

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Marthasville Hardware Building

other name/site number N/A

2. Location

street & town 203 Depot Street N/A not for publication

city or town Marthasville N/A vicinity

state Missouri code MO county Warren code 219 zip code 63357

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

*Mark A. Miles*

*December 27, 2007*

Signature of certifying official/Title Mark A. Miles/Deputy SHPO

Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(check only one box)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	1	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Function**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade: Specialty Store  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Function**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Two Part Commercial Block  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**foundation** \_\_\_\_\_ Stone \_\_\_\_\_

**walls** \_\_\_\_\_ Weatherboard \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Metal \_\_\_\_\_

**roof** \_\_\_\_\_ Asphalt \_\_\_\_\_

**other** \_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

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

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

**8. Description**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(enter categories from instructions)

Commerce \_\_\_\_\_

Architecture \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1902-c.1930 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

N/A \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Persons**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A \_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

Marthasville Hardware Building  
Name of Property

Warren County, MO  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** Less than one acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

1 1/5 6/6/8/7/3/0 4/2/7/7/2/7/6  
Zone Easting Northing

2 / / / / / / / / / /  
Zone Easting Northing

3 / / / / / / / / / /  
Zone Easting Northing

4 / / / / / / / / / /  
Zone Easting Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Property Tax No.

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Edward Barry & Julie Kluba

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 2/20/2007

street & number 412 Great Hills Court telephone 314-583-6417

city or town Ballwin state MO zip code 63012

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

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

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

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

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

**Property Owner**

name/title Edward Barry

street & number 412 Great Hills Court telephone 314-583-6417

city or town Ballwin state MO zip code 63012

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Marthasville Hardware Building  
Warren County, Missouri

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### Summary

The construction of the Marthasville Hardware Building at 203 Depot Street was completed in 1902. The building is relatively unchanged since its construction, being a wood frame structure, situated on a stone rubble footing. It is two stories (30') in height and measures 40' x 100'. The façade of the building boasts Mesker Bros. stamped steel ornamentation and the sides and rear retain the original wood lap siding. A shed-roofed porch extends the width of the storefront, with large display windows occupying the lower level. Although the store entry has been altered slightly, the storefront framing and configuration are largely intact. The windows on the second story, while not original, duplicate the size and 1/1 configuration of the original wood sash windows. The first floor interior of the Marthasville Hardware Building is largely intact, consisting of a 4,000 sq. ft. retail space. The second story has been divided into two large apartments. The original trim and bead-board paneling on the exterior walls have been retained, though. Behind the Marthasville Hardware Building is a non-contributing gable roof frame garage on a concrete foundation. The building has sustained remodeling projects in the 1970s and c. 1995. These alterations do not extensively impact the overall historic character and integrity of the property.

### Elaboration

The Marthasville Hardware Building occupies Lot 6 of the Lageman Addition in the township of Marthasville, Warren County. The building faces southeast toward the Katy Trail where the Marthasville Depot was situated on the original Missouri-Kansas-Texas railway. The railway came through Marthasville in 1892, which promoted the development of Depot Street as the commercial center of the town.

The building's façade features stamped steel panels with various motifs, including stylized dolphins, shells and other repeating designs, which were created and sold by the Mesker Bros. Company. The second story is divided into two large bays by paired columns in the center and near the corners of the building. Each bay contains three evenly spaced 1/1 windows. Although the windows are vinyl clad replacement windows, they are the same size and general configuration as the originals. In the areas between each window, pressed metal panels featuring dolphin and urn motifs can be seen. The building is capped with a projecting cornice framed by two large brackets and decorated with a repeating shell design. In the space separating the windows and the cornice, a plain entablature and stamped steel panels mimicking rusticated stone blocks appear. Centered in this section a signboard displays the original signage, "Marthasville Hardware Co."

On the lower level, the front also has a poured concrete porch, added in the 1970s, which replaced the original wood plank porch. The porch is covered by the original corrugated

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Marthasville Hardware Building  
Warren County, Missouri

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steel roof and supported by the original wood posts. In the planned restoration, the wood plank porch will be restored while the present posts and porch roof will be maintained.

The large picture windows, as well as the wood framing across the front of the first floor, all original, contribute to the appearance of a storefront of the early 1900s. The building has retained the kickplates, windows frames, transom frames and door surrounds. Although the recessed entry has been replaced, its original design is still evident on the wood floor of the interior. This imprint, along with images from the Mesker Bros. catalog and a photograph of the building taken between 1902-1904 (See photo 1), will provide guidelines for restoring the original storefront-type entry.

The original wood siding on the sides and rear of the building were covered with white vinyl siding in 1995. Under the present owner, this siding has been removed to reveal the original 6" wood lap siding. The siding is being restored to its original appearance. (See photos 8-11.)

The original windows on the first floor on the east and west sides of the building were removed and replaced with siding. Due to the addition of an interior stairwell on the eastern wall in the mid-1990s, access to the site of the original window has been blocked. On the west side of the building, the original window (whose location is evident because of the patched siding) will be replaced in scheduled restoration efforts.

The framed opening of a freight elevator, located on the rear section of the eastern wall, can still be seen. The elevator and access doors have long since been removed, but the original trimmed opening remains and now features an overhead door to provide entry to the rear of the building.

A wood deck was added to the rear of the building on the second story. The original window openings and framing, which mirror the front of the building, can still be seen. The original six windows, however, have been replaced with three vinyl-clad windows, with the remaining three window openings enclosed.

Inside the building, the large open floor plan of the first floor was ideal for its original purpose, serving as a hardware store for Marthasville and surrounding communities. It featured a finished hardwood floor, running the entire length of the building. In the planned restoration, a new floor will be installed to evoke the look of the original.

The original ceiling and exterior walls, which have only been altered by multiple coats of paint, will be refurbished to reflect the building's original appearance.

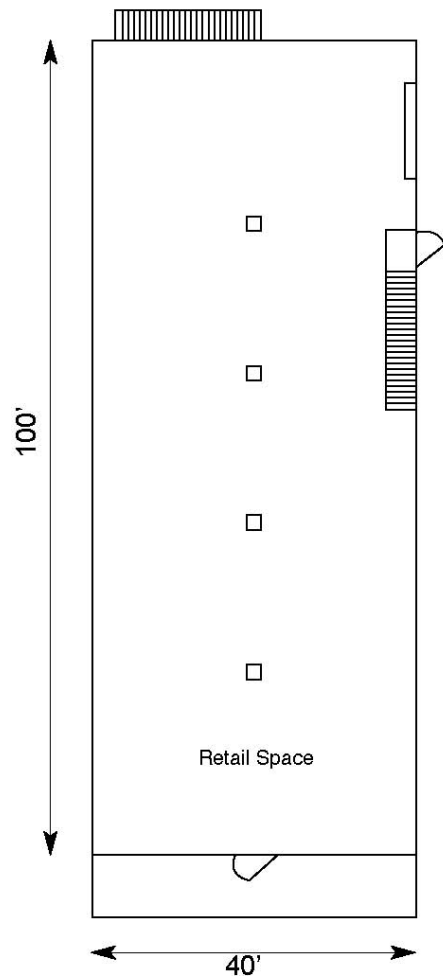
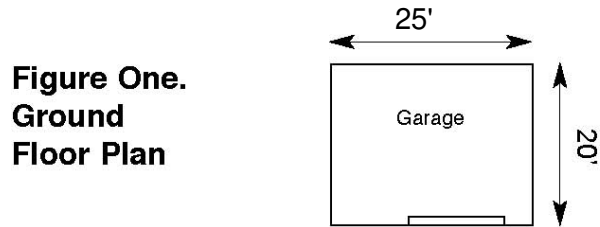
The second floor has been changed significantly since the early 1900s, with its current use as two 4-bedroom apartments. The once-open floor plan has been replaced with dividing walls and kitchen and bath structures have been installed. The rear apartment was constructed in the early 1970s and has remained intact. The apartment in the front of the building was built in the mid-1990s and is unchanged today.

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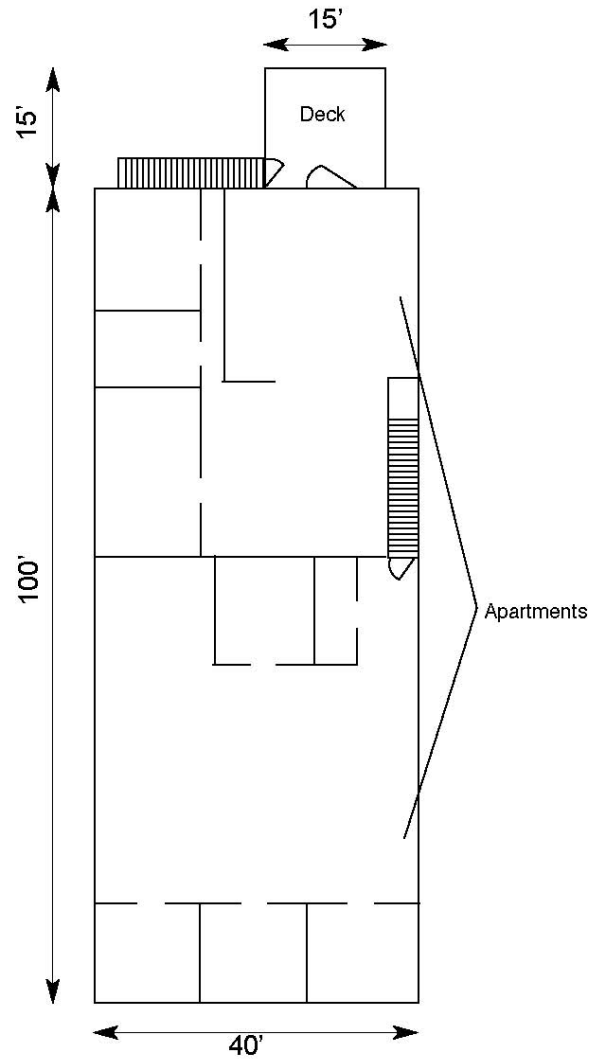
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Marthasville Hardware Building  
Warren County, Missouri



**Figure Two. Second Floor Plan**



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Marthasville Hardware Building  
Warren County, Missouri

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### Summary

The Marthasville Hardware Building, located at 203 Depot Street, Marthasville, Warren County, is locally significant under Criteria A and C in the areas of Commerce and Architecture. Built under the direction of Frederick Gottfried Ahmann (referred to as Gottfried), the son of German immigrants, the building housed a store that offered hardware as well as a variety of other items. The business, owned and operated by Ahmann, opened in 1902 and served Marthasville and the surrounding rural communities until the early 1930's. Due to its location along the Missouri River, Marthasville became a regional trading center, increasing in population and commerce when the Missouri, Kansas, Texas Railroad extended their railline through the town. Ahmann's hardware business was ideally situated along the new railway, where he could readily supply hardware, farm implements and wagons to area residents. Although the Marthasville Hardware store was not the only hardware business in the town when it was in operation, the sheer size of the two-story building, coupled with its diverse offerings, set it apart from all area businesses. In addition to the Marthasville Hardware building's significant presence in "downtown Marthasville" and unique merchandise, its façade features Mesker Bros. stamped steel panels ordered from Mesker Bros. Iron Works in St. Louis. The ornamentation is an excellent example of typical Mesker motifs, including dolphins, urns and shells. The period of significance of the property is 1902 through c. 1930; the building's construction and function as a hardware and general store under the ownership of Gottfried Ahmann, until its purchase by MFA.

### Elaboration

The town of Marthasville was officially established in 1818 by Dr. John A. Young, of Virginia, although the community had been in existence for some time, with historical accounts naming Daniel Boone and son-in-law, Flanders Calloway, as founders of the Marthasville settlement in 1801. Historians describe the village of Marthasville as:

the first town settled in Warren county, is located about two miles from the Missouri River on a bluff from which can be readily seen from the hills on the opposite or Franklin county side of the river...In the olden time, the town was the principal landing place for all the territory comprising Warren county, its shipping interests at that time aggregating an immense business. (History of St. Charles, Montgomery and Warren Counties, Missouri, 1029-1030.)

The town, due to its proximity to the Missouri River, was commonly known as Marthasville Landing, and was considered the most convenient shipping point in Warren County. As the town continued to grow, immigrants moved to the area, most notably a large contingent of Germans during the 1830s. By the 1850s, Marthasville had developed into a regional trading center. The size of the town continued to increase from 1850 to 1883, when local businesses included steam-powered saw, flour and planing mills, one Evangelical and

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Marthasville Hardware Building  
Warren County, Missouri

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three Methodist churches, one German school, both white and colored schools, two stores, blacksmith shops and a hotel. (Gregory, 3)

By the time the Missouri, Kansas, Texas Railroad came through Marthasville in 1892, the community had over a 40-year history of trading and commerce. The new railway, situated along the south edge of the community, created another commercial "zone," which became known as "downtown Marthasville." This new part of town was located at the southwest corner of the Original Town, and included Mittler's Addition and Lageman's Addition. The Marthasville Hardware Co. Building sits on Lot 7 of Lageman's Addition.

This property was purchased from John Mittler, by Gottfried Ahmann, along with 3 additional lots in 1901. A mention of the purchase was made in the Marthasville Record, in which Ahmann's business aspirations are clear: "Mr. Ahmann informs us that he will erect a large business house on the vacant lot in the near future, in which he intends to open up a hardware store." (Local Pick-ups, August, 1901) Gottfried Ahmann certainly recognized the profitability of his business, due to his building's prime location along the relatively new railline and the area's increasing population, from 300 residents in 1890, to nearly 550 in 1901. (Local Pick-Ups, June, 1901)

The Marthasville area attracted American and immigrant farmers alike, due to its rich soil and its operation as a river port and rail depot—two means of shipping large quantities of various agricultural products. One of these immigrant farmers was Frederich Wilhelm Ahmann, of Westphalia, Prussia, Germany.

Frederich Wilhelm Ahmann was born in 1830 on the original family farm, which is an historical landmark built in 1800. Frederich (also spelled Frederick), was educated in Germany until age seventeen. He lived and worked on his parents' farm until the age of twenty-one, when he was drafted into the German army. After three year's service, Frederick was discharged from the army and returned to the family farm. Here,

he remained with his father, assisting him in the various duties devolving upon the farmers of that country for four more years, then bade farewell to his friends, home and native land and sailed for America. (Portrait & Biographical Record of Warren County, MO, 20)

During this time at home, Frederick married Lisette Steinigeweg in 1857, and they journeyed to the United States together, along with several of Frederick's siblings. Arriving in Baltimore, in 1858, the Ahmanns stayed but a short time, making their way westward instead. They traveled to Warren County, Missouri, where three of Frederick's uncles lived in the area where the first group of Germans had arrived in 1832.

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Marthasville Hardware Building  
Warren County, Missouri



Frederich Wilhelm and Lisette Ahmann  
with their children. Gottfried is seated at the far right.  
Photo courtesey of Thomas Ahmann.

Frederick W. Ahmann and Wife, Lisette, settled on their 153-acre farm just three miles from Marthasville, and near the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad. There, the Ahmanns had eleven children, with only three surviving to adulthood – Matilda, Frederick Gottfried (known as Gottfried) and Frederick Wilhelm. (Portrait & Biographical Record of Warren County, MO, 20).

Gottfried attended Central Wesleyan College and became the Surveyor of Warren County. He is credited with building the first steel bridge in the county. In 1902, Gottfried opened his store at 203 Depot Street. The local newspaper, the Marthasville Record, noted the event with this brief mention: "The Marthasville Hardware Co. a new firm that has opened up with a new line of up-to-date Hardware and Farm Machinery in their new building are now open for business." (Local Pick-ups, March 7, 1902) In addition to selling hardware, the store boasted a variety of farm supplies, implements and even wagons and buggies. (See photos 1, 2 and 3). Several advertisements from the Marthasville Record in 1902 show the breadth of Ahmann's offerings, including "a good farm wagon for \$50.00," "superior stoves and ranges for sale," "The Wearing Body Paint" and "Elwood woven wire fencing for hogs, lawns or yard fencing." (Local Pick-ups, August 29, 1902) Gottfried Ahmann even sold large items, such as buggies, as evidenced by this notice in the Marthasville Record, "The Marthasville Hardware Company received a car load of buggies and surreys Monday." (Local Pick-ups, January 1902) These were stored on the second floor of the building, where the large, open space made a perfect showroom. (See photo 3). Perhaps the most interesting item offered at the Marthasville

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Marthasville Hardware Building  
Warren County, Missouri

Hardware Company was the Hupmobile Car, for which Ahmann was the only merchant in Marthasville and the surrounding areas of the Charrette and Pinckney Townships.



Advertisement from the *Marthasville Record*, 1902.

F. G. AHMANN      Established in 1902      F. W. AHMANN

# Marthasville Hardware Company

DEALERS IN

## Hardware, Graniteware, Cutlery

Agents for "Good Enough" and "Best Ever" Sulky Plows, Missouri Plow Co.'s and John Deere Light Draft Sulky and Walking Plows—the best light draft Plows, known the world over. McCormick Self Binder, Adriance Self Binder, and the Johnston Self Binder; also, their respective Mowers and Sulky Rakes. Henry and Anchor Buggies. Agency for the Cushman Gasoline Engine, made by the Cushman Motor Works, Lincoln, Neb., the only successful engine on the market to-day that will successfully operate your self binder, do your wood sawing, churn your butter, turn the washing machine, pump your water, and weighing only 190 pounds.

Agency for THE HUPMOBILE CAR in Charrette and Pinckney Township

We have had our "ups and downs"—we have enjoyed big business years, and we have experienced years with little business—climatic conditions, weather, crops, and our own human frailties govern and measure that. Thanking our customers and friends for the confidence and good will bestowed on us in the past, our future motto shall be: WILL TRY AND SERVE YOU BETTER.

## Marthasville Hardware Co.

MARTHASVILLE, MISSOURI

Advertisement from the *Marthasville Record*, c. 1910.

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Marthasville Hardware Building  
Warren County, Missouri

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The Marthasville Hardware business flourished for over 25 years under the direction of Gottfried Ahmann, until the Great Depression of the 1930's. Ahmann, like so many American businessmen, was dramatically affected by the financial hardships of the time and was forced to sell the hardware building to the MFA.

From 1930 to the present, the building has changed ownership several times, housing such businesses as a farm supply and a grocery store. But its historic significance is tied to its beginnings as a hardware and general store business, located in the heart of a bustling and growing rural community along the Missouri River and MKT railline.

The Marthasville Hardware building was then, as it is now, the largest example of commercial building trends which were popular at the turn of the century. The Marthasville Hardware Co. was housed in an attractive new building which featured elaborate decorations of stylized dolphins, shells and other designs which were previously unseen on buildings in the area. For this reason, the hardware building's façade was a novelty, which showcased Mesker Bros. stamped steel designs. These panels could be ordered from a catalog to enhance the appearance of otherwise plain structures, then shipped via railway to the buyer. (See figures 1 and 2)

The Mesker business of creating and selling stamped steel ornamentation originated in Evansville, Indiana, about 1859, where John Bernard Mesker established his sheet metal business. His sons, George L., Bernard Thomas and Frank learned the trade from their father and continued his business. Two of the brothers, Bernard and Frank, moved to St. Louis, where they started the Mesker Bros. Iron Works in the 1870s; while George stayed in Evansville and continued his father's company under the name of the Geo. L. Mesker Company. (Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, [www.gotmesker.com](http://www.gotmesker.com))

It was from the Mesker Bros. Iron Works that Gottfried Ahmann purchased his distinctive storefront. The nameplate included with the ornamental panels can still be seen on the building as part of one of the front columns attached to the building. (See photo 7). The Mesker Bros.' catalog, from 1902, featured over 130 possible storefront designs, with measurements and descriptions of each steel panel. Their in-catalog promotion read:

"We have made the manufacture of Complete House Fronts our specialty and have successfully introduced them throughout the United States and Canada. We claim for our fronts as chief advantages, economy in price, artistic and modern design, durability, perfect and practical construction." (Mesker Bros. catalog, 1902)

A photograph of the front of the Marthasville Hardware building taken between 1902 and 1904 depicts its many examples of the Mesker Bros. handiwork. (See photo 1) Although the company's catalog featured many options for entire storefront designs, the stamped steel panels could be ordered individually, which allowed for thousands of possible combinations. It is this versatility which made the Mesker Bros. Products so appealing. The Marthasville Hardware building is unique in its façade, because it is a combination of many of the Mesker Bros. stamped steel elements, instead of a standard storefront package as shown in the 1902 catalog.

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Warren County, Missouri

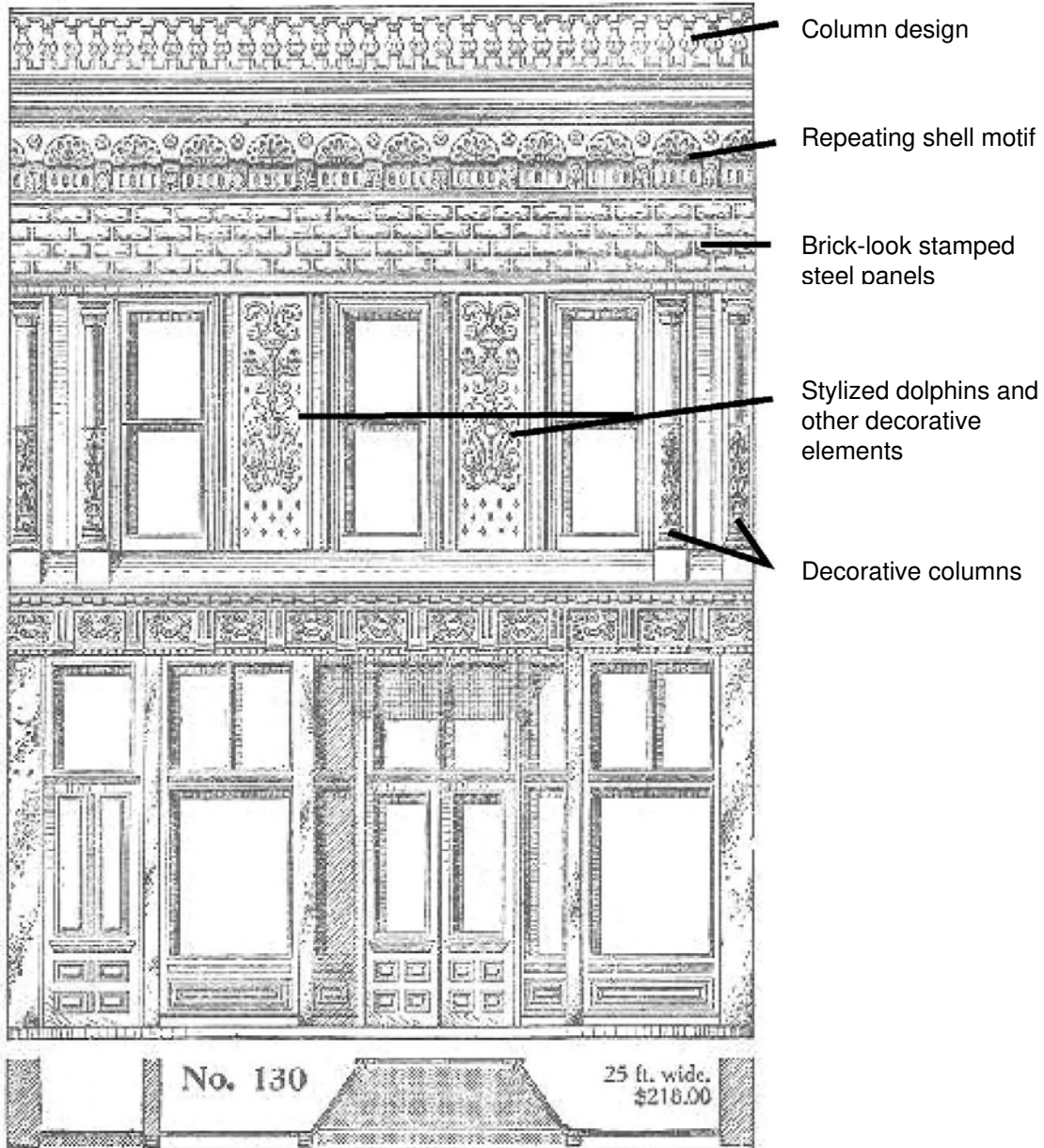


Figure 1. Storefront No. 130 from the Mesker Bros. Iron Works catalog, 1902.

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Marthasville Hardware Building  
Warren County, Missouri

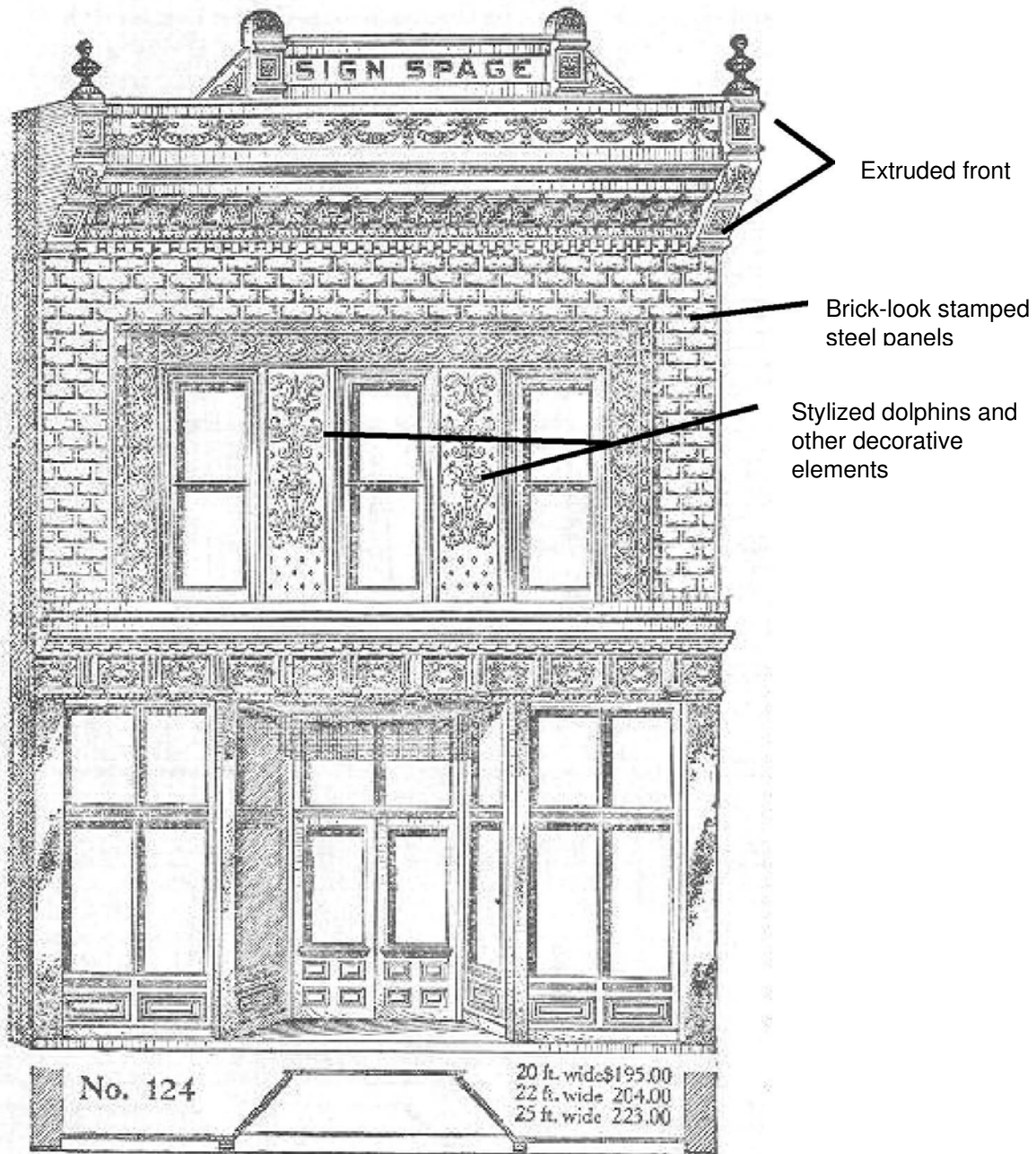


Figure 2. Storefront No. 124 from the Mesker Bros. Iron Works catalog, 1902.

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Warren County, Missouri

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A detail of the designs on the second story of the Marthasville Hardware building can be seen in Photo 6. This front is similar in design to storefront numbers 124 and 130 (See Figures 1 and 2) of the Mesker Bros. 1902 catalog. Both fronts feature stylized dolphins and other signature Mesker Bros. designs between the upper windows. Storefront No. 130, like the Marthasville Hardware building, also has decorative columns toward the outside edges of the building and between the center windows.

Above the windows, there are several bands with various designs. The lower bands are two smooth bands, one wide, one narrow. The stamped steel panels directly above the smooth bands mimic rough-cut brick. It is in this area that one of the many possible variations of the Mesker designs can be seen. On the Marthasville Hardware building, unlike the catalog examples, the brick section includes an area for signage. Directly above the brick-like panels, the façade of the Marthasville Hardware building is very much like storefront No. 130, with a row of a repeating shell design, an extruded cornice above and a row of columns along the top. Although the front patterns on the building are similar to Mesker storefront No. 130, the upper portion of the building at 203 Depot Street includes an attractive cornice, which is much like storefront No. 124.

It is evident that Gottfried Ahmann wanted his building to be unique, choosing many different elements from the Mesker Bros. catalog, instead of a pre-made storefront. Although his building is not the only example of Mesker ornamentation in the area, Ahmann's structure is distinctive and its impressive size makes the building stand out in Marthasville's commercial district. A neighboring building also displays Mesker designs, but they are less ornate and were actually manufactured by the Geo. L. Mesker Company. The Marthasville Hardware building, due to its size and its well-preserved Mesker designs, is still as eye-catching today as it must have been when it was first built over 100 years ago. Its construction and early history embody the rich commercial heritage of Marthasville as well as the development of many thriving rural towns along the MKT railway of the early 1900's.

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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Marthasville Hardware Building  
Warren County, Missouri

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Marthasville Hardware Building  
Warren County, Missouri

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### Verbal Boundary Description

All of Lot 6 of Lageman's Addition to Marthasville, Warren County, Missouri.

### Boundary Justification

The current boundaries include all of the land presently and historically associated with the Marthasville Hardware building.

### Photographs

Marthasville Hardware Building  
Warren County, Missouri

Photo 1: photographer unknown, 1902-1904, front view of building with camera facing north.

Photo 2: photographer unknown, 1902-1904, inside view of first floor of building and merchandise for sale.

Photo 3: photographer unknown, 1902-1904, inside view of second floor of building with buggies for purchase.

Photos 4 through 8 were taken by Edward Barry in 2006.

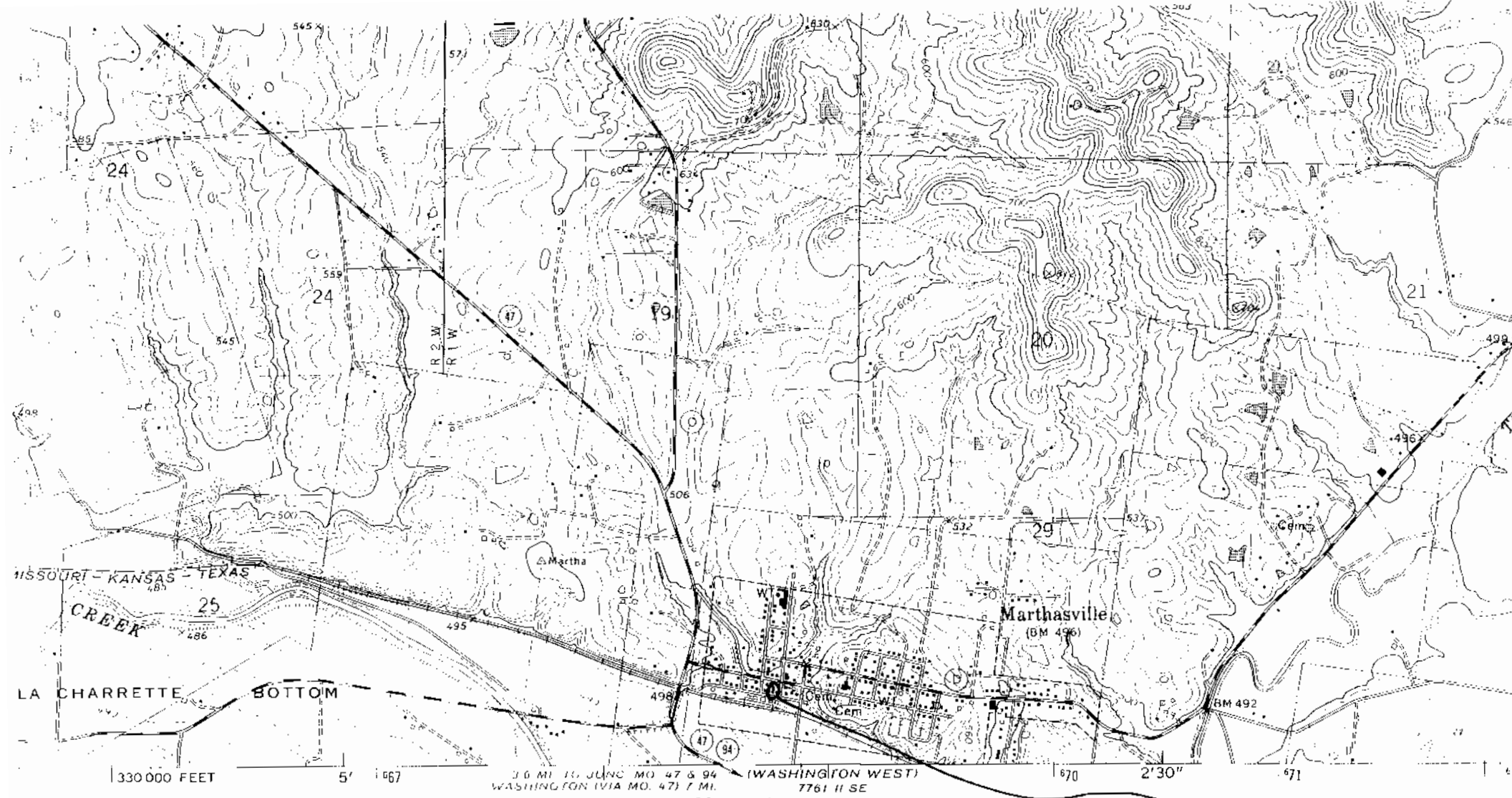
Photo 4: front of building with original Mesker Bros. façade and Marthasville Hardware Co. signage, looking northwest.

Photo 5: east elevation, looking west northwest

Photo 6: west elevation, looking northeast

Photo 7: rear of building showing carport and non-contributing garage building, looking east.

Photo 8: Interior, first floor, looking south.



MISSOURI - KANSAS - TEXAS

LA CHARRETTE CREEK

LA CHARRETTE BOTTOM

Marthasville  
(BM 496)

330 000 FEET

5' 667

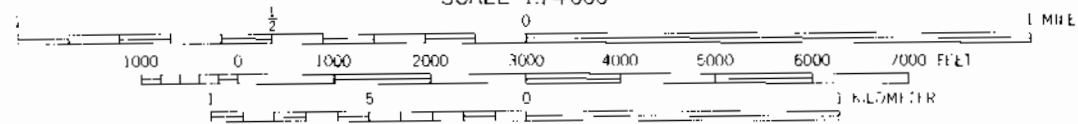
3.6 MI TO JUNCTION MO 47 & 94 (WASHINGTON WEST) 7761 II SE  
WASHINGTON (VIA MO. 47) 7 MI.

670

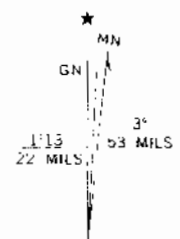
2'30"

671

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
 DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS  
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



UTM GRID AND 1985 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
 AND DIVISION OF GEOLOGY AND LAND SURVEY  
 MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, ROLLA, MISSOURI 65401  
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

*Marthasville Hardware Building  
 203 Depot Street*



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

*Marthasville  
 Warren County,  
 Mo*

MARTHASVILLE HARDWARE CO.

TOOLS—CUTLERY  
MARTHASVILLE, N.C.

MARTHASVILLE

HARDWARE

IMPLEMENTS







MARTHASVILLE HARDWARE CO

211

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CYCLES.com  
Marthasville  
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