

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 Moreau Park Historic District

other name/site number N/A

2. Location

street & town 3714 Old Wardsville Road N/A not for publication

city or town Jefferson City X vicinity

state Missouri code MO county Cole code 051 zip code 65101

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

August 11, 2009  
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 \_\_\_\_\_

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	
7	2	buildings
1	0	sites
5	0	structures
0	0	objects
13	2	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)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Domestic: Multiple Dwelling

Recreation and Culture: outdoor recreation

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

Domestic: Single Dwelling

**7. Description**

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

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**foundation** stone

**walls** stone

wood

**roof** metal

**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)

Entertainment/Recreation \_\_\_\_\_

Architecture \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

ca. 1914-1950

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Persons**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Goldammer, William

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**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

Moreau Park Historic District  
Name of Property

Cole County, MO  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 30 acres

### UTM References

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

1 1/5 5/7/2/6/1/0 4/2/6/4/9/4/0  
Zone Easting Northing

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

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

4 1/5 5/7/2/9/2/0 4/2/6/4/2/8/0  
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 Jane Rodes Beetem  
organization Historic Preservation Consultant date \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number 1612 Payne Drive telephone 573-635-0662  
city or town Jefferson City state MO zip code 65101

### 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 Dottie Dallmeyer  
street & number 3714 Wardsville Road telephone 573-636-5165  
city or town Jefferson City state MO zip code 65101

**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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**Moreau Park Historic District**  
**Cole County, MO**

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**Summary:** The 30 acre Moreau Park Historic District contains 15 historic resources, 13 of which contribute to the historic character and significance of the property. Though not the oldest building on site, the native stone Dallmeyer House, constructed c. 1924, is considered the primary building and was historically used as an inn for resort guests. The 1914 Moreau Lodge was a center of activity for the resort, hosting parties and dinners with guest rooms in the partial exposed basement level. Other contributing buildings include one remaining guest cabin, two stone outbuildings, a privy, barn, and concession stand. The entire 30 acre resort is also counted as a contributing site. The land was used for camping, recreational activities, and as a subsistence farm that supplied fresh food for lodge guests. Though deteriorated, the site still retains some historic landscaping features such as a stone entry marker, native stone retaining walls, an original double-sided stone bar-b-que pit, stone and wood and metal benches, the remains of a large concrete patio near the concession stand and native stone edging around some remaining flower beds and driveways. Another contributing landscaping feature are 100 stone steps salvaged from the Dallmeyer family home in Jefferson City when it was demolished in 1937. The district also includes two non-contributing resources, a modern chicken house and storage shed. The district is located at 3714 Old Wardsville Road, just outside the current eastern edge of Jefferson City, near a bend in the Moreau River. The Moreau Park Historic District has experienced some alterations and loss since the end of its period of significance. Its primary resources, notably the Dallmeyer House, lodge and guest cabin, retain their significant architectural features and convey their historic use and character. The contributing resources in the district maintain their location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Additionally, the site retains many of its historic landscaping features and its setting along the Moreau River, a major draw for resort guests. Moreau Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria C in the area of ARCHITECTURE, and under Criteria A in the area of ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION.

**Elaboration:** Moreau Park Historic District consists of several buildings and structures that were built to serve as an early 20<sup>th</sup> century recreational resort. The district lies south of Old Wardsville Road, just east and outside of the current Jefferson City limits near a bend in the Moreau River. This location is what made the resort attractive to guests, who came to swim, camp, canoe, fish and generally relax away from the noise, heat and pollution of the city. The northern half of the district is largely open, with a number of mature trees, and is landscaped as a residential park, with plenty of room for camping. The southern portion along the Moreau River is covered in woods and features stone bluffs. The Dallmeyer house is located near the road, with large landscaping beds adjacent to the road separated from the house by a shaded yard. The main entry to the Dallmeyer House faces the driveway, or west, and features a small concrete patio and fish pond. The driveway continues past this entrance, continuing southward past Moreau Lodge to the one remaining cottage, and on past an intermittent stream to the barn. North of the cabin is a garden area, supported by the chicken house and storage barn. Several planting beds, the stone bar-b-que and a stone bench are also in this vicinity, in a level area underneath a small

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grove of mature trees suitable for camping. The driveway also curves behind the main house, between the house and the two stone outbuildings, connecting with the road on the east side of the house. To the east from this portion of the driveway is a grassy yard, sloping to the southeast. South of the stone outbuildings is a somewhat steeper slope, with a view of the river. This slope has pasture grasses rather than lawn, and therefore the grasses are taller in this area. From the location of the house high on a hill, the majority of the district slopes to the southwest, with Moreau Lodge and the cottage located approximately half way between the Dallmeyer House and the Moreau River. The frame barn is at the lowest elevation of any building in the district, near the western edge of the district's boundary. A small pasture is located southwest of the barn, with woods beyond extending to the river. Between the guest cabin and the barn, the driveway splits and loops to the rear of the cabin, continuing through a clearing into the woods, leading to the Moreau River. Stone bluffs approximately 20 feet tall line the north side of a portion of this roadway. This roadway gradually slopes until it becomes nearly level adjacent to the river, where it connects with a U-shaped drive at the river's edge that features a stone boat ramp. To the north of the river access are the remains of a large, two-tiered concrete patio and a concession stand, as this was the main area for swimming, fishing, canoe rentals and relaxing near the water. During the resort's active years, a wooden pier extended along the riverbank in this area, with a wooden canoe rental facility nearby. Nothing remains of these wooden riverside structures. A shorter route to this area was to take the 100 stone steps leading down the slope from the Moreau Lodge, although this access has been largely overtaken by the surrounding woods since the 1950s.

### **1. Dallmeyer House (C)**

The primary building is the Dallmeyer House, constructed of local "cottonstone" circa 1922 - 1924 by builder William Goldammer. The rock was quarried from Goldammer's farm across the road. The Dallmeyer's property yielded 15,000 feet of timber for construction of the house.<sup>1</sup> The home is sited at the top of a hill, which provides view of the Moreau River valley. Huge oak trees provide shade to the home. When constructed, the house was several miles outside the city limits of Jefferson City, but had electricity and running water. The electricity was furnished by a Delco generator.<sup>2</sup> The house faces the drive leading into the park, with secondary entrances facing the nearby road.

The front, or west elevation, features a gable end wall with wide wooden overhangs supported by Craftsman style wooden brackets. A 1-story entrance porch with a flat roof and parapet walls

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<sup>1</sup> Jefferson City Tribune, May 15, 1926, 7, col. 3-4.

<sup>2</sup> Interview with local historian and current owner Dottie Dallmeyer by the author, May 25, 2008. As a member of the Dallmeyer family, and as a life-long historian, Dottie Dallmeyer has a vast knowledge of the history of Jefferson City, and this property in particular. Much of the information regarding Moreau Park was obtained during interviews with Ms. Dallmeyer, confirmed by secondary sources.

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extends forward of the front facade, and provides cover for a recessed entry door. The south facade has a wooden deck on the main floor, which provides some protection for the walk-out entry to the basement. On the east, a 2-story stone porch is open to the north on the lower level, with an enclosed sleeping porch on the second story. This facade also has the Craftsman style brackets supporting the eaves. A 1-story bay extends from the dining room on this wall, with a hipped roof. The north wall features two shed roofed dormers in the upper 1/2-story, with several multiple paned windows in each dormer. A 1-story screened porch with shed roof extends across almost half of the west end of this facade. The exterior features an original concrete floored deck on the second floor, to take advantage of the views, a screened porch on the north side of the first floor, an entry porch and a covered entry to the kitchen on the east side. New windows were recently installed in the house, with the window opening sizes remaining the same as in the original house, so this does not significantly detract from the integrity of the house. A wooden deck has been added to the rear of the house, between the entry porch and the kitchen entry, which does not detract from the overall integrity of the house.

The interior features original hardwood floors, french doors leading to the screened porch and entry porch, fireplace, and large windows with 1/1 double hung sash in all rooms. The stairway to the second floor retains its original banister and newel post. A number of original light fixtures remain throughout the house. Rooms throughout the house retain their original trim. Bathrooms upstairs have original tile floors and tile on the walls, and original bathtubs.

## **2. Moreau Lodge (C)**

Moreau Lodge was the first building constructed by the Dallmeyers after purchasing the property. After clearing out underbrush and trimming the trees on the property, Frank Dallmeyer improved an existing cottage (which may be the remaining cottage), built benches, swings, tables and hitchracks for tying up the guests' horses, developed a boat landing and provided boats.<sup>3</sup> The next step was to construct the lodge, where dances, parties and large camping groups could be accommodated. The 1-story frame building was built circa 1911 - 1914. The Lodge is located downhill from the main house, between the house and the Moreau River. A 1-story porch extends across most of the front facade, supported by natural cedar posts. The exterior is sided with wooden shingles, painted / faded to a light green. The front porch has a concrete floor. The front doors and the doors on the south wall are all 10 pane doors. Windows on the north (side) and west (front) walls are 6/6 double hung sash. The gabled roof is metal, similar to standing seam metal. A large stone chimney is located on the north wall, with sloped "shoulders". At the rear are original restrooms. The south side features multiple tall, narrow doors facing the Moreau River that originally led to a wooden deck, no longer extant. Two multiple paned french doors

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<sup>3</sup> James E. Ford, A History of Jefferson City: Missouri's State Capitol and of Cole County (Jefferson City: New Day Press, 1938), 413.

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under the front porch lead into the main room, which extends the length of the building. The north end has a large stone fireplace. The interior walls have exposed wooden framing and exposed horizontal boards painted white. The ceiling framing is exposed, with exposed horizontal boards under the roof. A room to the east of the main party room was the kitchen, with a sink and countertops remaining. One sleeping room remains under the east end of Moreau Lodge, as the hill slopes toward the Moreau River on this end of the building. Although unused for several years, Moreau Lodge's appearance remains much the same as when it was constructed as an early 20<sup>th</sup> century recreational facility.

### **3. Rental Cottage (C)**

One of the original cottages remains, a 1-story frame two bedroom house with one bathroom and an enclosed porch. One of the original cottages, the Dew Drop Inn, was depicted in an early advertising postcard, mailed to Fulton from Fortuna, Missouri in 1911. The existence of this postcard supports statements that one cottage was present when the Dallmeyers bought the property and was rehabilitated. This cottage may be the original Dew Drop Inn, but even if it is not, dates from c. 1914 - 1920. The existing cottage is located southwest of Moreau Lodge, roughly parallel to the Moreau River, on a ledge out of the floodplain. The walls of the cottage have applied stone on the lower third to half of the walls. Windows are fairly modern in appearance, but the openings remain the same size as the originals. The house sits on a concrete slab foundation, and the roof is gabled, with two different heights. Outside the enclosed porch is a two-level landscaped patio, with the upper patio made of concrete and the lower patio of brick. A wood deck on the rear elevation faces the Moreau River. This cottage appears much the same as when constructed for vacation guests.

### **4. Barn (C)**

The frame barn is a 1-story structure designed mainly for equipment storage, built c. 1914 - 1920. The barn is located northwest of the cottage near the western edge of the district. A single bay opens on the front and rear of the barn. On the east side is a lean-to shed across the full length of the wall. The roof is corrugated metal. Inside, two concrete floored corn cribs remain on the west side, with a central equipment storage bay. The lean-to is currently open, but horses have been stabled in this barn in the past. The exterior of the barn appears much like when it was constructed.

### **5. Handyman's House (C)**

The handyman's house is a small, 2-story stone building built of the same stone as the main house c. 1924. This outbuilding is located on a slope to the east of the main house, with the entry on the lower level facing southwest. A small concrete patio is located on the rear, or east side. A gable roof has newer metal sheeting, similar in style to standing seam metal roofing. This building has been recently rehabilitated as a guest house, with a kitchen on the first floor and bedroom and bath on the second floor. The windows were replaced during this rehabilitation, but

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the window openings remain the same.

**6. Pump House (C)**

The pump house is a small 1-story building with a hipped roof covered in green asphalt shingles c. 1924. The pump house is built of the same white stone as the main house. The white wooden door faces the main house. A newer door is located on the east facade, providing access to a walk-in cooler that was installed in recent years.

**7. 100 Stone Steps (C)**

A notable landscaping feature remaining on the property is 100 stone steps leading to the Moreau River. The steps are now located in a wooded area, and lead down the slope from a grassy area south of Moreau Lodge to the swimming area at the river's edge. These steps were salvaged from the Rudolph Dallmeyer family's home in Jefferson City, Maple Terrace (Frank's father). The house was demolished in 1937 for construction of the local library at East High and Adams Streets, now known as the Missouri River Regional Library.

**8. Stone Barbeque (C)**

An early rough stone barbeque / grill with a stone flue remains near the cottage. The barbeque has a central stone flue, with a cooking grill on each side of the flue. The barbeque is intact, despite years of disuse.

**9. Typical Stone Bench, Stone Landscaping Features (C)**

An original stone and concrete bench is positioned near the barbeque. The base is rectangular in shape, with a wider concrete cap that serves as a seat. Other benches original to Moreau Park are located near the cottage and the steps to the river. Stones still line the driveways in some areas, and stone bordered landscape beds are scattered throughout the property.

**10. Two-person Privy (C)**

A delapidated two-person privy is located east of the cottage, with two front doors and a divider wall for privacy. The 1-story frame structure has a deteriorated green asphalt shingle roof, with asphalt siding designed to look like grey brick. The two vertical board doors were hinged toward the center of the structure with diamond shaped strap hinges. Narrow horizontal wood siding painted blue remains between the two doors. A metal shed roof slopes from the front wall of the privy toward the rear. If the remaining cottage dates from 1911 or before, the privy most likely dates from this period as well. Even if the cottage was constructed after 1911, the privy was constructed between 1911 - 1920. The privy has not been used in many years, and is overgrown and in poor condition. While deteriorated, the privy remains a contributing resource of the district, demonstrating why running water at the time Moreau Park was constructed was a selling point.

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**11. Riverfront Two-Tiered Patio (C)**

A road leading around the rear (south) of the cottage still reaches an area close to the north bank of the Moreau River, where remains of the two-tiered concrete patio can still be seen. The patio appears to be approximately 30 feet long by 15 feet deep on the lower level. Brush obscures the view of the upper level of the patio, so its size and condition are unknown.

**12. Concession Stand (C)**

The concrete block concession stand is located a few yards east of the concrete patio, and is approximately 10 feet by 8 feet. The concession stand has one wall that has separated from the building, and is leaning at a considerable angle. The structure has no roof, and is in poor condition.

**13. Chicken House (NC)**

A modern, Gothic style chicken house is located northeast of the cottage, near the vegetable garden. This chicken house is painted brown. While modern and not a contributing resource in the district, the chicken house does not detract from the historic character of the district.

**14. Storage Barn (NC)**

A moderate sized 1-story portable storage barn, also painted brown, is located near the chicken house. The storage barn is not a contributing resource in the district, but does not detract from the historic character of the district.

**15. Stone Entry Pillar (C)**

On the west side of the main driveway entrance, near the property's boundary, one of the original stone entry markers remains. This pillar once supported a sign that read "Moreau Park" and a gate, as seen in Figure 7 (existing pillar is on the right of the photograph).

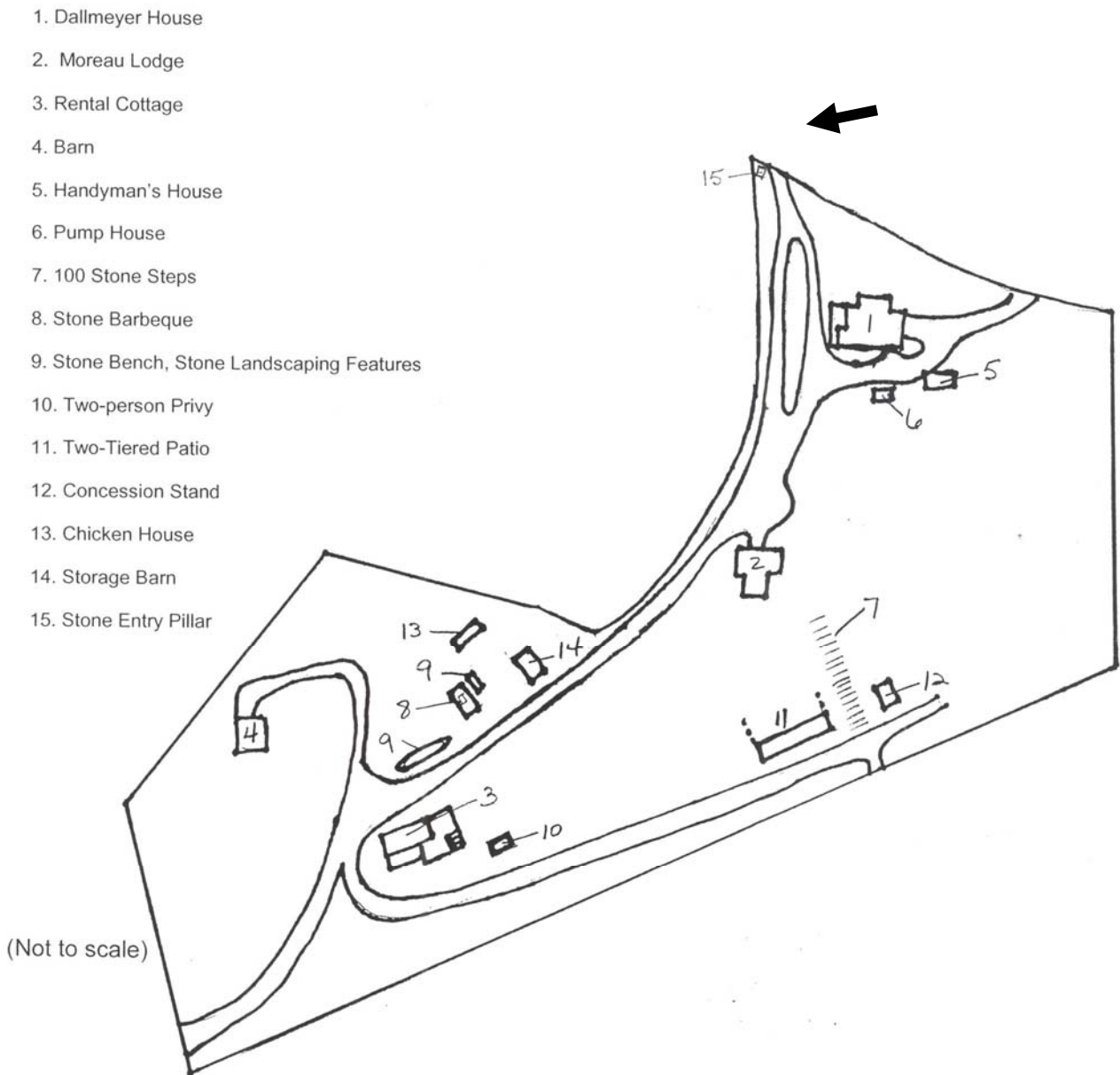
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**Figure 1: District Boundary Map**



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**Moreau Park Historic District**  
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**Summary:** The Moreau Park Historic District, 3714 Old Wardsville Road, near Jefferson City in Cole County, Missouri is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criteria A in the area of ENTERTAINMENT/ RECREATION based on its use as an early 20<sup>th</sup> century recreational resort typical of those historically found in Missouri, but of which very few remain. The district is also eligible for listing under Criteria C for ARCHITECTURE, as it is architecturally significant as a representation of the blending of the craftsman aesthetic with Ozark resort development, both of which historically relied on the use of local and natural materials and the integration of architecture with the outdoors. The district is a good example of the Ozark resort property type due to its number of remaining resources, their architecture, and the district's ability to illustrate the layout and uses of an early recreational resort. The resort operated from circa 1914 until circa 1991, when Moreau Lodge ceased being rented for parties. The peak years for the resort and its period of significance were from 1914 to c. 1950, when changes in the tourism industry and local entertainment/recreational opportunities resulted in decreased use of Moreau Park.

The largest and most prominent building in the district is the Dallmeyer House, constructed circa 1922 - 1924. Moreau Lodge, built c. 1911 - 1914, served as a rental facility for parties with plenty of camping spaces nearby. Vacationers could rent guest rooms in the main house or in the lower level of the Lodge. Three furnished cottages were also available for rent by the night or by the week - one of these cabins remains today. Other buildings in the district include a large frame barn, a stone 2-story handyman's house and a 1-story stone pump house. The original layout of the property remains, with landscaping features including a rough stone barbeque and stone bench, native rock retaining walls, 100 stone steps to the Moreau River and stone driveway edgings. Remains of a two-tiered concrete patio and concrete block concession stand are located near the Moreau River boat landing area, and a two-person privy remains near the existing cabin. A modern chicken house, 1-story storage barn and garden space are located near the stone barbeque. Moreau Park Historic District retains integrity, and its period of significance for listing on the National Register is from development in 1914 to its peak period of use c. 1950.

**Elaboration:** The Moreau Park Historic District is an early recreational resort built overlooking the Moreau River valley. In 1909, Frank Dallmeyer purchased approximately 80 acres, a farm named Hillcrest Farm, with the intention of creating a resort: "Having visited numerous health and pleasure resorts in many sections of the country, it dawned upon [Frank], that Jefferson City, with her beautiful surroundings, should have a pleasure resort of her own."<sup>4</sup> The portion of the farm that was considered the park was 30 acres, comparable to the current boundaries.<sup>5</sup> Moreau

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<sup>4</sup> Gary R. Kremer, "Dallmeyer's Moreau Park - Early Twentieth Century 'Pleasure Resort'," *Heartland History: Essays on the Cultural Heritage of the Central Missouri Region*. St. Louis: G. Bradley Publishing, Inc., 2001. 152.

<sup>5</sup> Undated promotional brochure provided by Dottie Dallmeyer. The brochure describes "Moreau

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Park Historic District was constructed along the Moreau River, a major attraction for tourists, between 1914 and circa 1924. The first building constructed on the new property was Moreau Lodge, built circa 1911 - 1914. This first facility provided “a spacious dance hall, fireplace, piano, running water, lights, roomy kitchen and sleeping rooms and a big porch.”<sup>6</sup> The Lodge was built on a slope, with the end facing the Moreau River at a considerable height above ground level. Sleeping rooms were located under this portion of the Lodge. The Dallmeyers provided fuel, lights and cots at no charge, with linens provided for a nominal fee. A large rectangular barbeque pit for whole hog roasts, built of concrete, was constructed just north of the patio adjacent to the Lodge, but no longer exists.<sup>7</sup> With the Lodge as the main facility for parties, “the park became a gathering place for school and church picnics, family reunions, and even college fraternity and sorority parties...[It] was a favorite place to hold class picnics or celebrate the end of school...[Moreau Park] ...was a good place to go on Sundays.”<sup>8</sup>

Originally four furnished cottages provided separate lodging for guests. These “bungalows” included sleeping rooms in the Moreau Lodge, the Dew Drop Inn, Fraternity Lodge and Hillcrest Cottage. The three cottages besides the Moreau Lodge all had screened in porches. Again, the Dallmeyers provided fuel, lights and cots in the cottage rental. The cottages were designed for “families or parties who desire a separate cottage and prepare their own meals.”<sup>9</sup> One of these cottages remains extant. The Dew Drop Inn, believed to have been the first rental cabin on the property, may have been an existing building rehabilitated by the Dallmeyers.<sup>10</sup>

The Dallmeyer House is the largest building in Moreau Park, in a prominent location at the top of the hill near Old Wardsville Road. With the success of the park after a few years of operation, the Dallmeyers were able to build this house and vacate the old farmhouse they moved into after purchasing the property.<sup>11</sup> The house was designed to accommodate as many as twelve guests.<sup>12</sup>

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Park, with its 30 acres and half-mile water front...”

<sup>6</sup> Undated promotional brochure.

<sup>7</sup> Interview with Dottie Dallmeyer, May 25, 2008.

<sup>8</sup> Kremer, “Dallmeyer’s Moreau Park - Early Twentieth Century ‘Pleasure Resort’,” 153.

<sup>9</sup> Undated promotional brochure.

<sup>10</sup> Ford, 413. Ford states that one cottage on the farm was improved rather than constructed after the Dallmeyer’s purchase of the farm.

<sup>11</sup> Kremer, “Dallmeyer’s Moreau Park - Early Twentieth Century ‘Pleasure Resort’,” 152-153.

<sup>12</sup> Undated promotional brochure, copy provided by Dottie Dallmeyer.

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William Goldammer was the builder, and rock to construct the house was quarried from his farm across the road. The Dallmeyer's property yielded 15,000 feet of timber for construction of the house. Though located approximately 2.25 miles outside of Jefferson City when constructed, the house featured "all the modern conveniences," including "electric lights, gas, running hot and cold water, telephone and daily mail delivery, radio entertainment, etc."<sup>13</sup> Running water was obviously a luxury the Dallmeyers were proud of, and the location of the pump house between the main house and Moreau Lodge facilitated water service to all buildings on the property. An article published soon after the house was built states that "No other country home in this section of the middle west can compete with the architectural beauty of this residence."<sup>14</sup> Moreau Park offered an attractive mix of landscaped areas, with flower beds placed around the Dallmeyer House and near the cabins (built by Mrs. Dallmeyer), contrasted with stone bluffs and native woodlands along the southern portion of the district and the Moreau River. Meals were furnished to guests, using vegetables grown on the property by Mrs. Dallmeyer, fresh eggs, poultry and dairy products from their adjacent farm. All the facilities of Moreau Park were made available to guests staying in the house.

As a working farm, Moreau Park included some buildings designed for agricultural purposes. Originally there was a large barn, located southwest of the Handyman's House, a milking barn closer to the main house, and the sole remaining barn that was used for equipment storage. The cows were pastured during the day near the remaining barn, and they walked a path through Moreau Park every evening to be milked, returning on the same path the next morning after milking.<sup>15</sup> The dairy was a significant part of the Dallmeyer's operation, as this provided their year-round income. Ford described the dairy as being "of considerable consequence."<sup>16</sup> The dairy provided fresh milk for the resort's guests.

Running both a dairy farm and a resort required the use of outside help. The 1926 article mentions a "men servant's quarters" which is most likely what is known today as the Handyman's House.<sup>17</sup> A small separate building provided sleeping quarters for men hired to work on the farm, and they took their meals with the family. During the 1930s, trustees from the Missouri State Penitentiary in Jefferson City provided additional labor. Teenage girls from the

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<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> Jefferson City Tribune, May 15, 1926, 7.

<sup>15</sup> Interview with Dottie Dallmeyer, May 25, 2008.

<sup>16</sup> Ford, 413.

<sup>17</sup> Jefferson City Tribune, May 15, 1926, 7.

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area worked at Moreau Park during the summer, and helped with the dairy operations year-round. The dairy operations were conducted at the milking barn (no longer extant) that was located near the Dallmeyer House, just south of and between the Handyman's House and the Pump House. Outside the basement entrance on the rear of the house was a walk-in cooler for milk storage. A small sink beside the kitchen entrance allowed people to wash their hands prior to entering the house.<sup>18</sup> (The wooden board where the sink was attached remains, but the sink has been removed.)

In addition to the fine home cooked meals served in the main house, outdoor cooking was a recreational opportunity offered at Moreau Park. There was a dining pavilion, which no longer remains, but one of the stone barbeque pits (described in the promotional flyer as "outdoor cookstoves") does remain near the cottage.<sup>19</sup>

The grounds of Moreau Park were described as "picturesque," due to the landscaping efforts of Fern Dallmeyer.<sup>20</sup> While the sunken garden no longer exists, large planting beds between the main house and Old Wardsville Road remain, as do some smaller beds edged with stone adjacent to and across the road from the cottage. At least two original wood and metal benches remain on the property. The driveways were lined with stone found on the property, and one section of stone edging remains on the opposite side of the road from the cottage.

Other structures and features on the property include 100 stone steps leading to the Moreau River, the focus of much of the activity at Moreau Park. Near the river access is a large two-tiered concrete patio that was decorated with planters and benches. A concession stand was located by the patio, and rings hung from huge cottonwood trees that allowed swimmers to swing out over the river.<sup>21</sup> A rough stone boat ramp remains at the river's edge, where people swam and put in their canoes and fishing boats years ago. Native stone was used in retaining walls and bordered the driveways, stone walkways of native stone led through the park, and a sunken garden was built after 1926.<sup>22</sup> Several rough stone barbeques and a dining pavilion provided opportunities for outdoor dining. One of these barbeques remains today.

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<sup>18</sup> Interview with Dottie Dallmeyer, May 25, 2008.

<sup>19</sup> Ford, 413; Undated promotional brochure.

<sup>20</sup> Ford, 413; Kremer, "Dallmeyer's Moreau Park - Early Twentieth Century 'Pleasure Resort'," 153.

<sup>21</sup> Kremer, "Dallmeyer's Moreau Park - Early Twentieth Century 'Pleasure Resort'," 153.

<sup>22</sup> Jefferson City Tribune, May 15, 1926, 7, col. 3-4. This article describes Fern Dallmeyer's plans to expand on existing landscaping at Moreau Park. An undated promotional brochure mentions "a beautiful sunken garden" as park of the resort.

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### **History of Recreational Resorts and Recreation Opportunities in Missouri**

The Moreau Park Historic District was begun during an early phase in development of Missouri's recreation and tourism industry, and is eligible for National Register listing under Criteria A in the area of ENTERTAINMENT/ RECREATION as an early 20<sup>th</sup> century recreational resort typical of those found in Missouri, but of which very few remain.

As more and more people worked in factories, offices and other locations away from the family farm, an interest in the benefits of the outdoors was instigated by early conservationists. In 1892, John Muir and others formed the Sierra Club. Other clubs formed to protect wilderness areas included the Appalachian Mountain Club (1876), Mazamas of Portland, Oregon (1894) and the Campfire Club (1897). These efforts led to the spread of organized recreation activities by various clubs and youth organizations from the late 1800's. The image of healthy outdoor recreation as an American ideal was developed around this time. Theodore Roosevelt personified the benefits of outdoor activities on human health. After beginning life as a sickly child, his health improved through an active outdoor life, and he developed into a vigorous leader of our country.<sup>23</sup> A number of resorts in Central Missouri catered to well-to-do city dwellers who desired to escape the city's overcrowded, dirty, noisy environment, even for a short period.<sup>24</sup> These influences contributed to a movement during the early twentieth century to develop outdoor recreational facilities for urban residents to experience "wilderness" areas in Missouri.<sup>25</sup>

Tourism was not a popular concept in the nineteenth century, as farmers could not take a vacation. But as paid vacation became more common among non-farm workers, the idea of travel for leisure took hold.<sup>26</sup> Some of the early destinations were medicinal springs, such as Hot Springs in Arkansas, and the springs in and around Excelsior Springs, Missouri. Arkansas had several towns offering hot springs in the early nineteenth century, but lack of easy access inhibited their development.<sup>27</sup> By the late 1800s, the medicinal benefits of the spring waters

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<sup>23</sup> Ron Watters, "Historical Perspectives of Outdoor and Wilderness Recreation Programming in the United States," (Idaho State University, 1986), [www.isu.edu/outdoor/history.htm](http://www.isu.edu/outdoor/history.htm), 3.

<sup>24</sup> Gary Kremer and Lynn Morrow, "Pippin Place: Servicing Pulaski County as a Long-time Ozarks Resort," [KJPW Old Settlers Gazette](#), 2001, 5.

<sup>25</sup> Kathryn S. Love, "Alton Box," National Register Nomination, 1. (Nomination on file with the Missouri DNR State Historic Preservation Office.)

<sup>26</sup> "Early Tourism in Western North Carolina," [www.powells.com/biblio?isbn=9780738516134](http://www.powells.com/biblio?isbn=9780738516134).

<sup>27</sup> [The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture](http://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=4215), <http://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=4215>, 1.

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around Excelsior Springs were widely advertised, and visitors came from as far as South America, Africa, Russia and Japan to experience the springs. Half a million people per year came to Excelsior Springs by train for “the cure.”<sup>28</sup>

### Hunting and Fishing Clubs

Virtually all of the recreational resorts described in this document, including Moreau Park, were developed near a source of water, particularly flowing water, as people desired a place to swim, fish, canoe, relax, and enjoy nature. Hunting and fishing became popular outdoor activities, spurred by development of sporting clubs. In nearby Osage County, the Jefferson City Hunting and Fishing Club held outings on the Osage River beginning in the late 1870s. This group reorganized in 1903 as the Osage Hunting Club, then established the Painted Rock Country Club in 1907. Twenty prominent business and civic leaders of Jefferson City each contributed \$280, which entitled them to one share in the corporation. The group then purchased 1,086 acres southwest of Folk, bordered by the Osage River, to keep it from being subdivided. Governor Herbert Hadley was an active member of the organization and promoted hunting and fishing in Missouri.<sup>29</sup> In 1891, officers of the Liggett and Meyers Tobacco Company formed the St. Louis Park and Agricultural Company, known as the St. Louis Game Park, which bought land in Taney County that totaled 5,000 acres by 1896. The directors stocked the game park with several species of deer, elk, Angora goats and pheasant.<sup>30</sup> The Wagner Deer Park began on the Big Piney River in 1895.<sup>31</sup>

It became popular to belong to multiple sporting clubs. Hugh Pattison, a St. Louis businessman, belonged to 25 sporting clubs and ultimately invested in the Dixon Club seven miles from the Frisco railroad depot in Dixon, Missouri. Members paid \$25.00 each to join, plus \$5.00 annually, and an additional fee for duck hunting. Frisco Railroad executives leased property four miles from Crocker at Schlict’s Mill and established Forest Lodge (also known as Frisco Clubhouse). This lodge would accommodate up to 20 people in a screened building. The Frisco Railroad and federal hatcheries at Neosho combined efforts to stock the springs with 13,000 trout. For the price of a fare on the Frisco rail line, anyone could visit this resort, and overnight fishermen

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<sup>28</sup> Heather Berry, “It’s in the water - Excelsior Springs returns to its glory days and offers visitors the lost art of relaxation,” Rural Missouri, March 1999, 8.

<sup>29</sup> Gary R. Kremer, “History of Painted Rock Country Club Tied to Development of a State Conservation Program,” Heartland History, Volume Three, 28-29.

<sup>30</sup> Lynn Morrow, “The St. Louis Game Park: Experiments in Conservation and Recreation,” Gateway Heritage, Spring 1998, 18.

<sup>31</sup> Kremer and Morrow, 4.

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began to patronize Forest Lodge.<sup>32</sup>

### Corporate Retreats

Corporations developed recreational resorts, as a recreational outlet for their employees and to entertain their guests. The Alton Box Club was built for these purposes circa 1938 by the Alton Box Board Company on the Current River in Shannon County.<sup>33</sup> The Union Electric Administration Building-Lakeside, also known as Willmore Lodge in Miller County, was built by Union Electric in 1930 when construction began on Bagnell Dam to create the Lake of the Ozarks. While company documents describe the Lodge as an administration building, its amenities and interior layout are that of a plush retreat. Containing 6,500 square feet and 29 rooms, this log building is located on a hill overlooking the lake.<sup>34</sup>

### State Parks and Conservation Areas

Moreau Park was constructed prior to the establishment of state parks in Missouri. Moreau Park and other similar resorts provided recreational opportunities at a time when there was no public access to recreational activities. Since then, a number of private resorts have become public property, open for public access. Roaring River Resort was located eight miles south of Cassville in Barry County. Roland E. Bruner, a mining executive from Kansas City, began developing his plan for a resort in 1903 with the help of landscape architect Georle Kessler, who planned Kansas City's parks and boulevards ten years earlier. In 1905, Bruner began buying land, gradually acquiring more acreage until he owned 3,500 acres. To build his resort, Bruner added infrastructure including roads, a hydroelectric plant to generate electricity, a septic system, telephone system, laundry and refrigeration facilities. He converted the old wool carding mill to a hotel, and built 38 cabins and a concrete swimming pool. The landscaping at his resort resembled the new landscaped subdivisions being constructed at the edge of cities at the time. By the mid-1920s, Roaring River Resort was a resort well known to wealthy Kansas City residents. About the same time (1924), the first state parks were established at Alley Spring, Big Spring and Round Spring on the Current River, and Bennett Spring on the Niangua River. In 1926, Meramec, Montauk and Sam A. Baker state parks joined the system, although a lack of funds limited their development of recreational opportunities to primitive camping and fishing. Roaring River Resort was the first donation to the state park system in 1928.<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>32</sup> Lynn Morrow, "The Dixon Club and Schlicht's Spring," KJPW Old Settlers Gazette, July 20, 2002, 11 - 12.

<sup>33</sup> Love, 1.

<sup>34</sup> Laura Johnson, "Union Electric Administration Building-Lakeside," National Register Nomination, 1. (Nomination on file with the Missouri DNR State Historic Preservation Office.)

<sup>35</sup> Jennifer A. Crets, "Conservation or Tourism? The Development of Roaring River State Park,"

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Expansion of the state park system continues to the present day, as well as additions to public lands owned by the Missouri Department of Conservation. The Painted Rock Country Club reached its peak in the 1920s. Damage by a fallen tree and floods in the 1940s led to sale of the property. In 1952, Jefferson City banker Sam B. Cook purchased the property, which his father and grandfather had been part owners in as members of the Club. Mr. Cook sold the property to the Missouri Department of Conservation in 1981 and it is now open to the public.<sup>36</sup> The Alton Box Club was owned for many years by the Missouri Department of Conservation, and was recently transferred to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources for development as part of the state park system.

Privately Owned Resorts in Missouri

A number of privately owned resorts in Missouri provided a similar experience to that found at Moreau Park, both in terms of amenities offered and similarities in architecture and landscaping. Moreau Park is eligible for the National Register under Criteria A as a typical example of these early resorts, very few of which remain today.

One example was the Piney Lodge Hunting and Fishing Club, located on the Piney Fork of the Gasconade River in Pulaski County, built c. 1903. The lodge is so similar to Moreau Lodge, they could have both been built from the same plan, or could have roots in common vernacular structures. From the pitch of the roof to the placement of the stone chimney, to the rustic design of the porch railing, Piney Lodge appears very similar to the Moreau Lodge, as shown in Figure 10. The Lodge served as a hunting and fishing lodge for men only until the 1920s. In 1967, membership in the Club was reduced to two families. Much of this resort was destroyed by flood in 1982.<sup>37</sup>

One of the more outstanding recreational resorts in Missouri during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century was Pippin Place, a resort built of native stone that provided activities similar to those found at Moreau Park. Pippin Place was a long-time Ozarks recreational facility developed by Bland Nixon Pippin, a native of Pulaski County born in 1874 near Waynesville. Bland's love of the natural beauty of the Ozarks developed while growing up on his uncle's farm. He became a dentist in 1900, was hired to teach dentistry at Washington University, and operated a small

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Gateway Heritage, Spring 1998, 27-31.

<sup>36</sup> Kremer, "History of Painted Rock Country Club Tied to Development of a State Conservation Program," 31.

<sup>37</sup> Authors believed to be Dr. O. J. and Louise Culbertson, with some additions by an unknown contributor, "Piney Lodge - The Piney Story," KJPW Old Settlers Gazette, 2003, 7 - 10.

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dental practice during the summer months in Waynesville. In 1911, he and his wife Nancy Pippin bought 40 acres adjacent to the Gasconade River in Pulaski County. They hired a local craftsman named Billy Robison to construct a 17 room hotel for visitors to the property. Robison used native stone (at \$.50 per wagonload) and local timber, completing the building in 1914. The complex eventually included tent campsites, a caretaker's house, power house, barn, poultry houses, laundry and servant's quarters. The Pippins built a dam at nearby Bartlett Spring to provide electricity for the resort, and the resort featured indoor plumbing, both rarities at the time in the rural Ozarks.

The business was a success and in 1918 the hotel was expanded to include 24 guest rooms and a large recreation hall (45 feet by 55 feet). The hall boasted a hard maple floor, pool table, nickelodeon and table tennis under a ceiling supported by log trusses, complete with bark. The massive cool basement under this addition served as a smokehouse. Resorts along the Frisco Railroad line were popular among upper class St. Louis residents, and among the many guests to Pippin Place from St. Louis in the early years were August A. Busch and his family.<sup>38</sup>

Although the Frisco Railroad continued to bring guests to the resort well into the 1930s, by the 1920s, middle class families began to travel to Pippin Place and other resorts by car. In 1925, The Pippin's son Dru and his new bride Eva moved to the resort and became full time managers, a job they continued for nearly 40 years. Also during the 1920s, the family acquired an adjoining farm and began to raise Angus beef, purebred Jersey dairy cows, hogs, chickens and vegetables that were served to their guests, along with fresh fish and game. With Dru and Eva as on-site managers, the resort made a profit most years, and the reputation of Pippin Place reached Hollywood. In 1931 Douglas Fairbanks and Joan Crawford were among the movie stars who signed the resort's guest register. The resort was able to survive the Depression, with Dru taking part-time jobs.

The construction of Fort Leonard Wood c. 1940 changed the economy of this part of the Ozarks, and brought city water and sewer to Waynesville. Army engineers who stayed at Pippin Place helped install central heat, which allowed the resort to operate year-round for its most profitable years ever. The Pippins paid off their mortgage and abandoned their personal electric plant when they received electricity from the Rural Electricity Association (R.E.A.) in 1943. Bland Pippin passed away in 1945, when the end of the war returned Pippin Place to a seasonal operation. Dru Pippin's love and knowledge of the Ozarks earned him an appointment to the Missouri Conservation Commission from 1947 to 1962. After Eva Pippin died in 1962, Dru lost his desire to run Pippin Place, and the loss of long-time employees plus competition from other recreational facilities made operation even less viable. Pippin Place burned in 1984, leaving only

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<sup>38</sup> Kremer and Morrow, p. 4 - 7, 10.

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stone walls behind.<sup>39</sup> The photos in Figures 11, 12 and 13 show this large and lovely recreational resort in its prime, complete with park-type landscaping similar to that found at Moreau Park.<sup>40</sup>

Nagogami Lodge was one of the last resorts from the heyday of commercial vacation resorts on the Gasconade River. The lodge opened in 1923, a generation after the resort industry on the Gasconade began. The 2-story lodge building had guest rooms on the upper level and the dining room and kitchen on the lower level. The arrangement is reversed at Moreau Lodge, with the kitchen adjacent to the large hall, and sleeping rooms on the lower level. Several two and three room cottages had names, such as “Bird’s Nest” and “Crow’s Nest.” These cabins were built of vertical logs, a design used at other resorts such as Blue Springs and Idlewood on the Meramec River. Guests could stay for a day, a week, or pay by the month. Meals were served at the lodge. Swimming was available, with a large bath house. Canoes, rowboats and motorized boats could be rented for \$1.00 per day.<sup>41</sup> Nagogami Lodge thrived for 15 seasons, even through the Depression. The resort was in its prime when the owner’s son and manager of Nagogami died suddenly in 1939. While the father tried to run the resort on his own, he died in 1941 and his wife closed the lodge. A new owner changed the operation in 1955 to yearly leases of the facility to long-term customers. One of these customers purchased the property in 1977, and continues to lease the cabins on a yearly basis.<sup>42</sup>

Gascozark Hills Resort began on the Gasconade River in Pulaski County c. 1927. Frank and Ila Jones bought a few hundred acres just off the new national highway 66 after Frank retired from the Shell Oil Company as Vice President of the Automotive Division. Frank put his engineering skills to work, as this resort boasted of “modern cabins, a large dining hall, main lodge, tennis court, croquet, ping pong, pool tables and horse riding.” Hay rides were offered every Tuesday evening, and guests had a choice between “three or more miles of river front” or a 30 feet by 60 feet swimming pool for swimming. The pool had a diving tower, bath house and sand beach. For the family Frank built a log “mansion” with a 2-story, 3-car log garage. A water tower pumped water from the Gasconade River for irrigation and general farm use. The resort was sold after Frank Jones died in 1945, and in 1977 the name was changed to Gasconade Hills Resort.<sup>43</sup> The

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<sup>39</sup> Kremer and Morrow, 11 - 16.

<sup>40</sup> Postcards, [www.geocities.com/hillypippin/pp/photos](http://www.geocities.com/hillypippin/pp/photos)

<sup>41</sup> John Bradbury, “Nagogami Lodge,” The Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation’s Old Settlers Gazette, July 29, 2006, 52 - 53.

<sup>42</sup> Bradbury, 53, 55.

<sup>43</sup> Frank A. Jones III and Jason Jones, “Frank A. Jones and Gascozark,” The Old Stagecoach Stop Foundation’s Old Settlers Gazette, July 28, 2007, 47.

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facility remains open to the public, and has grown from seven to 15 cabins, and from 10 to 130 canoes, with a convenience store, laundromat, volleyball, horseshoes, modern bath houses, new climate controlled meeting facility, replacement swimming pool and new pavillion. The current owners have posted a c. 1938 flyer for Gascozark Hills Resort on the internet, showing some of the original frame cabins.<sup>44</sup>

Moreau Park is similar to these other early resorts in numerous ways. Prior to development of state and local parks, these resorts allowed the public to enjoy the outdoors through swimming, camping, hiking and canoeing. The architecture and layout of the resorts were quite similar, with a main guest house and dining facility supported by a recreation hall, swimming facilities and individual rental cabins. Use of native stone and logs was typical, as the resorts reflected architectural trends then developing in National Parks, with buildings designed to blend with the natural surroundings. Pippin Place exhibited architecture similar to that of the Dallmeyer House, with stone walls, an abundance of porches and the use of dormer windows in the upper story. The interior of the Recreation Hall at Pippin Place, shown in Figure 13, appears virtually identical to Moreau Lodge, with the central stone fireplace and exposed beam ceiling. The exterior of Piney Lodge has the same general shape and layout as Moreau Lodge, with an overhanging roof protecting the porch across the front wall, stone chimney on the side wall to the left of the front porch, and board siding. Most of these early resorts can only be studied today through photographs and written records, as they no longer operate as resorts and most are no longer extant. Moreau Park Historic District exhibits the architecture, layout, and amenities typical of these early resorts, and represents an important era in Missouri Ozark tourism history.

### **Impact of Transportation and Trends in Tourism on Recreational Resorts**

The history of the transportation and tourism and recreation industries are intertwined, as development of transportation alternatives helped expand access to recreational resorts throughout Missouri. As transportation modes came into and faded from favor, nearby recreational facilities developed or declined as well.

Moreau Park was impacted by this influence, as visitors first arrived by train and wagon, then by car. As roads improved, Lake of the Ozarks became accessible and newer resorts competed with Moreau Park for guests. Later, new interstate highways facilitated travel, and potential guests could drive to out of state attractions, some taking their RV with them. Thus the rise and fall of Moreau Park's popularity was in some ways tied to transportation trends.

Lack of passable roads limited development of early resorts to areas served by a rail line. In the

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<sup>44</sup> [www.canoemissouri.com/facilities.html](http://www.canoemissouri.com/facilities.html)

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late 1800s, resorts sprung up anywhere the Gasconade River and the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway (called the “Frisco”) intersected. The Frisco railroad was happy to encourage tourism by rail, through advertising and special summer fares.<sup>45</sup> By the early twentieth century, a few thousand St. Louisans were walking the streets of towns such as Arlington, Dixon, Crocker and Richland, far from the smoky, industrialized city.<sup>46</sup>

And it was no wonder why people preferred travel by railroad. Prior to 1907, road development as the responsibility of individual counties, with no coordination of planning that would lead to roads from one county connecting to a road in another.<sup>47</sup> In 1909 the St. Louis Chief of Police Edmund Creecy became the first person to drive an automobile across the Big Piney River at Hooker’s Ford near the Wagner Deer Park, the first step in a transition in access to recreation in the Ozarks. But only an adventurous person would attempt such a feat, as travel over the wagon roads of the time required carrying an ax, pick and shovel. Creecy carefully planned his trip, with pre-determined stops for fuel, as there were no gas stations along his route. The trip from St. Louis to the Big Piney resort required three days, and involved a bent axle after hitting a stump in the road.<sup>48</sup> While cars were becoming more common when Moreau Park was being developed, people from urban areas typically traveled to Jefferson City by train to reach their destination. The Missouri Pacific, now Union Pacific Railroad, brought Moreau Park’s guests to Jefferson City. Travelers then boarded the local trolley, which ran as far as Ash Street initially, then ultimately extended down Moreau Drive to approximately Moreland Avenue. The Dallmeyers had a large wagon that they would drive to pick people up at the end of the trolley line.

After the railroads spurred development of recreational resorts in towns serviced by rail, improvements to the state’s highway system began to encourage more travel by car during the early 1900s. Laws passed by the Missouri General Assembly in 1907, 1909, 1913 and 1917 encouraged road improvements, and by 1917 almost 300,000 vehicles were operating in the state. In 1921, the legislature created the first State Highway Commission, which shifted the focus of highway planning and construction from the local to the state level. The Commission was empowered to create a “state highway system.”<sup>49</sup>

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<sup>45</sup> Bradbury, 52.

<sup>46</sup> Lynn Morrow, “Gascondy Club: Railroad Tourism in the Gasconade Valley,” Old Settlers Gazette, 2004, 4.

<sup>47</sup> Missouri Department of Transportation, Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission - General Information, [www.modot.org/about/commission/CommissionGeneralInfo.htm](http://www.modot.org/about/commission/CommissionGeneralInfo.htm), 2.

<sup>48</sup> Kremer and Morrow, 5.

<sup>49</sup> MoDOT Commission, 2.

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With new roads under development, “private entrepreneurs and the state government built retreats that attracted automobile tourists, especially influential St. Louis outdoorsmen.” With the advent of better roads, the first Outdoor Life Exposition was held in 1926 in St. Louis to promote the Ozarks as a tourist destination.<sup>50</sup> The Globe Democrat published annual float trip reviews, and sent copies to other Midwest newspapers.<sup>51</sup> Eleanor Roosevelt wrote articles for Woman’s Home Companion and other publications advocating the benefits of outdoor family vacations.<sup>52</sup> “Rod and Gun,” an outdoor column in the Globe-Democrat promoted Schlicht’s Spring as the answer for those “who have wanted to camp out, but dreaded the living in tents.” The column also advertised in 1911 that the public could reserve cottages at Schlicht’s Spring by calling the owner at home in St. Louis.<sup>53</sup> Other promotional efforts involved the creation of organizations to lobby for tourism as an industry, with a special focus on construction of roads to resort areas. The St. Louis - Joplin Highway Association was one such group.<sup>54</sup> One result of the increased marketing of Missouri’s rural regions was that prior to 1900, the focus had been on sporting clubs, where only men attended outings. In the early twentieth century, the entire family began to enjoy the outdoors. With a broader audience, more recreational opportunities than hunting and fishing were needed.<sup>55</sup>

Moreau Park offered the type of family friendly recreation suited to early twentieth century guests. Guests who could afford to travel by car expected modern amenities at their accommodations, which limited use of the earlier campgrounds and clubhouses to dedicated fishermen and sportsmen.<sup>56</sup><sup>57</sup> The goal in building lodging in the newly developing state parks was to offer comfort, yet without the sophistication typically found in city hotels. “Guests will expect the park lodge to be a photograph of all that is primitive - touched up, however, so that all the harsh discomforts that accompany the truly primitive anywhere are somehow obliterated.”<sup>58</sup>

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<sup>50</sup> Lynn Morrow, “Rose Cliff Hotel,” Gateway Heritage, Volume 3, Number 2, Fall, 1982, 40.

<sup>51</sup> Morrow, “Gascondy Club: Railroad Tourism in the Gasconade Valley,” 4.

<sup>52</sup> Crets, 32.

<sup>53</sup> Morrow, “The Dixon Club and Schlicht’s Spring,” 16.

<sup>54</sup> Bradbury, 52.

<sup>55</sup> Morrow, “Gascondy Club: Railroad Tourism in the Gasconade Valley,” 4.

<sup>56</sup> Bradbury, 52.

<sup>57</sup> Culbertson, 12.

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This desire for upgraded, more comfortable facilities helped attract guests initially when the resort was new and electricity and running water were a rarity, but would eventually turn against Moreau Park in later years.

Decline in Recreational Resorts

Moreau Park thrived in its first twenty years or so, as the number of recreational resorts and transportation modes was still limited. With construction of Lake of the Ozarks in the 1930s, improved highways making vacationers independent of railroad destinations, and the increasing numbers of recreational vehicles, Moreau Park was subject to the same pressures as other early resorts in Missouri.

The emphasis on travel by car reduced the number of travelers vacationing by train. Resorts on the Gasconade River, which had been promoted by the Frisco rail line, declined. Today, searches for Bartlett Springs, Schlict's Spring, Pippin Place, and Nagogami Lodge found no recreational resorts operating under these names. Further searches of campgrounds and other recreational lodging in Missouri found only two from this period still in operation: Wilderness Lodge on the Black River near Lesterville (a private residence until the 1970s), and Gasconade Hills Resort (formerly Gascozark Hills Resort) on the Gasconade River. Only the names remain for some of these early resorts, as in the Nagogami Lodge topographic quadrangle in Maries County, and a point on MapQuest on Pippin Road named Pippin Place.

Historic surveys of Stone and Taney Counties were searched for clues to remaining recreational resorts on the James and White Rivers. Similar to other areas in Missouri, once rail or roadways provided access, visitors came to enjoy float trips on the rivers and explore local caves. Marvel Cave Lodge provided five guest cabins in addition to cave tours. (The Galena Community Club advertised "good roads - no mosquitos [sic]," which makes you wonder about their "good roads" claim.) Numerous other resort camps developed in and around Galena in Stone County, some short-lived, and some, like the Limberlost Inn, became institutions. Lake Taneycomo was impounded in 1913 - the first man-made recreational lake in the Midwest. The surviving resorts in Stone County include Craig Resort (c. 1910), with one of five original cabins remaining. This cabin was moved c. 1948 and is now a year-round rental unit. Limberlost, c. 1905, is now in ruins, with not much more than a stone foundation visible. Harper House, a c. 1930 rustic stone structure was vacant when surveyed, and the roof had collapsed 15 years previously. The Marvel Cave Lodge operated until 1950, when the property was leased to Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Herschend of Chicago. The property was willed to the School of the Ozarks and to Branson Presbyterian Church when the original family's heirs passed away. Near Reed Springs Junction, surveyors found three "fishing shacks," less than 50 years old with asphalt roll siding, built on post

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<sup>58</sup> Morrow, "The St. Louis Game Park," 34.

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footings.<sup>59</sup> In Taney County, tourism was influenced by impoundment of the White River in 1912, by construction of the Bull Shoals dam in 1952 and the Table Rock dam in 1957. A review of the survey forms and report found no surviving recreational resorts in Taney County.<sup>60</sup> In an interview with author Lynn Morrow, he stated that very few recreational resorts from this early period in Missouri's tourism industry survive today.<sup>61</sup>

Improved roads added another competitive influence for Moreau Park - the travel trailer. Increased access to automobiles in the 1920s and 1930s encouraged "the nation's love of adventure and the open road..." which resulted in the rising popularity of camping. Camp sites and tourist courts sprang up along roadsides to serve the traveling public. The travel trailer was not only a novelty, but it was more comfortable and cheaper than tourist cabins, even though most trailers during this period were homemade. In 1929, publication of Tom Swift and His House on Wheels helped promote the lure of the travel trailer. While no facilities existed for travel trailers in the early years, entrepreneurs soon began to develop campgrounds and dump sites at gas stations to accommodate the trailers. During the Depression the phenomenon of the migratory "sun birds" developed, as retirees began to travel year round, with construction of large trailer parks in the south as a result. The travel trailer industry grew rapidly between 1930 and 1940,<sup>62</sup> and the trend toward travel trailers (now commonly called recreational vehicles, or RVs) has continued to the present.

Another, stronger competitive influence on Moreau Park was development of Lake of the Ozarks. Bagnell Dam was completed on the Osage River in 1931,<sup>63</sup> creating the Lake of the Ozarks. Small scale resorts began to develop on the ridges around the lake, and attract visitors who might have previously sought relaxation at Moreau Park. The book History and Geography of Lake of the Ozarks documents 57 tourist camps and hotels that were constructed between 1931 and the 1950s. The majority of these, 37 in all, were built between completion of Bagnell

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<sup>59</sup> Stone County Surveys, Kalen and Morrow, May 15, 1989 and Phase I, Linda Myers Phinney and Dr. David Quick, June 1994 and Phase II, Phinney and Quick, June, 1995.

<sup>60</sup> Taney County Survey, Lynn Morrow and Robert Flanders, The Center for Ozark Studies, Southwest Missouri State University, field work May - June 1982, report August, 1985.

<sup>61</sup> Interview with Lynn Morrow by the author, September 18, 2008.

<sup>62</sup> Lisa Phinney, Farrington's and the Mobile Home on the American Landscape, University of Vermont Historic Preservation Program, pp. 7 - 8, 11, 13 - 14 and 26.  
[www.uvm.edu/histpres/HPJ/phinney/index.html](http://www.uvm.edu/histpres/HPJ/phinney/index.html)

<sup>63</sup> "The Great Osage River Project,"  
[www.willmorelodge.com/bagnell\\_history/osageriverproject.php](http://www.willmorelodge.com/bagnell_history/osageriverproject.php)

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Dam in 1931 and 1935. Eleven more were built from 1936 to 1939, with six more in the 1940s, and three in the 1950s.<sup>64</sup>

Just as the addition of new roads or a new attraction can induce development of tourist oriented facilities, their replacements can attract tourists' attention to even newer developments. One example of this type of competition occurred when Route 66 was replaced by Interstate 44. The number of visitors to the many tourist facilities along Route 66 declined as new hotels were built near interchanges on the interstate. In the Meramec Valley south of St. Louis, the Frisco railroad brought thousands of visitors to recreational facilities until the Depression, when these facilities fell into disrepair.<sup>65</sup> Castlewood State Park is now located in the area of former Meramec River resorts, although the hotel and clubs no longer remain.<sup>66</sup> In Kirkwood, local parks and hiking trails are found where historic resorts once stood. Times Beach, now Route 66 State Park, was once a resort community on the Meramec River. Rolla was once a vacation playground on the Frisco line, but the historic resorts were replaced by hotels on Interstate 44. The remains of John's Modern Cabins can still be seen outside Rolla, where they have been deteriorating since being cut off from I-44. Remains of the Stony Dell resort are also visible at exit 172. Camp Joy in Lebanon opened in 1927 near Lebanon, and was operated by the same family for 44 years. Six miles west of Conway, the former Abbylee Modern Court is now rented as individual apartments. The Powers Museum in Carthage is located on the site of the Taylor Tourist Park. The Boots Court Motel, c. 1939, remains in Carthage, although it is closed and offered for sale.<sup>67</sup> Moreau Lodge was rented until 1991, which was not long after Route B replaced Wardsville Road (in front of Moreau Park) as the main road to the eastern portion of Cole County in the late 1970s or early 1980s. Another influence of the interstate system was the ability of tourists to travel with ease to national parks and other destinations outside the state, rather than visiting sites closer to home.

Despite improved roads after World War II, gasoline rationing impacted the frequency of visitor's trips to area resorts.<sup>68</sup> Plus, the desire for new and modern accommodations in this new, modern age pushed tourists to new hotels, as the original tourist courts usually lacked air

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<sup>64</sup> H. Dwight Weaver, *History and Geography of Lake of the Ozarks, Volume One*, Ozark River Trails, Eldon, 2005. Data on recreational lodging distributed throughout book.

<sup>65</sup> Kathy Weiser, *Legends of America*, [www.legendsofamerica.com/MO-MeramecResorts2.html](http://www.legendsofamerica.com/MO-MeramecResorts2.html)

<sup>66</sup> Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks, Castlewood State Park, [www.mostateparks.com/castlewood.htm](http://www.mostateparks.com/castlewood.htm)

<sup>67</sup> Weiser.

<sup>68</sup> Culbertson, 12.

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conditioning. Hotel chains began to develop near major roads and attractions. One of the earliest hotel chains was started by Conrad Hilton, who built the Aristocrat Hotel in Dallas, Texas in 1925.<sup>69</sup> The Sheraton hotel chain began with purchase of the founders' first hotel in 1937.<sup>70</sup> Best Western Motels was founded in 1946.<sup>71</sup>

The decline in the number of historic recreational resorts due to this combination of forces can be seen clearly by reviewing data on historic tourist resorts at Lake of the Ozarks. During the 1940s and 1950s, only one resource was demolished. In the 1960s and 1970s, 22 historic recreational resorts were demolished at the Lake. Two more were destroyed in the 1980s, four in the 1990s and 3 after 2000. The status of seven of the 57 documented facilities is unknown. Six no longer exist, although when they were demolished is unknown. Some of the businesses merged with nearby facilities, at least two were redeveloped as condominiums under the historic name, and at least one was converted to a private residence. Some appear to have gone out of business when the long time owners retired or passed away. Small businesses rarely remain in the family for more than two generations, and this appears to have had a negative impact of Missouri's recreational resorts. Ten of the 57 historic resorts reviewed were still in operation near the lake in a four county area when the book was published.<sup>72</sup>

A fairly recent national trend that has most likely reduced the number of historic resorts at Lake of the Ozarks is the strength of the second home market. Locations throughout the country with views of lakes or rivers and access to water sports are in demand for construction of new, opulent waterfront homes. This upswing in second home ownership began about 1998, as wealthy people began replacing small summer cottages with homes in the over \$1 million price range. Ironically, many of these homes, at least in the State of New York, are Adirondack style homes with wood exteriors, similar to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century resort structures. These new houses feature luxuries such as marble tubs, backyard fire pits, finished basements, exercise rooms, mud rooms and elevators.<sup>73</sup> Part of the demand for second homes is explained by retiring baby boomers cashing out some of their residential equity. Some of the movement toward second homes was encouraged by changes to the federal tax code in 1997, which allowed married

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<sup>69</sup> The Aristocrat Hotel, [www.hotel-dallas.com/history/history.html](http://www.hotel-dallas.com/history/history.html)

<sup>70</sup> Sheraton History, [www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/about/history.html](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/about/history.html)

<sup>71</sup> Best Western Motel and Hotel History: From 1946 - Present, [www.bestwestern.com/newsroom/history.asp](http://www.bestwestern.com/newsroom/history.asp)

<sup>72</sup> Weaver.

<sup>73</sup> "A Golden Pond: Winnepesaukee's New Mansions," New York Times, September 19, 2008, [www.nytimes.com/2008/09/19/greathomesanddestinations/19hampshire.html?em=&pagewanted=print](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/19/greathomesanddestinations/19hampshire.html?em=&pagewanted=print)

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couples to retain \$500,000 from the sale of a primary home without investing the funds in a replacement home. This allowed buyers to downsize to a smaller primary home, while using some of the tax-sheltered proceeds on a second home to use themselves or as an investment.<sup>74</sup> It may not make a difference to the few remaining Lake Ozark recreational resorts, but further changes to the federal tax law are expected to restrict the changes made in 1997, effective January 1, 2009. Second home owners will no longer be able to convert the second home to a primary residence, and then get the tax benefit from selling the second home as their primary residence.<sup>75</sup>

These multiple trends in the tourist / recreation industry impacted Moreau Park. Shifts away from rail travel to new roads, development of state parks, increased use of travel trailers, development and promotion of Lake of the Ozarks as a tourist destination, creation of the interstate system and access to distant recreational opportunities, the rise of hotel chains and a preference for more modern facilities all combined to reduce demand for early 20<sup>th</sup> century recreational resorts. In addition to state parks, local parks were developed after Moreau Park opened. McClung Park, built in 1915, featured a public swimming pool which competed with Moreau Park for swimmers willing to pay to swim.<sup>76</sup>

The result of these combined influences was that by the 1950s, guest rooms were no longer being rented at the Dallmeyer House. Fern Dallmeyer moved from a circa 1930s house built just west of the main house (outside the historic district boundaries and now under separate ownership) to an apartment upstairs in the Dallmeyer House. After her death, the rooms were used by various family members. Moreau Lodge was occasionally rented for parties until the early 1990s,<sup>77</sup> but Moreau Park's prime years were circa 1914 to 1950.

Membership was not required to attend a private resort, and the railroads initially provided affordable transportation to these locations outside the urban areas, so the early Missouri resorts provided an affordable vacation. Later, interstate highways encouraged travelers to venture farther from home, staying in chain motels or RV parks along the way to out of state destinations. Even though several resorts, including Moreau Park, boasted of the latest in

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<sup>74</sup> "Tax-law change has created rush for second homes," SFGate.com, [www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2006/04/02/REG12I1KE91.DTL&type=printable](http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2006/04/02/REG12I1KE91.DTL&type=printable), April 2, 2006.

<sup>75</sup> "New tax rules could cost 2<sup>nd</sup> homeowners," Bankrate.com, [www.bankrate.com/hmc/news/tax/20080903-second-home-tax-a1.asp?ec\\_id=BR-State-Articles](http://www.bankrate.com/hmc/news/tax/20080903-second-home-tax-a1.asp?ec_id=BR-State-Articles), September 1, 2008.

<sup>76</sup> City of Jefferson, McClung Park, [www.jeffcitymo.org/PARKS/mccclungpark.html](http://www.jeffcitymo.org/PARKS/mccclungpark.html)

<sup>77</sup> Interview with Dottie Dallmeyer, May 25, 2008.

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plumbing and electrical systems, technology advanced so rapidly that they soon appeared out of date in comparison to chain hotels built around the 1950s. The availability of public swimming pools and recreation halls placed private resorts at an economic disadvantage.

Changes in the entertainment / recreation industry ultimately led to the loss of virtually all of these early private recreational resorts in Missouri. Moreau Park remains as a rare yet tangible connection to this early phase of Missouri's tourism industry, with the majority of its historic resources intact. For this reason, Moreau Park Historic District is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, in the area of ENTERTAINMENT / RECREATION.

### **Rustic Architecture Influence**

Moreau Park Historic District's numerous buildings were influenced by the rustic architecture movement that began with development of the National Park System. Use of native stone and wood in building construction was an influence that all the early Missouri recreational resorts shared, as they were designed to offer city dwellers an opportunity to reconnect with nature. Moreau Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria C in the area of ARCHITECTURE, as an architecturally significant representation of the blending of the craftsman aesthetic with Ozark resort development, both of which historically relied on the use of local and natural materials and the integration of architecture with the outdoors.

Since Missouri's rural resorts were built to allow guests to experience the outdoors, the use of locally available materials provided a rustic appearance suited to a relaxed, outdoor vacation. These resorts were undoubtedly influenced by the rustic style of architecture beginning to take shape in the National Park System. This style has been described as "a natural outgrowth of a new romanticism about nature,... a building became an accessory to nature... it was thought that a structure employing native materials blended best with the environment."<sup>78</sup> As with many recreational resorts in Missouri, the railroads influenced building development in the national parks. After 1900, the railroads realized that distinctive hotels in romantic settings drew more guests. The railroads' search for an appropriate architectural style happened at the same time that Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. was working with leading architects to strengthen the connections between architecture and landscape architecture. Their buildings' forms reflected their sites, using "natural" materials such as native stone, timbers and shingles. Landscaping became an integral part of the design of these facilities. One well known example of this effort by the railroads to develop hotels in national parks is the Old Faithful Inn, a c. 1903 6-story resort

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<sup>78</sup> Merrill Ann Wilson, "Rustic Architecture: The National Park Style," Trends, (July August September, 1976), 4-5.

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constructed of log sheathed with shingles by the Northern Pacific Railroad.<sup>79</sup>

The rustic architecture used in many parks is related to the Craftsman style popular between 1905 and 1930.<sup>80</sup> This style, inspired by the work of brothers Charles Sumner Green and Henry Mather Greene in southern California, made sensitive use of native materials, including stone and wood in the structures and native plants in their settings.<sup>81</sup> The Dallmeyer House exhibits a number of Craftsman influences, most notably the use of native stone for the walls. In addition, the front gabled roof (typical of about one third of Craftsman houses), the triangular knee braces under the wide overhanging eave, use of shed dormer windows, and multiple porches evoke the Craftsman style of architecture. The Craftsman style was the dominant style for smaller houses nationwide from about 1905 through the early 1920s.<sup>82</sup> While the Dallmeyer House was much larger than most bungalow houses of the era due to its intended use by guests, the Craftsman influence is clearly present.

The rustic style of architecture used in the national parks and the popular Craftsman style appear to have influenced not only Moreau Park, but other recreational resorts built in Missouri at around the same time. In 1911, Bland and Nancy Pippin began construction of native stone lodge that shares similarities with the Dallmeyer House. The rough texture of the stone “complemented the rustic environment so fundamental to Pippin’s vision of pastoral peace and quiet.” Pippin Place, like Moreau Park, had electricity and indoor plumbing, rare commodities in the rural Ozarks.<sup>83</sup> Piney Lodge shares rustic features such as a rough stone chimney and log porch posts and railings with Moreau Lodge.<sup>84</sup> Gascozark featured log buildings and frame cabins with shingled lower walls.<sup>85</sup>

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<sup>79</sup> “Rustic Architecture: 1916 - 1942,” National Park Service Western Regional Office, Division of Cultural Resource Management, February, 1977.

[www.nps.gov/history/history/online\\_books/rusticarch/introduction.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/rusticarch/introduction.htm) and  
[www.nps.gov/history/history/online\\_books/rusticarch/part1.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/rusticarch/part1.htm) pp. 2 - 3, 6, 8.

<sup>80</sup> Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1995, 453.

<sup>81</sup> Marcus Whiffen and Frederick Koeper, American Architecture 1607 - 1976, MIT Press, Cambridge, 1981, 316.

<sup>82</sup> McAlester, 453 - 454.

<sup>83</sup> Kremer and Morrow, 6-7.

<sup>84</sup> Culbertson, 7.

<sup>85</sup> Bradbury, 46.

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Whether Frank Dallmeyer built his house out of native stone out of a desire to appear like facilities he had seen in his travels, because he was influenced by other Missouri resorts, or whether his German background encouraged him to use local stone because it was lower in cost is unknown. Whatever drove Frank Dallmeyer to use native materials in construction of Moreau Park buildings and to utilize the Craftsman style architecture in the main house, the resulting Moreau Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria C in the area of ARCHITECTURE due to the choices made in the early 1900s and the integrity that remains in the district today.

**Family History**

Frank Dallmeyer was the oldest son of Rudolph and Louise Schmidt Dallmeyer. Frank was born May 12, 1879, and grew up in the family's home in downtown Jefferson City, Maple Terrace. After attending school in Jefferson City, he was sent to Germany to complete his education at the school his father attended, Rector Frey's School for Boys in Dissen. Rudolph Dallmeyer established the R. Dallmeyer Dry Goods Co. in 1881, and worked there until his untimely death in an automobile accident in 1924.<sup>86</sup> Frank Dallmeyer was employed in his father's retail business in downtown Jefferson City, but doctors advised him his health would improve if he moved to the country<sup>87</sup> as he suffered chronic illness after contracting tuberculosis.<sup>88</sup> This resulted in his purchase of Hillcrest Farm, where Moreau Park was developed, shortly after his marriage to Fern, who grew up on a farm in Callaway County.

Fern's father was a doctor, and after a typhoid scare during her teens, her father moved his

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<sup>86</sup> Kremer, "Dallmeyer's Moreau Park - Early Twentieth Century 'Pleasure Resort'," 152.

<sup>87</sup> Ford, 413.

<sup>88</sup> Kremer, "Dallmeyer's Moreau Park - Early Twentieth Century 'Pleasure Resort'," 152.

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family to Jefferson City. When Frank and Fern purchased Hillcrest Farm, it had established fruit trees, a dairy with a creamery on the lower level, and a large vegetable garden.<sup>89</sup> An old farmhouse on the property provided their home until the existing house was completed in 1924.<sup>90</sup>

**Fern Dallmeyer's Contributions**

Fern was apparently quite a capable woman, and was in charge of the dairy operations as well as cooking meals for her family, hired help and guests, and was responsible for the landscaping of Moreau Park. The grounds featured pools and multiple planting beds. As a master gardener, Fern helped establish the Hawthorne Garden Club in Jefferson City.<sup>91</sup>

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<sup>89</sup> Interview with Dottie Dallmeyer, May 25, 2008.

<sup>90</sup> Kremer, "Dallmeyer's Moreau Park - Early Twentieth Century 'Pleasure Resort'," 152-153.

<sup>91</sup> Interview with Dottie Dallmeyer, May 25, 2008.

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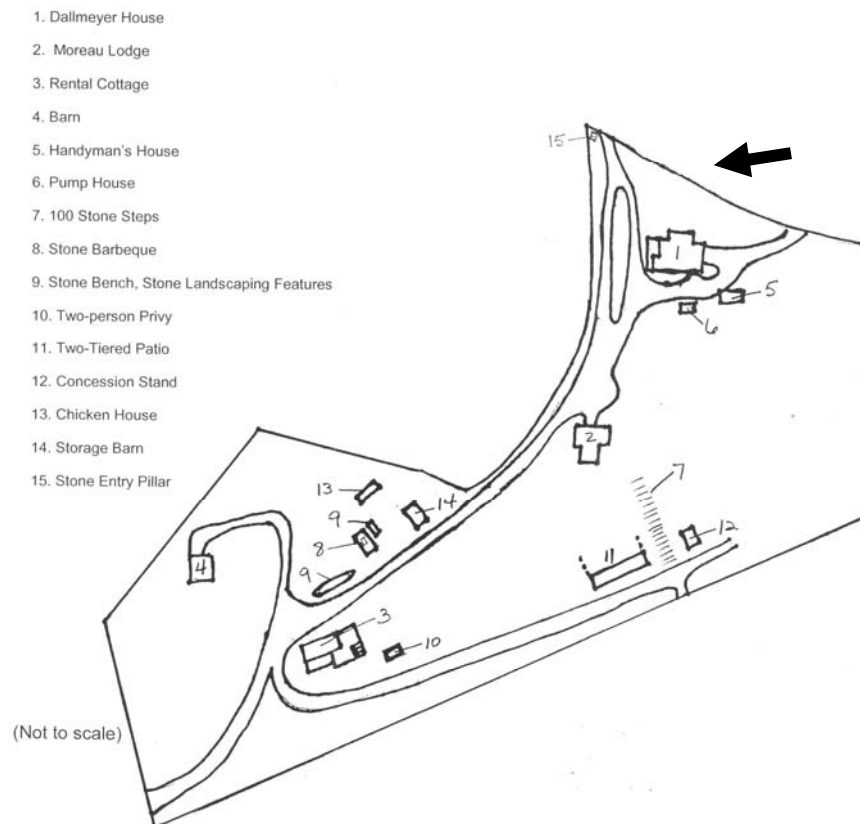
**Verbal Boundary Description:**

The original farm contained 80 acres. Over time, land was whittled away for use in road projects, such as the “new” Moreau River Bridge and realignment of Old Wardsville Road. This reduced the acreage to around 65 acres. The current parcel contains 30 acres, which includes all the remaining resources that were historically associated with Moreau Park. The northern boundary of the property is Old Wardsville Road, the eastern boundary is a fence line at the edge of an open field area, the southern boundary is the Moreau River, and the western boundary follows the curve of the driveway through Moreau Park.

**Boundary Justification:**

The current boundaries encompass all of the land currently and historically associated with the operation of Moreau Park.

**Site Map:**



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**Photographs:**

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Moreau Park Historic District  
Cole County, Missouri  
Photographer: Jane Beetem  
Date of Photographs unless otherwise noted: 2008

A digital copy of these photos is on file with the Missouri DNR State Historic Preservation Office.

List of photographs:

1. Exterior photograph of front facade and entry porch of Dallmeyer House, facing east.
2. Exterior photograph of front facade and entry porch of Dallmeyer House, facing southeast.
3. Exterior photograph of northeast facade and side porch of Dallmeyer House, facing south.
4. Interior photograph of stone fireplace in Dallmeyer House's living room.
5. Exterior photograph of Handyman's House, facing east.
6. Exterior photograph of Pump House, facing southeast.
7. Exterior photograph of Moreau Lodge front facade and southeast side, facing southwest.
8. Exterior photograph of Moreau Lodge front facade and northwest side, facing southeast.
9. Exterior photograph of front facade of Guest Cottage, facing southwest.
10. Exterior photograph of front facade of Guest Cottage, facing northwest.
11. Exterior photograph of stone bar-b-que, facing southeast.
12. Exterior photograph of Concession Stand remains, facing northwest.
13. Photograph of typical landscaping feature, with native stone edging, opposite road from Guest Cottage, facing northeast.
14. Exterior photograph of Privy, facing southeast.
15. Exterior photograph of Barn, facing southwest.
16. Early postcard ( circa 1911) depicting Dew Drop Inn, one of the guest cottages at Moreau Park.

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**List of Figures**

- Figure 1: Site Map, see p. 7.
- Figure 2: Frank and Fern Dallmeyer
- Figure 3: Historic Photo of Dallmeyer Home
- Figure 4: Promotional Brochure, Undated
- Figure 5: Group Photo at Moreau Lodge, circa 1930s
- Figure 6: Dew Drop Inn, Moreau Park
- Figure 7: Former Entrance to Moreau Park
- Figure 8: Swimmers and Canoe Rental, Moreau Park
- Figure 9: Nagogami Lodge and Stone Wall, Rolla vicinity, 1939
- Figure 10: Ad for Nagogami Lodge, undated
- Figure 11: Piney Lodge, Pulaski County
- Figure 12: Pippin Place, Waynesville vicinity
- Figure 13: Pippin Place Postcard - Recreation Hall
- Figure 14: Pippin Place Postcard - Aerial View
- Figure 15: Gascozark Hills Resort Postcard, Hazelgreen, Missouri

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**Figure 2: Frank and Fern Dallmeyer, 1915<sup>92</sup>**



**Figure 3: Historic Photo of Dallmeyer Home.<sup>93</sup>**



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<sup>92</sup> Kremer, "Dallmeyer's Moreau Park - Early Twentieth Century 'Pleasure Resort'," 152. Photo credit: Rudy Dallmeyer.

<sup>93</sup> Kremer, "Dallmeyer's Moreau Park - Early Twentieth Century 'Pleasure Resort'," 154.

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**Figure 4: Promotional Brochure, Undated<sup>94</sup>**

*Enjoy an Outdoor Vacation with All the Comforts of Home at Moreau Park*



MAIN BUILDING

SITUATED on the picturesque Moreau River, 2¼ miles southeast of Jefferson City and easily accessible on a hard-surfaced all-weather road leading directly from the Capital City to the Park, which is only two miles beyond the terminus of the street car line, vacationists will enjoy the beauty and freedom of the great outdoors combined with all the comforts of home. Whether you wish to spend a quiet, restful vacation, or go in for the more strenuous sports, Moreau Park, with its 30 acres and half-mile water front, will be found equally pleasant.



MOREAU LODGE

**ACCOMMODATIONS**—The Dallmeyer residence is built to accommodate as many as twelve guests who desire all modern conveniences, including electric lights, gas, running hot and cold water, telephone and daily mail delivery, radio entertainment, etc. All meals are furnished and all the facilities of the Park are at the disposal of guests.

For families or parties who desire a separate cottage and prepare their own meals, there are four bungalows—Moreau Lodge, Dew Drop Inn, Fraternity Lodge and Hillcrest Cottage. The smaller cottages, Fraternity Lodge and Dew Drop Inn, have screened-in porches. Moreau Lodge, the largest, has a spacious dance hall, fireplace, piano, running water, lights, roomy kitchen and sleeping rooms and a big porch. Fuel, lights and cots are furnished free, and clean, sanitary bedding can also be furnished at a small extra charge.

**FOOD SUPPLIES**—In connection with Moreau Park, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dallmeyer maintain their own garden, dairy and poultry farm and furnish their guests with the best food that can be produced or procured.

**FURNISHED COTTAGES**—For four or more, 75c a night per person or \$4.00 per week. Bedding can be had at a small extra charge. Meals can also be had at the Main Building at reasonable prices.

**SPECIAL PRIVILEGES**—All guests of the house or cottages have free bathing, fishing, boating, canoeing and tennis privileges.

**HOUSE GUESTS**—Rooms with excellent meals at the main residence, including all park privileges, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per day per person; rates by the week, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per day per person.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**—Moreau Park has a large, well-kept tennis court available at 25c per hour per person or 40c for two hours. . . . There are many excellent camp sites in cool, shady dells that will delight the tourist. . . . Canoes and steel boats line the water front and they are rented for 40c an hour or \$1.00 for three hours. . . . Moreau Lodge is available by reservation for dances, suppers, picnics and large camping parties. . . . The park also affords a dining pavilion, outdoor cookstoves, tables, benches and swings and a beautiful sunken garden. . . . Swimming is a real sport at Moreau Park where rings, diving-boards, and like equipment add to the pleasure. The rate for adults is 15c and for children 10c. Sundays and holidays and under flood lights 25c and 10c.

FISH · SWIM · HIKE · PICNIC · CANOE  
TENNIS · RECREATION · REST

Write or Phone in Advance for Reservations

**FRANK W. DALLMEYER**

Phone 2072 Black R. F. D. No. 4, Box 16a  
JEFFERSON CITY, MO.

If you desire further information regarding Moreau Park, we will be glad to furnish it. Please feel free to write us.

<sup>94</sup> Brochure courtesy of Dottie Dallmeyer.

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**Figure 5: Group Photo at Moreau Lodge, circa 1930s<sup>95</sup>**



**Figure 6: Dew Drop Inn, Moreau Park<sup>96</sup>**



<sup>95</sup> Kremer, "Dallmeyer's Moreau Park - Early Twentieth Century 'Pleasure Resort'," 154. Unidentified group in front of Moreau Lodge. Photo credit: Judy Dallmeyer Tamm.

<sup>96</sup> Kremer, 153. Dew Drop Inn was the first cottage built at Moreau Park. Photo credit: Rudy Dallmeyer.

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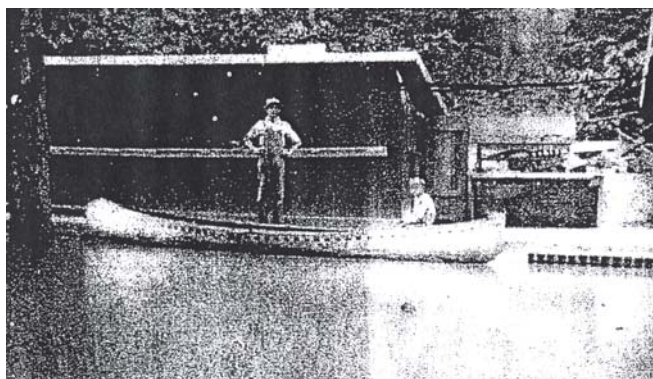
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**Figure 7: Former Entrance to Moreau Park<sup>97</sup>**



**Figure 8: Swimmers and Canoe Rental, Moreau Park<sup>98</sup>**



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<sup>97</sup> Kremer, "Dallmeyer's Moreau Park - Early Twentieth Century 'Pleasure Resort'," 152. Photo credit: Rudy Dallmeyer.

<sup>98</sup> Kremer, 153 - 154. Floaters take a break to pose for this Moreau Park ad that ran in the 1930 high school yearbook; canoes at Moreau Park. Photo credits: Rudy Dallmeyer.

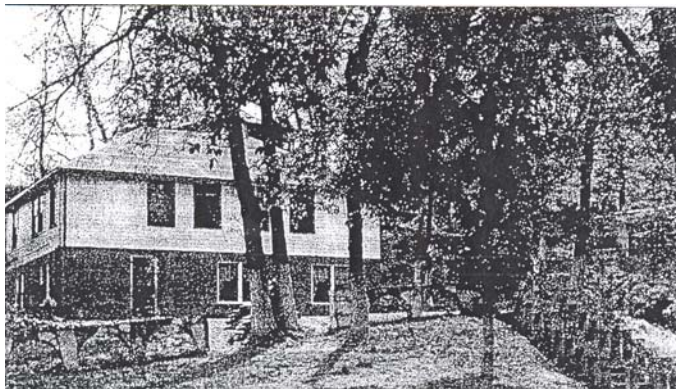
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**Figure 9: Nagogami Lodge and Stone Wall, Rolla vicinity, 1939<sup>99</sup>**



**Figure 10: Ad for Nagogami Lodge, undated<sup>100</sup>**

**Spend Your Vacation**  
at  
**NAGOGAMI LODGE**  
On the Banks of the Gasconade River!  
Located 11-3/10 miles Northwest of Rolla, Mo.  
on Highway E — good highway.

Cottages Rented By Day or Week	Mailing Address Nagogami Lodge R-3, Rolla, Mo. Art McDaniel
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(over)

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NAGOGAMI LODGE is the Vacation  
Spot for the Whole Family!

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OPEN MAY 15 to OCTOBER 15

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1-2 & 3-Room Clean Modern Light Housekeeping Cottages,  
With Good Well Water In All Cottages.  
ELECTRIC-LIGHTED PICNIC GROUNDS, BOAT DOCK  
BOATS - CANOES - SWIMMING - FISHING - HUNTING  
Large Dance Hall, Swings, Lawn Chairs, Refreshments,  
Cigaretts and Groceries, etc. available at the Lodge.

<sup>99</sup> Bradbury, 53. The lodge had rooms for rent on the lower level and a recreation room with card tables for games and leather couches for relaxation. Photo credit: John Bradbury.

<sup>100</sup> Bradbury. 54.

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**Figure 11: Piney Lodge, Pulaski County<sup>101</sup>**



**Figure 12: Pippin Place, Waynesville vicinity<sup>102</sup>**



PIPPIN PLACE      On The Gasconade      WAYNESVILLE, MO.      Sehnster Studio  
Hermann, Mo.

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<sup>101</sup> Culbertson, 7.

<sup>102</sup> [www.geocities.com/hilypippin/pp/photos/pp-s839.jpeg](http://www.geocities.com/hilypippin/pp/photos/pp-s839.jpeg)

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**Figure 13: Pippin Place Postcard - Recreation Hall<sup>103</sup>**



**Figure 14: Pippin Place Postcard - Aerial View<sup>104</sup>**



<sup>103</sup> [www.geocities.com/hillypippin/pp/photos/pp-s837-a.jpeg](http://www.geocities.com/hillypippin/pp/photos/pp-s837-a.jpeg)

<sup>104</sup> [www.geocities.com/hillypippin/pp/photos/pp-card-s836.jpeg](http://www.geocities.com/hillypippin/pp/photos/pp-card-s836.jpeg)

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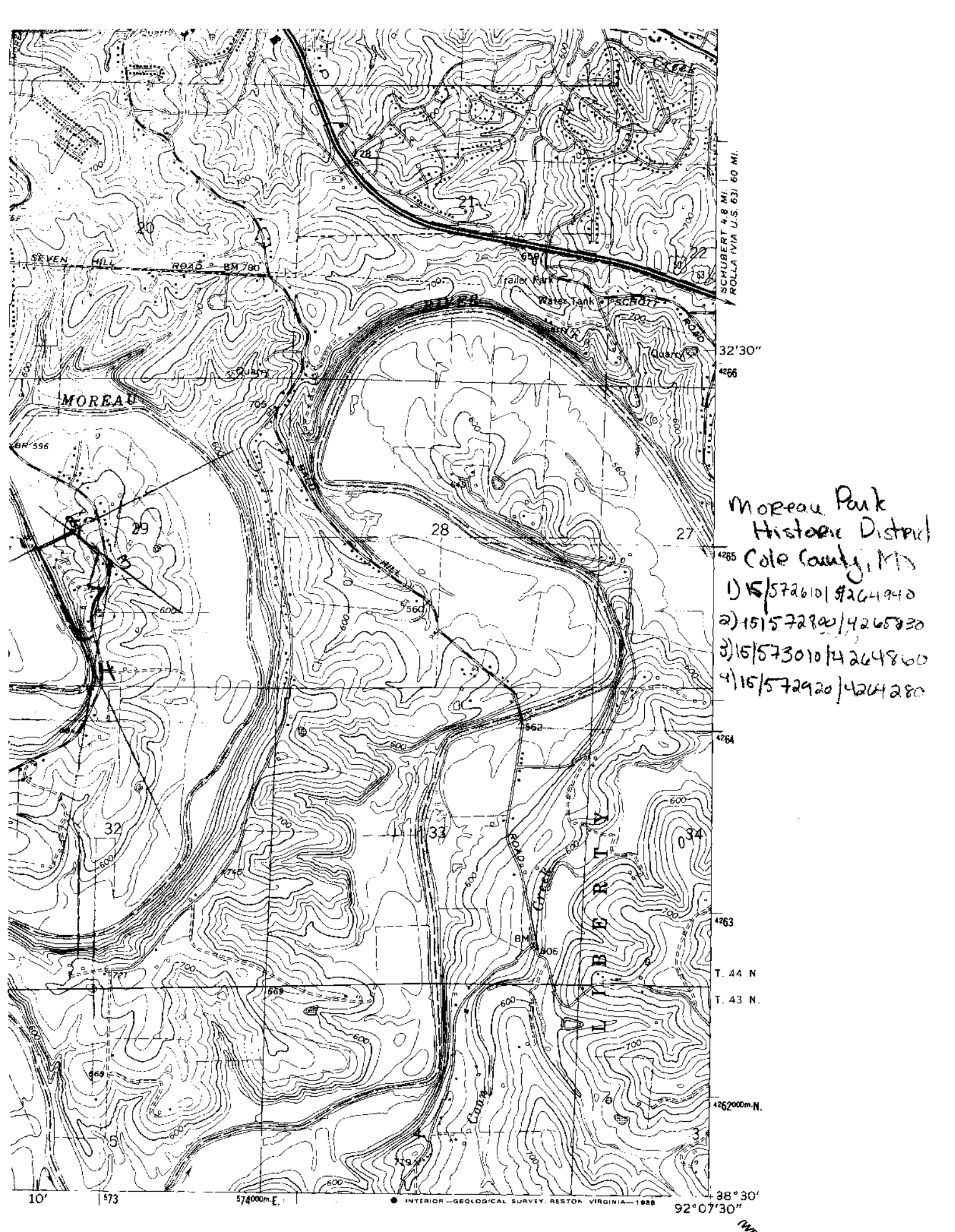
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**Figure 15: Gascozark Hills Resort Postcard, Hazelgreen, Missouri<sup>105</sup>**



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<sup>105</sup> [www.missouri66.org/photoalbum/historic28.html](http://www.missouri66.org/photoalbum/historic28.html)





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*Dew Drop Inn on the Moreau,  
Jefferson City, Mo.*

