NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

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 Urbauer Fishing Lodge Historic District

other name/site number Mozark Club, Windsor Estates Mental Health Facility

2. Location

street & town 442 Riverbird Lane N/A not for publication

city or town Camdenton X vicinity

state Missouri code MO county Camden code 029 zip code 65020

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 22 Sept 2006

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

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:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Urbauer Fishing Lodge Historic District
Name of Property

Camden County, MO
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
- ☐ public-local
- ☐ public-State
- ☐ public-Federal

Category of Property
(check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
- ☒ district
- ☐ site
- ☐ structure
- ☐ object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
5	0	buildings
1	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
7	0	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/camp
Recreation and Culture/outdoor recreation

Current Function
(Enter categories from instructions)

Work in Progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
Other: Rustic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls Stone
Brick
roof Slate
other Concrete

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

Urbauer Fishing Lodge Historic District
Name of Property

Camden County, MO
County and State

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.

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

Entertainment/Recreation

Architecture

Period of Significance

1930-1948

Significant Dates

N/A

N/A

Significant Persons

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

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:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☒ University
☐ Other Name of repository:

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

Urbauer Fishing Lodge Historic District
Name of Property

Camden County, MO
County and State

Acreage of Property 4.9

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

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

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property.)
Government Lot 6, Section 7, Township 37 North, Range 17 West, Camden County, MO

Property Tax No. 18-3-7-0-0-12

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
The boundaries encompass all extant properties historically associated with the Urbauer Fishing Lodge.

☐See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

name/title Tony Gardner, President
organization Gardner Historic Property Consultants Inc. date 6-28-06
street & number 3000 DeGroff Way telephone 816-262-2515
city or town Kansas City state MO zip code 64108

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)

name/title Larry D. Owens
street & number 16958 North State Highway 5 telephone 573-434-9461
city or town Sunrise Beach state MO zip code 65079

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.

Summary Description

The Urbauer Fishing Lodge Historic District is a group of circa 1930 properties in Missouri's Lake of the Ozarks region. The properties were constructed by St. Louis industrialist Hugo Urbauer as a private fishing retreat, in the manner of the "rod and gun" clubs that were popular in that place and time. The district is primarily situated on a hilltop on the north bank of the Niangua River. The location is just west of Weaver Creek, off State River Road 54-85, approximately five miles southwest of Camdenton. The district is comprised of five contributing buildings, one contributing site and one contributing structure. The largest building is a main lodge, designed for dining and socializing. It encompasses four distinct wings and combines one and two stories in height. The lodge has walls of sandstone, limestone and cinderblock and is topped by a gabled roof featuring wide eaves with exposed rafter ends. It retains original steel casement windows with distinctive multiple lights. Other district properties are a small house, a garage, a pump house, and a steep concrete staircase leading down to the Niangua. The single-story Bungalow-style house served as living quarters for the caretaker and his family.[1] It has sandstone and brick walls and combines gabled and hipped roofs. The lodge and bungalow are served by a garage designed to hold seven cars. Built of sandstone, the garage has a slate roof and retains its original tall vehicle doors. The district also includes the foundation of a two-story cottage which originally housed most of the guests. Historic limestone retaining walls weave through the property. The properties echo the rustic style of architecture popular in the 1930s in their use of native rock for walls and foundations and wood siding in order to mesh with their natural setting. In part because of their still-remote location and in part due to the hardy quality of the original construction materials, the buildings substantially retain their historic appearance. Impressive in size and scale, the district still gives a vivid impression of Hugo Urbauer's original vision, and perhaps suggests an affinity for the rivers and hilly terrain common to both his native Austria and his adopted home in Missouri.

Elaboration

The Urbauer Fishing Lodge Historic District is accessible through a series of switchback gravel roads that stretch up sharp inclines. The road reaches a peak elevation of about 700 feet. The properties are perched on 4.9 acres located atop a leveled hill surrounded by mature trees.

The properties are perhaps best described as vernacular architecture. According to Loren Cyrus, whose father Ed Cyrus helped with construction and later served as caretaker, Hugo Urbauer and his crew began work in 1928 without an architect of record. The design and construction was under Hugo Urbauer's direction. The rock which comprised the primary building material was obtained on site. Sandstone was quarried from a spot behind the garage, and the limestone and field stone also came from the immediate vicinity. Rustic qualities predominate, although the

[1] Personal interview, Loren Cyrus, May 19, 2006.

structures show some influence of early 20th-Century Craftsman/Bungalow architecture with their use of horizontal lines, low-pitched, overhanging gabled roofs, wide eaves and exposed rafter ends.

Exteriors

The most prominent structure within the district is the main lodge, completed circa 1930. Located at the property's western perimeter, the main lodge is comprised of four wings. The east wing is single story, long and narrow, and runs north to south. It is framed by sandstone walls and vertical clapboard on the gabled ends. It is topped by a gabled roof with wide, overhanging eaves and exposed rafter ends. The aluminum framed, modern windows are single-hung and paired.

The south wing of the lodge, built on an outcropping of limestone, overlooks the Niangua River. This portion is two stories in height. The first story is below grade and has walls of sandstone. It features a walk-in cellar door on the east elevation. The south elevation of the first story is marked by red steel casement windows with nine lights each. The second story of the south wing features an enclosed porch framed primarily in red horizontal clapboard. A small portion of the west facade has been covered in vinyl siding and plywood. The south wing is capped by a sloped roof with wide overhanging eaves and exposed rafter ends.

The west wing of the lodge closely resembles the east. It also is a long, narrow, single-story structure that runs north to south. Its walls are sandstone, with vertical clapboard at the gabled ends. It is also topped with a gabled roof with wide overhanging eaves and exposed rafter ends. Two prominent stone chimneys sit atop the roof. Its windows are missing and the openings covered in plywood.

The north wing of the lodge is symmetrical to the south wing. It rises two stories in height and is framed in sandstone, limestone and red vertical clapboard. Its north façade is marked by a pair of red steel casement windows. Each window has a horizontal band of four lights topping two casements with eight lights each.

The west side of the north wing has a red cinderblock addition. When the cinderblock addition was constructed is undetermined, but it does not appear historic. Its windows are one-over-one modern aluminum framing systems.

The second largest building on the site is a single-story house, built circa 1930. This bungalow combines sandstone, clapboard and brick walls, and mixes gabled and hipped roofs. The west portion comsists of sandstone and white clapboard. Its gabled roof is modestly ornamented with simple wood brackets. The south portion is dominated by an enclosed porch topped by a hipped

roof. The east section is constructed of pink-hued brick and is covered by a hipped roof. The bungalow is fenestrated on the west and south elevations by double hung six-over-one wood windows. East elevation windows are double-hung one-over-one wood sash units. A historic stone barbecue pit is adjacent to the bungalow.

Both the main lodge and bungalow are served by a single-story, seven-vehicle garage, also built about 1930. The garage is constructed of sandstone and is covered by a slate roof. The garage contains a one-room office as well as vehicle spaces. The office is within an extension of the west side of the building. It contains a pair of double-hung, six-over-one wood windows on the west elevation and a large wood door. The office portion has a hipped roof. The main garage structure has a gabled roof. The south elevation is dominated by seven wooden, floor-to-ceiling garage doors.

The fourth contributing building is a pumphouse located between the main lodge and the bungalow. This small building is constructed of sandstone and clapboard. It has a gabled roof and steel, multi-light window frames similar to some of those found in the lodge.

The fifth contributing property is a dramatic set of 83 concrete stairs leading down to the Niangua River. The stairs are fortified by a stone wall and use iron handrails for ballast. This structure rings the southern perimeter of the property. The view from the bottom provides a glimpse into a sizable natural cave in the hillside where the properties rest.

The sixth contributing property is a small concrete storage building at the base of the stairway. Used for the storage of outboard motors, this plain, jail-like building (it has iron bars on its window) has a shed roof which slopes from front to back. There is a single entrance near the southeast corner which is parallel with the bottom step.

The seventh contributing element is the ruin of the guest cottage. It is located on a precipitous outcropping at the far west fringe of the property. The cottage, which burned in 1954, was a two-story, eight room structure which typically housed most of the guests. A foundation and a large chimney, both constructed of sandstone, are intact. A concrete-filled former swimming pool is east of the foundation. Its history is undetermined but apparently it was not part of the Urbauer Fishing Lodge.

From the buildings to the infrastructure, the stonework is the most prominent feature on the district landscape. According to Loren Cyrus, Urbauer and his crew tapped into a quarry of sandstone in an area just north of where the garage was built. This quarry was the primary source of stone used in constructing all of the buildings. Other local rock, primarily limestone and native fieldstone, was used to build the retaining walls. The stonework has an appropriate rustic look in keeping with its era. In general, the stones are irregularly shaped, rough hewn, laid in

uneven rows and separated by relatively wide, recessed joints.

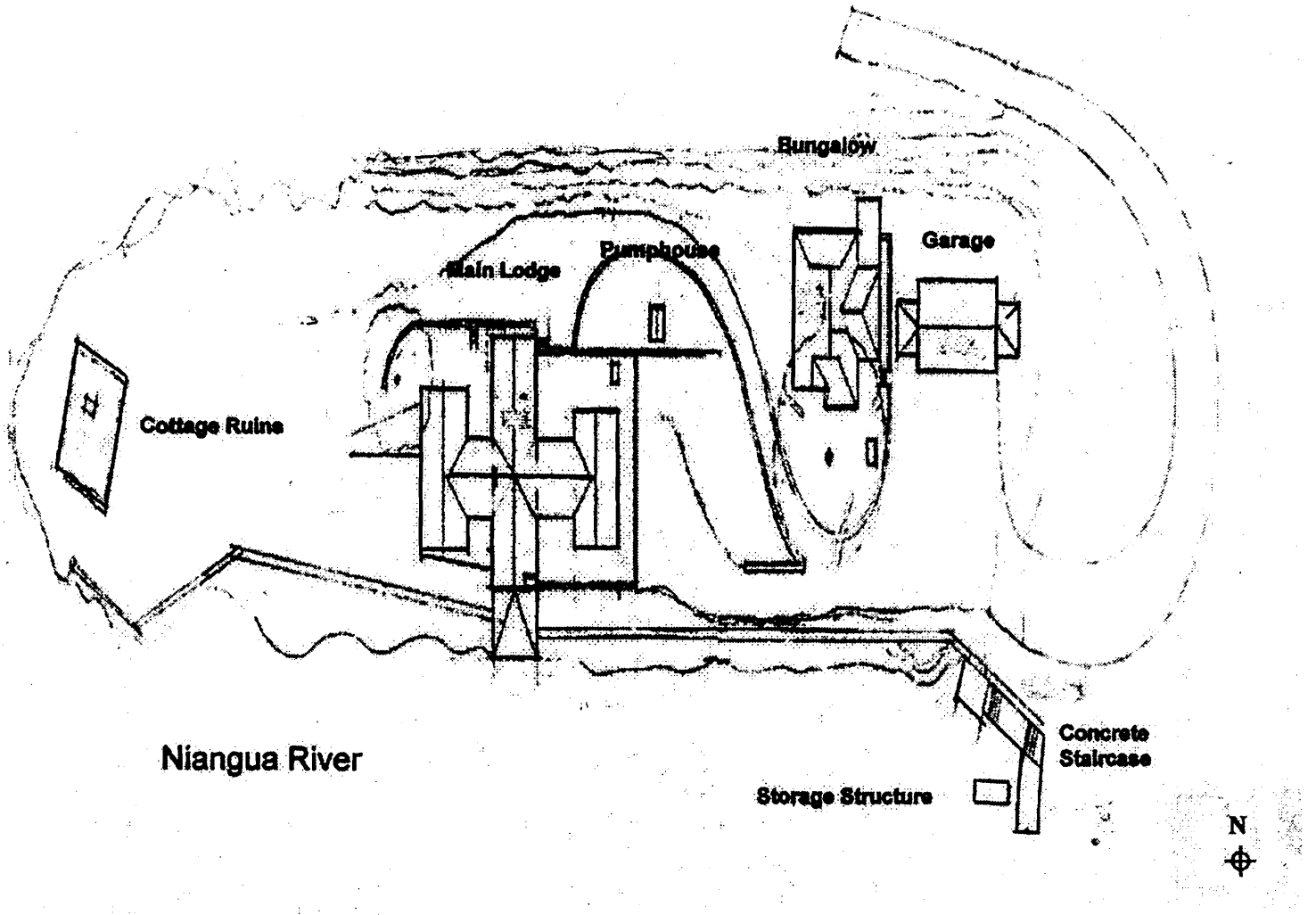
Interiors

The interior configuration of the main lodge has been mostly retained although the finish has been dramatically altered over the years. Layers of linoleum, faux wood paneled walls and suspended acoustical tile ceilings are remnants of the building's final use as a nursing home and mental health institution in the 1980s. Hospital curtains still hang from the ceilings. The original fireplace, however, is intact and still dominates the main reception area from floor to ceiling. This fireplace, an important element of the lodge because it was the focus of social gatherings, is fashioned from smooth river rocks.

Like the lodge, the bungalow retains its original interior layout through its four rooms, bath and kitchen. The bungalow interior has been layered in nonhistoric materials such as faux wood panel walls and 1970s wallpaper. However, it retains original oak floors in the living and sleeping rooms.

Of the primary properties, the garage exhibits the least amount of interior change. The original garage space is still open. The walls are exposed sandstone. The floor is concrete and the ceiling features exposed beams and rafters.

Site Plan


Bungalow
Garage
Pumphouse
Main Lodge
Cottage Ruins
Niangua River
Concrete Staircase
Storage Structure
N

Statement of Significance

The Urbauer Fishing Lodge Historic District, constructed circa 1930 near Camden in the Missouri Ozarks, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. The district, consisting of five contributing buildings, one contributing structure and one contributing site, is locally significant in the areas of Entertainment/Recreation and Architecture. The period of significance begins in 1930 when the properties were first used as a recreational retreat by St. Louis industrialist Hugo Urbauer. It ends in 1948, the year of Urbauer's death and subsequent transfer of ownership, after which the property was converted for a different function. Under Criterion A, the Urbauer district represents a broader pattern of recreational development in the rivers and lakes of the Ozarks region in the early 1930s. Still relatively intact and with sufficient integrity to suggest its historic period, the district is one of a dwindling number of rustic, early 20th century fishing and hunting clubs that once were prevalent in the Ozarks region. Urbauer, a prominent St. Louis businessman who made a fortune in the heating industry, regularly visited the outdoor recreational facility with chauffeur-driven cars filled with members of his family and business associates—urbanites who came to enjoy the fishing and outdoor wilderness experience. Urbauer branched out into real estate, contributed to many service organizations, and left a significant educational endowment. Under Criterion C, the properties are good local examples of rustic architecture, combining locally quarried stone and wood siding in a natural setting. Exposed rafter ends and other influences of the Craftsman/Bungalow style are apparent. As a district, the properties are linked by their unevenly coursed rough stone walls, a system of stone retaining walls and other shared architectural features.

Meeting Criterion A

The history of the Urbauer Fishing Lodge Historic District follows the trajectory of development of the surrounding Ozarks area from an insular, isolated region in south-central Missouri to one of the Midwest's biggest tourist attractions. The proposed district is also one of the few surviving examples of private fishing and hunting retreats (the Urbauer Fishing Lodge apparently was used exclusively for fishing on the Niangua River) created by prosperous city dwellers, many of whom made their fortunes during America's industrial expansion in the 1930s and 1940s.

A beautiful upland region composed of igneous rock overlain by limestone and dolomite, the Ozarks, derived from an Anglicized French term "Aux Arcs," was for decades a remote and unfamiliar place, even to many native Missourians.[1] The rugged landscape and lack of good transportation routes delayed the settlement and development of the area until after the Civil

[1] Margot Ford McMillen, *A to Z Missouri: The Dictionary of Missouri Place Names*. Columbia, Missouri: Pebble Publishing, 1996.

War, when westward expansion and a rash of building activity produced a sharp increase in the demand for lumber.[2]

The Ozarks provided a wealth of hardwood and virgin pine forests. To access these vital resources, lumber companies built a network of roads and rail lines, which created new access to the region.

After a decade or so of infrastructural development, the Ozarks region began to emerge as a tourist destination. As Snider pointed out, John W. Emerson, a relative of celebrated author and transcendentalist Ralph Waldo Emerson, "helped establish the Ozarks as a summer retreat for wealthy businessmen in the late 1870s" when he began organizing hunting and fishing expeditions to the Current River valley in Shannon County.[3]

These trips became popular diversions for prosperous citizens of St. Louis, Kansas City and Springfield, and new destinations were discovered and explored. The influx of St. Louis residents in particular had a powerful impact on the Ozarks region.

According to authors Lynn Morrow and Linda Myers-Phinney, St. Louisans set out in spring and summer for many private retreats, owned or leased, throughout southern Missouri and northern Arkansas to establish clubhouses and entertain guests. Gradually, these visitors "formalized their Ozarks outings into long-term landholding, regular visits, and significant capital investments in buildings, fences, animals, and gala social parties.[4]"

This trend toward the establishment of more formal recreational enclaves soon created the establishment of "rod and gun clubs." According to author Donald L. Stevens, Jr., the first of many such sportsmen's clubs was founded in 1888. In his book, *A Homeland and a Hinterland,* Stevens Jr. wrote, "Sportsmen in St. Louis chartered the Current River Fishing and Hunting Club with a five-dollar membership fee. Another group from Springfield and Kansas City organized the Carter County Fishing and Shooting Club and charged its members twenty dollars to join."[5]

According to Morrow and Myers-Phinney, the most high profile example of this recreational development occurred in 1891, when "a club of St. Louis gentlemen, officers of the Liggett and Meyers Tobacco Company...formed the St. Louis Park and Agricultural Company, known more commonly as the St. Louis Game Park.[6]"

---

[2] Becky Snider, *Jerry J. Presley Conservation Education Center (formerly Alton Club) Shannon County, Missouri, Historical and Descriptive Data,* Missouri Department of Conservation, 2004
[3] Snider, p. 22
[4] Lynn Morrow and Linda Myers-Phinney, *p. 12*
[5] Stevens, Jr., p. 151
[6] Ibid, *p. 62*

The St. Louis Game Park garnered national recognition, due largely to its massive size and wide range of fauna. By 1896, the park encompassed five thousand acres and flourished with several species of deer, including native, red, black-tail and fallow, as well as elk, wild turkey and quail. The founders even imported exotic creatures as Angora goats and several dozen Mongolian pheasants.[7]

The publicity surrounding the St. Louis Game Park encouraged further development of the Ozarks area through the early 1900s.

With the development of the automobile in the 1920s, wealthy hunting and fishing enthusiasts were able to make more frequent excursions to the Ozarks area. This advanced mobility enabled visitors to roam the area more freely and to sightsee at their own leisure. The establishment in 1924 and 1925 of Missouri's first state parks, and the rustic architecture that distinguished the park buildings, gave visitors to the area a stylistic template in which to work.

In 1928, one such wealthy sportsman, 60-year old St. Louis industrialist Hugo Urbauer, found his own resort site. Urbauer and his wife, Ina, acquired a 4.9 acre parcel just west of Camdenton, on the bluffs rising on the north bank of the Niangua River. Born in Linz, Austria in 1868, the son of a Lutheran minister, Hugo Urbauer was educated in public schools and then attended a business college. In 1886 during a visit to relatives in Milwaukee, Urbauer's father died. Because of his family's tenuous financial circumstances, Urbauer decided to remain in the United States and make his living here. He soon moved from Milwaukee to St. Louis, where he got a job as a steamfitter's helper. After several years of apprenticeship, Urbauer decided to launch his own heating business. In 1899, he founded the Urbauer-Atwood Heating Company, which grew and prospered.

In 1913, Urbauer married Ina C. Champ, who as the daughter of a prominent manufacturer in St. Louis was instrumental in helping her husband expand his business. In 1920, Urbauer folded his former company into a new, expanded enterprise called Midwest Piping and Supply. Headquartered at 1450 South Second Street in St. Louis, the company eventually grew into a nationwide concern, with three branch plants and several sales offices around the country. The company's annual revenues rose to $18 million. Urbauer parlayed his success in heating supplies into ventures in construction and real estate. In 1929, his company built the luxurious Hawthorne Apartments on West Pine Boulevard in St. Louis. By 1930, Urbauer had combined his love of the outdoors and construction by completing a fishing lodge in the Ozarks.

Construction began in about 1928 and was completed in 1930. Perhaps recalling the mountain castles nestled near the rivers of his native Austria, Urbauer and his crew of workers began by

---

[7] Ibid, *p. 63*

building a ring of limestone retaining walls around the acreage. Urbauer also ordered the construction of a large set of concrete stairs ballasted by iron railings that led to the Niangua River hundreds of feet below the property. At the base of the stairway, a concrete building was constructed for the storage of outboard motors.

According to 79-year old Loren Cyrus, whose father Ed Cyrus helped with the construction, Urbauer and his workers tapped a quarry of sandstone on the site, brought in other materials, and accomplished most of the construction over the course of two years. They built a large lodge, a two-story cottage, a bungalow-style house, and a garage that could accommodate several cars.[5] The properties, as evidenced by the extant main lodge, bungalow and garage, were influenced by both the Craftsman and rustic architectural styles.

In August 1929, during construction of the fishing lodge, the Ozarks region was dramatically altered by the construction of Bagnell Dam. In a matter of months, the $30 million project dammed up the Osage River, created the Lake of the Ozarks and spread the newly formed body of water over 86 square miles and 1,300 miles of shoreline. This monumental engineering feat also generated a vast network of rivers and streams.[9]

With the advent of the dam and the manmade wonder that resulted, the Ozarks soon became a prime vacation spot for the middle and working classes as well. Though the dam broadened the socioeconomic scope of Ozarks vacationers, it also increased the appeal of remote enclaves like the Urbauers'.

When construction was complete, the Urbauers began making the trip from St. Louis with small groups of friends. According to Loren Cyrus, whose father Ed Cyrus had become the caretaker, the Urbauers were often accompanied by six or eight friends and typically arrived by chauffeured car.[10] Because most of Urbauer's friends were also successful businessmen, the Cyrus family and other locals dubbed them "The Millionaires Club." According to Cyrus, the Urbauers and their guests kept simple wooden boats on the premises and spent their days accompanied by local guides who took them to the Niangua River and nearby lake to fish for bass and crappie. Though some locals referred to the lodge as a "rod and gun club," Cyrus doesn't recall anyone ever hunting there. Apparently the lodge was used strictly for fishing, boating, general appreciation of the outdoors, and of course as a means of temporarily escaping the urban lifestyle.

During the evenings, Flossy Cyrus, Ed's wife, would cook for the group. After dinner, Ed Cyrus

---

[8] Telephone interviews with Loren Cyrus, May 19 and June 22, 2006.

9 Milton D. Rafferty. *The Ozarks Outdoors: A Guide for Fishermen, Hunters, and Tourists*. Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1985.

[10] Telephone interviews with Loren Cyrus, May 19 and June 22, 2006.

would make drinks for the guests, who often played poker to amuse themselves. According to author William Glasgow Bowling, Mrs. Urbauer was considered "a wonderful hostess," and an "engaging conversationalist with a delightful sense of humor."[11]

The Urbauers continued to visit their lodge for the rest of their healthy lives. Ina Urbauer died in 1947. After Hugo Urbauer died a year later, in 1948, the property was sold off and soon converted into the Mozark Club, a bar and restaurant that utilized both the cottage and the main lodge. In 1954, a fire destroyed the cottage and precipitated the closing of the Mozark Club. According to neighbors and relatives, the property changed hands several times after that.[12] The buildings were last used as a nursing home and mental hospital. The properties began falling into disrepair after that facility closed in the 1980s, but they are still relatively intact despite years of nonuse. In fact, today the Urbauer Fishing Lodge Historic District is thought to be one of the few relatively intact fishing and hunting-type retreats remaining in an increasingly developed (some would say overdeveloped) region of Missouri.

The Alton Club, a historic district in Shannon County, Missouri (NR listed 10/14/05), was described by preparer Kathryn S. Love as "a rare surviving example of historic private club development in the region."[13] (The Alton Club was opened on a hill above the Current River in ca. 1938 as a corporate retreat and recreational outlet for its employees and important political and business guests.)

Because so many of these private resorts were located in remote areas, their appeal as commercial properties was limited. Many were vacated and simply fell into serious disrepair. Properties that were located in areas that experienced growth and redevelopment were often seen as hindrances to new construction and were demolished. The Urbauer Fishing Lodge properties retain a high level of integrity in terms of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, setting and association.

Meeting Criterion C

The Urbauer Fishing Lodge Historic District also meets the National Register Criterion C for Architecture. The contributing vernacular properties combine elements of the Craftsman/Bungalow and rustic styles within a "wilderness" recreational and social setting.

The properties qualify as vernacular architecture in that they were built "without an architect,

---

[11] William Glasgow Bowling, *Names That Live*. St. Louis: Washington University Press, 1967.

[12] Telephone interviews with Jerol Laughlin, December 29, 2005, Jewell Meads, December 27, 2005, Margaret Pierce, January 4, 2006.

[13] Kathryn S. Love, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for "Alton Club," October 2005.

with no pretensions."[14] They also meet other definitions of vernacular because they were "designed and built simultaneously, onsite, with natural materials, by a person who would use the buildings himself."[15] The buildings show some influence of early 20th-Century Craftsman/Bungalow architecture with their use of horizontal lines, low-pitched, overhanging gabled roofs, wide eaves and exposed rafter ends.

With their prominent use of sandstone and wood clapboard, the properties also strongly reflect the rustic style. In 1935, Albert H. Good, architectural consultant for the National Park Service, described rustic as a style "which, through the use of native materials in proper scale and through the avoidance of severely straight lines and over-sophistication, gives the feeling of having been executed by pioneer craftsmen with limited hand tools. It thus achieves sympathy with natural surroundings and with the past."[16] This description seems particularly apt, given the fact that the sandstone was quarried on site and the walls of the buildings feature irregularly shaped, rough hewn stones meshed with deep, recessed mortar joints.

By the time Hugo Urbauer began construction of his fishing lodge in 1928, both the Craftsman/Bungalow and rustic styles were well-established in the United States. The Craftsman style evolved out of the Arts and Crafts movement in 1890s California. The bungalow type soon became the most popular Arts and Crafts home design. Modeled after traditional homes in India and popularized in California, the bungalow was a low, functional, spreading house. It emphasized horizontal lines, overhanging roofs, simple porches, and bands of windows that brought the outside in. The bungalow was usually one or one and one-half stories tall. Gustav Stickley promoted a version of the bungalow in his magazine *The Craftsman,* first published in 1901. Craftsman bungalows tended to be larger, often two stories tall. Stickley retained the sloping roof line, oversized eaves, and window bands of the traditional bungalow. Craftsman bungalows also found some commonality with the rustic style as designs relied more heavily on natural building materials like cedar shingles, stone fireplaces, and slate or tile roofs. The Craftsman style persisted throughout the 1920s and began appearing in recreational and social settings such as summer camps.[17]

Rustic architecture has its roots in the Romantic cultural movement of the late 19th Century, which emphasized the appreciation of natural beauty. Vernacular influences included those of the pioneer log cabin, the New England salt-box, the English half-timbered cottage, and the "camp

---

[14] John Milnes Baker, *American House Styles: A Concise Guide.* New York, London: W.W. Norton & Company, 1994.

[15] Bernard Rudofsky, *Architecture Without Architects: A Short Introduction to Non-Pedigreed Architecture.* Albuquerque, NM. University of New Mexico Press, 1987.

[16] E. Gail Throop, *Rustic Architecture: Period Design in the Columbia River Gorge,* Cultural Resource Management, National Park Service, June 2005.

[17] Baker, p. 114.

beautiful" ideals promoted by the Adirondack school. Influential architects such as H. H. Richardson and Frederick Law Olmstead Sr. contributed ideas on the use of natural materials and the connection between architecture and landscape.[18]

As National Park Service architect Merrill Ann Wilson noted, the advent of the rustic style marked "the first time in the history of American architecture that a building became an accessory to nature. Early pioneer and regional building techniques were revived because it was thought that a structure employing native materials blended best with the environment."[19]

By the time the Missouri State Parks system was established in 1924-25, rustic architecture was at its height of popularity. The first eight state parks, all built in the Ozarks, featured rustic style buildings. By the time of his initial forays into the Ozarks, Hugo Urbauer was clearly influenced by this mix of styles—the already-established Craftsman and the revival of methods using native materials—so that the characteristics of both found their way into his buildings along the Niangua.

The Urbauer Fishing Lodge Historic District (five buildings, a structure and a site linked by a system of retaining walls) is historically significant in two important ways. First, it represents a broad pattern of recreational development in the Ozarks as well as the more specific growth of private resorts, few of which remain. Second, the way the properties blend elements of Craftsman/Bungalow and rustic styles is representative of a significant trend in early 20th century architecture.

[18] National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form, "Emergency Conservation Work Architecture in Missouri State Parks, 1933-42, Thematic Resources," 1985.
[19] Merrill Ann Wilson, "Rustic Architecture: The National Park Style," Trends, July, August, September, 1976, 4-5

Bibliography

Baker, John Milnes. *American House Styles: A Concise Guide.* New York, London: W.W. Norton & Company, 1994.

Bowling, William Glasgow. *Names That Live.* St. Louis: Washington University Press, 1967.

Cyrus, Loren. Telephone Interview with Tony Gardner. May 19, 2006, June 22, 2006. Notes retained by Preparer.

Denny, James M. and Bonita Marie Wright. National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form, "Emergency Conservation Work Architecture in Missouri State Parks, 1933-42, Thematic Resources," 1985.

Eldridge, Mary. Telephone Interview with Tony Gardner. May 19, 2006. Notes retained by Preparer.

Laughlin, Jerol. Telephone Interview with Dayna Viele. December 29, 2005. Notes retained by Preparer.

Love, Kathryn S. National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for "Alton Club," October 2005.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses.* New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1985.

McMillen, Margot Ford. *A to Z Missouri: The Dictionary of Missouri Place Names.* Columbia, Missouri: Pebble Publishing, 1996.

Meads, Jewell. Telephone Interview with Dayna Viele. December 27, 2005. Notes retained by Preparer.

Morrow, Lynn and Linda Myers-Phinney. *Shepherd of the Hills Country:Tourism Transforms the Ozarks,1880s-1930s.* Fayetteville, Arkansas: University of Arkansas Press, 1999.

Pierce, Margaret. Telephone Interview with Dayna Viele. January 4, 2006. Notes retained by Preparer.

Rafferty, Milton D. *The Ozarks: Land and Life.* Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980.

Rafferty, Milton D. *The Ozarks Outdoors: A Guide for Fishermen, Hunters, and Tourists.* Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1985.

Rhodes, Richard. *The Ozarks.* New York: The American Wilderness/Time-Life Books, 1974.

Rossiter, Phyllis. *A Living History of the Ozarks.* Gretna, Louisiana: Pelican Publishing Company, 1992.

Rudofsky, Bernard. *Architecture Without Architects: A Short Introduction to Non-Pedigreed Architecture.* University of New Mexico Press, 1987.

Snider, Becky. *Jerry J. Presley Conservation Education Center (formerly Alton Club) Shannon County, Missouri, Historical and Descriptive Data,* Missouri Department of Conservation, 2004.

Stevens, Donald L. Jr. *A Homeland and a Hinterland.* Omaha: National Park Service, Midwest Region, 1981.

The Houses We Live In: An Identification Guide to the History and Style of American Domestic Architecture. Jeffery Howe, General Editor. San Diego: Thunder Bay Press, 1992.

Throop, E. Gail, *Rustic Architecture: Period Design in the Columbia River Gorge,* Cultural Resource Management, National Park Service, June 2005.

Varner, Judy. Telephone Interview with Tony Gardner. May 19, 2006. Notes retained by Preparer.

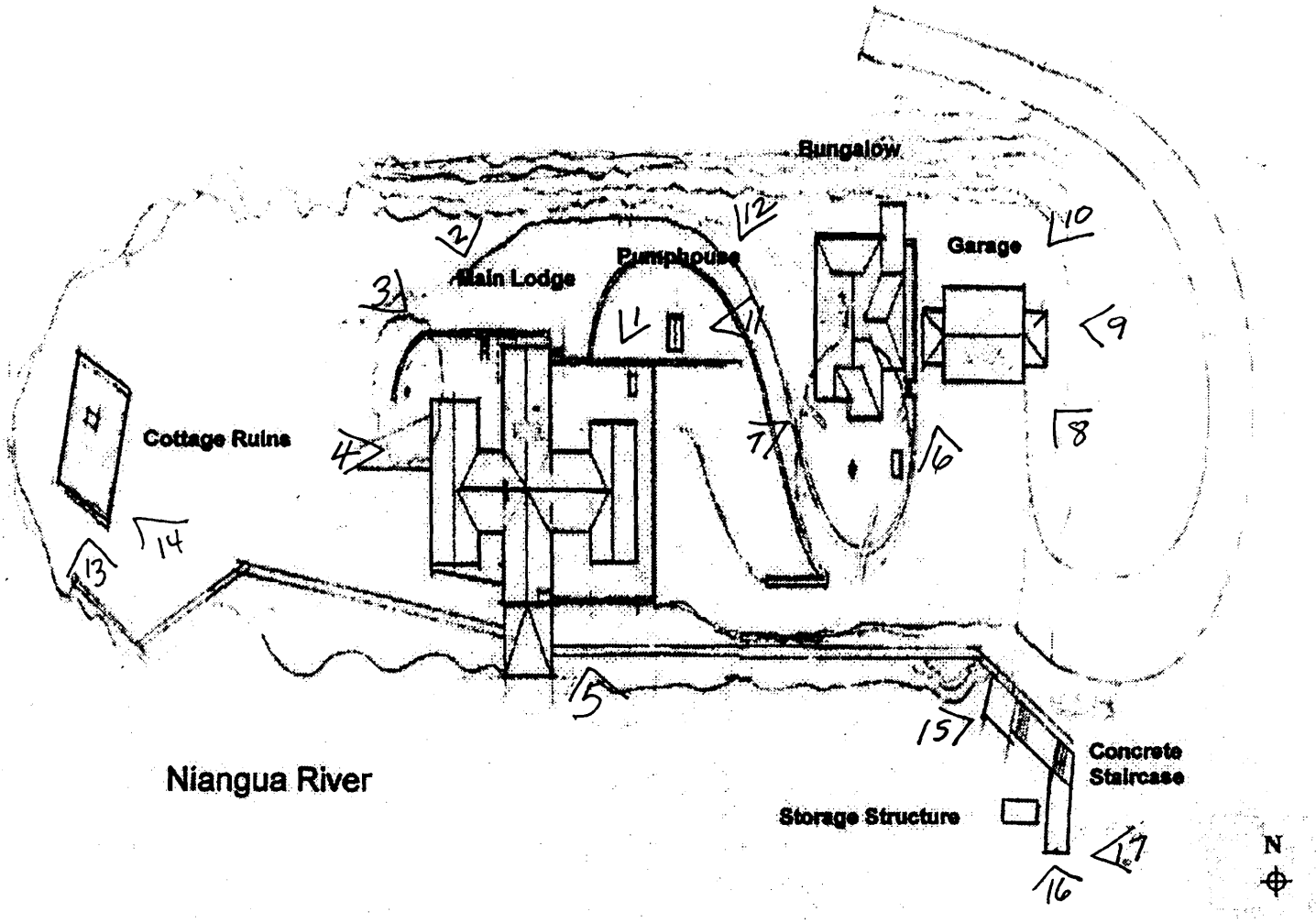
Wilson, Merrill Ann. "Rustic Architecture: The National Park Style," Trends, July, August, September, 1976, 4-5

The following information is the same for all photographs except as noted:

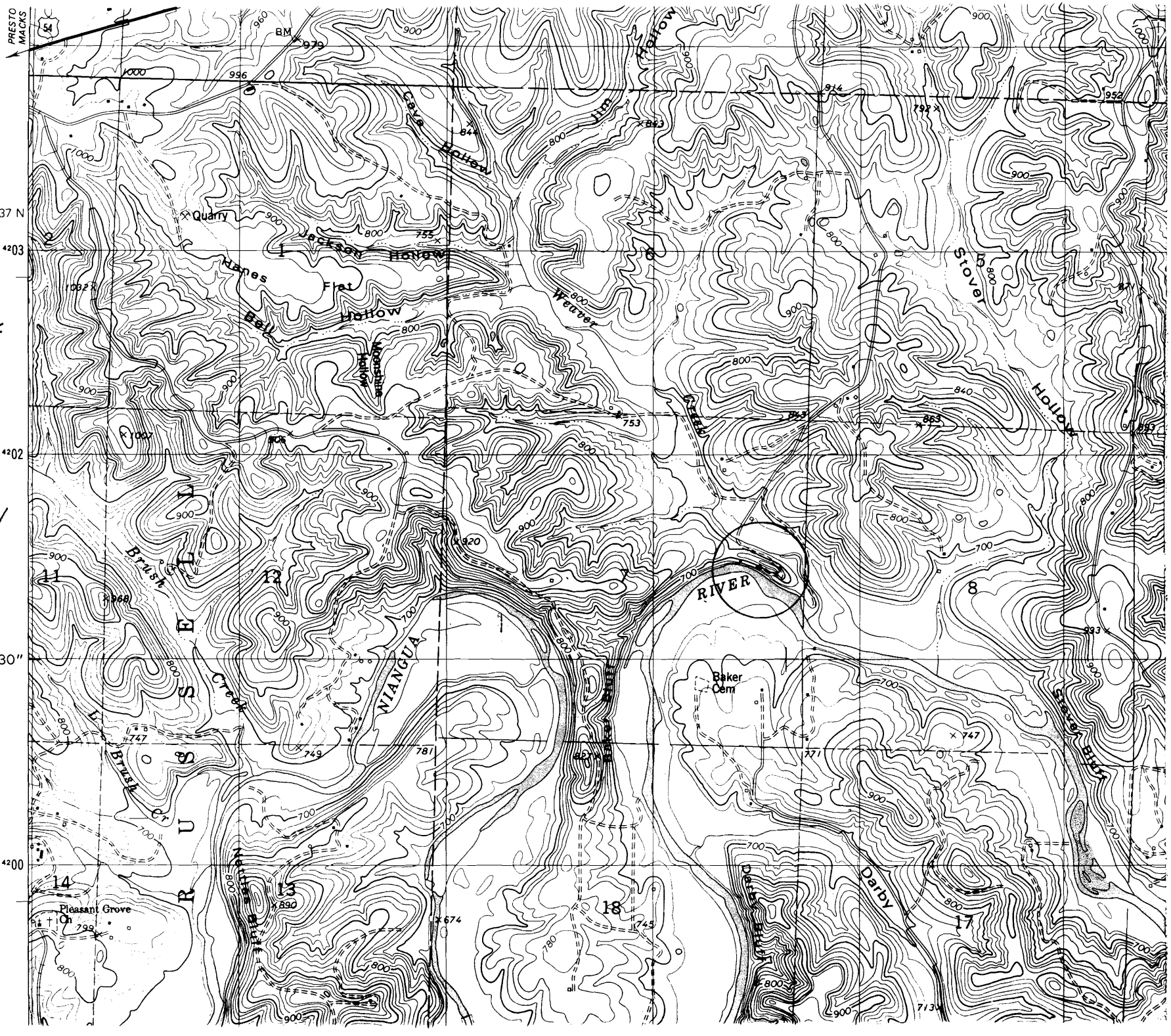
Urbauer Fishing Lodge Historic District
Camden County, Missouri
Photographer: Tony Gardner
Date: April 3, 2006
Negatives on file with Tony Gardner

1. Main lodge, facing southwest.
2. Main lodge, facing southwest.
3. Main lodge, facing southeast.
4. Main lodge, facing east.
5. Main lodge, facing north.
6. Bungalow, facing northwest.
7. Bungalow, facing east.
8. Garage, facing northwest.
9. Garage, facing west.
10. Garage, facing southwest.
11. Pumphouse, facing west.
12. Pumphouse, facing southwest.
13. Cottage ruins, facing north.
14. Cottage ruins, facing northwest.
15. Staircase to Niangua River, facing east (Larry Owens, July 2006).
16. Staircase to Niangua River, facing north (Larry Owens, July 2006).
17. Storage building on Niangua River, facing northwest (Larry Owens, July 2006).

Photo Map (with camera angles)

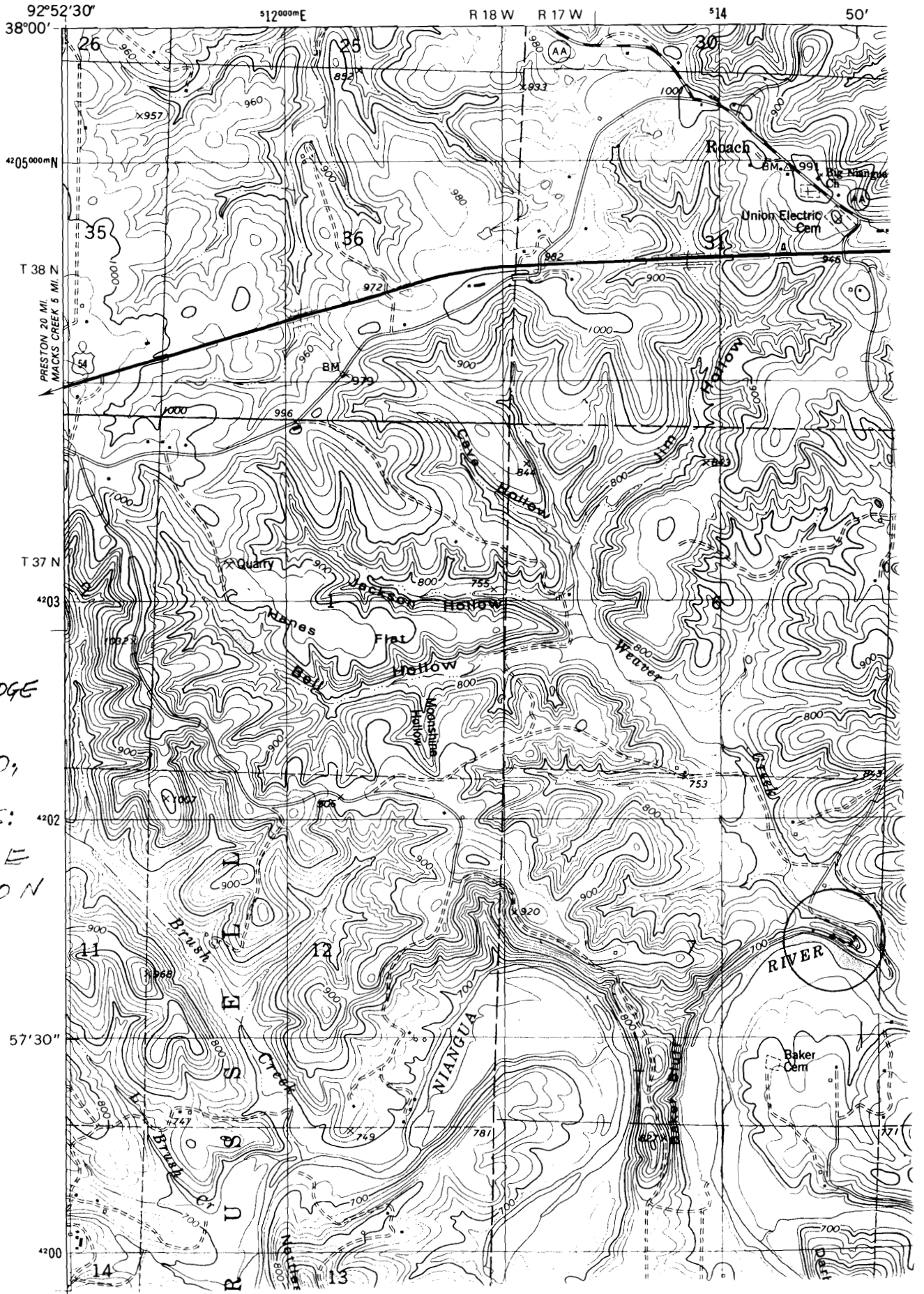


URBAUER
FISHING LODGE
HISTORIC
DISTRICT
CAMDEN CO.,
MISSOURI
UTM REFS:
15/514510 E
15/4201460 N



7460 III SW
(BARNUMTON)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



URBAUER
FISHING LODGE
HISTORIC
DISTRICT
CAMDEN CO.,
MISSOURI
UTM REFS:
15/514510 E
15/4201460 N

MOZARK