

WASHINGTON
COPY

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

1. Name

historic John R. Oughton Home

and/or common The Lodge

2. Location

street & number 101 W. South St. not for publication

city, town Dwight vicinity of congressional district 15

state Illinois code 012 county Livingston code 105

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ohlendorf (the Lodge) Leslie Keeley Company (Grounds)

street & number 101 W. South St. Box H, Dwight, IL.

city, town Dwight vicinity of state IL.

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Livingston County Recorder of Deeds

street & number Livingston County Courthouse

city, town Pontiac state IL.

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Livingston County
title Inventory of Historic Landmarks in Livingston County has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date February, 1975 federal state county local

depository for survey records Illinois Department of Conservation, 400 S. Spring St.

city, town Springfield state Illinois

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Lodge is a twenty room Victorian home on the south side of Dwight, Illinois. The home was built in 1891 at another site as a boarding house by W.T. Scott. It was moved to the grounds of the Keeley League and converted into their clubhouse in 1894. In April, 1895, the house was elaborately rebuilt to become the home of John R. Oughton, one of the founders of the internationally known Keeley Institute. The renovation was directed by architect Julian Barnes of Joliet. The building was named "the Manse" by Mrs. Oughton at the time of the renovation.

The physical appearance of the wood frame and Bedford stone building as it was being renovated by the Oughtons was described in the April 6, 1895 Dwight Star and Herald: "The outside of the residence presents a handsome appearance. The colonial piazzas, carriage arch, approaches, etc. present a handsome and inviting appearance. The windows are large. The roof is slate and the outside decorations very pretty." The interior was finished in antique oak, birch, and mahogany. There were twenty rooms on the first two floors (including servant quarters). The basement housed a bowling alley, dance hall, and three storage rooms.¹

From the time of its renovation in 1895 by the Oughton's until the present, the Lodge has been situated on 15 landscaped acres. A pond, 50'X 80' brick barn, and a 110 foot windmill tower are found on the grounds. The landscaping plans were drawn by Elliot and Co. of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

In 1929 during the decline of the Keeley Institute patient caseload, the April 5, 1929 Dwight Star and Herald announced that the Manse was being converted into housing for forty to fifty of the alcoholic patients who had come to Dwight for the "Keeley Cure". According to the article, a kitchen was added and some downstairs rooms were converted into bedrooms. The conversion took over a year and, according to the December 26, 1930 Star and Herald, the patients moved into the facility on Christmas Eve, 1930. The article indicated that fifteen bedrooms were created in the conversion but the exterior was unchanged. The brick barn was converted to a gymnasium and recreation facility for the patients. The windmill, pond, and tree-lined walks remained as a testimony to the Keeley treatment philosophy of an open, home-like, nonrestricted facility for their patients. The building was utilized for patient care until 1965 when the Keeley Institute closed its doors.

Following the close of the Keeley Institute, James Oughton, Jr., the grandson of the original owner, opened the Lodge Restaurant in the building without making substantial changes in the structure or grounds. In 1978, the Lodge was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ohlendorf. Extensive remodeling of the interior of the Lodge was done and the restaurant was renamed the Country Mansion. The exterior has not been substantially altered except to allow access to the handicapped. The interior remodeling was done with top priority being given to retaining the Victorian style of the architecture.

Currently, the grounds of the Lodge (except for the Lodge and two acres) are still owned by the Leslie Keeley Company, of which Mr. Oughton is President, although the Ohlendorfs hold an option on the property. The barn, windmill and tree-lined walks remain intact as they were during the Keeley Institute period.

Visitors to the Country Mansion will see the integrity of the brick and woodframe exterior substantially intact. The grounds are accessible to the public and the windmill

(See continuation sheet, Item 7, page 2)

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Built 1891, Rebuilt/ ¹⁸⁹⁵ Builder/Architect Julian Barnes (1895)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

In 1892, the London Morning News remarked, "Dwight, Illinois is a small place. Remove Dr. Keeley from Dwight, and it would be but a pin mark on the state map."¹ Dr. Leslie Keeley and his associates, John R. Oughton and Curtis Judd, founded the Keeley Institute in 1879. Within twenty years, the Institute had developed a national and international reputation for the successful, humane treatment of alcoholism. The Keeley Company grew "from its beginning in Dwight, Illinois to more than two hundred branches throughout the United States and Europe. . ."² The Lodge, which first served as the home of one of the founders, John R. Oughton, later served as the focal point of the entire Keeley Institute. The Lodge has always been one of the major structures in Dwight associated with the Keeley organization and its pioneering work in the field of alcoholism.

THE KEELEY COMPANY:

"Dr. Leslie Keeley was a pioneer in recognizing alcoholism as a disease, in emphasizing the physiological dimensions of alcoholism, and in the humane treatment of alcoholics."³ Following Dr. Keeley's death, "Keeley and his gold cure faded into national oblivion. However, recent developments in the study of alcoholism, especially by E.M. Jellnik, have vindicated important aspects of Keeley's work. As a pioneer in recognizing the physical dimension of alcoholism, Keeley foreshadowed much of recent research in alcoholism, especially research giving alcoholism a physiological etiology."⁴

John R. Oughton, a young Irish chemist, assisted Dr. Keeley in his research prior to the founding of the Institute. When their "discovery" of a treatment for alcoholism was announced, Keeley, Oughton, and a successful merchant, Curtis Judd, formed a partnership and started the Keeley Institute. "Keeley's plan of treatment was an innovation. Whereas the old-time asylum for inebriates was a place of horror with its straight jackets and other forms of restraint, the new institute was a place for voluntary patients where they met the doctors on a basis of mutual concession of responsibility for a cure."⁵

The reputation of the "Keeley Cure" grew largely as a result of an endorsement by the Chicago Tribune. The Biographical Record of Livingston County, 1900, indicated, "it is estimated that 25,000 took the treatment prior to 1891, when Joseph Medill became its champion and advocated the cause through the columns of the Chicago Tribune. By 1900, over 300,000 patients had been treated."⁶

After the death of the flamboyant Dr. Keeley in 1900, John Oughton who had had charge of the laboratories and compounding the remedies, and Curtis Judd, the business manager, continued the Keeley Institute. The work of the Institute, however, continued to draw sharp criticism from the medical community. Without Keeley, its spokesman and defender, the Keeley Institute lost much of its national prominence and began to lose clientele. In 1920, the Institute moved out of its large building in downtown Dwight and in 1930 the Dwight operation of the Keeley Company was consolidated at the Lodge and the Keeley Office Building across the street. The Institute continued to function as a treatment program at the Lodge until it closed in 1965.

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ITEM 7

tower is being restored to its original condition. The barn is currently used for banquets. Visitors to the restaurant see the antique oak of the reception area restored and can sense the elegance that was an integral part of the Manse and later the Lodge.

In 1939, the Keeley Company and the citizens of Dwight celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of the Institute. Ten thousand people attended the ceremonies at the grounds of the Lodge. At that time, a bronze memorial plaque was dedicated. The plaque bears a likeness of the three founders of the Keeley Institute, and was created by Florence Gray, a student of Loreda Taft.³ The plaque, with a time capsule enclosed, still remains intact on the grounds today.

FOOTNOTES:

¹Dwight Star and Herald, April 6, 1895.

²Ibid.

³Dwight Star and Herald, Keeley Anniversary Edition, September 29, 1939.

ITEM 8

The influence of the presence of the Keeley Company is also credited with the early development of Dwight as a modern, model community. At the height of the Keeley operation in Dwight, the trains carried 800 passengers per week to and from Dwight.⁷ The operation of an organization as large as Keeley in a small town brought an influx of persons to work in the program. The Keeley Company worked with the village to meet this need. "From a hinterland town, Dwight developed into a model community. Modern paved streets succeeded rutty country roads; electric lights supplanted antique oil street lamps. A new waterworks and sewage system were built. Handsome new residences were erected, a new railroad depot took the place of the old. An opera house was built, new hotels provided, and the institute established a laboratory and hotel. The town of Dwight had become the most famous village of its size in America."⁸

THE LODGE:

The grounds where the Lodge now stands first were the site of the Keeley League Clubhouse. The League, an organization of Keeley graduates, utilized the original building and then the new building (at that time called the Scott House) as its headquarters. However in 1895, John Oughton decided to renovate the building for his home. The April 6, 1895 Dwight Star and Herald reported, "The contracts for the elegant residence of John R. Oughton on his beautiful grounds, formerly used for the Keeley League Club at the south end of Prairie Avenue, have all been let and work was commenced this week. The Scott House will not know itself when the changes are made. The residence occupied by Mr. Bevans

(See continuation sheet, Item 8, page 3)

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and all the barns and out houses are to be moved and the grounds made into a beautiful park as it were. The very best materials and the very best work throughout is provided for and the design is elegant. We understand the improvements will cost over \$20,000 when finished. This will be a great addition to the beauty of Dwight."

When John Oughton died in 1925, his son took over the operation of the Institute. Oughton's widow built a new home next to the Lodge, and in 1930 the Institute patients were moved into the Manse which then became known as the Lodge. The elegance of the Lodge and its grounds continued to be a hallmark of the class of clientele served by the Keeley Institute over its history. "Several generations of Americans joked about people, especially the celebrated, the rich, and the well-born, who had 'gone to Dwight' or were taking 'the Keeley cure'⁹

In 1965, after the closing of the Institute, James Oughton Jr., grandson of John Oughton, opened the Lodge as a restaurant without major modification to the facilities. In 1978, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ohlendorf purchased the Lodge and after substantial interior renovation and minor exterior renovation have renamed the building the Country Mansion Restaurant. The grounds remain virtually unchanged and allow the visitor the opportunity to stroll the walks and view the Lodge, the restored windmill tower, and the barn used as a gymnasium by the patients of the Keeley Institute.

The Lodge and its grounds are the only remaining Keeley structures that are accessible to the general public. The Livingston Hotel which once housed hundreds of Keeley patients is now an Illinois Department of Mental Health institution for severely handicapped children. A Keeley office building (first used in 1920) has been converted to private commercial offices.

FOOTNOTES:

¹London Morning News, June 21, 1892.

²Ben Scott Jr., Keeleyism: A History of Dr. Leslie Keeley's Gold Cure for Alcoholism, Master's Thesis in History, Illinois State University, 1974, p. 1

³Ibid, p. 2

⁴Ibid.

⁵Dwight Star and Herald, Keeley Anniversary Edition, Vol 72, No. 39. September 29, 1939.

⁶Biographical Record of Livingston County, S.J. Clark Co. Chicago, 1900. As quoted in an unpublished manuscript by Dianne K. Strufe.

⁷Dwight Star and Herald, June 2, 1892.

⁸Dwight Star and Herald, Keeley Anniversary Edition.

⁹Thomas Powers, Diana: The Making of a Terrorist. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston: 1971, p.

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Continuation sheet

The Lodge

Item number 9 and 10

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ITEM 9 Bibliography (continued).

Dwight Star and Herald, Keeley Anniversary Edition. Vol. 72, No. 39. September 29, 1939.

Magazine of Livingston County, "Inside the Keeley Institute." Vol. 1, No. 4 (February, 1960)
p. 9-11.

Scott, Ben, Jr. Keeleyism: A History of Dr. Leslie Keeley's Gold Cure for Alcoholism.
Master's Thesis, Illinois State University, Normal Illinois (1974). Copy available
in the University's library.

ITEM 10 Geographical Data (continued)

Grounds: A part of Block 7 in Hahn's Addition to the Village of Dwight, Livingston County, Illinois more particularly described as: Beginning at a point on the east line of said Block 7, said point being 310 feet south of the northeast corner thereof; from said Point of Beginning thence south 628.13 feet along said east line to a point on a curve of radius 660 feet, thence south west 217.92 feet along the arc of said curve (said curve being concave to the nothwest and the 216.93 foot chord of said arc forming an angle of $108^{\circ}-45'$ measured north to west with said east line) to a point of tangency, thence southwest 126.40 along a line which forms an angle to the left of $170^{\circ}-38'$ with the last described chord, thence north 651.89 feet parallel with the east line of said Block 7, said line forming an angle to the left of $80^{\circ}-37'$ with the last described course, thence east 40 feet along a line which forms an angle to the left of $90^{\circ}-18'$ with the last described course, thence north 65 feet along a line parallel with said east line to a point 310 feet south of the north line of said Block 7, thence east 290 feet along a line parallel with said north line to the Point of Beginning.

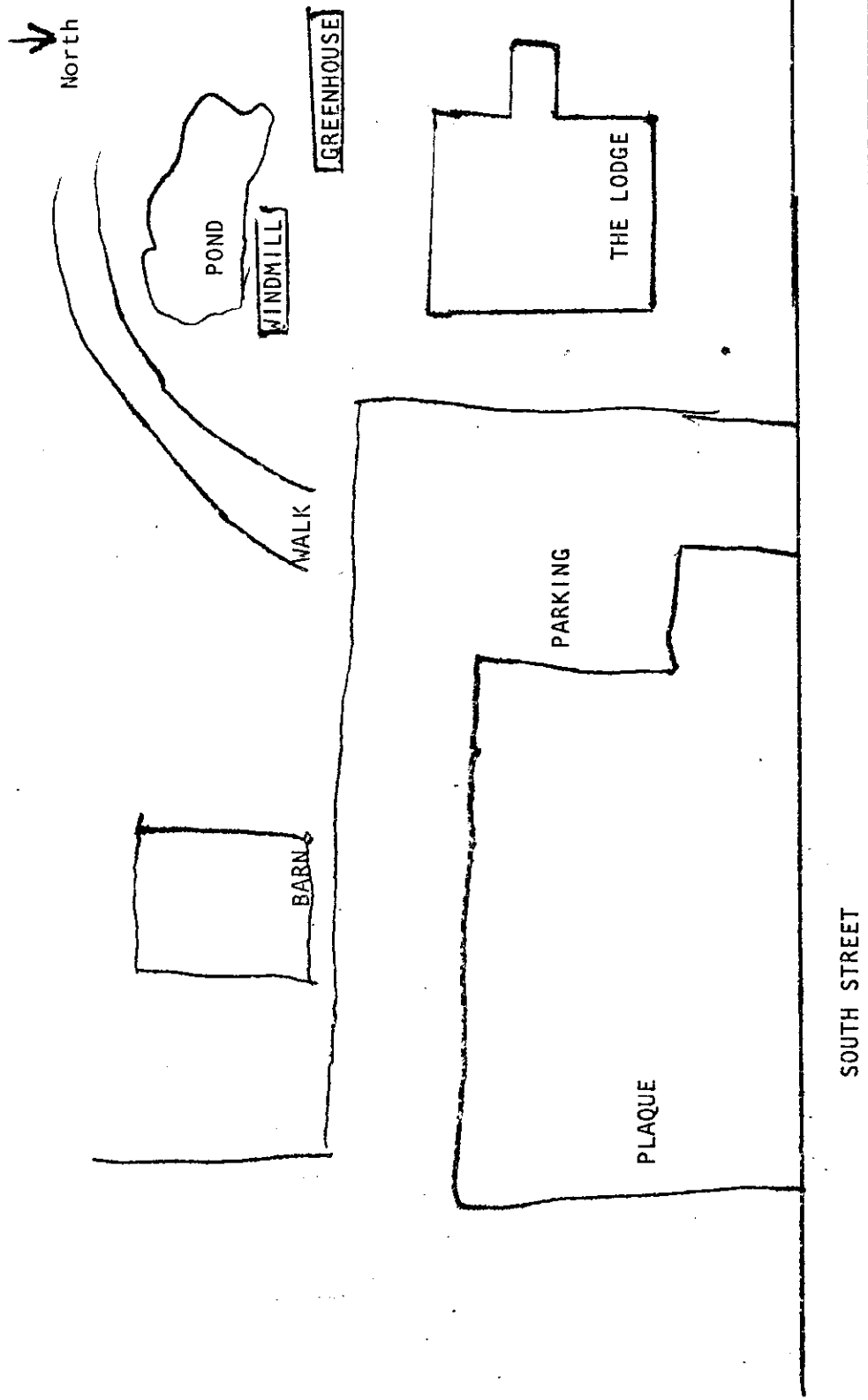
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Item number Sketch Map of Grounds Page



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ILLINOIS

Date Entered SEP 23 1980

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Oughton, John R., House	Dwight Livingston County

Also Notified

Honorable Charles H. Percy
Honorable Adlai E. Stevenson
Honorable Tom Corcoran

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.

COPY OF CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION

25 117

1. Name of Site:

Common Keeley Estate (home referred to as "The Lodge")

Historic

2. Location: SE cor E. South St. & Prairie (see attached map)

Street and Number

Township

Section

City or Town

Zip Code

T30N
Range

9
1/4 Section

Dwight
County

R7E

NE

3. Livingston
Classification:

Category (check one)

Integrity (check one)

- District
- Buildings
- Site
- Structure

- Altered
- Moved
- Unaltered
- Original Site

4. Ownership:

Status (check one)

- Private
- Public

- Occupied
- Unoccupied
- Preservation work in progress

Access to Public

- Yes
- Restricted
- Unrestricted
- No

Present Use (check one or more)

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Educational
- Entertainment
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Museum
- Park
- Private Residence
- Religious
- Scientific
- Transportation
- Other

5. Ownership of Property:

Owner's Name

Phone Number

Street and Number

City or Town

State

County

Zip Code

6. Description:

- Excellent
- Ruins
- Good
- Unexposed
- Fair
- Deteriorated

Is there a program of preservation underway? Yes No

MEDICINE

7. Historical Themes: (check one or more of the following)

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological Site | (Pre-Columbian) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological Site | (Post-Columbian to 1673) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French Influence | (1673-1780) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Frontier | (1780-1818) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Early | (1818-1850) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Middle | (1850-1900) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illinois Late | (1900-present) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Famous People Leslie E. Keeley | (give names & dates) |

8. Specific Date: .

Areas of significance (check one or more of the following)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal (historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal (pre-historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> Military |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | |

Brief statement of significance: (include all names and dates)

Use additional sheets if necessary. Home of Leslie E. Keeley who founded the Keeley Institute for alcoholism.

9. Form prepared by:

Name and Title:

Date:

Organization:

Phone:

Street and Number:

City or Town:

County:

Zip Code

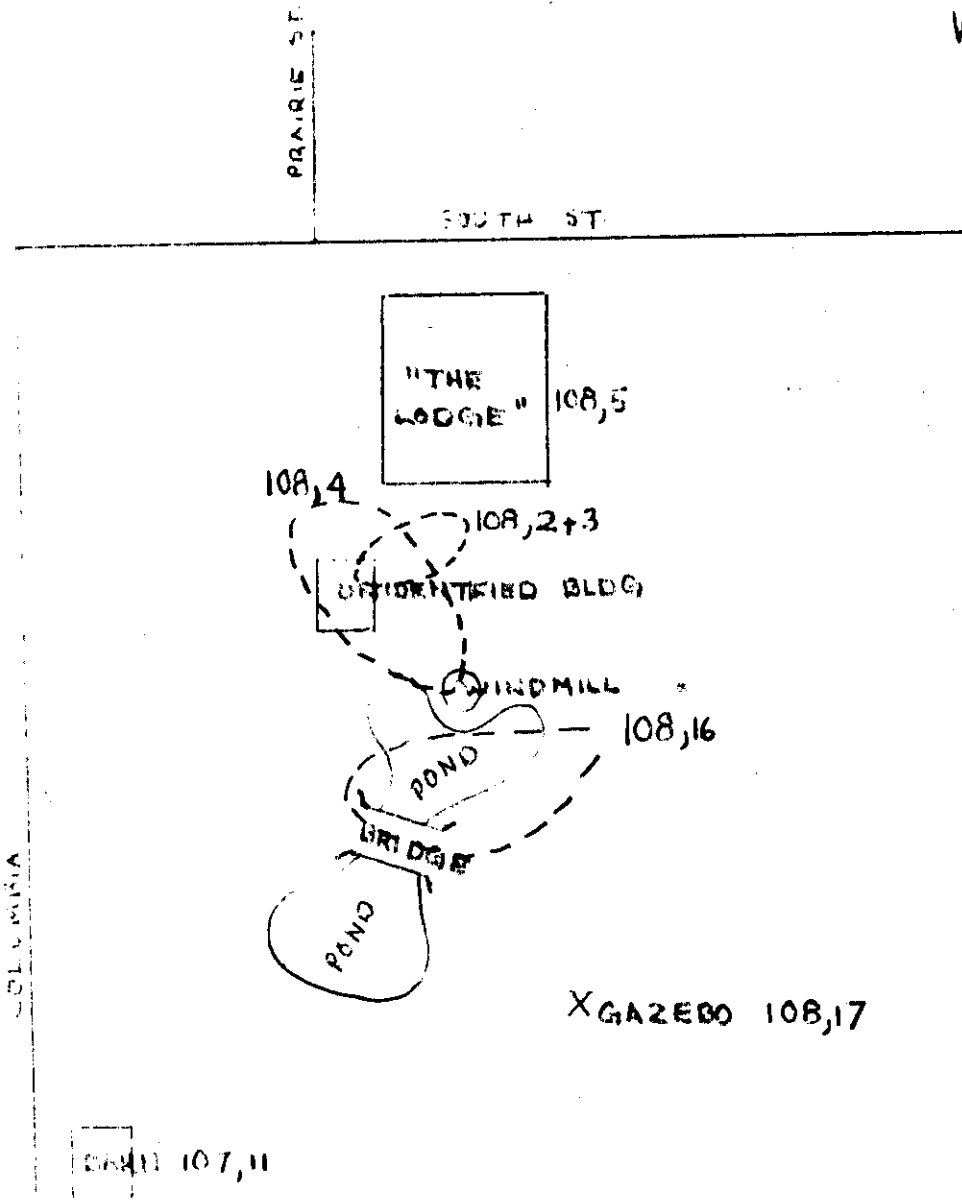
During the course of the Survey we often find it necessary to search for a particular site. When filling out the Survey form, please list according to the following example, published references to the site for which forms are being completed. If a bibliography can be compiled, it will greatly deduct from the Survey's task.

Bibliography

Robertson, Robert, Of Whales and Men. New York, Alfred K. Knopf, Inc., 1954.

SIGNIFICANCE:

N
W SE



Numbers in black indicate Roll + frame number of photograph
file of K.A. Sculle



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