

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form**

**1. Name of Property**

Historic Name: St. Anthony's Hospital  
Other name/site number: N/A  
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

**2. Location**

Street & number: 200 NW 7th Avenue  
City or town: Amarillo State: Texas County: Potter  
Not for publication:  Vicinity: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  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.

I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following levels of significance:  
 national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:  A  B  C  D

Mark Wolfe State Historic Preservation Officer 12/6/2020  
Signature of certifying official / Title Date  
Texas Historical Commission  
State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that the 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

St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

## 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property:** Private

**Category of Property:** Building

### Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

## 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions:** HEALTHCARE/hospital

**Current Functions:** VACANT/NOT IN USE

## 7. Description

**Architectural Classification:** LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS / Tudor Revival; MID-CENTURY MODERN NONRESIDENTIAL

### Principal Exterior Materials:

foundation: concrete

walls: brick/granite

roof: terra cotta/asphalt

other: cast stone/concrete/glass/aluminum/steel

**Narrative Description** (see continuation sheets 7 through 14)

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## 8. Statement of Significance

**Applicable National Register Criteria:** A

**Criteria Considerations:** A

**Areas of Significance:** health/medicine

**Period of Significance:** 1928-1970

**Significant Dates:** 1928, 1949, 1956, 1960, 1964 (major construction dates)

**Significant Person** (only if Criterion B is marked): N/A

**Cultural Affiliation** (only if Criterion D is marked): N/A

**Architect/Builder:** Wyatt Hedrick, Architect (1928); Emmett F. and James F. Rittenberry, Architects (1949, 1956); O'Connell and Probst (1960)

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (see continuation sheets 15 through 26)

## 9. Major Bibliographic References

**Bibliography** (see continuation sheets 27-28)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested. (*Part 1 approved December 19, 2019*)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State historic preservation office (*Texas Historical Commission, Austin*)
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository:

**Historic Resources Survey Number** (if assigned): NA

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## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property:** 13.5 acres

### Coordinates

#### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: N/A

1. Latitude: 35.221161° Longitude: -101.836131°

**Verbal Boundary Description:** The property is bounded by N. Polk Street on the east, NW 7th Avenue on the south, N. Van Buren Street on the west, and W. Amarillo Boulevard on the north.

**Boundary Justification:** These boundaries correspond to the property's parcel description per the Potter County Tax Assessor's Office: GLIDDEN & SANBORN, LOT BLOCK ALL OF BLKS 164 & 165, & 178 PLUS VAC STS & ALLEYS. Potter-Randall Appraisal District Interactive Map, accessed February 5, 2020.

## 11. Form Prepared By

Name/title: Beth Jacob, Senior Associate  
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Date: January 2020

## Additional Documentation

**Maps** (see continuation sheets 29-40)

**Additional items** (see continuation sheets 41-61)

**Photographs** (see continuation sheet 62-85)

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**Photographs**

St. Anthony's Hospital  
Amarillo, Potter County, TX  
Photographed by Beth Jacob, January 2019

*All photographs accurately depict property conditions. No changes nor significant deterioration has occurred since the photos were taken in 2019.*

**Photo 1**

1928 hospital's primary N. Polk Street (east) facade and elevated walkway, view southwest

**Photo 2**

East facade, left to right, elevator stair addition, Chaplains Quarters (19, 1928 hospital, and elevated walkway across Polk Street (19, view northwest

**Photo 3**

1928 hospital's ornamental detailing above the main entrance on the east facade, view west

**Photo 4**

1949 hospital addition with sliver of 1960 addition visible on far right, view northwest

**Photo 5**

The School of Nursing's side (west) and primary (south) elevations, view northeast

**Photo 6**

Detail of the School of Nursing's main entrance on the south elevation, view north

**Photo 7**

The Polk Street (east) elevation of the School of Nursing where upper floors were added in 1966, view west

**Photo 8**

Rooftop view of the School of Nursing and kitchen and dining expansion, view south

**Photo 9**

1960 addition with one-story wrap-around portion of Surgical and Laboratory Addition (1971), view north

**Photo 10**

1960 addition with one-story wrap-around portion of Surgical and Laboratory Addition (1971), view southwest

**Photo 11**

Looking across NW 8th Avenue towards the five-story 1960 addition (left) and the surrounding one- and two-story Surgical and Laboratory Addition (right), view southeast

**Photo 12**

View of the loading area with the west elevation of the 1928 hospital visible in the distance, view northeast

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**Photo 13**

The Professional Office Building addition's main (west) entrance, view northeast

**Photo 14**

The hospital's main entrance at the end of the circular drive, view northeast

**Photo 15**

Fourth floor corridor in 1949 hospital addition, view south

**Photo 16**

Third floor corridor in 1928 hospital, view south

**Photo 17**

Fifth floor nursing station in 1928 hospital, view southeast

**Photo 18**

Typical patient room in 1928 hospital (fifth floor), view northeast

**Photo 19**

School of Nursing's first floor auditorium (this area sustained minor fire damage), view north

**Photo 20**

Third floor corridor in the School of Nursing, view west

**Photo 21**

The 1960 addition's southeast entrance adjacent to the porte-cochere, view southeast

**Photo 22**

Fourth floor corridor in 1960 addition, view east

**Photo 23**

The Surgical and Laboratory Addition's intensive care unit, view west

**Photo 24**

The Professional Office Building addition's main (west) entrance, view east

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC

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## Architectural Description

St. Anthony's Hospital comprises one five-story hospital building completed in 1928 along with multiple additions constructed between 1949 and 1990. While the 1928 building and near seamless 1949 addition facing N. Polk Street were designed in the Jacobean Revival style, with buff colored brick and cast stone ornament, the major mid-20<sup>th</sup> century additions that followed were decidedly Modern in their appearance. These included the three-story School of Nursing (1956), the five-story 1960 addition, and the four-story Chaplains Quarters (1964). Subsequent additions in 1971, 1981, and 1990—mostly low-rise and sprawling—expanded the hospital's footprint to the west. Today, St. Anthony's Hospital occupies a 13.5-acre three-block site bounded by N. Polk Street, NW 7th Avenue, N. Van Buren Street, and W. Amarillo Boulevard. While the institution's earliest structures from 1901 and 1909 were demolished to make way for later additions, the extant buildings retain sufficient integrity to convey the hospital's historic significance for the period 1928-1970. The 1928 hospital and its additions are counted as a single contributing building with historic and non-historic components.

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St. Anthony's hospital occupies a large trapezoidal site bounded by N. Polk Street on the east, NW 7th Avenue on the south, N. Van Buren Street on the west, and W. Amarillo Boulevard on the north. The hospital is situated approximately one-half mile north of the BNSF Railway (formerly Fort Worth and Denver Railway) tracks that form the northern boundary of Amarillo's downtown business district. The hospital is located in the Glidden and Sanborn subdivision within the North Heights neighborhood.

While the site today comprises three city blocks, the hospital originally occupied only the easternmost block. Land for the fledgling institution had been donated by William H. Bush, a prominent businessman and owner of the nearby Fryng Pan Ranch. The hospital's original 1901 building (demolished c.1955) was a two-and-one-half story brick structure facing NW 7th Avenue. The 1909 addition immediately to the east (demolished c.1968) was a larger two-and-one-half story building facing N. Polk Street. While the surrounding blocks had been subdivided and platted by 1901, there were no other buildings nearby and the hospital remained isolated on the outskirts of town during its early years. Polk Street, the main route into downtown Amarillo, was unpaved at the time.

By 1928 when the hospital's new 5-story wing was erected (the oldest extant building), the surrounding neighborhood was filling in with new residential and commercial development spurred by the oil boom. In 1953, Route 66 was realigned to run along NW 8th Street (renamed Amarillo Boulevard in 1963), which was also the intended business route for the future Interstate 40. Automobile oriented establishments including gas stations, tourist motels, and restaurants—many designed in a Mid-century Modern style—began to proliferate along this important thoroughfare.

Today, the neighborhood surrounding St. Anthony's Hospital reflects a mix of institutional, commercial, and residential buildings at a variety of scales. Immediately east of the hospital is a large medical office complex connected to St. Anthony's Hospital by a pedestrian bridge across N. Polk Street. Also connected to the hospital via a pedestrian bridge is a two-story former hospice across NW 7th Avenue. While the office complex and hospice were not technically part of the hospital, the pedestrian bridges were constructed in the 1980s for the convenience of medical staff and patients. The blocks immediately south and west of the hospital are mostly vacant, with a scattering of older single-family frame residences still standing amid paved and unpaved lots. Buildings opposite the hospital along Amarillo Boulevard include a gas station, two-story motel, used car dealership, and modest residences.

### *Site*

Today, the main entrance to St. Anthony's Hospital is from NW 7th Avenue. A wide driveway with a landscaped median leads to a circular drop off in front of the hospital's sprawling c.1981 addition on the northern portion of the site. The hospital's earlier structures, constructed between 1928 and 1971, are clustered on the eastern portion of the

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property. Centralized loading docks, partially screened by low walls, are located east of the circular drive and are minimally visible. Surface parking is generally located on the western and southern portions of the site, with an additional linear parking lot along Polk Street. A helicopter landing pad anchors the southwest corner. Rows and groupings of trees are present mostly at the perimeter of the property and along the main entrance drive. Even though the hospital has been vacant since 2004, the site appears tidy and reasonably well maintained.

The hospital's complicated massing reflects several distinct periods of expansion. The oldest extant component is the five-story main hospital building designed by architect Wyatt Hedrick and completed in 1928. Major additions in 1949 and 1960 nearly tripled the hospital's bed capacity, and a new School of Nursing in 1956 provided modern facilities for resident nursing students. Smaller projects in the mid-1960s included construction of the Chaplain's Quarters (1964) and an expansion of the kitchen and dining areas (1965). Further improvements in 1971 altered the ground floor of the 1960 addition and included a new two-story section for expanded surgical and laboratory functions behind the main hospital building. Additions in 1981 substantially enlarged the hospital's footprint to the west. Other projects in the 1980s involved the installation of additional elevators and stair towers to meet updated building code requirements. The last addition completed was the MRI Center in 1990. These components are summarized in Table 1 below. The narrative that follows describes all of the components in greater detail, along with any alterations that have impacted their appearance or integrity.

Only the original hospital is counted as a contributing building. All other extant components of the hospital were built specifically as additions and were physically connected to the original hospital building at the time of their construction (see the evolution diagrams included as Maps 10 and 11). The two freestanding buildings that once stood on the site—the boiler house and laundry—have been demolished.

**Table 1: Property Components (Building and Additions)**

\*This numbering system is also used in the attached Site Plan Evolution Diagram (Map 12).

Number	Name	Year built	Architect	Status
1	1928 Hospital	1928	Wyatt C. Hedrick	Contributing
2	1949 Hospital Addition	1949	Emmett F. and James F. Rittenberry	Historic Addition
3	School of Nursing	1956 (modified 1966)	Emmett F. and James F. Rittenberry (1956); John L. Hannon and J. Ray Daniel (1966 modifications)	Historic Addition
4	1960 Addition	1960	John L. Hannon with O'Connell and Probst	Historic Addition
5	Chaplain's Quarters	1964	John L. Hannon and J. Ray Daniel	Historic Addition
6	Kitchen and Dining Expansion	1965	O'Connell and Probst	Altered Addition
7	Surgical and Laboratory Addition	1971	O'Connell and Probst	Non-historic Addition
8	1981 Addition	1981	Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum (HOK) with Wilson/Doche Architects, Inc.	Non-historic Addition
9	Professional Office Building (POB) Addition	1981	Wilson/Doche Architects, Inc.	Non-historic Addition
10	MRI Addition	1990	Wilson/Doche Architects, Inc.	Non-historic Addition

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*1928 Hospital (MAP ID 1) with 1949 Hospital Addition (MAP ID 2)  
1 Contributing Building and 1 Historic Addition  
Photos 1-4, 12, 15-18*

The five-story main hospital building, completed in 1928, is the oldest remaining edifice on the hospital campus. Buff colored brick clads the building's reinforced concrete structure. The building's east elevation, facing N. Polk Street, is the primary facade. Fort Worth architect Wyatt Hedrick designed the hospital in the Jacobean Revival style, which takes cues from early English Renaissance architecture. The style gained popularity in the early 20th century as a suitable choice for institutional buildings. The building's primary elevation is symmetrical around a prominent central bay, which in plan sits proud of adjacent surfaces. The central bay is finely detailed with white cast stone ornament. On the ground floor of the central bay is the main entrance; the vestibule is slightly recessed and flanked by Doric columns supporting an arched lintel. Large quoins define the edges of the central bay on floors two through four. A two-story oriel window begins at the third floor and is capped at the fifth floor by a parapet doubling as a balcony guardrail. The central bay terminates at the roof line in a prominent stepped parapet topped with a round arch. The fifth floor and stepped parapet incorporate a variety of applied cast stone ornament including niches for statuary (one statue remains), bas-reliefs, and scrollwork. There are also two iron crosses affixed to the brick at this level.

Patterned brickwork and cast stone ornament are combined to provide visual interest on the walls flanking the central bay. The building's foundation is clad with cast stone. Cast stone horizontal banding is present above the first floor and at the base of the fifth floor, dividing the building into a classic tripartite configuration. Cast stone quoins define the original ends of the c.1928 structure. Cast stone is also used for windows sills, as well as window surrounds at the first and fifth floors. Subtle shifts in the plane of the brick define vertical bays that continue from the second through fifth floors. Narrow recessed brick bays terminate in cast stone medallions at the fifth floor; wider protruding brick bays terminate in balustrades within the building's parapet. The parapet also incorporates cast stone horizontal banding along its base and cap.

Windows on either side of the central bay follow an A, A-B-A, A-B-A pattern. The "A" windows are paired double-hung sash windows, while the "B" windows are narrower single double-hung sash windows with higher sills. On the second through fourth floors, the "A" windows would have originally corresponded to patient rooms and the "B" windows to bathrooms. The window pattern extends to the first floor where openings are taller and arched, reflecting a more prominent public use. The "A" windows extend to the fifth floor where openings are also significantly taller. Originally the fifth floor housed the operating rooms where more light would have been required. All of the window units on this elevation have been replaced and are undersized for the openings, resulting in gaps at the headers infilled with plywood panels. Another significant alteration occurred in the 1980s when one of the second-floor window openings was enlarged to accommodate a pedestrian bridge.

The building's corresponding west elevation is only visible above the second floor, due to subsequent additions within the hospital complex. An irregular window pattern and lack of ornamentation indicate that the west elevation was intended to be a secondary façade. Windows on this elevation were also replaced with undersized units at a later date.

The 1928 building's north and south facades were originally detailed to match the main façade, each with a narrow projecting bay and stepped parapet. Most of the original south elevation has since been obscured by subsequent additions including the Chaplain's Quarters (1964) and a five-story elevator/stair tower (1980s). The north elevation was completely concealed in 1949 when the hospital was extended an additional 73' to the north.

The five-story 1949 addition, intended to expand the hospital's capacity after World War II, was designed to match the 1928 building's narrow double loaded corridor configuration and height. Though constructed with a structural steel frame rather than concrete, the facade of the addition blends seamlessly with the older building. The addition is faced

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with a light-colored brick, and all masonry courses, cast stone banding, and window head heights are aligned. Architects of the addition were Emmett F. and James F. Rittenberry of Amarillo.

Both the 1928 hospital and 1949 addition are long and narrow, with interior rooms arranged on either side of a wide central corridor. This efficient double-loaded corridor configuration was common for early 20th century hospital wings as it maximized light and natural ventilation prior to centralized HVAC systems. When initially constructed, the hospital's power plant was housed in the building's partial basement. A spacious lobby, administrative offices, consultation rooms, and pharmacy were located on the first floor; medical wards were on the second floor; surgical wards occupied the third and fourth floors; a maternity ward was located on the fourth floor; and operating rooms and laboratories were on the fifth floor. The 1928 hospital was originally connected at its south end to the first hospital building erected in 1901 (demolished c.1955), the 1909 addition (demolished c.1955), and the kitchen (subsumed by the 1965 kitchen and dining expansion).

The 1928 hospital and 1949 addition were renovated in the early 1970s following completion of the hospital's major c.1971 expansion. While the general double-loaded corridor layout was retained, some rooms were reconfigured, and all interior finishes were replaced. It appears that interior finishes were again updated prior to 1996, which was the year that St. Anthony's Hospital merged with High Plains Baptist Hospital and initiated plans to move to a new campus. The 1928 hospital and 1949 addition are in generally good condition and retain adequate integrity to be considered significant for the purposes of this nomination.

*School of Nursing (1956, modified 1966, MAP ID 3) with Kitchen and Dining Expansion (1965, MAP ID 6)  
1 Historic Addition and 1 Non-historic Addition  
Photos 5-8, 19-20*

The next major addition was for the School of Nursing. The Sisters' three-year nurses training program, formally established in 1909, had previously operated out of the hospital's 1909 addition. Once the hospital's original 1901 building was demolished in 1955, that cleared the way for construction of a new modern nursing school. Designed by local architects Emmett and James Rittenberry of Amarillo and completed in 1956, the building follows a mostly U-shaped courtyard plan with the primary three-story elevation facing NW 7th Avenue. The west and east elevations are also three stories, though the easternmost wing was initially one level; its second and third floors were added in 1966 and designed to achieve a seamless appearance.

The building's modern exterior reflects the architectural trends of the period. The composition of the primary (south) façade emphasizes horizontal lines through the use of ribbon windows, continuous cast stone windowsills, and horizontal fins. This horizontal orientation is broken only by a prominent stair tower just west of the main entrance. The tower protrudes from the face of the building and extends above the roof line, where it is topped by a large cross. Vertically ganged windows within the stair tower are separated by accordion spandrel panels and the entire grouping is surrounded by a cast stone frame. The building is clad primarily with light buff-colored brick, though a darker reddish-brown brick is used to accentuate the stair tower and for the solid planes between most of the ribbon windows on the south elevation. First, second, and third floor windows on the south elevation are uniform aluminum units, with fixed center panes flanked by multi-lite casements (however, the operable sashes include only four out of the five lites). Windows serving the partial basement follow a similar configuration but are shorter.

The main entrance is located on the primary (south) elevation facing NW 7th Avenue. Wide brick steps lead to a patio which is surrounded by original low fieldstone walls capped with cast stone. A flat roofed canopy supported by paired metal columns announces the location of the main entrance. A window was altered to provide a secondary entrance on the eastern side of the south elevation in the 1980s, likely when many of the hospital's buildings were updated to

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address building code and egress issues. Immediately adjacent to the secondary entrance is a pedestrian bridge added in 1985, which mars a small portion of the original façade.

The west elevation continues the bands of windows and continuous sills, though without the use of horizontal fins (except for approximately 12' where they wrap from the front façade). The majority of windows on this elevation, like those on the front, are aluminum and have a center fixed pane flanked by multi-light casements. Windows corresponding to the auditorium are taller awning units. Louvered vents on this elevation correspond to the location of the crawlspace.

The east elevation was originally constructed in 1956 as a one-story wing. At the time, the nursing school was separated from the 1909 addition only by a narrow side yard (see Map 10), and a taller structure would have impeded light and ventilation for the older building. The second and third floors were added to the east elevation in 1966, just prior to the demolition of the 1909 addition. The added floors were intended to serve as a convent for the Sisters who lived on-site. While designed to be seamless, the upper floors are nevertheless differentiated by a slight change in the color of the brick. Windows on this elevation are a combination of typical units (center pane flanked by casements) as well as narrower casements without the center pane. This elevation was also slightly altered at its south end by the addition of second elevator in the 1980s, and at its north end where it meets the glass enclosed second floor connector to the 1928 hospital.

In all, the exterior of the building is in reasonably good condition considering that it has sat vacant for several years. Brick and mortar joints appear to be in good condition. Some rust and deterioration is present along the undersides of the horizontal fins, but the fins themselves appear sound. While some of the window glass has been broken, most upper floor units are intact; the first floor and basement windows are currently protected by plywood to prevent further damage.

When first constructed, the building contained classrooms, a laboratory, library, administrative offices, dormitory-style rooms for 75 students, and a 150-seat auditorium (extant). Today, the interior of the building has retained its original double-loaded corridor layout as well as some finishes. The first floor 150-seat auditorium adjacent to the main entrance vestibule is also extant, though the proscenium opening on the stage has been filled in, lifts were added for accessibility (the auditorium floor is lowered a few feet below the first floor for additional ceiling height), and a recent fire damaged interior finishes.

In 1965, the school's central courtyard was enclosed to create a dining room and cafeteria for the hospital. The design incorporated eight large skylights, tall ceilings, and an open plan allowing some retention of the former courtyard's light-filled character. This was part of a larger project that also provided an enclosed connection to the laundry building and expanded the hospital's service kitchen (Map 11). The newly enlarged and modernized kitchen may have incorporated some of the existing structure (the outline of the former kitchen is visible on the roof), but it appears that the addition was largely rebuilt. Interior walls were removed, and the layout reconfigured to suit the larger space. The kitchen's windowless exterior elevations were plainly clad with brick, reflecting the addition's utilitarian function. The north elevation was later concealed from view by the covered loading dock during the hospital's 1971 expansion, leaving only the west elevation visible. Both the kitchen and dining area were remodeled in the early 1990s, and today little interior historic fabric remains from the 1965 period of construction.

Due to the extensive alterations to a buildout that had little architectural definition to begin with, the 1965 kitchen and dining expansion is considered to be a non-historic addition. The expansion of the kitchen was a relatively minor alteration to a secondary space, it did not impact any of the hospital's significant features, and it remains minimally visible. The concurrent enclosure of the courtyard, though regrettable, did not significantly alter the School of Nursing's overall organization.

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In 1969, the School of Nursing closed, and the addition was converted to other hospital uses. Despite the mid-1960s alterations and subsequent minor changes related to egress and circulation, the School of Nursing stands as an excellent example of Mid-century Modern architecture in Amarillo. The main NW 7th Avenue façade and the west elevation in particular retain a high degree of exterior integrity.

*1960 Addition (MAP ID 4) with Surgical and Laboratory Addition (1971, MAP ID 7)  
1 Historic Addition and 1 Non-historic Addition  
Photos 9-12, 21-23*

In 1960, a new 5-story addition was constructed on the northeastern corner of the hospital complex, with frontage on both W. Amarillo Boulevard and N. Polk Street. Like the c.1956 School of Nursing, it was designed in a decidedly modern style typical of the period. The principal architects were William O'Connell and Victor Probst of Austin, Texas; their firm, O'Connell and Probst, specialized in the design of hospitals and medical facilities. John L. Hannon of Amarillo served as the local associate architect. The 1960 addition's visually dominant five-story portion was T-shaped in plan, with the short leg serving as a connector to the 1949 hospital addition; floors were intended to flow seamlessly between the two structures on all levels. One- and two-story portions were constructed on the west and south sides of the five-story "tower". In 1971 a major expansion for surgical and laboratory facilities extended the first floor approximately 35' to the north and 80' to the west and extended the second floor approximately 180' to the south.

The 1960 addition's original north elevation, facing W. Amarillo Blvd., was meant to project a new modern face for St. Anthony's Hospital (Figures 8-10). The facade was bookended on the east and west by projecting stair towers that extended above the building's flat roof. Floors two through five were uniform in appearance, with fourteen recessed window bays corresponding to patient rooms at each level and horizontal fins for shading. These bays were repeated on the visible portion of the south elevation. The original east elevation was a solid brick wall, upon which was affixed a two-story iron cross. The horizontal fin at the first-floor ceiling extended around the building, serving as an overhang and providing cover for passenger drop-offs on the north and south sides of the building.

When the first floor was extended north and west in 1971, a key part of the work involved the redesign of the first-floor extended overhang on all primary elevations. Previously a thin flat slab, the overhang was restructured so that the edges formed a 5'-6" tall parapet to screen roof-mounted mechanical equipment. New heavy tapered concrete columns also lent a Brutalist appearance to the redesigned first floor. The exterior appearance of the addition today reflects both the original 1960 design and the later 1971 alterations.

The north elevation retains its original 1960 appearance above the first floor. The recessed window bays are intact, as are the concrete horizontal fins. Each window bay is divided from the next by an expanse of buff-colored brick, framed on each side by masonry units that stand slightly proud of adjacent surfaces. Paired windows are original aluminum-framed double hungs, with each sash divided horizontally into two lites. Below each pair of windows are blue glazed bricks set in a stacked bond pattern. These glazed bricks have been painted over; however, the paint is peeling, and the original blue color is visible in several locations. The east and west brick-clad stair towers retain their original 1960's appearance. The first floor, part of the 1971 addition, is comprised of free-standing Brutalist-style tapered concrete columns that support the roof overhang and parapet. The window wall, set just behind the columns, is composed of dark-tinted storefront glazing above a granite base. Most of the first and second floor windows have been boarded up with plywood.

The 1960 addition's east elevation also retains its original appearance above the first floor, though the large iron cross formerly affixed to the solid buff-colored brick wall is no longer present. The east elevation's first floor is visually dominated by the c.1971 Brutalist-style columns and overhanging parapet. While the northernmost portion of the first-

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floor east window wall is part of the c.1971 addition, the southernmost portion is part the original 1960 construction. In this area, original aluminum frames create a composition of rectangular openings infilled with either storefront glazing or pink granite panels. The aluminum frames are set atop a brick base, which in turn sits on a partially visible concrete slab.

The south elevation of the 1960 addition, above the first floor, is similar in appearance to the north façade. Recessed windows, masonry infill, and concrete panels are all intact; like on the north side, the blue glazed bricks have been painted over though some of the original color remains visible. While the first floor is visually dominated by the c.1971 Brutalist-style columns and overhanging parapet, particularly at the covered drop-off aisle, the window wall is original and retains its aluminum frames, granite panels, and glazing.

The west elevation of the 1960 addition is minimally visible, as this side of the building is largely dominated by the c.1971 surgical and laboratory addition that wraps around its base. The surgical and laboratory addition also connects to the west side of the 1928 hospital and 1949 hospital addition, and the east side of the later c.1981 addition. Because it is largely tucked away, the two-story portion of the c.1971 addition lacks any real architectural definition or presence. Exterior walls, where visible, are light-colored brick with few windows. Natural light is provided to the second floor, where the intensive care unit is located, via skylights on the roof.

The interior configuration of the 1960 addition remains mostly intact on floors two through five, where patient rooms are located on either side of a double loaded corridor. Many of the finishes, however, were updated during later efforts to remodel and modernize the interior. The configuration of the first floor was partially altered with the c.1971 surgical and laboratory addition, particularly on the north and west sides.

The 1960 addition retains a high degree of exterior and interior integrity above the first floor, particularly on the north, east, and south elevations. While the c.1971 surgical and laboratory addition altered the first floor and overhanging canopy, the original 1960 addition remains recognizable and serves as a good example of Mid-century Modern architecture in Amarillo.

*Chaplain's Quarters (1964, MAP ID 5)*

*1 Historic Addition*

*Photos 2*

In 1964, a small four-story addition clad in buff-colored brick was appended to the south elevation of the 1928 hospital. It was distinctly modern in its appearance and a bold addition to the hospital's classically-styled N. Polk Street facade. Cantilevered balconies on the first and second floors are bookended by projecting vertical brick fins, resulting in an overall effect similar to a picture frame. Metal guardrails with zig-zag balusters extend from one fin to the other. The third-floor balcony has the stylized metal guardrail on all three sides, with a horizontal fin above serving as a shading device. While the first and second floor balconies remain accessible via metal-framed sliding doors, access to the third floor balcony has since been eliminated and the doors replaced with metal windows. The fourth floor window opening is aligned with the balconies below. This addition, by architects John L. Hannon and J. Ray Daniel, originally housed the chaplain's quarters, a pediatric playroom, and physical therapy room.

In the 1980s, a one- and five-story minor addition for a new egress-related stair tower wrapped the west and south sides of the 1964 structure. The 1980s addition also tied into a modern glass-enclosed second-story connector leading to the School of Nursing.

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*1981 Addition (MAP ID 8) with MRI Addition (1990, MAP ID 10)*

*2 Non-historic Additions*

*Photos 12, 14*

By 1981, two additional blocks had been secured, allowing for a significant westward expansion of the hospital's footprint. The expanded site was configured to accommodate a new access drive from NW 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, a larger circular patient drop-off zone, ample surface parking, and a helipad. The focal point of the 1981 addition was the central 3-story section, which housed the new main entrance and atrium. Patient rooms were laid out along the north and south sides of the upper floors, where large windows were positioned to provide ample daylight. The rest of the sprawling addition generally ranged from one- to two-stories in height. A narrow glass enclosed corridor on the third floor, partially visible from Amarillo Boulevard, provided a link between the central portion of the 1981 addition and the 1971 surgical and laboratory addition. Besides expanding the hospital's bed capacity, the 1981 addition provided needed space for administrative offices, a giftshop, chapel, a dedicated radiation therapy area, and physical therapy facilities.

The 1981 addition was designed by Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum (HOK), with Amarillo-based Wilson/Doche Architects, Inc. serving as the local associate. For the most part these c.1981 additions were designed as simple and functional brick-clad structures with heavy rectangular massing. Aside from the windows corresponding to patient rooms in the central section, and some stained-glass windows in the chapel, most fenestration is limited to narrow bands of tinted glazing at the perimeter of the addition. While there is no applied ornament, the addition's primary south elevation does feature an arched entrance canopy, some curved walls (corresponding to the chapel), and other Post-Modern design elements.

The one-story c.1990 MRI addition is located on the eastern edge of the circular drop off and has its own dedicated entrance. It was designed by Wilson/Doche Architects, Inc. The addition's exterior is clad with a combination of oversized light brick and stucco panels. A horizontal accent band of dark brick is positioned near the roof line. A prominent arched window is centered on the addition's south elevation.

*Professional Office Building (POB) Addition (1981, MAP ID 9)*

*1 Non-historic Addition*

*Photos 13, 24*

The two-story c.1981 Professional Office Building (POB) addition, located on the far western end of the hospital complex, was also designed by Wilson/Doche Architects, Inc. of Amarillo.. The Professional Office Building addition's main entrance is located on the west elevation, were a barrel-vaulted canopy over the passenger drop-off is supported on one end by a freestanding wall with an arched opening. This is the most prominent feature of the addition's Post-Modern styling. The main entrance leads to an open lobby where a curved stairwell provides access to the second floor. Another curved stair is located in the eastern lobby, which features a curving glass wall overlooking the circular drop-off and main entrance. An angled passageway with a barrel-arched roof and southeast-facing glass windows links this eastern lobby to the hospital's 1981 addition. The exterior of the Professional Office Building addition is clad with light colored brick. On the north and south elevations, continuous narrow bands of tinted glazing provide daylight to the offices and exam rooms that line both sides of a primary double-loaded corridor.

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### Statement of Significance

St. Anthony's Hospital opened in Amarillo in 1901 as a Catholic hospital founded by the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word. Concerned civic leaders led by a local doctor had asked the order of nuns, known for their work providing health care across Texas in the late 1800s, to establish a small hospital for the growing community. St. Anthony's was the first hospital constructed in Amarillo, the first in Potter County, and the first to serve the larger Panhandle region. As the city's population increased, St. Anthony's Hospital regularly expanded and modernized its facilities. The oldest extant component of the hospital, the Wyatt Hedrick-designed five-story main building completed in 1928, was a response to Amarillo's rapid growth during the oil boom of the 1920s. Subsequent major additions in 1949, 1956, 1960, and 1964—as well as more recent additions in 1971, 1981, and 1990—continued to increase the institution's capacity. As was common for many early- to mid- 20<sup>th</sup> century hospitals, St. Anthony's also operated an on-site School of Nursing from 1909 to 1969. In 1996, St. Anthony's Hospital merged with High Plains Baptist Hospital located in the Harrington Regional Medical Center on the western edge of the city. St. Anthony's historic hospital campus has been vacant since 2004. St. Anthony's Hospital is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Health/Medicine for the institution's vital role in providing modern medical care to Amarillo and the Panhandle region for over a century. The period of significance begins in 1928, the date of the oldest extant building, and ends in 1970. The property meets Criteria Consideration A (Religious Properties) because it is primarily significant for its secular function as a hospital and not as a religious institution.

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### *Historical Overview of the City of Amarillo*

The City of Amarillo is located near the geographical center of the Texas Panhandle. The region is part of the High Plains, an elevated mesa-like zone that extends into the northern and western sections of Texas. The area's abundant short grass is ideal for cattle grazing, historically one of the Panhandle's primary industries. Originally located only in Potter County, Amarillo was later expanded southward into Randall County through ensuing annexations.

Since its founding in 1887, Amarillo has been an important center of commerce and industry. J.T. Berry, a real estate promotor and cattleman from Abilene, had been hired by a group of Colorado City merchants to establish a trading center along the planned route of the Fort Worth and Denver City Railroad. Just months after it was platted, the town was selected as the new seat of Potter County and its name changed to Amarillo. Soon, a passenger station and freight depot were erected, and pens were constructed near the railroad for cattle brought in from Panhandle ranches. Lots were quickly subdivided and sold for development.<sup>1</sup> Competing real estate interests raised concerns about the town's susceptibility to frequent flooding. Among those advocating for the town's relocation were two owners of the nearby Frying Pan Ranch, Henry Sanborn and Joseph Glidden. In 1888, with financial backing from Glidden and Glidden's son-in-law William H. Bush, Sanborn acquired land approximately 1 mile east of Amarillo's original townsite. Sanborn hired surveyor John Willis to plat his new town. Following a devastating flood that inundated Berry's lower lying "old town" in April 1889, many Amarillo residents moved their homes and businesses to the new Glidden and Sanborn Addition on higher ground.<sup>2</sup> Amarillo incorporated as a city in 1899, and by the 1900 census its population had reached 1,442. In 1901, electric service was established through the Amarillo Light and Water Company. That same year, St. Anthony's Hospital became the first hospital to open in Panhandle.

Amarillo became the center of the Panhandle cattle industry. Other industries developed around the farming and processing of wheat and other grains. By 1912 the city was served by three transcontinental systems: the Fort Worth and Denver City Railroad, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, and the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad. A bird's eye map of Amarillo published that same year showed a bustling downtown with shops, offices,

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<sup>1</sup> Paul H. Carlson, *Amarillo: The Story of a Western Town* (Lubbock: Texas Tech University Press, 2006), 20-32.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, 33-36. See also H. Allen Anderson, "Amarillo, TX," *Handbook of Texas Online*, <https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hda02>, accessed January 15, 2020.

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post office, courthouse, a gas plant, numerous factories, wholesale warehouses, and jobbing houses. The accompanying text proclaimed, "Amarillo's growth is substantial and modern both in her buildings and in her industrial, commercial, social and civic enterprises."<sup>3</sup> The 1920s brought about a period of rapid expansion with the discovery nearby of natural gas and oil wells. Petroleum companies including Phillips, Shamrock, and Magnolia established offices Amarillo, fueling a demand for workers and professionals. In 1928, the Federal Bureau of Mines formed the U.S. Helium Plant four miles west of downtown. The city's population nearly tripled between 1920 and 1930, increasing from 15,494 to 43,132 residents.

While the economy of Amarillo was impacted in the 1930s by the Great Depression and Dust Bowl storms (c.1933-c.1936), government-funded projects focusing on infrastructure, as well as the construction of schools and courthouses, brought some relief. Major institutional buildings erected in Amarillo during this time included the c.1932 Art Deco-styled Potter County Courthouse and the New Deal-funded c.1938 U.S. Post Office and Courthouse (now J. Marvin Jones Federal Building). Amarillo was particularly active during World War II, and the influx of servicemen and their families helped to reverse the city's economic downturn. The Amarillo Army Air Field was located approximately four miles east of downtown, and the Pantex Army Ordnance Plant, which produced bombs and ammunition, was seventeen miles to the northeast.<sup>4</sup> Pantex was closed at the end of the war, but was reopened by the U.S. Department of Energy in 1950 for the production of chemical explosives and nuclear weapons. The Pantex plant, used for warhead disassembly since 1991, is still in operation and remains one of the city's largest employers.<sup>5</sup>

Investment in Amarillo and the surrounding metropolitan area in the 1960s reflected a sense of optimism, with a focus on modernization and growth. Amarillo's new civic center complex (1964-1968) included a municipal building, auditorium, plaza, and convention center facilities. In 1965, ground was broken on a 350-acre medical district—now the Harrington Regional Medical Center—west of downtown (the impact of this is explained in the following section). The city's two tallest office towers—the 31-story American National Bank building and the 16-story Amarillo National Bank—were both constructed between 1969 and 1971.<sup>6</sup>

*St. Anthony's Hospital and the Evolution of Health Care Facilities in Amarillo*

Opened in 1901, fourteen years after the city's founding, St. Anthony's was the first hospital in Amarillo, the first in Potter County, and the first to serve the Texas Panhandle. It was affiliated with the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, a Catholic order whose nuns came from Lyon, France at the request of Texas Bishop Claude Dubuis to establish Galveston's St. Mary's Hospital (1867), the state's first Catholic hospital.<sup>7</sup> The nuns soon helped to establish hospitals in other Texas cities including San Antonio (1869), Fort Worth (1885), Houston (1887), and Beaumont (1897).<sup>8</sup>

In the late nineteenth century, Amarillo physician David Fly recognized the need for a dedicated hospital to serve the growing community. At the invitation of Dr. Fly and other civic leaders, four Sisters moved from the order's motherhouse in San Antonio to Amarillo to run the new institution, initially named St. Anthony's Sanitarium. Dr. Fly had previously lived in San Antonio and was familiar with the Sisters' work.<sup>9</sup> By this time, the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word were recruiting nuns from multiple countries and training them as health care providers. Three of the

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<sup>3</sup> "Aeroplane view of business district Amarillo, Texas," (Amarillo, TX: Panhandle Printing Company, c.1912), Library of Congress Geography and Map Division/American Memory, <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g4034a.pm009030>, accessed May 30, 2020.

<sup>4</sup> Anderson, "Amarillo, TX."

<sup>5</sup> H. Allen Anderson and Laurie E. Jasinski, "Pantex," *Handbook of Texas Online*, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/dmp01>, accessed May 31, 2020.

<sup>6</sup> Anderson, "Amarillo, TX." According to the author, the slight population decrease between 1960 and 1970 was due in part to the closing of the Amarillo Air Force Base (formerly the Army base) in 1968.

<sup>7</sup> Sister M. Loyola Hegarty, C.C.V.I., "Catholic Health Care," *Handbook of Texas Online*, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/smc01>, accessed May 31, 2020.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>9</sup> Carlson, *Amarillo*, 56.

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nuns who arrived in Amarillo were natives of Ireland, while one was of German descent. The Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word already had a small presence in the Panhandle. In 1899, they had established St. Mary's Academy, the area's first Catholic school, sixty miles away in Clarendon.<sup>10</sup>

The small hospital opened in March 1901. At the time, there were four physicians practicing in Amarillo including Dr. Fly.<sup>11</sup> The hospital was located on the 700 block of N. Polk Street in a sparsely settled area on the north edge of town. Land for the facility had been donated by William H. Bush, a prominent businessman and owner of the nearby Frying Pan Ranch.<sup>12</sup> The original 14-bed hospital building was a two-and-one-half story red brick structure. While water was supplied by an on-site well, the facility lacked basic amenities such as electricity, telephones, gas heating, and sewage disposal. In addition to treatment rooms and accommodations for staff, the building included a small chapel which temporarily served as the first Catholic church for Amarillo's small but growing Catholic population. A larger dedicated church, Sacred Heart, was completed nearby in 1902. The Sisters who administered the new hospital faced some early mistrust, as local residents were reportedly wary of the nuns' unfamiliar dress and mannerisms.<sup>13</sup> A devastating typhoid outbreak in 1907, however, demonstrated the need for their services and helped them to earn the community's confidence.<sup>14</sup>

The modest hospital was listed in the first edition of the American Medical Association's directory of hospitals and physicians, published in 1906.<sup>15</sup> The publication reported 18 physicians practicing in Amarillo that year. Statewide, Texas had 4,825 physicians, seventy-seven hospitals or sanitariums, and seven schools of medicine.<sup>16</sup> The hospital's first addition, designed by local architect E. Wallington and completed in 1909, was intended to house a new School of Nursing, the first such institution in the Panhandle. Four nurses comprised the first graduating class in 1913. It was a common practice at the time for hospitals to establish nursing schools in order to secure a steady and reliable source of labor. Over the next six decades until the school closed in 1969, 635 students graduated as registered nurses.<sup>17</sup> The two-and-one-half story addition was nearly triple the size of the original hospital. According to an article in the *Weekly Herald*, the 1909 addition's first two floors contained 22 patient rooms, wide well-lit corridors, dining areas, well-equipped bathrooms, and an operating room. The attic contained the relocated chapel and dormitory.<sup>18</sup> The addition faced N. Polk Street and was located immediately east of the original 1901 hospital (see Map 10).

With the discovery of oil in the area in 1921 the population of Amarillo began to skyrocket, increasing from 15,494 in 1920 to 43,132 by 1930. Additional medical facilities were clearly needed to relieve the strain on the modest St. Anthony's Hospital. The Potter County Commissioner's Court appointed a hospital board—composed of “six property-owning, tax paying citizens”—to plan a new public hospital.<sup>19</sup> The board hired Amarillo architect Guy Carlander to design the 75-bed facility, which was to be located on SW Sixth Avenue approximately 1.5 miles west of downtown. Northwest Texas Hospital, the city's second hospital, formally opened on March 19, 1924.<sup>20</sup> The three- and four-story Y-shaped building was organized around three radiating wings. The narrow wings were sized to

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<sup>10</sup> James T. Moore, *Acts of Faith: The Catholic Church in Texas, 1900-1950* (College Station: Texas A & M University Press, 2002), 108.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> H. Allen Anderson, “Frying Pan Ranch,” Handbook of Texas Online, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/apf03>, accessed May 31, 2020. Sanborn and Glidden's partnership dissolved in 1892. Glidden then transferred full ownership of the ranch to his son-in-law William Henry Bush in 1898 for \$68,000.

<sup>13</sup> Jason Boyett, “Municipal Health: Nursing Education in Amarillo, Then and Now,” *Amarillo Magazine*, October 2017, 27.

<sup>14</sup> BSA Health System History, <https://bsahs.org/locations/bsa-hospital>.

<sup>15</sup> “St. Anthony's Celebrates Diamond Jubilee,” *News-Globe*, January 18, 1976.

<sup>16</sup> *American Medical Directory* (Chicago: American Medical Association, 1906), accessed online May 30, 2020.

<sup>17</sup> Boyett, “Municipal Health,” 27. See also Lueise Tyson, *Northwest Texas Hospital School of Nursing, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas*, National Register of Historic Places nomination, 1996.

<sup>18</sup> “Stately Addition to St. Anthony's,” *Weekly Herald*, October 24, 1907.

<sup>19</sup> Tyson, *Northwest Texas Hospital School of Nursing*.

<sup>20</sup> “New Northwest Texas Hospital One of Best in State,” *Amarillo Daily Globe*, March 19, 1924.

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accommodate a double-loaded corridor, with large perimeter windows providing ample daylight and ventilation to patient rooms. Other buildings comprising the hospital campus included a tubercular cottage and a school of nursing.

To remain competitive following the opening of Northwest Texas Hospital, St. Anthony's would need to expand and modernize its facilities. In 1927, St. Anthony's began construction on a \$400,000 five-story hospital building that would increase the institution's total capacity to 100 beds. The building was designed by Fort Worth architect Wyatt Hedrick; Christy-Delph of Dallas was the general contractor. With the building's formal dedication on May 24, 1928, the institution's name was officially changed from St. Anthony's Sanitarium to St. Anthony's Hospital. In advance of the opening, the local *Amarillo News-Globe* published a lengthy profile of the hospital alongside seven pages of congratulatory advertisements from subcontractors and the local business community (Figures 2 and 3):

[The hospital] would be a credit to any city many times larger than Amarillo. It has everything that any large hospital has and no expense has been spared in handling each detail of the giant institution, from the big power plant in the basement through the various scientific departments on the fifth floor. The equipment alone represents an investment of more than \$45,000 and includes every standard hospital appliance along with the latest equipment known to the medical world including much that has not been available here prior to the opening of the new unit.<sup>21</sup>

The building's formal public entrance, facing Polk Street, was detailed in white cast stone. The first floor included a spacious lobby, reception room, administrative offices, a records room, pharmacy, consultation and exam rooms, and some patient rooms. The second floor, used for medical cases, had a sun parlor, toilet and bath facilities, and patient rooms on either side of the central corridor. The third floor and part of the fourth floor housed patient rooms for surgical cases. The maternity ward was also located on the fourth floor, in a suite away from the main corridor; it included a nursery and baby incubator for premature infants. The fifth floor housed two major and two minor operating rooms, pathological and x-ray labs, cardiograph departments, and a sterile room for doctors' instruments. The hospital was designed with modern features throughout including hall lighting, blanket warmers, a silent signal system, circulating ice water, and a clothes chute.

Attached to the rear of the building was a central kitchen connected to the main hospital by a corridor. The kitchen included ample workspace and refrigeration rooms. In the basement below the kitchen were boilers, an incinerator, an ice water circulator, ice plant, and other required mechanical equipment. Hospital kitchens during this period were often located in separate buildings to minimize smells, noise, and the risk of fire.<sup>22</sup>

Sanitation, sunlight, and ventilation were critical considerations in the design of new medical facilities. Like most hospitals constructed in the 1920s, the new St. Anthony's Hospital was configured as a "block plan," where smaller individual patient rooms and other hospital functions were arranged on either side of a central double loaded corridor. This was in contrast to the previously favored "pavilion" plan. Historian Annmarie Adams, in contrasting the two types, describes that the hallmark of the pavilion plan, well established by 1893, was "the open ward, in which thirty to forty beds were arranged regularly against the outside walls, which in turn were punctuated by a regular rhythm of large windows. The premise was that copious amounts of fresh air circulating between patients would mitigate the chances of contagion."<sup>23</sup> The block plan gained popularity in the early decades of the twentieth-century as the public grew to prefer—and was willing to pay for—private rooms. For years doctors and architects debated the benefits and drawbacks of each type, with the central question focused on "how to balance the efficiency and economy of the ward with the comfort and protection of the private room."<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> *Amarillo News Globe*, May 23, 1928.

<sup>22</sup> Annmarie Adams, *Medicine by Design: The Architect and the Modern Hospital, 1893-1943* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2008), 112.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, 9-14.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, 113.

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The key features of modern hospitals in the 1920s were, according to Adams, “historicist imagery, steel and reinforced concrete framing, fireproofing, soundproofing, functional zoning, overt references to domestic and hotel architecture, delivery by automobile, internal communication technologies, adherence to standards, planning for expansion, factory-inspired kitchens and laundries, suites of rooms for surgery, and a new emphasis on individual patient rooms.”<sup>25</sup>

Less than two years after St. Anthony's major expansion, the United States entered the Great Depression, a period of severe economic decline following the stock market crash of October 29, 1929. As conditions worsened in the early 1930s, many Americans, no longer employed, fell into poverty. Several banks failed, and prices for commodities plummeted. The downturn was compounded by the Dust Bowl in the mid-1930s. Given its location on the High Plains, Amarillo was accustomed to periodic droughts and erosion brought about by high winds. The fierce and continuous dust storms that ravaged the Panhandle in the early- to mid-1930s, however, caused widespread devastation during an already difficult time. According to *Handbook of Texas Online*, “In 1932 there were 14 dust storms of regional extent; in 1933, thirty-eight; in 1934, twenty-two; in 1935, forty; in 1936, sixty-eight; in 1937, seventy-two; in 1938, sixty-one; in 1939, thirty; in 1940, seventeen; in 1941, seventeen. In Amarillo the worst year for storms was 1935, when they lasted a total of 908 hours. Seven times, from January to March, the visibility in Amarillo declined to zero; one of these complete blackouts lasted eleven hours. In another instance a single storm raged for 3½ days.”<sup>26</sup>

The catastrophes put a strain on local hospitals. Direct impacts from the dust storms included eye and lung damage, which when severe enough could cause blindness, suffocation, and death. The elderly and people with existing respiratory conditions were particularly vulnerable. Indirect impacts from both the storms and economic crisis included a general decline in public health, and a strain on hospital finances. Despite the challenges, St. Anthony's remained in operation and continued to provide medical care to the community. An article published on the occasion of the hospital's 75-year anniversary recalled that difficult period and subsequent rebound:

Often, as many as 40 healthy but hungry men, looking for work, came to the hospital daily. They were always fed by the sisters even though at the time, money was being borrowed to pay some of the interest on the debt incurred with the new addition. The number of patients dropped as low as 12 and some of these were charity or half pay patients. The sisters had to close the third floor [of the 1909 building]. But by 1940, hospital records showed total admissions at 3,507 and total births at 393. And two years later, the third floor of the hospital was completely remodeled, and the chapel made larger.<sup>27</sup>

In 1939, construction began on Amarillo's third hospital, the Veterans Administration Hospital located at 6010 W. Amarillo Boulevard. The Veterans Administration had been established as a federal agency in 1930 through the consolidation of three separate bureaus to provide benefits and care to members of the armed forces after their service. Between 1931 and 1941, the number of VA Hospitals nationwide increased from 64 to 91, with the number of beds increasing from 33,669 to 61,849.<sup>28</sup> Prior to the construction of the Amarillo facility, Panhandle veterans receiving care through the Veterans Administration would have to travel 250-500 miles to other facilities such as the VA hospitals in Albuquerque, New Mexico or Wichita, Kansas.

The Amarillo VA Hospital's initial building was designed as a 156-bed facility with all modern amenities. The master plan for the complex envisioned two additional hospital buildings that would eventually increase the capacity to 450 beds. Other buildings constructed during the first phase included a garage, residential quarters (for officers and some staff), boiler house, and laundry. The VA Hospital's semi-rural setting on former ranchland on the western edge of

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<sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*, 109.

<sup>26</sup> Donald Worster “Dustbowl,” *Handbook of Texas Online*, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/ydd01>, accessed May 31, 2020.

<sup>27</sup> “St. Anthony's Celebrates Diamond Jubilee,” *News-Globe*, January 18, 1976.

<sup>28</sup> “VA History in Brief,” [https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/archives/docs/history\\_in\\_brief.pdf](https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/archives/docs/history_in_brief.pdf), accessed February 5, 2020.

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Amarillo allowed the facility to raise cattle and maintain its own produce gardens. An *Amarillo Globe* article called the project a “concrete colossus now looming up on the city’s western horizon,” and lauded the anticipated economic boost that would come from 125 new jobs and steady operating expenses: “To Amarillo the veterans’ hospital means \$200,000 more to the annual payroll and from \$10,000 to \$15,000 expended each month for supplies.”<sup>29</sup> The new hospital was formally dedicated on May 12, 1940. While the hospital was threatened with closure by the Hoover Commission in 1955, local advocates successfully fought to keep it open and it remains in operation today.<sup>30</sup>

By 1941, when the United States entered into World War II, St. Anthony’s Hospital had 61 physicians, surgeons, and specialists on staff. Departments included general medicine, surgery, obstetrics, pediatrics, and eye, ear, nose and throat. In addition, there were x-ray and clinical laboratories, a pharmacy, a dietary unit, and a medical records division. The hospital was approved by the American College of Surgeons and registered by the American Medical Association. It was a member of the Catholic Hospital Association of the United States and Canada, the American Hospital Association, the Texas Hospital Association, and the Texas conference of the Catholic Hospital Association. Also in 1941, the School of Nursing had 64 students including five Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word; the school’s 1940 graduating class numbered seventeen.<sup>31</sup>

Hospital records analyzed in 1941 showed that 90% of the previous year’s admissions were non-Catholic, proving the hospital’s widespread acceptance within the community despite the initial mistrust faced by the nuns in 1901. An article in the Catholic newspaper, *The Register*, addressed the challenges and opportunities posed to St. Anthony’s religious staff:

Hospital chaplains and sister nurses have many missionary opportunities but no phase of their apostolate offers richer returns than that of breaking down bigotry in the localities where non-Catholics form a very large percentage of the population, and where because of ignorance a very anti-Catholic attitude prevails. It is then and there that the visits of the chaplain and the hospital sister in her quiet ministrations to patients of all creeds, level the barriers raised by ignorance and bigotry... There is no better proof that bigotry has been leveled throughout this area in the 40 years that have elapsed since the hospital was opened than that of the 3,507 patients who entered the hospital in 1940—only 355 were Catholics.<sup>32</sup>

In 1948, ground was broken for a new five-story addition to St. Anthony’s Hospital to again meet the demands of the growing city. Whereas Amarillo’s population in 1930—shortly after completion of the 1928 hospital—was 43,132, by 1948 it was inching towards the 74,246 residents recorded in 1950. As a local newspaper noted in coverage of the new addition, “Always, the expansion of facilities and services have been determined by the needs of the people in the area whom the sisters serve.”<sup>33</sup>

The 1949 addition extended the 1928 hospital building an additional 73’ to the north. Designed by Amarillo architects Emmett F. and James F. Rittenberry and constructed by C.S. Lambie & Co, the addition’s Polk Street façade was styled to blend seamlessly with the 1928 structure. This Classical approach stood in contrast to the bold new Modern style gaining popularity among architects in the post-war years.

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<sup>29</sup> “Not Only Will Veterans’ Hospital be Large from Building Standpoint—It Will Add Economically to Amarillo’s Business,” *Amarillo Globe*, April 14, 1939.

<sup>30</sup> H. Allen Anderson, “Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Amarillo,” *Handbook of Texas Online*, <https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/SBV02>, accessed May 31, 2020.

<sup>31</sup> “Nuns Erected First Hospital in Panhandle,” *The Register*, November 2, 1941.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>33</sup> “New Wing at St. Anthony’s Hospital Open to Public,” *News Globe*, August 28, 1949.

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Due to limited funds, the addition was initially planned to be only four floors; the fifth floor was contingent upon the sisters raising approximately \$60,000 to build and fit out the top level's surgical recovery rooms.<sup>34</sup> Even when the building opened in 1949, the fifth floor was an unfinished shell that would be finished at a later date. The addition contained a new lying-in and delivery suite for expectant mothers along with private patient rooms equipped with tile baths, indirect lighting, and adjustable beds. Hospital superintendent Mother Mary of Lourdes noted that while the new addition would add 30 beds, bringing the total count to 155, "We need room for at least 200 patients... The hallways are no place for sick people."<sup>35</sup>

On the occasion of the 1949 addition's opening, the *News Globe* cited the hospital's statistics for 1948: 8,720 admitted patients, 2,211 emergency room patients, 822 deliveries, 1,033 children cared for in pediatrics unit, over 54,000 diagnostic tests, and 4,301 x-rays, and an average of six major surgeries performed daily. They continued:

All this in service to the people of the Panhandle has called for teamwork on the part of the doctors, the hospital administration, the departmental heads, the sisters, the nurses, and the technicians, as well as cooperation from all the employees of the hospital in every last detail from the elevator staff and janitor service to the chef and engineer.<sup>36</sup>

In 1948 there were also 28 registered nurses on the hospital staff, including six Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word. Superintendent Mother Mary of Lourdes noted that this constituted a nursing shortage, saying "We need at least six more."<sup>37</sup> Most of St. Anthony's nurses were graduates of the hospital's School of Nursing, established in 1909. With hospital functions contained within St. Anthony's 1928 and later 1949 additions, the older buildings within the complex were designated for use by the School of Nursing. The 1901 building served as the nursing students' residence, though it was not large enough to accommodate all students, while classes were held in the 1909 building.

Despite modest resources, the School of Nursing continued to attract and graduate qualified nurses. The program was chartered and approved by the Texas State Board of Nurse Examiner. It had also met the standards for training U.S. Cadet Nurses during World War II. By the 1940s, the school's program had established relationships with nearby academic institutions including the University of Texas and Amarillo College.<sup>38</sup> In 1952 the program achieved national accreditation, a significant milestone awarded to only 20% of nursing schools in the United States.<sup>39</sup>

A large expansion to increase the school's capacity was announced in 1954.<sup>40</sup> Like the hospital's 1949 addition, it was designed by Emmett F. and James F. Rittenberry and constructed by C.S. Lambie & Co. The new school was designed to have 75 private rooms for resident nurses, nearly doubling the school's enrollment in 1956. Other planned spaces included classrooms, laboratories, offices, and a 150-seat first floor auditorium. The building was the first on St. Anthony's campus to be designed in the Modern style. Located on the south side of the hospital complex facing NW Seventh Avenue, the large courtyard-style school unfortunately required demolition of the hospital's original 1901 building.

The \$650,000 addition was dedicated on June 13, 1956. In 1966, two additional floors were added to the east wing to provide a convent for the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word. Despite this sizable investment, the School of Nursing closed in 1969—only thirteen years after it opened—and the three-story addition was converted to other

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<sup>34</sup> "Place St. Anthony's Cornerstone," *Amarillo Globe*, February 11, 1949.

<sup>35</sup> "In Service to Panhandle Since 1901, St. Anthony's Dreams of Bigger Things," *Amarillo Globe*, November 4, 1948.

<sup>36</sup> "New Wing at St. Anthony's Hospital Open to Public," *News Globe*, August 28, 1949.

<sup>37</sup> "In Service to Panhandle Since 1901, St. Anthony's Dreams of Bigger Things," *Amarillo Globe*, November 4, 1948.

<sup>38</sup> "Nuns Erected First Hospital in Panhandle," *The Register*, November 2, 1941. Also, "Growth Continues Through the Years," *Amarillo Daily News*, June 13, 1956.

<sup>39</sup> "St. Anthony's School Observes Golden Anniversary," *Amarillo Globe-Times*, June 2, 1959.

<sup>40</sup> "Expansion Program Begun at St. Anthony Hospital," *Amarillo Register*, December 31, 1954.

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hospital uses. Officials reportedly “felt that the various education facilities in Amarillo and Canyon could take care of the teaching responsibilities.”<sup>41</sup>

In the mid-1950s, the Potter-Randall Citizens Health Council, a private citizens' volunteer group, commissioned Minneapolis-based hospital consultant James A. Hamilton Associates to conduct a study of Amarillo's current and future health care needs. The intention was to set long-range planning goals through 1980, while also identifying critical short-term needs. The report, published in 1956, found that Amarillo's hospitals were already operating near 100% capacity. It was recommended that both Northwest Texas Hospital and St. Anthony's Hospital immediately construct new additions to at least meet the area's projected demand through 1965. Assuming a desired ratio of 3.8 beds per person, and forecasting regional population growth, it was determined that 710 beds would be required by 1965—267 more than the available total in 1955.<sup>42</sup>

In terms of longer-range planning, the report focused on the feasibility of establishing a regional medical center to serve the Panhandle and surrounding states. Amarillo was considered a logical choice given its location, existing solid medical infrastructure, and the fact that it was named a “base hospital city” in the state's plan for distributing federal Hill-Burton funds.<sup>43</sup> The Citizens Health Council sought a site sufficiently large to attract a University of Texas medical school branch (which was in the early planning stages). It also needed to accommodate a new 500-800 bed hospital and provide ample parking for a full range of potential new uses including: an additional one or two general hospitals by non-profit organizations, a rehabilitation center, blood center, office space for health agencies, housing for resident doctors and interns, a school of nursing and nurses' housing, a home for the aged, a nursing home for the chronically ill, and a mental health clinic.<sup>44</sup>

The Citizens Health Council chose an undeveloped site for the new medical center on the western edge of town, along Route 66 near the existing VA Hospital. In order to establish a designated city hospital district with the power to issue bonds in *both* Potter and Randall counties (since Amarillo straddled the two), it was necessary to amend the state's constitution. The amendment was approved by Texas voters in 1958, and the new Amarillo Hospital District was formed. The district was to be governed by a Board of Managers appointed by the Amarillo City Commission.<sup>45</sup>

In 1958, the Citizen's Health Council was absorbed into the Amarillo Area Foundation as the new Hospital Committee.<sup>46</sup> The Amarillo Area Foundation was established in 1957 as a non-profit community foundation dedicated to “improving the quality of life for Panhandle residents.”<sup>47</sup> In 1959, the foundation funded improvements to both Northwest Texas Hospital and St. Anthony's Hospital to address the immediate critical hospital bed shortage. In 1960, working with Potter County and the newly formed Amarillo Hospital District, the foundation acquired 350 acres of land on the western edge of Amarillo for the new medical center. The site was formally dedicated in 1965, when ground was broken on the first infrastructure improvements and roadways. In 1989 was renamed the Harrington Regional Medical Center. The center has since become home to over 20 medical-related institutions including the new Baptist St. Anthony's Health System hospital (formed when High Plains Baptist Hospital merged with St. Anthony's in 1996), Harrington Cancer Center, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Texas Tech School of Pharmacy, and Bivins Memorial Nursing Home.

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<sup>41</sup> “St. Anthony's Celebrates Diamond Jubilee,” *News-Globe*, January 18, 1976.

<sup>42</sup> “Medical Center Site Selected West of City,” *Amarillo Globe-Times*, August 30, 1957.

<sup>43</sup> The Hill-Burton Act, also known as the Hospital Survey and Construction Act, was a federal law passed in 1946 to improve health and healthcare of Americans. It established a system of grants and loans to be distributed by the states. Applicants had to prove the economic viability of their proposals and agree to certain requirements (i.e., non-discrimination compliance, the provision of free care to the indigent, etc.)

<sup>44</sup> “Medical Center Site Selected West of City,” *Amarillo Globe-Times*, August 30, 1957.

<sup>45</sup> “Medical Center Site Selected West of City,” *Amarillo Globe-Times*, August 30, 1957. Also Lueise Tyson, *Northwest Texas Hospital School of Nursing, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas*, National Register of Historic Places nomination, 1996.

<sup>46</sup> H. Allen Anderson, “Harrington Regional Medical Center,” *Handbook of Texas Online*, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/sbhfz>, accessed May 31, 2020.

<sup>47</sup> <https://www.amarilloareafoundation.org/about/>.

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In January 1958, in response to the critical need for hospital beds, St. Anthony's Hospital announced that it would construct a large five-story addition on the north end of its campus. The announcement published in *The Register* included a quote from hospital consultant James Hamilton's 1956 report, that "St. Anthony's Hospital had been so erected from the beginning as to make enlargement a comparatively simple project of construction."<sup>48</sup> The \$2.5 million project, financed by the Amarillo Area Foundation with matching federal Hill-Burton funds, was completed and formally dedicated on October 9, 1960. It was designed in a Modernist-style by Austin-based architects O'Connell and Probst, with John L. Hannon as local architect. The building contained 140 beds (50 private, 62 semi-private, and 28 intensive care).

The basement housed a sterile supply department, autopsy room, storage, and mechanical space. The first floor contained administrative, x-ray, laboratory, and emergency departments. A new maternity ward and nursery were located on the second floor. The third floor was reserved for medical patients, while the fourth floor was for surgical patients. The fifth floor included post-surgical recovery rooms, a surgical ICU, and an eye, ear, nose and throat department. The addition had new central air conditioning, a visitor's lounge on each floor, and telephone service in every patient room. As the new departments were completed, the hospital's 1928 and 1949 additions were partially reconfigured and updated with new finishes.

St. Anthony's continued to make smaller improvements through the 1960s. These included, in 1964, the buildout of a new cardiovascular unit where the Panhandle's first open heart surgery was performed on October 14, 1964, as well as a modest addition housing chaplain's quarters, a pediatric playroom, and a physical therapy room. In 1965, the kitchen and dining facilities were expanded. In 1966, two floors were added to the east wing of the School of Nursing to provide space for a convent.

In 1968, the first major hospital opened in Amarillo's new west side medical center, marking the significant achievement of one of the Amarillo Area Foundation Hospital Committee's long-term goals. High Plains Baptist Hospital, dedicated on February 20, 1968, was a modern six-story 241-bed facility. The top floor was left uncompleted (to be built out at a later date as required), and the structure was designed to support two additional floors, allowing for a future potential total of 450 beds.<sup>49</sup>

St. Anthony's continued to expand its facilities through the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s before finally merging with High Plains Baptist Hospital in 1996. In 1971, a one- and two-story addition provided space for expanded surgical suites, an intensive care unit, enlarged laboratory and x-ray departments, and administrative and storage areas. The hospital again doubled its footprint in 1981, when the western portion of the hospital campus was developed with new administrative offices, an expanded lobby, chapel, additional patient rooms, and a dedicated professional office building. A new, small MRI facility was added in 1990.

In 1996, St. Anthony's Hospital merged with High Plains Baptist Hospital to form Baptist St. Anthony's Health System (BSAHS). Operations were gradually moved from St. Anthony's Polk Street campus to the Baptist campus within the Harrington Regional Medical Center in west Amarillo. St. Anthony's Hospital closed in 2004 and has been vacant since that time.

*Significance of St. Anthony's Hospital Under Criterion A in the Area of Health/Medicine*

Table 2 below summarizes the four full-service general hospitals that operated in Amarillo during the period of significance (1928-1970) associated with St. Anthony's Hospital.

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<sup>48</sup> "St. Anthony's Plans \$2,000,000 Addition," *Register*, January 17, 1958.

<sup>49</sup> Amarillo Area Foundation, *Amarillo Hospital Report*, 1968.

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**Table 2: Amarillo Hospitals through 1970<sup>50</sup>**

Name / Location of Historic Campus	Year Opened	Number of Licensed Beds in 1968 <sup>51</sup>	National Register Status	Notes
St. Anthony's Hospital (200 NW 7 <sup>th</sup> Avenue)	1901	250	Current nomination.	Merged with High Plains Baptist Hospital to form Baptist St. Anthony's Health System (BSAHS) in 1996; moved to Harrington Regional Medical Center district; historic campus closed in 2004 and is currently vacant.
Northwest Texas Hospital (2201 SW 6th Avenue)	1924	262	Northwest Texas School of Nursing (only) listed in 1996.	Moved to Harrington Regional Medical Center district in 1982, late 1970s; historic campus converted to affordable senior housing.
Veterans Administration Hospital (6010 W. Amarillo Blvd)	1940	156	Included in the Multiple Property Listing for <i>United States Second Generation Veterans Hospitals</i> and is considered eligible for listing in the National Register.	Remains in operation at original location.
High Plains Baptist Hospital (1600 Wallace Blvd.)	1968	241	Not listed.	Located in the Medical Center. Merged with St. Anthony's Hospital in 1996.

The hospital most directly comparable to Saint Anthony's—in terms of its longevity within the community, its public health focus, and overall scale—is Northwest Texas Hospital. Like St. Anthony's, Northwest Texas Hospital was anchored by a large 1920s-era hospital building enlarged through multiple building campaigns. The major additions to Northwest Texas Hospital occurred in 1940 and 1960. In the late 1970s and early 1980s operations were relocated to the hospital's new facility in the medical center (now the Harrington Regional Medical Center). The hospital's School of Nursing was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1996.<sup>52</sup> According to the nomination, Northwest Texas Hospital's integrity was compromised by the 1960 addition and subsequent alterations that changed the building's overall appearance and blocked the original main entrance.

While St. Anthony's complex massing also reflects numerous accretions over time, its 1928 hospital building and most additions through 1970 retain adequate exterior integrity and are considered to be historic. The changes that occurred on the interior of the hospital—numerous reconfigurations of departments, and the periodic updating of fixtures and finishes in corridors and patient rooms—are typical of modern hospitals and do not impact the building's overall organization. The buildings and additions that comprise St. Anthony's Hospital illustrate how the institution adapted to ongoing changes within the community, and successfully convey the property's historic significance.

St. Anthony's Hospital grew in tandem with the community of Amarillo, as the city evolved from a small trading outpost into the Panhandle's largest urban center. The Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, who founded the

<sup>50</sup> This list includes only full-service general public and private hospitals. It does not include specialized psychiatric or osteopathic facilities, such as the 58-bed Southwest Osteopathic Hospital opened in 1968.

<sup>51</sup> Amarillo Area Foundation, *Amarillo Hospital Report*, 1968.

<sup>52</sup> Tyson, Northwest Texas Hospital School of Nursing.

St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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modest hospital in 1901, regularly expanded and modernized St. Anthony's facilities to meet the healthcare-related needs of local residents. The hospital provided continuous critical care through early typhoid epidemics, World War I, the oil boom of the 1920s, the Great Depression and Dust Bowl, World War II, and into the post-war years when the city's medical landscape was transformed by large ambitious projects. The hospital's historic significance was first recognized in 1966, when an Official Texas Historical Marker (THC Atlas No. 5375005028) was placed outside St. Anthony's Hospital's Polk Street entrance, in recognition of the institution's important and long-standing presence within the community.

It is the intent of this nomination to establish that St. Anthony's Hospital is also eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of Health/Medicine for the institution's vital role in providing modern medical care to Amarillo and the Panhandle region for over a century. The hospital's period of significance begins in 1928, the date of the oldest extant structure, and ends in 1970, the 50-year point. The property meets Criteria Consideration A (Religious Properties) because it is primarily significant for its secular function as a hospital and not for its role as a religious institution.

### Supplemental Information - Architect's Biographies

#### *Wyatt Hedrick, Architect (1928 hospital)*

Wyatt C. Hedrick (1888-1964), a native of Virginia, studied engineering at Washington and Lee University. In 1913, he was hired by the Boston-based Stone and Webster Engineering Corporation and assigned to their Dallas office. After operating his own Fort Worth-based construction company from 1914-1921, he joined the architectural firm of Sanguinet and Staats. He opened his own architectural practice in 1925. Over the next three decades, Hedrick received commissions for a wide range of project types throughout Texas, from hotels and office buildings to theaters, universities, and hospitals. Notable works include: the Medical Arts and Lone Star Gas Company buildings in Fort Worth (1926 and 1929, respectively), the Texas and Pacific Terminal and Warehouse (1931), the Will Rogers Memorial Center and Fort Worth and City Hall (1936 and 1938, respectively, in association with Elmer G. Withers), and the Shamrock Hotel in Houston (1949). While Hedrick was widely recognized for his many Moderne-style buildings of the 1930s, his body of work represents a range of architectural styles from Classical to Neo-Gothic.

Hedrick's institutional projects included buildings for Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas Christian University and Texas Wesleyan College in Fort Worth, and the University of North Texas in Denton. Medical facilities in Texas included an addition for Santa Fe Hospital in Temple, the Deaf Smith County Hospital in Hereford, St. Joseph's Hospital in Fort Worth, and Terrell State Hospital in Terrell.<sup>53</sup>

#### *Emmett F. and James F. Rittenberry, Architects (1949 and 1956 additions)*

Emmett F. Rittenberry (1887-1964) was an Amarillo architect who designed numerous public buildings, churches, businesses, and residences in the Panhandle region from the 1910s through the 1950s. A native of Tennessee, Rittenberry moved to Amarillo c.1917 from Dallas, where he had previously trained as an architect. In Amarillo, he initially worked for J.C. Berry & Co. Architects before to starting his own firm in 1922. From 1929-1937, he was associated with Macon O. Carder and the firm was known as Rittenberry and Carder. He later formed a partnership with his son James F. Rittenberry (1912-1991). Together, they designed the 1949 addition to St. Anthony's Hospital as well as the 1956 School of Nursing. Other notable commissions included the Westminster Presbyterian Church, the Stephen F. Austin Junior High School, Amarillo High School, the Pioneer Natural Gas Building, Killgore Memorial

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<sup>53</sup>Christopher Long, "Hedrick, Wyatt Cephus," *Handbook of Texas Online*, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fhe51>, accessed May 31, 2020. See also, Deborah M. Liles, *Wyatt Cephus Hedrick: Builder of Cities*, unpublished thesis, University of North Texas, May 2008.

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Library (in Dumas), the Plains Chevrolet Company building, and Levine's Department Store. Rittenberry was proficient in multiple architectural styles ranging from Art Deco to Modern.<sup>54</sup>

*O'Connell and Probst* (1960 addition)

William R. O'Connell (1919-1989), a native of Temple, Texas, was an Austin-based architect known for his design of hospitals and medical facilities. He graduated from the University of Texas in 1941 with a Bachelor of Architecture degree. After serving in the Army during World War II, in 1947 he was hired as the first architectural consultant for the Texas Department of Health to oversee their involvement with the Hill-Burton program. He formed O'Connell and Probst Architects in 1951 with Victor G. Probst. The firm completed numerous public and private commissions including the Graham General Hospital (Austin), Clear Lake Hospital (Webster), Spohn Hospital (Corpus Christi), and St. John's Hospital (San Angelo). From 1959 to 1963, O'Connell served as chairman of the Hospital Architecture Committee of the Texas Society of Architects. In 1964, he served as president of the Austin Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.<sup>55</sup>

Victor G. Probst (1916-1983) was born in Sweethome and raised in Yoakum, Texas. He graduated in 1946 from the University of Texas with a Bachelor of Architecture degree. After furthering his studies at the University of London, England, Probst worked in architectural firms in New York, San Francisco, and Texas. From 1950-1952, he worked as a hospital architect for the Texas Department of Health. A partner in the firm O'Connell and Probst from 1952 until his retirement in 1980, Probst completed numerous projects including John's Hospital (Taylor), St. Luke's/Texas Childrens Hospital (Houston), and Lyndon Baines Johnson Hospital (Johnson City). He was a member of several professional organizations including the International Hospital Federation. In 1957, Probst served as president of the Austin Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.<sup>56</sup>

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<sup>54</sup> John T. Campo, *Levine's Department Store*, National Register of Historic Places nomination, 2016. Also, "Architect is Dead," *Amarillo Globe-Times*, June 26, 1964.

<sup>55</sup> William R. O'Connell obituary, *Austin American-Statesman*, March 9, 1989.

<sup>56</sup> Victor G. Probst obituary, *Austin American-Statesman*, August 18, 1983.

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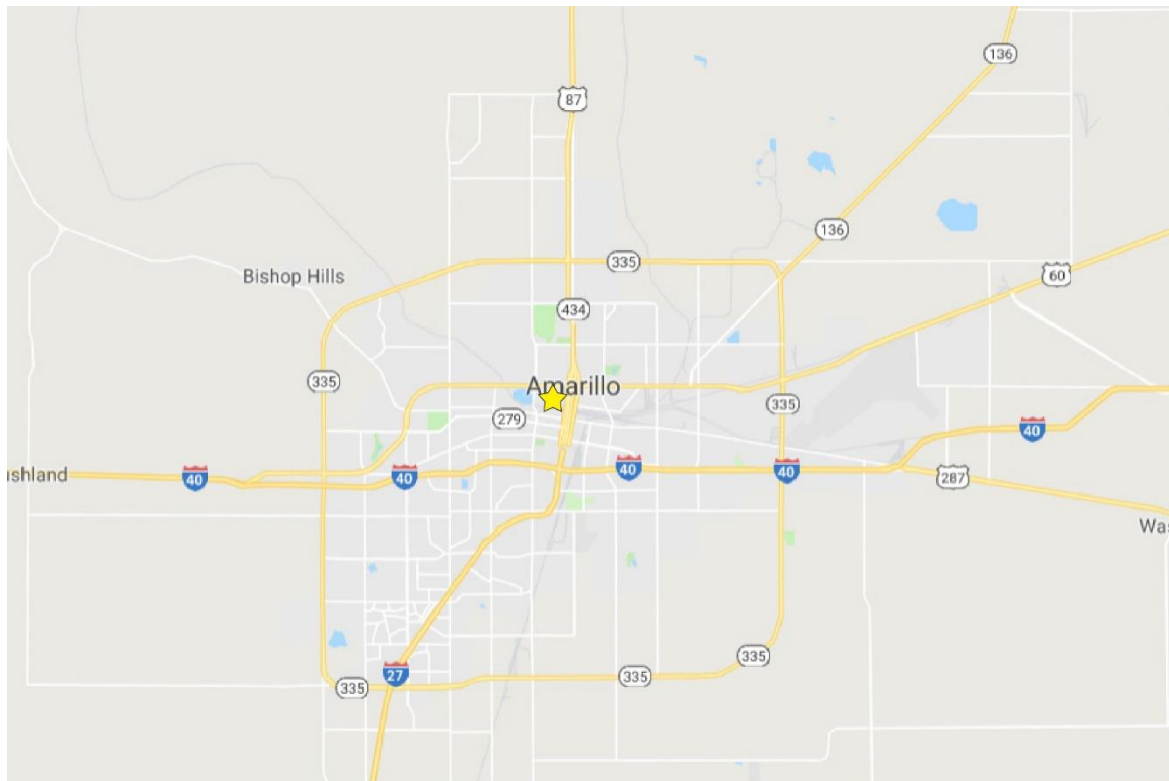
St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Map 1**  
Potter County, Texas



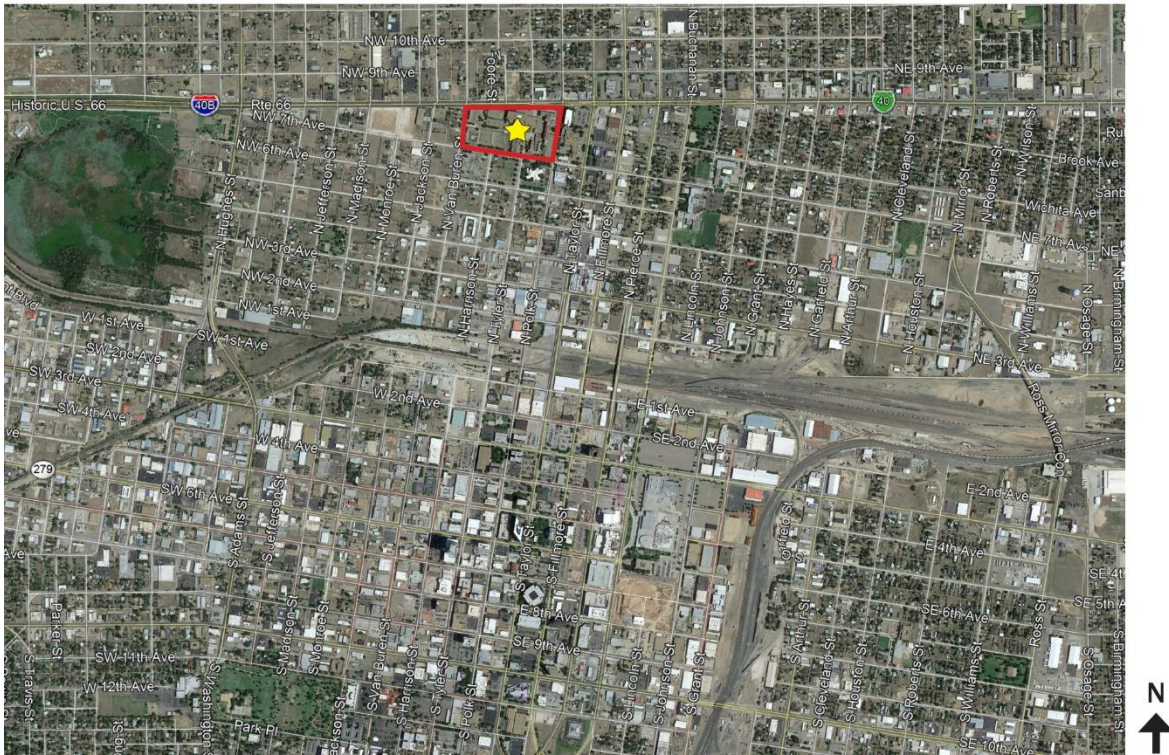
**Map 2**  
Amarillo, Texas



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Map 3**

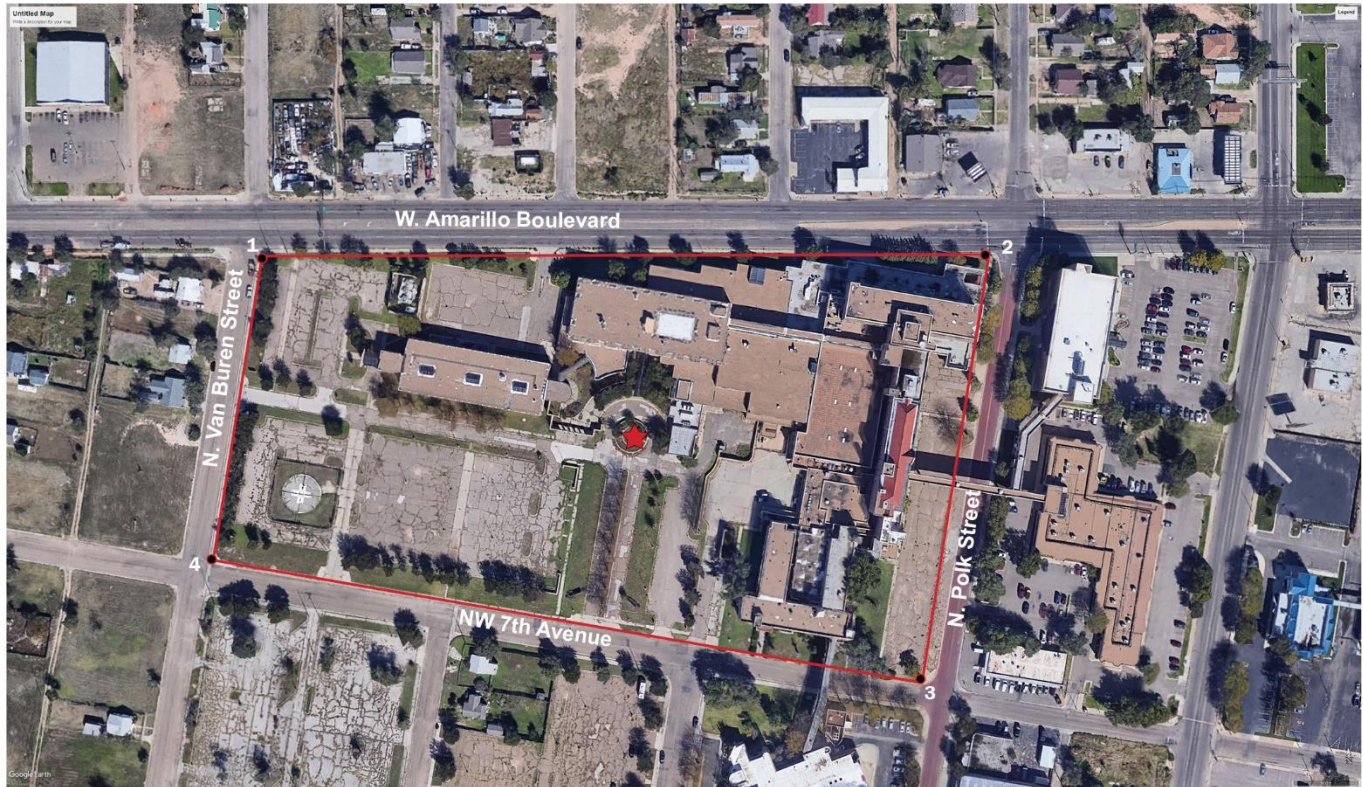
St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas  
Google Earth Map, accessed January 25, 2019



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Map 4**

St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas  
Google Earth Map, accessed February 5, 2020



**Coordinates:**

★	Latitude: 35.221161°	Longitude: -101.836131°
1	Latitude: 35.221912°	Longitude: -101.837977°
2	Latitude: 35.221901°	Longitude: -101.834327°
3	Latitude: 35.220169°	Longitude: -101.834675°
4	Latitude: 35.220672°	Longitude: -101.838217°

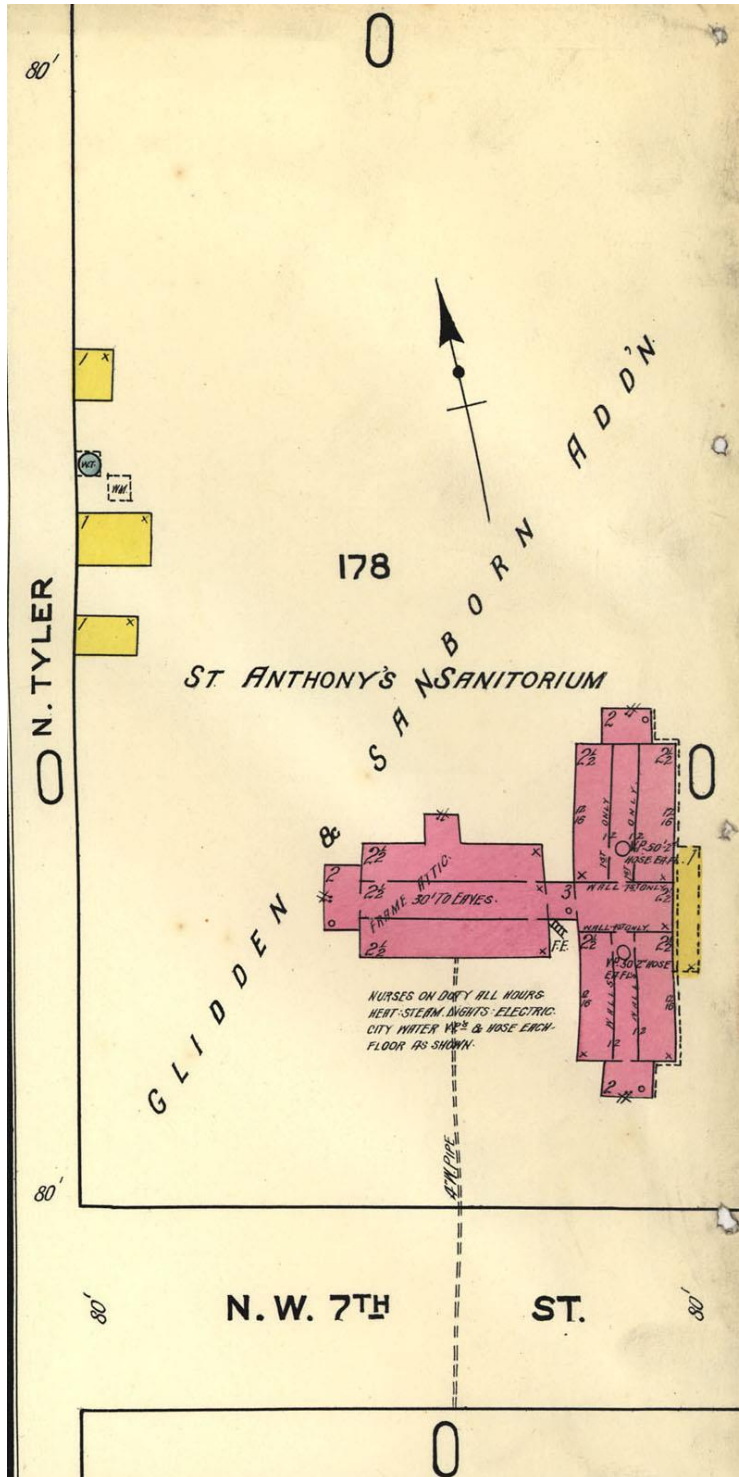


St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Map 5**

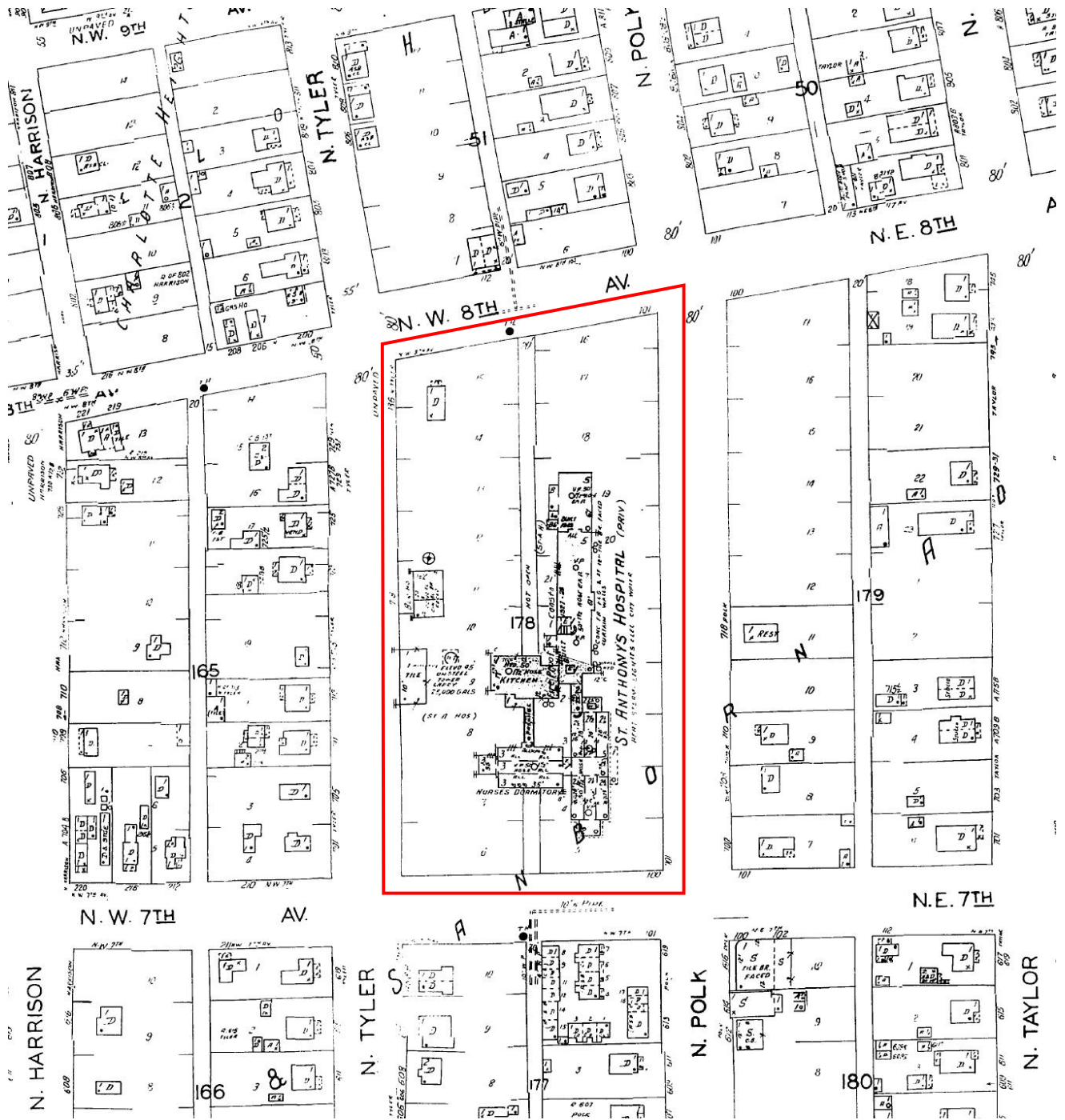
Sanborn Map 1921, v.1 sheet 107

(Courtesy: Perry Castaneda Library, University of Texas)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

Map 6  
Sanborn Map 1921-1955, v.2 sheet 205  
(Courtesy: Houston Public Library)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Map 7**

Historic Aerial Image c.1953  
(Courtesy: historicaerials.com)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Map 8**

Historic Aerial Image c.1967  
(Courtesy: historicaerials.com)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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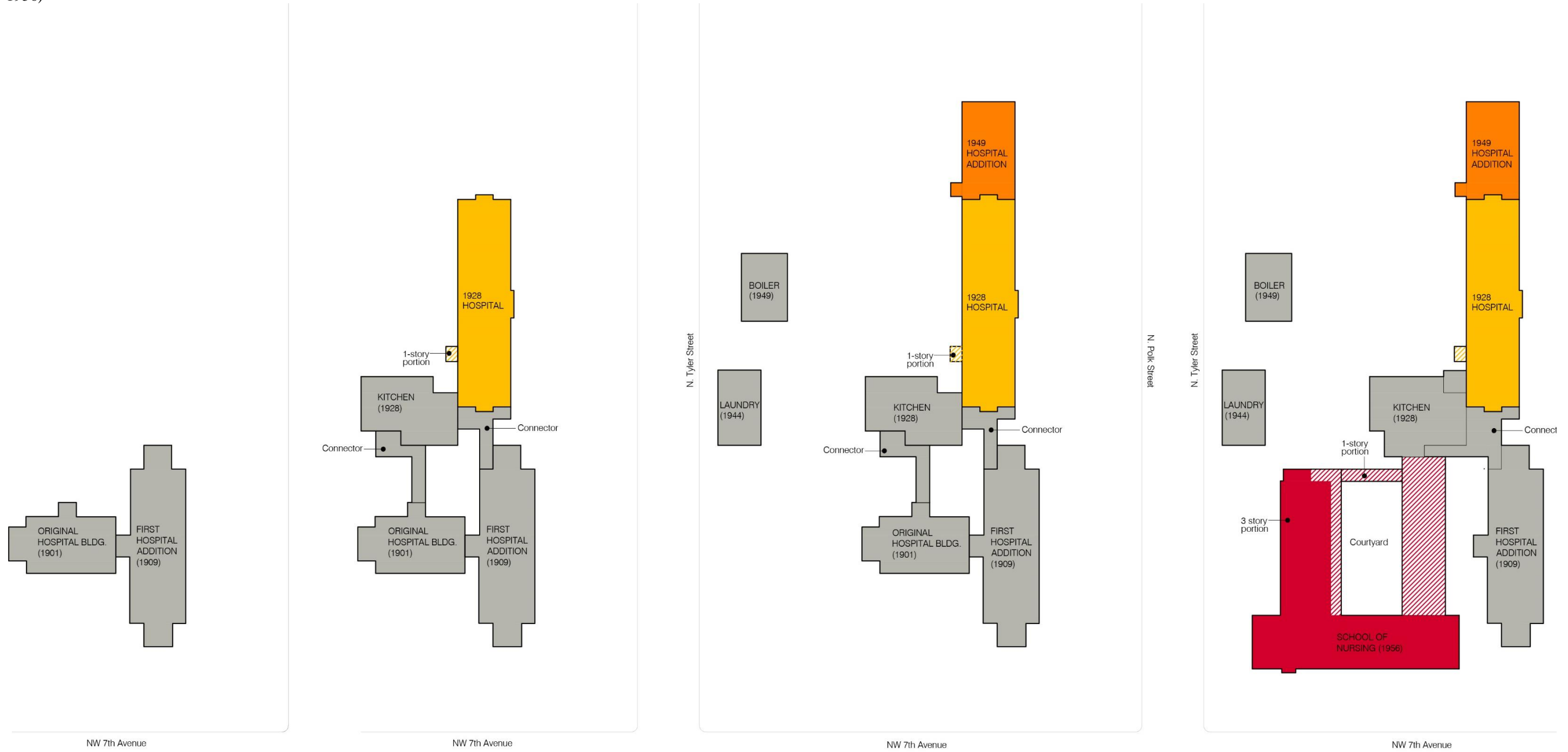
**Map 9**

Historic Aerial Image c.1991  
(Courtesy: historicaerials.com)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Map 10**  
Evolution of St. Anthony's Hospital  
(1911-1956)



YEAR: 1909

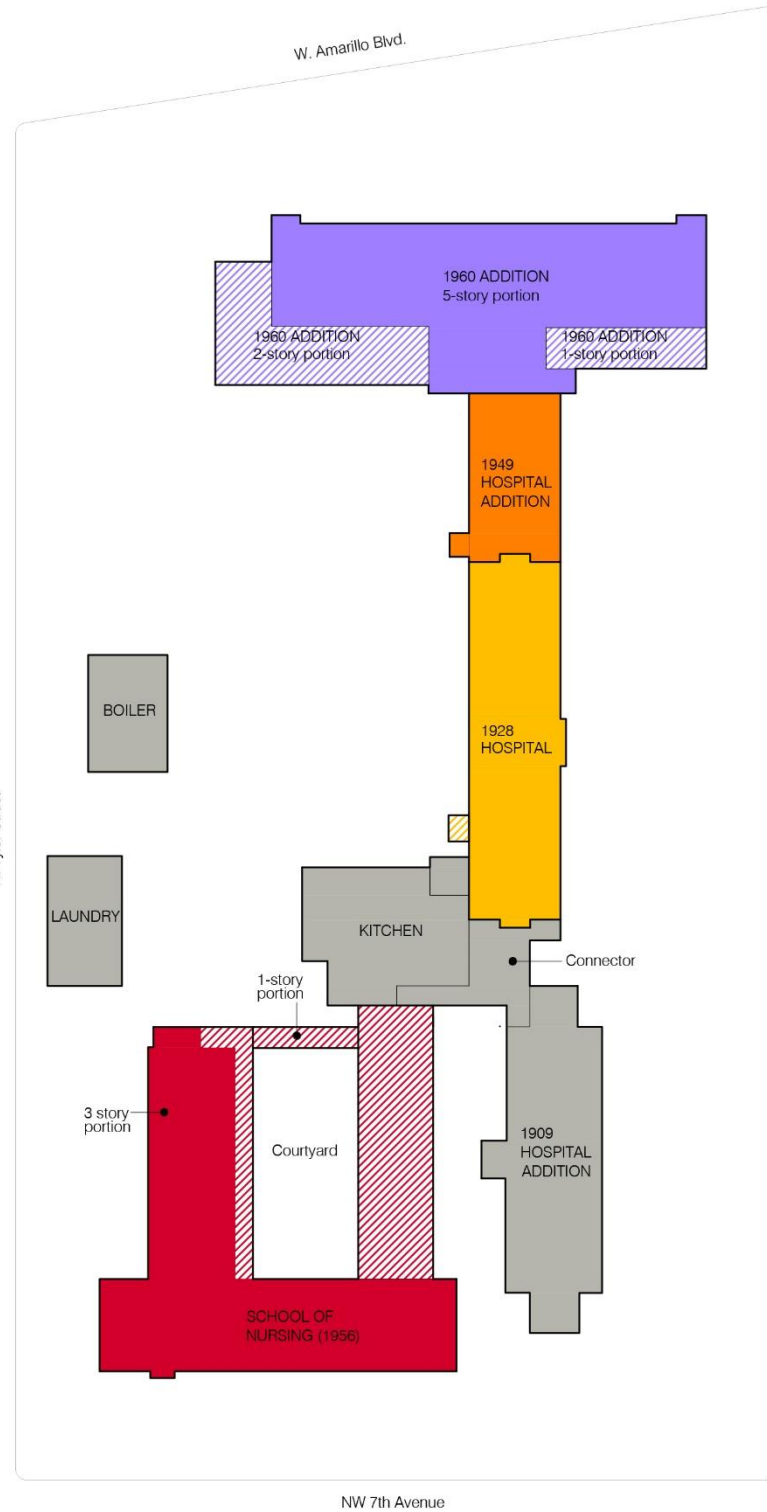
YEAR: 1928

YEAR: 1949

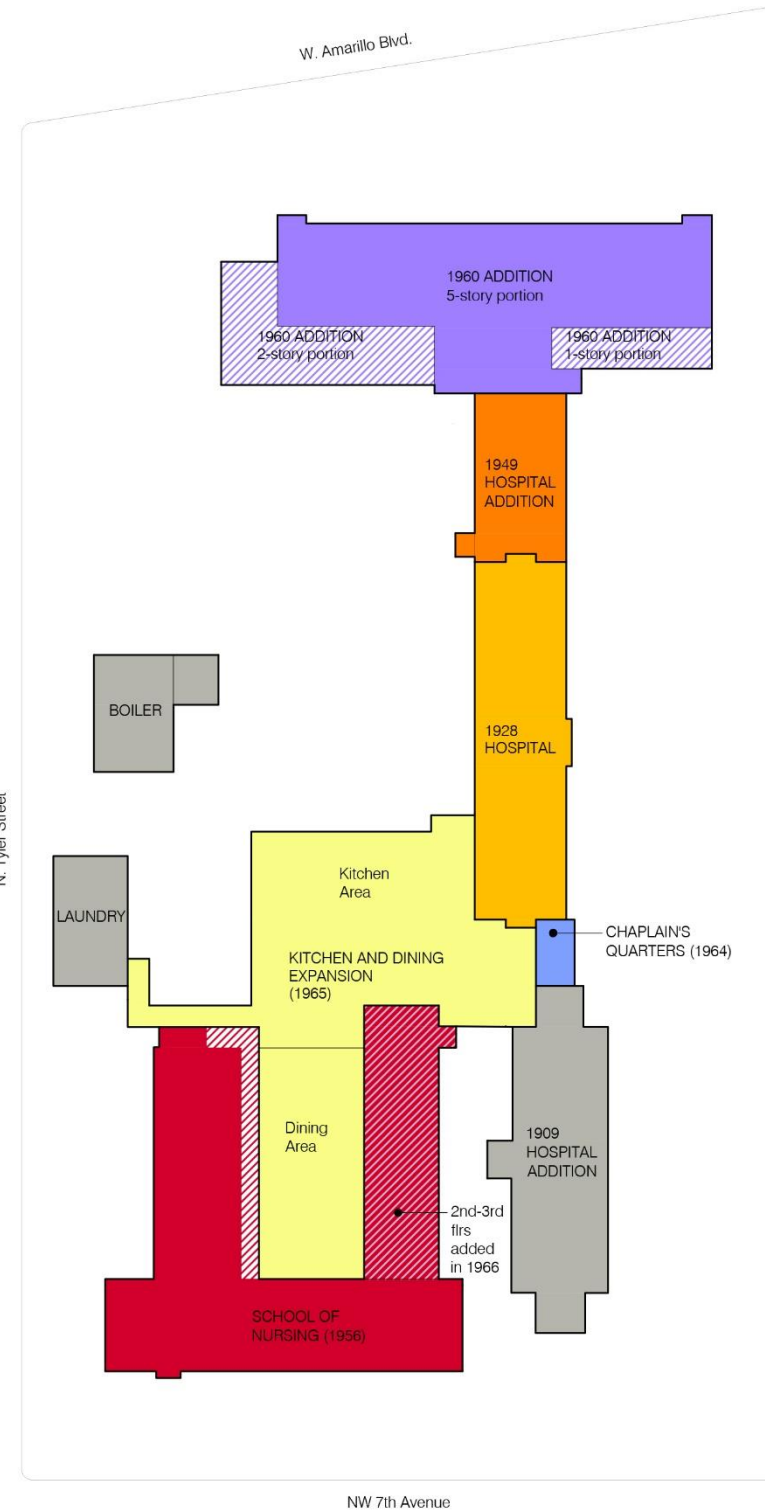
YEAR: 1956

St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

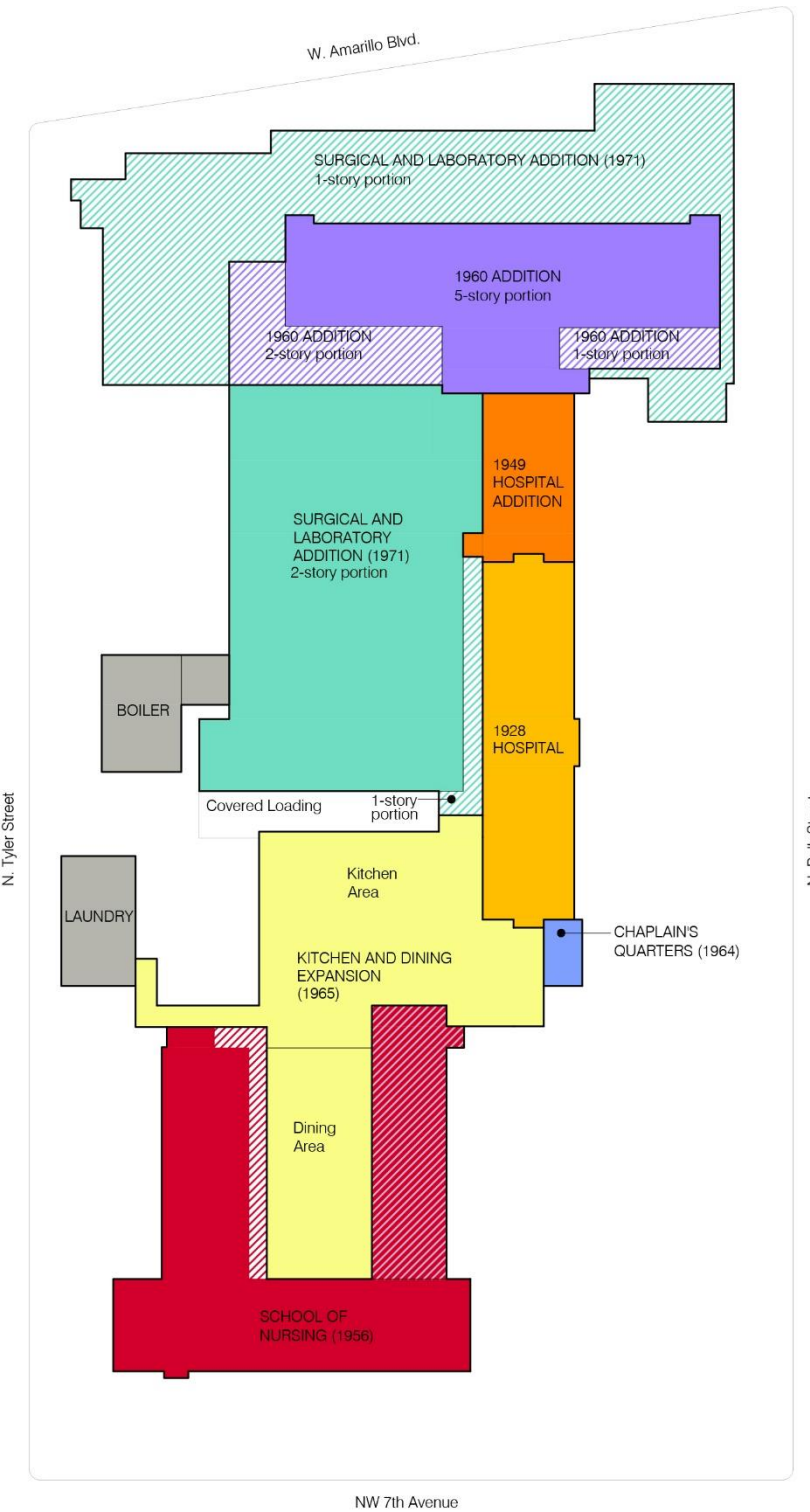
**Map 11**  
Evolution of St. Anthony's Hospital  
(1960-1971)



YEAR: 1960

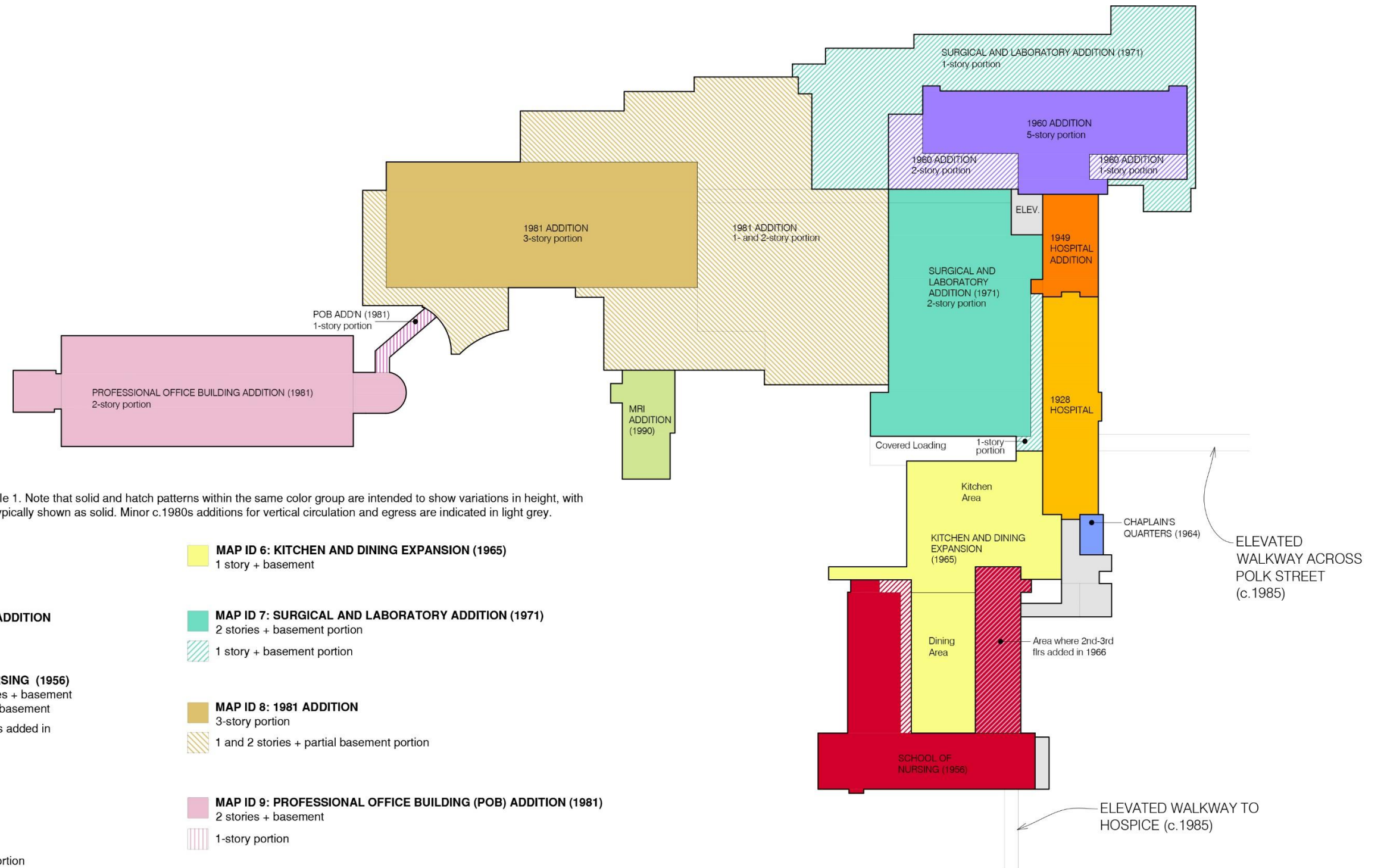


YEAR: 1966



YEAR: 1971

**Map 12**  
 Current Diagram of the Site



**LEGEND**

MAP ID numbers correspond to Table 1. Note that solid and hatch patterns within the same color group are intended to show variations in height, with the larger more dominant portion typically shown as solid. Minor c.1980s additions for vertical circulation and egress are indicated in light grey.

**MAP ID 1: 1928 HOSPITAL**  
 5 stories + basement

**MAP ID 2: 1949 HOSPITAL ADDITION**  
 5 stories + basement

**MAP ID 3: SCHOOL OF NURSING (1956)**  
 south and west wings: 3 stories + basement  
 east wing: originally 1 story + basement

Area where 2nd and 3rd floors added in 1966

1 story + basement

**MAP ID 4: 1960 ADDITION**  
 5 stories + basement portion

1 and 2 stories + basement portion

**MAP ID 5: CHAPLAIN'S QUARTERS (1964)**  
 4 stories + basement

**MAP ID 6: KITCHEN AND DINING EXPANSION (1965)**  
 1 story + basement

**MAP ID 7: SURGICAL AND LABORATORY ADDITION (1971)**  
 2 stories + basement portion  
 1 story + basement portion

**MAP ID 8: 1981 ADDITION**  
 3-story portion

1 and 2 stories + partial basement portion

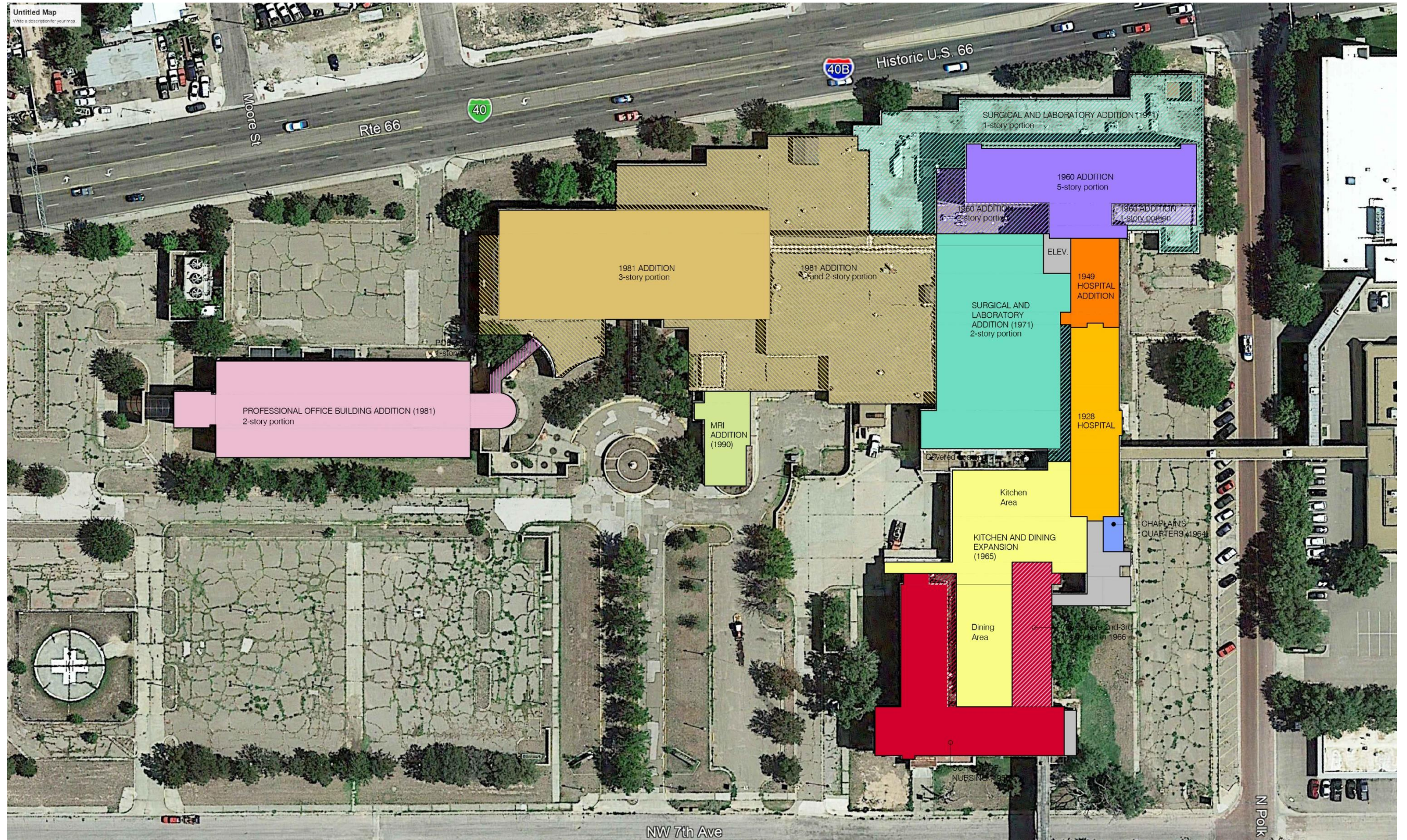
**MAP ID 9: PROFESSIONAL OFFICE BUILDING (POB) ADDITION (1981)**  
 2 stories + basement

1-story portion

**MAP ID 10: MRI ADDITION (1990)**  
 1 story

St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Map 13**  
Current Diagram of the Site  
(overlaid on aerial map)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Figure 1**


View of the original 1901 (left) and 1909 (right) buildings, both demolished  
(Paul H. Carlson, *Empire Builder in the Texas Panhandle: William Henry Bush* (College Station, TX:  
Texas A&M University Press, 1996), between pages 68 and 69)





St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Figure 3**  
 Selection of advertisements in the 7-page newspaper feature published on the occasion of the 1928 addition's opening (*Amarillo Globe*, May 23, 1928)




### AN APPRECIATION

As members of the Medical Profession who constantly make use of the facilities of St. Anthony's Hospital, we are glad, on the occasion of the dedication of the new magnificent addition, to add our word of praise to the splendid work being done by the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word and the personnel of the hospital.

Decision to add a \$400,000 addition to the hospital right at this time demands our respect and we pledge our whole-hearted support in making this splendid institution of the greatest possible good to our city and the territory which it serves.

This word of appreciation and good will is from the undersigned members of the Medical Profession

C. C. Bennett	Neal Hall	F. P. Miller
R. M. Bennett	James W. Hendricks	R. L. Pendergref
J. J. Crume	J. D. Jordan	W. C. Pines
Geo. M. Culbre	Richard Koss	J. H. Robinson
L. V. Dawson	R. S. Killough	W. J. Shoble
R. A. Duncan	H. H. Latson	A. J. Streit
W. F. Dutton	A. F. Lumpkin	A. E. Winsett
W. H. Flinn	Don S. Marzala	P. H. Wolfgram
R. D. Glat	R. L. McMeans	J. R. Wether




We extend sincere congratulations to the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word upon the occasion of the formal opening of their magnificent new hospital.

This fine structure would do credit to a city many times the size of Amarillo, and now that it is completed is due to the untiring efforts and sacrifices on the part of the Sisters.

## Amarillo National Bank

"The Bank of Personal Service"



### Congratulations---

We sincerely congratulate the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word upon the occasion of the formal opening of the beautiful \$400,000 addition to Saint Anthony's Hospital.

It is an achievement that wins the praise of every citizen of Amarillo and all West Texas. Giving as it does hospitalization features equal to the largest cities.

## Amarillo Hardware Company

"The House That Appreciates Your Business"

504 POLK ST. PHONE 2-3231

As a firm which is intensely interested in anything which makes Amarillo a better city—

We wish to extend to the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word

Our most sincere congratulations upon the opening of the new unit to St. Anthony's Hospital.

— — —

We believe that through the splendid care being given the sick of the Panhandle by this institution, this entire section of the state is being benefited materially, and that St. Anthony's deserves the support of all who appreciate the finer things of life.

May they be richly rewarded for this unselfish service.

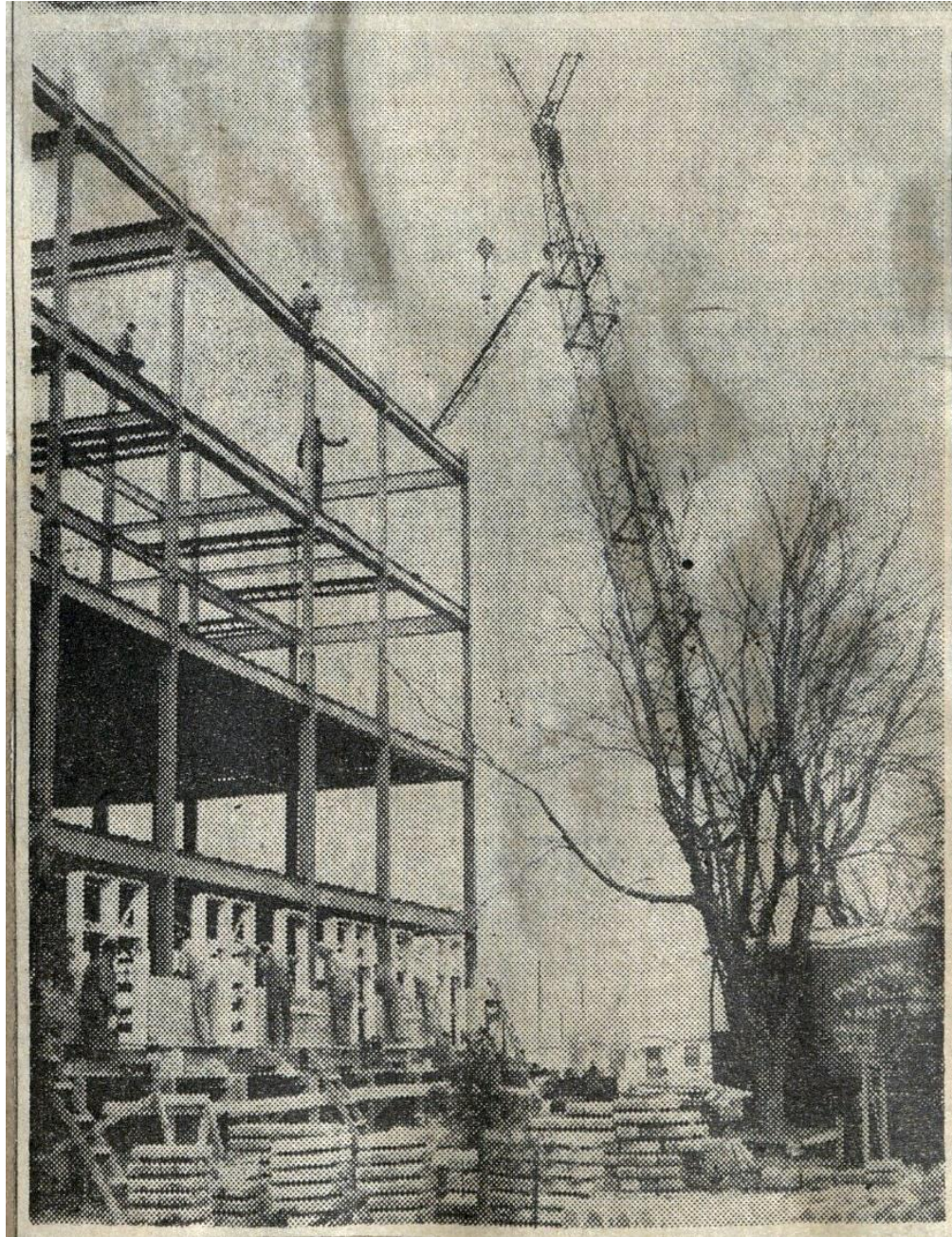
## Pool Creamery

Amarillo's Only 100% Milk Plant

St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Figure 4**  
View of the c.1949 wing under construction (*Amarillo Globe*, February 11, 1949)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Figure 5**

View of the c.1949 wing under construction, published in a retrospective celebrating the hospital's 75th anniversary (*News Capsule*, February 1976)



**1948 — A new wing, with five stories and basement, was added to the north end of the main building, bringing bed capacity to 160.**

St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Figure 6**  
Rendering of the proposed Nurses' Home (Amarillo Register, December 31, 1954)

# Expansion Program Begun At St. Anthony Hospital

## Nurses' Home 1st Step in \$600,000 Project



A \$600,000 expansion of the facilities of St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, was launched last week when Monsignor Bartholomew O'Brien, chaplain, broke ground for a new nurses' residence and educational building.

In the process of construction, which will be by stages, the original St. Anthony's Hospital will be torn down—and with it will go a lot of memories for old-timers in the Panhandle.

The new building, a striking contrast to the present nurses' home, will be constructed on the corner of NW Seventh and Tyler, with the entrance facing NW Seventh. According to Sister Mary Evangelist, nursing school director, the new home will contain 75 private rooms for student nurses, classrooms, laboratories, offices, and recreational facilities.

The architects are Emmett F. and James F. Rittenberry of Amarillo. The contractor is C. S. Lambie, also of Amarillo.

Work on the new building is scheduled to begin at once.

The student nurses will continue to reside in their present home while the new structure is being built. When the section of the new building containing the private rooms is completed the students will move in. Then the present nurses' residence will be torn down to make room for the new educational building. In the meantime the students will continue to go to classes in the building facing Polk Street, and also at Amarillo Junior College.

Hospital authorities have not stated definitely what the present educational building will be used for.

**St. Anthony's Hospital Nurses' Home and Educational Building, Amarillo**



**Simple Ceremony** In a quiet, simple ceremony Dec. 24, Monsignor Bartholomew O'Brien, chaplain, broke ground for the new \$600,000 nurses' home and educational building at St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo. Construction is to begin at once. Looking on at the left are Martha Dalluge, student nurse from Tulsa; Sister Hedwig, x-ray technician; and Mother Mary Lourdes, hospital superior. —(Photo courtesy Amarillo Globe-News)

St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Figure 7**  
The new nurses' home on the occasion of its dedication in 1956  
(Amarillo Daily News, June 13, 1956)

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 13, 1956 *Amarillo Daily News*

### Entrance to New Building



—Globe-Times Staff Photo

Highlighting entrance to the new St. Anthony's Hospital nurses' home is masonry column and cross. Dedication ceremonies for the pink brick and fieldstone building will be conducted tomorrow at 4 p.m. by Auxiliary Bishop John L. Morkovsky.

\* \* \*

## Growth Continues Through the Years

Another milestone in the history of St. Anthony's Hospital will be marked tomorrow with the dedication of the new nurses' home.

The hospital was started in 1900, and the first School of Nursing was established in 1909 with about four or five students participating.

Present enrollment in the program is 39, and the new home provides facilities for 75 students. A new class will begin June 25, according to Sister Rose Francis, nurse administrator.

First program of expansion at the hospital came in 1909, when a two-story building adjoining the first frame structure was completed. The addition provided space for 30 additional beds.

In 1927 the present main building for the hospital was dedicated, and the capacity was increased to 100 beds. Another addition in 1949 increased the bed capacity to 161.

Founded and operated by the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, the land for the hospital was donated by William H. Bush.

The School of Nursing was established by a charter. A small dormitory housed nursing students in the early years of the program.

Later the students lived in their own building, which proved to be outdated and too small for the number of students involved.

Since 1909, a total of 454 nurses

## To Dedicate New Nurses Home Today

Auxiliary Bishop John L. Morkovsky of Amarillo will bless and dedicate the new nurses' home at St. Anthony's Hospital today.

The ceremonies, scheduled at 4 p.m., will be open to the public. Assisting in dedicating the structure will be Msgr. Bartholomew O'Brien, hospital chaplain.

Addresses will be delivered in the school auditorium by Bishop Morkovsky, Dr. E. M. Winsett, chief of the medical staff, and Mayor Art Jordan.

The auxiliary bishop will offer benediction in the hospital chapel following the ceremonies. Refreshments will be served after benediction in the school dining room.

Members of the St. Anthony's Hospital Women's Auxiliary will serve the refreshments. Guests will then be taken on guided tours of the new building.

A banquet for representative of the hospital medical staff, the clergy and benefactors will be given at 6:30 p.m. in the Ferring Hotel by the hospital administrators.

Speakers at the banquet will include the auxiliary bishop, Judge W. M. Adams and Dr. H. H. Latson.

*Amarillo Daily News*  
6-13-56

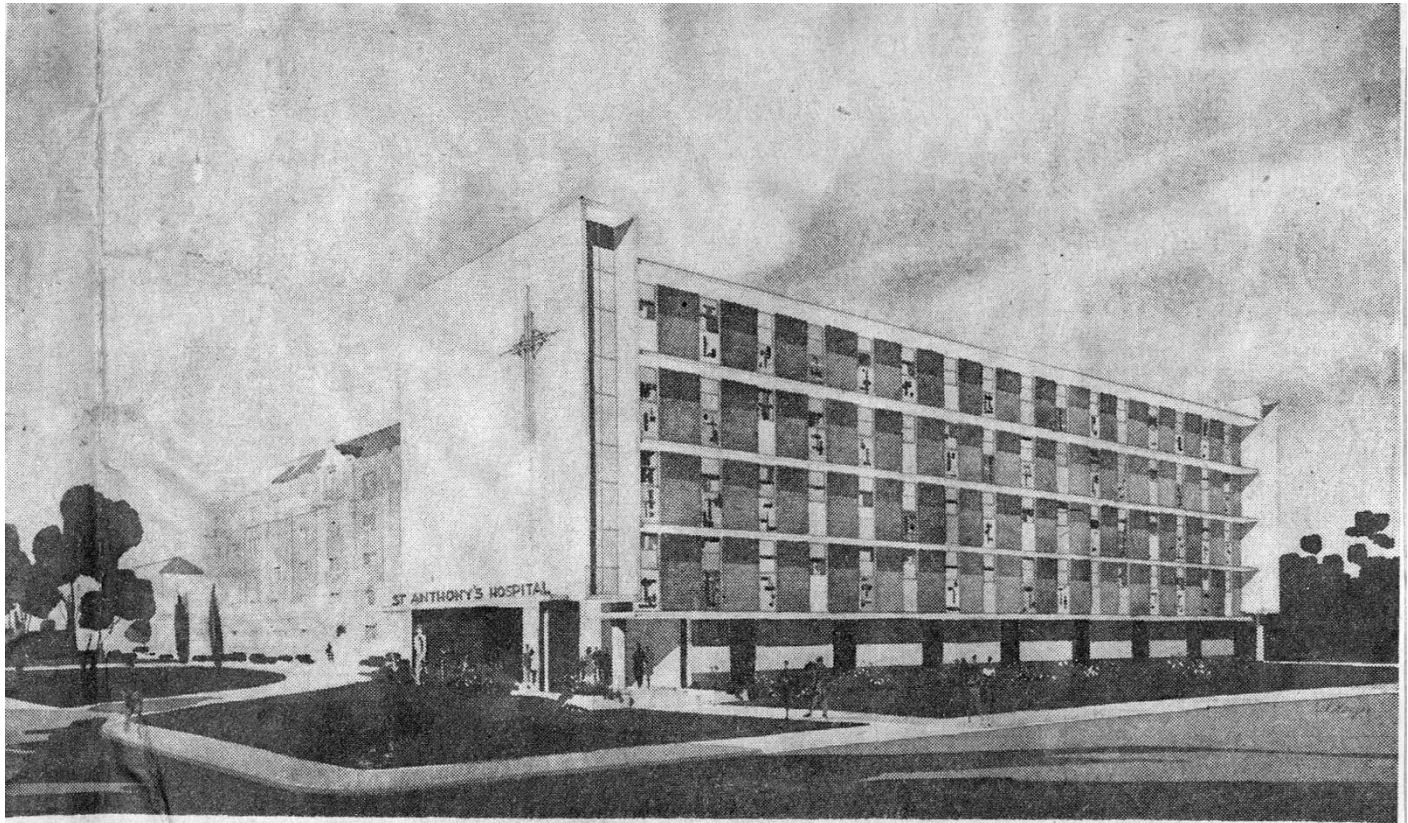
Property of Mary El Bivins Memorial Library

St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Figure 8**

Photograph of the 1960 addition known today as Building A  
(*West Texas Register*, January 17, 1958)



**Architect's Sketch** of the proposed addition to St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, shows the location on Highway 66, north of the present main building. The entrance would be at the corner of Polk Street and the highway.

St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Figure 9**

Photograph of the 1909 building (top) and the nearly completed 1960 addition known today as Building A (bottom)  
(*Amarillo Sunday News-Globe*, August 14, 1960)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

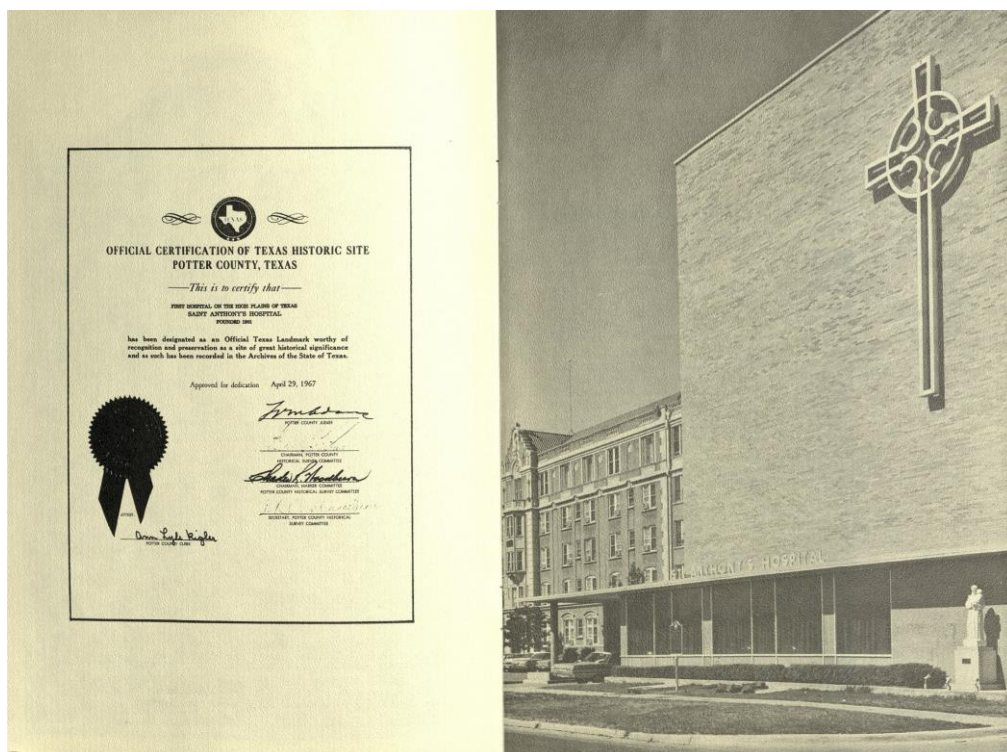
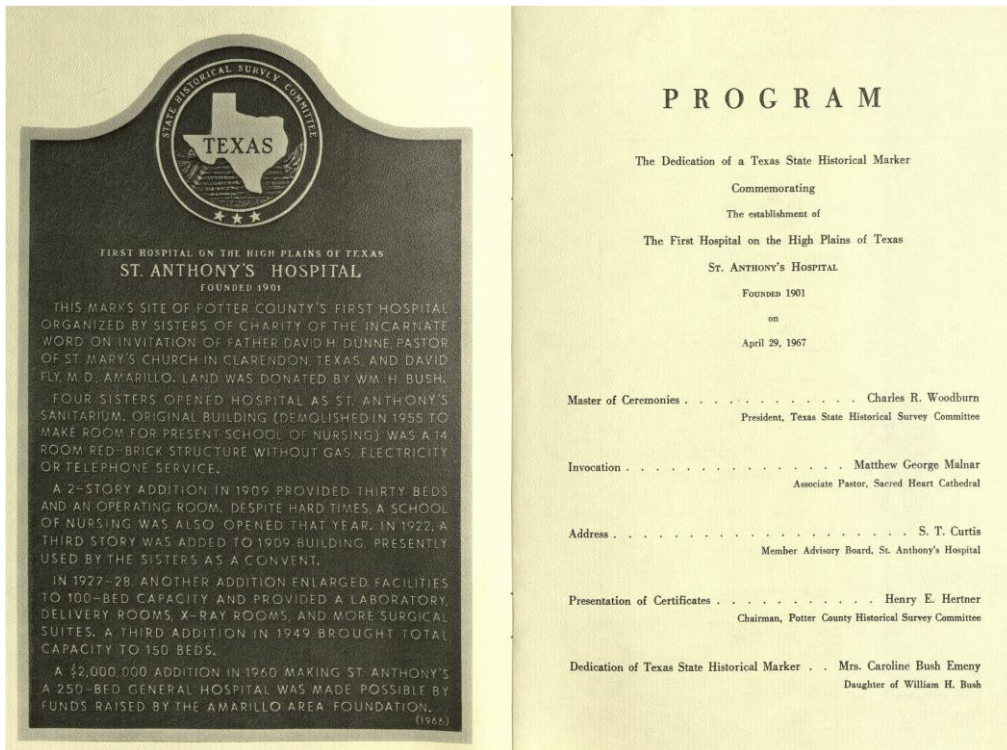
**Figure 10**

Cover of the October 9, 1960 edition of the *News Capsule*, the hospital's official publication, celebrating the completion of the 1960 addition. Note the rendering (upper left corner) updated to include the new modern structure. (Courtesy: Amarillo Public Library)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Figure 11**  
Excerpt from the Texas State Historical Marker dedication program, April 29, 1967  
(Courtesy: Amarillo Public Library)

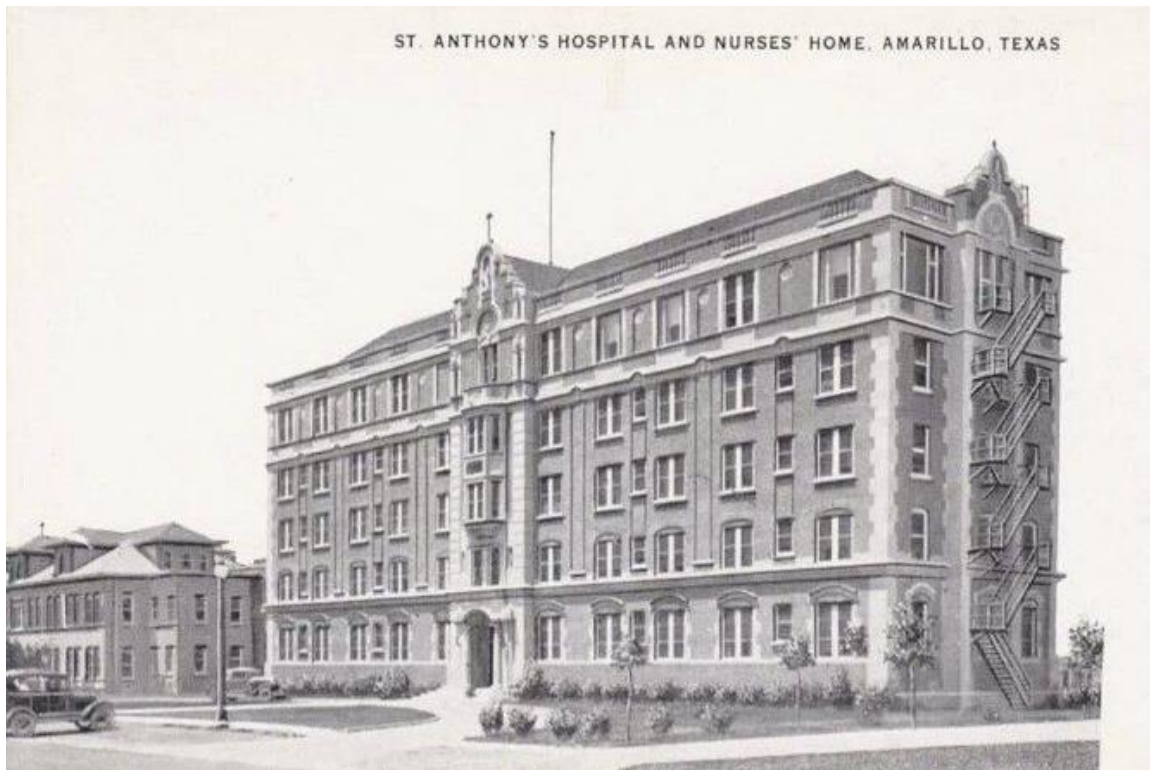


St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Figure 12**

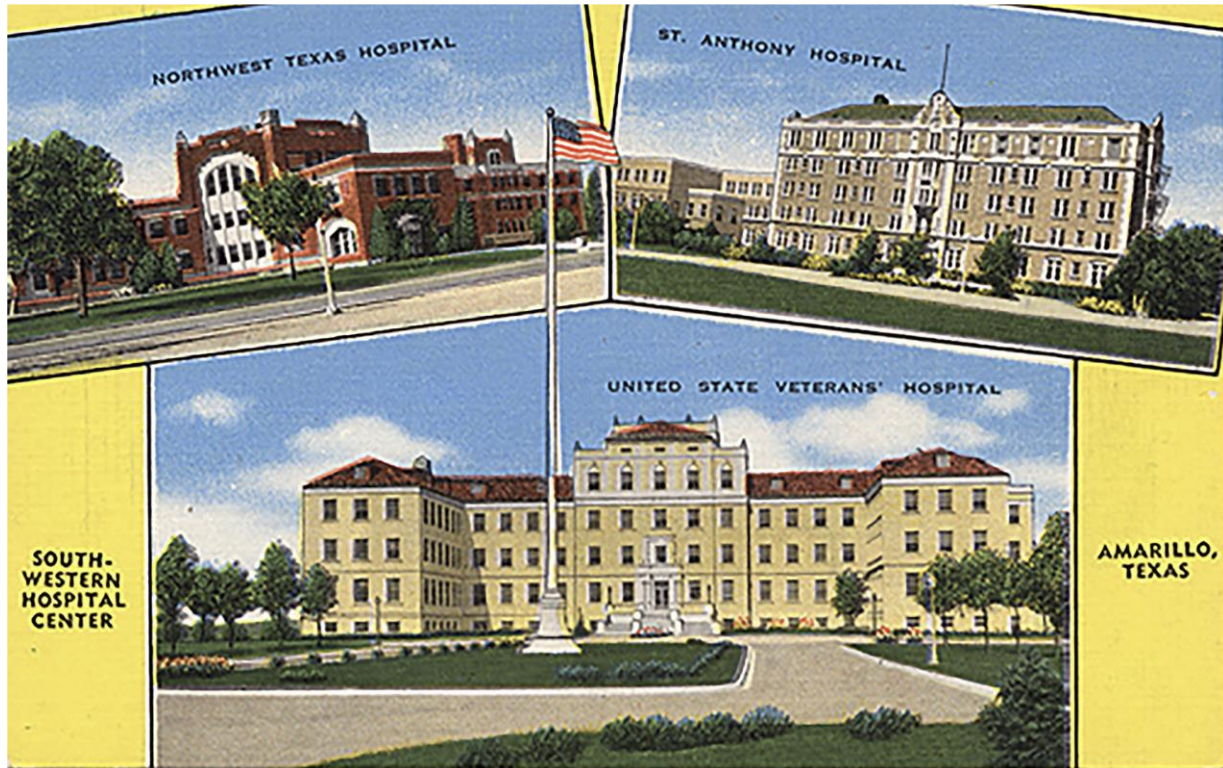
Undated postcard (likely c.1928) of the 5-story building currently known as Building B  
(Courtesy: pinterest, source not identified)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Figure 13**

Undated postcard showing Amarillo's three main hospitals  
(Courtesy: Texas Medical Center)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Figure 14**

Undated postcard of Building B and its later 1949 addition  
(Courtesy: Texas Medical Center)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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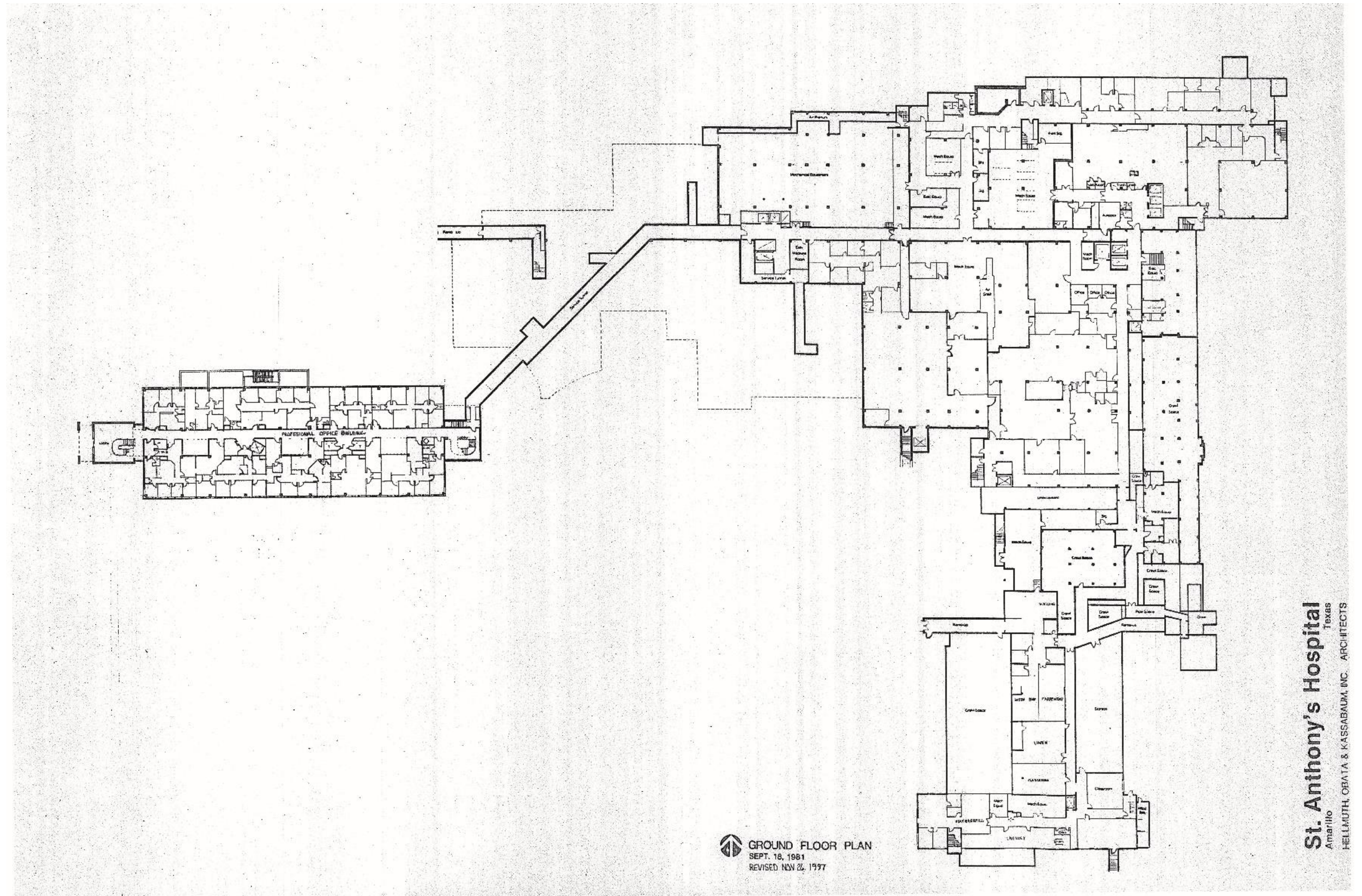
**Figure 15**

Undated postcard of the c.1960 building known today as Building A.  
Building B is visible in the distance. (Courtesy: Texas Medical Center)



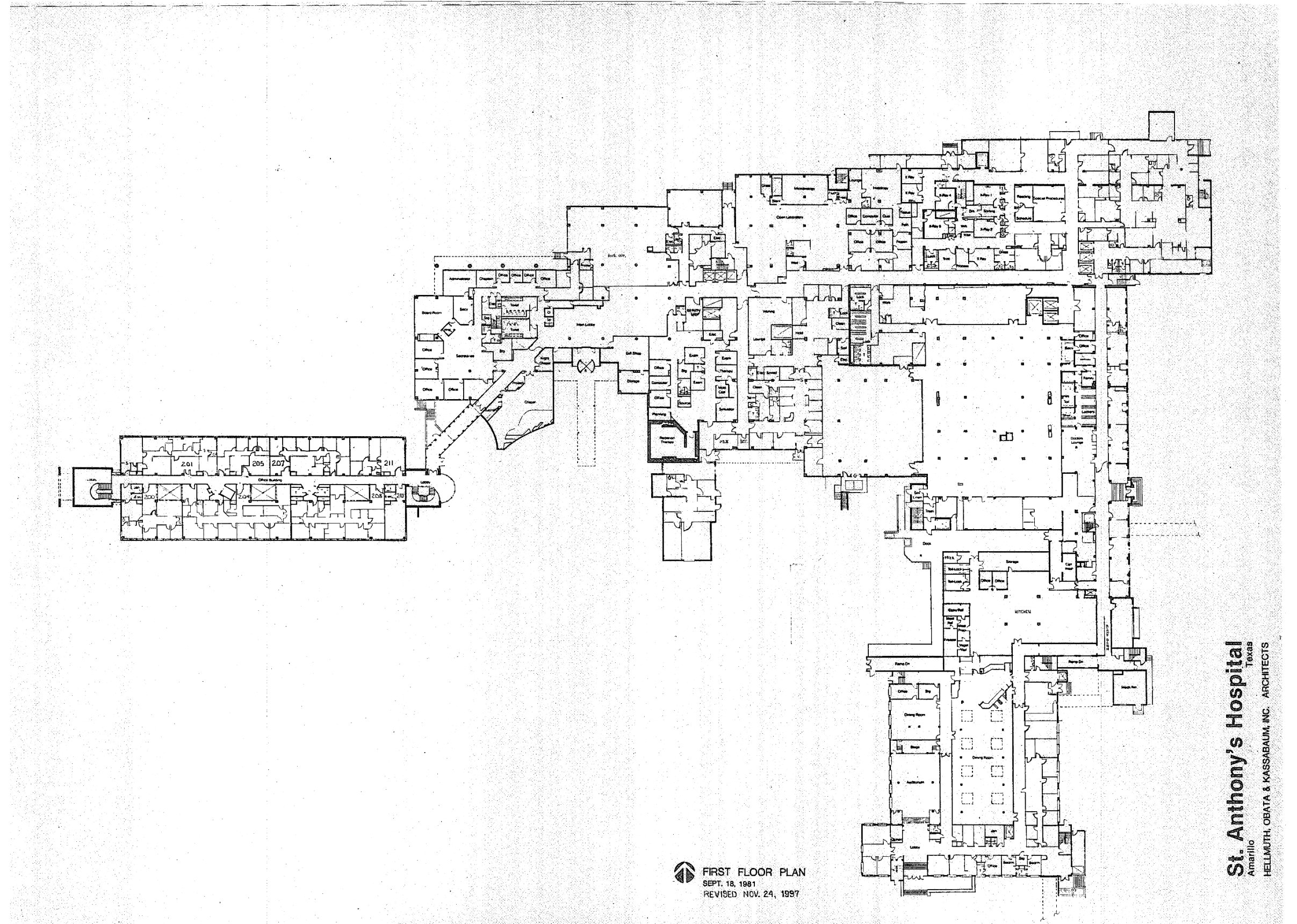
St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Figure 16**  
Architectural drawings,  
existing basement floor plan  
(Sept. 1981, rev. Nov. 1997)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

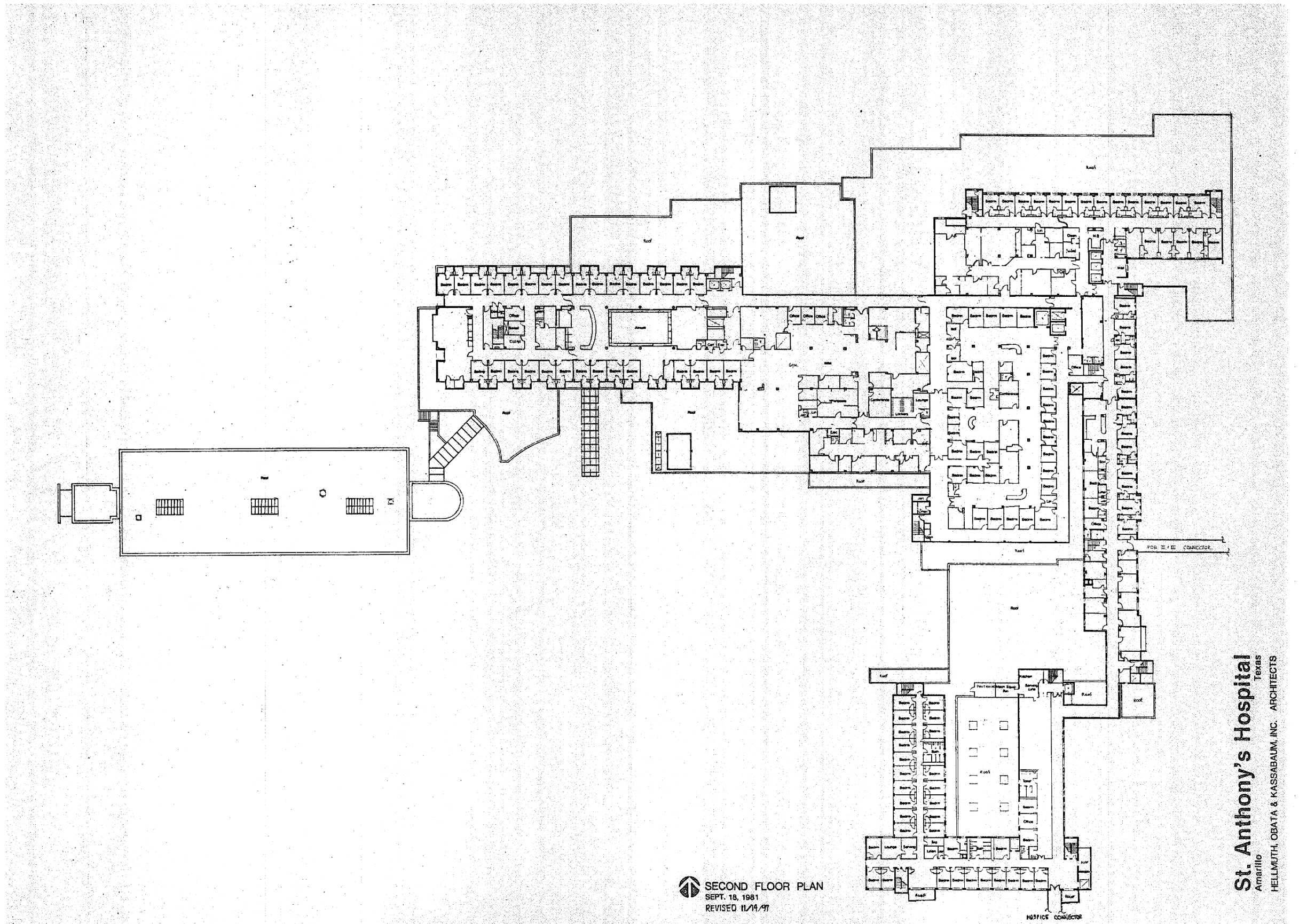
**Figure 17**  
Architectural drawings,  
existing first floor plan  
(Sept. 1981, rev. Nov. 1997)



**St. Anthony's Hospital**  
Amarillo, Texas  
HELLMUTH, OBATA & KASSABAUM, INC. ARCHITECTS

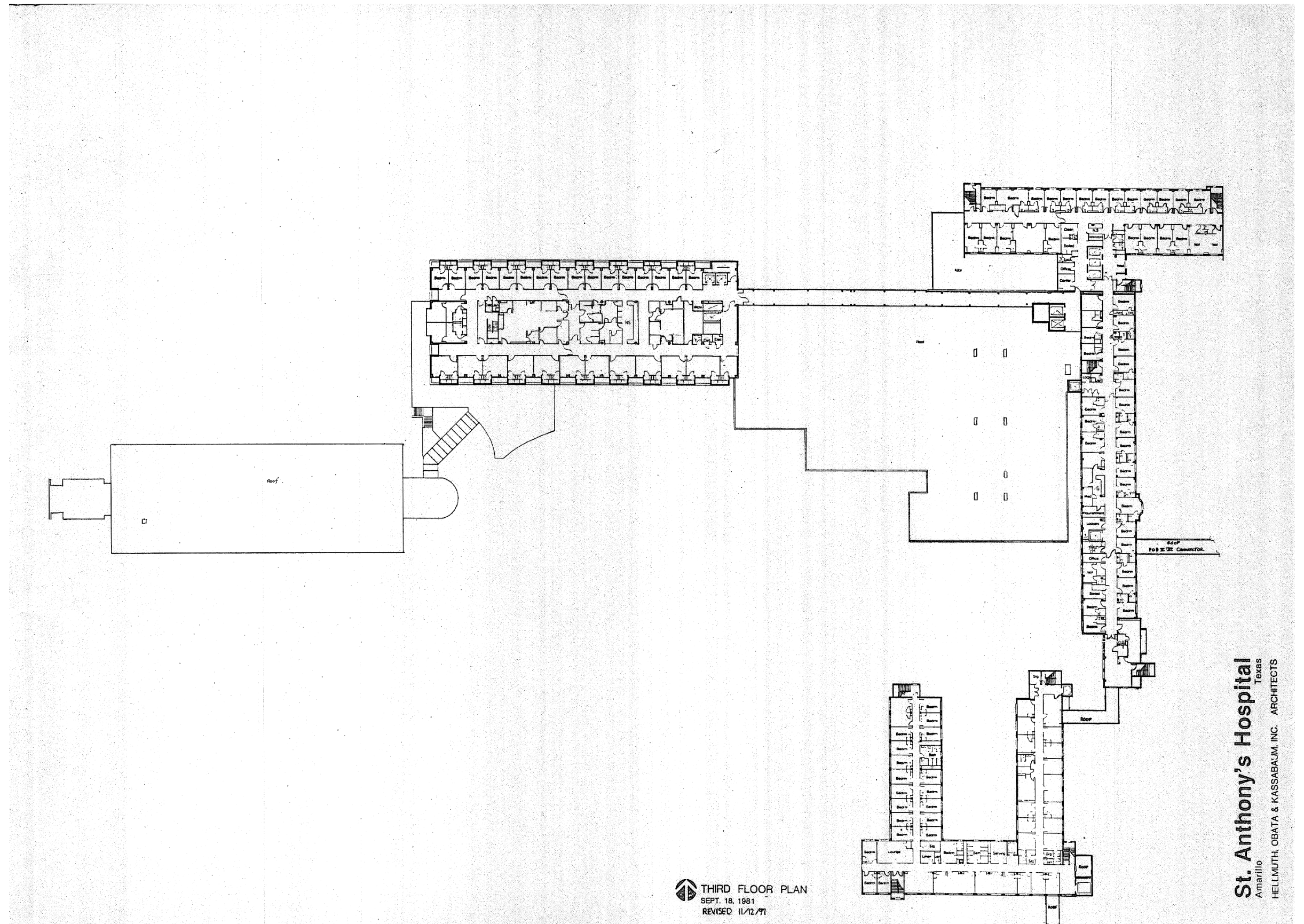
St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Figure 18**  
Architectural drawings,  
existing second floor plan  
(Sept. 1981, rev. Nov. 1997)



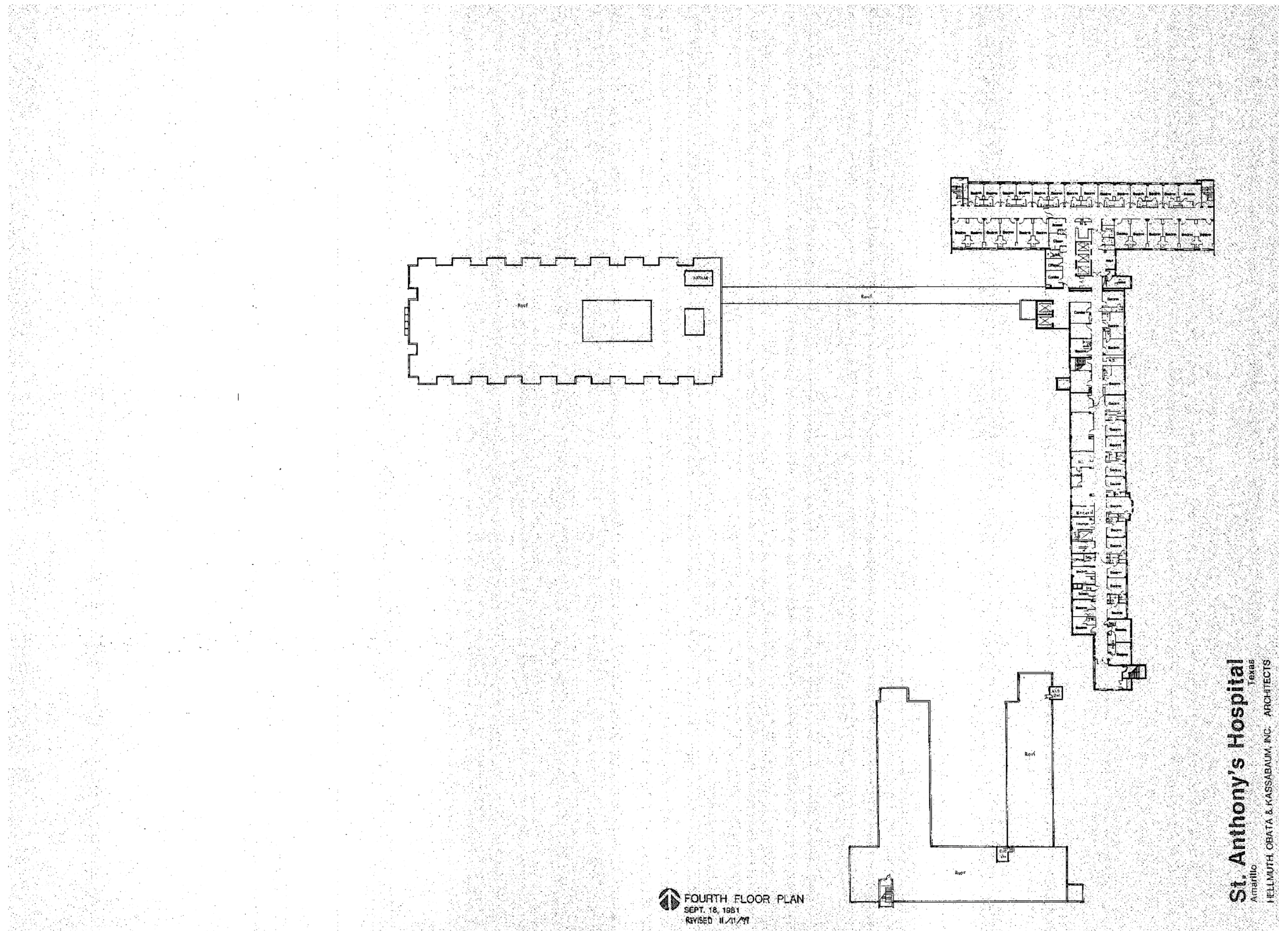
St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Figure 19**  
Architectural drawings,  
existing third floor plan  
(Sept. 1981, rev. Nov. 1997)



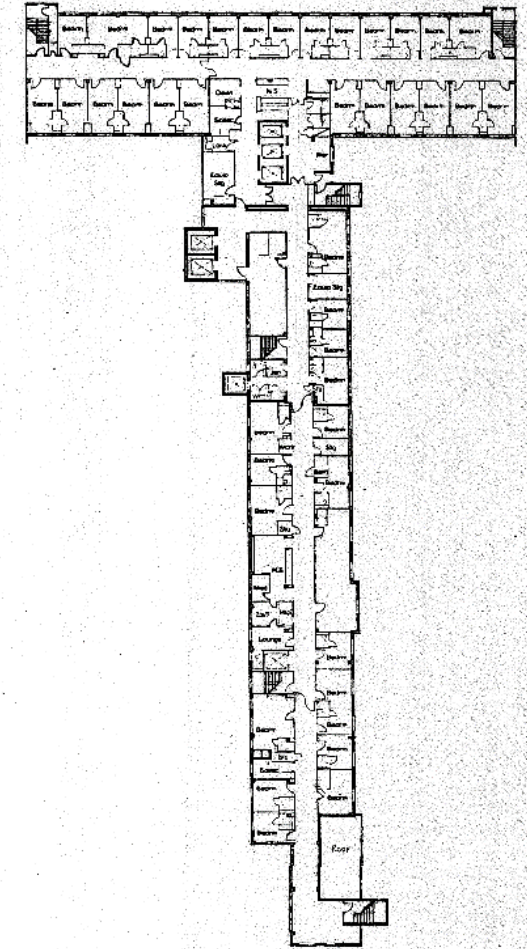
St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas


**Figure 20**  
Architectural drawings,  
existing fourth floor plan  
(Sept. 1981, rev. Nov. 1997)



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

**Figure 21**  
Architectural drawings,  
existing fifth floor plan  
(Sept. 1981, rev. Nov. 1997)



 FIFTH FLOOR PLAN  
SEPT. 18, 1981  
REVISED 11/11/97

**St. Anthony's Hospital**  
Amarillo, Texas  
HEI (A) ITHI, OBATA & KASSABAUM, INC., ARCHITECTS

St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 1**

1928 hospital's primary N. Polk Street (east) facade and elevated walkway, view southwest



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 2**

East facade, left to right, elevator stair addition, Chaplains Quarters (1964), 1928 hospital, and elevated walkway across Polk Street (1985), view northwest



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 3**

1928 hospital's ornamental detailing above the main entrance on the east facade, view west



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 4**

1949 hospital addition with sliver of 1960 addition visible on far right, view northwest



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 5**

The School of Nursing's side (west) and primary (south) elevations, view northeast



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 6**

Detail of the School of Nursing's main entrance on the south elevation, view north



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 7**

The Polk Street (east) elevation of the School of Nursing where upper floors were added in 1966, view west



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 8**

Rooftop view of the School of Nursing and kitchen and dining expansion, view south



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 9**

1960 addition with one-story wrap-around portion of Surgical and Laboratory Addition (1971), view north



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 10**

1960 addition with one-story wrap-around portion of Surgical and Laboratory Addition (1971), view southwest



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 11**

Looking across NW 8th Avenue towards the five-story 1960 addition (left) and the surrounding one- and two-story Surgical and Laboratory Addition (right), view southeast



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 12**

View of the loading area with the west elevation of the 1928 hospital visible in the distance, view northeast



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 13**

The Professional Office Building addition's main (west) entrance, view northeast



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 14**

The hospital's main entrance at the end of the circular drive, view northeast



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 15**

Fourth floor corridor in 1949 hospital addition, view south



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 16**

Third floor corridor in 1928 hospital, view south



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 17**

Fifth floor nursing station in 1928 hospital, view southeast



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 18**

Typical patient room in 1928 hospital (fifth floor), view northeast



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 19**

School of Nursing's first floor auditorium (this area sustained minor fire damage), view north



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 20**

Third floor corridor in the School of Nursing, view west



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 21**

The 1960 addition's southeast entrance adjacent to the porte-cochere, view southeast



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 22**

Fourth floor corridor in 1960 addition, view east



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 23**

The Surgical and Laboratory Addition's intensive care unit, view west



St. Anthony's Hospital, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas

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**Photo 24**

The Professional Office Building addition's main (west) entrance, view east



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