1. Name of Property
   Historic name: Tulsa Boys' Home Historic District
   Other names/site number: Laura Dester Child Care Foster Center
   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: Bounded by East 8th Street, South Quincy Avenue, East 7th Street, and South Rockford Avenue
   City or town: Tulsa
   State: Oklahoma
   County: Tulsa
   Not For Publication: Vicinity: 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 ___C ___D

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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)   
District   X
Site   
Structure   
Object   

Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 sites</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1 structures</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Total</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC/Institutional Housing
LANDSCAPE/Park
LANDSCAPE/Parking Lot

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
VACANT/NOT IN USE
LANDSCAPE/Park
LANDSCAPE/Parking Lot
7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
MODERN MOVEMENT/Moderne

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: CONCRETE, BRICK, ASPHALT

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

SUMMARY
The Tulsa Boy’s Home Historic District (District) in Tulsa, Tulsa County, Oklahoma is a multi-building institutional childcare complex. The 4.5-acre district is roughly bounded by East 8th Street, South Quincy Avenue, East 7th Street, and South Rockford Avenue. The District occupies a full city block in a residential neighborhood approximately one mile east of downtown Tulsa. Five contributing buildings and a parking lot (a non-contributing structure) are arranged around the perimeter of the property; the center and north end of the property is an open grassy lawn interspersed with trees, a contributing site. The buildings, constructed between 1949 and 1963, have long, low exterior profiles with minimal, Art Moderne ornament. The interior configurations are similar to one another, with large communal spaces and small dormitories flanking double loaded corridors in each building. The buildings retain character defining historic fabric such as buff brick cladding, small metal canopies, steel sash windows, and utilitarian interior finishes that communicate the complex’s historic function as an institutional childcare facility.
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District

Tulsa County, OK

Setting

The Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District occupies a 4.5-acre site approximately one mile east of downtown Tulsa, Tulsa County, Oklahoma (Figure 1). The district is bounded on the north by East 7th Street, on the east by South Rockford Avenue, on the south by East 8th Street, and on the west by South Quincy Avenue. Five contributing buildings, one contributing site, and one non-contributing structure comprise the district.

The surrounding blocks contain a mix of residential and commercial resources as well as vacant lots. Single-family residential housing and one church line the streets to the east, west, and south. Small commercial businesses and a few restaurants line East 6th Street immediately north of the District. The Sixth Street Commercial/Residential Historic District (NRIS #9000687) is located just northwest of the District. A bustling commercial corridor runs along East 11th Street (historic Route 66) three blocks south of the District (Figure 2).

The property slopes downhill slightly from the south to the north. Concrete sidewalks line the south, east and west edges of the District (Photos 1-2). Five contributing buildings line the south half of the perimeter in a U-shaped arrangement around a minimally landscaped courtyard (a contributing site) (Figure 3). Building 1 occupies the center of the west side of the property; Building 2 occupies the southwest corner; Building 3 occupies the center of the south side; Building 4 occupies the southeast corner; and Building 5 occupies the center of the east side (Figure 9). Buildings 1, 2, 4, and 5 have concrete sidewalks leading from the main entrances on the perimeter-facing elevations to the public sidewalks along the street. Two driveways abut the east and west elevations of Building 3 and lead from East 8th Street to a network of paved drives and walks connecting the courtyard-facing elevations of the buildings to one another (Photos 11-14). A narrow drive abutting the north elevations of Buildings 2, 3, and 4 accesses small parking lots between Buildings 1 and 2 on the west side of the property and a concrete basketball court on the east side of the property between Buildings 4 and 5 (Figure 10). Non-historic chain-link fencing surrounds the buildings and paved drives.

A non-historic paved parking lot occupies the northeast corner of the property; two driveways on the east side of the parking lot access South Rockford Avenue (Photo 8). A concrete pad north of Building 1 is likely the foundation of a previously demolished non-historic building. Grassy lawns line the perimeter of the property.

The large grassy lawn that fills the center of the property and extends to the north edge of the property is a contributing site. Mature deciduous trees dot the perimeter of the lawn (Photos 9-10). A chain-link baseball backstop fence occupies the southwest corner of the interior lawn. One concrete walk leads from the west elevation of Building 5 to the parking lot and the grassy lawn; the walk ends abruptly in the middle of the lawn (Photo 10). A Quonset Hut (constructed c. 1948)
EXTERIOR
The Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District contains five contributing buildings (Figure 9). They are numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. While each is slightly different, the buildings share similar Art Moderne-inspired design elements. Low, rectangular buildings with shallow hipped roofs emphasize the horizontality of the designs. The buildings have slight variations in plan. Buildings 1, 3, 4, and 5 have a rectangular plan; Building 2 has an L-shaped plan.

Concrete foundations and steel framing form each building. The buildings are clad with buff brick. A course of soldier bricks wraps the elevations, separating the first and second stories. Narrow bands of projecting header, rowlock, and soldier bricks ornament the second stories of each building. Hip roofs cap each building. The roof structures are clad with composition shingles and have wide overhanging boxed eaves and non-historic galvanized metal box gutters. Non-historic galvanized metal scuppers and downspouts carry water to the ground. Small attic dormers and brick chimneys project from the roofs. The buildings’ façades face outward to the streets lining the perimeter of the complex. The one-story main entrances centered on the façades are grouped with a projecting two-story bay on one side of the entrance, creating an asymmetrical focal point on each of the façades. Historic flat metal canopies with curved corners shade the entrances. Simple patterns of projecting brick and/or cast stone ornaments the entrances and projecting bays. The buildings have two to four secondary entrances; historic metal canopies shade some of the entrances. Non-historic metal slab doors fill the main and secondary entrances; some doorways are boarded up with plywood to prevent vandalism. Non-historic, utilitarian lights illuminate the entrances.

The buildings retain most of the original fenestration patterns. Historic window openings have header-course sills and soldier-course lintels. A few historic window openings have been infilled with buff brick closely matching the original cladding. Historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the window openings in single, paired, and grouped configurations; non-historic exterior screens cover most of the windows. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood. Each of the

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1 Google street view images of the buildings were used to determine the demolition date. The buildings were extant in the April 2014 street view photo and demolished in the December 2015 photo.

2 The current and historic building numbers are different; in this nomination, the buildings are referenced by the current number. Building 1, constructed in 1951, was originally Residence 3, the Intermediate Boys’ Dormitory; Building 2, constructed in 1949, was Residence 2, the Junior Boys’ Dormitory; Building 3, constructed in 1949, was Residence 1, the Senior Boys’ Dormitory; Building 4, constructed in 1957, was the Administration/Dormitory Building; Building 5, constructed in 1963, was Residence 5.
buildings share these similar characteristics, though some have unique elements and non-historic alterations.³

**INTERIOR**

Buildings 1, 2, 3, and 5 were designed as dormitories for the Tulsa Boys’ Home; Building 4 was designed as an administration and dormitory building and was renovated into an administration and classroom building in 1970. While each plan is slightly different, the buildings share similar interior finishes. Double loaded corridors flanked by rooms of various sizes line each floor *(Photo 18)*. Rooms on the first floor are generally larger than those on the upper floors, corresponding to the historic location of living rooms, dining rooms, and kitchens. Rooms on the upper floors are slightly smaller, corresponding to historic bedrooms. Building 4 has small rooms on the first floor and larger rooms on the second floor, reflecting the 1970 renovation into an administration and classroom building. The buildings have been modified over the years but retain most of the historic fabric.

Typical finishes in the corridors include painted plaster walls, VCT floors with rubber bases, and painted, textured drywall ceilings. Stairs line the ends of the main corridors; Buildings 1 and 3 have non-historic elevators accessed from the main corridor. Stairs have VCT floors and painted, textured plaster or drywall walls and ceilings *(Photos 15, 20)*. Each building has a non-historic secondary egress stair that leads from the second floor to the exterior. The metal stairs have VCT treads and landings and painted, textured plaster ceilings. Walls are painted brick or concrete block.

A combination of historic and non-historic doors and casings access the rooms. The historic casings are painted metal; some historic metal louvered doors are extant, but most doors are non-historic metal or wood slab doors. Some rooms have been subdivided and have painted drywall partitions. The rooms retain most historic finishes, including plaster walls, rubber bases, and steel windows with plaster returns *(Photos 16, 17, 19)*. Floors are a combination of carpet and VCT; a few rooms have vinyl plank flooring. Ceilings are painted, textured drywall or a dropped ceiling grid with lay-in acoustical tile. Bathrooms on each floor have been modified but retain historic ceramic tile floors and wainscoting. Non-historic ceiling mounted fluorescent lights illuminate all interior spaces. Partial basements in Buildings 2, 3, and 4 are a combination of larger activity rooms and smaller mechanical and storage rooms. Finishes are the same as rooms on the upper floors. The former living rooms and dining rooms in Buildings 2 and 3 retain the historic ceiling molding.

³ It is unclear when the alterations occurred.
INDIVIDUAL RESOURCE DESCRIPTIONS\textsuperscript{4,5}

1. Building 1

649 South Quincy Avenue

Exterior

Building 1 is a rectangular plan building with a concrete foundation and steel framing. The building is two and one-half stories with no basement. The building is clad with buff brick. A course of soldier bricks wraps the elevations, separating the first and second stories. Narrow bands of projecting header, rowlock, and soldier bricks ornament the second story of the building.

The façade faces west (Photo 3). The one-story main entrance on the west façade is off-center to the south and grouped with a projecting two-story bay on the north side of the entrance, creating an asymmetrical focal point on the façade. The façade has six bays in the first story and seven bays in the second story. A historic flat metal canopy with curved corners shades the entrance in Bay 4. Simple patterns of projecting brick and cast stone ornaments the entrance and projecting bays. The main entrance is recessed into the entrance bay. A non-historic, partially glazed metal door fills the doorway of the recessed main entrance on the west façade. Historic window openings with header-course sills and soldier-course lintels are irregularly spaced on the west façade. Bays 1, 3 and 6 each have a pair of windows while Bay 2 has a group of five windows, Bay 4 contains the recessed entrance, and Bay 5 has a group of four windows. On the second story, Bays 1 and 3 have groups of three windows that flank the single window in Bay 2. Bays 4 and 6 each have a pair of windows that flank a single window in Bay 5. Historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill most of the window openings; non-historic exterior screens cover most of the windows. Bay 7 on the second story has historic multi-light steel casement window. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood.

The south elevation has four bays; the first story fenestration defines the bays. Historic window openings with historic paired two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the two west bays on the first story. The windows have historic header-course sills, soldier-course lintels, and non-historic exterior screens. A non-historic metal slab door fills Bay 3; a non-historic egress stair

\textsuperscript{4} While there are good records of the construction activities undertaken by the Tulsa Boys’ Home, little information is available about alterations to the buildings and parking lot after the Tulsa Boys’ Home left the site in 1978. All building components labeled “non-historic” are alterations that occurred after the period of significance (1949-1978). The dates of these alterations are unknown. Specific alterations are referenced in the “Alterations” sections below the individual building descriptions. The integrity section discusses the cumulative effect of the alterations on the District as a whole.

\textsuperscript{5} The addresses of the resources were taken from signs posted on each building. The only address listed on the Tulsa County Assessor’s website for this site is 1427 East 8th Street. Building 5 does not have a sign indicating its address.
addition fills the east bay, Bay 4. On the second story, a single two-over-two, double-hung, steel window fills the west bay; a historic multi-light steel casement window fills the center bays.

Irregularly spaced punched openings fill the rear (east) elevation. The first story has nine bays while the second story has four bays and the attic dormer has five bays. On the first story, Bays 1, 4, and 7 have single entrances. Bay 2 has a group of four windows. Bays 3 and 6 have pairs of windows while Bays 5, 8, and 9 have single windows. On the second story, Bay 1 has a group of three windows; Bays 2 – 4 have pairs of windows. In the attic or third level, there are dormers with pairs of windows in Bays 1 and 5; single windows in Bays 2 and 3; and a group of four windows in Bay 4. Historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the window openings; non-historic exterior screens cover most of the windows. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood. A non-historic metal slab door fills an entrance on the north end of the east elevation, in Bay 1. Non-historic metal fencing encloses mechanical equipment along the center of the east elevation.

Irregularly spaced punched openings fill the north elevation. The first story has four bays, all containing single windows. The second story has three bays, with pairs of windows in Bays 1 and 2, and a single window in Bay 3. The attic dormer contains a small single window. Historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the window openings; non-historic exterior screens cover most of the windows. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood. A non-historic metal slab door fills an entrance on the west end of the north elevation.

A hip roof caps the building. The roof structure is clad with composition shingles and has wide overhanging boxed eaves and non-historic galvanized metal box gutters. Non-historic galvanized metal scuppers and downspouts carry water to the ground. Large, hipped-roof dormers project from the shallow hipped roof on the north, east, and west elevations. Brick chimneys project from the roof on the west elevation. The front-gabled dormers are clad with asbestos shingles and have composition roofs. Pairs of historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows pierce the dormers.

Interior
Building 1 was constructed as a dormitory. The main entrance vestibule on the west façade leads to historic stairs to the north and a double-loaded corridor and a non-historic elevator to the east. The corridor runs along the center of the south half of the first floor, terminating at a large room on the north end of the first floor. The second and attic/third floors have double-loaded corridors running the entire length of the floorplate. Non-historic stairs at the north end of the building access the first through attic/third floors. Non-historic egress stairs in the southeast corner of the building provide egress to the exterior from the second floor. Typical extant finishes in the corridors and
stairs include a combination of painted plaster and drywall walls, VCT floors with rubber bases, and painted, textured drywall dropped ceilings. The historic exterior walls of the building are visible from the interior of the egress stairs. The egress stairs are metal with VCT treads and landings and painted, textured drywall ceilings. Walls are painted brick and concrete block.

A combination of large and mid-size rooms line the first floor corridor, along with historic bathrooms and utility/mechanical rooms, which are extant on each floor. The historic bathrooms have been subdivided as the facility needed both men’s and women’s restrooms. However, the bathrooms retain their historic finishes, such as ceramic tile floors and wall wainscot. Small rooms that were historically dormitories line the second floor corridor; larger rooms line the corridor in the finished attic, or third floor.

A combination of historic and non-historic doors and casings access the rooms on each floor. The historic casings are painted metal; some historic metal louvered doors are extant, but most doors are non-historic metal or wood. Some rooms on the first floor have been subdivided and have painted drywall partitions. Historic finishes in the rooms include plaster walls, rubber bases, and steel windows with plaster returns. Floors are a combination of non-historic carpet and VCT. Ceilings are non-historic painted, textured drywall or a dropped ceiling grid with lay-in acoustical tile. Some windows retain historic stone sills. Bathrooms on each floor have been modified but retain historic ceramic tile floors and wainscoting. Non-historic ceiling mounted fluorescent lights illuminate all interior spaces.

Alterations
The historic first story porch openings in the southwest corner of the building were altered at some point, likely within the period of significance. The full-height screens on the south and west elevations depicted in the historic plans became smaller window openings with brick infill that matches the original brick; historic, steel, double-hung windows matching the original windows fill the openings. A non-historic egress stair addition with a flat roof projects from the southeast corner of the building (Photo 11). Buff brick clads the addition; the brick closely matches the original and has projecting header and soldier bands ornamenting the second story. A non-historic punched doorway at the first story of the south elevation accesses the egress stair; a non-historic metal slab door fills the doorway.

Historically, the first floor did not have a corridor. The building had an entry hall on the first floor surrounded by a network of large, interconnected communal spaces. Currently, a double loaded

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6 This is a typical condition of the altered porch openings on Buildings 1, 2, and 3.
7 The non-historic buff brick and second story ornamental courses referenced in this description are typical conditions and apply to all other references of non-historic buff brick.
corridor flanked by rooms of various sizes lines the south half of the first floor. Non-historic 
drywall partitions were added to some of the large rooms on the first floor to create the corridor, 
so some of the first floor corridor walls are plaster and some are drywall. A non-historic elevator 
was installed at some point. The elevator is located within the building footprint. Non-historic 
stairs were constructed in the north and south ends of the building, c. 1970.

These alterations are relatively minor and do not compromise the character-defining features 
of the building, specifically its Art Moderne-inspired form and ornament as applied to an institutional 
building in a campus setting. Building 1 maintains its contributing status by retaining integrity 
sufficient to communicate its historic function as well as associations with the period and area of 
significance for the Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District.

2. Building 2

653 South Quincy Avenue             1949

Exterior

Building 2 is an L-shaped plan building with a concrete foundation and steel framing. The building 
is two stories with a partial basement. The building is clad with buff brick. A course of soldier 
bricks wraps the elevations, separating the first and second stories. Narrow bands of projecting 
header, rowlock, and soldier bricks ornament the second story of the building.

The façade faces west (Photo 4). The façade has six bays on the first story and five bays on the 
second story. The south three bays of each story project slightly forward, west; the main entrance 
is in the center of the south bays. A simple pattern of projecting brick and cast stone ornaments 
the entrance. Concrete stairs with buff brick knee walls lead to the main entrance on the west 
façade. A non-historic metal door and sidelight fill the doorway; plywood covers most of the entry 
assembly. On the first story, Bays 1, 4, and 6 have pairs of windows while Bays 2 and 3 have 
single windows. The window in Bay 2 is smaller than the window in Bay 3. Bay 5 contains the 
entrance. On the second story, Bay 1 has a group of three windows. Bays 2 and 4 have single 
windows while Bays 3 and 5 have pairs of windows. Historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel 
windows with header-course sills and soldier-course lintels fill the window openings on the west 
façade. Non-historic exterior screens cover most of the windows. Some of the window openings 
have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with 
plywood.

Irregularly spaced punched openings fill the south elevation. The south elevation has five bays on 
the first story and six bays on the second story. On the first story, pairs of windows fill Bays 1-3 
while Bays 4 and 5 each have a group of four windows. On the second story, single windows fill 
Bays 1-3; Bays 4 and 5 have groups of three windows; and Bay 6 has a group of four windows.
Historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the openings at the first and second stories; non-historic exterior screens cover most of the windows. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood.

Irregularly spaced punched openings fill the rear (east) elevation, which has six bays defined by the first story fenestration pattern. The second story has three bays. The south three bays of the elevation project from the north three bays, corresponding to the building’s L-shaped plan. On the south end of the elevation, historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill a first story window opening in a grouped configuration; non-historic exterior screens cover the windows. Two non-historic doors pierce the remaining first story bays and access and non-historic concrete ramp. The second story of the south half of the east elevation is devoid of fenestrations. The north half of the east elevation has three bays: a non-historic metal slab door fills a historic door opening in the south bay while small glass block windows pierce north bays. Historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the second story window openings in the north end of the east elevation.

Irregularly spaced punched openings fill the north elevation. The west end of the elevation projects from the east end, corresponding to the building’s L-shaped plan. The first story has three bays: a group of four windows in Bay 1, a single window in Bay 2, and a pair of windows in Bay 3. The second story has five bays, all filled with single windows. Historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the window openings; non-historic exterior screens cover most of the windows. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood. Non-historic fencing encloses mechanical equipment along the west end of the north elevation.

Concrete window wells project from the basement level at the west façade and north and south elevations. Historic paired two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the window openings. Exterior stairs lead down to basement entrances in the southwest and north ends of the building; the stairs are concrete. Non-historic metal slab doors fill the entrances.

A hip roof caps the building. The roof structure is clad with composition shingles and has wide overhanging boxed eaves and non-historic galvanized metal box gutters. Non-historic galvanized metal scuppers and downspouts carry water to the ground. Small attic dormers project from the roof on the north, south, and west elevations. Each dormer has a round-arched opening infilled with a louvered metal vent. Brick chimneys project from the roof on the north, south, and east elevations.
Building 2 was constructed as a dormitory. The main entrance vestibule on the west façade leads to a historic entry hall running along the west half of the first floor. Non-historic corridors extend east and north from the east end of the entry hall, corresponding to the building’s L-shaped plan. Historic double-loaded corridors on the second floor run the length of the building. A historic stair in the northeast end of the entry hall accesses the second floor and basement. A non-historic egress stair in the northeast corner of the building provides egress to the exterior from the second floor. Typical extant finishes in the corridors and stairs include a combination of painted plaster and drywall walls, VCT floors with rubber bases, and painted, textured drywall dropped ceilings. The historic exterior walls of the building are visible from the interior of the egress stairs. The egress stairs are metal with VCT treads and landings and painted, textured drywall ceilings. Walls are painted brick and concrete block.

A combination of large and mid-size rooms line the first floor corridor, along with historic bathrooms and utility/mechanical rooms which are extant on each floor. The historic bathrooms have been subdivided as the facility needed both men’s and women’s restrooms. However, the bathrooms retain their historic finishes, such as ceramic tile floors and wall wainscot. Mid-size rooms that were historically dormitories line the second floor corridor.

A combination of historic and non-historic doors and casings access the rooms on each floor. The historic casings are painted metal; some historic metal louvered doors are extant, but most doors are non-historic metal or wood slab doors. Some rooms on the first floor have been subdivided and have painted drywall partitions. Historic finishes in the rooms include plaster walls, rubber bases, and steel windows with plaster returns. Floors are a combination of non-historic carpet and VCT. Ceilings are non-historic painted, textured drywall or a dropped ceiling grid with lay-in acoustical tile. The former living and dining rooms retain the historic ceiling molding. Some windows retain historic stone sills. Bathrooms on each floor have been modified but retain historic ceramic tile floors and wainscoting. Non-historic ceiling mounted fluorescent lights illuminate all interior spaces.

The partial basement occupies the west half of the floorplate and contains a central, double-loaded corridor lined with mid-sized rooms, terminating at the south end in a large room. Finishes in the corridors and rooms are similar to the first and second floors.

Alterations

Historic window openings on the second story of the (side/rear) north elevation are infilled with non-historic buff brick. Altered openings in the southeast corner of the building correspond to the location of the historic porch. The full-height screens on the south and east elevations depicted in
the historic plans became smaller window openings with brick infill that matches the original brick; historic, steel, double-hung windows fill the window openings. The east window opening on the second story of the porch was infilled with non-historic buff brick. A non-historic doorway pierces the first story of the east elevation; a non-historic metal door fills the opening. A non-historic egress stair addition with a flat roof projects from the northeast corner of the building. Buff brick clads the addition (Photo 12). A non-historic concrete ramp with a metal railing projects from the building’s east elevation, accessing the egress stair addition. A non-historic punched doorway on the first story of the east elevation accesses the egress stair; a non-historic metal door fills the doorway.

Historically, the first floor did not have a corridor. The building had an entry hall (extant) on the first floor surrounded by a network of large, interconnected communal spaces. Currently, corridors line the north and east ends of the first floor, radiating out from the historic entry hall. Non-historic drywall partitions were added to some of the large rooms on the first floor to create the corridors, so some of the first floor corridor walls are plaster and some are drywall. A non-historic egress stair was constructed in the northeast corner of the building, c. 1970.

These alterations are relatively minor and do not compromise the character-defining features of the building, specifically its Art Moderne-inspired form and ornament applied to an institutional building in a campus setting. Building 2 maintains its contributing status by retaining integrity sufficient to communicate its historic function as well as associations with the period and area of significance for the Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District.

3. Building 3

Contributing 1949

Exterior

Building 3 is a low, rectangular plan building with a concrete foundation and steel framing. The building is two stories with a partial basement. The building is clad with buff brick. A course of soldier bricks wraps the elevations, separating the first and second stories. Narrow bands of projecting header, rowlock, and soldier bricks ornament the second stories of each building.

The façade faces south and has seven bays in each story (Photo 5). A non-historic two-story addition projects from the center of the south façade, replacing the main entrance; the addition houses an elevator. The addition has stucco cladding and a gabled asphalt-shingle roof. Projecting bands on the addition match the ornamental bands on the historic brick façade. A slab metal door and narrow sidelight on the west elevation of the addition fill the entrance. Historic window openings with header-course sills and soldier-course lintels are irregularly spaced on the south façade. On the first story, Bays 1, 4 and 7 have pairs of windows; Bay 2 has a single window; Bay
3 has a group of three windows; and Bay 6 has a group of four windows. Bay 5 contains the entrance. On the second story, Bays 1 and 6 have groups of three windows; Bay 2 has a pair of windows; Bay 3 has a small single window; Bays 4 and 5 have larger single windows. Bay 7 has historic, multi-light, steel, casement windows. Historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill most of the window openings; non-historic exterior screens cover most of the windows. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood.

The east elevation has two bays. On the first story, historic paired two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows and a non-historic metal slab door fill the south bay; an egress stair addition with a non-historic metal slab door fills the north bay. On the second story, historic, multi-light, steel, casement windows fill the window opening in the south bay; a portion of the window opening is infilled with non-historic buff brick. The egress stair addition fills the north bay of the second story and is devoid of fenestration. A non-historic concrete ramp with metal railings accesses the first story entrances on the east elevation.

Irregularly spaced punched openings fill the rear (north) elevation. The first story has eight bays while the second story has seven bays. Bay 1 has a group of four windows. The center portion of the elevation projects slightly to the north and contains a group of four windows in Bay 3 and a single window in Bay 4. A non-historic metal slab door fills a historic doorway just east of the projecting bays, in Bay 2. A historic curved metal canopy shades the entrance. Bays 5 and 7 have short glass block windows while Bays 6 and 8 have single windows. On the second story, Bay 1 has a group of three windows; Bays 2-4 and Bay 6 have single windows. Bays 5 and 7 have groups of four windows. Historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the first and second story window openings; non-historic exterior screens cover most of the windows. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood. Two small glass block windows pierce the west side of the elevation; the glass blocks are broken.

The west elevation has three bays. On the first story, a non-historic metal slab door fills the non-historic entrance in the north bay; a small flight of concrete and brick stairs with a simple metal railing leads up to the entrance. A non-historic metal slab door fills the historic entrance in the center bay; a historic curved metal canopy shades the entrance. Single, historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the remaining first story bay and all three second story bays. The first story window is filled with plywood.

A concrete stairwell projects from the basement level of the north elevation; the stairwell has concrete stairs leading down to a basement entrance. Non-historic metal fencing encloses the
stairwell. Concrete window wells project at the basement level on the north and west elevations. The window openings are infilled with plywood.

A hip roof caps the building. The roof structure is clad with composition shingles and has wide overhanging boxed eaves and non-historic galvanized metal box gutters. Non-historic galvanized metal scuppers and downspouts carry water to the ground. Small attic dormers with louvered metal vents and brick chimneys project from all four sides of the roof.

**Interior**

Building 3 was constructed as a dormitory. The main entrance vestibule in the non-historic addition on the south façade accesses a non-historic elevator to the east and a historic entry hall to the north. A non-historic double-loaded corridor bisects the west half of the first floor; a series of interconnected rooms with a non-historic secondary entrance vestibule occupies the east half of the first floor. The second floor has a double-loaded corridor running the entire length of the floorplate. Historic stairs at the west end of the building access the basement through second floor; historic stairs at the north end of the entry hall access a rear entrance and the basement. Non-historic egress stairs in the northeast corner of the building provide egress to the exterior from the second floor. Typical extant finishes in the corridors and stairs include a combination of painted plaster and drywall walls, VCT floors with rubber bases, and painted, textured drywall dropped ceilings. The north and west stairs retain the historic plaster kneewalls and wood railings. The historic exterior walls of the building are visible from the interior of the egress stairs. The egress stairs are metal with VCT treads and landings and painted, textured drywall ceilings. Walls are painted brick and concrete block.

A combination of large and mid-size rooms line the first floor corridor, along with historic bathrooms and utility/mechanical rooms that are extant on each floor. The historic bathrooms have been subdivided as the facility needed both men’s and women’s restrooms. However, the bathrooms retain their historic finishes, such as ceramic tile floors and wall wainscot. Mid-size rooms that were historically dormitories line the second floor corridor.

A combination of historic and non-historic doors and casings access the rooms on each floor. The historic casings are painted metal; some historic louvered doors are extant, but most doors are non-historic metal or wood. Some rooms on the second floor have been slightly reconfigured due to the elevator addition and have painted drywall partitions. Historic finishes in the rooms include plaster walls, rubber bases, and steel windows with plaster returns. Floors are a combination of non-historic carpet and VCT. Ceilings are non-historic painted, textured drywall or a dropped ceiling grid with lay-in acoustical tile. The former living room and dining room retain the historic ceiling molding. Some windows retain historic stone sills. Bathrooms on each floor have been
modified but retain historic ceramic tile floors and wainscoting. Non-historic ceiling mounted fluorescent lights illuminate all interior spaces.

The partial basement occupies the west half of the floorplate and contains a central, double-loaded corridor lined with mid-sized rooms. Finishes in the corridors and rooms are similar to the first and second floors.

**Alterations**
A non-historic two-story addition, constructed c. 2000, projects from the center of the south façade, replacing the main entrance; the addition houses an elevator. The addition has stucco cladding and a gabled asphalt-shingle roof. Projecting bands on the addition match the ornamental bands on the historic brick façade. A non-historic two-story egress stair addition with a flat roof projects from the northeast corner of the building. Buff brick clads the addition *(Photo 13).* A non-historic punched doorway on the first story of the east elevation accesses the egress stair; a non-historic metal door fills the doorway. Non-historic concrete ramps with metal railings project from the building’s east and south elevations, accessing the elevator and egress stair additions. The historic first story porch openings in the southeast corner of the building were altered at some point, likely within the period of significance. The full-height screens on the south and east elevations depicted in the historic plans became window openings; non-historic, double-hung, vinyl windows fill the window openings. A non-historic metal door fills a doorway on the east elevation of the altered porch opening. A portion of the second story window opening on the east elevation is infilled with non-historic buff brick.

Historically, the first floor did not have a corridor. The building had an entry hall (extant) on the first floor surrounded by a network of large, interconnected communal spaces. Currently, a corridor lines the west end of the first floor and a non-historic entrance vestibule occupies the east end. A drywall partition was added to one room on the west side of the building to create the corridor and one drywall partition was added to one room on the east side of the building to create the entrance vestibule, so some of the first floor corridor walls are plaster and some are drywall. A non-historic egress stair was constructed in the northeast corner of the building. A non-historic elevator was added on the south side of the building. Some of the second floor rooms were slightly reconfigured to accommodate the elevator but the rooms retain their historic perimeter walls and configuration.

These alterations do not significantly compromise the character-defining features of the building, specifically its Art Moderne-inspired form and ornament applied to an institutional building in a campus setting. The addition to the façade does not compromise the integrity of the building because it was already an asymmetrical façade and, while large, does not detract from the
building’s ability to convey its historic use. Building 3 maintains its contributing status by retaining integrity sufficient to communicate its historic function as well as associations with the period and area of significance for the Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District.

4. Building 4
1427 East 8th Street

Exterior
Building 4 is a low, rectangular plan building with a concrete foundation and steel framing. The building is two stories with a partial basement. The building is clad with buff brick. A course of soldier bricks wraps the elevations, separating the first and second stories. Narrow bands of projecting header, rowlock, and soldier bricks ornament the second stories of each building.

The façade faces south (Photo 6). The façade has nine bays on the first story and ten bays on the second story, the historic first story fenestration defines the bays. The one-story main entrance centered on the south façade is grouped with a projecting two-story bay on the west side of the entrance, creating an asymmetrical focal point on the façade. A simple pattern of projecting brick and cast stone ornaments the projecting bay. A non-historic one-story addition projects from the main entrance on the south façade, creating a covered porch. The porch has large buff brick columns and a flat roof clad with vertical vinyl siding. Concrete stairs with buff brick knee walls lead to the main entrance. A non-historic metal door with narrow flanking sidelights fills the doorway. A non-historic concrete ramp with metal railings just east of the porch also accesses the main entrance. On the first story, Bays 1-5 and 8-9 have pairs of windows. Bay 6 has a single window and Bay 7 contains the entrance. On the second story, Bays 1-5, 7, and 10 have pairs of windows while Bays 6, 8, and 9 have single windows. Historic window openings with header-course sills and soldier-course lintels and are filled with historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows; non-historic exterior screens cover most of the windows. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood. A historic below-grade entrance pierces the west elevation of the projecting bay on the south façade. Concrete stairs with a brick knee wall access the entrance; the doorway is infilled with plywood.

The east elevation has three bays, the first story fenestration defines the bays. Paired historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the window openings in the first story bays; single historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the window openings in the second story bays. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood.
The rear (north) elevation has eight bays on the first story and eleven bays on the second story. On the first story, Bays 1-2 and 5-8 have pairs of windows while Bay 3 has a single window. A historic entrance in the center of the north elevation, in Bay 4, is infilled with plywood; a historic metal canopy shades the entrance. A short flight of concrete stairs with simple metal railings leads to the entrance. On the second story, Bays 1, 3, 5-8, and 11 have pairs of windows. The remaining bays have single windows; the window in Bay 9 is half the width of the other single windows. Historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the window openings in the first and second story bays. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood. Two window openings on the first story of the north elevation are infilled with non-historic buff brick.

The west elevation has three bays; the first story fenestration defines the bays. A historic entrance fills the center bay on the first story. A pair of one and one-half story brick pilasters and patterned brick ornament the entrance. A historic metal canopy shades the entrance. The doorway is infilled with metal panels. Paired historic, two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the window openings in the outer first story bays; single historic, two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the window openings in the second story bays. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood.

A concrete stairwell with a simple metal railing projects from the basement level of the north elevation on the west side of the north entrance; the stairwell has concrete stairs leading down to a basement entrance. A concrete window well with a simple metal railing projects from the basement level of the north elevation on the east side of the north entrance; the window openings in the basement are infilled with plywood.

A hip roof caps the building. The roof structure is clad with composition shingles and has wide overhanging boxed eaves and non-historic galvanized metal box gutters. Non-historic galvanized metal scuppers and downspouts carry water to the ground. Small attic dormers with louvered metal vents and brick chimneys project from all four sides of the roof.

**Interior**

Building 4 was constructed as an administration and dormitory building and was converted to an administration and classroom building in 1970. The main entrance on the south façade accesses a small, non-historic entrance vestibule. Historic double-loaded corridors on the first and second floors bisect the floorplate. Historic stairs in the center of the south side of the building access the basement through second floors; historic stairs on the west end of the building access the first and second floors. Typical extant finishes in the corridors and stairs include a combination of painted
plaster and drywall walls, VCT floors with rubber bases, and painted, textured drywall dropped ceilings. The south and west stairs retain the historic plaster kneewalls and wood railings.

Mid-size rooms line the first floor corridor, along with historic bathrooms and utility/mechanical rooms that are extant on each floor. The historic bathrooms have been subdivided as the facility needed both men’s and women’s restrooms. However, the bathrooms retain their historic finishes, such as ceramic tile floors and wall wainscot. A combination of large and mid-size rooms that were historically classrooms (large rooms) and dormitories (mid-size rooms) line the second floor corridor.

A combination of historic and non-historic doors and casings access the rooms on each floor. The historic casings are painted metal; some historic louvered doors are extant, but most doors are non-historic metal or wood. Some rooms on the second floor have been slightly reconfigured due to the elevator addition and have painted drywall partitions. Historic finishes in the rooms include plaster walls, rubber bases, and steel windows with plaster returns. Floors are a combination of non-historic carpet and VCT. Ceilings are non-historic painted, textured drywall or a dropped ceiling grid with lay-in acoustical tile. Some windows retain historic stone sills. Bathrooms on each floor have been modified but retain historic ceramic tile floors and wainscoting. Non-historic ceiling mounted fluorescent lights illuminate all interior spaces.

The partial basement occupies the east half of the floorplate and contains a single-loaded corridor lined with small and mid-sized rooms. Finishes in the corridors and rooms are similar to the first and second floors.

**Alterations**

A non-historic, one-story addition projects from the main entrance on the south façade, creating a covered porch. The porch has large buff brick columns and a flat roof clad with vertical vinyl siding. Concrete stairs with buff brick knee walls lead to the main entrance. A non-historic metal door with narrow flanking sidelights fills the doorway. A non-historic concrete ramp with metal railings just east of the porch also accesses the main entrance. Two window openings on the first story of the north elevation are infilled with non-historic buff brick.

Building 4 has minimal alterations to the interior. Painted drywall partitions were added to the large room on the east end of the first floor, subdividing the room. An entrance vestibule was created in the south entry, enclosing the entrance and the stairs, presumably to meet fire codes. The south stairs were also enclosed with painted drywall partitions on the second floor.
These alterations are relatively minor and do not compromise the character-defining features of the building, specifically its Art Moderne-inspired form and ornament applied to an institutional building in a campus setting. Building 4 maintains its contributing status by retaining integrity sufficient to communicate its historic function as well as associations with the period and area of significance for the Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District.

5. Building 5

Exterior
Building 5 is a low, rectangular plan building with a concrete foundation and steel framing. The building is two stories with no basement. The building is clad with buff brick. A course of soldier bricks wraps the elevations, separating the first and second stories. Narrow bands of projecting header, rowlock, and soldier bricks ornament the second stories of each building.

The façade faces east (Photo 7). It has eight bays on the first story and seven bays on the second story. The one-story main entrance centered on the east façade is grouped with a projecting two-story bay on the north side of the entrance, creating an asymmetrical focal point on the façade. A simple pattern of projecting brick and cast stone ornaments the entrance and projecting bay. Concrete stairs with metal railings lead to the main entrance on the east façade. A historic metal canopy shades the entrance. A non-historic metal door and sidelight fill the doorway. Historic window openings with header-course sills and soldier-course lintels are irregularly spaced on the east façade. The first story has pairs of windows in Bays 1, 2, 5, 7, and 8. Bays 4 and 6 have single windows. Bay 3 contains the entrance. On the second story, Bays 1-3 and 5-7 have pairs of windows while Bay 4 has a single window. Historic two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the window openings; non-historic exterior screens cover most of the windows. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood.

The north elevation has three bays; the second story fenestration defines the bays. A historic entrance pierces the center bay on the first story. A historic metal canopy shades the entrance. A non-historic door fills the doorway. Concrete stairs with metal railings lead from the historic entry in the center bay to the non-historic secondary entrance in the west bay. In the east bay, historic paired and single, two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the window openings on the first story. On the second story, a historic single, two-over-two, double-hung, steel window fills the center bay; paired two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the outer bays. Non-historic

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8 Building 5 does not have an address. There were no signs posted on the building and the County Assessor’s website does not list individual addresses for this site.
exterior screens cover most of the windows. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood.

The rear (west) elevation has eight bays on the first story and seven bays on the second story. On the first story, Bays 1-3, 6 and 8 have pairs of windows. Bay 4 has a louvered vent. Bays 5 and 7 have single entrances. On the second story, all of the bays have pairs of windows, except Bay 5, which has a single window. On the first story, two historic entrances pierce the south end of the west elevation. A historic metal canopy shades the southernmost entrance; the doorway is infilled with plywood. A historic glazed metal door fills the central entrance. Historic paired and single, two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the remaining window openings on the first and second stories. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood.

Window and door openings are irregularly spaced on the south elevation. There are three bays on each story. A non-historic entrance pierces Bay 3 at the east end of the south elevation; a non-historic metal slab door fills the doorway. Pairs of windows fill Bays 1 and 2 on the first story and Bay 1 on the second story. Single windows fill Bays 2 and 3 on the second story. Historic paired and single, two-over-two, double-hung, steel windows fill the window openings. Some of the window openings have missing and/or broken sash due to vandalism; a few windows have been covered with plywood.

**Interior**

Building 5 was constructed as a dormitory. The main entrance on the east façade accesses a small, historic entrance vestibule. Historic double-loaded corridors on the first and second floors bisect the floorplate. Historic stairs in the center of the south elevation and the north end of the building access the first and second floors. Non-historic egress stairs in the southeast corner of the building provide egress to the exterior from the second floor. Typical extant finishes in the corridors and stairs include a combination of painted plaster and drywall walls, VCT floors with rubber bases, and painted, textured drywall dropped ceilings. The south and north stairs retain the historic plaster kneewalls and wood railings. The egress stairs are metal with VCT treads and landings and painted, textured drywall walls and ceilings.

A combination of large and mid-size rooms line the first- and second floor corridors, along with historic bathrooms and utility/mechanical rooms that are extant on each floor. The historic bathrooms have been subdivided as the facility needed both men’s and women’s restrooms. However, the bathrooms retain their historic finishes, such as ceramic tile floors and wall wainscot.
A combination of historic and nonhistoric doors and casings access the rooms on each floor. The historic casings are painted metal; some historic louvered doors are extant, but most doors are nonhistoric metal or wood slab doors. Large rooms at the north end of the second floor have been slightly reconfigured; historic partitions were removed, combining two smaller rooms into one large room. Historic finishes in the rooms include plaster walls, rubber bases, and steel windows with plaster returns. Floors are a combination of nonhistoric carpet and VCT. Ceilings are nonhistoric painted, textured drywall or a dropped ceiling grid with lay-in acoustical tile. Some windows retain historic stone sills. Bathrooms on each floor have been modified but retain historic ceramic tile floors and wainscoting. Nonhistoric ceiling mounted fluorescent lights illuminate all interior spaces.

**Alterations**

A nonhistoric doorway pierces the first story of the north elevation; a nonhistoric metal door fills the doorway. Window openings on the second story of the west elevation and first story of the north elevation are infilled with nonhistoric buff brick. Window openings in the southeast corner of the building were infilled with buff brick, creating a fire-rated egress stair (*Photo 14*). A nonhistoric metal door fills the nonhistoric doorway punched in the south elevation; the door accesses the egress stair.

Building 5 has minimal alterations to the interior. Painted drywall partitions were added to enclose the historic and nonhistoric stairs, presumably to meet fire codes. Small utility closets were added to the first and second floors. Large rooms at the north end of the second floor have been slightly reconfigured; historic partitions were removed, combining two smaller rooms into one large room. These alterations are relatively minor and do not compromise the character-defining features of the building, specifically its Art Moderne-inspired form and ornament applied to an institutional building in a campus setting. Building 5 maintains its contributing status by retaining integrity sufficient to communicate its historic function as well as associations with the period and area of significance for the Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District.

### 6. Courtyard  

**Contributing Site**  

1949-1963

The large grassy lawn that fills the center of the property between the buildings and extends to the north edge of the property is a contributing site. The five contributing buildings with small adjacent paved areas between them line the west, south, and east perimeters of the courtyard. Mature deciduous trees dot the perimeter of the lawn within the courtyard (*Photos 9-10*). A chain-link baseball backstop fence occupies the southwest corner of the interior lawn. One nonhistoric concrete walk leads from the west elevation of Building 5 to the parking lot and the grassy lawn;
the walk ends abruptly in the middle of the lawn (Photo 10). The courtyard was historically an open grassy lawn that was not formally landscaped or designated for a specific sport. A Quonset Hut (constructed c. 1948) and a one-story shop building (constructed 1952-1953) formerly occupied the northwest corner of the property; the buildings were demolished in c. 2014-2015. Grass covers the land formerly occupied by these two buildings.

7. Parking Lot

Non-Contributing Structure
Southwest Corner of East 7th Street and South Rockford Avenue c. 2000

The non-historic paved surface parking lot is located at the northeast corner of the property, north of Building 5 (Photo 8). There are two small concrete islands within the parking lot. A wood privacy fence lines the west side of the lot. The lot holds approximately twenty-five cars. Two driveways on the east side of the parking lot access South Rockford Avenue. The parking lot was constructed on four lots that were previously owned separately and contained single-family dwellings and garages. The State acquired the lots between 1980 and 2000 and then constructed the parking lot. The parking lot is a non-contributing structure. Alterations to the parking lot are unknown.

INTEGRITY

The Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District retains excellent integrity of design, location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The District retains its original location and still occupies the entire square block. The large grassy lawn in the center of the District is extant as a contributing site, retaining the open courtyard and playground. The buildings retain their overall design and character-defining features such as a long, low exterior profiles with simple Art Moderne ornament, historic steel-sash windows, and historic metal canopies above entrances. Building interiors retain the historic entry hall on the first floor and double-loaded corridors on the second floor and most of the historic configurations and finishes that communicate the District’s historic institutional function. Areas of brick infill and additions are distinguishable from the original masonry but complement the building’s historic character. Alterations to the buildings such as the remodeling of the first story porches, egress stair additions, and concrete ramps for accessibility reflect the complex’s continued use as a childcare institution into the twentieth century. The most significant alteration is the two-story elevator addition on the south façade of Building 3. While the addition obscures the historic entrance, the two-story projecting bay and the banded ornamentation of the addition references the historic banded ornament of the historic building and retains the associations with the historic building configuration. The District’s open setting and the size and design of the buildings convey the feelings of and associations with institutional childcare in the twentieth century.
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.
- [ ] 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
- [x] G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years
Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
SOCIAL HISTORY


Period of Significance
1949-1978


Significant Dates
1949
1951
1957
1963
1978


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


Cultural Affiliation
N/A


Architect/Builder
Koberling, Joseph


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 Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of Social History. The Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District was the first and only institutional childcare facility for adolescent boys in Tulsa and is one of the oldest continually operated institutional childcare facilities in the city. Founded in 1918, the Tulsa Boys’ Home housed homeless and troubled boys aged ten to sixteen. The Home began with five boys in a wood-frame house, expanding and relocating as demand for the Home’s services grew. In 1927, the Tulsa Boys’ Home purchased a former girls’ home site at East 8th Street and South Quincy Avenue, increasing their capacity to 50 boys. The site remained the location of the Tulsa Boys’ Home for the next fifty years. The current complex was constructed from 1949 to 1963 and replaced the outdated wood-frame buildings with five larger, more modern, institutional buildings. Designed by Tulsa architect Joseph Koberling, the buildings were fireproof, constructed of brick, steel, and concrete. Four of the five buildings were dormitories and one building housed administrative and social services. The large-scale expansion of the Home illustrates the importance of the Tulsa Boys’ Home in Tulsa’s institutional childcare history as the only provider of care for adolescent boys in the city. The Tulsa Boys’ Home relocated to Sand Springs in 1978 and is still in operation today. The period of significance begins in 1949 with the construction of the existing buildings and ends in 1978 when the Tulsa Boys’ Home relocated to Sand Springs. The date 1978 is the most logical end to the period of significance due to the relocation of the Tulsa Boys’ Home. While the Tulsa Boy’s Home Historic District is more than 50 years old and achieved significance more than 50 years ago, the date of the end of the period of significance is less than 50 years, therefore, Criteria Consideration G does still apply.

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

BRIEF HISTORY OF TULSA

Tulsa, Tulsa County, Oklahoma was first settled in the 1820s by members of the Lochapokas Creek tribe displaced from their original land in Alabama. As settlers, traders, and cattle ranchers began inhabiting the area, the town was named Tulsey Town. The town’s name was officially recognized as Tulsa in 1879 when the first post office opened. In 1882, the St. Louis and San Francisco (Frisco) Railroad connected Tulsa to Vinita, supporting cattle ranching and agricultural industries. Tulsa was incorporated on January 18, 1898.

The discovery of oil at Red Fork in 1901 and at Glenpool in 1905 transformed Tulsa from a settlement and ranching post to a booming city. During this time, Tulsa became known as the “Oil Capital of the World.” As oil prospectors flocked to Tulsa, the city’s population nearly tripled, growing from 7,298 in 1907 to 18,182 in 1910. As the oil boom continued, oil refineries and aviation businesses opened, furthering the petroleum industry in Tulsa. In 1927, fifteen hundred oil-related companies were headquartered in Tulsa.

Tulsa’s oil boom spurred the city’s growth. By 1930, Tulsa’s population had ballooned to 141,258. Hotels, restaurants, stores, and additional railroad lines were established to support the petroleum industry and its workers. The city’s downtown transformed as oil magnates constructed skyscrapers along South Boston Avenue. Tulsa’s downtown became the center of the oil industry as housing moved east and south of the city’s commercial core. Oil fields in the Tulsa area produced two-thirds of all oil in the United States, and local refineries produced more gasoline than any other location in the nation.

EARLY HISTORY OF THE TULSA BOYS’ HOME

Orphanages in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century were run by religious or philanthropic institutions as charitable acts, often without any standardized policies for care or treatment. Child welfare policy in the early twentieth century was shaped by the Progressive Movement, particularly the Settlement Movement and Hull House in Chicago. Progressives advocated for social reforms, including child labor laws and protection for orphaned and neglected children. Settlement houses went beyond providing basic necessities to poor families and children, offering health care, education, and moral guidance in addition to food and shelter. These policies influenced public and private institutional childcare facilities throughout the United States.10

Tulsa grew rapidly during the early 1900s as the oil boom made the city the center of the oil production industry and Tulsa became known as the “Oil Capital of the World.” As the city prospered and the population grew, so did the number of social problems associated with urban life, such as poverty, disease, child labor, poor living conditions, and lack of housing. Many immigrants were unskilled laborers with hazardous jobs that often resulted in injury or death; supporting a family under these conditions was difficult, if not impossible.11 Additionally, the number of orphaned and abandoned children grew exponentially from 1918 to the mid-1920s, as families lost one or both parents to World War I and the 1918 Spanish influenza pandemic.12 Young children abandoned by their families due to the death of parents or financial hardship were

12 Sue Hoevelman, Tulsa Boy’s Home: The First 75 Years (Tulsa, OK: Tulsa Boys’ Home, 1993), 8.
often forced to live on the street, begging for or stealing food and other necessities. There was a shortage of housing and a lack of medical and social services, including welfare funds and a juvenile court system. Young children caught stealing out of necessity were sent to adult jails or prisons. Child welfare advocates argued that instead of incarcerating juveniles for petty crimes, children should be brought to a healthier, more supportive environment that could transform them into productive members of society. Furthermore, providing a home and education for orphaned and abandoned children before they became desperate enough to steal would prevent any criminal activity and encourage the children to become independent, functioning adults.

The Tulsa Boys’ Home was founded in 1918 when a group of concerned Tulsa citizens asked Charles E. Buchner to find a solution to the city’s growing population of homeless and neglected boys. At that time, Tulsa had organizations that cared for homeless children under the age of ten and young girls up to age sixteen, but no organization to care for homeless, orphaned, and neglected boys. Buchner, a local philanthropist and director of the Tulsa YMCA, was an unofficial juvenile and truant officer for the City of Tulsa. He often cared for the city’s homeless boys, housing a few at the YMCA until other arrangements could be made. In 1918, Buchner and other members of the Rotary Club and the First Presbyterian Church established the Tulsa Boys’ Home as a non-profit organization with the purpose of temporarily housing adolescent homeless boys aged ten to sixteen until they could be placed in permanent homes or sent back to their families. The Tulsa Boys’ Home created a nine-member committee tasked with finding and purchasing a building to house the boys, paid for through donations and Tulsa Boys’ Home membership fees. The Board of Directors hired Mrs. Minnie Mason as a superintendent in charge of the boys’ care. In August of 1918, the Tulsa Boys’ Home purchased a two-story house at 710 South Boston Avenue, initially housing five boys. While the original intent of the Board was to house boys temporarily, it became apparent soon after the Tulsa Boys’ Home opened that many boys would need to be housed at the home permanently as placing boys in homes was difficult and the Tulsa Boys’ Home had little success in finding homes for the boys.

After World War I, the number of homeless and neglected children quickly increased. In 1920, the Tulsa Boys’ Home housed between forty and sixty boys with a staff of only three: Mrs. Mason, a housekeeper, and a cook. Board members acknowledged the need for a larger facility and formed a committee to find suitable location. In 1921, the Tulsa Boys’ Home purchased two wood-frame buildings at 215 East 8th Street, relocating the home that same year. The number of boys cared for

15 The house at 710 S. Boston is no longer extant.
at the Tulsa Boys’ Home almost doubled in 1921, increasing to ninety-eight.\textsuperscript{17} The boys received shelter, food, clothing, medical care, and manual training at the Tulsa Boys’ Home and were sent to Tulsa’s public schools for their education. Additionally, boys old enough to work had evening jobs after school or helped around the home.\textsuperscript{18}

By 1924, the number of homeless boys requesting housing had grown so dramatically that the Board considered expanding a third time. After a long period of consideration, the Board purchased the former Frances E. Willard Home for Girls in 1927. The Willard Home occupied the west side of the square-block site at East 8\textsuperscript{th} Street and South Quincy Avenue.\textsuperscript{19} The Home’s existing building at 215 East 8\textsuperscript{th} Street was moved to the new site and the two buildings already on the property were remodeled. When work was completed in the fall of 1928, the new campus had the capacity for fifty boys. The house from East 8\textsuperscript{th} Street was remodeled for boys under fourteen years old; the existing house on the property was remodeled for boys over fourteen; the kitchen and dining room were updated; another building was remodeled as the administration building; and a new two-car garage was built.\textsuperscript{20} The Home continued to operate as one of the only residential homes for adolescent males in the city throughout the following decades, remodeling rooms and adding beds to accommodate as many boys as possible.

**EXPANSION AND IMPROVED HOUSING FOR THE TULSA BOYS’ HOME**

Support for the Tulsa Boys’ Home expanded in the late 1930s with the founding of the Junior and Senior Women’s Associations. Informally known as the “Buttercups,” a group of six women headed by Pearl Waters provided butter for the Home in 1938. The next year, the Board of Directors recognized the “Buttercups,” formally founding the Senior Women’s Association and tasking the women with providing a home-like atmosphere for the boys. Shortly after the founding of the Senior Women’s Association, Pearl Waters helped Myra Whiteside Crutten found the Junior Women’s Association with the mission of ensuring the mental and physical wellbeing of the boys at the Tulsa Boys’ Home. Since their founding, the Senior and Junior Women’s Associations have been instrumental in the successful outcomes of the Home’s fundraising campaigns.\textsuperscript{21}

The Tulsa Boys’ Home continued to take in more homeless boys and quickly outgrew the wood-frame buildings at the East 8\textsuperscript{th} Street and South Quincy Avenue property. Additionally, some Board members were concerned that the buildings were not fireproof. In 1947, the Board began discussing relocation yet again. After speaking with the Tulsa Public Schools Board of Education,

\textsuperscript{17} The TBH annual reports list the number of boys cared for in a given year; this number is different from the capacity of the home. When capacity is mentioned in the annual reports, it is specifically called out in this nomination.

\textsuperscript{18} Hoevelman, *Tulsa Boy’s Home*, 13-14.

\textsuperscript{19} This is the current location of the nominated property.

\textsuperscript{20} Hoevelman, *Tulsa Boy’s Home*, 16.

the Tulsa Boys’ Home Board decided to stay at the current location. Tulsa Public Schools argued that the boys lived close to their schools and places of work, and the Board did not want to jeopardize the boys’ success by relocating to another neighborhood. Instead of relocating, the Board voted to build three new buildings at the current site of the Home, increasing the total capacity from fifty beds to between seventy-five and eighty.22

The Tulsa Boys’ Home Board of Directors, along with the Women’s Association, began a fundraising drive to support the construction of the new buildings. By May 1947, the Women’s Association and the Board raised $59,165 each. A building committee, formed in October 1947, had three members from the Women’s Association and seven members from the Board of Directors. The building committee commissioned Joseph Koberling, a Tulsa architect, to design the new buildings. Koberling designed three two-story cottage-type buildings for the Junior (ages 10-11), Intermediate (ages 11-14), and Senior (ages 14 and older) dormitories as recommended by Tulsa Boys’ Home superintendent Milton Singleton.23 Koberling’s fireproof design focused on safety; the buildings had steel frames, brick cladding, concrete floors with asphalt tile, plaster walls and ceilings with metal lath, metal door frames, and steel windows (Figure 11). Each building had a living room, dining room, library, game room, office, kitchen, and a locker room on the first floor and dormitory rooms, a communal bathroom, an infirmary and the house mother’s room on the second floor. The dormitories were small and housed four boys each to make the building feel more home-like. Basements housed storage, laundry, and hobby rooms.24

Construction for the Senior Building began in March 1948; construction of the Junior Building began soon after. The buildings cost $115,000 each. James Constantine, a local businessman, donated a Quonset hut to the Home to use as a gymnasium.25 Residents of the Tulsa Boys’ Home helped with the demolition of the existing buildings and construction of the new buildings to keep costs low; the boys removed nails from boards, broke up concrete, hauled dirt, leveled sites, and built retaining walls (Figure 23). The Senior Building (Figures 17-18) opened in January 1949; the Junior Building (Figures 15-16) opened soon after in March (Figure 24).26 Dormitories occupied the south half of the property; the gymnasium occupied the north edge of the property.

The Board of Directors and Women’s Association continued their fundraising efforts in order to finance the $145,000 needed for the third building. In April 1948, the Board hosted a $100 Dinner at the Mayo Hotel; proceeds from the dinner went to the building fund. The $100 Dinner was so

22 Ibid, 43.
25 Based on historic aerial maps, the gymnasium was demolished sometime between 1995 and 2003. https://www.historicaerials.com/.
26 The buildings are extant. The Senior Building is now Building 3; The Junior Building is now Building 2.
popular that it became an annual event and was considered one of Tulsa’s premier fundraising and social gatherings. Funds for the Intermediate Building were desperately needed as the intermediate boys were sleeping on the porches of the Junior and Senior buildings. The Board broke ground for the Intermediate Building in 1950. Despite all fundraising efforts, they could not raise the full amount needed for the building, so the basement was removed from the plans, eliminating the significant expenses associated with excavation. However, there was enough money to add a third story to the building, providing space for twelve additional boys (*Figures 12-14*). The Intermediate Building opened in November 1951.27

The Tulsa Boys’ Home had its own manual training shop, constructed in 1952-1953 immediately west of the gymnasium along the north edge of the property. Not only did the shop teach the boys valuable skills such as carpentry, metalsmithing, printing, shoe repair, and barbering, it saved the Home money by providing services to residents free of cost. When not in use by the Home’s residents, the manual training shop served as the shop for the Vocational Rehabilitation Division of the State Board of Vocational Education.28

The Home continued to operate at capacity, even as the number of applications for occupancy increased. As the number of residents at the home grew, so did the number of boys with psychological or educational needs. The Board hired the Home’s first clinically trained caseworker in July 1957. At the Board of Director’s annual meeting in late 1957, Board President Sam Rhoades announced a new plan for expansion, citing the lack of office space for administrative staff as the need for a new building. The staff worked out of the Senior Building, crowding the residents and leaving no space for other activities. Furthermore, Rhoades believed having a dedicated intake dormitory would help new residents adjust to living at the Home more quickly.

Statistics from 1958 confirmed the need for expansion. That year, the Tulsa Boys’ Home cared for a total of ninety-eight boys, providing shelter, food, clothing, medical care, school supplies, and transportation to Tulsa Public Schools. Some of the boys stayed for one day, while some stayed at the Home for the full year. The average number of residents at the Home was sixty-six, up 10 percent from the previous year. Caseworkers at the Home processed seventy-two applications; some cases did not require placement at the Home and some of the boys were added to the waiting list for beds.29

The Board of Directors rehired architect Joseph Koberling to design a combination administration and dormitory building (*Figures 19-20*). Koberling’s two-story fireproof design was similar to his

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27 The building is extant. The Intermediate Building is now Building 1; Hoevelman, *Tulsa Boy’s Home*, 48.
28 The manual training shop is no longer extant. It was demolished in 2015.
29 “E.S. Calvert Heads Board at Boys Home,” *Tulsa Boys’ Home*, vertical file, Tulsa County Public Library.
previous designs; the same buff-colored brick and simple horizontal ornament clad the exterior elevations. In preparation for the expansion, the Board purchased the east side of the East 8th Street and South Quincy Avenue site, moving or demolishing the houses in the southeast corner of the site to make way for the new building.\textsuperscript{30} Just as in previous years, donations of construction materials and services kept the cost of the new building low; the construction superintendent worked for free and architect Joseph Koberling donated part of his fee to the Home. The boys helped with construction by digging trenches for foundation footings and utility lines and building sidewalks and a driveway around the building (\textit{Figure 25}). The donated services and volunteer workers brought the cost of the new building down to $177,500 from $240,000. Dedicated in May 1959, the Administration and Dormitory Building contained offices for the Tulsa Boys’ Home administrative and social service staff, local volunteers, and members of the Junior and Senior Women’s Associations as well as rooms for twenty boys, bringing the total capacity of the Home to around ninety-five boys (\textit{Figure 26}).

By 1959, the Tulsa Boys’ Home had fourteen full-time staff members: the superintendent and assistant superintendent supervised the Home’s programming and mentored the senior boys; matrons in each building supervised the residents, cleaned the buildings and did laundry, helped with counseling, study hall, and nursing and filled in for other staff; a social worker handled intake and discharge procedures, created case histories, and scheduled appointments for the boys; and maintenance workers were responsible for building and grounds improvements and maintenance as well as supervising shop classes in the evenings. Some of the staff lived on campus as required by their positions.\textsuperscript{31}

The number of residents at the Tulsa Boys’ Home continued to increase. As the only institutional home for adolescent boys in Tulsa, placements at the Home were in high demand. In 1961, the Home cared for a total of 110 boys, a 12 percent increase from 1958.\textsuperscript{32} The growing demand for placements required additional social workers and services. The Tulsa Boys’ Home partnered with Oklahoma University’s School of Social Work, creating two internship positions for graduates of the program. The interns received room and board in exchange for two days of work per week.\textsuperscript{33} In 1962, Tulsa Public Schools terminated special education classes at the schools attended by the Tulsa Boys’ Home residents. Because many of the boys had learning disabilities or were behind in their grade level, the Board requested that a special education teacher be assigned to the Tulsa Boys’ Home. The Home remodeled some of the bedrooms in the Administration and Dormitory Building and built a special education classroom. Offices for additional social work and


\textsuperscript{31} Hoevelman, \textit{Tulsa Boy’s Home}, 54-55.

\textsuperscript{32} “Boys Home Takes Care of 110 Youths in 1961,” \textit{Tulsa Boys’ Home}, vertical file, Tulsa County Public Library.

\textsuperscript{33} Hoevelman, \textit{Tulsa Boy’s Home}, 57.
administrative services required by the increasing number of residents were also housed in the Administration and Dormitory Building. The new offices replaced several of the bedrooms and thus decreased the Home’s capacity even as the number of boys in residence grew.

The Tulsa Boys’ Home cared for a total of 125 boys in 1962, a 13 percent increase from the previous year.\(^{34}\) The Board of Directors planned another expansion to increase the number of available beds to ninety-two, commissioning architect Joseph Koberling to design a fifth dormitory building (Figure 27).\(^{35}\) The groundbreaking ceremony for the new dormitory was held on December 2, 1962. The two-story building matched Koberling’s earlier designs (Figures 21-22). When the dormitory opened in 1963, it housed twenty to twenty-four senior boys and a counselor, matron, and cook.\(^{36}\)

The Tulsa Boys’ Home continued providing comprehensive care to its residents, expanding educational and social services as needed. After the passage of the Oklahoma Childcare Facilities Act in 1963 mandated all childcare facilities be licensed, the Tulsa Boys’ Home was the first facility in the state to receive a license. By 1967, the mission of the Tulsa Boys’ Home evolved from providing a home-like environment for wayward boys to a social work-based program. Jerry Dillon, Executive Director of the Tulsa Boys’ Home, stated in 1967 that “The new phase of the Tulsa Boys’ Home work is aimed at helping boys overcome problems and develop themselves so that they may return to their families. The new concept includes counseling with the boys and the family unit.”\(^{37}\) The Tulsa Boys’ Home served 104 boys in 1967; in 1968, the number of boys who passed through the home increased to 133. The Home continued to broaden its mission, incorporating behavioral counseling and psychiatric treatment programs as well as housing, education, and technical training. In 1969, the Board hired an additional social worker/guidance counselor and two part-time case workers. The new hires, along with the existing staff, administered the new parents’ group therapy, after-care, and in-residence therapy programs added at the Home that year. A representative of the State Welfare Department for Licensing Child Care Institutions said of the Tulsa Boys’ Home, “The Welfare Department looks at the Tulsa Boys’ Home as the leader in childcare institutions in the state.”\(^{38}\)

As the Tulsa Boys’ Home accepted more residents who were behind in their education, more than one classroom was needed to accommodate the students schooled at the Home. Such schooling allowed the boys to catch up to the appropriate grade level in a supportive environment, rather than at a public school. The Tulsa Boys’ Home renovated the second floor of the

\(^{34}\) Hoevelman, *Tulsa Boy’s Home*, 60.
\(^{35}\) Ibid, 58-59.
\(^{36}\) “Boys’ Home to Break Ground for New Dorm,” *Tulsa Boys’ Home*, vertical file, Tulsa County Public Library.
\(^{37}\) Hoevelman, *Tulsa Boy’s Home*, 63-64.
\(^{38}\) Ibid, 62-65.
Administration/Dormitory Building in 1970, converting bedrooms on the second floor into elementary and junior high classrooms and a multi-media resource center (Figure 28). The renovation included upgrades to the Home’s medical program; one of the sick rooms on the second floor became a dental clinic.\(^{39}\)

Renovations to the Administration/Dormitory Building lowered the capacity of the Home to sixty-four boys, however, the average number of residents per month in 1972 was sixty-eight (Figure 29). With the Home constantly at capacity, the Board formed a long-range planning committee in 1973 focused on relocating the Tulsa Boys’ Home. There was no room for expansion at the East 8\(^{th}\) Street and South Quincy Avenue site and the large size of the current buildings was no longer considered the most appropriate housing for institutional childcare. The Long-Range Planning Committee recommended moving the Home to a site in Sand Springs, a suburb of Tulsa approximately twelve miles west of the Home’s current location. A more isolated rural setting with plenty of room for expansion, the new site offered more opportunities for outdoor activities and could accommodate the growing number of treatments and services offered by the Home.

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Sand Springs Campus on March 10, 1978. The 160-acre campus was far larger than the campus at East 8\(^{th}\) Street and South Quincy Avenue. Instead of large, institutional buildings, the new campus had clusters of dormitory cottages and larger buildings for administration, dining, education, and recreation. Each of the nine cottages had four bedrooms, three rooms for house parents, a laundry room, kitchenette, and living room; the total capacity was seventy-two boys. The campus opened in July 1979; by August of 1979, the Home had 64 residents.\(^{40}\) The Tulsa Boys’ Home sold the East 8\(^{th}\) Street and South Quincy Avenue site to the Oklahoma Welfare Department on November 27, 1978 for $450,000.\(^{41}\) As of 2019, the Tulsa Boys’ Home is still in operation at the Sand Springs Campus and is the oldest and largest residential treatment facility for adolescent boys in Oklahoma.

INSTITUTIONAL CHILDCARE FACILITIES IN TULSA

The Tulsa Boys’ Home is one of the oldest institutional childcare facilities in Tulsa and is the oldest and only continually operated facility for adolescent boys. While the Tulsa Children’s Home, opened in 1912, and the Frances E. Willard Home for Girls, opened in 1917, were founded before the Tulsa Boys’ Home, neither facility cared for boys past the age of ten.\(^{42}\) The Tulsa Children’s Home treated children up to ten years of age; the Frances E. Willard Home for Girls


\(^{40}\) Hoevelman, *Tulsa Boy’s Home*, 75-77.

\(^{41}\) “Boy’s Home Sale Completed,” *Tulsa Boys’ Home*, vertical file, Tulsa County Public Library.

treated girls age ten to sixteen. The founding of the Tulsa Boys’ Home in 1918 filled Tulsa’s need for a home treating boys age ten to sixteen. The 1925 Tulsa City Directory lists only three homes for children: the Tulsa Children’s Home, the Frances E. Willard Home for Girls, and the Tulsa Boys’ Home. In 1935, the directory lists the Tulsa Children’s Home and the Tulsa Boys’ Home along with the Covenant Training Home for Children. Four children’s homes, including the Tulsa Children’s Home and the Tulsa Boys’ Home are listed in the 1940 directory; by 1946, only the Tulsa Children’s Home and the Tulsa Boys’ Home are listed. The Tulsa Children’s Home and the Tulsa Boys’ Home were not competitors as the Children’s Home housed children up to ten years old and the youngest residents of the Tulsa Boys’ Home were ten years old. Between 1925 and 1970, only the Tulsa Children’s Home, the Frances E. Willard Home for Girls, and the Tulsa Boys’ Home are listed multiple times in the city directory. The Tulsa County Home, listed in the 1961 and 1965 city directories, is the only exception.43

Both the Tulsa Children’s Home and the Frances E. Willard Home for Girls began in small wood-framed houses, not purpose-built as childcare facilities, and built larger facilities specially for childcare as the organizations expanded. The original location of the Tulsa Children’s Home at 1710 South Trenton Avenue was a five-room cottage; the building is not extant. In 1929, the Tulsa Children’s Home moved to a 14,000 square-foot, three-story brick building at 2308 West Easton Avenue at the northwest edge of the city. The Home occupied the building until the early 1970s when the organization lost its funding; the building is no longer extant.44 From its founding in 1917 to 1928, the Frances E. Willard Home for Girls occupied a wood-frame building at East 8th Street and South Quincy Avenue on the site of the nominated property; the building was used by the Tulsa Boys’ Home until the current buildings were constructed.45 After selling the property to the Tulsa Boys’ Home, the Frances E. Willard Home for Girls moved to 4100 East 31st Street and constructed a three-story red brick building. The building housed the Girls’ Home until 1957 when the Home moved to its current location at 1616 North Gilcrease Museum Road on the northwest edge of the city. Methodist Manor, a home for the aged, purchased the brick building on East 31st Street in 1957 and used the building as part of their complex; the building was demolished in 1998.46 While both Homes occupied large, institutional buildings, neither the Tulsa Children’s Home nor the Frances E. Willard Home for Girls had a multi-building campus.

In 1969, Dr. Anderson, Dean of the School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina, published a study of four institutional childcare facilities in Tulsa. The facilities included the Tulsa Boys’ Home, Vianney School for Girls, Frances E. Willard Home for Girls, and Tulsa Children’s

44 “Where Children Once Roamed,” Tulsa-Orphanages, vertical file, Tulsa County Public Library.
45 The wood-frame building at 8th and Quincy is no longer extant.
46 “Sisters in Heart,” Tulsa-Children-Institutional Care, vertical file, Tulsa County Public Library.
Home. Dr. Anderson’s study showed that the Tulsa Boys’ Home was the only facility offering a wide range of treatment options and care for adolescent boys and their families.  

CONCLUSION
The Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of SOCIAL HISTORY. The Home played an important role in the development and care of Tulsa’s youth as the only childcare specifically for homeless and neglected young boys. The Tulsa Boys’ Home opened in 1918 shortly after the Tulsa Children’s Home (1912) and the Frances E. Willard Home for Girls (1917), filling a need for the care of adolescent boys in the community. The rapid expansion of the Tulsa Boys’ Home culminating in the construction of a multi-building campus at East 8th Street and South Quincy Avenue illustrates the importance of the Home in the overall development of institutional childcare in Tulsa from the early to the mid-twentieth century. The long, low building profiles with minimal ornament, utilitarian interior finishes, and similar floor plans with double-loaded corridors lined with a combination of large communal or treatment spaces and smaller dormitories are typical of institutional housing and are the character defining features of the nominated property. The buildings associated with other childcare facilities contemporary with the Tulsa Boys’ Home are no longer extant; the nominated property stands as a singular example of a mid-twentieth century institutional childcare facility. The Tulsa Boys’ Home outgrew the property in the late 1970s and moved its operation to the nearby suburb of Sand Springs; the organization is still in operation.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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


———. *Tulsa (Tulsa County, Okla.) City Directory*. Dallas, Tex: R.L. Polk & Co, 1940.


Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District  Tulsa County, OK

Name of Property  County and State


__x__ 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: __Tulsa County Public Library_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____________
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 4.5 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: 36.150302°  Longitude: -95.973237°
2. Latitude: 36.151506°  Longitude: -95.973228°
3. Latitude: 36.151488°  Longitude: -95.971764°
4. Latitude: 36.150296°  Longitude: -95.971784°

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 District occupies one square city block bounded on the north by East 7th Street, on the east by South Rockford Avenue, on the south by East 8th Street, and on the west by South Quincy Avenue.
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
The selected boundary is the current and historic boundary of the nominated District.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Alison Dunleavy/Historic Preservation Specialist
organization: Rosin Preservation
street & number: 1712 Holmes Street
city or town: Kansas City state: MO zip code: 64108
e-mail: alison@rosinpreservation.com
telephone: (816) 472-4950
date: January 21, 2020

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: Tulsa Boys’ Home

City or Vicinity: Tulsa

County: Tulsa State: Oklahoma

Photographer: Brad Finch

Date Photographed: October 1, 2019

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

1 of 20: Aerial photo from south end of property, view NW
2 of 20: Aerial photo from south end of property, view NE
3 of 20: Building 1, primary (west) elevation, view E
4 of 20: Building 2, primary (west) elevation, view E
5 of 20: Building 3, primary (south) elevation, view N
6 of 20: Building 4, primary (south) elevation, view N
7 of 20: Building 5, primary (east) elevation, view W
8 of 20: Parking lot, view NE
9 of 20: Site, view NW
10 of 20: Site, view SE
11 of 20: Drive/parking lot between Buildings 1 and 2, view NW
12 of 20: Drive/parking lot behind Building 2, view SW
13 of 20: Drive between Buildings 2 and 3, view SW
14 of 20: Basketball court between Buildings 4 and 5, view NE
15 of 20: Building 1, central stair, 2nd floor landing, view SW
16 of 20: Building 1, historic 2nd story porch, view SE
17 of 20: Building 2, 2nd floor, view NW
18 of 20: Building 4, 1st floor corridor, view SW
19 of 20: Building 4, 2nd floor, view NE
20 of 20: Building 5, central stair, 2nd floor landing, view SW
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District

Name of Property

Tulsa County, OK

County and State

Figure Log.


Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District

Name of Property

Tulsa County, OK

County and State


Key
1. Building 1, 1951
2. Building 2, 1949
3. Building 3, 1949
4. Building 4, 1957
5. Building 5, 1963
7. Quonset Hut, c.1948 (demolished)

[The small white building visible Buildings 5 and 7 is the garage associated with the single-family dwelling that occupied the property immediately north of Building 5. The house and garage were demolished when the State acquired the property and constructed the non-contributing parking lot.]
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District

Tulsa County, OK

Name of Property

County and State

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0001
OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0002
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District  
Tulsa County, OK

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0003
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District
Tulsa County, OK

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0004
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District
Tulsa County, OK
Name of Property
County and State

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0005
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District  
Tulsa County, OK

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0006
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District
Tulsa County, OK

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0008
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District

Tulsa County, OK

Name of Property

County and State

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0009
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District

Tulsa County, OK

Name of Property

County and State

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0010
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District  Tulsa County, OK
Name of Property  County and State

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0011
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District  Tulsa County, OK
Name of Property  County and State
OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0014
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District
Tulsa County, OK

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0015
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District

Tulsa County, OK

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0016
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District
Name of Property

Tulsa County, OK
County and State

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0017
OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0018
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District
Tulsa County, OK

Name of Property                   County and State

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0019
Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District
Name of Property

Tulsa County, OK
County and State

OK_Tulsa County_Tulsa Boys’ Home Historic District_0020