

MoDOT and Historic Properties

Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) projects that use federal funds or require federal permits or licenses are subject to various federal laws and regulations. When planning transportation improvements throughout the state, MoDOT must give special consideration to historic properties. Historic properties are buildings, structures, sites, districts, and objects that are listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). These properties fulfill NRHP criteria established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, meaning they retain their integrity and are significant in American history, archaeology, architecture, engineering, or culture. MoDOT is responsible for identifying and managing historic properties associated with its projects as the department strives "to preserve, enhance and support Missouri's transportation systems."

This brochure was prepared to foster a better understanding of historic buildings and to recognize MoDOT's attention to historic properties involved in its projects. For more information on architecture consult the following sources:

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 1986.

Marshall, Howard Wight. *Vernacular Architecture in Rural and Small Town Missouri: An Introduction*. Columbia, MO: University of Missouri, 1994.

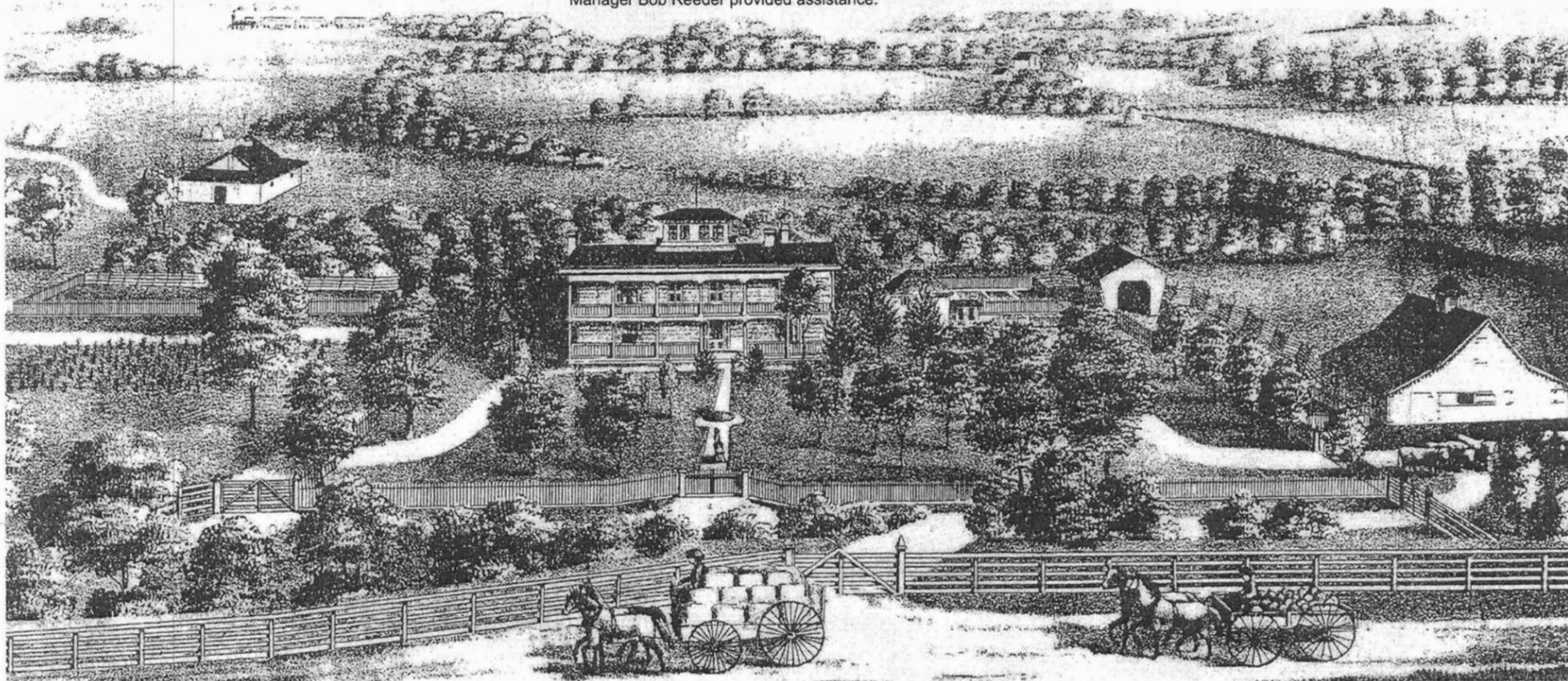
Noble, Allen G. and Richard K. Cleek. *The Old Barn Book*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1997.

Poppeliers, John. *What Style is It: A Guide to American Architecture*. Washington, DC: Preservation Press, 1983.

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 MoDOT Senior Cartographer Sue Olson and Senior Historic Preservation Specialists Karen Daniels and Toni Prawl developed this brochure. MoDOT Historic Preservation Manager Bob Reeder provided assistance.

Historic Buildings and Transportation Projects in Missouri

For Additional Information Contact:
 Missouri Department of Transportation
 Historic Preservation
 573/526-3597 or
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**MoDOT's Approach to Historic Properties:
Identify, Avoid, Minimize and Mitigate**

Through consultation with the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), MoDOT and its consultants evaluate cultural resources as projects develop so historic properties can be identified early and avoided when possible. While buildings—houses, barns, stores, motels, schools, churches, gas stations, etc.—often are the focus of architectural investigations, they are not the only type of architectural resources considered. Farms, industrial sites, and neighborhoods are examples of complexes or districts that MoDOT also evaluates. Even landscape features like fences or entrance markers are included in cultural resources surveys. As properties are identified, buildings are classified by their architectural style, form, or type. A few examples of Midwestern architecture are presented in this brochure.

When historic properties cannot be avoided, MoDOT attempts to minimize the project's impact to them. If no prudent and feasible avoidance alternative exists, MoDOT will mitigate the loss or taking of the property. Mitigation measures will depend on several factors, but usually involve recordation such as historical reports, photo documentation, architectural drawings, and sometimes relocation. MoDOT consults with several parties—property owners, the public, SHPO, Federal Highway Administration, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation—to determine the appropriate mitigation.

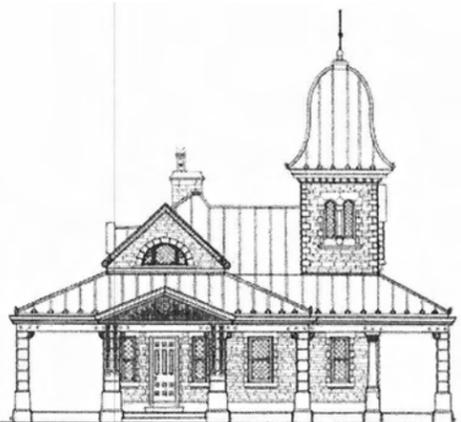


Fig. 1. Tower Grove South Gate and Lodge, St. Louis.

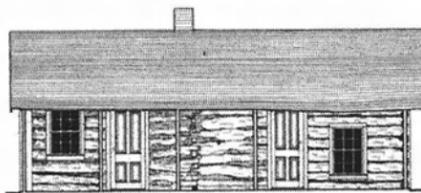


Fig. 2. Basil Crow House, Victor vicinity.

Building Form and Style

Buildings are usually classified by their form or style, sometimes both. The form of the building identifies a characteristic room configuration (floor plan) and the style identifies the detailing applied to the building. Several factors influence architectural style and form, primarily the people who design and use them.

Early settlers transported their culture, including their building traditions, to Missouri giving it many distinct building types. Parts of Missouri are known for French Colonial and German architecture (Figs. 4-6).

Buildings built according to local customs and patterns, without emphasis on stylistic details, are often referred to as vernacular buildings. They are the product of local builders who utilized indigenous materials and traditional methods. Void of style, the double-pen cabin (Fig. 2) is typed by its two-room floor plan. An I-house (Fig. 13) represents another vernacular example; its form is generally two stories high, two rooms wide, and one room deep.

High style architecture refers to buildings designed by architects and popularized by pattern books and magazines. High style buildings have more elaborate detailing and less regional influence than vernacular.

Not all buildings can be typed by their form or style, yet some may possess both. Decoration may be applied to vernacular buildings so they mimic fashionable, high style architecture, but inside the buildings reveal traditional plans. The vernacular Gabled-L building in Figure 3 and the Central Hall in Figure 7 have Gothic Revival Style details added to them, whereas Figure 8 represents a high style example.

The dates in this brochure provide a general range when architectural styles were popular. Because of their traditional nature, vernacular buildings are not as closely linked to time periods.

Building Viewing in Your Community

The best way to view architecture in your community is to walk through older neighborhoods and commercial areas, look at the buildings and ask a few questions: does the building have dormers or is the roof steeply pitched? Does the cornice have detailing similar to what is shown on Figures 8, 10 or 17? Are there decorative elements around the windows or doors? Are there porches on the house, and what type are they? Using these observations, look at the styles illustrated in this brochure and determine which style or styles the building represents (because of limited space, not every architectural style is represented in this brochure). Sometimes builders used elements from more than one style, and sometimes a building has been remodeled to reflect a style that was popular after it was built.

In commercial areas look above the modern storefront at the upper stories of a building to see its architectural features; on commercial buildings the stylistic elements primarily are found in the cornice and in window treatments.

The variety and type of buildings will depend on when the community was settled and its economic prosperity. The illustration below identifies some common building features.

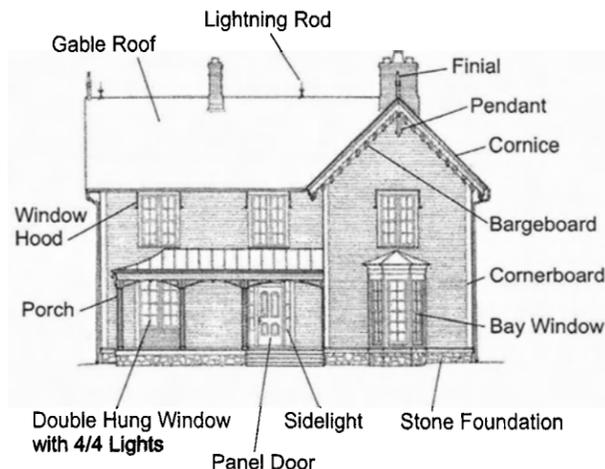


Fig. 3. General John J. Pershing Boyhood Home, Laclede vicinity.

