

# American Gas Association Appliance Testing Laboratory

1030 E 62<sup>nd</sup> Street



# Timeline

- Gas stove first patented in 1826
- Late 19<sup>th</sup> century domestic gas utilization in America grew rapidly
- By 1900, there was recognition that comprehensive standards for appliances could be developed and enforced
  - Remove appliances with inferior design
  - State exactly what constituted a serviceable piece of equipment
- 1903 – General specifications created

- 1915
  - Creation of the National Gas Code
- 1918
  - American Engineering Standards Committee
  - American Gas Association
- Identifying the need for testing but there were obstacles
  - Numerous individual and regional movements toward formation of various types of appliance installation standards
  - Local applications of special specifications
  - Development of the single utility company appliance testing lab

- Gas Companies in New York, Baltimore, Chicago, and Portland pioneered testing labs for their companies, but these only took into consideration local conditions
- These labs formed the foundation for the AGA Lab program.

# AGA Testing Laboratory

- 1925 – Cleveland chosen as the best location
  - Central location relative to appliance manufacturers
  - Facility with supplies of both natural and manufactured gasses
- Began in two buildings at the East Ohio Gas Company plant



View of Main **Laboratory** Building from Southeast, Machine Shop, East Ohio Gas Company, Cleveland, O.



Inside of **Laboratory** from North End Showing Supervisor's Office.

# AGA Testing Laboratory

- Created as an impartial central agency of standardization, testing, certification and research
- “To promote and develop the gas industry to the end that it may serve to the fullest possible extent the best interests of the public.”
  - Standards
  - Testing
  - Research
  - Facilities
  - Education



**Fig. 2. This Is the Laboratory's Diploma for Appliances and Equipment to All Who Pass Its Examinations.**

# Speaking of A. G. A. APPROVAL

It is our intention  
To build and merchandise only such  
Appliances as will meet A. G. A. Tests—

THIS applies to every appliance we manufacture—not just to a few selected appliances.

The purpose of the A. G. A. Laboratory is to raise the safety and performance standards of gas appliances to such a degree that absolute confidence on the part of the public will be established.

Once the public has been educated to buy only A. G. A. certified gas appliances, gas as a fuel will take

on a new prestige that will help it come into its own. To accomplish this, the Blue Star Laboratory Seal must be popularized. This calls for the united cooperation of gas companies, manufacturers and the American Gas Association.

Do your part by confining your merchandising efforts to only those appliances which have A. G. A. Approval. Place emphasis on "Blue Star" Appliances in your advertising and home service activities.

Every S. G. E. Range tested has been approved. These are the ranges:

- Smoothtop Ranges—
- D 441
  - OD 441 SE
  - D 441 SE
  - OD 441 SE
  - D 450
  - OD 450
  - OD 450 SE
  - D 450 SE
  - D 1450
  - OD 1450
  - D 456
  - OD 456

- Oriole Ranges—
- 820-1
  - 821-1
  - 822-1
  - 823-1
  - 830-1
  - 831-1
  - 883-1
  - 885-1

- Triplex Ranges—
- 10-16
  - 20-16-R
  - 620-16-RE
  - 30-16
  - 30-18

- Acorn Ranges—
- 461-L5
  - 761-S
  - 726-S



Standard Gas Equipment Corporation

Main Office: 18-22 East 41st St., New York, N. Y.

Vulcan Oriole Triplex Acorn Divisions  
Pacific Coast Distributors:  
Northwest Gas & Electric Equipment Co., Portland, Los Angeles, San Francisco

## Radiant Gas Heaters

Economical heat, instantaneous and cheerful, can be yours from a Radiant gas heater. Just the thing while you are dressing these cool mornings . . . and for the evenings as well. . . . Enjoy the comfort of a warm home.

Prices from \$11.<sup>50</sup> up.  
Easy terms.

All heaters, ranges, and water heaters sold by the Southern California Gas Company are approved by the American Gas Association Testing Laboratories.



**Southern California  
Gas Company**

589 Main Street  
Phone 2360 Riverside



only 4 more days  
Special Sale of  
**ERIEZ GAS RANGES**

TERMS  
in Force Only  
During Sale

- 1—\$5 Down Payment on Any Model
- 2—Spread Balance Over 10 Months
- 3—\$5 Allowed for Your Old Stove
- 4—Your Old Stove Accepted as First Payment
- 5—Free Connections in Your Home



During Sale Only

**\$92.75**

A masterpiece in stove design and construction. Equipped with Wicolator Automatic Heat Control and useful Utensil Drawer.

**ERIEZ**  
Gas Ranges are approved by Good House-keeping Institute and have been Awarded the Blue Star of Approval by the American Gas Association Testing Laboratory



During Sale Only

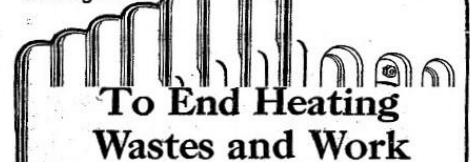
**\$45.75**

Beautiful Six-Piece White Enamel ERIEZ Gas Range—100% Quality all the way thru. Fully guaranteed. Other ERIEZ Cabinet Models as low as \$39.85.

Sale Ends Saturday, October 16

**ERIEZ STOVE COMPANY**  
Local ERIEZ Headquarters 685 Main St.

Telephone MAin 2000  
**STEAM FOR HEAT—GAS FOR FUEL**  
Without a Central Heating Plant.



To End Heating Wastes and Work

IN homes: Clow Gasteam provides heat for long or short periods.

In stores: Clow Gasteam makes everything inviting for the early customer—without asking much floor space.

In apartments: Clow Gasteam puts heat control in the tenants' hands, each tenant pays for the heat he uses.

In factories and offices: Clow Gasteam eliminates morning and night firing wastes—and takes care of overtimes.

Each Clow Gasteam Radiator is an independent steam heating plant. Gas used is automatically regulated. Operation is safe, simple, economical—merely turn a valve and light.

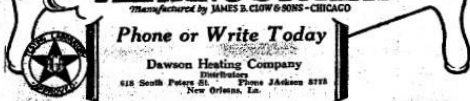
Find out about Clow Gasteam today. Convenient buying terms can be arranged.

Representative Installations

Clow Gasteam Radiators have a record of 20 years of use. They are installed in many buildings of all types in this vicinity, including:

- Greater N. O. Homestead Diamond Match Company
- J. B. Levert Land Co.
- J. Accordo
- G. J. Becker
- B. W. Saunders
- J. Ancona
- W. J. Cousins
- Denis & Handy
- S. Dominici
- W. J. Elger

**CLOW GASTEAM**  
HEATING SYSTEMS  
Manufactured by JAMES S. CLOW & SONS—CHICAGO



Phone or Write Today

Dawson Heating Company

Distributors  
618 South Pease St. Phone JAnkton 2718  
New Orleans, La.

EACH RADIATOR IS AN INDEPENDENT STEAM HEATING PLANT  
42 STYLES AND SIZES ALL APPROVED BY THE AMERICAN GAS ASSOCIATION  
TESTING AND UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES

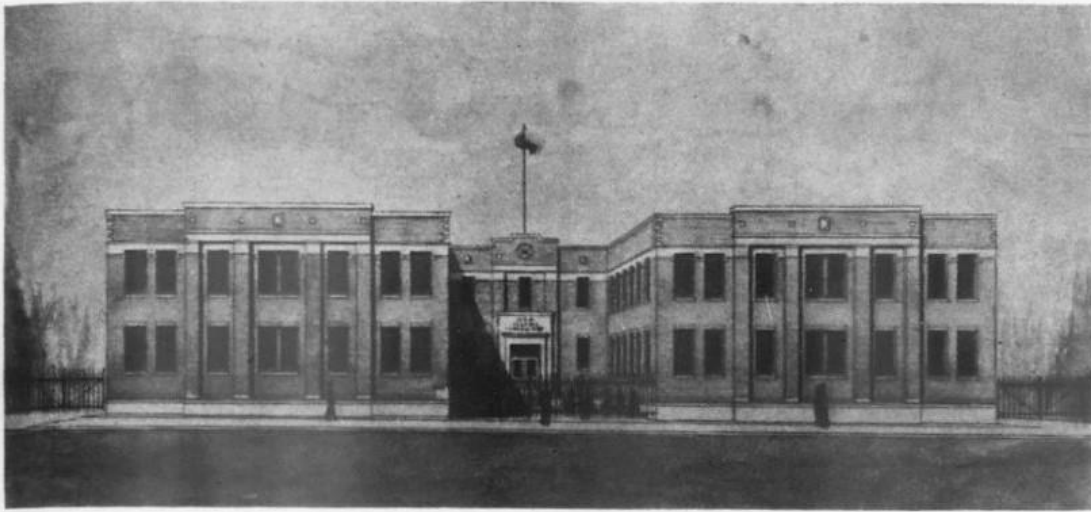


# New Building

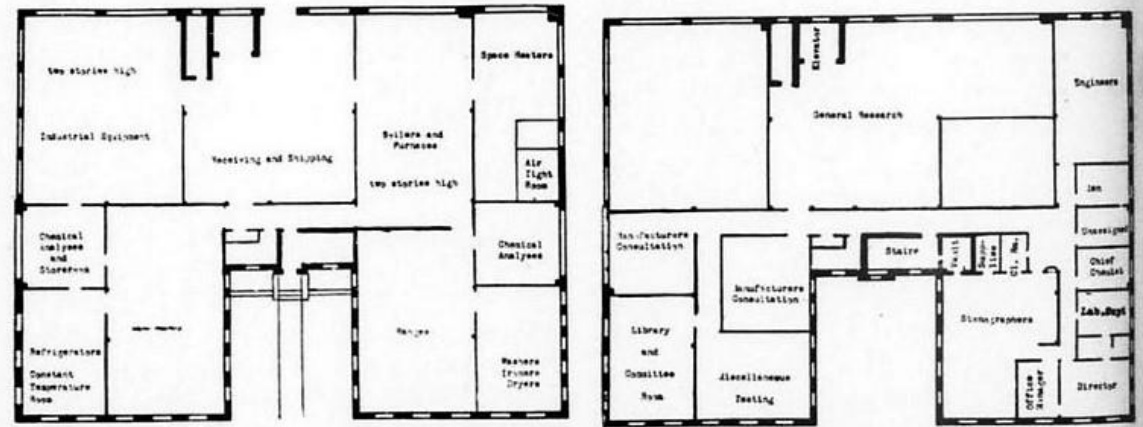
FEBRUARY 1928

A. G. A. MONTHLY

73



Architect's drawing of the new A. G. A. Testing Laboratory at Cleveland, Ohio



Floor plans of the new A. G. A. Testing Laboratory at Cleveland, Ohio. At the left is shown the first floor plan, and at the right is the second floor. The basement plan is on page 74

# Architect

- Osborn Engineering
- Founded in 1892
  - Incorporated 1900
- “Stadium designers for the nation”





- This was a non-commercial lab operating on a non-profit basis
- Location just down the street
  - Cornerstone laid March 15, 1928
  - Dedicated September 13, 1928 containing 14 testing rooms and 4-5000 cubic foot holders

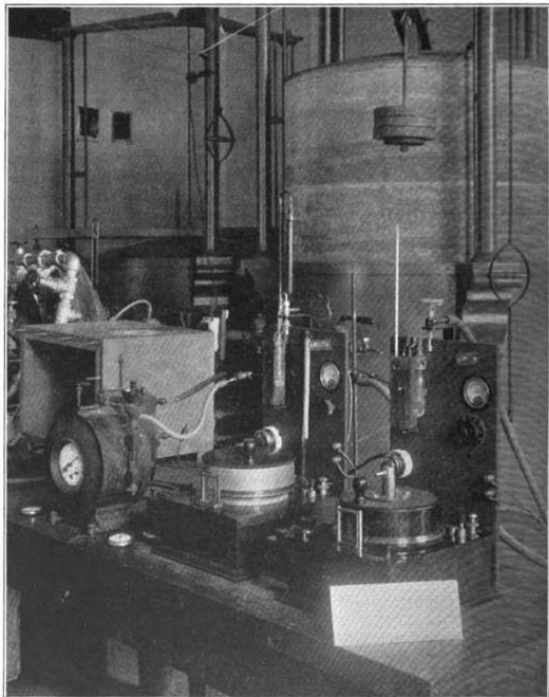
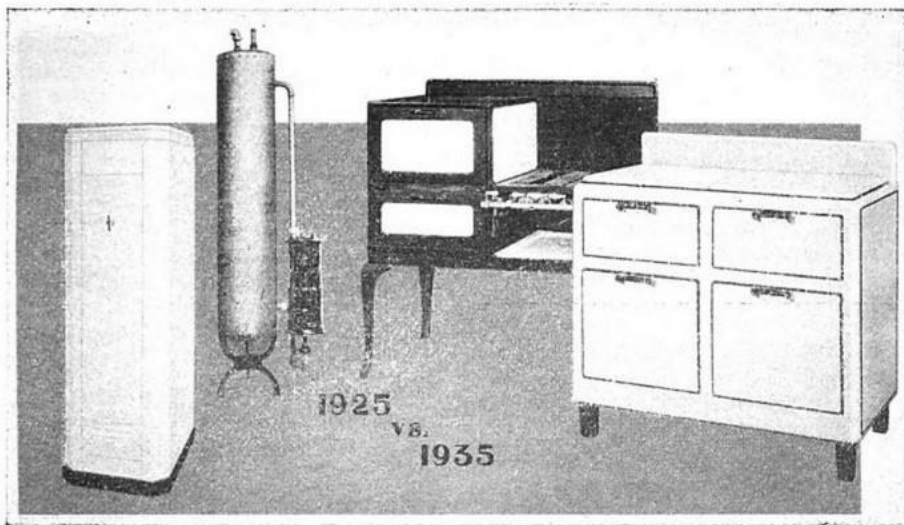


Fig. 1. Thermal Conductivity Apparatus for Measuring Air-Gas Ratios Installed by U. S. Bureau of Standards.



The Laboratory's First Job. Testing Flexible Gas Tubing.





- October 1930 – established an inspection station on the west coast
  - Created due to shipping charges and distance from the manufacturers
  - Inspection completed here prior to shipping to Cleveland for Certification

..... and the Laboratories' Staff



*The Cleveland Staff of the Laboratories (39) serves the Eastern, Central and Mid-West sections of the United States and all of Canada.*



*The Los Angeles Staff (7) acts in the interest of the West Coast Gas Industry.*

- October 20, 1944
- East Ohio Gas Explosion





Exhibit A



61178



Exhibit C





Exhibit  
D

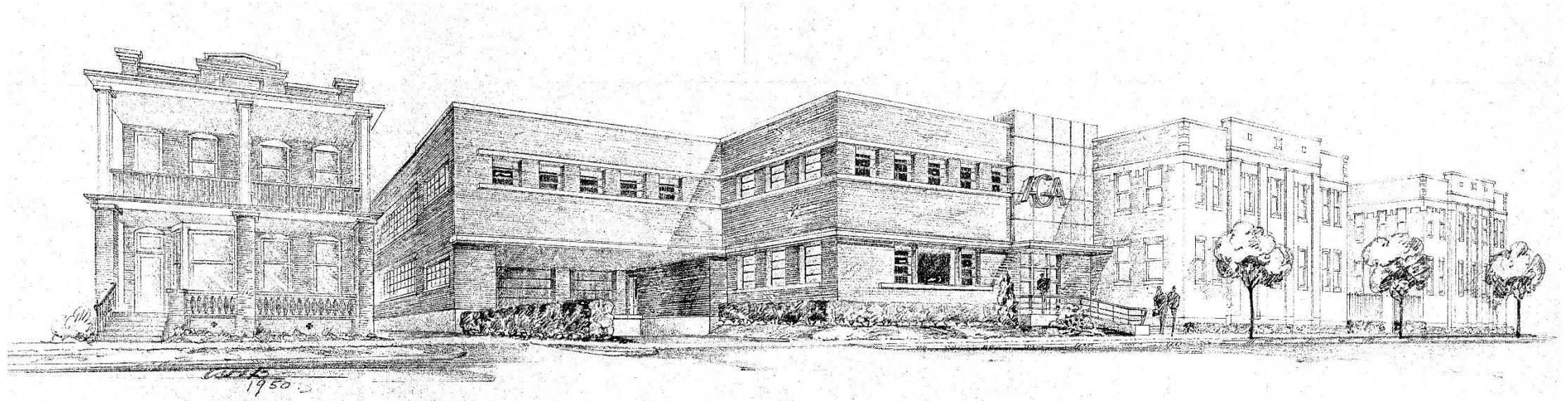
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- 1945 – Proposal for two-story with basement addition on south end of building
- Instead occupied four houses on the two lots adjacent



- 1950 – Demolition of the four houses and building of the addition
- 1960 – Addition to the north of the original structure

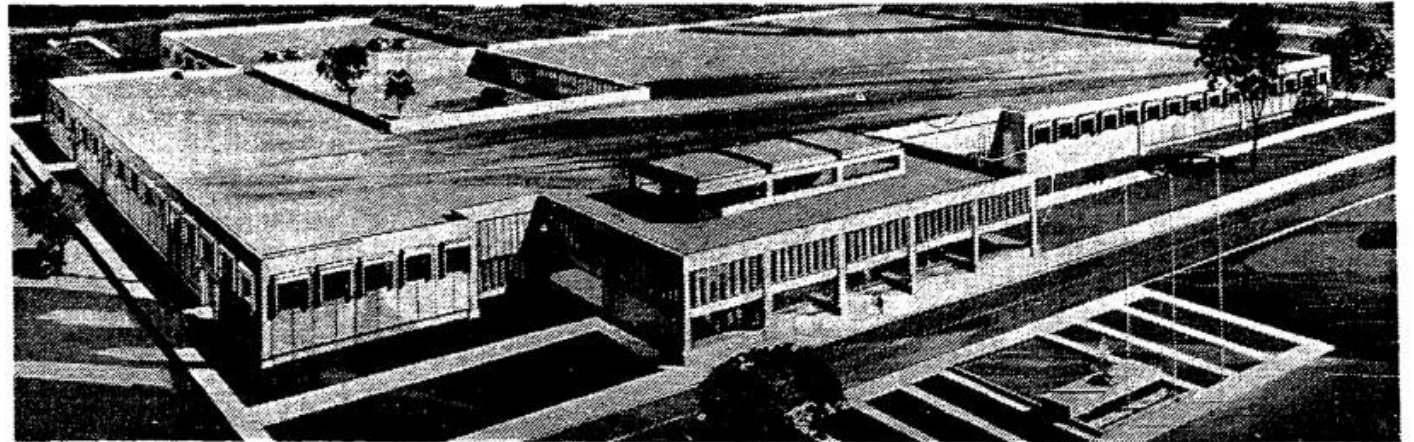




W.A.P.  
1950

# End of the Era

- New Larger facilities created in Independence, Ohio in 1968
  - Ground breaking in May
  - Dedication on September 25, 1969
  - 130,000 sq. ft. facility
  - 50% larger
  - 97 testing stations



RENDERING of the new home for the American Gas Association Laboratories, Inc., in Independence

dence by Dalton-Dalton Associates, architects, and engineers.

1030 E 62<sup>ND</sup> STREET

The New Beginning







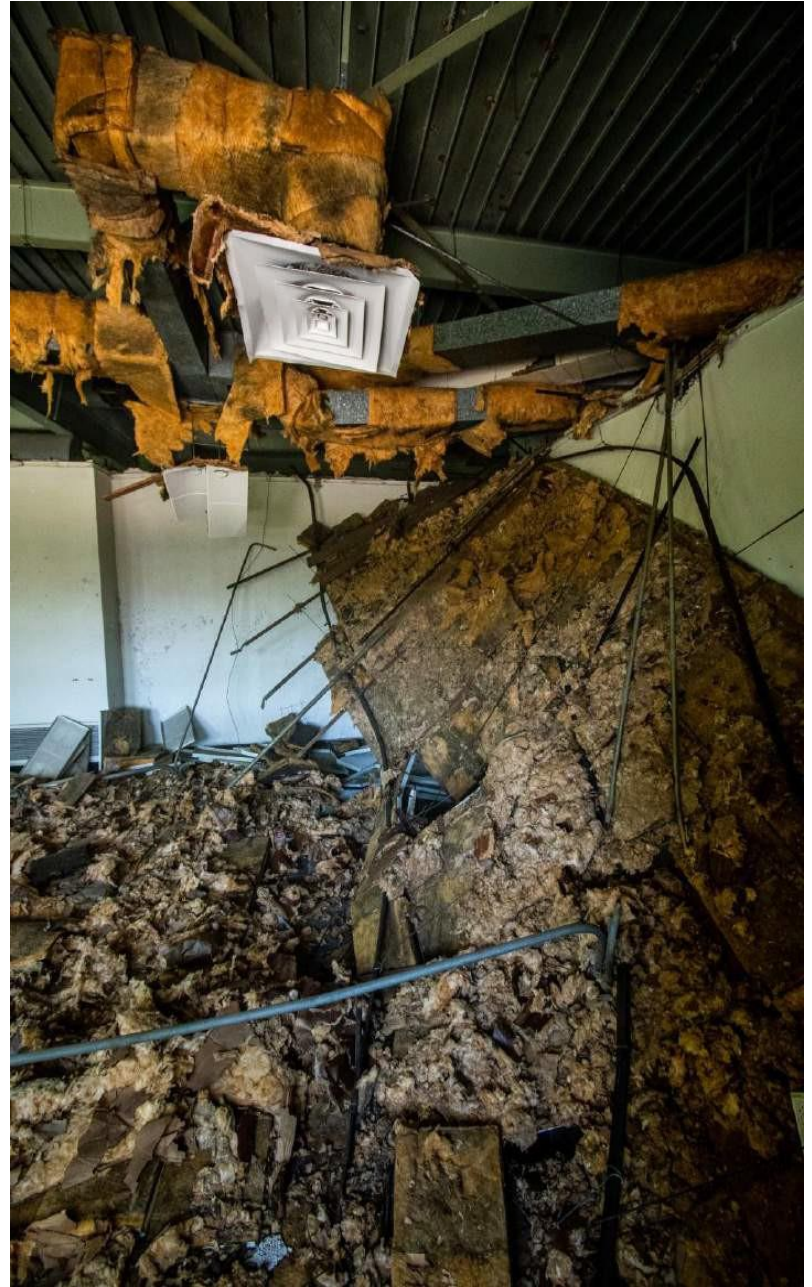










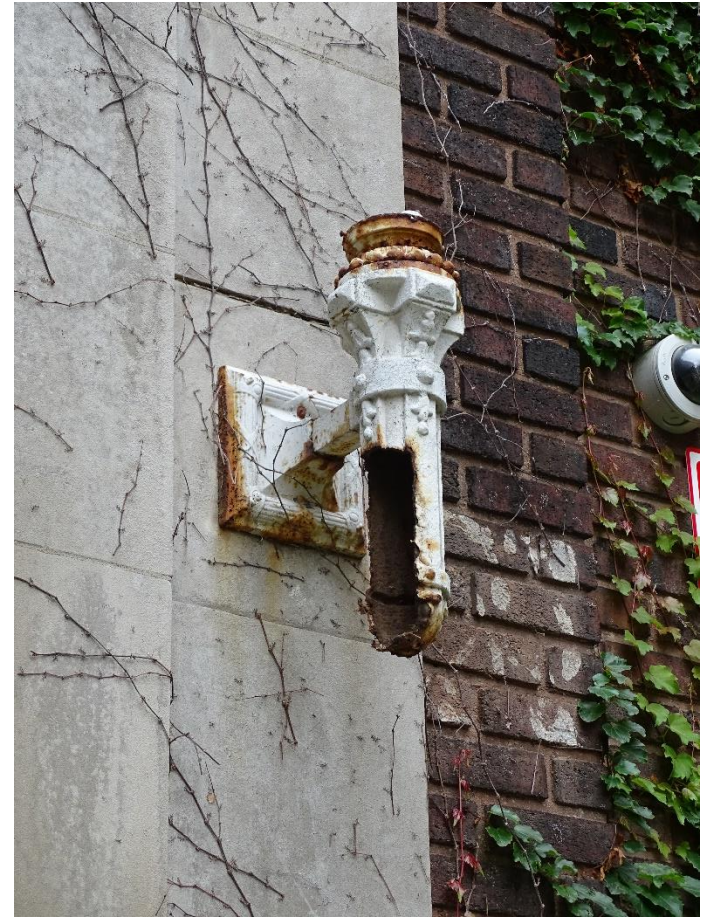




# Current Conditions















# North Addition





# South addition











Thank You.

