

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Moore House
and/or common James Handy and Mary Hunter Moore House

2. Location

street & number 403 North Main Street _____ not for publication
city, town Charleston _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district #10 - Hon. Bill Burlison
state Missouri code 29 county Mississippi code 133

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Mississippi County Historical Society
street & number 403 North Main Street
city, town Charleston _____ vicinity of _____ state Missouri 63834

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of Recorder of Deeds, Mississippi County Courthouse
street & number 120 North Main Street
city, town Charleston _____ state Missouri 63834

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Missouri State Historic Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date April, 1979 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local
depository for survey records Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176
city, town Jefferson City _____ state Missouri 65102

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Moore House in Charleston, Missouri, is a two-and-one-half story red brick building with a half basement. Designed in the Colonial Revival style, the house features a veranda which spans the primary facade, a profusion of gables and an interior ornamented with rich oak woodwork and fireplaces. Located on a landscaped corner lot in a quiet residential section of the town, the house is accompanied by a small grainery and servants quarters.

The house measures approximately 65' on the north and south facades, and 47' on the east and west. The veranda extends 9' beyond the primary facade on either side. Both the house and its foundation are of red pressed brick, laid in common bond. Ashlar limestone lugsills decorate all windows which on the first two stories of the original building are a single type: a one-over-one, double-hung wooden sash set under a segmental arch of headers. A wooden molded cornice with brackets, painted white in color, surrounds the building, while boxed cornices delineate all gables, which are painted white and covered with clapboarding. Windows in the gables follow the main type but lack arches. The steeply pitched hip roof is marked on the north and south by gablets and central roof dormers, and is broken on all elevations by projecting gables. The roof of the house is covered with pressed metal while that of the veranda is of asphalt shingles.

The primary (east) facade displays a columned and balustraded veranda, with pedimented entry. The central, sidelighted entrance to the building is flanked by windows, while above it is centered a later addition of a sunroom whose brackets are smaller versions of the main cornice. Two large brick interior chimneys with corbelled caps rise on either side of the facade's central dormer and gablet.

The secondary (north and south) facades are nearly identical, each featuring a central semi-polygonal projecting bay decorated with fan-like wooden brackets and pendants. Covered by a projecting windowed gable, the south bay contains a first floor entrance. The west elevation has been altered by the addition of a one-story sunporch in the northwest corner.

The north facade appears to have originally been identical to the main facade, as it retains its projecting gable and central gablet and dormer. It has been obscured, however, by a 1918 addition of stuccoed masonry. In a bungalow style, the newer structure consists of a pantry and garage on the first story, with a sleeping porch above.

The interior of the Moore House remains fundamentally as it was first constructed. All floors, woodwork and fireplaces are of oak. The first floor is highlighted by a U-shaped stairway with ornate carved balusters; an entranceway consisting of a carved, single-leaf door with panels and sidelights of etched glass; original crystal chandeliers; pocket sliding doors to each room; and four fireplaces, all variant of a single type with a heavy corniced, mantelpiece supported by colonettes. Within this framework, the fireplaces present differing tile surrounds, mirrored chimney pieces and woodworking. The second floor contains three fireplaces and a banistered stairway to the unfinished third floor.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1899-1900 **Builder/Architect** Jerome Bibb Legg/James Handy Moore

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Moore House at 401 North Main Street in Charleston is significant as a fine example of the Colonial Revival style of architecture, relatively rare in southeast Missouri, and is of local importance as the home of James Handy Moore, a leading citizen of early Charleston and a pioneer in the town's business and industry. At the time of its construction, the house was one of the town's grandest residences.

James Handy Moore, son of a wealthy Charleston family, was born on November 20, 1865. He attended Bellevue Collegiate Institute at Caledonia, Missouri, where in 1886 he received his Bachelor of Arts degree. After graduation from the law school of Vanderbilt University, Moore went into private practice for several years before accepting a position as cashier for the Mississippi County Bank. With extraordinary business acumen, Moore attained the presidency of the Bank within a short time, but later resigned that position to assume control of the newly-formed Southeast Missouri Telephone Company.² A man of marked business ability and enterprise, Moore had many varied but successful interests. In addition to his telephone company, he directed the Southeast Missouri Light, Power and Ice Company³ and owned a contracting firm which built the first community dredging ditch in Mississippi County. The Moore family's extensive farm holdings were also under his management.⁴ Moore took his position as Charleston's leading citizen very seriously, and had a continuing interest in the town. Among other concerns, he served as president of the Levee Board from its organization until his death, and he was the first to propose the establishment of a public library system for Charleston.⁵

On June 10, 1890, Moore married Mary Bird Hunter of Sikeston, whose family had been among the earliest settlers of the area.⁶ In 1899, the father of four small children, Moore decided to build a new, larger home which would be suitable for his prominent position. He chose land on the Moore farm just north of Charleston, which he felt would soon be encompassed by the town's rapid growth.⁷

Attribution of the house to esteemed St. Louis architect Jerome Bibb Legg (1838-?) further underscores the Moore's prominence.⁸ Legg, who trained as a draftsman under George I. Barnett, is perhaps best remembered for supervising construction of Centenary Methodist Church in St. Louis and additions and alterations to the Missouri State Capitol building in Jefferson City.⁹ The bulk of Legg's known commissions, however, consists of houses in the Queen Anne style which proliferated throughout St. Louis' fashionable West End and in other Missouri cities during the eighties and early nineties. While an index to the popularity of the Colonial Revival style with wealthy St. Louis clients after 1892, the Moore house contributes stylistic diversity to residential Charleston.

9. Major Bibliographical References

1. "Double Tragedy." Charleston Courier, 20 November 1906, p. 1.
2. "Found Dead." Charleston Weekly Enterprise, 20 November 1906, p. 3.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .8 acre

Quadrangle name "Charleston, Mo."

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	5	2	9	0	7	0	0	4	0	8	8	6	4	5
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Beginning at the Southeast corner of Lot 1, Block 1 of Moore's Fourth Addition, and being at the point where the west line of Main Street in the City of Charleston, Missouri, intersects the north line of Lafayette Street in said City; running thence north along the west line of

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

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title 1. Janice R. Cameron, Research Assistant

organization Department of Natural Resources date _____

street & number P.O. Box 176 telephone 314/751-4096

city or town Jefferson City state Missouri 65102

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Director, Department of Natural Resources and
State Historic Preservation Officer date _____

For HCERS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
date _____

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

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The Moore House is located on a wooded, landscaped lot, bordered by sidewalks on two sides. Located at the rear of the property is the now vacant servants quarters, an L-shaped clapboarded structure with a porch spanning most of its primary facade. There are two single-leaf entrances from this porch, while regularly spaced, double-hung one-over-one windows mark the other three elevations. A rectangular, clapboarded grainery is situated in the northwest corner of the lot, and with large sliding doors on its primary (east) and south facades.

The Moore House is in excellent condition on the interior and exterior. The present owners, the Mississippi County Historical Society and Art Gallery, maintain the house as a museum, gallery and community meeting place.

FOOTNOTES

1. "Moore House Lively in Early Years," Enterprise-Courier, 27 October 1977, p. 9.

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Moore himself supervised construction of the palatial, seventeen-room house, faced with modern "brick veneer" and equipped with private water and sewage disposal systems. The light fixtures were adaptable to either electricity or gas and the structure was heated exclusively by its seven fireplaces.¹⁰ Completed at a cost of approximately \$7,400, it was the showplace of Charleston, housing Moore's extensive collection of rare books, coins and paintings.

Moore lived in the house only a few years before he was killed in a carriage accident in 1906.¹¹ His widow Mary remained in the house until her own death in 1949, and other members of the Moore family resided there until 1977. At that time, the grandsons of James Handy and Mary Bird Moore donated the building and grounds to the Mississippi County Historical Society and Art Gallery.

FOOTNOTES

1. Floyd Calvin Shoemaker, Missouri and Missourians, Land of Contrasts and People of Achievement (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1943), Vol. III, p. 331.
2. Ibid.
3. "Double Tragedy," Charleston Courier, 20 November 1906, p. 1.
4. Shoemaker, p. 331.
5. Betty F. Powell, History of Mississippi County, Missouri, Beginning to 1972, (Independence, Mo.: BNL Library Service, 1975), p. 259. Handy offered to donate \$500 towards the establishment of a city library, but his offer was never acted upon by the city council.
6. "Historical Society's Proposed Home has Interesting Historical Background," Enterprise-Courier, 20 October 1977, p. 9.
7. Ibid.
8. Ibid.
9. Henry F. Withey and Elsie Rathburn Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased) (Los Angeles: New Age Publishing Co., 1956), p. 368.
10. Ibid.
11. "Moore House Lively in Early Years," Enterprise-Courier, 27 October 1977, p. 9; "Found Dead," Charleston Weekly Enterprise, 20 November 1906, p. 3.

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4. Betty F. Powell. History of Mississippi County, Missouri, Beginning to 1972. Independence, Mo.: BNL Library Service, 1975.
5. "Moore House Lively in Early Years." Enterprise-Courier, 27 October 1977, p. 9.
6. Shoemaker, Floyd Calvin. Missouri and Missourians, Land of Contrasts and People of Achievement. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1943.
7. Withey, Henry F., and Withey, Elsie Rathburn. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased). (Los Angeles: New Age Publishing Co., 1956), p. 368.

Item number 10

Page 1

Main Street a distance of one hundred fifty (150) feet to a point running thence west on a line parallel to the north line of Lafayette Street a distance of two hundred ten (210) feet to a point; running thence south on a line parallel to the west line of Main Street a distance of one hundred fifty (150) feet to the north line of Lafayette Street; running thence east along the north line of Lafayette Street a distance of two hundred ten (210) feet to the point of beginning; and being a lot 150 feet by 210 feet in the southeast corner of said block 1 of Moore's Fourth Addition to said City of Charleston, Missouri, fronting on Main Street in said City.

Item number 11

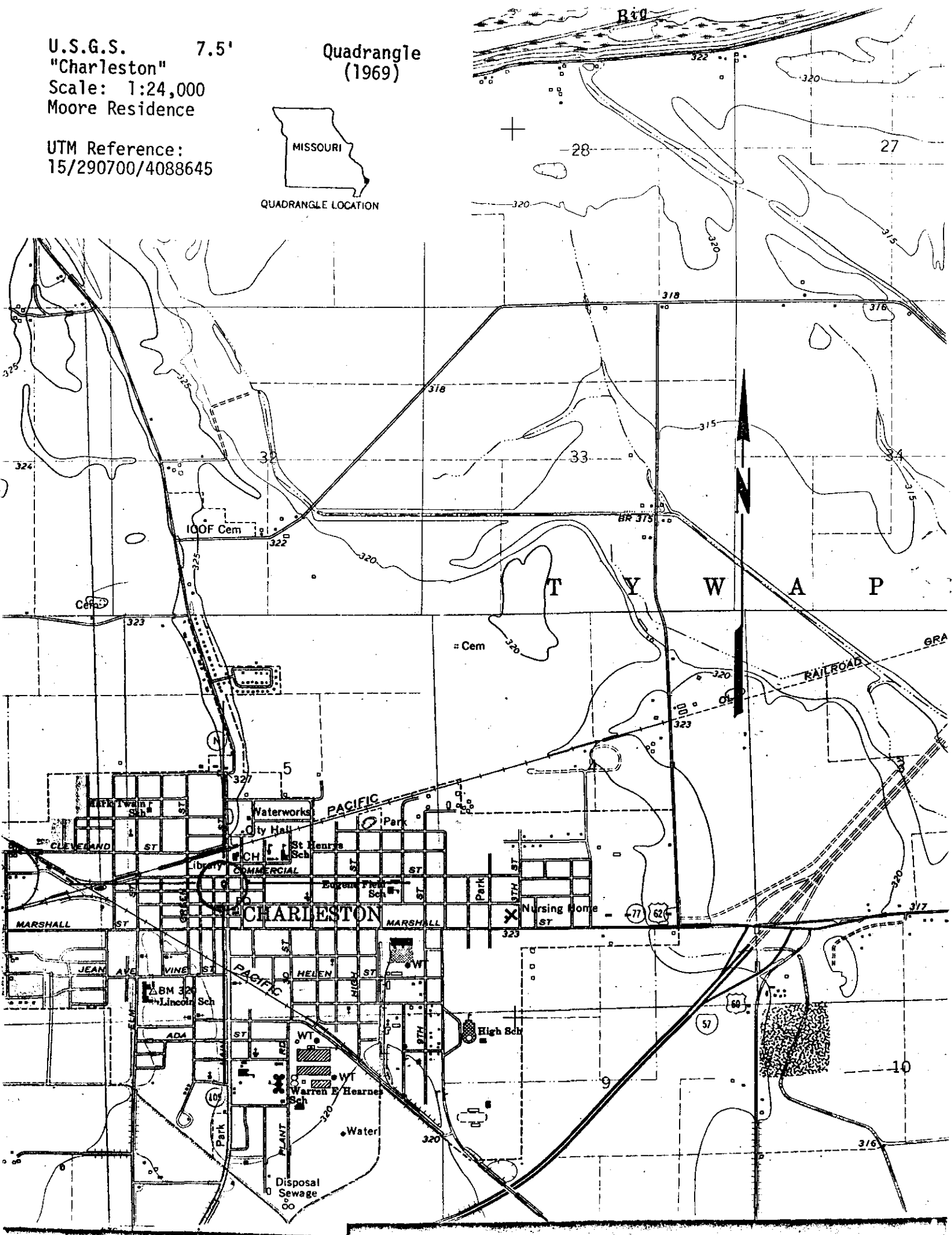
Page 1

2. Thomas Dwayne Byrd
Society of Architectural Historians
102 South Ingram
Sikeston
471-3731
Missouri 63801
3. Julia Warren
Mississippi County Historical Society
403 North Main
Charleston
Missouri 63834
4. Michele Roussel Wasson
Mississippi County Historical Society
403 North Main
Charleston
Missouri 63834
5. James M. Denny, Editor and State Contact Person
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City
314/751-4096
Missouri 65102

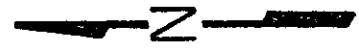
U.S.G.S. 7.5'
"Charleston"
Scale: 1:24,000
Moore Residence

Quadrangle
(1969)

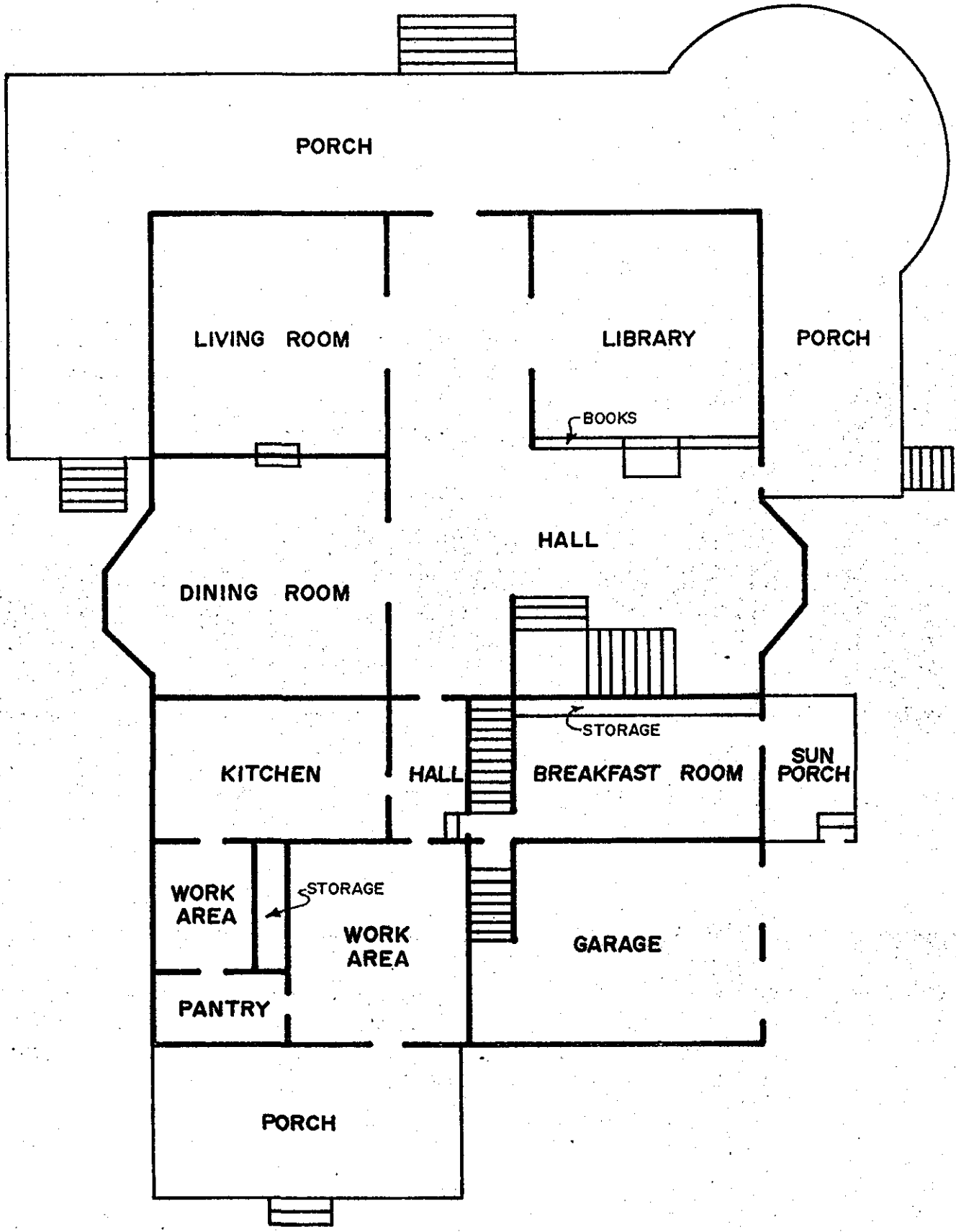
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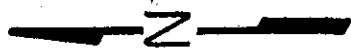
FIRST FLOOR PLAN
MOORE HOUSE
CHARLESTON, MISSOURI



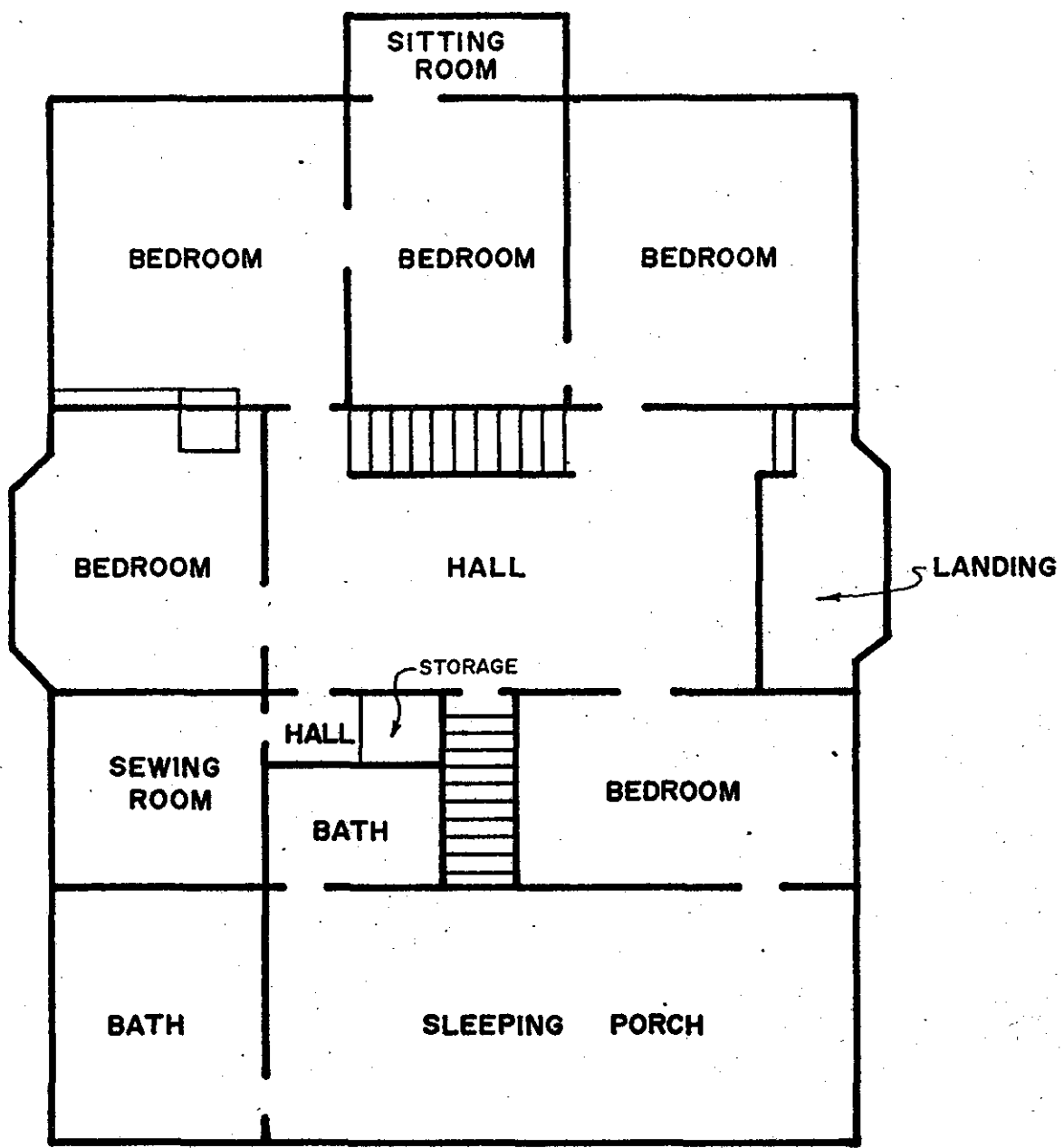
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SECOND FLOOR PLAN
MOORE HOUSE
CHARLESTON, MISSOURI



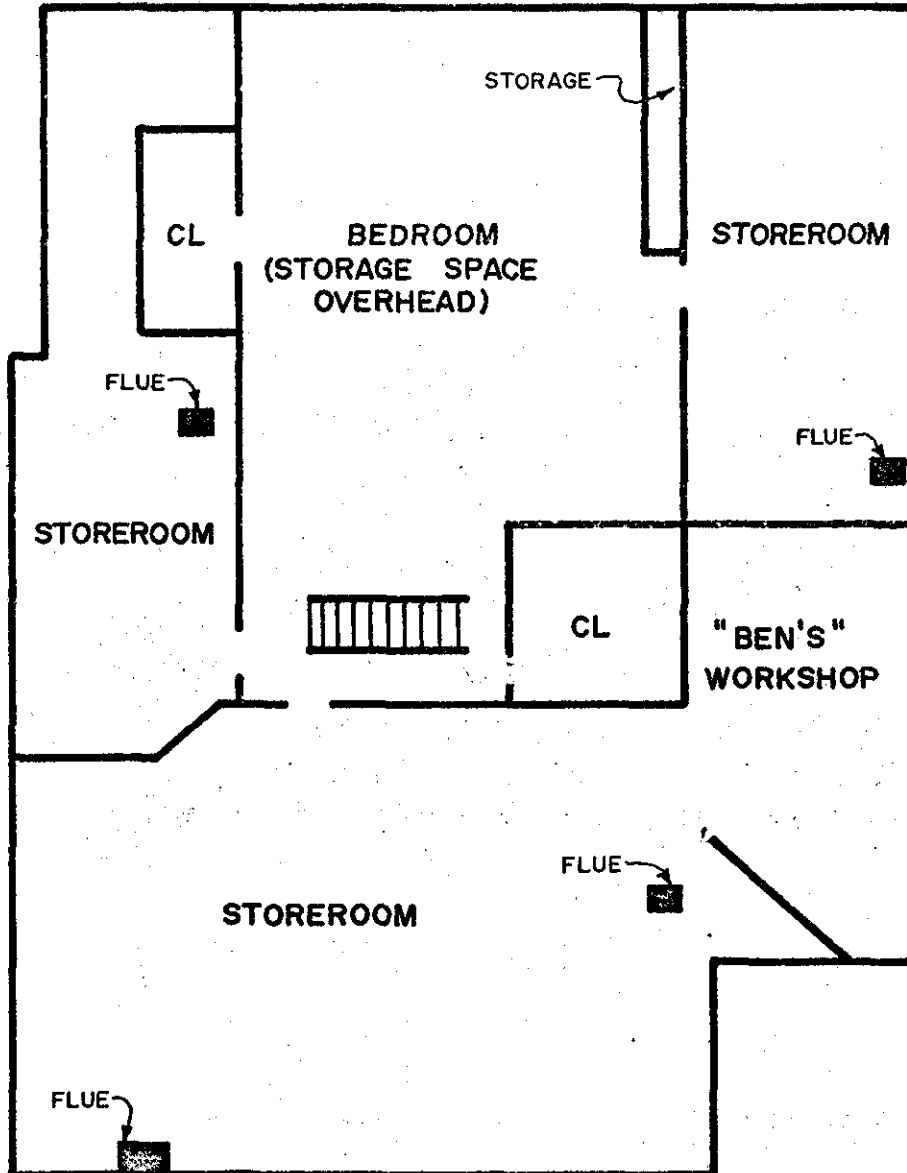
NOT TO SCALE



THIRD FLOOR PLAN
MOORE HOUSE
CHARLESTON, MISSOURI



NOT TO SCALE



JOSEPH H. MOORE HOUSE

COUNTY:

Mississippi

LOCATION:

Charleston

OWNER:

Mississippi County Historical Society
403 North Main Street, Charleston

ADDRESS:

DATE APPROVED BY A.C.:

July 20, 1979

DATE SENT TO D.C.:

DATE OF REC. IN D.C.:

DATE PLACED ON NATIONAL REGISTER:

DATE CERTIFICATE AWARDED
(AND PRESENTOR):

DATE FILE REVIEWED:

#

The Moore House at 401 North Main Street in Charleston is significant as a fine example of the Colonial Revival style of architecture, relatively rare in southeast Missouri, and is of local importance as the home of James Handy Moore, a leading citizen of early Charleston and a pioneer in the town's business and industry.

#1 of 5

MOORE HOUSE

403 N. Main Street
Charleston, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron
May 8, 1979

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

General view of primary facade from the east.



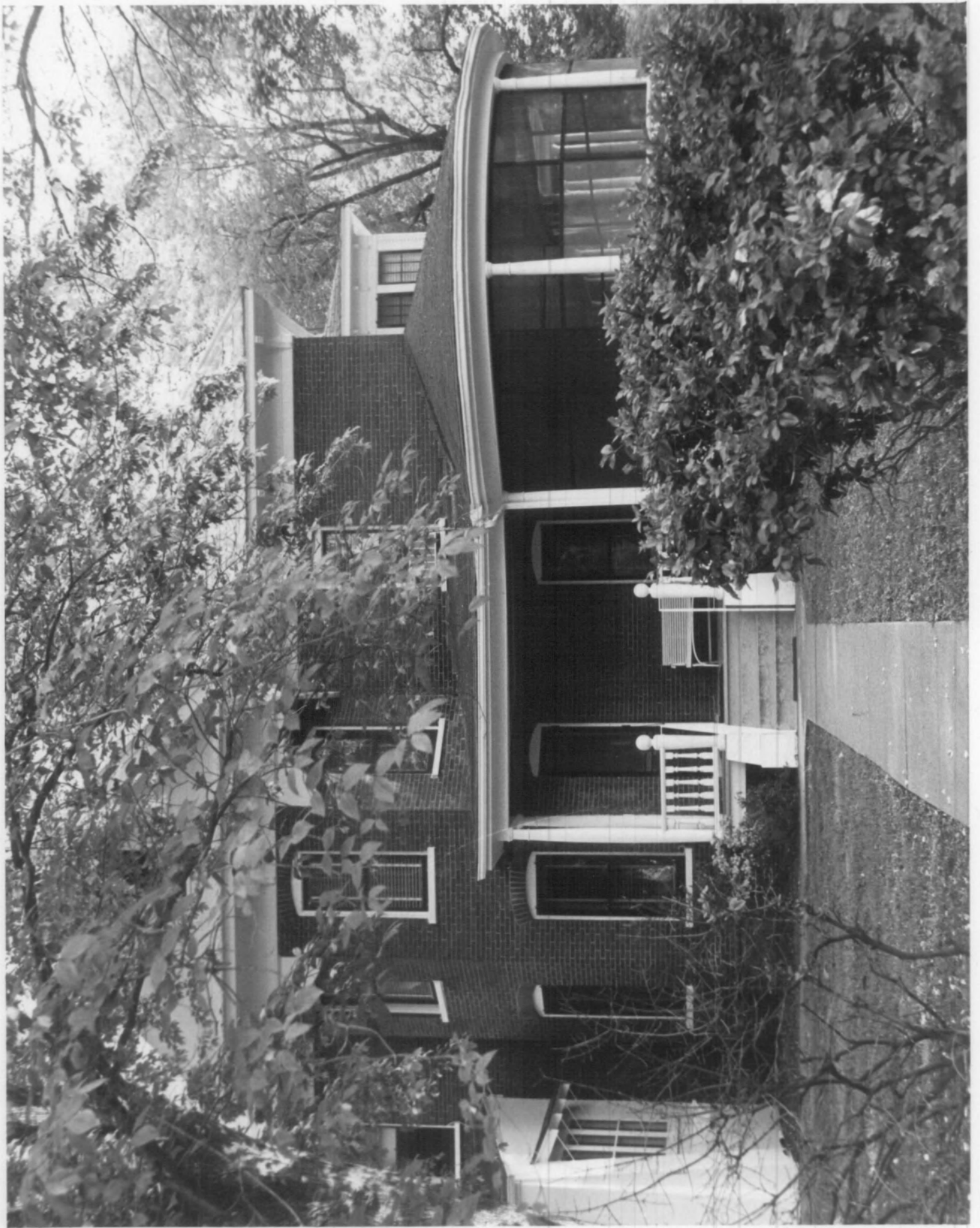
MOORE HOUSE #2 of 5

403 N. Main Street
Charleston, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron
May 8, 1979

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

General view from the south.



#3 of 5

MOORE HOUSE
403 N. Main Street
Charleston, Missouri
Photographer: Janice R. Cameron
May 8, 1979

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P.O. Box 176
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General view from the north.



#4 of 5

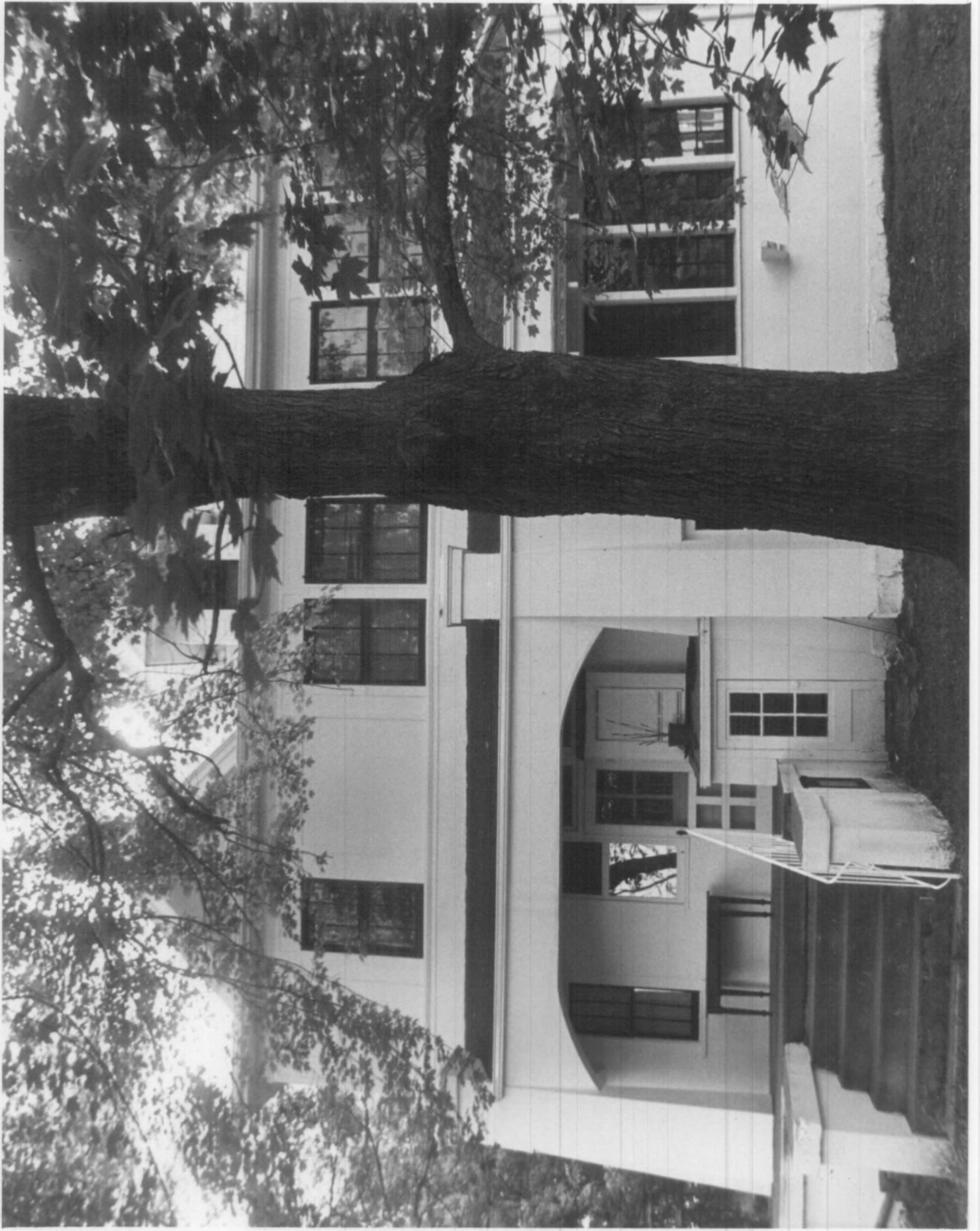
MOORE HOUSE

403 N. Main Street
Charleston, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron
May 8, 1979

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

General view from the west.



MOORE HOUSE #5 of 5
403 N. Main Street
Charleston, Missouri
Photographer: Art Wallhauser
Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Interior view of hall from the north.

