

FREDERIC C. JENSEN
INDUSTRIAL REAL ESTATE
30 S.E. 39TH AVENUE
PORTLAND, OREGON 97214
PHONE 503/222-6666

May 1, 1968

Oregon Highway Department
Metropolitan Engineers Office
5821 N.E. Glisan Street
Portland, Oregon

Attn.: M. E. Melick, Property Manager
Right-of-way Department

Dear Mr. Melick:

I am writing this letter in confirmation of our telephone conversation yesterday.

A community project designated Green Fingers Program has been initiated by the following area organizations:

Garden Clubs
4-H Organization
Key Club of Jefferson High School
Albina Taxpayers and Civic Association

The program calls for the growing of vegetables during the coming summer on vacant lots in the Albina area. It is specifically directed towards low income residents and juveniles for the production of vegetables to supplement the starchy diet of the low income residents of the area. A rather astounding fact is that welfare food supplement allowance is based upon 1953 food values. Hence, with the price of green vegetables, this program would fulfil a need not currently covered in any City or State program or service. Green Fingers is a self-help program.

Over 250 juveniles and adults have signed up for this program. However, available vacant lots are the problem. In all, an estimated 200,000 square feet of land area is needed and possibly more.

The State Highway Department has acquired and cleared several City blocks for right-of-way in conjunction with the Fremont Bridge and Minnesota Freeway connections. I understand that construction on these blocks will not commence until the early part of 1969. Therefore, I request that this property be made available for this project in the interim.

Such utilization of this property would result in savings to your department and to the State by eliminating weed control and grass cutting this summer. A constructive program of activity for the younger people who are not able to secure jobs is a deterrent against juvenile delinquency, crime and riot. To my knowledge, no other program has been initiated elsewhere in the United States of a similar nature, although "Victory Gardens" were an integral home front effort during World War II.

The planting season is now. I would appreciate your bringing this request before the proper authority for an affirmative decision forthwith.

FREDERIC C. JENSEN
INDUSTRIAL REAL ESTATE

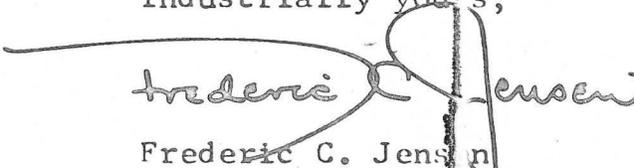
30 S.E. 39TH AVENUE
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The undersigned is acting as a private citizen assisting the sponsoring organizations. If there is any additional detail you require, please let me know immediately.

By way of identifying myself, I am the son of Gertrude G. Jensen, Chairman of the Columbia Gorge Commission of the State of Oregon, and a real estate broker in the industrial and commercial real estate field.

Industrially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frederic C. Jensen". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name. A long horizontal line extends from the left side of the signature across the page.

Frederic C. Jensen

Note: For your convenience I am including extra copies of this letter.

cc: Viviane Barnett

CITY OF PORTLAND
INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE
(NOT FOR MAILING)

May 7, 1968

From Russell A. Peyton
To Finance & Administration
Addressed to Mr. Keith Jones
Subject Green Thumb Program

Dear Keith:

Briefly the Green Thumb is a group of concerned people who have gotten together to acquire the use of vacant land in the Albina area in order that people may have an opportunity to grow vegetables for themselves and to supplement their food. This program is for people on welfare and others who are in short supply of food.

This idea was originally started by Mrs. Matthews of the Garden Club and Vivian Barnett a real estate agent from the Albina area, as a means of people helping each other to help themselves.

Approximately 100 adults and 150 teenagers have indicated their desire for such a program. People involved in the program include: Mr. Jensen, Mrs. Christiansen of the 4-H club, Ed Mitchell from the YMCA, Albina Improvement Association and others.

One of the first steps that was taken was to approach the State Highway Department regarding vacant land now being held for freeway entrances and approaches to the Fremont Bridge. They immediately agreed to allow the use of this land for such a purpose and to date they have approximately 200,000 square feet which approximates five city blocks. The Lilly Seed Company has offered the necessary seeds, the fertilizer is also being donated and the 41st Division of the National Guard has agreed to loan the heavy equipment necessary to clean the land and put it in condition for gardening.

One item of particular concern is water and they have asked the City what might be done in getting water for irrigation purposes. There are a number of people who are very enthusiastic about this project and they seem most anxious to get considerable publicity from the work they have done. They feel this is an excellent example of people working together in a program that is not government sponsored and without any appreciable cost. They also feel that getting people together to help themselves in this manner is a far better approach than the poor peoples march on Washington.

Sincerely,

Russell A. Peyton
Executive Director

RAP/cm

May 7, 1968

Keith:

I have given a copy of Mr. Jensen's statements to the Mayor and all City Council members.

There are two things that probably should be followed up and the most important of which is water for irrigation and the second is they would need a permit for the parade.

Sincerely,

Russell A. Peyton

RAP/cm
Enc.

FREDERIC C. JENSEN
INDUSTRIAL REAL ESTATE
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PORTLAND, OREGON 97214
PHONE 503/222-6666

May 7, 1968

The Honorable Terry D. Schruck, Mayor
City of Portland
City Hall
1220 S.W. Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Mayor Schruck,

A community project designated GREEN FINGERS PROGRAM has been initiated by the following area organizations:

Garden Clubs
4-H Organization
Key Club of Jefferson High School
Albina Taxpayers and Civic Association
YMCA - North Branch

This program is specifically directed towards low income residents and juveniles in the Albina area. It provides for the growing of vegetables during the coming summer on vacant lots in the Albina area. This will supplement the high starch diet of the low income families in the area. Current welfare food supplement allowance is based on 1953 food prices. Considering the price of green vegetables, this program will fulfill a need not currently covered by any City, State or Federal program or service. GREEN FINGERS is a self-help program.

Over 250 juveniles and adults have signed up for this program. Arrangements are being concluded with the State Highway Department for the use of approximately 200,000 square feet of land which was obtained for the Fremont Bridge and Minnesota Freeway approaches and connections. This property has been made available in the interim prior to commencement of construction, probably in 1969. Such utilization of this property will result in savings to the Highway Department and to the State by eliminating weed control and grass cutting this summer.

The purpose of my letter is to ask the City of Portland to provide water services for this project. In surveying the site yesterday with representatives of the Highway Department and interested groups, we found that the meter boxes had been removed from the curb area perimeters. I am of the opinion, however, that the pipe connections to the water mains have been capped and might be reconnected to hose bibs to be installed at the location of the missing meter boxes. It would not be necessary to provide this type of facility in the density extant when the site was improved.

The planting season is now. I would appreciate your bringing this request to the City Council for an affirmative decision forthwith.

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GREEN FINGERS PROGRAM

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The legal description of the site can be obtained from Mr. M. E. Melick, Property Manager, Right-of-way Department, Metropolitan Engineers Office, 5821 N.E. Glisan Street, Portland, Oregon

Support of this project has been unanimous with every group or individual contacted. Editorial support from both news papers has been assured. Opinion has been expressed that this project will received national news coverage and might very likely become national in scope.

Authorization is presently being secured for the Engineers Company of the 41st Brigade to provide man power and heavy equipment for clearing the site. This part of the project was volunteered by Major Ray Lynch, Adjutant of the 41st Brigade and approval is anticipated within the next two days.

Through the efforts of Mr. Willard Lighty, County Extension Agent - Agriculture , the Lilly Seed Company will provide seed and plants necessary to the project

This is a self-help program. It is a constructive program of activity for the younger people who are not able to secure jobs and is a deterrent against juvenile delinquency, crime and riot. The economic and social aspects of this program will produce positive tangible results.

The slogan of this project is HELP EACH OTHER TO HELP OURSELVES.

Providing there is no objection from the City, a parade is contemplated along North Williams Avenue greeting the arrival of the National Guard Engineers Company. This would be an entirely different type of parade than the "March on Washington" which is receiving publicity as of the last few days. The formal launching of this project is scheduled for the weekend of May 18, 1968.

I should like to suggest that you and the members of the City Council attend and take part in this parade. I do not know of any occasion where the chief executives of a City have actually "come to the people" in this manner and it would be and example to the rest of the Country.

The undersigned is acting as a private citizen assisting the sponsoring organizations. If there is any additional detail you require, please let me know immediately.

By way of introducing myself, I am the son of Gertrude G. Jensen, Chairman of the Columbia Gorge Commission of the State of Oregon and a real estate broker in the industrial and commercial field.

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GREEN FINGERS PROGRAM

- 3 -

I am enclosing a copy of my request to the State Highway Department under date of May 1, 1968. I am also including additional copies of this letter for distribution to members of the City Council.

Industrially yours,


Frederic C. Jensen

FREDERIC C. JENSEN
INDUSTRIAL REAL ESTATE
30 S.E. 39TH AVENUE
PORTLAND, OREGON 97214
PHONE 503/222-6666

May 15, 1968

The Honorable Terry D. Schrunk, Mayor
City of Portland
City Hall
1220 S.W. Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon

Dear Mayor Schrunk:

The following is a progress report of the GREEN FINGERS PROGRAM the details of which were covered in my letter to you of May 7, 1968.

1. The land use agreements have been fully executed with the State Highway Department. The total area is 240,000 square feet. A copy of the site area is attached hereto.
2. Heavy equipment and personnel from the Oregon National Guard will commence skinning off and grading the site on Saturday morning thru Sunday evening - May 18 & 19th.
3. The Rainmakers will underwrite the cost of water necessary to the project and negotiations with the Water Bureau are being handled directly by that group.
4. At the direction of the City Engineer, Mr. Norman R. Drullard, Mr. Larry Hunt, Supervisor of the Stanton-Albina Yard has been contacted and arrangements have been made for overnite storage of the heavy equipment and the barricading of the streets during "Operation Skin Off". I wish to commend both of these gentlemen for their cooperation and effort.
5. Through your assistant, Mr. Keith Jones, a parade permit has been issued for a Citizens greeting of the National Guard. Participating in this parade will be the Boy Scouts of America, Color Guard of the Oregon National Guard, Equipment from the Oregon National Guard, Farm Equipment, Power Company trucks, the Jefferson High School Band, the Key Club from Jefferson High School, the 4-H group, the Portland Rainmakers, Units from community organizations and churches, high school and grade school students and "the man on the street". Other units are being added which will include fraternal organizations and possibly Miss Portland - a resident of the Albina district.
6. Refreshments will be served at the end of the parade. The Grandma Cookie Company is participating to this end.
7. Through the efforts of Willard Lighty, Multnomah County Agricultural Extension Agent, seed for the project will be supplied by the Portland Seed Company, a subsidiary of the Charles H. Lilly Company of Seattle, Wn.. Plants will be supplied by Yamada Greenhouses of Milwaukie, Oregon, Frank Koch Greenhouses of Woodburn, Oregon and Tamura Farms of Troutdale, Oregon.

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GREEN FINGERS PROGRAM

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7. (cont.) Fertilizer is being furnished by the Webfoot Fertilizer Company (Leo Weideman). Garden chemicals and insecticides are being furnished by the Shell Chemical Company.
8. A press conference is scheduled at 2:00 P.M.* at the Seven Of Diamonds Teen Club at 2703 North Williams Avenue. All news papers, wire services, radio stations and television stations in the Portland area have been contacted and without exception will be represented at this conference. I might add that the correspondent from Life Magazine will also attend.

As there has been no affirmative response to the suggestion that the members of the City Council attend and take part in the parade on May 18th, I am joined by the sponsors of GREEN FINGERS PROGRAM in cordially inviting your participation and attendance.

A list of the sponsors and individuals who have worked to make this project a reality are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

GREEN FINGERS PROGRAM


Frederic C. Jensen

* Thursday, May 16th

FREDERIC C. JENSEN
INDUSTRIAL REAL ESTATE
30 S.E. 39TH AVENUE
PORTLAND, OREGON 97214
PHONE 503/222-6666

GREEN FINGERS PROGRAM

Portland General Electric - Mr. Maulding - 228-7181
D. H. Overmeyer Co. - Art Burch, Vice President - 639-3112
Coca Cola Bottling Company - A.H. McLean, Sales Manager 235-8444
United States Senator from the State of Oregon - Wayne L. Morse
Portland Chamber of Commerce - Sharon Ridenour, Executive Assistant
228-9411

Allis Chalmers Equipment - Farm Tractor Co. (Dealer)
Rotovator & Tractor Mr. Dwight Bergh - co-owner
Rt. 4, Box 980, Gresham, Oregon
663-4353

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GREEN FINGERS PROGRAM

Organizations:

ALBINA TAXPAYERS AND CIVIC ASSOCIATION. Viviane L. Barnett, President
289-7354 - 27 North Killingsworth

MULTNOMAH DISTRICT OF FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS.
Mrs. Newton "Frances" Matthews. 253-7015 - 300 N.E. 148th
Mrs. Claude Mills. 7100 S.W. 63rd Ave. - 246-2979
Mrs. Harry V. "Signe" Leeding. 16190 S.E. Clatsop. 761-1963
Mrs. Noel Webster. 2334 S.E. 66th Avenue -

4-H CLUBS Gray Thompson, City 4-H Agent. 5254 S.E. Oakland. 659-3440
Mrs. Horace H. "Tina" Christensen. 6704 N.E. Emerson. 288-3067

Y.M.C.A. - North Branch (Key Club of Jefferson High School sponsored by
the Colliseum Kiwanis)
Mr. Edgar Mitchell. 5430 N. Moore Ave. 285-8167 res.
(Executive Director) 281-0017 bus.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA. Roland Moore - 226-3423

RAINMAKERS John Prutsman, President 222-1721 bus. 246-2286 res.
Bob Hocks 234-4366 bus. 244-3528 res.

OREGON NATIONAL GUARD

Major Ray Lynch, Adjutant General of 41st Infantry Brigade
284-5004 res.
Col. Earl Johnson, Jr. 364-2171 Ext. 1094 Salem, Oregon
Col. Harvey Latham, Public Information Officer 364-2171,
Ext. 1094, Salem, Oregon 362-0695 res.
Capt. Leady (Maintenance & Equipment) Withycombe Barracks,
656-0577

OREGON HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

J. J. Smith, Right-of-way Supervisor 235-8911
M. E. Melick, Property Manager 235-8911

Willard Lighty - Multnomah County Agricultural Extension Agent -
227-8441 665-9777 res.

Frederic C. Jensen - private citizen (letterhead)

Russell J. Walls - private citizen - 235-1414

Yamada Greenhouses - Milwaukie, Oregon
Frank Koch Greenhouses - Woodburn, Oregon
Tamura Farms - Troutdale, Oregon
Webfoot Fertilizer Co. (Leo Weideman), Portland, Oregon
Shell Chemical Company. (Bob Mitchell), Portland, Oregon
Portland Seed Co. (Chas. H. Lilly Co.) Glen Mahan, Portland, Oregon
Grandma Cookie Company (Mr. Ralph Wittenburg), Portland, Oregon
Pacific Power & Light Company, Portland, Oregon

ALBINA CITIZENS' WAR ON POVERTY COMMITTEE, INC.

59 N. E. Stanton Street
PORTLAND, OREGON 97212

Phone: 282-0942

Chairman: 287-4581

May 16, 1968

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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WILLIAM DAW

Second Vice-President
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HUGH J. CUMMINGS
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BISHOP W. L. MCKINNEY
MRS. HELEN MEDLOCK
ROLAND MOORE
WALTER MORRIS
JOSEPH T. NICKERS
REV. MORGAN ODELL
MRS. ALBERTA PHILLIPS
MRS. VIRGINIA ROBERTS
MISS MARY C. ROWLAND
MRS. HENRIETTA SMITH
MRS. NORMAN STOLL
MRS. ESTHER THOMPSON
MRS. VERNON THOMPSON
RICHARD WASHINGTON
MRS. ARIE WHITE
MRS. ALAMEDA WILLIAMS
WILLIAM WOODS

Keith Jones, Administrative Assistant
Office of the Mayor
City Hall
Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Mr. Jones:

The Director of the Albina Neighborhood Service, Rozell Gilmore, has been contacted by a Fredric J. Jensen about a project called "Green Finger". This project will be a community involvement effort, sponsored by a group of interested citizens of the Portland Metropolitan Area, who would like to make available to Albina residents in particular, some ground to plant gardens.

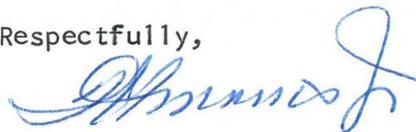
The space to be planted would be located in the Emanuel Hospital development area. This project would not only provide fresh vegetables for some of the residents, but it would also provide experience in gardening to many ghetto youth.

Mr. Jensen stated that extra water would be needed in this area. This water would be used to sprinkle the gardens. He has asked the Albina Citizens' War on Poverty Committee to appeal to the Mayor's office for free water service.

The Albina Citizens' War on Poverty Committee feels that this project has merit and voted to interceed in the groups behalf.

The Albina Citizens' War on Poverty Committee requests that water be made available for the "Green Finger" Project.

Respectfully,



Walter Morris, Jr.
Chairman, Albina Citizens'
War on Poverty Committee

WMJ:rp

COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT '71

A Contact Center Program

The Green Fingers Project, a community action program aimed at self-help, is beginning to get things growing again this year with the guidance and expertise of Mrs. Viviane Barnett. The core area to be involved in this project is the southwest college and youth community. Headquarters for the co-ordination of the gardens is located in the Contact Center (a non-profit, tax-free program of the Portland Youth Advocates). At present, land, seeds, tractors, rakes and shovels, fence material, stakes, string, organic fertilizer, and teachers who are into organic gardening are needed to help our low income communities to feed and educate themselves. The garden will be used in cooperation with the Ochoco School (located above the Contact Center in the Koinonia House) to educate students and youth in the art of pollution-free gardening.

In the fall, in order to prevent spoilage and to meet the needs of a larger number of people the distribution of the food will be a cooperative community decision. A possibility will be to channel the excess food through existing food coops, where they in turn would establish a fund to serve for further self-developmental projects in the community.

For more information, get in touch with Ralph Lambert at the Contact Center, located in the basement of the Koinonia House, 633 S.W. Montgomery Street, or phone 226-2507.

Black Summer has 1½ plots of land in the Greenfinger's Project where vegetables will be planted and harvested by the students as a work project and a learning process.

Colden Brown, Director and Charles Stroughter, Co-Director, have a staff of fourteen people on the project.

C-CAP CHILDREN' SCHOOL

Directed by Peggy Halsey, Methodist worker, The Childrens' School works with mentally retarded youngsters ages 8 to 16. Hughes Memorial Methodist Church supplies the space for the school. The Summer Program will continue through July.

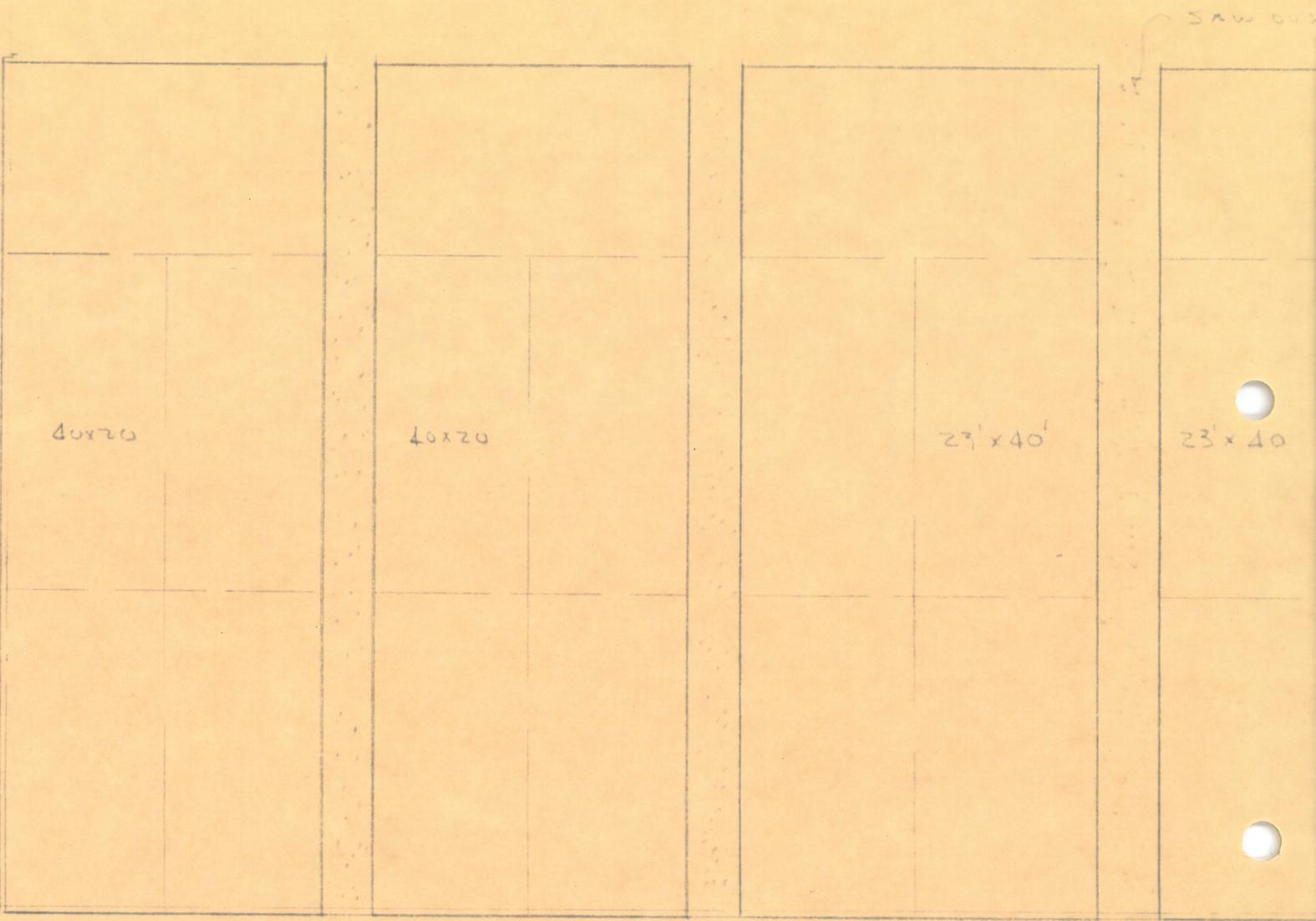
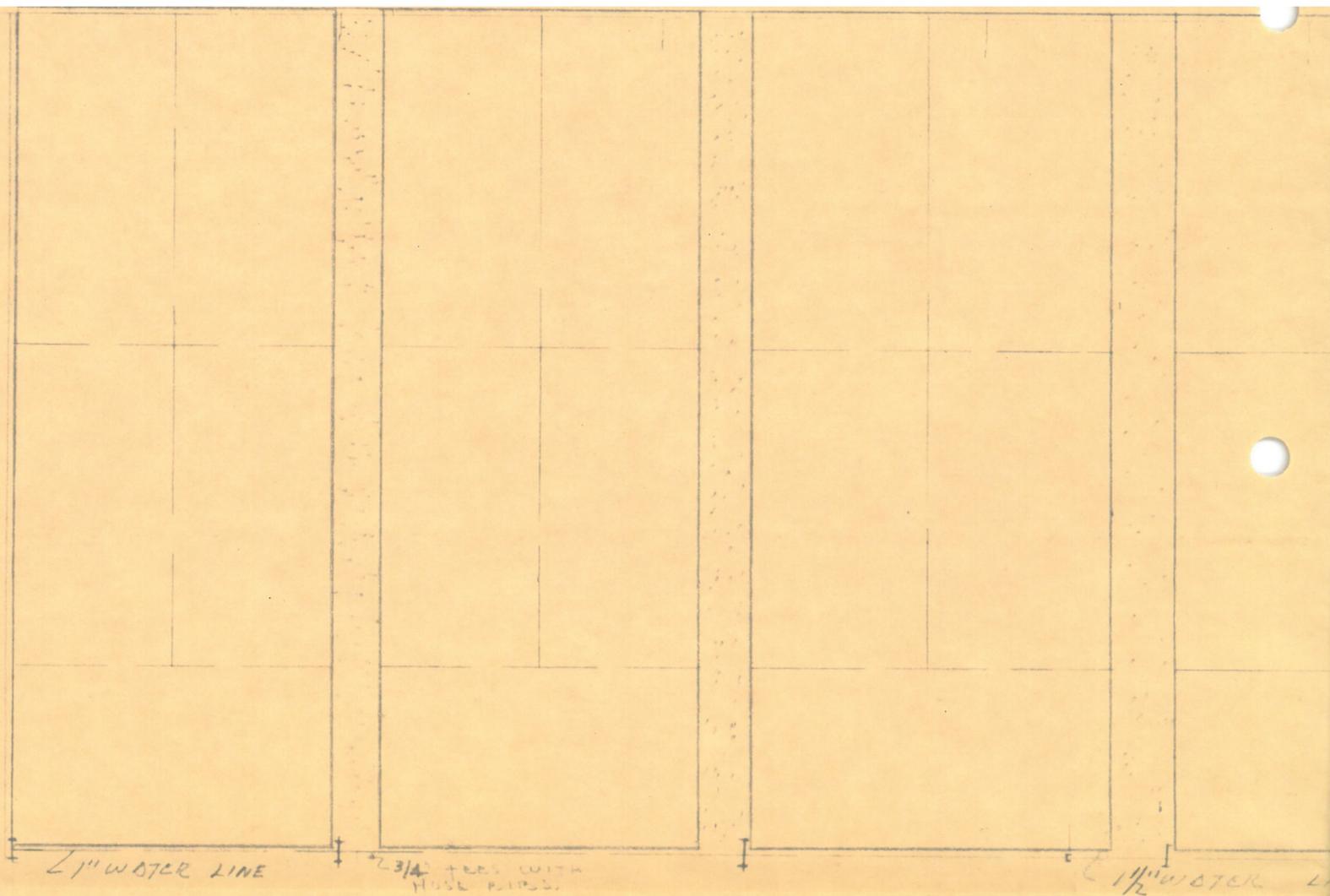
If you have a special interest in a particular program contact C.CAP, 106 N.E. Morris St.

C-CAP ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

In addition to the general supervision and coordination of the total program, Jessie Varner, C-CAP Director and Robert Nelson, Program Co-Ordinator, spends considerable time speaking to groups about C-Cap specifically and the problems of the conflicts of peoples generally.

All C-CAP personnel are involved in other community programs and projects not directly related to C-CAP, such as the Seven of Diamonds Teen center, school and community confrontations.

There are many other opportunities for C-CAP involvement. The need is real and is urgent. Our ability to respond depends on the continued financial support of those who want to be a part of the answer to the problems of the City and its peoples.



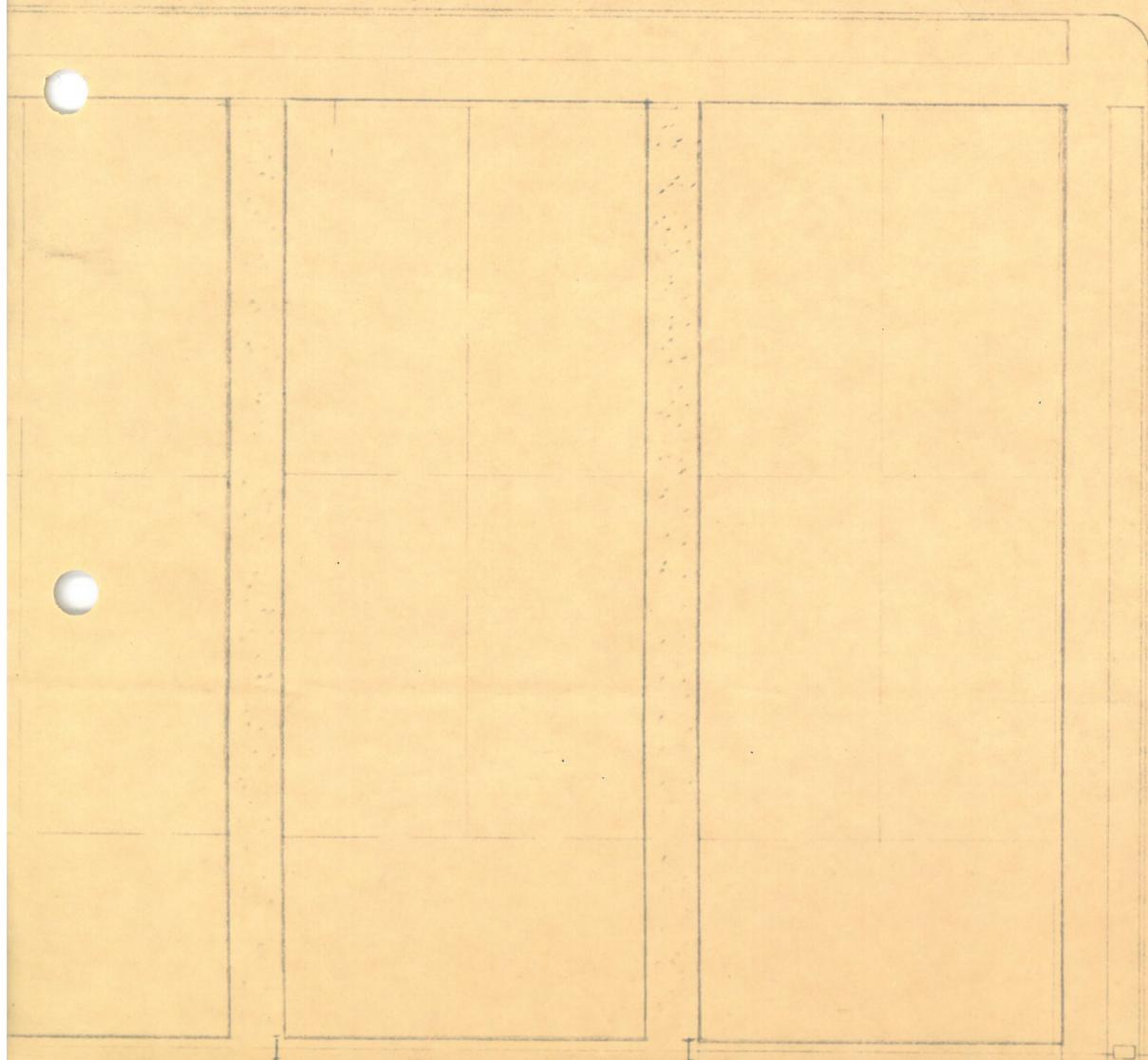
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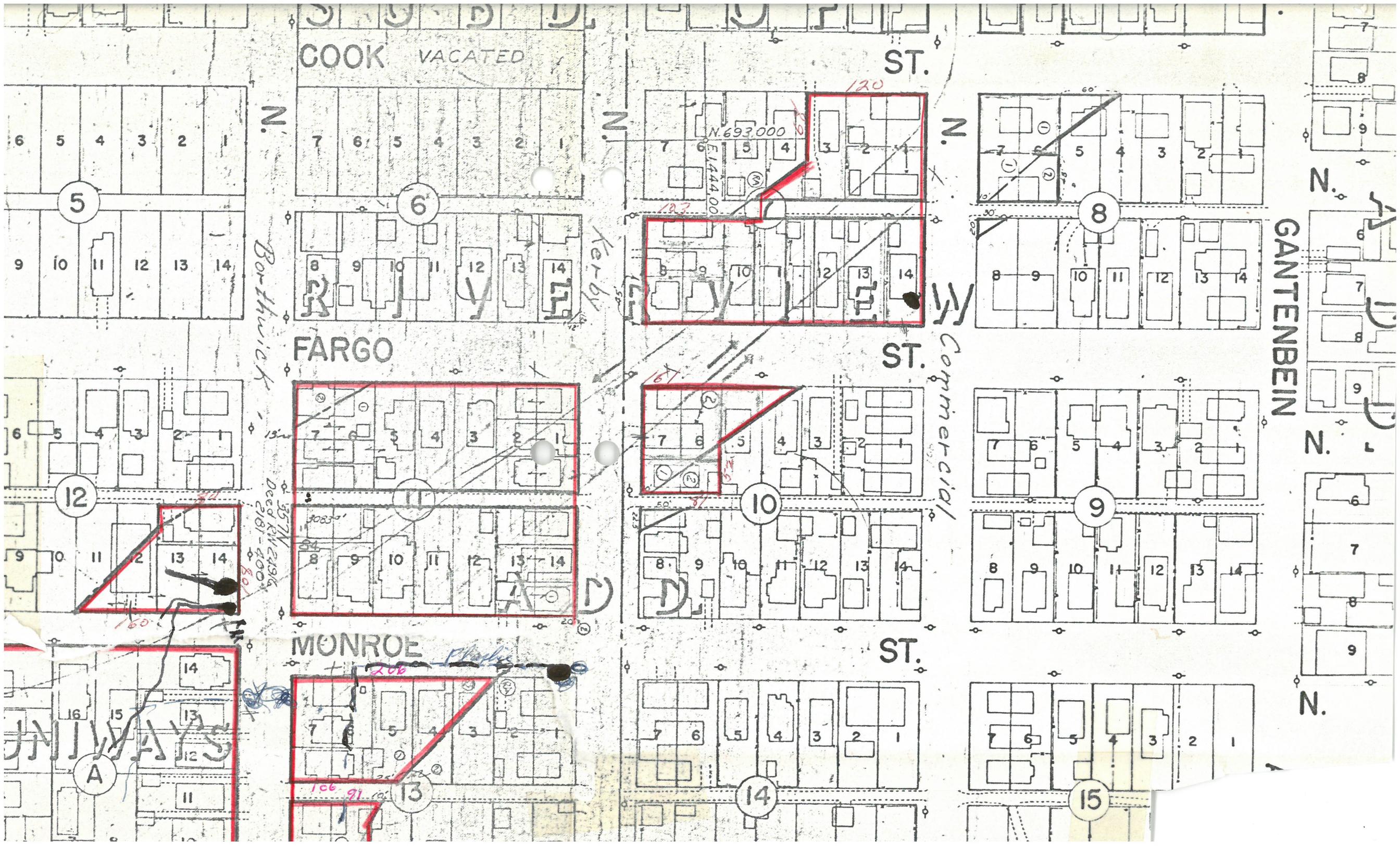
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