

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name Ruthven, John B. and Elizabeth, House

other names/site number Wehmeyer House; Ruthven - Wehmeyer House

2. Location

street & number 406 Cherry Street [n/a] not for publication

city or town Jefferson City [n/a] vicinity

state Missouri code MO county Cole code 051 zip code 65101

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 [] nationally [] statewide [X] locally.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

Signature of certifying official/Title Claire F. Blackwell/Deputy SHPO

21 April 2000
Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

[] entered in the National Register
See continuation sheet [].

[] determined eligible for the
National Register
See continuation sheet [].

[] determined not eligible for the
National Register.

[] removed from the
National Register

[] other, explain
See continuation sheet [].

Signature of the Keeper

Date

5. Classification

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

Name of related multiple property listing.

Number of contributing resources
previously listed in the National
Register.

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

VACANT

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Other: Missouri German

Materials

foundation Brick
walls Brick

roof Asphalt shingle
other _____

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

☐ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

Property is:

☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ **B** removed from its original location.

☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.

☐ **D** a cemetery.

☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ **F** a commemorative property.

☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

☐ previously listed in the National Register

☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark

☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Areas of Significance

ARCHITECTURE

Periods of Significance

ca. 1879

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person(s)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State Agency

☐ Federal Agency

☐ Local Government

☐ University

☐ Other:

Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

A. Zone Easting Northing
15 572730 4269100

B. Zone Easting Northing

C. Zone Easting Northing

D. Zone Easting Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title See continuation sheet

organization _____ date _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

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

Property Owner

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

name Paul E. Wehmeyer

street & number 305 Buchanan telephone _____

city or town Jefferson City state Missouri zip code 65101

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Section 7 Page 1

Ruthven, John B. and Elizabeth, House
Cole County, Missouri

Summary: The John B. and Elizabeth Ruthven House is located at 406 Cherry Street in Jefferson City, Cole County, Missouri. The one-story brick house faces southeast toward Cherry Street and is in the middle of the north side of the block. Constructed in ca. 1879, the hipped-roof building reflects a German vernacular tradition. Apart from its history, features which identify the Ruthven House as an early Missouri-German dwelling include its simple design, brick construction, arched brick lintels, symmetrical fenestration and general massing. The house has an irregular plan comprised of a five-bay wide central section with an original rear ell on the southwest and a single-bay wing on the northeast which is historic if not original. (See Figure One.) The design, materials and workmanship of the wing virtually match the original core, probably indicating that it was constructed shortly afterward. The house sits above street level on its original location in a largely residential neighborhood. Throughout the house, first floor windows are vertical-light double-hung units topped by soldier course segmental brick arches. The house has a full basement, the walls of which are exposed where the lot slopes to the northwest, or rear. An altered rear porch has been removed but no significant alterations have occurred since the northeast wing was added early in the building's history. The building has been vacant since the 1970s and the windows and doors have been boarded. The Ruthven House retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. There are no outbuildings.

Elaboration: The John B. and Elizabeth Ruthven House faces southeast, toward Cherry Street, on a slight hill approximately ½ block from East McCarty Street. This block is between East McCarty and East Miller Street, with the Rex Whitton Expressway (Highway 50) one block southwest of Miller. The foundation of another mid-late 19th century vernacular house to the northeast remains following its recent demolition. An early 20th century house faces East McCarty and anchors the corner of Cherry and East McCarty. East McCarty served as U.S. Highway 50/63 prior to the opening of the Rex Whitton Expressway.¹ The expressway is approximately 1½ blocks southwest of the Ruthven House. An alley is south of the house. Houses on the southwestern portion of the block date from the early 20th century. Opposite these houses on the corner of Cherry and East Miller is Capitol City Lodge #9, a former early 20th century family-operated grocery. This building is considered individually eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Program. The Cherry Street block with the Ruthven House has retained its residential character, as have adjoining blocks on East McCarty and Cherry. An older tree in the front yard, two tree lines in the rear yard and some narrow concrete walkways are all that remain of the old landscape. A concrete cistern base is evident just north of the rear wall of the northeast wing. Loose stones cover the cistern opening.

The core section of the Ruthven House is one room deep, with a one room rear ell. The northeast wing contains two rooms and forms a "T" shape on the northeast end of the core section. A brick foundation supports the house's load-bearing brick walls. All bricks are laid in common bond with one header course for every five stretcher courses.

Except for where the enclosed porch addition has been removed in the rear, a boxed cornice is continuous around the entire house. All sides except the central portion of the rear retain their old half round gutters and downspouts. The hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles which are in deteriorated condition. A rear porch, enclosed for use as a kitchen in the 1930s, was removed after it collapsed in the 1980s. This porch filled the gap between the ell and the northeast wing. Three doors accessed the porch on the main level from the core, from the ell and from the wing. Plaster on the exterior brick walls, joist holes, and a jagged roof edge are reminders of its existence. Loss of the altered porch does not significantly decrease integrity, however, because the porch's former location is only visible from directly behind the house.

¹Urbana Group, "Jefferson City Historic East Survey, MO" (Summary report for and Architectural/Historic Survey, 1991. On file with the Missouri DNR/Historic Preservation Program.) p. 17; Interview with Jefferson City Building Inspector, February 1999.

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Ruthven, John B. and Elizabeth, House
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The entry is centered at grade in the southeast (front) elevation. The four panel front door, topped by a two-light transom and a segmental brick arch, retains its white porcelain knobs. Two 2/2 vertical-light double-hung windows are on either side of the entry. The owner indicated there has not been a porch on this wall since at least the 1930s, and there is no evidence that a front porch ever existed.² The front wall of the northeast wing extends seven feet from the front wall of the core section. The wing features a centered pair of 2/2 vertical-light double-hung windows on the front wall; a similar pairing of windows is in the rear. The basement level of the wing is exposed on this facade but is obscured from view at street level by a concrete retaining wall in front of the two double-hung basement windows. All windows have segmental brick arches and dressed limestone sills. Door and window openings are original and are set off by simple wooden trimwork.

The northeast wall has two 2/2 vertical-light double-hung windows on the basement level, and one similar window on the main level. An exterior chimney, located right-of-center, extends slightly from the wall. The northwest wall of the wing has a centered pair of 2/2 vertical-light double-hung windows on the main level, with a similar window and an entry door on the basement level. Vandals have kicked the door open and it may not be salvageable. Simple wood trim surrounds the door. This rear wall of the wing extends seven feet northwest of the rear wall of the core section, and has a door on the main level; this door originally opened onto the porch. The rear wall of the core section has a double-hung window and an entry door several steps below grade on the basement level, and one door on the main level. Plaster remains on this wall on the main level, indicating the location of the kitchen in the enclosed porch, now removed. This wall also has an interior chimney approximately in the center of the wall, which has been parged above the roof line. The northeast wall of the rear ell extends 15½ feet beyond the rear wall of the core section. This wall's basement level contains an entry door and a window, which is half the size of the other rear windows, and a door on the main level. The rear, or northwest wall of the rear ell, has a very small window opening on the basement level and an interior chimney which has been parged above the roof line. The southwest wall has no exposed basement area, and faces the alley. A coal chute provides access from the alley to a basement storage room near the west corner of this wall. On the main level are two 2/2 vertical-light double-hung windows and an interior chimney. It is roughly centered on the wall and is parged above the roof line.

The interior of the building contains six rooms on the main level, all with original wood floors. (See Figure Three, Floor Plans.) Plaster walls are in fairly good condition, while plaster ceilings show numerous cracks. Ceilings on the main level are almost 10 feet in height. Original four panel doors remain in most doorways, and all door and window openings are surrounded by wide, well-crafted wooden trim. Very tall baseboards are evident in many places. A portion of the entry hall has been enclosed by a thin partition wall for use as a bathroom. Wallpaper from the early 20th century hangs in shreds in the non-bathroom portion of the entry hall. A clawfoot tub, sink and toilet remain in the bathroom. A stair once connected the entry hall to the lower level, but was removed to accommodate installation of the main floor bathroom when indoor plumbing was installed.³ To the left, or southwest of the entry hall, is a large square parlor or bedroom which leads to another large square room in the rear ell. Both of these rooms have interior chimneys with visible flues. Both rooms have floor-to-ceiling beadboard closets in one corner. To the right of the entry hall, or northeast, is a large rectangular parlor most recently used as a kitchen. Plain wood cabinets on two walls and a large porcelain sink attest to this use. In the center of the room hangs a period three-light chandelier. This room leads to the northeast wing containing a large, almost square living room or bedroom with an interior chimney flue. This room leads to a bedroom at the front of the wing. Both rooms have floor-to-ceiling beadboard closets in a corner. The basement level contains three rooms, accessed by two exterior doors, and a storage room reached by a separate exterior door. Seven windows, of which five are in the single room in the wing on the northeast end, provide the basement level

²Interview with Paul Wehmeyer, February 18, 1999.

³Ibid.

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**Ruthven, John B. and Elizabeth, House
Cole County, Missouri**

with natural light. Much of the wooden window and door trim survives, although wooden floors and joists in this area are badly deteriorated. Plaster has fallen from the brick walls in one room, and the ceiling plaster is cracked or otherwise deteriorated so that plumbing is exposed.

Remarkably few changes have been made to this house. It appears today largely as it did when owned by the Ruthvens, following completion of the northeast wing. The footprint exhibited in the Sanborn map of 1908, the first such map to document this block, is practically identical to that of today. A rear porch, enclosed in the 1930s, was removed after its partial collapse in the 1980s. (See Figure Two, Porch.) While loss of the porch is unfortunate, significance was not diminished. Because of its location between the rear ell and the north wing, the porch was only visible from directly behind the house and in any case it had been altered. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Program reviewed the John B. and Elizabeth Ruthven House in April 1999 and found it potentially eligible for listing in the National Register. The Jefferson City Historic East Survey, August 1991, states that the house would contribute to a National Register historic district.⁴ The house retains a high degree of integrity, and stands as a very good representative example of an early Missouri-German vernacular house. Primarily vacant since the 1970s, the house awaits rehabilitation. New mechanical systems, plumbing, electrical wiring, a new roof and spot tuckpointing are proposed. The exterior and interior features remain very much intact. The John B. and Elizabeth Ruthven House is significant as a rare surviving example of a vernacular building type once common in Jefferson City.

⁴Urbana Group, Inventory Form 450, p. 2.

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Figure One. Building Footprint.

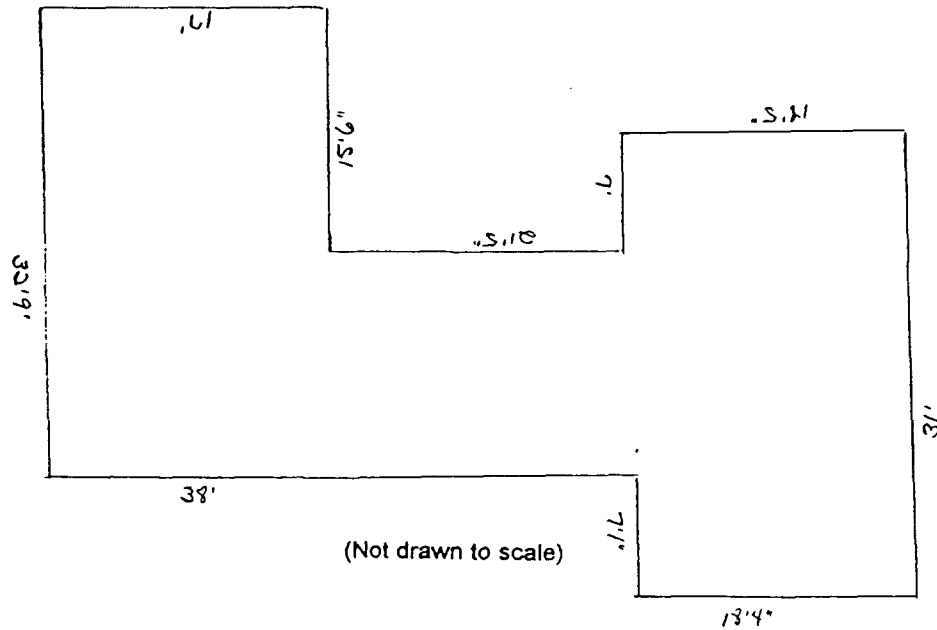
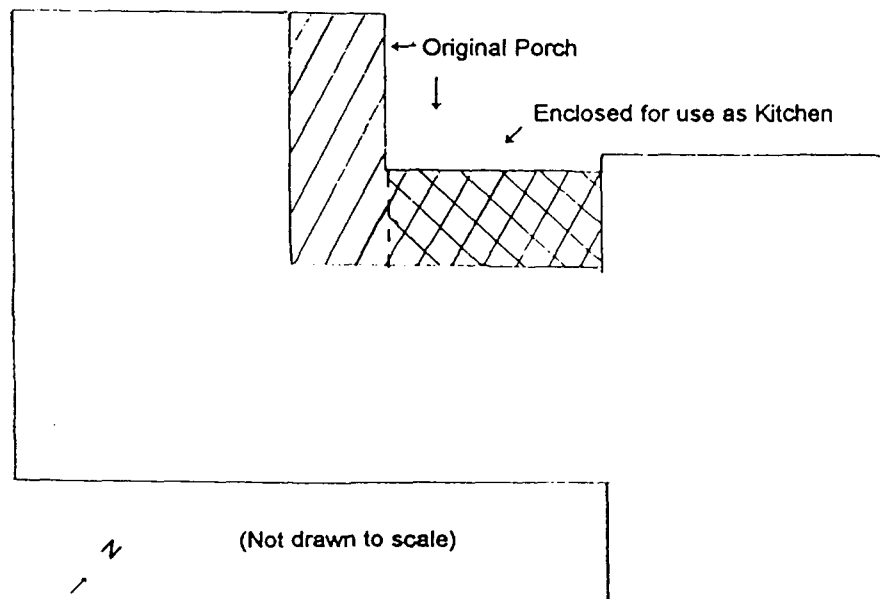


Figure Two. Porch.



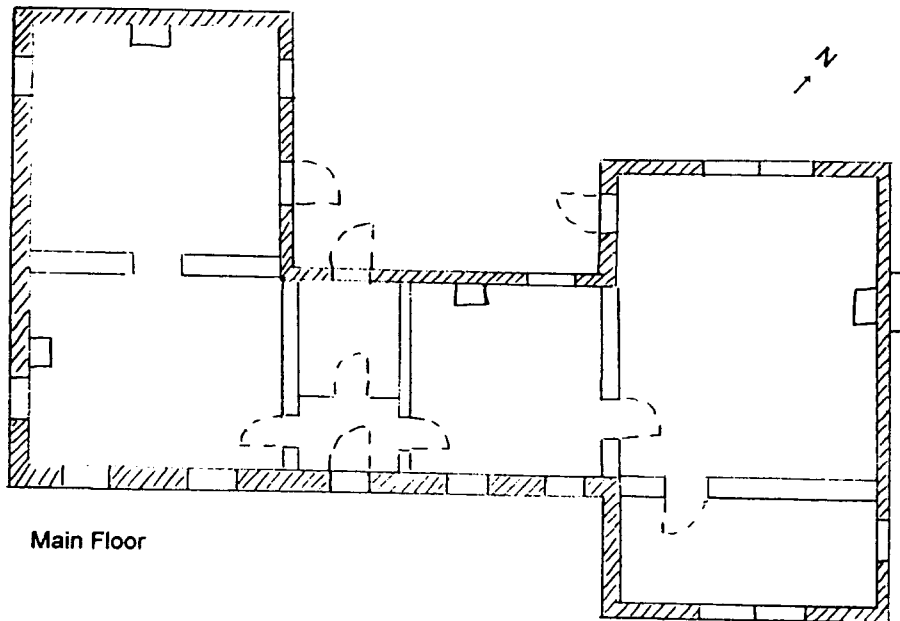
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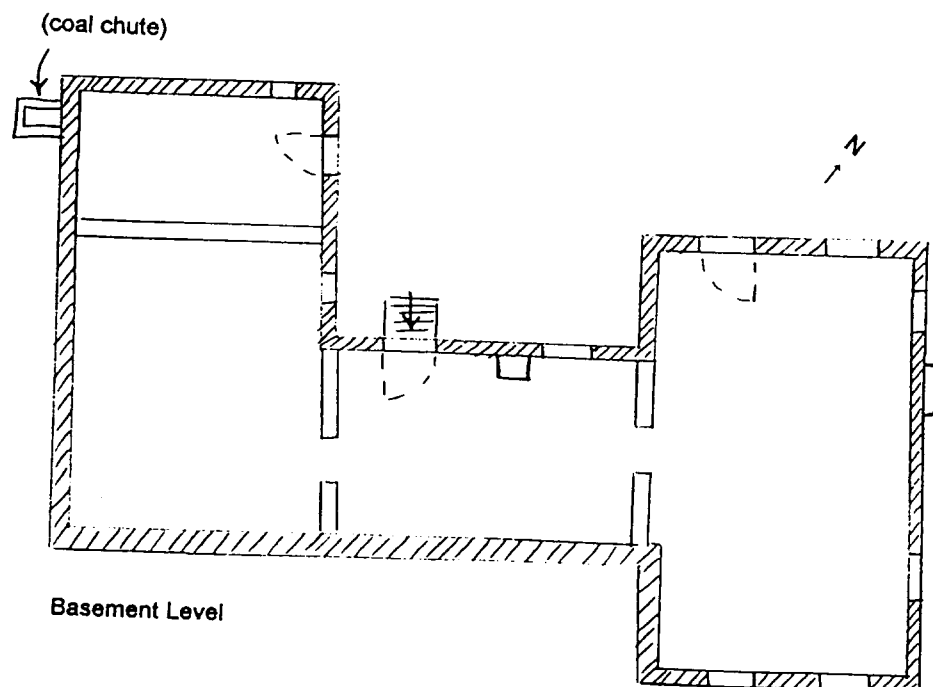
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Ruthven, John B. and Elizabeth, House
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Figure Three. Floor Plans.



Main Floor



Basement Level

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Ruthven, John B. and Elizabeth, House
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Summary: The John B. and Elizabeth Ruthven House, 406 Cherry Street, Jefferson City, is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE. Built in ca. 1878-1879 by William D. Morris, the Ruthven House is significant as an intact example of a vernacular building type once common but now scarce in Jefferson City and other communities in Missouri's German settlement area. Morris, who immediately sold the property to the Ruthvens, undoubtedly employed craftsmen of German descent for the project. Elements which identify the house as an early Missouri-German vernacular dwelling include its simple design, brick construction, arched brick lintels, general massing and symmetrical fenestration. The arches in particular reflect the *Rundbogenstil* ("round arch style") or German Romanesque Revival, introduced on the American East Coast in ca. 1845.⁵ In 1991, the Jefferson City Historic East Survey described the house as "retaining a high degree of integrity."⁶ Today, the house still retains a high degree of integrity and both the exterior and interior appear much as they did under the Ruthven's ownership. The 1879 period of significance reflects the date of primary construction.

Elaboration: Jefferson City is both the capital of the State of Missouri and the seat of Cole County. The territory of Missouri became a state in 1820, and Cole County was partitioned off from Cooper County later that year. A search for a suitable location for the state capital began soon after statehood was achieved. In 1821 the current location of Jefferson City, then an undeveloped site known as Howard's Bluff, was selected. Legislation naming the City of Jefferson as the new capital passed on December 31, 1821, although the community did not function in this capacity until five years later; the temporary seat of government from 1821 to 1826 was located in St. Charles. In 1825 Jefferson City was incorporated and in 1829 became the seat of Cole County government.⁷

During the 19th century the United States experienced a major influx of German-speaking immigrants. The total foreign-born population of the U.S. in the last half of the 19th century fluctuated from 25 to 30 percent German. The Midwest was a popular destination for German immigrants and significant numbers settled in Missouri early in the state's history. As early as 1860, Missouri had almost 90,000 German-born residents. Most lived near the Missouri or Mississippi Rivers. By 1890, census figures indicate that nearly 125,000 Missourians were German-born and approximately twice that number spoke the German language. That tide of immigration left a lasting impression. Twentieth century studies have shown that Americans with German ancestry form the largest European ethnic group in the country, and it has been estimated that nearly 40 percent of Missouri's modern population has some German ancestry.⁸ Cole County is within an area that was intensively settled by German immigrants. By 1870, approximately 14 percent of the county's residents were German-born.⁹ Jefferson City itself was home to large numbers of German immigrants throughout its early development.

The German-American immigrants typically brought a culture rich in architecture, business, and agriculture. Characterized by frugality and strict family ties, they also helped Jefferson City evolve along

⁵National Register Nomination for "Historic Resources of Boonville, Missouri," p. 8.8. (On file with Missouri DNR/Historic Preservation Program.)

⁶Urbana Group, Inventory Form 450, p. 2. Much more recently, in April 1999, the Missouri Historic Preservation Program reviewed the property and determined it potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

⁷Steven E. Mitchell, "Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of the MHTD Job No. J5S0352 Project Corridor." Report Prepared by the Cultural Resources Section, MoDOT, for the Federal Highway Administration, 1994. (On file with Missouri DNR/Historic Preservation Program) pp. 1-2.

⁸National Register Nomination for Herman Haar House, Cole County, Missouri. p. 8.8. (On file with the Missouri DNR/Historic Preservation Program.)

⁹Ibid.

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relatively staid, conservative lines. As a group, the German-Americans tended to dominate the service and trade-oriented professions.¹⁰ The majority of houses in the German-settled areas date from the 19th century, suggesting by their continued existence today that they were built by people who settled with the intention of becoming permanent residents.¹¹

Much has been lost, but Missouri-German architecture represents an important historical element in Jefferson City's built environment. Early German residents constructed homes and businesses throughout Jefferson City. A visitor in 1915 wrote that "one of the first things that the stranger in Jefferson City notes is the great number of houses after the German style of architecture. All of the old part of town is filled with these buildings....Even the business streets have many of these old houses, standing in their enduring sturdiness...."¹² Today, some 84 years after that account was written, buildings constructed in the "German style of architecture" can still be found along the streets of Jefferson City, as well as in numerous other towns in Missouri's German settlement area.

The term "Missouri-German" as it applies to vernacular architecture was coined by Charles van Ravenswaay, one of the earliest and best-known scholars of the state's German cultural heritage. His 1977 book, The Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri, documented numerous historic German buildings in the lower Missouri River Valley and laid the groundwork for many subsequent studies. According to van Ravenswaay:

Very few of the brick buildings in the German towns have a self-conscious or designed look about them but, instead, were built in what might be called a Missouri-German vernacular style. This local building tradition (related to what German builders constructed in other parts of the United States) had its origins in the various German states from which the builders and their clients had emigrated and which they adapted to the needs of their new situation in Missouri. Gradually these new settlers almost unconsciously adopted ideas from American styles and building practices.¹³

The blending of Germanic and New World building traditions is an important characteristic of Missouri-German vernacular architecture. Another scholar of Missouri-German vernacular architecture, Dr. Erin Renn, has written that the German immigrants and their children "absorbed ideas from their Anglo-and French-American neighbors. Out of this contact grew a new architectural tradition which we can identify as German Vernacular. The resulting German-American style was constructed from the 1840s into the 1890s."¹⁴

To understand any type of vernacular architecture, it is necessary to look at stylistic precedents and such things as construction materials and techniques, plans, building forms, use and general massing. Missouri-German vernacular buildings are highly individual, but they share such characteristics as careful craftsmanship, simplicity of design, and a tendency toward austere, planar surfaces.¹⁵ Frame and brick

¹⁰National Register Nomination for "Historic Resources of Boonville," p. 8.6.

¹¹Russel L. Gerlach, "The Germans: Settlement," in Immigrants in the Ozarks, pp. 82 - 84.

¹²Haar Nomination, p. 8.8. & 8.9.

¹³Charles Van Ravenswaay, The Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri, (Columbia and London: University of Missouri Press, 1977), p. 225.

¹⁴Haar Nomination, p. 8.9.

¹⁵National Register Nomination for "Historic Resources of LaGrange, Missouri," p. E.15. (Nomination on file with the Missouri DNR/Historic Preservation Program.)

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buildings share the same simple traditional plans (such as hall-parlor and central passage) and vernacular designs, which are an amalgam of Anglo-American and Old World German sources.¹⁶ Elements of high style architecture of earlier periods are often distilled over time, subtly affecting the appearance of vernacular buildings. This pattern applies to Missouri-German buildings as well, particularly those built of brick.

In fact, the most visible construction tradition which the German settlers brought to Jefferson City and other Missouri communities was that of building in brick. Many of the immigrants were from areas such as northern Germany where a strong history of brick construction existed, and their influence on the local brick making industry was quickly apparent. Brick construction was especially popular in urban areas where brick construction was relatively less expensive, as compared with rural areas where both wood and stone were more readily available.¹⁷ One study noted that "wherever suitable clay deposits could be exploited, brick became the dominant and longest-lasting feature of townscapes in the Midwest's German settlements."¹⁸ Brick kilns were often among the first industrial enterprises to be established in Missouri-German towns, including Jefferson City. A kiln was established there before 1826.¹⁹

Stylistic influences in Missouri-German architecture, like those in most vernacular architecture, can be linked to earlier high style movements. Simple interpretations of high style architecture can be seen in brick Missouri-German buildings, and can even serve as an aid to dating their construction.²⁰ The earliest brick buildings to be erected by German-Americans in Missouri show the influence of Klassicismus, the German variant of the Neoclassical or Federal style.²¹ Features of Klassicismus which can be found in Missouri-German buildings include such things as a symmetrical facade, straight lintels, double doors, and lights over the doors. The severity of the design was often relieved by such things as decorative cornice treatments, most commonly in the form of dentilation, and ornamental wooden trimwork.²²

The strong line of the straight lintels distinguishes early Missouri-German buildings from those built after about the mid-19th century. The later buildings show the influence of the Rundbogenstil or "round arch style," which was widely utilized in the German states beginning in the 1830s. By the 1850s, the style had moved to the United States.²³ Missouri-German buildings constructed of brick after that time tend to have arched door and window openings, ranging from shallow segmental arches to near semi-arches. It has been suggested that the arches over the windows tended to become higher as the century progressed.²⁴ The arch-topped fenestration and general massing of the Ruthven House clearly place it in the latter category.

¹⁶National Register Nomination for "Historic Resources of Augusta, Missouri," p. E.9. (Nomination on file with the Missouri DNR/Historic Preservation Program.)

¹⁷National Register Nomination for "Historic Resources of Boonville, Missouri," p. 8.7.

¹⁸National Register Nomination for "Historic Resources of LaGrange, Missouri," p. E.15.

¹⁹Haar Nomination, p. 8.10.

²⁰National Register Nomination "Historic Resources of LaGrange, Missouri," p. E.14.

²¹Haar Nomination, p. 8.10.

²²National Register Nomination "Historic Resources of LaGrange, Missouri," p. E.14.

²³Haar Nomination, p. 8.10.

²⁴Van Ravenswaay, p. 231.

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Ruthven, John B. and Elizabeth, House
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The John B. and Elizabeth Ruthven House was constructed in ca. 1878-1879, after Rundbogenstil became the predominant Missouri-German style. The date of construction was inferred from various sources, primarily deed records. A birds-eye view of Jefferson City from 1869 (See Figure Four, Bird's Eye View, Jefferson City) shows no structure on the north side of this block of Cherry Street.²⁵ However, deed records indicate that Ada Francis Morris purchased the lot at this location on August 19, 1876 for \$50. Ada and William D. Morris then borrowed \$600 from a lender in Jackson County, Missouri on March 16, 1878, paid off the loan on October 7, 1879, and sold the property to John B. Ruthven on October 10, 1879 for \$600.²⁶ The increase in value over such a short period indicates a major improvement to the lot, apparently the present building which was originally lived in by the Ruthven family. Available city directories show the Ruthven family living nearby at 119 Lafayette in 1877-78,²⁷ and in the Ruthven House at 406 Cherry Street from 1885-86 to 1927.²⁸

The Ruthven House exhibits other characteristics typical of Missouri-German dwellings. The common bond walls are described by van Ravenswaay: "Nearly all brick walls were laid in variations of the common bond, as one might expect from masons with Dutch and northern German backgrounds where the bonding was ordinarily used...." The author also explains the use of brick in the rear ell, original to the house: "Wherever possible, the German builders preferred brick ells to wood and usually included them in the design of their brick houses."²⁹

The northeast wing of the Ruthven House was probably added soon after the original portion was completed. Constructed of brick like the rest of the house, this addition is depicted on the 1908 Sanborn map which was the first to include the block. (See Figure Five, Sanborn Map of 1908.) The addition reflects the early building traditions, materials, and style of the original dwelling and does not detract from the property's significance. A rear porch, which was later enclosed, was removed in the 1980s following its partial collapse. This removal is the only noticeable alteration since the northeast wing was added soon after construction of the initial house. Loss of the rear porch does not significantly affect integrity as this change is only visible from directly behind the house due to the extension of both the wing and the ell. (See Figure Two, Porch.)

The individuality of Missouri-German architecture was suggested by van Ravenswaay:

"In all of the towns the houses range in size from one-and-a-half-story cottages (some with only crawl space in the attic) containing a few rooms to houses of two-and-a-half stories with ten or twelve rooms and halls. With the exception of a few hip-roofed houses, they all have gable roofs, with or without dormers. In layout they were rectangular or L-shaped.... Depending upon the size of these houses, their facades contained from three to as many as seven bays.... Often the entrance doors were centered....The foundations of buildings constructed on hillsides were exposed to a considerable height on the lower side of the hill.... Wooden cornices appear less frequently, but because they were bolder in design and scale than those of brick and were accented by being painted white, they added a terminal line

²⁵Library of Congress web page, "Bird's eye view of Jefferson City, the capitol of Missouri 1869.

²⁶Cole County Recorder, Book 1, Page 576; Book E, Pages 42 & 43; Book 6, Page 364; Book 5, Page 451.

²⁷Beasley's Jefferson City Directory, 1877-78, page 72.

²⁸Kallman's Jefferson City Directory, 1885-86.

²⁹*Ibid.* p. 226.

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along the eaves which was particularly effective on the larger buildings.... Brick arches were used above doors and windows in all the towns....³⁰

As originally constructed, the John B. and Elizabeth Ruthven House combines several of these characteristics, notably a hipped-roof, a main section five bays wide with a central entrance, an L-shape (prior to the wing addition) and a high exposed foundation in the rear due to the sloping lot.

Of all the variables, rounded segmental arch windows may be the most recognizable feature of Missouri-German architecture. According to van Ravenswaay, "so commonly was its sprightly form used that it is one of the signatures of German construction in Missouri, as elsewhere." While the double-hung form was used consistently in Missouri-German architecture, larger, rectangular-shaped lights were used in the larger and more vertically designed windows after the 1860s. Windows "were seldom ornamented beyond the general use of brick arches and stone or wooden lintels."³¹ The double-hung windows in the Ruthven House exemplify Missouri-German windows of the period. In addition to brick arches, these units have large, vertically oriented rectangular lights and stone lintels.

Lack of fireplaces and the strong vertical lines of the Ruthven House's end chimneys are also typical of Missouri-German architecture. In the "Missouri German Vernacular Property Type Analysis," a part of the 1992 Survey Report, Phase IV Survey of Washington, Missouri, it is noted that "fireplaces are rare as a result of the German preference for stove heat; flues are usually located in the gable-ends"³² At the Herman Haar house in Jefferson City, "centered end chimneys continued the vertical emphasis..."³³ This trend continues at the John B. and Elizabeth Ruthven House, where flues rather than fireplaces are used, with the chimneys providing vertical emphasis at each end of the building.

While plain in design, the four-panel entry door with two-light transom is a predominant feature of the Ruthven House's primary facade. According to van Ravenswaay, this entry is typical of Missouri-German architecture. "Ordinarily a single door was used at the entrance.....From the 1860s, if not earlier, four-paneled doors were commonly used, both as exterior and interior doors.....Doorways on the brick houses throughout the area often have glazed transoms of various sizes.....The lights, or panes of glass, were square or rectangular, with their shapes and sizes dictated by the space available."³⁴ Remaining exterior and interior doors at the Ruthven House also have four panels.

Some of these same design characteristics are exhibited by other Missouri-German vernacular houses listed in the National Register. In the Augusta National Register Historic District, the "vast majority are 1½ story cottages three to five bays wide....Several 19th century houses were constructed with deep basements and doorways giving exterior access....Brick houses employ either jack arches or segmentally arched openings and usually include brick denticulation or corbeling at the cornice; a couple of examples are trimmed with wood brackets or verge boards."³⁵ The August Sehrt house in Augusta is an example of

³⁰Van Ravenswaay, pp. 225-226, 229.

³¹Van Ravenswaay, p. 232.

³²"Missouri German Vernacular Property Type Analysis," a part of the 1992 Survey Report, Phase IV Survey of Washington, Missouri, p. 1. (On file with the Missouri DNR/Historic Preservation Program.)

³³Haar Nomination, p. 11.

³⁴Van Ravenswaay, p. 236.

³⁵National Register Nomination "Historic Resources of Augusta, Missouri," p. F.1.

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a brick five-bay central passage home, with a transom over the single entry door, double-hung windows, and a basement which is exposed in the rear,³⁶ features shared by the Ruthven House.

The Herman Haar House in Jefferson City, listed individually on the National Register in 1997, is a 1½-story brick building with a symmetrical five-bay facade, having central entrances and double-hung windows. Built circa 1859, this house was moved approximately 125 yards in 1986 to prevent its demolition. The Haar House was later rehabilitated for use as a hair styling salon, and many interior modifications were made to suit the new use, including replacement doors and windows. Relocation of this building helped provide space for the State Information Center, part of an extensive redevelopment of the area known as the "millbottom" which resulted in the demolition of most of the older structures. The Haar House and the Ruthven House share typical Missouri-German characteristics, such as common bond brick walls, a symmetrical design, limestone sills, and a plain wooden cornice.³⁷ The Ruthven House, however, also retains its original location, foundation, and interior.

The Upshulte House is another National Register-listed Missouri-German house in Jefferson City. The Upshulte House was listed as part of the Missouri State Capitol Historic District. Like the Haar House, it was relocated (approximately two blocks from its original site to a new location behind the Cole County Historical Society Building) in connection with the "millbottom" project. Also like the Haar House, this three-bay brick house with an exposed rear foundation shares several Missouri-German characteristics with the Ruthven House and is in excellent condition.

Two surveys completed during the past decade identified other Missouri-German properties in Jefferson City. One, the Historic Southside Architectural/Historic Survey (Southside Survey) identified two Missouri-German residences, both generally similar to the Ruthven House, as potentially eligible for listing in the National Register. The properties are the Wendeln and Margaret Bodenschatz Buehrle House at 707 Washington Street and the Hess Family House at 714 Washington Street. The ca. 1864 Buehrle house is a one-story brick dwelling with segmental brick arched windows, a historic rear addition, and a single entrance centered in the primary facade. This house is currently undergoing rehabilitation. The ca. 1864 Hess House is a one-story brick residence with a five-bay facade. Originally L-shaped, it was altered historically to a rectangular plan with a single central entrance into a central hall. The entry has a four-light transom. One-over-one window sash and a decorative porch complete the front facade. Apparently this house was sandblasted during recent rehabilitation efforts. The survey concludes, "This house is one of two remaining excellent examples of the German vernacular architecture which once dominated this neighborhood" and noted that few comparable buildings of any condition have survived.³⁸ Brick construction, symmetrical design, segmental arched double-hung windows, central entry doors and historic additions to these houses reflect similar elements in the Ruthven House.

The Jefferson City Historic East Survey was conducted to identify historic resources remaining on the east side of town. The ca. 1869 bird's eye view of the city depicts the east end of town as sparsely populated and predominantly influenced by the Missouri State Penitentiary.³⁹ An early citizen of Jefferson City recalled that the limits of the city in the late 1860s and early 1870s were the Missouri River to the north, Dunklin Street to the south, and the Catholic cemetery to the west; the eastern boundary was inaccurately

³⁶National Register Nomination for August Sehr House, St. Charles County, Missouri. p. 7.1. (Nomination on file with the Missouri DNR/Historic Preservation Program.)

³⁷Haar Nomination, p. 7.1.

³⁸Urbana Group, "Historic Southside Jefferson City, MO" (Survey Report for an Architectural/Historic Survey, 1995. On file with the Missouri DNR/Historic Preservation Program.) Inventory forms for Buehrle and Hess Houses, pp. 1-2.

³⁹Library of Congress web page, "Bird's eye view of Jefferson City, the capitol of Missouri 1869."

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defined. By 1868, the town consisted of residences widely scattered across the undulating landscape, connected by streets with coarse, unpaved surfaces and dimly lit by coal oil lamps perched on top of poles.⁴⁰ According to the survey, the early German vernacular house form of which several examples were extant was a one-story, single-pile brick house with a five-bay facade and side gabled roof. Due to their age (ca. 1860-1880) and simple form, these buildings have been susceptible to alterations, particularly such things as a covered entrance stoop and stucco wall treatment. Examples of this house form are located at 320 and 406 Cherry Street and on the south side of the 700 block of East High Street, the latter group being more altered than those on Cherry. The house at 320 Cherry was described as contributing to a recommended East End National Register Historic District.⁴¹ Following the survey, this house (which was stuccoed historically) was covered in vinyl siding, leaving the John B. and Elizabeth Ruthven House as possibly the least altered example of Missouri-German vernacular architecture on the east side of Jefferson City.

After much research on the subject, the historical importance of Missouri-German architecture has been recognized by scholars. Various articles, architectural and historical surveys, and National Register nominations have documented many of the buildings German immigrants and their offspring built in Missouri. Numerous Missouri-German properties have been individually listed in the National Register, including such excellent examples as the William Poeschel House, Gasconade County (listed 6-21-90) and the Meierhoffer House, Cooper County (listed 3-16-90). There are also several Missouri towns in which large concentrations of Missouri-German buildings have been listed, including Boonville, Hermann, Augusta, St. Charles, and Washington.⁴²

The Missouri -German buildings of Jefferson City have received less attention than those in some other areas of the state, and much of the city's early Missouri-German architecture has disappeared over the years. A few Jefferson City areas, however, are still known for their historic link to German-American settlement. These include the Jefferson Landing State Historic Site and the Historic Southside Neighborhood, also known by the historic name of "Munichburg."⁴³ The Jefferson Landing State Historic Site contains three of the city's most completely documented antebellum Missouri-German buildings. One of these is the ca. 1835 Lohman Building, one of the first Jefferson City buildings to be listed in the National Register (2-25-68). Another is the ca. 1850 Christopher Maus House. Like the Ruthven House, the Maus House has a simple flat brick facade, segmental double-hung windows, and internal end chimneys.

The Ruthven House is one of very few pre-1880 Missouri-German buildings left in Jefferson City. Most of the sturdy brick Missouri-German buildings which lined the streets of the city in the 19th century are no longer extant. One study of Missouri-German architecture recently lamented that "Jefferson City was once distinguished by German brickwork, now sadly almost gone."⁴⁴ A comparison of historic photos with present conditions reveals that Jefferson City has lost countless Missouri-German brick buildings. The summary report for the recent survey of Munichburg noted that "historic photographs of Munichburg show the streets crowded with handsome, solidly built and relatively unadorned brick buildings, few of which remain extant today." An 1890s photo of the Millbottom leads to the same conclusion for that

⁴⁰"Jefferson City Historic East Survey" Report, p. 13.

⁴¹"Jefferson City Historic East Survey" Report, pp. 21-22.

⁴²National Register Nomination Records, on file with the Missouri DNR/Historic Preservation Program.

⁴³Haar Nomination, p. 8.12.

⁴⁴Haar Nomination, p. 8.17.

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neighborhood.⁴⁵ The John B. and Elizabeth Ruthven House is significant as a rare survivor from Jefferson City's early years, and it provides an important example of the increasingly scarce Missouri-German architecture which has played an important role in the city's history.

Ruthven and Wehmeyer Families

The John B. and Elizabeth Ruthven House was built by William D. Morris between March 16, 1878 and October 10, 1879, when the house was sold to John B. Ruthven for \$600.⁴⁶ Apparently, Morris built the house as an investment but did not live in it. The hard-working Ruthven family was typical of German families of the period. John B. Ruthven and his son John W. Ruthven were involved in the development of Jefferson City as masons, developers and lenders. In 1877, John B. Ruthven was commissary at the nearby Missouri State Penitentiary (now the Jefferson City Correctional Center), and John W. Ruthven, his son, was stable boss at the prison.⁴⁷ City directories are only available for a limited number of years but by 1885, John B. was a mason at the prison and John W. was an assistant mason.⁴⁸ By 1891, John W. had become a full-fledged mason and worked with his father at the prison.⁴⁹ The expected pattern among German families was for the son to continue in the occupation of his father.⁵⁰ After his father's death (sometime between 1891 and 1900), John W. Ruthven continued his career in masonry. By 1900, he had become superintendent of stone work at the prison.⁵¹ The census that year listed his occupation as "carpenter and builder."⁵² No doubt his promotion was helpful, as by this time he was 50 years old and had a sizeable family to support:

Eliza, his wife - age 40
Edwin, his son - age 17
Roderick, his son - age 15
Helen, his daughter - age 13
Mary, his daughter - age 10
Earl, his son - age 9
Janet, his daughter - age 6
Malcolm, his son - age 10 months⁵³

⁴⁵Ibid, p. 8.17.

⁴⁶Cole County Recorder, Book E, Page 42 & 43; Book 5, Page 451.

⁴⁷Beasley's Jefferson City Directory, 1877-78, page 72.

⁴⁸Kallman's Jefferson City and Cole County Directory, 1885-86, page 132.

⁴⁹Jefferson City and Cole County Directory, 1891-92, page 80.

⁵⁰Gerlach, p. 83.

⁵¹The Illustrated Sketch Book and Directory of Jefferson City and Cole County, 1900.

⁵²Census of 1900, Vol. 24-35, Sheet 15, Line 7.

⁵³Ibid.

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In 1917, at the age of 67, John W. Ruthven's occupation was listed in the city directory as "supt. cond. MSP,"⁵⁴ which presumably meant superintendent of conditions at the Missouri State Penitentiary. The next year, Ruthven was similarly listed, this time in bold type.⁵⁵

A considerable amount of construction occurred at the Missouri State Penitentiary from 1885 to 1918, the period during which the Ruthvens are known to have been involved in stonework there. Between 1860 and 1870 the prison population nearly doubled, increasing from 406 to 734. There were 1,686 prisoners in 1891, and the population grew to 2,200 by 1895.⁵⁶ As superintendent of stonework, John W. Ruthven likely supervised the construction of numerous prison buildings as well as expansion of the stone wall surrounding the complex. A comparison of the 1869 bird's eye view and a circa 1906 photo postcard of the same prison (See Figure Six, Postcard, "Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, MO," postmarked 1906) indicates that a sizeable extension of the stone wall occurred both north and south of the original complex.⁵⁷

Other family members also had ties to the prison. The current owner's mother, who moved into the house in 1927, recalled that a leather walk for manufacturing leather had been operated on the grounds around the house.⁵⁸ At the rear of the property is an old well which was supposedly utilized in this endeavor. In 1885, a Lee Ruthven is listed as foreman of the Jacob Strauss Saddlery Co.⁵⁹ (Lee Ruthven is believed to have been a brother of John W. Ruthven.) While Lee Ruthven was foreman of the Saddlery Co., John B. Ruthven owned the house at 406 Cherry St., so it is relatively easy to understand the property being used in this manner. Both John B. and John W. Ruthven were working at the prison during this period. The location of the leather walk as indicated by the current owner is depicted on an attached sketch. (See Figure Seven, Landscaping and Grounds.) The walk extended from the well around the rear of the garage and around the northeast side of the house, approximately following the walkways then in existence.

When the Ruthven family purchased the house in ca. 1879, many of the surrounding lots were undeveloped. Between 1879 and 1890 John B. Ruthven purchased Lots 637, 638, 639 and 640, all facing McCarty Street and located between Lafayette and Cherry Streets, extending south to an alley.⁶⁰ These lots were platted as "Ruthven Subdivision," and the name continues to this day.⁶¹ John W. Ruthven continued development of the subdivision following his father's death.⁶² At one time, lots facing the alley

⁵⁴Hackman's Jefferson City and Cole County Directory, 1917.

⁵⁵Hackman's Jefferson City and Cole County Directory, 1918, Page 213.

⁵⁶"Jefferson City Historic East Survey" Report, p. 12.

⁵⁷Postcard, "Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, MO," postmarked 1906.

⁵⁸A "rope walk" is an area used in the manufacture of lengths of rope, often a narrow space outdoors. Presumably a "leather walk" would be a similar narrow outdoor area, used in the making of lengths of leather, such as would be needed by a saddlery company.

⁵⁹Kallman's Jefferson City and Cole County Directory, 1885-86.

⁶⁰Cole County Recorder, Book 5, Page 451; Book 8, Page 546; Book 9, Page 424; Book 15, Page 168.

⁶¹Jefferson City Department of Planning and Code Enforcement, city plat maps.

⁶²Cole County Recorder, Book 26, Page 327.

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were developed. These houses were removed in ca. 1920 when the lots were incorporated with those facing McCarty Street.⁶³

In 1897 when the New Cole County Building & Loan Association was incorporated, Ruthvens were among the stockholders and officers. According to The Daily Tribune, the new building and loan association was organized by the members of the old association. Stockholders met at City Hall on October 12, 1897 to discuss the reorganization.⁶⁴ The articles of incorporation list a John J. Ruthven as one of the initial stockholders, and John W. Ruthven as a member of the board of directors. The amount of capital stock was listed as \$200,000 on October 22, 1897.⁶⁵ In The Illustrated Sketch Book and Directory of Jefferson City and Cole County, 1900, John W. Ruthven was listed as vice-president of the organization, which had offices at 132a East High Street in Jefferson City.⁶⁶ By 1900, the number of directors had dropped from eleven to eight but the amount of capital stock remained at \$200,000. This was less than the amount given for the two other building and loan companies listed in The Sketch Book, but more than the amount for the three banks listed.

Another indication of the hard-working and close-knit nature of the Ruthven family comes from the 1900 census. By this time, John B. Ruthven had passed away and the house was owned by his son, John W. Ruthven. Yet the house was occupied by his mother, Elizabeth Ruthven, and her brother-in-law Osborn Morris, circuit clerk of Cole County. Part of the home was rented to John and Leona Wilson, with three children aged 22, 18 and 14. John Wilson's occupation is listed as quarryman, so it is likely that he was well known to the Ruthven men.⁶⁷

The house stayed in the Ruthven family until Janet M. Ruthven, daughter of John W. Ruthven, sold it to Frank T. (Theodore) Wehmeyer and his wife (Sarah) Luvena Wehmeyer on March 18, 1927.⁶⁸ (The current owner believes the purchase price was \$5,000.) Frank T. Wehmeyer worked at the Missouri State Penitentiary as a guard until he was stabbed in the back by a prisoner.⁶⁹ Following his employment with the prison, Frank Wehmeyer worked for Moerschel Products Company as an engineer.⁷⁰ Frank Wehmeyer is listed as working for Moerschel Products from 1933 to 1943,⁷¹ and later for Capitol City Products Co., in 1948 and 1951.⁷²

Even though he was employed during the Great Depression, providing for a family with four children required creativity and sacrifice. The Wehmeys had two children when they purchased the house, Fred

⁶³Interview with Paul Wehmeyer, February 18, 1999; Interview with Henry Genske.

⁶⁴The Daily Tribune, Jefferson City, Missouri, 10/3/1897 page 4 and 10/13/1897.

⁶⁵Cole County Recorder, Book 21, Page 160 and 164.

⁶⁶The Illustrated Sketch Book and Directory of Jefferson City and Cole County, 1900, p. 51-52.

⁶⁷Census of 1900, Vol. 24-35, Sheet 15, Line 7.

⁶⁸Cole County Recorder.

⁶⁹Polk's Directory of Jefferson City, 1929.

⁷⁰Interview with Paul E. Wehmeyer, February 18, 1999.

⁷¹Polk's Directory of Jefferson City, 1933 and 1935, Baldwin & New Day Press Jefferson City Con Survey Directory, 1943.

⁷²Jefferson City Directories, 1948 and 1951.

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Albert and Loise Wehmeyer. Two other children, Paul E. and Laura Lavina Wehmeyer, were born in the house. The family survived the depression largely by farming the land in back of the house and by renting out a large portion of the house itself. Around 1929, Frank Wehmeyer planted an orchard in the rear of the yard on part of Lot 639. (See Figure Seven, Landscaping and Grounds.) Elsewhere in the yard were pens for turkeys, rabbits, chickens, pullets, a smokehouse where hogs were butchered, fruit trees, a vegetable garden, grapes, raspberries and blackberries, rhubarb, and a "hot bed" (cold frame) made of old windows. The hot bed was used to start cabbage and tomato plants which were sold to people raising vegetable gardens, or "victory gardens" during World War Two. Just behind the garage was a cherry tree, which Paul Wehmeyer's older brother Fred is said to have cut down to avoid having to pick the cherries. Paul remembers going around the neighborhood as a child with a basket over his arm, selling eggs, fruit and vegetables. Ed Prenger sold the family hogs which were butchered and cured in the smokehouse. (Ed Prenger was the father of Lawrence Prenger, auctioneer in Jefferson City in recent years.) In addition to the rabbits they raised, the Wehmeyer brothers trapped wild rabbits and cut wood on the Prenger's acreage. Chickens also were raised in the smokehouse and sold to the Missouri Hotel for use in its restaurant.⁷³

Between the late 1930s and 1942, up to four separate renters occupied various portions of the Ruthven House. (See Figure Eight, Renters.) On the main floor one rental room in the rear of the original portion had access to the bathroom via the rear porch. Later, the front room which had been Laura and Loise's bedroom was also rented. The girls moved into the front room which they shared with a piano. Paul slept on a pull-out couch in the living room, which was between the kitchen and his parents' bedroom. Rental of downstairs rooms started after the kitchen was moved upstairs in 1935. Frank Wehmeyer enclosed part of the porch for use as a kitchen, allowing for more rental space downstairs. There were two separate rental units downstairs, in addition to a wood cellar and a food storage cellar. These rental units--a one-room and a two-room--shared a ½ bath. The house was heated with four wood stoves: one in the living room, one in the kitchen and two downstairs. Bathing was accomplished using washtubs.

During the depression, fearful that a bank would foreclose on their mortgage, Paul's mother Luvena is said to have dispatched a brother, Earl, to "wine and dine the woman at the bank." Brother Earl, a jukebox and pinball salesman, apparently came up with a successful pitch because there was no foreclosure. Luvena obtained a degree from nearby Lincoln University, became a teacher and enjoyed her career so much that she changed her age twice to forestall retirement.⁷⁴

The John B. and Elizabeth Ruthven House is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE. The ca. 1879 Ruthven House retains a high degree of integrity, and has been found by the Missouri Historic Preservation Program to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In an earlier survey of the East Side of Jefferson City, the house was described as "retaining a high degree of integrity." The simply designed brick construction, arched brick lintels, symmetrical fenestration, and general massing of the building are among the features that identify the house as an early Missouri-German type of vernacular residence. Most of the other sturdy brick Missouri-German buildings which lined the streets of Jefferson City in the 19th century have disappeared, leaving the Ruthven House as a rare surviving example of this property type.

⁷³Interview with Paul E. Wehmeyer, February 18, 1999.

⁷⁴Ibid.

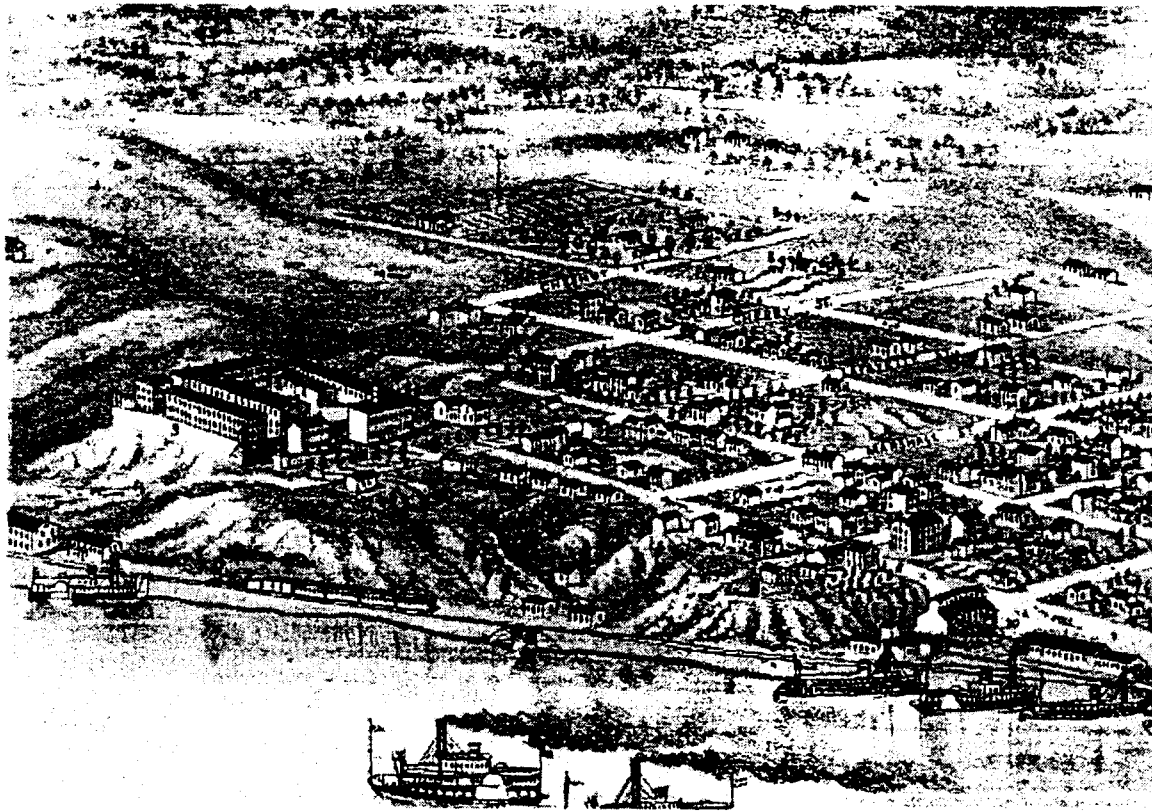
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Figure Four, Bird's Eye View, Jefferson City



Bird's eye view of Jefferson City, the capitol of Missouri 1869.

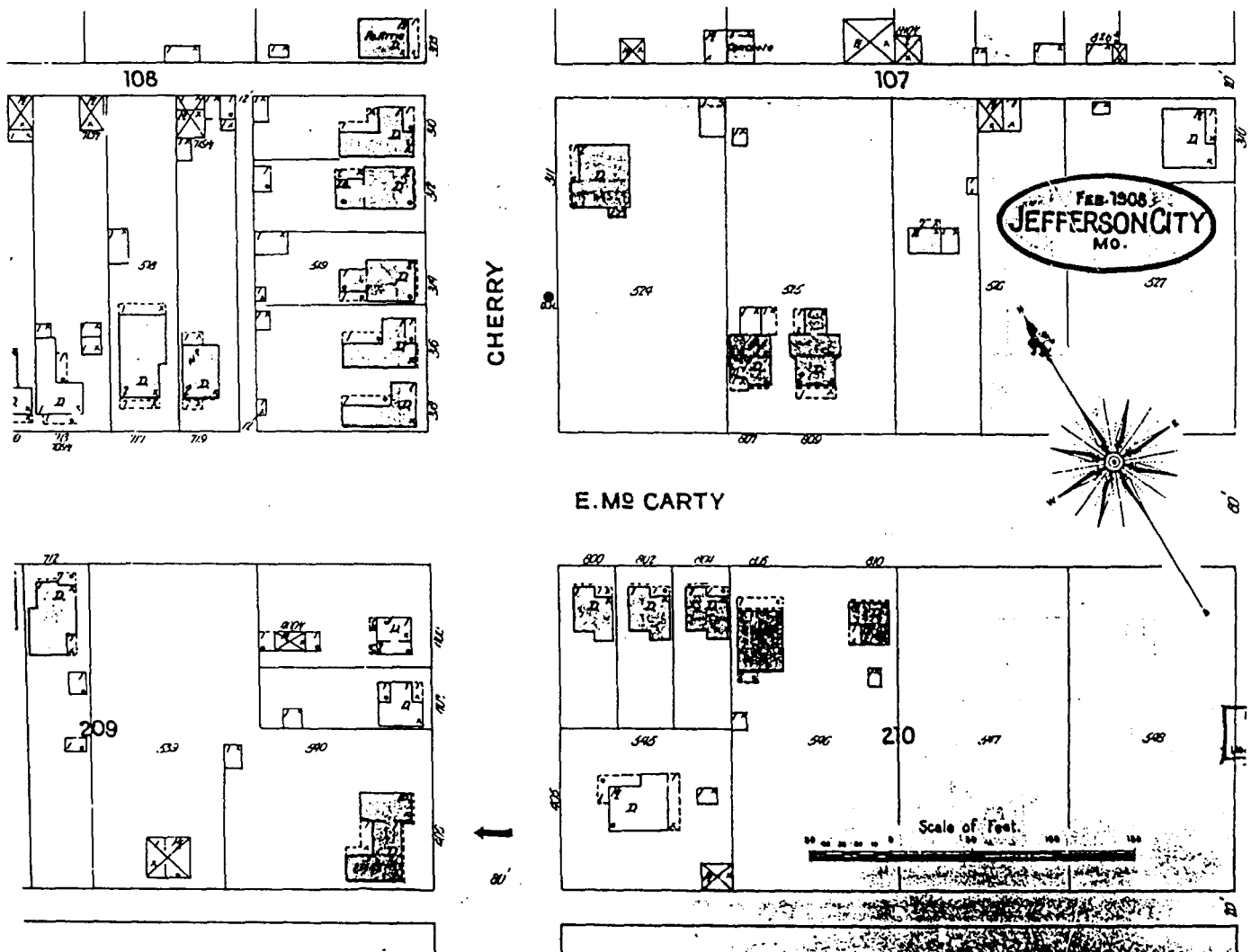
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Figure Five, Sanborn Map of 1908



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Figure Six, Postcard, "Missouri State Penitentiary, Jefferson City, MO," postmarked 1906



1974 Missouri State Penitentiary. Jefferson City, Mo.

With Love, Mint -

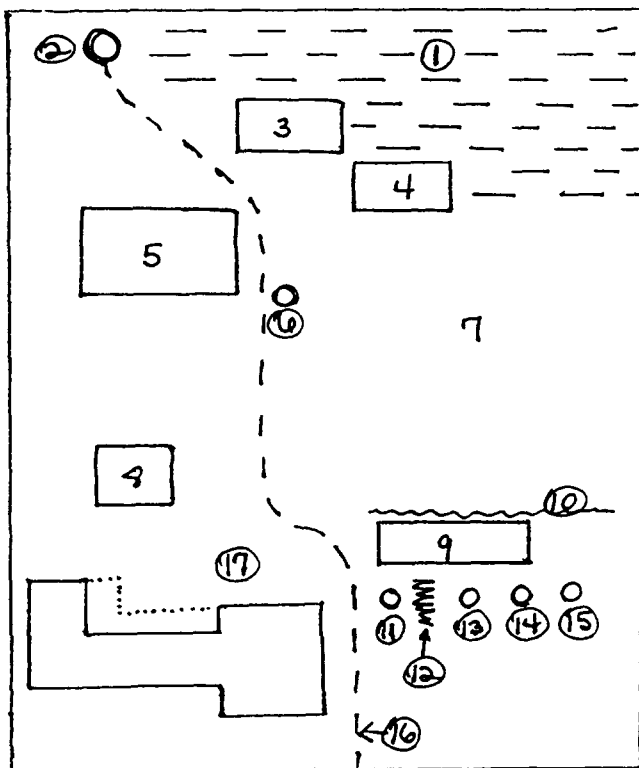
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Figure Seven, Landscaping and Grounds



Landscaping, Grounds - Only cistern and some trees are extant.

1. Orchard. Rows of trees planted ca. 1929.
2. Well. (Below grade.)
3. Turkey pen.
4. Rabbit Hutch.
5. Garage / hen house.
6. Cherry tree. (Cut down by Fred Wehmeyer so he wouldn't have to pick cherries.)
7. Vegetable garden.
8. Smokehouse / chick hatchery.
9. Hot bed, or cold frame.
10. Grapes.
11. Damson plum tree.
12. Rhubarb.
13. Cherry tree.
14. Plum tree.
15. Plum tree.
16. Leather walk - followed path around house to well in rear.
17. Cistern - no pump remains.

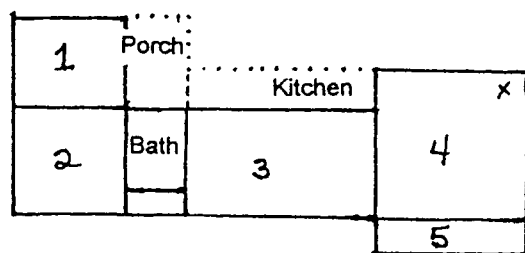
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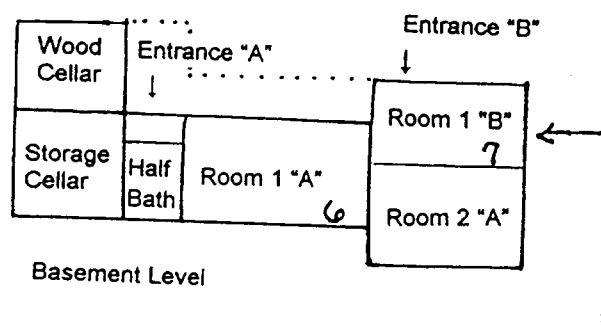
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Figure Eight, Renters



Main Floor



Basement Level

Former Kitchen prior to 1935

1. This room rented out first. Had access to bathroom via porch.
2. Loise & Laura's room. Girls later moved to front room (#3) and their room was rented.
3. "Front" room, where piano was kept.
4. Living room. Paul Wehmeyer slept in this room on a daybed. "X" marks Paul's birthplace.
5. Parent's bedroom.
6. Rental "A" had 2 rooms, and shared the ½ bath with renter "B."
7. Rental "B" had one room, and shared the ½ bath with renter "A," but had to access the bathroom from outside, under the porch.

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10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The south half of Inlots 639 and 640 in the City of Jefferson, Cole County, Missouri.

Boundary Justification

The current boundaries encompass all of the land presently and historically associated with the John B. and Elizabeth Ruthven House.

11. Form Prepared By

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1612 Payne Drive
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Editor and revisions

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section Photographs Page 24

Ruthven, John B. and Elizabeth, House
Cole County, Missouri

Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Ruthven, John B. and Elizabeth, House

Jefferson City, Cole County, Missouri

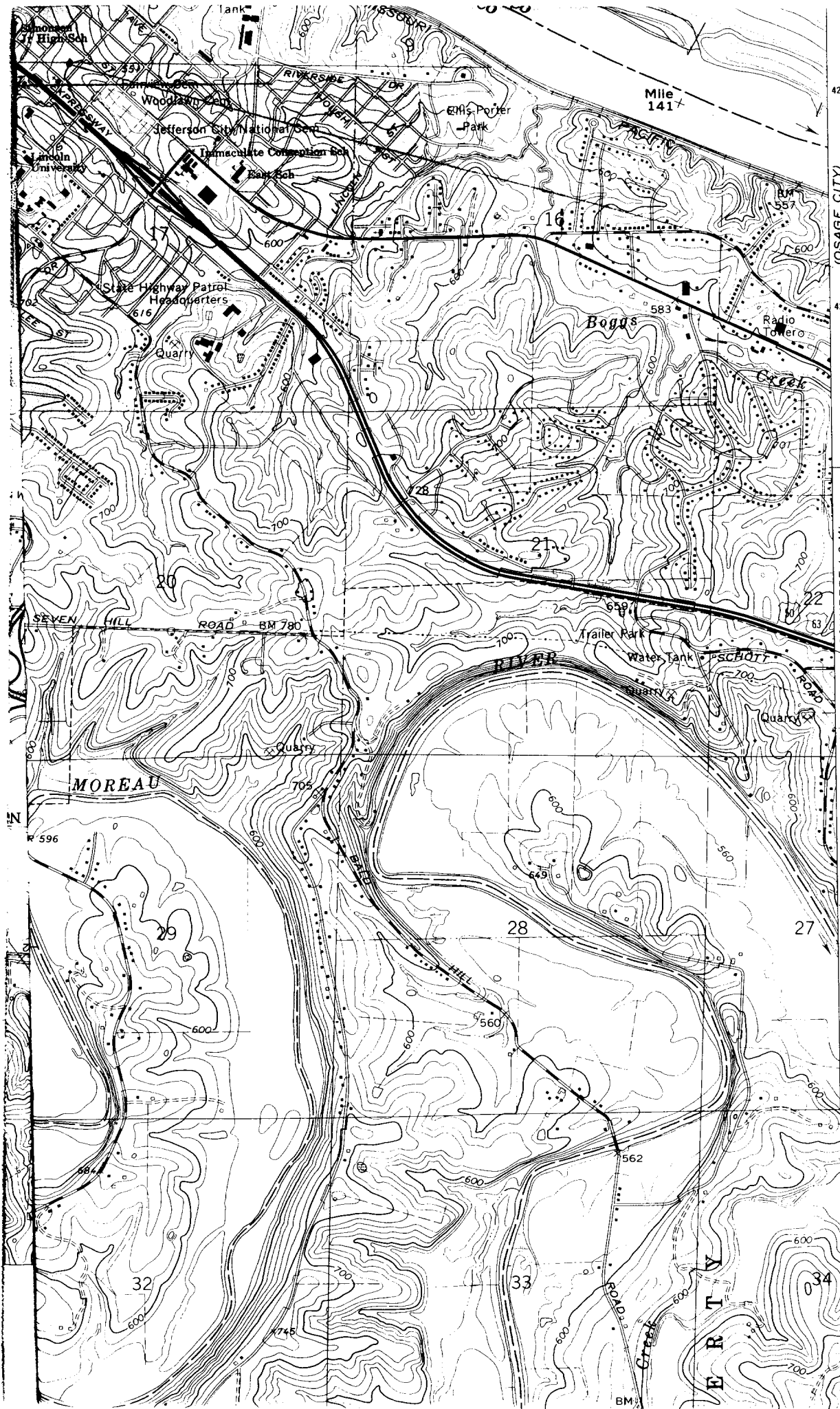
Jane Rodes Beetem

March 1999

Negatives on file with Jane Beetem, 1612 Payne Drive, Jefferson City, MO 65101

List of Photographs:

1. Southwest (front) facade, facing northeast.
2. Northwest and southwest facades, facing northeast.
3. Northwest and southwest (partial) facades, facing northeast.
4. Northeast (rear) facade, facing southwest.
5. Northeast (rear) facade, facing southwest.
6. Southeast facade, facing northwest.
7. Central entry door, facing northeast.
8. Typical interior door, main level.
9. Chandelier in parlor of Ruthven House.



15/572730/426910
John R. and Elizabeth R.
House
Cole County
Missouri

OSAGE CITY
756111 SE
4269
4268
4266
4265
4264
4263

SCHUBERT 4.8 MI.
ROLLA (VIA U.S. 63) 60 MI.

32'30"



