

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form****1. Name of Property**historic name Brehe Farmstead Historic Districtother names/site number Brehe, Frederick August, Farmstead; Brehe, Frederick Henry, Farmstead ; Fairview Stock Farm**2. Location**street & number 6180 Bluff Road [N/A] not for publicationcity or town Washington [N/A] vicinitystate Missouri code MO county Franklin code 071 zip code 63090-2307**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments ☐.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Claire F. Blackwell/Deputy SHPODate 8 August 2000Missouri Department of Natural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments ☐.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.See continuation sheet ☐.☐ determined eligible for the
National Register.See continuation sheet ☐.☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.☐ removed from the National
Register.☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources Within Property		
		Contributing	Non-contributing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	7	1	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	0	0	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	1	structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0	objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	7	2	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

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N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/ animal facility
AGRICULTURE/ storage
AGRICULTURE/ processing

Current Functions

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/ animal facility
AGRICULTURE/ storage
AGRICULTURE/ processing

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Other: Vernacular Missouri-German

foundation Stone
walls Brick
Wood
roof Metal
other _____

Narrative Description See continuation sheet [x].

See continuation sheet []

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.
- Criteria Considerations**
 Property is:
- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance
 See continuation sheet [x].

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography
 See continuation sheet [x].

- Previous documentation on file (NPS):**
- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
 # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record
 # _____

Areas of Significance

ARCHITECTURE

ETHNIC HERITAGE: European

AGRICULTURE

Period of Significance

ca. 1865 - 1950

Significant Dates

Significant Person(s)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

- Primary location of additional data:**
- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other:

Name of repository:

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10. Geographical DataAcreage of Property Approximately 6.9 acres**UTM References**

A. Zone	Easting	Northing	B. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	669620	4269900	15	669780	4269920

C. Zone	Easting	Northing	D. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	669780	4269730	15	669600	4269730

[] see continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared Byname/title Debbie Shealsorganization Private Consultant date April, 2000street & number 406 West Broadway telephone 573-874-3779city or town Columbia state Missouri zip code 65203**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.**Photographs**Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.**Additional Items**

(Check with the SHPO or FOP for any additional items)

Property Owner

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

name Gary and Blanche Brehestreet & number 6180 Bluff Road telephone (636) 239-1272city or town Washington state MO zip code 63090

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Brehe Farmstead Historic District
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Materials, con't.

foundation Concrete
walls Metal
roof Asphalt
other Ceramic Tile

Summary: The Brehe Farmstead Historic District is located on the western edge of the city of Washington, Missouri, at 6180 Bluff Road. District boundaries encompass the farmhouse and all intact buildings to have been associated with it during the period of significance. The house was built ca. 1869, and the other buildings of the district range in date from ca. 1865 to ca. 1945. Two of the buildings are of brick; the others are frame. The houseyard includes the two story brick farmhouse, a ca. 1865 brick smokehouse/dwelling combination, a 1940s frame poultry house, and a small frame wellhouse which appears to be less than fifty years old. The barnyard contains a large frame granary built ca. 1925, a ca. 1945 Quonset barn, and a large gambrel roofed bank barn which was built ca. 1930. There is a round ceramic block silo built onto the side of the barn, and a small frame milk house close to the south corner of it. The silo is the same age as the barn; the milk house was built ca. 1930. There is also a modern round metal grain bin near the granary. The grain bin is a non-contributing structure, and the well house in the houseyard is a non-contributing building. The other seven buildings on the farmstead are contributing buildings, and each exhibits a very high level of integrity, inside and out.

The house is a representative example of Property Type B. Vernacular Missouri-German, and the other buildings in the district are representative of Property Type K. Agricultural Outbuildings. All meet the registration requirements set forth in the MPS Cover document, "Historic Resources of Washington, Missouri." The buildings of the district appear today much as they did when new, and they continue to strongly reflect their original, and continuing, agricultural functions. The period of significance for the property runs from the time the smokehouse building was built, ca. 1865, to 1950, the arbitrary fifty year cut off point. Of the eight buildings in the district, 7 are contributing buildings which are highly intact, inside and out.

Elaboration: The farmstead is located just a few hundred feet north of State Highway 100, on the east side of Bluff Road. The farmstead is reached via a long gravel drive which leads up a hill from Bluff Road. The buildings of the district are situated along the ridge of a hill, and are arranged at a 45 degree angle to the compass points. (See Figure One, and photo 12.) They are loosely arranged into a houseyard, and a barnyard. The houseyard includes the house and smokehouse, which are the

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oldest buildings in the district, as well as the poultry house. The lane continues past the house to the barnyard, which contains the granary, two barns, and the milk house. There are several large trees along the hilltop; the surrounding land is composed mostly of rolling open pasture and cropland. The buildings within the district are the only buildings on the property to have been associated with the farming operation during the period of significance.

House, ca. 1869, contributing building.

The house sits facing northeast to the lane. It is a two story brick house with a stone foundation and a side facing gable roof, and standing seam metal roofing. The house has a three bay facade, a dentiled front cornice, and segmental arched door and window openings. (See photos 1-3.) It is an example of the Central Passage subtype of the Vernacular Missouri-German property type discussed in the cover document. The central front door has a two light transom and sits beneath a small open porch which has a gabled roof and slender chamfered posts and pilasters. The porch has simple wooden benches attached to the front posts and the back pilasters, and very small curved brackets at the tops of the posts and pilasters. (See photo 3.) With the exception of newer siding in the gable end, the porch materials are early or original.

The house has a two room deep plan and a modified saltbox roofline. (See photos 2 and 9.) Most of the windows have segmental arched openings, and early or original six over six window sash. There is a small one story frame porch on the southwest side of the house which is a relatively recent addition. The rear part of the house appears to have been built with an open porch or porches which sat beneath the main roofline. At least part of the porch area was converted to rooms at an early date; the back wall has seam lines, two different types of brick, and a variety of window styles. (See photo 2.) A cistern cover and pump sit in the yard near the back wall of the house, and it appears that there was at one time a back door close to the pump.

The front door of the house opens to a small entry foyer which leads to each of the front parlors. (See photo 4.) The back part of the house contains a dining room, a bathroom and the kitchen. The current stairway is in roughly the same location as the original stairs, but was at some point changed to face the rear of the house. The stairs now lead up from the back hallway rather than the front foyer, which was the original configuration.

The second floor has two large bedrooms over the ground floor parlors, as well as two more bedrooms along the back of the house. The floor level of the back rooms is a step lower than that of the front rooms and hall, and the walls dividing them are of brick, with arched door openings. (See photo 6.) The interior woodwork throughout the house is intact and in excellent condition. The doors and windows have pedimented lintel pieces, and most rooms have their original four paneled doors. Most of the rooms also have original hardwood floors which are exposed and in very good condition. (See photos 4 and 5.)

The house also has a full basement, which is built of stone. The basement is unfinished, and the original floor joists are visible in some places. Many of the joists are made of round logs which are notched for cross members and leveled off only where the flooring rests on them. All areas of the

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house are largely intact, and the building overall is in excellent condition.

Well house, ca. 1960, non-contributing, building.

The house sits in a large rectangular fenced yard which lines up with the front lane. A small above-ground pool sits off to the north, and the well house is in the southeast corner of the front yard, south of the house. The well house is frame, with a gable roof and wooded drop siding. It appears to be 30 or 40 years old. It is a small building, measuring only 6 ½ by 7 feet. The well house is a non-contributing building, the only such building on the farmstead.

Smokehouse/dwelling, ca. 1865, contributing building.

The largest outbuilding in the houseyard is a brick smokehouse/dwelling combination which sits due south of the house, just a few feet away. (See Site Plan.) It is an example of the Agricultural Outbuilding property type discussed in the cover document. The brick part of the building is roughly 23 by 15 feet. The smokehouse building is one story tall, with red brick walls and a side facing gable roof which extends down in the front to form a porch. It was built ca. 1865. The roof is covered with a standing seam metal roof that is early or original. Small frame wing walls on either end support the roof overhang. There is a large internal chimney with a corbeled top on the north end, and the south gable end has a diamond shaped brickwork vent. (See photos 7 and 8.) The front of the building has two doors, both of which are topped with segmental brickwork arches. The doors are both built of wide vertical planks with cross bracing, and both appear to be original. The back of the building has a six over six window, and a small basement window, both of which are topped with segmental arches.

Each of the doors opens to a separate room. The room on the north part of the building has unplastered brick walls and an end fireplace with a stove flue above it. It was used as a residence for many years, and appears to have been built for that purpose. The room on the southern end of the building is the smokehouse. It also has unplastered walls, and well as poles in the rafters from which to hang the meat. The walls and rafters are smoke blackened.

The floor of the smokehouse has collapsed, revealing what was at one time a vaulted cellar beneath. The collapse was caused by a thick slab of concrete which was poured over the floor some time in the mid-20th century. It appears that the original floor in the smokehouse was of brick. The cellar had a barrel-vaulted roof, and brick lining inside the stone walls.

There is also a full basement beneath the other side of the building. It also has stone walls, and sawn lumber ceiling joists. The wall between the two basement rooms has been removed. Both parts of the basement have rectangular niches in the walls which are plastered or stuccoed, and about 8 inches deep. A bulkhead door and steps on the northwest wall of the basement lead up to a frame lean-to addition which appears to be more than fifty years old. The addition has board and batten walls, a shed roof, and early six over six double hung windows. The smokehouse is a contributing building.

Poultry house, ca. 1945, contributing building.

A low frame poultry house sits southeast of the smokehouse, just outside the fenced yard.

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(See photo 9.) It is an example of the Agricultural Outbuilding property type discussed in the cover document. It is roughly 24 feet square. It has a front facing gable roof, a concrete foundation, and vertical board walls. The windows of the building have six-over-six sash which appear to be original. There is a four panel door on the side wall, and plank doors on the walls which face the barnyard. The poultry house is set into the slope of the hill; the floor is at ground level at the front, and several feet above grade to the rear.

Granary, ca. 1925, contributing building; modern grain bin, non-contributing structure.

The large frame granary northeast of the poultry house is a frame building with a concrete foundation and a front facing gable roof which is parallel to that of the house. It is an example of the Agricultural Outbuilding property type discussed in the cover document. The granary is 40 feet long and 28 feet wide. The roof is sheathed with corrugated tin, and the walls are of board and batten. The granary has a center aisle wide enough to drive through, and large sliding doors at each end. The area southwest of the aisle has bins for loose grain, and the opposite side of the building contains a corn crib. There is an early machine shed addition along the northeast wall; it is 15 feet wide. The addition has a shed roof with the same roofing, the same type of wall sheathing, and large end openings. There is a large round grain bin of corrugated tin just off the south corner of the granary, it is modern, and a non-contributing structure.

Quonset Barn, ca. 1945, contributing building.

The Quonset barn is located due south of the granary. It is a relatively late example of the Barn subtype of the Agricultural Outbuilding property type discussed in the cover document. It is roughly 36 feet wide and 51 feet long. The rounded walls of the building taper up to a point which forms the roof ridge. (See photo 11.) All of the walls are sheathed with corrugated tin, and set upon a concrete foundation. The gable end of the barn has a wide central drive-in doorway which is flanked by small nine light windows. A similar six light windows is set above the doorway. There are no side windows. The structural system of the building is exposed on the interior, which is one large open space. The walls are supported by arched joists which curve in a smooth arc from one side to the other. The peak of the roof is supported by added framing at the ridge line, and is not a structural element.

Dairy Barn and Silo, ca. 1930, contributing building.

The dairy barn, which measures roughly 35 by 70 feet, is the largest building on the farmstead. It is a highly intact example of the Barn subtype of the Agricultural Outbuilding property type discussed in the cover document. The barn is a tall frame building with a gambrel roof and a concrete foundation. (See photo 11.) The roof is sheathed with corrugated tin and has a small central cupola. The cupola has louvered walls and a hipped roof. The walls of the barn are covered with board and batten siding, and the end walls have evenly spaced six and nine light windows.

The barn is set into the side of a bank; it is two stories tall on the southwest and three stories on the northeast. A sloped drive on the southwest leads to the main floor of the barn, which is accessed by a large sliding door. There is a large silo next to the driveway which is built of glazed

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ceramic tiles and topped with a shallow conical roof. The silo is attached to the barn with short frame walls. The ground slopes away from both sides of the drive, and the foundation of the barn is exposed on the back half of the building. The end walls of the basement both have wagon-sized doorways, and there are fenced stock pens off both ends of the barn. An early shed roofed addition runs along part of the back wall. The addition has vertical board walls and wagon-sized sliding doors.

The interior of the main floor of the barn contains one large open room which is a full two stories tall. It is currently used for hay storage, which appears to be its original function. The ground floor of the barn has regularly spaced post and beam supports. That area contains stock pens and some hay storage, as well as a long feeding trough near the silo opening. Neither the interior or the exterior appear to have seen any notable changes in layout or function.

Milk House, ca. 1930, contributing building.

The milk house is a small frame building which is just a few feet from the south corner of the dairy barn. It is a small example of the Agricultural Outbuilding property type discussed in the cover document. The milk house has a shallow gable roof with asphalt shingles and exposed rafter ends, and a concrete foundation. The walls are sheathed with wooden drop siding. There are louvered vents in the gable ends, and six light wooden windows set high in the walls. A plank door is located on the southwest wall.

All of the buildings in the district are in good to excellent condition, and have seen remarkably few changes over the years. They continue to function in much the same manner they have for more than a half a century. The farmstead features one of the most extensive collections of agricultural outbuildings in the study group. It looks and functions today much as it did during the period of significance, and it exhibits a very high level of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. ◻

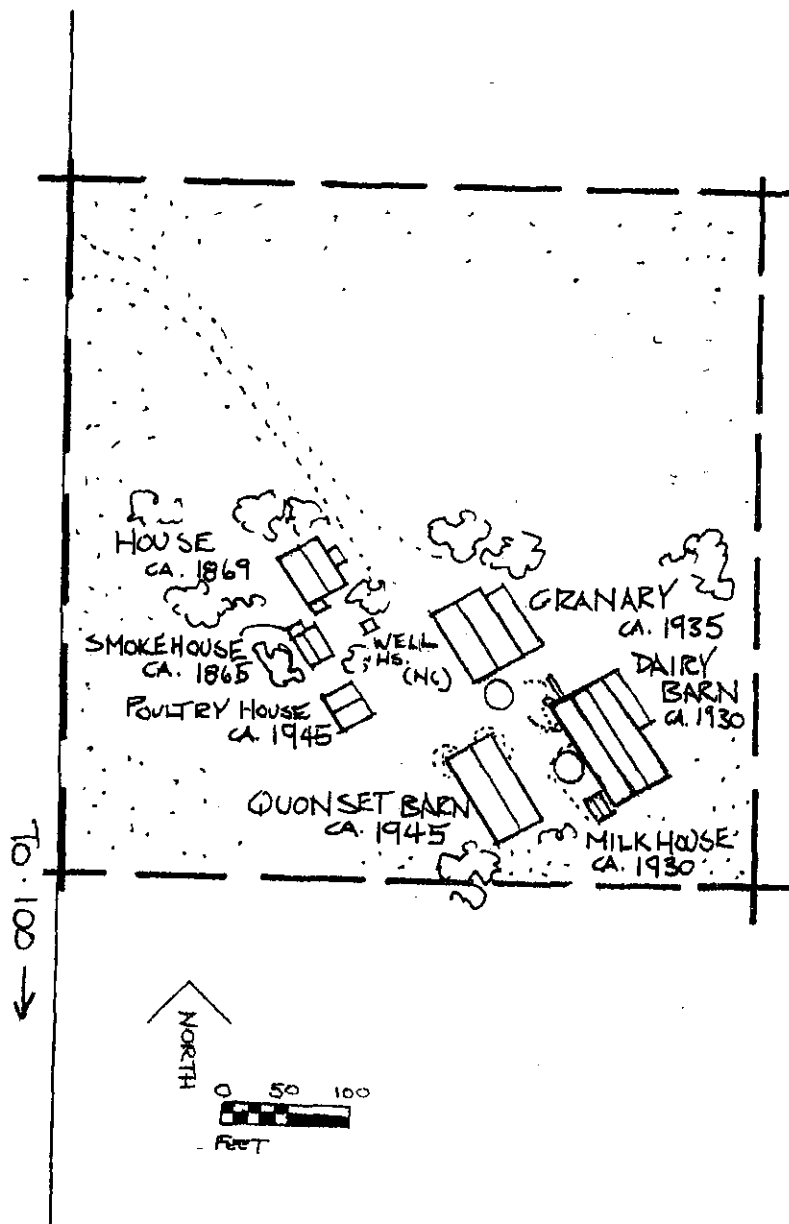
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Figure One. Site Plan and Farmstead Map. Drawn by Debbie Sheals, from field measurements and a recent aerial-photo tax map of the farmstead.

Resource Count: Total, 8 buildings, one structure;
7 contributing buildings,
1 non-contributing building,
1 non-contributing structure.



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Summary: The Brehe Farmstead Historic District, at 6180 Bluff Road, in Washington, Missouri, is significant under Criteria A and C, in the areas of AGRICULTURE, ETHNIC HERITAGE: European, and ARCHITECTURE. It is significant in the area of AGRICULTURE as the core of a family farm which was established in the mid-1800s, and has continued in an agricultural function ever since. The property was purchased by Conrad and Sophia Brehe in the 1840s, and is owned by one of their descendants today. The farmstead is also significant in the areas of ARCHITECTURE and ETHNIC HERITAGE: European, for its long association with a German immigrant family, and for the vernacular buildings which are found there. The house is representative of Property Type B. Vernacular Missouri-German, subtype Central Passage. The other buildings of the district are highly intact examples of Property Type J: Agricultural Outbuildings. None of the buildings found on the farmstead today have ever seen significant alterations, and all meet the registration requirements set forth in the MPS Cover document "Historic Resources of Washington, Missouri." Construction dates for the buildings of the district span a very wide time period, and the history of the farmstead relates to all of the contexts discussed in the cover document.

The oldest building on the farmstead was built ca. 1865, and the newest buildings in the district were erected in the 1940s. The farmstead contains a total of eight buildings, seven of which are contributing. They are: the main farmhouse, built ca. 1869, a brick smokehouse and tenant house, built ca. 1865, a ca. 1925 granary, a ca. 1930 dairy barn with a ceramic block silo, a ca. 1935 frame milk house, a ca. 1945 poultry house, and a large Quonset barn, which is also from the 1940s. All of those are highly intact, and appear today much as they did in the 1940s. The only other building in the district is a very small well-house near the house; it is several decades old but appears to have been built after 1950, and is therefore a non-contributing building. The buildings of the district look and function much as they always have, and they strongly reflect the property's long history of agricultural use. The period of significance thus runs from ca. 1865 to 1950, the arbitrary fifty year cut-off point.

Elaboration: Architecture and Ethnic Heritage

The Brehe farm was established in the 1840s by one of the thousands of German families who immigrated to Washington in the first half of the nineteenth century.¹ The first members of the Brehe family to live in the Washington area were Conrad and Sophia Brehe, who moved there from the Lippe-Detmold district in Germany in the late 1840s. According to a local history, Conrad and

¹ See the MPS Cover document, "Historic Resources of Washington, Missouri: Early Development and German Immigration: 1839-1870" for a full discussion of the effects of German immigration to the Washington area.

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Sophia moved to "a farm west of Washington on the St. Johns Creek."² It has been assumed that they settled on this property at that time. The farm was definitely owned by the Brehes by the mid-1860s, when the oldest building now on the farmstead was built. The Brehe family developed the farmstead over the next century, and it is in the family yet today; it is currently owned by Gary and Blanche Brehe.

It should be noted that the construction dates assigned to the buildings of the farm are all approximate, and are based largely upon recent architectural survey records, Brehe family history, and comparative data on local construction practices. Primary sources relating to the farm's early years are scarce; county tax records go back only to the 1870s, and the long ownership by one family means there are no deeds to record valuations from the early years of operation.

The oldest surviving building on the property is the smokehouse building, which appears to have been built ca. 1865. Family history holds that the smokehouse building, which functioned as a tenant house in later years, was a family residence before the current house was built. The combination of smokehouse and residential space under one roof was not unheard of in the area; one early historical account of the winter of 1819 noted that the writer's family "wintered in a log cabin... 12 by 14 feet with a sort of smokehouse adjoining, which we used as a parlor."³

The arched window openings and stone foundation of the smokehouse indicate that it was probably built after the start of the Civil War, as those features were not widely utilized on other buildings in the area before that point. It has therefore been assigned a construction date of ca. 1865. That is also the year that the Brehes' son, Frederick August, married. He stayed on to manage the farm after his marriage, and the living area next to the smokehouse would have provided extra space and privacy for the newlyweds.⁴

Although the smokehouse is the oldest building on the property today, it was not the first building to have been built there. The Brehe's lived there with five children nearly twenty years before it was constructed, and would definitely have had another dwelling on the property. There was in all likelihood an early log or frame dwelling somewhere nearby, which served as the primary residence before the brick buildings were erected.

The large house on the property today was built just a few years after the smokehouse

² "The Brehe Family," in Washington, Missouri 1839-1989, (Washington, MO: Washington Historical Society, 1989) p. 135.

³ A letter written by C. S. Jeffries, quoted in History of Franklin, Jefferson, Washington, Crawford and Gasconade Counties, Missouri, (Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1888, reprint Cape Girardeau: Ramfre Press, 1985) p. 219-220.

⁴ Washington, Missouri 1839-1989, p. 135.

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building, probably around 1869. Construction methods used for the house are very similar to those of the smokehouse building, and the two appear to be close to the same age. Also, the valuation of the farm which was recorded in the 1870 and 1880 censuses changed very little in that decade, which indicates that the big house was in place before that first known valuation of 1870. (See chronology.)

The house and smokehouse are both exhibit vernacular Missouri-German characteristics. The brick walls, segmental arched openings and compact massing of those buildings are all common to early Missouri-German buildings in the Washington area.⁵ The dentiled cornice of the main house is also a character-defining feature of Missouri-German architecture; few early brick houses in the Washington area were built without a dentiled cornice. The form of the farmhouse is typical of the Central Passage Subtype, in that it features a side facing gable roof with a symmetrical facade and central entrance. At two full stories, the house is among the larger of the central passage houses in the study group. Although two story examples of the property type are not unheard of, one or one and one half story versions are much more common. The smokehouse, like the other outbuildings of the district, is representative of Property Type K. Agricultural Outbuildings.

The house and smokehouse appear to be the only surviving buildings to have been erected by August Brehe; most of the outbuildings on the property were built during the time in which his son Fred H. Brehe, was running the farm. August Brehe died in 1892, after which his widow Caroline, or Lena, and his son, Fred H., took over farm management. Fred stayed on after his marriage in 1910, and lived on the farm until his death in 1948. It was under Fred's stewardship that the rest of the contributing buildings were constructed.

Elaboration: Agriculture

Statistics for the Census of Agriculture and other sources show that by 1870, the Brehe farm had reached the size it was to keep for the next century. The census records his acreage at 145 acres, and atlas maps published between 1876 and 1919 show that the farm contained the same 144.5 acres throughout that period. The original farm covered most of the southwest quarter of Section 17, and was bordered on three sides by creeks, the largest of which is St. Johns Creek. (See Figure Two.) The Brehe farm was just slightly larger than the average Missouri farm at the turn of the century. It was reported in 1904 that the statewide average was 120 acres, and that the Franklin County average was comparable, at 121.8 acres.⁶

⁵ See "Historic Resources of Washington, Missouri," for a full discussion of Missouri-German characteristics.

⁶ Walter Williams, Missouri: An Autobiography, (Columbia, MO: E. W. Stephens Press, 1904) pp. 74 and 386.

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Figure Two. 1898 Atlas map of the property and the Washington City Limits of the time. The Brehe's owned the same parcel in 1876 and 1919. (The farmstead is now within the city limits.)



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The 1870 Census of Agriculture entry for August Brehe also shows that he had quite a diverse operation, with both field crops and stock. He had 55 acres in crops, and his stock on hand included cattle, horses, and pigs. His field crops included hay, corn, wheat, oats, barley, and potatoes. (See chronology for a more complete account of the census entry.) The farm also produced \$100 worth of orchard products. It is surprising to see that they produced no wine; the vaulted cellar beneath the smokehouse may have been used for wine in previous years, or simply used for other storage, possibly for the product of the 30 acres of potato plants they raised that year. Also curious is the fact that although the Brehes were also listed as producing 60 pounds of wool, they owned no sheep. (Sheep were not that common in the immediate vicinity; the 1876 atlas recorded only two sheep in the entire township.) Overall, the farm property was valued at \$7,550 in 1870.

Brehe's operation was documented again in 1880, and the census entry for that period records a comparable assortment of stock and field crops, as well as a similar overall property value. Brehe had apparently concentrated on clearing the surrounding land during that decade, as his improved acres were nearly twice what they had been in 1880. The assortment of field crops was about the same; corn and wheat led the list, with smaller amounts of oats and potatoes. That line-up paralleled statewide figures; wheat and corn were the leading crops throughout the period of significance, and cattle and swine were the animals most commonly raised.⁷ Cattle were raised for both milk and meat, both statewide and on the Brehe farm, where they made 270 pounds of butter in 1870 and 150 pounds in 1880.

Farm management passed to a new generation of the family in 1892, with the death of August Brehe. His wife Lena and thirteen year old son, Fred H. Brehe, took over running the farm. Fred Brehe was to keep that job for more than half a century; he ran the farm until his death in 1948. It was under Fred Brehe's management that the farmstead took its current form. He was responsible for the construction of the granary, the poultry house, the Quonset barn, the milk house and the dairy barn. His listing in the "Patron's Reference Directory" of the 1919 county atlas shows that he concentrated on livestock more than field crops. The farm was called the Fairview Stock Farm, and he was described as a "Farmer and breeder of Jersey Cattle, Duroc Jersey Hogs, Plymouth Rock Chickens, Horses and Mules."⁸

⁷ Missouri: An Autobiography; Saint Louis Atlas Publishing Co., Atlas Map of Franklin County, Missouri, (St. Louis: St. Louis Atlas Publishing Co., 1878); Missouri State Board of Agriculture, The Missouri Year Book of Agriculture 1921, (Jefferson City: Hugh Stephens, 1921); and Missouri State Board of Agriculture, 29th Annual Report of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture for the Year 1896, (Jefferson City: Tribune Printing Company, 1896).

⁸ George Ogle and Co. Standard Atlas of Franklin County, Missouri, (Chicago: George A. Ogle and Company, 1919) p. 71.

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Although Fred Brehe's focus was on livestock, he apparently continued to raise at least feed crops as well. The large granary, which was built ca. 1925, shows that he had a need for grain storage. The presence of both a corn crib and bins for loose grain indicates that he was still growing corn, and probably oats and wheat, when that building was built. The silo which was built with the dairy barn around 1930 reflects a change in the technology of grain storage. Silos were a relatively new invention when that building was erected. A 1921 agricultural publication estimated that at that time, less than one in seventeen Missouri farms were using silos for grain storage. The 1921 Yearbook of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture noted that the organization had been working to "develop silo sentiment," and that their 1923 goal "may well be 'One Silo for Every Ten Farms'."⁹

The large new barn had ample hay storage capacity as well, and it is likely that Fred Brehe continued to raise hay, just as his father had in the 1870s. The ca. 1945 poultry house must have been a replacement for an earlier structure, as the 1880 Agricultural census entry showed that August Brehe produced 150 dozen eggs that year, and Fred Brehe was breeding Plymouth Rock chickens in 1919. The Quonset barn, which was at least partly pre-fabricated, reflects the growing use of technology on the farm, both in construction methods, and in its likely use as a machine shed.

The Quonset barn is the newest of the historic buildings on the farmstead, and the hilltop today looks much as it did the day that barn was finished. The buildings of the farmstead have much the same function they held when Fred Brehe was breeding cattle, hogs, and chickens on the farm, and all exhibit a high level of integrity, inside and out. The farmstead contains a significant collection of highly intact agricultural buildings. The house and smokehouse also exhibit typical vernacular Missouri-German characteristics. All of the buildings reflect the long agricultural history of the Brehe family farm. △

⁹ The Missouri Year Book of Agriculture 1921, p. 459.

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Chronology

From Land Tax Assessment Books, City Directories, Washington Historical Society Collections, and local histories noted in the bibliography.

Section 17, T 44, R 1W.

1835 Frederick August Brehe born in Holizausen, Germany.

1840s, late. August Brehe immigrates to America and settles west of Washington with his parents, Conrad and Sophia Brehe.

1865 August Brehe marries Caroline Kleinsore, of Pymont, Germany, in Washington.

1865 ca. **Current smokehouse built.**

1869 ca. **The main house is built.**

1870 Agricultural Census, August Brehe, total worth \$7,550, 145 acres, product value for 1869, \$1,580.
Stock: 4 horses, 11 cows, 25 pigs. Crops, in bushels: 700 Indian corn, 100 oats, 400 wheat, 50 barley, 30 potatoes, \$100 worth of orchard products. Other products: 270 lbs. butter, 60 lbs. wool, 8 tons of hay, \$200 worth of forest products.

1870 Population Census, August Brehe, personal worth, \$8,410.

1876 Atlas map, August Brehe, 144 acres.

1878 Fred H. Brehe born in Washington, MO.

1880 Agricultural Census, August Brey (sic) total worth, \$7,000, 140 acres, product value for 1879, \$1,000. Stock: 4 horses, 1 mule, 17 cows, 4 calves, 30 pigs, 40 chickens. Crops, in bushels: 1,000 Indian corn, 350 oats, 560 wheat, 20 potatoes, 30 apples. Other products: 150 lbs butter, 150 doz. eggs, 10 cords of wood.

1892 August Brehe dies, and Fred H. Brehe, then 13, takes over management of the farm.

1898 Atlas, Mrs. Lena Brehe, 144.5 acres

1910 Fred H. Brehe marries Minna Frieberger, buys the farm, and continues to manage it.

1919 Atlas, Fred H. Brehe, 144.5 acres, Patron's Reference Directory entry; Farmer and breeder of Jersey Cattle, Duroc Jersey Hogs, Plymouth Rock Chickens, Horses and Mules, Fairview Stock Farm.

1920s, ca. **Granary built.**

1930s, ca. **Dairy barn, silo, and milk house built.**

1940s, ca. **Quonset barn and chicken house built.**

1948 Fred Brehe dies; his youngest son, Howard, takes over operation of the farm, and runs it until his death in 1980.

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General Agricultural Statistics for Franklin County.

From Missouri: An Autobiography; Atlas Map of Franklin County, Missouri, 1877; The Missouri Year Book of Agriculture 1921; 29th Annual Report of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture for the Year 1896.

1876

horses and mules 9,050
cattle 13,968
swine 27,367
sheep 11,282 (only 2 in Washington Twp.)

1880

number of farms 3,181
% improved land 25%
corn 1,342,997 bushels
wheat 796,726 bushels
horses and mules 10,045
cattle 19,839
swine 49,026
sheep 12,141

1896

% improved land 33%
corn 19 cars shipped
wheat 715 cars shipped
horses and mules 10,609
cattle 18,870
swine 26,762
sheep 8,146

1905

number of farms 3,853
avg size 121.8 acres
% improved land 48%
corn 59,401 acres
wheat 86,724
horses and mules 12,400
cattle 25,355
swine 48,715
sheep 7,670

1920-21

number of farms 3,032
corn 55,330 acres
wheat 71,320 acres
horses and mules 14,410
cattle 26,720
swine 28,400
sheep 3,410

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Sources

(See MPS Cover document "Historic Resources of Washington, Missouri," for further discussion and a complete biography of general sources.)

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Franklin County Tax Records, Franklin County Courthouse, Union Missouri.

Goodspeed Publishing Company. History of Franklin, Jefferson, Washington, Crawford and Gasconade Counties, Missouri. Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1888, reprint Cape Girardeau: Ramfre Press, 1985.

Gregory, Ralph. A History of Washington, Missouri. Washington, MO: Washington Preservation, Inc., 1991.

Missouri State Board of Agriculture. The Missouri Year Book of Agriculture 1921. Jefferson City: Hugh Stephens, 1921.

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(With a plat of the city done in 1877 by L.D. Worley.)

Washington Historical Society. Kiel Files. Washington, MO.

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Williams, Walter. Missouri: An Autobiography. Columbia, MO: E. W. Stephens Press, 1904.

United States Census Records. Census Indexe, Population Schedules, and Agricultural Census entries for Franklin County, 1860-1880. Microfilm on file with the State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia, MO.

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Verbal Boundary Description

A parcel of land in Section 17, Township 41, Range 1 West, in Franklin County Missouri. The district boundaries are within parcel number 10-4-17.0-0-099-021.000, as shown on Franklin County Tax Map 10-5-17. The map was prepared by Walker and Associates, with aerial photos taken 3-10-96, scale: 1"= 200'. Copies of the map are available at Washington City Hall and The Franklin County Assessor's Office in Union, MO. The district boundaries are described as: beginning at the northeast corner of the intersection of Bluff Road and State Highway 100, proceed north 425 feet along the east border of the Bluff Road right-of-way, to the southwest corner of the district boundary. Then proceed east 550 feet, thence north 550 feet parallel to Bluff Road, thence west 550 feet to the east right-of-way of Bluff Road. Thence south 550 feet along the east edge of the Bluff Road right-of-way to the point of beginning, containing just over 6.9 acres of land. (See the map on the following page for a scale drawing of the boundaries.)

Boundary Justification

The current boundaries include all of the existing farm buildings, along with the gravel lane which connects the farmstead to the main road.

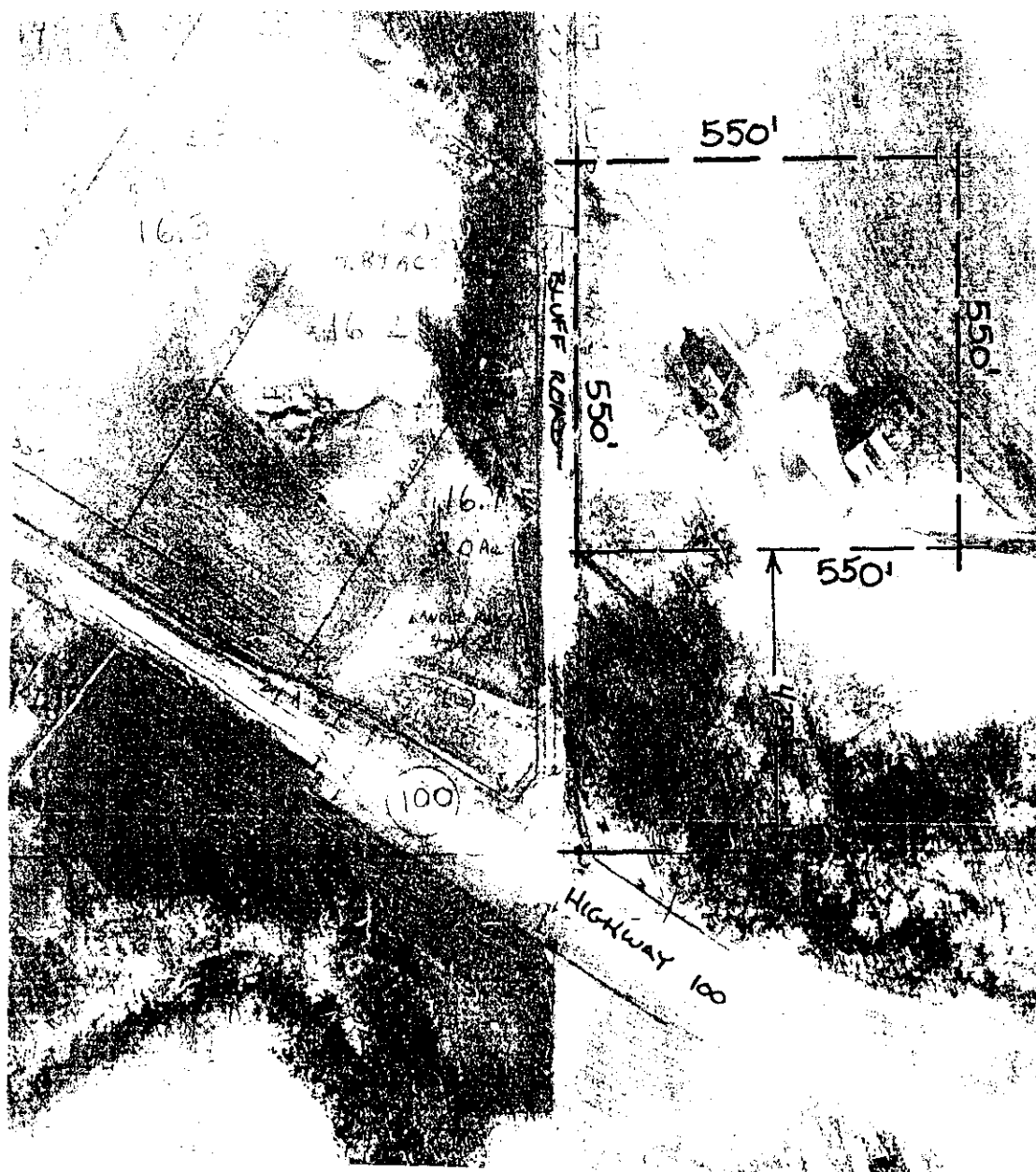
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DISTRICT BOUNDARIES, on AERIAL-PHOTO MAP 10-5-17 Scale: 1"=200'.



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Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Brehe Farmstead Historic District

6180 Bluff Road, Washington

Franklin County, MO

Debbie Sheals and Becky Snider

January 2000

Missouri Cultural Resource Inventory, MO Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City.

List of Photographs

See photo key for description of camera angle

1. House, facade
2. House, rear, west corner
3. House porch and facade detail
4. House interior, first floor parlor, looking southeast to foyer
5. Second floor, looking south to hall
6. Back bedroom, looking northeast
7. Smokehouse building, east corner
8. Smokehouse, southwest elevation
9. Looking northwest from the barnyard, left to right, poultry house, smokehouse, house.
10. Longer view from barnyard, with Quonset barn on left and granary and bin on right.
11. Dairy barn and Quonset barn, looking west.
12. Long view of entire district, looking northeast.

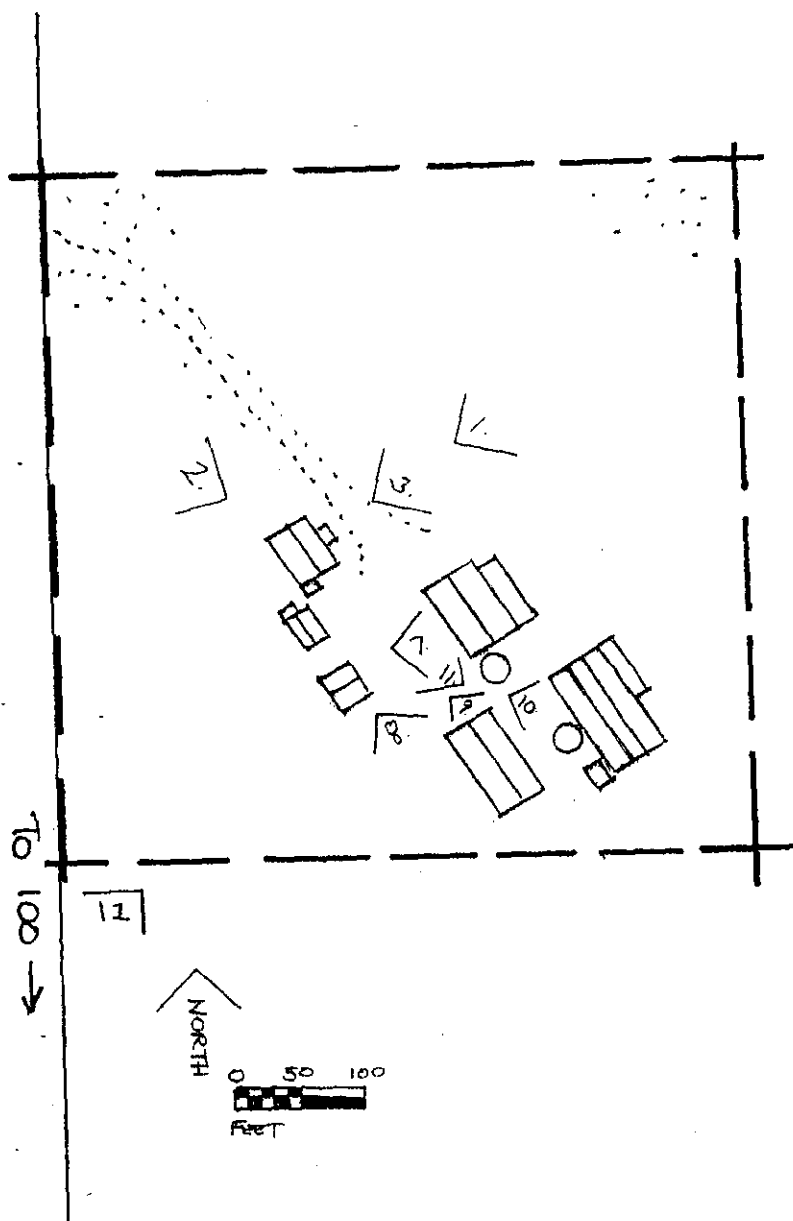
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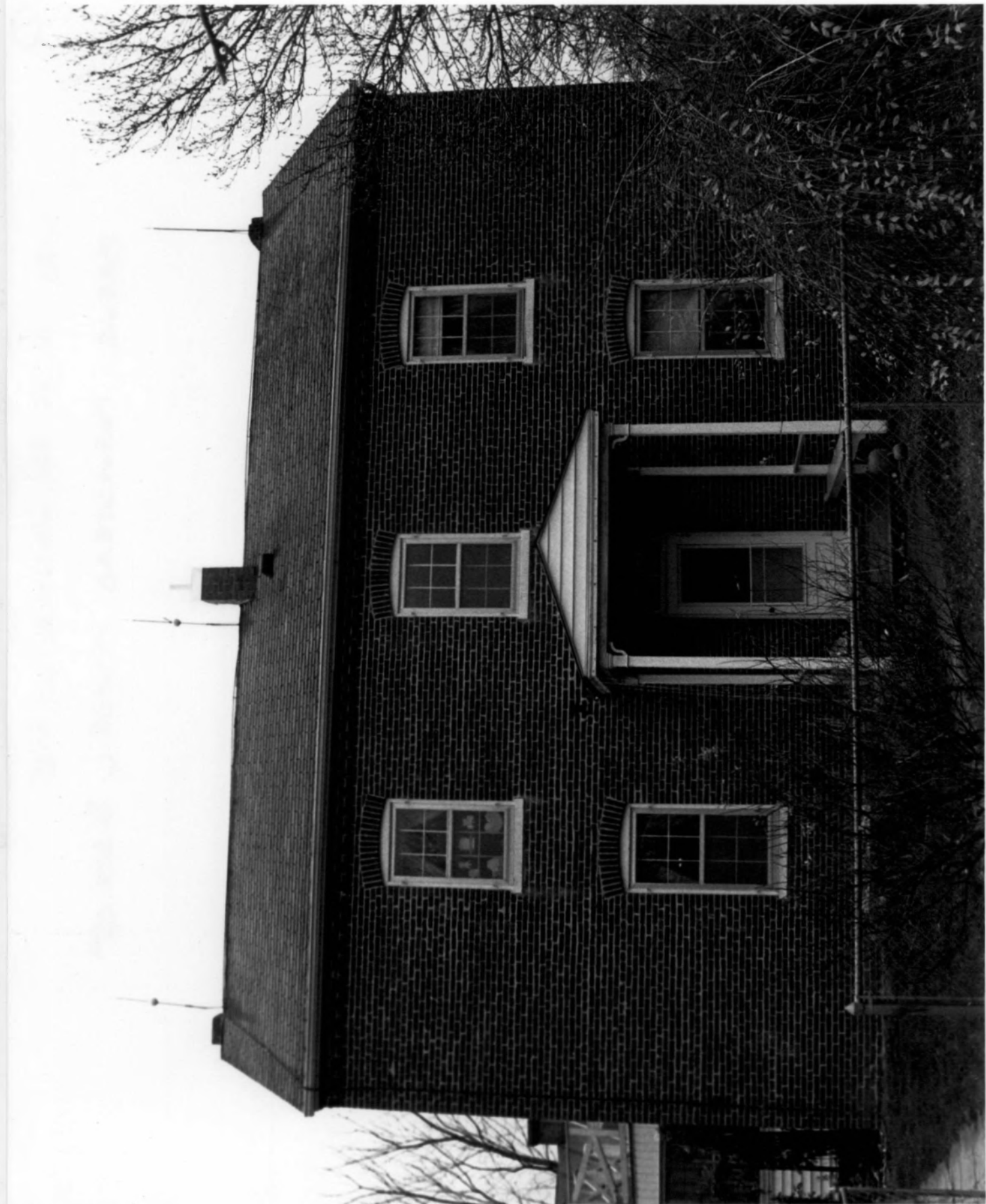
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Photo Key.



→ 4-6 INTERIOR OF HOUSE







11/16/1911

