



1922 - Front Entrance of 2847 Indianola Avenue

Salvation for the Capital City

Neighborhood Development
City of Des Moines
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Purpose and Finding

The purpose of this research is to document the history of the Booth Memorial Hospital, recently known as the South Meadows Apartments located at 2800 SE 8th St. in Des Moines, Iowa. Recently, the City of Des Moines acquired this property from the Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) using Federal Neighborhood Stabilization Funds. IFA received a deed-in-lieu of foreclosure for the 34-unit apartment complex in late 2008. The condition of the building and site had become a blight to the neighborhood and the City as a whole.

The Booth Memorial Hospital had been determined eligible for the National Register in _____ but the specific information on the site was not in-depth. The site represented the presence of the Salvation Army in Des Moines and also the phenomenon of maternity hospitals for children born out of wedlock in the early part of the twentieth century. The State Historic Society requested additional information on the building and its social history before determining the impact of the City's proposed plans on the structure. An archaeological survey was also conducted because of the extensive grounds of the site.

The building is in poor condition but the City believes the 1921 building can be retained and rehabilitated as multi-family housing. Because of the poor condition of the addition, the presence of black mold, and sewage problems, the City plans to demolish the 1952 section of the building. The City of Des Moines agrees with the SHPO determination that the 1921 building is eligible for the National Register and still maintains the exterior architectural integrity of a 1920's Maternity Hospital.

The City finds the 1952 addition does not add to the architectural integrity and detracts from the site as a whole because of its location on the site and sewer failure. The demolition of the 1950's addition will have no impact on the integrity of the Booth Memorial Hospital. Rehabilitation of the 1920's site and additional townhouse construction will be reviewed by the State Historic Society for impact on the National Register eligibility.



Early History of the Salvation Army

William Booth, the Englishman who would found the Salvation Army, was ordained in 1858 as a circuit-riding Methodist minister. In June of 1865, he answered a personal calling to preach on the streets of London. His evangelical tent revivals began on the unused Friends Society burying grounds in the infamous (Jack the Ripper) Whitechapel red-light district of London's East End. In 1878, an admirer dubbed his group the "Salvation Army." The name was officially adopted by Booth the following year.

The first rescue home for reforming "fallen women" was created by one Mrs. Cottrill. The baker's wife befriended Whitechapel prostitutes and invited them into her home to learn cooking and sewing and enable them to find respectable domestic employment. The number asking for her help grew rapidly, and when she was forced her to turn women away she appealed to General Booth for help. In May of 1884, he established in London the first Salvation Army Rescue Home, run by his daughter-in-law Mrs. Bramwell Booth. A second home was started the same year in Australia.



The Army Arrives in the United States

In October 1878, Amos Shirley, his wife Anna and daughter Eliza, all “soldiers” of Booth's army, left Coventry, England for Philadelphia. There, on their own initiative, they started the first American “Corps” in a vacant chair factory. Mother and daughter became famous as the “Hallelujah Females.” When news of their success reached England, Booth dispatched George Railton and seven young women officers in 1880 to spread the Gospel and save souls on the streets of America.

The first Salvation Army Rescue Home in America was “Morris Cottage” formed in Brooklyn, New York in 1886. A home in Oakland, California followed the next year, as did ones in Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1890 and Cleveland, Ohio in 1892. The number of Salvation Army Rescue Missions continued to rise, but it was the arrival of General Booth's daughter Evelyne in the States in 1904 that really stirred the public enthusiasm for the Army's work.

Her mother intended to name her “Eva” in honor of the angelic “Little Eva” of Harriett Beecher Stowe's anti-slavery novel “Uncle Tom's Cabin,” but her father opted for the more English version. After arriving in the U.S. to take command of the American corps she met Frances Willard, the founder of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, who convinced her to adopt the more euphonious name “Evangeline.” So it was as “Commander Evangeline Booth” that she energized the work of the American rescue homes and maternity hospitals under her command (making at least three trips to Des Moines).



Evangeline Booth.

Evangeline Booth, commander of the Salvation Army, addressed a large crowd at the Berchel theater last night on the subject, “The World's Greatest Romance; The Story of the Salvation Army.” Governor Kendall presided during the program.

On May 7, 1885, the *Jackson Sentinel* announced that “Capt. Evans, a regular officer of the Salvation Army” had arrived in Maquoketa to wage “War! War! War! On the Devil and His Hosts!” ...”His coming was duly advertised through posters posted everywhere in town. ... They march the streets of nights, bearing banners and singing praises to God. ... By appearing on the streets they claim to reach a class who never go to church ...The more conservative element of our church people do not approve of so much public demonstration.” Three weeks later at the local Decoration Day (Memorial Day) parade the first Salvation Army Iowa corps marched with tambourines, their banners proclaiming: “Fire and Blood” and “Soup, Soap and Salvation.”

The next year found the Army spreading across Iowa and having run-ins with the police in Council Bluffs and Marshalltown. In Cedar Rapids, the Ministerial Union supported the mayor's “efforts to suppress processions, picnics and other noisy demonstrations in our city on the Lord's day.”



On February 28, 1887, the *Des Moines Leader* announced that three men and three women of General Booth's army had the previous day "inaugurated an active campaign against the devil." The Des Moines correspondent for the *Monticello Express* broadcast that "The Salvation army has come to town so Des Moines will no longer be behind her sister cities in this particular line of nineteen century improvement."

The *Leader* observed that the services, attended by two hundred souls at the Standard Theatre, "commenced by prayer, followed by the singing of hymns, accompanied by tambourines, horns and concertina." Trouble with City Marshall Abraham H. Bodkin began when the demonstration spilled out onto the streets. "The Salvation Army became very loud and demonstrative yesterday, singing hymns, praying, and playing various musical instruments, the execrable music of which lowered rents 50 percent in adjacent blocks."

The Marshall collared a male and a female soldier and lugged them off to the police station on a charge of disturbing "the public quiet." "John T. Dale, Major, Commanding Iowa Division Salvation Army" presented a petition to the Mayor that extolled their marvelous work already accomplished upon the thoroughfares of over three-hundred American cities. A lady salvationist added that "it was not Bodkin, but the devil having possession of him that dictated the arrest." Mayor Phillips agreed to permit them the use of the street in front of their rented theater, provided that they did not block traffic. Upon her release, the lady defendant lamented the hard work ahead in salvation of Marshall Bodkin's soul, and "suggested that the chief presented more raw material upon which to work than had fallen to her lot since leaving the cannibals of the Feeje Islands." (Des Moines Leader, March 7, 1887)

As evidenced in the papers, Iowa public opinion of the Army seemed to be that of puzzled toleration mixed with the hope that it was just a passing fad. But when the Army appeared anew upon the streets the next spring, the local society weekly *The Persinger Times* of March 27, 1888 was not amused:

"I would like to ask what ends are served in this community by any longer tolerating that unmitigated nuisance denominated the 'Salvation Army.' At first people were disposed to look upon the exhibition with kindly indifference and a broad charity. But the thing has grown into the veriest of farces. To permit such travesties on Christianity as the street parades have become is little less than criminal, in that the exhibitions now simply excite jeers and blasphemy from the motley spectators. The so-called Army is neither growing or in any way perceptibly benefiting even the poor cranks who make it up. In fact, it is complained that the latter are becoming bold and officious, and need taking down a notch or two if not altogether exterminated."

Two cartoons that appeared the *Des Moines Graphic* on August 31 and September 14 of the following year depicted the Army interfering with the crowds of "decent people" visiting town for the Iowa State Fair. Prominent in both drawings is a large black man in Army uniform freely associating with Christian (white) women. The caption reads: "Brother Lafferty says... that his relations with the amalgamations formed by the intermarrying of whites and blacks are now, and always have been, of the pleasantest."

Double Standards, Sisterhood and the Rise of Rescue Missions

After the Civil War, Midwestern cities like Des Moines had to face the hard truth that problems of social morality were not exclusive to the crowded tenements of the East Coast. On Jan. 27, 1881, the *Iowa State Leader* published the transcript of Mayor W. H. Merrett admonishing the city council on the town's "social evil":

Every city is afflicted with this degraded population, and Des Moines is not exempt to its full share. We have no conception of the number of lewd women and young girls, from fourteen to twenty years of age, who are roaming around the city adorned in paint, powder and feathers spreading THEIR VILE NESTS for a nightly harvest of young men. It is worthy...of the churches and the "Gospel Temperance Missions"...to drive out this class from among us and purify the atmosphere corrupted by their pestilent and death dealing traffic.

Iowa newspapers of the period were filled with many sad stories of seduction and abandonment, of foundlings, abortions and infanticide. The women, now irreparably "ruined" often fell into "social vice," (prostitution) which ended, as the papers told it, in madness, alcohol, disease and suicide. "Fallen" women were, in the view of men of the cloth, "de-sexed" of their natural womanly virtues of piety, submissiveness, charity, kindness and motherhood. Having fallen so far from grace to be irretrievable, these dehumanized sirens lured farm boys from the trains only to cast them against the rocks of mortal sin. Within the safe haven of their newsrooms, male reporters composed tragic tales of these women's sad lives as "soiled doves" or "frail sisters," but seldom showed the courage to interview the women themselves.

Ironically, it was the men, thought to be naturally inclined to vice of all sorts, who were considered more suitable for Christian reformation. Rescue missions sprouted up across the country for male victims of "demon rum," who spread the devastation to their wives and children. The Woman's Christian Temperance Union, which fought for prohibition of hard liquor for fifty years before its enactment as Federal law in 1920, thought male boozing was the key social problem of the day -- if you took away the bottle, the evils of prostitution and gambling would shrink to a manageable size. The WCTU's founder Frances Willard, who advocated a broad mission of "doing everything," approved of redeeming fallen women but saw men's reformation as the more pressing need.



Benedict Home, Fort Dodge, Iowa

The Benedict Home

Yet one remarkable Iowa woman propelled the WCTU to action for women. Lovina B. Benedict, a Quaker WCTU member from Decorah, Iowa was responsible for moving the Union to help prostitutes escape the brothel, establishing the first rescue home for women in Des Moines. In the spirit of Mrs. Cottrill in England, she invited local prostitutes into her small home. She knocked on the doors of local brothels and, in one, nursed two women back to health. Benedict was guided by the conviction that there was no thing as a “fallen” woman, only those who were “knocked down.” She successfully lobbied the state legislature to change Iowa prostitution laws, then based on a double standard of morality, which, in her words, were written to “stone the woman and excuse the man.”

Starting in 1879, Benedict criss-crossed the state, stopping at 140 towns, lecturing and raising funds for a refuge for women who wanted to leave prostitution and re-enter society. She faced skeptical resistance from “respectable” church-goers to her plea for money to help “wicked” women. In three years, she struggled to raise just one-thousand dollars. Finally, with the help of Mrs. James Callanan, wife of the wealthy Des Moines philanthropist, she had the funds to buy the old Ayres homestead at Third Street and Forest Avenue on the northern edge of Des Moines, then owned by A. W. Naylor. What she bought was an old-fashioned eight-room farm house on a 1-1/8th acre lot perched on a bluff with a commanding view of the Des Moines River. She also acquired the expense of a run-down house and of feeding and clothing the girls. Bold as ever, she lobbied the legislature for funds, and in 1884, received \$5,000, followed by two more payments.

The WCTU named the institution “The Benedict Home” in her honor. By December 1882, “Mother Benedict” had in her charge seven girls and a three-week-old baby. The home was more a reformatory than a maternity hospital; the Union accepted only “truly” repentant girls willing to commit themselves to two years in residence, learning domestic skills and receiving religious instruction. Mrs. Benedict was far more kind-hearted in admitting the errant, and when one young girl was rejected in 1886 as unsuitable for reform, Mrs. Benedict was so disillusioned she quit the Des Moines home of her own name. She returned to Decorah and, with her own small savings, established the “Benedict Retreat” in her home. She died there in 1899. By 1895, the Des Moines Benedict Home had sheltered more than one thousand girls.

A 1907 Iowa law prohibited the location of maternity hospitals within residential neighborhoods, forcing the relocation of the home out of north Des Moines. The Benedict Home re-opened in the spring of 1909 in “Hope Hall” a dormitory-style house built in 1902 by Lorenzo Coffin as a home for ex-convicts at “Willowedge,” his farm near Fort Dodge. When that house burned down on June 16, 1914, the home moved back to Des Moines to a temporary location at 2213 School Street, while a ten-acre site was being prepared in a secluded wooded setting north of Drake University. The new three-story brick building opened in 1915 at 1611 Twenty-Seventh Street and contained sixty-three private rooms, a maternity hospital, nursery and chapel. By the time of the Benedict Home's fiftieth anniversary in 1932, fourteen-hundred babies had been delivered by the organization.

The home closed in 1943. The building was sold and became Oak Knolls Retirement home. Four years later, it was re-opened by the Christian Church as the Ramsey Home. The eighty-three-year-old building was demolished in 1999 and replaced by a new Ramsey Home structure. Today, a sign that bears the name “Benedict Home” still stands, outside a house at 4425 University Avenue. The WCTU bought the house in 1953 and used it as a retirement home for its members until 1979. Today, the Union rents out its rooms as a half-way house, and membership of the Iowa WCTU, once numbered in the thousands, has fallen to three women.



Five French Roman Catholic Sisters of the Congregation of our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd of Angers started the first Home of the Good Shepherd in the U.S. in Louisville, Kentucky in 1842. These shelters for the reformation of “fallen” women spread to other Midwestern cities: St. Paul in 1869, Peoria in 1891, Omaha in 1894 and to the Iowa cities of Dubuque and Sioux City in 1903. Sharon Woods in *The Freedom of the Streets* explains how the fiercely Quaker Mrs. Benedict took inspiration for her Iowa shelter from these Catholic Sisters:

Before opening the Benedict Home in 1882, Mother Benedict had helped to remove a sixteen-year-old girl from a brothel but then was at a loss about what to do. In desperation, she took the girl to the Good Shepherd Home in St. Paul. “I will never forget the humiliation that I felt as a protestant seeking help from the sisters whose religion I had always been taught was antagonistic to mine.” After touring the home, she was mightily impressed. I must confess I bowed to the cloister, and said 'Amen!' Having witnessed what the sisters were accomplishing she pledged “to go and do likewise,” modeling the WCTU Benedict Home in part on the Good Shepherd Home in St. Paul.

The Florence Crittenton Homes was another national chain of reformatories for repentant prostitutes and unwed mothers with a branch in Iowa. The Florence Night Mission opened in New York City in 1883 as the first of many homes created by wealthy businessman Charles Crittenton to provide safe haven for prostitutes who wished to escape a life of shame. The homes were named for his daughter Florence who had succumbed to scarlet fever at the age of four. Grief-stricken, Crittenton dedicated his life to her memory, and his efforts and personal fortune to Christian reformatory work with women. He established homes on the West Coast after a trip to California in 1890. By 1897, forty-six Crittenton Homes had been created nationwide, the number rising to fifty-eight by 1916.

In 1904 the Sioux City Women and Babies Association which had struggled for the ten years to provide services in a small house, joined the association, becoming The Florence Crittenton Home of Sioux City, the organization's only home in Iowa. The association laid the cornerstone for their new building on September 8, 1906, which was occupied in January of 1907. The formal dedication of the \$20,000 building took place on March 26, 1907. The modern three-story brick structure with twenty-eight rooms, a maternity ward, nursery, assembly and sitting rooms served as a model for both the new 1915 Benedict Home and the Salvation Army Women's Home in Des Moines in 1921. The similarities in the buildings reflect a close agreement between the three Protestant organizations on how best to restore fallen women to a useful lives as mothers and wives. Charles Crittenton had been a long-time member of the WCTU and close friend of its founder Frances Willard.

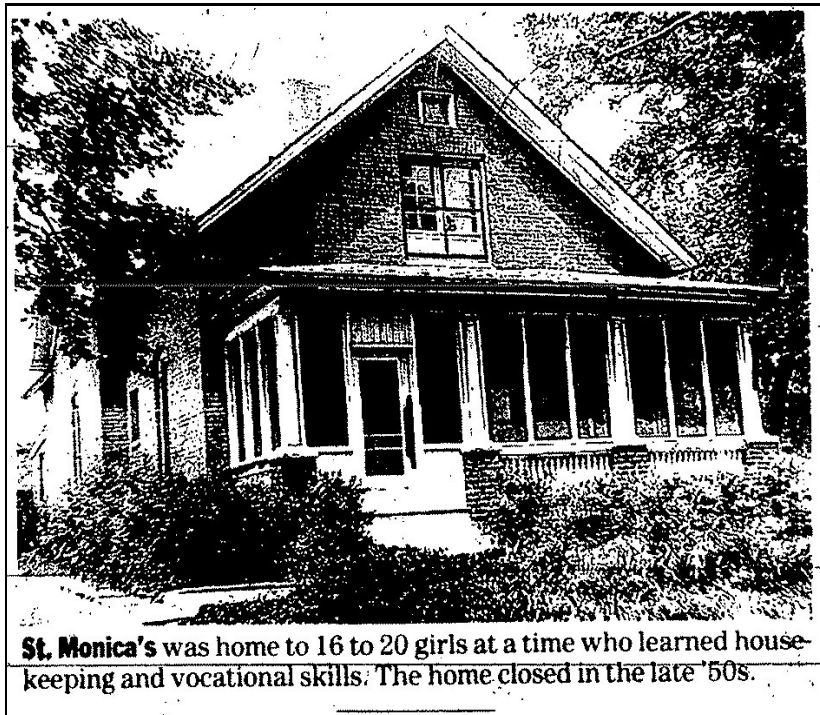
A third home in Des Moines that deserves mention is Saint Monica's Home, founded by St. Paul's Episcopal Church in 1911 at Second and School Streets (St. Monica is the patron saint of mothers and widows). It later moved to a more secluded setting in a brick farm house on the South Side at 1011 Park Avenue, adjacent to the trolley car line near Park Avenue School. In 1918, it became an agency of the Community Chest, but the Episcopal Church largely continued to run the operations. Sent to the home by Juvenile Court or social services, as many as sixteen to twenty girls were confined in the small house. Although many children were born under its roof it seems to have lacked any modern obstetric medical facilities. The home closed in 1957.

The Salvation Army Rescue Home in Des Moines

In 1899, Major Blanche Cox arrived in Des Moines to take charge of the Salvation Army in Iowa. Establishing the Army's "barracks" on 22nd Street as the new divisional headquarters for Iowa and Nebraska, Major Cox was an immediate success. The young unmarried English girl was a flamboyant promoter and tireless organizer. She created the first Salvation Army Cavalry Brigade which rode through Iowa, Nebraska and Colorado preaching the Gospel and captivating local audiences. Noted for her "pretty face" and a "slender, graceful figure," she raised funds for her envisioned refuge for Iowa girls by offering handshakes to rural folks for an astounding \$1 per firm greeting.

Her efforts paid off when on October 5, 1899 the "State Home for Fallen Women" opened its doors in the large Jackson mansion at 1314 Thirty-fifth (now 34th) Street, that the Army rented west of Drake University. The big frame house, built only five years earlier by Benson Jackson, secretary of the Iowa Brick Company, offered twelve rooms on an acre-and-a-half of secluded grounds. When Major Cox took a personal trip home to England she left the operations to Ensign Mary Balfour, another young, single English import. The *Des Moines Daily News*, reported the progress of the new home on July 12, 1900, noting that in its first nine months it had sheltered twenty-three women and brought fourteen babies into the world (of this number five women and five infants had died within its walls). The expenses were running about \$100 a month, of which \$45 went to rent. To defray costs the women made and sold table centerpieces, doilies and embroidery to the society ladies who attended the monthly tea held in the parlor.

In 1901, the daily newspaper advertisement in the want ads ran: "Any Poor Girl in Need of a Friend or Advice, may write or come to see Ensign Balfour, Salvation Army Rescue Home, 1314 W. 35th St." That same year the Cedar Rapids Gazette reported that the Rescue Home for "fallen women" in Des Moines was nearly self-sufficient. The writer noted, however, that squeezing twenty girls together in the house for a three-month stay and then repeating that process three more times a year was a daunting task and that Ensign Balfour was also busy trying to raise the \$6,500 needed to move from the rented house to a permanent location.



St. Monica's was home to 16 to 20 girls at a time who learned house-keeping and vocational skills. The home closed in the late '50s.

First Permanent Location

The corps moved from the 34th Street location in early 1902 to a spacious home in Riverview Heights at 1426 (now 1624) Pennsylvania Ave. Their new home was built in 1887 by Wm. R. Ankeney, manager of the American Linseed Oil Co., in the then new and fashionable suburb of Capital Heights. After Ankeney's death in 1893, his widow, Anna, maintained the home until she sold it to the Army in 1902. It was described in the November 12, 1887 *Saturday Evening Mail* as an "old English hall" with large double parlors, beautiful carved woodwork, and the largest square front window in Des Moines. The house boasted a conservatory, library, rich Wilton and Moquette carpets, speaking tubes and electric lights and bells. The practically appointed facility was heated with both fireplaces and a furnace, had cellars for coal, kindling and vegetables and the basement laundry was connected to the upper stories via a clothes chute.



In 1902 home of the Salvation Army Rescue Home
1624 Pennsylvania

Des Moines celebrated the first Iowa visit of the Salvation Army founder William Booth on Dec. 5, 1902. Booth was making his fourth American speaking tour accompanied by his daughter, U.S. Commander Mrs. Emma Booth-Tucker and the ex-Iowa Commander Blanche Cox. Two thousand Salvation Army "Warriors" assembled at the Armory on Fourth Street to hear Booth speak on "The Lessons of My Life." Following a thirty-hour train trip from Winnipeg, the elderly founder spent most of the day at the Savery Hotel resting up for his four presentations on that evening and the next. Consequently, he failed to inspect the new rescue home, but did announce to the *Register* that the national organization had helped six thousand women, of which sixty percent were "saved."

Less than a year after his return to England, Booth received the tragic news of Emma's death in a train accident in Missouri in November 1903. The next year he appointed his youngest daughter Evangeline to fill the American position. She, more than his other children, championed the work of the rescue homes,



Unwed pregnant women had other options beyond reformatory rescue homes run by charitable organizations. Private sanitariums for women in Kansas City, Chicago, Omaha and Minneapolis ran want-ads in Des Moines papers in the early 1900s. "*Ladies in Trouble Writing to Post Box 89 Omaha, Neb. Will Not Regret It.*" Even local lying-in hospitals advertised, albeit anonymously: "*Private sanitarium for unfortunate girls; infants kept for adoption. Call or address S. M. 38th and Ingersoll Ave. No. 622.*"

Dr. Ada Fuller and Mrs. W. Stewart of Washington Street openly listed their names in the daily papers, if not the exact house address. In 1902, Mrs. Fred West apparently took over Mrs. Stewart's business, then listed at 1704 Washington St. She moved it briefly to 1314 Beaver Avenue and then, in 1903, bought the old Salvation Army location on 34th Street from the Jackson family. She ran a large advertisement in the Des Moines Capital Jan. 25, 1904 with photos of herself and the "Oakdale Lying-In Hospital," with assurances that it was a place of "refuge and seclusion" and had the "latest hospital accommodations." Babies could also be boarded or adopted out to good "Christian Homes."

By 1906 alleged abuses by lying-in hospitals so alarmed Elizabeth Baird of the Iowa Human Society that she presented her concerns to the state legislature. Clara West came to particular attention to Mrs. Baird when it was claimed she rented out babies in divorce cases to obtain larger settlements for the "mothers." The daily papers branded the lying-in hospitals as "baby farms", where, they claimed, sickly unclaimed babies were exposed to the elements and left to die. On February 1, 1907, criminal charges against Mrs. West produced banner headlines in all the papers. She and her nurse Anna Beattie were arrested for allegedly using the sedative Laudanum to kill blind "Baby Jim," then incinerating his body in the furnace and dumping the remains in the cinder pile.

The public was further enraged by newspaper stories claiming that whistle-blower Baird of the Humane Society was receiving threatening phone calls: "You've gone far enough with this baby farm investigation." A note purportedly promised that "one of these mornings when you wake up you will find you are dead...leave the baby farms alone... they are a necessary evil...from one who works for the common people."

Within the month, state legislators had written state control of maternity hospitals into law. Laying-in hospitals were cordoned two hundred feet from churches, parks and schools, and seventy-five feet from other residences. The board of control would grant all permits for maternity hospitals and all records of births, deaths, stillbirths and adoptions were now to be dutifully reported to the State of Iowa. Even as Mrs. West's attorneys put her house on the market she confidently maintained she would re-open it west of Greenwood Park on Ingersoll Avenue. In 1908, the charges were dropped against her, but before she could sell the house it burned in a suspicious fire.

Rescue Homes Move to the Country

The zoning restrictions in the new law would effectively put the existing Des Moines Benedict and Salvation Army homes out of business. Emboldened, neighbors on Pennsylvania Avenue petitioned the city to evict the girls at the Salvation Army home immediately. The Army fought these efforts in court, and then offered the compromise that it would re-open the house as a novel “boarding house for babies” of working mothers; (i. e. “day care center”).

As luck would have it, the Smith sanitarium south of the Sevastopol district at East Seventh and Indianola Street (now Avenue) just then became available. The owner, Doctor Charles F. Smith, had run the old family farm house as a women's hospital with Dr. Lewis Schooler for the past few years. The farm located on sixty acres in section 15 Bloomfield Township had been in the family since his grandfather, James Smith, established an apple orchard there in 1852. By the 1870s, the Smith family owned 3,000 trees, making it the largest orchard in the Township. Dr. Smith bought the old house with 3-1/3 acres from his sisters for \$3,500, but due to bad health, he closed the hospital and traded the family property and its still outstanding mortgage for the Salvation Army's rescue home lot on Pennsylvania Avenue.

The deal immediately put the Salvation Army back in the business of taking care of unwed mothers and babies. But unlike their previous well-built houses, this structure was very old and run-down, needing thousands of dollars in repairs, which included installing connections to city water and sewage lines, fixing the hardwood floors and replacing the roof. It was a broad-fronted brick structure with a wide porch, suggesting that the house dated back to Smith's grandfather and his Kentucky roots. To accommodate an increasing number of girls, they added a sleeping porch over the wide veranda and one-story additions to the rear and right side that had become two-storied by the time of the 1920 fire insurance map.



Original women's hospital on 8th & Indianola Site

1907 William Booth's Last American Visit

A special private rail car donated by the Wabash Railroad arrived at 9:10 a. m. October 15, 1907 at Union Station, just south of the new Polk County Court House. Aboard were seventeen members of General Booth's party, that included his daughter Evangeline, Commander of the American Corps along with an attention getting giant "Joe the Turk." They repaired to the home of David S. Chamberlain at 3420 Grand Avenue to prepare for the seventy-eight-year-old patriarch's evening speech at the Des Moines Auditorium entitled "The Secret of the Success of the Salvation Army." In the mansion's living room (Wesley Acres today) the General held court over a circle of reporters. He reiterated that his life's work had been the salvation of souls, announcing that "even newspaper reporters can be saved."

That evening Iowa Governor Albert B. Cummins introduced Booth, who outlined his plans for the founding of rural reform colonies, which he had sketched out in his latest book, "*Darkest England and the Way Out.*" These plans were formulated on the purported successes of the 140 Salvation Army Rescue homes world-wide which, to that date, had saved "fifty thousand young women whose feet had taken hold of hell."

The 1910 U. S. Census listed six "Benevolent Institutions" providing maternity care of unwed mothers in Iowa:

City or town	Organization	Founded	Admits Negroes	Employees	Admissions
Des Moines	Salvation Army Rescue Home	1899	Yes	3	56
Dubuque	Dubuque Rescue Home	1896	No	3	9
" " "	Home of the Good Shepherd	1903	No	2	51
Fort Dodge	WCTU Benedict Home	1882	Yes	2	17
Sioux City	Florence Crittendon Home	1894	Yes	4	110
" " "	House of the Good Shepherd	1903	Yes	4	22

1912 The City Again Wants a Reformatory for Prostitutes

Des Moines had never been very successful at reforming prostitutes in rescue homes. Without locked doors, these facilities had no way to hold unwilling inmates. Society women found it hard to accept the hard fact that even given the chance to escape from prostitution, many women would still chose a life of sin. The practice of mixing prostitutes with innocent “erring” girls in the homes had proven a failure. By 1912, the Des Moines homes operated solely as maternity homes for unwed mothers.

That year, Des Moines politicians renewed their sporadic campaign against the red light district. They decided to imitate the city of Davenport that had avoided the time and expense of criminal trials by extralegally shipping prostitutes to reform homes. Since both of the remaining Des Moines homes were in financial trouble, the prospect of government support was eagerly received. The Board of St. Monica's, then located at 946 Second Street, let city councilman J. R. Hanna know that they would be pleased to house the inmates of the new “Municipal House of Refuge for Erring Girls” for fifty-cents-a-day per girl over a six-month stay.

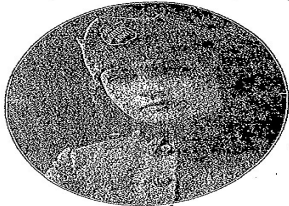
The Salvation Army countered that they owned a roomy brick house that was ideally located; situated on the crest of a hill in heavily timbered grounds and isolated from neighbors. Mrs. Thomas Eskill, Superintendent of Women Rescue Work for the Army west of the Mississippi, arrived from Chicago to present to the city a plan to build an administrative addition to the maternity hospital that would be staffed by a specially-trained corps of officers. Mrs. Eskill and a group of Des Moines “club women” offered the city free rent of the grounds along with supervision by the Army, if the city agreed to pay all future expenses.

These society women had been recruited earlier in the year by Dr. W. W. Pearson, Dean of Drake Medical School, to impart fiscal guidance and community support of the home. Under the guidance of Mrs. Fred P. Carr, the women established a financial board to assist the Salvation Army. An inspection by Dr. Pearson exposed a need for electricity and a vegetable cellar. Also required were a water heater, hardwood floors, a chimney, shades, blankets, sheets and kitchen utensils. Local physicians donated funds to build an operating room.

The Board's proposed improvements were implemented, but ultimately the city backed out of the reformatory plan. The year 1912 also saw the resignation of Dr. Lenna L. Meanes who had been their resident physician since the opening of the home. Dr. Meanes, who grew up on a farm near Prairie City, would go on to supervise the baby shows at the Iowa State Fair, before leaving Iowa to become a nationally-prominent neonatal expert in New York City.

Under the guidance of Ensign Ida Anderson and board chairman Mrs. J. B. Green the home in 1917 cared for 81 girls and 71 babies. Of these, 56 babies had left the hospital and five had died; a very good rate of success for the times. Seventeen girls and ten babies were typically under was its care at any one time. The two women were in charge of organizing a fund-raising drive to resurrect the plans for the same building that the city had backed out of five years earlier. Ensign Anderson was sent to Des Moines from Chicago after helping to raise \$53,000 for a rescue home in Spokane, Washington.

These plans, however, were delayed by America's entry into the First World War, when the Salvation Army's energetic activities supporting the war effort brought a great rise in its popularity. It provided Salvation Army "barracks" for the healthful recreation of the army recruits who flooded downtown Des Moines from Fort Des Moines, and, on the electric inter-urban, from Camp Dodge. In the trenches in France the Salvation Army provided hot coffee and donuts for American troops. The bad old days of the Army being considered a street nuisance on the were- finally- over. At the war's end, the Army decided to enlist their new respectability in a 1919 national campaign to raise \$17,000,000 in to "put the Salvation Army on a permanent peace basis."

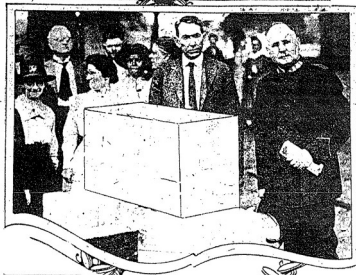
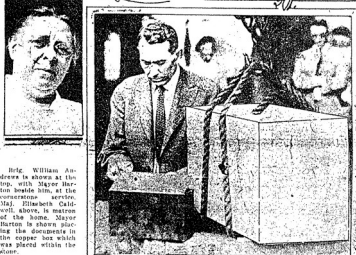



It Never Fell Down on the Job
Any Doughboy will give you a testimonial for
THE SALVATION ARMY
Will You Help Them Win the Battles of Peace?

The Des Moines Corps was assigned the task of raising \$160,000 to fund an ambitious building project. Plans for a new maternity hospital, designed by the Des Moines architectural firm Sawyer and Watrous, appeared in the *Des Moines Register* on November 30, 1920. The drawing showed a two-story brick building, 136 x 84 feet, which could give aid to 125 "girls whose paths have swerved somewhat and who are badly in need of assistance...working towards moral regeneration." However, even with successful businessman B. F. Kaufman acting as treasurer, they raised only half that money. This necessitated the implementation of "Plan B," which was to build the hospital in segments, leaving the old home attached until more wings could be added later.

The corner stone for the hospital was laid on July 23, 1921 in a ceremony officiated by Mayor Hardy H. Barton. (Coincidentally, twelve years earlier the mayor had been the contractor on the first remodeling of the old Smith house.) The stone read: "ERECTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND THE BLESSING OF HUMANITY." Inside they left a copper time capsule containing photos of Iowa Governor Nathan E. Kendall, Mayor Barton and the Rescue Home Advisory Board. Copies of local newspapers and the Salvation Army's paper *The War Cry* were also deposited for posterity, as was a letter from the governor congratulating the Army for its fine work.

Rescue Home Cornerstone Placed

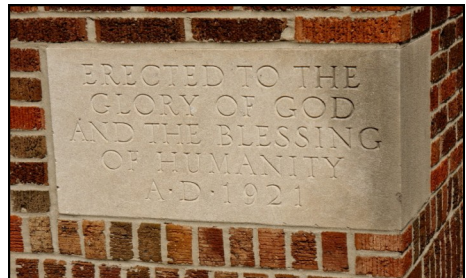
Miss William Anderson is shown at the top, with Mayor Barton in the middle, and Elizabeth Caldwell, above, a member of the home. Mayor Barton is shown below, speaking at the podium. The copper box which was placed within the stone.

The importance of this work and the urgency of finishing the building was underscored by a *Daily News* story in August of 1921 that decried an “increasing number of unmarried mothers in Des Moines.” Meeting with Des Moines Police Chief Ross C. Saunders and Polk County Sheriff Winfred E. Robb, the matron of the WCTU Benedict Home reported that, at that moment, there were thirty-two girls under its roof. The Salvation Army relayed the news that their home was also “crowded.”



Eight months later, on Wednesday March 29, 1922, another crowd assembled at the Berchtell Theater for the building's dedication. Iowa Governor Kendall introduced Commander Evangeline Booth, who had arrived in Des Moines the previous day. She held the audience spellbound with an one-and-a-half-hour speech entitled: “The World's Greatest Romance: The Story of the Salvation Army.” At the next day's unveiling ceremony the celebrants braved blustery weather to read these words carved in stone over the porch: “SALVATION ARMY WOMAN”S HOME.”

After thronging the corridors to admire new facility, the assembled luminaries heard a fact-filled dedication given by Miss Booth. They learned that the edifice had cost \$81,661, the furnishings another \$10,000, and that the operating room was furnished by a gift from doctors T. B. Langdon and Carl Carryer (aside from the sterilizer purchased by the recently-deceased Mrs. May). She acknowledged the Elks lodge for furnishing the reception room and thanked the Shriners for the new piano. The late Mr. James Callanan was remembered for his generosity in providing the other furnishings.



Booth noted that in the previous year Mrs. Elisabeth Caldwell, who would continue as matron, had aided sixty-five girls and sixty-three children, and that from the time of its inception, the home had cared for two-thousand women. In addition, more than 85% of these “wayward young women were completely restored to society.” In summation, the Commander stressed the vital nature of their mission:

No one helps a women in distress. No one wants her in their home. Fallen in the mire, she is left to die. For a man there is always a helping hand, but for a woman there is nothing but despair... Soiled of soul, soiled of body and soiled of mind, there is not one of them in which the spark of virtue is not still burning.



Lounge located in original “Smith Hospital” Matron Mrs. Elisabeth Caldwell is in the Center

Interior Photos from Salvation Army Museum



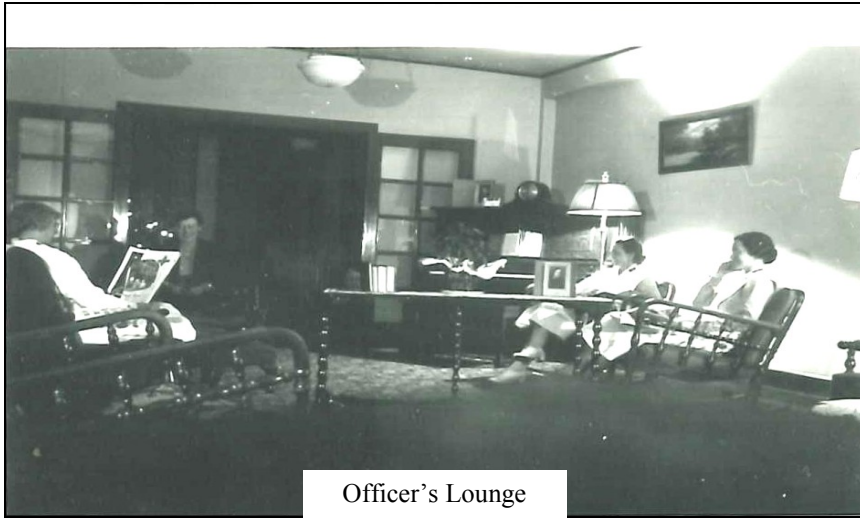
Dining Room 1941



Nursery



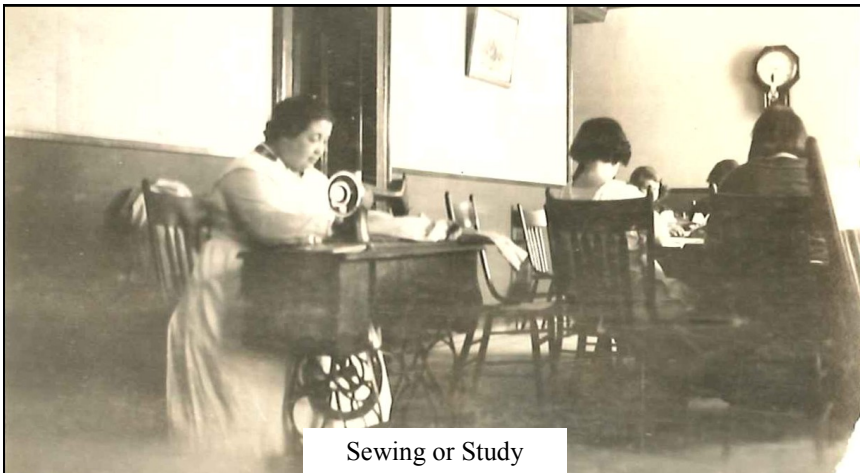
Dining Room



Officer's Lounge



Porch 1940-2847 Indianola Avenue



Sewing or Study

Booth Memorial Hospital in Operation

The *State of Iowa Annual Report of the Department of Social Welfare* for the year ending June 30, 1939 listed three homes for unwed mothers in Des Moines.

Children Born in Licensed Maternity Hospitals January 1, 1938 – December 31, 1938										
Hospital	Legitimacy		Disposition of Children Leaving Hospital					Deaths		In Hospital 12/31/1938
	Legitimate Births	Illegitimate Births	Own Home	Relatives	Foster Homes	Other Agency or Institution	After Birth	Stillbirths	Total Deaths	
Totals	5	210	82	15	48	37	10	7	17	71
Benedict Home*	0	20	8	-	8	-	2	1	3	9
Florence Crittenton Home	1	52	14	11	14	5	1	1	2	7
Salvation Army Booth Memorial Hospital	3	94	48	3	14	32	2	3	5	12
St. Monica's Home	1	44	12	1	12	0	5	2	7	43

Des Moines city directories indicate that the name change to "Booth Memorial," honoring the patriarch William, occurred around 1939, and that the Salvation Army home changed matrons on a frequent basis.

The July, 1938 Salvation Army magazine *All the World* ran a "graphic account of activities at the Booth Memorial Hospital, Des Moines, Iowa" entitled "Drama on the Doorstep," that offers some facts about the 1922 addition. Adjutant Vida Aggola took the writer on a tour of the building. First came the examination, sterilizing and delivery rooms, followed by the clean and white nursery "full of wiggling, squalling mites." The inspection included the diet kitchen, sewing rooms and a sitting area equipped with a radio and "chintzy" chairs (as in fabric). The visiting rooms were filled with families and friends on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons. The girls slept in dormitory rooms with "rows of beds neatly dressed in blue, or green, or rose, or white." The chapel had invitingly sunny windows and, behind the thick stone walls of the old Smith house foundation, the basement held the dining hall, the laundry and a vegetable cellar.

Matron	Years	Matron	Years
1. Mary Balfour	1900 - 1901	12. Elsie Day	1935 - 1936
2. Agnes Davis	1902 - 1907	13. Vida Aggola	1937 - 1939
3. Nancy McDonald	1908	14. Henrietta P. Malmberg	1940 - 1942
4. Wilma Baumbach	1910	15. Ruth Lowe	1943 - 1951
5. Katherine Knight	1911	16. Grace Parsons	1952
6. Olga Sherberger	1912	17. B. Merrifield	1953 - 1957
7. Mary Swanson	1913	18. Florence Toles	1958 - 1959
8. Edith C. Dennis	1914 - 1918	19. Margaret J. Norris	1960 - 1964
9. Ida L. Anderson	1919	20. Mildred Westbrook	1965 - 1969
10. Elizabeth C. Caldwell	1920 - 1931	21. Helen Grunow	1970 - 1971
11. Esther Ahnstrom	1932 - 1934	22. Margaret Foster	1972

The occasion of the journalistic visit was to celebrate the birth of the one-thousandth baby brought into the world by Dr. Carl H Carryer, the home's resident obstetrician since August 1919. Interviewed in the "spacious, modern officers lounge" Adjutant Aggola was proud to point out that in those nineteen years Dr. Carryer hadn't lost a single mother. Eleven years later, on the third and fourth of December 1949, the Booth Memorial Hospital celebrated its golden anniversary. Brigadier Elizabeth Caldwell announced that Dr. Carryer's total had risen to 1,700 infants, with still no losses of young mothers. She also reported that in the previous year 131 infants were delivered, for a fifty-year grand total of 3,407 babies.

In 1951, the *Tribune* reported that there were 1,049 births to unmarried mothers in Iowa the previous year. Of that number, a lucky 181 young women had “found friends at the Booth Memorial Hospital,” one of thirty-four maternity hospitals in the U. S. run by the Salvation Army. The article reported that 80% of the girls (some as young as eleven and twelve) had, by the end of their three-month stay, managed to “make good” in life. One-third of the mothers kept their babies and, furthermore, the Booth Memorial’s parlor had celebrated seven weddings in the preceding twelve months.

The community threw in its support. Three times a week volunteer instructors taught high school classes at the home and the Des Moines Public Library delivered books each week. Even with all this aid, the cost of running the home had risen to nearly \$300 per pregnancy. The home only charged those girls who could pay \$100 for a three-month stay and \$10 for delivering the baby.

The sight of the sagging brick walls of the old Smith home prompted Des Moines media mogul E. T. Meredith to chair a building fund to replace the “one-hundred-year-old building” with a modern dormitory. Iowa Governor William S. Beardsley broke ground for the new \$245,000 addition on August 10, 1952. The brick four-story dormitory designed by the Des Moines architect firm Brooks and Borg was intended to accommodate forty mothers and sixteen staffers.



At the end of the next building season the *War Cry* reported the Sunday, September 27, 1953 dedication of the new addition on “on the hospital lawn in the golden splendor of a perfect autumn afternoon.” It described the home's ten large four-bed dormitory rooms and a spacious, comfortable and tastefully furnished lounge. All the rooms were “...spacious and bright. The walls are tinted in delicate pastel shades and in the furnishings gay splashes of gay color are introduced.” The architects had preserved most of the native trees,

creating a “countryside a millionaire might well covet.”



A brochure about the proposed construction is attached at the end of this document. The proposed building orientation is different than what is actually constructed.

Two big national changes in the 1960s worked against charitable maternity hospitals. The first was the revolutionary advance in obstetric care available at larger, better funded hospitals. While the safety record at Booth was excellent, it was the space age, and people were putting their trust in the most modern, scientifically equipped facilities to deliver their babies. The Army discovered it would cost a half -million dollars to modernize their 1922-vintage maternity ward. By the mid '60s, Booth was sending its patients to Iowa Lutheran, and then Broadlawns Hospital, for delivery services.

Secondly, social norms were changing rapidly. The combined effects of; the sexual revolution, abortion, birth control, divorce and the feminist movement had eroded the social stigma of an unplanned pregnancy for an unwed mother. At the beginning of the decade only one-third of unmarried mothers kept their babies, by its end a majority would.

In May of 1972, the Salvation Army sadly announced that it would close Booth Memorial in the fall. With only five girls in residence, Brigadier Margaret Foster admitted to the *Tribune* reporter that "the odds are against us." The move was no surprise, since annual totals of mothers admitted had declined steadily: in 1966, there were 167, in 1967, 114; in 1971, 85; and through July 1972 only 37. Iowa girls still needing a maternity home were sent to Salvation Army homes still operating in Omaha and St. Paul. The home had served more than 5,500 patients. After seventy-three years of service the Salvation Army Rescue Home / Salvation Army Woman's Home / Booth Memorial Hospital closed its doors on Sunday, October 1, 1972.

The closing of the hospital did not end the Army's services to young mothers. In its last years Booth Memorial had greatly expanded education opportunities to help unwed mothers find work outside of the home after their release. Even after it closed the Indianola Road facility, the Corps continued its "Temple School" at their old building on Sixth Avenue.

The Booth Memorial building was sold to the Iowa Christian College in the 1980s, then sat vacant a few years before being remodeled in the '90s into Southern Meadows Apartments.



Background

The Southern Meadows Apartments are a 34-unit apartment complex located at 2800 SE 8th St. in Des Moines. The property consists of two attached buildings. The first was built in the early 1920's and an addition was built in the early 1950's. When the 1950's addition was built, the oldest part of the facility dating back to before the turn of the twentieth century, was demolished. While the primary use of the facility from 1920-1970 was Booth Memorial Hospital for Women, the building also served as a Christian College, and most recently as affordable multi-family housing.

In December 2008, the Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) became the titleholder of the apartment buildings when they received a deed-in-lieu of foreclosure. Since that time, the City has been working with IFA to acquire the property for redevelopment. The City has received \$3.9 million in Federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) funds to redevelop foreclosed and abandoned properties such as the Southern Meadows Apartments.

The preliminary redevelopment plan for the site is to demolish the 1952 addition and rehabilitate the original 1921 building. It is estimated the original structure can provide for approximately eight apartments. The site can also accommodate 20-30 row houses around the perimeter of the property. These homes will complement the site and provide new affordable housing opportunities on Des Moines' Southside.

Current State of the Building

The property is currently in poor condition. Seven of the units are uninhabitable and the remaining 24 units are in need of major repairs. A physical needs assessment was completed in March 2009, which shows approximately \$333,000 in repairs needed over the next 12 months, and an additional \$1.5 million in repairs needed over the life of the building.

The Southern Meadows Apartments have a history of problematic management. Indianola at Eighth Inc. originally attempted to rehabilitate the property in the mid-1990's. The City allocated \$101,592 of 1995 HOME funds for the Southern Meadows Apartments.

Indianola at Eighth Inc. never completed the project. They were foreclosed on by West Bank and the construction bonds were used to complete the construction. West Bank arranged for the sale of the property to Marv Tomason a.k.a. Southern Meadows Associates L.L.C. in 2003. The combination of low-quality products to rehabilitate the property coupled with poor property management doomed the building. By 2008, Mr. Tomason had fallen behind on the mortgage and the Iowa Finance Authority received a deed-in-lieu of foreclosure.

Currently the entire building is vacant. There are major fire code issues, along with the presence of mold and a collapsed sewer line. Because of these health and safety issues, the building has not had a valid rental certificate for several years and the tenants were removed from the building in November 2009. The current state of the building is in disrepair. The fireplace that was once the welcoming entrance feature has been vandalized beyond repair. Most of the wiring has been removed and much of the drywall in the apartments has been ripped out. The basement of the 1950's addition is full of mold.

Since the residents have moved out, the sewer line has been capped and the building has been boarded up. It is the opinion of the City of Des Moines that this building is a blight to the neighborhood. The most cost effective method to eliminate the blight is to demolish the 1952 building addition and preserve the 1921 hospital. It is also the most effective way to preserve the integrity of the site, provide affordable housing, and save a building eligible for the National Register.

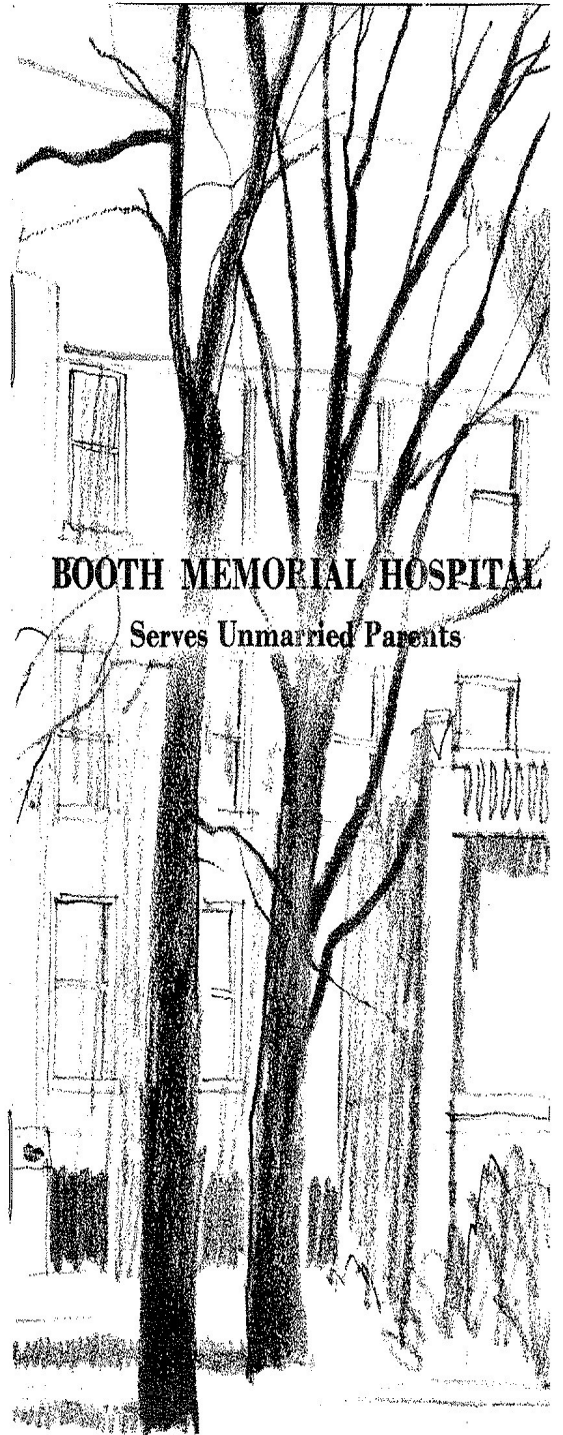






Serves Unmarried Parents Nationally

HISTORY & ARCHIVES
HISTORICAL BUILDING
DES MOINES 19, IOWA

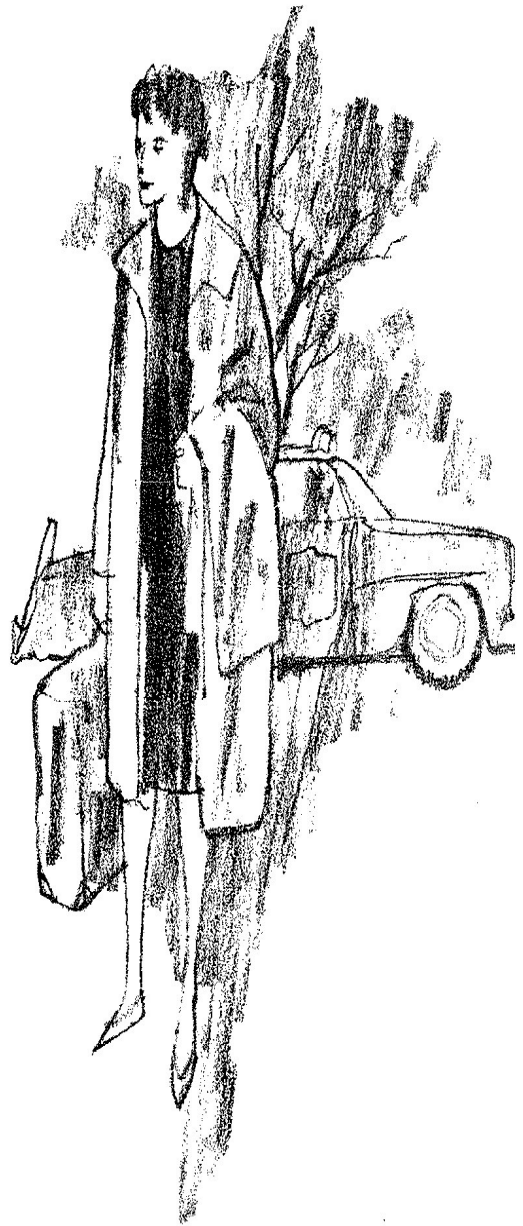


BOOTH MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Serves Unmarried Parents

2847 Indianola Road
Des Moines, Iowa 50315
Telephone 283-0131

Who is admitted: Any unwed mother who can benefit from the program is welcome at Booth Memorial Home. She may enter at whatever stage of pregnancy is best for her, to live in a friendly, homelike atmosphere. Each girl's problem is examined objectively and on an individual base, to determine through counseling what is best in her case.



Its Purpose: Booth Memorial Home and Hospital exists for the purpose of providing security and the best possible medical care to the unwed expectant mother and child. This, together with a warm understanding of the emotional crisis which the patient is facing, enables us to afford her every opportunity while in Christian surroundings to plan wisely for the future.

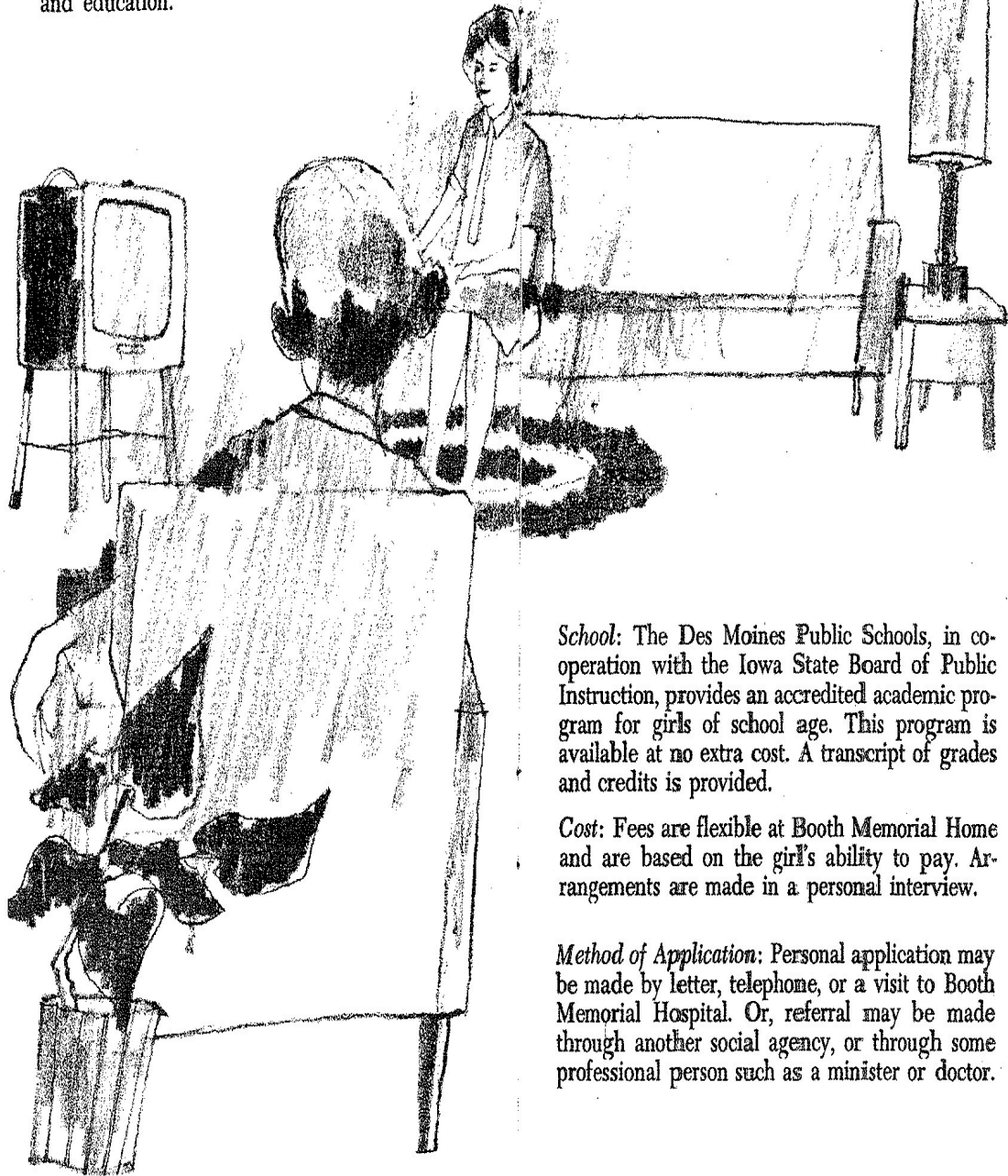
Medical Staff: The medical staff is provided through affiliation with the Iowa Lutheran Hospital of Des Moines.

Spiritual guidance: There is a quiet, pleasant chapel for persons of all faiths at Booth Memorial Home. Sunday worship services are conducted by Salvation Army officers. Patients are invited to attend Bible classes, and join the choir. Religious counseling is available.



Plans for the baby: The mother decides for herself whether she will keep her child or place it for adoption. Professional caseworkers are available for consultation, and help the mother carry out her decision, whatever it may be.

Recreation and Leisure time: Television and games are available in the recreation rooms. Classes are held in sewing and other crafts, including ceramics. There is also a piano available, and outdoor games on hand as weather permits. A good library supplies books for amusement and education.



School: The Des Moines Public Schools, in cooperation with the Iowa State Board of Public Instruction, provides an accredited academic program for girls of school age. This program is available at no extra cost. A transcript of grades and credits is provided.

Cost: Fees are flexible at Booth Memorial Home and are based on the girl's ability to pay. Arrangements are made in a personal interview.

Method of Application: Personal application may be made by letter, telephone, or a visit to Booth Memorial Hospital. Or, referral may be made through another social agency, or through some professional person such as a minister or doctor.

No one needs to explain The Salvation Army. No one needs to describe its multitude of good works. The main thing to do is to give its workers more money to do more good works. Thereby we appoint them the agent of each of us in a really great human service. And in addition to our money, we can give encouragement to all its members in their devotion. We can express our gratitude to them and our confidence in them.

In their Christ-inspired service, they search the byways for those who have fallen lowest, binding their wounds of body and soul, lifting them back into the stream of useful and Christian life.

The world is today invaded by uncertainty and dread. Yet redemption comes not through the blight of fear, but through the light of faith. In that service every lover of humanity respects The Salvation Army. Even to witness its devotion invokes a spirit of humbleness in all the rest of us. We must always have The Salvation Army on our side.

Remarks of HERBERT HOOVER
at the SALVATION ARMY
LUNCHEON
Waldorf-Astoria Hotel—New York
New York
December 14, 1949

For the first time in 32 years

"meet the need" has grown the present extensive social service program in Des Moines and Iowa. The Salvation Army first came to Des Moines in 1894, 60 years ago. It now operates in Des Moines and Iowa through 24 corps and institutions. Many of its varied and vital services are briefly described in this brochure. And the work of The Salvation Army continues to grow. To carry out this increasing program of help to the undersheltered and the needy, The Salvation Army must have your help. So it is that for the first time in over 32 years The Salvation Army is making an appeal for funds to expand and improve its antiquated and wholly inadequate facilities. It has never been our pleasure to be associated with a need more deserving. It is our sincere hope that you will carefully study the proposed expansion program as outlined in this brochure and join all Iowa in this great human effort. The Salvation Army needs your help.

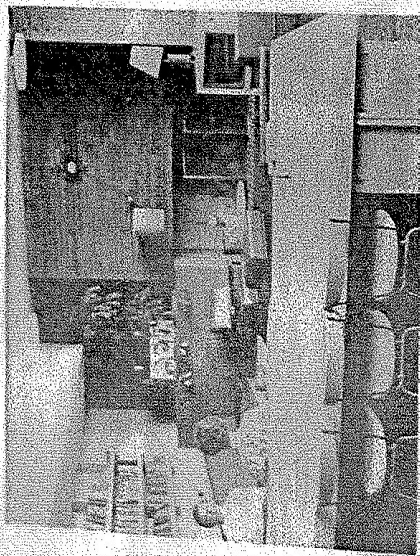
Social service had no part in The Salvation Army's aims as first conceived by William Booth. He wanted to bring salvation to the spiritually blind and the poor in heart. That was to be his one and only mission. General Booth found that he was preaching to men without jobs, to girls facing motherhood out of wedlock, to the old and homeless, to fugitives from the law, to widows and their children, all weighed down by misfortune and living in destitution. The hope in General Booth's message seemed intangible and far off to these people. It was clear that in addition to the Word of God, they needed material assistance and patient guidance from those who could understand their troubles. Out of this need came The Salvation Army's social service program. Through the years and in many countries, it developed in response to other human needs as they were encountered. Out of this determination to

E. T. Meredith, Jr.
E. T. Meredith, Jr.
General Chairman

Expansion and Building Fund Committee

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| John Paul, Co-Chairman
East & Erie
542 Insurance Exchange Bldg. | Frank Finkush
Meredith Publishing Co.
Lester Hill
Register & Tribune | Miss Maud Lockman
405 E. 2nd Street
Gladys Lane
521 E. 6th Street | Major D. E. Averb
614 4th Street
Wayland Scott
Valley Bank & Trust Co. |
| Alexander Black
Star Agency
18th & Grand | Paul Hope
Fidelity Company
615 Des Moines Building | Edgar August
618 Insurance Exchange
Building | W. Fred (G. G.) Woods
Central Broadcasting Co. |

This is one of seven babies born on a recent weekend at Memorial Hospital.



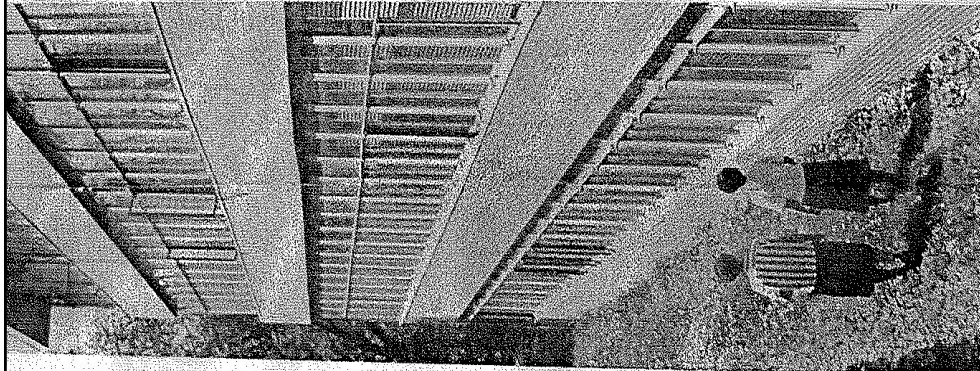
The Lounge

An attractive lounge in the hospital living quarters invites reading, television watching, visiting. Book shelves on one wall are filled with a wide variety of reading material. At other end of lounge (not shown in picture) is a hand crafts area and sewing machine. In white uniform facing camera is Erig. Mrs. Margaret Norris, hospital administrator.

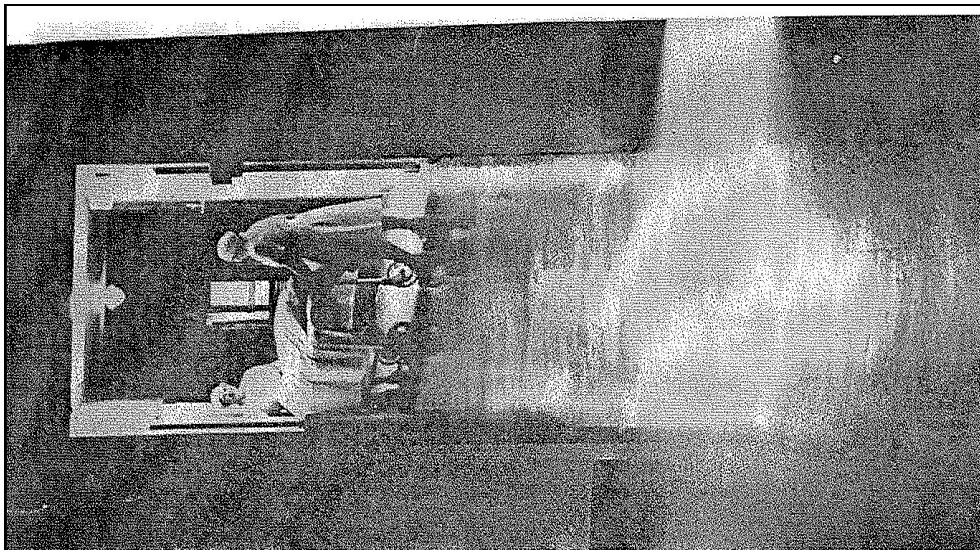


Dorm

Closeup of a dormitory room shows the ample closet space provided in each room for four girls. Windows look out on the hospital's spacious grounds and garden area. Girls may decorate the rooms as they wish.



"On nice days after supper, the girls like to walk outdoors," Brigadier Norris said. The large, wooded area surrounding the building permits them to walk in privacy, in rear of building is a picnic area and large flower and vegetable garden.



Months of waiting and anxiety end in this hospital section, on the fourth floor of the big brick building. Attendants are wheeling a stretcher from delivery room to convalescent room. Equipment for babies includes three incubators, three nurseries (one for babies to be placed for adoption, one for those to be kept by mothers, and one for isolation cases).



Architect's sketch of proposed new wing for Booth Memorial Hospital

the mother and her child. She is advised to enter the hospital at the beginning of the seventh month. In cases where conditions make it inadvisable for the girl to remain in her own environment, she may be admitted even earlier.

She is given the best physical care that can be found in any hospital. Likewise she receives the finest scientific and understanding help for her many problems. Added to this is the spiritual counsel and advice that she so often needs at such a time. The highest responsibility of The Salvation Army is to take every advantage of the girl's personality, so that she may be returned to her life as a well-balanced individual capable of assuming her place in her community without a stigma to haunt her through the remainder of her adult life.

The best obstetrical care is given every case. The attending physician follows the individual from the time of entering the hospital, with the aid of the gynecologist and registered nurses. This is done almost on a free basis, with the attending physician receiving only \$10 for each case that falls to his care. The physicians and surgeons of Des

Moines have always given generously of their skill and services for any work that The Salvation Army has requested.

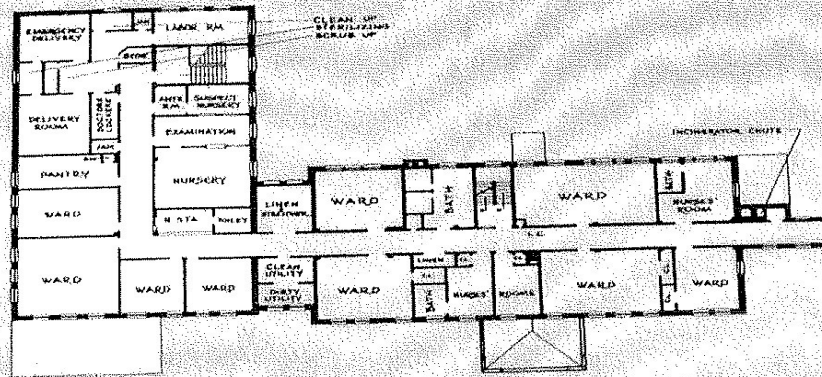
The length of residence after the baby is born is primarily determined by the patient's physical condition. She is released only on the specific order of the attending physician. The emotional stability of the patient must be determined and a complete social plan developed for both the mother and the baby.

Each mother must herself decide whether she will keep her child or have it placed for adoption. Should she desire adoption, these arrangements are made through regular licensed placement agencies. Should she desire to retain custody of the child, she is given every assistance to that end.

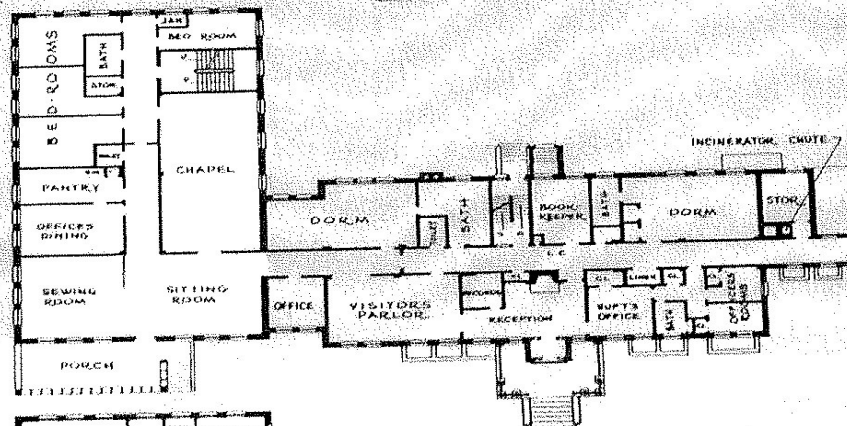
This work is not done on a haphazard basis or without thought or care. Trained Salvation Army officers working with each patient make every one an individualized case, and each girl receives advice and suggestions on a personal friend-to-friend basis.

That The Salvation Army has been able to do

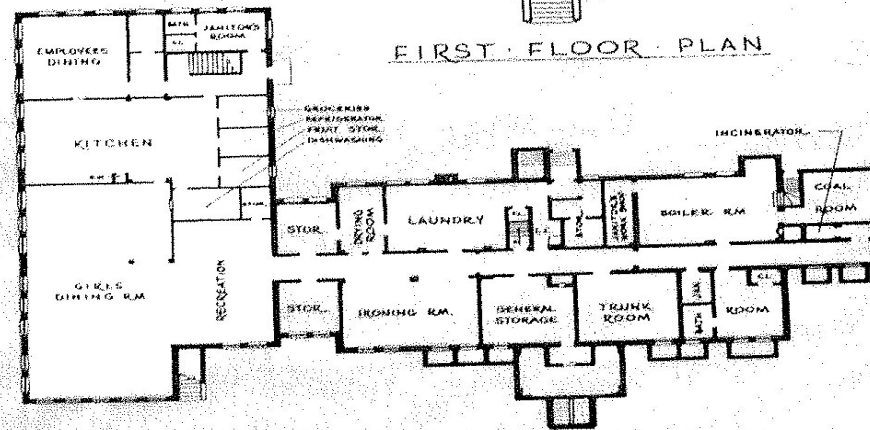
Architect's diagrams of proposed three-floor addition to Booth Memorial Hospital



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN

SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

