

ABBOTTSFORD HOMES, BUILDING TYPE 2
Bounded by Abbottsford Avenue, Henry Avenue,
Robert Avenue, and Fox Street
Philadelphia
Philadelphia, County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-6165-B

HABS
PA
51-PHILA,
732B-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, P.A. 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ABBOTTSFORD HOMES, BUILDING TYPE 2

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Location: Bounded by Abbottsford Avenue, Henry Avenue, Robert Avenue, and Fox Street, Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania
USGS: Germantown, Pa.
UTM Coordinates (Easting, Northing): 18.484740.4429140, 18.484920.4428880, 18.484570.4428620, 18.484410.4428840

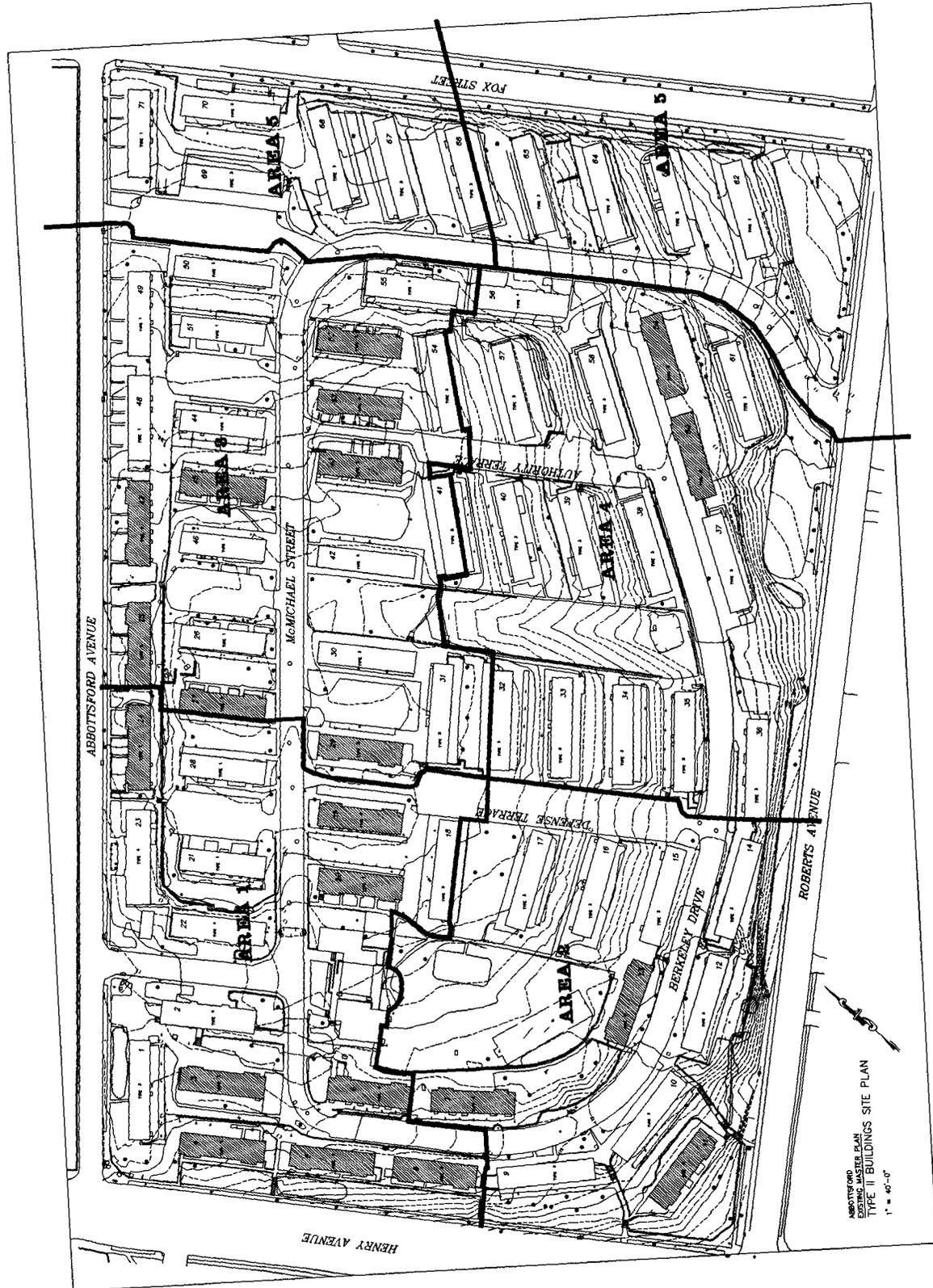
Significance: Built in 1942-43, the Abbottsford Homes Defense Housing Project exemplifies World War II urban workers' housing. Housing Type 2 was the most common of the family-oriented (three-bedroom) housing types built within the residential complex.

Description: Twenty-one structures in the seventy-one building complex are Building Type 2. It is characterized by three bedrooms, arranged in a two-level, townhouse plan. The Type 2 buildings are two-story, flat-roofed brick structures, with projecting bays on the end units, which enlarge the first floor living room and a second floor bedroom from the Type 1 model. Type 2 buildings have six units (three pairs) in a building, with the units arranged as mirror images of each other. The paired units at each end of the building are arranged with front doors separated from each other by the projecting bay. The two middle units are actually arranged like the Type I houses, with no projecting bay and side-by-side front entries, sharing a low concrete stoop. Direct entry from the exterior may be made through the living room at the front of the unit, and through the kitchen to the rear.

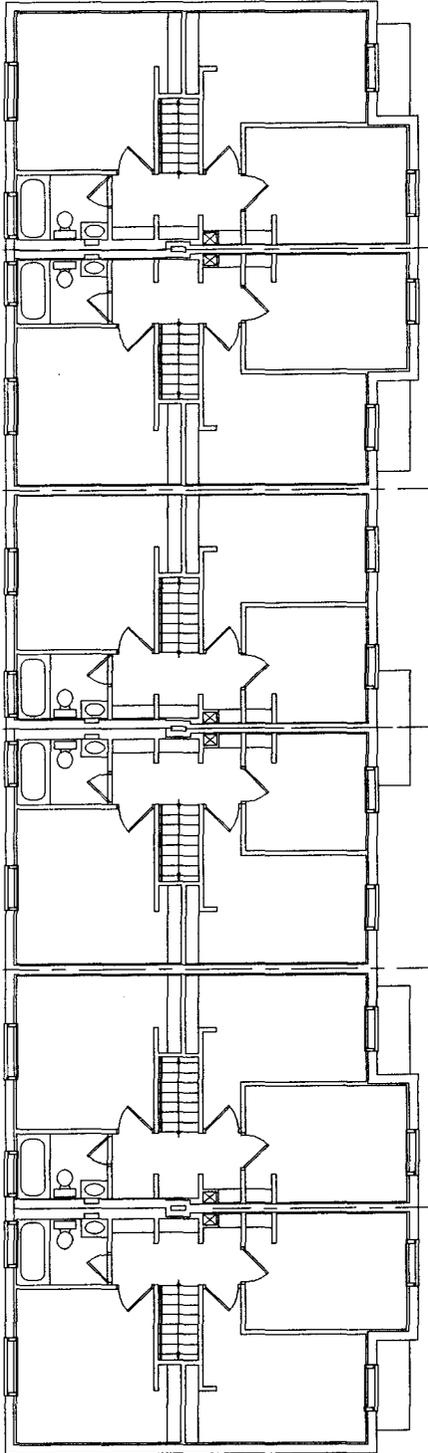
History: Abbottsford Homes was constructed for World War II workers and their families, after the increase in manpower in industry brought about tremendous shortages of appropriate, affordable housing in the area. After World War II, Abbottsford Homes was turned over to the Philadelphia Housing Authority and operated as public housing. Original wood double-hung windows have been replaced with aluminum double-hung windows and storms, creating a 2/2 pattern. The slate sills were also wrapped with aluminum. In 1987, front entrance doors were replaced with metal doors with three small panels, one of which is a window. Renovations for the buildings are now being planned which will add a pitched roof above the building, replace windows and doors, and redesign the entry canopy to a traditional porch.

Source: Abbottsford Homes National Register Nomination, March 1995
Part of the "Public Housing in Philadelphia" Multiple Property Documentation for the National Register of Historic Places.

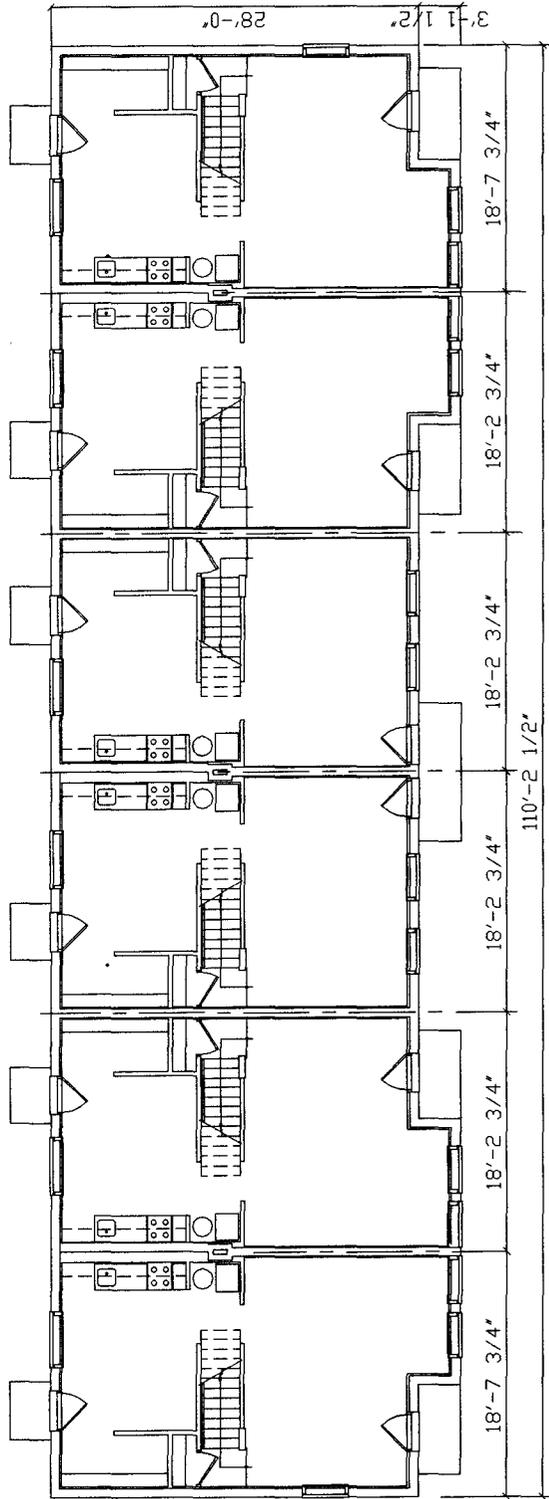
Historian: Janet W. Foster, Acroterion Historic Preservation Consultants
June 30, 1995.



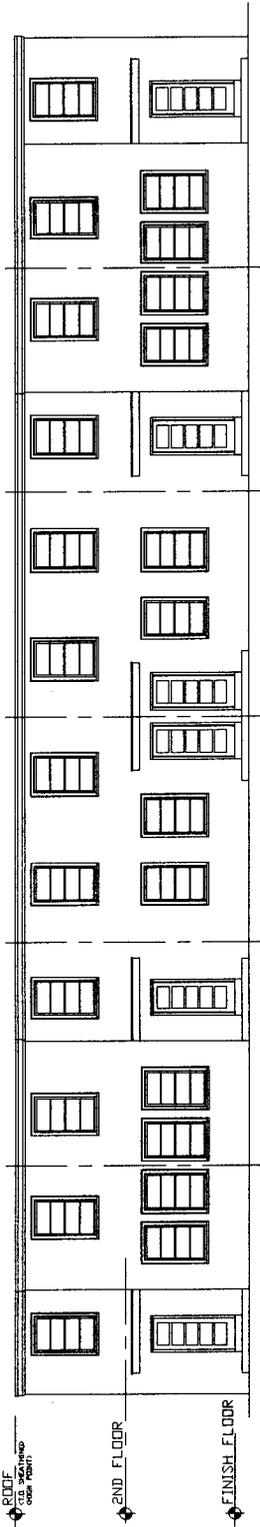
ABBOTSFORD
EXISTING MASTER PLAN
TYPE II BUILDINGS SITE PLAN
1" = 40'-0"



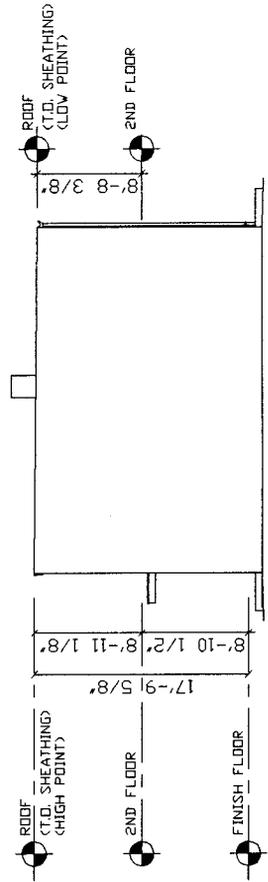
1 EXISTING 2ND FLOOR PLAN
BUILDING TYPE 2 (3 BEDROOM UNITS)



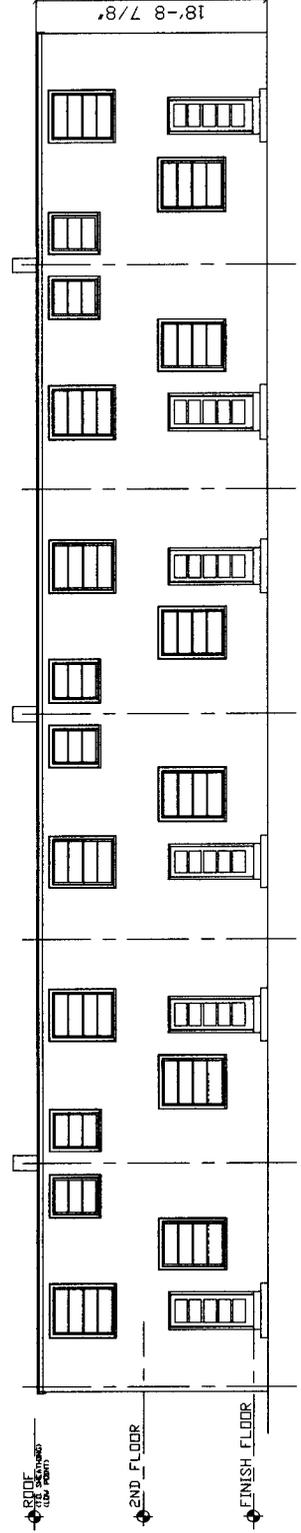
2 EXISTING 1ST FLOOR PLAN
BUILDING TYPE 2 (3 BEDROOM UNITS)



1 EXISTING FRONT ELEVATION
BUILDING TYPE 2 (3 BEDROOM UNITS)



2 EXISTING SIDE ELEVATION
BUILDING TYPE 2 (3 BEDROOM UNITS)



3 EXISTING REAR ELEVATION
BUILDING TYPE 2 (3 BEDROOM UNITS)