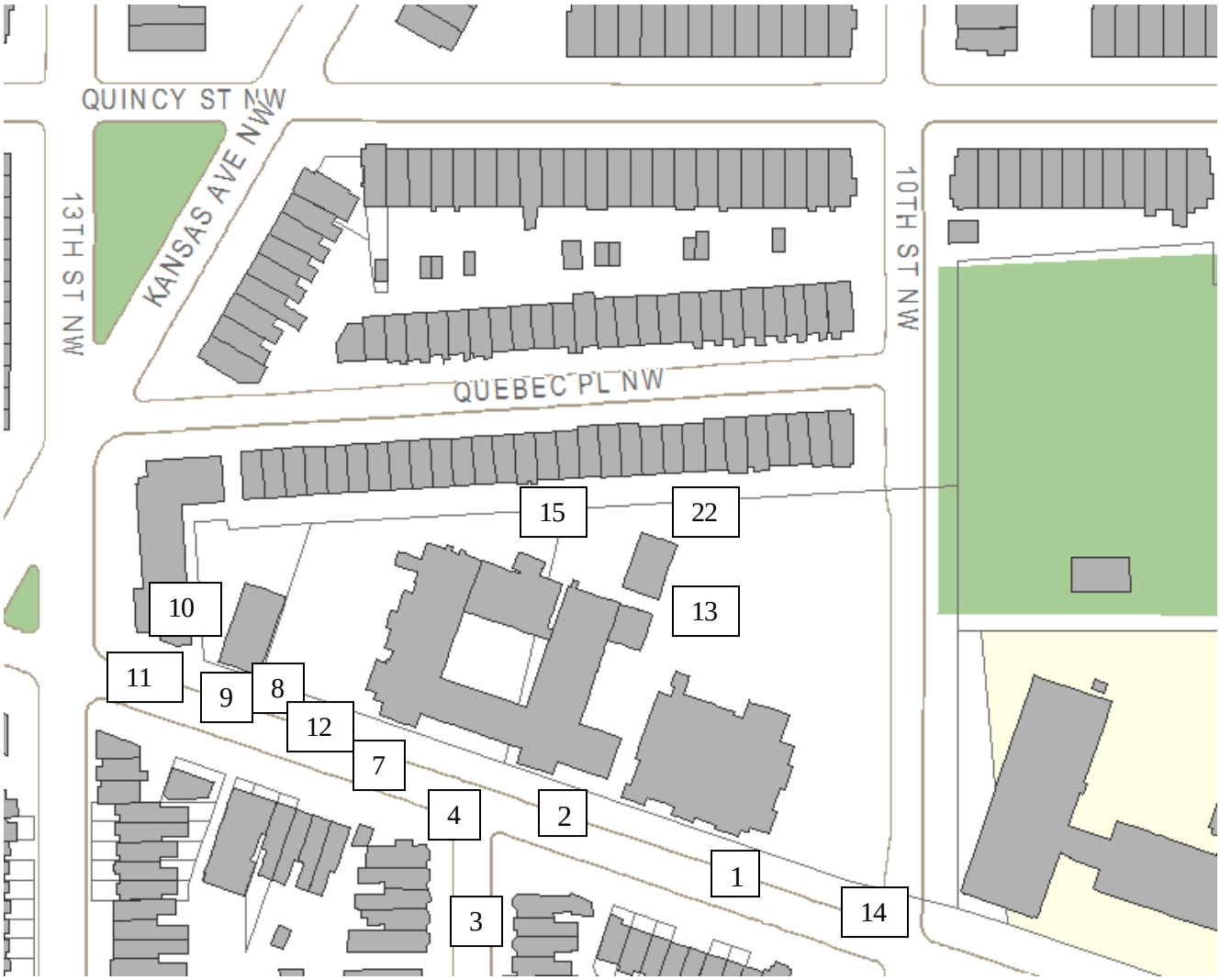
View of Jewish Social Service Agency building waiting room, no date.
(from Jewish Social Service Agency)



USGS Map Washington West showing Hebrew Home for the Aged



Site Plan showing National Register Boundary



Key to Photographs