

Supplementary Listing Record

NRIS Reference Number: SG100006076

Date Listed: 2/5/2021

Property Name: Oakwood Country Club

County: Jackson

State: MO

This Property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation

Barbara Wyatt

Signature of the Keeper

2-5-21

Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

The area of significance "Entertainment/Recreation" is added to the nomination of the Oakwood Country Club for the prominent role of the club in the Jewish Community's ability to pursue recreational pastimes such as golf, swimming, tennis, and other activities typical of country clubs. Most country clubs in Kansas City were closed to Jewish members, reflecting the discriminatory practices prevalent in the first few decades of the club's history. The Oakwood Country Club was the only country club that served the Jewish community in Kansas City.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file

Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

Historic name Oakwood Country Club

Other names/site number N/A

Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

2. Location

Street & number 9800 Grandview Road

N/A

not for publication

City or town Kansas City

N/A

vicinity

State Missouri Code MO County Jackson

Code 095

Zip code 64137

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria: X A B C D



Signature of certifying official/Title

12/15/20
Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

 entered in the National Register

 determined eligible for the National Register

 determined not eligible for the National Register

 removed from the National Register

 other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
5	3	buildings
2		sites
6	6	structures
		objects
13	9	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Club House

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Sports Facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Club House

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Sports Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

TUDOR REVIVAL

MODERN

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Stone, Concrete

walls: Stucco

Brick

roof: Synthetics

other: Wood

EIFS

☒

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUATION PAGES

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ 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

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

x

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUATION PAGES

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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 # _____

☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State agency

☐ Federal agency

☐ Local government

☐ University

☐ Other

Name of repository: **Missouri Department of Natural Resources**

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

Areas of Significance

ETHNIC HERITAGE: OTHER (JEWISH)

Period of Significance

1912-1972

Significant Dates

1912

1930

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Greenebaum, Hardy, & Schumacher (1930)

Kivett & Myers (1956)

McCallum, Angus (1966)

Oakwood Country Club
Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 215

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates *See Figure 15 for boundary map

Datum if other than WGS84:

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

A	<u>38.947325</u> Latitude:	<u>-94.559239</u> Longitude:	G	<u>38.946798</u> Latitude:	<u>-94.547152</u> Longitude:
B	<u>38.947218</u> Latitude:	<u>-94.555860</u> Longitude:	H	<u>38.946818</u> Latitude:	<u>-94.547250</u> Longitude:
C	<u>38.949022</u> Latitude:	<u>-94.555762</u> Longitude:	I	<u>38.944041</u> Latitude:	<u>-94.546944</u> Longitude:
D	<u>38.948783</u> Latitude:	<u>-94.550132</u> Longitude:	J	<u>38.944212</u> Latitude:	<u>-94.550132</u> Longitude:
E	<u>38.947695</u> Latitude:	<u>-94.549338</u> Longitude:	K	<u>38.939722</u> Latitude:	<u>-94.550362</u> Longitude:
F	<u>38.947648</u> Latitude:	<u>-94.547750</u> Longitude:	L	<u>38.940056</u> Latitude:	<u>-94.559643</u> Longitude:

Verbal Boundary Description (On continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (On continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Rosin and Amanda Loughlin

organization Rosin Preservation, LLC

date 19 May, rev. 26 Aug. & 27 Oct. 2020

street & number 1712 Holmes

telephone 816-472-4950

city or town Kansas City

state MO

zip code 64108

e-mail elizabeth@rosinpreservation.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Photographs**
- **Owner Name and Contact Information**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log:

Name of Property: **Oakwood Country Club**

City or Vicinity: **Kansas City**

County: **Jackson** State: **Missouri**

Photographer: **Brad Finch, f-stop Photography**

Date

Photographed: **11 May 2020**

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

Site Photos (Figure 10)

- 01 of 35: Looking SSE along the fairway of Hole 4
- 02 of 35: Looking SE toward Lake across the fairway of Hole 6
- 03 of 35: Looking SSE at west edge of golf course
- 04 of 35: Looking north along cart path toward Hole 7 and showing rock outcropping at center
- 05 of 35: Looking NW at east edge of Oakwood Lake
- 06 of 35: North arm of stone entrance, looking west
- 07 of 35: Looking west toward tennis courts from southwest corner of Clubhouse
- 08 of 35: Looking NW across the fairway of Hole 3
- 09 of 35: Looking NE along the fairway of Hole 9, showing 1930 Clubhouse in background
- 10 of 35: Looking NW toward the Clubhouse from the east edge of Hole 9

Clubhouse Photos, Exterior (Figure 11)

- 11 of 35: Partial east half of north façade of 1930 Clubhouse, looking SE
- 12 of 35: Partial north façade, looking SW
- 13 of 35: Main entrance into 1930 Clubhouse, looking south
- 14 of 35: Partial north façade, looking SE toward porte cochere
- 15 of 35: Partial west half of north façade, showing 1956 and 1991 additions, looking SW
- 16 of 35: West façade, looking east
- 17 of 35: South façade of 1956 clubhouse addition, looking north
- 18 of 35: East and south façade of 1956 clubhouse addition, looking NW
- 19 of 35: Partial south façade of entire clubhouse, looking north
- 20 of 35: South façade of 1930 Clubhouse, looking NE
- 21 of 35: South façade of 1930 Clubhouse and terrace, looking north
- 22 of 35: Looking NW at south and east facades of 1966 addition
- 23 of 35: Full east façade, looking west

Clubhouse Photos, Interior (Figures 12 to 14)

- 24 of 35: 1930 Clubhouse, Foyer, looking SW
- 25 of 35: 1930 Clubhouse, Grand Foyer, looking SE
- 26 of 35: 1930 Clubhouse, Catering Hall, looking east
- 27 of 35: 1966 Clubhouse Addition, Progress Hall, looking NW
- 28 of 35: 1930 Clubhouse, Main Dining Room, looking east from second floor balcony
- 29 of 35: 1930 Clubhouse, Main Dining Room, looking SW
- 30 of 35: 1930 Clubhouse, Oakwood Room, looking SE

Oakwood Country Club

Jackson County, Missouri

Name of Property

County and State

- 31 of 35: 1930 Clubhouse, Special Dining Room, looking NE
- 32 of 35: 1956 Addition, Cocktail Lounge, looking SW
- 33 of 35: 1956 Addition, Main Stair Hall, looking NW
- 34 of 35: 1930 Clubhouse, Main Stair to Second Floor, looking NE from landing
- 35 of 35: 1930 Clubhouse, Second Floor Corridor, looking west

Figure Log:

Include figures on continuation pages at the end of the nomination.

- 01 of 15: Contextual map, showing Oakwood Country Club (9800 Grandview Road) within the Kansas City area. Source: Google.
- 02 of 15: Contextual map, showing Oakwood Country Club (in bold outline) within its immediate surroundings. Source: Google Earth, July 2019 aerial image.
- 03 of 15: Aerial image of Oakwood, showing contours and course layout. Base map from City of Kansas City, Missouri Online Parcel Viewer (maps.kcmo.org/apps/parcelviewer).
- 04 of 15: Resource map, north half of site. Bold line indicates property boundary. Base map from City of Kansas City, Missouri Online Parcel Viewer.
- 05 of 15: Resource map, southwest portion of site. Bold line indicates property boundary. Base map from City of Kansas City, Missouri Online Parcel Viewer.
- 06 of 15: Diagrammatic plan, showing 1930 building at right (east), 1956 addition to left (west) and the smaller additions built between 1966 and 1991. G = Ground floor; 1st = First Floor. Base map from Gensler.
- 07 of 15: Undated historic photo, showing Oakwood Clubhouse prior to the 1956 addition. Source: Oakwood Country Club.
- 08 of 15: South elevation, looking NE in August 1947. Source: Oakwood Country Club.
- 09 of 15: Dining Hall, looking west. June 11, 1938. Source: Oakwood Country Club.
- 10 of 15: Site photo plan. Small numbers indicate Hole number. Base map from Google Earth.
- 11 of 15: Clubhouse exterior photo key plan. Base map from Gensler.
- 12 of 15: Clubhouse, 1930 building, first floor photo key plan. Base plan from Gensler.
- 13 of 15: Clubhouse, 1956 addition, first floor photo key plan. Base plan from Gensler.
- 14 of 15: Clubhouse, 1930 building, second floor photo key plan. Base plan adapted from first floor from Gensler. This plan is diagrammatic.
- 15 of 15: Boundary map. Base map from City of Kansas City, Missouri Online Parcel Viewer.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Summary Description

Oakwood Country Club (Oakwood) is located at 9800 Grandview Road, Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri. Significant under Criterion A for its association with Kansas City's Jewish community, Oakwood encompasses nearly 215 acres, the majority of which functions as an eighteen-hole golf course. The first nine holes opened in 1912, with the final nine ready for play in 1934. The primary building on the site is the Tudor Revival clubhouse that opened in 1930 with a major addition in 1956 and alterations in 1966. As a recreation facility, Oakwood also includes tennis courts and outdoor swimming pools. The country club, built south of the existing city limits of Kansas City at the time, capitalized on the hilly terrain for laying out of the holes and orienting the clubhouse. Since its founding in 1912, Oakwood Country Club has grown and adapted to fit the needs and interests of its members. These changes include minor reconfiguration of holes, additions and alterations to the clubhouse, and installation of ancillary buildings to support the recreational endeavors of Oakwood. Oakwood Country Club continues to retain integrity from its period of significance, 1912 to 1972. The district includes twenty-two resources: eight buildings (five contributing), two contributing sites, and twelve structures (six contributing) (*Table 1*).

Narrative Description

Setting

Oakwood Country Club is located in a formerly rural area of Jackson County, Missouri, ten miles south of downtown Kansas City (*Figure 1*). Today, the 215-acre country club is within the city limits of Kansas City and lies just northwest of the I-435/I-49/I-470 interchange. Bannister Road, a major east-west artery, lies just over one quarter mile north of Oakwood, while I-435 abuts the south property line of the country club (*Figure 2*). Grandview Road runs along the east side of the property, and Blue River Road meanders along the Blue River to the west of Oakwood. When established in 1912, little development surrounded Oakwood. Today, the former Bannister Federal Complex (circa 1942) is less than one mile north and west of Oakwood. Residential developments mostly dating to the mid-twentieth century occupy land northeast of Oakwood and east of Grandview Road; additional residential development is found west of the Blue River and south of I-435. The land immediately surrounding and overlooking Oakwood remains free of residential development. This aspect of its setting is contrary to most other golf clubs in the Kansas City area where single-family dwellings line the perimeter of the course. The vistas from

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

the Oakwood golf course showcase the natural wooded landscape that continues to surround the property today (*Photos 1 & 2*).

Site Characteristics & Features

Oakwood Country Club occupies a naturally hilly site due to its proximity to the Blue River. The clubhouse and associated recreation facilities sit at the north end of the property at the highest point (960 feet). The terrain generally slopes south and west from the clubhouse toward the river (*Figure 3*) (*Photo 3*). Rock outcroppings are common throughout the 215 acres (*Photo 4*), and dense woodland occupies the southwest quarter of the property as well as surrounding land to the north, west, and southeast. Dense tree lines separate the property from I-435 to the south and the adjacent property to the north. Landscaping outside of the golf course consists of ornamental plantings and manicured lawn.

The five-acre Oakwood Lake (*Contributing Site*) is a character-defining feature of the overall site. This lake separates the golf course from the wooded southwest corner of the property (*Photos 2 & 5*). The lake is roughly rectangular in plan with an east-west axis; the west side of the lake is dammed (*Contributing Structure*). A pumphouse and pump structure (described below) are centered on the north bank of the lake, and two small wooden docks are to the west of the pumphouse. Oakwood Lake appears on the earliest known plat map of the area dating to 1904 when W.A. Rule owned the property.¹ This occurrence, its proximity to the Blue River, and its low elevation on the property (846 feet) possibly indicate this is a naturally occurring feature that was modified. Historic topographical maps and aerials indicate the lake has been minimally altered over the years. Additional water features on the site are manmade hazards on the golf course.

Apart from cart paths, vehicular circulation in the form of a paved drive follows the path of a former access road in place when the property functioned as the Rule farmstead. The drive is the primary entrance from Grandview Road and enters the property at the north end of the east boundary of the property. It meanders in a westerly direction; deciduous trees and metal lampposts (unknown age but compatible in design) line both sides of the drive. The driveway splits at the northeast corner of the clubhouse. One arm continues westerly where it circles to access the covered entrance on the 1930 clubhouse and then merges into the parking area to the

¹ *Plat Book of Jackson County, Missouri* (Minneapolis, MN: Northwest Publishing Co., 1904), 17.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

north (*Contributing Structure*). The parking lot is paved and marked; this has been the historic location of parking at Oakwood.² At the fork, the driveway also continues southwesterly along the east side of the clubhouse and passes a square wooden gazebo with wood shingle roof installed in 2013 (*Non-Contributing Structure*).³ This southwesterly drive continues four-tenths of a mile to the northeast corner of the lake where it turns west-northwest, terminating at the Caretaker's Residence (described below) just northwest of Oakwood Lake. Concrete sidewalks form the pedestrian circulation network that connects the clubhouse to its surrounding resources.

Arced stone walls, built circa 1930, flank the entry drive (*Photo 6*) (*Contributing Structure*).⁴ Both arcs feature cylindrical stone piers at each end with a shorter cubed pier at the center; a shorter arced stone wall connects the piers. The rustic stonework is laid in uncoursed rows with deep set cementitious mortar joints. A thin layer of concrete caps the flat monument walls. The south cylindrical pier of the north wall features a concrete plaque that reads "OAK/WOOD." Non-historic decorative steel gates swing inward from the stone piers; these gates replaced early metal gates of unknown design.⁵

Besides golf, Oakwood Country Club supports the outdoor sports of tennis, basketball, and swimming. Tennis courts are located to the west of the clubhouse. The double court structure closest to the clubhouse dates to circa 1930 (*Contributing Structure*); the court itself has been resurfaced most recently in 2004.⁶ Uncoursed historic stone retaining walls support the northwest corner, west side, and southwest corner of this court; this wall is a character-defining feature of the court. To its west and at a lower elevation is another double court, dating to circa 1966 (*Contributing Structure*); the courts, which sit at grade without retaining walls, have also been resurfaced.⁷ A narrow path with a concrete sidewalk separates the two tennis courts. The current basketball court (*Non-Contributing Structure*) is to the west of these tennis courts. The basketball

² As seen in the earliest aerial image of the property from 1948.

³ Kenneth Krakauer and Ward Katz, "The Story of Oakwood Country Club," (Unpublished draft mss, 2000, rev. 2020), 13. This history states the gazebo was reconstructed in honor of club member John Uhlmann

⁴ The exact date of the stone entry is unknown. Circa date based on its construction, design, and date of clubhouse construction; these walls also appear in the 1948 aerial.

⁵ Large cast iron eyelets remain in the face of the piers. The current gates are not attached to the stone piers.

⁶ This court appears in 1948 aerial image. Tennis is documented at Oakwood in Krakauer and Katz's history at least as early as 1938 (p. 6).

⁷ This court was built between 1962 and 1969, according to aerial images from those years.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

court dates to circa 1980 and was built as a tennis court.⁸ South of the two double tennis courts is another pair of double tennis courts dating to circa 1980 (*Non-Contributing Structure*).⁹ All of the tennis courts have tall non-historic chain link fences and lighting (*Photo 7*).

The first swimming pool at Oakwood was constructed in 1939 to the southwest of the clubhouse. In 1992, the current six-lane Olympic-sized pool (*Non-Contributing Structure*) replaced the 1939 pool. Also in 1992, a wading pool (*Non-Contributing Structure*) was installed to the west of the swimming pool and south of the 1956 addition. Concrete surfacing surrounds both pools, and a stone retaining wall to the immediate east of the wading pool supports the concrete terrace of the swimming pool.

Golf Course (*Contributing Site*)

The eighteen-hole golf course to the south and east of the clubhouse is one of the primary resources at Oakwood, comprising the majority of the acreage (*Photos 1 through 5, 8 & 9*). Renowned golf course designer, Tom Bendelow organized the first nine holes at Oakwood in 1912.¹⁰ Throughout the 1920s, Oakwood made efforts to establish an additional nine holes, purchasing acreage in 1923. In 1927 the club hired O.E. Smith & Wendell Miller to construct the back nine, but these “creeping bent greens” were not open for play until 1934.¹¹ In the 1950s, the course underwent restoration as during World War II, only the front nine holes were open for play. Holes ten, fifteen, and sixteen received new greens designed by golf course architect Scott Miller in 1993. In 1997, golf course architect Craig Schreiner redesigned the greens for holes one through three and fourteen and seventeen.¹² Historic aerial images indicate that the overall form and orientation of each hole remains intact from its historic period; alterations refined the play of each hole without substantially reshaping the topography or terrain.¹³

⁸ This court dates to between 1970 and 1981, according to the aerial images from those years; by 2006, it was striped for basketball.

⁹ These courts date to between 1970 and 1981, according to the aerial images from those years.

¹⁰ Scotsman Tom Bendelow (1868-1936) immigrated to America in 1892. During his thirty-five year career, he designed over 500 courses throughout North America, following traditional British methods of design. See Dale Heckendorn, “Landscape Architect Biography: Tom Bendelow (1868-1936),” History Colorado online (2017).

¹¹ Krakauer and Katz, “The Story of Oakwood Country Club,” 4-5; Gene Ayres, “Rough Spots Smooth Out in 50 Years,” *Kansas City Star* (5 July 1959): 18-C.

¹² Krakauer and Katz, “The Story of Oakwood Country Club,” 10-11; plans on file with Oakwood.

¹³ Aerial images seen at historicaerials.com. Plans on file with Oakwood show only the 1990s proposed changes to the holes. No detailed historic plans exist that show the exact designs of each hole and fairway as compared to updates.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

The eighteen fairways follow the natural hilly terrain of the site (*Figure 3*); existing topographical features became characteristics and hazards of each hole. Holes one through three and six through nine occupy the area south of the clubhouse, north of Oakwood Lake, and west of the main driveway. Holes ten through fourteen and eighteen are east of the clubhouse, and holes four, five, and fifteen through seventeen occupy the southeast corner of the course to the east of Oakwood Lake. The current driving range, installed in 1997, occupies the land between holes nine and eighteen, and a practice putting green is to the north of hole nine, south of the clubhouse terrace.

Zoysia stripping covers fairways throughout the course. Mature and immature deciduous trees dot the landscape between each hole. Many of the trees on the course replaced American Elms that died in the late 1950s; the new trees were placed in the same general locations as the previous ones. The club instituted a tree replacement program in the 1960s that continues today.¹⁴ The surrounded wooded area remains fairly intact.

Rectangular tee boxes define the beginning of each hole. Sand bunkers and greens are organically shaped. Water hazards occur at holes fifteen through seventeen; the hazard between holes fifteen and sixteen was enlarged in the 1970s, according to aerial images.

The routes between holes remain intact from the opening of the back nine. Discontinuous concrete cart paths run through portions of the course. These replaced deteriorated asphalt paths in the early 2000s. The cart paths are located at tees and greens only in deference to those golfers who prefer walking; railroad-tie steps mitigate difficulty traversing especially steep areas.

Clubhouse (*Contributing Building*)

The Oakwood Country Club Clubhouse is the focal point of the property. Due to the topography, the clubhouse sits on a slight northwest-southeast axis. The building as it exists today is the result of several building campaigns (1930, 1956, 1966, ca. 1972, 1980s, 1990s). The oldest portion opened Memorial Day weekend of 1930. The local architectural firm of Greenebaum, Hardy, & Schumacher designed the two-story Tudor Revival building to replace a stone house, dating to the Rule farmstead era, that had functioned as the clubhouse since Oakwood was established here

¹⁴ Krakauer and Katz, "The Story of Oakwood Country Club," 8.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

in 1912. A large Modern Movement addition designed by local firm Kivett & Myers was constructed to the west of the 1930 building in 1956. A smaller addition at the southeast corner of the 1930 building opened in 1966. Various smaller additions and alterations since 1966 expanded the footprint of the building and reconfigured spaces in the 1956 addition (*Figure 6*).

1930 Clubhouse

The east (1930) building is the dominant portion of the clubhouse both from the main (east) entry into the country club grounds and the golf course to the south. (*Figure 7*). The two-story (with full basement) Tudor Revival building has an irregular floor plan. The building footings and floors are poured concrete with cinder block and brick forming the structure of the load-bearing exterior walls.¹⁵ Character-defining brick, stone, stucco, and wood half-timbering form the exterior walls; these historic materials date to the 1930 construction. The complex roof is a combination of cross gables and cross hips with shed roof dormers typical of the Tudor Revival style. Historically, slate tiles covered the roof; these were substantially damaged in a 2015 hailstorm. Artificial slate tiles, selected to match the color and shape of the historic material, cover the roof today. Two substantial historic and character-defining brick chimneys rise above the roof. North, east, and south additions to the 1930 clubhouse have flat roofs, most of which hide behind faux mansards with artificial slate tiles. The exterior cladding material of the additions imitates—but is distinguishable from—the 1930 building. Wood strips resembling the timbering of the historic building separate stucco panels.

North Elevation

The north elevation of the 1930 building features staggered wall planes that alternate between historic half-timber-and-stucco and masonry. Masonry walls are a combination of historic stone and brick (typ.), with stone bases that transition into brick above. The foundation is uncoursed stone. The steep roof slopes hide the second story, which is only evident through shed roof dormers, giving the building a one-and-a-half story appearance. Although most of the elevation dates to 1930, later one-story additions obscure portions of the 1930 façade. Unless otherwise noted, windows and doors on the north elevation date to the 1930 construction.

A historic one-story porte cochere extends from the north elevation and is the focal point of the façade (*Photos 11 & 12*). Squat stone and brick columns support a gable front roof with flared

¹⁵ Cinder (not concrete) blocks are noted on the 1929 plans and observed in the unfinished attic.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

eaves. The gable end features half-timbering and stucco; a six-lite casement window pierces this gable end. A historic metal lantern hangs from the center of the vaulted stucco ceiling of the porte cochere (*Photo 13*). The main entrance into the 1930 building is centered in the north elevation beneath the porte cochere; pilasters frame the structure. This entry features a pair of historic custom mid-century (circa 1966) wood and brass doors that replaced the original doors.¹⁶ Fixed clear glass sidelights flank the doors, and an arched transom with fixed clear glass surmounts the door and sidelights; the sidelights and transom date to circa 1966. The segmental arched masonry opening that frames the entry features stone and brick voussoirs and center stone keystone (typ.). Small rectangular niches flank the entry; the niches have corbeled stone sills and lintels. Quarry tile (non-historic) covers the threshold area spanning the entry.¹⁷ Historic wood windows flank the porte cochere within the masonry wall from which it extends. Both masonry openings have cast stone sills (typ.) and steel lintels. The east window unit features a pair of six-over-six double-hung windows; the west window is a single eight-over-eight double-hung unit. This section of the façade has a clipped gable roof with low eaves.

Five bays organize the 1930 stucco-and-timber wall to the east of the entry. Bays one and three contain pairs of six-over-six double-hung windows. Bays four and five are single six-over-six windows. Bay two is an entrance into what was formerly a locker room. The entry consists of a divided lite wood door with transom. A steeply gabled portico covers the entry door and concrete stoop. The roof has flared eaves, and half timbering ornaments the gable end. Heavy stone columns support the north end of the roof, and decorative wood pilasters flank the door. Stone half walls line the sides of the stoop, and stone wingwalls flank the stone steps leading up to the concrete porch. Five openings pierce the stone basement wall. Bays one and three contain single six-over-six windows; bays four and five contain paired six-over-six windows. Bay two contains a historic wood door with transom. A concrete stair provides access down to this door from the northeast corner of the 1930 building; this is a historic entrance. Bays three through five correspond to window wells. A side hipped roof covers this portion of the north elevation.

The easternmost portion of the north elevation dates to 1986. This wall sets back from the 1930 façade approximately one foot. A faux mansard roof hides a flat roof, and stucco panels with faux timbering cover the wall, which has no openings.

¹⁶ Although no documentation notes when these doors were installed, their mid-century design may indicate they were installed when the 1966 addition was built.

¹⁷ The date of the quarry tile is unknown.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

To the west of the main entry, a one-story brick bay, dating to 1930, steps back from the main façade approximately four feet (*Photo 14*). This bay has a flat roof with stepped parapet and cast stone coping; a round finial adorns the west end of the parapet. A stone cornice separates the parapet from the facade below. A small two-over-two wood sash window pierces the center of the wall. A shed roof dormer pierces the main roof above this one-story portion. Two additional dormers pierce the roof to the west. The east and center dormers each contain one exposed divided lite sash while plywood covers the other window. Plywood also covers the west dormer windows.

In 1966, a small kitchen addition was built to the west of and flush with the one-story 1930 brick bay. This one-story wood frame addition has a flat roof (no mansard), stucco panels with faux timbering, and a concrete foundation. A pair of non-historic one-over-one windows pierces the east end of this wall. A concrete stair, dating to 1966, spans the wall at ground level, and leads down to the basement.

The kitchen expanded again in 1988. This one-story addition abuts and extends north of the 1966 addition and obscures the first story of the 1930 building at this location. The addition has a stone foundation; stucco panels with faux timbering clad the walls, and a faux mansard hides a flat roof. The east and west walls of this addition have no openings. The easternmost bay of the addition is set back from the rest of the wall; this portion of the façade has no openings. Three bays organize the remainder of the 1988 north façade. The east and middle bays feature pairs of fixed divided-lite sashes and transoms dating to the 1988 construction. The west bay is a segmental arch opening that leads into an exterior vestibule. The south wall of the vestibule contains a wide non-historic door into the kitchen; the west wall of the vestibule features a non-historic metal egress door that leads out onto a concrete landing and steps. The brick 1930 façade rises above the 1988 addition. This gable end wall has no openings; however, centered in the gable is a large historic chimney with decorative brickwork. Two historic shed roof dormers pierce the east side of the gable roof; vents replaced windows at these locations.

A circa 1981 one-story addition obscures the first story of the 1930 building to the west of the 1988 kitchen addition.¹⁸ This addition has a stone foundation; stucco panels with faux timbering

¹⁸ Aerial images indicate this addition was constructed between 1970 and 1981; it was in place by 1988, but no existing plans document its construction.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

clad the walls, and a faux mansard hides a flat roof. Three pairs of six-over-six windows with transoms, dating to 1981, pierce this wall. The hipped roof covering the 1930 building at this location features three historic dormers. The center gable roof dormer has flared eaves; shed roofs cover the east and west dormers; all dormer windows are replacement divided lite sashes. The west-facing portion of this roof also has a flared gable roof dormer with replacement divided lite window. The west wall of the 1981 addition has no openings; however, the 1930 wall to its south contains a pair of historic six-over-six double-hung windows with transoms at its south end.

The westernmost portion of the 1930 clubhouse sets back significantly from the 1981 addition. This stucco-and-timber wall sits atop a stone foundation. A single six-over-six sash window pierces the center of the wall. The hip roof above this bay features a flared gable roof dormer with replacement window. The 1956 addition, described below, extends west from this bay.

East Elevation

Additions completely cover the east elevation of the 1930 building (*Photo 23*). The north third dates to 1986; the south two-thirds date to 1966. The 1986 addition extends east from the 1930 building eighteen feet. A faux mansard roof hides a flat roof. Stucco panels with faux timbering cover the wall. The first story has no openings. A half-hex window bay dominates the ground level, covering the south and center of the wall. This wood-framed bay contains five display windows, and artificial slate covers the hip roof. A single pedestrian door pierces the wall to the immediate north of this window. A series of concrete steps leads down to this door.

The 1966 addition extends approximately forty-five feet from a former covered porch at the south end of the 1930 building and sets back from the 1986 addition eighteen feet. This addition has a flat roof (without mansard) and a visible concrete foundation at ground level. Stucco panels cover the first story wall with faux timbering. A large window bay pierces the center of the first story. Cornice trim surmounts the window opening. A single pedestrian door (non-historic) pierces the wall at the south and north ends, leading to a wooden deck and egress stair.¹⁹ Three openings pierce the ground level wall. The south and center openings contain vents, smaller versions of vents installed in 1966; concrete block fills the remaining openings around the vents. The north opening contains a pair of wooden doors; a concrete sidewalk leads down to this

¹⁹ The configuration of this wall may date to 1997 when the Progress Room was remodeled. The 1966 plans show two three-lite windows in this wall with a single door at the northernmost end of the wall.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 10

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

opening. A historic brick chimney with decorative brickwork rises from the center of the 1930 roof behind and above the 1966 addition.

South Elevation

With few exceptions, the south elevation dates to 1930 (*Photo 19*). Unless noted otherwise, doors and windows on this elevation are non-historic. The easternmost portion of the elevation dates to 1966 (*Photo 22*). This addition extends from a former one-story porch on the 1930 building. The addition has a flat roof (without mansard) and concrete foundation. Stucco panels and faux timbering cover the first story wall. Three evenly spaced display windows pierce this wall and match the window on the east elevation.²⁰ The south wall of the 1966 addition sets back from the southeast corner of the 1930 porch wall approximately one foot. The porch has a flared eave shed roof; stone and brick columns support the roof; the former opening between the columns today features a wooden storefront system with double doors and sidelights. The wall area above the opening is stucco and timber.

To the west of the porch, a two-story gable roof bay extends south of the porch wall approximately six-and-a-half feet. A gabled parapet covers the end of the gable roof behind; moulded cast stone coping covers the parapet wall. Like the majority of the south elevation, the masonry wall of this bay features a stone base that transitions into brick in the wall above. A one-and-a-half story stone half-hex window bay dominates this wall. A flat stone parapet hides a flat roof, and notches within the east and west sides of the parapet feature stone scuppers at the base of the notches. The stepped south parapet wall features a stone coat of arms at its center. The masonry openings of this bay contain wood windows with wide, deep set mullions; the east and west windows contain six panes; the south window contains nine panes. The windows themselves are replacements; however, the mullions follow the historic configuration (*Figure 8*).²¹ The windows sit atop stone bulkheads. A rectangular stone niche pierces the center of the brick wall above the window bay. The east wall of this gable roof bay has no openings; a single opening pierces the bottom of the west wall of this bay. The opening has a stone and brick lintel; a divided lite replacement door fills the historic opening.

²⁰ The configuration of this wall also may date to 1997. The 1966 plans show a different configuration which can be seen in photos on display at Oakwood.

²¹ The individual windows between mullions were divided lite sashes.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 11

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

The main portion of the south elevation extends to the west of the gable-roof bay (*Photo 21*); historic stone and brick clad the wall. Five evenly spaced bays organize this section of the south elevation. Each identical bay features a tall segmental arched masonry opening; stone and brick voussoirs with central keystones create the arches. The three center openings have stone thresholds. Historically, all five openings contained divided lite French doors/casement windows with transoms. Today, the center three windows contain a single fixed pane over two horizontal hopper windows; the east and west openings have a wooden storefront door system. The date of these alterations is unknown. A side hip roof covers this section of the elevation; five evenly spaced shed roof dormers with historic wood shutters pierce the roof above each bay below.

To the west of this section of the south elevation, a front gable roof bay extends south approximately seven feet. A wooden one-story half-hex window bay is centered at the first story. Stone and brick surround this bay. The three windows formerly were divided lite units; today, plate glass fills each wood frame opening. A hip roof covers the bay window. At the second story, vertical timbers separate panels of patterned brick. A ganged set of three historic windows pierces the center of the wall; each window is a six-over-six unit (the upper sash of the east window is a louver). Historic stucco and half timbering fill the gable end. The east wall of this gabled bay has a door opening at ground level. The west wall has no openings.

A front gable bay to the west sets back from the brick bay approximately five feet. This two-story bay formerly contained an open porch at the first story. Stone and brick columns support the upper stories and now flank a three-part display window within the opening. The upper story features stucco and half timbering up to the gable peak. A pair of historic six-over-six windows pierce the center of the second story wall while a historic narrow three-vertical-lite window is centered in the gable end. The west wall of this bay includes a single pedestrian door at ground level and a pair of historic six-over-six window are centered in the upper façade breaking above the gable roof line. A shed roof covers these windows (*Photo 20*).

The westernmost portion of the 1930 building's south elevation sets back from the adjacent gabled bay approximately ten feet. This one-story wall has stucco and half-timbering. The only opening within the wall occurs at the east end and consists of a pair of historic four-over-four windows. Other historic openings in this wall were covered in 2002 when the bar and lounge

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 12

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

were remodeled and the outdoor patio at this location installed.²² This patio joins the historic terrace spanning most of the rest of the south elevation to the east. A wooden pergola covers the concrete patio. The building's hipped roof at this location does not have any dormers. The 1956 addition, described below, extends west from this bay.

The 1930 stone terrace has a concrete floor and rails. Decorative concrete urns are spaced along the top of the concrete rail. A decorative stone fountain is centered in the south wall of this terrace; the stone arch has a lion head keystone. Wide flights of stone steps flank this fountain, leading down from the terrace to the fountain level.

Interior (refer to Figures 11, 12, 14 for floor plans)

The 1930 building has a full basement under the first floor and a finished second floor above the west half of the building. The irregular floor plan centers on the spine created by the porte cochere. The interior retains historic spatial arrangements and Tudor Revival details, such as pointed arches and exposed timber rafters, especially within its grandest and most public spaces; some secondary spaces have updated finishes and configurations. Primary historic spaces within the 1930 building include the Foyer, Grand Foyer, and Dining Hall. Unless noted otherwise, historic materials remain throughout the 1930 building. Walls and ceilings retain historic plaster, historic wood trim surrounds doors and windows, and wood or terrazzo cover floors.

The main entry from the porte cochere leads into a small vestibule with quarry tile floor (non-historic). A set of steps leads up through a pair of non-historic glass doors and into the elongated octagonal Foyer (*Photo 24*). This space has a vaulted ceiling with exposed timbers. The floor and base are terra cotta; the tiles at the center of the floor are set in a hexagonal pattern.²³ Two gothic arched openings in the south wall have stone surrounds and lead into the Grand Foyer. Two doorways flank the glass doors in the north wall of the Foyer. The west doorway leads into a small coat room and men's restroom (non-historic finishes). To the east, a historic paneled door with strap hinges opens into a closet. This room has terrazzo flooring. A historic paneled wood door in the west wall of the Foyer leads into the Kitchen. An inset wood niche is in the wall to the south of the kitchen door. The east wall has three doorways. The north opening leads into

²² Windows are visible on the interior.

²³ The 1929 plans note this space was to have terrazzo, as was the vestibule. No records so far indicate the age of the terra cotta.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 13

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

another coat room. The center doorway opens into a small hallway that leads to a women's restroom (non-historic finishes). The south doorway leads into what is now the Catering Hall.

The Grand Foyer is to the south of the entry foyer (*Photo 25*). The room is a two-story volume with exposed trusses at the ceiling and a wood floor. Two historic wrought iron chandeliers hang from the ceiling. A large historic stone fireplace is centered in the east wall. Tall stone gothic arched openings flank the fireplace. These openings each contain a pair of historic wood and brass doors (1966) that lead into the former east porch-now-Progress Room; stained glass transoms surmount the doors. A wood panel door (1930) at the north end of the east wall opens to the main stair to the basement. The large mullioned window bay fills the south wall of the Grand Foyer. Three tall wood trimmed gothic arches in the west wall lead into the Main Dining Room. An exterior door at the south end of the west wall leads out onto the south terrace.

The Progress Room is located within the 1966 addition at the southeast corner of the building (*Photo 27*). This open room has non-historic finishes: carpeted floors, gypsum board walls and ceiling that also contains a grid of boxed beams. The west end of this room, separated from the rest of the room by large pillars, was a covered porch when built in 1930. The ceiling in this area is vaulted. Three pairs of double doors in the north wall lead into the Catering Hall. These doorways correspond to former windows within the 1930 wall.

The Catering Hall (*Photo 26*) was created in 1966 when the Progress Room was built. This area of the building north of the Progress Room and east of the Foyer was a series of rooms that functioned as the women's locker rooms beginning in 1930. Storerooms fill the northeast corner of the floor today. The non-historic finishes in the catering hall include carpeted floors and gypsum board walls and ceilings.

The Main Dining Room to the west of the Grand Foyer is the largest public room in the 1930 building (*Photos 28 & 29*). Like the Grand Foyer, the room has a double-height ceiling with exposed ceiling trusses and two historic decorative cast iron chandeliers. The wood floor is carpeted (non-historic finish). Non-historic wood paneling with light coves at the top run the perimeter of the room. The date of the paneling installation is unknown; historic images show bare walls (*Figure 9*). A historic doorway at the north end of the west wall opens into the main corridor that leads into the 1956 addition. To the south of this door, the wall is a series of butterfly doors that open into the Oakwood Room. A decorative historic wood balcony is

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 14

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

centered in the second floor wall. Two timber columns extend up from the edges of this balcony; this space formerly was open for an orchestra. Today the area is mostly infilled; although, a door at the center of the balcony allows access onto it. Two historic paneled doors at the west end of the north wall open into a Service Vestibule between the Kitchen and Main Dining Room. The Kitchen to the north of the Main Dining Room was redesigned and finishes updated in 1966 and again in 1988. Today the floor is quarry tile.

To the west of the Main Dining Room is the Oakwood Room (*Photo 30*). Butterfly doors in the east wall open into the dining room; a door at the south end of the east wall leads onto the south terrace. A bay window comprises the south wall and sliding doors in the west wall open to the Catering Room beyond. Centered in the north wall, a pair of multi-lite doors with diamond-shaped muntins lead into the corridor; the date of these doors is unknown. Carpet covers the floor of this room, walls and ceiling are gypsum board, and cove lighting lines the ceiling. The Catering Room to the west of the Oakwood Room was a former porch. Finishes in this room match the Oakwood Room, and a door at the south end of the east wall leads out onto the terrace. A pair of doors in the north wall match also match those of the Oakwood Room.

The Special Dining room is directly across the main corridor to the north of the Catering Room (*Photo 31*). The circa 1981 addition expanded this room to the north; the east-west dividing wall in the room was the former exterior wall. Boxed beams (historic) run north-south on the ceiling, and glued ACT covers the ceiling between the beams. Three skylights pierce the ceiling in the north portion of the room. Wood paneling (painted), dating to 1930, covers the walls of the main room, and the entire floor is carpeted. A double swing door in the east wall leads into the kitchen, and a door at the north end of the east wall leads out into an exterior vestibule on the north side of the building.²⁴

The historic main corridor in the 1930 building has plaster walls, and non-historic tile and carpet cover the floor. The corridor provides access to the men's restroom (non-historic finishes), which is west of the Special Dining Room. Additional doors within the south wall access the historic wooden stair to the second floor (*Photo 34*) and storage rooms. The corridor continues west into the 1956 addition (discussed below).

²⁴ The wood paneling and boxed beams are shown in the 1929 plans.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 15

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

A double-loaded corridor organizes the second story (*Photo 35*). This floor retains its historic configuration and finishes. Floors are wood, and plaster covers the walls and ceilings. Four rooms along the north side of the corridor vary in size; two contain historic bathrooms. A door at the east end of the north wall leads into a mechanical room above the kitchen. The east room on the south side of the corridor was the former orchestra room over the Main Dining Room; today this room houses mechanical equipment. A door at the west end of the south wall leads into a small apartment area with living room, kitchenette, bedroom, and bathroom; finishes and fixtures within this space appear to date to mid-century. A storage/mechanical room is accessed through a door at the west end of the corridor.

The full basement of the 1930 building is a mix of public and private spaces. The east end of the basement was a former locker room and card room. Stairs lead down to this area from the Grand Foyer. Quarry tile covers the floor; the walls are plaster with a wood wainscot, and the ceiling is ACT. A doorway at the east end of the north wall leads into a locker room and bathroom; a closet and bathroom are through a doorway at the west end of the wall. A door in the east wall leads into a storage area directly east of the locker room, and the 1986 Halfway House is through a door in the east wall of this storage area. An arched opening in the west wall leads into a series of offices, maintenance shops, and a boiler room. The boiler room leads into the west end of the basement directly under the kitchen. A small hallway organizes storerooms and laundry facilities, and a switchback concrete stair (1930) in the northwest corner leads up to the kitchen.

1956 Addition

The Modern Movement west addition was designed in 1955 by Agnus McCallum of Kivett and Myers and opened in the spring of 1956. The T-shaped addition attaches to the 1930 clubhouse at its west end, elongating the entire building to provide maximum views of the golf course. The addition nearly doubled the footprint of the clubhouse. Small additions to the 1956 building were built in circa 1972, 1981, and 1991. The 1991 project also homogenized the exterior design of the entire clubhouse by the installation of EIFS paneling over existing tongue-and-groove siding and face brick veneer. However, the 1956 window walls installed on the west and south elevations remain intact. The building has a concrete foundation and internal structural system, and a flat roof covers the addition.

North Elevation

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 16

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

The north elevation of the 1956 addition exhibits the greatest number of alterations. Today, most of the elevation dates to 1991 (*Figure 15*). A faux mansard spans the entire north elevation of this addition. The east third of the elevation sets back significantly from the west two-thirds. Two pairs of fixed twelve-lite windows pierce the east end of the wall; stucco paneling with faux timbering surrounds these windows; although, the brick of the 1956 wall remains exposed below the windows. A single stucco panel covers the wall to the west of the west pair of windows.²⁵ To the west of this panel, a small chair-lift addition, built in 1991, extends north. A narrow window pierces the north wall of this addition; the east wall of this small addition contains no openings. The roof of the 1991 chairlift addition is a half-story shorter than the roof of the main addition, but it merges into the roof of the one-story covered walkway at the west end of this section of the north elevation. Brick columns, laid in stacked bond, support the east side of the roof; a brick wall supports the west side of the roof. The columns and flat roof structure date to 1956. The walkway extends north from the main entrance to the parking lot; the floor is non-historic tile while the ceiling is historic (1956) wood tongue-and-groove. The main entrance, comprised of a non-historic pair of glass double-doors with anodized frames, is within the same wall plane as the north wall of the chairlift addition.

The west two-thirds of the north elevation is two stories tall. The ground level is brick; the first story, which slightly overhangs the ground level, is EIFS divided by wood strips.²⁶ Two pairs of doors with transoms pierce the east end of this wall at the first story and open onto a brick deck with metal railing. The only other opening in this wall is a louver near the west end of the wall. The ground level contains four masonry openings. A single pedestrian door and a garage door pierce the brick at the east end of the wall under the deck. To the east of the deck, a row of clerestory windows (1956) spans the elevation, and a single door with transom flanks the clerestory; this section of the wall and its finishes date to 1956. An expansion joint in the wall between the brick deck and the clerestory indicates where the 1991 addition (east) meets the 1956 building (west).

West Elevation

The west elevation is two-stories tall, as the ground level is fully exposed on this side of the building (*Photo 16*). A one-story flat roof addition at ground level is centered on the 1956

²⁵ According to the 1956 plans, this was a wall of windows.

²⁶ This stucco treatment covered the tongue-and-groove wood siding installed in 1956.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 17

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

elevation. The north bay of this addition dates to 1981; the remainder of the addition dates to circa 1972.²⁷ This addition has EIFS panels separated by faux timbers. The north and south elevations of the addition have no openings, while the west elevation has three: a pair of doors at the north end, a recessed entry with single door and cloth awning at the center, and a single window at the south end. To the north of the addition, the ground level of the 1956 building is brick at the north half and EIFS at the south half. A garage door bay pierces the brick, and a single pedestrian door pierces the stucco at the junction with the addition. A wooden egress stair separates the two halves. The ground level to the south of the addition dates to 1981. When constructed in 1956, this area was open. Exposed concrete columns support the first story; an EIFS wall, dating to 1981, sits behind the concrete columns. Centered within this wall is a single door with four ganged display windows to its south. To the north of the pedestrian door, an angled pair of metal and glass doors provide the primary access into the ground level.

The design of the upper story (first floor) of the west elevation dates to 1956. This wall has four uneven sections all within the same plane. A faux mansard roof (1991) defines the northernmost section; the remainder of the west elevation has a flat roof. At the north end of the wall is a set of three fixed windows with insulated steel panels below; thin steel mullions separate the windows (typ.). A single pedestrian door at the south end of this section of the wall accesses the wooden egress stair. Between the windows and door, the wall is EIFS-and-faux-timber paneling.²⁸ The next section of wall contains a row of fourteen clerestory windows (1956) above EIFS-and-timber panels.²⁹ A small section of the wall to the south of the clerestories is EIFS-and-faux-timber paneling with a single door. The south end of the wall at this level is a wall featuring twelve fixed windows with insulated steel panels below dating to 1956.

South Elevation

The west half of the south elevation extends south of the east half approximately fifty feet. The west half is two stories tall and features a flat roof (*Photo 17*). Like the west elevation, when constructed in 1956, the ground level at this location was open. Exposed concrete columns

²⁷ The exact date of this addition is unknown. It was constructed between 1970 and 1981, according to aerials. Plans from 1972 on file with the owner show an addition proposed at the south end of the 1956 addition; these plans may have been modified to the current configuration.

²⁸ Unless noted otherwise, this treatment on the west elevation covered the tongue-and-groove wood siding installed in 1956; alteration occurred at an unknown date.

²⁹ This treatment covered the 1956 face brick at an unknown date.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 18

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

(1956) support the first story; an EIFS wall, dating to 1981, sits behind the concrete columns. A series of four display windows pierces the west end of this wall; a divided-lite storefront system with pedestrian door spans the east half of the wall. The upper story dates to 1956, featuring a wall of fixed windows with insulated steel panels below and thin steel mullions between the windows.

The east half of the south elevation is a story-and-a-half with finishes dating to 1991; the roof is flat (*Photos 18 & 19*). When constructed in 1956, this elevation was a wall of windows matching the south elevation of the west half, and the wall below the windows was brick. Today, the glazing between mullions is full height. A stucco panel nearly centered in the wall covers tongue-and-groove siding installed in 1956, and stucco panels cover the brick below the windows. A door at the west end of the window wall dates to 1981 and accesses a concrete deck and stair with metal railing that leads down to the swimming terrace to the south of the building. This deck and stair replaced a ramp from 1956 in 1991. A storeroom fills the space below the concrete deck.

East Elevation

The east elevation of the 1956 building is visible at the south end of the building. This portion of the building is two stories tall and has a flat roof. Finishes and configuration are similar to the west half of the south elevation. The ground level, which was open in 1956, now contains a divided-lite storefront system with door at the north end; stucco panels surround the window system. The upper story features a wall of fixed windows with insulated steel panels below and thin steel mullions between the windows. Three stucco panels at the north end of the wall correspond to the width of the concrete deck; these panels cover the 1956 tongue-and-groove siding installed in 1956.

Interior

The 1956 addition has contained locker rooms, lounges, and other recreation facilities since its opening. As the needs of the members changed over the years, these spaces were reconfigured. Today, the layout of the first and ground floors mostly date to a 1981 remodeling; with finishes being updated in different areas since then. The 1991 addition added offices to the first floor and cart storage at ground level.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 19

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

The main entrance into the Oakwood Clubhouse is now through the doors on the north side of the 1956 addition. A small vestibule provides access to a chair lift (1991). The main door is a pair of wood panel doors, possibly dating to 1966. These open into a stair hall that leads up to the main corridor of the first floor. A coat room (1966) and women's restroom (non-historic finishes) are on the north side of this corridor; a cased opening in the south wall across from the restroom leads into the bar and lounge (*Photo 32*); an opening at the top of the stairs also leads into this room. The bar/lounge (non-historic finishes) has a fireplace in the south window wall. The 1991 office addition is to the west of the entry stairs.

A small corridor between the lounge and office area leads into the main portion of the 1956 addition (*Photo 33*). Men's and women's locker rooms occupy the north half of the floor; fitness rooms and small lounges occupy the south half of the floor. The ground floor contains an informal dining area at the south end, and the golf pro shop occupies the southwest corner of the floor. Boys' and girls' locker rooms occupy the center of the floor, and unused locker rooms, as well as storage rooms occupy the north half of the floor.

Ancillary Resources

Within the 215 acres, several ancillary resources support the mission of Oakwood and assist in supporting its recreational needs. As previously mentioned, tennis and basketball courts occupy land to the west of the clubhouse while pools are due south of the clubhouse. Three additional resources support the functions of the sports courts (*Figure 4*).

A covered picnic shelter (*Non-Contributing Structure*) adjoins the west end of the basketball court. Built in the 1980s, this one-story wood frame structure has a rectangular plan on a north-south axis; the shelter has a concrete foundation and floor. The gable roof is corrugated metal. The east and west sides are six bays wide; the south bay is an enclosed storage area covered in metal siding. The rest of the shelter is open.³⁰

Two small buildings occupy the narrow area between the north and south tennis courts. The east building is the Tennis Shelter, built in circa 1980 (*Non-Contributing Building*).³¹ The one-story wood frame building has a rectangular plan on an east-west axis. The foundation and floor are

³⁰ The exact date is unknown, but it was built between 1981 and 1990, according to aerials from those years.

³¹ This dates to between 1970 and 1981, according to the aerial images from those years; it was most likely constructed when the additional tennis courts were constructed.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 20

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

concrete, and composition shingles cover the gable roof. The north and south sides are three bays wide; the center and east bays are open. The ceiling of this open area is painted wood sheathing. The west third of the building is enclosed. Each side of this portion has panelboard siding. The east façade of the enclosure has a door at the north end and a window at the south end. A single window pierces the north and south façades of the bay.

To the west of the Tennis Shelter is a Restroom Building, built circa 1990 (*Non-Contributing Building*).³² The rectangular one-story building has a concrete foundation and composition shingle gable roof. Wood panel siding covers the building. Entrance into the facility is through openings in the west wall. The north and south facades have no openings. The gable end of the east façade is open for ventilation.

Additional ancillary resources cluster on the north side of Oakwood Lake (*Figure 5*). In the early 1960s, a pumping station was installed on the north bank of the lake to supply water to the irrigation system for the front nine holes. The pumping station includes a square concrete cubical pump structure (*Contributing Structure*) and a T-shaped pumphouse to the west of the concrete structure (*Contributing Building*). The pumphouse is one-story building with concrete foundation, concrete block and wood panel siding, and composition shingle roof. The east half of the building is concrete block with a side gable roof. Two small windows pierce the top of the north and south façades, a vent pierces the gable ends of the east and west façades. Pipes enter the building at the bottom of the south façade. The west half of the T-shaped building has a square plan and wood panel siding. The roof is hip-on-hip. A single window pierces the top of the west end of the south façade while large water pipes enter the building at the bottom of the south façade from the lake. The east façade has no openings. The north façade has a vent at the east end of the building and a window at the west end of the building. Entry into the pumphouse is from the west elevation.

To the northwest of the pumping station is the Maintenance Shed (*Non-Contributing Building*), dating to circa 1990. This one-story building has a long rectangular plan. The building is a pre-manufactured metal building with gable roof. Entrances into the building are in the east and west elevations.³³

³² This dates to between 1981 and 1990, according to the aerial images from those years.

³³ This dates to between 1981 and 1990, according to the aerial images from those years. Some type of shed appears at this location as early as 1962.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 21

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Two of the oldest buildings on the property are to the west of the Maintenance Shed. The Caretaker's Residence and Barn (*Contributing Buildings*) date to circa 1920 based on their design and materials but may be older. The house has a square plan and a gable roof with flared eaves. The one-story wood frame dwelling sits atop a stone foundation. The walls are clapboard; wood shake shingles fill the gable ends on the north and south facades. A screened-in porch fills the south end of the house. The east elevation has a single four-over-one window at the north end. The symmetrical north façade has two four-over-one windows. A wooden deck spans the west elevation with a door from the main floor allowing accessing to the deck. A stuccoed brick chimney pierces the center of the roof. To the west of the house is the Caretaker's Barn. This long rectangular building is one-story and has a concrete foundation, corrugated metal cladding, and a corrugated metal gable roof. A brick chimney pierces the center of the roof. The north and south facades feature four evenly spaced four-lite windows. Sliding barn doors adorn the west and east elevations.

One additional ancillary resource is found at Hole 17 at the south end of the property. This shelter was constructed in the early-1960s as a restroom and rest stop (*Contributing Building*).³⁴ The concrete block and metal building has a flat roof. The south third of the building has men's and women's restrooms; the rest of the shelter is a covered open area with concrete floor and benches.

Integrity

Oakwood Country Club retains its historic integrity from its period of significance. Oakwood remains in the *location* in which it was founded in 1912 even though the City of Kansas City annexed the area in which the property sits into the city limits in 1961.³⁵ Residential and highway development around Oakwood increased after the annexation, but the immediate historic *setting* around the country club remains relatively unchanged. The natural wooded immediate environs of Oakwood retain its undeveloped character.

As a continuously operating recreational facility since 1912, Oakwood has adapted to the changing wishes and needs of its members over the decades. These adaptations naturally resulted

³⁴ The date is based upon the construction details; it first appears on the 1962 aerial.

³⁵ Annexation through ordinance #20192. Kansas City, Missouri Parcel Viewer.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 22

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

in alterations to aspects of *design* and *materials* without significantly impacting the holistic *feeling* and *association* of the country club.

The overall *design* of the country club remains intact with the clubhouse and associated recreational facilities at the north end of the property and the golf course to the south; this arrangement has remained consistent throughout the club's history. When opened in 1912, Oakwood had a nine-hole golf course and a clubhouse inside a former residence. In the 1930s, the physical design of the country club changed as a new clubhouse building opened, the golf course expanded, and additional recreational facilities built. Similarly, in the 1950s, the clubhouse expansion and the rehabilitation of some holes affected the overall design of the country club; alterations to the course were in direct response to deferred maintenance of the back nine holes during World War II. The golf course and its clubhouse are the two most important resources within the district. Ancillary resources support the mission and operation of the club; the recreational resources have been added, removed, and altered over the years to continue to support the mission.

The clubhouse today features a number of alterations since its original construction in 1930. The largest change occurred when the west addition opened in 1956. This addition allowed all recreational activities to move out of the 1930 building by providing dedicated areas for larger locker and game rooms. The 1956 addition therefore opened as the indoor recreation space while the 1930 clubhouse continued its primary role as the social space. The historic foyer, grand foyer, and dining room continued to be the spaces in which formal dinners, celebrations, or other large gatherings were held. Most historic spatial arrangements and materials were retained within the 1930 building even as additional gathering areas were added in the mid-1960s to accommodate larger parties. Because of its primary function as the recreation support center, the 1956 addition saw the greatest number of changes to its interior layout since its initial construction; however, the programmatic function and spatial relationships remain even if materials and interior design changed. For instance, the bar and lounge remain in their original locations even though finishes have been updated; locker rooms remain on the main and ground floors within the same areas as in 1956 addition even though walls and finishes within them have been updated and rearranged. The changes within the 1956 addition allowed Oakwood to continue to support its mission as membership changed. Exterior materials of the 1956 addition mostly date to the 1990s; however, the exposed concrete columns, brick walls, and window walls continue to communicate its mid-

National Register of Historic Places
 Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 23

Oakwood Country Club
Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

century design. The 1930 clubhouse retains a large amount of its historic exterior materials and remains the focal point of the country club itself.

The golf course itself has sustained alterations over the years with holes being reworked to better suit the game and the existing terrain over the years; this is a common occurrence at historic golf courses. The *workmanship* of the property is especially evident in the 1930 clubhouse and the golf course, and historic materials have been retained throughout the entire country club. The retention of the physical aspects of integrity continue to support the historic integrity of feeling and association related to this historic country club.

District Resources Count Methodology

The following table lists the built resources that comprise Oakwood Country Club today. See *Figures 4 & 5* for diagrammatic plans of resource locations. Individual resources that were of substantial size were counted. Those considered contributing were built within the period of significance and retain historic integrity even if altered after initial construction. Non-contributing resources were built outside the period of significance or no longer retain historic integrity.

Table 1. Resource List		
Primary Resources		
Clubhouse	1930, 1956, 1966, 1980s	Contributing Building
Golf Course	1912, 1934, 1952, 1990s	Contributing Site
Ancillary Resources		
Oakwood Lake & Dam		Contributing Site & Structure
Entry Gates	ca. 1930	Contributing Structure
Parking Lot		Contributing Structure
Tennis Courts	ca. 1930, ca. 1965 ca. 1980	2 Contributing Structures 1 Non-contributing Structure
Basketball Court	ca. 1980, alt. ca. 2006	Non-Contributing Structure
Caretaker House	ca. 1920	Contributing Building
Caretaker Barn	ca. 1920	Contributing Building
Pumphouse	ca. 1960	Contributing Building
Pumphouse Structure	ca. 1960	Contributing Structure
Hole 17 Restroom	ca. 1960	Contributing Building

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 24

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Swimming Pool	1992	Non-Contributing Structure
Wading Pool	1992	Non-Contributing Structure
Picnic Shelter	ca. 1985	Non-Contributing Structure
Maintenance Shed	ca. 1990	Non-Contributing Building
Gazebo	2003	Non-Contributing Structure
Tennis Shelter	ca. 1980	Non-Contributing Building
Restroom Building	ca. 1990	Non-Contributing Building

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 25

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Summary Statement of Significance

Oakwood Country Club, established in 1912, in south Kansas City, Missouri, is locally significant under Criterion A area of JEWISH ETHNIC HERITAGE. It is an excellent local example of a twentieth century country club with sports facilities and clubhouse amenities. What sets this example apart from other area clubs is its acceptance of Jewish members; Oakwood was the recreational and social hub of the twentieth century Kansas City Jewish community. Country clubs became popular in the United States in the early twentieth century as a way for Americans to organize their leisure time and engage in social activities. However, at the time Oakwood Country Club (Oakwood) was established, most social and recreational clubs excluded Jewish members, even those who helped shape the social and cultural character of the city. Oakwood grew out of the 1881 Progress Club, established by prominent Jewish leaders in Kansas City as a way to support the social needs of their community. Although Oakwood formally opened to non-Jewish members in the mid-1980s, it continues to be a place of significance to the Jewish community in the Kansas City area. When established, Oakwood was south of the city limits; the club includes an eighteen-hole golf course, whose first nine holes date to 1912, a 1930 Tudor Revival Clubhouse (with additions), and other recreational facilities for its members. The period of significance for the Oakwood Country Club begins in 1912 when the club was established at this location. The period ends in 1972 when the University Club, an exclusive private social club in Kansas City, ended their practice of barring Jewish members, marking a significant shift away from established discriminatory practices in Kansas City society.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Oakwood Country Club is significant for its long association with the social and recreational life of the Jewish community of the Kansas City metropolitan area. Prior to the civil rights movement of the mid-twentieth century, private social, business, and recreational clubs commonly disallowed membership for people of Jewish heritage. Jewish community members often established their own clubs as a result of these discriminatory practices. In the Kansas City area, multiple private country clubs formed at the turn of the twentieth century; all but one, Oakwood Country Club, excluded Jewish members. Established by the Jewish community of Kansas City, Oakwood Country Club is the only local representation of this historic trend and is eligible under Criterion A in the area of Jewish Ethnic Heritage.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 26

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Country Club Development in the United States³⁶

Early in the nation's history, a class of wealthy businessmen emerged in American society. Residents of larger U.S. cities, these individuals formed private clubs that met for meals and conversation. The clubs were extremely elite groups composed of just a few members drawn from the highest echelons of local society.

Desiring broader membership and more flexible meeting opportunities, members of American clubs sought ideas from the private men's clubs established in Britain. These highly structured organizations had formal rules governing the election (and expulsion) of members and other protocols. Some clubs were general social groups, while others were themed around a specialized interest, such as sports, politics, university affiliations, or military service. The system succeeded because of the ability of each club to convey and reinforce the social status of their members.

Before the Civil War, many American cities had men's clubs modeled on British precedents. The clubs reinforced the financial and social prestige of their members and helped these individuals plan activities for their leisure time. Leisure time was rare in America during this period. Social standing aside, few Americans had sufficient free time to even consider membership in a club. By default, this restricted club membership to only the most elite members of society.

By the late nineteenth century, American society became increasingly affluent. More Americans enjoyed leisure time, and social clubs rose in popularity. Women and members of cultural groups such as Jews and African Americans, who were typically excluded from traditional men's clubs, began organizing clubs of their own. Wealthy families also enjoyed sports and other outdoor recreation while on summer holiday. Resort areas, such as Newport, Rhode Island, and coastal towns in Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey, offered a wide range of recreational opportunities for men, women, and young people. They enjoyed activities such as yachting, equestrian activities, golf, and tennis, all of which required specialized equipment that was well beyond the means of even the middle class, enhancing the air of exclusivity around these sports.

By the end of the century, affluent families desired year-round access to outdoor recreation. Country clubs offered opportunities to enjoy many of the same summer activities closer to home

³⁶ Except as noted, information about the history and development of social/recreational and country clubs is from James M. Mayo, *The American Country Club: Its Origins and Development* (New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1998).

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 27

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

and year round. Country clubs were built in rural areas, usually on the outskirts of town where ample land was available and affordable. The clubs took advantage of enhanced transportation systems (streetcars and interurban railroads) and growing suburban development that mainly catered to the upper class during this period.³⁷

Golf was the primary offering at most country clubs, but other popular activities included tennis, croquet, polo, horseracing, fox hunting, archery, boating, and skeet shooting, as well as indoor activities such as cards, billiards, bowling, and shuffleboard.³⁸ A counterpoint to city clubs with gender-restricted membership, country clubs provided recreational and social opportunities for entire families. By the start of the twentieth century, there were over one thousand country clubs nationwide, most concentrated on the East Coast.³⁹

The Kansas City area had a few private country clubs with golf courses established around the turn of the twentieth century. The first was the Hyde Park Country Club established in 1895 in the Hyde Park neighborhood. Located outside the city limits until 1897, Hyde Park was a new residential enclave attracting wealthy families away the older, more-crowded urban neighborhoods of Kansas City, Missouri.⁴⁰ The Hyde Park Country Club offered members a nine-hole golf course, polo, and croquet. The following year, the club renamed themselves the Kansas City Country Club and purchased land farther south and west in what is now Loose Park at 55th and Wornall. Here it expanded its facilities, building an eighteen-hole golf course as well as a clubhouse. The club relocated to Mission Hills, Kansas, in 1926, where it further expanded.⁴¹ In 1897, the Evanston Golf Club organized at Fairmount Park between Kansas City and Independence, Missouri. In 1905, the club relocated to the one-hundred-twenty-acre former Thomas Swope homestead to the west of Swope Park at the southern limits of Kansas City, utilizing the former residence as a clubhouse; Evanston Golf Club remained here until 1920.⁴²

³⁷ Mayo, *The American Country Club*, 63.

³⁸ Mayo, *The American Country Club*, 69.

³⁹ Mayo, *The American Country Club*, 66.

⁴⁰ Hyde Park continues to be located on Gillham Road between 36th and 39th streets though the golf course was removed when the club moved further south.

⁴¹ The park remains, but the golf course and clubhouse are no longer standing.

⁴² No traces of the golf club or house remain today in this area bounded by Prospect Avenue (west), Swope Parkway (east), 63rd Street (north), and 65th Street (south). Southeast High School now occupies the eastern portion of the former golf club. Information from "Evanston Golf Club," Mrs. Sam (Mildred) Ray Postcard Collection, Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 28

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Numerous private recreational country clubs established in and around Kansas City around World War I. All of these clubs were located in less-developed areas at the edge of the city or in rural areas outside the city limits, and all had golf courses. Blue Hills Country Club (1912) encompassed an area between 59th and 63rd streets and The Paseo and Park Avenue until 1963. Oakwood Country Club (1912) and Hillcrest Country Club (1916) formed within a few miles of each other south of the Kansas City limits. Two country clubs formed in Mission Hills, Kansas, due west of Blue Hills: Mission Hills Country Club (1914) and Indian Hills Country Club (1919). All of these clubs, with the exception of Oakwood, specifically restricted Jewish members.

The development and popularity of Jewish country clubs followed the same trends as non-Jewish clubs. Members often were among the upper echelons of city leadership but were excluded from joining the social and business clubs of their peers during the increasingly anti-Semitic eras of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These clubs were crucial to the social and recreational activities of the Jewish communities. The Civil Rights era of the mid-twentieth century pushed the exclusionary practices of private clubs to the forefront. Private clubs were not covered under the Civil Rights Act of 1964; however, societal attitudes that pushed for that legislation ultimately advocated for the integration of private social clubs.

The establishment of the Progress Club in 1881 and Oakwood Country Club in 1912 coincides with these themes. The Progress Club formed because important members of the Kansas City business community were excluded from formally socializing with their non-Jewish counterparts. The Progress Club and especially Oakwood were established to provide social and recreational opportunities for the prominent Jewish residents of the Kansas City area. Like country clubs across the United States, Oakwood became a primary social hub of the Jewish community, offering members access to golf and tennis, dining and entertainment, and later, swimming.

The decade following World War I was a period of widespread prosperity throughout the nation. A wider segment of the population had the means to join country clubs, and many did. Some sports traditionally associated with elite country clubs, such as horseracing, fox hunting, and yachting, remained financially out of reach for most clubs and their members. Billiards, croquet, and archery also fell out of favor as country club activities. Golf remained the primary sport at

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 29

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

most clubs with tennis second in popularity. Swimming pools also became increasingly popular features at country clubs during the 1920s.⁴³

Throughout the Great Depression country clubs across the United States suffered. As disposable income disappeared, membership dropped, building maintenance was deferred, and expansion plans were scrapped. Many clubs closed their doors, and clubs that leased their property could no longer afford the rent. In 1927, 5,500 country clubs across the country had about 2.7 million members. By 1939, there were only 4,700 clubs with combined membership of about 593,000.⁴⁴ This downturn continued through World War II. Although Oakwood Country Club experienced this same decline, it endured through the 1940s and was among the few country clubs nationally that survived this period.

As the United States economy rebounded after World War II, so did country clubs as a growing segment of the population realized an increase in both leisure time and disposable income. During the 1950s, the middle class joined the wealthy in fleeing crowded cities for newly constructed suburbs. A plethora of new country clubs provided recreational opportunities for the increasingly suburban American population. Membership at established clubs also surged, and they planned expansion and rehabilitation projects to update and improve facilities and services. Golf continued to be the main recreational attraction, but social activities took on a larger role. Bigger, fancier dining rooms and cocktail lounges were the mainstays of many renovation plans.⁴⁵ New air conditioning systems were installed where none previously existed, and most clubs installed swimming pools.⁴⁶

Like the rest of the country, suburban growth swelled the developed footprint of the Kansas City metropolitan area after World War II, and there was an accompanying surge in country club construction. Nearly a dozen new clubs, most in outlying areas, opened their doors. Swimming pools and tennis courts were ubiquitous, even at facilities lacking a golf course. Without exception, every one of the existing country clubs also planned expansion and/or renovation

⁴³ Mayo, *The American Country Club*, 157.

⁴⁴ Mayo, *The American Country Club*, 158.

⁴⁵ Mayo, *The American Country Club*, 171.

⁴⁶ Mayo, *The American Country Club*, 191.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 30

Oakwood Country Club
Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

projects. Not be left behind, Oakwood expanded its clubhouse in 1956, which offered additional recreational space, and renovations to its golf course at this time further improved the club.

During the 1960s and 1970s, country club culture went through another evolution.⁴⁷ Many clubs sought to expand their membership while relaxing rules and the general atmosphere of the club. This led to a rise in the number of country clubs and in club membership. Between 1966 and 1976 the number of private clubs with golf courses in the United States rose from 4,016 to 4,770.⁴⁸

Oakwood Country Club⁴⁹

Oakwood Country Club has its roots firmly within the early Jewish community of Kansas City. Congregation B'nai Jehudah, established in 1870, served nearly fifty families by 1880, mostly of German origin. In 1881, members of the congregation, many of whom were successful business leaders, wanted a club for socializing since they generally were excluded from most social functions within the city at the time.⁵⁰ That year, Samuel Latz led the effort to form an ancillary organization known as the Progress Club for this purpose. The Progress Club first met on the third floor of the John Taylor Dry Goods Company at 1038-1040 Main Street (not extant). In 1885, they rented space at 1208 Main Street (not extant).⁵¹

The Progress Club became the premiere business and social club for Kansas City's Jewish community. Banquets, dances, and other activities brought together families and businessmen outside of a formal religious setting.⁵² By 1890, plans were underway to build a dedicated clubhouse for the Progress Club. Local architects Frederick Gunn and Louis Curtiss designed the building at 1017 Washington Street in the Quality Hill neighborhood, and in 1893, the club formally moved into its first dedicated clubhouse.⁵³

⁴⁷ Mayo, *The American Country Club*, 193.

⁴⁸ Mayo, *The American Country Club*, 193.

⁴⁹ Unless noted otherwise, the information in this section comes from Krakauer and Katz, "The Story of Oakwood Country Club."

⁵⁰ Robert T. Nelson, "Society's Country Clubs: Jews Separate After All These Years," *The Kansas City Star Magazine* (1978): [2].

⁵¹ Frank J. Adler, *Roots in a Moving Stream: The Centennial History of Congregation B'nai Jehudah of Kansas City, 1870-1970* (Kansas City, MO: The Temple, Congregation B'nai Jehudah, 1972), 48.

⁵² "Oakwood Country Club to Celebrate 100 Years of Golf," *The Kansas City Jewish Chronicle* (17 May 2002): n.p.

⁵³ This building is a contributing resource to the Quality Hill Historic District. Today it serves as a YMCA.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 31

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

By the turn of the twentieth century, the game of golf had risen in popularity in Kansas City. Two private courses, Hyde Park (later Kansas City) Country Club and Evanston Golf Club, as well as a public course at Swope Park, were active. However, due to the exclusionary practices of private clubs against Jewish members, leaders of the Progress Club began the search for a rural property on which to establish a private club and golf course for the Jewish citizens of the Kansas City area.

The Progress Club sold their building at 1017 Washington in 1910 for \$33,000, and in November of 1911, they purchased the former W.A. Rule farmstead south of the Kansas City limits for \$50,000. The Club leased the former Judge William Teasdale house in midtown Kansas City between selling the Washington Street clubhouse and moving to the new location. This house continued to serve as a winter headquarters after the new club opened.⁵⁴

The Progress Club hired Tom Bendelow to lay out the first nine golf holes soon after purchasing the Rule property. Coming from a school of thought that promoted natural design, Bendelow incorporated the rocky, hilly terrain into the layout.⁵⁵ According to the authors of “The Story of Oakwood Country Club,” Bendelow could lay out a course in two hours.⁵⁶ The terrain was a challenge both to golfers and the grounds man in charge of keeping the course maintained. Rocks dulled the blades of horse-drawn mowers, especially in the area south of the entry gates where a rock quarry was formerly located. Throughout the next decades, attempts were made to expand the course with little progress. The back nine, designed by O.E. Smith and Wendell Miller, finally opened in 1934.⁵⁷

When the nine-hole course opened on Memorial Day 1912, it was one of only four private country clubs in the Kansas City area. By 1913, the new country club officially became known as Oakwood, a reference to one of the prominent tree species on the grounds. In 1915, one of the first professional golf tournaments in the Kansas City area was held at Oakwood. Seven golf pros, including Oakwood’s own Fred Clarkson, competed in the tournament. Also in 1915, the

⁵⁴ “Oakwood Country Club to Celebrate 100 Years of Golf,” n.p. The house, located at 20 Hunter Avenue, is now the McGilley Memorial Chapel-Midtown at 20 W. Linwood Blvd.

⁵⁵ Annie Miller Devov, *A Lifestyle for a Lifetime: The Centennial of Mission Hills Country Club* (Virginia Beach, Virginia: The Donning Company Publishers, 2014), 17.

⁵⁶ Krakauer and Katz, “The Story of Oakwood Country Club,” 2.

⁵⁷ Gene Ayres, “Rough Spots Smooth Out in 50 Years,” *Kansas City Star* (5 July 1959): 18-C.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 32

Oakwood Country Club
Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Women's Golf Association of Kansas City formed, with Oakwood as one of the founding members, and in 1920 when the Kansas City Golf Association formed, Oakwood was also one of the members.

The club used the former Rule residence on the property for their clubhouse until 1930. The old house was deemed too small for the needs of the country club members, so Oakwood hired the local architectural firm of Greenebaum, Hardy, and Schumacher to design a clubhouse suitable for large parties, intimate gatherings, and recreational needs. Architect Samuel Greenebaum was a member of Oakwood Country Club.⁵⁸ The new clubhouse was built adjacent to the east of the old house, which was razed in the middle of 1929. The new clubhouse opened to great fanfare in June 1930, just months after the stock market crash. Bonds sold to finance the new building were retired in the 1950s.

Although a recognized part of the Kansas City golf community, Oakwood was the only social club open to Jewish members, a reality that extended into the 1970s. As a result, this place became a significant hub of social activity for the Jewish community, including families of several community leaders. Oakwood offered members an array of amenities. In addition to the golf course there were tennis courts, a swimming pool, and card rooms. The grille offered lunch and dinner, and the formal Main Dining and Grand Foyer rooms hosted large banquets, celebrations, charity events, and bar/bat mitzvahs.

Cabins on the grounds allowed visitors to stay at Oakwood rather than travel back to Kansas City. In the earliest days, arriving at Oakwood required a bit of coordination. A streetcar line extended south from the city to Dodson at 85th and Prospect, two miles to the northwest. When a member arrived at Dodson, they called the club, who sent a vehicle to pick up the visitors. The final hill to the club was so steep that private cars frequently burned out motors. After such a journey, staying a night or two at the club was a luxury. These cabins were removed after World War II.

As did country clubs across the country, Oakwood struggled in the 1930s due to the financial hardships wrought by the Great Depression. Budgets tightened, but club members still successfully raised \$14,500 by 1939 to build the club's first pool; the total income for the club

⁵⁸ Samuel Greenebaum (1886-1978) was also a member of Temple B'nai Jehudah. *Who's Who in Kansas City* (Kansas City, MO & KS: Veterans of Foreign Wars & Hebron, NE: Robert M. Baldwin, 1930), 82 in Greenebaum, Hardy, Schumacher Vertical File, Kansas City, Missouri Historic Preservation Office.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 33

Oakwood Country Club
Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

that year was \$39,000. In an effort to recruit younger members, initiation fees were lowered to \$100 in 1940.

The club remained a hub of social activity into the 1940s; although events were muted during World War II and course play was reduced to nine holes for the duration of the war. The first membership meeting since the start of the war was held in the fall of 1945. Issues discussed were the condition of the course, the need for irrigation, and the need for air-conditioning inside the clubhouse. The full eighteen holes reopened in 1946, and the swimming pool remained a key asset of the club. The original pool was replaced in the 1990s with a larger, modern facility desired by the members.

The prosperity of the post-war years saw improvements and new opportunities at Oakwood as membership increased. A summer day camp started in the 1950s for the children of members. Between 1950 and 1952, the golf course underwent a \$15,000 rehabilitation. Tennis continued to be a popular sport at the club. Popular events in the clubhouse included black-tie New Year's Eve parties held in the Main Dining Room and Grand Foyer, which were always sold out. In 1955, Oakwood hosted the first professional women's golf tournament in the Kansas City area, the Women's Heart of America Invitational Open. One of the biggest changes came with the completion of the clubhouse addition in 1956. Designed by local firm Kivett & Myers, the addition expanded locker rooms and provided additional recreational and social spaces.⁵⁹ Additional improvements to the golf course came in 1960 when a pump and irrigation system was installed for the front nine holes. By 1967, the whole course had an automatic sprinkler system.

The 1960s also saw the beginnings of social changes in the Kansas City area that affected Oakwood. Because of discriminatory practices within private clubs in the area, Oakwood had been an exclusively Jewish club since its inception.⁶⁰ Members of Jewish and non-Jewish society often were friends and peers, but socially, the two groups remained separate. Even into the 1970s, Jews were still unable to join the many of the city's social clubs such as the Junior League, Kansas City Club, and Mission Hills and Indian Hills country clubs.⁶¹ The beginnings of

⁵⁹ Architect Clarence Kivett (1905-1996) was a member of Temple B'nai Jehudah.

⁶⁰ "Oakwood Country Club to Celebrate 100 Years of Golf," n.p.

⁶¹ Nelson, "Society's Country Clubs," [1].

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 34

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

integration came toward the end of the 1960s during the Civil Rights era. In 1967, the Kansas City Club accepted two Jewish members under the pressure of several members who threatened to cancel personal and corporate memberships in protest. In 1972, another club, the University Club, opened to Jewish members.⁶² Integration led to Oakwood opening its membership to non-Jewish community members in the 1970s, and by the mid-1980s, Oakwood officially stopped its exclusively Jewish membership policy.⁶³

In 1978, an Oakwood member offered the following outlook, “It is questionable whether or not Oakwood would have developed into the country club it is today had it not been for the discriminatory policies of the non-Jewish clubs.” The Jewish community used the discriminatory practices as a force to keep its community close-knit, and Oakwood was a central part of that force.⁶⁴

Membership remained steady and club activities continued to flourish through the remainder of the twentieth century. Alterations to the golf course, clubhouse, and facilities were made during this time to maintain and improve the club’s services. Today, Oakwood continues to provide recreational and social activities to its members.

Conclusion

Established in 1912, Oakwood Country Club stands out from its contemporaries such as Blue Hills, Mission Hills, and Kansas City country clubs by being the only such club open to Jewish members. In this sense, there are no comparable properties within Kansas City even though all shared similar amenities like golf courses and clubhouses for members and each expanded and altered their facilities as members’ needs changed.

Created by the Progress Club, a private club for the city’s Jewish leaders and their families, Oakwood Country Club became a significant place for the Jewish community of Kansas City to socialize and recreate, as they were prohibited from joining similar clubs in the area. Oakwood was open exclusively to Jewish members from 1912 until the 1970s. This corresponds to when

⁶² Robert T. Nelson, “Society’s Country Clubs: Jews Separate After All These Years,” *The Kansas City Star Magazine* (1978): [1]. In 1977, the River Club, considered one of the most exclusive clubs in the area, accepted its first Jewish member; although, this did not translate into additional Jewish members, according to the article.

⁶³ “Oakwood Country Club to Celebrate 100 Years of Golf,” n.p.; Stone, “The Country Club Life,” 63.

⁶⁴ Nelson, “Society’s Country Clubs,” [2].

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 35

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

other private social clubs in Kansas City began to remove their discriminatory practices. Specifically, the year 1972 marks the turning point of integration when the University Club changed its membership policy. Because of its significant association with Jewish ethnic heritage in Kansas City, this property is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 36

Oakwood Country Club
Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 37

Oakwood Country Club
Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri
County and State
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 38

Oakwood Country Club
Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The Oakwood Country Club occupies just under 215 acres in south Kansas City. The boundary corresponds to the legal description: Part of S1/2 of S1/2 of Section 27 & part of N1/2 of Section 34, Township 48N, Range 33W containing 214.39 acres more-or-less. Beginning SW corner of the NW1/4 of Section 34 thence N along the west line of said section to NW corner of said section thence E along said north line to point 350 feet west of SE corner of SW1/4 of the SW1/4 of Section 27 thence N 675.5 feet thence E to west line of Grandview Road thence southerly along said west line to south line at 98th Terrace thence E along said south line to west line of Grandview Road thence southerly along said west line to a point 991.8 feet north of north line of NE1/4 of Section 34 as measured at right angle to said north line thence W 933 feet to west line of said 1/4 section thence S to north line of Interstate 435 thence westerly along said north line to point of beginning. See *Figure 15* for boundary map.

Boundary Justification

This boundary reflects the current extent of the Oakwood Country Club, which encompasses the historic extent of the club during its period of significance. Oakwood Country Club included more than just the clubhouse; it also featured sports and recreation facilities. Therefore, the nominated boundary encompasses the extant built resources associated with the Oakwood Country Club.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 39

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

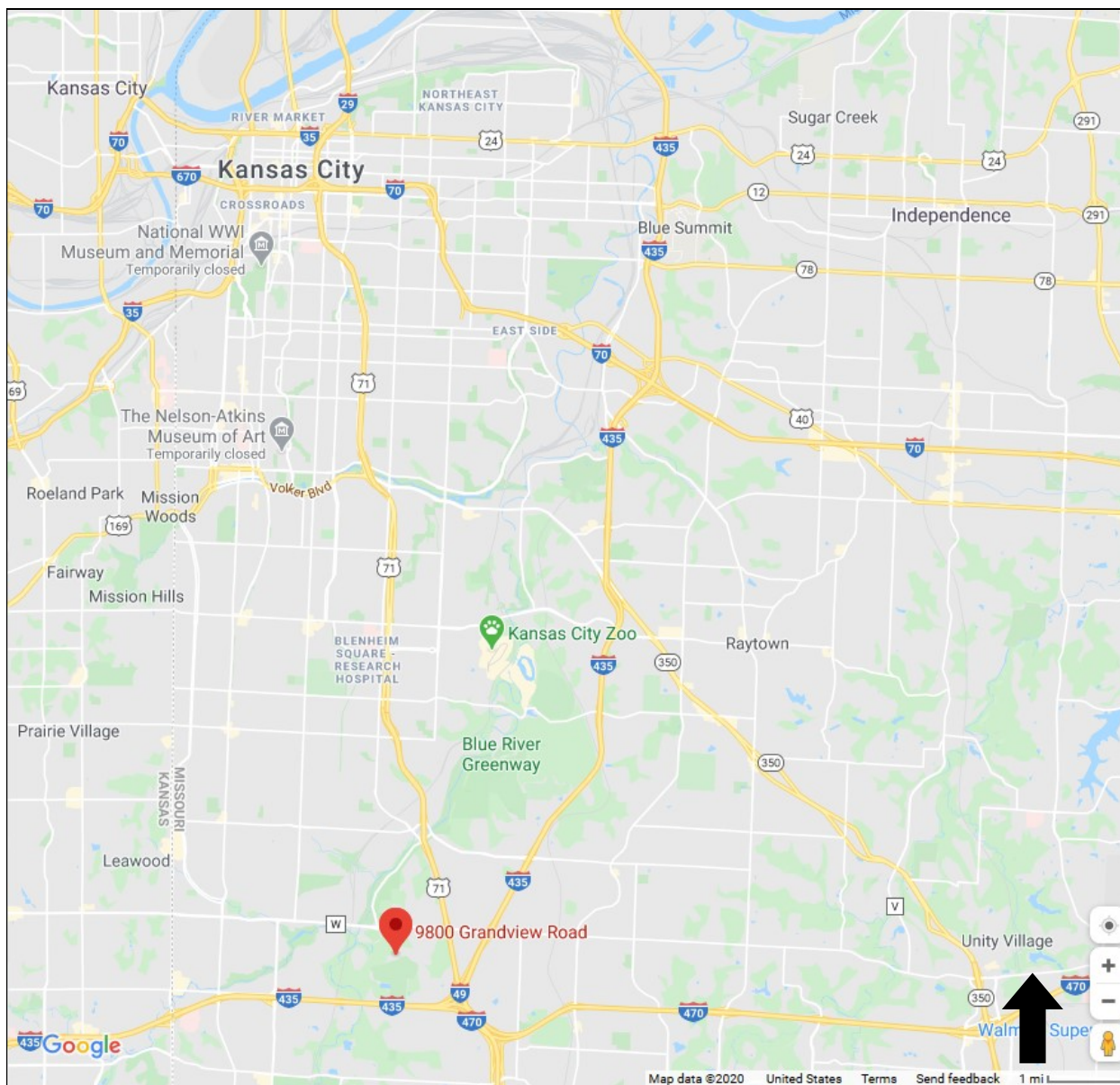
Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 1. Contextual map, showing Oakwood Country Club (9800 Grandview Road) within the Kansas City area. Source: Google.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 40

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

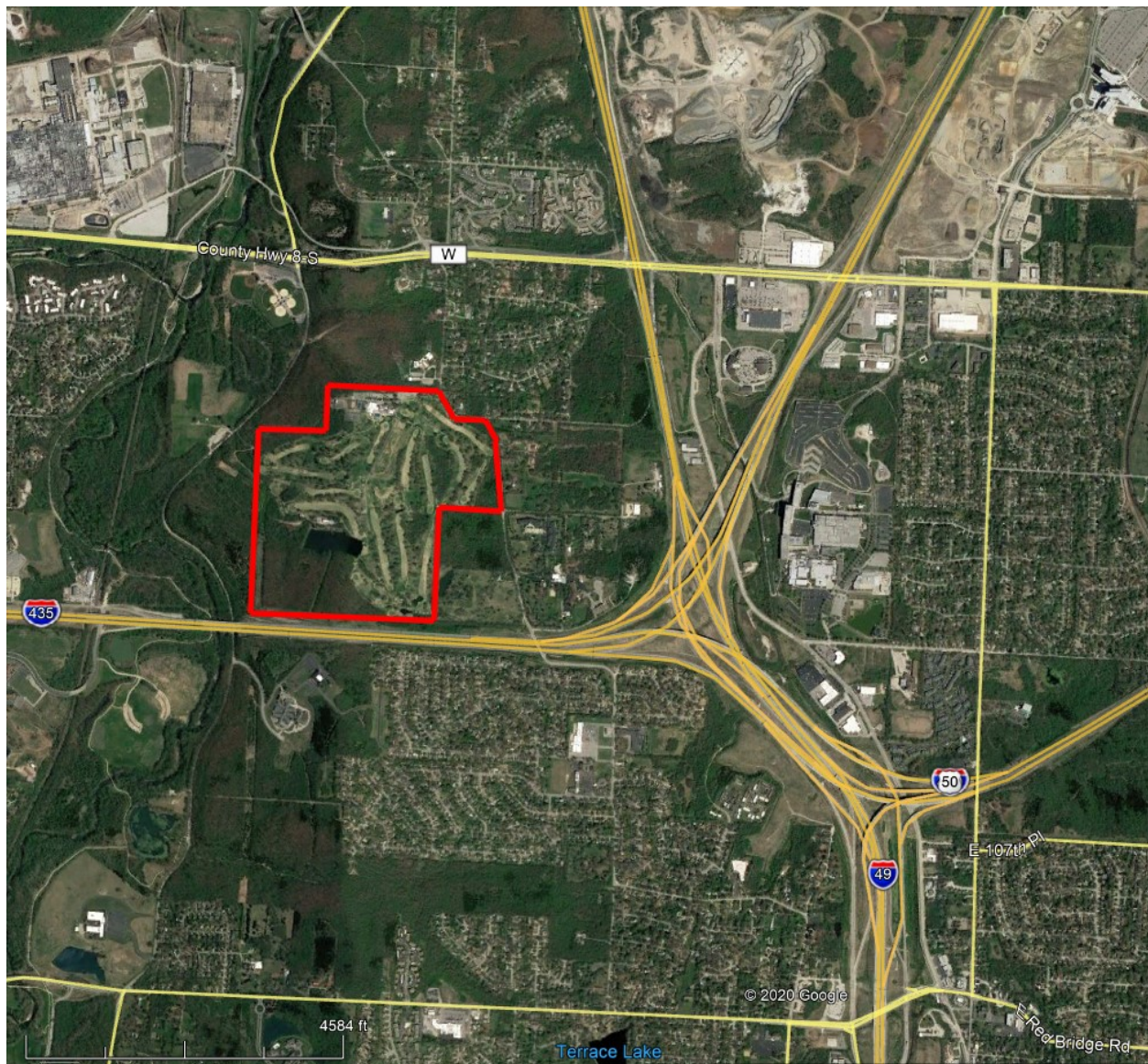
Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 2. Contextual map, showing Oakwood Country Club (in bold outline) within its immediate surroundings. Source: Google Earth, July 2019 aerial image.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 41

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 3. Aerial image of Oakwood, showing contours and course layout. Heavy line surrounding property is the boundary. Base map from City of Kansas City, Missouri Online Parcel Viewer.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 42

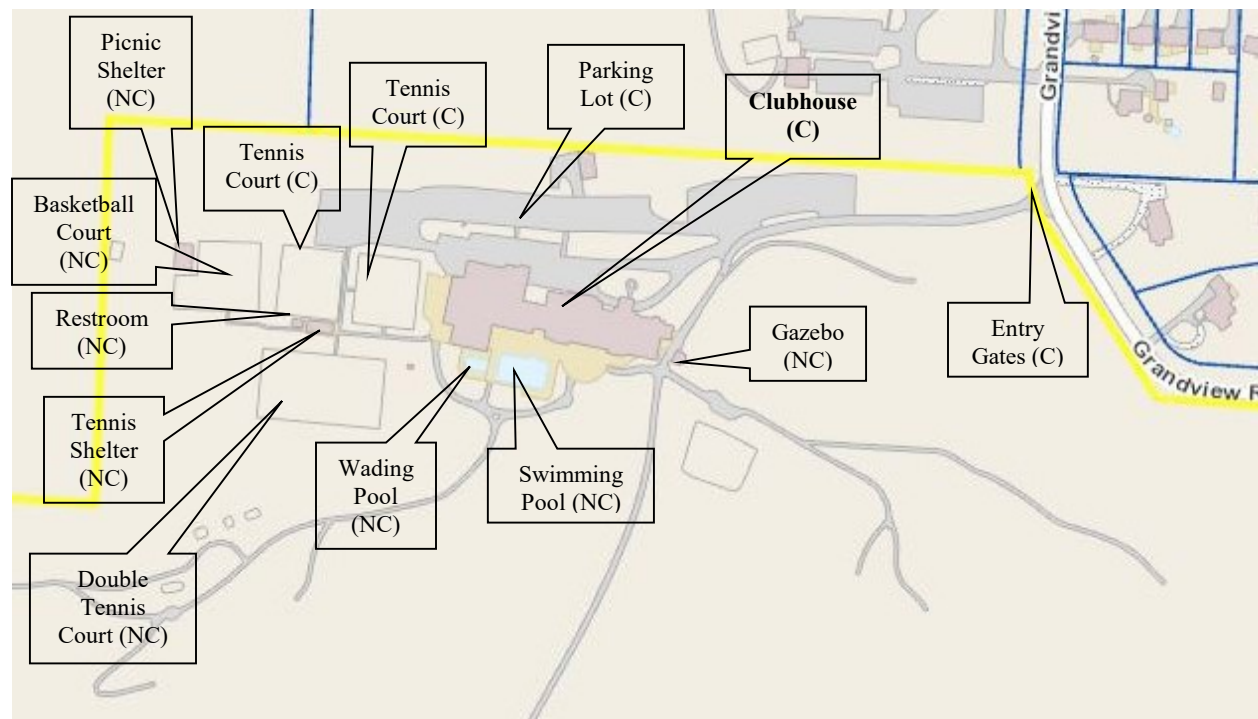
Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri

County and State
N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 4. Resource map, north half of site. Bold line indicates property boundary. Base map from City of Kansas City, Missouri Online Parcel Viewer.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 43

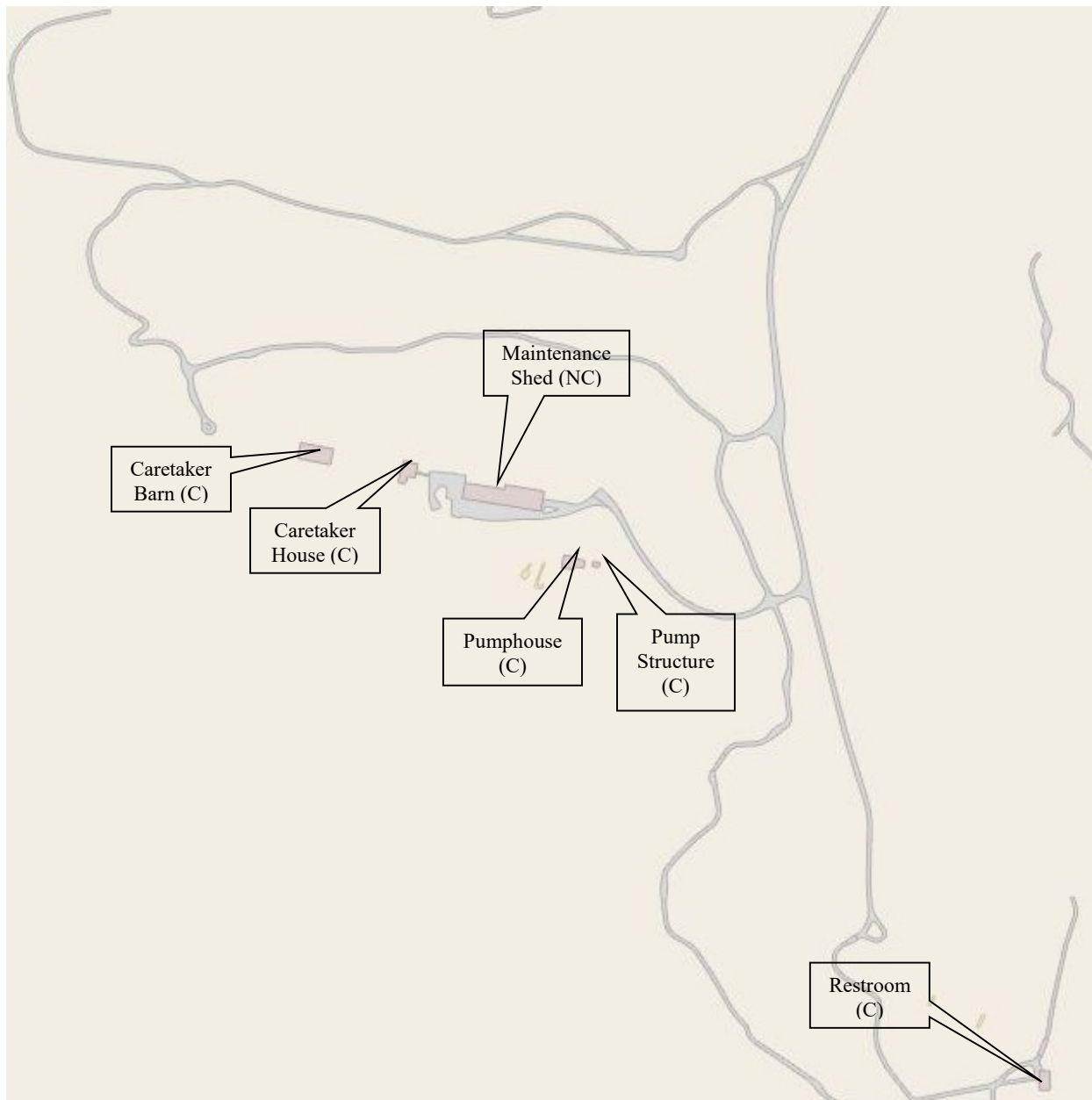
Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri

County and State
N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 5. Resource map, southwest portion of site. Bold line indicates property boundary. Base map from City of Kansas City, Missouri Online Parcel Viewer.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 44

Oakwood Country Club

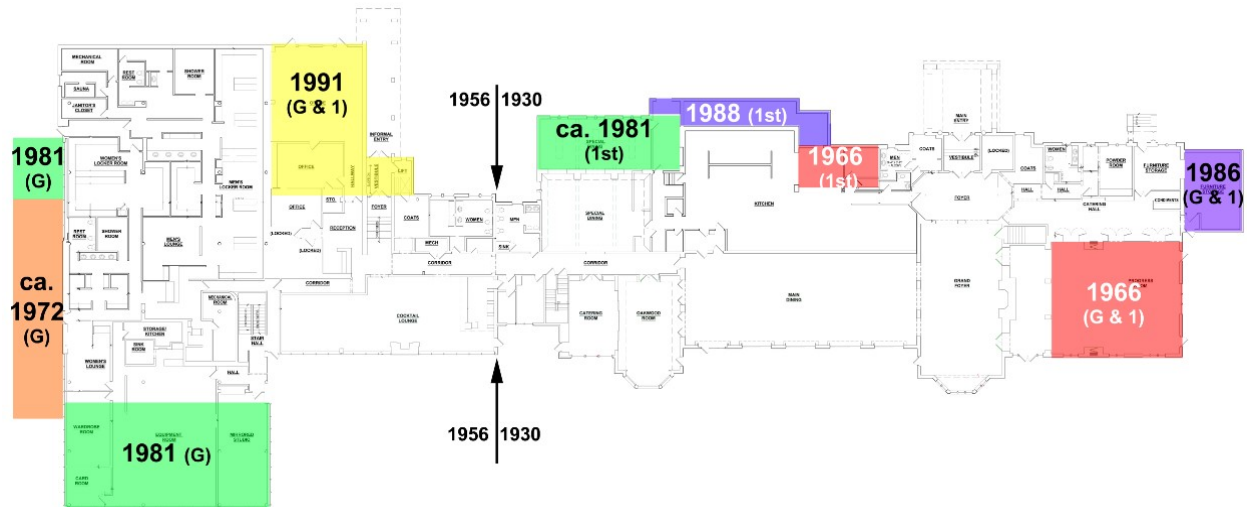
Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 6. Diagrammatic plan, showing 1930 building at right (east), 1956 addition to left (west) and the smaller additions built between 1966 and 1991. G = Ground floor; 1st = First Floor. Base map from Gensler.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 45

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri

County and State
N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 7. Undated historic photo, showing Oakwood Clubhouse prior to the 1956 addition.
Source: Oakwood Country Club.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 46

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 8. South elevation, looking NE in August 1947. Source: Oakwood Country Club.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 47

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 9. Dining Hall, looking west. June 11, 1938. Source: Oakwood Country Club.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 48

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 10. Site photo plan. Small numbers indicate Hole number. Base map from Google Earth.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 49

Oakwood Country Club

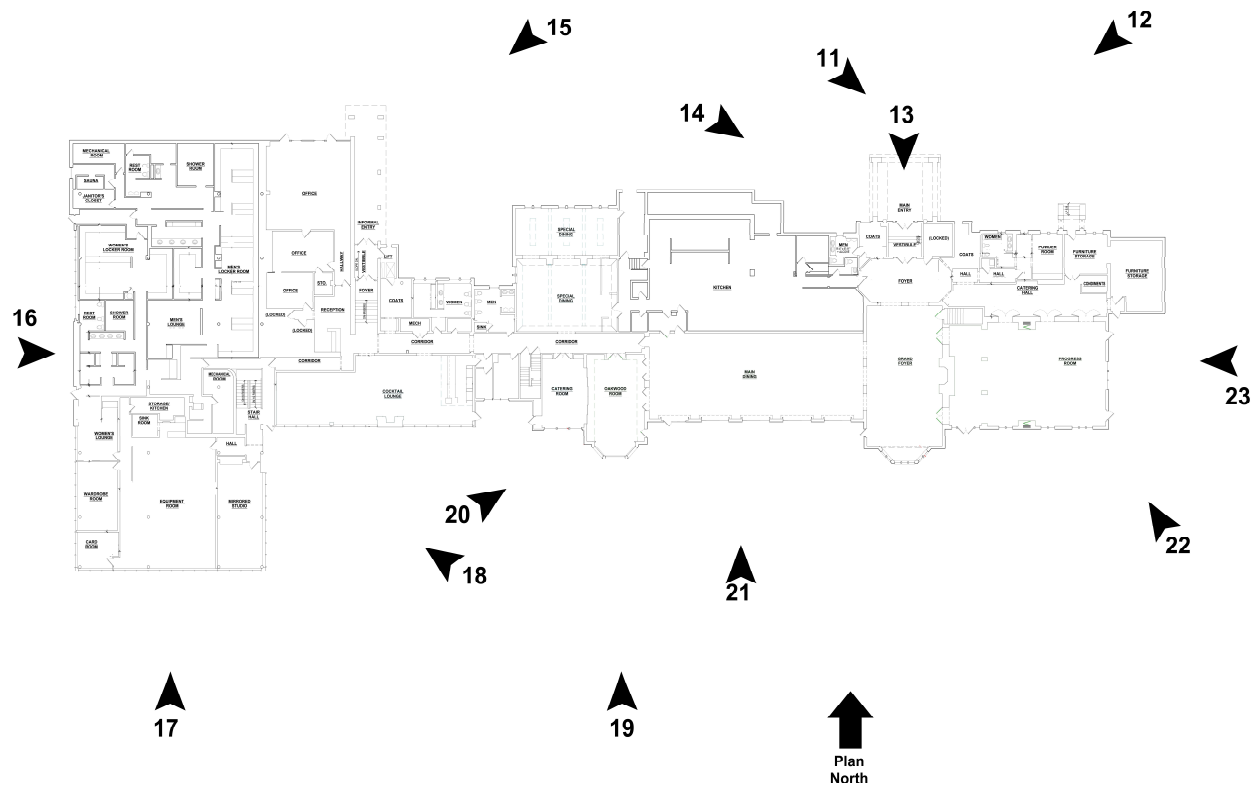
Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 11. Clubhouse exterior photo key plan. Base map from Gensler.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 50

Oakwood Country Club

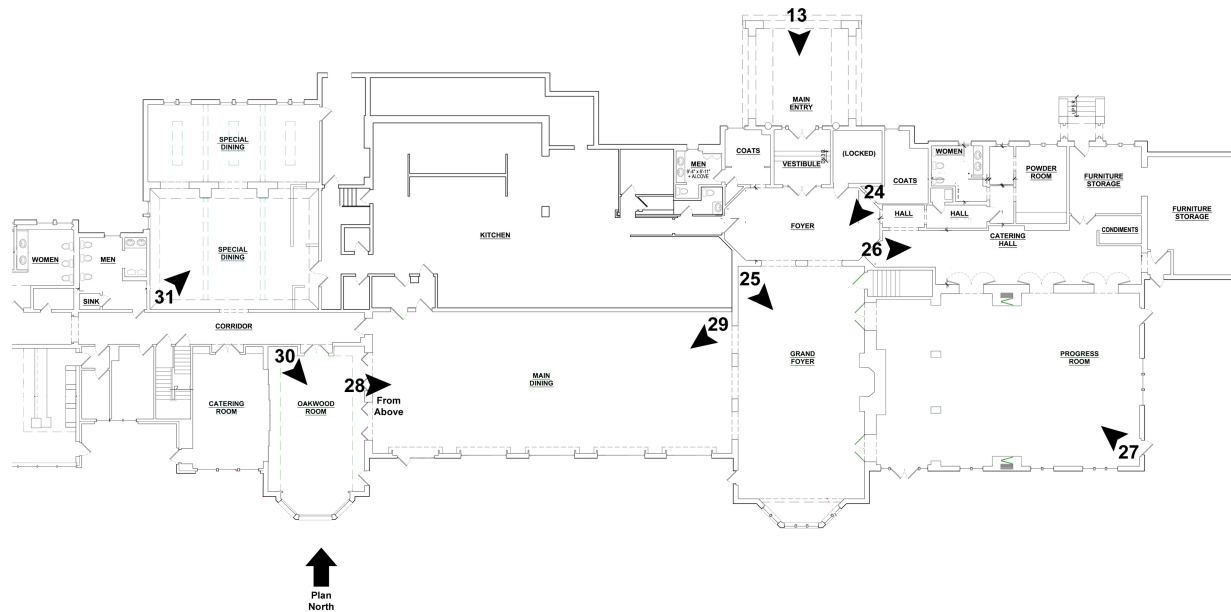
Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 12. Clubhouse, 1930 building, first floor photo key plan. Base plan from Gensler.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 51

Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property

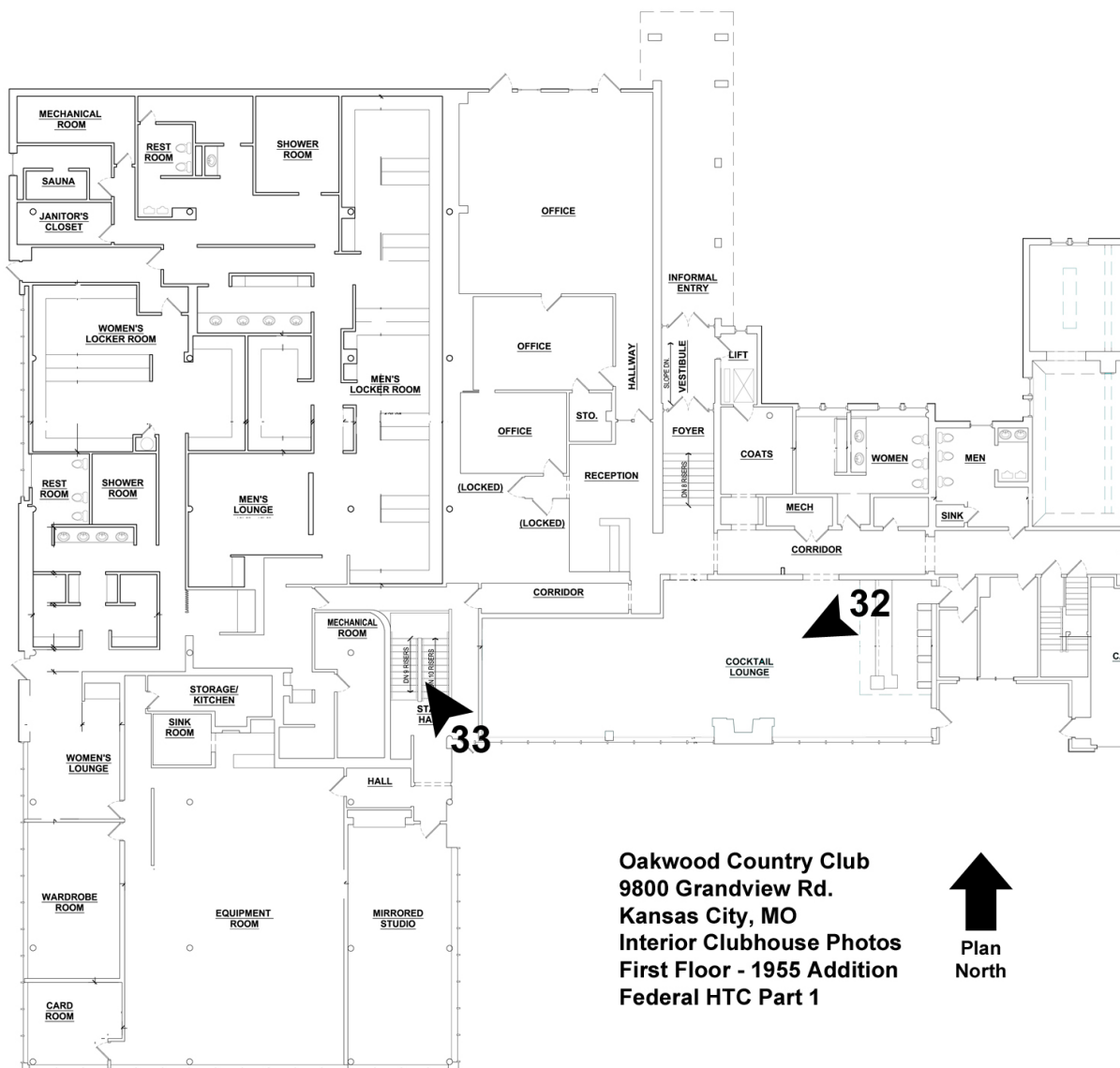
Jackson County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 13. Clubhouse, 1956 addition, first floor photo key plan. Base plan from Gensler.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 52

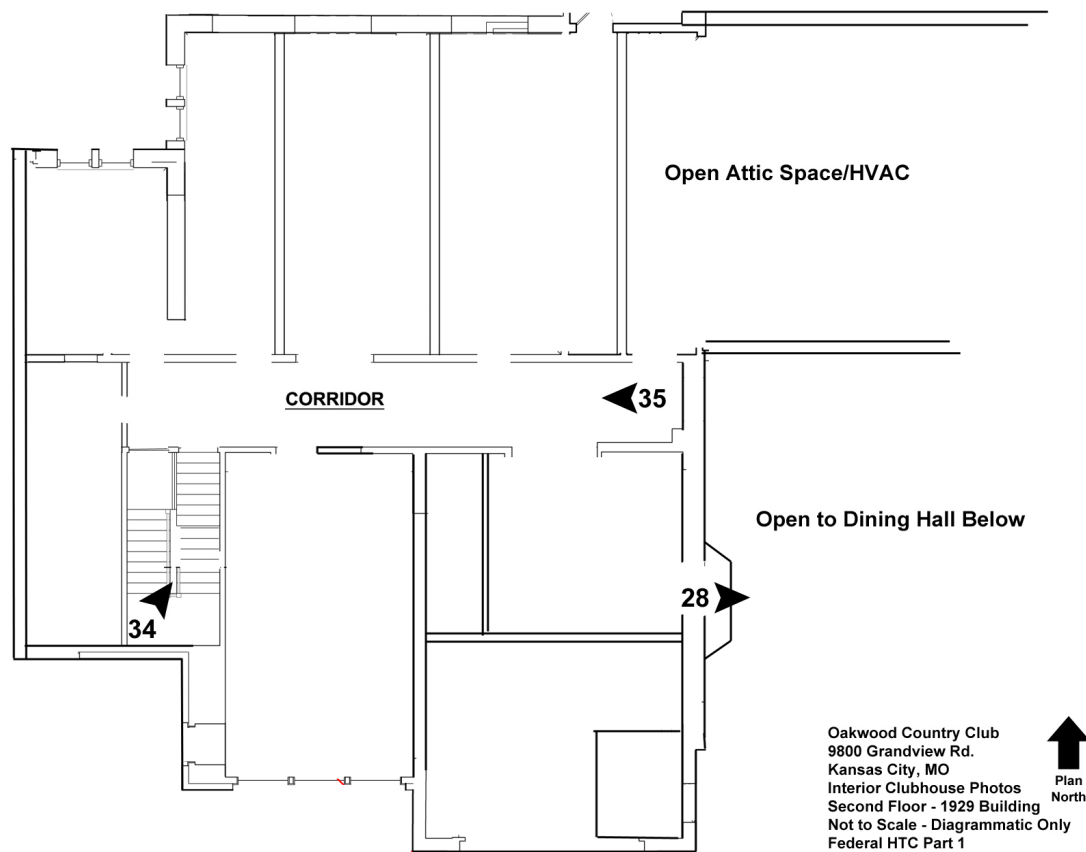
Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri

County and State
N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 14. Clubhouse, 1930 building, second floor photo key plan. Base plan adapted from first floor from Gensler. This plan is diagrammatic.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 53

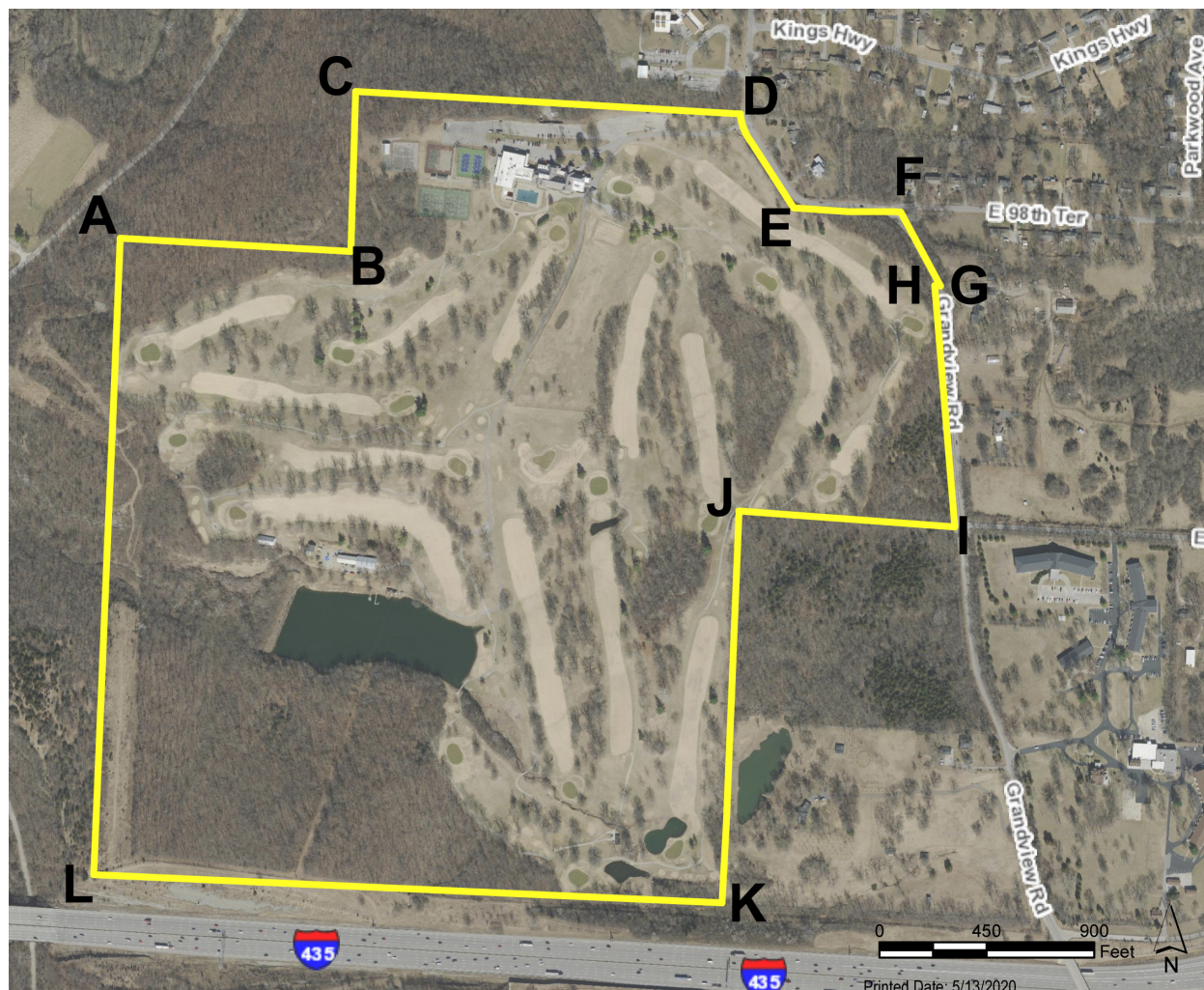
Oakwood Country Club

Name of Property
Jackson County, Missouri

County and State
N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 15. Boundary map. Base map from City of Kansas City, Missouri Online Parcel Viewer.



A: 38.947325/-94.559239
B: 38.947218/-94.555860
C: 38.949022/-94.555762
D: 38.948783/-94.550132
E: 38.947695/-94.549338
F: 38.947648/-94.547750

G: 38.946798/-94.547152
H: 38.946818/-94.547250
I: 38.944041/-94.546944
J: 38.944212/-94.550132
K: 38.939722/-94.550362
L: 38.940056/-94.559643





































































