

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name McCormick, James Robinson, House

other names/site number n/a

2. Location

street & number 324 West Columbia Street [n/a] not for publication

city or town Farmington [n/a] vicinity

state Missouri code MO county St. Francois code 187 zip code 63640

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 [ ].)

Claire F. Blackwell Signature of certifying official/Title Claire F. Blackwell/Deputy SHPO Date 25 June 1998

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

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register  
See continuation sheet [ ].
- determined eligible for the  
National Register  
See continuation sheet [ ].
- determined not eligible for the  
National Register.
- removed from the  
National Register
- other, explain  
See continuation sheet [ ].

Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date 7-31-98

**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	2	0
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	0	0
		0	0
		2	0

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

Name of related multiple property listing.

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Function**

DOMESTIC: single dwelling  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 DOMESTIC: secondary structure  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

DOMESTIC: single dwelling  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 DOMESTIC: secondary structure  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**

foundation LIMESTONE  
 walls BRICK  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 roof ASPHALT  
 other WOOD  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

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

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Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

McCormick, James Robinson, House  
St. Francois County, Missouri

### Description

**SUMMARY:** The James Robinson McCormick House is located at 324 West Columbia Street in Farmington, St. Francois County, Missouri. Located on a .98 acre lot, this two story house is 44'6" wide and 64'4" long and was constructed circa 1875 of red brick. The McCormick house is an excellent example of Greek Revival architecture and features such characteristic details as a low-pitched gable roof which is trimmed at the eaves with wide bands of cornice molding and trim painted white. Matching cornice returns wrap around the gable ends of the house. Covering the front entrance is a single-story white portico made up of a decorative entablature supported by six white square columns. The four-paneled front door is set in a wide glazed surround with rectangular lights. The floor plan is "L" shaped with a traditional three-bay-wide "I" in front and a two-room "L" connected to the rear of the house. Interior details which are distinctively Greek Revival in style include four panel doors set in wide casings which are capped with thin cornice molding and shallow pediments. Over the years the house has been used as a residence and has been altered very little. Nearly all of the architectural integrity remains intact in terms of original design, building materials, and retention of the original feeling of the property. This is enhanced by the presence of a small detached wash house 20' behind the house. This building matches the larger house in terms of time period, architectural style and building material and is virtually unaltered. As such, it contributes to the overall integrity of the property. The integrity of the setting and feeling of the property is further enhanced by the large lot on which it stands. The lot features several heirloom plants and trees and is surrounded by a neighborhood which retains its residential character.

**ELABORATION:** The James Robinson McCormick House is located on a large lot in a residential neighborhood two blocks West of the downtown business district of Farmington, Missouri. At the time the house was constructed, West Columbia Street was one of the two main thoroughfares that ran east and west through the town, connecting it with neighboring towns. An 1880 map of the city indicates that the house, which then sat on a 2.49 acre plot of land, was surrounded by large homes on parcels of land which ranged in size from two to ten acres each. Many of these original Victorian era houses remain today while the neighborhood, which has filled in with several newer and smaller houses, has remained largely residential.

The two-story McCormick house measures 44' 6" across the front facade and is 64' 4" deep. The floor plan is "L" shaped with a three-room "I" running East and West with a three-room "L" extending back toward the South. The 14"-20" thick foundation is made of rough cut limestone laid in regular courses. A 14" crawl space runs beneath the house with a 7' deep cellar space located under the kitchen. This cellar space is accessible by stairs that descend from the kitchen and by an exterior stair entry at the rear of the house.

Of the 2.49 acres that comprised the original plot on which General McCormick built his home, .98 acres remain. The property includes several heirloom plants and trees; including; a honeysuckle, which according to family lore, is from the birthplace of Robert E. Lee; Boxwoods from the grounds of the United States Capitol in Washington, where the General served in the House of Representatives; and a deep red peony brought to America by the family of General McCormick's mother.

The 14" thick exterior walls of the house are made of red brick laid in American bond (six rows of stretchers alternated with a single row of headers).

The roof of the house is a low pitched gable roof which was originally covered with metal and is now covered with asphalt shingles. There are two brick chimneys at the peak of the front section of the house.

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Section 7 Page 2

McCormick, James Robinson, House  
St. Francois County, Missouri

Description (continued)

The front facade of the McCormick house is three bays wide and faces North toward West Columbia Street. A 12' wide, one-story portico is located at the center of the facade and covers the front entrance. Constructed of wood and painted white, this portico features a decorative entablature which is supported by six square columns with wooden capitals. The top of the portico also serves as a balcony which is accessible from a door on the second floor. The portico balcony is surrounded by a balustrade which is decorated with scroll sawn balusters.

The front door is set in a glazed surround made up of a transom of three rectangular glass lights across the top and two rectangular side lights on either side. The surrounds are anchored by wooden panels set at the bottom of either side of the door. The exterior door is comprised of a rectangular window made of eight square lights arranged with a wooden panel below. The interior front door is a four-panel wooden door. A similar arrangement is found above on the second story in the door which opens on to the balcony.

The outer bays of the facade are marked by windows which flank the portico on either side. The window openings are anchored by brick sills and capped with brick segmental arches. Though they have been fitted with aluminum storm windows, the wooden windows beneath are original. These front windows are paired; two tall rectangular double hung sashes placed side by side in each window opening. Each window unit is flanked by a pair of original green louvered shutters.

At the top of the front facade, the eaves are articulated by a white neo-classical cornice molding and a wide band of trim.

One third of the West facade is made up of the gable end of the front section of the house and the 30' length of the rear "L," which is set back slightly. There are three windows on each story; one off center on the gable end of the front and two evenly spaced on the rear "L." These window units differ slightly from those on the front in that they are double-hung sashes with two-over two lights divided by vertical muntins. Like those in the front, the openings for the windows have brick sills and are flanked by green louvered shutters. The cornice molding and trim are carried around from the front of the house. Decorative cornice returns anchor the gables, suggesting a Greek pediment.

The East gable end of the front section of the house varies from the West end only in that there are no windows. Set back approximately 28' from this end is the East facade of the rear "L." This facade is covered with a two-story porch that runs the entire 30' length of the "L." This porch extends 8' from the facade and is supported by four square columns. The first story of the porch was enclosed in the late 1940s to create an entryway and the house's only bathroom. This enclosure is covered with white wooden siding and plywood. Two sets of concrete steps lead to two modern exterior doors. A series of six modern aluminum windows cover much of this enclosure. The first story is sheltered by a 42" metal canopy which is supported by wooden brackets. The second story of the porch is essentially unaltered. Between the four white square columns is a balustrade. The original brick facade shows two exterior doors and two exterior windows. This arrangement echoes that of the original first floor facade below. In 1938, a concrete cistern which measures 8' by 8' by 2' high was attached to the South end of this porch.

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McCormick, James Robinson, House  
St. Francois County, Missouri

Description (continued)

The rear gable end of the "L" has two exterior doors; one enters an 8' by 6' gabled one-story entryway to the cellar and the other modern entrance leads to the enclosed porch. There is one small window beneath the gable at the attic level of the facade.

It must be stressed that, as with the exterior, the architectural detailing of the interior remains nearly unaltered and is in good condition. All interior doorways have original four-paneled doors that are set in wide casings capped with thin cornice molding and shallow pediment-shaped crowns. Window trim is similar in design. All fireplaces are surrounded by wooden molding and mantels. The stairs feature a dark stained wooden balustrade with turned balusters and a six-sided newel post with a turned wooden cap. The floors and woodwork are of soft pine, most of which has been painted white.

The interior plan of the first and second floors are identical, each consisting of five rooms in an "L" shape. The first floor ceilings are 10' high. The front portion of the house is based on a traditional "I" house plan; a center entry and hall situated between two parlors. At the back of the hallway is a door that leads to the back porch. A staircase on the West side of the hall leads to the second floor. Beneath the stairs is a small closet. Each of the two front parlors has a 5' wide fireplace centered on its outer wall. A doorway on the South wall of the West parlor leads to a dining room. A doorway on the South side of the dining room leads to the kitchen. Both of these rooms are connected to the porch by doors on the East wall. The kitchen fireplace, which is on the North wall, has been covered. Modern kitchen cabinets and appliances have replaced the original. There are two sets of stairs along the back wall of the kitchen; one which leads to the cellar and one which leads to the original servants quarters on the second floor. The enclosure of the original back porch in the 1940s created a back entryway and the only bathroom in the house. In the enclosed entryway, the exterior walls of the house can still be seen, though they have been painted green. The East and South interior walls of the entryway have been covered with a varnished wood paneling. The bathroom walls are tile and the fixtures are modern. The enclosed space at the back of the original porch continues to function as a porch and storage space.

The second story differs from the first in very few respects. The second floor ceilings measure 10'6". Each of the rooms on the second floor have served as bedrooms, though many have not been used for many years. The East bedroom has been painted at some point since 1950, but the other three, which have most recently been used as work rooms, have paint and wallpaper which date back to the 1930s or before. A door in the second floor hall, above the front entrance, leads to a balcony on top of the front portico. The two front bedrooms have very shallow closets located on either side of the fireplace. It seems possible that these were added after the house was constructed, but the casings match those found throughout the rest of the house. Though the fireplaces in these rooms are each 3' wide they are similar in design to those on the first floor. There are no fireplaces in the back bedrooms above the dining room and kitchen. The back bedroom was a servant's quarter which is linked to the kitchen by stairs along the back wall of the house. There are also stairs which lead to the unfinished attic. Some of the only damaged found in the property can be seen in these two back bedrooms where water leaks caused plaster to fall from the ceilings. The second story of the porch remains as it was when the house was constructed; open with a wooden floor and a surrounding wooden balustrade.

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McCormick, James Robinson, House  
St. Francois County, Missouri

Description (continued)

There is one other contributing building on the property. Approximately 20' behind the house is a small wash house which is one story high and measures 15' by 18'6". Its construction matches the larger house in style and in building materials. The walls of the building are made of red brick laid in American bond. The roof is gabled with a low pitch. A simplified version of the white cornice and trim and the gable-end returns which are found on the larger house, appear on the wash house. There are two doors and one small window on the North facade of the building. One small window can also be found on the West side. The interior is divided into two rooms each accessible through an exterior doorway. The two exterior windows have been covered with plywood. The West room measures approximately 12' by 15' and has a fireplace centered on the East wall. The East room measures approximately 6' by 15'. This building may have been used as a summer kitchen or a wash house but has served as a storage shed for many years. This building is in need of repair but has remained virtually unaltered since its construction.

The McCormick House retains nearly all of its original integrity in terms of design, building material, craftsmanship, and overall feeling. Since its construction 122 years ago, it has been altered very little. The exterior remains almost completely intact and is generally in good condition. The original metal roof has been replaced with modern composite shingles, though the supporting members and the roof line remains. Wooden exterior details are generally well maintained and intact. All exterior windows are original though some have been fitted with aluminum storm windows. The wash house, an original out building, matches the house in style, building material, craftsmanship and time period. This building is literally unaltered but is in need of basic repair.

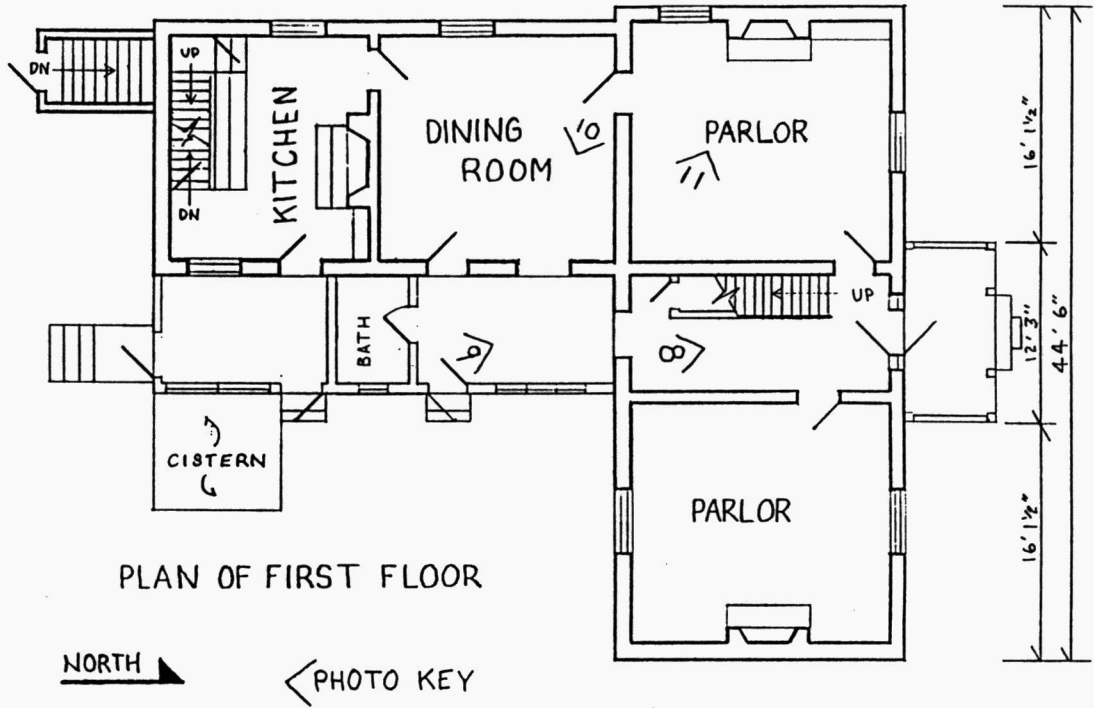
In the first half of this century, the house was wired for electricity. Much of the wiring is primitive and in many places it is exposed. The house is no longer heated by its five fireplaces. At one time, additional wood or oil burning stoves were used, but they have been replaced by steam heat (the furnace was installed in the rear cellar space). In this change, only one fireplace has been enclosed permanently. The kitchen fireplace was covered to create wall space for modern kitchen cabinets, counters and appliances. The chimney for this rear fireplace has been removed above the attic level. In the 1940s, owner Fred Womack enclosed the first story of the rear porch to create an entry, storage space, and a bathroom. The exterior walls of this enclosure are covered with white wood siding. Three modern doors and six aluminum windows are set in this new wall. One original exterior window which faced the porch has been covered to create shelf space. Womack, who bought the house in 1948, lived primarily on the first floor and used the second floor bedrooms for work and storage. Consequently, much of the second floor has not been altered since the 1930s. More recent alterations made to the first floor have been of a superficial nature (i.e., paint and carpet). Throughout the interior, most original details remain; floors, woodwork, window and door casings, doors and hardware. Many of the windows, doors and pieces of wood trim which were removed are stored in the attic. In general, this house looks very much as it did on the day it was completed.

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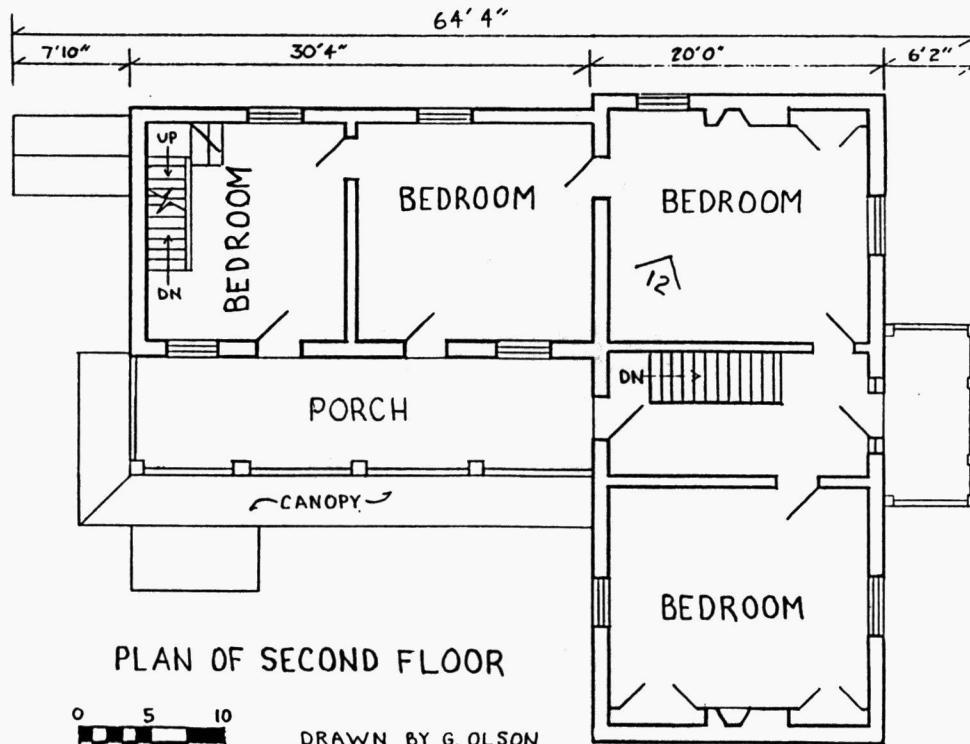
National Register of Historic Places  
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James Robinson McCormick House  
St. Francois County, Missouri



PLAN OF FIRST FLOOR



PLAN OF SECOND FLOOR

DRAWN BY G. OLSON

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- [ ] 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.
[X] 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
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.

Areas of Significance

ARCHITECTURE

Periods of Significance

c. 1875

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person(s)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographic 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
#

Primary location of additional data:

- [ x ] State Historic Preservation Office
[ x ] Other State Agency
[ ] Federal Agency
[ ] Local Government
[ ] University
[ x ] Other:

Name of repository: State Historical Society of Missouri
D. and Joann Jennings, property owners

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property .98

**UTM References**

A. Zone	Easting	Northing	B. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	726700	4184385			
C. Zone	Easting	Northing	D. Zone	Easting	Northing

[ ] See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Greg Olson  
 organization Cultural Heritage Consultant date 9 February 1998  
 street & number 217 W. Broadway, E 18 telephone 573-817-2659  
 city or town Columbia state Missouri zip code 65203

**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**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Denzel E. and E. Joann Jennings  
 street & number 5386 Shadow Wood Lane telephone 573-756-3763  
 city or town Farmington state Missouri zip code 63640

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Continuation Sheet

McCormick, James Robinson, House  
St. Francois County, Missouri

Section 8 Page 6

**SUMMARY:** The James Robinson McCormick House, 324 West Columbia St., Farmington, St. Francois County, is significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture. Constructed ca. 1875, the McCormick House is a restrained, vernacular example of the Greek Revival style, interpreted in a traditional brick I-house with a rear ell. The symmetrical facade features a centered, single story portico, a delicate, minimalist representation of a Greek entablature emphasized by ornate scrollwork balustrades. The low-pitched gable roof is set above a wide cornice molding and trim. The elaborate front doorway is set in a glazed door surround. Greek Revival inspired interior details include four-paneled doors set in doorways with wide casings, capped with thin cornice molding and shallow pediments. The fireplaces are surrounded with wooden molding and are topped with wooden mantels. The house has received only minor alterations over its 122 year history and it retains virtually all of its architectural integrity. Nearly all of the architectural details, such as doors, windows, woodwork, floors, and hardware are original. The integrity of the house is enhanced by a small contributing wash house at the rear of the property; the wash house matches the larger house in date, building material, and architectural style, and is similarly unaltered.

**ELABORATION:** According to McAlester's *Field Guide to American Houses* and the National Trust For Historic Preservation's *What Style Is It?*, Greek Revival Architecture replaced the Roman-inspired neo-classicism of the late eighteenth century. As America broke its ties with England, Americans looked to Rome as the birthplace of the democratic tradition. Neo-Classicism was the preferred style through which the democratic aspirations of the new nation were expressed in art, design, and architecture. When archaeological excavations revealed that ancient Greece was, in fact, the "Mother of Rome," Greek architecture became the inspiration behind a new wave of classicism. In his 1944 book *Greek Revival Architecture in America*, Talbot Hamlin asserts that the adaptation of this ancient model by American designers coincided with a renewed push toward the creation of a uniquely American architectural identity. Early examples of Greek Revival architecture in America include Benjamin Latrobe's Bank of Pennsylvania (1789) and William Strickland's Bank of the United States (1818). In Missouri, Greek Revival arrived largely from the South via the trade route of the Mississippi River. Joseph Laveille and George Morton designed one of the best known examples of the early Greek Revival in Missouri, the Cathedral of St. Louis (1830-34). In the 1840s the style appeared across the state in the new State Capitol (1845) and at the academic hall of the University of Missouri in Columbia (1841).

Early domestic examples of the Greek Revival appeared in America in the late 1820's with the style becoming widely popular a decade later. By the 1830s, prominent Greek Revival homes appeared in St. Louis; the Berthold house (1829) and the Chouteau house (1830), and in Cape Girardeau; the Wathen-Ranney house (1839). As with most domestic styles of architecture in the nineteenth century, the Greek Revival was spread throughout the country in carpenter's pattern books and builder's guides. In many cases, the forms and lines of ancient Greece merged with existing styles and traditions in American houses to create an architectural hybrid. Architects and builders tended to simplify pediments, entablatures, and columns to suit their own needs and tastes. In most cases the style was characterized by low-pitched gable roofs which were trimmed under the eaves with bands of cornice molding and wide trim boards to create the effect of Greek entablatures. Porticos varied widely on houses. Some cover entire two-story facades while others covered only the front entrance. Porticos sometimes featured pediments which sat on rows of columns. Sometimes pilasters and returns created only the hint of a pediment. Columns were usually an unfluted version of the Doric or Ionic order. Often carpenters created simplified capitals with moldings and square columns with sawn lumber. Front entrances were often set in elaborate glazed surrounds. Interior details were most prominent in doorways, which were most typically four-panel doors set in wide wood casings. These doorways usually featured a decorative crown in the form of a crest or pediment. Both exterior and interior details were usually made of white stone or wood painted white to emulate the white marbles of the Greek Temples (it was not then generally recognized that the temples of Greece were originally polychromed).

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Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 7

McCormick, James Robinson, House  
St. Francois County, Missouri

Significance (continued)

The McCormick house, built circa 1875, is a late example of Greek Revival architecture, constructed more than a decade after the style began to decline in popularity. None the less, it exhibits many of the distinctive features that are usually associated with the style. Hamlin points out that "many American 'Greek Revival' houses are merely the old traditional five-bay house with a Greek Doric porch added to its entrance" (p. 344). He mentions a common floor plan found in both city and country houses throughout the South. It is a traditional "I" house with a rear wing added to form an "L." "Often this wing is devoted to guest rooms, and frequently it has a two-story porch along its inner side instead of a hall" (p. 207). It is this basic plan on which the McCormick house was based.

The gable roof of the McCormick house is supported visually by white trim and cornice molding which is typical of the Greek Revival. Returns at the gable ends of the house suggest the form of a pediment. Set against walls made of red brick are details such as a single-story portico made of a heavy white entablature supported by six square columns with simplified capitals made of molding. The two-story rear porch is supported by similar columns also painted white. The front entrance to the house is a four-paneled door in a rectangular molded surround which features side lights and a long narrow transom. Most exterior windows are double-hung with two over two lights. The outside window casings are painted white and are flanked by green louvered shutters.

The interior is also typical of the style with its four-paneled doors set in simple decorative casings. These feature wide trim boards with a thin cornice on top and a shallow pediment-shaped crown. The windows and closet doorways are trimmed with similar casings. The fireplaces are trimmed with molded wood mantels. All of these details were painted white and survive today throughout the house. The McCormick house is especially distinctive because, despite its continuous use, it has not received radical alteration. The architectural details of the house are nearly all intact and original.

One of the original out buildings survives with its architectural integrity completely intact. The 15' by 18'6" wash house, located behind the house, is also exemplary of the Greek Revival style. It matches the larger house in style, building material and time period. As such, it contributes to the overall integrity of the property.

James Robinson McCormick was born near Irondale, Missouri in Washington County on August 1, 1824 to Joseph and Jane (Robinson) McCormick. He attended the public school in Washington County and he studied privately in Lexington, Kentucky before entering Medical school at Transylvania University at the age of twenty.

Upon his graduation from Memphis (Tennessee) Medical College in 1849, McCormick returned to Wayne County, Missouri to establish a practice. Eighteen months later, he moved his home and practice to Perry County, Missouri. There, in 1852, he married Burchett Caroline Nance (1833-1863). The couple raised two children; Martha Jane, who died at age ten and Emmet (1855-1919), who also became a physician and took over the family drug business from his father.

Early in 1861, Dr. McCormick was a delegate to the pro-Union Missouri State Convention that recommended Missouri not secede from the Union. After pro-Southern members of the state legislature met in Neosho to pass an act of secession, the Convention reconvened. With the backing of the Federal Government and troops, they deposed

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McCormick, James Robinson, House  
St. Francois County, Missouri

Significance (continued)

Governor Claiborne F. Jackson, a Confederate sympathizer, and installed a provisional government with Hamilton R. Gamble as Governor.

In 1862, McCormick won election to the State Senate in the Cape Girardeau district but resigned later that year to devote time to his service as a surgeon in the Sixth Regiment of the Missouri Volunteer Infantry of the Union Army. The following year, Governor Gamble appointed him to the post of brigadier general for District Three of the Enrolled Missouri Militia which included the Southwest twenty-two counties of the state. Gamble authorized the Militia in the summer of 1862 to help protect the state from guerrilla raids by the Confederate irregular forces. All able-bodied men in the state were subject to service in the Militia and each was to provide his own horse, weapon and ammunition. The Militia was to be called into service when needed but was not to remain in active duty for more than thirty days at a time. General McCormick and his troops saw their most significant action in September and October of 1864 when the entire Enrolled Missouri Militia was called out to fight the advance of General Sterling Price in the southeastern part of the state. In late September, McCormick was assigned 1000 Enfield muskets and 40,000 rounds of ammunition. He received orders to assemble his men near Pilot Knob, in Iron County, a region he knew well. On the last day of September, McCormick was captured by Confederate soldiers at Pilot Knob, reportedly after his horse was killed in battle. McCormick escaped after twenty-four hours captivity, reporting that approximately sixty of his men were hospitalized in the battle in comparison to approximately 500 of the Confederates. "The stragglers from Price's army are committing every outrage," he reported in a telegraph message on October third. "I have some fears for the safety of our Capitol." On October 8, McCormick received orders to protect the Iron Mountain Railroad and the telegraph line, both of which were heavily damaged, between Mineral Point and Pilot Knob. The value of the Militia's forces is shown in a flurry of recorded telegraph correspondence between McCormick and Brigadier-General Thomas Ewing. While trying to use all available members of the Militia to fill in his line, McCormick clashed often with another commander, Lieutenant-Colonel H. M. Hiller, who needed men to fill in other hot spots. More than once, The two appealed to Ewing to clarify orders and settle disputes between them. As Price's forces advanced, it appears that McCormick remained, protecting strategic points from small groups of confederate "stragglers" that remained. McCormick continued to command District Three of the Militia until the end of the war.

After the war, the General, as he was called, established a medical practice and drug business in Arcadia, Missouri. There he married his second wife, Susan Elizabeth Garner (1833-1901). One of the couple's two children died as an infant. The other, James Edward (1873-1952), also became a doctor. In 1866, James Robinson McCormick again won election to the State Senate and again quickly resigned, the second time to run in a special election for the United States Congress to fill a vacancy in the Third District created by the death of Thomas E. Noell. Running as a Democrat, McCormick won the election and became a member of the Fortieth Congress. He won two re-elections, in 1868 and 1870, choosing not to run in 1872. During his term in office, McCormick introduced several bills which sought war reparations for the state of Missouri and its citizens. He worked to secure federal aid for several railroads which were under construction in his home district, and made appeals against high tariffs on American imports.

After returning to Missouri the McCormick family moved to Farmington where they purchased 2.49 acres of land from the Cayce family in August of 1875. It was on this parcel that they built their home. The General resumed his medical practice and drug business, which he operated for a time out of the first floor of the family home before opening an office three blocks East in Farmington's downtown. McCormick lived in his Greek Revival home for twenty-two years, until his death on May 19, 1897.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section 8.9 Page 9

McCormick, James Robinson, House  
St. Francois County, Missouri

Significance (continued)

After General McCormick died, the house remained in the family as the home of his grandson, Fielding McCormick, until 1948 when Fred Womack purchased it. George Washington Brooks, one of the General's former slaves and servants, also lived in the house's servant quarters until 1936. Womack lived in the house until his own death in 1997. It was he who enclosed the first story of the back porch to create an enclosed entryway and the restroom. He also enclosed the fireplace in the kitchen, replacing it with modern kitchen appliances, cupboards and counters. Other remodeling was limited to carpeting and painting. Womack used the back bedrooms on the second story for storage and work rooms. After his death, a public auction was held to settle the estate in July of 1997. At that time, Denzel and Joann Jennings of Farmington bought the house. The house is currently vacant while the Jennings' make repairs and create a preservation plan. The house remains in good shape with minor roof and brick repairs needed. The other contributing building on the property, the wash house, is in need of tuck pointing and other repairs. In general both buildings have been well maintained and, as stated several times above, retain virtually all of their original architectural integrity.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section 9.10 Page 10

McCormick, James Robinson, House  
St. Francois County, Missouri

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

Platt Survey #349, Section 36, Township 36N, Range 5E. The boundary of the nominated property is outlined by the solid black property line on the site map on page 11.

**Verbal Boundary Justification**

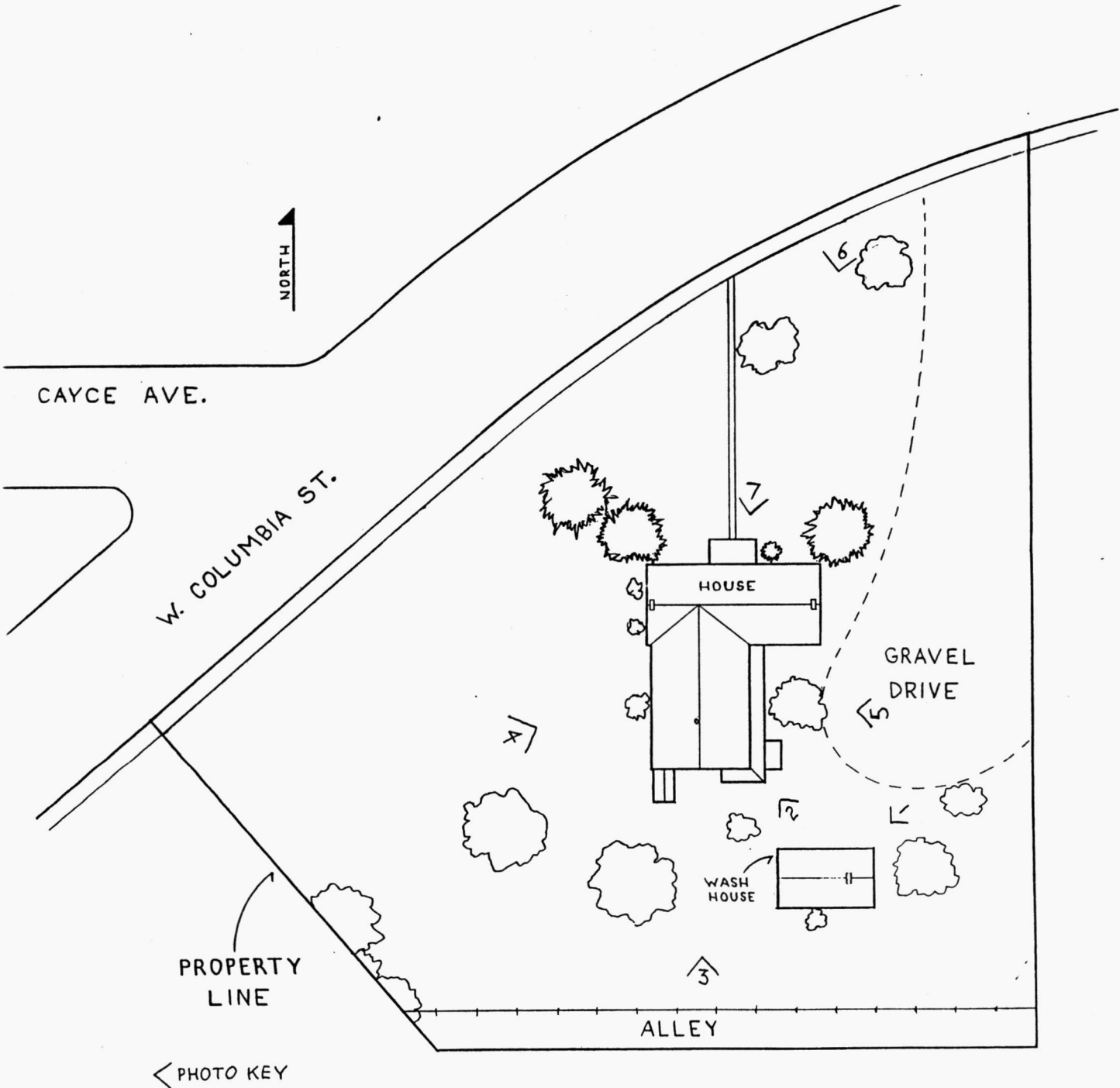
This parcel includes the remaining .98 acres of the 2.49 acres historically associated with the house and the wash house.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

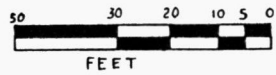
National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section 10 Page 11

James Robinson McCormick House  
St. Francois County, Missouri



SITE PLAN  
DRAWN BY G. OLSON



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: McCormick, James Robinson, House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MISSOURI, St. Francois

DATE RECEIVED: 7/02/98                      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/14/98  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/30/98                      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/16/98  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 98000945

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    7-31-98 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the  
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



① Wash House, NE Corner 1947

James Robinson McCormick House c. 1875

St. Francois Co., Missouri

Photo By Greg Olson, Columbia, Missouri 12/97

neg. loc. - Greg Olson, 217 W. Broadway St., Columbia, Mo  
65203

Wash House - looking south west



② Rear Porch, SE corner, 1997

James Robinson McCormick House, c. 1875

St. Francois County, Missouri

Photo by Greg Olson, Columbia, Mo. 12/97

neg. loc. - Greg Olson, 217 W. Broadway E18, Columbia Mo  
65203

rear porch - looking N.W



③ South Elevation with Wash House, 1997

James Robinson McCormick House, c. 1875

St. Francois County, Missouri

Photo by Greg Olson, Columbia, Mo 12/97

Neg. loc. - Greg Olson, 217 W. Broadway #18, Columbia Mo

South elevation - looking north

LS203



④ West Elevation, 1997

James Robinson McCormick House

St. Francois County, Missouri

Photo by Greg Olson, Columbia, Mo. 12/97

neg. loc. - Greg Olson, 217 W. Broadway #18, Columbus  
65203

West Elevation, looking east



⑤ East Elevation, 1997

James Robinson McCormick House, c. 1875

St. Francois County, Missouri

Photo by Greg Olson, Columbia, Mo 12/97

neg. loc - Greg Olson, 217 W. Broadway E18, Columbia Mo  
LS203

East elevation - looking west



⑥ Front Facade and yard from N. 1177

James Robinson McCormick House, c. 1875

St. Francois County, Missouri

Photo by Greg Olson, Columbia, Mo. 12/97

neg. loc - Greg Olson, 217 W. Broadway E18, Columbia Mo 65203

Front facade, looking south



⑦ Detail of Front Facade From N. 1997

James Robinson McCormick House, c. 1875

St. Francois County, Missouri

Photo by Greg Olson, Columbia, Mo, 12/97

Neg. Loc. - Greg Olson, 217 W. Broadway E18, Columbia mo 65203

Front Facade detail, looking south



⑧ Front Hall, First Floor from S. 1997

James Robinson McCormick House, c. 1875

St. Francois County, Missouri

Photo By Greg Olson, Columbia, Mo 12/97

Neg Loc: Greg Olson, 217 W. Broadway E 18, Columbia Mo  
65203

Front Hall, 1st floor, looking NORTH



⑨ Interior of Enclosed Back Porch, Detail from S. 1997

M<sup>rs</sup> McCormick, James Robinson, House  
St. Francois County, Missouri

Photo by Greg Olson, Columbia, Mo, 12/97

Neg. Loc: Greg Olson, 217 W. Broadway, E18, Columbia mo 65203

INTERIOR DETAIL OF ENCLOSED BACK PORCH  
LOOKING NORTH



⑩ Dining Room Interior with Filled-in Window

McCormick, James Robinson, House  
James Robinson McCormick House, 2. 1843

St. Francois County, Missouri

Photo by Greg Olson, Columbia, Mo. 12/97

Neg. Loc: Greg Olson, 217 W. Broadway, E 18, Columbia mo  
65203

DINING ROOM INTERIOR - LOOKING EAST



11

McCORMICK, JAMES ROBINSON, HOUSE

James Robinson McCormick House, c 1875

St. Francois County, Missouri

Photo by Greg Olson, Columbia, Missouri: 12/97

Neg. Loc.: GREG OLSON, 217 W. Broadway, E18, Columbia, MO  
65203

NW PARLOR INTERIOR w/FIREPLACE + bookcase  
looking NW



⑫ NW Bedroom, Second Floor, with fireplace and closet. 1997

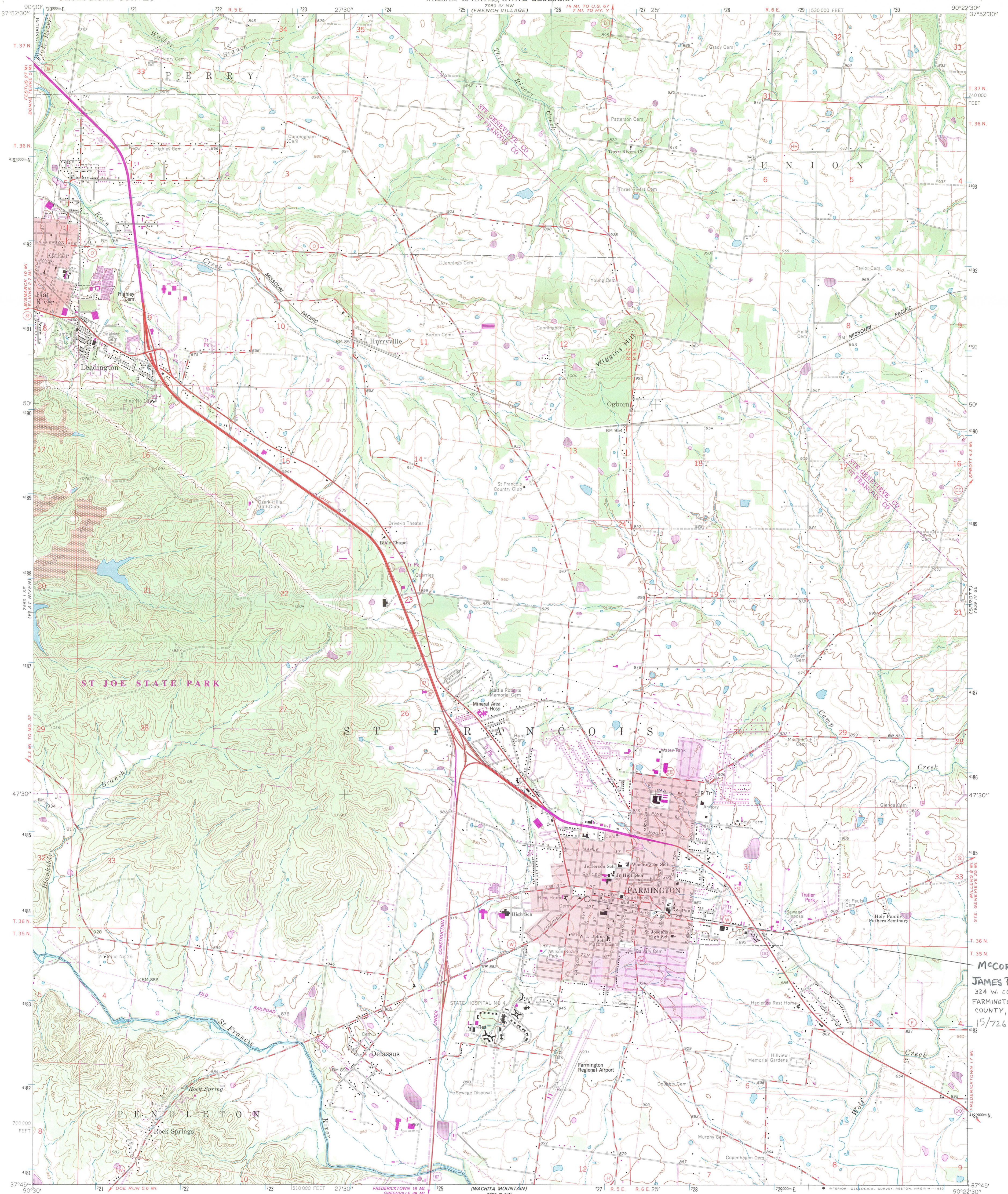
McCormick, James Robinson, House 1895

St. Francois County, Missouri

Photo by Greg Olson, Columbia, Mo, 12/97

NEG. LOC: GREG OLSON, 217 W. Broadway, E 18  
Columbia MO 65203

NW Bedroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR WITH FIREPLACE  
looking N-W.



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

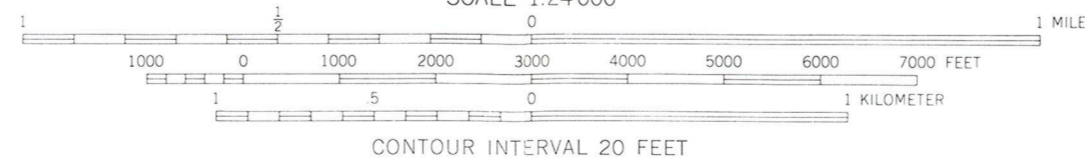
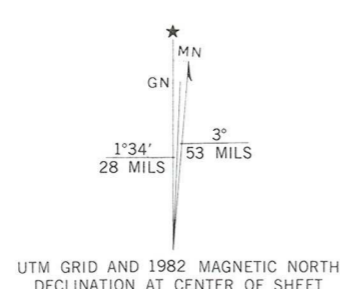
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1967. Field checked 1964

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

Red tint indicates areas 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

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983  
move the projection lines 3 meters south and  
9 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of  
the National or State reservations shown on this map



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

QUADRANGLE LOCATION  
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial  
photographs taken 1980. Map edited 1982  
This information not field checked  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban area



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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

FARMINGTON, MO.  
N3745-W9022.5/7.5  
1964  
PHOTOREVISED 1982  
DMA 7959 IV SW-SERIES V879

MCCORMICK,  
JAMES ROBINSON, HOUSE  
324 W. COLUMBIA ST.  
FARMINGTON, ST. FRANCIS  
COUNTY, MISSOURI  
15726700/4184385

STATE OF MISSOURI  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Mel Carnahan, Governor • Stephen M. Mahfood, Director



DIVISION OF STATE PARKS

P.O. Box 176 Jefferson City, 65102-0176 (573) 751-2479

FAX (573) 751-8656

June 18, 1998

Ms. Carol Shull  
United States Dept. of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

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

James Robinson McCormick, House  
324 West Columbia Street  
Farmington, MO 63640

This nomination was approved by our state review board, the Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, on August 8, 1997. All owners and appropriate elected public officials were notified and provided at least thirty (30) days to comment on the above proposed nomination in accordance with Section 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 you have questions concerning this submission, please contact Allen Tatman of my staff at 573/751-7800.

Sincerely,

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Claire F. Blackwell'.

Claire F. Blackwell  
Director and Deputy State  
Historic Preservation Officer

CFB:mek

Enclosures