

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

historic name Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments

other name/site number n/a

street & town 3737-39 and 3741-43 Main Street n/a not for publication

city or town Kansas City n/a vicinity

state Missouri code MO county Jackson code 095 zip code 64111

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

Mark A. Miles  
Signature of certifying official/Title Mark A. Miles/Deputy SHPO

27 DECEMBER 2006  
Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

☐ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the  
National Register

☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the  
National Register.

☐ removed from the National  
Register.

☐ other, (explain:)

Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments  
Name of Property

Jackson County, MO  
County and State

**Ownership of Property**  
(check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register**

Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri 0

**Historic Function**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Multiple Dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Function**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Multiple Dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Colonnaded Apartments  
Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Limestone  
walls Brick  
Wood  
roof Asphalt  
other \_\_\_\_\_

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

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments  
Name of Property

Jackson County, MO  
County and State

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Narrative Statement of Significance

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

### Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

### Period of Significance

1909

### Significant Dates

N/A

### Significant Persons

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Schmidt, C.P.

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

### Bibliography

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

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- #
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering
- Record #

### Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☒ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other Name of repository:

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments  
Name of Property

Jackson County, MO  
County and State

**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

1 1/5 3/6/2/8/0/7 4/3/2/4/5/0/2  
Zone Easting Northing

2 / / / / / / / / / /  
Zone Easting Northing

3 / / / / / / / / / /  
Zone Easting Northing

4 / / / / / / / / / /  
Zone Easting Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

North half of Lot 14, all of Lot 15 and the south half of Lot 16, Block 34, of Hyde Park, a subdivision of Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri

Property Tax No. 30-220-18-11-00-0-00-000

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries encompass the entire parcel historically related to the two nominated buildings. The adjacent properties are non-historic.

☐ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

name/title Tony Gardner, President

organization Gardner Historic Property Consultants, Inc.

date 7-17-2006

street & number 3000 DeGroff Way

telephone 816-262-2515

city or town Kansas City

state MO zip code 64108

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

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

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

**Photographs:** Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

name/title Mid-Main Properties LLC

street & number PO Box 414740

telephone 816-474-2245

city or town Kansas City

state MO zip code 64141

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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**Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments**  
**Jackson County, Missouri**  
**Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri**

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

#### SUMMARY

The Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments are located respectively at 3737-39 and 3741-43 Main Street in Kansas City, Missouri. Built in 1909, the apartments take their name from owner Charles H. Kuehne and architect/builder Claude P. Schmidt. The two similar but distinct buildings are 2 ½-story brick and wood shingle structures sitting atop limestone foundations. The front elevation of each building features prominent porches framed by square brick columns rising from the first to second floors. The porches are characteristic of the "Square Brick Column" colonnade apartment subtype described in the Multiple Property Cover Document, "Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri, c. 1900-1930." Each building retains most of its original interior floorplan, which encompasses three distinct units, one on each floor. Much of the original interior finish has also been retained, including hexagonal tile in the foyers, oak floors and millwork, glazed tile fireplaces, boxed-beam ceilings, and built-in cabinetry. The buildings retain significant architectural integrity, clearly represent the defined Square Brick Column Colonnade subtype, and meet many of the other registration requirements set forth in the Multiple Property document.

#### ELABORATION

##### Exterior

The most prominent architectural element exhibited by the Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments is the porches on the front façade of each building. The 3737 building is dominated by a large, two-story porch extending from the south portion of the front façade. The porch is composed of a pair of square brick columns that sit atop the piers of the limestone and concrete first floor porch. The columns anchor the wood entablature and detailed wrought-iron railing that compose the second floor porch. The columns are capped by cut stone and paired curvilinear wood brackets that support a small pent roof. The north portion of the front façade features a small, first-story porch tucked under the roofline of the main structure. The small porch is framed by a single square brick column capped by cut stone and paired curvilinear wood brackets. The column sits atop a limestone pier and combines with masonry walls to frame an open first story limestone porch. The second story level above the porch is enclosed and composed of vertical lap siding and paired, one-over-one, double-hung windows. It is uncertain whether the enclosure is original.

Other notable aspects of the 3737 building include the roof, which combines several styles. The front and rear façades feature a bell-cast gable-style roof, with wide, curved soffits and fascia. The north side elevation combines a large gabled dormer with curvilinear brackets and a shed

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**Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments  
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**Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri**

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roof. The roof on the south elevation combines shed roofs on either side of a gabled dormer accented with curvilinear wood brackets.

The upper half-story portion of the building is clad in wood shingles, with faux half-timber-style accents on the front and rear facades. Dentil molding delineates the upper half story from the two-story brick façade below.

The 3737 building is further distinguished by its masonry. The lentils and sills on all facades are made of rough-hewn limestone.

As for fenestration, the 3737 building primarily consists of one-over-one, double-hung wood windows. The dormer windows on the side elevations are more elaborate, however, including 18/1, and 15/1 double-hung configurations. The entry doors are single-light and made of oak.

The 3741 building features a large two-story porch extending from the southerly two-thirds of the front façade. The porch is composed of three square brick columns. The three columns combine to frame the first floor porch, which is enclosed with brick walls and contains a concrete floor. However, the far left column rises only one story. The top of the left column is accentuated with cut stone and capped by a square brick pier which is also topped by cut stone. This brick pier forms the corner anchor for an elaborate wrought iron railing that frames the open portion of the second story porch. The middle and right columns are paired. They rise two stories, are accented by cut stone at the second story level, and are capped by cut stone and paired curvilinear wood brackets. These columns front the second story entablature, anchor the elaborate wrought-iron railing, and support the large gabled roof that projects from the south side of the building. The north portion of the building features a small first-story porch tucked under the roofline of the main structure. The small brick and concrete porch is framed by a single square brick column that rises one story and is capped by cut stone. The second story porch is enclosed by brick and two 16-light windows, which are likely part of the historical development of the property, but may not be original.

The 3741 building also exhibits a distinct roofing pattern. The front façade combines a prominent gabled roof on the south side, which extends over the square brick columns to cover the porch. This portion is flanked to the north by a gabled dormer. The north and south side facades both feature gabled roofs. The south façade also includes a sloping dormer toward the rear of the structure. The roof throughout is accented by wide, overhanging eaves and dentil molding.

The upper half story of the 3741 building, like its neighbor, is clad in wood shingles.

The fenestration of the 3741 building primarily consists of one-over-one, double-hung wood windows. The dormers, however, provide some variety with diamond-patterned upper sashes.

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The room above the north porch is enclosed by distinctive 16-light windows. The entry doors are single-light and made of oak.

### Interior

The Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments, owned by Charles H. Kuehne and designed by architect Claude P. Schmidt, were constructed in 1909 as two-apartment flats. By 1914, Kuehne had finished out the upper half story of each building as third residential units. The interiors are configured in nearly identical fashion. The first floor of each building includes a patterned, hexagonal tile foyer, living room, sitting room, two bedrooms, a dining room, a kitchen, and a bathroom. The second floors are composed of a living room, sitting room, two bedrooms, a dining room, a kitchen and a bath. The third floor of each building is less uniform, but both combine a living room, a sitting room, a bedroom, a dining room, a kitchen and a bath.

The interior of each building is framed with wood studs, joists and rafters, and plaster and gyp board walls. The flooring in the primary living spaces is oak, while the bathrooms and kitchens are layered in non-historic linoleum. There is extensive oak millwork present throughout both buildings, including crown molding, back-banded door and window frames and baseboards. The staircases in each building are also built of oak, with square newel posts, molded banister rails, and square balusters. The dining rooms also feature oak boxed-beam ceilings and fireplaces composed of oak mantels and glazed brick. Other notable features include built-in oak linen cabinets on the first floor of each building and French doors in various locations.

The interior configuration of both buildings has been retained.

### Setting

The Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments are located near the south end of the east side of the 3700 block of Main Street in the midtown area of Kansas City, Missouri. The buildings are set back from the street on small, grassy lots marked with mature trees. The buildings are separated by a driveway that extends east-west to a rear parking area. Though currently zoned as mixed-use, the buildings are the only semblance of residential architecture left intact in the 3700 block of Main. Much of the block is characterized by low-end commercial properties. In fact, the area in which the buildings are located was recently declared blighted by the City of Kansas City's Planned Industrial Expansion Authority. Directly to the north of the properties is a small building operating as a title loan business. Directly to the south is a car wash. There are two structures located across Main Street that have some architectural and historical value, including an Office Max store with a partially historic front façade, and the Goodenow Textiles building, which, though historic, is currently vacant. The other structures in the block, however, are modern in design and are in various degrees of upkeep.

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**Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments  
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**Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri**

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### Integrity

The Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments exhibit a high degree of architectural integrity. The most significant change to the exterior construction was the recent removal of the rear porches and stairways, which were not original, in severe disrepair and not code-compliant. On the whole, though, the exteriors of the buildings display only minimal wear and tear.

In general the interior configurations have been retained. The woodwork throughout is in good condition. Some plaster walls and ceilings were partially destroyed by fire, subsequent water damage and necessary remediation. However, much of the original plaster remains intact.

The Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments retain a substantial degree of integrity and meet the criteria for inclusion on the National Register as defined in the Multiple Property Cover Document.



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Jackson County, Missouri**

**Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri**

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

#### SUMMARY

The Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments of Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE. Constructed at 3737 and 3741 Main Street in 1909 as two-apartment flats for owner Charles H. Kuehne, by architect Claude P. Schmidt, the two buildings are locally significant and stand as excellent examples of the Square Brick Column colonnade apartment type as defined in the Multiple Property Documentation Form "Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri."<sup>1</sup> The character-defining features of the Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments are prominent brick, stone and wood porches framed by square brick columns rising from the first to second floors. The buildings are further distinguished by elaborate wrought-iron railings on the second-floor porches, curvilinear wood brackets on the square brick columns, cut-stone accents on the columns and in some of the window lintels and sills, and complex rooflines, as well as dentil molding and faux half-timbering. The period of significance for the buildings is 1909, the date of construction.

#### ELABORATION

The Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments exemplify many of the characteristics set forth by Elizabeth Rosin and Sally Schwenk in the Multiple Property Cover Document, "Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri." According to the document, a Historic Colonnade Apartment Building "...is typically a multi-story, masonry apartment building with one or more prominent multi-story colonnaded porches." Rosin and Schwenk elaborate by identifying several other characteristics inherent in Kansas City colonnades, including brick wall cladding, at least two self-sufficient units, and a height between two and four stories. The Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments exhibit these qualities. They also meet more general criteria, in that they are located within the City of Kansas City and were built in 1909, in the period of significance for the property type set by Rosin and Schwenk as between the years 1900 and 1930.

More specifically, Rosin and Schwenk document four particular sub-types: the Classical Colossal Column Porch; the Combined Column Porch; the Square Brick Column Porch; and the Transitional Colonnade Apartment Building. Both of the Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments fall within the Square Brick Column Porch sub-type.

<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth Rosin and Sally Schwenk

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Rosin and Schwenk elaborate on the Square Brick Column Porch sub-type by stating that the columns "support multi-tiered porches. These columns either support a "stacked" porch with separate sets of columns supporting each porch roof or they form a continuous brick column that extends the height of the majority of the façade and incorporates tiered porches." The authors add that "the porch roofs may have individual roofs or may share a common roof spanning the recessed entrance bay. The building and porch roofs are usually flat or low hip form, but may also include other stylistic treatments such as the Greek gable front design or the variations of the Mansard roof of the Second Empire and Beaux Arts styles."

The two Kuehne-Schmidt buildings provide variations on these definitions. On the 3737 building, the most prominent porch is on the south side of the front façade. Here, a pair of continuous brick columns extends two stories to encompass a two-tiered porch. The south porch is topped by a mansard roof accentuated with a pair of gabled ends. The more modest north porch is framed by a single corner column. On the 3741 building, two-thirds of the front column is dominated by three square brick columns. The far left column rises only one story and is capped by a brick and stone pier. It is linked to the two-story middle column by a brick wall on the first floor and elaborate wrought-iron railing on the second floor, thus creating two-tiers: a covered first floor porch and an open second floor porch deck. The middle and right square brick columns extend the full height of the façade and terminate under the projecting main gabled roof to enclose a two-tiered porch. On the north side of the front façade, the small porch features a single corner column. Its first floor entry is recessed. The second floor is framed out and enclosed.

Both of the Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments retain sufficient integrity to be easily identified with the property type. The primary façade appearance has remained largely unchanged since 1909. Additionally, the interiors are configured as they were in 1909 and are laid out in nearly identical fashion. The first floor of each building includes a patterned, hexagonal tile foyer, living room, sitting room, two bedrooms, a dining room, a kitchen, and a bathroom. The second floors are composed of a living room, sitting room, two bedrooms, a dining room, a kitchen and a bath. The third floor of each building is less uniform, but both combine a living room, a sitting room, a bedroom, a dining room, a kitchen and a bath. There is extensive oak millwork present throughout both buildings, including crown molding, back-banded door and window frames and baseboards. The staircases in each building are also built of oak, with square newel posts, molded banister rails, and square balusters. The dining rooms also feature oak boxed-beam ceilings and fireplaces composed of oak mantels and glazed brick. Other notable features include built-in oak linen cabinets on the first floor of each building and French doors in various locations.

Beyond their substantial architectural significance, the Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments represent a socioeconomic trend that emerged in Kansas City in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The properties represent a time when, according to Rosin and Schwenk, "housing shortages, a rapidly growing middle class, and the emergence of speculative developers ushered in an era of small- to

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### **Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri**

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medium-sized four- to twelve-unit apartment buildings." Such dwellings were built on or near important thoroughfares or streetcar lines, which enabled residents to have quick and easy access to downtown workplaces while enjoying the less-congested, greener spaces of suburban residential settings.

The architectural significance of the Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments is underscored by the context of the surrounding neighborhood. In the past two to three decades, many of the historic properties in the block that encompasses the Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments have been razed to make way for parking lots, car washes, gas stations and low-quality new construction geared toward Main Street commercial traffic.

However, the Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments are proximate to three National Register Historic Districts. Just one block east of the properties, Walnut Street demarcates the west boundary of the Old Hyde Park East National Register Historic District, which was listed on the National Register in 2004. Two blocks west, on the other side of Main Street, Baltimore Ave. marks the east boundary of the Old Hyde Park West National Register Historic District, which was also listed in 2004. One block south of the properties is the South Side Historic District, which was certified by the National Register in 1982. Across Main Street and one block to the north sits the Goodenow Textiles building, which was listed on the National Register in 2003. It is notable that the owner of the Goodenow Textiles building is also the current owner of the Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments.

Listing the Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments would not only recognize the buildings as exemplifying the Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, it would contribute to the growing number of historic properties in the heart of urban Kansas City that are being listed on the National Register and rehabilitated.

### **PROPERTY HISTORY, OWNER AND BUILDER**

The past uses of the property were determined by available historic maps and documents, including Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, the Tuttle-Ayres Survey Atlas, city directories, Kansas City Landmarks office documents such as building permits and historic surveys, city directories, Title Abstracts and other sources.

According to the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of 1896, the site was illustrated as vacant. A Warranty Deed dated August 31, 1903 and filed November 5, 1903 shows the site was acquired by Charles H. Kuehne from Mastin Realty and Mining Company. A building permit issued by the City of Kansas City on June 6, 1909 identifies the location as 3737-39-41-43 Main and grants construction approval for a "2 Apt. flat, 2 sty, 36' by 53', brick stone and concrete, shng roof." The approved dollar amount is \$12,000. The owner is identified as C.H. Kuehne and the architect

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**Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments  
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### **Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri**

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listed is C.P. Schmidt. By the end of 1909, the Sanborn map identifies the site as being occupied by domiciles consisting of two and one-half floors and a framed attic. It is noted that the area is fully developed and is residential in nature, with no commercial property to the north, south, east or west. A building permit issued on May 13, 1914 Kuehne approval to "Remodel 2 sty brick bldg." Evidence suggests that the upper story was finished out as another living unit at this time.

A search of the Kansas City Public Library website located a 1912 article by the Kansas City Press Club entitled "Men of Affairs in Greater Kansas City." In the piece, Charles Kuehne is identified as president of the Kuehne-Chastain Commission Company on Walnut St and is heralded as a "Pioneer in Celery Raising on a Large Scale." The brief biography states that Kuehne was born in Milwaukee in 1852 and came to Kansas City in 1882. In 1886, Kuehne formed a partnership in the general produce business with D.E. Smeltzer. After Smeltzer's death in 1902, Kuehne incorporated the Charles H. Kuehne Commission Company. In 1910, he took on a new partner and re-incorporated as the Kuehne-Chastain Commission Company. Kuehne's interests in the produce business culminated in The Golden West Celery and Produce Company. Located in California, the celery farm grew from twenty acres to six hundred acres.

An Abstract of Title provides a document entitled "Last Will and Testament of Charles H. Kuehne, Deceased" dated 1916. The will grants title of the Main Street properties to Kuehne's wife. The properties remained under her ownership until 1920.

A library website search of Kuehne's architect of record, Claude P. Schmidt, revealed a biographical sketch that shows Schmidt was born in Germany in 1860, and emigrated to America in 1882, first settling in Omaha, Nebraska, where he took up the carpentry trade. The following year, Schmidt moved to Kansas City. City directories trace Schmidt's trajectory from carpenter to draftsman to architect. He was engaged by the S.E. Chamberlain firm from 1885 until 1890, then worked for Knox & Guinotte until 1892. From 1892 to 1924, Schmidt worked independently.

According to Kansas City Landmarks records, Schmidt served as lead architect or collaborated on at least 25 other projects in Kansas City from 1897 to 1924. Perhaps his most notable project is The Savoy Hotel and Grill, one of Kansas City's premier hostelrys and restaurants. Built in 1909 from Schmidt's architectural plans, the Savoy hosted many famous visitors to the city. The Savoy is closely associated with President Harry Truman, who was a regular patron, both before and after his presidency. Today, President Truman's favorite booth is marked with an engraved brass plate. The Savoy was listed independently on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974.

Schmidt's other architectural projects included single-family homes, apartment buildings, a grocery store, a rubber company facility, motor and brass manufacturing plants, the T.J. Mastin Building, and a church.

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Schmidt also branched out professionally. In 1897, he became a director of the American Savings & Loan Association, rising to the post of president in 1928.

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**Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri**

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### Bibliography

Abstract of Title, No. 203677, Compiled by KC Title Insurance Company, Number DR-842, 3741-43 Main St., May 21, 1945.

Abstract of Title, No. 66825, Compiled by KC Title Insurance Company, Number DR-842, 3737-39 Main St., September 10, 1952

Alkire, Arthur N. *Men of Affairs in Greater Kansas City*. Kansas City Press Club, Kansas City, MO, 1912.

Baker, John Milnes. *American House Styles: A Concise Guide*. New York, London: W.W. Norton & Company, 1994.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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**Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments  
Jackson County, Missouri**

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**Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri**

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**Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments  
Jackson County, Missouri**

**Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri**

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The following is true for all photographs:

Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments

Jackson County, Missouri

Date: July 5, 2006

Photographer: Tony Gardner

Negatives on file with photographer.

1. Streetscape, looking northeast
2. Streetscape, looking west
3. 3737 Main St. front elevation, looking east
4. 3737 Main St. front elevation detail, looking east
5. 3737 Main St. front and side elevation, looking northeast
6. 3737 Main St. side elevation, looking southeast
7. 3737 Main St. rear elevation, looking northwest
8. 3737 Main St. side elevation, looking northwest
9. 3737 Main St. side elevation, looking northeast
10. 3741 Main St. front elevation, looking east
11. 3741 Main St. front elevation detail, looking southeast
12. 3741 Main St. side elevation, looking southeast
13. 3741 Main St. rear elevation, looking west
14. 3741 Main St. side elevation, looking northeast
15. 3737 Main St. foyer, looking east
16. 3737 Main St. fireplace, looking south
17. 3737 Main St. fireplace 2, looking south
18. 3737 Main St. common hallway, facing east
19. 3737 Main St. built-in cabinet, facing northeast
20. 3737 Main St. French doors, facing east



United States Department of the Interior  
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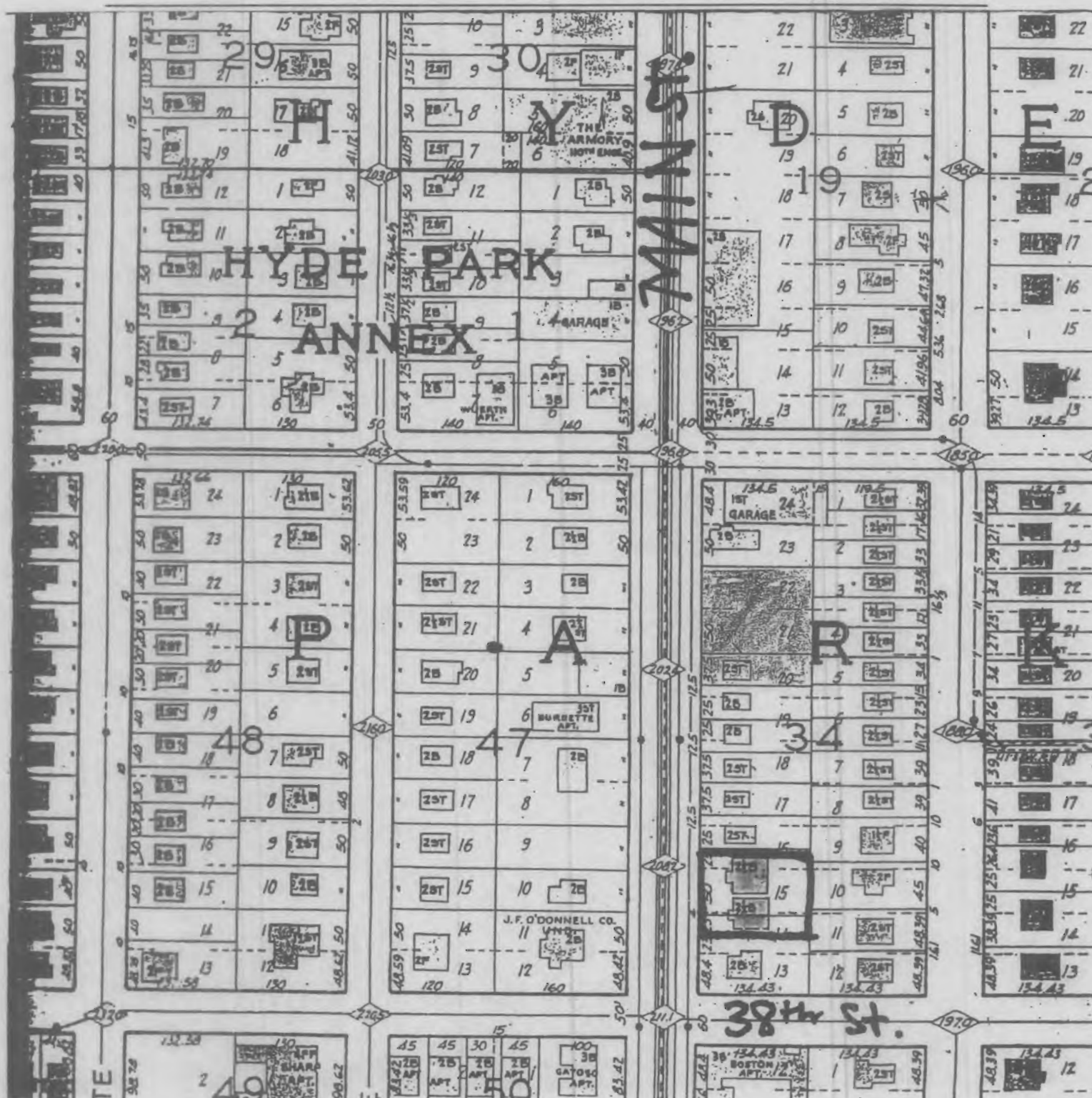
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Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments

Jackson County, Missouri

Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri



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**Kuehne-Schmidt Apartments**  
**Jackson County, Missouri**  
**Historic Colonnade Apartment Buildings of Kansas City, Missouri**



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T 12 S

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Kuehne-Schmidt  
Apartments  
Jackson County, MO

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