Form No. 10-300 REV. (9/77)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

PHO698377

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 28 1979
DATE ENTERED SEP 12 1979

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

St. Ferdinand City Multiple Resource Area

HISTORIC AND/OR COMMON: Historic Resources of the City of St. Ferdinand (Partial Inventory: Historic and Architectural Properties)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: Approximately 156 city blocks in central Florissant, Missouri bounded by the approximate limits of the City of St. Ferdinand from 1857 to 1939.

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN: Florissant __VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: #9 - Hon. Harold L. Volkmer

STATE: Missouri CODE: 029 COUNTY: St. Louis CODE: 189

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	X MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	__PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	X COMMERCIAL	X PARK
__STRUCTURE	X BOTH	X WORK IN PROGRESS	X EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	X RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	X GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
X Multiple Resources	__BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		X NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Multiple Ownership

STREET & NUMBER:

CITY, TOWN: __VICINITY OF STATE:

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: St. Louis County Recorder of Deeds, St. Louis County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER: 41 South Central

CITY, TOWN: Clayton STATE: Missouri 63105

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: A. Surveys of local Florissant districts and areas:

1. This multiple resource nomination based on Florissant-City Survey, Phases 1-5

DATE: 1970-1974, 1978 __FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY X LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Office of City Clerk, City Hall, 955 Rue St. Francois

CITY, TOWN: Florissant STATE: Missouri 63031

2. Missouri, A Guide to the Show-Me State
1941 state
Missouri State Highway Department and
the Work Projects Administration
published by: Duell, Sloan and Pearce
New York New York

3. A Report Upon the Appearance of the City, Florissant, Missouri
1961 local
Harland Bartholomew and Associates, City Planners
317 North Eleventh Street
St. Louis Missouri 63101

4. St. Louis County Historic Buildings Survey
1965 local
Kenneth Coombs and Robert Elgin, Architects
18 East Eleventh Street
Kansas City Missouri for the
Historic Buildings Commission
St. Louis County Department of Parks and
Recreation
7900 Forsyth
Clayton Missouri 63105

5. Florissant Old Town Survey
1967 local
Leo A. Daly Comprehensive Services
3207 Olive
St. Louis Missouri 63101

6. 100 Historic Buildings in St. Louis County
1970 local
Historic Buildings Commission
St. Louis County Department of Parks and
Recreation
7900 Forsyth
Clayton Missouri 63105

7. Old Town Development Plan
1970 local
Team Four, Inc., Urban Design and Planning
203 North Meramec
St. Louis Missouri 63105

8. Missouri State Historical Survey
1970-1979 state
Office of Historic Preservation
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City Missouri 65102

B. Individual listings of Florissant properties:

9. Missouri's Contribution to American Architecture
St. Ferdinand's Shrine, Convent wing (#4 in Multiple Resource Area, see Plan 4)
1928 state
St. Louis Architectural Club
St. Louis Missouri

10. Historic American Building Survey
St. Ferdinand's Shrine, Church and Convent wing (3 and 4, see Plan 4)
1941 federal
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington D.C. 20243

11. Missouri Historic Sites Catalogue
St. Ferdinand's Shrine, Church and Convent wing (3 and 4) Casa Alvarez (23), Kuehn House (116) (see Plans 3 and 4)
1963 state
State Historical Society of Missouri
Hitt and Lowry Streets
Columbia Missouri 65201

12. Old St. Louis Homes
St. Ferdinand's Shrine, Rectory wing (2), Casa Alvarez (23), August Aubuchon House (78) (see Plans 3 and 4)
1964 local
published by: Folkstone Press
St. Louis Missouri

13. A Tour of North St. Louis County
St. Ferdinand's Shrine (2, 3 and 4), Casa Alvarez (23) (see Plans 3 and 4)
1967 local
Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Missouri, Inc.
611 Olive Street
St. Louis Missouri 63101

14. The Building Art in St. Louis
St. Ferdinand's Shrine (2, 3 and 4), Casa Alvarez (23) (see Plans 3 and 4)
1967 local
St. Louis Chapter, American Institute of Architects
107 North Seventh
St. Louis Missouri 63101

15. Advisory List to the National Register of Historic Places
St. Ferdinand's Shrine (2, 3 and 4, see Plan 4)
1969 federal
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington D.C. 20243

16. 100 Historic Buildings in St. Louis County
Baptiste Aubuchon House (98), St. Ferdinand's Shrine (2, 3 and 4), Kienstra House (45), Garrett House (64), Laramie House (34), Casa Alvarez (23), Archambault House (27), Aubuchon-Herbst House (67), Schmidt House (107), August Aubuchon House (78), Narrow Gauge Station (102), Hendel's Market (26) (see Plans 3, 4 and 5)
1970 local
Historic Buildings Commission
St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation
7900 Forsyth
Clayton Missouri 63105

17. Illustrated Guide to the Treasures of America
St. Ferdinand's Shrine (2, 3 and 4, see Plan 4)
1974
published by: Reader's Digest
Pleasantville New York 10570

18. National Register of Historic Places
Casa Alvarez (23), Archambault House (27),
Baptiste Aubuchon House (98) (see Plans
3, 4 and 5)
1976 federal
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington D.C. 20243

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	X DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__ RUINS	X ALTERED	X MOVED DATE_____
X FAIR	__ UNEXPOSED		Properties 10 and 102

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The City of St. Ferdinand Multiple Resource Area, located in the center of the oldest section of the present city of Florissant, Missouri, encompasses approximately 156 city blocks and encloses the approximate area of the City of St. Ferdinand, as Florissant was previously known from 1857 to 1939. Its rolling terrain slopes from a high point centered on Sacred Heart Church and Convent, near the center of the area, toward both the southeast and northwest, terminating on NW at Coldwater Creek and the Shrine of St. Ferdinand. Due to this arrangement, the spires of both Sacred Heart Church on Jefferson Street and the former Church of St. Ferdinand on Coldwater Creek are visual focal points and distinguish the older section of town from its newer surroundings. The City of St. Ferdinand as a whole has no single period of outstanding historical significance but rather should be approached as an entity which illustrates broad architectural and historical development from the period of Spanish and French colonization, through the nineteenth century, with its periods of German immigration and urban expansion and emigration from St. Louis, to the present day. Properties survive from all significant styles and periods which can be used to trace this development both historically and architecturally.

This Multiple Resource Area comprises 124 historically significant properties ranging in date from 1790 to 1940. Though the area is primarily residential in character and features 93 single family dwellings, a small commercial area survives located along Rue St. Francois from the 200 to the 600 block which includes 15 significant commercial buildings. In addition, this Multiple Resource Area includes one government building, 2 educational buildings, 7 ecclesiastical buildings, and 6 additional commercial buildings.

This Multiple Resource Area is plotted in a grid with its streets running from northeast to southwest and from northwest to southeast and was originally laid out with respect to the intermittent stream, Coldwater Creek, which runs along its northwest border. Its homogeneity has been somewhat altered by the substantial widening of the Rue. St. Ferdinand and New Florissant Road and by the construction of U.S. Highway #67 through the extreme northwest corner of the grid. Within this grid, however, the grid of the original town of St. Ferdinand de Fleurissant, which was founded by the Spanish about 1787, does survive in the areas bordered by Coldwater Creek to the northwest, Rue St. Catherine to the southwest, Rue St. Jacques to the southeast and Rue St. Antoine to the northeast (see Plan 1).[1] By 1793 the Commons and Commonfields which surround the town on all sides were granted verbally (see Plan 2),[2] and slowly the expansion of the town began to the southwest, southeast and northeast as the Commons were unofficially settled. By 1857 the city charter was granted by the state legislature to the City of St. Ferdinand, and the city was given the right to dispose of its Commons which had already been settled to some degree.[3] At this date the City of St. Ferdinand officially assumed the extended grid plan and the general outline employed as the limits for this Multiple Resource Area (see Plan 3).[4]

The City of St. Ferdinand is characterized by large wooded lots with a predominance of open space, narrow streets and few curb sidewalks outside of the commercial area on Rue St. Francois. Structural density is light, even in the commercial area. This is due not only to Florissant's characteristically open lots but also to the number of buildings lost in recent years especially along the Rue St. Francois. One such lot, northwest of the DeLisle Building (81), has become a park. Because it adds to the city's characteristic open space, it has not been here listed as an intrusion. Though density was once heavier in this commercial area, it has always been light in the city's residential areas. The appearance of the latter today is similar to that of the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Residential buildings are constructed primarily in frame while the government, ecclesiastical and commercial buildings are primarily of brick construction. Their conditions range from very good to excellent in the vast majority of cases, to good, fair and poor (see Chart A). A few log structures, employing both poteaux sur sole and horizontal, shaped log construction techniques survive. Foundations range from rubble, cut stone and brick for older buildings to brick or concrete for more recent constructions.

Building styles in the City of St. Ferdinand range from log cabins and simple vernacular structures to local renderings of Gothic and Romanesque Revivals with examples of Federal, Greek Revival, Missouri French, Missouri German, Second Empire and Moderne styles included. Major local building periods correspond to the arrival of German immigrants in the mid-nineteenth century and to the expansion of St. Louis and the surrounding towns in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Most characteristic of this area are buildings which exhibit some form of classically derived detailing from the very simple boxed gable and portico porch as seen on the Boal House [Plan 3, 104] to the restrained yet ornate detailing as seen on the Moller House [Plan 3, 106]. Another characteristic type is the Missouri French style house which is usually of frame construction with a broad, frontal galerie supported by columns or piers and enclosed beneath the projection of the gabled roof. In the City of St. Ferdinand surviving examples of this style run the temporal gamut from the earliest construction, Casa Alvarez [Plan 3, (23)] (1790) to the post-Depression era, Barteau House [Plan 3, (113)] (1937), and form an important cohesive factor both visually and architecturally throughout the entire area. This characteristic style, which probably derives from the Creole architecture of New Orleans which was known to the early settlers of the area, remains important and provided the basis for a building renaissance of sorts in the 1920's and 1930's in the City of St. Ferdinand (see Chart A).[5]

Two historic districts have been designated within the Multiple Resource Area:

District #1 - St. Ferdinand's Shrine Historic District: This district is located near the northwest extreme of the Multiple Resource Area with its boundaries delineated as follows:

A rectangle enclosing 88,776 square feet (approximately 2 acres), measuring 274' along its southeast and northwest sides and 324' along the southwest and northeast, bordered on the southeast by the western bank of Fountain Creek, on the northeast by a straight line running northwest to southeast through a line of shrubbery 45' northeast of the north wall of the Convent wing, on the northwest by a straight line running from the northeast to the southwest through a line of trees 91' northwest of the exterior wall of the choir of St. Ferdinand Church, and on the southwest by a straight line running northwest to southeast, 50' southwest of the southwest wall of St. Ferdinand's School along an imaginary line through the center of the parking lot and just to the northeast of a parked trailer and the new Knights of Columbus Hall (see Plan 4).

This area is part of the V formed by the confluence of Coldwater Creek and Fountain Creek, and the sparsely wooded, open, sloping nature of its terrain echoes something of the original nature of its surroundings. This district, which owes its significance not only to its architectural character but also to its place in the early history of Florissant and several Catholic movements in the United States, includes the following buildings. Numbers given correspond to those on the District plan (Plan 4).

1. St. Ferdinand's School, 1888 (second floor slightly later). This two story brick building was constructed by Goesse and Remmers, Contractors, and is a classic example of the Missouri German style with its segmentally arched windows and ornate cornice.[6] It is in excellent condition.

2. Chapel of the Blessed Virgin (Rectory), 1842. This brick Federal style addition to St. Ferdinand's Church was originally built as a one story chapel for the Ladies of the Sacred Heart who occupied the nearby Convent of the Sacred Heart (4). Later, it was enlarged to two stories and served as a Rectory for the Church. It now serves as a museum.

3. Church of St. Ferdinand, 1821. The rear section is the oldest part of this brick building and it was built contiguous with the already existing Convent of the Sacred Heart (4). During the pastorate of Father Hayden (1877-1884) the church was enlarged to its present size, its steeple was built and the stained glass windows installed, giving the building its present Italian Romanesque Revival character. In 1958 the church and its associated buildings lost parish status and its name was changed to Old St. Ferdinand's Shrine to distinguish it from the new Church of St. Ferdinand which was constructed elsewhere at that time. Fire in 1966 caused by lightening prompted and necessitated reconstruction and restoration.[7]

4. Convent of the Sacred Heart (1819). This 2 1/2 story brick, Federal style building was the first in this district to be constructed. It was built under the direction of Father Joseph Dunand for the Sister Philippine Duchesne and the Sisters of the Sacred Heart as the first Convent to that order in the USA.

There are no intrusions in this district. See photos, District #1.

District #2 - St. Ferdinand Central Historic District: This district is located within 7 city blocks and parts of 11 others just to the northwest of the center of the Multiple Resource Area with its boundaries delineated as follows:

The area enclosed by a line which begins at the center point on SE side of Block 25, Old Town, and proceeds NE, 160' to corner, crosses Rue St. Francois and continues along SE side of Block 21, Old Town for 240', turns to SE and crosses Lafayette Street and continues 160' into Block 22, Old Town, turns NE and continues 80' to Rue St. Louis, turns NW and runs along NE side of Block 22, Old Town 160' to corner, turns NE and crosses Rue St. Louis and continues along NW side of Block 14, New Town for 57', turns SE for 160', turns NE for 103', turns NW for 160' to Lafayette Street, crosses Lafayette Street to SE side of Block 13, New Town, turns NE and runs 160' to corner, runs NW along NE side of Block 13, New Town for 263', turns NE and crosses Rue St. Denis and continues 131' into Block 12, New Town, turns NW for 57' to Jefferson Street, turns NE and runs 29' along NW side of Block 12, New Town, turns NW, crosses Jefferson Street and continues 105' into Block 10, Old Town, turns SW for 160' to Rue St. Denis, crosses Rue St. Denis, turns NW and runs 215' along NE side of Block 11, Old Town to Rue St. Jacques, crosses Rue St. Jacques at its former location and continues NW 228' along NE side of Block 12, Old Town, turns NE, crosses Rue St. Denis and continues 74' into Block 9, Old Town turns NW and runs 92' to Rue St. Jean, turns SW and runs along NW side of Block 9, Old Town 74' to corner, crosses Rue St. Denis and continues along NW side of Block 12, Old Town, for 160', turns NW and crosses Rue St. Jean and continues 320' bisecting Block 13, Old Town, to Rue St. Pierre turns SW and continues along NW side of Block 13, Old Town 160' to corner, turns NW and crosses Rue St. Pierre and continues 160' along SW side of Block 14, Old Town 160', turns NE for 160', NW for 57', then SW for 160' to Rue St. Louis, crosses Rue St. Louis and turns SE for 57' along NE side of Block 17, Old Town, turns SW and continues into Block 17, Old Town for 160', turns NW for 160' to Rue St. Ferdinand, turns SW and continues along Block 17 160' to corner, crosses Rue St. Francois to Block 29, Old Town and runs along NW side of Block 29 to SW 160', turns to SE and bisects Block 29 to Rue St. Pierre, crosses Rue St. Pierre, bisects Block 28, Old Town to Rue St. Jean, turns NE for 160' running along SE

side of Block 28 to corner, crosses Rue St. Francois turns SE, crosses Rue St. Jean and continues 80' along SW side of Block 19, Old Town, turns to NE for 160.5', turns to SW for 30', turns to NE for 160.5', to Rue St. Louis, continues along NE side of Block 19, Old Town for 210' to corner, turns to SW and turns along SE side of Block 19, Old Town for 321' to corner, turns to SE, crosses Rue St. Jacques, continues 321' along SW side of Block 20, Old Town 320' to Jefferson Street, crosses Jefferson Street, continues 114' along SW side of Block 21, Old Town, turns to SW and crosses Rue St. Francois and continues 160.5' into Block 25, Old Town, turns SE and runs 207' through center of Block 25 to Lafayette Street and beginning point. In four instances these boundaries are extended from the core to include individual properties at 401 Rue St. Denis, 249 Rue St. Louis, 760 Lafayette and 649 Lafayette. Inclusion of these properties within the boundaries of this district can be justified not only by the character of their architectural natures, which is homogeneous with the district as a whole, but also by the situations of the each of these buildings on its property. Each faces and visually relates to at least one of the three focal areas of the district, the Sacred Heart Church complex on Jefferson Street, (Block 11, Old Town), the residential area on Rue St. Louis and the commercial neighborhood on Rue St. Francois.

Due to its situation at the highest geographical point in the area, Sacred Heart Church, its spire and the trees and grounds surrounding them dominate the Central District and firmly separate this older section of Florissant from its modern surroundings. Missouri German and Vernacular Commercial, both in brick, are popular styles here for commercial structures while Missouri French and Neoclassical derivatives in frame form the bulk of the residential structures. Especially notable examples of several styles will be highlighted below with an *.

One building in this district has previously been enrolled on the National Register:

27. Archambault House

Other buildings in the St. Ferdinand Central Historic District are as follows. The numbers given correspond to those on Plan 5:

24. Moynihan House, 401 St. Denis, 1890. This frame example of the Missouri French style has had three periods of addition, all to the rear.

*26. Hendel's Market, 599 St. Denis, 1873. This Federal style grocery with front portico assumed its present character in 1888 when it was enlarged to its present size. It holds a prominent position in the district due to its proximity to the Sacred Heart complex (36, 37, 38 and 39) to southwest and the Archambault House (27) immediately to the southeast. Two small non-contributing sheds are located to the rear of the lot.

30. Tricamo House, 249 St. Louis, ca. 1900. This vernacular frame house bears the minimum of classical detailing in its entablature window heads and its gabled roof. A small non-contributing shed is to the rear.

*31. Brand House, 305 St. Louis, ca. 1845. This frame house, though covered with modern siding, bears remnants of its former Greek Revival glory in its pedimented gable with return, its cornice modillions and its transomed and side lighted main entrance. A small non-contributing shed is to the rear.

*32. Henke House, 385 St. Louis, ca. 1860. One of the finest Greek Revival examples in the area, in spite of its recent treatment with composition siding, this frame house boasts the finest cornice modillions in town.

33. William Timme House, 389 St. Louis, 1928. This substantial bungalow in brick contributes to the cohesion of the district and helps illustrate its temporal continuity. A non-contributing two-car garage is to the rear.

34. Laramie House, 405 St. Louis, ca. 1880. This frame house has a classical flavor with its central gable and its entablature window heads. Further embellishment includes its Eastlake porch woodwork and its patterned and painted porch base. A non-contributing shed is located to the rear of the lot.

35. Bippen House, 410 St. Denis, 1925. This frame house in the Missouri French style is one of several included to show the continuity of this style throughout the history of Florissant architecture. A small non-contributing shed is located to the rear.

36. Sacred Heart Rectory, 751 Jefferson, 1924. This vernacular structure in brick is part of the Sacred Heart complex which forms one of the focal points in the district. Its quaint style, punctuated by lighter stone details, windows grouped in three's and a tripartite extended bay on its primary facade, is vaguely reminiscent of the English country architecture of the English architect, Richard Norman Shaw.

*37. Sacred Heart Convent, 751 Jefferson, 1904. This brick building combines characteristics of the Missouri German style with Gothic Revival detailing in the central gable and porch woodwork on the primary facade.

*38. Sacred Heart Church, 751 Jefferson, 1893. This Gothic Revival church in brick is the most substantial architectural example in the area and forms the major focal point around which the rest of the Central District seems to revolve.

*39. Herz Jesu Schule, 751 Jefferson, 1889. This brick building is another fine example of Missouri German architecture. It mirrors the style of the Sacred Heart Convent to the southwest and, with it, balances the block's appearance.

*40. Griese House, 700 Jefferson, 1858. This fine example of Missouri German architecture in brick has recently been remodeled into apartments. It has had several additions made to the rear, and the entrance and first floor windows have been altered on the primary facade. A non-contributing garage is located to the rear.

41. Foeller House, 750 Jefferson, 1930. This substantial brick bungalow sits across the street from the Sacred Heart Complex. It contributes to the tranquil residential nature of the area and is architecturally in tune with the other brick buildings in the area. A non-contributing garage is located to the rear.

42. Knobbe House, 771 Lafayette, 1925. This frame bungalow exhibits characteristics in tune with the Missouri French architecture of the district and can be considered a contributing structure. A non-contributing shed is located to the rear.

43. Anthony Timme House, 741 Lafayette, 1936. This cottage bungalow in brick and its matching garage contribute to the character of the neighborhood. It is of a fairly recent type common in Florissant, though it is the only example to be cited in this survey. A small non-contributing shed is located to the rear.

*44. Wesling House, 701 Lafayette, 1918. This frame box exhibits classical detailing only in the area of its pilastered porch. It is one of the most substantial residences in the district. A small non-contributing shed is located to the rear and a larger non-contributing garage is to the northeast.

45. Kienstra House, 760 Lafayette, ca. 1810. This horizontal log house with clapboard surface treatment assumed its Missouri French character around the turn of the century when the front porch was built and other additions were made. A small non-contributing shed is located to the rear.

51. Albers House, 606 St. Ferdinand, 1890. This vernacular frame house exhibits classical detailing in its entablature window heads and in the grouped columns on its front porch. Two small, non-contributing sheds are located to the rear.

52. Waelfle Store, 221 St. Francois, 1910. This parapeted, brick, commercial vernacular building is highlighted by a central gable with label stops and a pseudo-oeil de boeuf. The section to the northwest was added in 1930.

53. Cozort Store, 225 St. Francois, 1867. This small, frame vernacular commercial building is the oldest structure of this type in the district.

54. Weidinger House, 297 St. Francois, 1900. This building was probably constructed in a vernacular style, but it has been remodeled with the addition of composition stone to something resembling a bungalow.

55. Weidinger's Tavern, 297 St. Francois, 1900. This commercial vernacular building was constructed with Weidinger House (54) and altered in the same manner at the same time.

56. Kenow House, 659 St. Pierre, ca. 1870. This simple vernacular house contributes to the character of the area because of its age and is characteristic of the working class architecture of the town.

57. Nemnich House, 667 St. Pierre, 1865 (southwest portion), 1882 (northeast portion). This Greek Revival example in brick was originally constructed as a single family dwelling and now serves as a duplex. Its style is revealed in its gable with return and in the modillions which line its cornice and which are now hidden beneath modern boxing. A small, non-contributing shed is located to the rear.

58. Raymond Aubuchon House and Barn, 290 St. Louis, 1897. This vernacular frame building with its vaguely classical moldings and simple portico porch survives with its barn and provides a glimpse of the usual lot arrangement of Florissant's former agricultural era.

*59. B. and J. Sheet Metal, 301 St. Francois, 1885. This fine example of Missouri German architecture in brick was constructed as a combination residence and store. The present storefront was added in 1953 but is harmonious with the structure.

60. Laramie's Store, 307 St. Francois, 1930. This brick, vernacular commercial storefront now forms a significant addition to the commercial area on St. Francois in spite of its relatively recent date.

61. Young Woman's Christian Association (LeHoullier Building), 315 St. Francois, 1886. This brick vernacular commercial building originally opened onto St. Francois. It has been altered and a large addition stretches to the northeast, but in its central location it still adds significantly to the district.

62. Montaigne House, 306 St. Louis, 1857. This brick house was originally built with only one story and had vaguely classical details which caused it to resemble the Otto Ripple Agency (77). It assumed its present size and Federal style around 1900. A small, non-contributing shed is located to the rear.

63. Ebbesmeyer House, 380 St. Louis, ca. 1880. This vernacular frame house recalls distant classical influences with its three gables and its spindle colonnaded porch. A small, non-contributing shed is located to the rear.

*64. Garrett House, 406 St. Louis, 1890. This vernacular frame house features classical detailing in its Ionic portico porch. Only its central core is original construction. A small non-contributing shed is located to the rear.

65. Schiermeier House, 405 St. Francois, 1890. This frame vernacular house features classical detailing in its entablature window heads and in its gable with return. It was remodeled in 1954 into a two family dwelling. A small, non-contributing shed is located to the rear.

66. Matthews House, 674 St. Jacques, 1920. This stucco-on-frame bungalow is a contributing structure to the district. Two small, non-contributing sheds are located to the rear.

*67. Aubuchon-Herbst House, 657 Jefferson, 1790. This is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Florissant and features poteaux sur sole construction. It has been altered, but its construction is still clearly visible in several places on the interior. A small, non-contributing shed is located to the rear.

68. Weishaar House, 653 Jefferson, 1924. This frame bungalow is located in the Sacred Heart area and is a contributing building to the district. A small, non-contributing shed is located to the rear.

69. Behlmann House, 649 Jefferson, 1928. This brick bungalow is located in the Sacred Heart area and is a contributing building to the district.

70. Fleck's, 601-607 Jefferson, 1904. This Missouri German, brick commercial building was altered on its main facade in 1960.

*71. Kohuen Law Office, 650 Jefferson, 1915. This exceptional frame bungalow is surfaced with clapboards and stucco. It has had minimal interior alterations. A small, non-contributing shed is located to the rear.

*72. Florissant Police Station Annex, 619 St. Francois, 1870. This simple, Romanesque Revival building features round arched windows and a denticulated cornice. The addition for the fire department to the southeast was built in 1919 in the same style. Further addition to the rear were made later.

73. Millman House and Barn, 693 Lafayette, 1887. The central gable and open portico porch give this vernacular frame house a classical favor. A simple vernacular barn is to the rear along with a small, non-contributing shed. A frame addition to the northeast has a shallow mansard roof.

74. Millman House, 649 Lafayette, 1885. This simple vernacular frame house gains a classical feel from its central gable, though the vergeboard on that gable, the spindle porch columns and the scalloped apron on the porch roof derive from another inspiration. A small non-contributing shed is to the rear.

75. Florissant Valley Reporter Building, 699 St. Francois, 1905. This brick building was originally constructed in a commercial vernauclar style and was altered to its present classically derivative appearance in 1926.

76. Crets House, 694 Lafayette, 1912. This later frame version of the Missouri French style had part of its porch closed off in 1937. A small, non-contributing shed is to the rear.

80. Groth Auto Parts, 200 St. Francois, 1940. This is the most recent building to be included in the district, but its Art Moderne style is unique in the area and it contributes to the commercial area on St. Francois. It is constructed of yellow and maroon glazed brick and originally served as a service station.

81. DeLisle Building and Park, 298 St. Francois, 1880. This commercial vernacular building was originally constructed as a saloon and restaurant. A small park with picnic tables stretches to the sides and rear of the property.

82. Schuler Building, 302-304 St. Francois, 1908 (northwest half) and 1922. This simple commercial vernacular building with its stylistically similar addition adds significantly to the commercial district on St. Francois.

83. Schuler House, 306 St. Francois, 1904. This vernacular frame house shows classical affinities with its returned gables and heavy modillioned cornice. Its tiny size blends well with its neighbor to the southeast, the Stephan House (84).

84. Stephan House, 310 St. Francois, 1909. This simple vernacular frame house features classically inspired entablature window heads and a spindled porch.

85. Roy's Barber Shop and Residence, 320-326 St. Francois, 1915. This vernacular frame building has as its only feature its central gable which gives a vaguely classical feeling.

86. Spangler Pest Control, 330 St. Francois, 1907. This frame box has been considerably altered in recent years but it continues to add to the character of the commercial area of St. Francois. A non-contributing garage is to the rear.

88. Doll's House, 620 St. Francois, 1905. This frame commercial vernacular building had an addition to its rear in 1945.

89. Faith Fellowship Church, 646 St. Francois, 1890-1895. This rectangular, one story, frame meeting house has recently been painted and somewhat altered. Its original classically derived style is revealed, however, in the pedimented lintels over the louvered panels in the helm-roofed steeple and in its entablature window heads.

90. Wiethaupt Store, 650 St. Francois, 1880. This Missouri German example in brick was originally constructed in a simple vernacular style and was given its present form around the turn of the century. It has a small harmonious addition to the rear and a fine old frame shed with a stone foundation to the rear of the lot.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF INTRUSIONS IN DISTRICT #2 -- ST. FERDINAND CENTRAL HISTORIC DISTRICT (see Plan 5)

A. 337 St. Louis -- Owner: Stella M. Port, 337 St. Louis, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 13, Old Town, lot 08J51-1080

B. Duplex hehind 385 St. Louis -- Owner: Bernard Henke, 385 St. Louis, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 13, Old Town, NE 1/2 of lot 08J42-0669, beginning on a line running NW to SE approximately 80' NE of Rue St. Louis and extending NE to boundary line of lot approximately 160.5' from Rue St. Louis.

C. 402 St. Denis -- Owner: Paul and Charlene Rodzom, Jr., 819 St. Ferdinand, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 12, Old Town, lot 08J42-0681

D. 409 St. Louis -- Owner: Raymond and Dorthy Laramie, 409 St. Louis, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 12, Old Town, lot 08J42-0582

E. 501 St. Louis (playground) -- Owner: Rev. John J. Carberry, 4140 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63108
VBD: Block 12, Old Town, lot 08J42-0614 and NE area of original Rue St. Jacques between Rue St. Louis and Rue St. Denis and between Block 11, Old Town and Block 12, Old Town.

F. 501 St. Louis (school) -- Owner: Rev. John J. Carberry, 4140 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63108
VBD: Block 12, Old Town, lot 08J42-0937; and SW area of original Rue St. Jacques between Rue St. Denis and Rue St. Louis, and between Block 11, Old Town, and Block 12, Old Town; and including the SW 1/4 of Block 11, Old Town.

G. 751 Jefferson (parking shed) -- Owner: Rev. John J. Carberry, 4140 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63108
VBD: Block 11, Old Town, NE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of lot 08J42-0537, running NW to SE and extending approximately 60' along Rue St. Denis, in a rectangular shape, approximately 15' deep.

H. 790 Jefferson -- Owner: Robert and Beatrice Timme, 790 Jefferson, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 13, Old Town, lot 08J42-0526

I. 770 Jefferson -- Owner: Joseph and Margaret Foeller, 770 Jefferson, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 13, Old Town, lot 08J42-0494

J. 730 Jefferson -- Owner: Elmer and Marion Laraine, 730 Jefferson, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 13, Old Town, lot 08J42-0427

K. Shed behind 225 St. Francois -- Owner: William Cozort, 4852 Bristol Rock, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 17, Old Town, NE 1/2 of lot 08J41-0290, beginning on a line running NW to SE approximately 85' NE of St. Francois and extending NE to boundary line of lot approximately 160.5' from St. Francois.

L. House behind 667 St. Pierre -- Owner: Hary and Barbara Nemnich, 667 St. Pierre, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 17, Old Town, lot 08J41-0769, excluding SE 1/4 and SW 1/4 of SE 1/4 of lot.

M. 300 St. Louis -- Owner: Edward and Nancy Kiel, 300 St. Louis, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 18, Old Town, lot 08J41-0703

N. 330 St. Louis -- Owner: Joseph and Christine Knobbee, 301 Dunn Rd., Hazelwood, Mo. 63042
VBD: Block 18, Old Town, lot 08J41-0637

O. 370 St. Louis -- Owner: Thomas and Alice Ortwig, 370 St. Louis, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 18, Old Town, lot 08J42-0780

P. Vacant lot on NW side of 315 St. Francois -- Owner: YWCA, 315 St. Francois, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 18, Old Town, lot 08J41-0538

Q. Vacant lot on SE side of 315 St. Francois -- Owner: YWCA, 315 St. Francois, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 18, Old Town, lot 08J42-0515

R. 690 St. Jacques -- Owner: Frank Stiemel, 690 St. Jacques, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 20, Old Town, lot 08J42-0395

S. 505 St. Francois -- Owner: St. Francois Investment Co. Corp., 525 St. Francois, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 20, Old Town, lot 08J42-0328

T. Parking Lot NW of 601 Jefferson -- Owner: Joseph Dwyer, 601 Jefferson, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 20, Old Town, NW 1/2 of lot 08J42-0252

U. 617 Jefferson -- Owner: Clarence and Stella Kohnen, 617 Jefferson, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 20, Old Town, lot 08J42-0285

V. 696 Jefferson -- Owner: Peter Bastean, 1215 Teson Rd., Hazelwood, Mo. 63042
VBD: Block 21, Old Town, lot 08J42-0296

W. 619 St. Francois -- Owner: City of Florissant, City Hall, 955 St. Francois, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 20, Old Town, NW 1/2 of lot 08J42-0791

X. Parking Lot N of 679 St. Francois -- Owner: Josephine Gettemeier, 1535 St. Denis, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 21, Old Town, lot 08J42-0164

Y. Parking Lot NW of 627, 629, 631 St. Francois -- Owner: City of Florissant Municipal Corp., 623 St. Francois, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 21, Old Town, lot 08J42-0175

Z. 627, 269, 631 St. Francois -- Owner: Bernard and Audrey Nessing, 15905 Old Jamestown Rd., Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 21, Old Town, lot 08J42-0120, excluding a rectangular lot running 42' along St. Francois from the corner and approximately 73' from corner N along Lafayette in the SE quarter of lot.

ZZ. 210 St. Francois -- Owner: Florissant Valley Sheltered Workshop, 210 St. Francois, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 29, Old Town, lot 08J41-0527

ZY. 550 St. Pierre -- Owner: Alfred and Rozetta Schuler, 15 Locust Drive, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 28, Old Town, SW 1/4 and SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of lot 08J41-0439

ZX. 316 St. Francois -- Owner: John and Ruby Lee, 316 St. Francois, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 28, Old Town, SE 1/2 of lot 08J41-0406

ZW. 328 St. Francois -- Owner: Robert Sassenrath, 328 St. Francois, Florissant, Mo. 63031
VBD: Block 28, Old Town, a rectangle in the NE 1/4 of lot 08J41-0352, extending from a point approximately 20' from St. Francois running to a point approximately 60' from St. Francois along the SE boundary of lot and extending approximately 23' NW into lot.

The remaining properties in the Multiple Resource Area represent a variety of styles and periods similar to those in District #2. Their descriptions follow with numbers corresponding to those on Plan 3.

Two buildings in this area have previously been enrolled on the National Register:

23. Casa Alvarez
98. Baptiste Aubuchon House

The remainder include:

5. Spanish Land Grant Park, lot 15, Old Town, granted 1794. This area was the original site of the Place d'Armes, a cemetery and the first church in Florissant. The latter was built in the SE quarter in the 1780's and was destroyed by fire in 1836. The burial ground was used until 1876. Even though the City Council ordered all the bodies to be moved to a new cemetery in 1900, many still remain in the cemetery on the SE side of the block.

6. Burche House, 1089 St. Jacques, 1924. This Missouri French frame house adds to the district and illustrates the continuity of this style in Florissant.

7. Marvin Tebeau House, 449 St. Joseph, 1924. This is another Missouri French frame house which illustrates the longevity of this style here.

8. Perkins House, 503 St. Joseph, 1840. This vernacular frame house has the familiar and vaguely classical central gable on its main facade, entablature window heads and a spindle posted front porch.

9. Frank Moellering House, 1002 Boone, 1833. This horizontal log cabin has been covered with aluminum siding in recent years and given two front, spindled porches.

10. Uzzell House, 915 St. Joseph, ca. 1880. This small frame vernacular, which is now covered with composition shingles, was originally the summer meat and wash house for the family in 1002 Boone (9). The house was moved from its former location near that house and put on a foundation here at an unknown date.

11. Tricamo House, 1089 New Florissant Road, ca. 1850. The original section of this house is of horizontal log construction and is located to the rear. Two additions have been made in frame, the last being the front of the house in about 1890. The building is presently covered with composition siding.

12. Wesling House, 1171 St. Michael, 1890. This frame vernacular is another vaguely classical Florissant example with its gabled roof and its portico porch.

13. Majers House, 1191 St. Michael, 1880. This vernacular frame example features a gabled roof and entablature window heads. Its front is dominated by a spindled and jig-saw decorated portico porch.

14. Argent House, 1085 Castello, ca. 1850. This vernacular example is constructed primarily of horizontally placed logs with several frame additions. It is currently covered with wood shingles.

15. Laramie House, 1070 Castello, 1900. This simple frame vernacular features a classically derived return gable.

16. Otten House, 905 Jefferson, 1910. This 1 1/2 story frame box features a classically derived central doorway on its major facade and entablature window heads.

17. Fogorty House, 609 St. Antoine, 1832. This frame vernacular has had several additions to its rear.

18. Meyer House, 915 Lafayette, 1922. This frame Missouri French example illustrates the temporal continuity of this style and helps define its Florissant manifestations. It represents the renaissance of this style here in the 1920's and 1930's.

19. Hubecky House, 917 Lafayette, 1922. This frame Missouri French example helps define the type and represents the renaissance of this style in this town in the 1920's and 1930's.

20. Behle Store, 900 Lafayette, 1900. This vernacular commercial frame example is of a simple type common to small towns like Florissant.

21. Schoonover House, 983 St. Antoine, 1925. This frame Missouri French house illustrates the tenacity of this style in this town and represents the renaissance of this style here in the 1920's and 1930's.

22. Bouas House, 1290 St. Joseph, 1850. This frame Missouri French example has had additions made to the rear and new foundations added.

25. Lance House, 508 St. Antoine, 1834. This very simple version of the Missouri French style is constructed of frame and has had its galerie closed in to make a porch at an unknown date.

28. Miner House, 889 St. Denis, 1850. This simple frame version of the Missouri French style is covered with composition shingles and has had its front porch enclosed at an unknown date.

29. Marcus Laramie House, 929 St. Denis, 1927. This small Missouri French example illustrates again the continuity of this style in Florissant and represents the renaissance of this style in this area.

46. Cowan House, 803 St. Louis, 1840. This frame vernacular has had several additions and changes over the years though, unfortunately, little or no documentation exists for them.

47. Keeven-Conway House, 889 St. Louis, ca. 1862. The main section of this house is constructed of horizontally placed logs. Originally the house exhibited characteristics of the Missouri French style but its front porch was closed in 1945. Other additions and changes were made later.

48. Wellinghoff House, 921 St. Louis, 1844. This vernacular horizontal log house exhibits classically derived entablature window heads and a simple portico porch. It has been covered with clapboards.

49. Goldbeck House, 1061 St. Louis, ca. 1864. This Missouri French frame example was moved to a different part of its lot at an unknown date and it has had an addition made to the rear. This part was moved from 1001 St. Louis about 1929 and was originally a saloon.

50. Stroer House, 700 Aubuchon, ca. 1859. This early Missouri French example is of frame construction and was covered with asbestos siding in 1951.

77. Otto Ripple Agency (Castello House), 755 St. Francois, ca. 1830. This brick example exhibits classically derived detailing in its side lighted front entrance and portico porch. A rear frame addition was constructed in 1909.

*78. Douglas House, 801 St. Francois, ca. 1878. This brick example is one of the two buildings in Florissant which boast a mansard roof of the Second Empire style. Its segmentally arched windows, however, and its sidelighted front entrance and portico porch with its denticulated cornice lend a Missouri German and a classical feeling to it as well. The grounds include a smoke house to the rear.

*79. August Aubuchon House, 1002 St. Louis, ca. 1800. This French Colonial example is one of the oldest homes in the area and is constructed of horizontally placed logs covered with weatherboard. It has been extensively remodeled and several additions have been made.

87. Nicolay House, 549 St. Jacques, 1870. This classically derived design features return gables and entablature window heads. It has had several additions made to its original core and now presents a rambling appearance.

91. Downing House, 501 Clark, 1917. This frame Missouri French example is another example of the continuity of this style here.

*92. Peters House, 903 St. Francois, 1912. This frame vernacular features boxed gables with return, entablature window heads and a pedimented dormer on the primary facade, all of which give it a classical flavor. It has had several additions.

93. Reeb House, 446 St. Charles, 1870. This and the Douglas House (78) are the only examples of the Second Empire style in the Multiple Resource Area except for the small addition to the Millman House (73). This frame house has elaborate dormers and a classically inspired, Tuscan order, portico porch. The eastern section, without a mansard roof, is probably a later addition.

94. Reeb House, 444 St. Charles, 1890. This simple frame vernacular has a truncated hip roof which may derive from French inspiration. It has been embellished through the addition of scalloped vergeboards along its cornice and front porch. The side porch and a bath were added in the 1950's.

95. Appleby House, 230 St. Catherine, 1925. The sidelighted front entrance of this brick house lends to it a classical feeling. In appearance the house is similar to the Otto Ripple Agency (77) and the original version of the Montaigne House (62), and, for that reason, it was included in this survey.

96. Tebeau House, 250 St. Catherine, 1860. This brick example looks to the Missouri German style for its inspiration. It has had two small additions made to the side and rear.

97. Blaylock House, 349 Washington, 1913. This frame box has had two additions made to the rear. It features a classically inspired portico porch.

99. Kramer House, 520 St. Catherine, 1875. This frame example of the Missouri French style has had its front porch enclosed in 1937 and further additions in the 1950's.

100. Barton House, 680 St. Catherine, 1923. This frame Missouri French example shows the continuity of this style in the Multiple Resource Area and represents its renaissance in the 1920's and 1930's.

*101. Hanson House, 704 St. Catherine, 1897. This frame vernacular is lent a classical note by its entablature window heads and its central gable. Its major focal point, however, is its Eastlake porch which is the finest of this type in the Multiple Resource Area.

102. Narrow Gauge Railroad Station, 1060 St. Catherine, 1878. This simple vernacular station was originally constructed in Block 31, Old Town and was moved to its present location and rehabilitated in 1971. It sits in a City Park along with recreational facilities and the Log House (103).

103. Log House, 1065 Washington, ca. 1850. This horizontal log cabin has V-notched corners and log coursing to the peak of the gable. It had several additions which were removed when its site was made into a park in the 1960's.

104. Boal House, 1220 St. Catherine, 1904. This simple frame vernacular offers only the simplest allusions to classical detailing in its portico porch and gabled roof.

105. Grote House, 280 Washington, 1853. This frame vernacular has been altered several times.

*106. Moller House, 300 Washington, 1830. This Greek Revival brick house is one of the finest in the area. Its denticulated cornice and its entablatured entryway are restrained yet ornate. It has a frame addition to the rear.

*107. Schmidt House, 359 St. Jean, ca. 1830. This early Missouri French example is the only one in the area of brick. It was constructed in two matching sections over several years.

108. Hennequin House, 350 Jefferson, ca. 1858. This brick house is another with a remote classical feeling created by a boxed central gable and a small portico porch.

109. Rickelman House, 680 Washington, 1875. This frame Missouri French example has had several alterations and additions. It began as a one room vernacular frame farmhouse.

110. Eades House, 307 Lafayette, 1900. This frame vernacular exhibits classical detailing in its boxed gables with return, its entablature window heads and its simple portico porch.

111. Foeller House, 780 Washington, 1897. This simple vernacular is of frame construction.

112. Smith House, 310 New Florissant Road, 1923. This frame Missouri French example illustrates the continuity of the style in the area and represents its renaissance in the 1920's and 1930's.

113. Barteau House, 305 Castello, 1939. This recent frame example of the Missouri French style illustrates the continuity of the type and represents its renaissance in the 1920's and 1930's.

114. Aderholt House, 180 Harrison, 1857. This simple frame vernacular has had several additions made to the rear. It faintly recalls classical ideas with its front gable and its portico porch.

115. Wood House, 250 Harrison, 1870. This frame vernacular features a classically derived portico porch.

*116. Kuehn House, 410 Harrison, ca. 1840. This is the finest example of the Missouri German style in the Multiple Resource Area. Its brick exterior boasts a fanciful corbeled, toothed cornice which is unique in Florissant. The small central core is the original construction. Many additions have been made to the second story, sides and back but its character remains unique.

117. Goldstein House, 289 Lafayette, 1905. This is another frame vernacular example which illustrates classically derived details in its entablature window heads and its boxed gable with return. It has recently been covered with aluminum siding.

118. Korte House, 249 Boone, 1870. This simple vernacular frame house has the faintest reminders of classical influence in its front gable and plain portico porch.

*119. Withington House, 502 St. Marie, ca. 1860. This brick house is one of the finest Missouri German examples in the Multiple Resource Area. It features scalloped shingles in its central gable and lacelike floral carving in the segmental arches above its windows.

120. Richter House, 870 St. Marie, 1900. This vernacular brick house recalls a Gothic Revival cottage with its steep central gable but it lacks any other Gothic refinements. It has recently been divided into 4 apartments.

121. Wagner House, 150 Washington, ca. 1900. This frame vernacular has classical details in its central gable and its entablature window heads. Its front porch was closed in at an unknown date.

122. Crank House, 111 St. Catherine, 1906. This is another frame vernacular with classical detailing in its entablature window heads. It is currently covered with asbestos siding and has had its front porch enclosed.

123. Vesper House, 140 St. Catherine, 1895. This very simple frame vernacular has recently been covered with asbestos siding.

124. Aderholt Shop, 150 St. Catherine, 1890. This frame vernacular was originally constructed as a residence.

PRESENT STATUS

A large part of this Multiple Resource Area is located within Florissant Old Town Historic District which was established by local Ordinance #1625 in 1966 (Section 3.5 Zoning Code, revised by Ord. #3673 in 1972) (see Plan 3) in line with recommendations by planning professionals with borders enclosing most of the town's older buildings. Location within this local historic district makes residents eligible for funding for exterior restoration from the City of Florissant and for advice and councel on restoration from the local Landmarks Commission. In addition, location within the boundaries of the historic district carries restrictions with regard to fencing, outbuilding construction, building materials and paint colors employed in restoration and sizes and types of signs. These restrictions were put into effect by the Old Town Commission which was established by the ordinance to oversee the development of the district. It and the Landmarks Commission are under the jurisdiction of the City of Florissant. The Old Town Commission has formulated a plan based on the findings and recommendations resulting from the 1970 survey by Team Four, Inc., a St. Louis based planning concern. This plan is still in the process of fruition in Florissant. In this plan, Team Four recommended land use patterns, landscaping and foliage types. Conventional street signs have been replaced with carved wooden signs indicating the Old Town street names.

Buildings located outside the boundaries of the Old Town Historic District have not been included in any previous preservation efforts. The decision to include this larger area in the survey leading to this nomination was made so that more of Florissant's old homes and buildings might receive the benefits of National Register status and because it was felt that the actual historical boundaries of the City of St. Ferdinand justified this action. For further survey history of Florissant see Items #6 and #8.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The Florissant Survey, Phases 1-5, funded by grants from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, was conducted by Historic Florissant, Inc. and the Office of the City Clerk in Florissant, Missouri under the direction of Mrs. Rosemary Davison, City Clerk and President of Historic Florissant, Inc. Professionals involved include Mr. Gerhardt Kramer, A.I.A., Mr. Philip Cotton, A.I.A., architects, Mr. Richard Ward, planner, and Mr. Jerome Pratter, attorney.

The entire area of the City of St. Ferdinand as described in the verbal boundary description (Item #10) was inspected with regard to architectural properties. All buildings constructed prior to 1940 were included at the local level and significant properties were chosen from among these at the state level by architectural historians in the Office of Historic Preservation, Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Because of the semi-urban character of the area and its redevelopment which is continuing daily, the salvation of existing buildings was given highest priority. Archaeological testing was not deemed feasible within the time frame and funds provided. One area where this might have been particularly useful, the Spanish Land Grant Park [Plan 3, (5)] where the cemetery and the original log Church of St. Ferdinand were located, was not disturbed because local residents were strongly opposed to the desecration of this ground which is still held in high esteem by long established Florissant families.

FOOTNOTES

1. The Town of St. Ferdinand and the Rio Fernando (Coldwater Creek) were named by the Spanish after the Spanish saint of the same name who was a king of Spain who drove out the infidel Moors. Its population, however, was almost entirely French at that time. Consequently it is most often referred to by in the literature by its French name. See Gilbert J. Garraghan, St. Ferdinand de Florissant: The Story of an Ancient Parish (Chicago: Loyola University Press, 1923), pp. 11 and 24.

2. Gilbert J. Garraghan, St. Ferdinand de Florissant, p. 30.

3. According to the Office of the City Clerk in Florissant, no definite records earlier than 1857 exist concerning the City of St. Ferdinand's official boundaries. Plan 1 is theoretical and was compiled from written records of early French and Spanish settlements. Gilbert J. Garraghan, St. Ferdinand de Florissant, pp. 20-21.

4. Gilbert J. Garraghan, St. Ferdinand de Florissant, pp. 30-33.

5. That the Missouri French style is essentially derivative of Creole architecture in New Orleans is evident thanks to recent research on New Orleans architecture in

5. Roulhac Toledano, Sally Kittredge Evans and Mary Louise Christovich, compilers, New Orleans Architecture: Volume IV-The Creole Faubourgs, (Gretna, Louisiana: Pelican Publishing Co., 1974). The French colonial architecture of settlements such as Ste. Genevieve and St. Louis, both in Missouri, which filtered up from Louisiana, formed the basis of this Florissant type. In St. Louis a characteristic type was the vertical log building of either the poteaux en terre or poteaux sur sole type with surrounding palisadoed galerie and plastered walls. In Ste. Genevieve examples survive with surrounding galeries, galeries on the front and back only and on the front only. Buildings of the Missouri French type in Florissant are exclusively of the latter type, often translated into frame and, in one case, brick. Three Florissant examples bear particular relations to Creole three-bayed cottage types in Louisiana - the Lance, Laramie and Goldbeck Houses (25, 29 and 49, see Plans 3 and 5). Other examples bear a broader relation to New Orleans architecture in general. For more information on Louisiana architecture and its relocation to Missouri French architecture see Dumont de Montigny, Memoires historiques sur la Louisiana (Paris: Chez Cl. J.B. Bauche, 1753), Vol. II, p. 49, Charles E. Peterson, St. Louis: Birth of a Creole Capitol (St. Louis: Missouri Historical Society, 1949), pp. 1-38, Charles E. Peterson, "Early Ste. Genevieve and Its Architecture", Missouri Historical Review XXXV (January, 1941), 207-231, Rita Coulter, Discover the French Connection Between St. Louis and New Orleans (Elmhurst, Illinois: Interhouse Publishers, 1977), and Roulhac Toledano, et al., compilers, New Orleans Architecture, pp. 37-80.

6. The Missouri-German Vernacular style of architecture, as defined by Charles van Ravenswaay, is exemplified by a rectangular or "L" shaped brick building, three to seven bays in width, which has a gabled roof. Dormers may or may not be present, and common bond brick patterning is used almost exclusively. In addition, brick is often used to form voussoirs, in the arches which generally cap the windows and doors, and decorative cornices. Windows are seldom ornamented beyond their brick arches or stone or wooden lintels. Doorways are generally capped with glazed transoms, and chimneys are commonly paired and linked by a brick parapet. See Charles van Ravenswaay, Art and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1977), pp. 225-234.

7. A verbal record of this restoration written by Gerhardt Kramer, the restoration architect, can be found in Harriet L. Hardaway, Philippine Duchesne and Her Times (St. Louis: Maryville College, 1968), pp. 38-44.

8. Information on the Old Town Historic District and the present survey methodology employed here was provided by the Office of the City Clerk, 955 Rue St. Francois, Florissant, Missouri 63031 and Old Town Development Plan: Planning Memorandums to August, 1970 (St. Louis: Team Four, Inc., 1970).

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	X RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	X EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X 1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	X EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	X TRANSPORTATION
X 1900- 1940	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1788-1940 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Multiple Resource Area of the City of St. Ferdinand, Florissant, Missouri is significant on several levels. Not only does its history, and in particular that of St. Ferdinand's Shrine and its surrounding area, illustrate significant events in the history of the Catholic faith in the United States and the settlement of Missouri and the West, but several examples of its architecture are outstanding representatives of their types in this state. In addition, the story of the development of the City of St. Ferdinand illustrates several important periods of this state's history - the Spanish and French colonization, the wave of German immigration in the mid-nineteenth century and the development of transportation links with a major urban center resulting in population shifts and changes in environment and lifestyle in the late nineteenth and on into the twentieth century.

The City of St. Ferdinand is the oldest settled area in St. Louis County. As early as 1787 it was an entity alluded to in the Spanish colonial census as the "establicimiento de Florizan" with a population of 40 people on seven plantations.[1] Settlement of this area most probably began after that of St. Louis when farmers were drawn to Florissant by its rich, alluvial prairie land bordering the Missouri River, fed by many streams. The first known settler there was Nicolas Hebert dit Lecomte, who is reported to have resided there as early as 1763.[2] The date of the actual founding of the town was probably 1787-1788, according to Zenon Trudeau, the penultimate Spanish Lieutenant Governor of Upper Louisiana, though there was probably a military settlement there earlier, because by 1786 Francois Dunegant dit Beaurosier had been appointed Civil and Military Commandant and was on duty.[3] By 1794 thirty-six grants of land had been made in a sixteen block area near Coldwater Creek, which was also known at the time as el Rio Fernando and la Rivière des Biches. In addition, by this date 4,429 acres of Commons for fuel and pasturage had been granted and thousands of acres of Commonfields, which stretched from the northwest bank of Coldwater Creek to the Missouri River giving each inhabitant of the town a strip of land one arpent (64 yards) in width from river to river, had been divided among the town's citizens. (see Plans 1 and 2).[4] Grided streets existed from the beginning, and these streets, with their original names, remain today.

In 1788 a plot of ground was granted by Dunegant for the location of a church and a parade ground (Block 15, Old Town), Spanish Land Grant Park, [Plan 3, (5)]. Hyacinthe Deshetres, a carpenter, erected the first log Church of St. Ferdinand and the priest's house in the southeast quarter of the lot. The northeast quarter was later designated as a cemetery and the northwest one-half became the parade ground.[5]

The earliest church records date from 1790 and reveal that the Capuchine friar, Bernard de Limpach of Luxembourg, was the first to preach there while he was based in St. Louis. Nothing, however, is recorded of his part in shaping St. Ferdinand's parish though his aid must have been considerable. The same records reveal that the earliest recorded baptism was performed by Father Pierre Joseph Didier of nearby St. Charles who was a French immigrant and the first Benedictine to exercise this ministry in the United States. Since he owned land in Florissant it is assumed that he was the first resident pastor here as well.[6]

Because the population of the area was predominately French Catholic, with origins in St. Louis, Cahokia and Kaskaskia as well as Canada, New Orleans and France, and even though the government was officially Spanish until 1800[7], local building tradition followed the French practice. Vertical log construction with surrounding galeries on the larger structures was the rule, though horizontal log construction was soon adopted by the settlers. In this Multiple Resource Area, the Aubuchon-Herbst House [Plan 5, (67)], with older sections of poteaux sur sole (vertical log on base) construction, and Casa Alvarez [Plan 3, (23)], of hewn frame construction, date from this period.[8] Due to the nature of the climate no poteaux en terre (vertical logs in ground, no base) have survived though there must have been many examples originally.[9]

The August Aubuchon House [Plan 3, (79)] which is, in part, of horizontal log construction, survives from this early period of Florissant's history. The Aubuchon family, which had several members who achieved local prominence in later Florissant history, originated in Dieppe, province of Normandy, France. Some members immigrated to Canada in 1643 and a branch had traveled to Kaskaskia by 1712. Some of these Aubuchons moved on to Florissant. By 1810, Joseph Aubuchon claimed 163 arpents of land in the St. Ferdinand Commonfields.[10]

In 1780 the Province of Louisiana, in which the town of St. Ferdinand was located, retroceded to France by the Treaty of Idelfonso, and in 1803 it was sold to the United States as the Louisiana Purchase. Under the Spanish regime there had been close ties and cooperation between civil and ecclesiastical law. Priests were paid by the King of Spain and given government concessions of land. Suddenly, after Louisiana retroceded to France and was sold to the U.S. government, Catholic priests were forced to survive as they could. Spain offered to continue the salaries of those who would withdraw to the mother country, so almost all the priests and others of Spanish origin left for Cuba and Spain immediately. Consequently, the Church of St. Ferdinand was without a regular priest from about 1800 to 1814.[11]

Meanwhile events in France were occurring which were to have effects on Florissant history. After the French Revolution, monks of La Trappe Abbey, in the village of Soligny-la-Trappe in northwestern France, were dispersed. Some found refuge in Switzerland while others traveled to the United States to minister to settlers and native Americans. Among these immigrants was Father Joseph Marie Dunand who traveled to Kentucky and, through the influence of Mr. John Mullanphy, a wealthy and prominent citizen of the town of St. Ferdinand, was induced to settle in Florissant at the Church of St. Ferdinand. Dunand served here from 1814 to 1820.[12]

In 1819 Father Dunand constructed the Convent of the Sacred Heart, the oldest building in St. Ferdinand's Shrine Historic District [Plan 4, (4)] and the first convent to that order in the United States.[13] Sister Rose Philippine Duchesne (beatified in 1940) moved from her recently established school for girls in St. Charles to the convent in the town of St. Ferdinand in December, 1819 and held her first service there on New Year's Eve.[14] For many years thereafter Philippine Duchesne and the other Sisters of the Sacred Heart successfully operated a school for girls, native American and immigrant, Catholic and Protestant, in this convent. This was the first such Catholic school for native American girls in history and the first novitiate of any kind for women in the whole for the Upper Louisiana Purchase.[15]

In 1820 leadership of St. Ferdinand's parish passed to Father Charles De La Croix upon the return of Father Dunand to France.[16] On February 19, 1821 Father De La Croix laid the cornerstone, which was provided by Sister Duchesne, for the new Church of St. Ferdinand [Plan 4, (3)]. It was built contiguous with the convent and probably originally in a similar rendition of the Federal style.[17] Land for the church was donated by the family of General Thomas James, pioneer traders of the northwest, and construction was funded in part by Mr. John Mullanphy. On June 3, 1823 the church was given to the Society of Jesus, but it was not consecrated until 1832.[18]

In the early nineteenth century, the Right Reverend Louis W. Valentine DuBourg, the Bishop Louisiana and the Floridas, urged the Jesuits to found a mission in Missouri and in 1823 he made a gift of the church and a farm in Florissant to the Provincial of the Maryland Province, Father Neale. The latter appointed Father Charles Van Quickenborne superintendant of the new mission. Father Van Quickenborne and seven novices settled in Florissant that same year.[19] Among these novices were Pierre De Smet, Felix Verreydt and John Elet.

Pierre De Smet, a native of Termonde Village in Flanders, came to the United States with Father Charles Nerinckx and other recruits for missionary work in 1820. After his ordination he became well known in the West as "Black Robe" as he traveled throughout Kansas, Montana, Iowa, California, Oregon and into Canada, ministering to

native Americans and establishing outpost missions. Known as the "Apostle of the Rocky Mountains", De Smet served as a peacemaker for the U.S. government at the Council of Chiefs of the Plains Indians (1857-1859) and with the Sioux tribe (1863-1867). He was a friend of Kit Carson and President Abraham Lincoln, and he received the Order of Leopold from the King of Belgium. In addition, Pope Gregory XVI commended him for his missionary efforts. His letters survive describing his missionary work and the places he traveled. He died in 1873 and was buried at St. Stanislaus Seminary in Florissant.[20] Fathers John Elet and Felix Verreydt became well known in their ministries in northeast Missouri, western Illinois and southeastern Iowa. These three priests were ordained in St. Ferdinand's Church in 1823.[21]

In 1840-1842 the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin was constructed to one story, contiguous with the church and on its southwest side [Plan 4, (2)]. This building later was enlarged and served as the rectory for the church. It is constructed in a similar Federal style.

In 1846 the Sisters of the Sacred Heart left their convent due to poverty. From 1847 to 1887 the building was occupied by the Sisters of Loretto, another order of Catholic nuns. This order constructed several large buildings and additions in the area none of which survive today.[22]

During the pastorate of Father Hayden (1877-1884), the Church of St. Ferdinand was enlarged to its present size through the addition of 26' to the front. A steeple was built and stained glass windows installed, giving the church its present Italian Romanesque Revival character. A new altar was installed with relics of St. Valentine enshrined in a waxen figure in a glass crypt below.[23]

In 1888 St. Ferdinand's School was constructed southwest of the church [Plan 4, (1)]. This school was established by Father William Boex, originally from Holland, who became pastor of St. Ferdinand's in 1885. It is the most recent building in District #1.

In 1958 Father Joseph E. Ritter, Archbishop of St. Louis, changed the parish boundaries and a new St. Ferdinand's Church and Convent were constructed on Charbonnier Road in Florissant. Before the move, all buildings, other than those remaining today and one small caretaker's cottage, were torn down.

In 1959 the Friends of Old St. Ferdinand's sought permission to preserve the area as a shrine, and the name was altered to Old St. Ferdinand's Shrine to distinguish it from the new St. Ferdinand's Church. In 1966 a fire caused by lightning swept through the roof and the upper floor of the rectory and the chancel of the church. Restoration was immediately initiated through public contributions and Mr. Gerhardt Kramer, A.I.A. was put in charge. The buildings were subsequently restored to their 1880 character.[24]

French influence remained strong in Florissant throughout the nineteenth century. Several surviving architectural examples are illustrative of this. Joseph Montaigne, an engineer on the Mississippi River of French descent, was born in St. Louis in 1814. He settled in Florissant and built his home in a classically derived style on St. Louis Street. As the family grew a second story and several rooms were added and the exterior was eventually altered to its present Federal style [Plan 5, (62)].[25]

In the 1830's David Desitet settled in Florissant after immigrating from Paris, France. He built his home in the Missouri French style. It is the only such example in brick in this Multiple Resource Area [Plan 3, (107)]. Its interior is embellished with fine Greek Revival detailing in its woodwork and mantels.[26]

In the 1850's the Archambault House [Plan 5, (27)] was constructed probably by August Archambault, a native of Canada. He gained fame as a companion of Kit Carson and John C. Fremont, and he served with the latter on several of his famed expeditions to the West.[27]

Around 1865 another French immigrant, Antoine Reeb, a native of Leineville, France, settled in Florissant to pursue his occupation of carpenter. He constructed several houses in town including the two Reeb Houses [Plan 3, (93), (94)] both of which exhibit French influence in their rooflines and decoration.[28]

American building styles are also in evidence in the City of St. Ferdinand as the century progresses. Several horizontal log cabins survive from this period, and simple frame examples with or without classically derived detailing become popular. In addition, examples of Missouri French style continue to be constructed (see Chart A).

The arrival of German immigrants in Florissant in the nineteenth century, with the heaviest flow after the publication of Gottfried Duden's Bericht über eine Reise nach den westlichen Staaten Nordamerika's und einen mehrjährigen Auftenhalt am Missouri (1824-1827)... and an added spurt just before the revolution of 1848,[29] forced the focal point of the community, St. Ferdinand's Church, to share importance with a new area of settlement to the southeast in the approximate location of District #2 - St. Ferdinand Central Historic District. Most of these immigrants were Catholic, and, at first, they attended church with the other inhabitants of the town. In the 1850's Father Francis Horstman was sent to assist because many of the new settlers were proficient in neither French or English.

In 1866 the cornerstone was laid for the Church of the Sacred Heart on Jefferson Street, which was located in approximately the same spot as the present church [Plan 5, (38)], to serve the German speaking community. Thirty-five German speaking Catholic families

were involved in its organization. In October, 1867 Father Pierre De Smet blessed the church, though it was not completed until 1872. Later additions gave it a Gothic Revival character. By 1892 the building was showing signs of deterioration. It was torn down and the present Church of the Sacred Heart was constructed on the spot in the Gothic Revival style.[30]

Herz Jesu Schule [Plan 5, (39)], just northeast of this church, was constructed in 1889 for the same German community by Bothe and Rathermann, Contractors. Its fine Missouri German architectural style is balanced by that of Sacred Heart Convent [Plan 5, (37)] which is located on the other side of Sacred Heart Church to the southwest. This building was constructed in the Missouri German style with Gothic Revival detailing in 1904 to replace the former convent, constructed at the same time as the original Sacred Heart Church, which had burned.[31] This Sacred Heart complex sits on the highest point in town and dominates this historic district.

As the German community settled in Florissant, the town expanded as they became involved in farming and various business pursuits. Several buildings survive which represent this expansion.

The Stroer House [Plan 3, (50)] was constructed by Mr. John Stroer, a German immigrant who settled during this period in Florissant. He was a farmer and carpenter by profession and his farm was located in the area where his home still stands.[32]

The original section of Hendel's Market [Plan 5, (26)] was constructed in 1873 in a commercial vernacular style by Henry Bockrath, a German immigrant who became a prominent local land owner and businessman. It was subsequently owned by the Albers and Hendel families, both of German descent and prominent in Florissant commercialism, who made further additions to the building and gave it its present Federal style character.[33]

Joseph Peters, a native of Prussia and a cabinet maker of some repute, moved to St. Louis in 1854 and started the Joseph Peters Furniture Company. His business eventually became one of the largest in St. Louis. One of his descendants, Joseph Peters, settled in Florissant, was a member of the local City Council, first president of Florissant Creamery and Canning Factory and the first president of the Citizens' Bank (Florissant Valley Reporter Building) [Plan 5, (75)]. His home was constructed in 1912 and is one of the finest surviving classically derived frame examples in the Multiple Resource Area [Plan 3, (92)]. It is now in process of restoration by Historic Florissant, Inc.[34]

The Albers family, with its roots in Hannover, Germany, was responsible for the construction of several fine buildings in Florissant. The B. and J. Sheet Metal Company [Plan 5, (59)] was originally the general store and residence of Henry Albers, a prominent

local businessman, St. Louis County Judge and local Postmaster. The building served as the original location of the Citizens' Bank [Plan 5, (75)] which was chartered in 1904. The Albers Store is another fine example of the Missouri German style. A few years later, Harold, Henry's brother, was responsible for the construction of Fleck's [Plan 5, (70)] which originally served as his hardware store and machine shop. In addition, this family was responsible for the construction of the Albers House on the Rue St. Ferdinand [Plan 5, (51)].[35]

Several additional unusually fine examples of Missouri German architecture survive from this period of Florissant's history. The Kuehn House [Plan 3, (116)] is the finest in the area with its pronounced, toothed corbel table on its primary facade. Additional notable examples are the Tebeau House [Plan 3, (96)], the Withington House [Plan 3, (119)], the Abel-Griese House and Store [Plan 5, (40)] and the Weithaupt Store and Residence [Plan 5, (90)].

Other styles of architectural decoration were employed during this period as well. The Greek Revival style, for example, gives the Moller House [Plan 3, (106)] its restrained elegance.

The expansion of commerce and transportation in the City of St. Ferdinand began in the period of German immigration and continued throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In 1857 the City of St. Ferdinand was granted its charter by the state legislature along with the right to dispose of its Commons which were included in United States Survey #1202. This act is embodied in City Ordinance #6. Much of this area was already unofficially settled, but now settlement increased throughout all of the regions of the Multiple Resource Area.

The oldest building representing this period of Florissant's history is the simple, vernacular, frame Cozort Store [Plan 5, (53)] which is of a type which once must have been numerous here. As the town expanded, it was only natural that its identity would be established through the erection of a substantial city hall. The City of St. Ferdinand City Hall and Jail Building (Florissant Police Station Annex) was constructed in the Romanesque Revival style to fill this need in 1870 [Plan 5, (72)].

Through the 1880's the commercial area on Rue St. Francois continued to grow. The vernacular LeHoullier Building (Y.W.C.A.) [Plan 5, (61)] was constructed and served for over fifty years as a Doctor's Office and the first bakery in Florissant. Dr. George LeHoullier was born in Quebec, Canada. He attended college in Montreal and was persuaded by an uncle to settle in Florissant. Dr. LeHoullier was later involved in the organization of Citizens' Bank (Florissant Valley Reporter Building) [Plan 5, (75)].[36]

Down the street, Raup's Restaurant and Saloon (DeLisle Building) [Plan 5, (81)] was constructed in the vernacular commercial style. Today it is the only remaining building in the park which was once known as DeLisle Square.[37]

Toward the end of the nineteenth century Florissant served as a verdent summer Mecca for many from the steamy city of St. Louis, and it was not unusual for families to have summer residences here. One which survives is the Second Empire style Douglas House [Plan 3, (78)] which boasts a classically inspired portico porch with denticulated cornice. It was, in its day, a place of repose surrounded by gardens, orchards and wheatfields.[38]

As links between St. Louis and Florissant became tighter and as more and more people settled in what had been open country, a need arose for quicker transportation to and from the downtown St. Louis area. Families like the Douglas' were responsible for the demand which was filled by the construction of the Narrow Gauge Railroad to Florissant from St. Louis in 1878.

The first record of the Narrow Gauge appears in St. Louis City Court records in 1872 when an application to begin construction was made by the Central Railroad Company. Its name was soon changed to the St. Louis and Florissant Railroad. This narrow, 3' gauge track line was conceived by Dr. James C. Page and Mr. Erastus Wells to facilitate access from their homes to the northwest into St. Louis. By October 1, 1878 the road reached Florissant and terminated at the Narrow Gauge Depot which was originally located in Block 31, Old Town, on St. Ferdinand between Washington and St. Catherine. Today the building has been moved to a small park [Plan 3, (103)]. The sixteen mile trip took about an hour from the main depot in mid-town just north of Olive Street and Grand Avenue in St. Louis, to Florissant. Two or three cars were used at first, but by 1883 the train had grown to seven passenger and freight cars which made twenty-seven daily trips for a fare of just 3¢ per mile. In 1886 the line was extended downtown to St. Louis by a link up with cable cars from St. Louis Cable and Western Company. In 1890 the line was sold to the St. Louis and Suburban Railroad Company and was completely electrified. By 1892 the electric line from Sixth and Locust Streets in St. Louis to the depot in Florissant was the longest such line in the world.[39]

In 1891 Railway Post Office service was authorized on the West End Narrow Gauge, as the line had come to be called. When the line was electrified, the St. Louis and Florissant Railway Post Office was the first trolley railway post office in the United States.[40]

The Florissant Trolley Line was discontinued in 1931 during the Depression and by 1948 even the subsequent bus route had been abandoned. The depot building later served as an ice cream shop and a garden center, but it was threatened with destruction in 1971 during the widening of Rue St. Ferdinand. Through the efforts of local preservationists, the depot was moved to its present location where it now serves as the local Chamber of Commerce.[41]

As Florissant expanded in this period, several of her citizens gained local prominence. Charles Castello, the grandson of the Irishman, Michael Castello, who settled in Florissant in 1823 and for whom Castello Street is named, was Mayor of Florissant from 1865 to 1890. His home, which is now the Otto Ripple Agency [Plan 3, (77)], is a fine example of classically derived design. It is, along with the original Montaigne House [Plan 5, (62)] and the more recent Appleby House [Plan 3, (95)], one of three of this design in town. One branch of the Castello family emigrated to Colorado in the late nineteenth century and named the town of Florissant, Colorado there. This town is renowned among geologists as the home of the Florissant Flora, deposits of fossil bearing shale.[42]

Another prominent citizen from this period was Sidney Garrett, the Mayor of Florissant from 1910 th 1929, its Postmaster from 1898, a prominent businessman and the organizer of the first fire department in town. During his tenure as Mayor, the city's first electric lights were installed. He resided in the Nicolay House [Plan 3, (87)].[43]

The growth of Florissant and the success of her citizens in business naturally required a facility for the handling of money and credit. To that end, in 1904, a meeting was held in the Albers Store (B. and J. Sheet Metal) [Plan 5, (59)] for the purpose of organizing a bank. Citizens' Bank of Florissant was subsequently organized and it operated out of the store for about a year. Involved in the foundation of this bank were August Albers, Dr. George LeHoullier, Henry Albers and Charles Griese, all of whom are associated with other surviving buildings in this Multiple Resource Area. In February, 1905 the Board of Directors authorized the construction of a new bank building which was later constructed at the corner of St. Francois and Lafayette Street [Plan 5, (75)]. The building was originally a simple commercial vernacular structure with a corner entrance. Remodeling in 1926 gave it its present classically derived appearance. The bank left the building in 1955. It has served subsequently as the City Library and the Florissant Valley Reporter Building.[44]

Other commercial buildings which survive from this period are the Behle Store [Plan 3, (20)], Weidinger's Tavern [Plan 5, (55)], the Doll's House [Plan 5, (88)], the Schuler Building [Plan 5, (82)] and the Waefle Store [Plan 5, (52)]. As the Rue St. Francois commercial area grew it retained its country atmosphere, its gardens and trees and its admixture of residential structures. Most of the trees are gone but the open spaces survive along with examples of residential structures in the Stephan House and the Schuler House [Plan 5, (84), (85)].[45]

Many other architectural examples survive in this Multiple Resource Area from this period of commercial expansion which are of varying degrees of architectural merit (see Chart A). Their styles are predominately classically derived, but the ever-present Missouri French style is still significantly represented.

The 1920's and the 1930's witnessed a doubling of Florissant's population and a growth of the outlying regions of the Multiple Resource Area. The predominant style of construction shifted from classically derived vernacular to the Bungalow and Box with the survival and renaissance of the Missouri French style (see Chart A). In this connection the Kohuen Law Office [Plan 5, (71)] is perhaps the finest surviving example of the bungalow form in the Multiple Resource Area, while the Anthony Timme House [Plan 5, (43)] represents a cottage-bungalow type in brick which is found throughout the outlaying regions of the area. The only commercial buildings to survive from this recent period, however, are the Laramie Store [Plan 5, (60)] a simple commercial vernacular structure, and the Moderne style Groth Store [Plan 5, (80)], both in the commercial neighborhood on the Rue St. Francois.

The value and quality of Florissant's cultural resources have long been recognized locally. A long history of survey efforts in this town carried out by planners and architects culminated in the establishment of the Florissant Old Town Historic District established by local Ordinance #1625 in 1969. The boundaries of this district were recommended by the local planning concern, Team Four, Inc., and were designed to enclose most of the older historic properties in the Old Town (see Plan 3).[46] As yet no plans exist to integrate the properties which are within the Multiple Resource Area but outside this local district with local preservation planning.

In summary, the City of St. Ferdinand Multiple Resource Area is an entity not only geographically and visually, with focal points at St. Ferdinand's Shrine, the Sacred Heart complex, the residential area on the Rue St. Louis and the commercial area along the Rue St. Francois, but it is also an entity historically. Its history illustrates the development of a French colonial village into a growing commercial center. Those who reside in the Multiple Resource Area feel themselves a group apart, descendants of those who constructed the town and its Missouri French, Missouri German, classically derived vernacular and other styles of architecture which link its regions through space and time.

The survey of Missouri's historic sites is based on the selection of sites as they relate to theme studies outlined in "Missouri's State Historic Preservation Plan." Therefore, the Historic Resources of the City of St. Ferdinand (Partial Inventory) is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as an example of the themes of "Aboriginal Americans," "Architecture," "Economics," "Education," "Exploration and Settlement," "Society," "Technology," and "Urban Design."

FOOTNOTES

1. Gilbert J. Garraghan, S.J., St. Ferdinand de Florissant: The Story of an Ancient Parish (Chicago: Loyola University Press, 1923), p. 11. The records of this census currently reside in the Archives of the Catholic Church in Havana, Cuba.

2. Ibid., p. 18. As far as can be determined there is no connection with the establishment of the town of Florissant and that of the Spanish Fort of Don Carlos el Principe nearby.

3. Ibid. Dunegant is often called the founder of Florissant, but unfortunately, he could neither read nor write and so left no records. He was of French descent, but was appointed by the Spanish to insure local contentment with the regime.

4. Ibid., pp. 20-21, 32. This follows the French-Canadian practice of allocating Commonfields. These long and narrow fields were designed either to facilitate group protection in case of Indian attacks, a very real concern in Florissant at this early date, or to provide each plot with river frontage for fishing or shipping goods.

5. The original church burned in 1836, but the burial ground continued to be used until 1876. Lee Mercer, "Calico Jam", Florissant Valley Reporter, September, 1967.

6. Garraghan, St. Ferdinand de Florissant, pp. 81-86.

7. In 1762 France had deeded her land west of the Mississippi River to Spain through the Treaty of Fontainbleu.

8. Casa Alvarez was constructed by Eugenio Alvarez, a military storekeeper for the King of Spain who had arrived in St. Louis in 1770. Data exerpted from the National Register Inventory-Nomination Form for Casa Alvarez, placed on the Register on June 18, 1976.

9. See Charles E. Peterson, Colonial St. Louis: The Birth of a Creole Capitol (St. Louis: Missouri Historical Society, 1949), pp. 30-41 for a discussion of common building types in this area during this period.

10. Garraghan, St. Ferdinand de Florissant, pp. 56-57 and Jeananne Beuer, "The Aubuchon Story", Florissant Valley Historical Society Quarterly, Volume X, #4, p. 9.

11. Garraghan, St. Ferdinand de Florissant, pp. 90-97.

12. Ibid., pp. 100-115.

13. Harriet L.C. Hardaway, Philippine Duchesne and Her Times (St. Louis: Maryville College, 1968), pp. 13-15.

14. Allen Johnson and Dumas Malone, eds., "Duchesne, Rose Philippine", Dictionary of American Biography (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1930), Vol. 5, p. 477.

15. Hardaway, Philippine Duchesne, pp. 19-22, Garraghan, St. Ferdinand de Florissant, p. 200 and Dictionary of American Biography, Vol. 5, p. 477.

16. Charles De La Croix was a native of Hoorbeke-St. Corneille, Flanders and was born in 1792. He served as a soldier for Napoleon I, and in 1817 he first heard Father Valentine DuBourg speak in the Flemish town of Ghent about missionary work in America. He came to this country with numerous other recruits and settled first in Bardstown, Kentucky at the Seminary of St. Thomas. In 1818 he was called to Florissant to oversee the farm of Bishop DuBourg there. He made many missionary trips throughout the Missouri area and wrote many letters to his Jesuit brothers, many of which survive. In one, the construction of the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Florissant is mentioned [Plan 4, (4)]. Garraghan, St. Ferdinand de Florissant, p. 155.

17. Gerhardt Kramer, "The Restoration of St. Ferdinand's: The Church, the Convent and the Rectory" in Hardaway, Philippine Duchesne and Her Times, p. 39. A text with a dedication to St. Ferdinand and St. Francis Regis was buried in a bottle alongside. This cornerstone must have been moved or destroyed during the alterations to the building in the later nineteenth century because its whereabouts are unknown today.

18. Garraghan, St. Ferdinand de Florissant, p. 189.

19. E. Laveille, S.J., The Life of Father De Smet, S.J. (New York: P.J. Kennedy and Sons, 1915), pp. 30-37.

20. "Missouriana", Missouri Historical Review XXXVI (April, 1942), pp. 343-349.

21. The missionary lives of these two men are intimately involved in the history of St. Paul Church near Center, Missouri. The nomination for this church to the National Register of Historic Places is currently pending.

22. Gerhardt Kramer, "The Restoration of St. Ferdinand's", p. 41. Photographic evidence remains for all of these buildings. For information on the Loretto order see Sister M. Lilliana Owens, S.L., Ph.D., Loretto in Missouri (St. Louis: B. Herder Book Co., 1965.

23. Ibid., p. 40.

24. See Gerhardt Kramer, "The Restoration of St. Ferdinand's", pp. 42-48 for further details of this restoration.

25. Lee Mercer, "Calico Jam", Florissant Valley Reporter, April, 1970.

26. Elinore Coyle, Old St. Louis Homes, "The Stories They Tell". (St. Louis: Folkestone Press, 1964), p. 24.

27. Data exerpted from the National Register Inventory-Nomination Form for the Archambault House, placed on the Register on May 13, 1976.

28. Information supplied by the Office of the City Clerk, Florissant, Missouri and the President of Historic Florissant, Inc., 1978.

29. Mack Walker, Germany and the Immigration, 1816-1885 (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1964), pp. 60-61 and 101-133.

30. Garraghan, St. Ferdinand de Florissant, p. 233.

31. Sacred Heart Church Centennial Program (Florissant: Sacred Heart Church, 1966).

32. Information supplied by the Office of the City Clerk, Florissant, Mo. and the President of Historic Florissant, Inc., 1978.

33. Lee Mercer, "Calico Jam", Florissant Valley Reporter, February, 1970.

34. J. Thomas Scharf, History of St. Louis City and County (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts and Co., 1883), Volume II, p. 1328.

35. Information on this family was supplied by the Office of the City Clerk, Florissant, Mo. and the President of Historic Florissant, Inc., 1978.

36. Lee Mercer, "Calico Jam", Florissant Valley Reporter, April, 1969.

37. Information supplied by the Office of the City Clerk, Florissant, Mo. and the President of Historic Florissant, Inc., 1978.

38. Lee Mercer, "Calico Jam", Florissant Valley Reporter, February, 1968.

39. Elizabeth Kennerly Russell, "The Narrow Gauge and Its Patrons", Missouri Historical Society Bulletin VI (April, 1950), 273.

40. Rosemary Davison, "The Narrow Gauge", Florissant Valley Historical Society Quarterly, Volume VIII, #3, p. 6.

41. Rosemary Davison, "The Narrow Gauge", Florissant Valley Historical Society Quarterly, Volume VIII, #1, 2 and 3 and Lee Mercer, "Calico Jam", Florissant Valley Reporter, January, 1975.

42. "Globe North Office Located in Historic Castello House", St. Louis [Missouri] Globe-Democrat, February 3, 1978 and "Local Family Helped Settle West", Florissant Valley Reporter, February, 1953.

43. Information supplied by the Office of the City Clerk, Florissant, Mo. and the President of Historic Florissant, Inc., 1978.

44. Ibid.

45. Information for this description, as well as that for other descriptions of the pre-alteration conditions of buildings in this nomination, is based on photographic evidence supplied by the Office of the City Clerk, Florissant, Mo. and the President of Historic Florissant, Inc., 1978.

46. For further information concerning the survey history of this area see Item #6 and the discussions of "Present Status" and "Survey Methodology" at the end of Item #7 in this nomination.

The list of outlying properties in the City of St. Ferdinand Multiple Resource Area (Item #7, pp. 13-19) should be amended to include only the following properties:

Those previously enrolled on the National Register of Historic Places, #23, Casa Alvarez and #98, Baptiste Aubuchon House;

Those for which additional information was not requested, #78, Douglas House, #79, August Aubuchon House, #93, Reeb House, #101, Hanson House, #106, Moller House, #116, Kuehn House and #119, Withington House;

Those houses which are constructed in the Missouri French style, a trademark of Florissant's residential architecture since 1790. Since they compose a cohesive architectural factor previously noted in this nomination in the discussion of St. Ferdinand Central Historic District which unites the entire community throughout its entire history, these buildings are each of considerable local architectural importance in spite of their simple designs. They include #7, Marvin Tebeau House, #18, Meyer House, #19, Hubecky House, #21, Schoonover House, #22, Bouas House, #25, Lance House, #29, Marcus Laramie House, #49, Goldbeck House, #50, Stroer House, #91, Downing House, #99, Kramer House, #100, Barton House, #107, Schmidt House, #109, Rickleman House, #112, Smith House and #113, Barteau House. Of these, those with alterations have been so noted on their inventory sheets. The Goldbeck House has been moved from the edge of its lot to the center and has a rear addition which was moved here from down the block. Because this house has very close stylistic affinities with the Creole 3-bay Shotgun type found in New Orleans, it is of prime local importance in spite of having been moved a few feet.

Also to be included are:

9, Moellering House, which is considered by Historic Florissant, Inc. to be of historical significance as the former home of Frank Moellering, one of the founders of Florissant Bank in the late nineteenth century. In addition, it is significant as the home of the Frank Moellering family, one of the original German immigrant founding families of Sacred Heart Church on Jefferson Street in the St. Ferdinand Central Historic District.

77, Otto Ripple Agency, (Castello House), which is of local historical significance as the former home of Charles Castello, Mayor of Florissant for 25 years (1865-1890). In addition, this building was saved from demolition by Historic Florissant, Inc. only after an extensive fight over local planning and zoning in the 1960's. The survival of this building, in spite of many who wished it removed, provided an inspiring paradigm for the nascent preservation movement in Florissant at that early date and the beginnings of the legal machinery which supports preservation there today.

87, Nicolay House, which is supported by Historic Florissant, Inc. as historically significant because it is the former home of Sidney Garrett, Postmaster, Justice of the Peace and Mayor of Florissant from 1915 to 1929. This house has had many additions, as shown in #8 on its Inventory Sheet.

92, Peters House, which is locally significant as the finest Neoclassical Revival vernacular frame house in Florissant, is additionally important as the former home of Joseph Peters, president and founder of Florissant Creamery and Canning Factory and an important figure in Florissant's commercial history. It is currently being restored by Historic Florissant, Inc. and is providing another visible example of the possibilities of preservation to local citizens.

96, Tebeau House, which is of local architectural significance as an example of Missouri German stylistic influence in its brick construction and unusual gable detailing. In addition, this house was cited as an important historic building in this town in Florissant Old Town Survey (St. Louis: Leo A. Daly Comprehensive Services, 1967), p. 6 (Item #6, p. 1, #5), after scrutiny by local architects and historians.

#102, Narrow Gauge Railroad Station (Florissant Valley Chamber of Commerce), which is historically significant as described in Item #8, p. 7. In addition, this building is significant in the history of the preservation movement in Florissant as one of its first rallying points. It was moved in 1971 to save it from demolition due to highway expansion, and its preservation and restoration were instrumental in the reawakening of the community to its own history. Consequently, even though it has been moved, it is hoped that its significant role in preservation, initiated by this moving, as well as its place in local history, will be recognized by the National Register.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Beuer, Jeananne, "The Aubuchon Story", Florissant Valley Historical Society Quarterly, X, #4.

2. Coulter, Rita. Discover the French Connection Between St. Louis and New Orleans. Elmhurst, Illinois: Interhouse Publishing Co., 1977.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 483 (1,954,850 square meters)

QUADRANGLE NAME "Florissant, Mo." QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	15	732675	4296090	B	15	731170	4296990
C	15	731755	4297750	D	15	732610	4297545
E	15	733295	4297155	F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Polygon enclosing the former City of St. Ferdinand, in Florissant, Missouri, bordered on the northwest by the southeast bank of Coldwater Creek, on the north by the southern curb of U.S. Highway #67 (Lindberg Boulevard), on the northeast by a straight line

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE 1. Noelle Soren, Architectural Historian
Linda Harper, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION Office of Historic Preservation
Department of Natural Resources

DATE January 12, 1979

STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 176

TELEPHONE 314/751-4096

CITY OR TOWN Jefferson City

STATE Missouri 65102

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE X LOCAL ___

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Fred Lafer

TITLE Director, Department of Natural Resources and State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 2-16, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Carl Shull

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 9-12-79

ATTEST: William H. Brannon

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 9.6.79

3. Coyle, Elinore. Old St. Louis Homes, "The Stories They Tell". St. Louis: Folkestone Press, 1964.

4. Data exerpted from the National Register Inventory-Nomination Form for the Archambault House, placed on the Register on May 13, 1976.

5. Data exerpted from the National Register Inventory-Nomination Form for Casa Alvarez, placed on the Register on June 18, 1976.

6. Davison, Rosemary, "The Narrow Gauge", Florissant Valley Historical Society Quarterly VIII #1, 2 and 3.

7. de Montigny, Dumont. Memoires sur la Louisiana, 3 Volumes. Paris: Chez Cl. J.B. Bauche, 1753.

8. Garraghan, Gilbert J., S.J. St. Ferdinand de Florissant: The Story of an Ancient Parish. Chicago: Loyola University Press, 1923.

9. "Globe North Office Located in Historic Castello House", St. Louis [Missouri] Globe-Democrat, February 3, 1978.

10. Hardaway, Harriet L.C. Philippine Duchesne and Her Times. St. Louis: Maryville College, 1968.

11. Information and photographs supplied by the Office of the City Clerk, Florissant, Mo. and the President of Historic Florissant, Inc., 1978.

12. Johnson, Allen and Malone, Dumas. Dictionary of American Biography, 24 Volumes. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1930.

13. Kramer, Gerhardt, A.I.A., "The Restoration of St. Ferdinand's: The Church, the Convent and the Rectory", in Hardaway, Philippine Duchesne and Her Times, supra #9.

14. Laveille, E., S.J. The Life of Father De Smet, S.J. New York: P.J. Kennedy and Sons, 1915.

15. "Local Family Helped Settle West", Florissant Valley Reporter, February, 1953.

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18. Old Town Development Plan and Its Planning Memorandums to August, 1970. St. Louis: Team Four, Inc., 1970.

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20. Peterson, Charles E., "Early Ste. Genevieve and Its Architecture", Missouri Historical Review XXV (January, 1941), 207-231.

21. _____, Colonial St. Louis: Birth of a Creole Capitol. St. Louis: Missouri Historical Society, 1949.

22. Russell, Elizabeth Kennerly, "The Narrow Gauge and Its Patrons", Missouri Historical Society Bulletin VI (April, 1950), 273-287.

23. Sacred Heart Church Centennial Program. Florissant, Sacred Heart Church, 1966.

24. Scharf, J. Thomas. History of St. Louis City and County. Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts and Co., 1883.

25. Toledano, Roulhac, Sally Kittredge Evans and Mary Louis Christovich, compilers. New Orleans Architecture, Volume IV: The Creole Faubourgs. Gretna, Louisiana: Pelican Publishing Co., 1974.

26. Walker, Mack. Germany and the Immigration, 1816-1885. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1964.

running 320' northeast of and parallel to Rue St. Michael, on the southeast by a straight line running 320' southeast of and parallel to Aubuchon Street and on the southwest by a straight line running 320' southwest of and parallel to Rue St. Marie, whose vertices are marked and situated by the above mentioned UTM reference points.

2. Mrs. Rosemary Davison, President
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   Florissant, Missouri 63031