

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name St. Louis Colored Orphans Home

other names/site number Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center

2. Location

street & number 2612 Annie Malone Drive [n/a] not for publication

city or town St. Louis [n/a] vicinity

state Missouri code MO county St. Louis [Independent City] code 510 zip code 63113

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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 [].)

Signature of certifying official/Title Claire F. Blackwell/Deputy SHPO

Date 12 August 1999

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

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date

- 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
See continuation sheet [].

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	1	0
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	0	0
		1	0

Name of related multiple property listing.

Historic and Architectural Resources of the
Ville, St. Louis

Number of contributing resources
previously listed in the National
Register.

n/a

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

Domestic/institutional housing

Current Functions

Domestic/institutional housing

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Colonial Revival

Materials

foundation brick

walls brick

roof slate

other limestone

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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.

Areas of Significance

Ethnic Heritage--Black

Architecture

Periods of Significance

1922-1949

Significant Dates

1922

Significant Person(s)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Ittner, William Butts/Woermann Construction Company

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographic References

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: Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

A. Zone	Easting	Northing	B. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	740470	4282590			
C. Zone	Easting	Northing	D. Zone	Easting	Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title see continuation sheet

organization _____ date _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Additional Documentation

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)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center

street & number 2612 Annie Malone Drive telephone 314/531-0120

city or town St. Louis state MO zip code 63113

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

**St. Louis Colored Orphans Home
St. Louis [Independent City], MO
Historic and Architectural Resources of the Ville, St. Louis**

Summary: The St. Louis Colored Orphans Home (currently the Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center), 2612 Annie Malone Drive, St. Louis, is a Colonial Revival style dormitory/classroom building representing the Institutional Buildings property type in the *Historic and Architectural Resources of the Ville, St. Louis* multiple property submission. The red brick building consists of a three-story, three-section features paired chimneys at either end gable and a two-story wings. The projecting center with limestone coping. Like the center block, the dormered wings are side-gabled with the building is sited several feet above grade on a spacious lot adjoining the National Register-listed Homer G. Phillips Hospital (NRHP 1982) in the residential neighborhood in northwest St. Louis known as the Ville. Although designed to house a large number of residences; it nevertheless holds its own against the backdrop of the much larger Phillips Hospital complex. The building is in very good condition and retains a high degree of integrity, remaining very much as built.

Narrative: Three-flat-roofed dormer windows overlook the building's most prominent feature, a flat-roofed portico, which is supported by paneled pilasters on the building and groups of square, paneled columns around its perimeter. Above, a nonoriginal, double doorway (with new doors), which is topped by a curvilinear leaded-glass transom. Fenestration is regular, with dormers punctuating the roofline of both wings and center block; these have six-over-six double-hung wood sash. First-floor windows are twelve over sixteen, double hung wood sash with limestone sills and jack arches with limestone keystone. In the gable ends, second-story full length windows open onto narrow iron balconies; below are two windows matching those found on the primary elevation. A limestone water table encircles the building above the brick foundation.

The basement windows below are infilled with glass brick which are not original. The building's simple, elegant style belies its utilitarian function. Originally, solid (probably masonry) blocks were interspersed every few feet with a short, radial-design iron railing on the roof of the portico. That change, along with the replacement front doors, seems to be the extent of the alterations to the the building's primary facade (see 1925 photo reproduction.)

The simple interior of the building was intended primarily to be a serviceable and fireproof dormitory to house children (today some 50 children normally stay at the Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center at any given time.) The tile-over-concrete floors have been mostly covered with carpeting on the first floor, but remain bare upstairs in the sleeping quarters. Wall and ceilings are plaster with painted wood baseboards; dropped acoustical ceilings have been fairly well maintained; changes made to the interior are primarily in the form of dropped ceilings and room partitions.

The lawn of the building has been partially set up with playground equipment; these items are on the south side and rear (east) side of the building and do not interfere with the view of the building from the street. The front and north side lawns are well manicured and provide an appropriate setting for the building.

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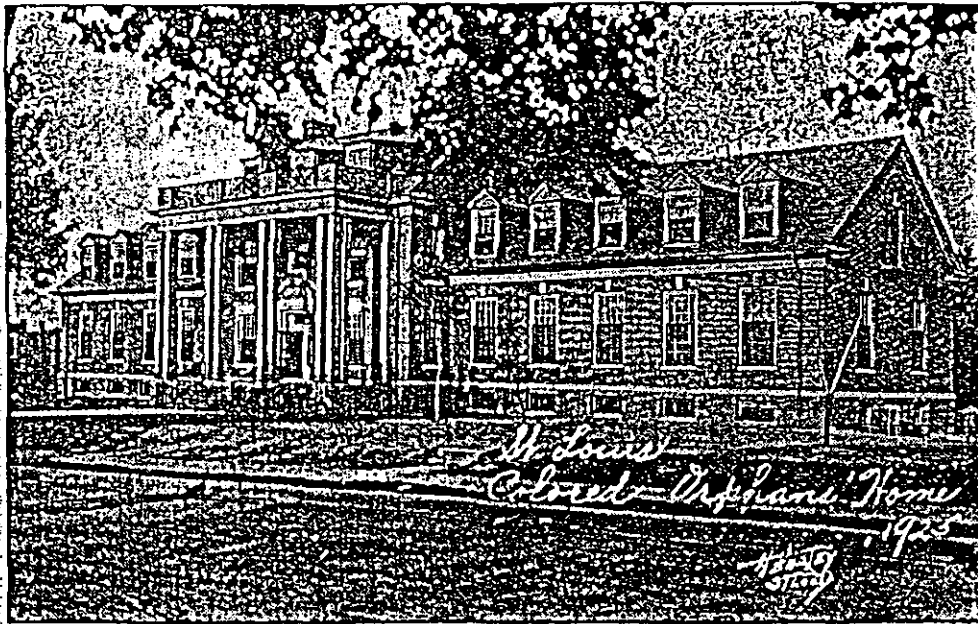
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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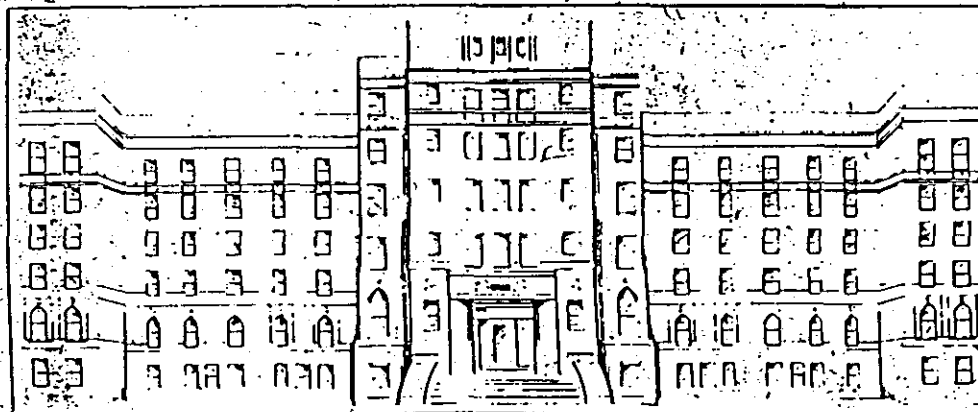
**St. Louis Colored Orphans Home
St. Louis [Independent City], MO
Historic and Architectural Resources of the Ville, St. Louis**

St. Louis Colored Orphans Home, 1925. Source:
North Side Journal, Supplement, May 19, 1988.

19
MAY 19, 1988—SUPPLEMENT TO THE NORTH SIDE JOURNAL



The St. Louis Colored Orphans' Home, forerunner of The Annie Malone Children's Home



The former Homer G. Phillips student nurse residence is the proposed site of the home's expansion project

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Section 8 Page 3

St.. Louis Colored Orphans Home
St.. Louis [Independent City], MO
Historic and Architectural Resources of the Ville, St.. Louis

Summary: The St. Louis Colored Orphans Home, 2612 Annie Malone Drive, St. Louis, is significant under Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage--Black and under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Its period of significance is 1922-1947, spanning from the date of construction to the dawn of the 50-year period after which exceptional significance must be proven. Originally designated the St. Louis Colored Orphans Home and known since 1946 as the Annie Malone Home, the institution has played an important role for St. Louis' entire African-American community within and beyond the Ville (see associated context "The Ville as a Center for Black Culture, 1910-1950"). The home was designed by nationally-known St. Louis architect William Butts Ittner some years after his tenure as the first Commissioner of St. Louis School Buildings and is an example of his skill in creating a successful institutional design that would definitely fit into a residential neighborhood without jarring effect.

Narrative: On February 23, 1887 a group of women from the Women's Christian Temperance Association resolved to form an association to address the plight of black orphans in the city of St. Louis. One of the members, Mrs. Julia Casey, summarized the group's purpose: "We should by all means look into conditions of the Colored orphans of the city. Do, ladies, take some action- don't pass over the matter lightly. It is our duty to act. . . . We have left it to others long enough." Investigations revealed that black orphans were usually relegated to poorhouses and often were forced to work for a living from an early age.

Although the group enjoyed the sponsorship of the Christian Temperance Union, its decision to establish the city's first home for black orphans necessitated a separate incorporation. In 1888, the St. Louis Colored Orphans Home was founded with Mrs. Sarah Newton Cohran as president. Mrs. Cohran, the wife of a Baptist minister, had been the widow of Charles Newton, one of the first black school administrators in the city of St. Louis. According to the official history of the Annie Malone Children's Home, Mrs. Cohran used her influence with the president of Boatmen's Bank to transfer the ownership of the Negro Civil War Veterans Home to the new St. Colored Orphan's Home. Located at 1247 N. Twelfth Street and now demolished, the Home remained in that location until 1901, when a house at 4316 Natural Bridge was purchased with the help of private investors. The Home's new location in a semi-rural part of the city came with additional acreage and two cows. By 1919, however, urban life had surrounded the property and the house, which had been condemned by the city. According to a 1968 article in the Globe-Democrat, it was at this time that the home began experiencing financial difficulties. The entrepreneurial success of one woman helped bring new life to the home.

There are few details on the early life of Annie M. Malone. Born in 1869 in Metropolis, Illinois, she began a cosmetics business for black women out of a small house in Lovejoy, Illinois, in 1900. Early success prompted a short move across the Mississippi River to St. Louis in 1902, where she purchased a home at 2223 Market Street (now razed) in the Mill Creek Valley area, an early alighting place for new black arrivals to the city with its own "Negro Business District." Shrewdly marketing her products during the 1904 World's Fair brought Malone even more success as well as the opportunity to expand her line. Malone called her hair and beauty products the "Poor System." She not only marketed the line as a whole, but also franchised the selling of her products to trained representatives.

Malone's decision in 1918 to move her cosmetics company to the area known as the Ville was a calculated move to take advantage of the growth in what was becoming a middle-class black enclave in

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**St.. Louis Colored Orphans Home
St.. Louis [Independent City], MO
Historic and Architectural Resources of the Ville, St.. Louis**

north St. Louis. After construction of a building (now demolished) for her Poor College at the corner of St. Ferdinand and Pendleton Avenues, where black women could take beauty and cosmetics classes, Malone turned her attention to civic concerns in her new neighborhood.¹ The plight of the Colored Orphans Home attracted her attention, and in 1919 she became President of the Board, a position she would hold until 1943. Malone, on her way to becoming one of the few self-made women millionaires in the history of the city, donated \$10,000 toward the purchase of land on Goode Avenue in the Ville.² In 1946, the Home was named after Mrs. Malone in gratitude for her years of service and support.

On May 1, 1922, the new St. Louis Colored Orphans Home was dedicated, providing care for thirty-five children between the ages of five and fourteen. By 1926, a daily average of 65 children were receiving services from the home.³ By 1938, the number of children served has risen to 232⁴, it declined to 190 children in 1941.⁵

The Home no longer has its records from the historic period, but it is clear from oral history and newspaper accounts that the significance of the institution goes beyond just the number of children served. The Colored Orphans' Home was a source of pride and a rallying point for the local community. The annual May Day Parade has been described as a "grand occasion where (black) people all over St. Louis had an annual get together. It was a matter of pride. It was one of the most outstanding social events of the black calendar."⁶ May Day celebration on May 15, 1921, was characterized by the Argus as

¹Until 1930, Poro College was from all reports the heart of the social scene in the Ville. In addition to cosmetology classes, Mrs. Malone sponsored entertainments of all kinds, including parties, lectures, plays and concerts by touring black entertainers of the day, including such people as Ethel Waters. The building housed an auditorium, post office branch, headquarters of the National Negro Business League and, after the 1927 tornado, one of the principal relief units of the American Red Cross. In 1930, Mrs. Malone moved her operation to Chicago. Her leaving was the cause for such a feeling of loss among residents that they were still commenting on it in oral history interviews with local college students in the mid 1970s. (Tapes available at the libraries of Washington University and University of Missouri, St. Louis.)

²Goode Avenue became Annie Malone Drive in the 1990's.

³"St. Louis Colored Orphans Home presents Roland Hayes" souvenir program. 1926, St. Louis Public Library Local History File(Orphans' Homes-Colored.).

⁴"Orphans Home Elects Officers," St. Louis Argus 20 January 1939, p.2

⁵75th anniversary jubilee souvenir program, 1963(?). University of Missouri Western Historical Manuscript Collection.

⁶75th anniversary jubilee souvenir program, 1963(?). University of Missouri Western Historical Manuscript Collection.

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St. Louis Colored Orphans Home
St. Louis [Independent City], MO
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"one of the largest gatherings of Negroes in the city of St. Louis."⁷ The *St. Louis Argus* reported that 3,000 people participated in the 1940 parade, with another 12,000 in attendance as spectators.⁸ The yearly coverage in the *Argus* typically beamed with pride about the fine social occasion, the hard work of the organizers, and the benefit to the Colored Orphans Home. The celebration, which still draws thousands of people annually, has always been a major source of income for the Annie Malone Children's Home.

According to newspaper accounts in the *St. Louis Argus*, Christmas was also a major occasion for the community to show support. Annual events in the late 1930's included a party given by Stowe Teachers College's chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, and another party for the children by the Kossuth Avenue Mission. In 1938 and 1939 the *Argus* reported that a number of other community groups, including the Girl Scouts, Brownies, the University City Chauffeur's Club and the Community School on DeMunn [sic] Avenue, pitched in with parties and gifts for the orphans.⁹

The need for "orphan asylums" is not as great in the 1990's as it was in 1887, and the Center has made the transition to meet present needs. Today, the Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center is primarily a shelter for children who need a temporary home and a counseling center for families in crisis. The Annie Malone Center has an impressive track record of high school and college graduates. Residents, both permanent and transient, are encouraged to embrace high moral and academic standards; counseling is available around the clock. Most of the residents today are young victims temporarily removed from abusive homes. In as homelike an atmosphere as possible, the children are given the tools and encouragement to resist gang and drug involvement and to live as normal lives as possible under the circumstances. The staff and administration work diligently to provide excellent role models for their young charges. The recent purchase and renovation of the former Homer G. Phillips Nursing School (adjoining the Malone property on the south) has allowed the Center to expand its services and residential capacity. A United Way agency and supported by the greater St. Louis community, the Center is in a strong position to begin its second century of service to the black youth of St. Louis. The oldest institution of its kind in St. Louis, the Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center remains an important part of the Ville's heritage and economy and a complement to its close-knit ensemble and churches.

Architecture

The St. Louis Colored Orphans Home, in addition to its significance as one of the most cherished

⁷"Orphan Home Day is Sunday, May 15," *St. Louis Argus*, May 6, 1921, p. 1. Quotation from masters thesis by Amy Rhodes Montjoy (not found in any collections) given in "Children's Home is Proud Symbol of What People Can Do for Themselves," *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, May 24, 1968, section B, p. unknown.

⁸"Thousands Aid Orphans Home Day," *St. Louis Argus*, 31 May 1940, p. 1.

⁹"Orphan's Home Christmas Programme," *St. Louis Argus*, 16 December 1938, p. 3; "Orphan's Home Xmas," *St. Louis Argus*, 22 December 1939, p. 14.

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**St.. Louis Colored Orphans Home
St.. Louis [Independent City], MO
Historic and Architectural Resources of the Ville, St.. Louis**

institutional buildings in the Ville, is also significant as an interesting and somewhat uncharacteristic work by one of the city's acknowledged architectural masters. After William B. Ittner's employment by the St. Louis Board of Education,¹⁰ he went on to design a number of schools for communities in St. Louis County and around the country. Widely known as an innovative architect in the field of school design, Ittner was a logical choice as someone who could produce a successful institutional plan and who was already familiar with St. Louis and its resources. Perhaps nearly as important, he was also a canny architect who knew how to design a budget without cutting the quality of the finished product. The building permit was taken out on March 27, 1922, for a "First Class Orphan Home" to be built at a cost of \$60,000. Woermann Construction Company was hired to build the Home, which was to be a fireproof building heated with steam and hot water. \$60,000 was quite a small sum of money for someone used to spending easily three times that amount for a public school of similar size, yet Ittner was equal to the task.

Always partial to Revival styles, Ittner chose the simple but elegant Colonial Revival style to project an image of welcoming stability, imposing and stately yet residential. The shorter, dormered wings are especially effective in this neighborhood of mostly two-story homes, tempering the effect of the impressive central block while providing much-needed light and air to the dormitory rooms (originally not air conditioned). The highly intact building is in a prominent location facing the Tandy Recreation Center, the only building on its city block not a part of the Homer G. Phillips Hospital complex.

¹⁰See "St. Louis, Missouri, Public Schools of William B. Ittner" MPS, 1990.

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**St. Louis Colored Orphans Home
St. Louis [Independent City], MO
Historic and Architectural Resources of the Ville, St. Louis**

9. Major Bibliographic Sources

- Annie Malone Children's Home 75th anniversary jubilee souvenir program, 1963 (?). University of Missouri Western Historical Manuscript Collection.
- Boris, Joseph J. Ed. Who's Who in Colored America. 2nd ed. New York: Who's Who in Colored America Corp. 1928(1929).
- "Children's Home is Proud Symbol of What People Can Do For Themselves." St. Louis Globe-Democrat, May 24, 1968. Section B. p. ?
- Longwisch, Cynthia Hill; and Steven E. Mitchell. St. Louis, Missouri Public Schools of William B. Ittner MPS. 1990.
- "Orphan Home Day is Sunday, May 15," St. Louis Argus, May 6, 1921, p. 1
- "St. Louis Colored Orphans' Home Presents Roland Hayes" souvenir program. 1926. St. Louis Public Library Local History File (Orphans' Homes - Colored).
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of St. Louis, v. 7, for 1909, 1951, 1961. Sanborn Fire Insurance Company.
- Toft, Carolyn Hewes, ed. The Ville: The Ethnic Heritage of Urban Neighborhood. St. Louis: Social Science Institute, Washington University, 1975.
- Wright, John A. Discovering African American St. Louis: A Guide to Historic Sites. St. Louis; Missouri Historical Society Press, 1994.

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description: Lots 1-11 in Block 7, Wash Place Addition, located in City Block 3675 in the City of St. Louis, measuring 279' x 130'.

Boundary Justification: These boundaries include the historic St. Louis Colored Orphans Home building and its surrounding lot; eastern and southern lot lines adjoin the Homer G. Phillips Hospital lot.

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**St. Louis Colored Orphans Home
St. Louis [Independent City], MO
Historic and Architectural Resources of the Ville, St. Louis**

1. Cynthia Hill Longwisch, Assistant Director; and Lynn Josse and John Saunders, Research Associates
Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc.
917 Locust Street, 7th Floor
St. Louis MO 63101
314/421-6474
October 1997
original draft nomination, items 1-11

2. Steven E. Mitchell
Assistant Director
Historic Preservation Program
Division of State Parks
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102
573/751-4692
August 1999
editor, items 1-11

HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES OF THE VINE, ST LOUIS
(INDEP. CITY)

ST. LOUIS DOLORED BARTMAN'S HOME

(ANNIE MALONE CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES CENTER)

2012 ANNIE MALONE DRIVE

ST. LOUIS (INDEPENDENT CITY) MO

BY CYNTHIA LONGWISCH

DATE: 12/1996

NEG: LANDMARKS ASSOC. OF ST LOUIS, INC

FACING EAST

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HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES OF THE VILLIE,

ST. LOUIS (INDEPENDENT CITY) MO

ST. LOUIS COLORED ORPHANS HOME

(ANNIE MALONE CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICE CENTER)

2612 ANNIE MALONE DRIVE

ST. LOUIS (INDEPENDENT CITY) MO

BY: CYNTHIA LONGWISCH

DATE: 9/1997

NEG: LANDMARKS ASSOC. OF ST. LOUIS, INC.

FACING: S/SE

#2 of 3



HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES OF THE VILLAGE,
ST. LOUIS (INDEPENDENT CITY)

ST. LOUIS COLORED ORPHANS HOME

(ANNIE MALONE CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICE CENTER)

2612 ANNIE MALONE DRIVE

ST. LOUIS (INDEPENDENT CITY) MO

BY: CYNTHIA LONGWISCH

NEG. LANDMARKS ASSOC. OF ST. LOUIS, INC.

DATE: 9/1997

FACING SW) REAR ELEVATION

3 of 3

