

SITE FILE COPY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Missouri	
COUNTY: St. Louis	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON: "Thornhill"	
AND/OR HISTORIC: Governor Frederick Bates Estate	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Faust County Park--Olive Street Road *			
CITY OR TOWN: Chesterfield			
STATE: Missouri	CODE: 63017	COUNTY: St. Louis	CODE: 189

3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	OWNERSHIP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	PUBLIC ACQUISITION: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	STATUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation			
STREET AND NUMBER: 7900 Forsyth Boulevard			
CITY OR TOWN: Clayton	STATE: Missouri	CODE: 63105	CODE: 29

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Recorder of Deeds--County Government Center			
STREET AND NUMBER: 7900 Forsyth Boulevard			
CITY OR TOWN: Clayton	STATE: Missouri	CODE: 63105	CODE: 29

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1941 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Historic American Buildings Survey			
STREET AND NUMBER: National Park Service			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: D.C.	CODE: 20020	CODE: 08

STATE: Missouri
COUNTY: St. Louis
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

*Congressional District #8: The Honorable Richard Ichord

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"Thornhill," the estate of Frederick Bates, Missouri's second state governor (1824-1825), is located in Faust County Park, Chesterfield, St. Louis County, Missouri. Faust County Park is currently being developed as a recreational and interpretive facility by the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation. "Thornhill," the residence on the Bates Estate, is the major historical feature of the park, and development of the site will include a restoration of the structure, outbuildings, and grounds. The historical area of Faust County Park will make the site a "destination area." Visitors are expected to come not only from St. Louis County, but from the entire metropolitan area.¹ The entrance to the "Thornhill" estate is located between two large stands of evergreens, and the road leading to the house generally follows an old farm road which affords an outstanding view of the property. The access road will be relocated slightly to provide for concealed automobile parking, but development in the historical area will be sensitive to conditions which existed during the time of Frederick Bates' residence. This nomination includes that area so designated on the site plan map, delineated by the proposed security fence.

The master development plan for the park includes three complementary areas. The rolling meadow near the park entrance, with its mature stands of evergreens, will be the primary picnicking area. The open space near the center of the park includes the historical area, and will be reserved for restoration of existing structures.² Other areas are designated for conservation and nature study. The actual development of the park will be accomplished in three phases of construction. The first priority will be to construct facilities for a picnic area near the park entrance, including comfort stations, shelters, and utilities. The second phase will include development of new access roads, construction of parking areas, and a discrete observation building on a knoll near the edge of the park. Several hiking trails are planned for the second development phase, and a residence will be constructed to allow the superintendent to move from the historical area prior to restoration. The third phase of development includes complete restoration of the Bates Estate to simulate living conditions in the 1820's. In this manner, the Faust County Park will complement the interpretive value of the First Missouri State Capitol at nearby St. Charles, Missouri. The First Capitol has been restored to represent a residential, commercial, and governmental center in a Missouri rivertown during the early 1820's. The restoration of the Bates Estate will provide an expression of rural farm life in the same vicinity at a similar time.

The St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation intends to spend about \$250,000 in the restoration of the historical area. Developments will include the following improvements: (see site plan map)³

1. Archaeological investigations of the house, privy, well, gardens, and walks. (Completed in June, 1972: David L. Browman, "Archaeological Excavations at the Governor Frederick Bates Estate, Report No. 1").

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1819**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"Thornhill" was the residence of Frederick Bates, Missouri's second state governor (1824-1825). The home is located in Bon Homme township, near Chesterfield, (St. Louis County), Missouri. "Thornhill" is the oldest extant residence of a Missouri governor, and is afforded additional historical significance because of Governor Bates' association with events occurring at the restored First Missouri State Capitol in nearby St. Charles, Missouri. Following restoration by the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation, "Thornhill" will simulate life on a rural Missouri farm during the early statehood period.

Frederick Bates came to Missouri from the Michigan Territory as the result of an appointment by President Jefferson in 1806. Frederick Bates, brother of Edward Bates (1793-1896), was born in Virginia. After several years in the territorial government at Detroit, Frederick Bates was appointed Secretary of the Louisiana Territory at a time when Jefferson was fearful of hostile political developments in the west as a result of the Aaron Burr conspiracies. Bates was transferred to St. Louis primarily because of his reliability and close association with the Jefferson administration. Bates succeeded the former Secretary, Mr. Joseph Browne, Aaron Burr's brother-in-law. Bates arrived in St. Louis on April 1, 1807, and immediately began assembling a code of law for the Louisiana Territory, which he published in 1808. It was the first book published in Missouri.⁴ Although Bates continued to reside in St. Louis, there is some evidence that he gained possession of property in Bon Homme township as early as 1809. During that year Bates attempted to sell a portion of his lands in the St. Louis area which he had acquired as a result of a grant "to the followers of Captains Lewis and Clark."⁵ There is no indication if this was the property to which Bates later moved and constructed "Thornhill," but the sale notice indicates that Bates owned property in the St. Louis area at an early date.

It is certain that Bates had acquired property in Bon Homme township as early as 1810, since during that year he advertised for lease "two plantations in the settlement of Bon Homme. They adjoin each other and both front the Missouri River. The creek which gives name to the township empties itself through the upper tract...."⁶ In 1812, Frederick Bates was appointed Secretary of the Missouri Territory, a post which he held through three successive terms until the admission of Missouri to the

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Browman, David L., "Archaeological Excavations at the Governor Frederick Bates Estate, Report No. 1," (typescript), Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., June, 1972.
2. Leopard, Buel and Shoemaker, Floyd, Messages and Proclamations of the Governors of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.: State Historical Society of Missouri, 1922. Vol. I.
3. Marshall, Thomas M., The Life and Times of Frederick Bates, St. Louis:

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	38°	40'	06"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	90°	32'	44"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 10 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Stephen J. Raiche, Chief Research Historian

ORGANIZATION: Missouri State Park Board DATE: March 23, '73
State Historical Survey and Planning Office

STREET AND NUMBER: Box #176, 1204 Jefferson Building

CITY OR TOWN: Jefferson City STATE: Missouri 65101 CO.: 29

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

James M. Wilson

Title: Director, Missouri State Park Board, and Missouri State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: 10-17-73

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

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COUNTY	St. Louis	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE

(Number all entries)

7. #1

"THORNHILL"

2. Restoration of the exterior and interior of the house.
3. Restoration of outdoor kitchen and slave cabin.
4. Furnishing of house.
5. Demolishing rooms of house which have been added.
6. Wrought-iron fence around Bates family cemetery.
7. Restore privy.
8. Restore well house.
9. Restore walkways, paths, and roads.
10. Restore vegetable garden.
11. Restore period barn, acquire tools, horse trappings, and vehicles.

DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING CONDITIONS

"Thornhill," the residence of Frederick Bates, was originally a four-bay, two-story, log or half-timbered structure, having two single-story flanking wings appended to both sides (west and east). In later years, a two-story kitchen with sleeping rooms above was added to the rear (north) side, and the east wing was removed. The main house and wing additions have similar medium-pitch gable roofs. Although the house has been extensively modified on the exterior and interior from the period of Governor Bates' occupancy, the structure has been listed in the Historic American Buildings Survey in its present state of modification. In addition, the restoration plan of the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation will obliterate the later additions and replacements to the extent that professional research will allow.

The rear (kitchen) wing was added about 1870-1890, but the porch columns in this wing are those removed from the front (east) porch when that porch was reduced to two-bay width. The rear door in the kitchen wing represents an entrance to a gallery which was closed probably at some time after construction of this wing. The restoration plan specifies the removal of this entire appendage. Archaeological and architectural investigation has disclosed that the west wing is early, and was probably constructed simultaneously with

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7. #2

"THORNHILL"

the main two-story portion of the house. A similar wing on the east side has been determined to have existed during the time of Frederick Bates' occupancy and will be reconstructed to simulate the Governor's office and study. The original house (two-story main portion and west wing) includes random-width flooring and several wood-grained paneled doors which appear to date from the 1820's. The interior stairway leading to the second floor rooms is probably original, although the interior rooms on both floors have been extensively remodeled about 1890. The doorway to the removed eastern wing has been converted to a window. It is assumed that the interior modifications to the main living rooms were accomplished coincidentally with the removal of the eastern wing; the addition of the kitchen, and the replacement of the original sash windows throughout. In several of the rooms in the two-story portion there are certain doors, wooden cabinets, and random-width flooring which suggest construction about 1820. These features are especially obvious on the first floor, west rooms, in the two-story portion. In addition, there is evidence of hand-hewn timbers under the flooring in these west rooms. This portion of the house is set upon a regular ashlar foundation of cut limestone, which undoubtedly survives from the original construction of the house. A rock foundation for an old chimney exists under the floor of the western wing. There is a full basement under the original rooms and the west wing. The full basement has been extended to include that area below the kitchen wing, and a distinct variation in stone is observed to distinguish the added basement portion from the original.

The two main living rooms on the second floor of the original two-story portion exhibit a certain amount of original integrity. The early mantle and cabinet is in place in the west room, and the mantle and sash in the east room survives from a period predating the "modernizations" about 1890. The entire structure has been sided in asbestos sheeting during recent years, and asphalt roof shingles have been added. Restoration plans will include the replacement of original sash (in storage), installation of clapboard siding, removal of the asphalt roof shingles, and interior restoration as extensively as research will permit. Because the house is currently occupied, thorough structural analysis will not be possible until demolition of the appended wings and interior partitions is commenced. It has not been determined whether the front porch originally occurred across the full length of the main facade. Similarly, it has not been possible to ascertain whether the house originally had two front entrances, as are presently observed.

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(Number all entries)

8. #1

"THORNHILL"

Union in 1821. Bates was married in 1819 to Nancy Opie Ball, and moved immediately to a residence which he had constructed at his estate in Bon Homme township.⁷ It is assumed that the extant "Thornhill" house is the residence Bates constructed for himself and his wife in 1819. The tentative construction date is somewhat confirmed since Bates was still receiving mail at the St. Louis post office in August, 1818, indicating that he continued to reside in the City.⁸ Bates' biographer described "Thornhill" as a house "having a broad front and high portico, and was the type with which Bates was familiar in his boyhood days in Virginia...."⁹

There is much evidence that Bates was actively farming "Thornhill" after 1820. In March, 1820, Bates purchased his first slaves, and additional chattels were purchased in December, 1820, and March, 1824. Four children were born to Frederick and Nancy Bates at "Thornhill" between 1820 and 1826. Frederick Bates was elected Governor of Missouri in November, 1824, and delivered his inauguration address to the State Legislature assembled at the First Missouri State Capitol, St. Charles, on November 11, 1824. He maintained an office at the First Capitol buildings and continued to reside at "Thornhill" until his death from pleurisy on August 4, 1825.¹⁰ There are numerous sale notices in St. Louis newspapers as late as 1839 indicating that Bates' estate was being dissolved, and apparently "Thornhill" passed from family ownership about that date.¹¹

FOOTNOTES

1. "Master Site Development Plan--Faust County Park, St. Louis County, Missouri," (typescript), prepared by Harland, Bartholomew and Associates, St. Louis, Missouri, May, 1971., "introduction," p. 1.
2. "Master Site Development Plan...", "general plan," p. 1.
3. "Master Site Development Plan...", "appendix C."
4. Thomas M. Marshall, The Life and Times of Frederick Bates. (St. Louis: 1926), Vol. I, p. 112.
5. Missouri Gazette (St. Louis), April 5, 1809.
6. Missouri Gazette (St. Louis), November 7, 1810.
7. Marshall, Life and Times of Frederick Bates, (1926), Vol. I, pp. 112,240. Missouri Gazette (St. Louis), March 17, 1819.

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STATE		Missouri	
COUNTY		St. Louis	
FOR NPS USE ONLY			
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE	

(Number all entries)

8. #2

"THORNHILL"

8. Marshall, Life and Times of Frederick Bates, (1926), Vol. II, p. 306.
9. Marshall, Life and Times of Frederick Bates, (1926), Vol. I, p. 37.
10. Missouri Republican (St. Louis), September 5, 1825.
11. Missouri Republican (St. Louis), July 9, 1839.

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Missouri	
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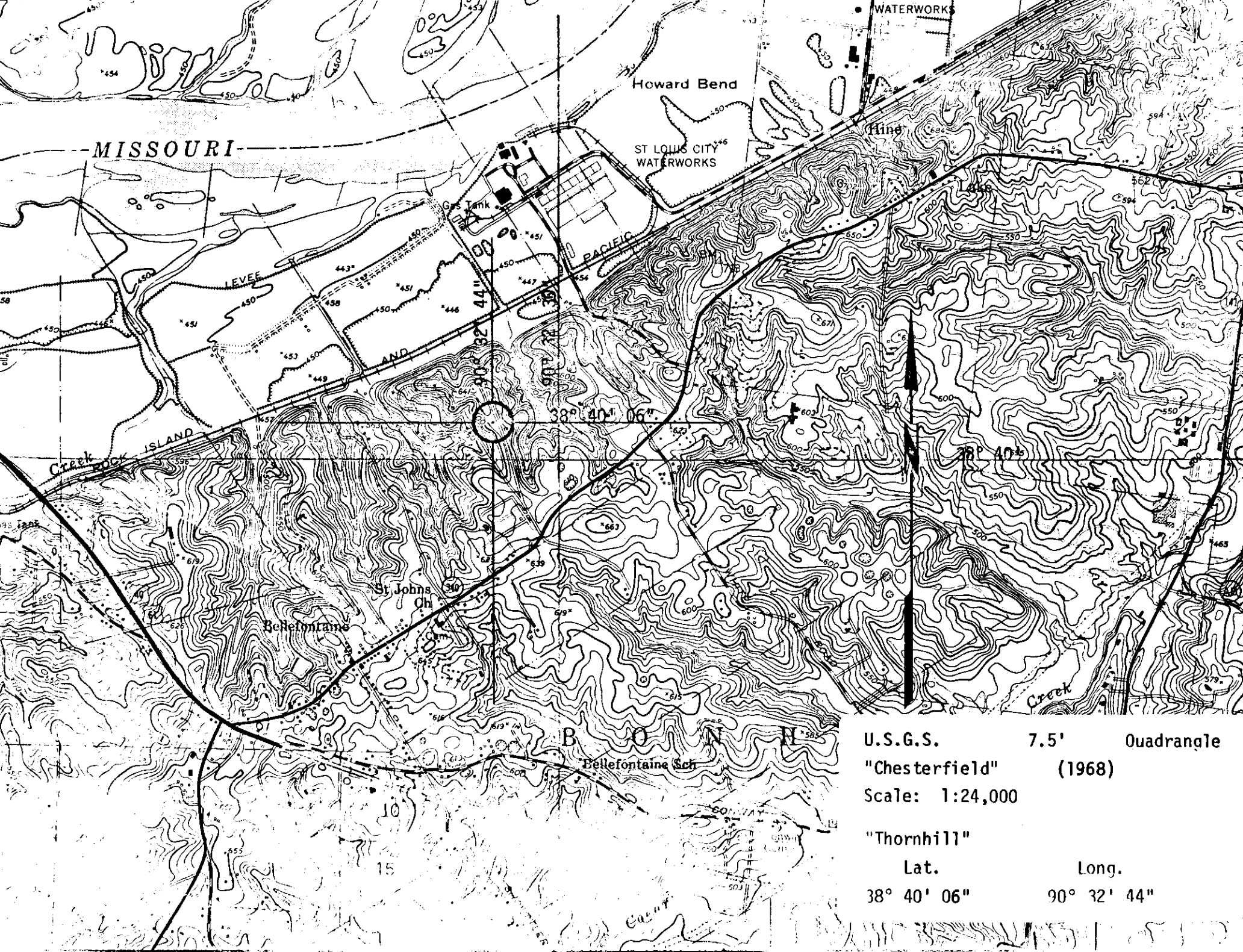
(Number all entries)

9. #1

"THORNHILL"

Missouri Historical Society, 1926.

4. "Master Site Development Plan--Faust County Park, St. Louis County, Missouri," (typescript), prepared by Harland, Bartholomew and Associates, St. Louis, Missouri, May, 1971.
5. Missouri Gazette (St. Louis), April 5, 1809. November 7, 1810.
6. Missouri Republican (St. Louis), September 5, 1825. July 9, 1839.



MISSOURI

Howard Bend

ST LOUIS CITY WATERWORKS

38° 40' 06"

90° 32' 44"

ISLAND

St. Johns Ch.

Bellefontaine

B O N N
Bellefontaine Sch.

U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle

"Chesterfield" (1968)

Scale: 1:24,000

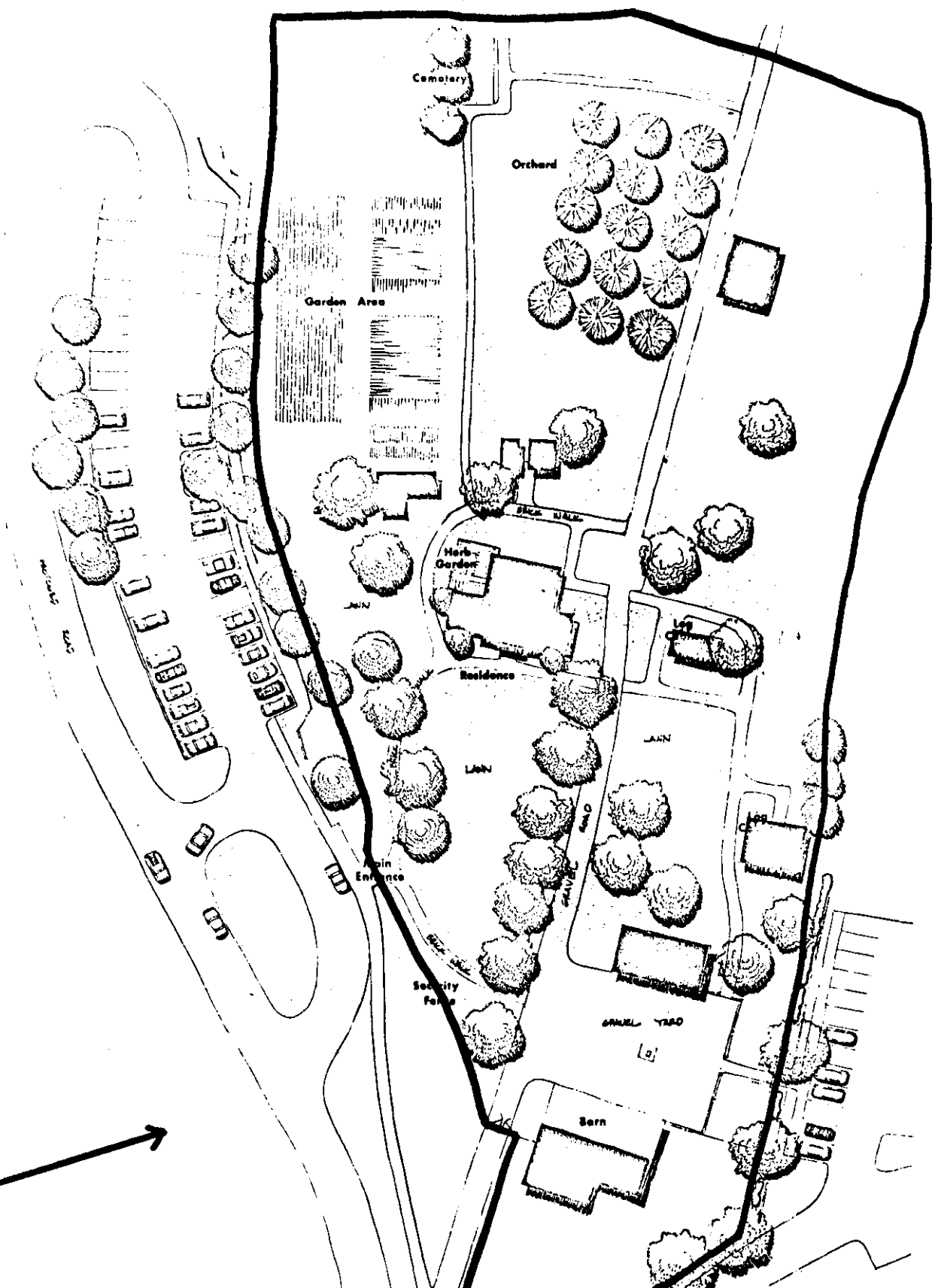
"Thornhill"

Lat.

Long.

38° 40' 06"

90° 32' 44"



TENTATIVE SKETCH PLAN
 FOR RESTORATION OF
THORNHILL

FAUST COUNTY PARK
 SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI



Photo Log:

Name of Property: **Thornhill**

City or Vicinity: **Chesterfield**

County: **St. Louis County** State: **MO**

Photographer: **S.J. Raiche**

Date

Photographed: **Jan. 1973**

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 4. General view, Gov. Frederick Bates Estate, showing "Thornhill" house and period barn. S facing N.

2 of 4. W wing, believed to be part of original structure. Constructed by Frederick Bates in 1819. NW facing SE.

3 of 4. Rear (N) and W facades, showing original wing and rear "kitchen," added circa 1890. NW facing SE.

4 of 4. Barn, believed to be similar age as residence, located approximately 100 yards SE of "Thornhill" house. NW facing SE.







