

# preservation issues

NEWS FOR THE PRESERVATION COMMUNITY

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

★ Vol. 1, No. 3 ★

## Missouri Preservationists Celebrate

PHOTO BY GREG LEACH



Missouri preservationists are celebrating the 25th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The 1966 law established a philosophy and framework for the national historic preservation movement and has guided Missouri preservation efforts since 1969.

Through the Historic Preservation Program's (HPP) statewide survey effort, information on an estimated 98,000 historic properties has been gathered and stored in the Missouri Cultural Resource Inventory. Over 900 buildings, sites, and districts have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places, reflecting a total of over 12,000 individual properties. The HPP has received 9.1 million dollars of federal Historic Preservation Fund assistance since 1969; this funding has supported HPP programs, provided matching grants for restoration projects, survey and planning activities. Federal tax incentives for rehabilitation have resulted in a private sector investment of nearly one billion dollars in preservation. Under the Certified Local Government Program, 16 cities have established local preservation programs.

Thanks to the impetus of NHPA, the Missouri preservation effort has gained considerable momentum – enough to meet the challenges that lie ahead. – *Claire Blackwell*

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May/June 1991

Historic Preservation Program staff (from top left to bottom right) Marjorie Cox, Gerald Lee Gilleard, Karen Grace, Judith Deel, Mark Miles, Jane Beetem, Claire Blackwell, Michael Weichman, Lance Carlson, Nancy Faerber, Jerald Stepenoff, Margaret Barnes. Not pictured: Beverly Fleming, Lynn Shay, Steve Mitchell.

## Investment Tax Credits

A group of enterprising Kansas City developers are using federal investment tax credits (ITC) to breathe new life into the city's downtown core. The ITC, which provides a 20 percent federal tax credit to developers of certified historic buildings, has provided an important incentive for the redevelopment of Kansas City's Old Town Historic District (River Quay).

Old Town, adjacent to the Missouri River and major railroad lines, contains a number of historic buildings, ca 1879-1890, and the city's farmers' market. Although some commercial activity continued in recent years, the area became known for its boarded-up, deteriorating buildings, trash-littered streets and sidewalks, and high crime rate. But that image is changing, thanks to the River Market development project.

Phase 1 of the revitalization project, an estimated \$40.5 million investment, includes the redevelopment of 17 stone and brick historic buildings located along Walnut and Delaware Streets and the old farmers' produce market adapted for reuse as offices, apartments, stores, produce center, restaurants, and art galleries. The focal point of the 47-acre project, however, is the Arabia Riverboat Museum adjacent to the farmers' market. The Arabia, reclaimed from the Missouri River with its cargo intact 150 years after it went down, is expected to draw a large number of visitors and shoppers to the area. (The produce market is now open and the museum is well underway.)

According to Chris Lester, a real estate writer with the *Kansas City Star*, "A successful River Market could have broad implications for the urban core. Besides increasing the Downtown area housing base, the River Market will provide a shopping and entertainment option for locals, tourists, conventioners, and businesses."

The Historic Preservation Program encourages the use of tax credits for community revitalization. For assistance in project planning or for more information on the ITC program, call (314) 751-7859 or write Lance Carlson, Historical Architect. — *Lance Carlson*

## Statewide Survey

Many of our program's early survey efforts overlooked both vernacular and post-Victorian era resources. And, when they were noticed, they were often misunderstood due to the surveyors' attempts to classify them in terms of high-style architecture. In recent years, however, the Survey Program has given high priority to narrowing the data gap on vernacular and 20th-century properties.

This year, a grant-funded survey co-sponsored by the South Central Ozarks Council of Governments will concentrate on Ozark "slab-rock" or "giraffe-rock" structures which appear in large numbers in the south central region of the state. (See "Historic Architecture")

Giraffe-rock buildings are most common in the southern part of the state where native slab rock is a plentiful and inexpensive building material; enough of the flat brown/ochre-colored stone slabs could often be gathered at the building site to provide veneer for an entire house. Giraffes are also found in northern Missouri but in smaller numbers, due to the fact that the Ozark rock had to be imported.

Thousands of Missouri Giraffes were built between 1920-1940, but examples exist as early as 1910 and as late as 1990. Their existence can probably be at least partially attributed to the 20th century Arts and Crafts movement in America which emphasized the use of native and natural building materials. The majority of existing Giraffes are in Craftsman styles, primarily bungalow types.

We are especially interested in the local craftsmen and architects who designed and built Ozark rock buildings. If you have information on these designers and builders or would like more information on the survey program, call (314) 751-5367 or write Gerald Lee Gilleard, Survey Coordinator. — *Gerald Lee Gilleard*

## Public Comments Requested . . .

Each year our federal partner, the National Park Service, requires that we prepare an annual work program. Preparation of the fiscal year 1992 work program

is currently underway. To assist us in ensuring that your preservation needs are met, we encourage your comments on (1) Missouri's statewide preservation needs and (2) priorities for the selection and funding of Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) subgrants.

In Missouri, decisions regarding preservation needs and priorities are based on review and evaluation of Missouri's comprehensive historic preservation and planning process, a continually evolving approach based on analysis of the cultural resource database and consideration of input from the public and private sectors. Guided by the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation," the planning process is based on a methodical, sequential approach to preservation: identification, evaluation, registration, and protection.

The first step, identification, concerns documentation of Missouri's cultural resources and the incorporation of that data into the statewide inventory. This information forms the foundation of our preservation effort, the cultural resources database. Compiled primarily through our ongoing site survey, this data assists the state, local governments, and private organizations and individuals in decision-making by providing sufficient information for evaluating resources and developing strategies for their long-term preservation.

The second step, evaluation, is a logical outgrowth of the identification phase. Identified resources are evaluated in terms of the local, state, or national historic context, and recommendations are made as to which resources merit recommendation to the National Register of Historic Places.

The registration phase involves the preparation of nominations of evaluated resources to the National Register.

The final phase in the preservation sequence is protection. The extent, location, and significance of identified resources are analyzed and plans are developed for their long-term protection.

For Fiscal Year 1992, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has identified projects that conform to the above planning sequence, with specific priorities as follows:

### Survey Priorities

(including architectural or archaeological surveys and survey plans)

- Surveys in areas representing data gaps in Missouri's cultural resource database (i.e., areas or properties not previously

surveyed or surveyed at an inadequate level).

- Surveys of unidentified resources threatened by rapid development, destruction, neglect or age.
- Subsequent phases of successful surveys begun under a previous grant cycle.
- Surveys contributing to development of historic contexts.

#### Nomination Priorities

- Nominations of significant properties identified in previously completed surveys or properties which have been determined eligible through the eligibility assessment process.
- Nominations of eligible properties endangered by rapid development, destruction, neglect, or age.
- Nominations of properties filling data gaps in Missouri's National Register listing (e.g., counties, themes, or property types not adequately represented).

#### Protection Priorities

Protective activities (development of historic district design guidelines, preservation workshops, newsletters, etc.) as the final phase of successfully

completed identification, evaluation, and registration phases (i.e., survey and nomination).

- Preservation education and awareness activities (brochures, newsletters, workshops, etc.) of a broad-based nature that have statewide or regional applicability.

#### Certified Local Government Priorities

- Projects to develop a preservation plan for integration into a city master plan and planning activities.
- Projects to assist in the implementation of a local historic preservation program within city procedures.
- Projects that encourage networking and provide an opportunity for commissions to exchange information.
- Innovative projects which will serve as a statewide model or that will address a specific common preservation problem or topic.

#### SHPO Priorities

- Projects that provide maximum benefit in terms of federal apportionment.
- Reasonable distribution of funds between urban and rural areas.
- Distribution of available funds to the

maximum number of applicants possible.

The SHPO is interested in funding quality projects that meet the priorities above. However, projects that address the following data gaps would be of particular interest:

- properties relating to women's history;
- properties relating to the themes of tourism and transportation (ca 1916-1940);
- properties relating to the theme of agriculture; and
- black archaeological sites.

Grant applications for 1992 will be distributed in late summer. Call (314) 751-7861 or write Jerald Stepnoff, Grants Manager, with comments, suggestions, or for more information. — *Claire Blackwell*

## archaeology PROFILES

Twenty student archaeologists will learn the practical side of historic archaeology while helping enlarge our understanding of St. Louis history. Michael Fuller, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Anthropology at St. Louis Community College-Florissant Valley, will direct the three-week project from May 20 until June 7.

Research will focus on the 2600 block of Delmar Boulevard. Historic preservation activities in this area of St. Louis have been focused on the Scott Joplin House State Historic Site. This work will help historians interpret the Morgan Street neighborhood during the period of Joplin's residence and will also address broader issues related to the St. Louis African American community.

The 1991 excavation will be the first step in what may be many seasons of archaeological research at this site. Students participating in the project pay tuition, write papers concerning their discoveries, and receive three hours of college credit. For more information call (314) 595-4244.

— *Michael Fuller*

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## MISSOURI

### HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE

#### *Ozark Giraffe-Rock Houses (ca 1910-1940)*

##### Characteristics:

- Usually small scale, one or one-and-one-half stories.
- Craftsman, bungalow styles predominate.
- Wood frame construction.
- Natural, rock-faced, sandstone, or limestone veneer.
- Veneer rock occurs in a range of colors from ochre to brown.
- Predominant mortar joints, often painted.



FILE PHOTO

Grant Street, Thayer

## Post Cards from Wauconda

The Curt Teich Postcard Archives at the Lake County Museum in Wauconda, Ill., is a valuable new source of information for researchers. The Curt Teich Company of Chicago, which operated from 1898 through 1974, was the world's largest volume printer of view and advertising post cards.

The collection includes approximately 8,103 post cards of locations in Missouri, which can be used to document the visual appearance and construction history of Missouri properties. The archives includes copies of every image the company printed, printing process production materials, photographic prints and negatives, client letters (detailing if and how a view should be altered), layout drawings, and items sent by clients as color samples. Materials are computer indexed by location, date and subject.

To obtain additional information about conducting research in the archives, contact Beverly Fleming, Historic Preservation Coordinator, Kansas City Regional Office, at (816) 795-8655 or contact the Curt Teich Postcard Archives directly at (708) 526-8638.

## Dates to Remember

**Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Meeting** May 10. (Next meeting August 9.) For more information, call (314) 751-5365.

**National Preservation Week, "Celebrate YOUR Heritage"** May 12-18. Check media for local celebrations.

**Kansas City Area Preservation Week activities** May 12-19. Call Kansas City Landmarks (816) 274-2555 for a "Calendar of Events."

**St. Louis Area Preservation Week activities** May 12-18. Call St. Louis Landmarks Association (314) 421-1778 for a complete listing.

**Public Archaeology Lecture Series** May 18, Hannibal. Call Archaeological Survey of Missouri Hotline 1 (800) 472-3223.

**Barn Again! Grants application deadline June 1.** Matching grants of \$5,000 are available for the preservation of historic farm buildings. Call the National Trust for Historic Preservation (303) 623-1504 for an application or more information.

**Depot Preservation Grants application deadline June 1.** Matching grants of \$5,000 are available for the preservation of historic train depots. Call the National Trust for Historic Preservation (303) 623-1504 for an application or more information.

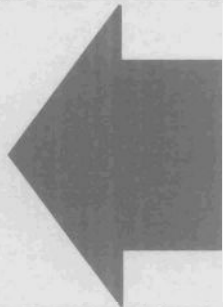
**Route 66 Meeting** June 15 at the Deer Lake Country Club, Springfield. Tom Snyder, author of the *Route 66 Traveler's Guide & Roadside Companion*, is the guest speaker. Call Mary Lou Stone (417) 749-2242.

**Sacred Trusts IV, National Conference on Religious Property Stewardship** June 19-22, Chicago. Call Jan Jones (312) 266-2132.

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