National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

4.1		
1. Name of Property		
historic name <u>Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District</u>		
other names/site number <u>Huber, William L., Farmstead</u>		
2. Location		
street & number Junction of Highways 50 and 63		[N/A] not for publication
city or town		[x] vicinity
state Missouri code MO county Osage cox	de <u>151</u> zip code <u>65101</u>	-
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as an documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of opinion, the property [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments []	Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional rec	uirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my
Signature of certifying official/Title Claire F. Blackwell/Deputy	SHPO Date	
Missouri Department of Natural Resources State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property [] meets (] does not meet the National Register of (See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)	riteria.	
Signature of certifying official/Title	Date	
State or Federal agency and bureau		
4. National Park Service Certification		
I hereby certify that the property is: [] entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet [].	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
 [] determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet []. [] determined not eligible for the National Register. [] removed from the National Register. [] other, (explain:) 		

Huber's Ferry Johnson County, Missouri

Page 2

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resource		
[x] private	[] building(s)	Contributing	Non-contribu	ting
[] public-local	[x] district	2	1	buildings
[] public-State	[] site	0	. 0	sites
[] public-Federal	[] structure [] object	1	0	structure
		0	0	objects
		3	11	Total
Name of related multiple	property listing.	Number of contributions listed in the Nations	al Register.	·
		N/A		
		O 5 4th		
Historic Functions DOMESTIC / single dwelling AGRICULTURE / SUBSISTENC	CE / animal facility		ons dary structure	
Historic Functions DOMESTIC / single dwelling AGRICULTURE / SUBSISTENCE 7. Description		DOMESTIC / hotel DOMESTIC/ secon	dary structure	
Historic Functions DOMESTIC / single dwelling AGRICULTURE / SUBSISTENCE 7. Description Architectural Classificati		DOMESTIC / hotel DOMESTIC/ secon	dary structure	
Historic Functions DOMESTIC / single dwelling AGRICULTURE / SUBSISTENCE 7. Description	on	DOMESTIC / hotel DOMESTIC/ secon	dary structure	
Historic Functions DOMESTIC / single dwelling AGRICULTURE / SUBSISTENC 7. Description Architectural Classification Other: Missouri-German	on	DOMESTIC / hotel DOMESTIC/ secon Materials foundation STONE	dary structure	
7. Description Architectural Classification Other: Missouri-German	on	Materials foundation STONE walls BRICK	: limestone	

Huber's Ferry Johnson County, Missouri

[] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

8.Statement of Significance	
Applicable National Register Criteria	Areas of Significance
[x] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	Architecture Agriculture
[] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
[x] 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.	Period of Significance
Criteria Considerations Property is: [] A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	Significant Dates
[] B removed from its original location.	1894
[] C a birthplace or grave.	Significant Person(s)
[] D a cemetery.	IVA
[] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	Cultural AffiliationN/A
[] F a commemorative property.	
[] G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Architect/Builder Fork, Anton
Narrative Statement of Significance See continuation sheet [x].	
9. Major Bibliographic References	
Bibliography See continuation sheet [x].	
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	Primary location of additional data: [X] State Historic Preservation Office [] Other State Agency [] Federal Agency [] Local Government [] University [] Other:

Name of repository:

Huber's Ferry Johnson County, Missouri

Page 4

10.Geographical Data

10.Geographical Data					
Acreage of Property 3 acres		_			
UTM References A. Zone Easting	Northing	B. Zone	Easting	Northing	
15 586510	4260620	15	586680	4260590	
C. Zone Easting	Northing	D. Zone	Easting	Northing	
15 586800	4260510	15	586700	4260490	
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the prope	erty on a continuation sheet.)	[X] See con	tinuation sheet		
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were set	lected on a continuation sheet.)				
11. Form Prepared By					
name/title Debbie Sheals					
organization Private Consult	ant	date <u>September 1</u>	l <u>. 1998</u>		
street & number 406 West Bro	adway tele	phone <u>573-874-3779</u>)	-	
city or town Columbia	state Missouri	zip code6520	3	_	
Additional Documentatio	n				
Submit the following items with	the completed form:				
	series) indicating the property's lo		es.		
Photographs Representative black and white	photographs of the property.				
Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FOP f	or any additional items)				
Property Owner					
(Complete this item at the requ	est of SHPO or FPO.)				
name David and Barbara Plur	mmer				
street & number_HCR 33 Box	157	telephone_(573) 455-2979			
city or town <u>Jefferson City</u>		state <u>M</u>	zip (code <u>65101</u>	

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District
Osage County, Missouri

Summary: The Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District in Osage County, Missouri, consists of approximately three acres of land located on a bluff-top overlooking the junction of the Maries and Osage Rivers. The level plot of ground contains a two and one half story brick house, a single story log structure, and a massive frame bank barn, all of which date to the nineteenth century. The five bay house, which was built in 1881, has symmetrical fenestration, two story porches, and windows topped with segmental brick arches. A low stone wall runs along two sides of the house yard, and a small hewn log building sits just behind the house. The barn, which dates to 1894, is located roughly 150 feet southeast of the house. The house, wall, and barn have changed very little in the last century, and all exhibit very high levels of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The log building has seen more alterations, the most notable being the loss of a second story. The barn and house are counted as contributing buildings, the wall as a contributing structure, and the log building as a non-contributing building. The period of significance for the district runs from 1881, the date of construction of the house, to 1948, the arbitrary 50 year cut-off date. The house and barn have recently undergone a comprehensive rehabilitation, and are now in excellent condition. The property today appears very much as it did when it was the home of a thriving ferry business and a multi-generational farming operation.

Elaboration: The Huber farmstead is situated atop a steep bluff which commands sweeping views of the surrounding countryside. The farmstead is near the junction of the Maries River, which runs just a few hundred yards north of the house, and the larger Osage River, which borders the western edge of the property, at the foot of a steep bluff. Missouri Highway 50 runs along the north part of the property, Highway 63 is a few hundred feet to the east, and portions of the original farm lie to the south. The land south of the district, which contains several modern dwellings, is no longer associated with the house and barn. The farmstead occupies a roughly triangular plot of ground, which slopes gently down to the east and north. (See Figure One, Site Plan.)

The right of way for Highway 50 forms the northern boundary of the property. The roadway has recently been widened in preparation for the completion of a new highway bridge across the Osage, an event which has resulted in the loss of several acres of land formerly associated with the farmstead. Although the highway now runs relatively close to the house, the roadway sits 40 to 50 feet lower than the houseyard, and the original bluff-top setting in the immediate vicinity of the house remains fairly intact. (See photo 16.)

The house, which faces west, is near the edge of the bluff. It faces a drive that follows the path of an early road which led to the ferry landing and the road that is now Highway 50. The house-yard is delineated on the west and north by a low stone retaining wall which was originally topped with a white picket fence. (Several early iron fence posts remain in place.) The wall is constructed of massive stone blocks, many of which are three or more feet long and more than a foot wide. Most of the rock-faced blocks have carefully squared edges and are tightly fitted together. The wall also features stone gateposts on both the south and west sides of the yard. The stone wall is counted as a contributing structure.

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

There is a small hewn log building just off the northeast corner of the house that is believed to pre-date the house. It is constructed of large squared timbers, and sheathed with corrugated tin. The building is said to have lost an early second floor in a fire, and exhibits a relatively low level of integrity. It is a non-contributing building, the only such resource within the district boundaries.

FIGURE ONE: Site Plan and Boundary Map.

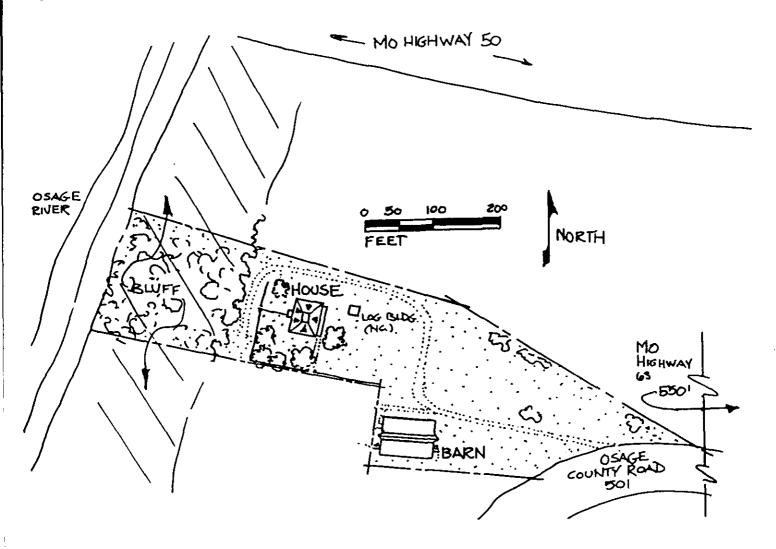
Drawn by Debbie Sheals, after a survey map prepared by

Thomas J. Kuster and Assoc., Land Surveyors, Linn, MO.

Resources:

House: 1881, contributing Barn: 1894, contributing Stone wall, ca. 1881, contributing.

Log building, ca. 1860s, non-contributing.



United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

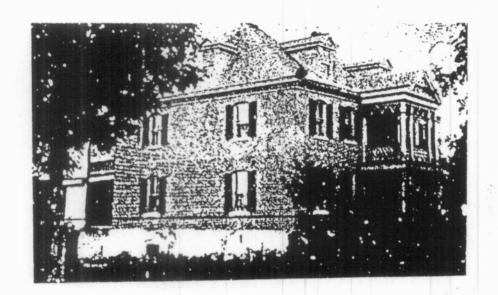
Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

The house is roughly centered in the yard, and sits back from the drive. A new brick sidewalk leads to a pair of stone gateposts near the driveway. The house is two and one half stories tall, with load-bearing red brick walls and a limestone foundation. The walls are laid in common bond, and the foundation is crafted of large blocks similar to those used for the retaining wall. All windows and exterior doors are topped with segmental brick soldier arches, and all of the windows have limestone lugsills. A wide brick cornice of alternating flat and dogtooth bands runs along the roofline of all except the rear wall of the house.

The modified hip roof is topped with a widow's walk (locally referred to as the "Captain's roof") which was added around the end of the nineteenth century. The roof is accented by dormers on each side, two on the facade and one on each of the secondary elevations. The dormers each have a pent gable roof and double-hung window. The wood shakes of the roof, which were installed in 1992, are very similar to the originals.

The installation of new roofing was one of the first tasks to be accomplished during a six year rehabilitation of the house and barn which began shortly after the current owners purchased the property in 1992. Other restoration and rehabilitation activities included regrading the yard and installing a well, repairing rotted structural timbers in the barn, and replacing nearly all of the mechanical systems in the house. The house also required a good deal of cosmetic repair, including extensive plaster patching and the removal of silver colored paint from interior woodwork. Rehabilitation was guided by a photo of the house which was taken in the 1890s, as well as input from Huber family members who still live in the area. (See Figure Two.)

FIGURE TWO. Photocopy of the ca. 1890s photo, which was also published in the 1913 Osage County Atlas.



NPS Form 10-900-a

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

All significant millwork and other historic fabric was retained during the work; all of the woodwork, windows and doors are early or original, and nearly every room of the house still boasts original flooring and woodwork.

The exterior of the house has seen very few alterations, and appears today much as it did in the 1890s photo. The facade is five bays wide, with a central two-story porch sheltering doors on each floor. The open porch has scrollwork railings and a frieze of open pointed arches along each floor line. Matching arches fill the opening of the porch's pent gable roof. The porch is a recreation of the original, which was removed before 1988. The reconstruction was based on the historic photo and the new porch appears to be nearly identical to the original.

The rear of the house features an open two level gallery which spans the entire east wall. (The back porch has been partially rebuilt due to deterioration.) The gallery has simple square posts and unadorned balustrades. A narrow flight of steps provides access between the two floors of the porch, and two other sets of steps lead down into the yard. The side elevations are nearly identical; each has four evenly spaced two-over-two windows set into a flat brick wall. There is an arched basement window in the north wall, the foundation of which extends out under the rear gallery. The grade slopes gently to the north and east, and more of the foundation walls on those sides are exposed.

There is a wide central hall, and four rooms which each measure roughly 16 feet square, on each of the two main floors. The first floor has a pair of parlors on the south, and a dining room and kitchen on the north. Each room has a door into the hall and one into the neighboring room. (See Figures Two and Three.) The rooms of the second floor, all of which are bedrooms, follow a nearly identical layout. Each room was originally heated by a wood stove, there are no open fireplaces in the house. Also, there is only one mantelpiece, located in the dining room; it is not original to the house.

All of the rooms feature plaster walls and hardwood floors, and most have heavy four-paneled doors. Exterior walls are just over one foot thick, and the interior partitions, which are also of brick, are roughly nine inches thick. The doors and windows on the first floor and in both hallways are for the most part surrounded by straight flat or grooved trim, and those on the second floor feature gently sloping pedimented lintel pieces. All woodwork is original and in good condition.

Both halls have an exterior door at each end, all of which are topped with transoms. The transom over the second story door of the facade has panels of frosted glass, into which is etched "A.D. 1881", the construction date of the house. Local history holds that a former occupant of the house once decided to clean

¹ The porch was missing when the house was photographed as part of a survey of Osage County which was conducted by Gary Kremer in 1988.

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District
Osage County, Missouri

the "messy" paint off of the windows, but was stopped before the date was removed.² One of the panes was later broken during the rehabilitation project; the "1881" panel is a replication.

A narrow walnut staircase with turned and fluted balusters leads from the first floor to the second, and a separate staircase with similar detailing connects the second and third floors. The third floor of the house has living spaces which are tucked beneath the roof framing and lighted by the dormer windows. There are two main rooms which open onto a central hall, and most walls are covered with early or original beadboard sheathing. There is also a steep set of stairs to a rooftop trap door and the widow's walk.

Another set of stairs in the kitchen leads down to the basement of the house, which is located only beneath the rear part of the building. The basement stairs are enclosed at the kitchen level with the same sort of beadboard used in the third floor rooms, and the upper part of the enclosure doubles as kitchen pantry space. The basement has two rooms and a hall, which roughly follow the plan of the rooms above. An exterior set of steps in the room beneath the kitchen leads to a doorway beneath the rear gallery. The walls are of brick, 12 inches thick, with segmental brick soldier arches above the doorways. Hand hewn logs serve as lintels over the windows, which are topped with segmental arches on the exterior. The basement, which was used for food storage, has painted walls and plastered ceilings. There are also several large meat hooks still hanging from the ceiling.

The house in general exhibits a high level of integrity, inside and out. The recent rehabilitation served primarily to strengthen existing materials and reverse natural decay, and resulted in little loss of historic fabric. The rehab prepared the house for its new function as a bed and breakfast, a role which required the addition of several new bathrooms. A small half bath was installed in the closet beneath the front stairs, a full bath was added to the owners' suite in the attic, and each bedroom of the second floor received a new full bath. Care was taken during the installation of the second floor bathrooms to avoid undue alterations. Those baths have a minimum of partition walls, and are set upon platforms to allow installation of the mechanical systems without damaging the existing floors. Folding screens are used in place of permanent walls, and the overall effect is more of a dressing screen than a full-blown room partition.

The frame bank barn which sits behind the house is said to be the largest barn in Osage County.³ It is massive, measuring roughly 60 feet by 80 feet, and rising some 45 feet above the uphill grade. The barn is set with its long side parallel to the south-facing slope of a hill; it is two stories tall on the uphill side and three on the downhill. It has heavy timber framing, board and batten walls, and a corrugated tin roof. The roof has a large boxed-gable hay hood at either end. A narrow monitor roof with louvered sides runs the length of the roof ridge.

² Joe Welshmeyer, "Huber's Ferry: Former Throughfare Near Westphalia," <u>Osage County Observer</u>, Sept. 27, 1978, p. 9.

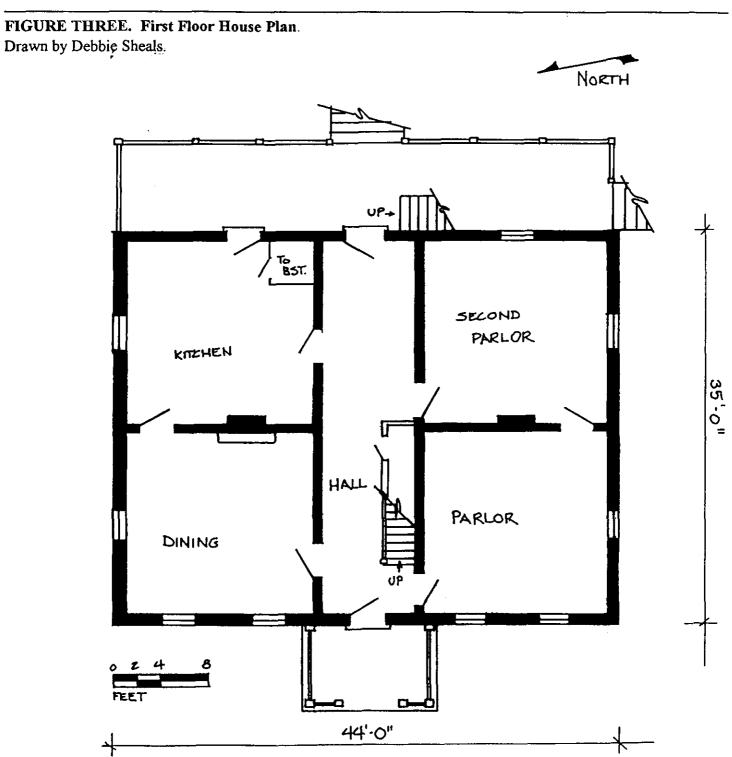
³ Pauline Wegman, <u>Pauline's Memories</u>, (Linn, MO: the Unterrified Democrat, ca. 1982.) p. 37.

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri



National Park Service

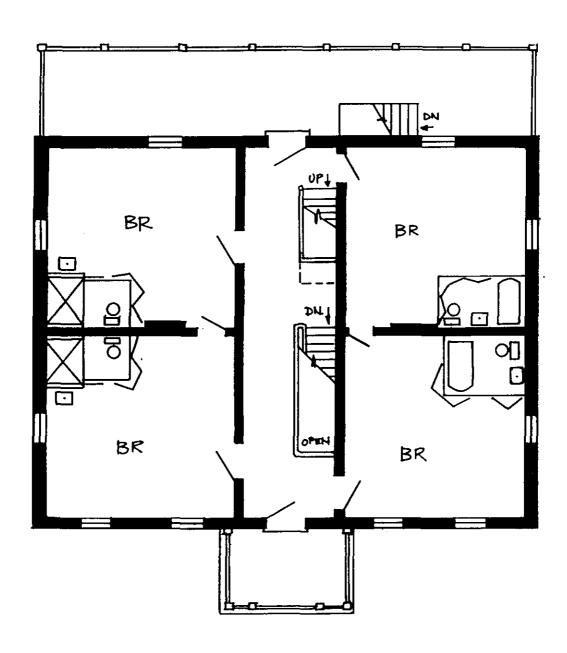
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

FIGURE FOUR. Second Floor House Plan.

Drawn by Debbie Sheals.



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

The barn is set into the slope of the hill, on a foundation of very large squared limestone blocks. Stepped stone retaining walls at the basement level provide clearance for wagon doors which are located on the south ends of the lower gable end walls. A second set of wagon doors on the main level, which is level with the houseyard, are set just north of the center axis. Only the west door of the upper set is level with the ground; the east door on that level was presumably installed to create a cross breeze for the threshing floor within.

The interior of the barn has three main levels. The basement level, which was used to shelter livestock, is partially below grade. There is a stock pen in each rear corner, with a hay mow and open area between. The stock pens have small windows in the foundation walls, and both retain early or original grain and hay racks. Huber family history holds that milk cows were kept in the western stock pen, and beef cattle in the other. Hogs and sheep were presumably sheltered in the open center space, as well as in a long shed addition that once ran along the lower south wall. A double set of stairs in the middle of the room provides access to the main floor; one set leads from the hay mow, and one from the open area.

A wide aisle runs along the south edge of the basement level, between the wagon doors. There are two sets of wide wooden pulleys mounted on the ceiling in that area, which are said to have been used to hang the wagons from the rafters during the winter months. The area directly above the aisle is a hay loft which sits higher than the main floor level, creating a taller ceiling in the basement aisle. Openings in the floor along the south wall of the loft allowed hay to be tossed directly down into the basement aisle. There are also trap doors further back, which allowed the farmers to transfer feed to other parts of the basement as well.

The main level of the barn contains a central wagon drive, horse and mule stalls, harness storage, and the raised loft noted above. The wagon drive runs along the long axis of the building, and is reached via a set of double doors on the west wall. The stalls, which line the north edge of the barn, are each equipped with an exterior door and screened transom window. (Although the frame stall partitions have been removed from the interior of the barn, the original layout is still evident.) The central wagon drive appears to have been used as a threshing floor when the barn was new. The floor has an extra layer of floorboards and is situated so at to catch the prevailing westerly winds. The open area south of the wagon doors has pegs and other harness storage equipment, as well as open doorways to the raised hayloft along the south wall.

Access to the other parts of the barn are provided by three sets of stairs located on the north side of the threshing area. Large trap doors cover the two sets of stairs to the basement, and a longer, open, flight leads up to the main hayloft above. There is a large open hayrack just east of the stairs which provides access between the hayloft and the main floor. The base of that rack is close to the horse stalls as well as the small trap doors into the basement level, making it easy to transfer hay from the loft to all parts of the barn.

Access to the other parts of the barn are provided by three sets of stairs located on the north side of the threshing area. Large trap doors cover the two sets of stairs to the basement, and a longer, open, flight leads up to the main hayloft above. There is a large open hayrack just east of the stairs which provides access between the hayloft and the main floor.

National Park Service

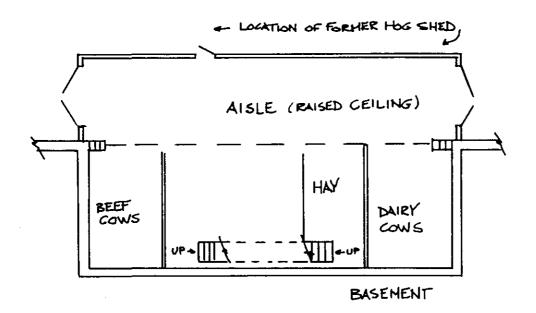
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

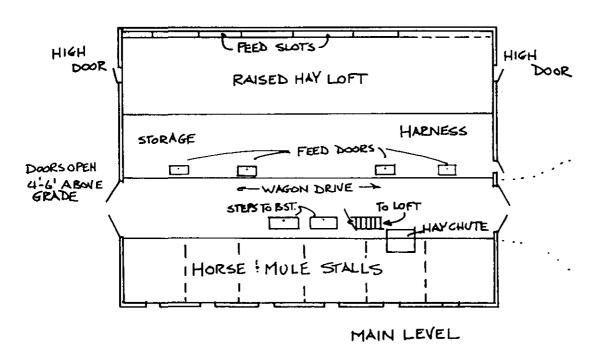
Section number 7 Page 9

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

FIGURE FIVE. Sketch Plans of the Barn.

Drawn by Debbie Sheals.





OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 10

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

The base of that rack is close to the horse stalls as well as the small trap doors into the basement level, making it easy to transfer hay from the loft to all parts of the barn.

The hayloft is the largest space in the barn, rising nearly three times as high at its peak as the ceiling of the main floor. The loft is vented at the ridge by the monitor roof, and there are two large sets of swinging doors beneath the hay hoods to allow easy loading of hay from outside the building. The early or original track for the hay forks still runs along the ridge line. The secondary loft in the south part of the barn also opens onto the main loft. That area has its own track, which runs between a pair of smaller doors set high in the side walls. Neither set of hay forks has survived. The main loft also has a large open frame structure along the area near the stairs, which would have served as a catwalk to access the top of the hay stock when the loft was full.

The barn has fared well over the years. Almost all original fabric is in place and in good condition. Structural deterioration along the south wall which caused the wall to sag rather severely was reversed during the rehab project, and the barn today is sound and square. Like the house, it appears today very much as it did during the period of significance. Both buildings are in good to excellent condition, and each exhibits a high level of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, setting, location, feeling and association. The remaining core of the Huber farmstead has changed remarkably little since the days William Huber could climb to the widow's walk of the house to view his surrounding fields or observe the workings of the ferry in the valley below.

NPS Form 10-900-a

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

Summary: The Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District is significant under Criterion C, in the area of Architecture, and Criterion A, in the areas of Agriculture and Transportation. The large brick farmhouse stands as an intact example of rural Missouri-German architecture, built by the son of German immigrants, and occupied by three generations of his family. Also, the district represents the remaining core of a farm which at one time contained more than 500 acres, and the barn stands as a particularly impressive example of a multi-functional agricultural building of the nineteenth century. The property gains further significance for its association with Huber's Ferry, a business which provided travelers with passage across the adjoining Osage River for the better part of a century. The farmstead was owned by the Huber family from the earliest days of settlement until 1990, and the property today looks much as it did when William Huber and his family managed both the ferry and the farm. The period of significance for the district begins in 1881, with the construction of the house, and ends at 1948, the arbitrary fifty year cut-off point.

Elaboration: Osage County was formed out of Gasconade County in 1841, roughly a decade after the area around the Huber farm began to see Euroamerican settlement. (Indian mounds which once sat north of the house indicate that the site may have been a prehistoric gathering area.⁴) The first permanent white settlement in the area dates to the 1830s, when Benjamin Lisle, a prominent Cole County lawyer, laid out Lisletown, the site of the first Post Office in the county.⁵ Lisletown was nestled just southeast of the junction of the Maries and Osage Rivers, on land that later became part of the Huber farm.⁶ The location at the junction of two rivers and a major east-west road seemed ideal, and for a time it appeared that Lisletown would develop into a regional trade center.

That outlook changed however, when a group of German immigrants founded the town of Westphalia five miles upstream on the Maries River. Westphalia quickly outpaced Lisletown in growth and services, and soon became the cultural and trading center for the surrounding countryside. The success of the newer town has been attributed in part to its German heritage; as new immigrants moved into the area, they joined friends and family who had already settled in Westphalia, and the town developed into a center for German settlement in Osage County. A county history written in 1889 noted that at that time, "about half the population of the county

⁴Michael Meinkoth, "Phase I and Phase II Cultural Resources Investigations of the Proposed Route 50/63 Improvements Cole and Osage Counties, MO," (Jefferson City: Missouri Department of Transportation, 1996) pp. 57-58.

⁵ Goodspeed Publishing Company, <u>History of Cole, Moniteau, Benton, Miller, Maries, and Osage Counties Missouri</u>, (Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Co, 1889) p. 414, 642.

⁶ Plat of Lisletown, Osage County Records, Book A, p. 241-242.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

are German, generally located in the south half of the county, with Westphalia as their chief town."

One of the earliest German settlers in Westphalia was Frederich Charles Huber, a twenty three year old from Paderborn, Westfalen, the same area from which Westphalia's first settlement party came. Huber came to Missouri the same year that Westphalia was founded, and apparently made his home in that community, as it was there that he was married a year later Huber's first wife, Christina Schroeder, died in an accident after just two years, and in 1840 he married Elizabeth Luekenhoff, who was also born in Westfalen. Huber did well in his new homeland; early deed records show many land purchases in his name, along with at least one deed of trust which indicates that he was wealthy enough to lend money to others as well.

Huber moved out near Lisletown within a few years of coming to Missouri, and it was there that his family remained for more than a century. Although the warranty deed recording his original purchase of the land on which the farmstead is located was not found, it is believed that he moved to the area in the early to mid-1840s, possibly just after his son William was born in 1844. It seems quite likely that the family was there by 1848, when Huber paid \$300 for a quit claim deed which cleared the title of land around the current farmstead.¹¹

By the late 1840s, he had also established a business that would remain in his family for the better part of the next century. County Court records show that he was operating a ferry in the Lisletown area by 1847. The ferry was described in one historical account as "a key ferry operation on the Osage River, servicing an east-west road, that by 1837, was the main route between St. Louis and Jefferson City." The ferry business was from the very beginning a family affair; Huber's wife Elizabeth was granted the business license after his death in 1850, and from there it passed on to his son William L., and then his grandson, Charles Joseph. It was also under the ownership of William L Huber, the fourth of Frederick Charles and Elizabeth Huber's five children, that the

⁷ Goodspeed, p. 671.

⁸ Charles Van Ravenswaay, <u>The Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri: Survey of a Vanishing Culture</u>, (Columbia and London: University of Missouri Press, 1977) p. 60.

⁹ Klebba, Mary Ann, ed. <u>St. Joseph Sesquicentennial: 1835-1985</u>, (Linn, MO: Unterrified Democrat Publishing, 1985) p. 167.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Osage County Deed Records, Book C, p. 578.

¹² Osage County Court Records, Book A, p. 156.

¹³ Meinkoth, p. 25.

¹⁴ Osage County Court Records, Vol. A. p. 181, and Welshmeyer, p. 9.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

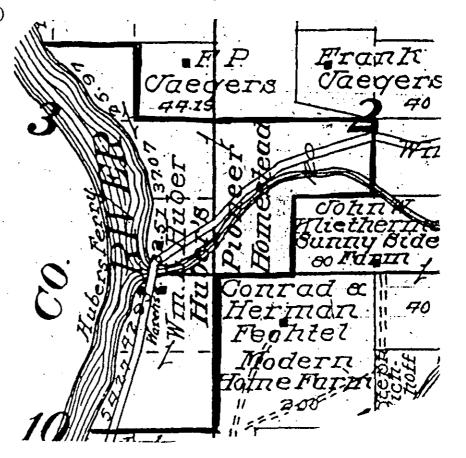
Section number 8 Page 13

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

house was built and the farmstead took its current form.

William Huber was born in Westphalia in 1844, served in the Union army during the Civil War, and on May 15, 1868 married Mary Althueser in St. Louis. 15 He apparently spent some time getting his affairs in order before the wedding; in March and April he bought out his relatives' share in his parents' estate, and filed a fourteen year old quit claim deed which cleared title to land his mother had once owned. (Elizabeth Huber died in 1854.) Deeds filed on May 5, 1868 show that he spent nearly \$4,000 to buy out his relatives' interest in Charles Huber's former landholdings. 16 One transaction was with his sister Regina, and another with a Frank and Mary Huber who were also named heirs of Charles Huber. The property by then included the ferry landing, more than half of the lots from the original plat of Lisletown, and well over 500 acres of farmland. Huber land at that time surrounded the current farmstead on all sides, and included acreage in the river bottoms across the

Osage in Cole County. (See Figure Five.) FIGURE SIX. Atlas map of 1913. Only Osage County land is shown here, Huber also owned a little over 50 acres across the river in Cole County.



¹⁵ Klebba, p. 167.

¹⁶Abstract records of the Osage County Abstract Company, Linn, MO. Nos. 19, 21, 23.

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

William and Mary were apparently busy running the farm and ferry business, for they waited some thirteen years to build the large brick house which anchors the farmstead today. The 1880 Osage County census entry for the family shows that at that time the Huber household included William, Mary, two children and a 30 year old man who boarded with the family and helped run the farm.¹⁷ Their first home may have been down by the ferry landing, near or in the original home of Charles and Elizabeth Huber's. A recent historical account of the farm noted that William Huber "moved a few hundred yards upriver" to build the house "on a bluff that gave him, also the ferry keeper, a vantage point overlooking eastern and western approaches to the river." 18

The new house, which was built in 1881, was placed just a few dozen yards back from the edge of the bluff, facing a gravel road which at that time was the main road from Westphalia to the ferry landing. Brick for the building is said to have come from more than one source. Local history holds that some of the bricks for the house were made in a Westphalia brick kiln, while others were manufactured at the State Penitentiary and shipped to the site by steamboat. The use of two types of brick is entirely possible; Huber may have used one type for exterior surfaces and the other for secondary applications. Presumably the brick from the Westphalia kiln was harder, and would have been used for exterior applications. Whatever the reasons, it would not have been hard for Huber to acquire the materials from the different towns. He had many contacts in Westphalia, and a packet business which would have allowed him easy access to river shipping for the Jefferson City brick.

Although the Hubers lived near the old Lisletown settlement, they continued to have strong ties to the German community in Westphalia. The house, which was described in the Osage County survey report as being of "decidedly German craftsmanship," can be categorized architecturally as a Missouri-German vernacular building.²¹ The strong German cultural heritage of many Missouri counties has resulted in a rich stock of vernacular buildings that reflect both the early settlers' German background and the prevailing practices in the areas to which they emigrated.

Westphalia did not represent an isolated pocket of German settlement in Missouri. Osage County is the westernmost county of a region known as the "Missouri Rhineland", and well within a larger area described by

¹⁷ United States Census, Osage County Population Figures, 1880, Vol. 25, sheet 8.

¹⁸ Gary Kremer, "Osage County Survey Summary Report,"1988-1990, p. 31. (Cultural Resource Library, Historic Preservation Program, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, MO.)

¹⁹ Welschmeyer, p. 9, and George A. Ogle and Company, <u>Standard Atlas of Osage County, MO</u>, (Chicago: George A. Ogle and Company, 1913) p. 47.

²⁰ Welschmeyer, p. 9.

²¹ Kremer, p. 31.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 15

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

one scholar as Missouri's "German Arc." The pattern of German settlement in those areas began in the early decades of the nineteenth century, when Missouri and other parts of the United States experienced a major influx of German immigration that was to last for the rest of the century. By the last half of the nineteenth century, Germans constituted 25% to 30% of the nation's foreign-born population, and a significant percentage of Missouri's total population. By 1890, nearly 125,000 Missourians were German-born, and approximately twice that number were German speaking. The German language appears to have had an especially strong hold on Westphalians and their neighbors, as a newspaper account of the town written in 1889 complained that "The average resident...seems to think that no one will ever come there who does not speak German."

Those early German settlers left a lasting impression upon the areas they chose for their new homes. As one scholar of Missouri-German architecture put it, the Germans "did not leave their home village with the intention of giving up their cultural identity; rather, they brought as much of it with them as they could and duplicated what they'd left behind whenever possible." German pioneers, unlike their British-American counterparts, tended to stay put once they settled in. It is very common to find Missouri farms which, like the Huber farm, remained in the same family for generations. German immigrants also tended to make their homes near family and friends who had already emigrated, resulting in closely-knit communities like Westphalia and the dozens of other Missouri towns still known for their German heritage. The immigrants also brought with them European architectural ideals and traditions which, blended with local influences, often led to the construction of vernacular buildings now referred to as "Missouri-German."

The term Missouri-German as it applies to vernacular architecture was coined by Charles van

²² Milton Rafferty, <u>Historical Atlas of Missouri</u>, (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1981) map 33, and Schroeder, Walter, "Rural Settlement Patterns of the German-Missouri Cultural Landscape," in <u>The German-American Experience in Missouri</u>, (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1986) p. 27.

²³Johnson, Hildegard Binder. "The Location of German Immigrants in the Middle West." Annals of the Association of American Geographers. Vol. XLI No. 1. March, 1951. p. 1.

²⁴ Adolf E. Schroeder, <u>The Immigrant Experience</u>, (Columbia: University of Missouri and the State Historical Society of Missouri, 1988), p. 28.

²⁵ <u>Jefferson City Daily Tribune</u>, June 27, 1889, quoted in Van Ravenswaay, p. 227.

²⁶ Erin Wren, "German Architecture as an Aspect of Nineteenth Century Cultural Transference," (Typescript. Deutschheim State Historic Site, Hermann, MO) p. 2.

²⁷ It was noted in the <u>St. Joseph Sesquicentennial</u>, for example, that more than twenty Westphalia area farms qualified for "Century Farm" status as of 1985.

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 16

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

Ravenswaay, one of the earliest and best-known scholars of the state's German cultural heritage. His 1977 book, The Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri, documented numerous historic German buildings in the lower Missouri River Valley, and laid the groundwork for many subsequent studies. According to van Ravenswaay, the early buildings erected by Missouri's German-Americans did not have

"a self-conscious or designed look about them but, instead, were built in what might be called a Missouri-German vernacular style. This local building tradition (related to what German builders constructed in other parts of the United States) had its origins in the various German states from which the builders and their clients had emigrated and which they adapted to the needs of their new situation in Missouri. Gradually these new settlers almost unconsciously adopted ideas from American styles and building practices."²⁸

That blending of Germanic and New World building traditions is an important characteristic of Missouri-German vernacular architecture. Another scholar of Missouri-German architecture, Dr. Erin Wren, has written that the German immigrants and their children "absorbed ideas from their Anglo- and French-American neighbors. Out of this contact grew a new architectural tradition which we can identify as German Vernacular. The resulting German-American style was constructed from the 1840s into the 1890s." Missouri-German buildings are highly individual, but they do share the basic characteristics of careful craftsmanship, simplicity of design, and a tendency towards austere, planar surfaces.

The historical importance of Missouri-German architecture has been widely recognized, and much research has been done on the subject. Various articles, architectural and historical surveys, and National Register nominations have documented many of the buildings German immigrants and their offspring built in Missouri. Numerous individual Missouri-German properties have been listed in the National Register for architectural significance, including the William Poeschel House (listed 6-21-90,) the Hermann Rotunda (listed 11-2-95,) and the Herman Haar House (listed 5-2-97.)

To understand any type of vernacular architecture, it is necessary to look at stylistic precedents and such things as construction materials and techniques, plans, building forms, and general massing. Elements of high style architecture of earlier periods are often distilled down over time to subtly affect the appearance of vernacular buildings. That theory holds true for Missouri-German buildings as well.

Missouri-German stylistic influences have been traced back to two distinct movements in high style architecture. Simple interpretations of those styles can be seen in brick Missouri-German buildings, and can even

²⁸ Van Ravenswaay, p. 225.

²⁹ Erin Wren, "An Introduction to Nineteenth Century Missouri German Architecture," in "Vernacular Architecture Forum, A Guide to the Tours," (Compiled by Osmund Overby, 1989) p. 63

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 17

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

serve as an aid to dating their construction. The earliest brick buildings to be erected by German-Americans in Missouri show the influence of <u>Klassisismus</u>, the German variant of the Neoclassical or Federal style.³⁰ Features of <u>Klassisismus</u> which can be found in Missouri-German buildings include such things as a symmetrical facade, straight lintels, double doors, and lights over the doors. The severity of the design was often relieved by such things as simple decorative cornice treatments, most commonly in the form of dentilation, and ornamental wooden trimwork.³¹

The strong line of the straight lintels distinguishes early Missouri-German buildings from those built after mid-century. Later buildings, including the Huber house, show the influence of the <u>Rundbogenstil</u>, or "round arch style," which was widely utilized in the German states beginning in the 1830s, and had moved to the United States by the 1850s.³² Missouri-German buildings erected of brick after mid-century tend to have arched door and window openings, ranging from shallow segmental arches to near semi-circles. It has even been postulated that the arches over the windows of those later buildings tended to become higher as the century progressed.³³

Another characteristic of the later brick Missouri-German buildings is a tendency toward more elaborate cornice ornamentation, often in the form of several decorative bands along the eaveline.³⁴ The Huber house reflects this tendency. The cornice of the house, which is the most highly ornamental element of the building, is five courses wide. It consists of two dogtooth courses, set off by three flat bands which project slightly from the surface of the main wall.

The plan and general massing of the house are also typical. The blocky form and simple flat wall surfaces follow the German preference for planar surfaces and unostentatious designs. Also, the double-pile central hall plan, though often referred to as a "Georgian Plan," has been identified with Missouri's German influenced architecture as often as with that of British-Americans. Its use here simply reflects the aforementioned adaptation of local practices. Dr. Wren notes that "these [Missouri-German] vernacular buildings tend to be rigidly symmetrical, two rooms wide and two rooms deep. A center hall plan was adopted..." Double-pile and

³⁰ Wren, "Introduction," p. 66, and the National Register Nomination for "Historic Resources of Boonville," p. 8.17. (Nomination on file with the Missouri DNR/ Historic Preservation Program.)

³¹ Ibid.

³² Philippe Oszuscik, "Germanic Influence Upon the Vernacular Architecture of Davenport, Iowa," <u>P.A.S.T.</u> Vol. X, 1987, p. 17.

³³ Wren, p. 67.

³⁴ Ibid.

³⁵ Ibid, p. 68.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 18

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

central hall plans have been identified in numerous other studies of German-American architecture, including National Register nominations for buildings in Boonville, Missouri and the South Side German historic District in Quincy, Illinois.

The interior of the house reflects the Hubers' German heritage as well. A description of Missouri-German houses in Washington, Missouri could just have easily been written about the Huber house. "Interior finish is extremely simple; low pedimented windows and doorways of plain design are common treatments. Fireplaces are rare as a result of the German preference for wood heat." Missouri-Germans are well-known for their preference of wood stoves. Dr. Wren noted that Missouri-German chimneys, like those in the Huber house, were "normally designed to service closed tile or cast iron stoves because most Germans disapproved of the inefficiency and wastefulness of open fireplaces." A local historical account of the house put it a bit more colorfully; "no self-respecting German would have a crude fireplace in his home." **

The large size of the Huber house served it well; one source estimated that at times there were as many as 20 people living there.³⁹ Local history holds that ferry travelers stayed there on occasion, and permanent residents included family members as well as servants and hired help. There were, however, relatively few Hubers in residence when the household was inventoried for the U. S. census in 1900; at that time live-in hired help equaled family members. Huber family members included only William and Mary and their 25 year old son, Charles Joseph Huber, or Charles Huber II. Their other grown child, Martha, married and moved to Westphalia in 1893. Live-in help included two male farm laborers and one female servant, all of whom were born of German parents. The hired farm laborers would have been especially helpful, as William Huber still owned more than 500 acres of land and a variety of farm animals.

The prominent role of agriculture in the property's history is reflected by the massive bank barn which sits a few dozen yards southeast of the house. Historical accounts note that the barn was built for William L. Huber in 1894, "by Anton Fork and his brother from Taos, in Cole County." Although at least one author seemed to think that both Fork brothers were from Taos, it appears likely that Anton Fork was from the Westphalia area. Census records for 1880 and 1900 record only one Anton Fork anywhere near Osage County;

³⁶ Stiritz, Mary M., "Missouri German Vernacular Property Type Analysis," (Appendix to Survey Report for Washington, MO, 1992) p. 1.

³⁷ Wren, p. 65.

³⁸ Welschmeyer, p. 9.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰The quote is from Wegman, p. 37, the newspaper article by Welschmeyer also credits the Fork Brothers.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 19

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

in 1880 he was living in Westphalia, and in 1900 was a resident of Washington Township, the same township in which the Huber's lived. 41 (No further information about his brother was found.)

The 1880 entry for Fork (spelled Andon Forck for that entry only) shows that he was born of German parents around 1854, and was at that time working as a shoemaker. The census entry made twenty years later shows that he had changed businesses, as his occupation was listed as "mason." Fork may have learned the building trade while living in Westphalia; the 1880 census included listings for eight different carpenters as well as two stone masons. It may be that he squared and laid the massive stones used for the barn's foundation and retaining walls, and that his brother handled the woodworking part of the project. Lumber for the building is said to have come from forests near Vienna, Missouri, which is about fifteen miles south of Westphalia. 43

The barn is a bank barn, a type of multi-functional barn which is banked, or built into the slope of a hill. Although bank barns come in a variety of sizes and forms, as a group, they exhibit several common characteristics, including two or three level multi-functional floorplans. The Huber barn is typical in that the lower level was used to shelter livestock, the main level for wagon storage and threshing, and the upper loft for hay and feed storage. The practice of building such barns into the side of a hill allowed for direct access from the barnyard to the basement, as well as drive-in access to the main level.

The stacked floors also allowed for easy distribution of hay and fodder. The Huber barn, for example, has a large hay rack on the main floor which can be loaded from the loft above. That placement allowed the farmer to easily feed the horses and mules stabled nearby, and to access the basement pens through trap doors located a few feet from the rack. There are also openings in the floor of the loft above the basement aisle which allow hay to be pushed directly into that area. The hay hoods and hay forks on tracks which are found in the Huber barn allowed hay to be loaded into either loft area from outside the barn, an amenity which would be welcome in the heat of a Missouri summer.

Bank barns are among the largest of all types of American barns; one scholar described it as "a veritable farmyard castle," a description which fits the Huber barn as well.⁴⁴ The Huber barn is of an impressive size, even for a bank barn. It is the largest barn in the county, and one of the largest in the region, a distinction which can be expensive when it comes time to paint. A coat of paint which was applied in the 1980s is said to have

⁴¹ 1880 and 1900 Soundex for Missouri Population Census records. (Microfilm on file with the State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia, MO.)

⁴² The entries are apparently for the same man, in spite of spelling and occupational changes. The ages match, as does the name and ages of his wife, Anna.

⁴³ Welschmeyer, p. 9.

⁴⁴ Wilhelm, p. 69.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 20

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District
Osage County, Missouri

required some 90 gallons of red paint. 45

The bank barn as an architectural type has been strongly identified with Germanic farmers in many parts of the country, and American examples are often referred to as "German bank barns, "or "Pennsylvania-German barns." The origin of the form is widely believed to be in Germanic areas of Europe such as southern Germany, Switzerland, and other hilly parts of central Europe, although similar buildings have also been documented in Great Britain.⁴⁷

The bank barn in America was first utilized in Pennsylvania and Maryland around the end of the seventeenth century, and from there the form moved south and west with the frontier. It remained popular through the early part of the twentieth century, as evidenced by the presence of several bank barn designs in a 1909 barn plan book put out by the Radford Architectural Company. The plan book noted that such barns were "very much used in Ohio" and that "there are many points of convenience about a barn built after this plan, one of which is the facility of getting all around it." 1909

The Huber barn differs most markedly from traditional bank barns of both Europe and the United States in that the primary entrances are in the gable ends of both the upper and lower levels, with the main aisles within running parallel to the ridge of the roof. It is far more common for bank barns to be entered at the upper level through a doorway centered in the long wall of the building, and to see the animal pens below opening directly out into a yard along the rear edge of the building. The reason for the change of orientation in the Huber is unclear. The placement of the entrances along an east-west axis does maximize exposure to prevailing westerly winds, but if that was the only issue, Huber could have had the barn built directly behind the house, where the ground slopes off to the east.

Although unusual, the fenestration of the Huber barn is not unique. At least one American barn study has

⁴⁵ Wegman, p. 37.

⁴⁶ See, for example, Allen Noble and Hubert G. H. Wilhelm, <u>Barns of the Midwest</u>, (Athens: Ohio University Press, 1995) p. 69.

⁴⁷ Allen Noble, <u>Wood Brick and Stone: The American Settlement Landscape Vol. 2, Barns and Farm Structures</u>, (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1984) p. 22, and Hubert Wilhelm, "Midwestern Barns and their Germanic Connections," in <u>Barns of the Midwest</u>, p. 69. British example have been documented by R. W. Brunskill, in <u>Vernacular Architecture of the Lake Counties</u>, (London: Faber and Faber, 1974) pp. 82-86.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ William Radford, <u>Radford's Practical Barn Plans</u>, (Chicago: Radford Architectural Company, 1909) pp. 154-155.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 21

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District
Osage County, Missouri

noted the existence of other barns with similar layouts, which are classified quite simply as "gable-entry bankbarns." Allen Noble notes in <u>Wood, Brick and Stone, Vol. 2</u>, that barns of similar layout have been identified in parts of western New England, New York, and northern Pennsylvannia. He also writes that "no study exists of this type in North America, but there have probably never been very many." ⁵¹

Whatever the reason for the gable entrances, the barn served for decades as the center of the Huber family farming operation. The Hubers owned hundreds of acres of farmland throughout the period of significance, and agriculture was consistently the primary family business. The land which William Huber was farming when he built the house had already been in the family for many years, and as late as the 1980s, some two hundred acres were still associated with the farmstead.

A look at early records and countywide statistics shows that Huber farm operations and products were typical for Osage County, and that the size of the farm at the turn of the century was far above the average. A comparison of primary records for the farmstead ranging from 1876 to the turn of the century show that in addition to raising crops, the Hubers kept small numbers of horses, mules, and sheep, and larger numbers of hogs and cattle. The 1876 special census for Osage County reveals that William Huber at that time owned 1 horse, 5 mules, 4 sheep, 12 cows and 50 hogs. By 1899 he was paying taxes on 4 horses, 4 mules, 35 cows, and 40 hogs, and 4 "other livestock," (which probably meant sheep.)⁵² It is logical to assume that the horses and mules were work animals, while the cows and hogs were raised for food production. The sheep were probably kept for wool production more than market sales, a function they fulfilled nicely. The four sheep on the farm in 1876 produced some 50 pounds of wool, and it is assumed similar production rates continued.

Cattle holdings in particular appear to have increased after the barn was built, with nearly three times as many cows in 1899 as in 1876. This was probably in direct response to the increased facilities offered by the large barn. A local history notes that "the ground level provided sleeping quarters for livestock at a time when it was believed important to take such a measure in providing winter shelter." Also, as mentioned earlier, Huber family members recall that there were separate areas in the barn basement for milk and beef cattle.

Tax records and atlas maps show that the farm regularly included more than 500 acres of land, which is nearly three times the average acreage of Osage County farms in 1904.⁵⁴ The fields surrounding the farmstead

⁵⁰ Noble, p. 39.

⁵¹ Ibid

⁵² Osage County tax records, Personal Property Tax Book, 1899.

⁵³ Welschmeyer, p. 9.

⁵⁴ Walter Williams, <u>The State of Missouri: An Autobiography</u>, (Columbia, MO: E. W. Stephens, 1904) p. 466.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 22

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

provided a variety of crops, including wheat, corn, and hay, all of which were among the chief products for all of Osage County. 55 (A detailed inventory of the farm's products was included in the 1876 special census. Although faded records prevented discovery of Huber's 1880 agricultural census entry, it has been assumed that production continued roughly along the same lines in later years.) Those crops would have gone partly to feed the livestock and partly to market for cash to supplement income from the ferry business.

The house and farmstead served not only as the headquarters for the farm and family life, it was also the center of operations for the ferry business. William Huber operated the ferry for more than forty years, often taking sole responsibility for both the ferry and the farm. It was under his ownership that the captain's roof was added to the house around the turn of the century to provide an even more sweeping view of the countryside. The broader view would have allowed him to see approaching ferry passengers, and to watch for the arrival of steamboats on the Osage. One of those steamboats would have been his own. In addition to running the farm and ferry, he was a partner in a local packet company, which operated the steamboat "Ramona." He was partners in that venture with local steamboat Captain Henry Castrop, a younger man who was also the son of German immigrants. 57

Huber became quite well known through his long tenure in the ferry business. His 1914 front page obituary noted that he "operated the Lisletown Ferry on the Osage for more than 40 years. Captain Huber was the best known of all the Osage river men. There is scarce a hunter or fisherman within a radius of 100 miles of Jefferson City who was not acquainted with him."

Even though Huber was still strongly associated with the ferry at the time of his death, census records indicate that he turned everyday operation over to his son Charles II sometime around the turn of the century. The 1900 census entry for the household listed William Huber as a "farmer," while Charles II is described as a "ferry man." A later historical account noted that it was under the latter's ownership that the "crossing was in its heyday. Not only was there an increase in the number of singles and team wagons but the automobile was now rolling up to board the ferry"⁵⁹

Ironically, it was that very source of additional business the eventually rendered the ferry obsolete. The upswing in automobile traffic led to the organization of a statewide highway system, and an increase in expenditure to pave roads and build bridges. Highway 50 was created along the roadway which had continued

⁵⁵ Goodspeed, p. 631.

⁵⁶ Welschmeyer, p. 9.

⁵⁷ U. S. Census population figures for Osage County, 1900.

^{58 &}quot;William Huber Dead." Jefferson City Daily Democrat, Dec. 14, 1914, p. 1.

⁵⁹ Welshmeyer, p. 9.

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 23

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

to serve as a major east-west thoroughfare, and the state began planning for a bridge across the Osage at the ferry site. Construction began in 1921, and the new bridge was dedicated in 1922, an event ended the ferry business. 60

The farm continued to operate, and to involve multiple members of the Huber family. Charles Huber II's sons Arthur and Carl both worked on the farm at one time or another, and after Charles Huber II's death in 1955, the farm passed into the hands of Carl Huber. Carl Huber and his wife Goldean lived on the property and ran the farm for another quarter of a century. Carl died in 1983, and his widow stayed on in the family house until 1990, when the house left the Huber family for the first time in its long history.

The house and barn and a few acres were sold in 1992, and the house was stripped of mechanical systems preparatory to a restoration project that never came to fruition. In 1992, the current owners purchased the property and began the long task of restoration and rehabilitation. Finally, in early 1998, Huber's Ferry Bed and Breakfast opened in the large brick house built by William L. Huber and occupied by his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. The house today remains little changed from the time of its construction, and none of the Hubers who made their home on the bluff top would have any trouble recognizing their family home.

⁶⁰Welschmeyer, p. 9.

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 24

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District
Osage County, Missouri

Chronology

- 1812 Frederic Charles Huber born in Paderborn, Westfalen.
- 1835 Frederick Charles Huber moves to Westphalia.
- 1844 William L. Huber born in Westphalia
- 1847 ca. Huber's ferry begins operation.
- 1850 Frederick Charles Huber dies.
- 1851 Osage County Court grants Elizabeth Huber ferry license to continue her husband's business.
- 1868 William L. Huber marries Mary Altheuser and buys out family memrs' interest in the family farm.
- 1875 Charles Joseph (Charles II) Huber is born
- 1881 William L. Huber builds the house now on the property.
- 1890 Charles Joseph Huber marries Mary Fechtel.
- 1894 William Huber hires the Fork Brothers to build the barn.
- 1911 George Charles (Carl) Huber is born. [son of Charles J. and Mary]
- 1918 Arthur Huber born.
- 1914, December 13. William Huber dies.
- 1922 Osage River bridge is completed and ferry closes.
- 1942 Arthur Huber marries and moves into family home to help run the farm. (Later moves to Westphalia.)
- 1955 Charles J. Huber dies, Carl Huber takes over the farm.
- 1983 Carl Huber dies.
- 1990 Mrs. Goldean Huber (widow of Carl Huber) sells the house and moves to a new house nearby, still on the original farm.
- 1992 Barbara and David Plummer purchase the house and barn and begin rehabilitation work.
- 1998 Huber's Ferry Bed and Breakfast opens for business.

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 25

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

SOURCES

Abstract records of the Osage County Abstract Company, Linn, MO.

- Gerlach, Russel L. Settlement Patterns In Missouri. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1986.
- Goodspeed Publishing Company, <u>History of Cole, Moniteau, Benton, Miller, Maries, and Osage Counties</u>
 <u>Missouri</u>. Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Co, 1889.
- Johnson, Hildegard Binder. "The Location of German Immigrants in the Middle West." Annals of the Association of American Geographers. Vol. XLI No. 1. March, 1951. pp. 1-41.
- Kremer, Gary. Osage County Survey Summary Report. 1988-1990. Cultural Resource Library, Historic Preservation Program, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, MO.
- Klebba, Mary Ann, ed. St. Joseph Sesquicentennial: 1835-1985. Linn, MO: Unterrified Democrat Publishing, 1985.
- Marshall, Howard Wight and James W. Goodrich, eds. <u>The German-American Experience in Missouri</u>. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1986.
- Meinkoth, "Phase I and Phase II Cultural Resources Investigations of the Proposed Route 50/63 Improvements Cole and Osage Counties, MO." Jefferson City: Missouri Department of Transportation, 1996.
- Noble, Allen. Wood brick and Stone: The American Settlement Landscape Vol. 2, Barns and Farm Structures. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1984.
- ______. and Hubert G. H. Wilhelm, Barns of the Midwest, Athens: Ohio University Press, 1995.
- Oszuscik, Philippe. "Germanic Influence Upon the Vernacular Architecture of Davenport, Iowa." <u>P.A.S.T.</u> Vol. X, 1987, pp. 17-27.
- Ogle, George A., and Company. Standard Atlas of Osage County, MO. Chicago: George A. Ogle and Company,
- . Standard Atlas of Cole County, Missouri. Chicago: George A. Ogle and Company, 1914.
- Osage County Records. County Court, Recorder of Deeds, and Special Census of 1876. Microfilm copies on file at the Missouri State Archives, Missouri Information Center, Jefferson City, MO.
- Radford, William A. Radford's Practical Barn Plans. Chicago: Radford Architectural Company, 1909.

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Continuation Sheet

Section number 9, 10 Page 26

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

Rafferty, Milton. Historical Atlas of Missouri. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1981.

Schroeder, Adolph. <u>The Immigrant Experience</u>. Columbia: University of Missouri and the State Historical Society of Missouri, 1988.

Stiritz, Mary M. "Missouri German Vernacular Property Type Analysis." Appendix to Survey Report for Washington, MO, 1992. On file with the Missouri DNR/ Historic Preservation Program.

United States Census Records. Census Indexes and Population Schedules for Osage Counties, 1850-1900. Microfilm on file with the State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia, MO.

Van Ravenswaay, Charles. <u>The Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri: Survey of a Vanishing</u> <u>Culture</u>. Columbia and London: University of Missouri Press, 1977.

"William Huber Dead." Jefferson City Daily Democrat, Dec. 14, 1914, p. 1.

Wegman, Pauline. Pauline's Memories. Linn, MO: the Unterrified Democrat, ca. 1982.

Joe Welshmeyer, "Huber's Ferry: Former Throughfare Near Westphalia," <u>Osage County Observer</u>, Sept. 27, 1978, p. 9.

Williams, Walter. The State of Missouri: An Autobiography. Columbia, MO: E. W. Stephens, 1904.

Wren, Erin McCawley. "German Architecture as an Aspect of Nineteenth Century Cultural Transference." Typescript. Deutschheim State Historic Site, Hermann, MO.

. "An Introduction to Nineteenth Century Missouri German Architecture." in "Vernacular Architecture Forum, A Guide to the Tours." Compiled by Osmund Overby, 1989.

10. Geographical Data

UTM References:

E. 15/586630/4260495

F. 15/586640/4260540

G. 15/586500/4260570

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10, photographs Page 27

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District
Osage County, Missouri

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District is indicated by the heavy dashed line on the Site Plan in Figure One, page 2, item #7.

Boundary Justification

The current boundaries correspond exactly to the property now owned by the Plummers, and they encompass the remaining intact resources associated with the Huber Farm and Ferry during the period of significance. The district is bounded on the west by the Osage River, on the north and east by the right-of-way for Missouri Highway 50 and Osage County Road 501, and on the south by open land and scattered modern residences.

Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District

Intersection of Highways 50 and 63

Osage county, MO

Debbie Sheals

August, 1998

Negative on file with Debbie Sheals, 406 West Broadway, Columbia, MO 65203

List of Photographs

- 1. House facade (west elevation) and gateposts.
- 2. Detail of date on front transom, and cornice.
- 3. House facade.
- 4. Northwest corner of the house, with stone wall.
- 5. Rear elevation of the house.
- 6. Southeast corner of the house.
- 7. Rear of house, with southeast corner of log building.
- 8. West end of barn, with house and stone wall. (Building on right is out of district boundaries.)

- 9. Main floor hallway, looking east.
- 10. Dining room, looking southwest.
- 11. Southwest bedroom, with new bath.
- 12. Barn, northwest corner, and main entrance.
- 13. Barn, east elevation. (House on left is out of district boundaries.)
- 14. Barn, southwest corner.
- 15. Barn interior, main level, from harness area...
- 16. Farmstead from across Highway 50.

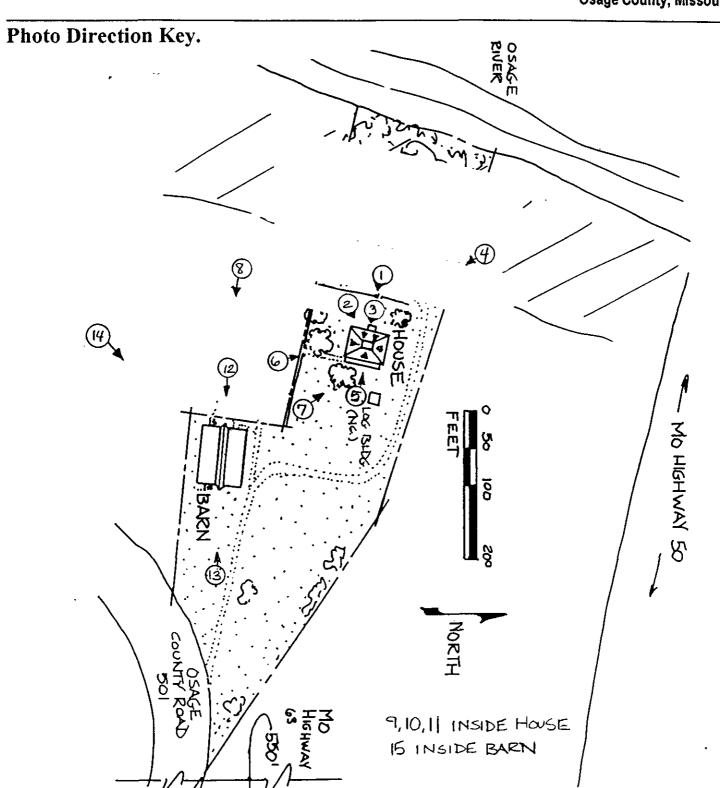
OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

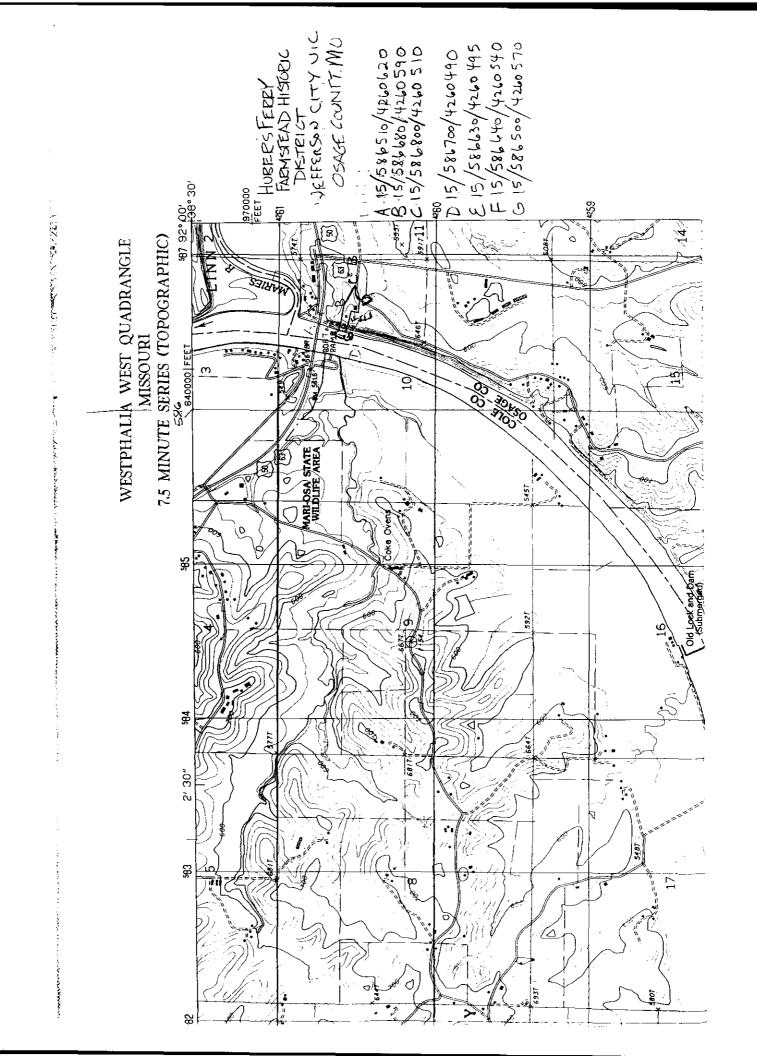
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number <u>photographs</u> Page <u>28</u>

Huber's Ferry Farmstead Historic District Osage County, Missouri

















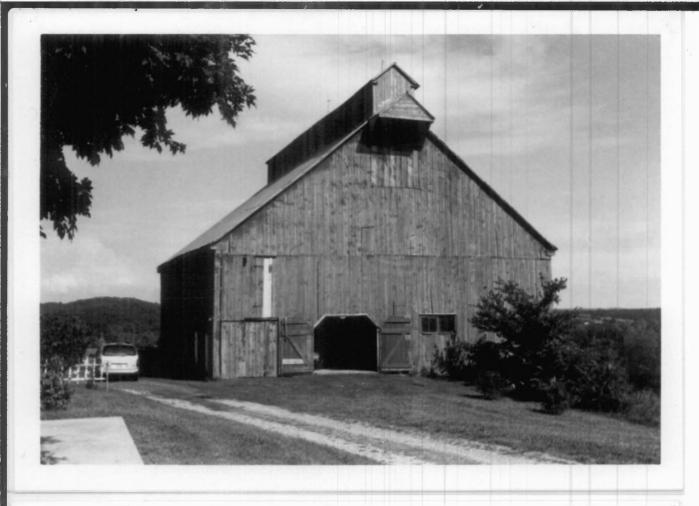




















EXTRA PHOTOS

