

COLGATE & COMPANY JERSEY CITY PLANT: C-13
(Colgate-Palmolive Company Jersey City Plant: C-13)
71 Greene Street
Jersey City
Hudson County
New Jersey

HAER No. NJ-71-Z

HAER
NJ
9-JERC1,
18Z-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
Northeast Field Area
Chesapeake/Allegheny System Support Office
National Park Service
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

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- Location:** 71 Greene Street, Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey
- Significance:** C-13 was the first building at the Jersey City plant erected specifically for spray-dried detergent manufacture, and remained the center of such operations c1947-87. Although not an individually significant structure, it had some significance as a component of the Colgate Jersey City plant.
- Description:** C-13 was a six-story-plus-basement, steel-framed, reinforced-concrete structure with a single exterior bay, clad with yellow glazed hollow brick. The 78-by-76-foot structure had completely unrelieved facades except for industrial steel sash windows set in horizontal bands. The International-Style-influenced building featured two truck bays and a single window on the ground floor, a stepped roofline housing various levels of equipment, and a vertical strip bay at the southwest corner to illuminate the stairway (HAER No. NJ-71, C BLOCK TO SOUTHEAST, C-1 AT CENTER FOREGROUND, C-13 AT RIGHT).
- The building interior was divided into four-by-five structural bays. Except for lockers and compressed air equipment in the basement, most of C-13 was arranged for gravity-flow final manufacture and processing of spray-dried detergent. Dried powder from the bottom of the E and F spray towers to the east was air-lifted to the top of C-13, and was blended with post-spraying additives, builders, and perfumes on the fourth through sixth floors. The first three floors were used for packaging and finishing of spray-dried products for conveyance to the F-1 warehouse (HAER No. NJ-71-KK) via the C-13X extension to C-13 erected immediately to the south in 1970 (HAER No. NJ-71-AA). South exterior walls of C-13 were modified or removed to meet C-13X.
- History:** C-13 was built in 1947, to a design prepared by Alfred Kahn Associated Architects and Engineers, Inc. of Detroit, Michigan. Alfred Kahn, the great industrial architect, died in 1942 and was not associated with this structure. C-13 was modified as noted above in 1970, and demolished in 1989.

* Capitalized reference is to photograph included with documentation for HAER No. NJ-71 and associated structures.

Sources:

Interviews

Theodore Mrowzinski and Walter Merlin, Colgate-Palmolive Company engineers, October-November 1989.

Plans

All drawings listed below are currently (1991) held by the Colgate-Palmolive Company in the L-1 building at the Jersey City plant (HAER NO. NJ-71-SS). For future access, researchers should contact the company's Office of Corporate Communications, 300 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022.

Albert Kahn Associated Architects and Engineers, Detroit, Michigan
1946 Spray Products Building, Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Company, Jersey City, N.J. [four sets of drawings (architectural, structural, mechanical and electrical), Kahn Contract No. 1960-B; the highest numbered drawings for each of the four sets found in the Colgate collection include No. 35 - architectural, 10-S - structural, 103-M - mechanical, and 13-E - electrical].

Duffin Iron Company and Turner Construction Company
1947 Spray Products Building, Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Company, Jersey City, N.J. [set of shop drawings numbered 1-47].

Bibliography

Colgate-Palmolive-Company
1986 Jersey City Plant/ECRA-II (Environmental Cleanup Responsibility Act) Site Evaluation Submission: Appendix B.

Factory Mutual Engineering Association - Factory Mutual System.
1962-79 Colgate-Palmolive Company. "Jersey City Plant." Serial No. 70516-B, Index 29368.

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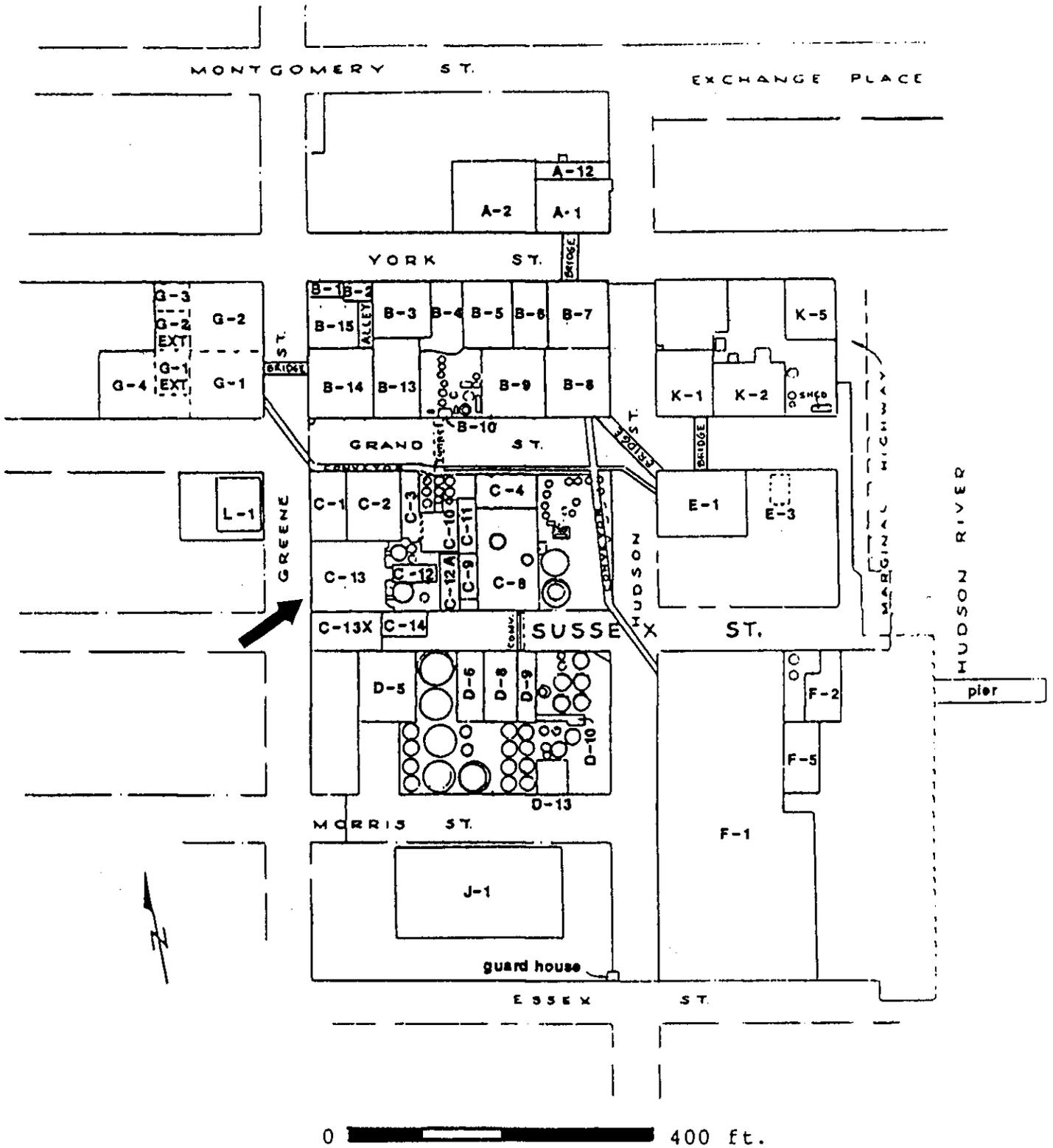


Figure 1. LOCATION OF C-13 AT COLGATE JERSEY CITY PLANT

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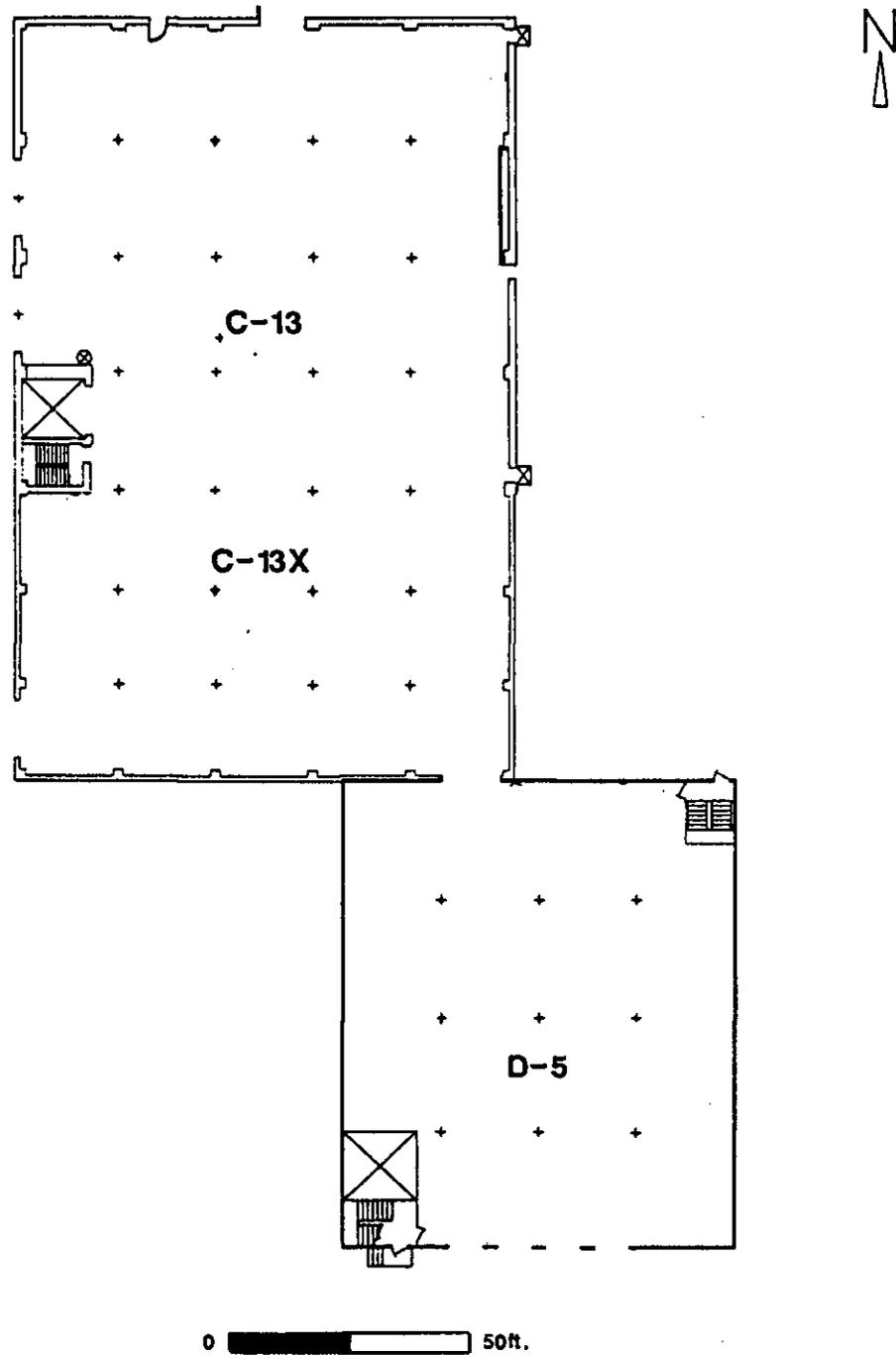


Figure 2. PLANS OF C-13, C-13X AND D-5, SECOND FLOOR