

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name Clark, C.M. and Vina, House

other names/site number Rosemont; Welling, Clark, House

2. Location

street & number 704 California Avenue [n/a] not for publication

city or town Montrose [n/a] vicinity

state Missouri code MO county Henry code 083 zip code 64770

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this
☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In
my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be
considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [])

Claire F. Blackwell
Signature of certifying official/Title Claire F. Blackwell/Deputy SHPO

11 December 1996
Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [])

Signature of certifying official/Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date

☐ entered in the National Register

See continuation sheet [].

☐ determined eligible for the
National Register

See continuation sheet [].

☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.

☐ removed from the
National Register

☐ other, explain

See continuation sheet [].

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	1	1
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	0	0
		0	0
		0	0
		1	1

Name of related multiple property listing.

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

LATE VICTORIAN

Materials

foundation Concrete
walls Brick

roof Asphalt
other Wood
Metal

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8 Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

Property is:

☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ B removed from its original location.

☐ C a birthplace or grave.

☐ D a cemetery.

☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ F a commemorative property.

☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

ARCHITECTURE

Periods of Significance

1913

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person(s)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unkown/Layman, John; Layman, Joe;
and Bundy, Ed S.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9 Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

☐ previously listed in the National Register

☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark

☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State Agency

☐ Federal Agency

☐ Local Government

☐ University

☐ Other:

Name of repository: _____

10 Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

A. Zone Easting Northing
15 413740 4235065

B. Zone Easting Northing

C. Zone Easting Northing

D. Zone Easting Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11 Form Prepared By

name/title Roger Maserang

organization N/A

date August 15, 1996

street & number 113 West Gay Street

telephone 816/747-2126

city or town Warrensburg

state Missouri

zip code 64093

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Clark Welling

street & number 704 California Avenue

telephone _____

city or town Montrose

state Missouri

zip code 64770

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National Park Service

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Section 7 Page 1

Clark, C.M. and Vina, House
Henry County, MO

SUMMARY: Constructed in 1913, the C. M. Clark House at 704 California Avenue in Montrose, Henry County, is an eclectic, asymmetrical 1 1/2-story brick and frame residence with a full basement. A product of the Late Victorian period in Missouri, the Clark House combines elements of the Queen Anne, Italianate and Colonial Revival styles with simpler, early 20th century lines, with Queen Anne predominating. The red brick-walled main floor rises from a poured concrete foundation. The steep, cross-gabled upper half-story which includes a front-facing dormer is richly ornamented with cresting, lacy brackets, decorative hexagonal wood shingles and other Victorian devices, painted in shades of brown, beige, tan and sand with accents in pumpkin, blue and burgundy.¹ Lower corners of gables are elaborated with scrollwork brackets and pendants, and the triangular spaces between cornice returns and ascending roof edges contain decorative curvilinear insets which strengthen the serifs. Recessed under the slightly lower front gable, an open front porch is supported by three sets of paired Corinthian columns resting on concrete-capped brick piers. Brick chimneys emerge from opposite ends of the main roof and from the west gabled wing, and the gable above a bay window contains a wheel window. In addition to fine woodwork, the immaculate interior features decorative pressed metal ceilings, brick fireplaces including one with multicolored tile insets, a two-flight staircase and pocket doors. The Clark House has been restored and somewhat enhanced, but historic material greatly predominates on both the exterior and interior. Consequently, the basic character and craftsmanship of this impressive property are intact and sufficient integrity is retained. A circa 1952 detached garage to the west of the house is counted as noncontributing.

NARRATIVE: The Clark House faces east from its location on the northwest corner of West Seventh Street and California Avenue, a residential area in northwest Montrose, Missouri. Montrose (population 440) is in southwestern Henry County, a primarily agricultural area in west central Missouri. A gravel driveway onto the property proceeds from West Seventh Street, which has been platted but not completed beyond California Avenue. A concrete sidewalk leads diagonally to the front porch from the intersection of the bordering streets. The large, level yard is well-maintained and contains a variety of deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs and flowers. The building is situated on Lots 14 and 15, Block 1, of Nathan T. Veir's Addition. The distance between California Avenue and the primary east elevation is approximately 80 feet. A noncontributing circa 1952 detached two-car garage, painted and otherwise enhanced to match the house, is just west. Two cast iron hitching posts are also on the grounds at their original location.

The Clark House has an essentially square footprint, 40 feet by 40 feet, except for an enclosed sun porch set at an angle off the southwest corner and a bay window in the south elevation, adjacent to the sun porch. Bricks are laid in a stretcher bond, with every sixth course laid in Flemish bond (with alternate bricks set endwise). However, window brickwork in the north and west elevations of the Clark House is fundamentally different from window brickwork in the primary east and south elevations, and the bricks themselves are different, perhaps indicating that two exterior walls from an earlier residence were incorporated into the present building. On the more public east and south facades which parallel California Avenue and Seventh Street, bricks have rounded edges and are somewhat thicker than the sharp-edged bricks in the west and north walls. Door and window openings in the east and south elevations have flat arches while those in the west and north elevations have more elaborate segmental

¹Repainting of the Clark House's gable trim with a more intricate pattern than depicted in the photographs, but consisting of essentially the same set of colors as here described, was scheduled for September 1996. The narrative description is based on the house's appearance prior to repainting. All painted elements were originally white.

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Clark, C.M. and Vina, House
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arches. Bricks with rounded edges bear the manufacturer's name, the Chanute Brick & Tile Co., Chanute, Kansas.² The building's poured concrete foundation, with openings for windows, projects slightly beyond the brick walls.

Facing California Avenue, the primary east elevation exemplifies the Cross-Gabled Roof/Free Classic shape and decorative detailing subtypes as described by McAlester and McAlester in their handbook of American residential architecture.³ In this example, the embellished front gable extends across approximately two-thirds of the facade. Supported by pairs of fluted Corinthian columns atop brick piers, an open front porch with a tongue-and-groove floor is recessed beneath this broad gable. The columns are painted beige. Ornate brackets in two sizes are spaced along the eaves of the beadboard porch ceiling. The brackets are beige with accents of pumpkin and blue. The present columns are modern replacements of the original paired columns, which apparently had Ionic capitals with volutes and were smooth rather than fluted. Between the porch piers, bricks are interlaced with spaces to form a railing which is topped with a concrete coping.

Curvilinear, prow-like metal finials and sawtooth cresting adorns the main roof ridge as well as ridges on the front and rear gables and the house's only dormer, a gabled type, which faces east. Gables contain decorative trim in the form of lacy, curvilinear vergeboards with spindlework inserts. Miniaturized replicas of this gingerbread, originally present only in the house's three largest gables, have been installed in the dormer and two other minor gables. Lacy brackets with pendants descend from overhanging corners of the main roof as well as from the dormer. Although not depicted in historic views, the brackets and pendants apparently were added at some point and then removed and stored in the basement. These brackets were reinstalled by the present owner. Roofing consists of asphalt shingles in tones of brown, a replacement of the original wood shingles. The finials, cresting, vergeboards and brackets are painted in earthtone shades of beige, tan, pumpkin and brick.

The broad front gable contains a triple window (double-hung 1/1s), while a similar but smaller triple window is repeated in the dormer. Hexagonal wood shingles fill the triangular areas above these window groups and contain painted patterns in blue and brick against a beige background. Horizontal, tan-painted clapboard fills the main portion of the front gable. On the first floor, the front bay directly under the dormer contains a double-hung 1/1 window in a rectangular opening with a concrete lugsill. The upper sash is filled with leaded, clear glass in patterns of pointed bars, diamonds and triangles. Window surrounds are beige-colored.

Centered in the primary facade, the impressive tripartite main entrance features three tall ovals of beveled glass. The door oval is within a panel containing an elaborate carved floral pattern. The other two ovals are in flanking, recessed side panels. Spindlework in fanlike patterns embellishes upper panels and a transom window. A Victorian-style storm door, which is of modern construction, also contains spindlework. North of the entrance are two relatively narrow window openings with double-hung 1/1s. A similar window is in the short side wall adjacent to the entrance.

²The Clark House was completed in October 1913, about eight months after the first house was extensively damaged by fire on February 13, 1913. While it was common practice to use more expensive bricks and more elaborate brickwork in primary elevations, the different types of window arches in this example seem to indicate an earlier house: The more elaborate segmental arches are in the least public facades. No documentary evidence has been found to support the two house theory, however.

³McAlester, Virginia and Lee, A Field Guide to American Houses, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1985, pp. 263-264.

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Henry County, Mo

A key feature of the south elevation, facing Seventh Street, is a three-sided cutaway bay window with brick walls. Above the brick first floor, the south gable is generally similar to the front gable with an upper area of hexagonal shingles, a lower zone of horizontal weatherboard, lacy vergeboards with spindlework inserts and corner brackets with pendants, all painted in earthtone colors. A short, gabled extension of the main roof above the bay window contains a round or wheel window with tracery and a keystone surround within a field of hexagonal shingles. The lacy trimwork in this gable is a miniaturized replica of the original gingerbread of the three main gables. Adjacent to the bay window on the west is an enclosed sun porch, set at an angle. The sun porch was added in circa 1940, replacing a small open porch. Bands of windows in the porch have tan awnings. The porch also contains a doorway. Two double-hung 1/1 windows are centered in the gable, one is on the first floor wall toward the east corner, and three are in the bay window. Except for the wheel window, window openings in the south elevation have flat arches. Bricks in the south elevation have slightly rounded edges similar to those in the primary east elevation. Two sets of concrete steps with a nonoriginal metal railing lead to the door of the sun porch.

The gabled upper portion of the north elevation is identical to the south elevation, with imbricated shingles, horizontal weatherboard, lacy vergeboards and two double-hung 1/1 windows. Interlocking with a fairly conspicuous seam west of the front porch, the semi-Flemish bond brick pattern of the first floor is continued with somewhat smaller bricks than those in the east and south elevations. There are two segmentally arched window openings (double-hung 1/1s) consisting of two courses of bricks placed endwise vertically, with concrete lugsills. A small porch with low brick walls and wood-framed sash, enclosed in circa 1930, is on the northwest corner. One of the porches' two entrances (not used) is in its north wall. A concrete slab porch with a pump for a cistern abuts this part of the house, and a basement entrance is adjacent to the porch steps.

The rear (west) elevation of the Clark House consists of a central gabled projection which is lower than the primary north-south element, flanked by the enclosed northwest porch and the enclosed sun porch on the southwest. Lacy vergeboard replicas in this case are of the same proportion as those originally employed in the house's three main gables. The west gable contains a single double-hung 1/1 window. The brick first floor contains three segmentally arched window openings consisting of two courses of bricks set endwise, similar to those in the north elevation. Except for the multipaned porch windows, all are double-hung 1/1s. The three-bay central projection is constructed of bricks which are similar to those in the north elevation.

In 1988 the exterior brick walls were tuckpointed, with damaged bricks replaced. The exterior woodwork and other trim, which had been white, was repainted in a variety of earth tones at this time. The house's original open porches are depicted in historic photographs and on Montrose's 1918 Sanborn map.

The floor plan is arranged around a central hall containing a stairway leading upstairs. Except for the space taken by the stairway, the 11' x 15' hall is of nearly the same size as the three rooms—living room, dining room and study—with which it communicates. This is a characteristic of the Queen Anne style house, since halls were often the largest "living" rooms and early versions even contained fireplaces. In the Clark House, hallways lack fireplaces but are furnished, attractively so, with antiques.

The Clark House's immaculate interior features decorative pressed metal "tin" ceilings and crown moldings, all meticulously restored, throughout most of the first floor. These ornate ceilings are painted

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white with accents primarily in gold, silver and copper, with variations from room to room. During restoration of the interior, completed in 1991, original stencil decorations were found under the wallpaper along the base of the ceiling in the living room, dining room and study. The stencils were restored and these walls were painted pale green, pale green, and dark green, respectively. Other rooms are papered in various patterns. Wall-to-wall carpeting, used in several main floor rooms, is pale green.

Red pine and maple millwork and doors throughout the first floor have a natural wood finish which is a deep, rich tan. Cornice door and window heads on the first floor feature tiny bands with an egg-and-dart design. Pocket doors of maple or ash are between the central hall and living room, central hall and study, and living room and dining room. The door between the kitchen and enclosed northwest porch contains a window with etched glass in a floral design, and a panel with a swag molding. Upstairs doors have an inverted cross design or a series of horizontal panels. Door hardware is original. The hall staircase has a square newel post with panels. Balusters have tapering, turned midsections. Shutters inside the study are nonoriginal. Stained glass windows or panels which are nominally installed in some interior windows are nonoriginal.

Brick fireplaces, each of a different design, are in the living room, dining room and study. The living room fireplace, which has a wood mantel shelf, is of tan brick with multicolored mosaic tile insets. The other two fireplaces are made of red brick. The house's old gaslight fixtures have been removed and replaced with electrified reproductions. Match holders suspended from the fixtures, however, are original.

The kitchen, which is among the rooms with pressed metal ceilings, retains the appearance of a circa 1947 remodeling with white steel cabinets, black counter tops, white appliances and an inlaid linoleum floor with patterns in cream, black and red.⁴ During the remodeling, modern bathroom fixtures were removed and replaced with a claw-foot tub and pedestal sink, and oak wainscoting and a hexagon tile floor were added. The enclosed northwest porch has been reconstituted as an old-fashioned ice cream parlor. This room has a tile floor and an acoustic ceiling. The sun parlor addition is carpeted and also has an acoustic ceiling.

Upstairs rooms consist of a hallway, a master bedroom, two guest bedrooms, two small "attic" rooms and a full bath off the hall. Except for panel doors, most second story woodwork consists of plain flat boards, painted white. Woodwork in a guest bedroom is painted pale green, and woodwork in an attic room has a natural finish. The upstairs bath was added in about 1960. Second story rooms, like those on the first floor, are immaculate.

The house is furnished almost entirely in period pieces, many having belonged either to the builder's family or present owner Clark Welling's parents. The Clarks were Clark Welling's grandparents. In addition, the presence of various other antiques including organs and other musical instruments, clocks, artifacts and collectibles belonging to the owner give the house a museum-like quality.

⁴Circa 1938 linoleum with a pattern similar to that in the Clark House is depicted in a recent (October 1992) edition of The Old House Journal, p. 48.

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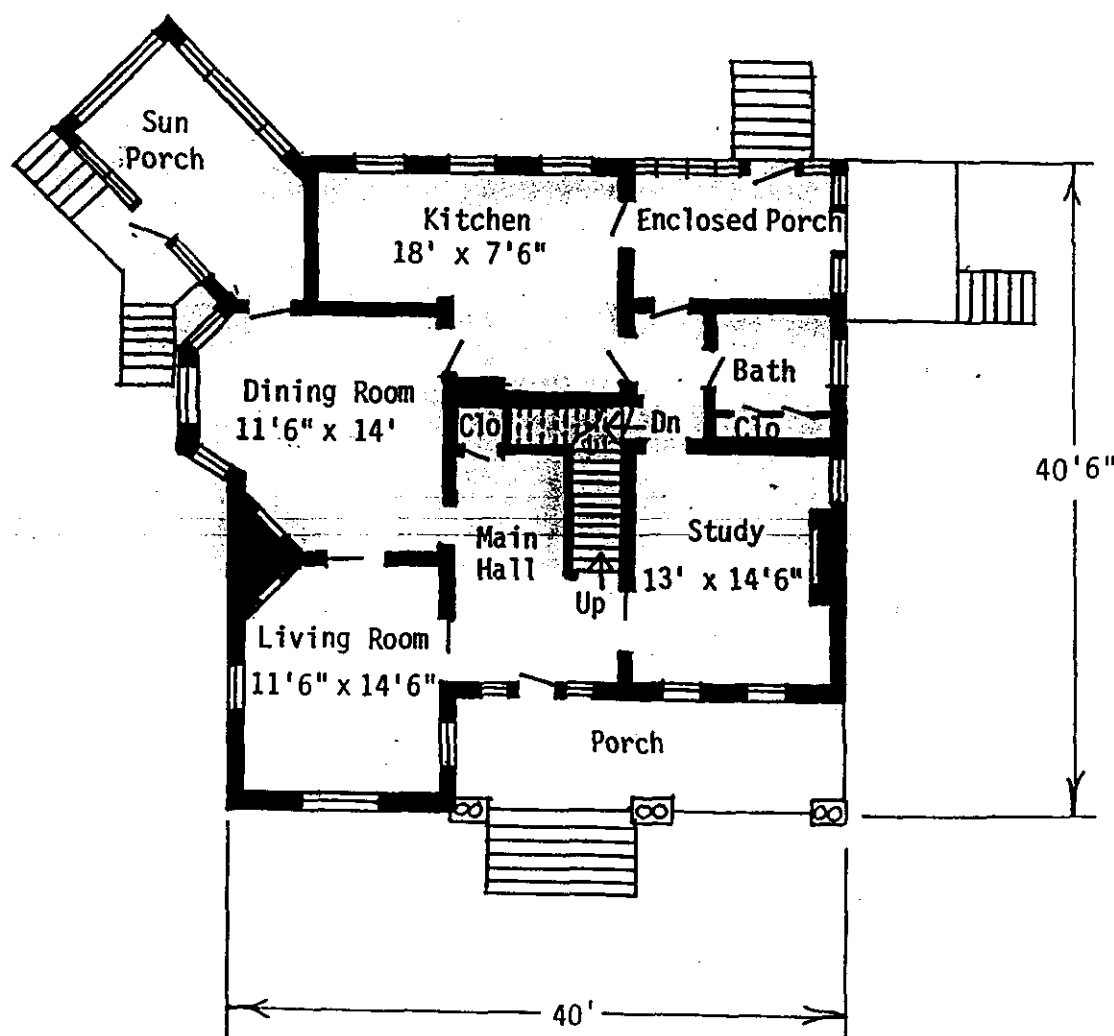
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Clark, C.M. and Vina, House
Henry County, MO

First Floor Plan

Scale: 1" = Approximately 12'

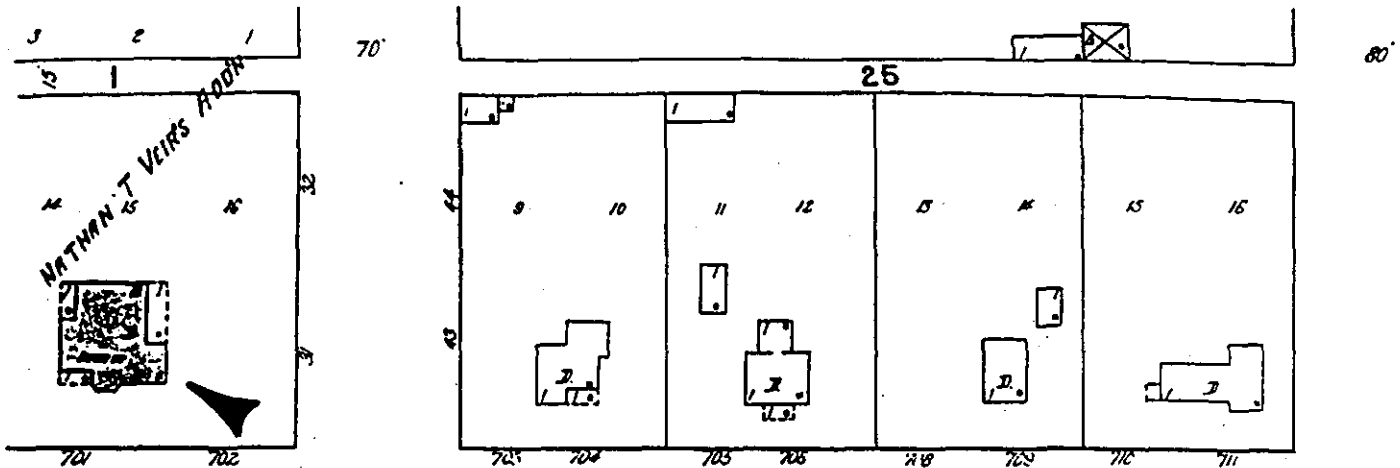


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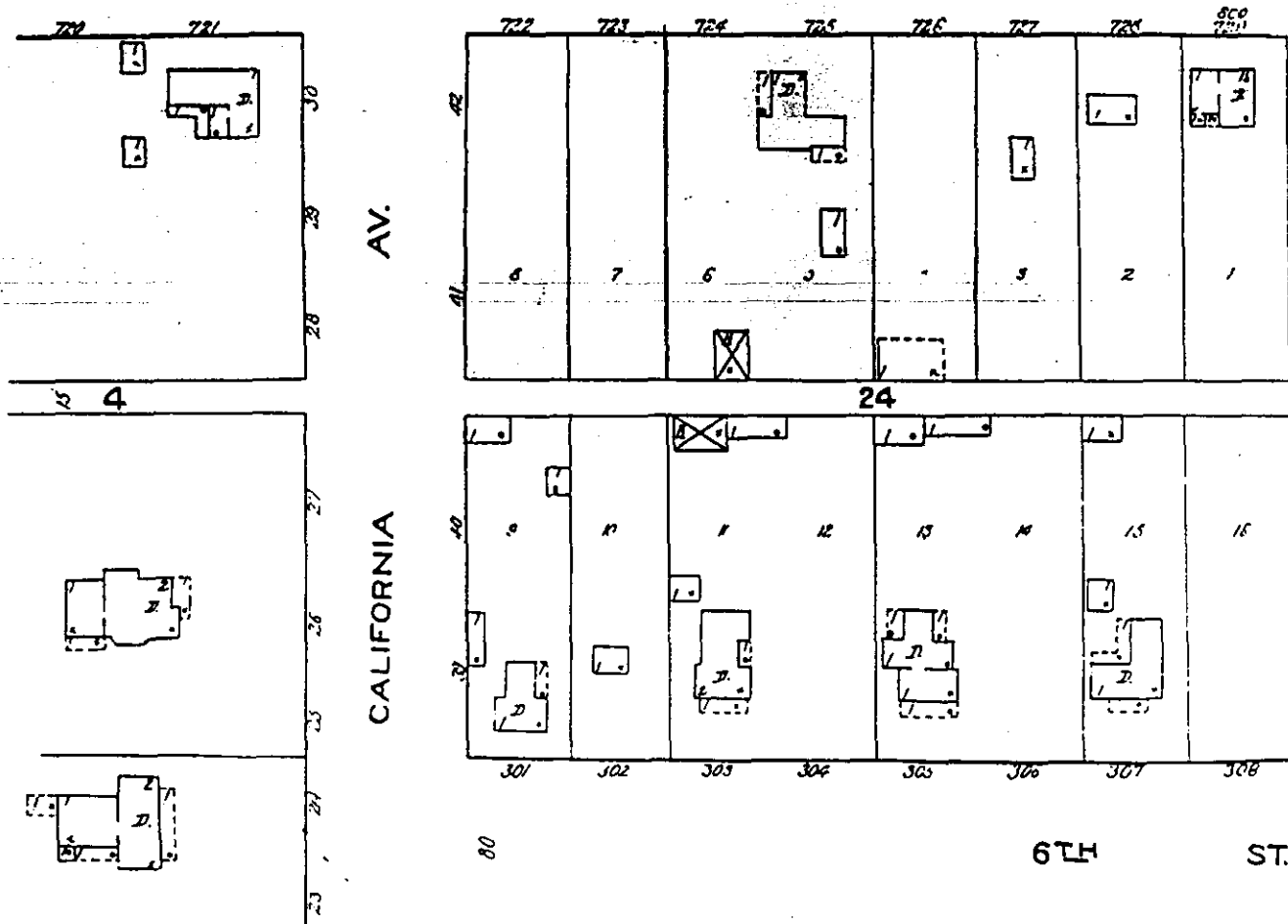
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Henry County, MO



C. M. CLARK HOUSE AS DEPICTED
ON 1918 SANBORN MAP FOR MONTROSE,
HENRY COUNTY, MISSOURI



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Clark, C.M. and Vina, House
Henry County, MO

SUMMARY: The C. M. Clark House, 704 California Avenue, Montrose, is significant under Criterion C as a significant example of Late Victorian residential architecture in Henry County. Constructed in 1913, this eclectic, asymmetrical house displays affinities with the Queen Anne, Colonial Revival and Italianate styles which are harmoniously combined, with Queen Anne predominating. While the main floor of the Clark House has simple lines and smooth walls common to many well-built, early 20th century houses in rural Missouri, with the exception of its cutaway bay window, the upper story erupts in a splendor of patterned shingles, lacy gable ornaments, scrollwork brackets with pendants, cresting and finials, all of which are hallmarks of the Queen Anne style. Long the city's preeminent Victorian landmark, the property was originally the home of a prominent local businessman and his family. Recently renovated to pristine condition, and painted in earth tones and deeper hues to further enliven the originally white gables, the Clark House retains integrity of design, materials, workmanship and location and remains in the Clark family today.

NARRATIVE: From its origins in the work of Richard Norman Shaw and a group of other 19th century English architects, the English Queen Anne style was made tangible in America by Henry Hobson Richardson and others in the 1870s. In 1874, Richardson's Watts-Sherman House expanded the American architectural frontier with its striking surface treatments including horizontal bands of contrasting materials and textures.⁵ As the style evolved it became more elaborate, with American architects emphasizing such things as ornamentation in gable ends, window surrounds, spindlework, towers and balconies.⁶ American architects also are credited with developing a variation which became a style in its own right, Shingle. In America, Queen Anne's success and rapid development was closely tied to a renewed interest in the architecture of America's colonial period, and particularly with its spirit of free development. There was also a Japanese influence in the use of decorative shingles, panels, vergeboards and interior spatial arrangements.⁷

In 1877, Boston architect R. S. Peabody suggested in a lecture that was published in American Architect and Building News that Queen Anne was particularly appropriate for America and in fact was "our legitimate field for imitation" because of similarities he saw with the "beautiful" architecture of colonial days—which presumably meant anything that was both old and picturesque, rather than a specific style. As Queen Anne grew in popularity, earlier styles lost favor because they were perceived as second-hand and "foreign."⁸ Also, unlike styles such as Gothic Revival and Second Empire which by their nature had certain limitations, Queen Anne "succeeded because it made no demands.....It

⁵Whiffen, Marcus, and Frederick Koeper, American Architecture 1607-1976 (Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 1981), p. 296; McAlester and McAlester, op cit., p. 268.

⁶Clark, Clifford Edward, The American Family Home, 1800-1960 (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1986), p. 78.

⁷Girouard, Mark, Sweetness and Light: The 'Queen Anne' Movement 1860-1900 (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1984), pp. 208-209; and Scully, Vincent J., Jr., The Shingle Style and the Stick Style, Revised Edition (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1971), p. 21.

⁸Girouard, op cit.

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Clark, C.M. and Vina, House
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claimed no more than that the buildings which it produced were sensible and pretty.⁹ Ultimately, Queen Anne became the most popular of all Victorian dwelling styles.¹⁰

By the time the Clark House was constructed in 1913, the intricacies of Queen Anne and Victorian architecture in general had largely been displaced by what were considered to be more practical American Foursquare, Craftsman and Colonial Revival designs. In the 1890s, the popularity of the "Free Classic" variation of Queen Anne, involving classical columns rather than delicate turned supports for porches, probably was an early indication that the Queen Anne style was about to be supplanted. In any case it was "but a short step" from the appearance of classical detailing on Queen Anne houses to their displacement a few years later by asymmetrical Colonial Revival houses, along with other emerging styles of the 20th Century.¹¹

The Montrose Recorder reported construction of the Clark House on May 16, 1913, but unfortunately gave few architectural details: "Postmaster C. M. Clark has a force of workmen erecting a new model home on the lots where his old dwelling stood which was destroyed by fire several months ago. The structure will be built of brick, 40 x 40, and when complete will contain seven rooms, bathroom and basement. Mr. Clark informs us it will be rushed to completion, and ready for occupancy in a short time." Charles Martin Clark, his wife Vina, and their two children Constance E. and Ralph C., moved into their new house in October 1913.¹²

In its original form the Clark House had paired, smooth porch columns with Ionic capitals with volutes instead of today's paired, fluted porch columns with Corinthian capitals, but the effect is essentially the same. These columns, a Colonial Revival influence, are important visually because they provide continuity between the ornate upper floor and the otherwise relatively austere first story. The classical affiliation asserted by the porch columns is amplified by cornice returns which produce a modified pediment effect in gables above the front porch, dormer and bay window. After 1900 or so, small round windows such as the one in the bay window were commonly used on Colonial Revival houses. Other elements sometimes associated with the Free Classic subtype, such as dentil bands and Palladian windows, are absent. The eclectic Clark House also has an affinity, although minimal, with Italianate architecture because of the decorative brackets distributed along the porch ceiling. The Italianate link would be much stronger if the house's brackets were more massive and conspicuously displayed. Overall, with its various wall surfaces and other devices to avoid a smooth exterior, its ornamented roofline with cresting and finials and its classical columns, the Clark House is most strongly identified with Queen Anne.

Indications are that when the present house was erected, the builder somehow managed to incorporate two brick walls—the north wall and the west one—from the earlier house, which burned. This would

⁹Ibid., p. 224.

¹⁰Sinclair, Peg B., Victorious Victorians (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1985), p. 55.

¹¹McAlester and McAlester, op cit., p. 268.

¹²The date of occupancy was supplied by Clark Welling, C. M. Clark's grandson and the only surviving member of the family. Mr. Welling's research included interviews with Montrose residents Mrs. Lenora Swaters and Virgil Bunch.

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explain the building's two styles of window arches and two types of brick (Section 7, Pages 2 and 4), but no documentation that this is what actually occurred has been found. Possibly, decorative elements were salvaged from the first house and reused in the present building. Unfortunately, no photographic or other description of the first house is available.¹³

When the Clark House was built in 1913, Montrose was still a couple of years from having electric lights, streets were unpaved and water came from private wells and cisterns. By this time, however, Montrose's development as a railroad town serving a diverse agricultural community was largely complete and the population had stabilized at approximately 1,000. The 1918 Sanborn Insurance map for Montrose depicts several likely Victorian houses, if this can be inferred from their irregular plans, bay windows, and wraparound and multiple porches. But whether Montrose ever had a finer Late Victorian house than the Clark House is unknown. The Clark House is by far the best brick and frame example standing, a block-by-block windshield survey in August 1996 indicated. Other Montrose properties retain various elements of the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles which are predominant in the Clark House, but no extant building comes close to matching the profusion of Victorian detailing found in its upper story. Other early 20th century homes in Montrose either have much less styling or, if they were originally Queen Anne or other Victorian types, have been significantly altered.¹⁴

When the property was renovated in 1988-91, an inappropriate screened front porch with steel supports instead of the original wood columns was returned to a close approximation of its historic appearance. Historic material was largely preserved throughout the house, with various elements repaired or replicated as needed. Gingerbread was added to secondary gables where it was not originally used, but it is an appropriate type and while this was an unnecessary enhancement, its presence does not materially change the impression received by the viewer.

Born in 1869, builder C. M. Clark was one year old when Montrose, said to have been named after a town in Scotland, was platted on the route of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad through Henry County. Clark, whose parents were from Virginia and North Carolina, was born and grew up on a farm three miles west of the new town, in Deepwater Township.¹⁵ Montrose's population reached several hundred fairly quickly as many inhabitants of Germantown, a primarily German community two miles north of Montrose, moved there to be near the railroad.¹⁶ By 1874, Montrose's population was

¹³Brickwork identical to that in the north and west walls of the Clark House is present in an extant circa 1890s Montrose house. The same semi-Flemish bond pattern, with segmental window arches consisting of two courses of bricks set edgewise vertically, seems to support the two-house theory. But the possibility of it being simply a "builder's quirk" is not ruled out.

¹⁴Montrose has other types of buildings, commercial as well as residential, which appear to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register. For example, a good local example of an Italianate residence is at Kansas and Walnut Avenues. A good local example of an ornamental concrete block residence with Victorian elements is on Third Street between Illinois and Missouri Avenues. A good local example of a Craftsman bungalow is at 2nd Street and Kansas Avenue.

¹⁵Lamkin, Uel W., History of Henry County, Missouri (Topeka, Kansas: Historical Publishing Company, 1919), p. 411-413, and Centennial of Montrose, Missouri, 1871-1971 (Clinton, Missouri: The Printery, 1971), pp. 232-234.

¹⁶National Historical Company, The History of Henry and St. Clair Counties, Missouri (St. Joseph, Missouri: St. Joseph Steam Printing Co., 1883), pp. 409-418.

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Clark, C.M. and Vina, House
Henry County, MO

estimated at 600 and there were nine stores, a lumber yard, a school and three churches.¹⁷ Extensive coal deposits lie north and west of town, and strip mining was carried out in the vicinity of Montrose over a period of several years.

In 1901, after teaching school for two years, Clark and a partner, P. A. Gutridge, opened a mercantile business in Montrose. Upon his partner's death, Clark erected a new mercantile building which still stands in downtown Montrose. During President Taft's administration in 1909, Clark was appointed the city's postmaster, a position he held for four years while continuing to operate the store. In May of 1913, with the Clark House under construction, The Montrose Recorder (in a summary of local merchants and offices) mentioned C. M. Clark twice, once as a postmaster who "gives the patrons of the office good service" and again as a grocer offering "anything in groceries, good goods reasonable."¹⁸ Later in 1913, Clark became cashier of the Montrose Farmers & Merchants Bank, a position he held until the bank closed in November 1926. Clark also served for many years on the local school board. By all accounts he was a caring and conscientious family man, and an efficient and successful merchant and public servant.¹⁹

The first Clark House in Montrose caught fire on the morning of February 13, 1913. The blaze apparently started in a defective kitchen flue after Clark left for work at the post office. Firemen and neighbors salvaged most of the furniture and other household goods except for the contents of the kitchen and dining room, but the building was ruined. Clark put up a temporary structure at the site for his family to use until the present house was completed later that year.²⁰

Upon Clark's death in 1927, the house was purchased by R. J. Welling, a son-in-law, and his wife Constance (Clark) Welling. Their son and Clark's grandson Clark Welling, the present owner, coordinated the house's extensive renovation.

According to family legend, the Clark House was named Rosemont (Montrose reversed) by C. M. Clark's wife, Vina. A bronze plaque attached to the south bay window reads: ROSEMONT/BUILT FOR C. M. CLARK/1913.

¹⁷Campbell, R. A., Campbell's Gazetteer of Missouri (St. Louis: _____, 1874), p. 232.

¹⁸The Montrose Recorder, "Montrose and Her People," May 30, 1913.

¹⁹Charles M. Clark obituary, reprinted in Henry County Scrapbook Volume 1 (Clinton, Missouri: The Daily Democrat, 1976), p. 473.

²⁰The Montrose Recorder, "Fine Residence Burned," February 14, 1913, and "That Fire," February 21, 1913.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 9, 10 Page 11

Clark, C.M. and Vina, House
Henry County, MO

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Henry County Scrapbook: The Years Between the Wars, Vol. 1 (Clinton, Missouri: The Daily Democrat, 1976).

Lamkin, Uel W., History of Henry County, Missouri (Topeka, Kansas: Historical Publishing Company, 1919).

Missouri Historic Inventory Survey Form, "Clark Welling Residence," August 13, 1995. Copy in Missouri Cultural Resource Inventory, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, MO.

The Montrose Recorder, "Building New Home," May 16, 1913.

The Montrose Recorder, "Fine Residence Burned," February 14, 1913.

The Montrose Recorder, "Montrose and Her People," May 30, 1913.

The Montrose Recorder, "That Fire," February 21, 1913.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 13 through 16 inclusive, Block 1, Nathan T. Vier's Addition to the City of Montrose, Henry County, Missouri.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the residence.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section photographs Page 12

Clark, C.M. and Vina, House
Henry County, MO

The following information is the same for all photographs, except as noted:

Clark, C. M., House
704 California Avenue, Montrose, Henry County, Missouri
Date: April 1996
Photographer: Roger Maserang
Negative location: Missouri Cultural Resource Inventory
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

- | | |
|---|--|
| #1: View from southeast | #11: View from north |
| #2: View from east
October 1995
Warren E. Sunkel | #12: View from west |
| #3: View from south | #13: Detail of south wall
October 1995
Warren E. Sunkel |
| #4: View from southwest
October 1995
Warren E. Sunkel | #14: Detail of brickwork seam, facing southwest |
| #5: View from southwest with hitching post | #15: Gable detail, facing south
October 1995
Warren E. Sunkel |
| #6: View from southeast | #16: Gable detail, facing northeast |
| #7: View from southwest
October 1995
Warren E. Sunkel | #17: Main entrance facing west |
| #8: View from northeast
October 1995
Warren E. Sunkel | #18: Porch detail facing south |
| #9: Front porch detail, looking southwest
October 1995
Warren E. Sunkel | #19: View from southeast
Circa 1926
Photographer unknown |
| #10: View from northeast
October 1995
Warren E. Sunkel | #20: Front porch with C. M. Clark
Circa 1915
Photographer unknown |
| | #21: View from southwest with Vina Clark
Circa 1913
Photographer unknown |

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section photographs Page 13

Clark, C.M. and Vina, House
Henry County, MO

#22: View from northwest with Vina and C. M.
Clark

Circa 1913

Photographer unknown

#23: View of hallway, facing west

#24: Interior view of front entrance, facing east

#25: Living room, facing south

#26: Living room mantel, facing southwest

#27: Living room, facing east

#28: Ceiling detail in living room

#29: Study, facing northeast

#30: Dining room, facing southeast

#31: Kitchen, facing south

#32: First floor bathroom, facing north

October 1995

Warren E. Sunkel

#33: Original back entrance, facing northeast

October 1995

Warren E. Sunkel

#34: Second floor hallway

October 1995

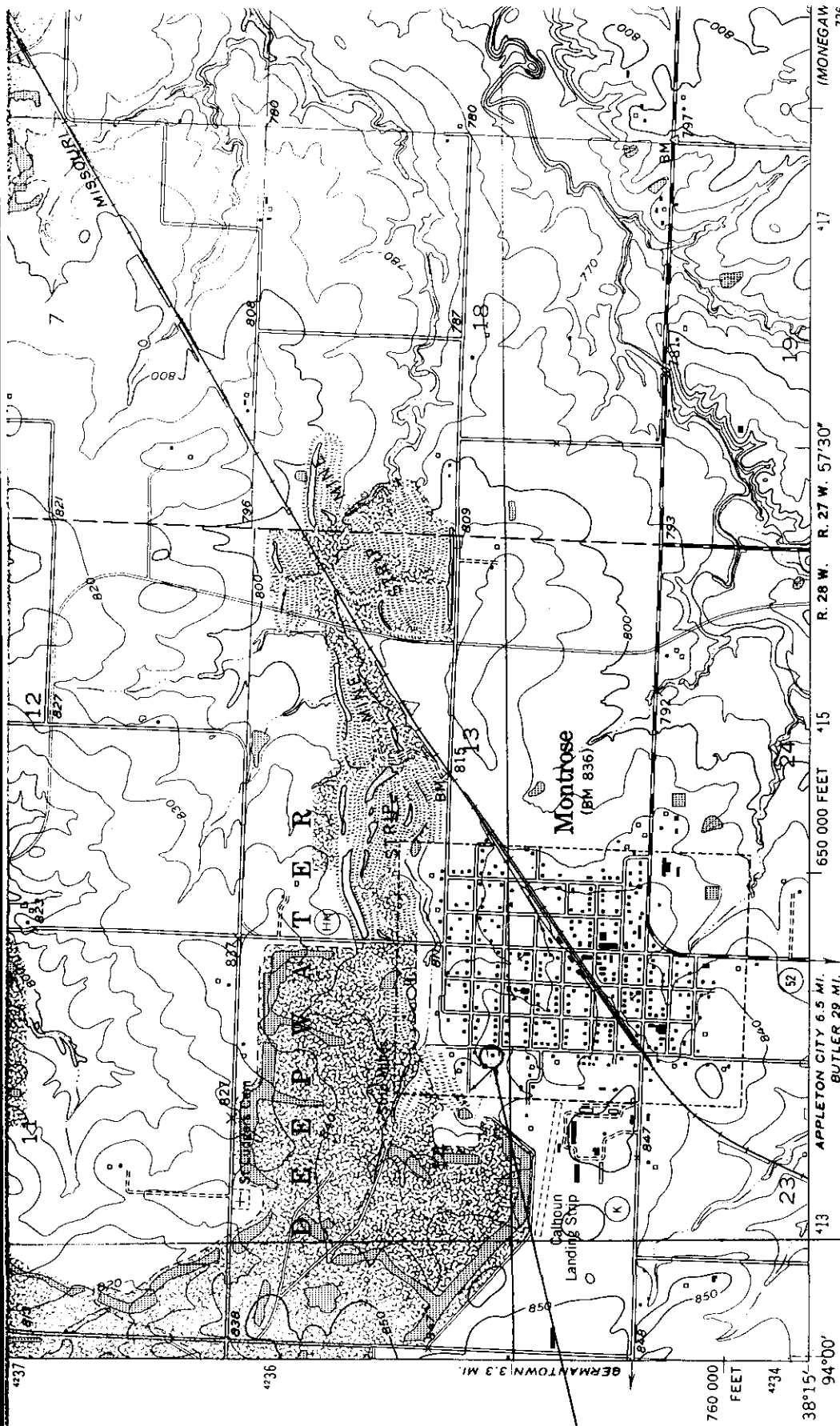
Warren E. Sunkel

#35: South master bedroom

October 1995

Warren E. Sunkel

CLARK, CHARLES M. HOUSE
HENRY COUNTY, MO
15/413740/4235065



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
as part of the Department of the Interior program
for the development of the Missouri River Basin

Control by USGS and USC&GS

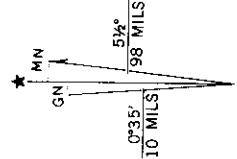
Topography from aerial photographs by Kelsh plotter
Aerial photographs taken 1951. Field check 1953

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Missouri coordinate system,
west zone

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue

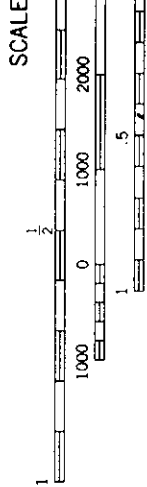
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 18 meters east as shown by
dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map



UTM GRID AND 1981 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

Areas bounded by dashed purple lines
and printed with disturbed surface pattern
represent reclaimed mining areas



CONTOUR INT
NATIONAL GEODETTIC V

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NAT
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENV
AND THE DIVISION OF G
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATUR
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