

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic The Ferguson, Charles W., House

and/or common The Lockwood Group

2. Location

street & number 15 and 17 West Lockwood Avenue not for publication

city, town Webster Groves vicinity of #3 Hon. Richard Gephardt

state Missouri code 29 county St. Louis code 189

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Seventeen West Lockwood Partnership

street & number 17 West Lockwood

city, town Webster Groves vicinity of state Missouri 63119

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds

street & number 7900 Forsyth

city, town Clayton state Missouri 63105

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Buildings in St. Louis County has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1983 federal state county local

depository for survey records Published: St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation
41 South Central Avenue

city, town Clayton, state Missouri 63105

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Ferguson House is located on the north side of Lockwood Avenue, the main commercial thoroughfare through Webster Groves. It is near the east end of the old Gore Avenue-Lockwood business district, rows of two-story brick retail shops from the first two decades of the twentieth century. The house sits back from the sidewalk on a slight rise with a front lawn and attractive landscaping. On the corner of its east side is a Southwestern Bell Telephone Company office in a two-story, Classical Revival, brick building and on its west another fine old mansion has been turned into a mortuary. A large, stone Gothic Revival, Presbyterian Church, west of the mortuary, completes an impressive row of non-residential buildings.

The Ferguson House is a large, 2 1/2 story, frame, Colonial Revival, detached dwelling with a rubble foundation. It was originally thirty-eight feet square but later additions have made its shape irregular.¹ A large gable roof across the front has two gable dormers on the front and a hip roof covers the major portion of the house behind the gable. There is a small cross gable on the west and on the back side of the hip roof. The original front of the house is three bays. The front door with sidelights and transom is in the center bay and above it a Palladian window opens onto a small balcony. The bays on either side are double windows. A monumental, two-story, semi-circular portico, with a balustrade on top, projects in front of the center bay. It is supported by Tuscan columns and two-story pilasters. There is a broad frieze under the eaves. Pilasters run up the corners of the house. A two-story addition with a shed roof projects from the west half of the back and one-story with a shed roof projects the same distance on the east half of the back. A two-story sunroom addition with a flat roof was added to the west side in 1922.² A one-story chapel with a flat, balustrade roof was added to the east side in 1937.³ The east and rear walls of the chapel are brick and it has a Palladian entrance on the front sheltered by a shallow pediment supported by Tuscan columns. The chapel windows are leaded, colored glass. A porte cochere projects from the rear of the east side of the chapel.

The building is presently used as offices by The Lockwood Group, a full service real estate company. Inside, the original floor plan has been restored to take advantage of the homelike atmosphere. The large offices have fireplaces. Sliding pocket doors have been restored. The Victorian staircase was closed off as a private entrance to a second story apartment and it has been reopened into the center hall. An original stained glass window with an iris pattern was saved when the staircase was opened and its design was copied for a second stained glass window.⁴

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Footnotes:

¹City of Webster Groves Plat Book Number 1: p. 145.
Department of Public Works. Webster Groves City Hall.

²Webster Groves Building Permit #1781
Department of Public Works. Webster Groves City Hall.

³Webster Groves Building Permit #5794
Department of Public Works. Webster Groves City Hall.

⁴Conversation with Joseph Shepard, Chief Executive Officer
of The Lockwood Group.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1888 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Ferguson House has local significance under Criterion C, embodying characteristics of a distinctive style of architecture, the Colonial Revival. When it was built in 1888, Charles W. Ferguson's house on Lockwood Avenue, the main thoroughfare of Webster Groves, was one of the grandest houses in the community.¹ The architect is unknown, but he created a splendid example of Colonial Revival architecture, inspired by post-Centennial zeal in America. The Colonial Revival characteristics are unmistakable; rigid symmetry, axial entrance, geometric proportions, dormers, a Palladian window, corner pilasters, and the exaggeration evident in the monumental columns of the central semi-circular portico.² The Ferguson House is important as the finest example of Colonial Revival architecture in Webster Groves.³ The Ferguson House is also important as the last fine residence to retain its integrity of the many which used to line Lockwood Avenue. In the 1920's, when Webster's early zoning ordinance determined that Lockwood was to be one of the few commercial streets in Webster, the other large houses were torn down or moved to make room for commercial buildings.⁴ It is fortunate that later users of this house were sympathetic to its distinctive qualities.

Charles W. Ferguson was vice president of the Collier White Lead Company and one of Webster's early commuters.⁵ In 1920, the Webster Groves YWCA purchased the mansion and ran a tea room on the first floor and rented rooms to women on the second floor. The tea room could not support the facility, and it closed its doors after one year. The next year Laura Parker bought the building for her undertaking establishment and converted the second floor into an apartment for herself and her daughter. In 1913, her husband's livery and undertaking company on North Gore had burned to the ground; Will Parker died shortly thereafter. Laura Parker had rebuilt the business herself, dropping the livery. The undertaking business flourished here under Mrs. Parker and succeeding owners until shortly before it was purchased by the present owner.

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Footnotes:

¹ St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds, Book 41, p. 48.

² The Colonial Revival style is defined, under varying names: Mary Mix Foley, The American House (New York: Harper Colophon Books, 1980), pp.193 and 214; John J. G. Blumenson, Identifying American Architecture (Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1977), p. 24; John Poppeliers, et al, What Style is It? (Washington, D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1977), pp. 8-9; Marcus Whiffen, American Architecture Since 1780 (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1969), pp. 159-166.

³ The St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation has been conducting a survey of Webster Groves which has so far produced over 500 historic inventory forms. This work is currently being supplemented by the Webster Groves Historic Preservation Commission, with over 300 additional buildings inventoried.

⁴ Zoning Ordinance of Webster Groves, #3100; November 5, 1923.

⁵ The history of the house has been detailed by Ann Morris, "A History of the Charles W. Ferguson House," 1982 (copy submitted with this nomination).

9. Major Bibliographical References

(SEE ATTACHED)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1 acre

Quadrangle name "Webster Groves, Mo.-Ill."

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	5	7	3	0	1	8	0	4	2	7	4	7	2	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

B

Zone	Easting			Northing										

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Part of Lot 2 of Webster Groves, as described...(see attached).

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state Missouri code 29 county St. Louis code 189

state _____ code _____ county _____ code _____

11. Form Prepared By

name/title 1 Ann Morris

organization Webster Groves Historical Society date June 24, 1984

Webster Groves City Hall (Ann Morris)

street & number 4 E. Lockwood telephone (314)962-3526

city or town Webster Groves state Missouri 63119

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature John Karel
John Karel, Director and Deputy State Historic Preservation
title Officer, Division of Parks & Historic Preservation

date 7/26/84

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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(Major Bibliographical References)

1. The Kate Moody Collection located in the Library of the Missouri Historical Society, Lindell Blvd.
2. "Obituary of Charles W. Ferguson"; Necrology Scrapbooks located in the library of the Missouri Historical Society, Lindell Blvd.
3. St. Louis County Deed Book 41; Recorder of Deed Office, St. Louis County Government Center, Clayton, 1888.
4. Webster Groves Building Permit #1781; Department of Public Works, Webster Groves City Hall, 4 E. Lockwood.
5. See also, "The History of the Charles W. Ferguson House"; by Ann Morris; 1982 (enclosed).

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Part of Lot 2 of WEBSTER GROVES, and described as: Beginning at a point in the North line of Lockwood Avenue, distant 115 feet West of the Southeast corner of said Lot 2 in the center of Elm Avenue, thence West along the North line of Lockwood Avenue, 136 feet, thence North and parallel with the West line of said Lot 2, 261.21 feet, more or less, to the South line of Moody Avenue, thence East along the South line of Moody Avenue, 136 feet and thence South 261.21 feet, more or less, to beginning: EXCEPTING THEREFROM Part of Lot 2 of John C. Marshall's Original Subdivision of "Webster Groves" in the City of Webster Groves, Missouri, more particularly described as: Beginning at a point in the North line of Lockwood Avenue, 60 feet wide, distant 234.00 feet West of the East line of said Lot 2, being also the center line of Elm Avenue, 40 feet wide (measured along the North line of Lockwood Avenue); thence Westwardly along the North line of Lockwood Avenue, a distance of 17.00 feet to a point; thence Northwardly along a line parallel with the West line of said Lot 2, a distance of 261.34 feet to a point in the South line of Moody Avenue, 40 feet wide; thence Eastwardly along the South line of Moody Avenue, a distance of 2.75 feet to a point; thence Southwardly along a line parallel with the West line of said Lot 2, a distance of 97.50 feet to a point; thence Eastwardly at right angles with the last described line, a distance of 14.25 feet to a point; thence Southwardly along a line parallel with the West line of Lot 2, a distance of 164.00 feet to the point of beginning.

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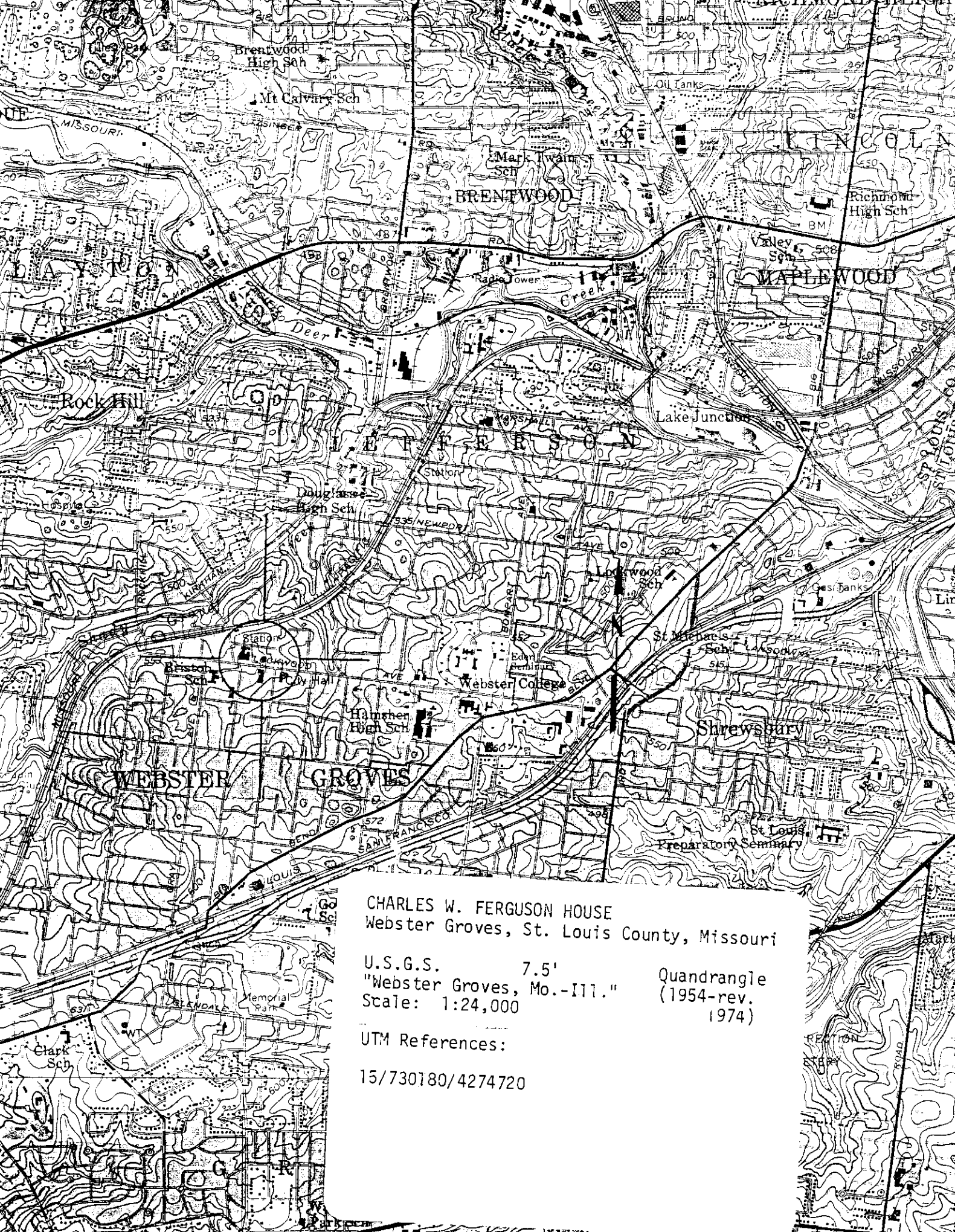
date entered

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2. Jim Denny, Chief, Survey & Registration
and State Contact Person
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City

June 24, 1984
(314) 751-4096
Missouri 65102



CHARLES W. FERGUSON HOUSE
Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Missouri

U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle
"Webster Groves, Mo.-III."
Scale: 1:24,000 (1954-rev. 1974)

UTM References:
15/730180/4274720

Photo Log:

Name of Property: **Ferguson, The Charles W., House**

City or Vicinity: **Webster Groves**

County: **St. Louis County** State: **MO**

Photographer: **Ann Morris**

Date

Photographed: **June 1984**

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 4. Main façade.
- 2 of 4. Rear façade.
- 3 of 4. No description
- 4 of 4. No description



BRIDGE
BUS STOP
EXPRESS

17

15





ST. JOHN
BAPTIST
CHURCH

