# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property			<b>可以</b> 一个一个。	
historic nameSouthea	st Missouriar	n Building		
other name/site number	N/A			<u></u>
2. Location	The Manual Co	<b>Land</b> Construction of the	Art Statement of the Control	
street & town 301 Bro	adway			_N/A not for publication
city or town Cape Gira	ardeau			_ N/A vicinity
state Missouri	code !	MO county Cape Girardea	aucode 031_	zip code 63701
3. State/Federal Agenc	y Certification	on ·		
☐ request for determ of Historic Places and property ☒ meets ☐ ☐ nationally ☐ statev  Signature of certifying  Missouri Department of State or Federal agence	ination of eligibi meets the procedures not meet to vide locally.  official/Title of Natural Resort y and bureau	National Historic Preservation Act, as a ility meets the documentation standards edural and professional requirements set the National Register criteria. I recomme (  See continuation sheet for additional Mark A. Miles/Deputy SHPO surces	for registering properties in the let forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my and that this property be consideral comments.)  Date	National Register opinion, the red significant
Signature of certifying	official/Title	Date		
State or Federal agenc	y and bureau			
4. National Park Service I hereby certify that the property is  entered in the National R See continuation determined eligible for the National Register See continuation determined not eligible fo National Register. removed from the National Register. other, (explain:)	egister. sheet. e sheet. r the	Signature of the Keep	er	Date of Action

Southeast Missourian Building Name of Property	<u>Cape Girard</u> County and	Cape Girardeau County, MO County and State		
5. Classification				
Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)  Category of Property (check only one box)		Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
private	🛛 building(s)	1	1	buildings
public-local	☐ district	0	0	sites
public-State	☐ site	0	0	structure
public-Federal	structure	0	0	objects
·	object object	1	1	Total
Name of related multiple proper (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a m	· +		uting resources previ	ously listed
Historic and Architectural Resou		in the National Reg	jister	
Thistoric and Architectural Tresour		our <u>i</u> 0		<u></u>
6. Function or Use Historic Function (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Fui (Enter categorie	nction es from instructions)	
		Commerce/Trade/Professional		
Commerce/Trade/Professional		Commerce/Tra-	de/Professional	
Commerce/Trade/Professional  Domestic/Multiple Dwelling		Commerce/Tra		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Domestic/Multip		
Domestic/Multiple Dwelling		Domestic/Multip	ole Dwelling	
Domestic/Multiple Dwelling		Domestic/Multip	ole Dwelling	
Domestic/Multiple Dwelling		Domestic/Multip	ole Dwelling	
Domestic/Multiple Dwelling Industry/Communications Facility		Domestic/Multip Industry/Comm  Materials	ole Dwelling	
Domestic/Multiple Dwelling Industry/Communications Facility  7. Description Architectural Classification	panish Colonial Revival	Domestic/Multip Industry/Comm  Materials	ole Dwelling unications Facility	
Domestic/Multiple Dwelling Industry/Communications Facility  T. Description Architectural Classification Enter categories from instructions)	panish Colonial Revival	Domestic/Multip Industry/Comm  Materials (Enter categorie	ole Dwelling unications Facility s from instructions)	
Domestic/Multiple Dwelling Industry/Communications Facility  T. Description Architectural Classification Enter categories from instructions)	panish Colonial Revival	Domestic/Multip Industry/Comm  Materials (Enter categories foundation	unications Facility  s from instructions)  Concrete	
Industry/Communications Facility  7. Description Architectural Classification Enter categories from instructions)	panish Colonial Revival	Domestic/Multip Industry/Comm  Materials (Enter categories foundation	unications Facility  unications Facility  s from instructions)  Concrete  Brick	

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

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

Southeast Missourian Building Name of Property	Cape Girardeau County, MO County and State
8. Description  Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	<u>Communications</u> <u>Architecture</u>
☐ 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.	Period of Significance
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	
Property is:	Significant Dates
☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	1934
☐ B removed from its original location.	Significant Persons (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A
C a birthplace or grave.	
D a cemetery.	Cultural Affiliation N/A
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
☐ F a commemorative property.	Architect/Builder Barnett, T.P./architect
□ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Gerhardt, J.W. Company/builders
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)	MC an agentinustical phase (a) for Continue No. 0
P. Major, Bibliographical References  Bibliography  Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more con	
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:
□ preliminary determination of individual listing (36	State Historic Preservation Office     Other State agency     Federal agency     Local government     University     Other Name of repository:  Southeast Missourian Archives
	See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

Southeast Missourian Building Name of Property	Cape Girardeau County, MO County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property less than one acre	
UTM References (Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	
1 <u>1/6</u> <u>2/7/6/5/7/0</u> <u>4/1/3/1/7/9/0</u> Zone Easting Northing	2 / / / / / / / / / / / / Zone Easting Northing
3 / / / / / / / / / Northing	4 / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / Zone Easting Northing
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)	
Property Tax No. 21-107-00-16-00100	
<b>Boundary</b> Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)	
11. Form Prepared By	See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10
name/title Melinda Winchester, Michael Bricknell, Emilie Egg	emeyer, Lisa Graham, Catie Myers,
Terri Foley, and Dr. Steven Hoffman	
organization Historic Preservation Program/Southeast Missouri	
street & number One University Plaza, MS 2960, Department of	History telephone 573-651-2808
city or town Cape Girardeau	state MO zip code 63701
Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets  Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the pro A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having  Photographs: Representative black and white photographs of  Additional items: (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any addition	large acreage or numerous resources.
Property Owner name/title Concord Publishing House, Inc. Jon Rust, Published	
street & number <u>301 Broadway</u>	telephone 573-335-6611
city or town Cape Girardeau	state MO zip code 63701
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for approperties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to ame benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16)	and existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a

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

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Southeast Missourian Building Historic and Architectural Resources of Cape Girardeau, Missouri Cape Girardeau County, MO

#### Summary:

Constructed between 1924 and 1925, the Southeast Missourian Building is a two-story white stucco and red brick building located at 301 Broadway, Cape Girardeau, Cape Girardeau County, Missouri. The building represents the property type "Commercial Buildings, ca. 1850-1950" as described in the Multiple Property Cover Document "Historic and Architectural Resources of Cape Girardeau, Missouri," and is documented therein as a "prominent example of the Spanish Revival style" in Cape Girardeau and as one of the most notable buildings built during the expansion of the downtown commercial district in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The building sits on the southwest corner of Broadway and North Lorimier streets, fronting Broadway to the north with the Mississippi River three blocks to the east. Measuring approximately 162' x 160', the steel reinforced concrete building has a concrete foundation with a full basement. The building is set back three feet from the property line to allow for a wider sidewalk. The main level of the east elevation and the façade are ornately decorated with a base of colorful glazed Moravian tiles, recessed arched windows with brick surrounds and elaborate terra cotta detail. It has a hipped roof with Mexican mission tiles in five colors with decorative brackets under the cornice. The west elevation runs parallel to and is adjoined to the adjacent building. The south elevation has metal, brick and white stucco exterior walls with various roof-lines. The Southeast Missourian Building is the most elaborate Spanish architectural style building in Cape Girardeau. The building underwent some necessary alterations to keep up with the expanding business needs of the newspaper in 1934, 1951 and 1964. However, the alterations do not diminish the historic character of the building. The building still retains its integrity and remains close to what it was originally in 1925 when completed.

Included in the boundaries of this nomination is one modern, non-contributing carport building, located south of the contributing building in the parking area.

#### **Elaboration:**

The Southeast Missourian Building, located at 301 Broadway, occupies a prominent area in the downtown business district (See Photo #1). This area of Broadway is an avenue of small businesses, restaurants and offices that serves as a significant business district and is located on one of the main commercial streets from the west end of town to the Mississippi River and handles a high volume of traffic. On the northwest corner of the same block of Broadway is the Marquette Hotel (NR 4/11/2002) with the Hirsch Tower, and the Royal N'Orleans Restaurant located across the street from the Southeast Missourian Building. To the west of the Southeast Missourian Building is the Security Bank and Trust building, and directly west of the bank is the Federal Courthouse building.

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Southeast Missourian Building Historic and Architectural Resources of Cape Girardeau, Missouri Cape Girardeau County, MO

The Southeast Missourian Building sits on the north half of the property with an asphalt and concrete parking area on the south portion of the lot. The east boundary of the building and lot faces North Lorimier Street and the south boundary of the lot adjoins a parking lot owned by First Presbyterian Church and faces Themis Street. The west boundary faces the adjoining bank parking lot and the bank building.

Although the building was originally proportioned to be a fairly square configuration with the dimensions of 125' x 113', with additions, it is now L-shaped and measures 162' x 160' on the eastern elevation. The additions to the building in 1934, 1951, and 1964 extended the building to the west and south. The one-story addition that extended the east façade was added in 1934 and is roughly 40' x 80' and has the largest footprint of any of the additions. The 1951 remodeling of a neighboring building, adjoining to the west, added a storefront to the north façade. The two additions constructed after the period of significance are relatively small and are hidden from the street by the historic building and the 1934 addition (See Floor Plan). The foundation is reinforced concrete and there is a full basement under the original section of the building. The exterior walls are brick from the foundation to the second floor with the exception of the white stucco walls of the north façade and east elevation.

The original building has a hipped roof with terra cotta tiles of five different colors, flared wide eaves and decorated blue stained brackets at the cornice line. The west elevation from the 1934 addition has a shed dormer with terra cotta roof tiles and two small sliding windows with stained wood sashes. A square chimney projects from the roofline adjacent to the south end of the dormer. The south elevation of the roof on the original section of the building has two shed dormers with terra cotta roof tiles and several exhaust vents.

The north façade is 126' from west to east and exemplifies the Spanish Colonial Revival Style. A series of four-arched casement windows with red brick surrounds and five foot high band of Moravian tile surround the northeast corner of the first level. The tile is multi-colored, mainly consisting of blue, black and white with yellow and green detailing that continues across the north façade. Directly west of the windows is a much larger, one-story arcade of six arched openings supported by white stone columns. The first two openings are identical and consist of a single glass window with side lights and an arched transom. The third opening contains the door surround of the original entryway, although the door itself was replaced with a fifteen light arched window. Historically, there were two entrances spaced twenty-five feet apart. In 1973, this door was converted into a window to streamline traffic flow in the building (See Photo 2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Southeast Missourian, June 2, 1973, and August 31, 1973.

Southeast Missourian Building

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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The opening is flanked by two terra cotta pilasters with low relief terra cotta ornamentation and an elaborate terra cotta cartouche with a small square recessed stained glass window and a fanned decorative element (See Photo 3). The fourth, fifth and sixth arched openings contain double fifteen light windows with arched transoms. A doorway located directly west of these arched openings was converted into another fifteen light window, probably in the 1973 remodeling. The remaining entrance, located closer to Lorimier Street, provides access into the main business office. It projects slightly from the façade with a set of double full glass metal doors with side windows added in 1973. The header contains architrave trim with two sconce-like decorative elements and two small square sixteen pane casement windows surrounded by decorative brick centered about the entrance. A large metal sign with gold letters denotes the "SOUTHEAST MISSOURIAN" above this entrance (See Photo 4).

Directly to the west of the main entrance is a set of double full-light doors that lead to the executive offices and apartment on the second floor which has served as a residence since the completion of the building in 1925. This entrance is located in a recessed arch with double doors and a brick sawtooth door surround. Located west of the entrance is a bay window and recessed large, plate-glass, store-front windows supported by one large, blue-painted stone column. Four more of the small, square sixteen pane windows are directly above the storefront glass window and are identical to those described earlier above the first entrance.

The second story of the façade on the original section of the building is symmetrically divided into three sections with semi-circular wrought iron balconies with wood double doors containing eight lights set in the upper half and rectangular transoms above. The end balcony is flanked by four-over-four double-hung windows and decorative brick arches. A set of six-over-six double-hung wood windows with blue stained wood mullions and wooden flower boxes are asymmetrically spaced in each section along with two individual six-over-six double-hung windows. A brick string course of soldier brick is located approximately two feet below the roof line with brick diamond shaped elements evenly spaced along the façade. The red tile low hipped roof has overhanging eaves and exposed wood brackets (See Photo 5).

To accommodate the growing needs of the business, the 36' wide structure to the west of the original Southeast Missourian Building, known as the Vedder building, was purchased in 1951 and renovated to match the style and design of the original building. An arcade of three arches with a tile shed roof that divides the first and second story projects from the façade of the addition. A set of recessed glass double doors are centered in the center arch with a large plate glass window on each side. The arches are supported by brown piers and accented by triangular patterned details. Above the shed roof is an ornate terra cotta quatrefoil shape encasing a small square opening,

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Southeast Missourian Building Historic and Architectural Resources of Cape Girardeau, Missouri Cape Girardeau County, MO

possibly a vent. This ornamentation contains the message, "where printing is practiced as an art." The string course and brick diamond shape elements of the original façade extend into the addition. The exterior walls are also smooth white stucco to match the façade of the original building with a small section of the Moravian tile as an incorporated accent. Pilasters extend up to the second story on either end of the addition. The red tile hipped roof and brick stringcourse extend onto the addition (See Photo 6).

The west elevation is brick and runs parallel with the adjacent building thereby hindering the visibility of this wall.

The east elevation faces North Lorimier Street and continues the Spanish Colonial Revival style of the north façade (See Photo 7). It is two-story except for the one-story addition off of the south elevation. The exterior walls are red brick from the foundation to below the first level of windows, with the upper level wall done in white stucco. Extending from the northeast corner is a series of four arched casement, ten pane windows with Moravian tile accents matching those found on the north facade. Just south of these windows is a 3' x 7' blue stained wood door with a transom flanked by double-hung six-over-six wood windows. This door provides access into the main business office. Centered on this elevation is a recessed arched entrance with Moravian tile and brick surrounding a 3' x 7' wooden stained door with a center octagonal light and eight recessed panels (See Photo 8). A small recessed rectangular stained glass window is located to the south of the entrance and a wrought iron lantern hangs above. This door provides access to the second floor apartment. To the north of the arched entryway are four wood windows with metal decorative window grilles common in Spanish Colonial Revival buildings. These windows have two sashes with the lower one being an awning sash. A decorative strip of brick runs above the windows.

Centered on the north half of the second level of the east elevation are two single sixover-six double-hung windows with flower boxes and a set of three six-over-six doublehung windows. South of these windows is a semi-circular wrought iron balcony with
French style wood doors containing fifteen lights with a three light transom above each
door. The doors are surrounded by flanking narrow casement six pane windows with
two light transoms. The window boxes and balcony are identical to those found on the
front façade. The south half of the east elevation contains two cantilever projections,
one centered in the elevation and the other near the south end of the elevation. Large
corbels project from beneath both cantilevers. The centered cantilever has two six-oversix windows with transoms on the front. The same windows are repeated on the side
elevations of the cantilever. The south end cantilever has a double nine-over-nine
window, and adjoined on each side are single nine-over-nine windows. Above each

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Southeast Missourian Building Historic and Architectural Resources of Cape Girardeau, Missouri Cape Girardeau County, MO

window is a transom, and each side of the cantilever has the same windows with transoms. The red tile, low hipped roof has overhanging eaves with wood exposed bracket. The brick stringcourse on the north façade continues along this elevation.

The one-story addition built in 1934 measures approximately 40' x 80' and extends to the south from the rear wall of the original building (See Photo 9). It has white stucco and red brick exterior walls, a flat roof with terra cotta tiles. Located on the east side of the addition are two large 10'x 10' tile murals which act as focal points for this section of the elevation and are described more fully in Section 8 (See Photo 10, 11). A framed explanation of the murals is mounted between them. Terra cotta roof shelters are located above each mural.

The south elevation was expanded in 1934, 1964 and 1984. The one-story addition has a flat roof with terra cotta tile eaves and stucco pilasters with terra cotta caps (See Photo 12). There is an aluminum clad full light door with sidelights and transom that provides an employee entrance into the rear of the building. The remainder of the south elevation is steel metal corrugated panels and brick with various garage door openings that are used for shipping and delivery. This addition was added in 1964 to provide more space for the press room. A small brick addition extends southward from this wall, which historically was the camera room (See Photo 13). It is currently used for storage. The basement foundation on the south elevation has a paved drive below grade that leads to a garage door that historically was used for unloading and loading trucks for delivery of the newspapers.

The south elevation of the Vedder building addition incorporated into the building in 1951 is brick with two entrances, one a door and the other a garage door. There is a circular red brick chimney which is used for ventilation for the steam heat. The chimney is centrally located and rises vertically to the roofline and has a metal cap. A cupola-like projection with a hipped tile roof rises out of the flat roof addition. Shed roof dormers are found on the east end of the south elevation's roofline and in the portion of the building that was added in 1934. This building had an elaborate tower brick smokestack used for the building's steam heating system that was removed in 1978 due to deterioration (See Figure 1).

#### Interior:

The interior of the building has changed over the years with the evolving demands of the newspaper as a business, but the original pattern and function of the interior spaces continue to represent the building's historical function (See Photo 14). The north part of the original building still functions as the primary commercial office area in which the public is provided access into the building. The look and feel of the commercial printing

Southeast Missourian Building

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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business is retained throughout this space and much of the original wood trims, window fenestration and frames remain as they did at completion in 1925 (See Photo 15). The conference room located in the northeast corner is the original executive office of the Naeter brothers and retains the original fireplace, mantel and decorative woodwork (See Photo 16) (See Figure 2).

The second floor continues to function as living space and has been renovated for the publisher's residence. The executive offices are also located on the second level. Currently vacant and used mostly for storage, the second floor of the Vedder Building addition remains much as it did when the Naeter brothers purchased the building in 1951. The first floor houses the accounting offices (See Photo 17). The south end of the Vedder Building continues to operate as the production, research and circulation areas.

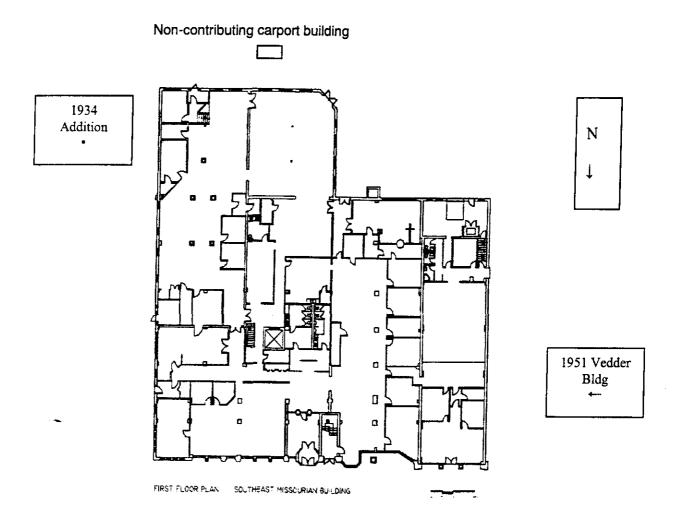
The Southeast Missourian Building continues to project a professional business atmosphere relevant to the Broadway business district and stands as an excellent representative example of Spanish Colonial Revival style architecture. The building retains its integrity of setting, location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association such that the historic character of the Southeast Missourian Building remains much as it did in 1925.

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Southeast Missourian Building Historic and Architectural Resources of Cape Girardeau, Missouri Cape Girardeau County, MO

### First Floor – Floor Plan



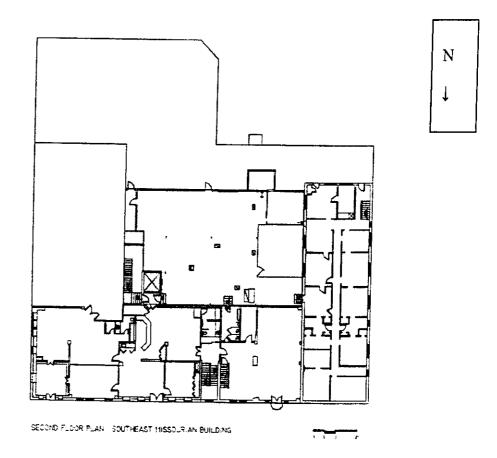
Source: Southeast Missourian Archives

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Second Floor-Floor Plan



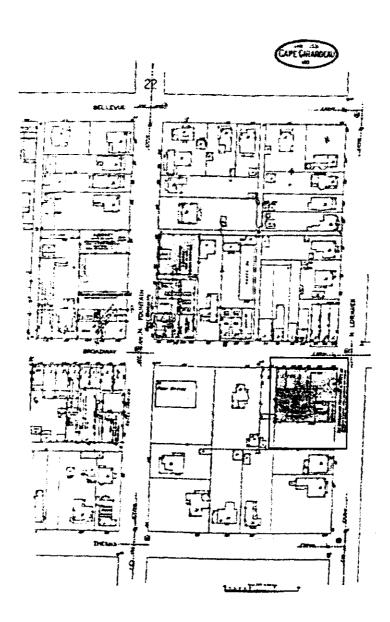
Source: Southeast Missourian Archives

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Sanborn Map – 1931



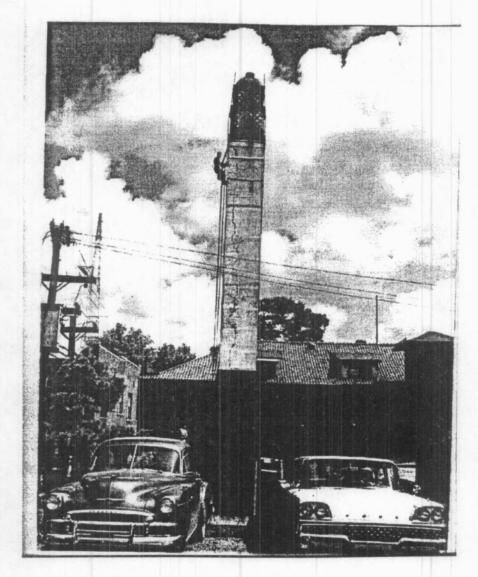
Source: Cape Girardeau County Archive Center

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Photo of Original Smokestack Date Unknown



Source: Southeast Missourian Archives

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Southeast Missourian Building Historic and Architectural Resources of Cape Girardeau, Missouri Cape Girardeau County, MO

#### Summary:

Completed in 1925, the Southeast Missourian Building, located at 301 Broadway, Cape Girardeau, Cape Girardeau County, Missouri, is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of COMMUNICATION and Criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE. The building, located in the downtown business district, is representative of the commercial building property type 20th century Commercial Buildings in Cape Girardeau and meets the requirements set forth by the Multiple Property Cover Document, "Historic and Architectural Resources of Cape Girardeau, Missouri." The Southeast Missourian Building is an excellent representation of business and commerce in Cape Girardeau through the communication business as a newspaper. This building, as stated in the "Historic and Architectural Resources of Cape Girardeau, Missouri," meets the registration requirements under Criterion A as a building that reflects the traditional commercial area of Cape Girardeau in the early 20th century and for its significant historic impact within the community. In September 1904, George and Fred Naeter, brothers, came to Cape Girardeau from St. Louis for a short trip and decided to make a commitment to the community by purchasing a defunct newspaper, The Daily Republican. Through their efforts and those of another brother, Harry, it soon became Cape Girardeau's most successful newspaper and their new building comprised an influential part of the westward expansion of the Broadway business district. The Naeter brothers advanced Cape Girardeau and Southeast Missouri into a category with cities like St. Louis by implementing the most up-to-date printing technology in their business and by taking a stand for the betterment of the community, making the Southeast Missourian the first non-partisan newspaper in the region. The Southeast Missourian continues to provide the community with an authoritative and informative news publication.

The Southeast Missourian Building is locally significant under **Criterion C** for its outstanding Spanish Colonial Revival design and unique craftsmanship and is listed as a "prominent example of the Spanish Revival style" in the Multiple Property Cover Document, "Historic and Architectural Resources of Cape Girardeau, Missouri." The Southeast Missourian Building meets the registration requirements of **Criterion C** in that the building retains its integrity of location, setting, materials, design, association, feeling and workmanship, and it maintains the historic character of its original overall façade, including original upper façade decoration and original or early window openings. The period of significance is from the time of completion in 1925 until 1955, the arbitrary closing date for the National Register of Historic Places.

Included in the boundaries of this nomination is one modern, non-contributing carport building, located south of the contributing building in the parking area.

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#### Elaboration:

During the steamboat years, Cape Girardeau became one of Southeast Missouri's most prosperous communities. The Mississippi River provided a transportation route for settlers and early entrepreneurs to access the valuable resources of the area such as timber, furs, and, later, agricultural products including cotton, tobacco and wheat.<sup>2</sup>

In 1900, Louis Houck, one of Cape Girardeau's most prominent and loyal citizens, successfully linked Cape Girardeau to many smaller communities in the region creating a regional railroad and efficient transportation network that helped stimulate the local economy. The St. Louis and San Francisco Railway Company eventually purchased Houck's rail system, giving the city direct connections with St. Louis and Memphis.<sup>3</sup>

During the World's Fair in St. Louis, in September 1904, Fred and George Naeter took an excursion on the steamer *Chester* from St. Louis to the small river town of Cape Girardeau. With only sightseeing intentions, the Naeter brothers took a walking tour of the town, but within hours news had traveled that two St. Louis newspaper men had arrived. They soon discovered that Cape Girardeau's local newspaper, *The Daily Republican*, was for sale. Postmaster E.W. Flentge and M.E. Leming, owners of *The Daily Republican*, were indebted to the bank for nearly \$1800.00 and wanted desperately to abandon their failing business. Flentge and Leming agreed to sell the paper to the Naeters with only \$200.00 down. Within less than a month of their arrival, the Naeter brothers became the owners of one of two daily newspapers in Cape Girardeau.<sup>4</sup>

The love for publishing was a family affair. The Naeter brothers began their newspaper careers very early in life. At the age of seventeen, George worked as a printer for the local newspaper in Shelbina, Missouri. Around that time, he was also operating his own weekly paper, *The Enterprise*, in Hunnewell, Missouri. His salary was much lower than expected, so after a year he worked as a journeyman printer for various city newspapers including the *Globe-Democrat* in St. Louis. George's brother, Fred, also began his career in Shelbina, Missouri. He purchased the local newspaper, *The Torchlight*, and ran a successful business for five years. He also managed several other newspapers prior to coming to Cape Girardeau. Their younger brother Harry, who quickly joined them in Cape Girardeau, worked as a reporter for the *Chicago Tribune* while in college. Harry left college to assume charge over the news for his brothers'

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Snider and Collins, <u>Cape Girardeau</u>: <u>Biography of a City</u> Cape Girardeau, MO: Ramfre Press, 1956, pp. 218-219 and 250-251.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid., pp. 263-264.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Behymer, F.A. "The Brothers Took a Chance." St. Louis Post Dispatch, 6 March 1948.

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newspaper. <sup>5</sup> At the time of his death, February 22, 1918, from complications due to surgery, he was the managing editor. <sup>6</sup>

Prior to his untimely death, Harry contended that the purpose of their newspaper should not be as a political organ but should be an independent voice for the betterment of the people of Cape Girardeau and Southeast Missouri. Just prior to this policy change, Harry died. In honor of him, Fred and George renamed the newspaper *The Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian* on March 1, 1918, and declared it would be independent and under the influence of no party or class.<sup>7</sup>

Originally, the newspaper business was located in the Opera House Building (now known as Royal N'Orleans Restaurant) at 300 Broadway. Within one year, the Naeter brothers were evicted from the building due to the excessive noise of the press. Patrons of the Opera House complained that actors could not be heard during performances. On July 22, 1905, the Naeters moved their newspaper to Dr. Wilson's home at Broadway and Spanish Streets, where they remained for three years, relocating again on November 6, 1908.

The Naeters continually upgraded their printing technology and throughout Southeast Missouri became renowned pioneers due to these advancements. In 1906, they were the first newspaper publishers south of St. Louis to use electrically powered printing equipment, installed on April 20, 1906, as well as the first to purchase a linotype machine, which they did on May 12, 1906. They also were the first newspaper in this region to receive telegraph news reports and to use a Duplex press, acquired in 1908, that had the ability to print, fold and deliver complete "either a 4, 6 or 8-page paper from a large roll of newsprint paper," and to do so at the rate of four to five thousand an hour. Due to their success, they once again outgrew their location. In 1908, Louis Houck, a strong supporter, urged the Naeters to erect a modern building to represent the local newspaper. With his assistance in making the financial arrangements at the bank, they borrowed \$18,000 to construct a new home for the newspaper at 225 Broadway. This facility served the newspaper for over seventeen years until further expansion became necessary.

<sup>6</sup> "Youngest of Brothers Called to His Reward," *Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian*, 4 October 1929.

7 Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> "Missourian First in District with Best Equipment." *Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian*, 11 September 1925.

10 "Missourian Observes 20th Anniversary By Letting Contract For New Building." The Cape Girardeau

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition, Southeast Missourian, October 3, 1929.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> "Highlights in History of Southeast Missourian." *Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian*, 11 September 1925.

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Due to the substantial success of their newspaper business, the brothers were frequently asked to sell their ever-growing business, but each time declined. In an article by the St. Louis Post Dispatch, Fred Naeter explained his feeling towards the selling of his newspaper when asked by a buyer how much they would sell for, "What will you take for your wife?' The man was silent. 'Well, that's how it is with us." They felt strong passion and commitment not only to the newspaper, but to Cape Girardeau. Operating with the philosophy of "do good to others," the Naeter brothers constantly tried to use their resources to help better the community. 12 At a 1931 Alabama Press Association meeting, Fred said, "A newspaper can be the eyes and the voice of the community. It can watch the trend of affairs; it can note the important things that other communities are doing; it can keep the people informed; and then it can lead the way." That is precisely what the Naeter brothers attempted to do for the community with their newspaper. 13

Fred and George Naeter not only contributed to the economic and political development of Cape Girardeau through their non-partisan newspaper publication but also donated time and finances to enhance the environmental conservation of the city. City beautification was a priority to the Naeters who were involved in the improvement of Cape Rock Drive, as well as development of Boulder Crest, a residential area. Road, street, and highway improvements for both city and state were also part of their beautification campaign. During the 1930s, the Naeters used their newspaper to support the bond issue that would create Arena Park. Their efforts also helped develop Ten Mile Garden, a stretch of land that lay between Cape Girardeau and Jackson that was covered in rose bushes. Alongside beautification, preservation was also a passion of the brothers. Their preservation undertakings included assisting the restoration and preservation of the Cape Girardeau Common Pleas Courthouse and the Old McKendree Chapel located north of Cape Girardeau.14

George Naeter enjoyed history and wrote the "Out of the Past" column for the Southeast Missourian for over 25 years. He was a member of the executive committee of the Associated Committees for Historic Cape Girardeau, and was associated with the Cape Girardeau County Historical Society. George was also a member of the advisory board of the Salvation Army for thirty-four years. In 1952, he was awarded a lifetime membership in the Salvation Army, an honor rarely given. He also sat on the Southeast

Southeast Missourian. 3 October 1924.

<sup>14</sup> Behymer, F.A.

Behvmer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Southeast Missourian, September 16, 2004.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> "Newspaper Guide Described by Naeter." <u>Editor & Publisher</u>, September 5, 1931, 64:51.

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Missouri Hospital Board and contributed to their one million dollar addition. Fred, on the other hand, was more involved in political undertakings. He served under several of Missouri's governors as a member of many state boards and commissions. In fact, he and Harry S. Truman were long-time friends before Truman became President. In 1954, in acknowledgement for their many contributions and dedication to the community, Fred and George Naeter were given the Community Service Award at the Inland Daily Press Association annual meeting. 16

Their regard for city beautification is also reflected through the design and style of the Southeast Missourian Building, considered one of Cape Girardeau's grandest architectural landmarks. The *Southeast Missourian* announced its plans for new quarters on July 2, 1924.

The Missourian has the distinction of being the biggest daily newspaper published in a city the size of Cape. This is of much credit to the city and its citizens, it represents the character of the community it serves. Believing that Cape Girardeau and the Southeast Missourian are now at the beginning of the greatest period of permanent development, The Missourian will enlarge its quarters in the best town which is entitled to the largest and most ornate printing plant.

Finding an appropriate location for the new Southeast Missourian Building was key for the Naeters. They wanted to continue their business in the rising Broadway business district but needed plenty of space to accommodate their rapid growth. The lot they chose was occupied by the old Doyle house and was considered one of the prime locations for a commercial business in town. Local tradition claims the site has a historical association as Louis Lorimier's established trading post in 1793. In 1807 John Randol purchased the track of land, No. 6 of Range D in the District of territory of Louisiana from Louis Lorimier. The Naeters were well aware of the historic significance of the property to the citizens of Cape Girardeau and felt it their responsibility to build their structure both well and beautifully and to serve their community in a higher capacity with more determination than ever before. The new home of the newspaper would occupy more land area than any other commercial building in Cape Girardeau

<sup>16</sup> "Fred w. Naeter Dies, Founded Missourian With Two Brothers." Southeast Missourian, 18 September 1965.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> "George A. Naeter, Co-Publisher of the Missourian Passes Away." *Southeast Missourian*, 12 November 1956.

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and, when completed, would be the most significant example of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture in the region.

On July 1, 1924, construction began on the current Southeast Missourian Building at 301 Broadway with costs totaling \$200,000 (See Figures 2 and 3). The Naeter brothers awarded the construction contract to J.W. Gerhardt Company and commissioned Tom P. Barnett of the prominent firm, Barnett, Haynes, and Barnett of St. Louis to design the Southeast Missourian Building. The firm designed other prominent structures in Cape Girardeau such as Hecht's Store and the Himmelberger and Harrison Building. Barnett was the youngest brother in this firm and traveled throughout Europe as an artist and designer, and had a renowned flair for style and a fine reputation. Barnett referred to the Southeast Missourian as,

"The finest newspaper home to be found in a city of its size in the entire United States shall be my masterpiece." 18

Barnett's European influence is evident in his own description of his plans for the new building, "a two story framework with reinforced concrete and brick walls, the roof would be of vari-colored Spanish tiles, stucco exterior walls with a Moravian glazed tile base that runs along the Broadway and Lorimier Street walls. The façade will have massive doors and arched windows stained a deep, dark red with ornamental Spanish balconies above." The Spanish design was one Barnett had used often before, and he had traveled to Spain to study Spanish architecture. The style was chosen because, in the words of the editors themselves, "The Missourian proposes carrying on in a building of the Spanish type, not because of any particular esteem for the Spanish customs or ideals, but because the Spanish type of architecture conforms to the artistic ideas of The Missourian." The new building was designed to depict the Naeters' ideas of community beautification and development they felt strongly about and encouraged. The Naeter brothers requested that Barnett be meticulous when designing the doors. It was important that the doors be not only beautiful but very inviting, encouraging the people of the community to step inside the Missourian's new home.

The Spanish Colonial Revival design was a prominent style in 1915-1940. It originated from the early Spanish Colonial, Mission and Mediterranean styles found in Mexico,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> "Missourian Observes 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary By Letting Contract For New Building." *Southeast Missourian*, 3 October 1924.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> "The Missourian's New Building Will Occupy Most Historic Site In City." *Southeast Missourian*, New Year Edition, 31 December 1924.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> "These Doorways Are." Southeast Missourian. New Year Addition, 31 December 1924.

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Spain and later Florida, California and the American Southwest. Characterized by its deeply sculptured surfaces and rich decorative features, it was prevalent in California and the American Southwest around the 1890s and migrated eastward by the 1900s. Exposure to the style at the Panama-California Exposition at San Diego in 1915 contributed to its rapid rise in acceptance by leading architects around the country. By the 1920s, the picturesque Spanish motifs had become a popular style for residential homes, grand railroad terminals, hotels and commercial structures throughout America.<sup>21</sup>

The Spanish Colonial Revival style of architecture was very popular in Cape Girardeau and can be found in many of the city's prominent commercial buildings such as the Marquette Hotel (NR 04/11/2002), Hecht's Store (Cape Girardeau Commercial Historic District, NR 07/20/2000), the Surety Insurance Building (Broadway and North Fountain Street Historic District, NR 07/17/2003), the B'Nai Israel Synagogue, (NR 05/07/2004) and Lueders studios, (427 Broadway Street). Although given the Naeter brothers' comments in the press it seems unlikely that it played any role in their choice of the style for the Southeast Missourian building, a number of people have commented over the years about the appropriateness of the style for buildings in Cape Girardeau because of the early Spanish political heritage of the territory.

The Southeast Missourian Building was dedicated on September 11, 1925 becoming the most exemplary structure of Spanish Colonial Revival design in Southeast Missouri. The dedication was attended by hundreds of people, coming from as far away as 1,000 miles. The two-day celebration of the dedication was attended by high ranking state officials, judges, leading editors and officials within the newspaper business from across the country. The people attending the dedication ceremony began the celebration in St. Louis, traveling down the Mississippi River by riverboat, to Cape Girardeau where the guests were greeted by the Marquette Band. They then disembarked and walked up the three blocks to tour the new home of the Southeast Missourian. The celebration continued with lunch served aboard the boat, followed by a concert given by the Marquette Band in the Courthouse Park, a sightseeing tour of sites around town, an afternoon tea for the ladies, an evening banquet at the Idan-Ha Hotel, and, at 9:00 p.m., everyone joined in a community festival, complete with dancing in the streets of downtown Cape Girardeau. The celebration continued the following day with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Stephens, Jane and Bonnie Stepenoff, "Style and Meaning: The Spanish Revival in Cape Girardeau," Missouri Valley Chapter Newsletter. Vol. IV, Number 3 1998.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> "The Missourian's New Building Will Occupy Most Historic Site In City." Southeast Missourian, New Year Edition, 31 December 1924, Stephens and Stepenoff, "Style and Meaning," and, "Bronze Tablet on Missourian Building Marks Spot Where Western Civilization Got Its Start," Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian, 3 September 1928.

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more events, including a tour of Southeast Missouri, dinner aboard the Steamer Cape Girardeau, a fireworks display, and a band concert on the riverfront. Guests left the following day by boat and traveled back up the Mississippi River.<sup>23</sup>

Many of the prominent features that distinguish the Spanish Colonial Revival style are exhibited by the Southeast Missourian Building. The use of stucco finish exterior walls accented with decorative glazed tile, arched entrances and windows, spiraled columns, elaborate ornamental window surrounds, wrought iron balconies and a low pitch tile roof are defining significant features.<sup>24</sup> The Southeast Missourian Building exemplifies well the architectural details and design of the Spanish Colonial Revival style.

The Naeters continued their efforts to enhance their building and to preserve local history by picturing landmark events and prominent individuals in mosaic tile. <sup>25</sup> In 1947, the Naeters contracted the Mosaic Tile Company in Zanesville, Ohio to make two tile panels in under-glazed ceramic stains to be placed on the east exterior walls of the structure. One of the murals is titled "Art of Printing," which depicts the beginnings of printing with Gutenberg, who made the first movable type and printing press, then printers in the Washington hand press era, and the rotary press. It also portrays local pioneers, like Colonel Robert Sturdivant who published the first newspaper in Cape Girardeau; Louis Houck, a railroad pioneer; one of the newspaper publishers, and Allen Hinchey, a well known local historian and one-time city editor of the *Southeast Missourian*. <sup>26</sup>

The second mural, "Gathering and Disseminating News," offers a view of the daily routine to produce, manage and publish a daily newspaper. It depicts the countless efforts of reporters, artists, photographers, pressman, staff, printers, and carrier boys who worked so diligently to bring the community the news. Social and cultural icons are also represented on this mural including Harry S. Truman, Mme. Ernestine Schumann Heink who entertained "Her Boys" during World War One, John Phillip Sousa, Billy Sunday and General Evangeline Booth.<sup>27</sup>

#### Conclusion:

<sup>23</sup> "Hundreds Here For Opening Of The Missourian." *Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian*, 11 September 1925.

September 1925.

24 McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses, New York: Knopf, Inc., 2000, pp 129 and 417

and 417.

<sup>25</sup> Serena, Dr. Joseph. "Tales Told in Tile," <u>Cape Girardeau A Good Place to Live and Work.</u> Missourian Printing and Stationer Co., Cape Girardeau, MO: 1948.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

27 Ibid.

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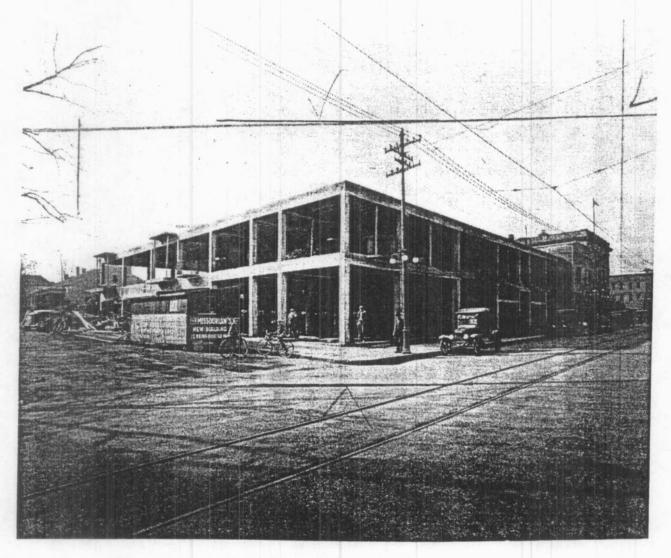
The Southeast Missourian newspaper has represented the voice of the people since October 3, 1904. It has served not only past generations, but also continues to serve present and future generations. In 1977, the Naeter brothers sold the Southeast Missourian to Thomson Newspaper Inc., and on June 26, 1986 the newspaper was purchased by Gary Rust, the present owner. Rust's sons, Jon and Rex, are currently co-presidents of Rust Communications. Jon is also the Publisher, and another son, Gary II, is Director of New Media. Like the Naeter brothers, the Rust family, father and sons, are dedicated businessmen and loyal to Cape Girardeau and its citizens. The Naeter brothers, Fred, George, and Harry, were devoted to the city and their financial contributions resulted in economic growth for the business community and their beautification efforts have had long lasting effects. In many ways, the Southeast Missourian embodies the preservation of history. It has reported and recorded the events and news of the community, region, state, country and the world for 100 years, making a significant impact on the history of the community. The Southeast Missourian Building is Cape Girardeau's most worthy example of Spanish Colonial Revival Architecture and still retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. It represents well the period of significance from 1925 to 1954, and appears much as it did when it opened its doors for business in 1925.

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Southeast Missourian Building under construction Circa 1925



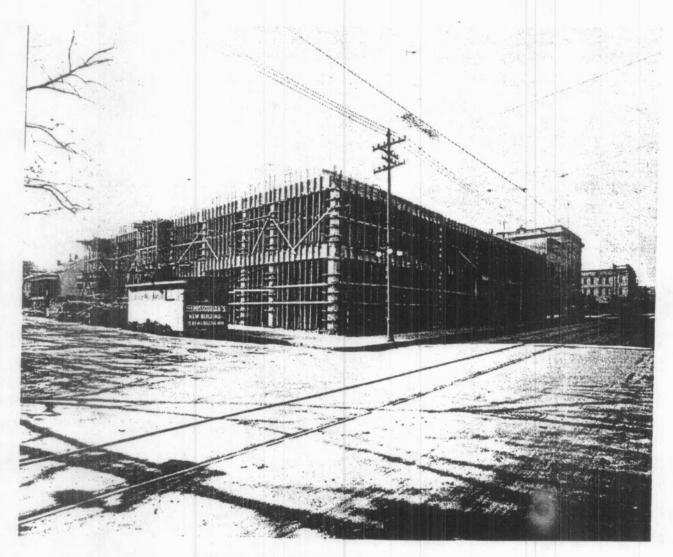
Source: Southeast Missourian Archives

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Southeast Missourian Building under construction Circa 1925



Source: Southeast Missourian Archives

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#### 9. Biblography

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"Youngest of Brothers Called to His Reward." Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian, 4 October 1929.

Southeast Missourian Building

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#### 10. Geographical Data:

**Verbal Boundary Description:** The North Half of Lot 6 in Range "D" in the City of Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Also, Part of Lots 6 and 7 in Range "D" in the City of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, described as follows: Begin at a point on the west line of Lorimier Street, 174.25 feet north of the southeast corner of said Lot 6; thence west, parallel with Themis Street, a distance of 142 feet; thence South, parallel with Lorimier Street, 55 feet; thence East, parallel with Themis Street, 142 feet to the west line of Lorimier Street; thence North along the west line of Lorimier Street, 55 feet to the place of beginning.

**Boundary Justification:** The boundary encompasses all of the land historically associated with the building.

#### **Accompanying Documentation:**

#### Photographs:

The following information is the same for all photographs, unless noted:

Southeast Missourian, Broadway, Cape Girardeau, Cape County, Missouri

Photographer: Melinda Winchester Negative Source: Melinda Winchester

- #1 Street View of Façade, facing southwest, August 2004
- #2 Historic door opening, facing south, August 2004
- #3 Façade, facing southeast, August 2004
- #4 Current entrance on façade, facing south, August 2004
- #5 Façade second floor and roof timbers, facing southeast, August 2004
- #6 1951 Addition Vedder Building, facing south, August 2004
- #7 East elevation, facing southwest, August 2004
- #8 East entry, facing west, August 2004
- #9 East elevation with 1934 addition, facing northwest, July 2004
- #10 Mural, facing west , August 2004
- #11 Mural, facing west, August 2004
- #12 South elevation (rear), October 2004
- #13 South elevation (rear), October 2004
- #14 Interior main lobby, October 2004

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#15 Interior wood work, facing east, October 2004

#16 Fireplace, facing south, October 2004

#17 Interior of 1951 addition second floor, October 2004

