# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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Category  X district  building(s)  structure  site  object	Ownership public privateX both Public Acquisition in process _X_ being considered	Status  X. occupied  X. unoccupied  work in progress  Accessible  X. yes: restricted  yes: unrestricted  no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government _X industrial military	museum park X private residence X religious scientific transportation other:
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city, town St.	Louis		state	MO 63101

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only received:
date entered

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#### OWNER OF RECORD

- Polish National Catholic Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius 2011 North 11th Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- Powstan, Inc. 1209 Hebert Street St. Louis, MO 63107
- 3. Powstan, Inc. 1209 Hebert Street St. Louis, MO 63107
- Polish National Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius 2011 North 11th Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 5. Polish National Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius 2011 North 11th Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 6. Walter and Leona C. Herschbach 1114 Chambers Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 7. Walter and Leona C. Herschbach 1114 Chambers Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- Murphy-Blair Resident Housing Corp. 2600 Hadley Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 9. Mary L. Summy 1122 Chambers Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 10. Murphy-Blair Resident Housing Corp. 2600 Hadley Street St. Louis, MO 63106

Voss Associates 1221 Locust Street, Suite 201 St. Louis, MO 63106

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2

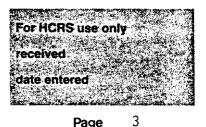
- 11. Aro Sheet Metal and Blow Pipe Company 1101 Tyler Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 12. Dennis and Barbara J. Galczniski 1111 Tyler Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 13. Dennis and Barbara Galczniski 1111 Tyler Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 14. Dennis and Barbara Galczniski 1111 Tyler Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 15. Andrew and Magdalena Sanchez 1115 Tyler Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 16. Richland L. Stockamp 1119 Tyler Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 17. Melvin and Judy Kendle 1121 Tyler Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 18. Thomas D. and Shirley Coleman 1123 Tyler Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 19. Thomas D. and Shirley Coleman 1123 Tyler Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 20. Edgar Toole, Jr. 3130 Labadie St. Louis, MO 63116
- 21. Norman S. and James A. Cotter 1415 Benton Street St. Louis, MO 63106

- 22. Ben Goldman
  One Scarsdale Drive
  St. Louis, MO 63117
- 23. Land Reutilization Authority 317 North 11th Street Room 820 St. Louis, MO 63101
- 24. Lane Reutilization Authority 317 North 11th Street Room 820 St. Louis, MO 63101
- 25. Lawrence Lunsden and Ruth Hayden 4 Cahokia Street Cahokia, IL 62206
- 26. Leonard G. and Dorothy F. Westerhold 6 Tailsman Way, RR 2 Florissant, MO 63032
- 27. John and Margaret Broadhurst 1207 Tyler Street St. Louis, MO 63106

Billy O. and Veronica F. Smith 1207 Tyler Street St. Louis, MO 63106

- 28. Bernard and Julia Gunn 1211 Tyler Street St. Louis, MO 63106
- 29. Land Reutilization Authority 317 North 11th Street Room 820 St. Louis, MO 63106
- 30. Land Reutilization Authority 317 North 11th Street Room 820 St. Louis, MO 63106

### **National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form**

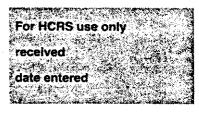


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- 31. Land Reutilization Authority 317 North 11th Street Room 820 St. Louis, MO 63101
- 32. Thomas A. Davis 1425 Sullivan Street St. Louis, MO 63106

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Missouri State Historical Survey State Historic Preservation Program Missouri Department of Natural Resources P. O. Box 176 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 9/80

Continuation Item #10.

of City Blocks 363, 643, 644 and 365. The district shall consist of the area that Beginning at the point of intersection of the west line of North 11th Street and the north line of Tyer Street; thence westwardly along said north line of Tyler Street approximately 125 feet; thence southwardly, across Tyler Street, along the eastern property line of 1114-16 Tyler Street 90 feet; thence southwestwardly 50 feet; thence westwardly, across Hadley Street, 175 feet; thence northwestwardly along the western property line of 1200-02 Tyler Street to the point of intersection of said property line with the south line of Tyler Street; thence northwardly, crossing Tyler Street, along the western property line of 1211 Tyler Street to the intersection of said property line with the south line of the alley in City Block 643; thence westwardly along said alley approximately 15 feet; thence northwardly, across said alley, along the western property line of 1210-12 Chambers Street to the intersection fo said line with the southside of Chambers Street; thence, eastwardly along said line, across Hadley Street, approximately 375 feet; thence northwardly, across Chambers Street, along the western property line of 2005 North 11th Street 150 feet to the intersection of said line with the south line of the alley of City Block 363, also the northern property line of 2005 and 2011 North 11th Street; thence eastwarly along said line to its intersection of said line with the west line of North 11th Street; thence southwardly along said line, across Chambers Street, to its point of intersection with the north side of Tyler Street, the point of beginning.

### 7. Description

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Now crisp and somewhat forbidding, the boundaries of the SS. Cyril and Methodius district have been formed by demolition for an Interstate Highway (Photo #18), a housing project (Photo #2) plus creeping abandonment with subsequent demolition for urban prairie or truck parking (Photos #7 and 18). The twenty-two buildings which remain span the period from 1859 to 1908 and are unified by their red brick construction, similar scale and subtle attention to detail. Herringbone patterned brick walks and alleys bounded by stone curbs still call forth the "charm" of the old neighborhood but no longer attract amateur painters from well-meaning organizations. (Photo #1)

City Block 2005

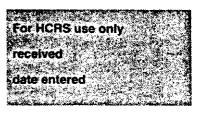
The Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius, formerly the North Presbyterian Church, is one of the few surviving examples of the early Romanesque Revival style. The Round style (or Lombard and Norman, as it was alternatively called) was particularly popular with the Protestant sects in America in the 1850's which were looking for a change from the Classic or Greek temple-form church. Less ostentatious than the Gothic, the mode was nevertheless monumental and medieval. It suited well the Victorian desire for picturesque irregularity, while adapting easily to the auditorium-type interiors so symbolic of democratic, Protestant congregations. Built in 1857-8, from the design of Eugene L. Greenleaf, this early Romanesque building although modest in size still exhibits an authentic and innovative use of the Round style vocabulary. (Photo #2)

Following the simple rectangular plan of an auditorium style church, Greenleaf designed a two story, sixty by ninety foot brick building, giving assymetrical prominence to the Chambers Street corner by the addition of an attached bell tower surmounted by a slim Gothic spire. (The spire was removed in 1904 and the tower altered to culminate in a canopied, open-sided belfry. The Polish congregation later constructed the present day truncated and closed belfry covered by a hipped roof.)

The wide central bay of the facade rises to a gable peak eighty feet above the ground which is accentuated by a brick corbel table. This table is echoed below in the gabled hood which surrounds a recessed, round-arched double front door. The original doors and fan light were replaced by the Polish congregation in 1963. Today a wooden tympanum bearing the church name and symbols crests the wooden panel doors. A wheel window relieves the massive plane of the upper central bar. Flanking the dominate center are two slim bays which house smaller round-arched front entrances and long, slender windows above. A five bay arcade alternating with pilaster strips articulates the side walls of the east and west elevations. The decorative brick corbelling of the facade continues under the side eaves. Multipaned upper windows are round arched; lower windows are headed by straight limestone lintels. The overall effect is one of solidity and mass punctuated by an even rhythm of

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brilliant paned windows, colored glass having been added in 1882.

Born in 1819, Eugene L. Greenleaf worked in St. Louis as a carpenter, builder and architect from 1847 until 1879. He is best known today for his commissions in Henry Shaw's Tower Grove Park. Shaw's records show that in 1871-72, Greenleaf designed a number of park pavilions including the Lilly Pond Summer House, a shelter for the Children's Playground and the Music Stand where band concerts were held on Sunday afternoons. The Sons of Rest and Turkish gazebos, as well as a variety of ornamental well houses, attest to Greenleaf's stylistic versatility. 2

The interior of the North Presbyterian Church consisted of a lower basement story used originally for Sunday School rooms and offices and the upper assembly room which was an unarticulated hall with a rear organ gallery. In 1908, the Polish National Catholic Church altered the assembly room to better serve the liturgical requirements of a Catholic service. Side benches were removed to make room for processions. An early parish member, Karol Brominski, designed and carved a wooden pinnacled altar of Gothic inspiration (Photo #3). Painted white with gold trim, it presents a statue of the Risen Christ in the center flanked on the left and right by images of St. Cyril and St. Methodius, namesakes of the parish and traditional patron saints of the Slavic people. One of the altar's unique features is its exposed electric lighting which originated as an extravagant enhancement to the ornament, and has become traditional in the Polish National Church. In the 1920's, a triple-arched transept space was constructed to house the main altar, pulpit and side altars. At the same time, a new floor was laid and the plaster ceiling replaced by one of pressed tin. Now painted a light blue, it accents the cream colored walls which are decorated with floral and cross patterned stenciling around arch and window openings.

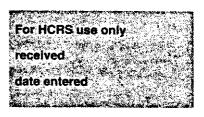
#### CITY BLOCK 364

#### Glassford-Bernays House, 1102-04 Chambers Street

Located across from the church, 1102-04 Chambers is not only distinctive for its size (forty by seventy-two feet), but for being the only surviving example of an early two-family dwelling in the neighborhood. (Photo #4) It is composed of a main block with a narrower, smaller scaled rear extension. The west elevation features a two story, three part bay with segmentally arched windows and the remains of a two-tiered wooden gallery. The classically balanced, six bay facade has double, recessed threshold entrances at the center. Low-pitched stone lintels head long, narrow doorways and window openings dramatically contrasting with the brick textured wall. A wooden, overhanging, bracketed cornice graces the ensemble.

Probably the oldest house in the district, it was built in 1859 by John Glassford, a coal merchant originally from Pennsylvania. Louis Buschman, a grocer from Hanover, briefly owned the property before selling it to brothers Dr. George J. and Charles L. Bernays in 1867 for the sum of \$8250.00. (See Section 8) Today,

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the building is owned by the Murphy-Blair Housing Corporation which plans to rehabilitate it as rental housing.

#### William Stone House, 1114 Chambers Street

William Stone, an iron manufacturer and United States Congressman, paid \$1250 in 1859 for this long, slender lot. Built in 1860--one year later than the now vacant Glassford-Bernays House--1114 Chambers repeats the tall openings with stone lintels and bracketed cornice of its neighbor to the east. Although the doorway has been blocked-down flush with the plane of the fnont elevation, the second story wrought iron balcony is intact. Above, a few painted cast iron rosettes can be seen between the brackets. (Photo #5) Records are incomplete but the near twin at 1120 Chambers could have been the work of the same builder. (Photo #6)

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#### Moses Ruggles House, 1122 Chambers Street

The surprise of the block is the tiny, prim and well-cared for house set back behind a picket fence defining the common building line. (Photos #6 & 7) Moses Ruggles is listed in City Directories as a contractor; his son, Alexander, was a bricklayer. It is possible that the family themselves built this beautifully proportioned, late Greek Revival miniature of 1860.

#### Charles McCord House, 1124-26 Chambers Street

Built in 1860 by iron founder Charles W. McCord, the original central hall, five bay house has undergone several modifications including division into two town houses before 1873. In spite of the momentary confusion exhibited by the present jumble of paint, boarded openings, lost or replaced details, the form of the imposing original front elevation can still be discerned. (Photo #7) Sometime after 1882, the house was connected to a two-story brick stable on the alley. This connecting wing features a two-story, tripartite bay with round headed windows divided by wooden pilasters. (Photo #9)

Distinguished by the lavish and early use of ornamental iron, the Charles McCord House was selected as one of St. Louis' forty most historically important buildings in a 1964 survey conducted by the St. Louis Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. It was also included in Marchaud's photographic exhibition of St. Louis Architecture at the St. Louis Art Museum in 1971. The present owner's plans to renovate this building should give impetus to the conservation of the entire district.

#### Paris H. Mason House, 1212 Chambers Street (City Block 643)

Although similar in elevation and plan to other Chambers Street housesidating from 1860, the Paris Mason House is the only building in the district using light salmen face brick. The original cornice has been replaced. (Photo #8)

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#### City Block 364

A comparison of the houses described above on Chambers with the streetscape around the corner on Tyler (Photo #10) offers a back-to-back transition between the late Federal/Greek Revival details of Chambers with the arched Victorian elements on Tyler. More subtle in the three town houses located at 1123 (built 1879), 1121 (built 1876) and 1119 (built 1870), the corner site at Tyler and Hadley offered the potential for a full-blown expression of the post-Civil War St. Louis craze: the mansard roof.

#### James M. Patterson House, 1125 Tyler Street

Built by James M. Patterson (proprietor of the Mound City Saw Mill) in 1873, the rectangular house at 1125 Tyler is entered from an east side door and porch. The dressed stone foundation, now painted white, and denticulated cornice with brackets tucked under the mansard contrast with the plain, two story, red brick walls. (Photo #10) An example of Victorian wrought iron railing survives in the front yard fence and basement window grill work.

#### Charles Grote House, 1115 Tyler Street

Breaking sharply with the typical dwellings in the district, the Charles Grote House of 1875 combines the St. Louis "half-flounder" roof with a two-storied side gallery. The attachment of a picturesque, jigsaw canopy over the front door plus the set-back from the street give this house a more rural aspect. (Photo #11)

#### John Rubelmann House, 1111 Tyler Street

Late Victorian vernacular is exemplified in the two story, brick house built by F. W. Mattheir, Building Contractors for John Rubelmann. Advances in the St. Louis brick industry are evident in the molded brick and terra cotta at the first story openings and at the frieze. Second story windows have been remodelled. (Photo #12)

#### William Barker House and Office, 1101-03 Tyler Street

One of two structures in the neighborhood that represents joint residence and doctor's office, 1101-03 Tyler was constructed in 1891 by Nicholson Brothers Contractors for a sum of \$8000.00. The building was subsequently altered several times. In 1911, Dr. Barker moved his office to North Grand Avenue, and new owners converted the building to a four-family apartment building. Later it became a factory-first for Tyler Metal Products, and presently for the Aro Sheet Metal and Blow Pipe Company. A concrete block addition was added in 1951, extending the building to the aliey.

The original building (forty-nine by fifty-two feet) has an irregularly-massed, broken facade. (Photo #13) A two and one-half story, three-part bay projects from the right side. The monumental central arch fights with the blocked-down window openings sporting multi-paned windows of recent construction.

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#### Robert F. Amyx House and Office, 1943 North 11th Street

Dr. Amyx's home and doctor's office at 1943 North 11th Street replaced the earlier office of Dr. Augustus Bernays. Built in 1908, by contractors Geo. Bothe and Company, it is the last structure erected in the district. Of square plan, it incorporates decorative features seen in earlier building in the area, i. e. narrow and recessed entrance, round arched (now boarded) window openings, stone sills and a cornice with paired brackets. (Photo #14) A small oval window is centrally placed in the second story. Modern features at the time of construction included copper cornices and stove heat throughout.

#### Tyler Estate Apartments (City Block 365)

In 1901, the Tyler Estate erected a row of three multiple-family units on the south side of Tyler Street (1114-16, 1118-20, 1122-24). (Photo #15) Designed by architect Otto J. Wilhelmi, they were constructed by B. Wussler at a total cost of \$13,050.00. Wilhelmi created a design which is utilitarian, well-proportioned and pleasing in its restrained ornamentation. The focal point for the two story facade is the grand, row-lock arch with checkerboard-patterned brickwork which spans a recessed, triple-door, front entrance. (Photo #16) The rhythm of three large openings moves easily to four smaller windows in the second story with a stone string course marking the dividing line. A narrow, brick, denticulated cornice is surmounted by a parapet wall.

Otto J. Wilhelmi was the first Missouri-born architect to study abroad. He attended the Polytechnic in Karlsruhe, Germany, in 1878-79 as well as Washington University in St. Louis. He served as architect for the St. Louis Public School Board from 1882 to 1884 and designed the Siegel Monument in Forest Park. Although he drew plans for a number of small, downtown office buildings and a German theatre on Lucas Place, he is best remembered for his large, stylish residences in Compton Heights, Lafayette Square and Fullerton's Westminster Place.

#### 1200-02 Tyler Street (City Block 644)

At the turn of the century, multiple-family dwellings began to be built on the remaining open property to accomodate the growing numbers of immigrants and factory workers moving into the area. Henry Tielkemeyer built 1200 Tyler in 1885 as a four-family tenement. Although larger than the earlier housing, it blends well with the neighborhood using arched windows with molded keystones. A straight-sided mansard roof with dormers encases a practical third story. (Photo #18)

#### City Block 643

Standing at the southwest edge of the district, 1207 and 1209-11 Tyler Street return to the Victorian town house idiom of the 1100 block of Tyler. (Photo  $\pm$ 18) Of the two, 1109-11 is of more interest due to its virtually unaltered facade. The boarded house to the left at least exhibits recent interest in attempting to secure abandoned buildings rather than tear them down.

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#### <u>FOOTNOTES</u>

<sup>1</sup>Carroll L. V. Meeks, "Romanesque Before Richardson in the United States," Art Bulletin 35 (March, 1953): 20.

<sup>2</sup>Peter F. Dessauer, "Architects of Tower Grove Park (1868-1873): Francis Turnica, Eugene L. Greenleaf, and Henry Thiele," (Paper from Biographical material uncovered by Historic American Buildings Survey, September 2, 1975); <u>St. Louis Globe-Democrat</u>, 15 April 1881.

<sup>3</sup>Records of SS. Cyril and Methodius Polish National Catholic Church, translated by Tom Bratkowski, et al.

<sup>4</sup>All data in this nomination concerning property boundaries, transfers and dates, and price of purchase has been obtained from deed books and plats in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, City Hall of St. Louis, Missouri. Source information for individual sites is available upon request at Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri.

<sup>5</sup>St. Louis Globe-Democrat, 24 April 1925.

### 8. Significance

1700–1799 _X 1800–1899	Areas of Significance—C — archeology-prehistoric — archeology-historic — agriculture  X architecture — art — commerce — communications		landscape architectur law literature military music philosophy politics/government	re_X religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation _X other (specify)
Specific dates	1859-1908	Builder/Architect Vari	ous	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The SS. Cyril and Methodius Historic District in its location and early history is closely tied to the once distinct village of North St. Louis. Conceived as a venture which would compete with the town of St. Louis, the sophisticated, formal plan of North St. Louis survived for almost one hundred and fifty years in spite of early annexation by the City of St. Louis, gradual change from middle to working class, then partial abandonment and geographic isolation. The transfer of the North Presbyterian Church, now SS. Cyril and Methodius, to a band of Polish dissidents may well have helped preserve the adjacent microcosm of buildings constructed by enterprising immigrants and transplanted Easterners whose good fortune in St. Louis exemplified success in the West.

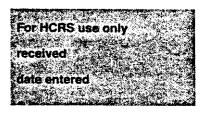
On April 27, 1816, Colonel William Chambers of Louisville, Kentucky, purchased from Louis LaBeaume a tract of 374 arpents a mile and three-quarters north of the town of St. Louis. Chambers quickly sold to both Major William Christy and Thomas Wright (Christy's son-in-law) one-third interests in the land. Christy, who had been a surveyor and gentleman farmer in Kentucky before coming to St. Louis in 1804, laid out the plat for the new town of North St. Louis. His earlier military background plus his Kentucky marriage to Martha Thompson Taylor, relative of Presidents Madison and Taylor, gave North St. Louis a legacy of Patriots' street names: Madison, Monroe, Jefferson, Warren, Montgomery, etc. On June 29, 1816, the three partners dedicated a thirteen acre strip of land along the Mississippi River at the foot of North Market Street to be reserved as a public wharf with promenade or Three circular areas, three hundred feet in diameter, between 11th and 12th (now Hadley) Streets were also set aside: Circle #1 (Clinton Place)--"The circle on the mound overlooking the town is set apart for a Seminary of learning"; Circle #2 (Jackson Place) was reserved for a park and gathering place; Circle #3 (Marion Place) was the site for a church with "burying ground open to all denominations of religious persons."2 (The evidence that Indian mounds existed at two of the three circles is substantial and would suggest that the founders were at least partly inspired by pre-existing topographical features rather than pure, formalistic town planning principles.)

Hoping to attract the burgeoning commercial activity that the arrival of steamboats promised, the partners by 1819 had extended Front and Second Streets the length of their property and were offering parcels priced between \$350 and \$500 with credit extended from six months to two years provided the purchaser agreed to improve the land with a good brick building. North St. Louis, however, was not the only development in 1816. Over the hill immediately west of Laclede's original plat for St. Louis, Colonel Auguste Chouteau and Judge J. B. C. Lucas opened a fifty-acre subdivision with wide streets and a public square donated for the erection of an elegant courthouse. (Figure #1) Proximity to the established community in St. Louis plus street grading and paving subsequent to State legislative incorporation of St. Louis

FHR-8-300 (11-78)

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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as a City combined to direct growth west rather than north.

St. Louis' population growth between 1816 and 1830 was steady but unremarkable: 1816--approximately 3,000; 1830--approximately 7,000. Rapid land speculation toward North St. Louis did not occur until the beginning of the great influx of immigrants in the late 1830's and the expansion of the City Limits in 1841. (Figure #2) A map showing population distribution in the City of St. Louis, 1843, graphically demonstrates the town planning virtues of North St. Louis (included in the 1841 annexation) and the relatively sparse population at that juncture. (Figure #3)

The first public transit in St. Louis was an omnibus line established in 1843 which ran from the old National Hotel near the Courthouse downtown to the North St. Louis ferry landing at Madison Street. By 1850, St. Louis' population had jumped to almost 78,000 residents and the city ports were second only to New York City in tonnage. In 1848, Mary Lawrence Tyler, the daughter of Colonel Chambers, inherited the tract of land bounded by Webster (now Tyler), Clinton, 11th and 16th Streets. Just southwest of the former boundaries of North St. Louis, this area--which encompasses the SS. Cyril and Methodius Historic District--opened to the public on July 10, 1854, with the price of lots ranging from \$1000 to \$1895. The large lot at the northeast corner of 11th and Chambers was purchased for \$4240 by an offshoot of the First Presbyterian Church which hired architect Eugene L. Greenleaf to design the building. Completed in 1858, North Presbyterian Church predates surviving residential architecture in the district by two years. (See Section 7) Its spire is the most prominent silhouette in the built-up, dense and diverse neighborhood captured on Plate 45 of Compton and Dry's bird's-eye view of 1875. (Photo #19)

A study of the early residents of the district reveals a colorful diversity in country of origin, profession and contribution to the history of St. Louis which belies the unpretentious similarity of their brick dwellings. In contrast to "Kerry Patch" or "Bohemian Hill", the ecumenical spirit of the founders of North St. Louis (who set aside a burying ground for all) was reflected in the presence of four other churches within blocks of North Presbyterian and three public schools including Webster (1853), the first public high school in the City.

Three early residents of the district (Charles W. McCord, David P. Green and William H. Stone) were involved in St. Louis' nationally-important iron industry which by 1860 had diversified into specialized types of founding and manufacturing: architectural and ornamental cast and wrought iron, iron machinery, farm implements, stoves, pipe and hardware. McCord, a native of Pennsylvania, resided at 1126 Chambers from 1860 when the house was built until 1872. McCord merged his experience as principal partner of McCord & Co. foundry with William A. Steel to establish the National Iron works. At the direction of James B. Eads, the government contract for two light-draught, ironclad monitors—the Etlah and the Shiloh—for Civil War river combat was awarded to National. Eads' newly-patented and revolutionary turret system proved the first successful application of steam in manipulating heavy artillery: "Before Eads' invention was applied, not less than twelve men were required to work one fifteen inch gun, but now one man could work two of them with precision." The Etlah was completed first and launched on July 2, 1865 amid great

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fanfare and crowds awaiting the immersion of the largest vessel to be launched on the Mississippi. "In her construction, Messrs. McCord and Steel have demonstrated that Missouri iron and wood and the skill of St. Louis mechanics are capable of competing favorably with any of the shipbuilding points at the seaboard." 5

Born and raised in New York, William H. Stone came to St. Louis in 1848 at the age of twenty and began has career at the city's oldest and most prestigious foundry, Gaty, McCune and Co. Stone rose to a partnership position in the firm and in 1860 moved to the house at 1114 Chambers. He managed to run his expanding business interests while serving as a Captian in the Enrolled Missouri Militia during the Civl War. In 1867, Stone became President of the St. Louis Metallic Nut and Bolt Manufacturing Co.; in 1868, he took on additional responsibilities as chief executive of the Union Rolling Mills. After serving as Representative to the Missouri State House and Commissioner for the St. Louis Board of Waterworks, he successfully ran for U. S. Congress in 1872 on the Democratic ticket. Stone served ably in the House of Representatives for two terms proving his concern and knowledge of Missouri's needs by his unflagging efforts on behalf of Eads' 1875 Bill to remove silt which threatened the river economy of St. Louis.7

Paris H. Mason of 1210-12 Chambers helped found one of the earliest and largest furniture manufacturing companies in the city. The firm's five story warehouse and showroom on Washington Avenue catered to St. Louis' cosmopolitan tastes and growing buying power through purchase from other manufacturers of additional high style lines. Lumber was another booming industry in St. Louis and three residents of the district--James M. Patterson: 1125 Tyler, Conrad Grote: 1119 Tyler and Charles Grote: 1115 Tyler--were employed at saw and planing mills. Other businessmen in the district included Alonzo T. Harlow of 1120 Chambers, copartner of a produce and corn merchandising business; John A. Bauer, a retail grocer who built the house at 1121 Tyler; coal merchant John Glassford who built 1102-04 Chambers and Moses Ruggles of 1122 Chambers, a contractor and pavement maker who served as Street Commissioner and City Superintendent in the 1860's.

Of the professionals in the district, the Bernays family stands out as the most prominent and as an example of the significant contributions made to St. Louis by German immigrants. In 1867, Dr. George J. Bernays and Josephine Bernays (wife of Charles L. Bernays) purchased the two-family residence at 1102-04 Chambers and adjoining property on 11th Street for \$8250. Charles Bernays studied law at the University of Munich but soon turned to journalism because of his writing skill and political interests. When Louis Philippe ascended the throne and Bernays' revolutionary newspaper Vorwaerts was suppressed, Bernays left for St. Louis where he joined the staff as editor for the Anzeiger des Westens--an outspoken and influential daily with Republican, pro-Union sympathies. Bernays served as a paymaster during the Civil War and as Consul to Zurich and Helsignor for President Lincoln. For a brief period after the war, he was Editor-in-Chief for the Anzeiger. With its demise Bernays joined the editorial staff of the Missouri Republican. Always interested in philosophy and music, he was a member of the St. Louis Art Society--a cultural group which organized musical associations, helped reform the public schools and was instrumental in the introduction of kindergartens in St. Louis.

FHR-8-300 (11-78)

### United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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According to William T. Harris (Superintendent of the outstanding St. Louis Public School system), Bernays combined German Gemueth (depth of heart) with French Esprit.

While Charles Bernays worked tirelessly for his adopted city, his brother George chose to live abroad ensuring his three children a proper German education at the University of Heidelberg before returning to the house at 1102 Chambers in 1879. His son Augustus was the first American student to graduate summa cum laude in medicine at Heidelberg after which he did postgraduate work at the University of Berlin and then passed the exam to become a member of the Royal College of Surgeons in England. Augustus returned to St. Louis to set up practice, working first out of his home and later in an office on 11th Street (demolished). Barnays soon had a flourishing practice. In 1883, he was elected Professor of Anatomy and Clinical Surgery in St. Louis College of Physicians and Surgeons. His innovative surgical techniques brought invitations to speak at medical conferences, publication, controversy and a great deal of money. His sister and life-long companion Thekla, also educated at the University of Heidelberg, moved easily in the cultural society of St. Louis and later New York City. A writer, translator and literary critic, Thekla Bernays published essays and criticism in The Mirror and also served as foreign correspondent for the Globe-Democrat and Westliche Post. A charter member of the Artists Guild of St. Louis, she was a member of the jury of arts and crafts for the 1904 World's Fair. Her collected writings reveal much about St. Louis' literary movement in the late nineteenth century.  $^{10}$ 

With the dual encroachment of smoky industrial development along the river and arrival of new immigrant groups less prepared through education and financial resources for life in St. Louis, the character of the district began to change. "Colored School #2", soon named Desslaines, was built at the southwest corner of Hadley and Tyler in 1871. A corner of that parcel was split off and developed as a four-family flat in 1885; the Tyler Estate followed the trend with the construction of three, multiple-family buildings at 1114-24 Tyler. Although North Presbyterian Church supported a substantial interior renovation project in 1882 and in 1885 built a brick parsonage for \$3,550, their fiftieth anniversary celebration in 1895 marked the end of an era. Earlier pastors and former members were invited to return for a Golden Jubilee Week of religious services and social activities. Reverend Martin of First Presbyterian Church emphasized the importance of the church's remaining at that location ending his remarks: "It is from the north that the cool, wholesome winds come, and similar has been the influence of this church."11

Excerpts from the Annual Reports of the Park Commissioners of St. Louis provide valuable evidence of the changing neighborhood:

1894-95: "The place [Jackson Place-Circle #2] is in good condition and needs police protection at night."

1900-01: "Jackson Place is in a thickly populated part of the city and from 3000 to 4000 people pass through it daily. The center walk is a regular thoroughfare and a granitoid walk would be of great service."

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1904-05: "This park should really be termed a public playground." 12

In 1908, the congregation of North Presbyterian sold the church for \$20,000 and moved west.

The establishment of the Polish National Catholic Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius in the old North Presbyterian building introduced a new religious denomination to St. Louis. It was not only the first parish formed west of the Mississippi, but one of the earliest parishes in the movement. 13

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The Polish National Catholic Church, which is the largest American schism of the Roman Catholic Church, originated in the immigrant population of Scranton, Pennsylvania. Coming from an occupied country, the Poles were strongly attached to their Catholic faith and associated it with feelings of nationalism and cultural heritage. In America, however, they found the Catholic Church dominated by German and Irish hierarchies who, out of ethnic prejudice or insensitivity, failed to understand the needs of the Polish community. Language and cultural barriers often stood between priests and their congregations. Compounding the problem, the Polish people became aware of the American Protestant tradition of democratically run churches where the members governed themselves, owned their own property and voted on church leaders and policy. The situation which had become increasingly tense for the Poles finally came to a head.

Seven hundred and eighty-seven Polish dissidents left the Sacred Heart Parish of Scranton, Pennsylvania, in 1896 after repeated altercations over property rights and selection of church officials. Under the direction of their pastor, Father Hoder, they broke with the Roman Catholic Church when the Bishop refused to consecrate their new building of St. Stanislaus. Although they agreed basically with Roman Catholic dogma, they firmly believed that church members had a right to be self-governing; and, backed by the strong faith of Father Hoder, wrote a "church constitution" to that effect. In a stirring address in 1896, he encouraged the congregation to found a "new" Catholic denomination: "so we shall go forward without fear. The rights of the people are stronger and holier than the privileges of bishops and priests, so God Almighty will be on our side." Hoder was soon afterwards suspended by the Mother Church, but was in 1907 consecrated a Bishop by the Old Catholic Church of Holland (a much earlier schism recognized by the Vatican), thereby securing Apostolic Succession for the new denomination.

The movement spread quickly among Polish Catholic communities and other parishes sprang up. In 1907 (when the St. Louis parish was organized) the church had seventeen parishes, thirteen priests and sixteen thousand members. (Today it has one hundred fifty parishes consisting of two hundred and fifty thousand members in America and numerous churches in Poland, Canada and Brazil.)<sup>15</sup>

The Polish National Catholic Church introduced many progressive reforms into

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the Vatican dogma very early in its history. On Christmas Eve, 1900, Bishop Hoder conducted the mass in Polish rather than the official Latin; the membership voted to continue this practice at least once a month. Hoder, always a socially aware and compassionate leader, established early a church newspaper, a theological seminary, the Polish National Union (a fraternal benefit society) and a home for the aged. Early in the church's history, women were given a voting voice in parish government. At the fourth general Synod in 1921, they abolished compulsory celibacy of priests and gave them freedom to marry.

With so many of the first parishes located in the east around the mother church of St. Stanislaus, it is surprising to find such an early parish in St. Louis. Unfortunately, the causes for the formation of the SS. Cyril and Methodius Church are not clearly documented. Issues of land ownership and governmental freedom certainly played a role in the break as did an intellectual faction in the Polish community which saw benefits to be derived from assimilation. They encouraged Poles to become United States' citizens so that they would have a voice in political elections. Voting as a block, they could better introduce their own issues and goals into the American system. News of independent Polish parishes formed in the East fired two hundred members of the St. Stanislaus Koska and St. Casimir Roman Catholic Church on the North Side to create the Transfiguration Parish on November 7, 1907. Reverend F. Mirek served as first pastor. They purchased the North Presbyterian Church building for \$20,000 and began to make interior alterations. Strife erupted in 1908, however, after a visit by Bishop Hoder who explained to the enthusiastic "rebels" the full effect (excommunication) of breaking with the Roman church. Members who had only sought to form a new parish, not to break completely with the established Catholic Church, withdrew their support and returned to their former parishes. Financially strapped, the advocates for an independent church were forced to dissolve and temporarily return the building to the control of the Presbyterians. On October 12, 1909, the group reformed as The Polish National Catholic Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius.

The establishment of a new denomination polarized the Polish American community, but the lines were not clearly drawn. As a small minority, members of the Chambers Street church were intolerantly treated by conservative Roman Catholics. Nevertheless, the more progressive members of the established churches sympathized with the church's ideals and attended its social and fund-raising functions. Funds from local "sympathizers" contributed largely to the new parish's financial solvency. Never a wealthy but always a loyal congregation, "the nationals" prided themselves then and now on their self-sufficiency. Alterations and improvements to the building have almost always been made by individual parish members.

Aside from liturgical distinctions, the SS. Cyril and Methodius Church differed from Catholic churches in the area by its enthusiastic support of the American democratic system. One of its earliest concerns was the attaining of American citizenship for its members and their participation in the political process. The Fourth of July annual picnic, an unusual holiday for the Polish people to celebrate, was an early tradition. The parish served equally as a focus for preserving and celebrating Polish culture. A church school, which taught children the Polish

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language, existed until the mid-1960's. Young people also participated in church affiliated singing, dramatic and poetry societies, as well as athletic associations.

Today's parish under the direction of Father Adalbert Bazarnik serves eighty-four Polish descendent families in St. Louis some of whom are third generation progeny of original members. As in the past, it espouses American ideals and concerns—a huge banner inscribed "Pray for the Hostages" presently hangs above the front entrance—while preserving its ethnic origins. Services are conducted in Polish on alternate Sundays and it is the only church in the area which continues to hold religious processions on Easter, Christmas and Corpus Christi. Although uniquely different in religious affiliation, Polish Nationals share with early Presbyterians a pride in their church building and an active interest in the affairs of their community.

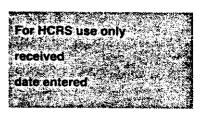
The seventy years since SS. Cyril and Methodius began have been difficult ones for St. Louis' near North Side neighborhoods. Grace Episcopal, organized in 1845 to occupy the site set aside in Circle #3, resigned its charter in 1910 and became a mission. Problems of St. Louis, published in 1917 by the City Plan Commission, extolled the virtues of "districting" or zoning as a cure for future incompatable land uses prevalent in the older, "walking" neighborhoods of the nineteenth century. Suburban garden developments were proposed to replace antiquated housing. Geographer Lewis F. Thomas in a publication of 1932 described the near North Side as follows:

This district has an atmosphere of changing from a residential past to an industrial present...A little bit was added here and a little bit there, the size and shape of each bit being determined by the contour of the surface....As a consequence, city blocks of divers dimension, with odd shaped little parkings to fill in the interstides, are woven together by zigzag or winding streets into a patchwork design which rivals grandmother's quilt in complexity. The residences are mostly old-fashioned and stiff.

The 1947 Comprehensive Plan proposed demolition and rebuilding of much of the near North Side including SS. Cyril and Methodius district. That recommendation was not predicated solely on a suburban bias but most directly upon the squalid conditions uncovered by the WPA and other surveys of low-rent housing which described eighty percent of the units in the neighborhood as substandard with sixty to seventy having outside toilets. Nonetheless, the neighborhood was still standing, virtually intact, in the 1950's when demolition for the Mark Twain Expressway commenced. The three circular forms from 1816 wrapped around Webster School, Jackson Place and Grace Episcopal; in the SS. Cyril and Methodius district, a cooperage occupied a former church building at the northwest corner of Hadley and Tyler and the True Gospel Tabernacle worshipped in the German Evangelical church at the northeast corner of Tyler and 13th Streets. Compact nineteenth century houses filled the three blocks now occupied by a low-rise housing project immediately west of SS. Cyril and Methodius.

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The Model Cities program of the 1960's brought the appellation "Murphy-Blair" to an area between the Mississippi River on the east, Cass Avenue to the south, 20th Street on the west and Salisbury Street on the north. The name "Murphy-Blair" has stuck although present planning boundaries do not extend as far north as Salisbury.

At this writing, a neighborhood plan for Murphy-Blair is underway. Drafted by the Community Development Agency with participation from various owners and neighborhood organizations the plan must address several important issues facing the neighborhood. One of those questions will be the development of the now-vacant land; another is the extent to which City policy will encourage the retention and re-use of the remaining historic structures.

#### <u>F O O T N O T E S</u>

- <sup>1</sup>Sturgeon Collection, Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, Missouri.
- <sup>2</sup>Plat Book I (Old original Plat Book X), St. Louis County Records Office.
- <sup>3</sup>Sweringen Papers, Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, Missouri.
- <sup>4</sup>Quoted in Areola H. Reinhardt, "The Gunboats of James B. Eads During the Civil War." (M.A. thesis, Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, 1936), p. 69; Phelps Collection, Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, Missouri.
  - <sup>5</sup>Daily Missouri Democrat (St. Louis), 3 July 1865.
- <sup>6</sup>William Hyde and Howard L. Conard, eds., <u>Encyclopedia of the History of Missouri</u>, 6 vols. (St. Louis: The Southern History Company, 1901), 6: 97.
- <sup>7</sup>The Continental Congress and the Congress of the United States, <u>Biographical Directory of the American Congress 1774-1961</u> (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1961), p. 1664.
- <sup>9</sup>The Industries of St. Louis (St. Louis: J. M. Elstner and Co., Publishers, 1985), p. 67; Thomas Scharf, <u>History of St. Louis City and County</u>, 2 vols. (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts and Co., 1883), 2:1323.
- <sup>9</sup>Scrapbook A, Oscar Ⅵ. Collett Scrapbook, Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, Missouri, pp. 138-9.
  - <sup>10</sup>Bernays Collection, Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, Missouri.
- <sup>11</sup>St. Louis Globe-Democrat, 28 March 1895; Manual of the North Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, Missouri, 1906.
  - <sup>12</sup>St. Louis Park Commissioner. Annual Reports (St. Louis: 1894-1905).

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13Unless otherwise indicated, the information about the Polish National Catholic Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius comes from their records. We gratefully acknowledge the work of Tom Bratkowski, Father Adalbert Bazarnik and various parish members who painstakingly translated early church documents so that we might better record their church's history.

14 Stephen Wlodarski, The Origin and Growth of the Polish National Catholic Church (Scranton, PA: The Polish National Catholic Church, 1974), p. 48.

<sup>15</sup>Ibid., pp. 27-28, 68-72 and 97.

<sup>16</sup>Lewis F. Thomas, "The Geographic Landscape of Metropolitan St. Louis" (Xeroxed paper in possession of Carolyn H. Toft, St. Louis, 1932), p. 18.

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached.

10. Geographi	cal Data		
Acreage of nominated property _	3.33 acres	_	
Quadrangle name <u>Granite</u> (	city, IL/MO		Quadrangle scale 1:24,000
UMT References			
A 1 15 7 4 14 4 14 10 4 Zone Easting No.	12 8 11 0 0 0	B Zone Easting	Northing
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Verbal boundary description	and justification		
SS. Cyril and Mothodius	Historic Distric	ct is comprised of	City Block 364 and portions
List all states and counties for	or properties overlap	ping state or county be	oundaries
state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code
11. Form Prep	ared By		
- I I OIIII I I CB	arca by		
name/title]_Laura Aldenderf	er, Researcher; (	Carolyn H. Toft, Exc	ecutive Director
organization Landmarks Ass	octation of St. I	ouis, Inc. date 9/	22/80
street & number 611 Olive S	treet, Suite 2187	telephone	(314) 421-6474
city or town St. Louis		state M	0 63101
	orio Dropo		
12. State History	oric Prese	rvation Offic	cer Certification
The evaluated significance of this	property within the sta	te is:	
national	state X	local	
As the designated State Historic F 665), I hereby nominate this proper according to the criteria and process.	erty for inclusion in the	National Register and cert	
State Historic Preservation Office	<del> </del>	vel atopa	
Director, Depar	tment of Natural	Resources U	date 12 May 82
For HCRS use only	r c Preservation	Ufficer	
t hereby certify that this pro	perty is included in the	National Register	
Managed the blobbent Benistee	A STATE OF THE STA	A CARL CONTRACTOR OF THE STATE	date :
Keeper of the National Register			date
Atest:			date

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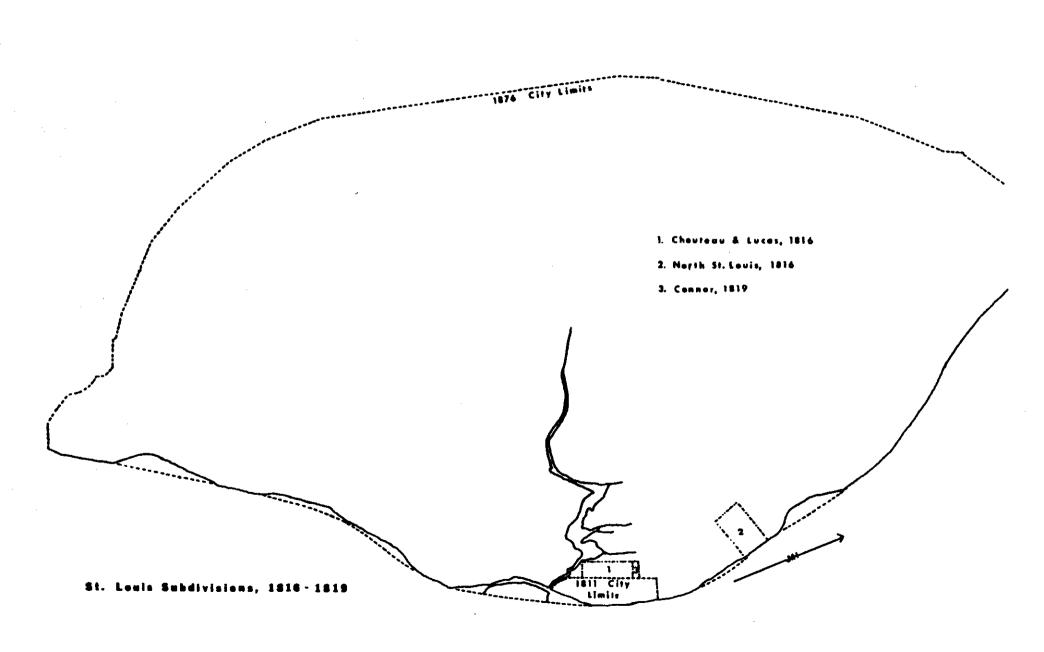
2. James M. Denny, Section Chief, Nominations-Survey and State Contact Person
Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City,

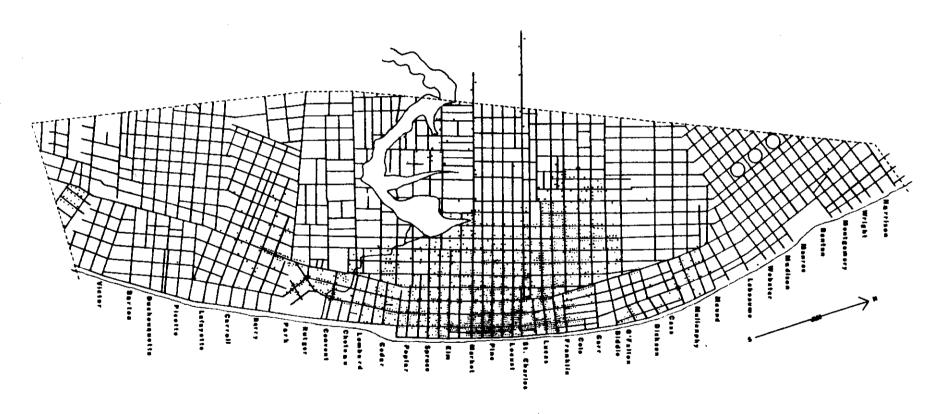
October 7, 1980

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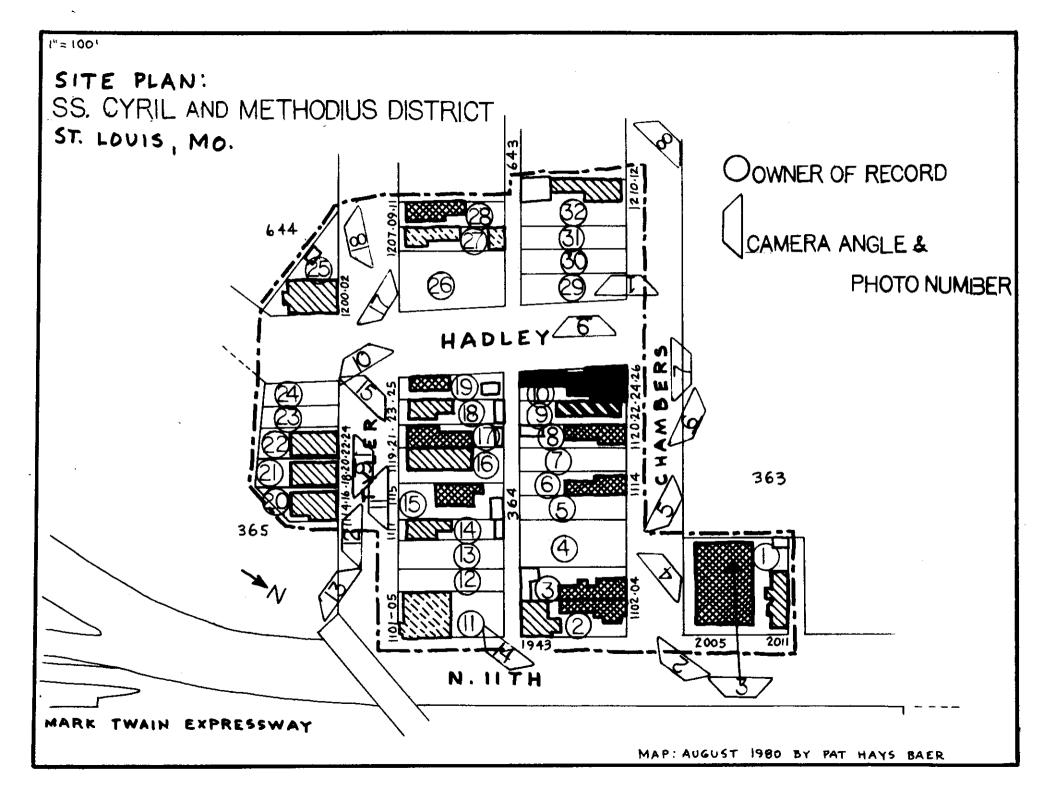
Missouri 65102







Population Distribution in the City of St. Louis, 1843



#### Photo Log:

Name of Property:	SS. Cyril and Methodius Historic District	nd Methodius Historic District			
City or Vicinity:	St. Louis [Independent City]				
County: St. Louis	s [Independent City] State: MO				
Photographer:	Laura Aldenderfer (unless otherwise noted)				
Date Photographed:	July 1980 (unless otherwise noted)				

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

- 1 of 19. S side of 1100 blk. of Chambers St. (Corner of Chambers & 12<sup>th</sup> in foreground). Photo taken by unknown, fall 1960.
- 2 of 19. SS. Cyril and Methodius Polish National Catholic Church (2205 N. 11<sup>th</sup> St.). Façade and N elevation, facing NW. Photo taken by Mary M. Stiritz, Apr. 1980.
- 3 of 19. SS. Cryil and Methodius Polish National Catholic Church, interior view of main alter. Photo taken by unknown, 1960. Photocopy from original owned by T. Bratkowski.
- 4 of 19. Glassford-Bernay House (1102-04 Chambers St.), facing E.
- 5 of 19. William Stone House, (1114 Chambers St.) facing SW.
- 6 of 19. 1120-26 Chambers St., S side streetscape, facing SW.
- 7 of 19. 1122-26 Chambers St., facing S. Photo taken by Mary M. Stiritz, Apr. 1980.
- 8 of 19. Paris Mason House, (1210 Chambers St.) facing E.
- 9 of 19. Charles McCord House (1126 Chambers St.) W elevation, facing SE. Photo taken by Anne Voss, winter 1979.
- 10 of 19. N side of Tyler St. (1125-1111), facing NE. Photo taken by Mary M. Stiritz, Apr. 1980.
- 11 of 19. Charles Grove House (1115 Tyler St.) facing NE.
- 12 of 19. John Rubelman House (1111 Tyler St.) facing N.
- 13 of 19. William Barlow House & Office (1103-1101 Tyler St.) W elevation, facing NE. Photo taken by Mary M. Stiritz, Apr. 1980.
- 14 of 19. Robert Amyx Residence & Office (1943 N. 11th St.) S elevation, facing NW.
- 15 of 19. Tyler Estate Apartments (1114-24 Tyler St.) W elevation, facing E. Photo taken by Mary M. Stiritz, Apr. 1980.
- 16 of 19. 1120 Tyler St, detail of entrance.
- 17 of 19. Tieklemeyer House (1200 Tyler St.) E elevation, facing SW.
- 18 of 19. 1207 & 1211 Tyler St., facing NW.
- 19 of 19. Plate #45, Richard J. Compton and Camille N. Dry, <u>Pictorial St. Louis</u> (St. Louis: 1875; reprint ed., 1971).





































