

ST. ELIZABETHS HOSPITAL, BOILER HOUSE / ICE PLANT
(Building No. 52)
2700 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, Southeast, Ash Street, Southeast
Washington
District of Columbia

HABS DC-349-BL
HABS DC-349-BL

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ST. ELIZABETHS HOSPITAL, BOILER HOUSE/ICE PLANT (BUILDING 52)

HABS NO. DC-349-BL

- Location:** Ash Street SE, Washington, D.C., on the West Campus of St. Elizabeths Hospital
- Present Owner:** General Services Administration, United States Government
- Present Use:** Vacant (rehabilitation of St. Elizabeths West Campus in progress)
- Significance:** The Boiler House/Ice Plant (Building 52) functioned as the boiler plant, providing steam for heat to the campus buildings. It is significant for its association with the development of campus-wide infrastructure to support the west campus of St. Elizabeths. Constructed in 1892, the Boiler House/Ice Plant is a significant part of the campus plan as it developed in the latter part of the nineteenth century. The building is representative of the intended self-sufficiency of the campus at that time.
- The Boiler House/Ice Plant is also significant in terms of its architectural design, as an example of the simple Italianate-inspired, late nineteenth-century construction on the St. Elizabeths campus. The building retains the character-defining random ashlar stone cladding with decorative corbelled brick window and door surrounds, slate roofs with dormers, and brick masonry chimney.
- Historians:** Mike Ford, Kenneth Itle, Tim Penich, and Deborah Slaton, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.

PART I: HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Date of erection: 1892¹
2. Architect: Not known
3. Original and subsequent owners, occupants, uses: St. Elizabeths Hospital (then the Government Hospital for the Insane) was placed under the control of the Department of the Interior by an act of Congress on March 3, 1855. Thus when the Boiler House/Ice Plant was constructed in the nineteenth century, the hospital was under the control of the Department of the Interior and remained so until 1940, when St. Elizabeths was transferred to the Federal Security Agency. The Federal Security Agency was a new government agency that oversaw federal activities in the fields of health, education, and social insurance. In 1953, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare was created. At that time several of the functions of the Federal Security Agency, including control of St. Elizabeths Hospital, were transferred to the new department.² In 1968, St. Elizabeths was transferred to the National Institute of Mental Health, an agency within the

¹ 1890 construction documents (GSA archive database nos. DC0100SE0115–0117 and DC0100SE0120–0121); 1897 archival photograph (GSA archive database no. DC1472SE0P205).

² *Federal Register*, accessed at <http://www.federalregister.gov/agencies/saint-elizabeth-s-hospital>, January 5, 2012.

Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The Institute sought to demonstrate how a large mental hospital could be converted into a smaller, more modern facility for training, service, and research.³ In 1979, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare became the Department of Health and Human Services with the creation of the Department of Education. The Department of Health and Human Services retained control of the St. Elizabeths Hospital west campus until 2004 when the property was transferred to the GSA.⁴ The campus facilities were stabilized and the buildings were mothballed by 2005.⁵

When the Boiler House/Ice Plant was completed in 1892, the building housed the boiler and provided supplemental steam heat for the St. Elizabeths campus at a time when numerous other buildings were being constructed on the campus. In 1904, construction started on the Power House (Building 56). The new Power House was situated at the base of the ravine, just south of the Boiler House/Ice Plant, an optimal site for construction of coal trestles that would also allow for future expansion. The building was outfitted with large boiler units and provided heat for the Richardson-era expansion buildings and electricity for the entire hospital. When the Power House was expanded by the addition of a new boiler house (Building 57) in 1910, all heating and electrical operations were centralized. As a result, the Boiler House/Ice Plant ceased functioning as a boiler house in the 1910s.⁶ It was renovated in 1917 for use as an icehouse.⁷

4. Builder, contractor, suppliers: Not known
5. Original plans and construction: The Boiler House/Ice Plant was designed and constructed as a one-and-one-half-story building with rectilinear plan to house the campus boiler. It was constructed with random ashlar stone cladding, brick door and window surrounds, and a wood-framed slate shingle dormered gable roof. The dormers were clad with stone and wood siding. Arcaded, wood-framed windows and doors comprised the south facade of the structure.⁸ A 152-foot-tall brick chimney with square plan was constructed on a stone foundation north of the main boiler house structure. This chimney was detailed with a corbelled brick, blind arcade chimney cap.⁹ The interior of the Boiler House/Ice Plant consisted of a concrete floor with exposed stone walls and wood trusses. The boilers were situated on the northern half of the structure's interior.¹⁰

³ 1970 *Annual Report*.

⁴ *St. Elizabeths West Campus: Cultural Landscape Report*, Heritage Landscapes, Preservation Landscape Architects & Planners, and Robinson & Associates, Inc., prepared for the General Services Administration, April 2009, V.2

⁵ *St. Elizabeths West Campus Preservation, Design, & Development Guidelines*, Oehrlein & Associates Architects and Robinson & Associates, Inc., Architectural and Historical Research, prepared for the General Services Administration, November 10, 2008, 18. A photograph of the building taken in 2005 by FMG Architects shows the building in a stabilized and protected state.

⁶ 1938 *Plan of Buildings; Historic Resources Management Plan*, Devroux & Purnell Architects-Planners, PC, with Betty Bird, Historian, and Rhodeside & Harwell Inc., Landscape Architects, prepared for the D.C. Office of Business and Economic Development and the Office of the Assistant City Administrator for Economic Development, Washington, D.C., September 1993, 67, citing the 1910 *Annual Report; Cultural Landscape Report*, IV.12. The exact date at which boiler operations were halted is unknown.

⁷ 1916–1917 *Annual Report*, 15.

⁸ Assumptions regarding the building materials were drawn from 1890 construction documents, the 1945 Public Buildings Administration survey, and existing physical conditions.

⁹ The 1890 construction documents and an 1897 archival photograph show the masonry chimney. Later photographs and drawings show a much shorter masonry tower.

¹⁰ Observations made based on 1897 archival photograph of the building interior.

6. Alterations and additions: The Boiler House/Ice Plant was renovated in 1917 for use as an icehouse.¹¹ During the conversion of the building, the masonry chimney was shortened to half its original height. The chimney was capped by wood-framed clerestory windows and surmounted by a pyramidal roof with copper spire.¹² Apparently as part of this work, the chimney stack was adapted for use as a hoist, to raise material from the main floor level to an outside entrance near the top of the stack, at the level of the adjacent Construction Shops (Building 49). The motor for the hoist was placed on a new mechanical floor at the clerestory windows of the stack.

Between 1890 and 1968, a wood door was installed on the east facade of the chimney and a concrete bridge with pipe metal handrail was constructed that connected the door opening to the neighboring hilltop. The door opening and concrete bridge are not shown in the original 1890 construction documents but appear in archival photographs from 1968. It is assumed that the door was installed during the 1917 rehabilitation. Existing physical conditions and materials indicate that the currently existing bridge was constructed circa 1960.

Some alterations, the entire scope of which was not documented in available written records, were performed in 1935.¹³ Based on the available photographs, the work included reducing the size of some window and door openings by installing concrete knee walls, and the removal of obsolete equipment.

A 1945 photograph of the building depicts a small, wood-framed, gable-roofed outbuilding adjacent to the southwest corner of the Boiler House/Ice Plant. The date of construction or function of this outbuilding is not known. It had been removed by the 1950s.

In 1954, a one-story ice storage room was added to the south side of the building. The structure had a concrete foundation, concrete masonry exterior walls clad with stucco, and cement-asbestos shingle hip roof.¹⁴

Between 1954 and 2003, wood-framed window and door openings with multi-light arched transoms were removed, and the arcaded openings on the south facade were infilled with concrete masonry units.¹⁵ The exact date of these alterations is unknown.

Between 1968 and 2003, the wood-framed entry doors and arched transoms were removed and replaced with a metal overhead mechanical door. Red common brick was used to fill in the interstitial space between the new door and the original arched opening.¹⁶

A drawing dated February 1976 details the demolition of all equipment and piping in the building. After this work, the building was apparently vacated and abandoned. The Boiler House/Ice Plant has remained vacant since that time.

As part of a remediation of hazardous materials in the building, the 1954 storage room addition was removed in early 2011. Rehabilitation of the structure for adaptive reuse is being considered as part of the renovation of the adjacent Construction Shops, which is in progress in 2012.

¹¹ 1916–1917 *Annual Report*, 15.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ Observations made based on 1935 archival photograph.

¹⁴ 1954 construction documents.

¹⁵ Observations made based on comparison between 1954 construction documents and 2003 photographs.

¹⁶ Observations made based on 1968 and 2003 archival photographs.

B. Historical context¹⁷

In 1852, St. Elizabeths Hospital was established in large part through the efforts of Dorothea Lynde Dix, who led a national crusade for the ethical and humane treatment of the mentally ill. Under the direction of Superintendent Charles Nichols (1852–1877), the hospital endeavored to become a curative treatment center for the mentally ill of Washington, D.C., and the United States Army and Navy. Patients were grouped into wards by their perceived mental condition and emphasis was placed on creating a peaceful and serene family environment in which to rehabilitate.

Initial development on the St. Elizabeths campus was focused on construction of a central patient ward building. Based on the Thomas Kirkbride plan, the design of the Center Building group gave consideration to moral treatment principles by creating a healthy and peaceful environment for patients while separating them into small ward units based on mental condition. Throughout Nichols' tenure, expansion of the St. Elizabeths hospital continued along the Kirkbride plan. The initial development of the campus included a support building known as the Machinery Building, which housed the boiler. This building was constructed in 1856 at the site of the Laundry Exchange portion of the Construction Shops.

Following the Civil War, Congressional legislation on July 13, 1866, extended medical services at St. Elizabeths to include military veterans seeking medical attention for issues of mental illness.¹⁸ The change in administrative policy altered the demographics of the institution and led to a rapid increase in the patient population. New patient facilities were constructed to accommodate the needs and growing number of aging and mentally challenged Civil War veterans.

Under Superintendent William Godding (1877–1899), the philosophy of moral treatment was embraced; however, the development of new patient wards adopted a different architectural form. During this period, the ward buildings were constructed as detached cottages and clustered into small groups. As development on the west campus began to expand beyond the Center Building complex, new support facilities were required to meet the growing needs. Throughout the Godding era, free-standing support buildings were constructed at the west end of the campus, clustered around the existing stables (no longer extant). A new Boiler (no longer extant), Bakery (Building 46), constructed in 1878, and General Kitchen (Building 45), constructed in 1883, were built on the grounds between the Center Building group and stables. The development was soon followed by the Morgue (The Rest/Circulating Library, Building 40) and Gas House (no longer extant) which were located directly east of the stables. Infrastructure projects, such as the construction of the Tool House (Building 53), Engine House/Fire House (Building 41), Boiler House/Ice Plant, and expansion of the Laundry Exchange building were aimed at developing St. Elizabeths Hospital as a self-sufficient campus.

During the tenure of Superintendent Alonzo Richardson (1899–1903), the St. Elizabeths campus underwent an expansive building campaign to reduce overcrowding and improve infrastructure. Richardson's tenure was cut short by his untimely death; however, his successor, Superintendent William White (1903–1937), oversaw the completion of the expansion project. In 1910, the Power House addition was completed and all heating and electrical operations were centralized. Alterations were made to convert the Boiler House into an ice plant and storage building in 1917. Throughout the

¹⁷ A context history for the entire St. Elizabeths West Campus, as well as an overview history of the Systems and Infrastructure Group, is to be developed under separate cover as part of this HABS documentation project.

¹⁸ *An act to extend to certain persons the privilege of admission, in certain cases, to United States Government Asylum for the Insane*, 39th Congress, 1st sess., July 13, 1866, 89–94.

remainder of White's residency, development at St. Elizabeths was focused on the east campus. With few exceptions, new construction on the west campus was concentrated on maintaining and improving the existing building stock to address the growing patient population and changing hospital needs.

PART II: ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: The Boiler House/Ice Plant building is composed of three basic volumes that are partially below grade and integrated into the hillside of the ravine. These include the original Boiler House portion of the building, a brick masonry smokestack, and an insulated storage addition. Stone retaining walls and a staircase extend from the Boiler House to the base of the smokestack. The Boiler House is a one-and-a-half-story structure with random ashlar fieldstone cladding and a wood truss-framed gable roof with slate clad dormers and a monitor at the ridgeline. The smokestack has a square plan and is approximately 40 feet tall above grade. It is capped by a pyramidal roof and has a concrete bridge that extends to grade at the top of the plateau overlooking the ravine. The insulated storage addition is a one-story wood-framed structure attached to the south elevation of the original Boiler House. It has a concrete foundation, cement stucco siding, and an asphalt shingle shed roof.

The architectural design of the Boiler House/Ice Plant exemplifies the simple, Italianate-inspired character of late nineteenth-century construction on the St. Elizabeths campus. Character-defining features of the building include random ashlar fieldstone masonry, brick semi-circular arches at window and door openings, gable roof with exposed rafter tails and monitor at ridgeline, dormer windows with slate cladding, exposed interior wood roof structure and trusses, the adjacent brick masonry smokestack, connection to the campus-wide tunnel system, integration of the building with the hillside site, adjacent stone retaining walls, and simple decoration in keeping with the buildings' utilitarian nature.

2. Condition of fabric: At the time of the field survey for the Historic Structure Reports/Building Preservation Plans project in 2009, the Boiler House/Ice Plant building was in fair condition overall. The interior floor, walls, and roof framing of the Boiler House portion of the building were in good condition. The exterior mortar joints and brick masonry had weathering-related deterioration such as eroded mortar joints, staining, spalling, and cracking. The majority of the wood windows had been removed prior to 2009; those that remained exhibited wood checking, cracking, and paint failure. The wood flooring in the smokestack was in poor condition and posed a safety risk. The insulated storage addition had severe deterioration of the walls and interior finishes associated with roof leakage, and was in poor condition. The retaining wall exhibited displacement of stones, mortar loss, and staining related to inadequate drainage and shifting of soil behind the wall.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: 85'-0" long by 50'-0" wide. The adjacent brick masonry smokestack is approximately 13'-0" square and 40'-0" tall above grade.

2. Foundations: The foundation of the Boiler House, smokestack, and stone retaining walls is fieldstone. The foundation at the insulated storage addition is reinforced concrete.
3. Walls: The exterior walls of the Boiler House portion of the building and retaining walls are fieldstone laid in a random ashlar pattern. The corners of the building have vermiculated stone quoins. There are multiple generations of mortar present in the joints of stonework, all of which have a slightly raised ribbon profile that imposes a regular square pattern on the irregularly-shaped stones. The smokestack has exterior walls of red brick laid in a common bond pattern with header bricks at every sixth course. The exterior walls of the insulated storage addition are clad with cement stucco over concrete masonry.
4. Structural system, framing: The Boiler House portion of the building has stone masonry foundations and exterior walls that are approximately 24 inches thick on the east, west, and south elevations. The entire north wall of the structure is a retaining wall that stabilizes approximately 20 feet of soil, as the existing grade is located near the roof eave on this elevation of the building. Available drawings indicate that the north wall is approximately 3 feet thick.¹⁹ The floor within the original building is a concrete slab on grade.

The Boiler House portion of the building has a gable roof structure framed with a series of eight queen post trusses with iron tension rods that are about 16-1/2 feet deep, span approximately 45 feet north to south across the width of the building, and bear on the exterior stone walls. The trusses are spaced approximately 10 feet on center down the length of the building. The roof has 2-inch by 8-inch rafters spaced at approximately 2 feet that span between the trusses and support the stick framing of the dormers and monitor.

The smokestack, located on the north side of the building, has fieldstone walls at the foundation and base that are about 5 feet thick. The brick smokestack has a tapered assembly that extends approximately 40 feet above the stone base. The smokestack is capped with a hip roof that has exposed rafters and wood decking at its soffit.

The stone retaining wall and stair located along the west side of the building are constructed of the same type of fieldstone and construction as the original building walls.

The insulated storage addition was built along the south wall of the original Boiler House/Ice Plant structure. The east, west, and south walls of the insulated storage addition are composed of 8-inch-thick concrete masonry units clad with stucco on the exterior and finished with plaster and cork insulation on the interior.²⁰ The walls are supported by reinforced concrete foundation walls and spread footings. The roof of the addition has 2-inch by 10-inch ceiling joists and rafters spaced at about 16 inches on center that slope down from the roof of the main building at about 22 degrees (5:12 pitch).

5. Porches, stoops, balconies, porticoes, bulkheads: Integral to the design of the Boiler House/Ice Plant are two 12-foot-tall fieldstone retaining walls extending from the west facade of the building approximately 50 feet along the hillside. Although not shown in the original plans, these walls were likely constructed in 1892. They are composed of the same fieldstone and follow the same bond pattern as the exterior walls of the main portion of the building.

¹⁹ 1890 construction documents (GSA archive database nos. DC0100SE0115–0117 and DC0100SE0120–0121).

²⁰ 1954 construction drawings, (GSA archive database no. DC1461SE0100).

The west side of the 1954 insulated storage addition incorporates a small concrete loading dock. The dock is covered by a roof overhang that is supported on steel tube posts.

The brick smokestack is connected to the Boiler House/Ice Plant building with a masonry shaft below grade that has a clay brick arch enclosure on the top.

At the northeast corner of the building, there is an opening through the north wall that connects to the campus-wide tunnel system. An extensive network of underground tunnels, totaling over 3,800 feet in length, connects multiple buildings on the St. Elizabeths campus. The tunnel infrastructure served a variety of purposes, including transporting food and laundry, providing passageways for pedestrians, and housing the complex mechanical and electrical infrastructure of the campus. The tunnels are typically accessible through the basements of the buildings they serve. The tunnel in the Boiler House/ Ice Plant enters the main floor level from the Construction Shops to the north. This branch of the tunnel network originates in the Center Building and extends through the basements of the General Kitchen and Construction Shops before it terminates at the Boiler House/Ice Plant. Large steam pipes penetrate through the masonry and plywood infill that conceals the entrance and prevents access to the tunnel, then turn downward into an opening through the floor, before connecting underground to the Power House.

A concrete bridge structure provides access to the north side of the smokestack from the elevated grade and leads to a wood-framed interior floor level that was likely added to the smokestack during the 1917 renovation.

6. Chimneys: The previously described smokestack is a major component of the Boiler House/Ice Plant that is connected to the main portion of the building. It measures 13 feet on each side and tapers slightly as it rises to its height of approximately 40 feet above grade (60 feet above the floor of the main portion of the building). The existing smokestack is the remaining portion of the taller original smokestack that served the building when it functioned as the Boiler House.

7. Openings

- a. Doorways and doors: The door openings at the Boiler House portion of the building all feature semi-circular arches constructed of three courses of corbelled red brick. Most of the door openings are infilled with brick or concrete masonry units. The openings that are not infilled have been fitted with painted plywood. None of the original doors remain. There is a steel roll-up door on the west facade and a temporary plywood door on the south facade.

The smokestack has one exterior door opening accessed from the concrete bridge on the north elevation. The brick door opening is capped by a two-course segmented arch and contains a wood-framed two-panel door.

The insulated storage addition has an exterior door opening located on the west elevation. This opening contains a heavy wood insulated door fitted with strap hinges and a freezer door handle.

- b. Windows and shutters: The window openings typically feature semi-circular arches constructed of three courses of corbelled red brick. The windows have projecting sills composed of a single block of stone. Most of the window openings on the first floor are infilled with brick or concrete masonry units. The openings that are not infilled have been fitted with painted plywood. The windows of the dormers retain portions of their original

wood sash, including the upper, six-light sash. None of the first floor window openings have extant window components. The top of the brick smokestack features a wrap-around clerestory with three bays of windows on each facade. The wood windows are six-light, center-pivoting casements set in wood frames.

8. Roof

- a. Shape, covering: The Boiler House portion of the building has a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The brick smokestack is capped with a hip roof and copper ridge caps and finial at its peak. The insulated storage building has a shed roof clad with asphalt shingles.
- b. Cornice, eaves: The gable ends of the Boiler House portion of the building and dormers feature exposed rafter tails that extend approximately 18 inches beyond the plane of the wall and have a scrolled detail. The hip roof at the brick smokestack also features exposed rafters.
- c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: The Boiler House portion of the building has three symmetrically-placed wall dormers with gable roofs on its north and south slopes. The dormers have asphalt shingle roofs and side walls with asphalt shingle and slate tile cladding. A monitor extends along the ridgeline of the Boiler House roof and has an asphalt shingle gable roof. The dormers retain portions of the original wood window sash, including the upper, six-light sash.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The interior of the Boiler House portion of the Boiler House/Ice Plant is a one-level open volume. At the northeast corner is an opening through the north wall to the campus-wide tunnel system. The brick smokestack has two floor levels, both of which are only accessed from outside of the structure. The lower level of the smokestack is connected to the Boiler House portion of the building with a masonry underground corridor; the opening to this underground corridor has been closed up with concrete masonry at the wall of the Boiler House. The upper level of the brick smokestack is accessed from a concrete bridge structure that leads from the elevated grade to a wood-framed floor and stair that were apparently added to the smokestack during the 1917 renovation. Above this floor level is a mechanical mezzanine at the level of the clerestory windows that contained hoist equipment. The insulated storage addition is a one-story structure with access from an exterior door on the west elevation of the addition.
2. Stairways: There are two flights of exterior stairs associated with the stone retaining wall on the west elevation of the Boiler Portion of the building. The stairs are composed of stone and extend from the Boiler House/Ice Plant grade level, at the bottom of the ravine, to the Construction Shop, at the top of the plateau.
3. Flooring: The floor of the Boiler House portion of the building is a concrete slab. In the northeast corner is a concrete pad that is 45 feet long, 13 feet wide and 30 inches tall. In the southeast corner is a second concrete pad, 22 feet long, 19 feet wide and 12 inches high. There is an opening through the floor at the northeast corner of the building where steam piping descends to connect underground to the Power House (Building 56/57). The machinery that was seated on the pads has been removed. The floor within the insulated storage area has cork insulation sandwiched between two 3-inch-thick reinforced concrete slabs set on 6 inches of gravel over fill material.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: The interior walls of the Boiler House portion of the building are exposed stone; the same fieldstone as seen on the exterior of the building. Remnants of a previous whitewash coating cover the lower 14 feet of the walls. Above this line, the walls are unfinished. The interior of the insulated storage addition is finished with 5-inch-thick layers of cork that is overlaid with plaster scored to resemble regular ashlar blocks.
5. Openings
 - a. Doorways and doors: Due to the utilitarian nature, numerous past alterations, and open plan of the Boiler House portion of the building, there are no interior doors or door openings. Exterior door openings all feature semi-circular arches constructed of three courses of corbelled red brick. Many of the exterior door openings have been infilled with brick or concrete masonry units. The openings that are not infilled have been fitted with painted plywood.
 - b. Windows: Window openings at the Boiler House portion of the building and smokestack are set into simple exposed brick masonry openings.
6. Decorative features and trim: None present.
7. Hardware: The main entrance door to the insulated storage addition has metal strap hinges and a freezer door handle.
8. Mechanical Equipment
 - a. Heating, air conditioning, ventilation: All of the mechanical equipment, including boilers, furnaces, refrigeration equipment, and most associated piping has been removed from the structure. Some cast iron pipes, presumably associated with the campus-wide steam heating system, remain in place and continue from the tunnel entrance at the north wall of the building down to the sunken floor area at the northeast corner. In the insulated storage addition, uninsulated metal chiller pipes are ceiling-mounted and exposed to view.
 - b. Lighting: All electrical fixtures and outlets have been removed. Some abandoned junction boxes remain and are connected to rigid metal conduit mounted on the walls and ceilings.
 - c. Plumbing: None present.

D. Site

1. Historic landscape design: Documentation of the landscape of the west campus of St. Elizabeths Hospital can be found in Historic American Landscape Survey documentation submittal DC-11.

The Boiler House/Ice Plant is situated in a ravine in the south central portion of the campus, just north of the Power House and south of the Construction Shops, which is situated on the plateau overlooking the ravine.

PART III: SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- A. Architectural drawings: Copies of architectural drawings are included in the attached Supplemental Material. The archival drawing documentation is in the collection of the General Services Administration.
- B. Early Views: Copies of selected early and historical views of the Boiler House/Ice Plant are included in the attached Supplemental Material. The original photographs and other archival photographic documentation are in the collection of the General Services Administration, the Library of Congress, the National Archives, College Park, Maryland, or the St. Elizabeths Hospital Health Sciences Library archives on the St. Elizabeths East Campus.
- C. Interviews: No oral history interviews were performed for this documentation project.
- D. Selected Sources:

Centennial Papers: St. Elizabeths Hospital, 1855–1955. Winfred Overholser, ed. Washington, D.C.: Centennial Commission, St. Elizabeths Hospital, 1956.

Condition & Reuse Assessment: St. Elizabeths West Campus (draft). Oehrlein & Associates Architects. Prepared for the General Services Administration, January 4, 2006.

The DHS Headquarters Consolidation at St. Elizabeths: Final Master Plan. Oehrlein & Associates Architects and Robinson & Associates, Inc. Prepared for the General Services Administration. November 10, 2008.

General Correspondence and Other Records of the Federal Board of St. Elizabeths Hospital. Records of the Office of the Superintendent, (1855–1967), Record Group 418.

Historic Preservation Report: St. Elizabeths West Campus, John Milner Architects. Prepared for the General Services Administration. December 7, 2005.

Historic Structure Report: Boiler House/Ice Plant (Building 52), St. Elizabeths West Campus, Washington, D.C. Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. Prepared for the General Services Administration, March 12, 2010.

Library of Congress. Washington, D.C.: Geography & Maps Reading Room. Collection contains various topographical maps for the District of Columbia and St. Elizabeths campus from 1855–1985.

Maps and Plans of the Government Hospital for the Insane (St. Elizabeths Hospital), 05/27/1839–12/14/1938. Department of the Interior, St. Elizabeths Hospital (1916–06/30/1940). Records of St. Elizabeths Hospital, 1820–1981. Record Group 418, National Archives at College Park, College Park, Maryland.

National Archives and Record Administration. Textual Documents Division. Washington, D.C. Record Group 418, Records of St. Elizabeths Hospital. Entry 20, Records of the Superintendent, Annual Report of the Subordinate Units, 1919–1966.

National Archives and Record Administration. Textual Documents Division. Washington, D.C. Record Group 42, Records of St. Elizabeths Hospital, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

National Archives and Records Administration at College Park, Cartographic and Architectural Drawings Division, College Park, Maryland. Record Group 418, Records of St. Elizabeths Hospital, National Archives at College Park, College Park, Maryland.

National Archives and Records Administration at College Park, Cartographic and Architectural Drawings Division, College Park, Maryland. Record Group 48, Records of the Secretary of the Interior.

Photographic Prints of Buildings, Grounds, and People, 1870–1920. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, St. Elizabeth Hospital (04/11/1953–08/09/1967). Records of St. Elizabeths Hospital, 1820–1981. Record Group 418, National Archives at College Park, College Park, Maryland.

Photographs of Structures at St. Elizabeths Hospital, Washington, D.C., 1968. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Public Health Service, Health Services and Mental Health Administration, National Institute of Mental Health, Saint Elizabeths Hospital, Office of the Superintendent (04/01/1968–07/01/1973). Records of St. Elizabeths Hospital, 1820–1981. Record Group 418, National Archives at College Park, College Park, Maryland.

St. Elizabeths Hospital Historic Resources Management Plan. Devroux & Purnell Architects-Planners, PC, with Betty Bird, Historian, and Rhodeside & Harwell Inc., Landscape Architects. Prepared for the D.C. Office of Business and Economic Development and the Office of the Assistant City Administrator for Economic Development, Washington, D.C., September 1993.

St. Elizabeths Hospital Tunnel Inspection Report. Burgess & Niple, Inc. Prepared for the General Services Administration, Washington, D.C., February 2006. Accessed through the General Services Administration archives.

St. Elizabeths West Campus: Cultural Landscape Report. Heritage Landscapes, Preservation Landscape Architects & Planners, and Robinson & Associates, Inc. Prepared for the General Services Administration. April 2009.

St. Elizabeths West Campus Preservation, Design, & Development Guidelines. Oehrlein & Associates Architects and Robinson & Associates, Inc., Architectural and Historical Research. Prepared for the General Services Administration. November 10, 2008.

E. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated: Extensive research on the history of the Boiler/Ice Plant has been performed for this and other studies, as documented in the publications and other sources listed above.

F. Supplemental Material:

1. GSA archives, image DC1472SE0P005.
2. GSA archives, image DC1461SE0P202.
3. GSA archives, image DC1461SE0P001.

4. GSA archives, image DC1461SE0P003.
5. GSA archives, image DC1461SE0P006.
6. GSA archives, image DC1461SE0P004.
7. GSA archives, image DC0100SE0P002.
8. GSA archives, image DC0100SE0115.
9. GSA archives, image DC0100SE0116.
10. GSA archives, image DC0100SE0117.
11. GSA archives, image DC0100SE0121.
12. GSA archives, image DC0100SE0120.

PART IV: PROJECT INFORMATION

This historical narrative was prepared by WJE in conjunction with Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC, who prepared the measured drawings, and Leslie Schwartz Photography, who prepared the photographic documentation. The HABS documentation was completed for the General Services Administration.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

BOILER HOUSE/ICE PLANT (Building 52)
St. Elizabeths West Campus
Ash Street SE
Washington, D.C.

HABS No. DC-349-BL

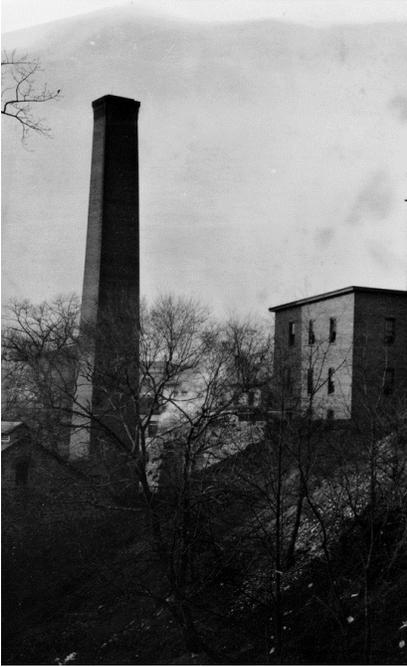


Figure 1. Source: GSA archives, image DC1472SE0P205.



Figure 2. Source: GSA archives, image DC1461SE0P002.



Figure 3. Source: GSA archives, image DC1461SE0P001.



Figure 4. Source: GSA archives, image DC1461SE0P003.



Figure 5. Source: GSA archives, image DC1461SE0P006.



Figure 6. Source: GSA archives, image DC1461SE0P004.



Figure 7. Source: GSA archives, image DC0100SE0P002.



Figure 8. Source: GSA archives, image DC0100SE0115.

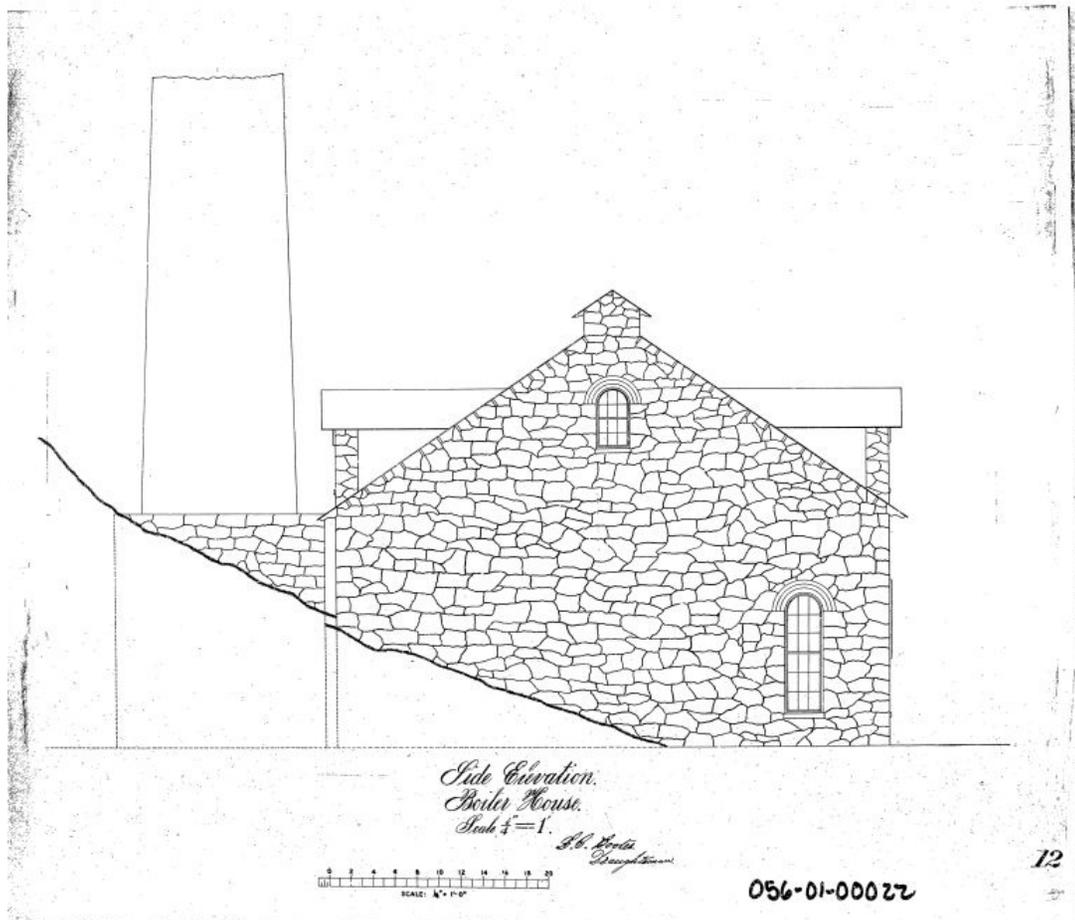


Figure 9. Source: GSA archives, image DC0100SE0116.

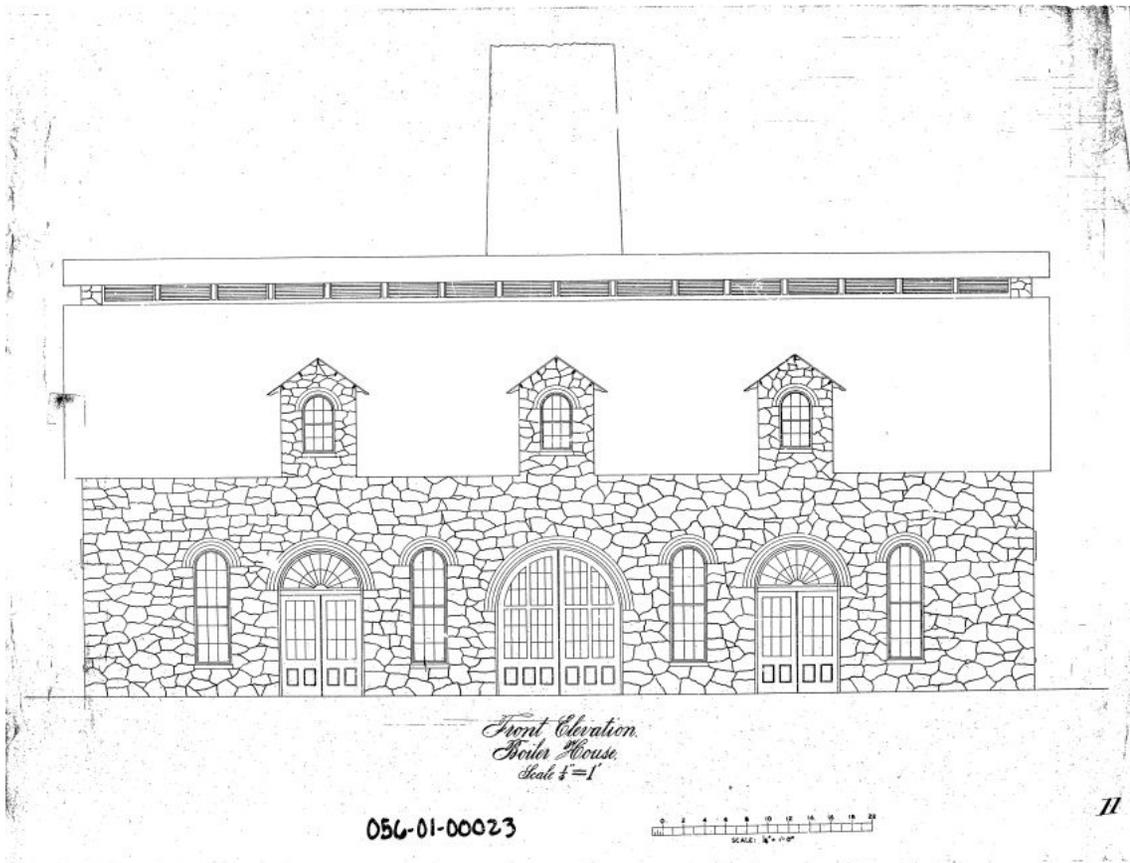
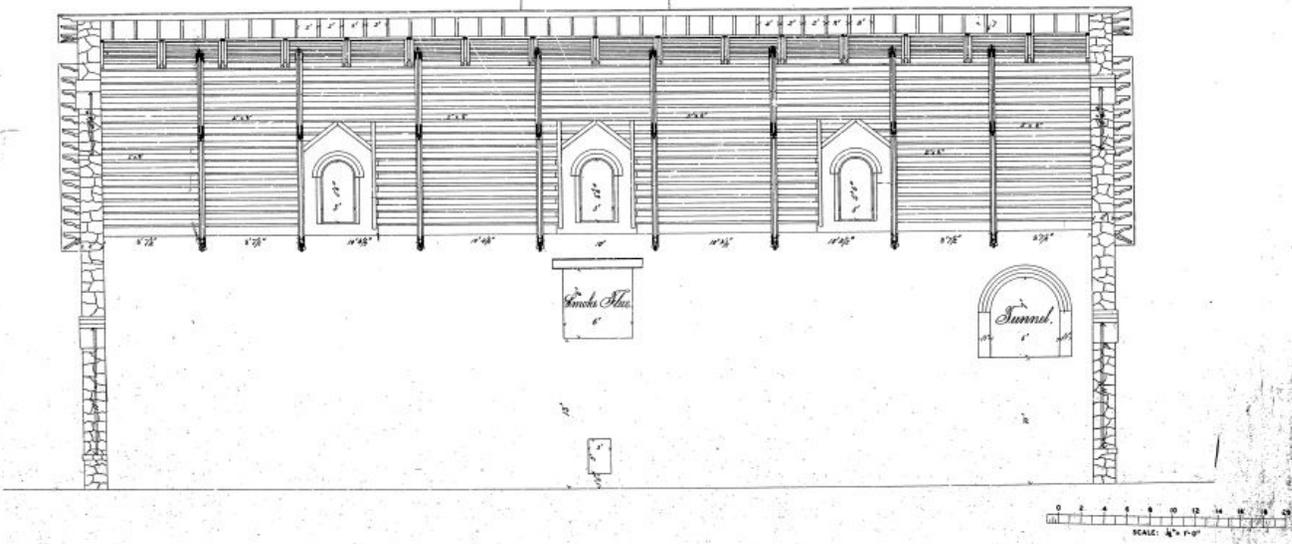


Figure 10. Source: GSA archives, image DC0100SE0117.

*Front Section.
Boiler House.
Government Hospital for the Insane.
1890.
Scale 1/4"=1'.
L. C. Bechtel
Draftsman.*



056-01-00027

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Figure 11. Source: GSA archives, image DC0100SE0121.

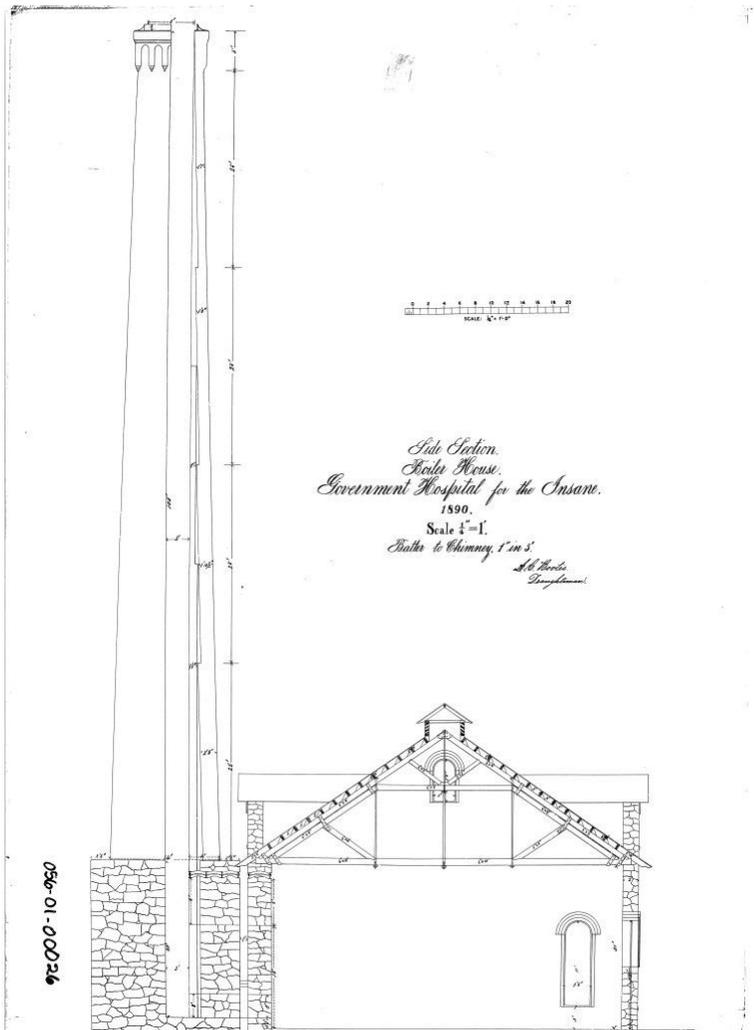


Figure 12. Source: GSA archives, image DC0100SE0120.