

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <u>Missouri</u>	
COUNTY: <u>St. Louis</u>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
<u>69-06-24-0030</u>	<u>6/23/69</u>

1. NAME	
COMMON: <u>Louis Auguste Benoist House</u>	
AND/OR HISTORIC: <u>Oakland</u>	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>7802 Genesta Street</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Affton</u>			
STATE <u>Missouri</u>	CODE <u>63123</u>	COUNTY: <u>St. Louis</u>	CODE <u>139</u>

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS
District ☐ Building ☒ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object ☐	Public ☐ Private ☒ Both ☐	Public Acquisition: In Process ☐ Being Considered ☐	Occupied ☒ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work In progress ☐
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC			
Yes: ☒ Restricted ☒ Unrestricted ☐ No: ☐			
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☒ Educational ☐ Entertainment ☐	Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☐ Museum ☐	Park ☐ Private Residence ☒ Religious ☐ Scientific ☐	Transportation ☐ Other (Specify) ☒ <u>Cemetery</u>
Comments ☒ <u>Office, Chapel</u>			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNERS NAME: <u>Lakewood Park Cemetery</u>			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>7802 Genesta Street</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Affton</u>	STATE: <u>Missouri</u>	CODE <u>63123</u>	24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: <u>Office of Recorder of Deeds, St. Louis County Courthouse</u>			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>7900 Forsyth Street</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Clayton</u>	STATE: <u>Missouri</u>	CODE <u>63105</u>	24
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: <u>1/4</u>			

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: <u>Missouri Historic Sites Catalogue</u>			
DATE OF SURVEY: <u>1963</u>	Federal ☐	State ☒	County ☐ Local ☐
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: <u>State Historical Society of Missouri</u>			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>Corner, Hitt and Lowry streets</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Columbia</u>	STATE: <u>Missouri</u>	CODE <u>65201</u>	24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: <u>Missouri</u>	COUNTY: <u>St. Louis</u>	ENTRY NUMBER <u>69-06-24-0030</u>	DATE <u>6/23/69</u>
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7. DESCRIPTION			
CONDITION	(Check One)		
	Excellent ☒	Good ☐	Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed ☐
INTEGRITY	(Check One)		(Check One)
	Altered ☒	Unaltered ☐	Moved ☐ Original Site ☒
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE			
The Benoist house is a two story Italianate style stone house, asymmetrical plan, approximately "L" shaped, with four story tower at center front (east) side. House was designed by prominent St. Louis architect George Ingham Barnett in early 1850s and built before 1854, the year it was first listed in the St. Louis City Directory. (St. Louis County Historic Buildings Survey, Photograph-Data Book Report, "Oakland" prepared by Mrs. Ethel Konzelman, researcher, St. Louis County Park Department, 1967.) House is large with approximate exterior dimensions of 50 x 60 feet, excluding porches. Louis Auguste Benoist built the house just outside the southwest boundary of the City of St. Louis to serve as his country home. The estate originally had 485 acres, in two parcels (see site plan based on Historic American Buildings Survey Site Location Map). The home was built on the highest point of ground within the property. (St. Louis County Historic Buildings Survey, Photograph-Data Book Report, "Oakland" prepared by Mrs. Ethel Konzelman, researcher, St. Louis County Park Department, 1967.) The mass of the building includes: (1) A two story block at the south side under a ridge roof with long dimension oriented east and west. East and west gable ends have full return cornice and central circular windows in each pediment. (2) A two story block at north side under a hipped roof with long dimension oriented north and south. (3) A two story "L" extension to the rear (west), apparently original. (4) The tower, previously mentioned. Walls are of locally quarried white limestone, rough cut and random laid on all sides. Corners are accentuated with stones larger than those in middle sections of wall. Belt course of smooth-finish, square-cut stone rims base of wall just above foundation. South and north blocks of house and tower exhibit full entablature with wide overhanging cornice ornamented by elaborate scroll brackets, and dentil blocks. Rear "L" entablature is more plain. Minor extensions of the main block of the house include: (1) Wooden canopy protecting the main entrance (east) having round arched openings which face north, east and south. (2) Bay windows, rectangular in plan, one on first floor of east gable end wall and one on west gable end wall of south block of house. Both bays have a bracketed cornice and a			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE				
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
Pre-Columbian ☐	16th Century ☐	18th Century ☐	20th Century ☐	
15th Century ☐	17th Century ☐	19th Century ☒		
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) <u>Built ca. 1851</u>				
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
Aboriginal ☐	Education ☐	Political ☐	Urban Planning ☐	
Prehistoric ☐	Engineering ☐	Religion/Philosophy ☐	Other (Specify) ☒	
Historic ☐	Industry ☐	Science ☐	<u>Architecture</u>	
Agriculture ☐	Invention ☐	Sculpture ☐		
Art ☒	Landscape ☐	Social/Humanitarian ☐		
Commerce ☐	Architecture ☐	Theater ☐		
Communications ☐	Literature ☐	Transportation ☐		
Conservation ☐	Military ☐			
	Music ☐			
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)				
Primary significance of "Oakland", the Louis Auguste Benoist country residence, is that it is one of the few examples of the architectural designs of George Ingham Barnett which remain in excellent condition. Barnett was one of the earliest professional architects of enduring stature in St. Louis. "Tower Grove", another example of his design, is the former country residence of St. Louis businessman and amateur botanist, Henry Shaw, founder of the Missouri (Shaw's) Botanical Garden. The house is a superb example of a popular mid-nineteenth century architectural revival style, the Italianate, or Italian Villa style. The surrounding grounds are preserved in semi-original form although now used as a cemetery. The original builder and owner, Louis Auguste Benoist was a prominent citizen of St. Louis where he based his successful banking operations. The son of a Canadian trader, Benoist was born in St. Louis, Missouri in 1803. As a young man he studied law there in two different offices, finishing his studies in 1823. He then visited Europe to look after family property. When he returned to St. Louis, he opened a broker's office. Shortly thereafter, in 1832, he established the city's first banking office. In 1838 his banking business was well established, and he opened a branch in New Orleans. At his death in 1869, his fortune was estimated to exceed three million dollars. In his will he left thirty thousand dollars for the maintenance of "Oakland". (St. Louis County Historic Buildings Survey, Photograph-Data Book Report, "Oakland" prepared by Mrs. Ethel Konzelman, researcher, St. Louis County Park Department, 1967.) The house now serves as a superintendent's residence and administration building for Lakewood Park Cemetery. The building was included in the Historic American Buildings Survey measured drawing project in the summer of 1967.				

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Nazzaro, William J. "Buildings for the Books" St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Sunday, August 13, 1967, Sunday Pictures section, pp. 2-4.
2. St. Louis County Historic Buildings Survey, Photograph-Data Book Report, "Oakland" prepared by Mrs. Ethel Konzelman, researcher, St. Louis County Park Department, 1967.

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 ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	38° 34' 18"	90° 18' 51"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	38° 34' 16"	90° 18' 37"				
SE	38° 34' 01"	90° 18' 39"				
SW	38° 34' 03"	90° 18' 54"				

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <u>M. Patricia Holmes, Research Architectural Historian</u>		
ORGANIZATION	<u>Missouri State Park Board</u>	DATE
	<u>State Historical Survey and Planning Office</u>	<u>May 2, 1969</u>
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>P.O. Box 176, 1201 Jefferson Building</u>		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
<u>Jefferson City</u>	<u>Missouri</u>	<u>24</u>

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 ☐

Name Joseph Jaeger, Jr.

Title Director, Missouri State Park Board, and Missouri State Liaison Officer

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest Allen Casperly
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date JUN 23 1969

ATTEST:

William H. Hunt
Keeper of the National Register

Date JUN 23 1969

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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

(Number all entries)

LOUIS A. BENOIST HOUSE

6. Historic American Buildings Survey (federal)

1967

Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

National Park Service

801 19th Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20006

Code: 08

Missouri State Historical Survey (state)

1968

Missouri State Park Board

P.O. Box 176

1204 Jefferson Building

Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Code: 24

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
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LOUIS A. BENOIST HOUSE

7. roof balcony with wooden railing. Original configuration of glass panels and mouldings is intact on the rear (west) bay, but altered to a French door on the east (front) bay.
(3) The length of first floor south side has five French doors opening onto a colonnaded porch having hipped roof and supported by square columns and ornamental braces. (4) East face of tower's fourth floor level has wooden balcony intact. Similar balconies originally projected from each face of the tower at fourth floor level.

House has window and door openings of both keystone arch and lintel types. Linteled square openings predominate on the first floor. Keystone arch window and door openings are primarily on the second floor. Windows were originally protected by shutters which are now missing.

Roofing material altered from original. Standing seam metal roof covers south porch at present. Roof peak of tower was originally ornamented with a finial which has been removed.

House is well maintained and in excellent condition at present.



U.S.G.S. 7½ Quadrangle
"Webster Groves" (1954)
Scale 1:24,000

Louis A. Benoist House
Latitude Longitude
NE 38° 34' 16" 90° 18' 37"
SE 38° 34' 01" 90° 18' 39"
NW 38° 34' 18" 90° 18' 51"
SW 38° 34' 03" 90° 18' 54"

LOUIS A. BENOIST HOUSE

Encloses Area
Nominated to
National Register.

PLOT PLAN
BENOIST ESTATE-421A.
AFTON, MO.
ST. LOUIS, COUNTY

Mackenzie Road

LAKEWOOD PARK
CEMETERY

RIVER DES PERES

0 1000'
1/4 inch
SCALE



After Jan K. Peterson
8-67, Prepared
March 4, 1969 for
MSHS, Steven Teczar

OAKLAND

Genesta St.

Heege Ave.

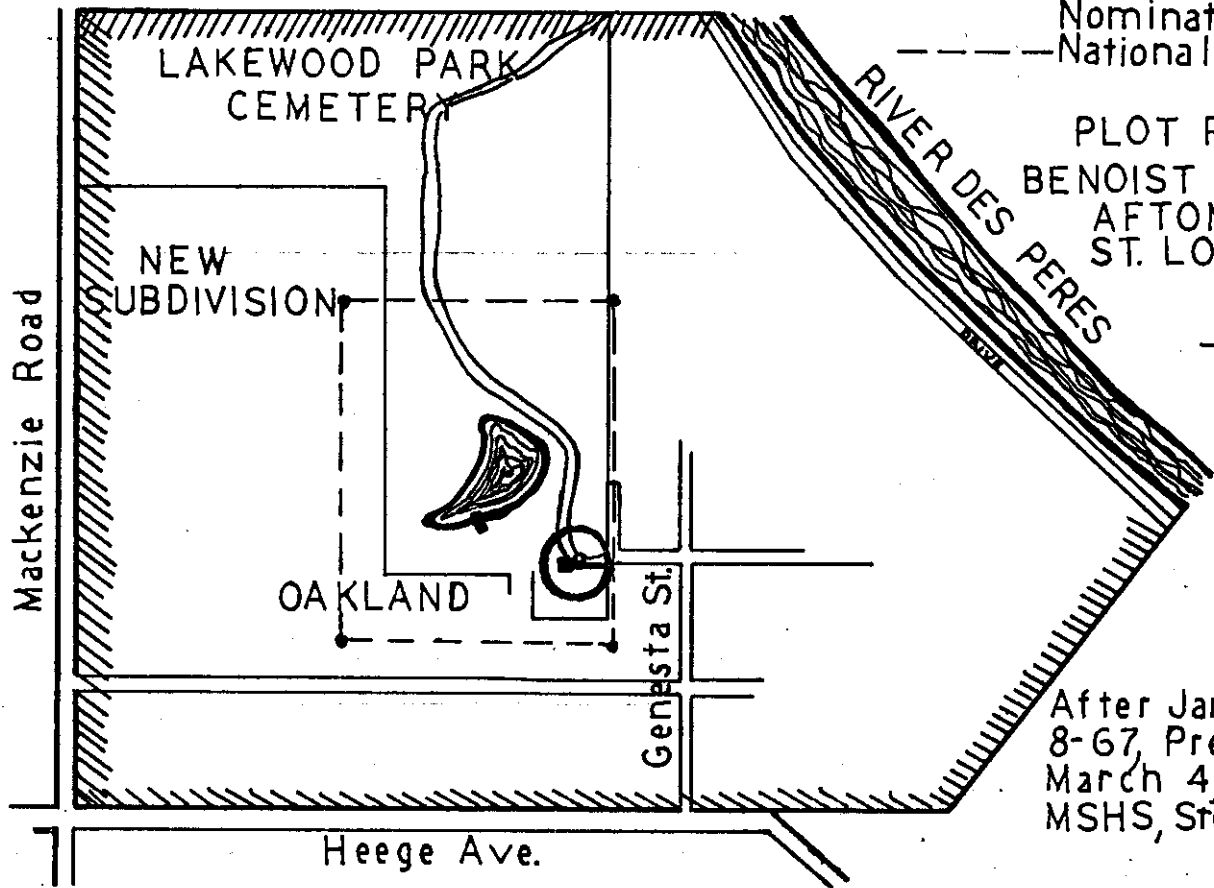


Photo Log:

Name of Property: **Benoist, Louis Auguste, House**

City or Vicinity: **Affton**

County: **St. Louis County**

State: **MO**

Photographer: **Paul Piaget**

Date

Photographed: **1967**

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

1 of 3. Looking W, view of façade (E wall). Features left to right: (1) colonnaded S porch, (2) altered bay window on E gable end wall of the S block, (3) main entranceway on first floor of four story tower and (4) N block.

2 of 3. Looking SW, view of NE corner of the house. Façade (E wall) and tower at left, N wall of N block at center, and N wall of "L" extension at right.

3 of 3. Looking NE, view of bay window with original configuration of glass and moldings on W (rear) gable end wall of S block. A portion of the S wall of the "L" extension is at left.





