

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

For HCERS use only

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

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Old City Hall

and/or common Market House

2. Location

street & number 101 South Main Street not for publication

city, town St. Charles vicinity of _____ congressional district #9-Hon. Harold Volkmer

state Missouri code 029 county St. Charles code 183

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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: <u>library, archives</u>

4. Owner of Property

name City of St. Charles

street & number 200 North Second Street

city, town St. Charles vicinity of _____ state Missouri 63301

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc Office of Recorder of Deeds, St. Charles County Administration Building

street & number 118 North Second Street

city, town St. Charles state Missouri 63301

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title 1. Historic Sites of St. Charles County has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1976 federal state county local

depository for survey records St. Charles County Historical Society Archives

101 South Main Street

city, town St. Charles state Missouri 63301

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Old City Hall, facing east in the center of St. Charles, Missouri, is a two-story brick vernacular style building on a rockfaced ashlar foundation, with a full basement. First constructed in 1832 as a Market House, it underwent alteration in 1886, including the addition of a new primary facade, a new roof, and extensive interior modifications.

Present structure

All elevations possess a similar fenestration pattern: doublehung two-over-two light sashes under segmental arches of two header rows, trimmed with limestone lugsills. The primary facade presents a decorative modification of the basic window type. Flanking the center bay on both stories are paired one-over-one windows, each pair divided by a fluted wooden pier and topped with a transom (now closed). Arches on the facade have limestone keystones. Above the doubleleaf primary entrance with transom is a single one-over-one window with its segmental arch and skewbacks of limestone. The door itself is deeply recessed under a round arch.

The interior of the City Hall has been remodelled. On the first floor, a central hallway runs the length of the structure with various offices partitioned on either side. There is little original interior detail visible on this floor, as all rooms have been panelled. The 1886 C-shaped staircase of oak, with turned newel posts, leads to the floor above, which is comprised of two large rooms on the east and west. The latter retains its late nineteenth century woodwork. The full basement of the structure, once containing several cells when the building served as a police station, is now used only for storage.

Original structure

The two-story Market House measured 33' by 39'6", with a full basement, limestone foundation, brick walls 18" thick, and a low pitched hipped roof. According to a photograph taken about 1886, plain, regularly-spaced pilasters marked all facades, topped with capitals bearing a cornice and molding of brick. Second story, roundheaded windows were set under segmental arches and had limestone lugsills and six-over-six doublehung sashes, while those of the first story were rectangular and much smaller. The primary entrance was recessed under a semi-circular arch and a secondary entrance was located on the north facade. The primary facade displayed a notice board for advertisements and the public scales were located a few yards in front of the building.

Other than the presence of the central hallway, no details are known about the original interior floorplan or details.

1886 Alteration

About 1886 the building was remodelled to achieve a more fashionable effect, although the general architectural character of the Market House was retained and recreated in the additions to the structure. The primary facade was extended 19'3", and 17'3" was added to the rear of the building. The new design repeated the original window placement, heavy pilasters and roundarched entry, but added a certain distinction with a new dentilled cornice with rows of brick dentils below, and a new Mansard slate roof. Two new chimneys with decorated caps appeared on each secondary facade. The secondary entrance was changed to a window and the smaller, first story windows enlarged to match those of the second story. All sashes were replaced with one-over-one light sashes and the interior of the building was completely redecorated.

Later alterations

In 1913 a boiler and fuel room was excavated at the new west end and the four chimneys

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1832 and 1886 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Old City Hall of St. Charles, Missouri, is a significant example of nineteenth century vernacular public architecture. Its importance lies also in its long relationship to the civic and commercial life of the city of St. Charles: its construction as a Market House; its service as a meetingplace for the community and as St. Charles' first City Hall; and its present function as the home of the St. Charles County Historical Society.

In the early 1800's, Town Block #31 was an original land grant to Antoine Reynal, Sr.¹ In 1832, his son sold the land to William G. Pettus, who had served as Secretary of State in Missouri while St. Charles was its capital.² A few months later, Pettus deeded a portion of the lot to the town,³ which immediately erected upon it the present building, a Market House.⁴ Designed in a vernacular style, the square, two-story brick building had a low hipped roof, facades articulated with heavy pilasters, cornice and molding, and a roundarched entrance.

In addition to its primary function as a place for farmers and merchants of St. Charles to display their goods, the Market House became a general meetingplace for the town and played an important role in its early government.⁵ The St. Charles Board of Trustees who governed St. Charles while it was classed as a village (1809-1849), held their meetings in the structure.⁶

In March of 1849, St. Charles was incorporated as a city, but the offices of the city remained in the Market House.⁷ Towards the end of the century, a new and more impressive building for the government was desired by the townspeople to reflect the city's increasing size and importance. While other early structures were demolished to make way for the new, St. Charles citizens retained their old Market House and built additions to the front and rear instead, in a style that was sensitive to the building's original architectural forms, but providing a more fashionable and imposing look. The building, formally opened that year as the new City Hall,⁸ had, like the old Market House, heavy pilasters and a roundarched entrance, but displayed as well a dentilled frieze and detailed fenestration on its primary facade. A new Mansard roof replaced the old hip roof. The process was a successful alteration of an older structure, intended to unite it with the modern buildings which surrounded it, to produce a uniform streetscape for the developing town.

The City Hall served St. Charles' government until 1976 when a new City Hall was built. It then became the city's police facility until 1979 when a new Police Station was completed. Left vacant, it was leased by the city to the St. Charles County Historical Society for its museum, archives and library.⁹

FOOTNOTES

1. Deed Book K, p. 16. Office of Recorder of Deeds, St. Charles County Administration Building, St. Charles, Missouri.

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Continuation sheet

OLD CITY HALL
Item number 6

Page 1

2. Missouri Historic Sites Survey
1980
Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City

state

Missouri 65102

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were removed. Two years later, a concrete vault was constructed on each floor and a concrete supporting pillar built in the original basement. Two large windows were cut into the fabric of the west facade. In an effort to preserve the brick, the building was painted white, but the process succeeded in obscuring the contrasting limestone details of the primary facade. The dentilled cornice was also removed and replaced, although the brick dentils below it remained. The roof was covered with asphalt shingles.

Site

The City Hall is located in a commercial area on St. Charles' Riverside Mall, surrounded by other large public buildings. It is one block north of the South Main Historical District of St. Charles.

Present status

The City Hall is leased from St. Charles City by the St. Charles County Historical Society, who hope to purchase it sometime in the future. At present, the archives and library of the society are located on the second floor. They plan to restore the structure to its 1886 appearance, and utilize the first floor for offices and a county museum.

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2. Deed Book I-J, p. 86. Office of Recorder of Deeds, St. Charles County Administration Building, St. Charles, Missouri. St. Charles served as the capital of Missouri from the time it was admitted to the Union on August 10, 1821, until 1826. See: Malcolm C. Drummond, Historic Sites in St. Charles County, Missouri (St. Charles: Harland Bartholomew and Associates, 1976), p. 18.
3. Deed Book K, p. 15. Office of Recorder of Deeds, St. Charles County Administration Building, St. Charles, Missouri.
4. The building was finished by December of 1832, for a deed for another portion of Block #31 between Pettus and the city of St. Charles listed as its north boundary a "lot owned by the inhabitants of St. Charles on which is erected a Market House." Deed Book I-J, p. 155.
5. Edna McElhiney Olson, Historic St. Charles, Missouri, (St. Charles: St. Charles County Historical Society, 1967), p. 27.
6. Historical Program Book, St. Charles Missouri: Bicentennial, 1769-1969 (St. Charles: St. Charles County Historical Society, 1969), p. 55.
7. George Feltz, Museum Director, St. Charles County Historical Society, personal interview, June 9, 1980.
8. Historical Program Book, p. 55.
9. Feltz, personal interview.

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OLD CITY HALL

Continuation sheet

Item number 9

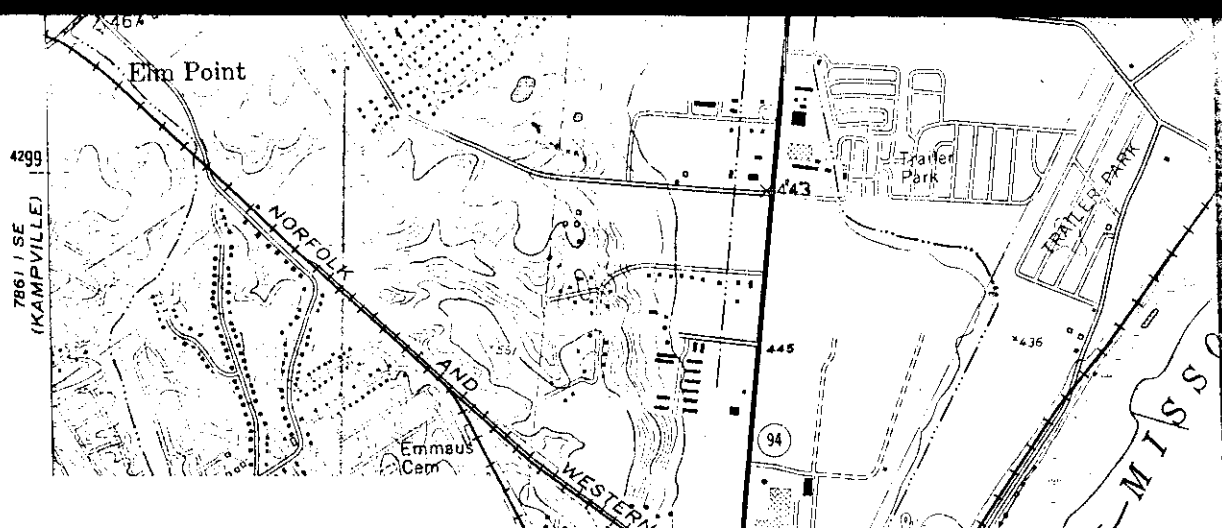
Page 1

3. Drummond, Malcolm C. Historic Sites in St. Charles County, Missouri. St. Charles: Harland Bartholomew and Associates, 1976.
4. Feltz, George. Museum Director, St. Charles County Historical Society. Personal interview, June 9, 1980.
5. Historical Program Book, St. Charles, Missouri: Bicentennial, 1769-1969. St. Charles: St. Charles County Historical Society, 1969.
6. Olson, Edna McElhiney. Historic St. Charles, Missouri. St. Charles: St. Charles Historical Society, 1967.

ITEM NUMBER 11

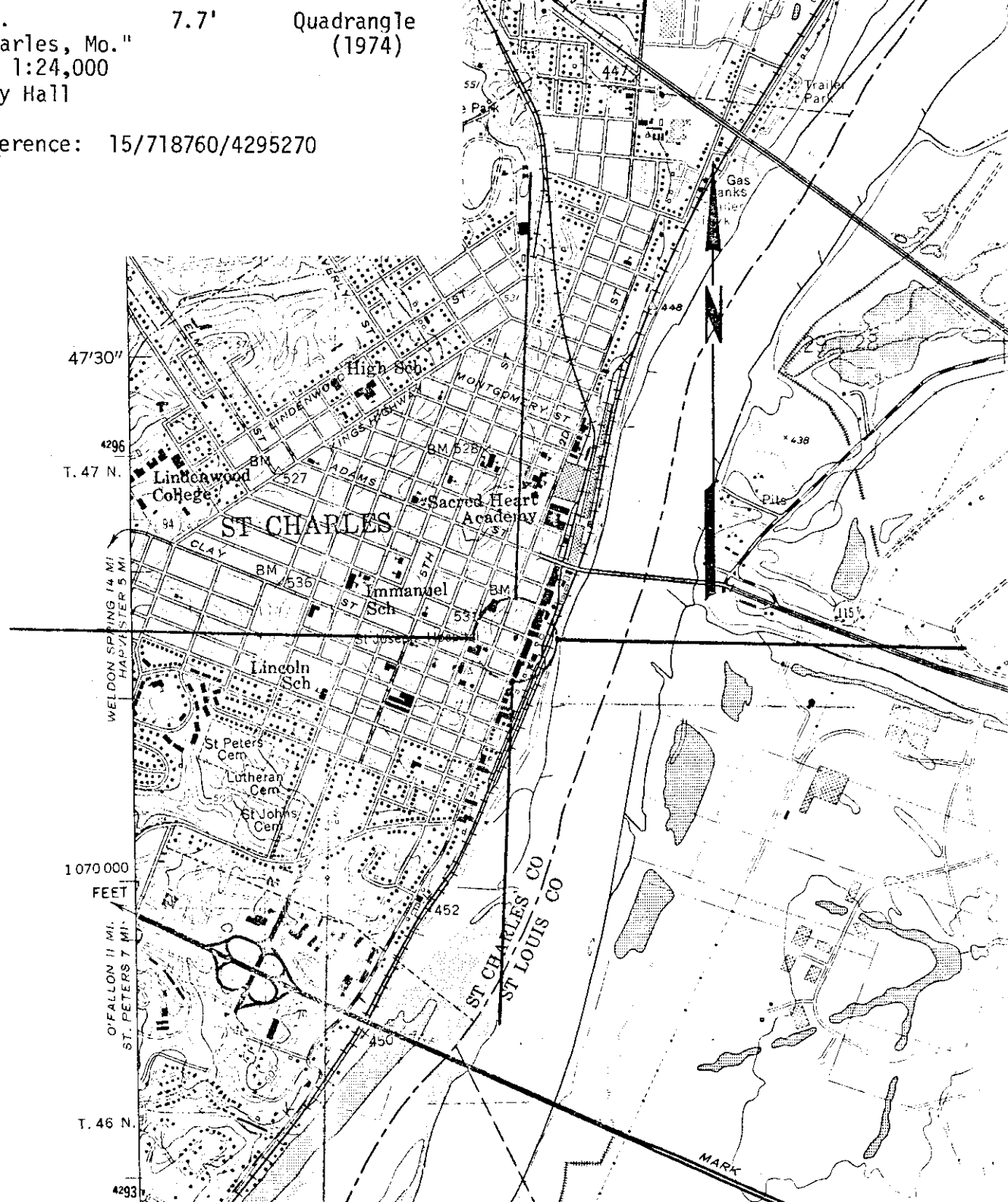
PAGE 1

2. George Feltz, Museum Director
St. Charles County Historical Society
101 South Main Street
St. Charles
January 1980
314/724-7265
Missouri 63301
3. Mary Lichliter, First Vice-President
St. Charles County Historical Society
715 Tompkins Street
St. Charles
January 1980
314/724-9505
Missouri 63301
4. James M. Denny, Section Chief, Nominations-Survey
and State Contact Person
Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City
July 8, 1980
314/751-4096
Missouri 65102



U.S.G.S. 7.7' Quadrangle
 "St. Charles, Mo." (1974)
 Scale: 1:24,000
 Old City Hall

UTM Reference: 15/718760/4295270



OLD CITY HALL #1 of 6

St. Charles, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron

June 9, 1980

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources

P.O. Box 176

Jefferson City, MO 65102

View of primary facade from the east.



OLD CITY HALL #2 of 6

St. Charles, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron

June 9, 1980

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources

P.O. Box 176

Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Exterior view from the northeast.

Ryne Stiegemeier
PHOTO: ST. CHARLES, MO



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OLD CITY HALL

St. Charles, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron

June 9, 1980

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources

P.O. Box 176

Jefferson City MO 65102

Exterior view from the southwest.



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OLD CITY HALL

St. Charles, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron

June 9, 1980

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources

P.O. Box 176

Jefferson City, MO 65102

Exterior view from the west.



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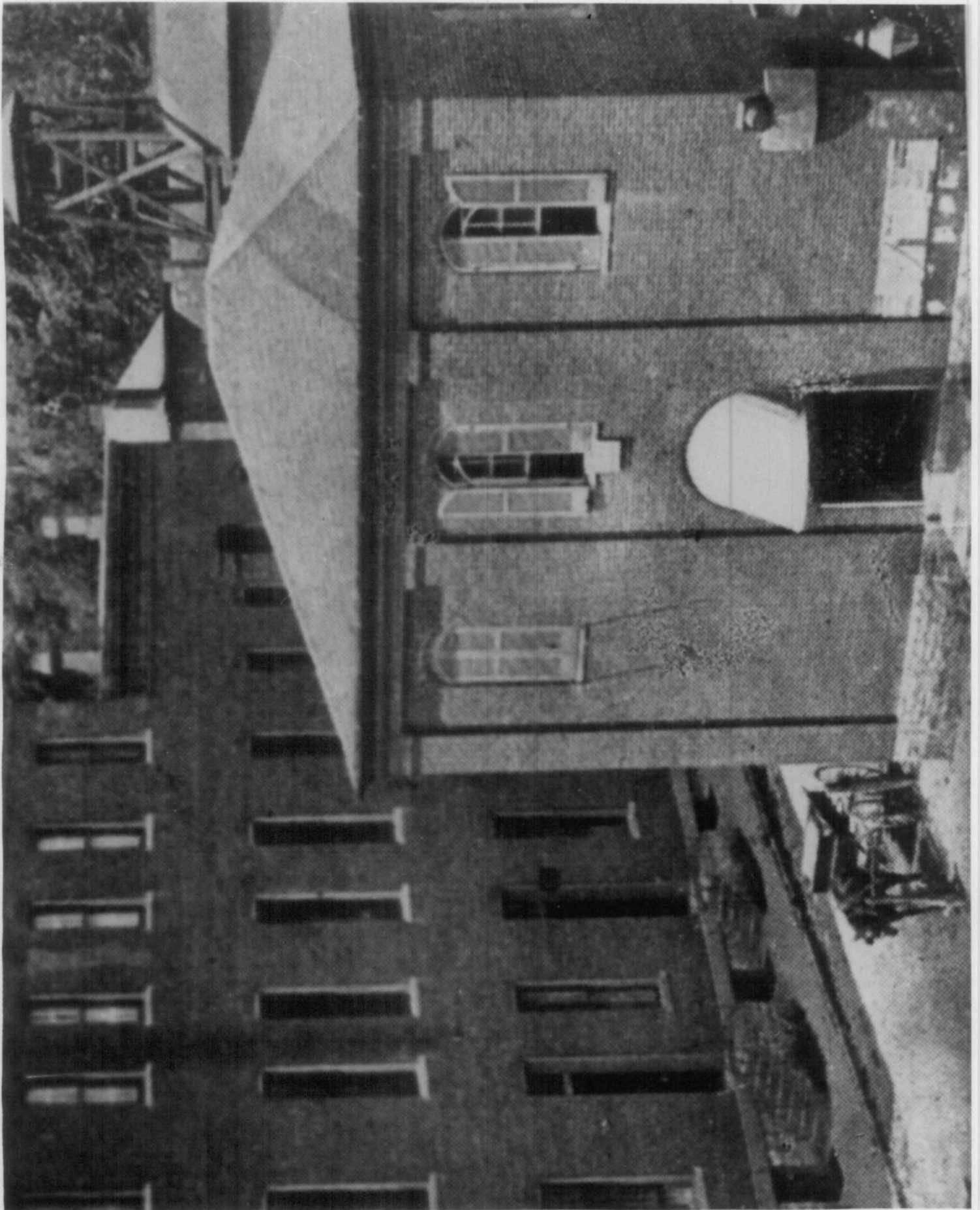
OLD CITY HALL
St. Charles, Missouri

Photographer: unknown
ca. 1886

Neg. Loc.: St. Charles County Historical
Society Archives
101 S. Main, St. Charles, MO

Photo shows original Market House, as it
appeared before 1886 remodelling.

Kyne *Stiegemeter*
PHOTO: ST. CHARLES, MO

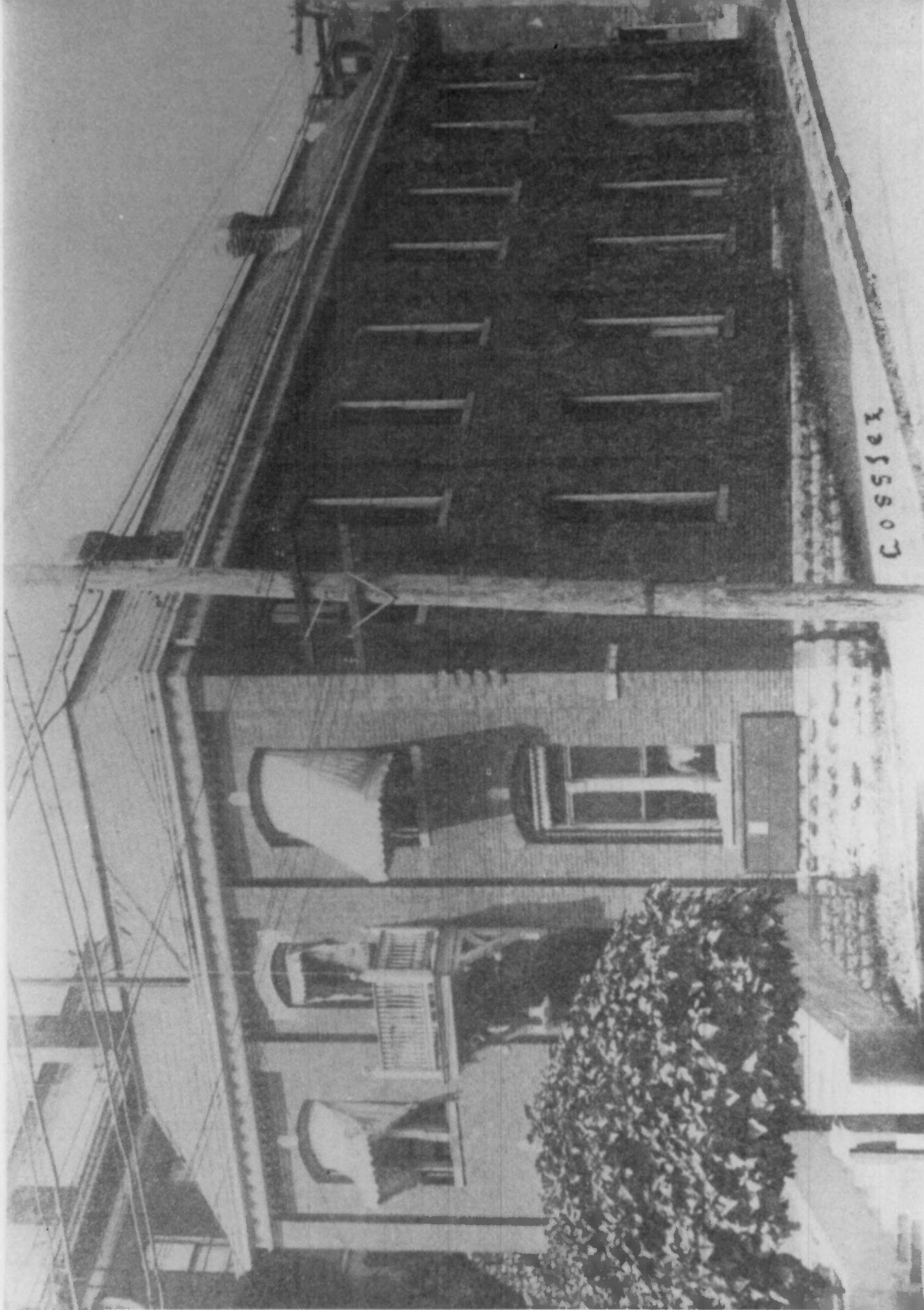


#6 of 6

OLD CITY HALL
St. Charles, Missouri
Photographer: unknown
ca. 1900

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

City Hall after remodelling with front and
rear additions. Reproduced: Drummond, Malcolm.
Historic Sites in St. Charles Co., Missouri.



Cossler

EXTRA
PHOTOS

