

FILE

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Sullivan County Poor Home
other names/site number Lakeview Home

2. Location

street & number 1447 County Road 75 North N/A not for publication
city or town Sullivan vicinity
state Indiana code IN county Sullivan code 153 zip code 47882

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 36CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official/Title

1/25/00
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 - See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

HEALTH CARE: Sanitarium

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT Not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Criteria A-G with checkboxes and descriptions.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1896 - c. 1920

Significant Dates

1896

1897

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Wing & Mauhurin

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Criteria for previous documentation on file (NPS).

Primary location of additional data:

- Options for primary location of additional data.

Name of repository:

Sullivan County Poor Home
Name of Property

Sullivan IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	466920	4327445	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Camille B. Fife, President
organization The Westerly Group, Inc. date 10/6/99
street & number 556 W. CR 1175N telephone 812-696-2415
city or town Farmersburg state IN zip code 47850

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Mansur (for partnership), Sullivan City Preservation Alliance
street & number P.O. Box 313 telephone 812-268-4957
city or town Sullivan state IN zip code 47850

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. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Narrative Description

An outstanding example of Romanesque Revival style architecture, the Sullivan County Poor Home was designed by the architectural firm of Wing and Mahurin and constructed in 1896-7. It was known as the Sullivan County Poor Home or the Sullivan County Home until 1977, when the County changed the property's name to the Lakeview Rest Home. The name is appropriate, since the Sullivan County Park and Lake can be viewed from the upper floor of the building.

The Sullivan County Home is located at 1447 County Road 75 North, approximately one-half mile east of the city of Sullivan, the county seat. The site consists of several acres, bounded by the 4-H Fairgrounds to the west and the County Highway Department to the east. The building is situated on a slight rise with a large expanse of lawn extending from County Road 75 northward to where it meets the building. A long lane that provides access to the property is flanked by an allée of trees and an original wrought iron fence. Large mature trees are scattered throughout the property and an expansive golf course to the north enhances the pastoral setting.

The county home is an imposing brick building. Its two and a half stories dominate the site. As is typical of buildings of its style, the county home is a large structure of asymmetrical shapes and irregular massing. The building plan may be divided into three sections: a center main structure that runs east-west, a south wing and a north wing. The brick foundation is topped with a limestone water table at ground level on all elevations. Segmental-arched basement windows can be found on all sides of the building, except for the main elevation. The entire building consists of two brick colors, red and buff. Red pigmented waterproofing covers the majority of the facades and appears inconsistent and unfinished. The upper central tower on the south wing and the west gable front of the center section remain unpainted, with original surface materials exposed. Fenestration on the building consists of original wooden double-hung windows with several divided light patterns. Most openings have exterior storm windows. The roof shapes vary from hipped on the south wing, to side-gabled roofs on the center section and side wings. The roofing material on the entire building complex is asphalt shingle.

The southern façade of the south wing faces County Road 75 North and is the building's principal elevation. This wing, which housed the superintendent and his family, projects from the center section in a T-plan (Photos No. 1

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& 2). This portion of the building is three bays wide. A central tower projects from the principal façade and rises above the main building entrance. The tower extends above the roofline of the south wing and is capped with a bracketed cornice, pyramidal roof and ball finial. A second tower is partially engaged on the southwest corner of the south wing, giving the appearance of a fourth bay. Its octagonal shape and roof structure provides the building with its irregular massing. Perhaps to counter the strong verticality of the south wing and its towers, a series of horizontal bands can be found on the south façade. These include a brick belt course between the first and second stories, and a brick frieze of similar design just below the roofline of the octagonal tower.

Common windows in the south wing feature a 2-over-2 divided light pattern, which are found on all elevations. The front elevation of the south wing includes two windows and a door opening on the first floor, three windows on the second floor. A common window is located on both floors of the south and west sides of the corner tower. A decorative buff brick lintel and keystone cap each window on the main elevation; several have been painted with the red waterproofing paint. Three arched openings on the upper portion of the central tower feature 1-over-1 wood double-hung windows with limestone sills and buff brick lintels. A primary feature of the front elevation is a broad front porch with a half-gabled roof. A central cross gable demarcates the front entrance. The vertical, beaded board siding in the gable ends has a saw tooth pattern on the bottom edge. The porch floor is wood tongue-and-groove board. Four brick piers support the porch, with decorative trellis material between each pier. The porch, enclosed and altered by the addition of modern storm windows, doors and wood clapboard, retains its simple, original porch posts. A set of original front doors provides access into the building from the porch. Above the second-story windows on both the octagonal and central towers are distinctive corbel tables, the latter being of buff brick. The south wing has a hipped-roof main section with a hipped extension on the north side.

Both the east and west facades of the south wing are punctuated with irregularly spaced, common windows. There is a small secondary porch at the north end of the west façade (south wing, see Photo No. 1). The shed roof porch with its west-facing entry is situated in the recess where a rear gabled extension connects the south wing with the main central section of the building complex. Replacement storm windows and horizontal clapboard siding enclose the porch. A cornerstone tablet on the south side of the east façade identifies the architects, "Wing and Mahurin."

The south wing joins the main central section slightly off-center by way of

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the rear two-story gabled extension. The roughly symmetrical center section is 12 bays wide, including impressive gable front extensions on the east and west ends of the south façade (Photos No. 1, 2 & 8). The common window type found in the center section is a wood double-hung, 9-over-9 window. The first floor has brick, flat arch windows with brick keystones and the second floor has brick, segmental arch windows. The south façade of the main section has a series of common windows regularly spaced on the first and second floors. Two common windows are found on the first and second floors of the gable front extensions. The upper portions of the gable front extensions also feature two, 2-over-2 double-hung wood windows with arched buff brick lintels and limestone sills. The gable ends are accentuated by decorative corbels of red and buff brick along the eaves and engaged brick turrets with stone caps that protrude from the corners (Photos No. 1 & 2). Each turret extends the height of the second story to just above the eave. The entire roof structure of the center section of the building complex has rafter tails, which can be seen below the eaves. The center section has a side gable roof with south facing cross gables on the east and west ends. The north ends of the east and west cross gables are hipped with a cross gable extending outward from the hipped portion. Near the center of the main roof is a pair of cupolas. Each cupola features a convex hipped roof with ball finial and air vents on all four sides (Photo No. 1).

The east and west facades of the center section are identical in window placement and decorative treatment (Photos No. 3, 4, 7 & 8). These facades contain much less detail than the principal southern façade but do have the same corbel pattern seen on the gable fronts of the south façade. The brick walls are punctuated with common windows at the first and second floors. Both facades have a large exterior metal tube used for emergency fire escape extending from the middle second-story window to the ground. A small side porch is located at the southern end of both the east and west facades. The identical porches have a hipped roof with a gable over the south-facing entries. Concrete steps lead up to these entries. Parts of the original porch posts remain intact inside the porches. The horizontal siding, pressboard siding and modern storm windows that enclose the porches are all later changes.

Each end of the north façade extends beyond the main body of the center section. This gives the building a U-shape appearance. Centrally located on the north façade is a one-story hipped roof extension that served as the separate men and women's dining areas (Photo No. 5). A solid entry door is located on both sides of the dining area extension. Each door enters the central east-west hallway of the center section. A handicapped ramp of

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treated lumber leads to the east entry door. All common windows on the north façade have segmental arches. The east and west walls of the dining area extension have a band of three common windows. The windows of both stories farthest to the east and west are wood double-hung, 4-over-4 light windows. A massive brick chimney rises from the center of the north façade and extends well above the roof.

Connected to the north end of the dining area extension is the north wing (Photos No. 5 & 6). The north wing consists of a hipped-roof extension similar to the dining area and a two-story brick structure. The hipped-roof extension houses the main kitchen for the building complex. This extension sits off center of the main central section. Concrete steps lead to an entry door and transom on the clipped northeast corner of the kitchen extension. A small, shed roof addition with vinyl siding is situated on the east side of the kitchen extension between the concrete steps and the handicapped ramp. This recent addition covers an early staircase leading down into the basement. Joining the northwest corner of the kitchen extension is the two-story brick structure. This north wing features segmental arch windows of varying sizes, a north facing entry with no steps and an entry on the south façade. The second-story windows are significantly smaller than those on the first story. The former are 6-over-6 light, double hung and the latter contain 2-over-2 lights. Both windows have a double row of brick headers forming the segmental arch and stone sills. The structure has a low-pitched, side-gabled roof.

The interior of the structure retains much of its original character. Interior details such as wood floors, stained woodwork, doors and windows still remain. However, dropped ceilings, fluorescent lights, replacement doors and vinyl floor coverings have been installed in many areas. Originally, the building plan was sectioned into four areas of use: superintendent's residence in the south wing, men's and women's dormitory-style housing in the center section, and support functions in the north wing.

The superintendent's residence is located in the south wing. It contains a foyer, administration office, living room, dining room, kitchen/pantry and four upstairs bedrooms with closets. A partial basement is located under this wing. Plaster walls and ceilings and original stained wood trim and baseboards are found in most places throughout the residence. Almost all interior doors are original in the south wing. The original front double doors of the main south entry are wood with upper glass panels and detailed hardware. The main entry leads to the foyer with its impressive open stairway (Photos no. 9 & 10). This stairway features a natural pine

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staircase, chamfered newel post and balusters. The foyer has vinyl flooring and a replacement door at the north end. To the right (east) of the foyer is the superintendent's office, entered through a modern replacement door of wood. Centered on the north wall of the office is an original fireplace mantel with modern faux grain finish. Across the foyer is the original front parlor (Photo No. 11). The wide doorway has a pair of operable wood pocket doors with original hardware. The southwest corner of the room reflects the octagonal shape of the corner tower. A doorway in the north wall of the living room leads to the dining room. A doorway in the east wall of the dining room provides access to the central hallway. The room behind the dining room was most recently used as the kitchen. All wood trim, baseboards and doors are painted white. A small pantry from a later period is situated the northeast of the kitchen. On the west wall is an exterior wood-paneled door with a 9-light glass upper glazed panel. This door leads to the west side porch of the superintendent's residence.

All the second floor bedrooms of the superintendent's residence retain natural wood floors, transoms, and doors. The octagonal tower bedroom has a dropped ceiling. The upstairs bathroom has modern ceiling tile, carpet, and new fixtures. Steam heat radiators are in all rooms of the superintendent's residence except the dining room.

The central hallway of the superintendent's residence jogs slightly to the left then enters the main center section of the building complex (Photos No. 16 & 17). This central north-south hallway divides the center section into the men's and women's wings. Intersecting this north-south hallway is a central east-west hallway. Each wing contains its own dining room, bathrooms, corridors, closets, sitting rooms and bedrooms. Despite modern replacement doors throughout, the plaster walls and much of the wood trim and baseboards remain. Most floors are covered with vinyl or carpet. Both wings are identical in design with ten relatively small bedrooms located in each, five on each floor. The large sitting rooms are located in the southeast and southwest corners of the building (photo No. 12 & 13). Centered on the outside wall of each sitting room is an original painted wood fireplace mantel. Each sitting room has an exterior doorway that provides access to the side porches. In addition to the modern storm windows, clapboards and unfinished pressboard siding, each side porch features beaded board ceilings and tongue-and-groove flooring. The dining areas are located in the one-story extension on the north side of the center section. The original walls are painted plaster with some modern overlay of masonite with divider strips. Most rooms and corridors have dropped ceilings with fluorescent lighting. Pipe rails are found on all stairways. The bathrooms on the second floor have the original beaded board

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dividers. At the ends of the central east-west hallway on the second floor are short double doors with push bars. These doors open into the large metal fire escape tubes.

The common areas are located in the north wing (Photos No. 14 & 15). This wing contains the facilities needed to support the building and include a large kitchen, stairs, laundry, staff rooms, attics and mechanical rooms. A partial basement is located under this wing. Except where exposed, the concrete floors have carpet or vinyl. Many of the brick walls are covered with modern drywall or masonite paneling. The ceilings are either dropped or drywall. An attic space above this wing includes walls of beaded board siding.

A small, one story two-room cottage is located to the southwest of the building. It has clapboard siding, a medium gable roof and two doors in the center of a four bay facade. This contributing structure dates c. 1925 or later. Also on the property is a non-contributing modern garage with modern door and siding.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Summary

The Sullivan County Poor Home is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, for its significance as a county welfare institution and for its distinctive architectural design. It is an outstanding example of a building dedicated to the care of the poorest citizens of Sullivan County. Once quite numerous, these public welfare resources have declined in recent years and are routinely being abandoned or demolished. Currently, approximately thirty of Indiana's county homes remain but many are vacant.

From the middle of the 19th century to the second half of the 20th century, county homes were the focus of much of Indiana's commitment to its disadvantaged citizens. Since the scope of social services has changed dramatically in recent years, these institutions stand as one of the last tangible links to the history of this country's past attempts at welfare provision. The Sullivan county Poor Home thus contributes to our understanding of the history of public welfare, especially poor relief as it was administered in rural Indiana at the end of the last century.

Narrative Statement

Sullivan County's response to the needs of destitute individuals mirrored national patterns. During the years prior to 1855, when the first such asylum was instituted in the county, relief for indigent or abandoned citizens was provided through subcontracts to private families or other individuals. This system invited abuse and neglect.

During America's colonial period, aid to the needy was provided on a local basis, often within towns and villages. The American settlers followed precedents set by England's Elizabethan Poor Laws. By 1601 these were based on the fundamental assumption that individuals held the primary responsibility to support and care for themselves and their families. Government was responsible for supplemental assistance to assure the maintenance of life. Key elements included local responsibility for the distribution of aid, the classification of the needy, apprenticeship for children, financing through taxation and legally enforced family responsibility. After 1662, laws of settlement required that individuals,

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to receive aid, must remain in or return to their parish of residence.¹

During the first national period, after 1789, the emerging states began to take over responsibility for poor relief from the purely local entities. When the Northwest Territory adopted the Pennsylvania Poor Law (which in turn had been adapted from the English Poor Laws), the Elizabethan philosophy spread to nearly all of the country except Louisiana. It provided protection against starvation, but needy people were required to be "really suffering", to render them "... wretched and proper object(s) of public charity."²

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, changes in attitudes and ideas about poor relief were occurring. In America, the First Annual Report of the meeting of the Society for the Prevention of Pauperism in the City of New York, revealed a concern that demands for relief would overwhelm local communities, especially in large urban centers. While the Society's first principal was to relieve the "unavoidable necessities of the poor", it also wished to levy moral and legal restrictions on anything that might contribute to chronic poverty. A pauper was defined as a long term recipient of relief. Causes of pauperism and several possible means to reduce it were discussed.³

Another influential publication was the 1821 Report on Pauper Laws. This document proposed that there were two types of paupers, those who were incapable of work because of age or infirmity and the able poor. Four methods of delivery were analyzed, including bidding out care, direct supply of money, food, etc., and provision of services in poor houses (also called almshouses, asylums or infirmaries). The latter came to be known as "indoor relief" while the other methods were termed "outdoor relief". This report quickly determined that the most cost-effective way to care for paupers was through poor houses. In addition, this method allowed the poor to perform some work in exchange for their support. Of all modes of labor for the poor, agriculture was deemed the best, most healthy and most certainly profitable. Echoing this philosophy was the Reverend Joseph

¹Ralph E. & Muriel W. Pumphrey, Eds. *The heritage of American Social Work*. Columbia University Press: New York, 1961, Pp. 10-15.

²Ibid. Pp. 49-53.

³Ibid. Pp. 59-61

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Tuckerman, an influential Unitarian missionary to the poor in Boston, who commented: "the alms which interfere with the necessity of industry, forethought, economy and a proper self-denial, are not only encouragements, but causes of pauperism."⁴ These philosophies quickly spread across the country, influencing the growth of poor homes as well as their administration. During the following years, institutions for the needy spread through the country, as state legislatures, city and town councils as well as county governments for the first time made indoor relief central to their support.⁵

Indiana's constitution of 1816 mirrored the sentiments of the national reformers: "It shall be the duty of the General Assembly ... to provide one or more farms, to be an asylum for those persons who by reason of age, infirmity, or other misfortunes may have a claim upon the aid and beneficence of society; on such principles that such persons may therein find employment and every reasonable comfort and lose by their usefulness the degrading sense of dependence."⁶ These principals were repeated in the Constitution of 1851. By 1831, the commissioners of all counties were authorized to establish asylums for the poor and eventually, all 92 Indiana Counties had accomplished that goal.⁷ Other midwestern states adopted the poor house solution to indigent care, including Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa, whose legislatures, prior to the Civil War, authorized but did not compel county or town governments to construct an almshouse. Although temporary "outdoor" aid was to continue for many years in some states (including Indiana) throughout the midwest, the appeal of poor houses was so great that one could find almshouses established even in remote settlements with hardly anyone to occupy them.⁸ The great mid-nineteenth century reformer, Dorothea Dix, who backed asylums for the care

⁴Ibid., Pp. 72-77.

⁵David J. Rothman, *The Discovery of the Asylum, Social Order and Disorder in the New Republic*. Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1971, P. 180.

⁶Amos M. Butler, *Indiana, A Century of Progress: A Study of the Development of Public Charities and Correction, 1790 - 1915*, Indiana Reformatory Printing Trade School, Jeffersonville, IN, 1916, P. 1.

⁷Ibid., P. 3.

⁸Rothman, P. 185.

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of the mentally ill, also supported poor homes as a proper place for the poor and felt that they had the potential to effect societal change. Almshouses served humanitarian and reformatory aims, by bringing a new standard of treatment to the poor.⁹

Sullivan County developed its first poor home in the context of these national trends. In the summer of 1855, the county board bought eighty acres of land lying in sections 35 and 26 of Township 8 Range 9 from Henry K. Wilson for the sum of \$1,825. The small house on the property was improved to meet the needs of the asylum. In 1865, the first new asylum was constructed for \$4,480. There were seven inmates at that time. In 1877, a frame building was erected for use as an infirmary. It was replaced in 1885. By the year 1896, the county commissioners decided to upgrade the facilities. They felt the need for a more modern facility to care for the needy or sick. This facility was to provide security as well as sanitary conditions to help in the care of these special persons.

Plans called for the new building to be 120 feet long and 95 feet wide. The front part of the building was to be used for the superintendent and the center and rear parts to contain twenty sleeping rooms, two sitting rooms and two dining rooms for the residents. Steam heat, electric lights, plumbing and ventilation were included in the plans. The building was completed in 1897 at a cost of \$18,554.

In the early 1900s, there were an average of twenty-five males and fifteen females living at the asylum. They worked on the farm and helped care for the livestock. To increase self-sufficiency, produce from the farm was canned to eat during the winter months.

On July 1, 1947, the name officially became the Sullivan County Home. Throughout the 1950s and the 1960s an average of twenty males and fifteen females lived at the county home. In the 1970's, the name of the home was changed to Lakeview Rest Home and the Sullivan County Park and Lake were built on the north side of the property. The old poor farm cemetery is in this park. It is located on the west side of a north-south road in a place now called Lover's Lane. No stones are left in this cemetery, if there ever were any. In the 1980s another portion of the original property was dedicated for use by the county as the new Sullivan County 4-H grounds.

⁹Ibid., P. 187.

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Architecture

The Sullivan County Home is also significant for its association with the prominent Indiana architectural firm of Wing and Mahurin. Both men began their early careers in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in the office of architect Thomas J. Tolan. Tolan's retirement in 1881 after a prolific career left both John F. Wing and Marshall Mahurin searching for work. Wing (1852-1947) started his own firm in later 1881, and asked Mahurin (1857-1939) to join him in early 1882. In 1886, the two became full partners and the firm's name was changed to Wing and Mahurin, Architects and Superintendents. They remained in Fort Wayne, designing many prominent buildings that remain standing today. These include the Fort Wayne City Building, the Scottish Rite Cathedral in Fort Wayne, the Hancock County Courthouse in Greenfield, the Starke County Courthouse in Knox, as well as many impressive private residences and public schools. Perhaps the most memorable school commission was the Wabash High School, recently demolished. The firm favored the Romanesque Revival style which flourished during the last 15 years of the nineteenth century.

Marshall Mahurin was responsible for securing the firm's most important and distant commission: the Indiana Pavilion at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition of 1904 (World's Fair) held in St. Louis, Missouri. Even as they undertook significant commissions such as the Monroe County Courthouse in Bloomington and the Student Gymnasium at Purdue University, the firm of Wing and Mahurin was beginning to dissolve. In 1907, after 25 years together, the partners decided to part ways. Marshall Mahurin practiced for another decade with his nephew, Guy Mahurin, and after that continued alone until his retirement in 1930.

The Sullivan County Poor Home is a distinctive and exuberant example of the Romanesque style, with an unusually varied composite plan, a profusion of roofline shapes and angles and an impressive front elevation. The latter, with its tower and asymmetrical massing is evocative of the Queen Anne style, whose graceful influences have been used to ameliorate the imposing Romanesque elements. In its rural setting, it projected an image of a solid institutional building, with refined detailing and structural elements. The materials used, brick, limestone were traditional for the era and for the style, but the use of the yellow glazed brick was a somewhat unusual feature.

The Sullivan County Home, operating as Lakeview Rest Home since 1947, continued to serve its constituents, under the auspices of the County

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Commissioners, for many years. However, changes in public welfare services including the return to a modern equivalent of "outdoor relief" administered through local agencies, eroded support for such institutions. In a vote taken in July of 1998, Sullivan County's elected officials determined the home to be a burden to taxpayers and voted to end its funding beginning in 1999. On December 31, 1998, the facility officially closed. Due to efforts of the preservation community and an interested developer, the County Council and Commissioners voted to donate the building to a local non-profit organization as an alternative to demolition. The non-profit organization has obtained low-income housing tax credits and is pursuing redevelopment of the home as residential housing.

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Bibliography

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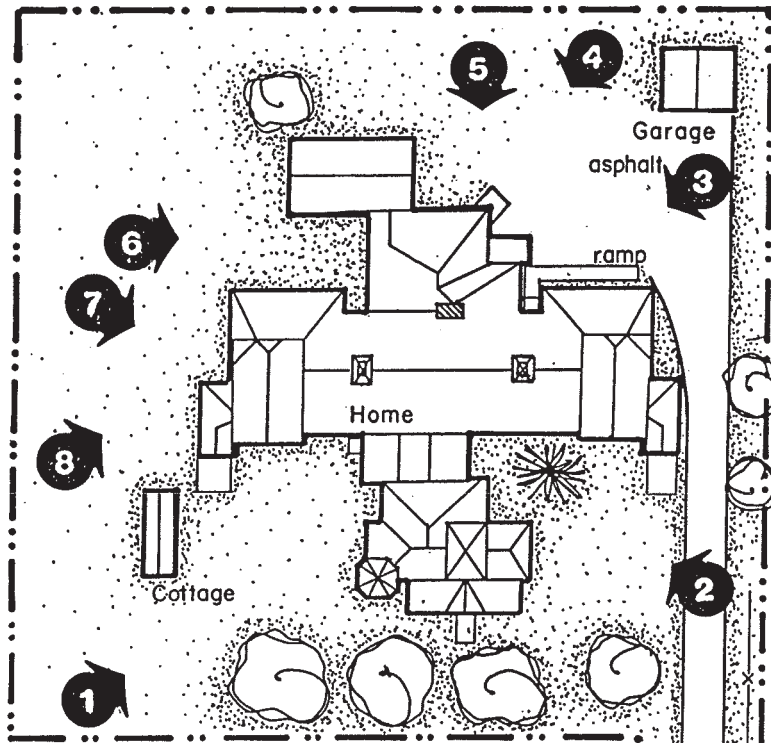
Verbal Boundary Description

The site is approximately three acres and includes a historic lane which begins at a point where County Road 75 North joins the east side of the lane and runs north approximately 836 feet to a point northeast of the existing garage, from there, turning west to a point 370 feet due west, the property line turns south for 296 feet, then east approximately 330 feet to the western side of the lane and following south to County Road 75 North, turning west approximately forty feet to the place of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The property includes the immediate surroundings of the Sullivan County Poor Home, and the historic lane which has always distinguished the entry to the home. Because of later growth, the original farm area has been converted to other uses. Thus, the approximately three acres which encompasses the area around the main structure, the modern garage and the small building and the entry lane, is appropriate to distinguish the historic appearance of the building and a portion of its entourage.

4-H Grounds
←



Sullivan County Poor Home
(Lakeview Home)
Sullivan County, Sullivan, Indiana

The Westerly Group, Inc.

County Highway Department
→

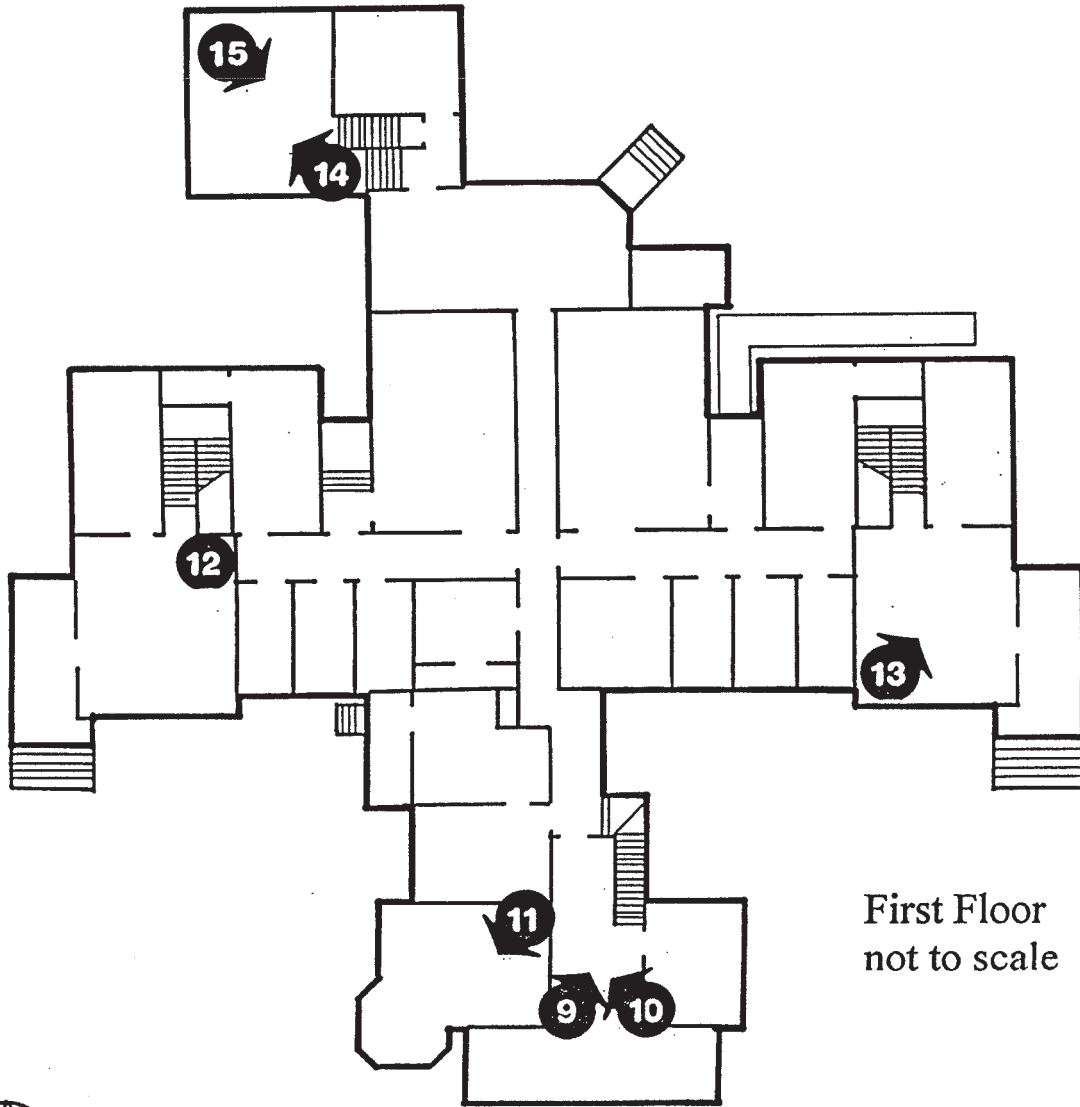
Site Plan
not to scale

LANE

COUNTY ROAD 75 NORTH

Sullivan County Poor Home
(Lakeview Home)
Sullivan County, Sullivan, Indiana

The Westerly Group, Inc.



First Floor
not to scale



Sullivan County Poor Home
(Lakeview Home)
Sullivan County, Sullivan, Indiana

The Westerly Group, Inc.

