

ST. LOUIS COUNTY WEST  
INVENTORY OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS  
PHASE THREE: CHESTERFIELD  
1989

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A SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS  
St Louis County Rural Surveys  
1988 and 1989

1. SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

The inventories conducted by the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation in the rural fringes of the county over the past two years have identified hundreds of old buildings surviving in these areas. Due to prevalence of inappropriate alterations, however, only a relatively small percentage of them can be considered to be historically significant on an individual basis. A larger number may contribute to a district that may have more significance as a whole than do any of its individual constituent parts. This is particularly true with regard to the rural hamlets or crossroads settlements that were identified throughout these rural areas.

LOCAL LANDMARKS

Most of the buildings surveyed are located in the unincorporated portions of St. Louis County. They are protected only by an unusual and extremely limited ordinance that creates a zoning overlay district called the LPA, Landmark and Preservation Area. Only two properties have been designated under this ordinance, which requires a filing fee of \$300 or more, paid by the property owner. The one in the inventory area is the Ravens-Queathem House, by the protection was lost when the property was included in the new municipality of Chesterfield. Neither Chesterfield nor any of the other municipalities included in these surveys has any preservation legislation, although both Black Jack and Chesterfield are considering enacting legislation as a result of these surveys.

In the absence of legislation, the St. Louis County Historic Buildings Commission has attempted to honor landmark buildings by drawing attention to them in publications. Illustrated guides were produced in 1970 and 1983, with an updated edition in 1985. The commission also monitors the status of these properties and attempts to exert whatever moral authority it possesses to protect them when threatened. The following properties included in the surveys of the two past years, were also featured by the county commission. These are properties the commission feels are significant to the county and should be protected:

North

Powder House, Fort Bellefontaine Site	13300 Bellefontaine Road	1810-11
Meyers-Lindemann-Kahre House	6700 Robbins Mill Road	1857
Coldwater School	New Halls Ferry Road	c. 1860
Lucy Patterson House	15505 New Halls Ferry Road	c. 1860
"Locust Grove," Hughes House	11743 Talbott Court	1849
Salem Lutheran School (Parker Rd. Schl.)	Parker Road	
Coldwater Church	New Halls Ferry Road	1851

### South

Eugene Nims House, Bee Tree Park  
John Fried Place

Finestown Road 1929  
5288-5292 Lemay Ferry @ Ringer c 1867

### West

Tyler House  
Hoppenberg-Fick Store  
Pond Hotel  
Stuart Log Cabin  
Mertz Log House, moved to Faust Park  
Deep Springs Farm,  
Raven-Queathem House

Laurey Lane 1837  
526 Old Eatherton Road 1867  
Manchester Road 1841;76  
Valley Road 1832  
15185 Olive Boulevard 1848  
Allenton Road, Eureka c 1875  
14319 Olive Boulevard c 1860 & 1900

The inventories of 1988 identified several buildings that ranked in significance and physical integrity with these in its publications. Since no new publication is planned for the next few years, the commission officially recognized the following buidings in February 14, 1989, as worthy of concern and inclusion in its publication:

### North

Chitwood-Prigge House  
Tunstall-Douglas House  
Spanish Lake Blacksmith Shop  
Barlbort's General Merchandise  
"Fercrest," Francis Mesker House  
Grand Staircase, Missouri Hills Home  
Evarts Graham House

750 Prigge Road c 1822  
15310 Old Halls Ferry Road c 1855  
12223 Bellefontaine Road c 1881  
12204 Bellefontaine Road c 1895  
6 Portage Road 1935  
13300 Bellefontaine Road 1938  
18 Jamestown Acres 1940-42

### South

John Fried Place  
Heinrich Schmitz House  
St. Paul's Parsonage  
Heger-Studer House  
August Kassebaum House  
Kassebaum Building  
"Sun-Up," Sarah Wilson Country House

5288-5292 Lemay Ferry Road c. 1867  
3327 Old Baumgartner Road 1870-78  
3317 Old Baumgartner Road by 1878  
2660 Erb Road c 1895  
5009 Lemay Ferry Road 1907  
5049 Lemay Ferry Road 1913  
316 Grimsley Station Road 1926

### West

"Overbrook," Fredrick W. Steines Farm  
Old Bethel Methodist Church  
Kreienkamp's Store

1333 Pond Road c. 1873  
25000 Wild Horse Creek Road 1859  
19160 Melrose Road c. 1872

The following properties identified in the 1989 inventory will be proposed to the Historic Buildings Commission as local landmarks:

### North - Black Jack

Clausmeyer House  
Salem Lutheran Church

4960 Park Road c 1870  
5180 Parker Road 1899

<u>South - Mattese to Sunset Hills</u>		
"Rock Alva," Joseph Griesedieck House	13270 Maple Drive	c 1892
"The Eyrie," Arthur Stockstrom House	13290 Maple Drive	1950
<u>Pond and Grover</u>		
Eliza Dreinhofer House	17225 Manchester Road	c 1865
Bethel Methodist Church	17500 Manchester Road	1875
<u>Chesterfield</u>		
The Smoke House	16806 Ches. Airport Road	1937
St. Louis Water Works	Howard Bend Station Road	1927
Leicester B. Faust Estate	14941 Olive Boulevard	1918
Valentine Kroenung House	18620 Olive Street Road	c 1868

## 2. THEMATIC AREAS

In addition to the highlights of the inventory which made their significance known by their obvious historical interest and visual integrity, other properties came to seem of interest as parts of broad thematic areas. The one thematic area that was expected to appear but did not was the farmstead. In part this was the result of an inability to reasonably date barns and other outbuildings. Very few farm complexes had outbuildings in a reasonable state of repair, and those that did also invariably had modern or modernized farmhouses. The thematic areas that did prove worthy of further consideration were estates, churches, schools, and hamlets.

### ESTATES

Residences established by St. Louis businessmen were easily distinguishable from the surrounding farm homes. Not all of them were high style architecture, but they were generally well-designed, large in size, and extensively landscaped. They often occupy the most beautiful natural settings, with views of the three rivers that surround the county. One such property, "Alswel," the William Lemp Jr., House, has already been listed on the National Register. Other properties not included in the present survey but cited in previous county publications, are thematically part of this group, including "Grant's Farm," "Grandview," and "Cragwold." All of the following might be eligible for the National Register:

Sun-Up," the Sarah Wilson Country House, 316 Grimsley Station Road. This long, low Georgian Revival house was designed by Study and Farrar in 1926 for a notable St. Louis philanthropist.

"Bee Tree Farm," the Eugene Nims House, Bee Tree Park. The strikingly sited Tudor Revival house was built in 1929, probably to designs of Maritz & Young, for the founder of Southwestern Bell Telephone Co.

"Rock Alva," the Joseph Griesedieck House, 13270 Maple Drive, Sunset Hills. The Queen Anne house here was constructed about 1892, but the more significant structure is the former carriage house, a rock-faced stone building with a large battlemented tower, built for the founder of the Falstaff Brewing Company.

"Vouziers," the Joseph Desloge House, 16815 New Halls Ferry Road. Probably second only to "Grant's Farm" in its palatial scale, "Vouziers" is a seventeenth-century French chateau with formal gardens overlooking the Missouri River.

"Fercrest," the Francis Mesker House, 6 Portage Road. This Georgian Revival house has unusual iron construction and was built in 1935 by the head of an iron company. It is perched above the Missouri River.

## CHURCHES

The following churches were inventoried in these surveys. They vary widely in style, date, and condition, but all have significant aspects.

Coldwater Church, 15245 New Halls Ferry Road, 1851  
This is one of the four or five oldest church buildings in St. Louis. It was constructed in the Greek Revival style typical of Missouri at that period. It served both Baptists and Methodists. Since about 1904 it has served a variety of community uses.

Old Bethel Methodist Church, 25000 Wild Horse Creek Road, 1859.  
This church was converted to a residence in the 1870's and has been used for farm storage since 1916, but the fine stonework and clean lines still testify to the building's original quality.

Bethel Methodist Church, 17500 Manchester Road, 1875.  
This seems to be the only large frame nineteenth-century church surviving in the county. It has a large old cemetery adjacent.

Salem Lutheran Church, 5180 Parker Road, Black Jack, 1899.  
This large Gothic Revival Church was built for a congregation from Bielefeld, Germany, dating to 1849. It was long the primary focus of the wider German community in north St. Louis County.

St. Paul's German Evangelical Church (United Church of Christ), 5508 Telegraph Road, 1911.  
This Gothic Revival church is the major visual focus of Oakville, the unincorporated district of southeast St. Louis County.

St. John's Evangelical Church (United Church of Christ) of Mehlville, 11333 St. John's Church Road, 1922.  
This congregation is one of the oldest German churches in Missouri and was the dominant institution in this part of south county well into the twentieth century.



Godfrey Chapel, Church of the Ascension, 230 Santa Maria Drive, Chesterfield, 1923-24.

This simple vernacular Gothic Revival building seems to be one of very few Catholic churches of great age that survive in the county. It contributes to the old core of Chesterfield.

## SCHOOLS

St. Louis County's one-room schools have long been recognized as among its most characteristic early buildings. These inventories located several one-room schools that have been converted to other uses or incorporated into other buildings. These schools vary widely in how closely they reflect their original appearance. The inventories also identified several early twentieth-century schools of architectural interest.

Coldwater School, 15875 New Halls Ferry Road, 1859.

This is the best preserved and probably the oldest one-room school in St. Louis County. It is situated on the grounds of Hazelwood High School and is maintained as a museum.

Old Brown School, 19710 Old Jamestown Road, c. 1860.

Also called James School, this old one-room school has been altered and extended for use as a residence.

Old Larimore School, 12125 Larimore Road, c. 1870.

Now converted to a residence but retaining its original shape.

Salem Lutheran School, 5195 Parker Road, c. 1895.

This large and little-altered building is an example of a privately operated rural school. Another surviving nineteenth-century Lutheran school is Zion School on Dorsett Road in Maryland Heights.

Oak Ridge School No. 2, 2654 Valley Road, 1909.

This two-room school with hipped roof and cupola now forms one wing of a large house. It is screened from the road by a tall brick wall.

Pond School, 17109 (?) Manchester Road, 1920's.

This Arts-and-Crafts-influenced building is still owned by the R-6 School District, but it has been abandoned, and its future is uncertain.

"New" Lake School, 14298 Olive Boulevard, Chesterfield, 1925.

This two-room brick building replaced the one-room frame Lake School now located in Creve Coeur.

Black Jack School, 4655 Parker Road, 1928.

This is a two-room school of the type that became popular in the county in the 1920's. Designed by noted architect Marcel Boulicault, the building is well maintained as Black Jack's City Hall.

Point School, 6790 Telegraph Road, 1929.

Designed by Marcel Boulicault, who also did the Black Jack School, the Point School is still an elementary school operated by the R-9 School District.

Rott School, 9455 Rott Road, 1930-31, 1948.

This Tudor Revival Building is one of the largest built in a rural district before the war. It was designed by R. F. Denny and Marcel Boulicault.

Butler Hill School, 4474 Butler Hill Road, 1932.

Also called the Washington School, this building has recently passed from public to parochial (Lutheran) use. It was designed in an unusually picturesque style by George C. Reed.

Old Bonhomme School, 18455 Olive Boulevard, Chesterfield, c. 1900.

This frame one-room school has been converted to a tavern, but it retains its original vestibule and cupola.

Old African School, 16906 Wild Horse Creek Road, Chesterfield.

The old one-room school that once served the Negro community in this part of the county has been attached to a modern house as a garage. Its date is unknown.

Old Bellefontaine School, 14950 Conway Road, c. 1900.

One must take on faith the assertion that an old school has been incorporated into this modern ranch-style residence.

#### HAMLETS

This term is a common one for small rural settlements that typically grew up without any plan around an important crossroads or at a railroad crossing. Most of St. Louis County was defined by these small gathering places before the introduction of larger communities with the beginnings of the Pacific Railroad. Many of these communities have been totally obliterated by the advent of the suburbs with their widened roads and strip shopping centers. These inventories discovered some, however, which might be worthy of preservation as historic districts, or at least as design districts (as defined below):

Spanish Lake, at the corner of Parker Road and Bellefontaine Road, is defined by Barlbort's Market and the Spanish Lake Blacksmith Shop. Barlbort's is currently threatened with demolition for a strip commercial development.

Melville was originally the intersection of Lemay Ferry Road and Butler Hill Road. Here again, the most important building, the Kassabaum Building, is threatened with demolition, this time for a redesigned intersection.

Grover is located on Manchester Road at the intersection of Old Eatherton. The relocation of both roads to new rights-of-way has protected this community from the worst effects of development so far, and the county government is currently working on design controls to retain the village atmosphere.

Pond is the next settlement west of Grover on old Manchester Road. It too has potential for protection through design controls.

Old Chesterfield is the largest and best preserved of the four crossroads communities that have been subsumed by the new municipality of Chesterfield. It has an old store, a former bank, a church, and a whole row of bungalows from the 1920's. It grew up at the rail crossing of Olive, now called Chesterfield Airport Road.

The other well-preserved community in the new Chesterfield is Lake, located on Olive Boulevard at the corner of Hog Hollow Road. It still has three stores, an old school, and several old residences. It is under threat now from road widening pressures and from the desire of many of the property owners to redevelop for commercial uses.

Black Jack became a municipality only in the 1970's, but its foundation goes back to the middle of the nineteenth century. Spread out along Parker Road in the center of the community are several buildings significant to its history and development, including the Salem Lutheran Church and School, the old public school (now the city hall), an old store, and several houses associated with important early residents, including the home of Isaac Parker himself.

### 3. FUTURE SURVEY NEEDS

Several sizeable portions of unincorporated St. Louis County remain to be inventoried:

#### MERAMEC RIVER SOUTH

This would extend from the old city of Fenton, founded before 1820, west to Crescent. Included in this large area are five county parks, the Forest 44 area currently sought by area conservationists, the Washington University Research Center, and the Beaumont Boy Scout Reservation. The many old roads running south through this area into Jefferson County have never been inventoried by the county. Pressures for development are rapidly growing in this area.

#### FAR WEST COUNTY

This includes everything west of Eatherton Road, which is designated as state route 109 and county route C. This is the least suburbanized part of the county, including the environs of Babler and Greensfelder Park and the Rockwoods tracts. The south part of this area is occupied by the railroad town of Eureka, and an inventory here would provide a data base that could be used to encourage preservation in that municipality, which presently lacks either a preservation commission or an historical society. Eureka has recently annexed the previously unincorporated village of Allenton, which also is worth further attention.

#### LAFAYETTE SOUTH

The term Lafayette has recently been applied to the municipalities of Manchester, Winchester, Ballwin, and Ellisville, which line Manchester Road (Missouri 100) west of Interstate 270. The continuation of this development west into the



unincorporated areas of Grover and Pond was inventoried in 1989. South and east of the Lafayette towns, however, is a considerable area that has not been looked at in any systematic way. It includes the environs of the National Museum of Transport, Castlewood State Park, and the old railroad communities of Jedburgh and Glencoe.

#### LEMAY

South of Interstate 270 (which becomes Interstate 255 east of Interstate 55) the county has been inventoried from Interstate 44 eastward to the Mississippi River. A considerable territory north of the beltway remains unincorporated, and although largely urbanized, it retains an unknown number of old farmsteads and other early residences. The area of Lemay east of I-55 was the first to be settled by overspill from Carondelet and St. Louis, and at least one pre-Civil-War subdivision has been identified.

#### AFFTON-CONCORD

The area between I-44 and I-55 was historically called Affton closest to St. Louis and Concord farther out. South of Crestwood, most of this territory remains unincorporated. The Affton Historical Society has done much research into the history of this area but has not correlated this information to surviving properties. This district includes White Haven, Oakland, and other well-known historic properties, and an inventory should help to establish a context for these, if nothing else.

### 4. POLICY CONCERNS

Beyond the identification of significant individual properties and historic districts, the rural surveys just completed highlighted certain policy concerns that may be reiterated here.

#### CEMETERIES

Cemeteries need more attention. Cemeteries are an important feature of rural landscapes. Often they are neglected because title to them has not passed with the surrounding acreage, and the true heirs and other descendants of the people buried there are no longer known. Nevertheless cemeteries constitute an important historic resource and one that is just as subject to the pressures of development as a building. In the past year an important pioneer cemetery on Manchester Road was removed to make way for another strip commercial development. While state legislation has recently broadened protection for cemeteries to some extent, there remains a serious need for local protection, especially to discourage the destruction of private cemeteries and, when necessary, to assure more orderly transfer of bodies and monuments than is now the case. An old private cemetery with no known owners might be incorporated into a city's or county's park system for use as what is now called a passive recreational area.

Historic inventories funded by the State Historic Preservation Program under the Missouri Department of Natural Resources have usually ignored cemeteries, because they are so difficult to list in the National Register of Historic Places. The monuments within cemeteries, however, are eligible for listing on the basis of their age, design, and aesthetic significance. Guidelines are needed to help surveyors identify monuments of potential significance. The oldest monument in a cemetery, for instance; an inscription with unusual lettering, written in a foreign language, or incorporating poetry; a monument of sculptural quality or made of an unusual material such as zinc -- any of these features might form the basis for listing a cemetery on the National Register if they could be demonstrated to be significant in the context of the state or county. Only more inventory work can establish a basis for making such judgements.

#### LAND-USE POLICIES

While the need for stronger municipal and county historic preservation ordinances was often apparent in the course of these rural surveys, other land-use-planning policies more sympathetic to historic buildings are also needed. When historic farms are redeveloped as residential subdivisions, the old buildings can frequently be preserved simply by drawing the street rights-of-way and the lot lines around them rather than through them. All subdivisions must be approved by the local government, so local officials can insist that this design principle be followed.

#### DESIGN DISTRICTS

Another technique that can be used to preserve the distinctive character of a historic area is the Design District. Unlike a Historic District, a Design District designates certain features of the environment as significant for their aesthetic qualities, regardless of their historic significance. Any changes to these features must be reviewed by the local body. Such features may include trees, hedges, fences, and sidewalks as well as buildings, and they may be only certain characteristics of the buildings, such as their construction materials, their porches, or their roofs. Chapel Hill, North Carolina, is one notable community using this technique. The St. Louis County Department of Planning is currently studying this technique for use in the unincorporated communities of Pond and Grover. Several other districts in these study might lend themselves to similar regulation, including Lake and Old Chesterfield in the new city of Chesterfield; Spanish Lake, and the center of Black Jack.

#### SCENIC ROADS

The design district technique might also be used in less closely built up environments such as the attractive rural stretches of Hawkins-Fuch Road in the south, Sinks Road in the north, and Wild Horse Creek Road in the west. Such linear stretches combining history and scenery might also be designated Scenic Roads. St. Louis County considered a scenic road program about fifteen years ago but never acted on it. While some scenic roads are established by outright acquisition, they can also be protected by means of scenic easements.

Esley Hamilton

October 15, 1989

# CHESTERFIELD INVENTORY INVENTORY FORMS

## ADDRESSES IN THE CITY LIMITS OF CHESTERFIELD

1.	16626	Chesterfield Airport Road	Edward L. Schmidt House
2.	16630	Chesterfield Airport Road	Arthur Bierbrauer House
3.	16632	Chesterfield Airport Road	Andrew E. J. Fick House
4.	16636	Chesterfield Airport Road	Bierbrauer-Fick House
5.	16640	Chesterfield Airport Road	Bierbrauer-Burkhardt House
6.	16644	Chesterfield Airport Road	house
7.	16646	Chesterfield Airport Road	John Schaeffer House
8.	16650	Chesterfield Airport Road	John J. Corless House
9.	16651	Chesterfield Airport Road *	William Koch House
10.	16655	Chesterfield Airport Road	Hyde Store
11.	16656	Chesterfield Airport Road	Fannie Theresa Buck House
12.	16660	Chesterfield Airport Road	house
13.	16662	Chesterfield Airport Road	house
14.	16666	Chesterfield Airport Road	house
15.	16676-78	Chesterfield Airport Road *	State Bank of Chesterfield
16.	16680	Chesterfield Airport Road	John Schonhorst House
17.	16686	Chesterfield Airport Road	Albert Wilmas House
18.	16705	Chesterfield Airport Road	Andrew Kroeger Slaughterhouse
19.	16806	Chesterfield Airport Road	The Smoke House
20.	17516	Chesterfield Airport Road	former motor court
21.	17519	Chesterfield Airport Road	Airport Road Cafe
22.	17450	Chesterfield Airport Road	Philip A. Steffan House
23.	17558	Chesterfield Airport Road	Old Twenty-Five-Mile House
24.	17617	Chesterfield Airport Road	England-Waggener House
25.	17839	Chesterfield Airport Road	Louis F. Abel House
26.	14685	Clayton Road	William Seiler House
27.	14301	Conway Road	Smith-Kron House
28.		Conway Road at White Road NR	Old Bonhomme Church
29.	14690	Conway Road	Conrad Kraus House
30.	14730	Conway Road	Louis C. Kraus House
31.	14950	Conway Road	Old Bellefontaine School
32.	15020	Conway Road	White Oaks/Wm. T. Deacon House
33.	15050	Conway Road	Deacon Caretaker's House
34.	15125	Conway Road	Henry Yokel House
35.	15201	Conway Road	A. L. Yokel House
36.	108	Eatherton Road North	P. C. Wardenburg House
37.	318	Eatherton Road North	William Rickard House
38.	414	Eatherton Road North	Hans M. Homann House
39.		Howard Bend Station Rd.	St. Louis Water Works
40.	440	Hunters Hill	Van Raalte-Kerckhoff House
41.	120	Long Road *	McDaniel-Steffan House
42.	123	Long Road	Dr. Robert Terry Jr. House
43.	124	Long Road	Elmer Walter House
44.	128	Long Road	Wetzel-Ahlers House
45.	129	Long Road	Second Dr. Terry House

# Chesterfield Inventory

Page Two

46.	135	Long Road	Peter Kesselring House
47.	143	Long Road	John Corless House
48.	150	Long Road	St. Thomas Evangelical Church
49.		Long Road	Gumbo Cemetery
50.	1627	Old Baxter Road	Ernst Eberwein House
51.	1734	Old Baxter Road	Eberwein-Howe House
52.	13916	Olive Boulevard	Charles Stemme, Jr., House
53.	13969	Olive Boulevard	Charles Stemme House
54.	14008	Olive Boulevard	Hill-Sellenriek House
55.	14150	Olive Boulevard	Zierenberg John Deere Store
56.	14151-55	Olive Boulevard	Zierenberg Mercantile
57.	14160	Olive Boulevard	Frederick W. Reising House
58.	14166	Olive Boulevard	August W. Reising House
59.	14298	Olive Boulevard	"New" Lake School
60.	14319	Olive Boulevard	Ravens-Queathem House
61.	14415	Olive Boulevard	Ober-Beckemeier Farm
62.	14710	Olive Boulevard	Jacob Hoefer House
63.	14845	Olive Boulevard	Adolphus P. Autenrieth House
64.	14941	Olive Boulevard	Leicester B. Faust Estate
65.	15185	Olive Blvd. (Faust Park) NR	Thornhill
66.	"	"	Conway House
67.	"	"	Davis House
68.	"	"	Hoch House
69.	"	"	Mertz Log Cabin
70.	"	"	Wiehage-Mertz Smokehouse
71.	"	"	St. Louis Carousel
72.	"	"	1898 Steam Riding Gallery
73.	18450	Olive Street Road	John Bayer House
74.	18455	Olive Street Road	Old Bonhomme School
75.	18620	Olive Street Road	Valentine Kroenung House
76.	18626	Olive Street Road	Parks-Wilmas House
77.	228	River Valley Drive	Braun-Kram House
78.	230	Santa Maria Drive *	Godfrey Chapel, Ascension Ch.
79.	910	Schoettler Road	Hoch-Brommelsieck House
80.	929	Schoettler Road	Joe Walka House
81.	950	Schoettler Road	Edward F. Hill House
82.	1091	Schoettler Road	Kardell Stemme House
83.	2349	Schoettler Road	Stafford-Blank House
84.		Squires Way Court	Henry Eberwein Cemetery
85.	16120	Walnut Hill Farm Drive	Laplante-Barner House
86.	18313	Wardenburg Road	Puellman-Wardenburg Farm
87.	551	White Road	Byrd-Hoefer Farm
88.	790	White Road	Edward Sellenrick House
89.	16906	Wild Horse Creek Road	Old African School
90.	17041	Wild Horse Creek Road	Samuel Pitt House
91.	17047	Wild Horse Creek Road	

Chesterfield Survey  
Page Three

92.	17107	Wild Horse Creek Road *	Louisa Sander House
93.	17446	Wild Horse Creek Road	Joseph Kroenung House
94.	17751	Wild Horse Creek Road	Mary Schaeffer Farm
95.	17820	Wild Horse Creek Road	"Fairwinds Farm"
96.	17917	Wild Horse Creek Road *	Stevens-Coleman House
97.	18060	Wild Horse Creek Road *	Orr-Broemmelsick House
98.	18061	Wild Horse Creek Road *	James J. Collins House
99.	18111	Wild Horse Creek Road	Lawrence Fick Farm
100.	18332	Wild Horse Creek Road *	Eatherton Cottage
101.	18357	Wild Horse Creek Road	Stump-Corless House
102.	1825	Wilson Road *	Clarkson-Schmitz Farm

ADDRESSES IN THE VICINITY OF CHESTERFIELD

1.	17200	Church Road	West-Gumbo Cemetery
2.	16026	Clayton Road	Herman H. Engelke House
3.	133	Eatherton Road North	The Shadows
4.	323	Eatherton Road North	Wild-Bayer Farm
5.	901	Hog Hollow Road	St. Louis County Water Co.
6.	945	Hog Hollow Road	Shop Building, Water Co.
7.	2103	Kehrs Mill Road	Schumm-Steiner House
8.	2215	Kehrs Mill Road	Pfitzinger-Gardner House
9.	2261	Valley Road	Samuel Stuart House
10.	2633	Valley Road	Henry Jacob Jr. House
11.	2654	Valley Road	Oak Ridge School No. 2
12.	18400	Wild Horse Creek Road	Philip A. Steffan House
13.	18689	Wild Horse Creek Road	Della McGrath House
14.	912	Woods Mill Road North	Rudolph Sahn House

NR = Listed in the National Register of Historic Places

\* = Previously inventoried in St. Louis County West, Phase I;  
Included in this report for convenience



## RESEARCH METHODS

The City of Chesterfield officially came into being on June 1, 1988, as the result of a referendum held earlier that spring. With a population of 33,000, it started life as the third largest municipality in the county, following Florissant and University City. The city is generally bounded by the Missouri River on the north and by Woods Mill Road (Missouri Route 141) on the east. A large stretch of unincorporated territory currently separates Chesterfield from Creve Coeur, its largest neighbor to the east. To the southeast and south, Chesterfield is tangent to the municipalities of Town and Country, Ballwin, and Clarkson Valley. The southwestern boundaries are Wild Horse Creek Road and Eatherton Road. As the above description suggests, the chief rationale for the selection of the boundaries for the proposed City of Chesterfield was the likelihood that the residents of the territories encompassed would vote for incorporation. Since at least some of the currently unincorporated areas adjacent to Chesterfield will probably be annexed to it sooner or later, this inventory has included some properties outside the current city limits.

The choice of Chesterfield as a survey area was motivated in large part by a desire to provide the rapidly developing new city with accurate data on its old buildings that can be used in the many important planning decisions that will have to be made in the next few years. Chesterfield's mayor has already appointed an historic commission, and this body is especially concerned to identify and retain the city's historic resources. It is hoped that this inventory can contribute to those efforts.

This study follows up on a preliminary inventory of West St. Louis County, conducted in 1988. Nine properties in this study area were researched as part of that inventory, but copies are included here for ease of reference. That study observed that many of the old crossroads settlements had retained their early-twentieth-century configurations and many of their old buildings, and the present study has provided an opportunity to document that observation in detail in Lake, Bellefontaine, old Chesterfield, and Gumbo.

The selection of properties to be inventoried was based almost entirely on visual inspection. This technique probably excluded a few old structures whose historical integrity had been obliterated by additions and alterations, but it permitted inclusion of several notable structures that were built since the most recent county atlas was published in 1909.

The two standard histories of St. Louis County are William L. Thomas's History of St. Louis County (1911) and the History of St. Louis County published in 1919 by the Watchman-Advocate newspaper. Thomas in particular has a fair number of references to the more prominent families in the districts that make up Chesterfield. An earlier work, Walter Scharf's History of St. Louis City and County (1883), has a brief notice of Chesterfield, not the present one at the beginning of Wild Horse Creek Road but its vanished predecessor, which was farther southwest. Scharf also mentions Bonhomme Post Office, an old community which seems to have disappeared into the Missouri River.

The two properties in the district that have been the subject of most attention are the Old Bonhomme Presbyterian Church and Thornhill, the home of Governor Frederick Bates. Both are listed in the National Register of Historic Places and both were included in the publications of the St. Louis County Historic Buildings Commission, 100 Historic Buildings in St. Louis County (1970) and Historic Buildings in St. Louis County (1983 and 1985). Since 1969 Thornhill has been a property of the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation, included in Faust Park. Recently several other historic buildings and two carousels have been moved to Faust Park, and this inventory has been able to take advantage of research conducted by the department in conjunction with them.

One other publication proved to be helpful. The Heritage of the Creve Coeur Area, which Gloria Dalton edited as part of the City of Creve Coeur's observance of the Bicentennial of the Declaration of Independence in 1976, included much information about the Chesterfield area, including capsule histories of several of the crossroads settlements.

Most buildings in this survey had to be researched from primary sources -- deeds and probate records -- which meant that exact dating was not possible. This is a common problem in rural surveys. Dating of buildings on the basis of land records is always approximate, and this is especially true in the case of rural buildings. Farm complexes usually include buildings from several different periods, and a site in long continuous occupancy may be rebuilt piecemeal once or even twice. Such events are not detectable through land records. Building permits began to be issued by St. Louis County in 1907, but they were long ago discarded. Traces of them survive in the pages of the St. Louis Daily Record, but they require hours or even days to track down since they are not indexed in any way.

Estimates of a building's date based on stylistic considerations must also be treated with caution in rural areas, as changes in fashion are so late in reaching the country. Many rural buildings had few style-based architectural features, and alterations over the years have further disguised the original age of many of these buildings.

Even in available records, certain deficiencies became apparent in this inventory more clearly than had been the case in the preceding rural surveys. One was that many probate files have lost important pieces of information, typically either the will or the inventory. A related problem is that all court records of the present St. Louis County, that is after 1876, have been discarded. This can be particularly detrimental to historic research in cases which resulted in the partition of farms; usually the maps filed in these cases were one of a kind and can only be reconstructed, if at all, from written descriptions. To compensate for this loss of visual reference, recent descriptions of land in St. Louis County have tended to eliminate all references to earlier documents, in the process removing the clues that facilitate historic research. The newer land descriptions tend to be composed of more exact measurements but often in the obscure units of chains and links, with complicated geometric angles and references to surveyors' monuments that can only be understood on the site, and then often only by a skilled surveyor.

Another modern practice complicating the study of rural properties is the periodic change in title to avoid probate. Where properties at the turn of the century were usually recorded in the name of the husband only, now they are recorded in the name of both the husband and wife in such a way that if one dies, the property becomes the sole possession of the survivor and thus not subject to probate inventories. By adding the names of the children to the deed, or by selling the property with life estate, or alternatively by setting up a living trust, property owners can prevent the property from appearing in public probate records for generations.

The county atlases have been a boon to researching historic buildings, but in this study even they were sometimes found wanting. In one case, the lots created by the partition of Peter Steffan's farm were numbered in the reverse order. Where small parcels of land appeared wedged in among larger tracts, the mapmakers sometimes despaired of squeezing in the pertinent information. In this part of the county, many names seem to have been misspelled, and frequently changes of ownership were missed. All these research problems have conspired to make accurate dating of many of the buildings included in this survey almost impossible.

The following inventory forms have been arranged according to the street addresses of the properties, alphabetically and numerically. Maps for many of the properties are taken from the records of the St. Louis County Department of Revenue. They show property lines and subdivision outlines as well as building outlines. The building outlines are in pencil and do not reproduce well, but they are more detailed and accurate than any other source.

Inventory forms have been numbered according to St. Louis County's locator system. This nine-digit system is based on a coordinated grid that covers the entire county and gives each parcel of land a unique identification. Most county records are keyed to this system, and it is hoped that inclusion of it on these inventory forms will facilitate further research. All photographic negatives are in the files of the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation. Roll and frame numbers have been included on the inventory forms under item three. The roll numbers are assigned by the photo processing companies. Roll and frame numbers have also been marked on the backs of the inventory photos.

## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The 27 square miles encompassed by the newly created city limits of Chesterfield include some of the most varied topography in St. Louis County, ranging from hills to floodplains and from densely built up to rural.

As the Missouri River turns from north to east at the west end of the district, it has created a broad alluvial plain with some of the richest farmland in the state. The fine-grained silty soil there gave its name to the crossroads community of Gumbo, located at the intersection of Chesterfield Airport Road (formerly Olive Street Road) and Long Road (formerly Kehrs Mill Road). Through the nineteenth century the extent of the bottoms ebbed and grew with the changes in the river, but the construction of the Chesterfield-Monarch levee has largely stabilized the boundaries of the area, while blocking most views of the water. Because of the likelihood of flooding, all the bottom lands of the county have traditionally been reserved for agriculture, but since the development of Earth City on the flood plain opposite St. Charles north of here, the pressures for similar development have grown in Gumbo. Most of the land has changed hands in recent years, and non-resident speculators are now a dominant force. Spurring development interests is the county government, which recently purchased the Spirit of St. Louis Airport, located just west of Long Road.

For long-time residents of St. Louis, the names of the main east-west street in the bottoms can be confusing. For decades the only main road was Olive Street Road. In 1934 a new right-of-way was constructed for U.S. 40, which tied into the old road west of the Smoke House. Then in the 1950's, Highway 40 was rebuilt as a four-lane limited access highway, and part of it took still another route. This severed Olive Street Road, so that the western portion no longer connected with the main part to the east. Most of the western part was then renamed Chesterfield Airport Road, but that new designation included part of the old Highway 40 right-of-way and veered north of Olive at the 18000 block. The main road through Gumbo is now called Chesterfield Airport Road, but two separate sections of Olive remain.

The south edge of the Gumbo Bottom is marked by the line of the Rock Island Railroad. Construction of the railroad line gave new place names to the roads it crossed. The old but sparsely developed community of Chesterfield moved down from Wild Horse Creek Road to Olive Street Road (now Chesterfield Airport Road), and new whistle-stops appeared at Monarch (where the tracks crossed Eatherton Road) and at Centaur (Centaur Road). Nothing is left at Monarch, but most of early twentieth-century Chesterfield survives and is included in this inventory. To the south of the tracks the ground rises sharply to Wild Horse Creek Road, opening wide vistas of the river valley. While newer development is rapidly encroaching, much of Wild Horse Creek Road still retains a semi-rural appearance. The creek itself once flowed along the foot of the bluffs to the north of the road, but erosion by the Missouri River has captured the mouth of the creek at Centaur Road, west of the city limits.



South of Wild Horse Creek Road the ground is rolling, sometimes lower and sometimes higher than the road itself. Development is rapidly taking place here too, and along the north-south roads -- Eatherton, Valley, Kehrs Mill, Wilson -- areas that were fields and farms less than a decade ago are now modern subdivisions. This development is moving in two directions: south from Chesterfield and north from the older communities of Manchester, Ballwin, and Ellisville. Two-lane Clayton Road, which runs east-west through the middle of this area, is swamped with traffic even at mid-day. The one municipality north of Clayton Road that predates Chesterfield is Clarkson Valley, an irregularly-shaped area located roughly between Clarkson Road and Valley Road. Since almost all its streets are cul-de-sacs, Many parts of Clarkson Valley can be reached only by going outside the city limits.

Prior to the construction of the limited-access U.S. 40, the main north-south roads east of Clarkson Valley were Baxter Road and Schoettler Road. Schoettler Road was completely severed by the new highway. Its long southern stretch is now a relatively quiet residential street, while its shorter northern segment has become the access road for Conway Road. Conway Road, an old east-west route that begins at Clayton Road in Ladue, had its western extremity cut off by 40. Baxter Road has recently been rerouted at its northern end, leaving as its residue an L-shaped road called Old Baxter.

The major north-south arteries have become Clarkson Road, which is designated State Route 340 as an extension of Olive, and east of that Woods Mill Road, State Route 141. Woods Mill Road currently forms the eastern boundary of Chesterfield, while the intersection of Olive, Clarkson, and 40 may be considered its heart. At the southwest quadrant of this intersection is Chesterfield Mall, the largest indoor retail shopping center in the metropolitan St. Louis area. It has more than 130 shops and other facilities and is the centerpiece of Chesterfield Village, a planned development of 1500 acres started in the late 1960's and just now coming to maturity.

The success of Chesterfield Village, which was considered a risky project on the far edge of the metropolitan area when it started, has spilled over into the surrounding territory. South of the mall is the new headquarters of Kangaroo Shoe, while both the northeast and northwest quadrants of the Olive-40 intersection have recently become office parks with a variety (some would say too great a variety) of striking new office building designs. The Monsanto Chemical Company is developing a research center on 210 acres overlooking the river nearby. It already accommodates over eight hundred employees and may eventually have over seven thousand.

The State Highway Department is busy widening Olive (once Olive Street Road, now called Olive Boulevard) to four-plus lanes. Starting at U.S. 40 and working northeast, this project has effectively obliterated the once-picturesque community of Bellefontaine or Hilltown, except for a few old houses on Schoettler Road. Two structures from this former crossroads settlement have been moved to Faust Park, about a mile farther up the road. At 96 acres, Faust Park is virtually the only open space facility in the whole City of Chesterfield, except for some schoolgrounds, common areas in planned unit developments, and the 7.5-acre playground owned by the Chesterfield Memorial Building Association on Schoettler Road. Faust Park, which was given to the county in 1968, includes Thornhill, the circa 1820



home of Missouri's second governor, Frederick Bates. It has been restored over the past decade. Two historic carousels have been moved to another part of the park, and a group of nineteenth-century buildings has been moved nearby from other parts of Chesterfield to form the beginnings of a village. The lack of open space was aggravated by recent loss of the Green Trails Golf Course on Ladue Road to a residential subdivision.

Moving northeast on Olive, one comes to another crossroads settlement at the intersection of Hog Hollow Road. It was called Lake after Creve Coeur Lake, which is actually some distance to the north. The old general store, now modernized, and a few other houses and commercial buildings survive here. The original Lake School from the 1890's has been moved to the City of Creve Coeur, where it forms the centerpiece of Lake School Park, but the 1924 school is still in its original location. Still another commercial node is at the intersection of Olive and Woods Mill Road, which originates here and, as State Route 141, runs south into Jefferson County.

In spite of the current urbanization of Chesterfield, it retains a surprising number of old buildings. These are concentrated in the four old crossroads communities -- Lake, Bellefontaine, old Chesterfield, and Gumbo -- and along the old country roads -- Olive, Conway, Eatherton, and Wild Horse Creek. With the exception of the Queathem House, few houses in Chesterfield can be considered visual landmarks, since they are situated above or back from the road, but they give their neighborhoods a texture and interest that is becoming more and more significant as the open spaces around them give way to homogeneous suburban housing.

## HISTORY

The early settlement of the Chesterfield area is attested to by the fact that nearly all the land in the present city was originally granted to settlers by the Spanish colonial government. This implies that land was being cleared here in the 1790s and the first three years of the nineteenth century before the Louisiana Purchase. Land grants were oriented to the Missouri River, and then to the streams that flowed down from the surrounding hills: Caulk's Creek, Bonhomme Creek, Wild Horse Creek, and farther to the east Grand Glaize Creek. Travel must at first have been along these waterways, but the land route along Old Bonhomme Road must have been accessible at an early date. It connected downtown St. Louis with Howell's Ferry, which seems to have been located somewhere near the present U.S. 40 bridge across the Missouri River. Since this road connected with Olive Street, it came to be called Olive Street Road, particularly after it was planked by a private company in the 1850's. Today, the connection is no longer evident, and Olive, having been rerouted in several places, now has a separate right-of-way from Old Bonhomme through University City and Olivette.

The Bonhomme Settlement described frequently in early writings, had an uncertain boundary. Bonhomme Post Office as described by Walter Scharf in 1883 was on the bend of the Missouri River west of Gumbo, but it washed away shortly thereafter. The farms northeast of Bellefontaine were also referred to as the Bonhomme Settlement. The Long brothers, John and Lawrence, owned the lion's share of the land here, but John Lewis, the Cordells, the Conways, and the Lanhams also had farms here. The Davis and Conway Houses, which have recently been moved to Faust Park, are associated with the Lanhams, Hartley and Stephen. Lewis was notable enough to have had a book written about him, John Lewis, "The Lost Pioneer" (Daniel Reid Long, Jr., 1971). John Long later moved to the Gravois, where his son William Lindsay Long built White Haven, later the home of Ulysses S. Grant. The most important early resident of the area, however, was Frederick Bates, who acquired Lewis's land grant next to his own, and who became Missouri's second governor. More important to the history of the state, however, was his work as secretary to the land commission appointed by Thomas Jefferson, which reviewed and approved all the land claims of the Spanish administration. It is remarkable that his house is also the best preserved early one in this area. Since it was acquired as part of Faust Park in 1968, it has been restored to its original appearance by the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation and it is now open for tours.

By mid-century most of this territory seems to have been under cultivation for at least a generation, as suggested by the many estate partitions that occurred here in the 1860s and 1870s. Matching up houses with these known settlers, however, is a difficult task, as so many of the farmsteads seem to have been rebuilt closer to the end of the century. One architecturally notable and apparently unchanged house of the era is 18620 Olive Street Road, a Greek Revival structure with Italianate overtones. It seems to have been built just after the Civil War by Valentine Kroenung, member of an important family in the bottom. Even earlier is the Henry Yokel House at 15125 Conway Road, apparently built about 1857. The prosperity of the area is attested by the size of these houses. The most characteristic farmhouse of this area has two stories, five bays, and is L-shaped or T-shaped, much more substantial than the cottages so prevalent in the farming areas in the north and south county.

The crossroads communities that remain Chesterfield's most characteristic historic resource got slow starts. The original town of Chesterfield, laid out by Justus Post in 1817, was on top of the bluff and was aligned with the angle of Wild Horse Creek Road some distance west of its juncture with Olive. Walter Scharf reported in 1883 that it had a general store run by Henry Wetzel, but the Wetzel property was at the corner of Olive and Long Road in Gumbo, and at least a few years later the Wetzel store was located there. In 1877 Christian Burkhardt acquired 21 acres adjacent to the Rock Island railroad crossing of Olive just west of Wild Horse Creek, and a newer Chesterfield grew up there. After Christian Burkhardt's death in 1898, his son Edward took over development of the community. By 1909 the Burkhardts' development was important enough to have its own map in the county atlas of that year, while Justus Post's settlement had almost disappeared from the map. Edward Burkhardt and his wife Lena built a row of bungalows on the south side of Olive beginning in 1918. Some of them are of exceptional interest because they are constructed of tile. The Chesterfield Farmers Elevator has been demolished, but the old building of the Farmers State Bank of Chesterfield is still standing, with its pressed metal front.

Chesterfield's historical advantage was although it was comparatively late in attracting a post office (1895), it kept it, while the post offices in surrounding communities eventually closed. Ward Parker has traced the most important of them in Heritage of the Creve Coeur Area (1976): Bellefontaine 1851-1907; Centaur 1891-1959; Gumbo 1882-1907; Lake 1871-1905; Monarch 1895-1907. Edward Burkhardt and G. K. Spaulding served successively as postmasters for more than sixty years.

Long Road, which was sometimes also called Kehrs Mill Road, was laid out along the property line separating the estates of the Kroenung and Steffan families, who were interrelated. Their gradual sale of lots in the 1890s and 1900s established the village. The east side of the road was early sold to the Wetzels, and their general store at the corner of Olive was for many years the most important landmark. There was also a second store and a blacksmith shop. St. Thomas Evangelical Church in Gumbo was an outpost of St. John's Evangelical Church on Olive near Bellefontaine. Both were evidence of the prevalence of German settlers throughout Chesterfield by the end of the century.

The whole north side of Olive at Schoettler was part of the Thornhill estate of Frederick Bates. August Hill settled on the south side of the road about 1835. He owned the whole east side of Schoettler Road between Olive and Conway and a larger tract due north in the bottoms. The little settlement at his corner was named Hilltown after him. This was less confusing than the official post office name of Bellefontaine, since Fort Bellefontaine and Bellefontaine Road were both located in the far northeast corner of the county. The two general stores here had a series of owners and often different proprietors, among them Henry Hoch and Gottlieb Albrecht, both of whose houses have been moved to Faust Park. One of the stores, most recently known as Rinkel's Market, has also been moved to the park in pieces, and it is hoped that it can be reassembled in its early form soon. While these stores are known to have been in business by the 1850s, the few surviving buildings on Schoettler Road date from the 1880s and later. The new Hilltown Village Center, which caused the removal of several of the old buildings, at least perpetuates the name.

Lake began as a general store at the corner of Hog Hollow Road and was originally called Hog Hollow, even though it is situated on a rise. This institution is still standing in a later building built by Ernst W. Zierenberg. Much of the land at Lake was owned by Missouri A. Stevens, a granddaughter of pioneer Hiram Cordell. Her husband Richard Stevens had another large farm on Wild Horse Creek Road and extending into the bottoms there. The south side of Olive opposite the Lake store was not developed until after the death of their daughter Ann Tyler Stevens, called Nannie T., in 1904. Then lots were surveyed and sold to August W. Reising and others. Reising farmed the bottoms and ran a tavern at the foot of Hog Hollow Road where it met the railroad tracks. His family built the houses at 14160 and 14166 Olive, and they still own one of them. The other family important to the development of Lake was the Stemmes. Herman Stemme was the most prominent member of the family, profiled in William L. Thomas's 1911 History of St. Louis County, but he never owned the house at 13969 Olive. That was built by Charles S. Stemme, possibly a brother, and is still owned by descendants. The house at 13916 Olive was probably also built by Charles for his son Charles H, called Charles, Jr.

Considering the beauty of this country, relatively few St. Louis businessmen chose the Chesterfield vicinity for country houses in the early twentieth century, when the fashion for such estates developed elsewhere in the county. The notable exception was Leicester Busch Faust, born in 1897. Grandson of both Adolphus Busch, the brewer, and of Tony Faust, the restaurateur, Faust assembled an acreage here of at least 500 acres when he was barely twenty. He became president of the Chesterfield Farmers Elevator and Supply Company and manufactured Swastika Brand Flour. The name came from the broken cross pattern found in Hopi and Pueblo art. Faust was one of the first "easterners" to be drawn to the art of the American Southwest, and he had Tom P. Barnett design his country estate in the Pueblo Revival Style, which was then becoming popular there. He called the place "Swastika Farms." With the rise of the Nazis, Faust and his wife Mary changed the name to "Thornhill," from the home of Frederick Bates, which was on their property. The Faust Estate has several substantial outbuildings matching the style of the main house and is one of the outstanding properties of its type in the county. A couple of later estates on Conway Road are also worthy of note, the Tudor Revival "4-J Farm" of Julius Van Raalte (now 440 Hunter's Hill) and "White Oaks," the William T. Deacon Estate, which is a late example Greek Revival.

One of the most remarkable landmarks in St. Louis County is the Howard Bend Pumping Station, which is actually a property of the City of St. Louis. It was designed in 1926 and 1927 in a simple but monumental Beaux Arts style. The four major and three minor buildings are arranged around an attractive central campus and are a reminder of what an enlightened public administration can achieve. It should serve as a challenge to the municipal government of Chesterfield, which came into being on June 1, 1988.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

The historic resources identified in this study are in need of local protection. As the rest of the west county becomes increasingly built up with anonymous-looking subdivisions, the older historic buildings that give Chesterfield its distinctive character are going to become more and more important to the community. They should be protected now, not only against unnecessary demolition, but against inappropriate alterations which could destroy their visual and historical value. The National Register of Historic Places is inadequate to perform this function. It protects buildings only against adverse actions in which federal funds play a part. Most of the historic resources of Chesterfield do not meet the criteria for listing in the National Register in any case. Chesterfield needs an ordinance like those of the most history-minded communities in the state. Such an ordinance should enable an historic commission to designate historic landmarks and districts with or without the consent of the owners, to regulate alterations, and to prohibit demolition. In addition to St. Louis and Kansas City, Kirkwood, Webster Groves, and Washington, Missouri have admirable ordinances with features that might well be adapted by Chesterfield.

Preservation can also be encouraged by careful planning techniques, such as sympathetic subdivision regulations. Often when large tracts of land are developed more intensively, the historic buildings on them can be preserved simply by drawing the lot lines thoughtfully.

Another technique that can be used to preserve the distinctive character of a district is the Design District, which establishes certain desired visual elements as significant for retention and promotion in new construction regardless of historic significance. Chapel Hill, North Carolina, is one notable community using this technique, which is currently being studied by St. Louis County for use in the unincorporated communities of Pond and Grover.

Cemeteries need more attention. Historic inventories funded by the State Historic Preservation Program under the Missouri Department of Natural Resources usually ignore cemeteries, because they are so difficult to list in the National Register of Historic Places. Nevertheless they constitute an important historic resource and one that is just as subject to the pressures of development as a building. In the past year an important pioneer cemetery on Manchester Road was removed to make way for another strip commercial development. While state legislation has recently broadened protection for cemeteries to some extent, there remains a serious need for local protection, especially to discourage the destruction of private cemeteries and, when necessary, to assure more orderly transfer of bodies and monuments than is now the case. Several cemeteries have been included in this inventory to highlight this need. Old private cemeteries with no known owners might be incorporated into the city's park system for use as what is now called passive recreational areas.



The most important tool in an effective preservation effort is an informed electorate. Many elected officials have already gotten the message that preservation is good policy, but even those who are not so convinced will often support preservation if they perceive it to be important to their constituents. An active, visible historic preservation organization is the essential first step. Such a group can get the word out in a crisis, but equally important such a group can plan ahead for the preservation needs of the community so that crises do not develop. The Historic Commission of Chesterfield is a possible nucleus for such a group

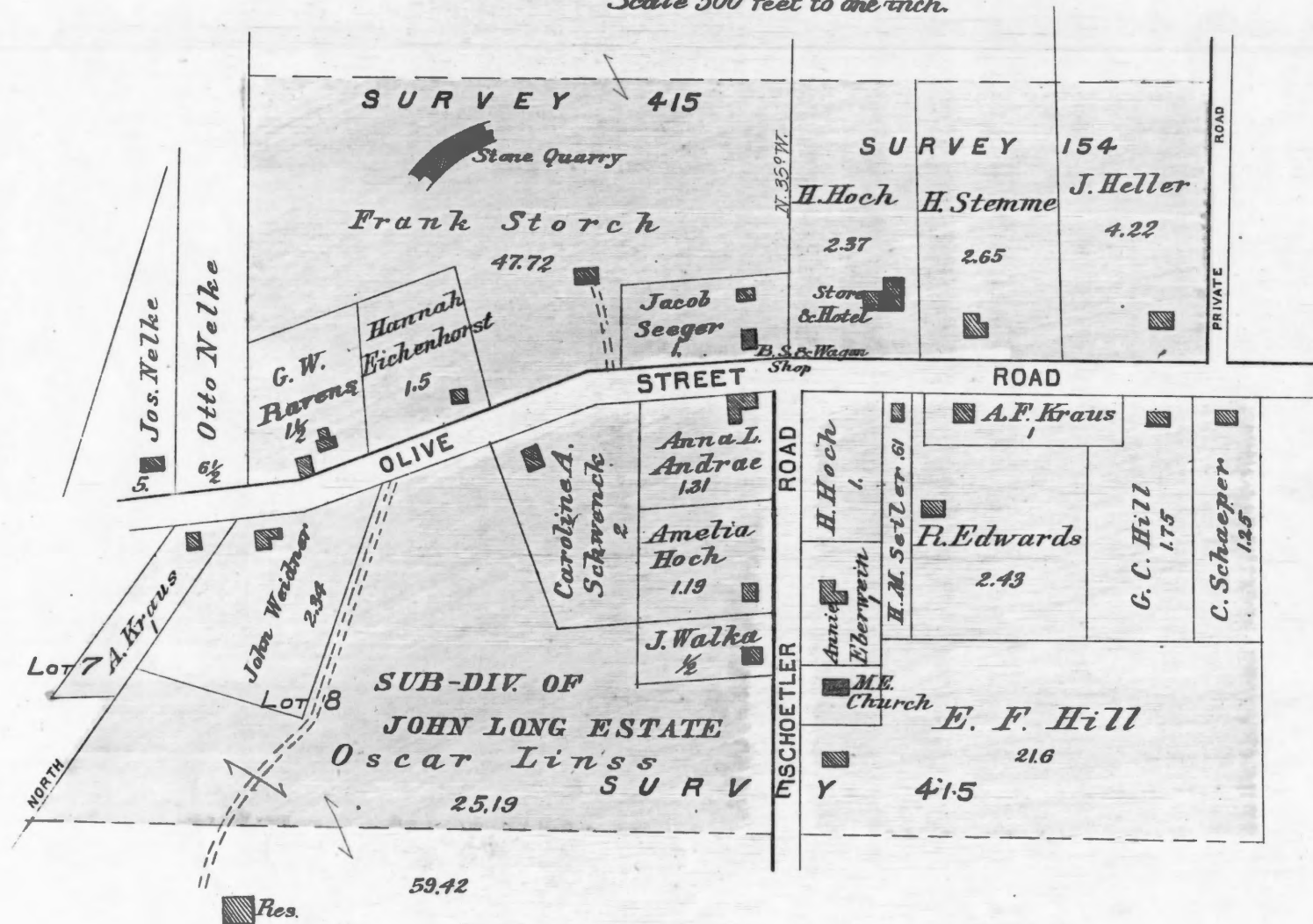
The local historical society often serves as preservation advocate as well, and Chesterfield is lucky to have the Creve Coeur-Chesterfield Historical Society already in existence. More work needs to be done, however, to record the local heritage. Representatives of many of the old families are still to be found in this area, some of them still on the old family property. In another generation this will not be true. The wealth of family history from these sources needs to be collected now, while it is still available. A systematic effort should be made to interview descendants of the early families, several of which are still represented in the community. This should lead to genealogical and biographical studies, too few of which are currently available. Such an effort should also bring to light papers, photos and other memorabilia which could then be copied or donated to a publicly-accessible repository.

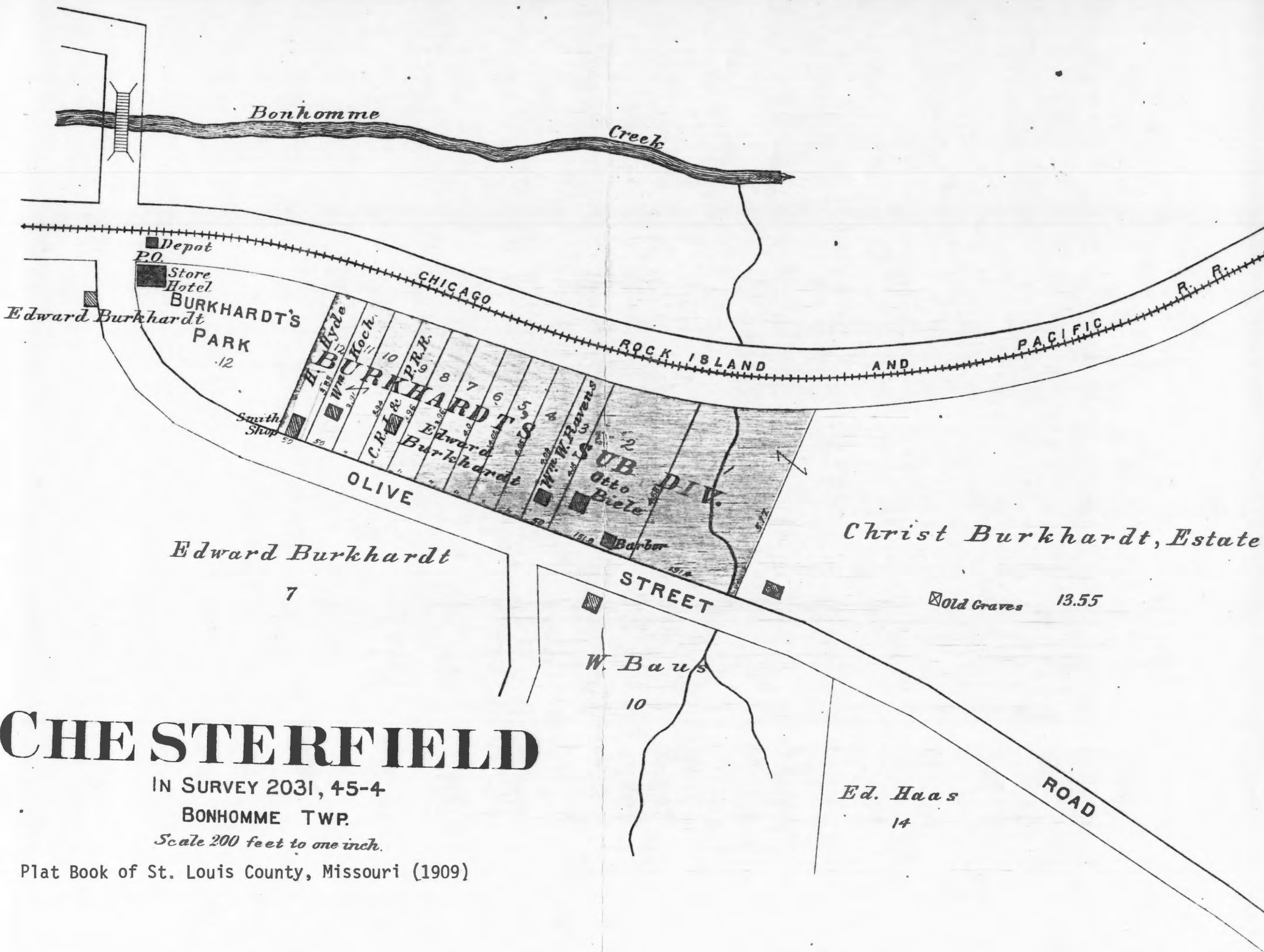
More research is also needed on the buildings included in this inventory. Repeatedly these inventory forms note that gaps still exist in the chain of ownership which time did not allow to be filled. The repetition of family names in the inventory forms suggests linkages between buildings that could be verified by further research. The genealogical study suggested above could clarify such questions.

# BELLEFONTAINE

## (HILLTOWN)

*Scale 300 feet to one inch.*





# CHESTERFIELD

IN SURVEY 2031, 45-4  
BONHOMME TWP.  
Scale 200 feet to one inch.

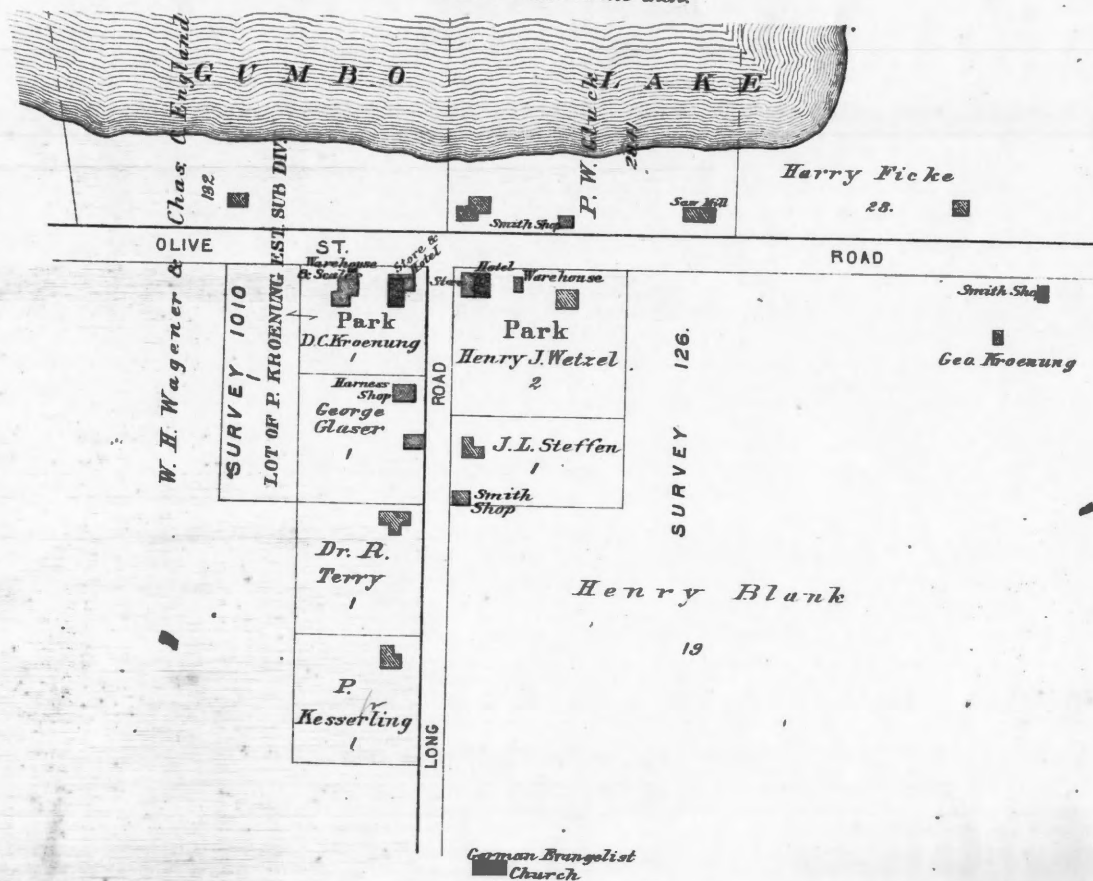
Plat Book of St. Louis County, Missouri (1909)

# GUMBO

IN SURVEYS 1010 & 126, 45-4

MERAMEC TWP.

Scale 200 feet to one inch.





Plat Book of St. Louis County, Missouri (1909)

# LAKE

SUB-DIV. OF LOT 7

PARTITION OF MISSOURI STEVENS

BONHOMME TWP. 46-4

