

A NEGRO NEIGHBORHOOD  
FOR  
BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

by  
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## INTRODUCTION

## PART ONE

This problem was begun with the idea that the Negro housing problem existed in Blacksburg as in many other cities and towns all over America. The Negro population here was thought to be decreasing as in many rural areas and small towns. Lack of Housing was given as the chief cause of this migration because the financial status of the local Negro was considered to be very good. This lack was thought to be due chiefly to the unwillingness of white persons to sell property to the colored.

Many people consider the Negro a very desirable addition to the community as he is thought to excel in certain types of work; for this reason, a study of the colored people in Blacksburg was undertaken with the idea of presenting a possible solution in the form of a stable cooperative Negro neighborhood. It is acknowledged that segregation is not perhaps the ideal solution, but that it must be considered in the light that interracial housing as it is practiced in Blacksburg at present does not work because the individual Negro does not have the same free choice in the selection and acquisition of

property as the individual white. The racial minority is faced with two distinct sets of problems:

1. Limited supply of adequate shelter through artificial restrictions upon their access to residential land areas, housing accommodations, financing and production.

2. Limited effective demand for adequate shelter through arbitrary restrictions upon their educational and employment opportunities. In Blacksburg these problems have not resulted in the usual overcrowding and consequent complications, but the issues have been avoided by migration to other cities.

In order to clarify issues and assemble data to be used in the design of a new neighborhood a survey was conducted. In the beginning the survey was to include all of the Blacksburg community which is composed of three settlements: (1) Blacksburg town, (2) Wake Forest, (3) Hoge's mountain or Grissom's Gate. After talking to representatives of each of these neighborhoods, it was decided to conduct a survey for the purpose of developing a cooperative neighborhood only among the Negroes in Blacksburg town because it was thought unlikely that any of the others would consider moving.

Wake Forest is a rural neighborhood near McCoy

and the inhabitants all work in the McCoy coal mines. At the present time there is one church and a two room elementary school. There is plenty of land available at a reasonable price for expansion of this settlement. All of the houses seem to be in good repair.

The Hoge's Mountain or Grissom's Gate neighborhood is made up chiefly of farmers scattered over the mountains just south of Blacksburg and east of the Christiansburg highway. These people did not seem as well off as the other neighborhood, but would not consider leaving their farms, and do not have the same community spirit that exists among the Blacksburg and Wake Forest people. The children in this section are more numerous and attend elementary school in Blacksburg town.

The Negroes in Blacksburg proper are scattered throughout the older sections of the town as shown on the map on page 4 . The other characteristics of this neighborhood will be discussed in detail in this paper.



LEGEND

- NEGRO HOMES
- † NEGRO CHURCHES
- NEGRO SCHOOL
- NEGRO CEMETERY
- - - BOUNDARIES OF NEW NEIGHBORHOOD
- == EXTENSION OF JACKSON STREET

MAP OF THE TOWN OF BLACKSBURG

SHOWING THE PRESENT LOCATION OF THE NEGRO POPULATION



## THE SURVEY

## PART TWO

POPULATION TRENDS:

Since the end of the civil war there has been a steady migration of rural Negroes to the cities and of the Southern Negroes to the North. This trend has shown an appreciable increase in the last decade. At first Blacksburg was concerned with the problem of housing the rural Negroes coming into the town, but now with better education and living standards the Negro is leaving the smaller town to seek better jobs in the larger cities, especially the cities in the North. Many of the younger people left during the war to take war jobs and have never returned. Of the children away from home at the present time only one still does domestic work which is nearly the only type of work open to them here.

For the country as a whole the Negro population has increased faster than the dwelling units that it occupied. This is not true in Blacksburg for the population has decreased and three new homes have been built in the neighborhood.

The population by race for Blacksburg town is not available for any earlier date than 1930, however the United States Census figures for 1930 and 1940 are:

	<u>1940</u>	<u>1930</u>
<u>Total</u>	2,133	1,400
White	1,932	1,243
Negro	201 (10%)	157 (13%)

Both Blacksburg and V.P.I. have been growing within the last eight years, but from a survey just completed the non-white population has decreased by nearly one-fourth, the present population being 155. From the survey it was found that this decrease was not due as first supposed to the lack of housing, although this would be a pressing need were any increase to take place, but rather to the lack of suitable employment available to the educated Negro.

#### ECONOMIC STATUS AND HOUSING CONDITIONS

In order to establish a true picture of the actual conditions as they exist among the Negroes today in Blacksburg, it was necessary to conduct a special survey. The Negroes were approached through their civic organiza-



TYPICAL NEGRO HOMES



TYPICAL NEGRO HOMES



tion and told the nature and purpose of the questionnaire. Everyone was cooperative and no resistance to the questions was met. The Negro leaders seemed particularly interested and felt that some line of action should be taken to encourage the young people to remain at home. A schedule of questions (page 1 of the appendix) was taken from door to door and the questions asked the woman of each home. Forty-three of forty-six questionnaires were complete enough for tabulation and comparison.

The following results were forthcoming:

Only five of the homes were rented with rents ranging from \$8.50 to \$20.00 per month. Most of the landlords were colored. The community is not overcrowded as many people thought for there are 1.35 rooms per person and 5.23 rooms per house. In only six cases were two married couples found to be living in the same house and there is an unusually large proportion of persons living alone. There are five roomers.

Two-thirds of the houses were found to be in good repair but this does not tell the whole story for many of the dwellings are of poor and cheap construction without proper finish.

In one section of town the city does not maintain

any sewage system and consequently the twelve homes in this area are without inside flush toilets. Twenty-five of the families had telephones and nineteen had electrical refrigeration. Forty-one had radios and electricity and only eight had central heat.

TABLE ONE  
DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILIES BY INCOME  
AND SIZE

Combined Annual Income*	Number of People in Family										Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	12	
0 - 499	6										6
500 - 999	1	2	1			1					5
1,000 - 1,499	1	4	3	2	2	1		1			14
1,500 - 1,999		2	1	1		1				1	6
2,000 - 2,499		2		3	1		1				7
2,500 - 2,999			1								1
3,000 - over						1			1		2
Unknown	5	2		1							8
Total	13	12	6	7	3	4	1	1	1	1	49

\* Includes only income of husband and wife

There are four mothers who work, and these mothers have a total of eight children of pre-school age. Possibly more mothers would work outside of the home if they

had some place to leave their children.

TABLE TWO  
CHILDREN UNDER TWENTY-ONE YEARS  
OF AGE

Age in years	Number
0 - 5	25
6 - 10	18
11 - 15	5
16 - 20	4
Total	52

COMPARISON

	Blacksburg town 1948	United States * 1947
Median Income (non farm)	\$1,400	\$1,800
Median Age	29.4 yrs.	
Male	27.0 "	
Female	30.4 "	
Electricity	95.5%	80%
Doubling	14.5%	10%
Median Rent	\$10/mo.	\$17/mo.
Good Condition	86%	39%
Flush Toilets	70%	39%
Number with over 1.5 persons/room	9.5%	15%

\* HHFA -- No. 28 For Advance Release May 12, 1948,  
Washington, D. C.

### ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

Every community forms certain educational, religious, civic, social, and recreational organizations and institutions to satisfy certain needs that cannot be met by the individual or even the family group. The Negro community in Montgomery County is no exception.

Those organizations which are operated jointly with Christiansburg are as follows:

- St. Luke's Lodge
- Veterans of Foreign Wars
- Odd Fellows Lodge
- Household Ruth Lodge
- Eastern Star
- Masons

The following groups work with sister organizations in other communities but have a local chapter:

- Montgomery and Pulaski County Educational and Welfare Association
- Methodist Church
- Baptist Church

The following are strictly local:

- Garden Club
- Social Club
- Ball team
- Interracial Group

The most active organizations are the Montgomery and Pulaski County Educational and Welfare Association,

the Methodist Church, and the Baptist Church. Their aims and work overlap a great deal in the community. In the community they both contribute to and support the Community Federation which in turn conducts a summer recreation program for the children and adults, contributes equipment to the playground and school, and this winter is helping to finance a school lunch program. These organizations also support the cemetery, and help the poor and sick.

The Montgomery and Pulaski County Educational and Welfare Organization has been very active in securing transportation for the rural children to school. It has raised the number of registered voters in Blacksburg from 30 to 100 in two years. At present the prime objective is to secure a trade building for the Institute in Christiansburg, for which they have already obtained an athletic field. They have also done much to interest the members in the community and its beautification.

The churches support the usual church activities, missions, Lynchburg Seminary, Methodist Conference, an orphan home in Petersburg, Va., and the local circles or auxiliaries.

#### PRESENT FACILITIES

Each of the churches has its own building, both of

which adequately meet the needs of their congregation, or will when the present remodeling program is completed on the Methodist church. At present the churches are the only adequate meeting places available for all large meetings. In the summer the basement of the Baptist church is used to show movies as a part of the Community Federation recreation program.

The school is in better repair than most of the smaller schools in this district; this is due largely to the efforts of the parents who display a great deal of interest in the welfare of their children. The people have raised money to buy a furnace and other equipment that is not supplied by the state. The school is a simple frame building with three rooms - two class rooms and a kitchen.

The grounds around the school are much too small to adequately serve the needs of forty children without considering the whole community which must be taken into account since this is the only athletic field. The ball team at present uses the grounds of Blacksburg High School for its important games, but this is not a very satisfactory arrangement as it leaves no place for practice.

The movies, library and stores are shared with

the whites with the usual limitations that apply to the minority in a segregated society. The Negroes use all of the facilities open to them much more conscientiously than the whites.





School from the  
south-west

School from the  
south-east



Playground from  
Clay Street

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND PLAYGROUND



PC



METHODIST CHURCH



BAPTIST CHURCH

LOCAL CHURCHES

## GENERAL DISCUSSION OF NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING

### PART THREE

In comparatively recent years planners have begun to think in terms of neighborhoods as the basic unit of the city plan. One definition of a neighborhood is a community of such a size as to give us a good basis for those neighborhood activities and interests which are derived from everyday residential life as distinguished from occupational and public life. That is, it must contain enough families to support a shopping center, a common recreational area with indoor and outdoor facilities, an elementary school and perhaps a church. This size will vary with the city and neighborhood. These criteria for size obviously cannot apply in a town the size of Blacksburg in which the population of the whole town is hardly that considered most economical for an elementary school or large enough "to maintain itself against outside influences."

By other definitions a neighborhood should be the framework of a way of life and a means of making our cities liveable. We can perhaps fulfill these requirements, if

we first determine what factors go into making a liveable neighborhood.

THE SITE:

The first consideration in the planning of a neighborhood is the selection of a site, whose location should be governed by the following:

1. There should be no nearby heavy nuisance industries.
2. There should be relative freedom from the danger and noise of through traffic.
3. Place for religious and social activities should be nearby.
4. Place of work should be nearby.
5. Places to shop should be nearby.

The site should be large enough to provide for ample air, sunlight, pleasant outlook, and space for privacy. For some of the families there must be room for gardens. A widespread recreational area should exist within easy reach of each dwelling. For older children there should be recreation space that they can reach without crossing a major street (at least 100 square feet per child). For younger children there should be recreation space that they can reach without crossing a traffic street or other public way and with-

in easy reach of mothers. For grownups there should be outdoor space for sitting and for active sports and indoor facilities for pursuit of hobbies. Where ever possible all or part of these may be incorporated in the school for it should be an integral part of the daily life of all the people who reside within the community.

Circulation becomes a major consideration when the crossing of streets is kept to a minimum. The super-block is now the primary fundamental in planning for it is thought to reduce traffic hazards and noise, to increase privacy, to integrate play with the dwellings, and to protect the neighborhood from deteriorating outside influences. The use of cul-de-sacs is highly recommended for traffic within the block, but loops are found to be more economical. The function of the streets should be to provide (1) adequate and reasonably direct hookup to the main roads, (2) adequate circulation within the site and access to the dwellings, (3) safety for pedestrians and motorists.

Houses: The quality of the neighborhood is largely dependent upon the quality of the housing within it. Any type of housing can be satisfactory if built with regard to its purpose. The one family house is

generally regarded as the type which best fulfills the requirements of life for it connects the house to the garden and playground and provides the privacy necessary for relaxation and recreation. If row houses are planned adequately and carefully, they may achieve a considerable amount of privacy. (A study should be made of the prospective tenants and where ever feasible, their desires taken into consideration).

The factors which govern the selection of the type dwellings are:

1. Land cost and density.
2. Local plans for long range urban and regional development.
3. Tenant characteristic and needs.
4. Physical nature of the site.

Perhaps of more importance than the type is the relation of the unit plan to the whole development. The plan of the house must relate each room to the other rooms and to the house as a whole. It must help in the fulfillment of the social hygienic and psychological needs of the family. A definite place must be provided for the activities that go on within the house and the size of the rooms should be governed by the purpose they are to serve.

### Community Facilities

A neighborhood of the size considered ideal includes the following facilities: Community house, elementary school, shopping center, place for religious and social activities,( churches, movies, dance floors, etc.) For our purpose we shall discuss only those facilities which would be feasible in a small neighborhood of fifty families.

The community center may be combined with the school in order to make the school a part of the every day life of the people within the neighborhood, but some times this proves inadequate and additional facilities must be provided. However in this case we have an absence of the elementary school and therefore the community center would be of such a size and function as to compare with those of the government, public and war housing. These buildings contain:

1. Management offices (general, private, storage, toilet, coat.)
2. Maintenance shops.
3. Storage and toilets.
4. Community rooms (assembly and kitchen.)
5. Child care centers and health clinics.
6. Frequent parking.

At present there is little precedent in designs of this kind and the diversity of types required in different places implies a flexibility of design and rules out any standards of plan. However there are certain things which should be kept in mind. All the community buildings should be kept close together and related to other facilities such as parks, playgrounds, and other public recreational areas. There must also be a satisfactory relationship between the major elements such as the Child Care Center, the management, and the community rooms. These must be kept close and yet separated enough so that the function of one will not disturb the function of another. There must be a good relation between the parts within each unit. The orientations found most suitable for these units are south for the childrens' center, and orientation to the prevailing winds for the other areas.

The development to be discussed in detail does not include any of the other neighborhood facilities therefore a report of them will be omitted here.



PART IV  
THE DESIGN

Program:

In formulating a program the foregoing survey was utilized to determine the number of families to be housed and the type of housing necessary. Since all of the incomes were comparatively low or entirely inadequate to afford sufficient housing, the incomes were disregarded and minimum housing provided according to the family's need. From table one the following results were derived by assuming that the persons living alone should have a one room apartment (because they can afford no more), that the households consisting of two persons should have an apartment with one bedroom, that households of three or four persons should have two bedrooms, and that all larger families could be accommodated in units with three bedrooms. It is realized that some of the larger families could well use more space, but three bedrooms would give them better quarters than they now have and afford a minimum of space for decency.

Forty-eight units were found to be the number needed and from table one the following number of each



type was found necessary:

13 one room units	27%
12 one bedroom units	23%
9 two bedroom units	18%
15 three bedroom units	30%

From a study of other housing developments, the following distribution was found to be most common for an average population:

	1
1 bedroom unit	10%
2 bedroom units	60%
3 bedroom units	30%

The different distribution was due in part to unusually large number of persons living alone. Since it is unlikely that this condition will continue for many years, it was deemed necessary to make some concessions in order to achieve a more nearly normal situation. For this reason the one room units were designed to be convertible in that with few changes two of the one room units can be made into a unit with three bedrooms; and the distribution was altered to the following:

12 one room units	26%
6 one bedroom units	13%
16 two bedroom units	32%
15 three bedroom units	30%

It was felt that the decrease in the number of  
 1. "Town of Willow Run", ARCH.FORUM, March 1943, vol.78.

one bedroom units and the increase in the number of two bedroom units was justified on the grounds that the families of two in some cases have a high enough income to afford a larger house since they have no children.

The problem then was to design a neighborhood for forty-eight families making some allowance for future growth and development.

SITE:

The first requirement of the site seemed to be that it be centrally located since only a half of the families own automobiles. This greatly limits the choice. About the only undeveloped land available is that known as the Atkins and Kiester land located at intersection of Roanoke Street and Valley Road. Although the land to the west of Blacksburg is not centrally located it might have been considered were it not for the fact that most of this land is either owned or leased by the school. Almost all of the land south of Clay Street is covered by deed restrictions and although these cannot be upheld in court the people would be very reluctant or entirely unwilling to sell. The Atkins and

Kiester land is located near the business district and Virginia Polytechnic Institute where the men work, and is surrounded by the residential districts where some of the women work. The present Negro churches are within easy walking distance and much closer to this location than they are to some of the present homes. The present elementary school is five and one-half blocks away; but since there are at present plans to consolidate all of the Negro elementary schools in Christiansburg within the next two or three years, this was not considered a deciding factor in the site selection and no provision was made for a school on the new site.

At first the site considered was the land just northwest of Roanoke Street as shown on page 37, but upon closer study of the terrain and existing ownership and use it was decided that a more desirable site could be obtained by extending Jackson Street to Valley Road and developing the land northwest of this. The reason for this may be seen on the contour map for the land at the corner of Roanoke and Valley Road is cut off from the remainder of the site by a small rise, the Apperson house occupies the adjoining lot, and Mr. Whipple, who owns the third lot plans to build an apartment house.

The final site is a gently rolling piece of land approximately fifteen acres in area and drained by a small stream which runs across one side. Although the land is within the city limits, there are at present no sewerage or water facilities to handle the full development of the land, and connections would have to be made with the main lines which run parallel to Main Street between Main and Progress. For this reason, the layout of the site was not limited in any way by the existing utilities.

The position of the athletic field was governed by the "lay" of the land and placed in a spot where the minimum of grading would be required to create a level plot of ground. The largest level spot was in the northwest corner of the property in the stream plain. To make an athletic field from this would necessitate the movement of some land and also of changing the course of the stream. The stream would be a small problem since it is only two feet wide in its broadest place and has been moved once by the digging of a small ditch in the course it was to run. In the flat area thus created it is possible to locate a baseball diamond with the preferred orientation and football field with a less desirable orientation. The necessary movement of



ground needed in order to better orientate the football field was not considered worth the added trouble and expense since the present location approaches the desired position. No permanent seating was provided since no one position could adequately serve the football and baseball fields. More satisfactory service could be obtained by using movable bleachers.

The location of the community center was somewhat governed by the location of the athletic field since it is desirable to have the two in close proximity. The community building was placed to the east of the field and although not in the center of the dwellings, it is easily accessible both from the dwellings and from the outside. The building was orientated in such a way as to put the nursery on the south and the social and assembly hall on the west so that they might get the prevailing winds.

Cul-de-sacs were used as streets, for although more expensive than loops, they were considered more appropriate in a development of this size on this land. In most cases the streets run parallel to the contours to provide for level roads. The roads are 26 feet wide to afford parallel parking on one side, in preference to parking stubs within the yards, because of the added

expense incurred especially since the houses are not all parallel to the streets and a long drive would be necessary. The cul-de-sacs were dished in the center to provide for economy in construction and dry walking on the edges although an attempt is made to keep pedestrian traffic separate from the vehicular by placing the walks in the rear or rather on the garden side of the buildings. There is no through traffic for vehicles and one may go from one place to any other on the walks without crossing any roads.

The density of the homes was kept low to be in harmony with the surrounding neighborhoods and to give the people better yards and other facilities than they now possess. The dwellings were not given orientation exactly alike because privacy was thought to be more important than the small difference in orientation. Some of the home get the afternoon sun, but they also get more of the prevailing winds than the other houses and therefore it was considered that the advantages and disadvantages almost canceled each other. Orientation played a more important part than contours in the placing of the houses; in most cases, however, they are set at an angle across the contour. This would not entail the drainage problem encountered when the houses are placed parallel to the contour and there is no need to use the buildings as retaining walls,

for the slope is not that great.

The buildings were arranged at regular intervals to give an orderly appearance to the whole plan. Only one type of house was used on each street, for it was felt that placing the buildings at an angle to the street and the irregularities caused by the rolling land would create enough variation to break the monotony, and that anything more would lack continuity and cause confusion.

### Housing

All of the units with one exception were designed to meet the requirements of the minimum physical standards and criteria on the planning and design of FHA-aided, low-cost housing. An attempt was made to keep all the plans simple in order that they would be easy to construct and lower in cost. For this reason complicated shapes were avoided and standard dimensions (24 foot trusses four feet on center) adhered to as much as possible.

On page 6 of the Minimum Physical Standards and Criteria it is stated that each dwelling unit shall contain the following:

1. Living room with dining space in either



2. Kitchen.
3. Separate bedroom or bedrooms.
4. Bathroom.
5. Clothes closet for each bedroom.
6. Coat closet.
7. Linen closet.
8. General Storage.

In every type of dwelling except A all of these units were provided and were of the size or larger than that stated on page 7 in the Minimum Physical Standards. Unit A as it is to be first built does not include a separate bedroom as called for. This omission was felt to be justified on the grounds that this is not conceived as an FHA-aided project, but as a cooperative private endeavor and the "standards" were used merely as a guide as to what is considered reasonable practice in low-cost housing and therefore is not binding in this particular case and because these units are to be occupied by only one person instead of a family of two or three as planned in FHA low-rent housing. As discussed before these units were designed to be converted when there are no longer so many single persons within the community. These units were designed to



be used four in a row with one heating system for each building because a large percentage of the occupants are older women.

Unit B was designed with one bedroom for couples, Unit C is very similar except that it has two bedrooms and therefore may accommodate a larger family. Both of the plans were kept open and access is afforded from either the garden or the street without passing through the kitchen. Both are built as duplexes because of economy of both money and land. Both possess all the elements called for in the FHA standards.

Unit D is the only single family house in the group and was designed for the larger families as it was thought that a one-family house would better suit their needs. This house was designed a bit differently from the others in that the kitchen is on the garden side so that the mothers may better watch their children at play and in the other cases the living room is on the garden side to better orientation and view; however, neither of these has been sacrificed in plan C. Larger trusses were used also.

As some people much prefer two-story homes, half of the two and three bedroom units were designed as such. Again, these plans were kept simple and the same trusses

and centering used for these as for the other homes. These also are designed as duplexes with the kitchen wall in common. As in all of the other units a separate heater room was included and the kitchen was made large enough to allow the washing to be done at home since management of central laundries would be difficult because some of the women take in laundry as a means of livelihood.

All of the buildings are of frame construction with wood casement windows. The interior floors are of wood, the walls of plaster and the terrace of fieldstone.

#### Community Center

The community center was designed to provide space for all of the miscellaneous activities that are now carried on in the church and school for lack of a better place and also to house the management office for the development. Therefore, the following elements were included in the plan:

1. Assembly room.
2. Social room.
3. Workshop.
4. Kitchen.

5. Nursery school.
6. Office.
7. Toilets, janitors, coats, mechanical equipment, storage.
8. Shower and dressing room.

The assembly room was designed to seat a maximum of one hundred and fifty persons. This allows some room for expansion of the neighborhood, yet does not make the building large enough to be a liability. A large storage room was provided adjacent to the assembly room in order that different equipment for the use of the room may be reached with a minimum of effort and the room utilized for many purposes and used to its full advantage. One entire side of the room opens onto a long balcony which overlooks the athletic field. These doors open to the prevailing breezes in summer and a roof overhanging protects the inside from the sun.

Instead of providing for a stage, one end of the room is separated from the main portion of the assembly hall by sliding doors. This room was designed to be used as a day nursery for the small children especially for the mothers who work. Accommodations are provided for twenty children, for although there are only eight children of working mothers, possibly more would work had they

facilities for caring for their children, and some mothers will want to send their children even though the mothers are at home. Adjoining the nursery is a toilet, coatroom, and special entry for the small children. On the south is also a porch for covered play and a yard for outdoor play.

A kitchen is convenient to both the nursery and the assembly room to provide for the feeding of the children and the preparing of community suppers or refreshments for parties.

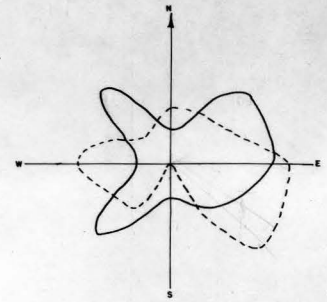
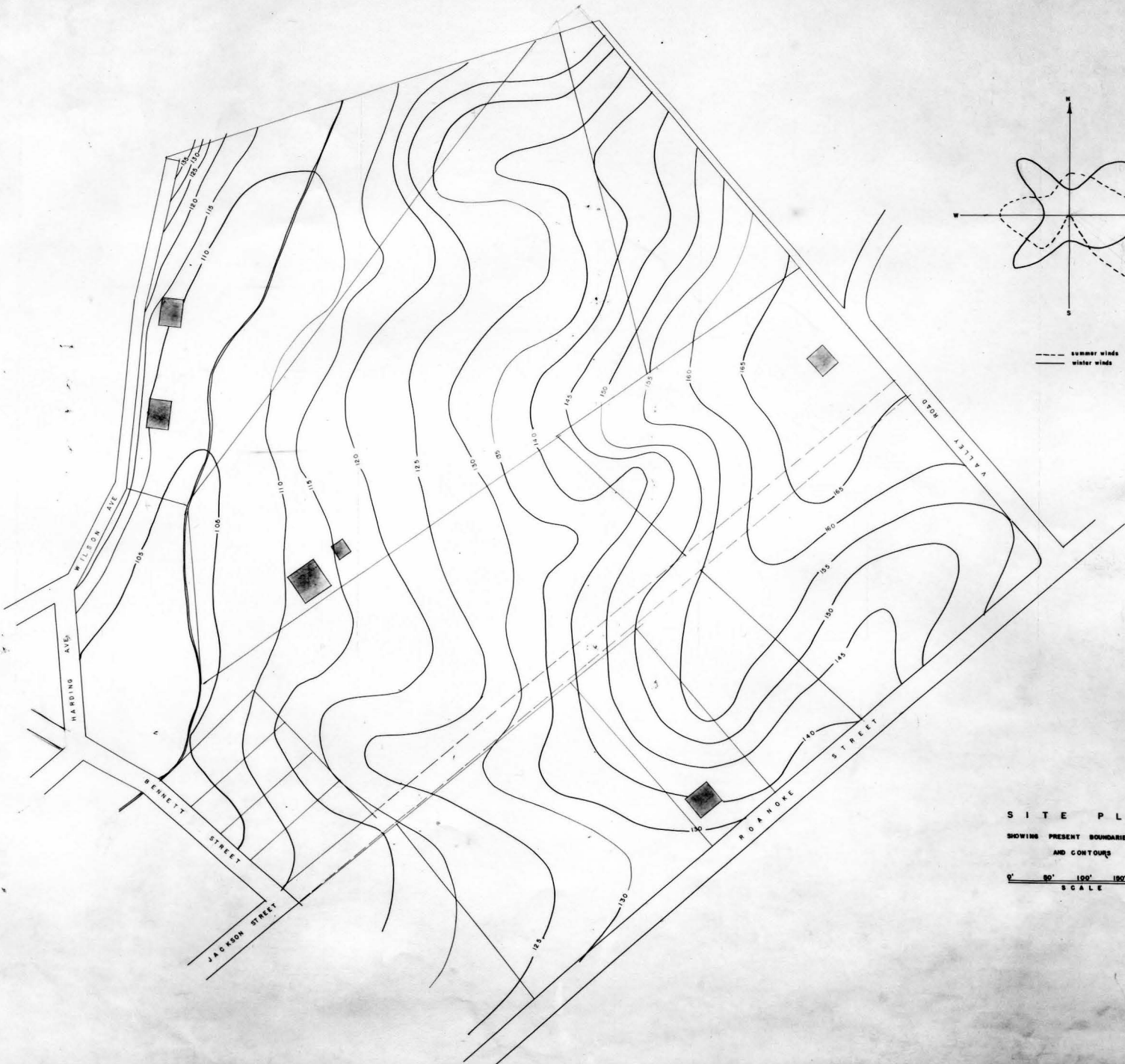
A small "social" room is planned for smaller meetings and as a supplementary library to the bookmobile and Radford library. This room has a fireplace and gives a more intimate feeling to small gatherings. It also opens out upon the long balcony which overlooks the athletic field.

Only a small office is needed for a development of this type and since the office probably would not be in constant use, it was given a less favorable orientation and view.

The shower, shops, mechanical equipment and janitor's closet were placed in the basement on the side facing the athletic field.

DRAWINGS AND MODEL

PART V



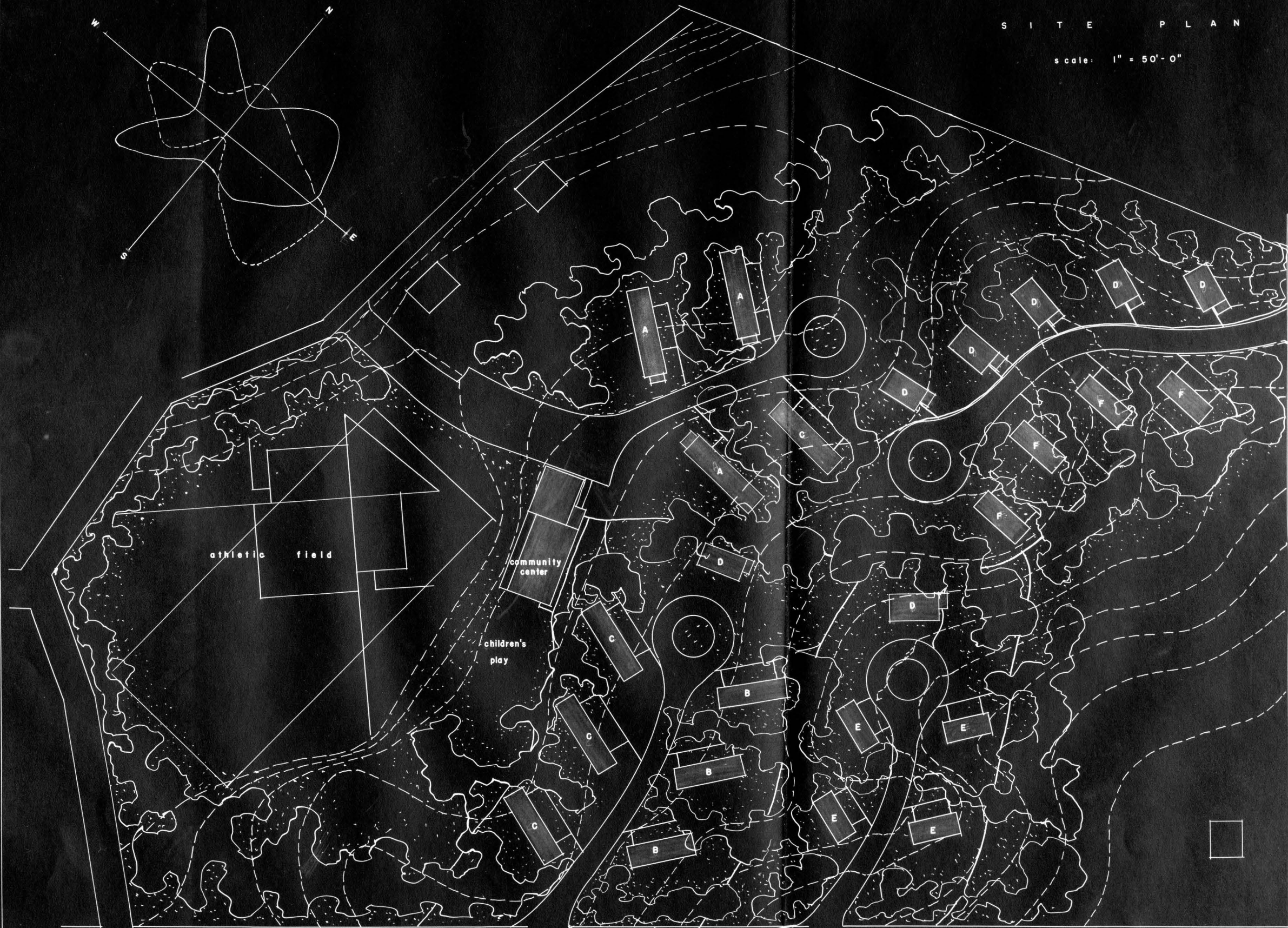
--- summer winds  
--- winter winds

S I T E P L A N  
SHOWING PRESENT BOUNDARIES, HOUSES  
AND CONTOURS  
0' 50' 100' 150' 200'  
S C A L E

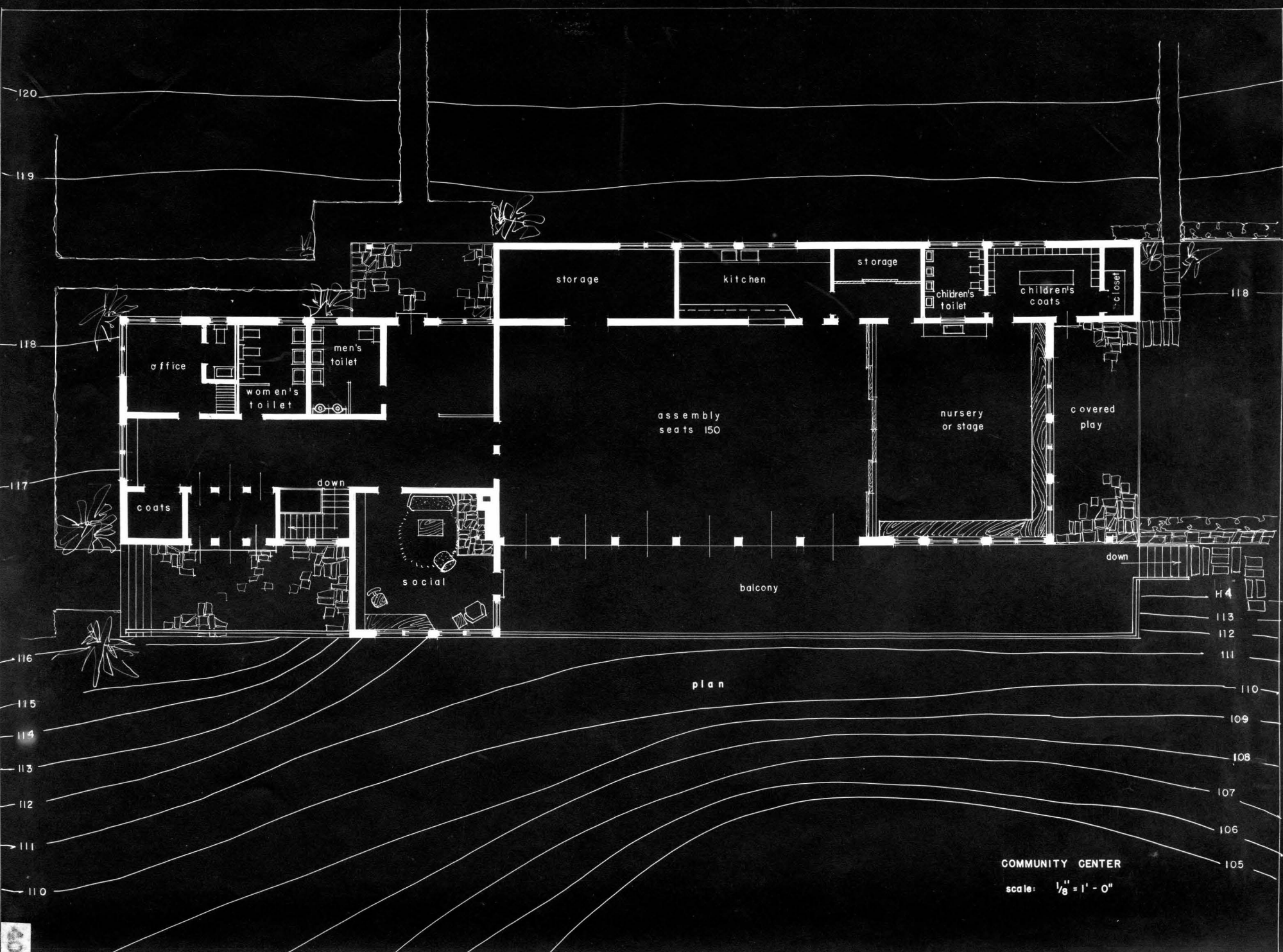


S I T E P L A N

scale: 1" = 50'-0"

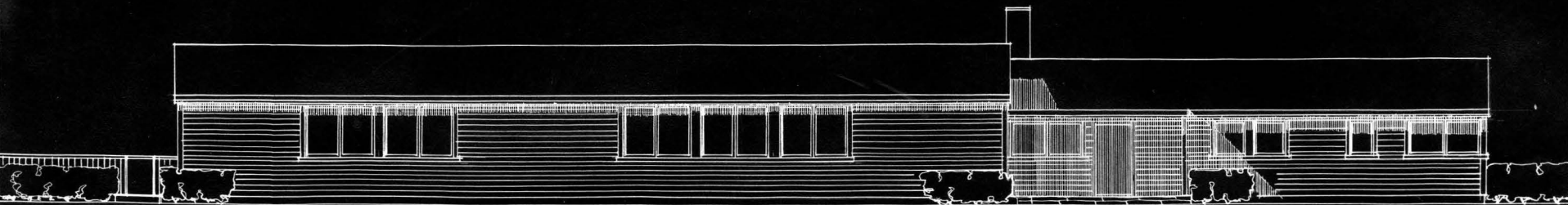




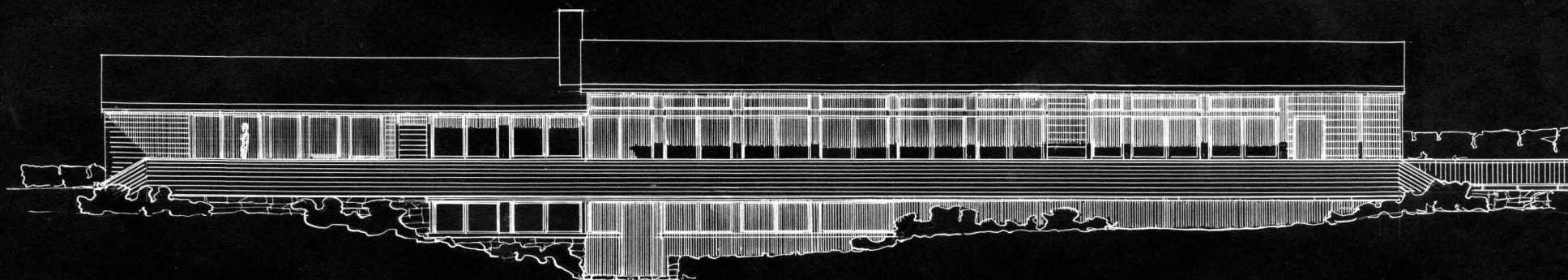


COMMUNITY CENTER

scale:  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1' - 0''$



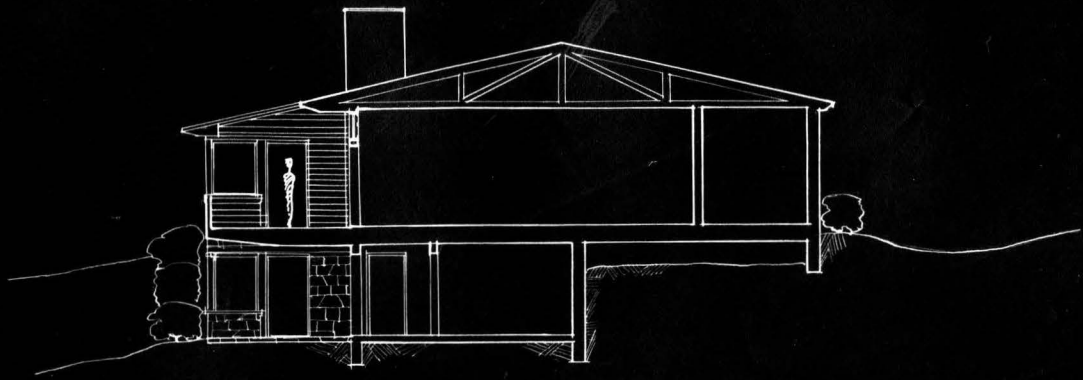
east north east elevation



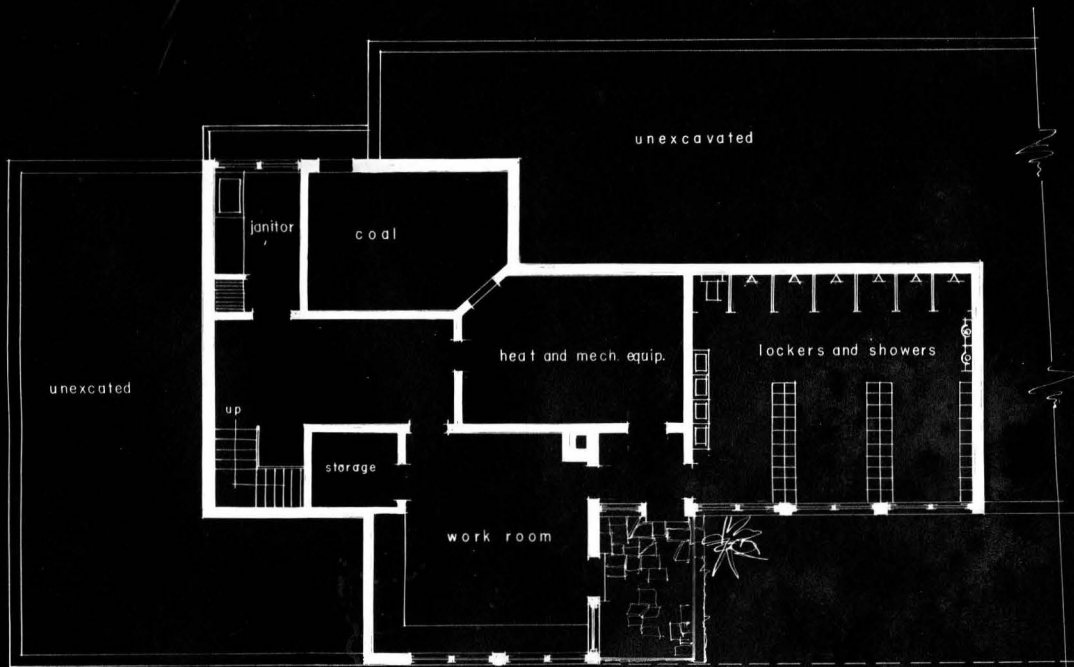
west south west elevation

COMMUNITY CENTER

scale:  $\frac{1}{8}" = 1' - 0"$



section

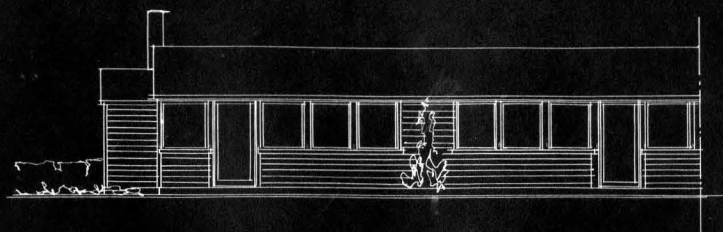


basement plan

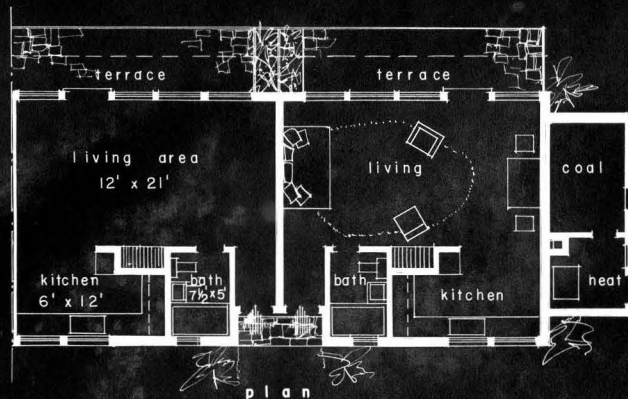
COMMUNITY CENTER

scale:  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$

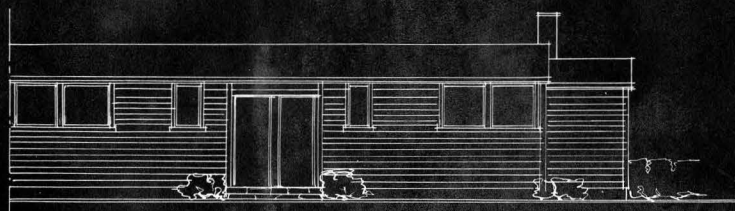




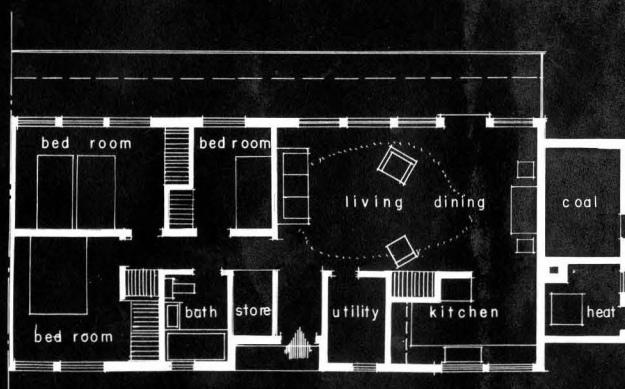
garden elevation



plan



street elevation

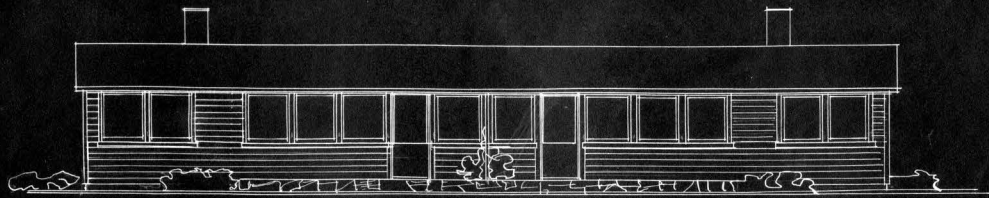


UNIT A

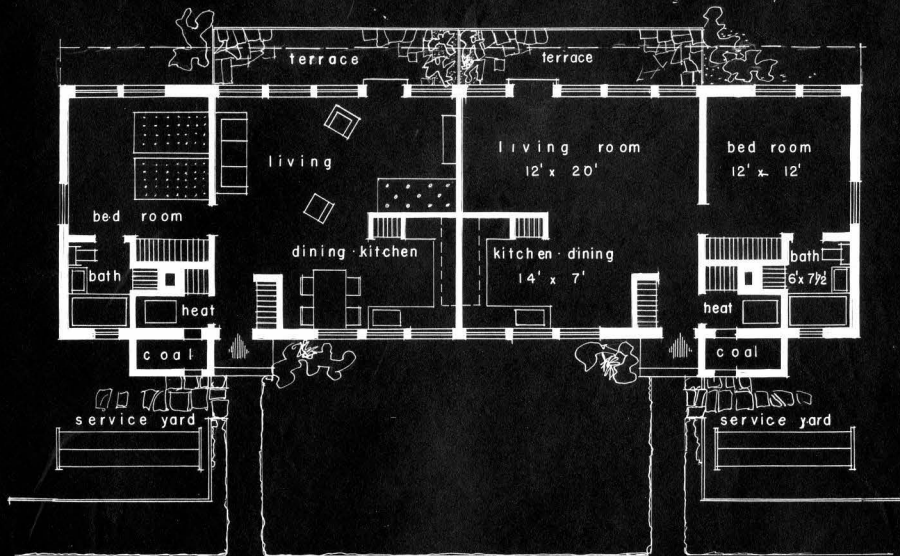
in rows of four

scale:  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$

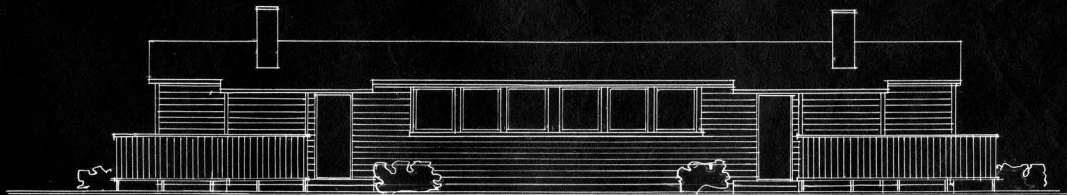
conversion of two  $1\frac{1}{2}$  room  
units into one  $3\frac{1}{2}$  room unit



garden elevation



plan



street elevation



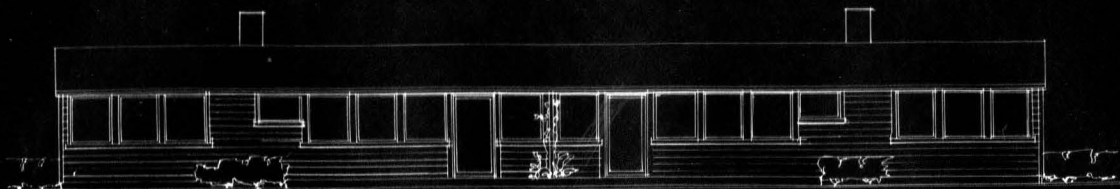
interior perspective

# UNIT B

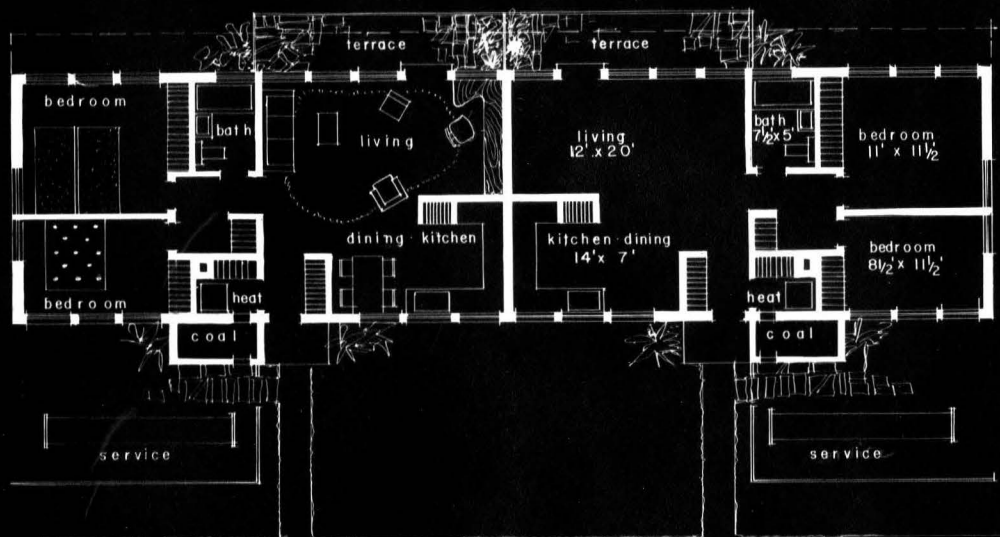
duplex with one bedroom

scale:  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$

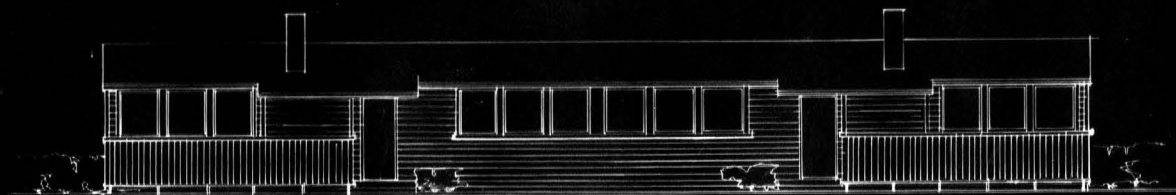




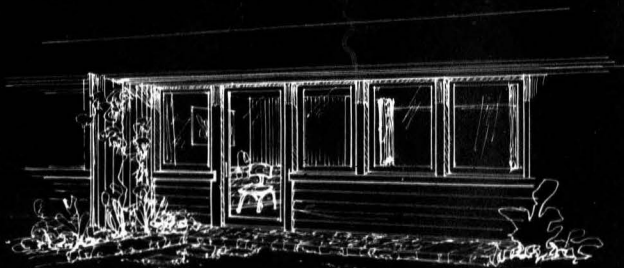
garden elevation



plan



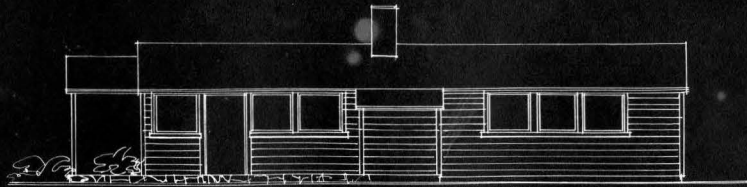
street elevation



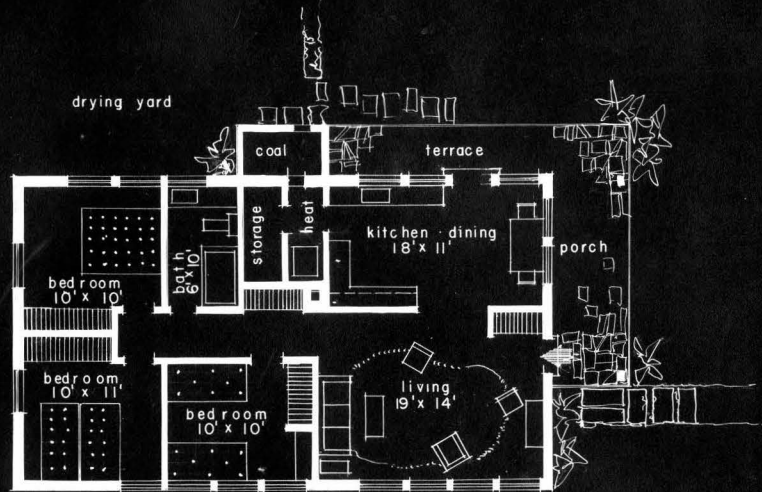
perspective of  
garden entrance

UNIT C  
duplex with one  
bedroom

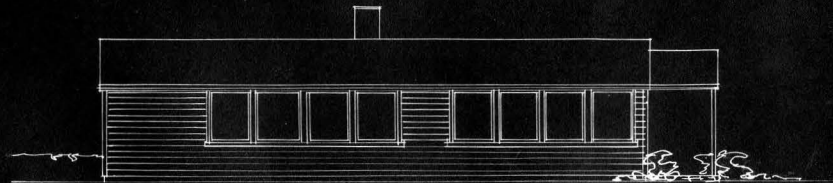
scale:  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$



north elevation



plan



south elevation

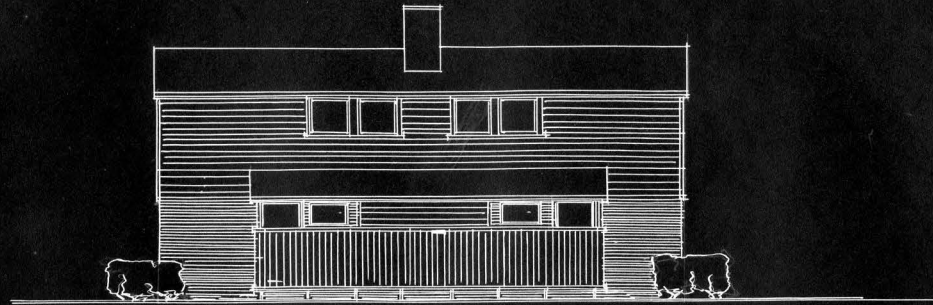


east elevation

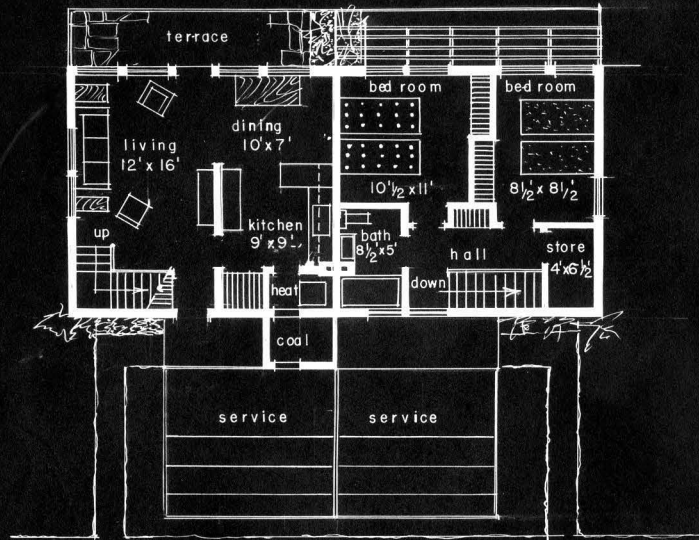
# UNIT D

one family house with  
three bedrooms

scale:  $\frac{1}{8}" = 1'-0"$

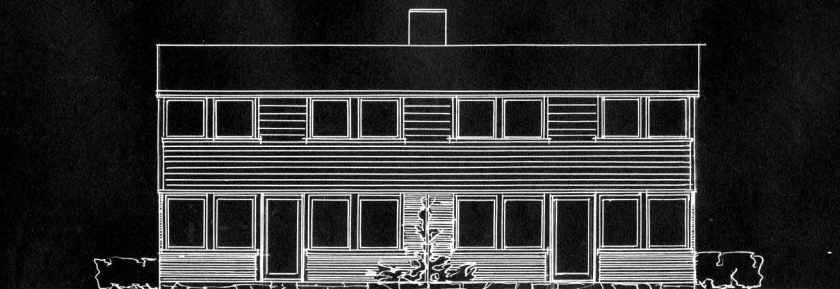


street elevation



first floor plan

second floor plan



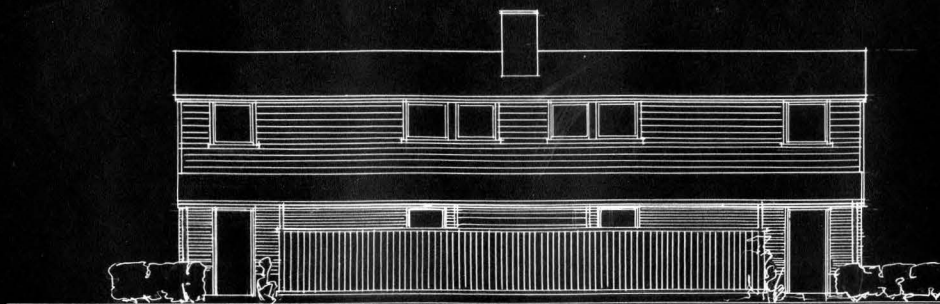
garden elevation

# UNIT E

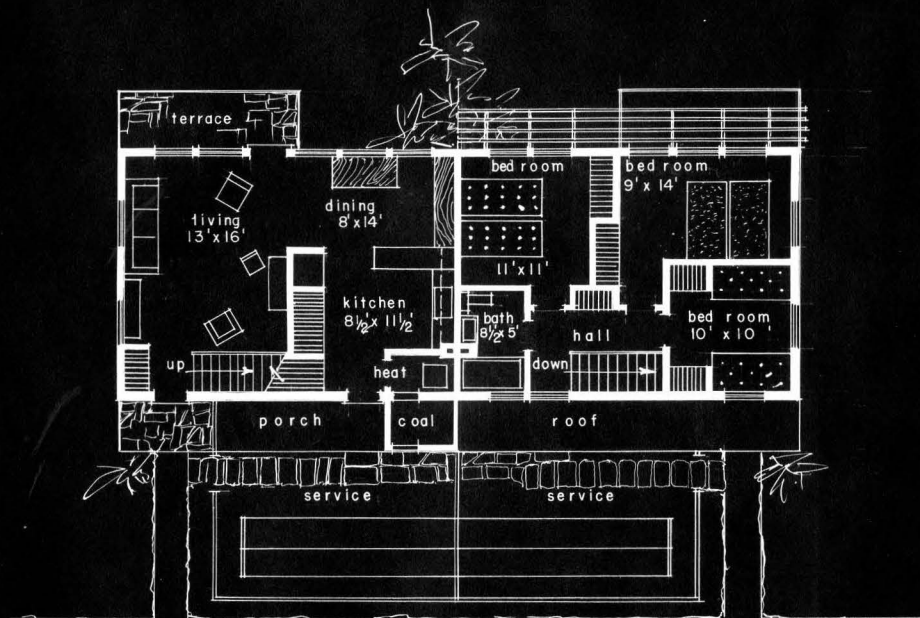
a duplex with two bedrooms

scale:  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1' - 0''$



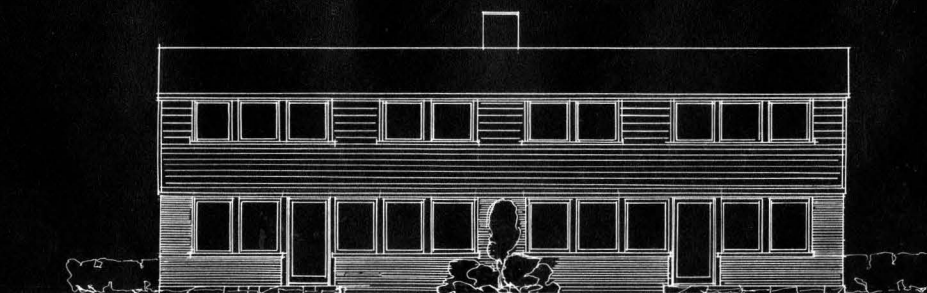


street elevation



first floor plan

second floor plan



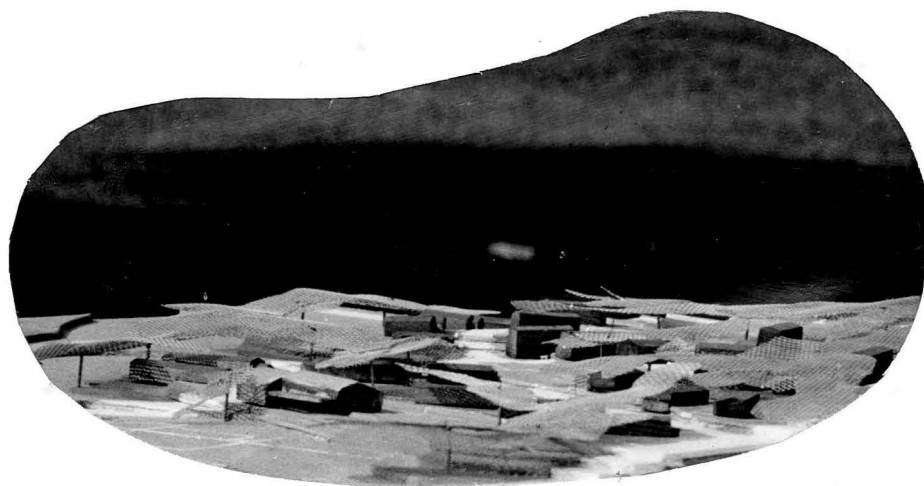
garden elevation

UNIT F

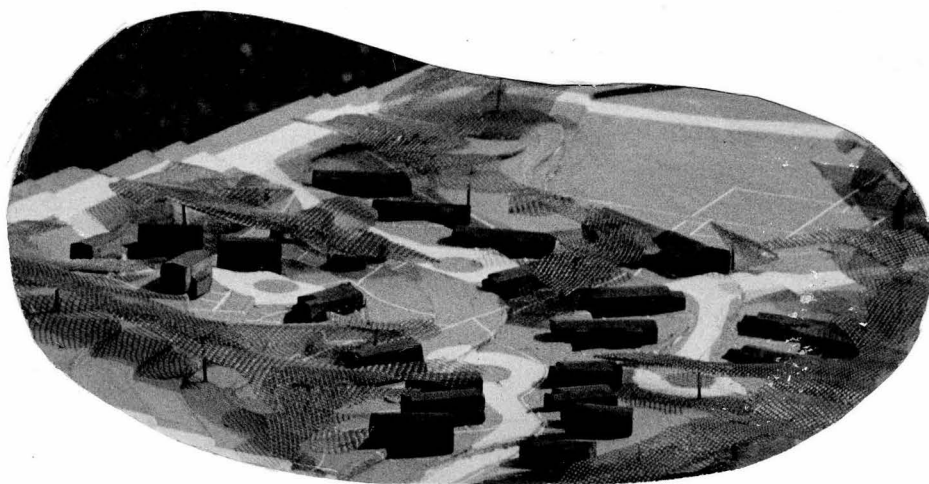
a duplex with three bedrooms

scale:  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1' - 0''$









## PART VI

## CONCLUSION

From this study it is hoped that a better understanding of the problems faced by the Blacksburg Negro may be gained. There are three difficulties confronting them which must be considered together. They are (1) the obtaining of suitable employment (2) obtaining of suitable education (3) obtaining of suitable housing. The young Negroes have all left this community in search of a better place. If the Negro is to remain in Blacksburg some form of community action must be taken to resolve these handicaps. It is with action in the third of these fields that the second part of this thesis deals.

It is felt that if the colored and white worked together it is within their means to acquire for the Negro more and better housing and a lower cost and greater advantage to both. Such a development is given here in an attempt to point the way toward the things which might be accomplished. If this has been accomplished this thesis will have been a success.

APPENDIX

Name of Head of Family \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_

Members of Family	Age	Grade		Occupation if employed
		In School	Stopped School	
Husband				
Wife				
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

Children away from home	Grade	Stopped School	Location	Occupation
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

Do you own your own home? \_\_\_\_\_

If you rent your home, please give rental per month. \_\_\_\_\_

No. of rooms in the house \_\_\_\_\_

Check the following: Does house need  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Major repairs \_\_\_\_\_ Minor repairs  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Good condition

No. of people in house \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a garden? \_\_\_\_\_  
 If not, would you like one? \_\_\_\_\_

No. of families in the house \_\_\_\_\_

No. of roomers \_\_\_\_\_

No. of boarders \_\_\_\_\_

Check the following household facilities present:

\_\_\_\_\_ Electricity \_\_\_\_\_ Running water \_\_\_\_\_ Indoor Toilet  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Mechanical Refrig- \_\_\_\_\_ Radio  
 \_\_\_\_\_ eration

What kind of heat do you have? \_\_\_\_\_

#### Family Income

\$0 - \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$501 - \$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,001 - \$1,500 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$1,501 - \$2,000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$2,001 - \$2,500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$2,501 and over \_\_\_\_\_

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