

CINCINNATI WORKHOUSE

MUNICIPAL ACTIVITIES

MUNICIPAL REFERENCE LIBRARY
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CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202



CINCINNATI MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

972 Acres—8000 Feet Long—4000 Feet Wide
Five Miles From Center of City



CITY OF CINCINNATI
1928

FOREWORD

The following pages record the principal accomplishments of the City Government of Cincinnati during the year 1928, written so as to be readily understood by all citizens. It is an account of the stewardship of the City Council, Courts, Boards, Commissions, Departments, and Independent Offices.

The effort of the City Administration is to give to every resident the greatest possible service not inconsistent with the rights of others; and to enforce all laws justly, reasonably, and impartially, without fear or favor.

The program of physical and spiritual betterment accomplished during the past year was carried out with a **decrease of the total tax rate** from \$24.60 to \$21.60 per thousand dollars on taxable property; of the city's portion of this tax, \$5.65 per thousand was for current city operations; and \$3.75 was for city sinking fund charges—that is, expenditures of past years. The cash unexpended balance on December 31, 1928, was \$7,418,672.25. At the end of the year there was a net bonded indebtedness, not including self-supporting bonds, of \$40,193,537.83, or \$94.50 per capita. **There was a decrease during the year in the amount of outstanding bonds, of \$172,331.96.**

Notwithstanding the large increased appropriations for parks, welfare work, health service, General Hospital; also, increased pay schedules to employees, the city, at the end of the year, is in a **splendid financial condition**, reflecting the economy and efficiency of all city departments through close coordination, careful supervision, and the loyal efforts of all city employees.

In the past three years there was **30 per cent more street improvement work accomplished** than in any previous ten years of the city's history, at a unit cost far less than ever before, due to free, open competition and increased efficiency.

At the end of 1927 the following notable results had been accomplished since the inauguration of the Council-Manager Government on January 1, 1926: **Thirty four** miles of streets paved; practically all the streets throughout the city put in a good state of repair; **forty-two three-tenths** miles of water main laid; **twenty-three** miles of sewer constructed; **nine hundred eighty-two** lights installed; **seventy-four** police added to the force; **seventeen** firemen added; **decrease in fire loss** amount to \$252,000.00; **increase of health appropriation** for the better handling of disease prevention, \$45,000.00 or 27 per cent; **increase of park appropriation**

\$103,000.00 or more than 100 per cent, in order to make available to the people a more perfect park system and greater recreational areas; **increase in funds for medical inspection of school children** amounting to \$15,272.00, or 43 per cent; **increased handling of welfare cases** 4,985, or over 100 per cent.

In 1927 **the Workhouse** was **reopened** by act of council; a coordinated plan of bond issues had been worked out in cooperation with the county and schools, through which **a five-year improvement program** was adopted and provision made to keep it up to date by changes each year; **bonds** for improvements in the amount of \$8,686,000.00 **were approved by the vote of the people**, indicating a continued confidence in the wisdom, honesty and efficiency of the city administration in the spending of these moneys; a complete **renovation** of the **salary scales** and removal of injustices done to some in favor of other city employees was made, and a corresponding salary classification and pay schedule was adopted by the city council; the **Welfare Department**, which had been in a decadent position for a great many years, was completely **reorganized** and put on a sound basis of efficient, enlarged service to the poor of the city, including a working agreement with the State-City Employment Service by which the operations of this important agency for the welfare of the poor and the unemployed was placed under the charge of the Director of Welfare of the city; a comprehensive **administrative code**, governing the organization and functions of the departments was adopted, putting them on a sound basis for more effective service to the public in the many ramifications of their activities; **Music Hall** was **released** under conditions favorable to its operators and to the city, through which lease the function of operating this semi-public and most important institution was put on a self-supporting basis, thus saving taxpayers the large expenditures which most cities make in operating their convention halls; a municipal **airport** was **authorized** by the council in keeping with the growing importance of aviation, and the necessity of having Cincinnati take a prominent place in this important new field; a policy was adopted by the city council authorizing the leasing of sites at nominal figures for use by manufacturers of airplanes and airplane accessories; the publication of an **official weekly newspaper** was **commenced** with large savings in cost of advertising and with great value in keeping the citizens advised as to the operations of the city government.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

(WORKHOUSE)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Community Correctional Institution, so named in 1973, was formerly the Cincinnati Workhouse. The present structure was built at a cost of \$125,000.00 and became operable on November 17, 1869. Contrary to legend and public opinion it was built as a workhouse and NOT as a Civil War Prison. In 1919 the Workhouse was closed down due to insufficient funds to operate, and it was not reopened until early 1926.

The Cincinnati institution is for the incarceration of misdemeanants. Felony offenders are sentenced to state or federal institutions. However, alleged felons are at CCI prior to sentencing. A felony charge may be reduced to a misdemeanor, and an inmate doing time on a misdemeanor may be on parole for a former felony conviction. There are usually between 350 to 450 male inmates and 25 to 45 female inmates on any given day. The ancient structure does not readily lend itself to rehabilitative programs, but the current administration has not let this fact stand in its way.

Corrections officers (guards) are screened carefully prior to employment and then trained intensively in a six week orientation course. They are taught every aspect of the operation of the facility; the function of all departments, and given classes in human behavior, detection of abnormalities, psychiatric problems, etc. There has been in addition to this training, six week courses at Xavier University in the Corrections graduate program at no cost to those participating.

Medical facilities presently consist of an infirmary with paramedic personnel on duty around the clock. There is a registered nurse on duty for eight hours, and plans being implemented to increase nursing staff. A physician conducts sick call daily on the premises and is on 24 hour call for emergencies. Medical problems are either handled at CCI if not emergency or arrangements made to transfer patient/inmate to Cincinnati General Hospital for examination, diagnosis and prognosis. Dental care is provided through the Cincinnati Board of Health, and psychiatric hospitalization is arranged either through the Municipal Court Psychiatric Clinic, CCI medical staff, Cincinnati General Hospital Emergency services, with hospitalization at either Longview State Hospital or Rollman Institute. Admission to Veterans Hospital is also arranged for the veteran who is incarcerated.

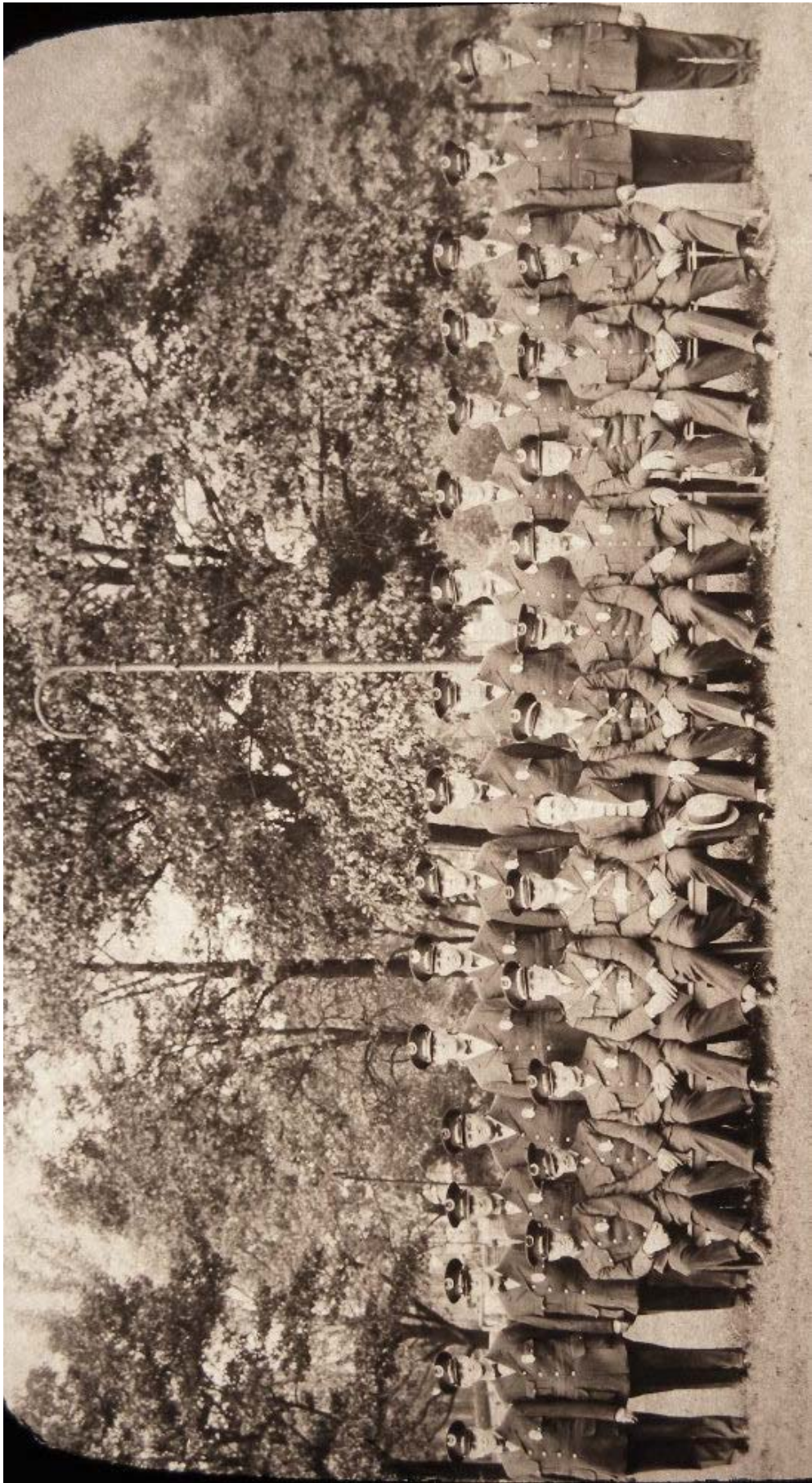
In-house programs operate through the Social Service Department. All outside agencies clear through this same department. Volunteers are screened, trained and oriented through this department and assigned work directly with inmates. Graduate students as well as undergraduates do field work at CCI through social services. Outside agencies providing programs or services to inmates in CCI work through the social service department. Agencies include Talbert House and all its programs such as half-way houses, job training and placement, etc., Vets Clearing House, Salvation Army, Treatment Alternative to Street Crime (TASC), Offices Industrialization Center (OIC), Central Community Health Board (CCHB), Common Pleas and Municipal Court Public Defenders, Council on Alcoholism, Young Women's Christian Association, and many others too numerous to enumerate. Of course, attorneys, parole and probation officers, etc., also have free access to the inmate. A chaplain is assigned on a regular basis through the Cincinnati Archdiocese, there is a Protestant clergyman on regular visitation basis, and all faiths on call as needed. The Cincinnati Board of Education provides certified instructors to conduct basic education, GED preparation, and vocational educational classes. Classes are held daily, and inmates who qualify attend on a voluntary basis. They may upgrade studies, learn to read and write, complete credits to permit graduation at their outside school, start a course of study at CCI and continue it upon release at the various educational centers. Arrangements are made when indicated for GED testing. Interviews and counseling are an ongoing process through all the above resources.

THE 1919 CINCINNATI PAYROLL RECORDS LIST 25 GUARDS, ONE MATRON 4 ASST MATRONS AND 4 SUPERVISORS AT THE WORK HOUSE.

IN THE EARLY YEARS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY GLASS LATERN SLIDES WERE AN EARLY FORM OF ENTERTAINMENT.

THE FOLLOWING IMAGES ARE GLASS LANTERN SLIDES. THIS SLIDE IS DATED DECEMBER 14, 1932. IT ALSO HAS THE DATE OF 1942 WITH THE SIGNATURE OF THE WARDEN OF SING SING.

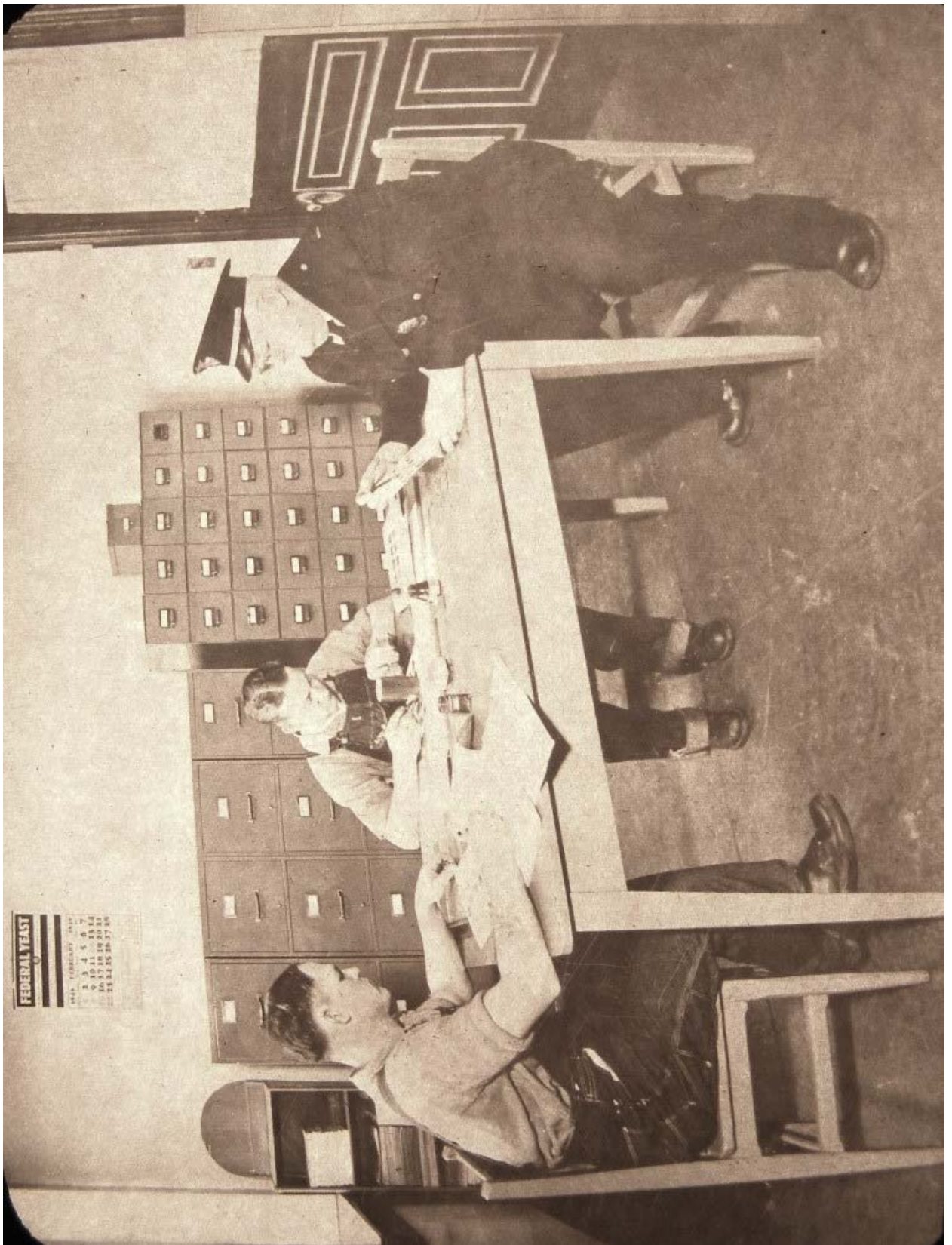




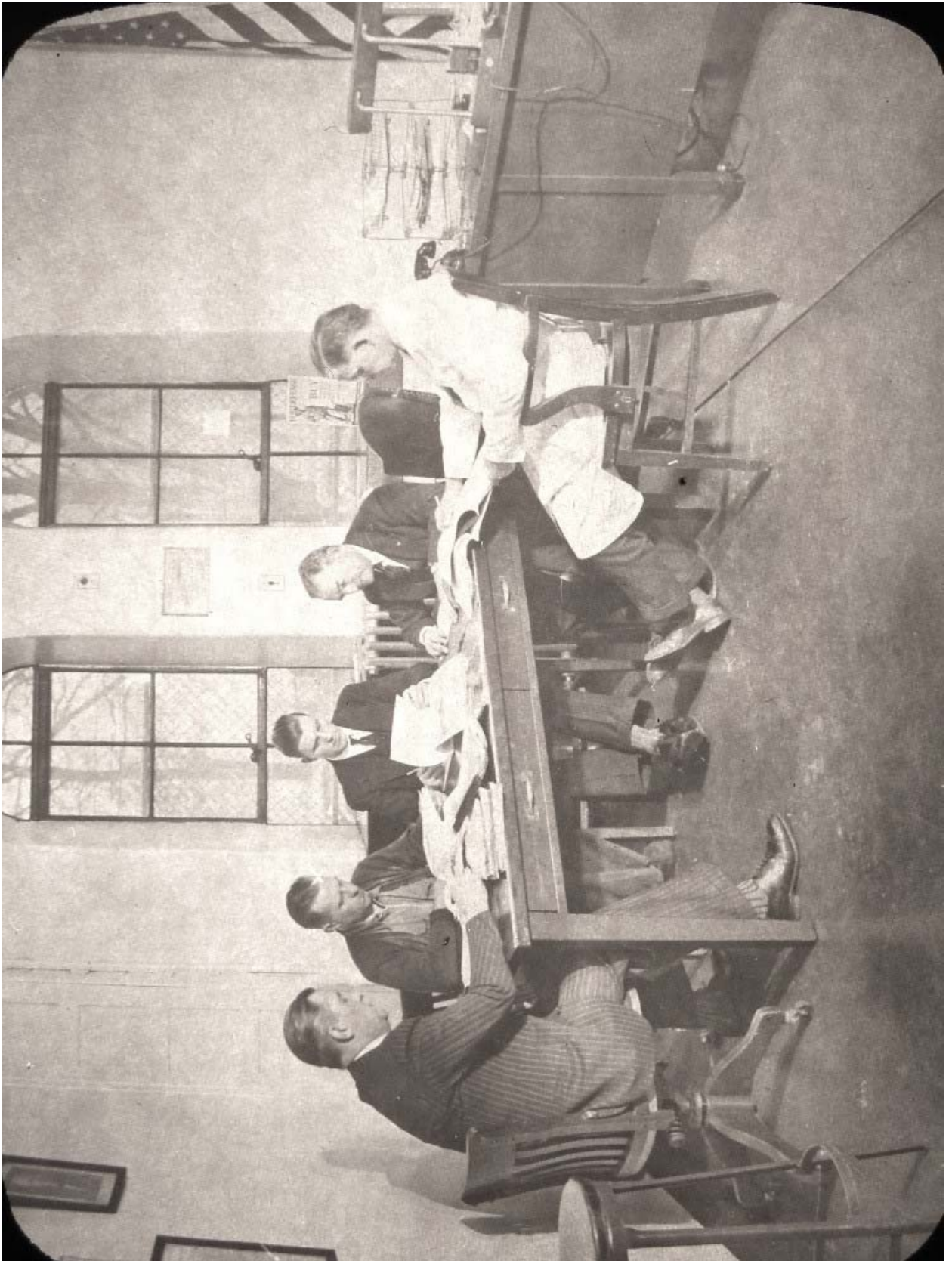


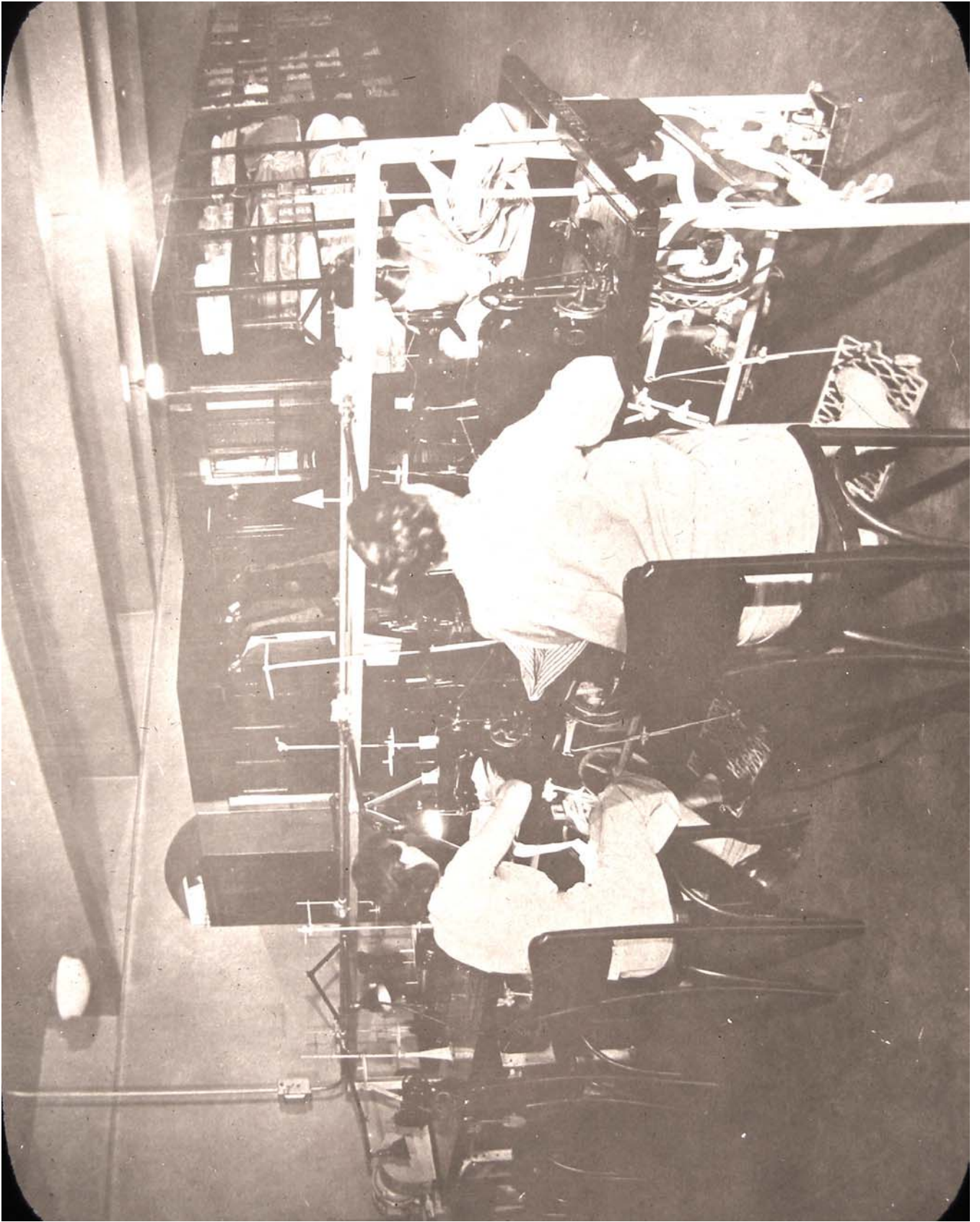




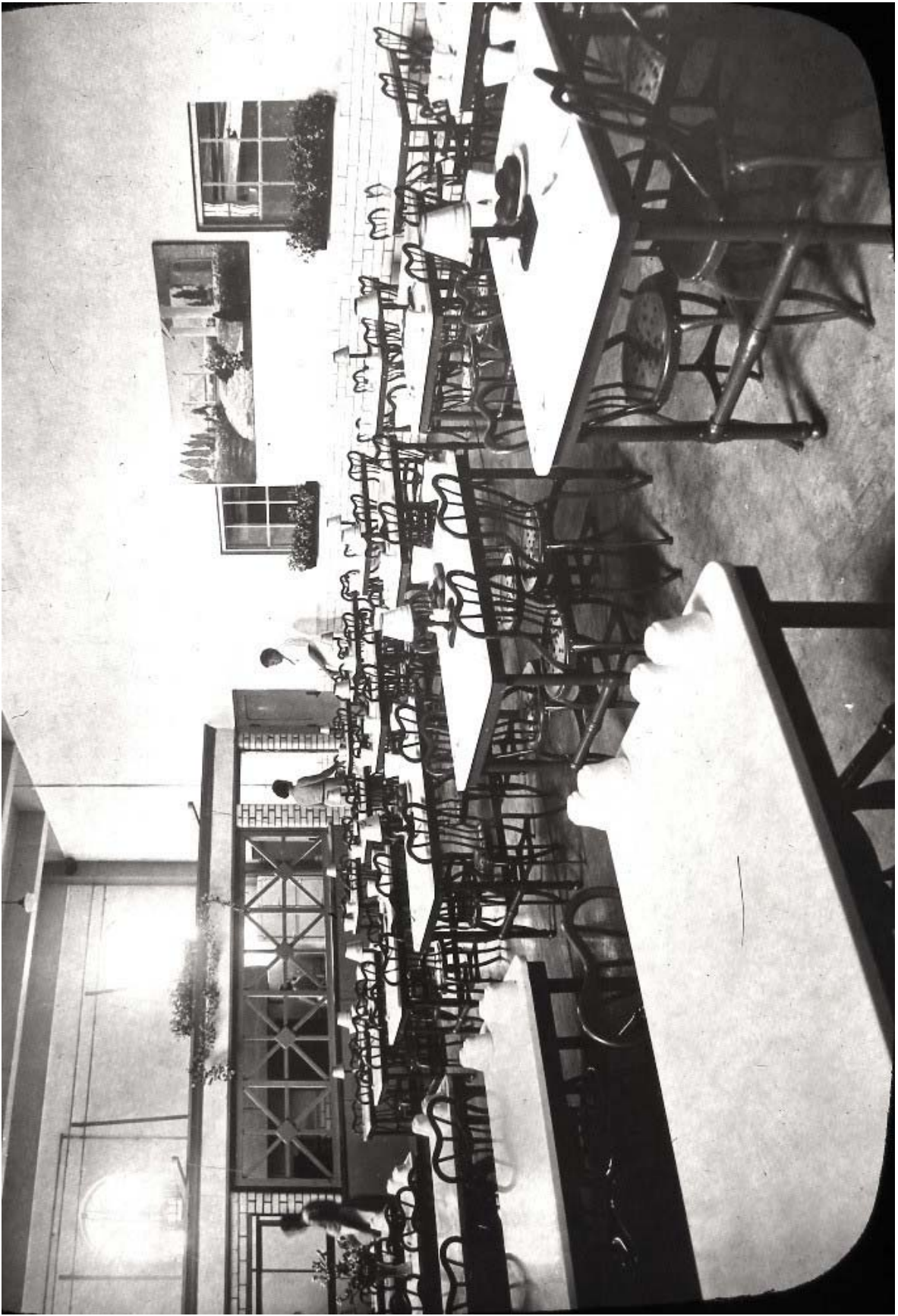


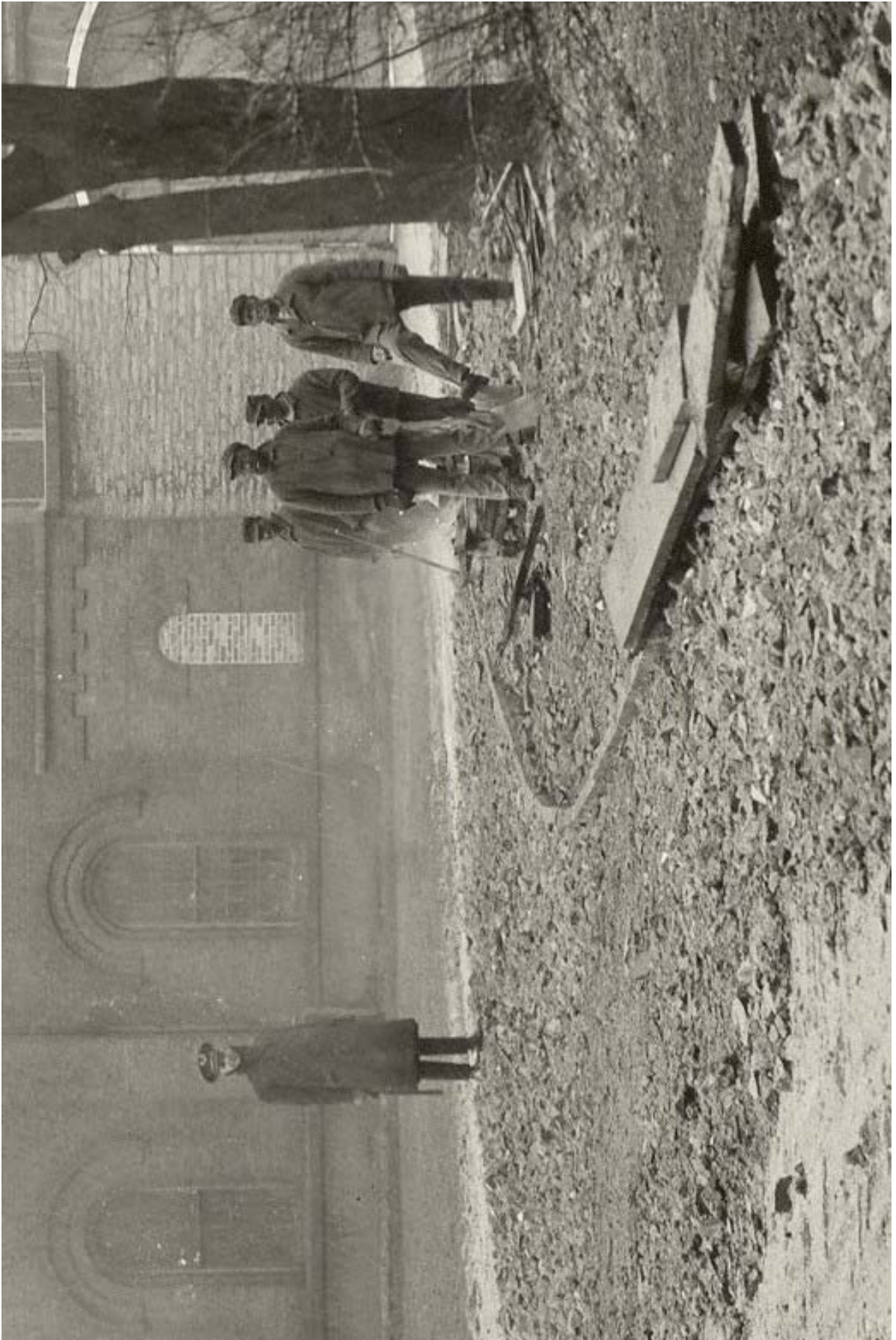




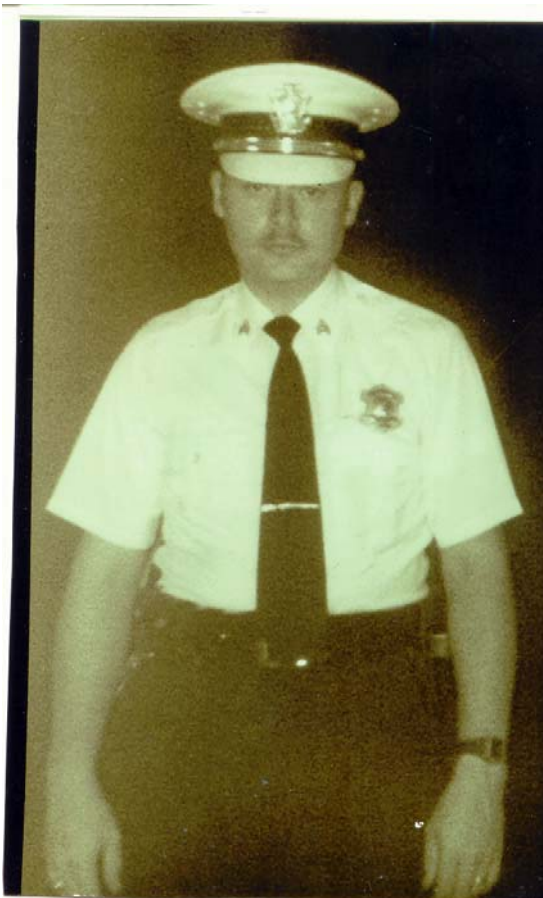
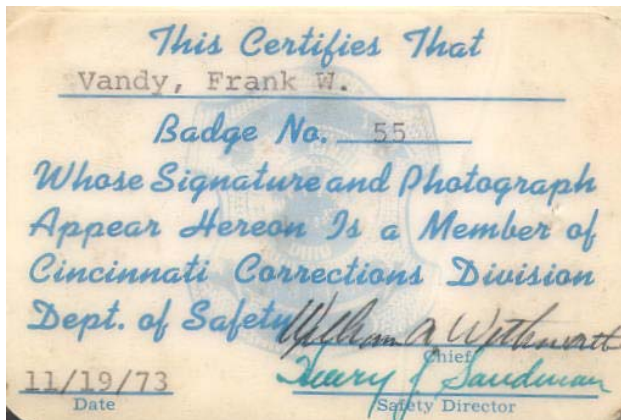






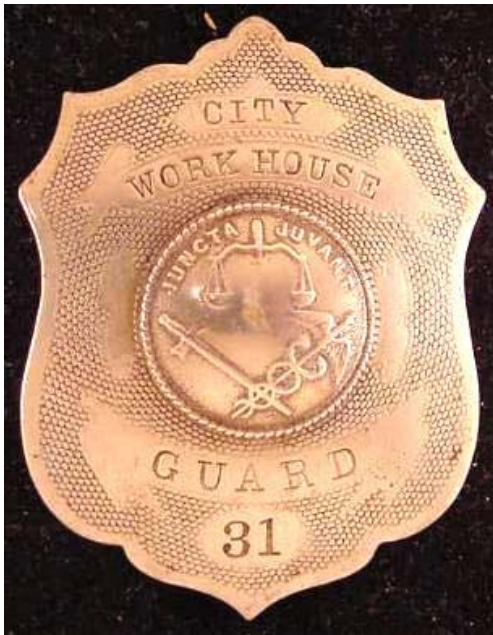


THE UNIFORM STYLE WORN BY THE GUARDS AT THE CINCINNATI WORK HOUSE CHANGED FROM THE DARK BLUE TO THE CINCINNATI POLICE UNIFORM PRIOR TO 1960. THE NEW UNIFORM CONSISTED OF A BLUE COAT, BLUE PANTS, BLACK TIE, WHITE HAT AND WHITE SHIRT. THE BADGES WERE ALSO COPIED FROM THE CINCINNATI POLICE STYLE.



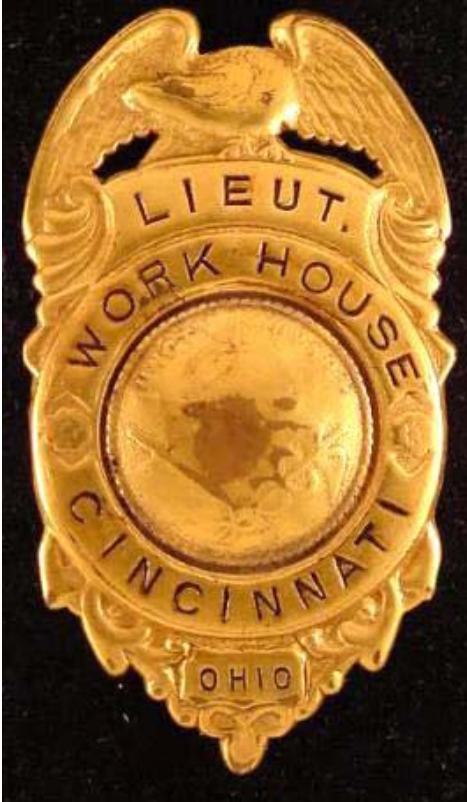
BADGES AND PHOTOS COURTESY OF FRANK VANDY.

THE PROGRESSION OF CINCINNATI WORKHOUSE BADGE STYLES FROM THE DATE OF CONSTRUCTION UNTIL CLOSING.



Badge 31 in use by 1901

Circa 1880's



Lieutenants Hat and Coat Badges as show in the slides. Circa 1930.

Other badges used at the Cincinnati Work House





Slides courtesy of Hamilton County Sheriff's Corporal Jeff Pennington, photo page 16 courtesy of Phil Lind, badges from author's collection. Copyright 2007, Patrick Olvey, 7631 Holliston Pl, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45255