

FINAL REPORT  
for the  
HISTORIC BUILDING SURVEY  
of  
SCHUYLER COUNTY

by  
Linda Donovan Harper

Project beginning April 1, 1980

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Project ending June 1, 1981

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## Project Description & Goals

A 50-50 matching grant was awarded to the Northeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission by the Missouri State Office of Historic Preservation, so as to 1.) survey the built environment of Schuyler County, 2.) to prepare historic inventory data sheets, pictures, & maps, 3.) to produce a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, 4.) to compile a final report, & 5.) to provide technical assistance to individuals &/or groups within the Northeast Missouri Region.

The project was extended to June 1, due to staffing problems, and when it was finished 366 data forms including maps & photos and 1 nomination to the National Register of Historic Places were compiled. A report for each of the 9 townships as well as an overall final report was prepared & submitted. A copy of these reports are available to the public at the Office of Historic Preservation at Jefferson City, at the Northeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission's office at the Adair County Courthouse (Kirksville), & from the Schuyler County Historical Society, Lancaster, Missouri. Two township reports, those for Fabius & Independence, are also available at the Depot Museum, Downing, Missouri.

Goals of this project included the recognition of sites with historical &/or architectural merit, the updating of the previous county histories written in 1888 & 1910-11, & the compiling of oral history. It was also hoped that this survey would help to establish types & styles of vernacular architecture in the area as well as settlement patterns for the county.

## Project Staff & Equipment

Originally the project staff was composed of Richard Lacasse, director, and Janet Conners, assistant, as well as secretarial & bookkeeping staff provided through the Northeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission of which Nelson Glasgow is the Executive Director. By January 1, both Mr. Lacasse & Miss Conners were no longer with the project due to an occupation change & health reasons, respectively. Linda D. Harper, architectural historian, was hired January 15, 1981 to complete the grant. Secretarial & bookkeeping staff remained the same and a drafts person, also employed by the Regional Planning Commission, was of assistance to this project.

Richard Lacasse was a Resource Planner for the Regional Planning Commission & Janet Conners was hired as a CETA employee. Linda D. Harper, who did graduate work in architectural history & historic preservation at the University of Missouri, Columbia, was previously an employee of the State Office of Historic Preservation. She has done grant work for that office in conjunction with the Friends of Arrow Rock, Missouri & Friends of Historic Boonville, Missouri.

Dr. Leon Karol of Northeast Missouri State University was a member of the staff as an advisor & counselor from the beginning of the project. His time was a part of the inkind grant. Also of considerable help to the project was the historical information provided by Dr. David March of the University Staff.

Vehicles were provided by each employee with travel expenses paid as part of the grant. Office space & general equipment, typewriters, copying machine, etc., were a part of the inkind grant & were a part of the larger Regional Planning Commission offices at the Adair County Courthouse in Kirksville, Missouri.

The only equipment purchased with grant funding was the camera equipment which included a Canon AE-1 body with a Canon FD 35 mm, f/2.8 lens & a Canon FD 50 mm, f/1.8 lens. Other attachments included a Canon

Speedlite 155A flash, a Hoya HMC Multi-color Y(K2) filter, & Dot Close-up 1, 2, & 4 enlarging filters. Film used for the project was Kodak Plus-X pan, PX 135-36 for black & white prints. It was processed by Camera Corner, Rider Drugs at 84¢/roll for developing & 17¢ print. Larger 8 x 10 black & white prints for the nomination were developed & printed by Noel's Studio, Kirksville, Missouri.

## Survey Methodology

It is not known how the original methodology, as projected by Lacasse & Conners, was composed. After a quick overview of the Schuyler County history & researching the maps, Linda Harper made a decision to approach the project by gathering as much over-all general history & data as possible, to locate resource material & to look at the county on a township-by-township basis.

The 1st 10 days to 2 weeks were spent with trips to the local libraries, to the county courthouse at Lancaster & its various offices, contacting the county historical society & making a trip to Columbia to gather what information that might be at the University of Missouri library and at the State Historical Society library & archives. At the courthouse, the County Recorder's office offered a workspace & access to such records as the platbooks, county histories, marriage & death records, etc. The County Collector's office was often used to trace property ownership. Files, acquired for the Bicentennial regarding school & church records, were located at the Hall House Museum, Schuyler County Historical Society at Lancaster. Historic photographs were copied, archives were searched & notations made, & Sanborn Maps were copied during the trip to Columbia.

On beginning field work, it was decided to start at the northern townships & work south through the county in the hopes of reducing mileage. Each township was denoted by using the 1st letter of its name, in capitals, & within each area the numbers began with #1. This hopefully made for easier & quicker location & identification of sites. Before beginning each township a combination of maps were prepared. A county highway map was marked with red to delineate the boundaries. Copies of the USGS 7.5° maps were made & then compared with the county atlases. A red circle or dot was placed on the topographical map & often the name of the early owners were placed by the sites where structure had been in 1878. A penciled triangle corresponds to sites from the 1898 atlas. Only when prominent names or stock farms were noted on the 1916 atlas were these included on the topo maps.

Each county road was driven & each building on the topographical map was identified. Those of merit were photographed, a thumbnail sketch done, & a data sheet was prepared. Other structures were identified by style or type & date. This required establishing a key to the maps which was done after surveying the 1st township. This 1st area gave an insight as to the various styles & types of vernacular construction patterns. (The key is discussed in detail in section 4). Townships were surveyed in the following order: Chariton, Glenwood, Liberty, Fabius, Independence, Prairie West, Prairie East, Salt River West, Salt River, East.

As the field work progressed, an attempt was made to locate several people, "old timers", in each area to serve as resource people. Their oral history was used alongside the data acquired from the county histories & platbooks. This information fulfilled the requirements for item 43 on the survey forms.

At this point the field notes were prepared for typing. Following the proof reading, the photographs were attached & the sketch was drawn for item 8. Photographs included copies of historic photos when possible. These were drawn from the histories, platbooks, archival files & from private individuals. Each township was then compiled into a binding. Included in this was an overview of the township composed of economics, topography, history, & architectural descriptions; maps & map key; bibliography; description of any town within the area which included history, architecture, & other important features; & the data forms.

The site to be nominated had been established by the Lacasse/Conners team due to the interest shown by the Downing community. Photographs had been taken before January 1. Mrs. Harper then chose from the negatives those which needed to be enlarged for the nomination. A contact was made with the local history group & a history was requested. Linda Harper visited the museum as a part of the survey. She prepared the nomination form to be submitted in the fall of 1981.

## Maps

Several maps were used for this project. Platbooks from 1878, 1898, & 1916 were located & were helpful in establishing dates & owners names. Current ownership was often determined by consulting the 1981 Rural Locator, published by the Bank of Lancaster. In preparing routes & acting as a guide in driving the county, the General Highway Map for Schuyler County was an extremely useful tool. The best maps & the ones used for the township surveys were the USGS 7.5 topographical maps. These were copied & used for field work. The following maps were used for the county: Coatsville, Lancaster, Bunker Hill, Kilwinning, Livonia, Queen City, Downing NW, Downing, Connelsville, Greentop, Willmathsville, & Bible Grove Quadrangles.

Each road was driven & each structure was identified. One overall key was established for the whole county. It is included in each township report. Below is an extended description of that key.

1,2,3, . . . . . Site Surveyed. Numbers on the maps refer to a data form prepared for that property & are found within that township report.

A . . . . . Type A style. This type is 1 or 1½ stories & has a 4 bay front facade with 2 central entrances. It is generally a single pile with an ell to the rear to form either an L or T plan. Most have a gable roof & all have (or had) a central chimney. The flue was located in the central common wall with stoves, back to back, in the 2 rooms of the main block. There usually was a boxed stair. This plan did not include a central hall or central stair. The type was constructed during a long period beginning in the 1870's & continuing post 1930. The entrances were often protected by a porch which reflected the date of construction; chamfered posts & Italianate features from the 1870's - 80's, Eastlake motifs in the 1890's to 1915, & battered columns of the bungalow style from 1915 - 30's. (See C-28, F-16, & SRW-14 as examples of the style.)

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B . . . . . Bungalow or bungalowoid style. Built from 1915 through the 1930's, this style is characterized by a gable roof with the gable end to the front. Eaves are open with exposed rafter ends. The entrance which is often off center is protected by a porch which rest on battered columns. One variation includes the more classical doric columns. The structure are  $1\frac{1}{2}$  stories often with attic dormers. They often sit on a basement which is partially raised so as to expose small half windows at that level. Millwork is oak, trabeated & often has classical motifs. Colonnades & mock fireplaces are common features. Windows are characterized by having multiple vertical panes in the top sash over a large single light bottom sash, ie. 5/1, 3/1.

Bx . . . . . Box style. The style complements the above type (B). It uses the same features except it is 2 or  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories & often has a hip or pyramidal roof. Built from 1915 to 1930's the type often leans toward the classical affinities.

C . . . . . Cottage style. Reflecting the Queen Anne style, these houses were built 1895-1915 and are 1 story. They have a cross gable roof & are generally built on an L or T plan with the entrance or entrances on the irregular facade rather than on the long flat facade as had previously been the norm. Unlike the Queen Anne house, this dwelling is not embellished with large amounts of decoration. It may have Eastlake interior doors or an Eastlake porch. It may also have had bay windows. Houses were included which may have had Queen Anne features but are now covered with vinyl or asbestos siding & retain only the plan. Windows are generally 2/2 & the front facade often has a wide single sash window with a narrow transom. Millwork is oak & ranges from the plain, Eastlake, or trabeated types. (See G-7, F-3, or I-11 as examples of the style.)

F . . . . . 1940's - 1950's style. Homes vary but include the 1 story frame, post-war shoebox type, the brick or frame English cottage type, & the larger home with Classical Revival motifs. The common feature is strictly the period of construction. Homes are of both frame & brick.

G . . . . . Gable Peak. This type seems to be associated with the more prominent families & is an extremely common type. They are 1½ story with a gable roof. Centrally located on the front facade, which may vary from 3,4 or 5 bays, is a central gabled wall dormer. This dormer may have either an entrance or a window. Due to the long period of construction, c 1880's to 1915's, there are no common window types, millwork, or detailing specific to the style but rather the architectural details complement the date of construction, ie. an Eastlake porch & fish-scale singles in the peak area reflect the Queen Anne period (c. 1900). The plan is generally a single pile with a rear ell forming an L or T plan. There are both the central hall type & the double crib type. (Examples of the style are demonstrated by F-1, I-3, PW-7.)

H . . . . . Hip style. This square or slightly rectangular building is generally a 1 story structure. Roof lines vary & include hip, truncated hip, & pyramidal forms. Early dwellings (1880's) are most often plain in both interior & exterior detailing. Those built in the 1890's - 1915 reflect the Queen Anne style including Eastlake porches & millwork. Off-center entrances, battered columns & 3/1 windows denote those constructed c. 1915-30's. (See G-26, C-5, PE-25 as examples of the style.)

N . . . . . New. Construction from the 1960's & 1970's are included in this category, & the dating is the common motif. Styles vary but include the elongated 1 story ranch type, split level & split foyer homes, and also mobile homes. Many are built of brick or brick veneer.

- NS . . . . . Not surveyed. Due to owner objection or inaccessability of site (roads, weather, etc.) the property noted on the USGS map was not surveyed in any form.
- V . . . . . Vernacular. This category is filled with structures which do not fit into any of the other descriptions. Built by local carpenters, they do not follow a particular style or type. Many are results of continuous additions & alterations. Dating spreads over the full scope of the survey & buildings vary from 1 to 2 stories and generally have irregular plans.
- X . . . . . Property has been razed. The building as indicated on the map is no longer in existence.
- Z . . . . . Type Z style. Generally a single pile, the house may either be a double cell or a double cell with central hall. It always has a central entrance as part of the 3 bay front facade. An ell projecting to the rear may form either an L or T plan. Roof lines vary from gable to hip & houses may be either 1 or 1½ story. Due to a long period of construction ranging from c 1850's - 1915, the houses tend to be embellished both with interior & exterior detailing associated with the appropriate period style. (G-29, I-8, SRE-4 demonstrate this type of construction.)

A small "a" for extremely altered or a small "d" for extremely deteriorated may be placed after a type letter if appropriate; ie. Ba meaning a bungaloid style which has been extremely reworked, added on to, or altered, or Hd which would be a hip style which has been abandoned for a long period of time & is in an extremely deteriorated condition.

A property (denoted on the map as an open box) which has no markings placed in association with it is always an outbuilding, ie. barn, storage shed, garage, etc. Those buildings located near a numbered (1,2,3) site are often described or mentioned in item 44 - environment and outbuildings.

Numerous truss bridges are listed as numbered sites (1,2,3) so as to give representative examples. Those not numbered are also included in the key as follows:

III . . . . . Pratt type. Heavy, large verticals in compression, diagonal bracing in tension.

W . . . . . Warren type. Heavy, large diagonals carrying both compression & tensile forces. Verticals serve as bracing for the triangular web system.

Bridges surveyed were all metal truss & most date 1890-1910. They are generally the pony truss type with a few through truss bridges within the county.

By implementing this key on a county wide basis it was hoped that a cohesive quality to the maps would be obtainable. USGS maps were used as a base map so as to place the site in relationship to both its topography & to its surrounding built environment. This coordination of maps & key will hopefully help to establish settlement patterns as well as construction patterns and styles of architecture within a specific area or the county as a whole.

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Schuyler County, Missouri, General Highway Map

State of Missouri Highway Department, 1977

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7.5 maps for the following Quadrangles:

Bible Grove (1966), Bunker Hill (1980), Coatsville  
(1979), Connelsville (1979), Downing (1966), Downing  
NW (1965), Greentop (1979), Kilwinning (1980),  
Lancaster (1979), Livonia (1979), Queen City (1979)  
& Willmathsville (1966).

## General History of Schuyler County

### Topography

Schuyler County which has approximately 306 square miles is located in the Northeast part of the State of Missouri & is the second smallest county in the state. It is bordered on the North by Iowa, the East by Scotland County, the South by Adair County and the West by Putnam County & the Chariton River. Topographical features of significance include the Grand Divide, an elevated plateau which forms the watershed between the Chariton & the Mississippi Rivers & which runs North to South through the western sections, and the North, Middle & South Fabius Rivers, the Salt River, & their tributaries which run Northwest to Southeast through the eastern sections of the county. Land is fertile, most is capable of cultivation, & is characteristically rolling terrain. In the Northwest corner the land is unusually rugged & is accented by remnants of early coal mining in the area. The West & Southwest has a broad flat river bottom area which rises abruptly to the plateau. Since 1904, the Chariton River has had several programs dedicated to straightening & shortening the irregular river by the building of a canal system. The East sections of the county have rolling prairies of both pasture & crop lands & numerous small streams set in timbered hills & ridges.

### Settlement

In the early 1800's, explorers & hunters crossed the area. Settlers began arriving in the 1830's with Moses Stice locating in the Southwest edge & Samuel Eason who settled near the Chariton River in the Northwest corner. Numerous parcels of land were entered between 1844 & 1850, with the 1st town, Tippecanoe, organized in 1840. During this period the early pioneers came from the South - predominately Kentucky & Tennessee, from the East - Ohio, Illinois & Indiana, from Southern Iowa & from the southern counties of Missouri. Influencing settlement at this time, a dispute known as the Honey War developed c 1839 over a strip of land 9 miles wide between Iowa & Missouri. This dispute was finally settled by the Supreme Court in 1849. With the growth of the county's population, Schuyler County which had been a part of Howard County was organized in 1845, and the county seat was established at Lancaster.

This growth continued until it was interrupted in the early 1860's by the Civil War. Several skirmishes were recorded & there were numerous reports of bushwackers throughout the county. Growth & economy came to a virtual standstill during the war years. However the county recuperated quickly & by 1880 the county's population had doubled & development was widespread. New towns were established: Greentop 1857, Queen City 1862, Coatsville & Glenwood 1868, & Downing in 1872. Promoters of the Chicago Industrial World magazine said of Schuyler County in 1882: "it is a paradise of cattle & sheep growers ... a splendid place for men of brain, heart, muscle, experience, energy & hard cash."

An important factor is the settling of Europeans in the county beginning in the 1850's. Most were German speaking peoples immigrating from Switzerland, Germany, Yugoslavia, etc. & a few who came from the Netherlands. These families settled in an area in the Northwest part of Prairie East Township in what came to be known as Germania. They fought for the Union forces, raised large families, & were industrious farmers & businessmen.

### Economy

Early settlers found the county rich in wild animals & game including buffalo, deer, wild hogs, turkey, squirrels & rabbits. These, as well as the great amounts of wild honey & beeswax which were marketed, sustained the pioneer families. The topography & climate made agriculture the basis for the economy. Once the tall prairie grasses were subdued, fields were plowed & crops & stock were raised which would provide the pioneer in his day-to-day living. With the coming of the railroads & trade centers and the increase in technology, larger farms were established & both crops & stock were raised for the market place. Today this economic base continues with corn, oats, soybeans, & wheat produced; clover, timothy & blue grass covering the pasture lands; and beef & dairy cattle, hogs & sheep fulfilling the livestock market needs.

Retail business expanded around the political center of Lancaster & the smaller trade centers. Several mills were established, Glenwood had several manufacturing businesses, and the mercantile trade increased rapidly with the increasing population. Most towns have since decreased in size & their businesses have declined. Lancaster remains the largest retail area. No large manufacturing firm exist within the county today.

Other economic factors included the mining of coal in the 1860's & 70's in the western parts of the county; however these supplies have been recently depleted. Timber & its products, railroad ties, hoops, barrels, etc. also supplemented the early economy. Today the large stands of timber are gone but many varieties remain & there are several small sawmills in the area.

Transportation played an important role in the economy of the county. The 1st public road extended from Kirksville to the Iowa line. Each township had a road overseer who began work on establishing roads within the county. Railroad fever soon struck & the North Missouri Railroad entered in 1868 to be joined by the Missouri, Iowa & Nebraska Railroad in 1872. In 1901, the Iowa & St. Louis Railroad built in the county. Later automobiles became the predominate form of transportation & federal roads were built. Highways 63, running North to South, & 136, running East to West, cross through Schuyler County.

#### Churches & Schools

The year 1837 is the date established as the first religious services held within the present county area. Various congregations soon developed & formed churches: The 1st Christian Church, organized in the early 1840's; & the Methodist, Episcopal & Baptist formed in 1838. In 1850 the latter two as well as the Presbyterians & the Reformers were alternating Sundays & holding services in the county courthouse. Circuit riders served the rural areas with the entire neighborhood attending meetings regardless of denomination. An early preacher was Reverend Abraham Still, a Methodist minister & physician & father of A.T. Still, the founder of Osteopathy. Later denominations included Methodist South, Free Will Baptist, & Church of God Holiness.

Log school buildings or classes taught in private homes soon were scattered throughout the pioneering county. These were private organizations. The first school stood South of Downing & was taught by Miss Hathaway & Mrs. Edwin French, c 1841. In 1859, the Lancaster Academy was incorporated. It progressed til the Civil War disrupted classes, but was reorganized later & eventually became a public school. Rural public schools were not possible until after the Civil War when the county was organized into districts with each district & each town having a school. Changes took place rapidly & by the 1910's - 1920's many schools were reorganized with 2 rooms & 2 teachers containing both grade school & high school classes. High schools were also established at Downing, Glenwood, Queen City and Lancaster. Later busing of students began & the school system developed as it is today: Grade School & Junior High at Queen City & High School at Lancaster.

#### Towns & Population

Schuyler County has increased in population consistantly since its organization in 1845. Today the population rests at approximately 5,000 a jump of 6.1% from the 1970 census figures. Each of the 9 townships have also increased. Approximately 99.9% of this figure are white. Within the area there are 5 incorporated communities: Lancaster with a population of 854, Queen City at 769, Downing at 463, Glenwood with 218 & 425 citizens at Greentop. The Village of Coatsville numbers less than 100 & is unincorporated. Each of these towns & several communities which once existed within the county are discussed in detail within their appropriate township report.

## Architectural Styles & Their Significance in Schuyler County

### Construction Materials

The pioneer settlement of Schuyler County began at an early date with log homes, barns, schools & churches appearing in the 1830's & 1840's. A large increase in population took place in the 1850's & early 1860's, but log construction continued to be the major building form. Following the Civil War, saw mills were developed & frame construction began. Homes continued to be built on hewn, mortise, & tenoned log sills with the framing composed of heavy-timber, sawn lumber with heavy corner bracing. These buildings generally sat on sandstone piers due to the fact that no limestone quarries appear to be found within the county. Homes were sheathed in clapboarding attached with square wrought nails and had wood roof shingling. Outbuildings were built of large hewn logs or sawn timbers which were mortised, tenoned & pegged together. Ornate truss work forms the roof & loft area of these structures. Board & batten siding covered the outbuildings.

Often these early features continued into the 1870's & 80's. Barn construction remained much the same until the 1920's & 30's. By the 1890's, the affects of the Industrial Revolution had become apparent in house construction with the use of sawn, pre-fabricated, balloon frame lumber (ie. 2" x 4" framing, etc.), round headed, machine made nails, and molded concrete block foundations. Architectural detail continued the pattern with lumber yard-purchased oak millwork, newel posts, spindle balusters, scroll brackets & decorative wood shingles. Due to the poor quality of the early sandstone pier foundations, many houses were jacked up & new molded concrete block foundations & partial basements were placed under the residences. These construction materials predominated until c 1910-1915. Clapboarding & wood roof shingles continued to be the major types of sheathing materials.

By 1915, the use of poured concrete was becoming a popular foundation material. Clapboarding as well as car siding covered the wall surfaces. In the 1930's - 40's stucco became a common wall surface meduim. Oak trabeated millwork predominated interior accents. Later materials which often appear on the houses from the survey period are asbestos shingles, composition siding, & vinyl or masonite siding. Roofs changed from wood shingles to asphalt shingles, ribbed or corrugated metal.

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Brick was a material which was used with much scarcity in the rural county areas. Early log structures had brick or stone chimneys. Only a small number of houses were built on brick foundations. Brick residences are limited, but numerous commercial buildings were constructed as early as 1869. The most common use of brick in residences dates after 1910 and is found in bungalow & ranch type houses.

### Styles & Plans

Various plans can be found within the county but styles are limited. Few examples of the defined styles were built, and generally they appear in the urban setting. No true Federal Style houses remain. Basically there are no pure Gothic, Greek Revival, or Italianate residences, however occasionally details from these styles appear in the early vernacular types. Not until the Queen Anne style appeared in this area in the late 1890's do houses take on a pure form. There are several fine examples of both the larger 2 story, irregular plan Queen Anne dwellings as well as the 1 story, cottage type. Deriving from this 1 story version is a type, known as the C-type, which follows the Queen Anne cottage in plan but either was built without the decorative detailing or it has been removed from the structure. Numerous Bungalows were built in the county & many illustrate the classic textbook detailing, but post date the survey period.

In general, the houses in Schuyler County fall into the vernacular pattern. No major architect is known to have worked in the county & most houses were built by local carpenters & laborers. Within this broad scope of vernacular architecture, several types can be noted. Only a small number of I houses were constructed in the county. The style is overshadowed by what became known as the G-type (a 1½ story house with a central gable wall dormer or peak). Construction dates vary from c 1875-80 to 1910-15, and they are often embellished with Queen Anne detailing from c 1895-1905. This G-type is the common larger home in the county, in both rural & urban settings. Another vernacular form can be noted in the 1 story, squarish plan house with a hip or pyramidal roof which was labeled as the H type. This type was built by all segments of the society & in all areas

of the county, and was the typical residence for the common man. It too was often embellished by Queen Anne motifs & often a 1 room gabled ell was added to the front or side which then formed the irregular plan so common to the Victorian period.

Two other variations were surveyed in large numbers: the A type & the Z type. Both were built in 1 story & 1½ story forms. The A type has 2 central entrances on a 4 bay front facade with a central chimney on the ridge of the roof. The Z type has a 3 bay front facade, the middle bay of which is an entrance.

One other vernacular form appears but not in large numbers & not as a common form in the county as a whole. This form was not given a label but is illustrated by G-35 & PE-43. These homes are generally 1½ story with the gable end to the front. Only G-35 exhibits the classical details which would traditionally embellish this "Temple" plan & style. Due to lack of detailing it is considered a vernacular form in the county & appears generally in the western sections (ie. Glenwood & Queen City areas).

Scattered among these larger groups are houses which do not generally fit into one of the above categories. They are often composites of several additions & alterations. Due to the growth in the county & the fact that many families came to a farm & stayed for several generations, numerous dwellings have obvious changes which reflect each period of construction. Such properties were labeled vernacular in the broad sense of the term.

Plans generally complement the styles with the H type having a square or rectangular form often with a double cell & double pile plan; G, A & Z types, as well as the larger I houses are double cell often having a central passage, a single pile in depth, & a T or L plan with the ell projecting to the rear; and the C type has an irregular plan often based around a double cell, single pile form with an L or T plan, but with the ell projecting to the front.

Commercial properties were built throughout the survey period & reflect the architectural style of the time of construction. Most have common side walls, a tall front parapet, & side parapets which served as fire walls. This rectangular form forced all architectural detailing to the front facade. The popular use of cast metal for pilasters, columns, hoodmolds & parapet embellishment can be seen from c 1869 throughout the period & in all parts of the county within the urban settings. Later (c 1900) many structures also implemented the use of bi-chromatic & textured bricks or tiles to add detailing to the primary facade. Both Italianate & Queen Anne motifs are the characteristic forms.

Two other plans & styles should be considered; those related to schools & churches. For the most part, both structures used the same format from the early period of settlement until c 1910. A simple 1 room structure with a gable roof, set with the gable end to the front, had a single, central entrance with 3-5 bays of large windows to the sides. Often the end opposite the door was solid & a raised platform filled this area. Millwork was plain except for beaded wainscotting which often extended about the room. A single stove heated the room. Variations, seen in church buildings, to this format include the shallow bay added in the solid end for an altar area, the occasional use of a double leaf or 2 single leaf entrances on the primary facade, and the addition of a square belltower. At the turn of the century this general 1 room plan for churches were often embellished by extra bays & Queen Anne & Eastlake decorative detailing. Vestibules & coat rooms were added to the school houses. About 1910, public architecture began to adopt the bungalow forms. Hip roofs, raised basements, grouped windows & a squarish plan were common. Due to the consolidation of schools, several were built in the 1910-25 period which had a 2 room format & some were constructed in brick.

### Significance

Since architecture reflects both the heritage of the individual builder & the quality of life in the area as a whole, it is important to look at each facet of the built environment. Compared to the statement "you are what you eat", the family home often reflects "you are what you live in".

Early pioneers who settled in Schuyler County came from a wide range of backgrounds & locations. Kentucky, Tennessee & the Carolinas were home to a vast number of people who eventually found their way to this rugged yet hopeful frontier. Only a small number of these were slave holders. Due to the close proximity of the Iowa line, a free state, Schuyler County was not the ideal slave holder's area. About the only architectural detail which can be noted as distinctly Southern is the placement of end exterior fireplaces in the early log cabins. Log cabins & barns use all the various types of notching: square, V & half dovetail. No cabins which remain exhibit the traditional southern dog trot plan, however 1 of the 2 barns does have this plan.

A great many settlers to this area came from Ohio, Pennsylvania & the Northeastern states. One style in particular may reflect this heritage, the vernacular-temple format. Most houses have interior chimneys which may also reflect the northern influence of interior warmth, a detail which was most helpful in the cold Missouri winters. Yet another factor may be that many of the settlers from both the Northeast & the tidewater south settled first in Illinois, Indiana or Iowa. This was usually for only a brief period of time & may explain both the occurrence & scarcity of the I house.

Carpenters from all regions developed their own styles & motifs. No major or outstanding characteristic emerged yet each section of the county was influenced by its local carpenters & their heritage. Possibly due to the time in which the county was settled, the intrusion caused by the Civil War, & the hardships in acquiring sawn lumber & crafted millwork, the early architectural styles did not follow the pure forms such as Federal, Greek Revival, Gothic or Italianate. It was not until the prosperity of the Victorian period & the easy access of pre-fabricated materials at the local lumber yards did the carpenter/builder begin to construct homes in the style of the period - the Queen Anne, a style in itself which allowed for great flexibility & individuality. It should be noted that in this line of carpenter/builder tradition it seems unique that with the great flood of German immigrants which settled in the county in the mid 1800's there are no architectural details which strongly characterize their construction. The Missouri-German architecture & its motifs found in other areas of the state at this time - ie. Herman & Boonville - were never implemented in Schuyler County.

Families who settled in this Northeast part of Missouri generally came to the area, made their homes, & continued to stay in the area. Descendants of these families still farm many of the original homesteads or live near by. Centennial farms, so designated during the 1976 Bicentennial Year, are scattered-throughout the county. This longevity of family farms created 2 forces; in some cases the old homeplace was preserved & maintained & in others the later generations built newer style homes on the property. Generally the older homes were added onto through the years & the interiors were updated. Few retain their absolute original integrity.

Prosperity, status, & sometimes family size are also indicated in the style or type of house & even in its location. Originally homes sat near a water supply & often near a timber supply area. Small 1 or 2 room cabins or homes were built to meet the immediate needs. As families grew & prospered, developing a livelihood from the land, the small dwellings were continually enlarged, often forming a composite type structure. If the farm or commercial endeavor was prosperous, many of the early settlers built newer more modern homes in the 1870's, 80's & 90's. This trend again was to take place in the 1920's & 30's when the younger generations moved into the newer style bungalows & again in the 60's when the ranch house suited the next generation. The size of the family can often be detected more in the number of additions & alterations than in actual house size.

Status & prosperity seem to be the determining factors as to size & architectural style & quality. In the rural areas, a well kept & maintained farm home & outbuildings, despite the actual size of the dwelling, was held in high regard by the neighborhood. Often the successful farmer lived in the larger homes such as the I house, the G type & the larger Queen Anne style. Also as newer homes were built they were often moved closer to the roads & located on a more prestigious site or landscaped area. Fences generally set the house yards apart from the larger farm area.

26 Merchants & city dwellers followed many of the same trends. Styles tend to be purer within the towns & cities and the larger homes are generally associated with the more prominent & prosperous families. Political activity was a meritorious quality which coincided with status & generally finer, larger homes. Doctors & lawyers were a part of this pattern as well. Large lots formed the setting for these quality homes.

These features associated with individual homes can also be applied to a region or the county as a whole. An area which has numerous large or quality homes reflects well developed farms on good land. On the other hand, poor soil or cultivation practices often resulted in smaller more vernacular farm homes. Areas like these may vary in size. Such generalizations can also be made on a township basis & were included in each section of the following reports. The county's architecture as a whole, as has been mentioned, reflects many facets of life within its boundaries. Heritage, culture, & economics - both rural & commercial-can all be demonstrated in the architecture found throughout the county.

## Preservation Activity

Preservation of history, archives, & of the built environment within the county is spearheaded by the Schuyler County Historical Society. This organization actively collects historical information, photos, memorabilia, etc. which is kept at the W.P. Hall House Museum, Lancaster, Missouri. The society owns & maintains the property which is the only site in the county on the National Register of Historic Places. Due to the discovery of a log cabin during the survey & the interest of the owner who is a member of the society, the local organization is to become the owner of the cabin which is to be moved to the rear lot of the Museum. This log cabin is to be moved by the assistance of the local Rotary Club. The organization is also hopeful of acquiring a 1 room school house to be moved to the Museum lot which would be restored & furnished with turn of the century educational memorabilia. Quarterly meetings are held where most programs are geared to the local history. The society also publishes a quarterly newsletter.

Another major preservation force is present in the town of Downing. The city owns the railroad depot which has been moved to a city park where it houses local artificats, historic photographs & other items of historic interest. The building & its brick platform were restored as a Green Thumb project. Also located in the park is the original city jail.

Other efforts include the maintenance of the Lauer Blacksmith Shop in Queen City by the Pioneer Club & the gathering of community history for publication by the Greentop citizens.

Despite these local interests there is little effort for preservation among the common citizen of the county. Most people are aware of family history & the rich county heritage but are not aware of the historical merits of the built environment. There are numerous abandoned houses which are yet in sound structural condition. Many homes are being sheathed with wide vinyl siding with decorative detailing being obscured or removed. Little effort has taken place in restoring architectural motifs or color qualities (ie. bichromatic painting of Queen Anne motifs).

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None of the organizations took part in or initiated Preservation Week activities. There appears to be no push to educate the public to their rich heritage outside the establishment of the museums. At the present time efforts to publish the survey in any form are not in the immediate future. Preservation programs or speakers, slide shows, home tours or rehab workshops are nonexistent. The survey of Schuyler County did reveal a wealth of both historical information & architectural significance and could be used as a rich base from which to grow, however without a strong education arm to support & complement it, the project will remain only a resource & research document.

## RECOMMENDATIONS & CONCLUSIONS

The grant for this survey was originally for a 1 year period. Due to the slow development in the early stages, the grant was extended 3 months. In retrospect it is suggested that a survey of this scale should be actively working a minimum of 9 months & ideally during the full 1 year period. Field work should consume approximately 6 months, preparation of the final report could be completed in about 1 month, and the remaining time could then be spent presenting the information which has been gleaned from the survey & research. This last area is generally overlooked due to the heavy concentration on field work & preparation of the data forms. It is my recommendation that the educational aspect which could follow the survey & be a great public relations step in the grant format be given a greater priority. Survey & documentation will be of little merit if the public is not aware of their built environment.

This aspect of preservation is especially pertinent in the rural counties. Most architecture is of the vernacular type & style & not highly admired by the local populus. Educational material, slide presentations, speaking engagements & restoration & rehab assistance could be of great importance to the total preservation movement on both the local & state levels. More specifically, Schuyler County is not atypical in Northeast Missouri. It has a rural, agricultural base which is reflected in its architecture & culture, and the county's historical merits are not outstanding. These features tend to make the local citizenry look upon preservation as an unnecessary part of their lifestyles. Unfortunately the historical society generally is not an organization which functions heavily in education. In both Downing & Lancaster, specific buildings form the center of activity. No programs are developed for the school system, Preservation Week activities were not initiated, & at this time, no plans have been presented for the use or publication of the county wide survey.

In this rural Missouri county, as in many like it, nominations to the National Register of Historic Places are few & far between. For this reason, county wide survey & its research & documentation appear to be the best approach to such areas. Buildings are disappearing quickly & it remains

for the extant structures to form the basis for style, settlement patterns, history, etc. Schuyler County gave many insights into rural vernacular architecture, ethnic migrations, & rural community life. It is only when looked at as a whole do these counties begin to display their individuality. They are distinctly different in detail. I, therefore, recommend the continuance of the grant program for survey projects on a county wide basis.

In conclusion, Schuyler County has a rich vernacular heritage in regards to both its culture & its architecture. Each of these aspects were discussed in detail in early categories such as "General History" & "General Overview of Architecture". County officials, citizens & members of the historical society were extremely helpful in the process of the survey. The end product, a township-by-township survey of the county, included 360 + data sheets including maps, photos & sketches. A general consensus of the project is that it was successful in its goals & beneficial to the local county as a history resource, the Regional Planning Commission as both a planning tool & a cultural asset for the area, & to the state as a single part of the greater whole of the preservation effort.