

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only

received AUG 9 1982
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Abou Ben Adhem Shrine Mosque
Shrine Mosque
and/or common Abou Ben Adhem Temple

2. Location

street & number 601 East St. Louis Street not for publication
city, town Springfield vicinity of congressional district #7-Hon. Gene Taylor
state Missouri code 029 county Greene code 077

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Fraternal

4. Owner of Property

name Board of Trustees
Abou Ben Adhem Shrine Mosque

street & number 601 St. Louis Street

city, town Springfield vicinity of state Missouri 65806

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds
Greene County Courthouse

street & number 940 Boonville

city, town Springfield state Missouri 65802

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

I. Historical Sites of
title Springfield, Missouri has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1976 federal state county local

depository for survey records Historical Site Board
City Hall, 830 Boonville

city, town Springfield state Missouri 65802

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

About Ben Adhem Shrine Mosque, a fraternal temple designed in a Moorish inspired style, is located in a declining urban section of Springfield, Missouri and measures approximately 251' along the north and south and 138' along the east and west with a maximum height of 100' at the peak of the domes on the south facade. A recently renovated, partially below grade, full lower floor, which is the present location of the ballroom, kitchen, restrooms, club room and meeting room, supports the main floor auditorium and offices, the second floor meeting rooms and the additional club rooms on the partial third and fourth floors (see plans). The building is constructed primarily of red brick laid in common bond over reinforced concrete foundations with cement stucco imitating ashlar applied to its lower exterior (photo #1). The Mosque remains substantially unaltered except as noted below. At an unknown date, the basement windows along the east and west sides were closed with masonry and covered with a cement stucco coating (photos #1 and 2). To the north an arched structural steel Warren truss with steel columns enclosed in the masonry of the exterior walls supports the roof of the auditorium which seats about 5000 (photos #9 and 10). To the south, concrete domes, painted deep red with buff trim and capped with bronze finials, rest atop the east and west pavilions of the primary facade. Additional Moorish inspired decorative elements are executed in pale blue and deep gold glazed terra cotta including an inscription at the summit of each pavilion in Arabic - "There is no God but Allah" (photos #3, 5, 6 and 7). Above the decorative entryway on the south side (photo #7) a broad ogival brick arch is located which encloses a stained and art glass window measuring 33' x 21' depicting a desert caravan and executed in vibrant colors by Stanley Uthwatt and Vergil Sands of the Springfield Art Glass Company (photo #4). The renovated north entrance provides access for the handicapped (photo #8). The interior of the building is occupied primarily by the auditorium and its accessory rooms, and the decor continues the Moorish theme begun on the exterior (photos #9 and 10). The auditorium measures 63' along the east and west and 115' along the north and south and features a hard wood floor and an 80' x 42' stage and associated dressing rooms at its north end, resting beneath a 60' x 20' proscenium arch.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 6 PAGE 1

2. Missouri State Historical Survey
1980, 1981
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

state

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1923 **Builder/Architect** Hans Van Unwerth, engineer
 Heckenlively and Mark, architects
 John Olson, general contractor

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Abou Ben Adhem Shrine Mosque in Springfield, Missouri, a building which achieved the status of a City Historic Site in October, 1973, is significant due to its impressive architectural styling and its dual function as southwest Missouri's regional civic and cultural center and as the home for the considerable charitable activities of Springfield's Shriners for over 50 years.

(see continuation sheet for details)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Hayes, Mr. Thomas L. Personal correspondence with Noelle Soren, December 19, 1980 and February 6, 1981.
 Preuss, Arthur, ed. Dictionary of Secret and Other Societies. St. Louis: B. Herder Co., 1924.
 The Shrine Mosque of Abou Ben Adhem Temple - 50th Anniversary, 1923-1973. Springfield: Shrine Mosque, 1973.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name "Springfield, MO."

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	5
---	---

4	7	4	6	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	1	1	7	9	4	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

 Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--

--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

The westernmost 147' of Lots #1 and #4, City Block #1 in the W.C. Price Addition to Springfield, Greene County, Missouri

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

1. Noelle Soren
 name/title Historic Architecture Specialist
 organization Historic Preservation Program
 Department of Natural Resources date August 3, 1981
 street & number P.O. Box 176 telephone 314/751-4096
 city or town Jefferson City state Missouri 65102

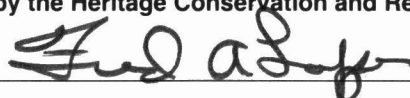
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



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

date 7-13-82

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
 National Register

date 9/9/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

On October 15, 1903 Abou Ben Adhem Temple was organized in the Baldwin Theater in Springfield, Missouri by officers of the Ararat Temple of the Ancient and Accepted Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine (A.A.O.N.M.S.) in Kansas City, Missouri¹. The local Shriners' first permanent home was erected on Walnut Street in 1906. Their constantly growing membership, however, led the organization to erect the present Mosque in 1922-1923. The size of the building and its exotic decoration and theme were especially notable at this time in Missouri's rugged and developing Ozark region².

Shrine Mosque was designed by the local architectural firm of Heckenlively and Mark. These architects are responsible for the design of many minor local buildings including the Campbell Public School, Central High Fine Arts Building, Weaver Public School and Harrison Football Stadium. Abou Ben Adhem Mosque is by far their most impressive work known³.

From 1922 to the present, Shrine Mosque has been the home for the Springfield chapter of A.A.O.N.M.S. This national organization has been especially noted for its charitable work since its inception in 1876. The Springfield chapter alone, which has a current membership of about 6,000, has contributed about half a million dollars over the years to the Shrine Childrens' Hospital Association in Baton Rouge, Louisiana⁴.

In addition to serving the charitable organization, the Mosque, which has the largest auditorium in southwest Missouri, has long served as a regional center for many and varied cultural and civic events. Everything from political and commercial conventions to wrestling matches, from concerts by Fritz Kreisler, Frank Sinatra and the U.S. Marine Band to performances by the Big Bands of Glenn Miller, the Dorsey Brothers and Benny Goodman, from speakers like Ronald Reagan to President Harry Truman to special attractions like Jose Greco and performances of "Aida" and "Madame Butterfly" have been welcomed here by southwest Missourians⁵.

FOOTNOTES

¹This order, which was founded in New York City by actor Billy Florence in 1876, is limited to Knights Templars and 32° Scottish Rite Masons. In the beginning, Florence called it Mecca and an early film celebrity, Lew Wallace, helped create the exotic atmosphere which surrounds the rites. Shriners are known for their social and charitable works and for the fez, sphinx, crescent and scimitar which are their symbols. See Arthur Preuss, ed., Dictionary of Secret and Other Societies (St. Louis: B. Herder Book Co., 1924), pp. 36 and 155.

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

²The Shrine Mosque of Abou Ben Adhem Temple - 50th Anniversary, 1923-1973 (Springfield: Shrine Mosque, 1973), p. 3.

³This list of building was provided to me by Mr. Thomas L. Hayes in a personal letter of December 19, 1980.

⁴This information was provided to me by Mr. Thomas L. Hayes in a personal letter of February 6, 1981.

⁵The Shrine Mosque, pp. 15-17.

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 11 PAGE 1

2. Thomas L. Hayes
Abou Ben Adhem Temple
647 South Pickwick
Springfield, Missouri 65802 417/866-4932

3. Edwin C. Waters, A.I.A.
Plaza Towers, Suite 800 (Marshall, Waters, Woody Associates, Inc.)
1736 East Sunshine
Springfield, Missouri 65804 417/883-2720

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

82003137

Abou Ben Adhem Shrine Mosque
Greene County
MISSOURI

Working No. 8/9/82-2/82
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.1.83
Date Due: 9/9/82 - 9/23/82
Action: ACCEPT 9/9/82
Entered in the RETURN
National Register REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom. / Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- _____ summary paragraph
- _____ completeness
- _____ clarity
- _____ applicable criteria
- _____ justification of areas checked
- _____ relating significance to the resource
- _____ context
- _____ relationship of integrity to significance
- _____ justification of exception
- _____ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____

date _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
- _____ Photographs
- _____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE #1 of 10
601 St. Louis St., Springfield, Greene County,
Missouri

Photographer: Noelle Soren
February, 1981

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65101
View to northeast of primary facade and west
side.

ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI—2



ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE #2 of 10
601 St. Louis St., Springfield, Greene County,
Missouri
Photographer: E.C. Kropp Co., Milwaukee, WI.
ca. 1940

Neg. Loc.: Abou Ben Adhem Shrine Mosque
Historic view to northeast, reproduced from a
postcard.



ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE #3 of 10
601 St. Louis St., Springfield, Greene County,
Missouri
Photographer: Noelle Soren
February, 1981
Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65101
South (primary) facade, main entrance, detail.



ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE #4 of 10
601 St. Louis St., Springfield, Greene County,
Missouri
Photographer: Unknown
1978

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources, P.
O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO. 65101
Main entrance, detail of brilliant art glass
window depicting desert caravan scene.



ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE #5 of 10
601 St. Louis St., Springfield, Greene County,
Missouri

Photographer: Noelle Soren
February, 1981

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65101
South (primary) facade, east tower, detail.



ABOUT BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE #6 of 10
601 St. Louis St., Springfield, Greene County,
Missouri

Photographer: Noelle Soren
February, 1981

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65101

Detail, west window at the second story level
of the second bay on the south (primary) facade



ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE #7 of 10
601 St. Louis St., Springfield, Greene County,
Missouri

Photographer: Noelle Soren
February, 1981

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65101
South (primary) facade, detail of main entryway



ABOU BEN ADHEM



ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE #8 of 10
601 St. Louis St., Springfield, Greene County,
Missouri
Photographer: Noelle Soren
February, 1981
Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65101
North (rear) side, view to southeast. Lower
gallery is a modern addition.



ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE #9 of 10
601 St. Louis St., Springfield, Greene County,
Missouri

Photographer: Noelle Soren
February, 1981

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65101

Interior, auditorium, view to north with stage
at rear.

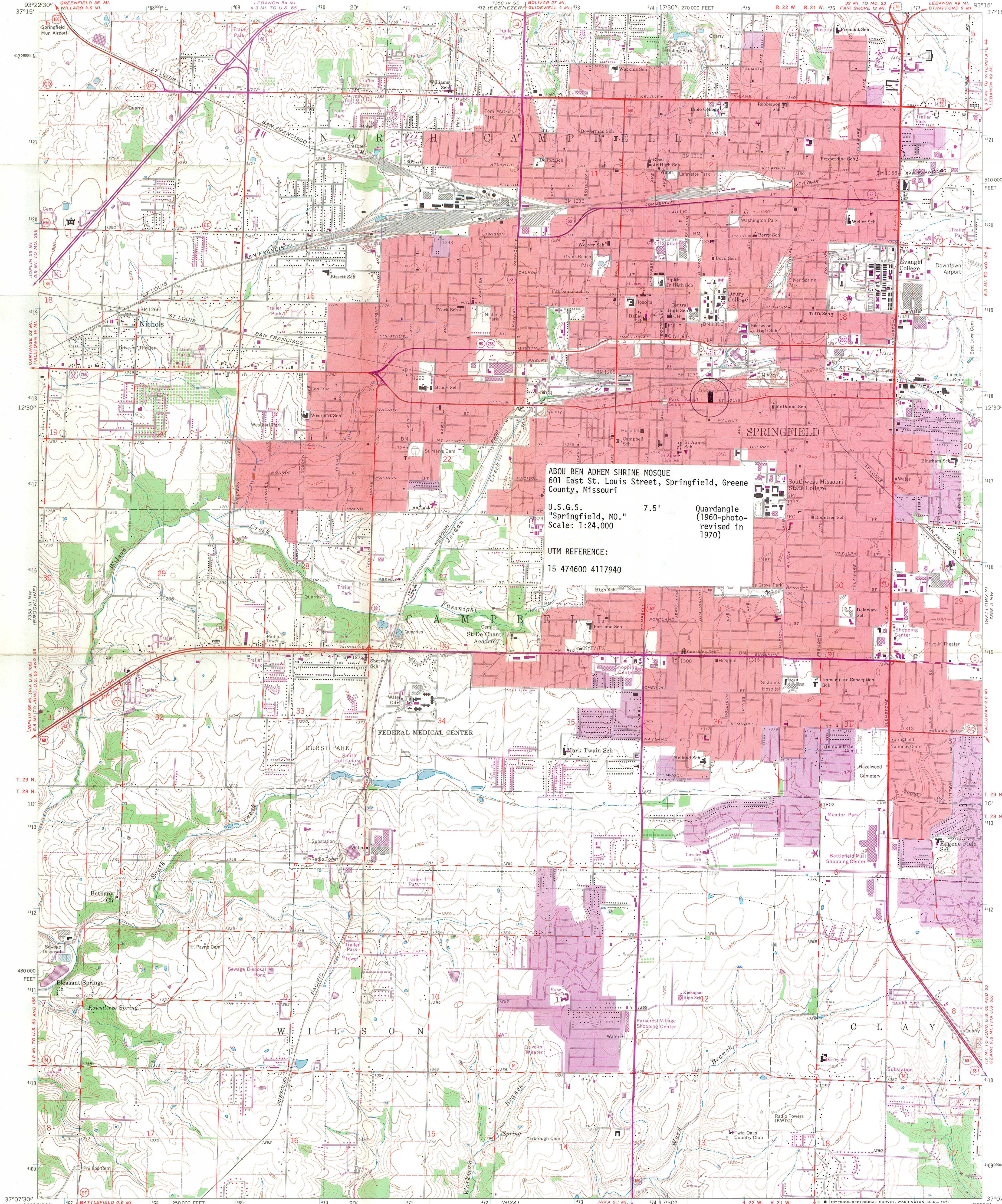


ABOU BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE #10 of 10
601 St. Louis St., Springfield, Greene County,
Missouri

Photographer: Noelle Soren
February, 1981

Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 176,
Jefferson City, MO. 65101

Interior, auditorium, view to south.



ABOUT BEN ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE
601 East St. Louis Street, Springfield, Greene
County, Missouri

U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle
"Springfield, MO." (1960-photos-
revised in 1970)

Scale: 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCE:
15 474600 4117940

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
Aerial photographs taken 1959. Field check 1960

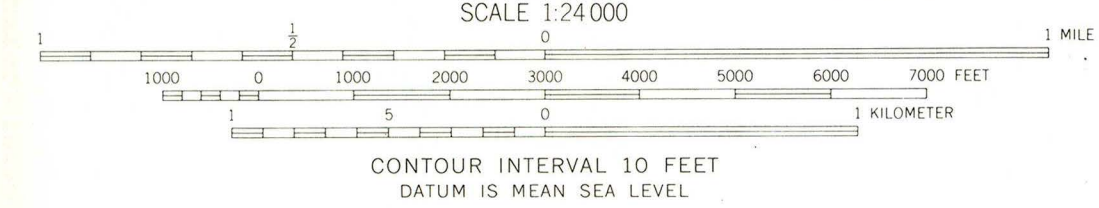
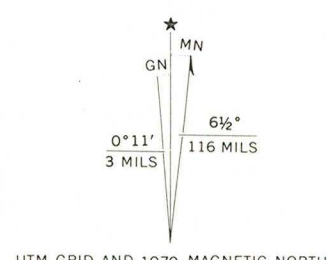
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Missouri coordinate system, central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue

Red tint indicates area in which only
landmark buildings are shown

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1970. This information not field checked

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
AND BY THE MISSOURI GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, ROLLA, MISSOURI 65401
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

SPRINGFIELD, MO.
N 3707.5—W 9315/7.5

1960
PHOTOREVISED 1970
AMS 7358 III NE—SERIES V879



July 21, 1982



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

P.O. Box 176 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 (314) 751-2479

Mr. Jerry Rogers
Associate Director
National Park Service
18th & C Streets
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Jerry:

Enclosed please find the following submission from Missouri for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places:

PRAIRIE VIEW, Pleasant Green vicinity, Cooper County, Mo.

CARUTHERSVILLE WATER TOWER, Caruthersville, Pemiscot County, Mo.

HAARSTICK-WHITTEMORE HOUSES, 6420 and 6440 Forsyth Blvd., Clayton, St. Louis County, Mo.

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Fayette, Howard County, Mo.

DICK-KOBEL HOMESTEAD, Jamestown vicinity, Cooper County, Mo.

HOMER G. PHILLIPS HOSPITAL, 26101 Whittier Street, St. Louis City, Mo.

BRENTMOOR PARK, Clayton, St. Louis County, Mo.

CARRSWOLD HISTORIC DISTRICT, Clayton, St. Louis County, Mo.

ROCK HOUSE, 330 N. Gore, Webster Groves, St. Louis County, Mo.

MILLER-PORTER-LACY HOUSE, 2912 Frederick Blvd., St. Joseph, Buchanan County, Mo.

SHANLEY BUILDING, 7800 Maryland Avenue, Clayton, St. Louis County, Mo.

SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS AT STARKENBURG, Rhineland vicinity, Montgomery County, Mo.

CONGREGATION B'NAI AMOONA, 524 Trinity, University City, St. Louis County, Mo.

ABOU BEA ADHEM SHRINE MOSQUE, 601 East St. Louis Street, Springfield, Greene County, Mo.

ST. PETERS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 400 West Wall Street, Harrisonville, Cass County, Mo.

Christopher S. Bond Governor
Fred A. Lafser Director

Division of Parks and Historic Preservation
John Karel Director

Mr. Jerry Rogers
July 21, 1982
Page 2

BUSCH'S GROVE, 916 Clayton Road,
Ladue, St. Louis County, Mo.

BETH SHALOM SYNAGOGUE, 3400 The Paseo,
Kansas City, Jackson County, Mo.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
AND PARSONAGE, Rich Fountain,
Osage County, Mo.

ST. JOSEPH PUBLIC LIBRARY, 10th and
Felix Streets, St. Joseph, Buchanan
County, Mo.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH,
New Melle, St. Charles, Mo.

MEYER, AUGUST HOUSE, 4415 Warwick,
Kansas City, Jackson County, Mo.

GLASGOW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
Commerce and Fourth Streets,
Glasgow, Howard County, Mo.

These nominations were approved by our State Review Board, the Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, on June 25-26, 1982 and have been signed by Missouri's State Historic Preservation Officer, Fred A. Lafser. All owners and appropriate elected public officials were notified and provided forty-five (45) days to comment on the above proposed nominations in accordance with Section 60.6(c) 36CFR60, interim regulations, using the exact notification format recommended by the National Register. No objections, notarized or otherwise, were received for the above referenced nomination.

If there are any questions concerning these submissions, please contact James M. Denny of my staff at 314/751-4096.

Sincerely,

DIVISION OF PARKS AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION



B.H. Rucker
Assistant Director

BHR:jdk

Enclosure: as stated