

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 any 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 Moore, J. Herbert House

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 445 N. Eleventh Street not for publication N/A

city or town Poplar Bluff vicinity N/A

state Missouri code MO county Butler code 023 zip code 63901

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets        does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant        nationally        statewide X locally. (       See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Claire F. Blackwell 24 Dec. 97  
Signature of certifying official Claire F. Blackwell Date  
Deputy SHPO

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 commenting or other official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:  
       entered in the National Register         
              See continuation sheet.  
       determined eligible for the         
National Register         
              See continuation sheet.  
       determined not eligible for the         
National Register         
       removed from the National Register         
       other (explain):       

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

Moore, J. Herbert, House  
Name of Property

Butler County, MO  
County and State

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### 5. Classification

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Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)    Category of Property (Check only one box)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure
	<input type="checkbox"/> object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

Historic Resources of Poplar Bluff, Missouri

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### 6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>Single Dwelling</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>Single Dwelling</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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### 7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

MODERN MOVEMENT/International Style

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Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	<u>concrete</u>
roof	<u>asphalt</u>
walls	<u>concrete</u>
	<u>stucco</u>
other	<u>wood</u>
	_____

Narrative Description

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

Moore, J. Herbert, House  
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## 8. Statement of Significance

### 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.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a 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.

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions).

ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Period of Significance

1938  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Significant Dates

1938  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

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

### Cultural Affiliation

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

### Architect/Builder

Unknown/Moore, J. Herbert  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Narrative Statement of Significance

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

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

(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 # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Department of Natural Resources



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Moore, J. Herbert, House  
name of property  
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Historic Resources of Poplar Bluff, MO

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Summary

The J. Herbert Moore House is a two-story, residential building constructed in 1938 in the International style. The dwelling is Poplar Bluff's most representative example of the International style and it retains much of its original design and detailing. The dwelling has a flat roof and is of wood and concrete construction with a stuccoed exterior. The building is irregularly massed and features asymmetrically placed windows and doors. Windows include plate glass windows on the main facade added ca. 1960, original one-over-one and two-over-two wood sash windows, original multi-light steel casement windows, and original structural glass blocks. The interior retains much of its original floor plan, however, some of the interior wall and ceiling finishes are later additions. Despite these changes, the dwelling retains much of its overall form and plan from its original construction. The dwelling is included within the Residential Building property type in the Historic Resources of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, multiple property nomination.

Narrative Description

The J. Herbert Moore House is located at 445 North Eleventh Street in Poplar Bluff, Missouri. The dwelling is located in a residential area to the northwest of downtown Poplar Bluff. Constructed in 1938 as a single-family residence, the J. Herbert Moore House continues to be utilized for this purpose. The J. Herbert Moore House is a two-story, irregular-plan, International-style dwelling and is sited on a large urban lot. With the exception of the dwelling and attached garage and carport, there are no other buildings or structures on the property.

The dwelling has a flat roof of asphalt based material and is of wood and concrete construction with a stuccoed exterior. The building is irregularly massed and features asymmetrically placed windows and doors. Window design varies and includes plate glass windows on the main facade added ca. 1960, original one-over-one and two-over-two wood sash windows, original multi-light steel casement windows, and original structural glass blocks. A brick, exterior, end-wall chimney with stepped chimney breast is located on the north elevation and was added ca. 1975. An interior drainage system empties through the parapet walls to connect with surface mounted gutters and downspouts.

The primary entrance is located on the east facade within a small one-story, flat roofed, projecting entry bay. The entrance contains a wood paneled door added ca. 1975. Adjacent to the entrance is an original sidelight of structural glass blocks. The entrance is reached by poured concrete steps and a wrought iron railing. Over the entrance is a wood and metal canopy.

A secondary entrance, composed of ca. 1975 sliding glass doors, is located in the northwest corner of the west (rear) elevation. This entry opens onto a narrow cast concrete porch which is reached by a flight of cast concrete stairs bound by a wrought iron handrail and balustrade. Porch steps open onto a stone terrace on the rear facade.

A one-story, rectangular-plan, garage and carport was erected ca. 1958 and attached to the south facade. This garage and carport was designed to compliment the original design of the dwelling and has a flat roof and stuccoed exterior walls. The south facade of the carport is supported by wrought iron posts and decorative concrete block.

In 1991, a one-story, rectangular-plan, flat-roof bathroom addition was attached to the exterior of the west (rear) elevation. This addition was designed by local architect H.R. Porterfield who built the addition with stuccoed walls, a flat roof, and structural glass blocks to compliment the dwelling. This addition is not readily visible from the street.

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The interior of the dwelling retains much of its original floor plan and design. The major changes to the interior include the ca. 1975 addition of a fireplace and chimney on the north facade wall and remodeling of the kitchen. The dwelling retains its original hardwood floors and single-panel wood doors. In some areas carpeting has been placed over the wood floors. When the house was purchased by the present owner in 1956, there was extensive water damage from roof leaks. This resulted in the removal of many plaster wall and ceiling finishes and their replacement with drywall. The master bedroom on the first floor retains its original plaster walls. Original fixtures and tile surfaces remain in the second floor bathroom. The house has a full basement with a concrete floor.

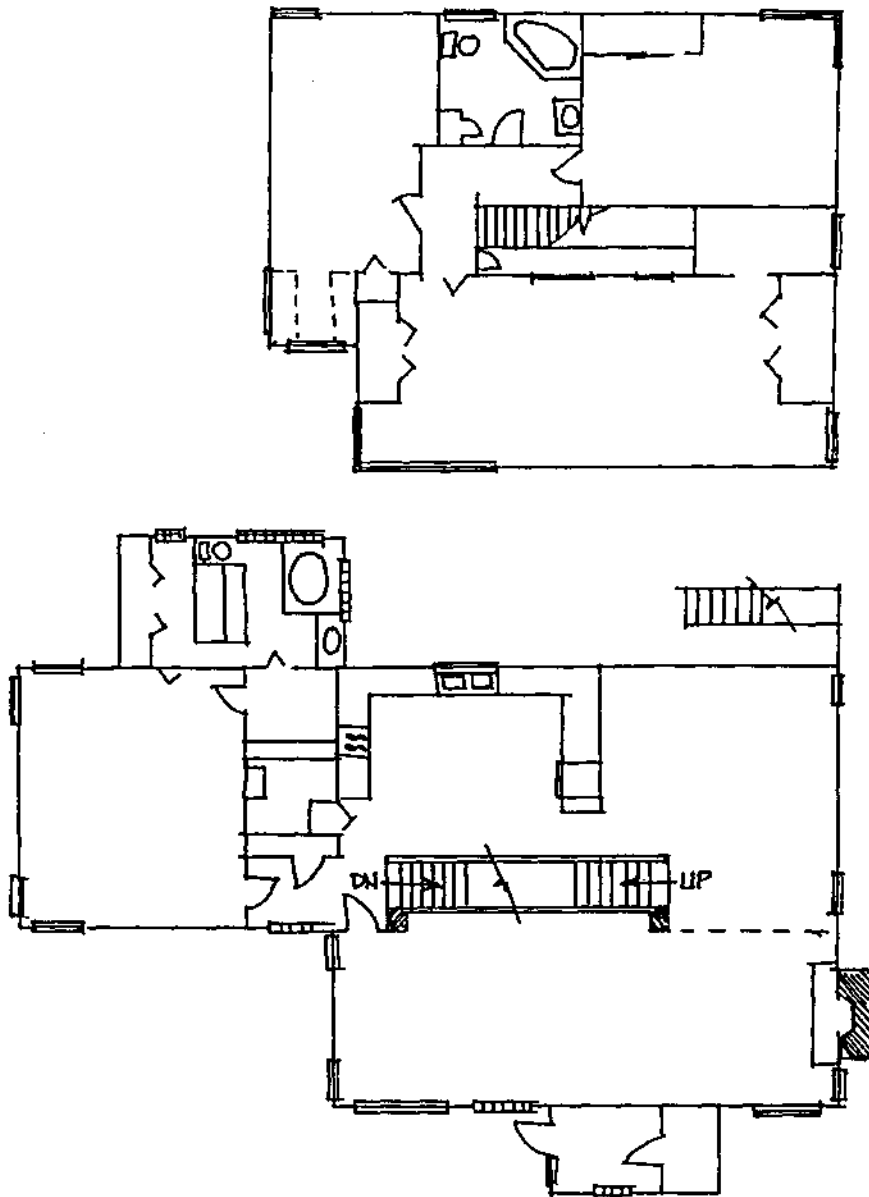
The J. Herbert Moore House rests on a steeply rolling grassed lot and faces east towards North Eleventh Street. A cast concrete driveway leads from the street into the carport. A garden marked with a flagstone walk and shrubbery are located to the rear of the house. With the exception of the dwelling and attached garage and carport, there are no other buildings or structures on the lot.

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J. Herbert Moore House  
445 N. 11th Street  
Poplar Bluff, MO  
Floor Plan, First and Second Floors  
Not To Scale

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Moore, J. Herbert, House  
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SUMMARY

The J. Herbert Moore House is significant under National Register Criterion C for its architectural design. The residential building is the only example of the International style constructed in the city of Poplar Bluff in the mid-20th century. Its period of significance is its construction date of 1938. The dwelling was designed with many characteristics of this style including a smooth stucco exterior surface, flat roof, and large expanses of steel casement windows. This style was rarely built in Missouri outside of the major urban areas of Kansas City and St. Louis. The J. Herbert Moore House is a unique architectural resource in Poplar Bluff and retains much of its original form and plan. In the 1950s the present carport and garage were added but these additions were designed to blend with the dwelling. Despite later changes to the fenestration, the dwelling possesses sufficient integrity to meet National Register criteria. The J. Herbert Moore House is associated with the historic context of Late 19th and Early 20th Century Residential Buildings of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, ca. 1880-1943. The dwelling is included within the Residential Building property type in the Historic Resources of Poplar Bluff, Missouri multiple property nomination.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

On October 18, 1938, J. Herbert Moore and his wife, Francis Moore, purchased lots 7 & 8 for \$5,000 from O. A. and Eva G. Tedrick. Soon after, the Moore's constructed this two-story International style dwelling facing North Eleventh Street. J. Herbert Moore was a businessman who operated the Moore Ford Motor Sales and was in real estate development. Moore built one of the first strip shopping centers on U.S. 67 and was involved with other construction projects during the 1930s and 1940s.<sup>1</sup> After the dwelling was completed, Moore purchased two adjacent lots to provide additional garden space. According to family tradition, Moore constructed the house as a dwelling for both his family and his mother. In the 1945 and 1949 city directories, J. Herbert Moore is listed as the owner and occupant of the house.<sup>2</sup>

The origin of this dwelling's design is unknown. The present owner is not aware of the dwelling's architect and no plans are known to exist. It is the understanding of the present owner that Moore was the builder of the house and based his design on a plan books of the period.<sup>3</sup> By the 1930s, the International style was known to many builders and architects. The International style was first developed at the Bauhaus in Germany where the world-renowned architects Walter Gropius and Hannes Meyer developed a radically new architectural style that was not based on historic precedents. The first buildings constructed in this style were built in the 1920s, although it was not officially called the "International style" until 1932 when Henry-Russell Hitchcock and Philip Johnson published *The International Style* - an important book which advanced the style for America.<sup>4</sup> Trademarks of the style included smooth wall finishes of concrete or metal, flat roofs, large expanses of windows, and asymmetrically-placed fenestration.

The International style was popularized in American domestic architecture by architects such as Rudolph Schindler and Richard Neutra. Both designed landmark houses in the 1920s which led the way for many commissions in the 1930s. Frank Lloyd Wright,

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<sup>1</sup> Personal interview, Elivia May, 9 April, 1997.

<sup>2</sup> W.H. Hoffman's City Directory of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, 445 North Eleventh Street.

<sup>3</sup> Personal interview, Elivia May, 9 April, 1997.

<sup>4</sup> American Architecture, Roth, p. 243.

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an American architect from Chicago, also began designing his Usonian houses throughout the United States in the 1930s, perhaps the most famous being the Edgar J. Kaufmann House, or "Fallingwater" (1936-37). These architects were the leaders in developing the International style in American architecture, however, scores of lesser-known architects and designers also adopted the style. International style houses were even adopted by Sears in the late 1930s which advertised the "Bryant" for sale through its mail order business.<sup>5</sup> These dwellings were generally more popular in large cities than in smaller communities and this style is rarely found in cities the size of Poplar Bluff.

Moore continued to own the property until 1949 when he sold the property to his sister, Mickey Bloodworth, and her husband, Charles T. Bloodworth. The Bloodworths owned the property from 1950 until 1956. On July 25, 1956, Dr. Albert Louis May, Jr. and his wife, Elivia C. May, purchased the property from the Bloodworths for \$28,000. Dr. May (1917-1995), attended Emory University at Atlanta, Georgia, and was a surgeon at the Lucy Lee Hospital in Poplar Bluff. The property is currently owned by Dr. May's widow, Elivia C. May.

Additional information on the historic contexts and significance of the J. Herbert Moore House is located in the accompanying Multiple Property Cover Document, "Historic Resources of Poplar Bluff, Missouri."

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<sup>5</sup> Houses By Mail, Stevenson and Jandl, p. 342.

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Bibliography

Hoffman, W.H. City Directory of Poplar Bluff, Missouri. Quincy, Illinois: The Hoffman Directories Company, 1945 and 1949.

May, Elivia. Personal interview, 9 April, 1997.

Roth, Leland M. A Concise History of American Architecture. New York: Harper and Row, 1979.

Stevenson, Katherine, and Jandl, H. Ward. Houses by Mail, A Guide to Houses from Sears, Roebuck and Company. Washington, D.C: The Preservation Press, 1986.

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary for the J. Herbert Moore House includes lot 1 of block 52 on Butler County tax map 13-2-3-2. The property is bounded on the east by North Eleventh Street, on the south by an alley, on the west by North Twelfth Street, and on the north by Cynthia Street.

**Verbal Boundary Justification**

The boundary for the J. Herbert Moore House includes all of the property historically associated with the dwelling.

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Section Photographs Page 8

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J. Herbert Moore House  
445 N. Eleventh Street  
Poplar Bluff, Butler County, Missouri  
Photo by: Thomason and Associates  
Date: January 25, 1997  
Location of Negatives: Department of Natural Resources

- Photograph No. 1: East and south facades, view towards the northwest.
- Photograph No. 2: East facade, view towards the northwest.
- Photograph No. 3: East and north facades, view towards the southwest.
- Photograph No. 4: West facade, view towards the southeast.
- Photograph No. 5: Interior view of living room.
- Photograph No. 6: Detail of second floor staircase and original single-panel wood door.

