

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic

and/or common Crittenden Historic District

2. Location

street & number 3401 Arsenal, 3400 and 3500 blocks of Crittenden not for publication

city, town St. Louis vicinity of

state Missouri code 29 county City of St. Louis code 510

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name See attached.

street & number

city, town vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Louis City Hall

street & number Market Street at Tucker Boulevard

city, town St. Louis state MO 63103

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Missouri State Historical Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

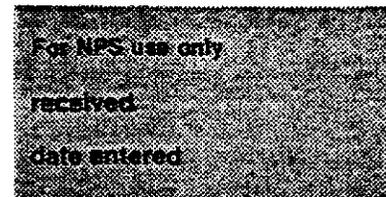
date January 1983 federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Program; Missouri Department of Natural Resources
P. O. Box 176

city, town Jefferson City state MO 65102

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OWNER OF RECORD

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. <u>City Block 1458</u>
St. Elizabeth Academy
3401 Arsenal
St. Louis, MO 63118</p> <p>2. <u>3430-32 Crittenden</u>
J. Scott, Ltd.
25 North Gore
St. Louis, MO 63119</p> <p>3. <u>3436 Crittenden</u>
William & Mary Zdrodowski
3444 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118</p> <p>4. <u>3438 Crittenden</u>
Patricia A. McHugh
3438 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118</p> <p>5. <u>3442 Crittenden</u>
Monroe J. & Sophie M. Hoell
3442 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118</p> <p>6. <u>3444 Crittenden</u>
William & Mary Zdrodowski
3444 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118</p> <p>7. <u>3448 Crittenden</u>
V & R Management Co., Inc.
9208 Glen Garden Drive
St. Louis, MO 63136</p> <p>8. <u>3450 Crittenden</u>
V & R Management Co., Inc.
9208 Glen Garden Drive
St. Louis, MO 63136</p> <p>9. <u>3454 Crittenden</u>
L. E. McCloskey
3454 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118</p> | <p>10. <u>3456 Crittenden</u>
Charles D. White
3456 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118</p> <p>11. <u>3431-33 Crittenden</u>
Robert E. & Alice P. Sherwood
1818 LaSalle
St. Louis, MO 63104</p> <p>12. <u>3437-39 Crittenden</u>
Rubert F. Mickel, Margaret K. MacDonald &
Mary K. Milder
3437 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118</p> <p>13. <u>3441 Crittenden</u>
Mary Jo Eisenberg
3441 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118</p> <p>14. <u>3445-47 Crittenden</u>
George S. & Christina Swyschuk
3447 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118</p> <p>15. <u>3449 Crittenden</u>
Philip A. Koch
3449a Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118</p> <p>16. <u>53-55-59 Crittenden &
2914-16 Arkansas</u>
Najor-Watson Properties, Inc.
7300 Dartmouth
St. Louis, MO 63105</p> <p>17. <u>3502-04 Crittenden</u>
Mary M. Crocker
3504 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118</p> <p>18. <u>3508 Crittenden</u>
David J. & Marlene E. Gasper
3508 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118</p> |
|--|--|

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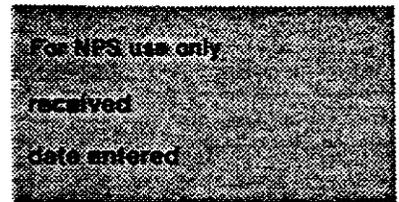
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- | | |
|---|---|
| 19. <u>3512 Crittenden</u>
Joseph M. & Rebecca A. Noelker
3512 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 | 28. <u>3558 Crittenden</u>
Dorothy L. Roper
3558 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 |
| 20. <u>3518 Crittenden</u>
Bonnie J. McLaughlin
7256 Princeton
St. Louis, MO 63130 | 29. <u>3008-12 South Grand</u>
Charles & Rose C. Candrl
4522 Maryland
St. Louis, MO 63108 |
| 21. <u>3522 Crittenden</u>
Bonnie J. McLaughlin
7256 Princeton
St. Louis, MO 63130 | 30. <u>3503 Crittenden</u>
Stephen & Theresa A. DeCoursy
3503 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 |
| 22. <u>3528 Crittenden (vacant)</u>
Bonnie McLaughlin
7256 Princeton
St. Louis, MO 63118 | 31. <u>3509 Crittenden</u>
Warren D. & Corene E. Wallace
3509 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 |
| 23. <u>3532 Crittenden</u>
Velma P. Kilroy
3532 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 | 32. <u>3515 Crittenden</u>
Donald L. & Shirley K. Charpiot
3515 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 |
| 24. <u>3538 Crittenden</u>
Florence McMullin
3538 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 | 33. <u>3519 Crittenden</u>
Dennis G. & Bonita L. Coleman
3519 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 |
| 25. <u>3542 Crittenden</u>
Leo G. & Lorraine G. Rozanek
3542 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 | 34. <u>3525 Crittenden</u>
Frank R. & Helen C. Fabbri
3525 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 |
| 26. <u>3548 Crittenden</u>
Randall E. & Cindy B. Abernathy
3548 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 | 35. <u>3527 Crittenden</u>
Henry J. & Judith K. Rieke
3527 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 |
| 27. <u>3552 Crittenden</u>
Robert A. & Judith A. Hagen
3552 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 | 36. <u>3533 Crittenden</u>
Mamie Newton
3533 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118 |

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37. 3537 Crittenden
Ruth Isabel Leilich
3537 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118

38. 3543 Crittenden
Henry J. & Helen S. Wurthmann
3543 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118

39. 3547 Crittenden
Stephen W. & Susan A. Heligman
3547 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118

40. 3553 Crittenden
Herbert J. & Kathleen A. Rudi
3553 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118

41. 3559 Crittenden (2924 S. Grand)
Marc C. Candri
3555 Crittenden
St. Louis, MO 63118

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Crittenden Historic District is an early-twentieth century middle-class neighborhood on St. Louis' south side. Two blocks of detached single- and multi-family brick housing (dating from 1901 to 1919) are anchored on the eastern boundary by St. Elizabeth Academy's four brick buildings (1894-1927). A two-story brick office/store building (1910) is also included in the District. All of these buildings are in remarkably good condition and survive with very minor alterations. The house types are distributed as follows: In the 3400 block are eleven two-family flats, three four-family flats and one twelve-unit apartment building; in the 3500 block are twenty-three single-family houses. Contributing and non-contributing buildings are coded in Figure #1.

ST. ELIZABETH ACADEMY COMPLEX (City Block 1458)

Establishing an impressive visual focus for the District is the building constructed in 1894 for St. Elizabeth Academy with its projecting entrance tower facing west on Crittenden.¹ Designed for the Precious Blood Sisters by Joseph Stauder & Son and built at a cost of \$18,900 by contractor George Bothe, the three-story red brick building is 64 feet by 53 feet. (Photo #1 and #2, center.) Typical of much Catholic institutional architecture of the last decades of the nineteenth century in St. Louis, the building is a High Victorian amalgam. The central entrance tower with steeply pitched pyramidal roof is enriched by panels of ornamental pressed brick and by stone sill courses, keystones and skewbacks at the second and third stories. Tower windows are paired below broad, slightly pointed arches. The heavily carved, double entrance doors with paneled wood reveals are set beneath a stone-trimmed arch and framed by stone-capped piers. Decorated copper-clad crosses crown the entrance tower and north and south gables of the slate mansard roof. A strongly defined pointed arched corbel table is at the cornice on all elevations; slightly pointed arches head the windows.

The architectural firm of Joseph Stauder & Son was one of several specializing in Catholic institutional design at the turn of the century in St. Louis and was responsible for numerous churches, parsonages, convents and schools in Missouri and southern Illinois. Their work included the complex of St. Agatha's parish, one of the schools where the Precious Blood Sisters taught, and the order's Mother House in O'Fallon, Missouri. The firm's founder, a second generation German, began work as a carpenter in St. Louis in the 1870s and was joined by his son Joseph, Jr. in the early 1890s.² Later generations of Stauders designed the 1957 addition to the school.

A \$40,000 north wing 51 feet by 97 feet (Figure #1) was built in 1914 by contractor F. Kratzer from plans drawn by Brother Leonard Darcheid, who was trained as an architect before becoming a Franciscan. The design of the three-story building sustains, with variations, the idiom established for the 1894 structure. The central bay of the west elevation is marked by pilasters rising to a gable. (Photo #2, foreground.) Pointed arched corbel tables appear at the cornice and between the first and second stories of this bay. Window openings are segmentally arched and trimmed with stone keystones. Stone lintels head the second story windows of the five central bays on the east elevation. At the third story on this elevation and at the three eastern bays of the north (Photo #2, far left.) and south elevations, windows are paired below broad Tudor arches with

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stone trim. (The two openings at the far north and south bays of the east elevation are bricked in.) Similar arched openings appear on both elevations of the three-story passageway linking the 1894 and 1914 structures; the three bays of the first and second stories are doubled to six bays at the third.

The \$51,000 south wing incorporating a chapel on the east was planned by the firm of Ludwig & Dreisoerner and constructed in 1922 by contractor John Grewe. The design of the west elevation (Photo #2, on right.) matches and balances the north wing. The chapel portion of the building employs crossed gabled roofs and triads of lancet windows flanked by stone-trimmed buttress forms on the second story of the north and south elevations. Window openings at the first story of these elevations are unembellished rectangles set below a stone course. Five bays of similar windows are at the second story of the east elevation. A passageway identical to the earlier one links this building to the 1894 structure. A new entrance and three-story stairwell were added at the east elevation in 1957. (Wooden infill panels have been placed at the heads of all of the arched openings of these three structures and their linking passageways except for those of the lancet windows of the chapel.)

Architect Henry Dreisoerner designed the 1927 gymnasium at the eastern edge of the campus. (Photo #3) The interior features one of the first lamella roofs licensed and constructed in the Midwest. (See Section 8.) A building cost of \$34,000 was recorded on the permit for construction of the gymnasium which extends 141 feet along Louisiana Avenue and is 60 feet deep. S. W. Schuler was the contractor. On the exterior ecclesiastical echoes are evident in the pointed arched roof covering the modern lamella roofing system, the copper-clad gables above the buttresses of the fourteen-bay side elevations and the corbelled arcading on the north elevation. The basement is random-sized limestone set in dark mortar. Side elevations are articulated with arched bays at the north and south ends. On the south elevations diapering of contrasting dark brick is employed in a large blind arch; diapered brickwork also appears on the north elevation below five rectangular openings and corbelled arcading. Although there is no record of replacement, the present asphalt shingles probably replace the original asphalt roof. In the interior, the interlocking transverse arches of the wooden lamella system creates a diamond-shaped grid. It is now almost completed concealed by a dropped ceiling. The new school building of 1957 joins the gymnasium on the south; a one-story addition was built the same year at the north elevation. (Photo #3, foreground.)

A low crenellated wall of random-sized, quarry-faced limestone laid in dark mortar was constructed to extend along three sides of the school campus in 1938.

TWO-FAMILY FLATS (City Blocks 1459A and 1459B)

The eleven two-family detached flats in the District were built between 1904 and 1909 and employ a variety of architectural means to increase their resemblance to single-family houses. Constructed with street elevations ranging from 22 to 35 feet in width, they are two stories high with flat roofs. All but two, however, have front attic

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stories one room deep with varied roof and dormer treatment. Several have round-arched window openings, quarry-faced stone fronts or picturesque roof forms typical of the late-nineteenth century but still popular after the turn of the century in St. Louis. "Colonial" pedimented dormers and dentilled porch cornices appear on others. Each of the flats has an off-center porch with separate doors for each tenant and a two-story projecting bay at one of the side elevations.

3436 Crittenden This is one of a "composed" row of eight flats (3436 through 3456) built late in 1904 by contractor George Boughton for his wife Annie, the owner, at a total cost of \$40,000 for the group. Each building is 22 feet by 58 feet. Balustraded open porches for the second story tenants are formed by the roofs of the entrance porches. All windows on front elevations are rectangular. 3436 Crittenden, with projecting polygonal bay and turret roof, is faced with alternating courses of quarry- and smooth-faced stone on the front elevation. (Photo #4, second from left.) Stone is employed also for porch piers and balustrades. The attic roof is pitched front to rear with shingled gable ends.

3438 Crittenden Quarry-faced stone is employed for the features of the front elevation, articulated with a two-story curved bay. A crenellated stone parapet wall trims the roof line. (Photo #4, third from left.)

3442 Crittenden A flared slate-clad mansard and hipped dormers are framed by stepped parapets. The front facade and porch piers are red brick; stone lintels and window trim are employed. (Photo #4, fourth from left.)

3444 Crittenden The attic roof of this quarry-faced stone front is framed by stepped parapets; the turret has a belled roof without windows. (Photo #4, fifth from left.)

3448 Crittenden Red brick and stone lintels are employed on the facade of this flat. The roof is a dormered mansard. (Photo #4, sixth from left.)

3450 Crittenden This stone-front flat is identical to 3438 Crittenden. (Photo #4, seventh from left.)

3454 Crittenden Quarry-faced stone is used for the front facade. Stepped parapets frame a single-dormered attic. (Photo #4, eighth from left.) (A non-contributing metal awning is above the second story open porch.)

3456 Crittenden The last of eight flats, 3456 Crittenden repeats the polygonal bay with attic turret roof of the first building to terminate the row on the west. Face brick of varied tones of red and brown, laid in Flemish bond with dark headers, is employed at the exposed west (Arkansas) elevation as well as the front facade. Stone lintels head the windows. (Photo #4, ninth from left.)

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3441-41a Crittenden Built in 1905 for \$6,000 by contractor Frank Arnold for the realty firm of Aiple & Hemmelmann, this building is faced with red brick and has two pedimented dormers in an attic mansard framed by parapets coped with terra cotta. (Photo #5, third from right.) Quarry-faced stone is used at the basement; porch piers are faced with white glazed brick. The first story windows are round headed with ornamental brick moldings.

3445-47 Crittenden Built in 1909 for M. Neiser at a cost of \$8,500, this flat was the last constructed in the 3400 block of Crittenden. Henry Schaumburg, Jr. was the architect and contractor. It has a slate mansard framed by parapet walls. (Photo #5, fourth from left.) Face brick is red; the water table, porch walls and piers are reddish-brown brick. Classical capitals and cornice dentilling on the porch and the pedimented dormers are typical of the Colonial mode in St. Louis as is the wood-paneled second story bay window.

3449-49a Crittenden Displaying a polygonal, two story bay and attic turret like those in the row of eight across the street, this flat was built in 1905 by Charles Gideonson for \$4,000. The front porch has wooden Tuscan columns and a dentilled cornice. At the second story open porch is a bowed wrought iron balustrade. (Photo #5, partially visible, fifth from left.)

(Alterations and additions to the facades of these flats are minor and include wooden infill panels at the heads of some of the arched windows, aluminum storm sash and doors, asphalt shingle replacements for some of the slate roofs and new second story balustrades. At the rear elevations, alterations and additions to most of the original wooden porches are evident.)

FOUR-FAMILY FLATS (City Blocks 1459A and 1459B)

Three similar, two-story red brick four-family flats were built in 1905 for realtors Aiple & Hemmelmann. Each was built at a cost of \$8,500 by contractor Frank Arnold. The classical detailing and symmetrical massing suggest the stylistic influence of 1904 World's Fair architecture. Each flat, with a 50-foot wide front, has six bays and four entrance doors opening from a central, first story porch. Face brick changes to reddish-brown or buff below the stone sill courses which demark the water table; contrasting brick is also employed for the porch walls and piers.

(Alterations to these flats include a few infill panels, aluminum storm sash and balustrade replacements.)

3431-33 Crittenden A central, truncated hipped roof with pedimented dormer (boarded) adds interest to the roof line of this flat. (Photo #5, foreground.) Basement windows employ stone lintels, first story windows are capped with gauged brick flat arches; second story windows are round headed with ornamental moldings.

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3437-39 Crittenden A central, triangular pediment is accented by brackets under the cornice. Stone lintels head first story windows. (Photo #5, second from right.) The central openings at the second story employ gauged brick flat arches; the others are segmentally arched and trimmed with brick hoodmolds. The porch retains its original second story wooden balustrade; metal replacements are at the first story.

3430-32 Crittenden A parapet wall with arched pediment cornfiguration, an unbroken row of modillion blocks at the cornice and stone lintels incorporating keystone and voussoir forms at the second story windows distinguish this flat from the other two. First story, round-arched windows are trimmed with ornamental brick. Geometrically patterned, wood balustrades are installed at the sides of the porch. (Photo #4, in foreground.)

APARTMENT BUILDING

3453-59 Crittenden and 2914-16 Arkansas (City Block 1459B) This early south St. Louis apartment building, named the Alberta Apartments in the teens, was constructed in 1905 at the northeast corner of Crittenden and Arkansas. It was designed by architect William Abesser for Annie Boughton whose husband George Boughton was the contractor. The two-story and mansard structure was built at a cost of \$32,000 on two 50-foot lots purchased for \$4,650. The building, approximately 93 feet wide on the Crittenden elevation by 113 feet on Arkansas, contains fifty-eight rooms divided into twelve apartments. (Photo #5, far left and Photo #6) The design is similar in scale and detailing to the two-family flats across the street built the previous year by the Boughtons at 3436-56 Crittenden. On the Crittenden elevation, six bays are grouped between projecting polygonal towers; access to the interior is gained through four doors opening from each of two porches. The Arkansas elevation is articulated with three more polygonal towers and has a single entrance porch. Building materials in an unusual combination of colors are employed: The mansard is pink slate; face brick is brown with yellow-buff bricks accenting the angles of the projecting bays; light gray stone is used for lintels and courses. Porch piers are banded with raised brick. The wooden cornice and porches display simple wooden brackets.

The first floor plan is divided into six apartments of three or four rooms each plus bath. Second floor suites are identically arranged and reached by private stairways rising from first story porches. The living space of the second story apartments, however, is augmented by an interesting duplex arrangement which adds two to four rooms in the mansard story with access gained by continuation of the same private stairway. (Behind the twenty-five foot deep mansard story, the building is only two stories with a flat roof.) The most generous apartment in the Alberta, at the southwest corner of the building, boasts eight rooms (four with bay windows) divided between second and mansard stories with a total floor space of 2,800 square feet. A major attraction of apartment living in the era of the coal-fired furnace was the janitor who took care of stoking the furnace. At the Alberta Apartments, the entrance to the janitor's basement living quarters was through a door at street level on the Arkansas elevation.

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The building retains some of the original beamed ceilings and fireplace mantels on the interior. Minor exterior losses and alterations include asphalt shingle replacement of the slates on the turret roofs and loss of balustrades on the second story open porches. At the rear elevation, unpainted wooden porches have been installed recently at the first story.

The architect of the building, William Abesser, was a native of Racine, Wisconsin. He worked as a draftsman there and in Chicago before coming to St. Louis in 1887. Beginning in 1891, he was draftsman for architect George Heimbürger and then for the City Building Commissioner. Abesser opened his own office in 1896. One source credits him with the design of "fine residences and business blocks and handsome residences in the West End and many summer residences in the suburbs."³ These have not been located. Abesser was last listed in the City Directories in 1905, the year of his design of the Alberta Apartments.

SINGLE FAMILY HOUSES3500 Block of Crittenden (City Blocks 1460 and 1461)

The 50-foot lots of the single-family houses in the Crittenden District set them apart from those on other residential streets east of Tower Grove Park. Building costs entered on permits range from the \$3,500 minimum mandated by the deed restrictions (See Section 8.) to \$14,000. Those at the low end of the cost scale, including some of the six houses built speculatively, echo forms established for middle-class residential architecture at the end of the nineteenth century in St. Louis. These houses display slate-clad pyramidal hipped roofs with hipped or gabled dormers and dimensions adapted to a house lot of about 30 feet. In the most costly houses, fuller use of the 50-foot lot is evident in the broader facades and increased articulation of side elevations. Roof lines and plans sometimes reflect more "fashionable" styles and a richer variety of materials is employed.

Details in "Colonial" and "English Tudor" styles in conjunction with Arts and Crafts principles are common to all. All are of solid construction, with 18-inch limestone foundations and 13-inch walls of pressed brick, stone porch steps and dressed foundation stone at the facade elevations. Front entrances usually display transom and side lights with ornamented wooden enframements. Interiors are finished in a variety of hardwoods; art glass or leaded glass windows are found in stair halls and flanking parlor mantels.

3559 Crittenden This house, the first built on Crittenden, was constructed in 1901 for Dr. and Mrs. Charles Shattinger by contractor Fred Schroeder. (No architect's name is recorded. The estimated cost was \$3,897 -- little more than the required minimum.) Evidence of the early construction date is the second story oriel bay with conical roof

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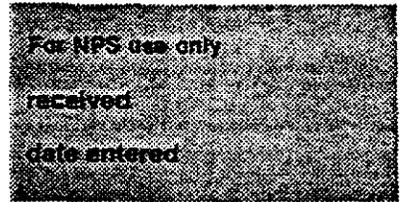
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and curved glass panes, a feature of the previous decades. (Photo #7, on left.) Wooden Tuscan columns support the slate porch roof. Red pressed brick, used on all elevations, rises from a dressed stone foundation. At the west elevation is a side entrance on Grand Avenue for the doctor's office. Basement windows and a window above the door on this elevation, presumably once of art glass, have been filled with glass bricks. (Photo #14, on left.) The rear elevation retains handsome wooden first and second story porches with rectilinear-patterned balustrades.

3553 Crittenden This austere detailed red brick house was built in 1907 for \$5,000 for Anna, Frieda and Elizabeth Sauter from plans by architect Henry Schaumburg, Jr. (Photo #7, center.) Henry Luehrman was the contractor. Brownish-red brick is employed for the basement level and also for the porch. Dentilling at the cornice of the porch roof, stone capitals and pressed brick edge roll molding on the porch piers constitute the architectural enrichment. Asphalt shingles on the porch roof presumably replace slate, which remains on the main roof and dormer. Schaumburg, a second generation German, designed numerous medium-priced houses and flats on St. Louis' south side in the first decades of the century. The 1909 two-family flat at 3445 Crittenden and the last single-family home in the District (3552 Crittenden) were also designed by Schaumburg.

3547 Crittenden Ernst Janssen (185?-1946) FAIA (known for his skillful design of twelve, elaborate and costly Compton Heights houses) was the architect for this \$8,500 house built in 1905 for J. G. Hellmich, co-proprietor of a book bindery. Displaying "English Tudor" touches, the design adheres to the pyramidal-roofed, red brick formula already seen. (Photo #7, on right.) The first story parlor window has a slightly ogeed-arched opening trimmed with a molding of pressed brick and terra cotta corbels. Wooden porch piers incorporate pointed-arch forms. Timbering and stucco nogging, now painted, appear in the dormer and porch gables which display slightly flared eaves. Dormer barge boards and diamond-patterned glazing are other Tudor touches. Quarry-faced stone is employed for porch and basement. The second story bay window is wood framed with shingled apron. A two-story bay projects generously on the east elevation. (At the rear elevation a new deck addition has been constructed beyond the original porch with wrought iron balcony.)

3543 Crittenden Far richer in detail and use of lavish building materials is this 1909 house built for liquor dealer Theo Burger at a cost of \$12,000. (Photo #8) Details are classically inspired. Below a red tile truncated hipped roof, face brick is matte, purplish-red. Copper, now oxidized green, is employed extensively on the front elevation for the ornate porch pediment, dormer frames and pediments and the second story bay window. Gutters, canopies over side and rear doors and a second story balcony at the rear elevation are also copper. Pink granite is employed for porch steps and columns; pinkish-buff stone lintels trim windows. Art glass in the transoms of the bay windows, the stair hall on the west elevation and the first story of the east elevation add to the coloristic richness. The east elevation is articulated with a projecting two-story bay. Fluted classical wooden colonettes frame the front door and side lights. Cast iron, used for the rear porch balustrades, is also employed for the fence at the alley.

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Architect Herman J. Burgdorf (1869-1948), a second generation German, began work as a draftsman in St. Louis in 1885. He later worked in the office of architect Albert M. Baker as draftsman, architect and partner before opening his own office in 1898. Burgdorf practiced until after World War I, when he established a motor car company. His only other known designs are for four substantial houses in Flora Place (another street with restrictions to the north of the District and west of Grand Avenue) and a few lesser commissions for houses and flats on the south side.

3537 Crittenden Built for The Rev. H. H. Schroeder, the German-born founder of the Society of Practical Christianity in St. Louis, 3537 Crittenden was designed by architect Victor Klutho and built in 1905 for the above-average cost of \$10,000. (Not illustrated.) The front elevation is 39 feet wide. "Colonial" in inspiration, the red brick house has a gabled slate roof with slate-clad gable ends, two dormers with arched pediments and a gable above a projecting, two-story bay at the front elevation. The pedimented porch is supported by brick piers with Ionic capitals. Windows on the front elevation are framed by molded brick. Occupied by the same family since its construction by contractor H. C. Spore, no exterior alterations or losses are apparent. Architect Klutho (1863-1943), FAIA, an Alsatian who began his St. Louis career as a contractor, was self-trained in architecture and developed a speciality of Catholic institutional design. He occasionally drew plans for houses including one in Compton Heights.

3533 Crittenden Built for \$5,000 in 1908, 3533 Crittenden employs an overhanging, bracketed gabled roof with the gable end facing the street; it was the first of two houses on Crittenden with the entrance porch placed on the side (east) elevation. (Not illustrated.) Brick is light red and laid in a raised rectilinear "timbering" pattern in the gabled end above simple corbelled courses. Jack arches head the three facade windows at the first story. Upper window sashes are glazed with small panes. The small red-tile entry porch roof (supported by wood posts) on the east elevation has been extended to the front and rear by the addition of a modern metal roof on wrought iron posts. A similar porch has been added to the rear elevation. Architect Charles N. Breitschuh practiced architecture in St. Louis from 1904 until the mid-1940s. His only other known designs, however, are houses in Compton Heights and Parkview Place, a West End subdivision of private streets. The contractor was Frank Harrison. Built for J. Harry Dickbreder, the home was sold by 1911 to Walter F. Koken, officer in the Koken Barber Supply Company.

3527 Crittenden Displaying the most up-to-date architectural style is 3527 Crittenden, designed in 1910 by Oscar Enders for O. J. Pfeffer, President of the St. Louis Clock and Silverware Company. It was built for \$10,000 by contractor William Voelpel. It is also the largest house, with dimensions of 37 by 55 feet. Northern European models are suggested by the clipped gabled roof of gray slate and projecting, bracketed eaves with barge boards; red brick is laid in Flemish bond with dark headers. (Photo #9)

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Modernity is evident in the L-shaped plan and the deployment of rectangular forms to create open porches at the second story of the facade and the third story in the angle formed by the "L." Horizontal stone courses, the vertical patterns created by the dark headers and brick paneling below first story windows result in an effective interplay of horizontal and vertical elements. The porch, important in St. Louis' hot summers, is placed at the side of the house, freeing the front of the house for four bays of living room windows unshadowed by neighboring houses. This is one of the few structures for which Oscar Enders' name is recorded as architect during his long years as Chief draftsman and designer for the major St. Louis architect, Isaac S. Taylor. Enders (1865-1926) worked for Taylor from 1893 until Taylor's death in 1916 and had a hand in the design of important downtown commercial buildings and houses in the private streets of the Central West End. During the pre-Fair years when Taylor was Supervising Architect for the St. Louis World's Fair, Taylor entrusted the firm's private work to Enders, a brilliant draftsman.

3525 Crittenden Combining the traditional hipped slate roof with unconventional dark brown brick and a nearly square plan, this 1911 house was designed by Edward H. A. Volkmann for Albert A. Behrens, an officer of the St. Louis Sash and Door Company. In a departure from the usual arrangement, the porch (glassed in) is centered on the front elevation with a recessed entrance to the west. (Partially visible in Photo #9, on right.) White stone accents the broad first story door and the windows of the facade. Glazing reflects a current St. Louis trend with upper sashes divided vertically in thirds by muntins. Wood stained dark brown is employed for the simple bracketed cornices and for the enframing of the stair hall art glass window on the west elevation. Another glassed-in porch, incorporated in a one-story extension at the rear of the house, appears to be original. The house was built for \$9,000 by the Victor Architectural & Building Company in which architect Volkmann had been a partner since its founding in 1907. Volkmann began his St. Louis career as an architect in 1890 and worked for the A. A. Fischer Architectural & Building Company before forming a partnership with carpenter Charles Hall. Volkmann later became President of the company and continued in that position until the mid-1940s. The firm designed and constructed numerous houses on the south side of the city including two other houses in the Crittenden District.

3519 Crittenden Features of this 1908 house in the "Colonial" mode include a pyramidal roof with hipped dormer (now asphalt clad), a wood-framed second story bay and a dented porch with brick piers and classical capitals. (Photo #10, fourth from right.) Face brick is red; basement story and porch walls are quarry-faced stone. Window openings are unadorned rectangles. The \$6,000 house was built for German-born Louis Christopherson, President of the St. Louis Coffee and Spice Company and was designed by Ernst Preisler with Fred Schroeder the contractor. Preisler (1855-1934), born and trained in Austria, designed five houses in the District. After his arrival in St. Louis in 1887, he enjoyed great popularity in middle-class south St. Louis German neighborhoods and in the affluent Compton Heights where he was architect of ten houses. Preisler was also designer of the Carnegie-funded Carondelet Branch Library.

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3515 Crittenden Preisler was the architect of this \$5,000, red brick house, with a width of only 25 feet, built speculatively in 1906 for realtor John G. Zimmerer. Tudor flavor is imparted by the timbered gables of the porch and dormer roofs and brick strapwork patterning above the second story windows of the facade. (Photo #10, third from right.) The house was purchased from Zimmerer in 1906 by Mrs. Charlotte Meyer.

3509 Crittenden Zimmerer hired Preisler to design this \$10,000 house of textured buff brick for his own occupancy that same year (1906). B. J. Charleville was contractor for both houses. (Photo #10, second from right.) A red tile roof is combined with Tudor features. A stone-trimmed ogee arch is employed for the entrance to the recessed, wood-paneled doorway. Attic gables display timbering; brick strapwork is used at the cornice of front and side elevations and below the paired windows above the entrance. A low front porch wall is coped with stone. At the rear elevation a second story sleeping porch (glassed in) appears to be original.

3503 Crittenden The third house in the District (3503) was built late in 1904 for Mrs. Amelia Herminghaus, a widow, from plans by William H. Gruen and cost \$9,000. Klute & Elias were the contractors. "Colonial" influence is exhibited in wooden Tuscan porch columns (paired to frame the entrance), the hipped roof and the diamond and lozenge glazing in the attic dormers. (Photo #10, in foreground.) With a generous 45-foot depth, the house has another porch with arcaded piers at the northeast corner; an open second story porch above it has apparently been roofed and glassed in though no building permit records this alteration. (The balustrade is missing from the front porch and asphalt roof shingles replace slate.) Gruen, born in St. Louis in 1876 and trained in Germany, was a member of the American Institute of Architects and practiced architecture in St. Louis for over fifty years. He was architect of two houses in Compton Heights.

3504 Crittenden Conforming to the traditional hipped roof mode, the cost of this \$8,000 house built in 1908 is reflected in the 32 by 56 foot dimensions, the use of buff matte brick on both front and east (Arkansas) elevations, and the generous use of stone trim. (Photo #11, left.) It was built for Charles Wehking, Secretary of the Gravois Planing Mill, by Victor Boeke (son of the former partner of architect Victor Klutho) who was listed as both contractor and architect on the building permit. Stone trim appears on the two chimneys of the east elevation and on the windows which are segmentally arched at the first story and flat arched at the second. Vaguely Tudor detailing is exhibited in pointed-arch wooden porch piers and in gables trimmed with timbering and barge boards. Brackets and modillion blocks appear at the cornice. A one-story, asphalt-sided 1959 addition to the rear elevation is non-contributing.

3508 Crittenden This house was built in 1908 for Emil Schwerdtmann, President of a toy company established by his German-born father. Gustave P. Wuest was the architect; contractor J. Campbell constructed the \$9,000 house. Below the slate-clad pyramidal roof, rectilinear timbering of the gables and large-scale wooden brackets and pendants

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reflect the influence of the Arts and Crafts aesthetic. (Photo #12) Face brick is red with courses of Flemish bond with dark headers. At the west elevation art glass windows project in a gabled bay. A slightly projecting, Portland cement-clad bay of leaded windows is at the first story on the east. Porch steps are Georgia marble. (Porch roof slate has been replaced by asphalt shingles. Wrought iron window grills on the first story windows and lions flanking the front steps are recent additions.) Gustave Wuest (1864-1947) was born in Pennsylvania and began work in St. Louis in 1880 as a draftsman. Before he opened his own office, he worked for Charles K. Ramsey -- supervising architect for Adler & Sullivan's St. Louis designs in the early 1890s. Most of Wuest's work appears in the middle-income residential south side. He also designed two Compton Heights' houses.

3512 Crittenden No architect was listed on the permit for this 1906 house built by contractor M. W. Bond for Dr. J. C. Graul at a cost of \$7,000. This simply detailed, red brick house is representative of the more modest houses in the block. (Photo #11, third from left.) A fire escape on the east elevation was installed in 1961 during conversion for use as a rooming house.

3518 Crittenden Another contractor-designed house, this \$8,000 house was built in 1910 for grocer John Yaeger by Adolph Wagoner illustrates the persistence of the pyramidal hipped roof. (Photo #11, fourth from left.) Face brick is red with reddish-brown brick employed for the water table, the porch piers and the raised enframements of the facade windows. Porch steps are pink granite. Modillion blocks are at the cornices of the porch and main roofs.

3522 Crittenden At \$14,000 this was the most expensive house built in the District. E. H. A. Voikmann was the architect for owner Dr. Robert H. Graul in 1907. The 32-foot wide front elevation is faced with buff brick below a truncated hipped roof formerly red tile, now asphalt shingled. (Photo #11, partially visible on the far right.) Features include an ornate Palladian facade dormer and "fluted" stone columns between porch piers banded with stone. The porch employs a frieze embellished with terra cotta lions and a pediment with festoons and a cartouche.

3526 Crittenden Demolished following a fire in 1973, the house on this lot was designed by William P. McMahon in 1907 and built at a cost of \$7,000 as a speculation for Albert G. Blanke.

3532 Crittenden Speculatively built in 1908 by owner/contractor B. J. Charleville from plans by architect J. G. Day, this \$7,000 house has a porch extending across the facade and displays timbered gables both on the porch and second story bay window. (Photo #13, on left.) The first owner/occupant was banker Joseph S. Carr. (Brick on the front elevation has been painted red; asphalt shingles replaced slate on the porch roof. An asphalt-clad, two-story rear addition is non-contributing.)

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3538 Crittenden Displaying a red tiled, flared roof, buff brick and a pedimented porch and attic dormer on the front elevation, this house resembles 3522 Crittenden and was also designed by E. H. A. Volkmann. (Photo #3, second from right.) Less lavish in the use of ornamental detail and smaller, the house was built for \$8,000 for hotel proprietor Henry Wohler by the Victor Architectural & Building Company. The porch pediment and frieze show evidence of alteration not recorded on building permits. (Asphalt shingles replace tiles on the porch roof; at the rear, part of the second story porch balustrade is missing.)

3542 Crittenden Designed by Ernst Preisler for the Grand Realty Company formed by John G. and George Zimmerer in 1905, 3542 Crittenden was constructed for \$5,600 in 1913 and was the next to last house built in the District. Reflecting architectural conventions well established by the second decade of the century in St. Louis, this house is faced with light brown brick, employs timbered bracketed gables and displays rectilinear glazing patterns in upper window sashes. (Photo #13, third from left.) The first owner/occupant of the house was Albert Weisert, President of the Weisert Tobacco Company. (Asphalt replaces slate on all roofs; an enclosed rear porch with cedar siding is non-contributing.)

3548 Crittenden The first speculatively built house in the District (and also the least expensive) 3548 Crittenden was built in 1905 for John Zimmerer, designed by Ernst Preisler and built by J. A. Prah for \$3,500 (the minimum required). Buff brick on the front elevation only, chamfered stone porch piers, a green tiled porch roof, gray slate main roof and pedimented facade dormer are features of this house. (Photo #13, far right.) It was purchased for \$7,800 by livestock dealer Simon Lowenstein in 1907.

3552 Crittenden The last house built in the District barely qualifies as a house of at least two stories as mandated by the deed restrictions. Built in 1919 for \$6,000 for William Bolte (Assistant to the Board of Election Commissioners) and designed by Henry Schaumburg, Jr., it was constructed by B. J. Charleville. (Not illustrated.) It is in the popular bungalow mode of the teens with porch extending across the facade, gabled roof pitched to front and rear and gabled second story facade dormer with three windows. Face brick is textured, dark brown and set in light-colored mortar. Stone insets trim brick porch piers and dormer gable. A one-story bay window is at the east elevation. The roof is slate.

3558 Crittenden The second house built in the District is at the corner of Grand Avenue and was built for watchmaker/jeweler Hermann Mauck in 1904. The architect was John L. Wees (1861-1942), FAIA, who designed this \$6,000 house with "Colonial" details. The facade dormer is pedimented with decorated pilasters; the wood-framed second story bay window employs an arched pediment embellished with a cartouche; Ionic capitals are used for porch columns and engaged piers. Mauck lived in the house only a year and sold it in 1906 for \$13,000 to Patrick O'Brien, an inspector for the Wabash Railroad. The

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west elevation on Grand Avenue displays art glass at first story and stair landing windows and a first story bay. (Photo #14, center.) The Alsatian Wees enjoyed a successful independent practice after several years as partner of Auguste Beinke. He was architect of major commercial, institutional and religious structures as well as houses in St. Louis.

STORE/OFFICE BUILDING

3008-10-12 South Grand Avenue (City Block 1460) The two-story, buff brick Park Building, constructed in 1910 at the rear of 3558 Crittenden, was first used for doctors' and dentists' offices and a drug store. The firm of Mariner & LaBeaume designed the building for Patrick and Grace O'Brien. O'Brien was contractor for the \$7,500 structure. Typical of much small-scale commercial architecture of this period is the classically inspired white terra cotta ornament applied to the central entrance and around the triple round-arched windows at the second story. (Photo #14, on right.) Terra cotta also copes the parapet wall with central arched form and raised brick patterning. The enframement of the first story is cast iron with geometric designs. A building permit of 1940 records alterations of \$800, presumably the black vitreous glass panels above and below the store windows. More recent, and non-contributing, are the wooden grids applied to the store windows.

During their 1904-1912 partnership, Mariner & LaBeaume's commissions included important churches, institutional buildings and houses in St. Louis and beyond. Like Ernst Preisler, they were assigned the design of a Carnegie Library, the Divoll Branch (1910) in Hyde Park on the city's north side.

FOOTNOTES

¹The roof, blown off in the tornado of May 27, 1896, was immediately replaced, apparently as originally designed in 1894. Congregation for the Adoration of the Most Precious Blood, Foundation and Progress (O'Fallon, MO: Congregation of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood, 1922), p. 107.

²Another son, Adolph, who was draftsman for the firm in the 1890s became a partner in 1905. The company designed a laundry (1904) and a chapel (1906) for the school, both demolished. The Works of Joseph Stauder & Sons ([St. Louis: c. 1915] in possession of Arthur Stauder, Jr., St. Louis, xerox copy, Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc.). This publication contains drawings of many of the works of the firm. An interview with Stauder, great-grandson of Joseph Stauder, in December 1982, provided other information.

³St. Louis: Queen City of the West (St. Louis: The Mercantile Advancement Co., 1899), p. 54.

8. Significance

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

St. Elizabeth Academy, 1894-1927

Specific dates Housing, 1901-1919 **Builder/Architect**

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Crittenden Historic District is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C, and is significant in the following areas:

ARCHITECTURE: The residential architecture of the Crittenden District is significant as a cohesive streetscape unified by setback, scale, building materials and the application of features drawn from late-nineteenth century picturesque and classical tradition along with Tudor and Arts & Crafts modes. The houses and flats, all built between 1901 and 1919, exhibit a high quality of craftsmanship and are significant representative examples of virtually unaltered middle-class housing. A fifty-eight room apartment building of 1905 is an early and architecturally well-integrated example of the building type in south St. Louis. The High Victorian aesthetic of the 1894 St. Elizabeth Academy (with its impressive central entrance tower creating a visual focus for the District) is echoed in the twentieth century buildings of the school complex completed by 1927 -- testimony to the long popularity of this idiom for Catholic institutional architecture in St. Louis.

COMMUNITY PLANNING/DEVELOPMENT: The deed restrictions controlling lot size, land use, building cost and materials in the development of the 3500 block of Crittenden exemplify an instrument used in St. Louis to establish and maintain the residential character of certain streets. A fortuitous combination of St. Elizabeth's campus which closed Crittenden to the east and the attractions of Tower Grove Park to the west were exploited by the creation of the only restricted frontage east of Grand Avenue in the thirty-block "Tower Grove Heights" subdivision.

EDUCATION: St. Elizabeth Academy, a private high school for girls was established by the German-speaking Precious Blood Sisters in 1882, for the daughters of German Catholic families in the St. Louis Archdiocese. It is now the only private Catholic girls' high school remaining in the City of St. Louis.

ENGINEERING: The 1927 gymnasium of St. Elizabeth Academy features a lamella roof, a system of interlocking transverse arches for spanning spaces without intermediate vertical supports patented in Germany in 1925. The gymnasium was one of the first applications of this engineering advance in the Midwest.

ETHNIC HISTORY: St. Elizabeth Academy established an early physical and symbolic German presence. The overwhelmingly German identity of the District, developed a generation after substantial German immigration to St. Louis ceased, is significant evidence of the continued power of cultural associations. The single-family houses were built by successful Germans who could have chosen comparable new housing in other parts of the city. They elected instead to live in proximity to others of German origin as did the occupants of the flats and apartment building in the Crittenden District. The list of the District's architects and contractors is also dominated by German names.

The first known building in the District, the Schiller house (demolished 1957), preceded development of the District by almost fifty years and formed the nucleus of St. Elizabeth Academy in 1882. Christophe J. Schiller, a native of Wurtemberg, had emigrated to St. Louis by 1840 during the waves of immigration which resulted in a twenty-eight percent German population in St. Louis by 1850. Schiller and his wife

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Elizabeth were German-speaking Catholics, a religious group numerous enough by 1848 to warrant the appointment of a Vicar General to establish parish churches, schools and charities for the Germans in the St. Louis Archdiocese. Unlike most newly arrived Germans who settled in the riverfront wards on the city's north and south sides, Schiller was a successful tavern and hotel keeper near the central wharf. In 1851, he purchased acreage outside the City Limits (now the eastern part of the District) and established a vineyard. Schiller's two-story, gray stone house with a cupola faced Arsenal Street, one of the few improved roads in the area. Another was Grand Avenue which was planned as a circumferential boulevard 660 feet inside the new City Limits of 1855 (Figure #2). "Schiller's Place" became one of the wine gardens popular with the city's Germans for Sunday outings.¹

The area was still too remote in 1875 to have attracted any but farmers and the affluent who built rural retreats along Grand Avenue north of Schiller's property. West of Schiller's property was Tower Grove Park, donated to the city by philanthropist Henry Shaw in 1868. The eastern end of the park surrounded by large undeveloped tracts including the western end of what would become the Crittenden District in the foreground is seen in Plate #65 (Photo #15) of Compton & Dry's 1875 Pictorial St. Louis.² In 1882, the Most Precious Blood Sisters of O'Fallon, Missouri, a teaching order from Gurtweil, Baden, opened a private boarding school for girls in a brick building at the rear of the Schiller home where Christophe Schiller's widow still lived. The Sisters were refugees from the Kulturkampf, Bismarck's "Struggle for Civilization" which culminated in the 1873 May Laws expelling many clergy and religious orders from the German Empire and leading thousands of lay Catholics to emigrate to the United States. After the Precious Blood Sisters arrived in St. Louis in 1873, they played an important role in the intertwined educational and religious life of the large German-speaking population of the St. Louis Archdiocese which then extended halfway across the State of Missouri.³

The school met the needs of a growing German Catholic population of school girls whose parents wanted them educated beyond eighth grade. Private academies were the only source of Catholic secondary education (beyond the limited offerings of a very few parochial schools) until Archdiocesan high schools were opened in St. Louis in 1911. (Of the German-speaking Catholics, only the Ursulines had established a girls' academy prior to the founding of St. Elizabeth's.) The school began with a two-year program which included innovative practical training in domestic science in addition to the "finishing school" subjects -- music, art, embroidery, languages and religious education -- common to these academies. Viewed as "professional training," the cooking, sewing and nutrition classes were designed to fit the students for their probable future as housewives; as office work became an acceptable occupation for women, typing, stenography and correspondence courses were added in the 1890s. By 1892, a four-year, college-preparatory curriculum was in place.

The school, at first patronized mainly by affluent German families, quickly reached capacity enrollment of twenty-six students by 1884. Expansion was delayed by conditions

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on the use of the property imposed by Mrs. Schiller who had hoped to establish an orphanage. Following her death in 1892, the Sisters hired Joseph Stauder & Son to design the new school building which was completed in 1894. The three-story brick structure, with its entrance tower facing west on Crittenden, is an impressive termination to the Street (Photo #1) and an effective example of the conservative, High Victorian aesthetic observed by architects and builders of Catholic institutions well into the twentieth century in St. Louis.

No other construction occurred in the District until 1901. City Blocks 1460 and 1461 (which came into the possession of the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company in 1878 through foreclosure on the large farmland estate of William N. Switzer) were subdivided in 1892 by surveyor/engineer Julius Pitzman, the city's pre-eminent designer of residential subdivisions. Crittenden and Arkansas streets were dedicated. City Block 1459, which Mrs. Schiller had deeded in 1875 to Monsignor Henry Muehlspepen -- Vicar General for the Germans in the St. Louis Archdiocese, was subdivided by Pitzman in 1895 with Crittenden extended to the western edge of the school grounds. A twenty-five foot wide "carriageway or alley" was dedicated. (Formerly Tennessee Avenue, it was renamed St. Elizabeth Avenue in 1982.) By the end of the century, Pitzman's Company of surveyors and engineers had constructed streets, gutters, sidewalks and alleys, and had laid gas, water and sewer lines.

The deed for the \$2,750 lot on which the first house was built in 1901 contained restrictions: Construction was to observe a twenty-foot building setback and required a private residence of brick or stone, at least two stories, to "cost not less than \$3,500." No businesses or flats were permitted. Important to Dr. Charles Shattinger who purchased the lot was the provision that a portion of the house could be used as "the office of a practising physician."⁴ Part of the large "Tower Grove Heights" subdivision developed by Connecticut Mutual on the Switzer property, the 3500 block of Crittenden was the only frontage east of Grand Avenue with restrictions in this thirty-block plat. (Figure #2) This carefully controlled number of restricted lots represented a shrewd and accurate appraisal of the potential market.

Restrictions such as these were developed with many variations signalling socio-economic status. At the top of the scale was the private street, a concept unique to St. Louis introduced in 1867 in a subdivision laid out by Julius Pitzman. Provision for ownership and maintenance of the street itself by the lot owners was included in the deeds. Private streets reached their most numerous and exclusive manifestations in the Central West End in St. Louis. Pitzman also laid out subdivisions with restrictions and publicly maintained streets; Compton Heights (1888) was south St. Louis' most exclusive in terms of lot size and a minimum building cost of \$7,000.

Further development of the Crittenden District was delayed while preparations for the 1904 World's Fair at Forest Park in the West End focused the attention of real estate developers and streetcar line proprietors on the surroundings of the park and its approaches. Potentially desirable real estate in Tower Grove Heights and the Crittenden

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District remained "a 'white elephant' on the hands of the owners" until the conclusion of the Fair and adequate transit lines were in place.⁵ However, a shortage of houses and flats described by a 1903 observer as a "house famine"⁶ provided the impetus for rapid construction in the District at the end of the Fair. The 3400 block of Crittenden was purchased by realtor Otto G. Dietz in October 1904. With no restrictions prohibiting construction of flats in this block, Dietz was able to sell all the lots by the end of 1904. By the end of 1905, two- and four-family flats and an apartment building filled all but one lot.

The sluggish pace of lot sales in the 3500 block of Crittenden also accelerated dramatically early in 1905 with the purchase of the Tower Grove Heights subdivision by a syndicate, the Connecticut Realty Company, represented by Mercantile Trust Company.⁷ Experienced in the promotion of large-scale developments, Mercantile first amended the plat to protect the entire subdivision from industrial encroachment and then began an intensive advertising campaign which inspired confidence in this section of the city. The promotion characterized the area as "The New St. Louis" and capitalized on its smoke-free, elevated and healthy location "overlooking beautiful Tower Grove Park," "only twenty-five minutes from downtown" on any one of the four streetcar lines. Comparing prices favorably with those of the Central West End "where ground sells at three times the money," Mercantile Trust succeeded in selling all the lots in the 3500 block of Crittenden by mid-June of 1905.⁸ Construction proceeded swiftly; within five years only three lots remained empty.

German St. Louisans moved in great numbers to Tower Grove Heights and the Crittenden District. In the 3500 block of Crittenden, all but one of the first residents (predominately successful merchants, manufacturers and professionals) were German. All were listed in Gould's Blue Book, an indicator of social status. Several were included in The Book of St. Louisans' biographies of successful citizens.⁹ The religious affiliations of all the residents are not known but at least two were Catholics and one a Lutheran, denominations which had well-established parochial school systems and built churches and schools in the larger neighborhood after the turn of the century. One Crittenden resident was the founder of the Society of Practical Christianity in St. Louis; another was Jewish. Three of the residents were doctors, all members of the prestigious St. Louis Medical Society. Some were self-made; others were sons of fathers who had built successful businesses. Many of the businessmen had offices in the central business district; the known social affiliations of several residents included both German and Anglo-American organizations. The available information suggests a population well acculturated into the business, professional and social life of St. Louis, but one which chose to live in a German stronghold.

A concentration of Germans was also found in the flats and apartment building in the 3400 block. The city's first reverse directory of 1918 showed ninety percent of the forty-six residents with German names and a solid, middle-class population of salesmen, mechanics, nurses, two music teachers, a fireman and a doctor. Several of the residents of the apartment building were included in the Blue Book listings. Not

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surprisingly, architects and contractors of German birth or descent played a major role in the building of the Crittenden District (see Section 7). Most worked primarily on the city's south side. Nine of the architects designed houses in Compton Heights; the work of a few is also found in the prestigious private streets of the predominately Anglo-American Central West End.

Architecturally, the District's coherence derives from scale and materials and the uniform set back leading from Grand Avenue to the centerpiece of St. Elizabeth Academy. Built between 1901 and 1919, the houses, flats and apartment building all contribute to the significance of the District as a virtually intact streetscape of St. Louis domestic architecture. The 3500 block of Crittenden is distinguished from the 3400 block by construction entirely of single-family houses on 50-foot lots. All of these houses impress the viewer foremost with qualities of solid construction, handsome materials and fine workmanship rather than subservience to particular stylistic motifs. Historic detailing (frequently Tudor or Colonial) is understated and in many instances is dependent for effect on the subtle use of contrasting brick color or patterning along with tile, granite and wood. This emphasis on materials and structural features can be related to the growing influence of the Arts and Crafts aesthetic in early twentieth century St. Louis houses exhibiting mixed and more restrained historic vocabularies. As a group the houses well illustrate this transitional mode in its varied expressions.

The house at 3509 Crittenden, built in 1906, displays a fashionable, red-tiled roof above Tudor detailing, buff brick on all elevations and a broad facade. (Photo #10, center.) 3543 Crittenden, built in 1909, is remarkable for its rich display of colorful building materials and profusion of classical detail carried to the side elevations. (Photo #8) At 3508 Crittenden, built in 1909, the influence of the Arts and Crafts aesthetic is evident in the rectilinear timbering, large-scale brackets and pendants of the gables and brick laid with occasional dark headers. (Photo #12) Most sophisticated formally and stylistically is 3527 Crittenden built in 1910 with L-shaped plan, clipped gables and patterned brickwork. (Photo #3)

Owning a single-family "home," described in a Tower Grove neighborhood publication as "that most sacred of all American words," was not possible for, or desired by, all.¹⁰ For those with limited means, owner/occupancy of two- or four-family flats such as those built between 1904 and 1909 in the 3400 block of Crittenden was the next best thing. Unified by density, scale and land grade (with steps leading to projecting porches), these flats nevertheless impart individual home-like identities by varying roof lines, materials and detailings. Good representative examples of turn-of-the-century St. Louis flats, some display stone fronts and turrets (a picturesque holdover from the previous decade) while others exhibit more up-to-date classical detailing suggesting influence from World's Fair buildings. (Photos #4 and #5) All provide separate front entrances for each tenant, an advance over older multi-family housing.

An unusually large and early south side apartment building, later named the Alberta Apartments, was constructed at the northeast corner of Crittenden and Arkansas in 1905. (Photo #6) Rapidly gaining favor in the Central West End at this time, the apartment was more slowly accepted on the German south side where land costs were lower. Less

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sophisticated in design than many West End apartments of this period, the Alberta, with projecting porches, bays and turrets, is stylistically compatible with the two-family flats. Separate outside entrance doors for each tenant, rather than the shared entrance lobbies typical of the West End apartments, presumably provided valued privacy. Rental cost in the Alberta was greater than the flats because of the amenities provided. A six-room apartment advertised for rent in the Alberta in December 1905, offered "steam heat, hot water, janitor service, shades, fixtures, and gas stove" for \$45 per month; a six-room flat at 3432 Crittenden provided a "separate furnace," presumably to be tended by the tenant, for \$32.50.¹¹

A two-story office/store building with classically inspired terra cotta details, the Park Building, was built in 1910 at the rear of 3558 Crittenden to take advantage of Grand Avenue frontage and the rapidly developing commercial node at the intersection of Grand and Arsenal. (Photo #14) No effective objection was raised to this apparent violation of the deed restrictions on the lot.

German was used for all classroom instruction at St. Elizabeth's until the turn of the century and German language classes were mandatory until the anti-German hysteria of World War I. The student body continued for many years to be largely of German descent because of family loyalties to the institution and the strong German identities of the parish elementary schools from which the students came. The first day students were admitted in 1914, reflecting improved public transportation, increased numbers of middle-class families living within commuting or walking distance and the establishment of church-run secondary schools in the rural areas from which many of the boarding students had previously come. The growth of the school, which totalled one hundred boarders and two hundred day students by 1922, prompted the construction of 1914 and 1921 additions to the complex.

A gymnasium built in 1927, outwardly traditional in style with buttresses topped by copper-clad gables at the side elevations, was designed with one of the first lamella roofs in the Midwest. (Photo #2) Patented in Germany in 1925 as a system of intersecting, skewed, transverse arches for spanning large spaces without intervening vertical supports between the side walls, American licenses were soon issued from a New York office. Architect/engineer Gustel Kiewett, born and trained in Germany by the developer of the system, arrived in St. Louis in 1927 to oversee the engineering and installation of lamella roofs licensed for construction in the Midwest. Kiewett thus must have been associated with architect Henry Dreisoerner in the engineering of the gymnasium roof. (Kiewett patented his modification of the system for dome construction and was engineer for the Astrodome and Superdome roofs.)¹²

The Schiller house was demolished in 1957 to make way for a modern, non-contributing school building fronting Arsenal. Since the 1976 closing of its boarding facilities, St. Elizabeth Academy has been a day school and is now the only private girls Catholic

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high school remaining in the city of St. Louis. The school's one hundred years of service in education at the same location were recognized in May of 1982 with observances and proclamations from city and state governmental bodies. Founded to provide for an important educational need for daughters of German immigrants, the school now educates an ethnically, racially and socially diverse student body of 320.

Most of the single-family houses of the 3500 block of Crittenden were occupied by original owners and their descendants for decades. (The ninety-year-old daughter of original owner Rev. H. H. Schroeder still lives at 3537 Crittenden.) This remarkable stability was slightly disturbed after long-time residents departed for the suburbs and several houses were converted in the 1950s and 1960s for occupancy as boarding houses. This situation, which in many neighborhoods has caused deterioration through overuse, is now being reversed by enforcement of deed restrictions instigated by the Tower Grove East Neighborhood Association. Only one house, 3526 Crittenden, was demolished following a fire in 1973.

Crittenden, interrupted by the city-block campus of St. Elizabeth Academy, has never been used as a thoroughfare and traffic today is restricted to one-way west. Gates installed recently at Grand Avenue complete the sense of privacy (Photo #1), strengthen the identity of the District and reinforce its western boundary. The northern and southern boundaries were drawn to correspond to the historical edges controlled by deed restrictions. The eastern boundary was drawn to include the earliest extant building -- the one which was the historical catalyst and is today the pivotal building in the Crittenden District: St. Elizabeth Academy.

FOOTNOTES

¹Congregation of the Sisters of the Adoration of the Most Precious Blood, Foundation and Progress (O'Fallon, MO: Congregation of the Sisters of the Adoration of the Most Precious Blood, 1922), p. 9.

²Camille N. Dry and Richard J. Compton, Pictorial St. Louis -- 1875 (St. Louis: n.p., 1875; reprint ed., St. Louis: Harry M. Hagen, 1971), Plate 65. The Schiller house and vineyard are illustrated in Plate 59.

³Demand for teachers exceeded the supply and immediately on their 1873 arrival in St. Louis, the Precious Blood Sisters began teaching school in the German parishes of the city and out-state Missouri. They founded their new Mother House in O'Fallon, Missouri, the following year and in 1878, opened the girls' academy which was transferred to the Schiller property in 1882. Congregation of the Sisters of the Adoration of the Most Sacred Blood and an interview with Sister Helen Margaret Schuette, teacher and historian of St. Elizabeth Academy, St. Louis, Missouri, December 1982, are the principal sources of information about the school.

⁴Deed Book 1580, page 484. All data in this nomination concerning property boundaries, transfers and dates, and price of purchase have been obtained from Deed Books, Deed Abstracts and Plats in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, City Hall,

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St. Louis, Missouri. Source information for individual sites is available on request from Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri.

⁵St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 22 January 1905, p. 6.

⁶St. Louis Globe-Democrat, 12 April 1903. Developer C. R. H. Davis attributed the housing shortage to the caution of potential builders who considered costs abnormally inflated by Fair preparations. Statistics comparing building permits issued in the pre- and post-Fair years published by the St. Louis Builder 12 (April 1905) record a strong upswing in activity in 1905.

⁷The Connecticut Realty Company, incorporated in 1905 with \$100,000 capitalization, consisted solely of officers and members of the Board of the Mercantile Trust Company with a Vice President and co-founder of Mercantile, Lorenzo Anderson, holder of the largest number (eight hundred) of the \$1,000 shares. The cost of the subdivision was estimated at \$1 million, presumably loaned the syndicate by Mercantile.

⁸St. Louis Globe-Democrat, 12 March 1905, Section 2, p. 13 and 28 April 1905, Section 2, p. 14. Following the January 22nd announcement of the purchase of this large tract, Mercantile Trust regularly placed large (often full-page) advertisements in the three St. Louis dailies through the spring and summer of 1905.

⁹Gould's Blue Book (St. Louis: 1907-1911) and John W. Leonard, ed., Book of St. Louisans (St. Louis: St. Louis Republic, 1912). The latter included biographies of Louis Christopherson, p. 118, Otto Pfeffer, p. 471, Emil Schwerdtmann, p. 537 and Charles Shattinger, p. 548, as well as Joseph Carr -- the only apparent Anglo-American first resident, p. 108.

¹⁰Southwest Saint Louis: Its Mercantile Interests and Prominent Citizens (St. Louis: n.p., [c. 1909]), p. 7.

¹¹St. Louis Globe-Democrat, 3 December 1905, p. 5 advertised the apartment in the Alberta; 3432 Crittenden was advertised in the October 29, 1905, edition, p. 6.

¹²Interview with Mrs. Clay Mollman, daughter of Gustel Kiewett, St. Louis, Missouri, December 1982. The largest and most-familiar lamella roofed structure in St. Louis is the "Checkerdome" constructed in 1928/29.

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Continuation sheet Crittenden Historic District Item number 9

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9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately 7 acres

Quadrangle name Cahokia, IL/MO

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	5	7	4	0	1	8	0	4	2	7	6	2	9	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B

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

C

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

D

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

E

Zone	Easting				Northing									

F

Zone	Easting				Northing									

G

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H

Zone	Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Crittenden Historic District is comprised of the 3400 and 3500 blocks of Crittenden and St. Elizabeth Academy occupying the following City Blocks: 1458, 1459A, 1459B, 1460 and 1461. The boundary of the District begins at the northwest corner of Louisiana

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By © Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc., 1983.

name/title 1. Jane M. Porter, Researcher; Mary M. Stirtz, Editor

organization Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc. date 31 January 1983

street & number 706 Chestnut Street, Room 1217 telephone (314) 421-6474

city or town St. Louis, state MO 63101

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

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

date 5/19/83

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

781 (11 NE
(CLAYTON)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE C
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

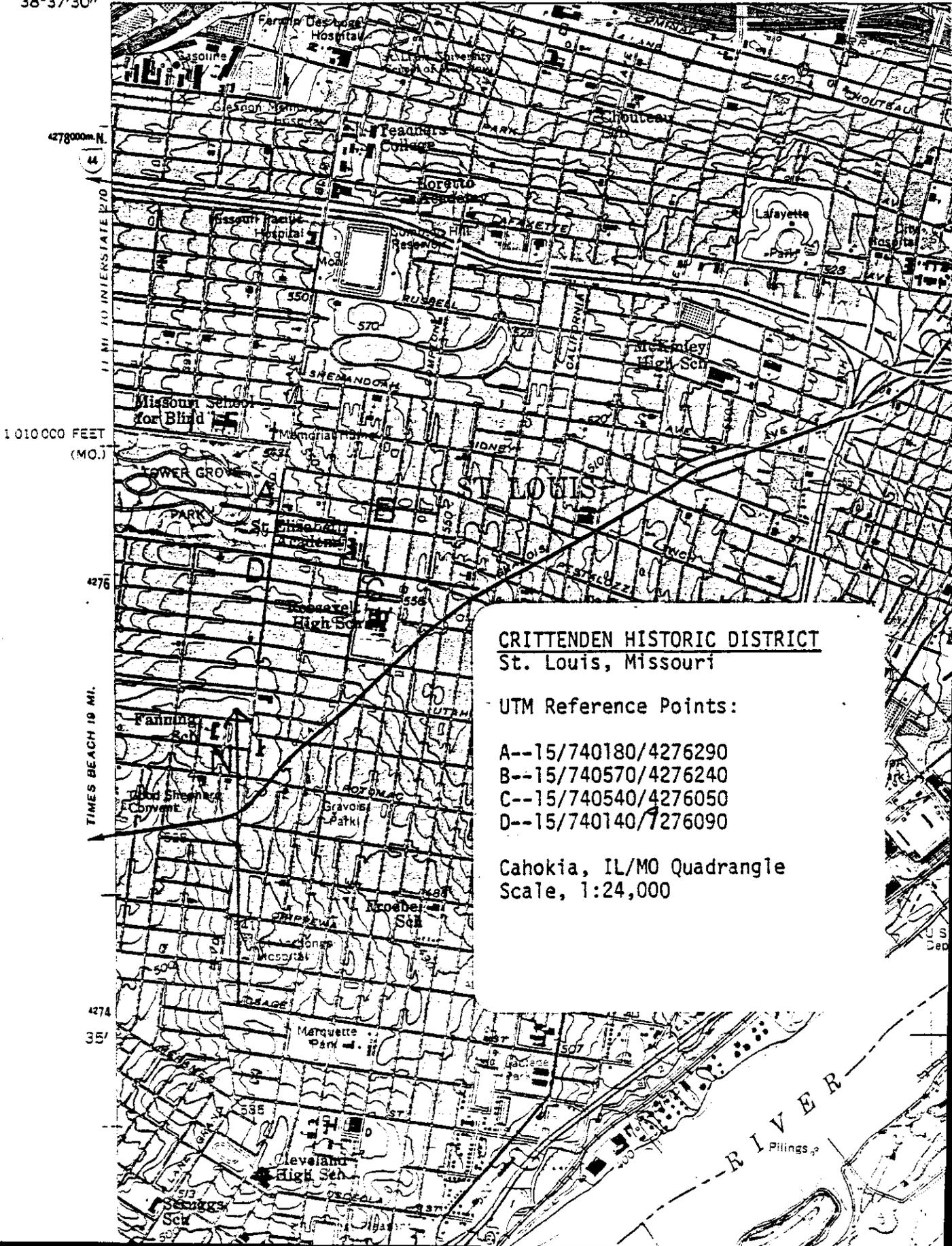
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740000m. E

741

742 1580 000 FEET (MO.)

12'30"



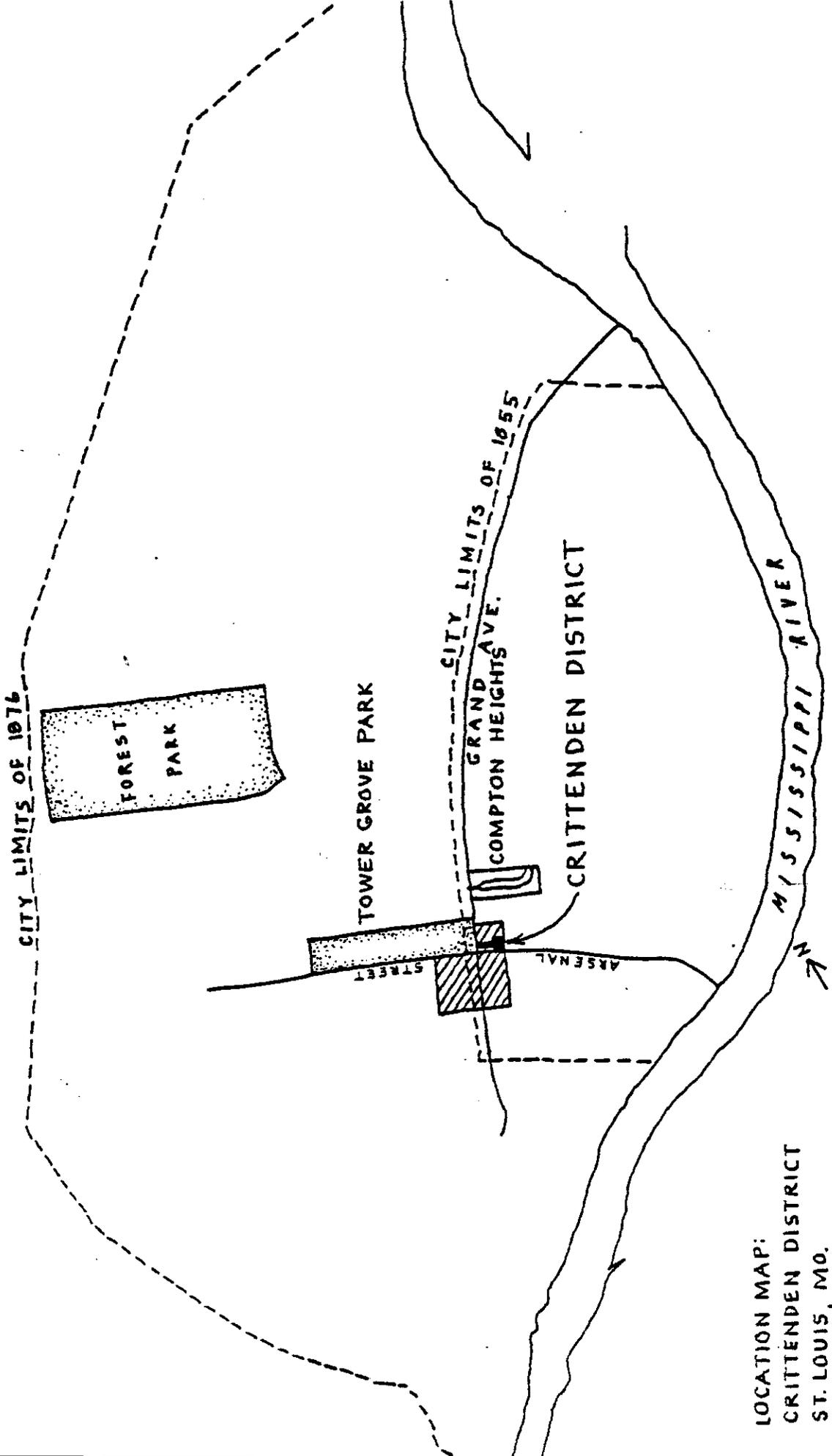
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11 MI 10 INTERSTATE 270

1 010 000 FEET
(MO.)

4276

TIMES BEACH 19 MI.

4274
35'



LOCATION MAP:
 CRITTENDEN DISTRICT
 ST. LOUIS, MO.

 TOWER GROVE HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION

CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

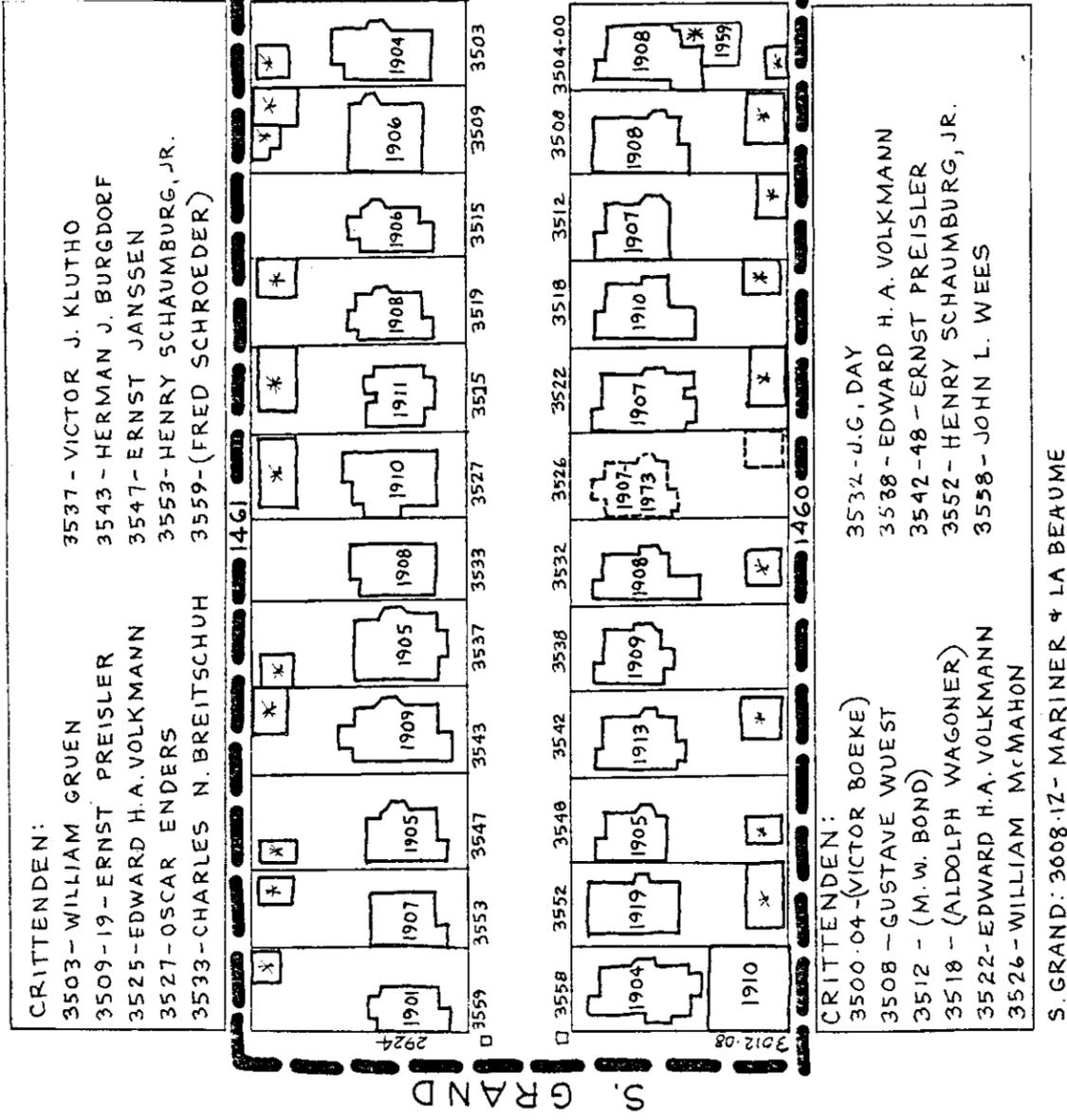
Figure #2 Location Map

Pat H. Baer, Draftsman
January 1983

CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

Figure #1 Site Plan with
Architects, Dates of Construc-
tion and Conforming and Non-
Conforming Structures.

Pat H. Baer, draftsman
January 1983



SITE PLAN: CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
JANUARY, 1983

ARCHITECTS * (CONTRACTORS) * DATES BUILT

* non-conforming
little or

CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

Site Plan with Owner of Record
& Photo Numbers & Angles

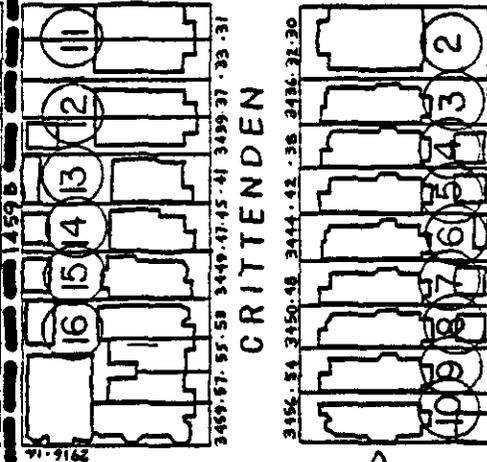
PESTALOZZI

ST. ELIZABETH ACADEMY

LOUISIANA

1458

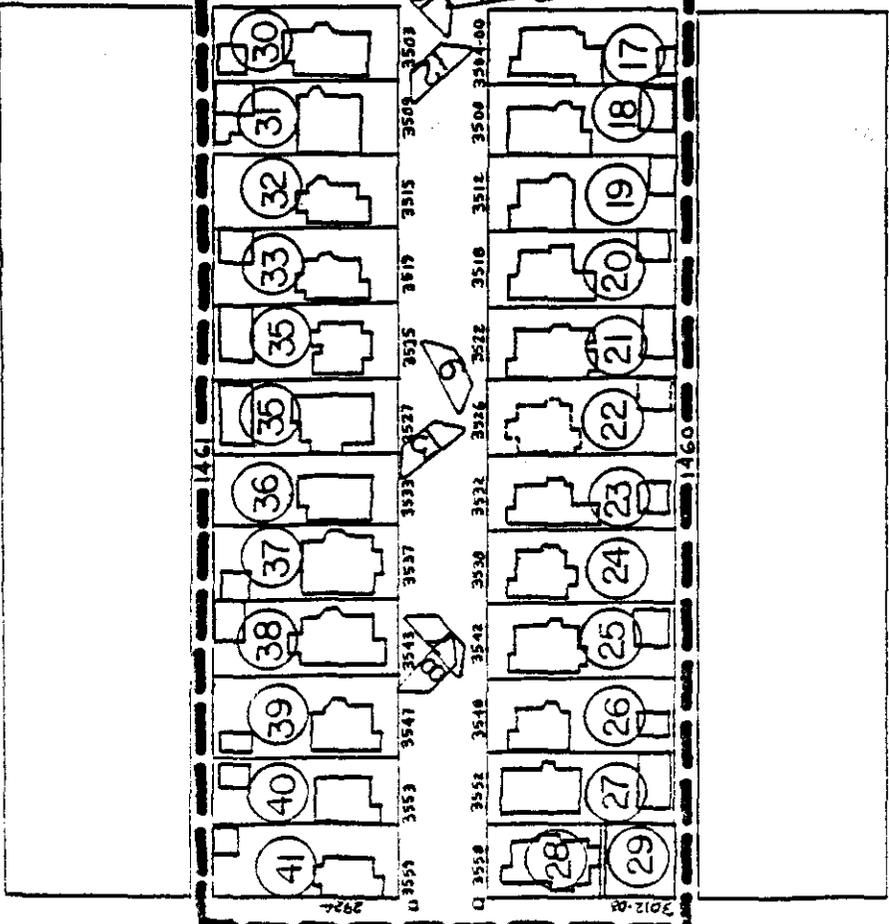
ST. ELIZABETH AVE.



CRITTENDEN

ARSENAL

ARKANSAS



1" = 100' MAP BY PAT MOYSE 6/82



○ - OWNER OF RECORD

◡ - PHOTO NUMBER & ANGLE

SITE PLAN: CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
JANUARY, 1983

CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

Figure #2 Location Map

Pat H. Baer, Draftsman
January 1983

CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

#1 of 15 3400 & 3500 blocks of
Crittenden with west
elevation of St.
Elizabeth Academy.

Photographer: Jane M. Porter
Date: November 1982
Negative: Landmarks Association
of St. Louis, Inc.

Camera facing east.



CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

#2 of 15 St. Elizabeth Academy,
St. Elizabeth Avenue
elevations.

Photographer: Jane M. Porter
Date: November 1982
Negative: Landmarks Association
of St. Louis, Inc.

West (principal) and north elevations; camera facing southeast.



CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

#3 of 15 Arkansas Street elevation of gymnasium with 1957 addition in left foreground.

Photographer: Jane M. Porter

Date: November 1982

Negative: Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc.

East elevations; camera facing northwest.



CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

#4 of 15 3400 block of
Crittenden, south side.

Photographer: Jane M. Porter

Date: November 1982

Negative: Landmarks Association
of St. Louis, Inc.

North (principal) elevations;
camera facing southwest.



CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

#5 of 15 North side of the 3400
block of Crittenden.

Photographer: Jane M. Porter

Date: November 1982

Negative: Landmarks Association
of St. Louis, Inc.

South (principal) elevations;
camera facing northwest.



CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

#6 of 15 3453-59 Crittenden &
2914-16 Arkansas

Photographer: Jane M. Porter
Date: November 1982
Negative: Landmarks Association
of St. Louis, Inc.

South and west elevations;
camera facing northeast.



CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

#7 of 15 3547-3553-3559
Crittenden, right to
left.

Photographer: Jane M. Porter
Date: November 1982
Negative: Landmarks Association
of St. Louis, Inc.

South (principal) elevations;
camera facing northwest.



CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

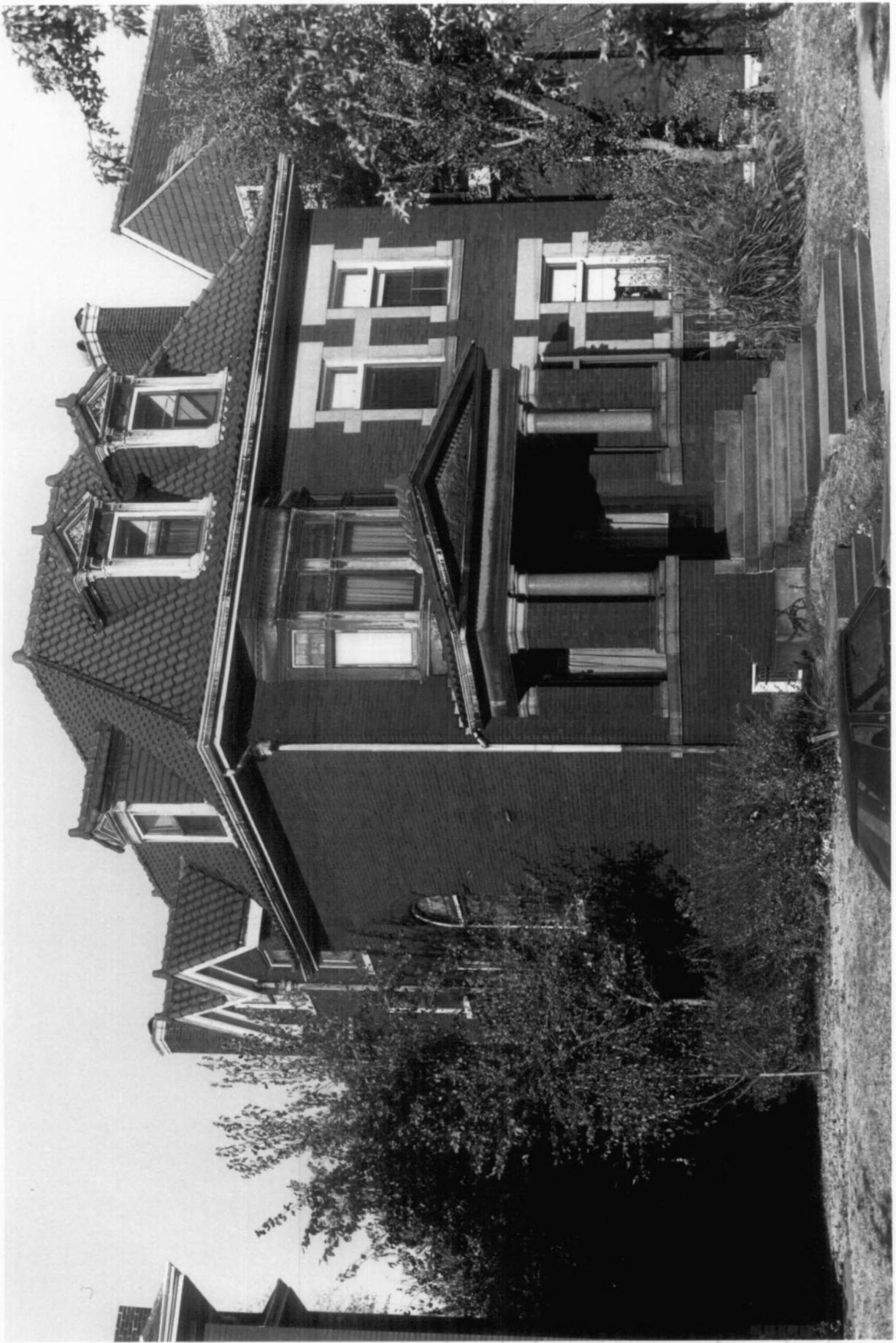
#8 of 15 3543 Crittenden

Photographer: Jane M. Porter

Date: November 1982

Negative: Landmarks Association
of St. Louis, Inc.

South (principal) and west elevations; camera facing northeast.



CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

#9 of 15 3527 Crittenden
(3525 Crittenden on
right)

Photographer: Jane M. Porter

Date: November 1982

Negative: Landmarks Association
of St. Louis, Inc.

South (principal) and east ele-
vations; camera facing northwest.



CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

#10 of 15 North side of 3500
block of Crittenden
with 3503 in right
foreground.

Photographer: Jane M. Porter
Date: November 1982
Negative: Landmarks Association
of St. Louis, Inc.

South (principal) elevations;
camera facing northwest.



CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

#11 of 15 South side of 3500
block of Crittenden
with 3504 in left
foreground.

Photographer: Jane M. Porter
Date: November 1982
Negative: Landmarks Association
of St. Louis, Inc.

North (principal) elevations;
camera facing southwest.



CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

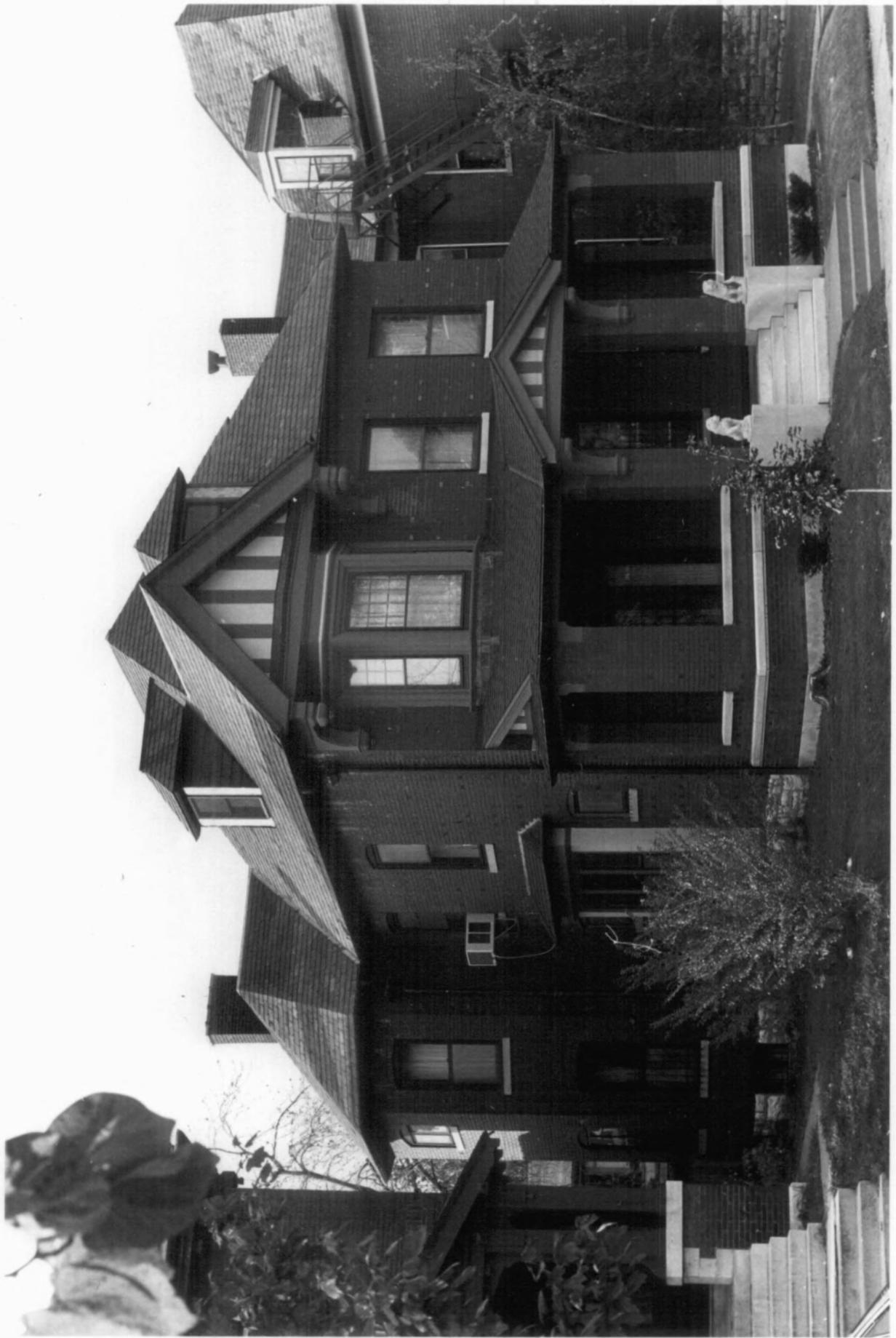
#12 of 15 3508 Crittenden

Photographer: Jane M. Porter

Date: November 1982

Negative: Landmarks Association
of St. Louis, Inc.

North (principal) and east elevations; camera facing southwest.



CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

#13 of 15 South side of 3500
block of Crittenden
with 3532 in left
foreground.

Photographer: Jane M. Porter
Date: November 1982
Negative: Landmarks Association
of St. Louis, Inc.

North (principal) elevations;
camera facing southwest.



CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

#14 of 15 3008-12 S. Grand;
3558 and 3559
Crittenden.

Photographer: Jane M. Porter

Date: November 1982

Negative: Landmarks Association
of St. Louis, Inc.

From right: 3008-12 Grand, west--
principal--elevation; 3558 Critten-
den, west elevation; 3559 Critten-
den, south--principal--and west
elevations.

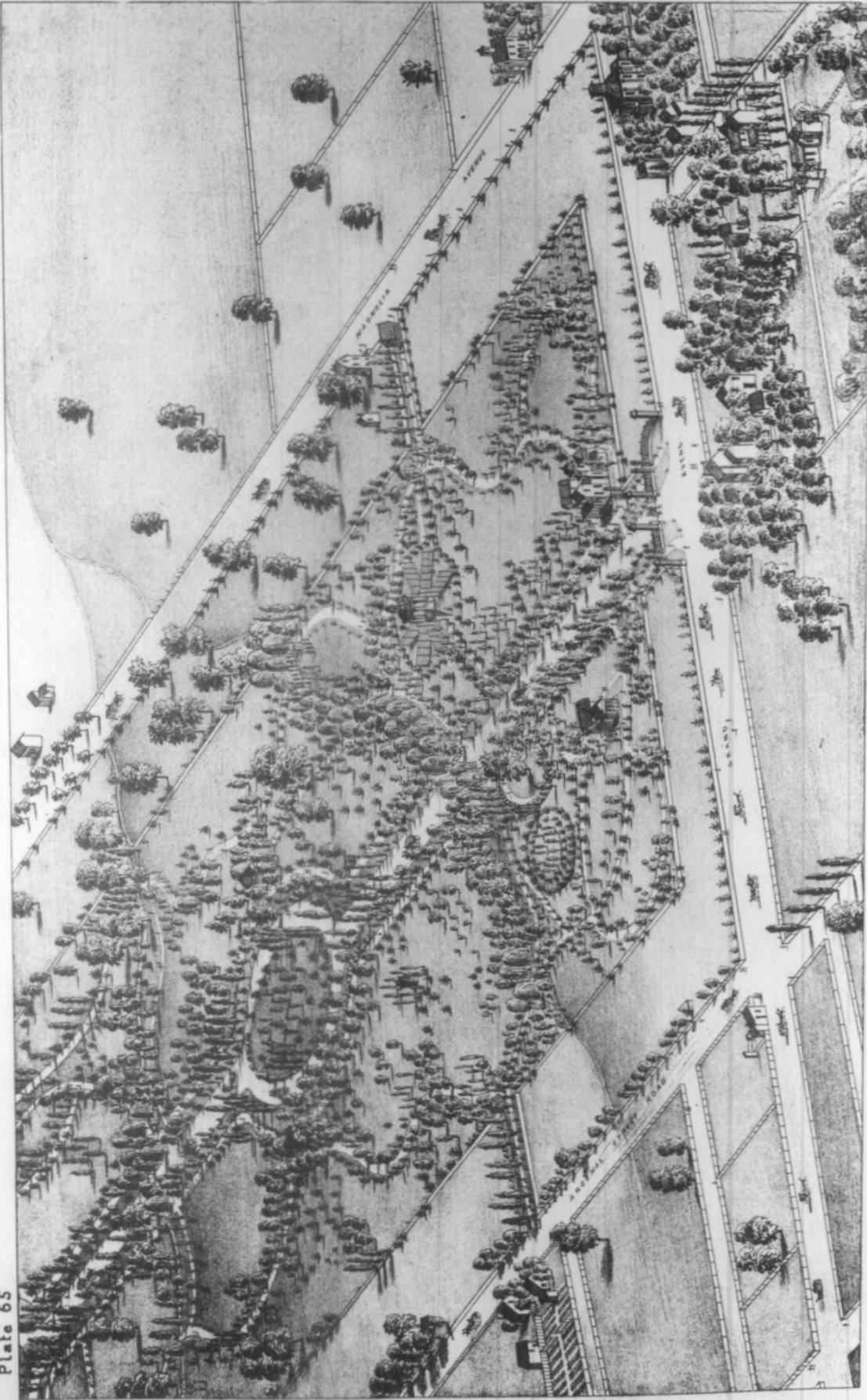


CRITTENDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT
St. Louis, Missouri

#15 of 15 Plate #65 from:

Camille N. Dry and Richard J.
Compton, Pictorial St. Louis--
1875 (St. Louis: n.p., 1875;
reprint ed., St. Louis: 1971).

Plate 65



TOWER GROVE PARK.



SOUTH FACADE

01

+











SAINT ELIZABETH

DIRECTLY EAST OF BLDG.