# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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nd/or common	Goodfellow/Julian	Concrete Block Di	istrict	
2. Loca	ation			
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. мо	code		y City of St. Louis	code 510
	sification	e 29 county	y City of St. Louis	code 510
Category  X district  building(s)  structure  site  object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered N/A	Status  _X occupied  _X unoccupied  work in progress  Accessible  yes: restricted  yes: unrestricted  no	entertainment government	museum museum mark X private residence religious museum religious transportation other:
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5. Loca	ation of Lega		ion	<u></u>
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treet & number	Marke	et Street at Tucke	er Boulevard	
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i. Repi	resentation	in Existing	Surveys	· <del>-</del> ·
Survey o tle Block Ho	of Existing St. Loui ouses Built Before 1	is Concrete 1920 has this p	property been determined el	igible?yesr
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# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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Goodfellow/Julian
Continuation sbeet Concrete Block District

Item number 4

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### CITY BLOCK 3814W

- 1. 1228 Goodfellow Boulevard Williams, O. C. 6757 Etzel St. Louis, MO 63130
- 2. 1232 Goodfellow Boulevard
  Laney, Lady May
  c/o County Bank of Tower Grove
  3134 South Grand Boulevard
  St. Louis, MO 63118
- 3. 1236 Goodfellow Boulevard Moore, Bennie W. & Madie 1236 Goodfellow Boulevard St. Louis, MO 63112
- 4. 1238 Goodfellow Boulevard
  Jamison, Howard & Sarah
  1238 Goodfellow Boulevard
  St. Louis, MO 63112
- 5. 1242 Goodfellow Boulevard Williams, Doris P. 1244 Goodfellow Boulevard St. Louis, MO 63112
- 6. 1244 Goodfellow Boulevard Williams, Doris P. 1244 Goodfellow Boulevard St. Louis, MO 63112
- 7. 1248 Goodfellow Boulevard
  Lanton, Adella & Fields, George M.
  1248 Goodfellow Boulevard
  St. Louis, MO 63112
- 8. 5740 Julian Avenue
  Phelps, Elmer E. Jr. & Geraldine E.
  5740 Julian Avenue
  St. Louis, MO 63112

- 9. 5736 Julian Avenue
  Newsom, Resia & Williams, Patricia
  5736 Julian Avenue
  St.Louis, MO 63112
- 10. 5732 Julian Avenue
  Roth, Jacquelin B.
  5732 Julian Avenue
  St. Louis, MO 63112
- 11. 5728 Julian Avenue
  Bowling, Walter
  5728 Julian Avenue
  St. Louis, MO 63112
- 12. 5724 Julian Avenue
  Jackson, Earl & Thelma Deloris
  5724 Julian Avenue
  St. Louis, MO 63112
- 13. 5720 Julian Avenue
  Taylor, Helen Marie
  c/o CMS Inc. Cust. Serv. 07-002879-0
  P. 0. Box 82065
  Washington, D.C. 20005
- 14. 5716 Julian Avenue
  Clarke, Erwin C. & Ernestine
  5716 Julian Avenue
  St. Louis, MO 63112
- 15. 5712 Julian Avenue
  Williams, Margaret G.
  5712 Julian Avenue
  St. Louis, MO 63112
- 16. 5708 Julian Avenue
  Starks, Carl R. & Patricia A.
  5708 Julian Avenue
  St. Louis, MO 63112

### 7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
excellent X_ good X_ fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	unaltered X_ altered	X original site moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Goodfellow/Julian Concrete Block District consists of fifteen two-story houses built in 1905-06 in northwest St. Louis. Twelve are constructed entirely of concrete block and three mix red brick upper stories with concrete block high basements, porches and window lintels. Designed in Colonial Revival and Craftsman/Prairie styles, the houses are uniformly set back and front on two intersecting streets, Julian and Goodfellow. Buildings survive with only minor alterations, the most common being replacement of original tile or slate roofs with asphalt shingling. There are no non-contributing buildings in the District. Construction date, architect and material (color-coded) for each house may be found on the Architectural Survey Map. In addition, three design variants have been labeled on the map by a letter code. Descriptions and illustrations of the houses follow.

District boundaries were drawn to encompass all houses exhibiting concrete block construction and to exclude brick houses and flats in the south half of the same City Block and in adjacent blocks.

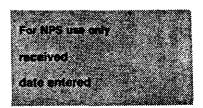
Design A (Photo # 1) Represented by six houses, all fronting on Goodfellow, this simplified Colonial Revival variant measures 28 X 38 feet and features a two-bay primary facade marked by a projecting two-story bay pierced with rectangular double-hung sash windows; the front door (with sidelight) is asymmetrically placed, opening to a one-bay roofed porch approached by steps. Small wood, scrolled brackets support eaves. Planned as a unified row, the houses are varied by alternating construction materials and roof forms every other house. The three houses built entirely of buff concrete block feature hipped roofs (with ridge) displaying large pedimented dormers pierced with paired windows; porches are covered with shed roofs. These houses are distinguished from one another by block finish and placement: 1248 Goodfellow, sited on a corner, employs rock-face block on both the primary and the exposed north (side) elevations and smooth block on the rear and south (side) elevations; 1236 features all smooth block walls contrasted with a rock-face basement story and porch piers; 1228 is constructed of all smooth block which is employed as quoins on the primary facade. The three houses mixing red brick and buff concrete block are covered with gabled roofs fashioned into prominent slate-clad temple-fronts pierced by paired windows. A classically detailed, pedimented, wood porch roof is supported by buff concrete block piers at 1232 Goodfellow and brick piers on 1238 and 1244. All three examples display high basement stories and porch walls of concrete block. 1232 introduces concrete block lintels with keystones identical to those used on the all-block houses while 1238 and 1244 exhibit gauged brick lintels.

 $\underline{\text{Design}}$   $\underline{B}$  (Photos # 2, # 3) Five examples of this two-bay, 30 X 32 feet variant in Craftsman/Prairie style are sited along Julian. A pyramidal hipped roof covers the house and a hipped roof is also featured on the full-width

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porch approached by concrete steps and sidewalk (the roofs of 5740 retain original red tile but other house roofs are sheathed with asphalt). Wide overhanging eaves of house and porch are supported by elongated wood brackets which rest on concrete banding. Second story fenestration employs large double-hung windows with diamond-paned upper sash flanking two small windows. The front door is asymmetrically placed, flanked by a double-hung rectangular window. Irregular fenestration with smooth concrete lintels is featured on side and rear elevations. Standard-size block is used on four houses although surface finish is varied: Porch walls of rock-face block are used for textural contrast against smooth-face porch piers and house walls. One example, 5724 Julian (Photo # 3), employs all rock-face block laid in alternating courses of narrow and wide block.

Design C (Photos # 4, # 5) Represented by four houses, this three-bay, 32 X 30 feet Craftsman/Prairie variant is distinguished by the absence of a roofed porch and by the use of deep concrete moldings to give emphasis to first story openings. All houses are covered with pyramidal hipped roofs with widely overhanging eaves and exposed rafters. A center, recessed door with sidelights features deep reveals; it is approached by concrete steps and a small, one-bay parapeted open porch. Fenestration is symmetrical with paired, double-hung windows on end-bays and a small, horizontally oriented second story, center window. Double bands of smooth concrete block mark divisions between upper and lower stories. Three houses employ standard-size block finished with rock face on the lower story and smooth face in the upper story. 5712 Julian is laid in alternating courses of narrow and wide rock-face block.

### 8. Significance

1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture x architecture art commerce communications	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	music ´ philosophy	religion cup science cup sculpture cup social/ humanitarian cup theater cup other (specify)
Specific dates	1905, 1906	Builder/Architect A. B.	Ridington, E. F. No	1te

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Goodfellow/Julian Concrete Block District is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C and is significant in the following area: ARCHITECTURE: Constructed in 1905-06, District houses are among the earliest and largest concentrations of concrete block construction in St. Louis. They represent experiment with a new building material which sought to realize its artistic potential, and illustrate a stylistic transition from Victorian Revival idioms to progressive Craftsman/Prairie style which enhanced the expressive qualities of the new material.

Background:

In 1899, plans were announced for construction of Missouri's first Portland cement plant, the St. Louis Portland Cement Co., which opened in 1902 at a site in St. Louis County about one mile north of the St. Louis City Limits. The raw materials, consisting of high grade Des Moines shale and Mississippian limestone, were available for quarry nearby from the bluffs of the Missouri River at Ft. Bellefontaine, and on a hillside just east of the plant.(1) The establishment of the St. Louis plant was an indicator of a national growth trend in domestic production of Portland cement. In 1891, the United States produced only 13 per cent of the Portland cement consumed in the country. In 1905, domestic production for the first time equaled consumption. This rapid growth pattern was mirrored locally where, in 1906 alone, the St. Louis Portland Cement Co. doubled its capacity.(2)

The most important use of cement was in the manufacture of concrete, used extensively for construction purposes in sidewalks, curbs, gutters, street pavement, sewers, tunnels, bridges and foundations of buildings. As the material became readily available at reasonable cost and in small quantities. new applications of concrete appeared. Although concrete pillars, sills, caps, steps and floors had been manufactured for several years, the introduction of a concrete building block greatly advanced the use of concrete in ordinary buildings.(3) Among other@things, the block offered solution to the threat of depletion of midwestern timber resources at the turn of the century which was arousing concern for finding new building materials. Block construction was also promoted for its low cost and maintenance, resistance to fire and earthquake, economy in heating, strength and durability, and resistance to vibration and cracking. Moreover, as one local trade journal propounded, "Concrete is healthful. It leaves no fissure for dust or for insects which spread disease. It is cool in summer and warm in winter, and with a minimum of exertion it can be kept sweet and clean." (4)

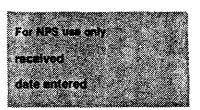
Various patents for concrete block construction had been issued

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throughout the 19th century both in England and America. However, the first commercially successful block process in the United States was patented in 1900 by Harmon S. Palmer after a ten-year development period. Numerous other block machines entered the market soon after, accompanied by keen competition between machine manufacturers for exclusive licensing of trade territories. (5) In 1902, it was announced that the first concrete block house in Missouri would be built in St. Louis by the Schumacher Building Stone Co. which owned a patented process for the block. (6) A few other block houses followed at scattered sites in St. Louis during the next couple of years, but it was only after the close of the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis that block construction showed promise of gaining a foothold in the traditional brick city.

Exhibitions at the Fair, in fact, provided valuable exposure for the new structural material. Several block machine manufacturers exhibited concrete wall sections in the Palace of Liberal Arts, demonstrating various methods of manufacturing and finishing block. During the summer of 1904, one company daily made concrete blocks on the Fair grounds which were used to erect a building showcasing the firm's product.(7) Articles from 1904 to 1907 in the St.Louis Realty Record and Builder, a local trade journal, frequently covered concrete construction news and carried information promoting the advantages of the new material. During the same period, the majority of the city's 102 extant pre-World War I block buildings were erected, located principally in new subdivisions outlying the inner city.

### Architecture:

One of the large subdivisions which began intensive development at the turn of the century encompassed land in the northwest sector of St. Louis which extended westwardly almost to the City Limits. In 1905, the north half of City Block 3814 W of Gamble's 2nd Rose Hill Addition was purchased by the Pendleton Investment Co. (newly incorporated in 1905) from Crescent Realty. Soon afterward, the two companies began residential development of the tract. Crescent retained architect A. Blair Ridington to design nine of the houses, while Pendleton worked both with Edward F. Nolte, architect of four houses, and Ridington, who supplied plans for two.

Building permits for the first houses were issued between January and May 1905 to Crescent Realty for seven houses all fronting on Goodfellow (1242 has been demolished). Each rose two stories, measured 28 X 38 feet, and was estimated to cost \$3500. Specializing in eclectic, moderately-priced houses for the middle-class, Ridington (1871-1936) complied with contemporary popular taste and designed the houses in a simplified, sparsely ornamented Colonial Revival style modified with picturesque forms and detailing such as projecting bays, shingled gables and scrolled eave brackets. He planned the Goodfellow row as a unified group, providing a contrasting rhythm of houses constructed entirely of buff concrete block alternating with ones which mixed red brick upper stories and buff block basements and porches. While all houses shared

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identical facade compositions featuring projecting bays and one story porches, visual interest was further heightened by diverse roof forms: Block houses were given ridged hipped roofs with oversized, pedimented dormers and shed roof porches, while brick/block houses displayed gabled roofs with prominent slate-clad, temple-fronts and classically detailed, pedimented porch roofs (Photo # 1). Surface finish and placement of blocks distinguished concrete houses from one another. 1248 was constructed with all rock-face block; 1236 was laid up with rock-face basement and porch below smooth-face upper stories; 1228 employed all smooth-face block fashioned into quoining at the corners.

Ridington's tentative experimentation with block construction on Goodfellow was advanced in his next three houses at 5740, 5736, 5732 Julian, begun in late October, 1905. Moving from Victorian historic forms to the popular foursquare form articulated in progressive Craftsman/Prairie style, Ridington introduced a design which proved most compatible with block (Photo # 2). Stripped down to elementary geometric forms, and relying on unornamented structural materials for artistic effect, the Craftsman/Prairie foursquares displayed block to advantage. The shape and size of block, moreover, reinforced the quality of massiveness in the house form.(8) Ridington used standard-size, smooth-face block on four houses of this design "B" variant, but expanded the repertory of block size in one example, 5724 Julian, where narrow and wide courses of rock-face block alternate (Photo # 3).

The formal austerity of four design "C" houses executed in 1906 by Edward F. Nolte increased the importance of wall surface as an element of design, thus showcasing the houses' block construction (Photos # 4, #5 - foreground). While maintaining Ridington's 30 X 32 foursquare dimensions and pyramidal hipped roof, Nolte abstracted and purged design B" of extraneous detail, omitting porch as well as cornice articulation. Smooth bands of concrete moldings emphasize first story openings and provide textural contrast to the rock-face wall fabric. Variation in block finish is also effectively used to give strong definition to the upper third of the houses where, in three examples, smooth-face block is laid above rock-face walls below.

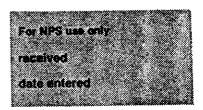
At the time they were built, the Goodfellow/Julian houses represented the most sophisticated and creative residential experiment with block construction yet undertaken in St. Louis. A recent comprehensive, citywide survey of pre-World War I block construction identified only two other concentrations of houses. One group of eighteen houses built in 1904-05 on the far north side of St. Louis are modest, one-story, two-bay cottages, most with flat roofs. The other concentration is located one block west of Goodfellow in Oakherst Place, a District of twenty block houses nominated to the National Register presently in the process of review. Oakherst Place was the Pendleton Investment Co.'s second concrete block project, a 1906 residential development which expanded upon and refined designs first introduced by Nolte and Ridington in the 5700 block of Julian.

Despite the structural soundness, quality of materials and artistic

Block District

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success of the Goodfellow/Julian houses, block construction never made significant inroads into early 20th century domestic architecture in the city. By 1910, threats of lumber shortage had abated, and prices of both brick and lumber had become competitively unfavorable to block, factors which, along with diminished sales promotion, contributed to the malaise of the new industry.

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### **FOOTNOTES**

- 1)Cement and Engineering News, August 1901, p. 19.
- 2)Henry A. Buehler, The Lime and Cement Resources of Missouri, Missouri Bureau of Geology and Mines, Vol.6, Series 2, 1907, pp. xiv-xv; 198.
  - 3) Buehler, p. 25.
- 4) Buehler, p. 1; St. Louis Realty Record and Builder, June 1902; January 1907.
- 5) Joseph Bell, From the Carriage.... To the Space Age.... The Birth and Growth of the Concrete Masonry Industry, (n. p.: National Concrete Masonry Association, 1969) pp. 1-5.
- 6)St. Louis Realty Record and Builder. June 1902. The house is located at 4247 Flad in the Shaw Certified Local District.
  - 7)St. Louis Realty Record and Builder, June 1904; August 1904.
- 8) Alan Gowans, The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture 1890-1930 (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1986), pp.84-87.

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tate	code	county		code
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	Historic Presected of this property within the standardstate		Jilicer C	ertification
65), I hereby nominate	Historic Preservation Officer for this property for inclusion in the and procedures set forth by the on Officer signature	National Register	and certify that it h	
Wayne E. Gro	ss, Director, Division	of Parks, Recr	eation, and H	istoric Preservation
For NPS use only	tate Historic Preservat		gate (	ગુબ/૪/
I hereby certify tha	t this property is included in the	National Register	منماء	
Keeper of the Nation	al Register		date	
Attest:			date	•

Chief of Registration

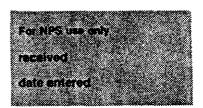
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### **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service**

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- Buehler, Henry A. The Lime and Cement Resources of Missouri. Missouri Bureau of Geology and Mines, Vol.6, Series 2, 1907.
- Cement and Engineering News. August 1901.
- Engineering News. 17 January 1907.
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- Rice, H. H. Concrete-Block Manufacture. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1906.
- St. Louis Realty Record and Builder. June 1902; June 1904; August 1904; January 1907.

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### United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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line of 5708 Julian Avenue; thence southwardly along said property line to its point of intersection with the north line of the east-west alley of City Block 3814W; thence west-wardly along said line and its projection, crossing the intervening north-south alley of City Block 3814W, to its point of intersection with the south property line of 1228 Goodfellow; thence westwardly along said property line to its point of intersection with the east line of Goodfellow; thence northwardly along said line of Goodfellow to its intersection with the point of beginning.

District boundaries were drawn to encompass all houses exhibiting concrete block construction and to exclude brick houses and flats in the south half of the same City Block and in adjacent blocks.

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Goodfellow/Julian
Continuation sheet Concrete Block District

Item number

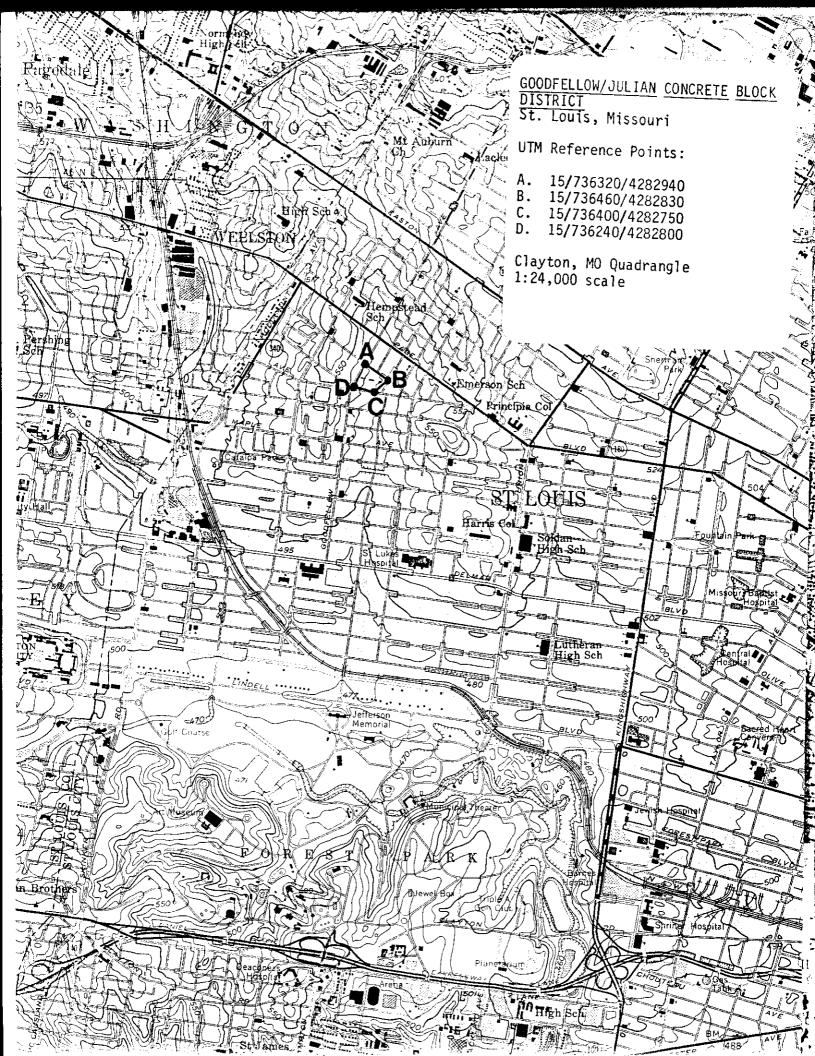
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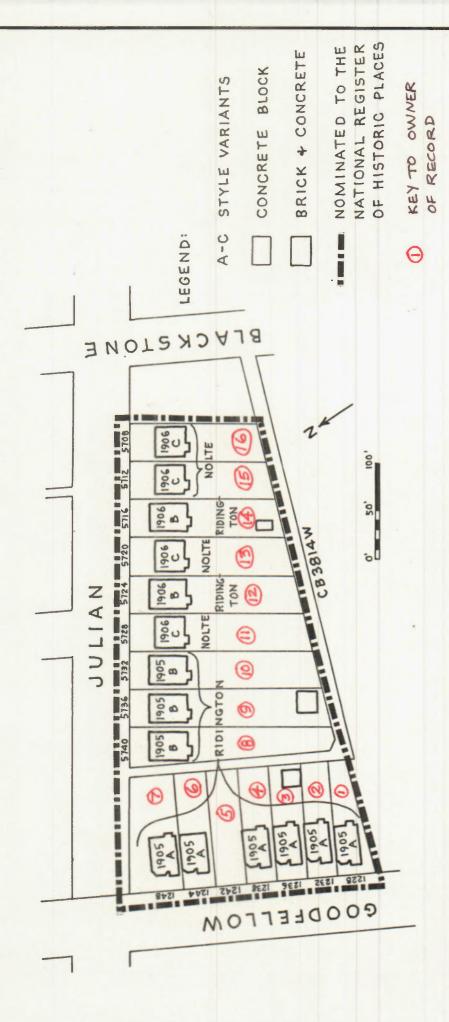
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2. Beverly A. Fleming
Chief, Preservation Planning
and State Contact Person
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Parks, Recreation,
and Historic Preservation
Historic Preservation Program
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
Date: July 6, 1987
Telephone: 314/751-7960



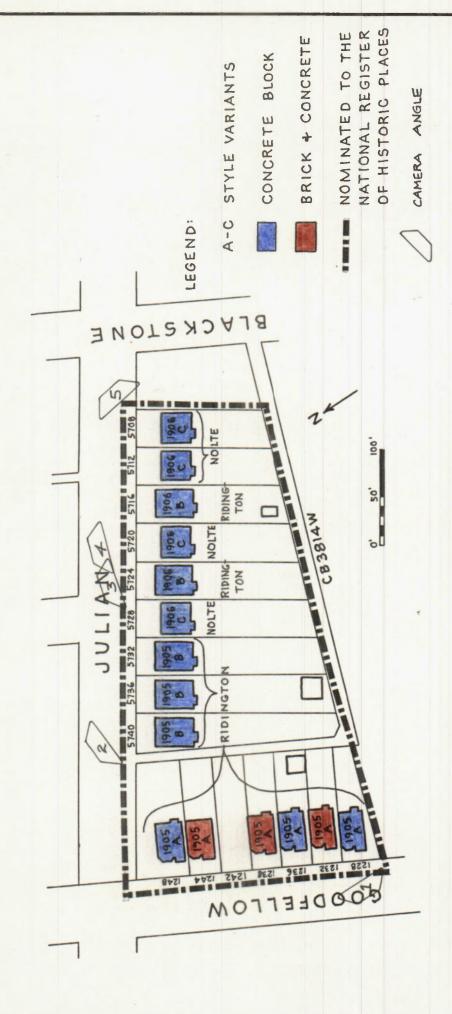




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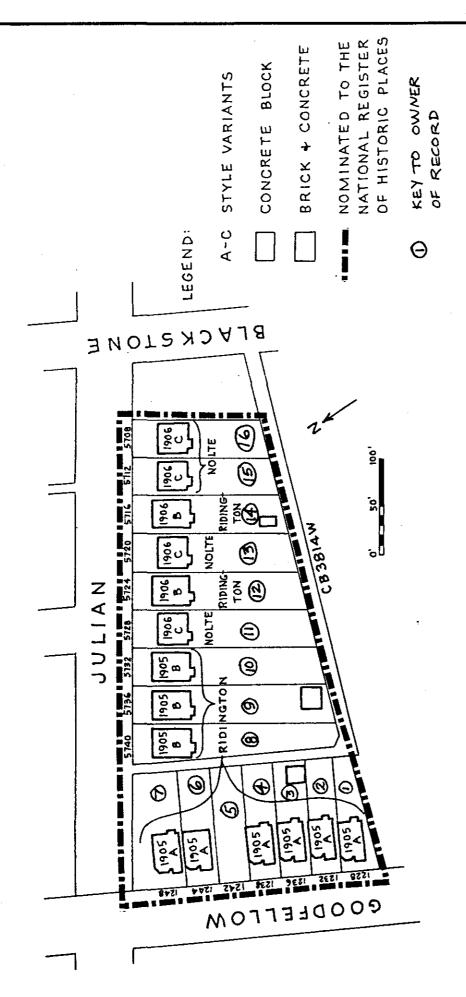
# ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY OF GOODFELLOW / JULIAN CONCRETE BLOCK DISTRICT

OF ST. LOUIS, INC. JANUARY 1987 LANDMARKS ASSOCIATION ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI



# ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY OF GOODFELLOW / JULIAN CONCRETE BLOCK DISTRICT

OF ST. LOUIS, INC. JANUARY 1987 LANDMARKS ASSOCIATION ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI



# ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY OF GOODFELLOW / JULIAN CONCRETE BLOCK DISTRICT

JANUARY 1987 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

OF ST. LOUIS, INC. LANDMARKS ASSOCIATION

GOODFELLOW/JULIAN CONCRETE BLOCK DISTRICT St. Louis, Missouri Photo #1 of 5 Streetscape, 1200 block Goodfellow Ave., 1228 Goodfellow, foreground Photographer: Cynthia Longwisch Date: January 1987 Negative: Landmarks Assoc. of St. Louis, Inc. Camera facing northeast



GOODFELLOW/JULIAN CONCRETE BLOCK DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri
Photo #2 of 5
Streetscape, 5700 block Julian, 5740 Julian,
foreground
Photographer: Cynthia Longwisch
Date: January 1987
Negative: Landmarks Assoc. of St. Louis, Inc.
Camera facing southeast



GOODFELLOW/JULIAN CONCRETE BLOCK DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri
Photo #3 of 5
5724 Julian
Photographer: Cynthia Longwisch
Date: August 1986
Negative: Landmarks Assoc. of St. Louis, Inc.
Camera facing southeast



GOODFELLOW/JULIAN CONCRETE BLOCK DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri
Photo #4 of 5
5720 Julian
Photographer: Cynthia Longwisch
Date: August 1986
Negative: Landmarks Assoc. of St. Louis, Inc.
Camera facing southeast



GOODFELLOW/JULIAN CONCRETE BLOCK DISTRICT

St. Louis, Missouri

Photo #5 of 5

Streetscape, 5700 block Julian; 5708 Julian,

foreground

Photographer: Cynthia Longwisch

Date: January 1987

Negative: Landmarks Assoc. of St. Louis, Inc.

Camera facing southwest.

