

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 National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

Historic name Coleman, Lewis Shaw, House

Other names/site number N/A

Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

2. Location

Street & number 227 East College Street
City or town Aurora
State Missouri Code MO County Lawrence Code 109 Zip code 65605

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local
Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Signature of certifying official/Toni M. Prawl, Ph.D., Deputy SHPO
Date 08/26/16

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
determined eligible for the National Register
determined not eligible for the National Register
removed from the National Register
other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Coleman, Lewis Shaw, House  
Name of Property

Lawrence County, Missouri  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

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

<b>Contributing</b>	<b>Noncontributing</b>	
3	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	0	<b>Total</b>

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC / Single Dwelling

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC / Single Dwelling

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>th</sup> & EARLY 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN

MOVEMENTS / Bungalow / Craftsman

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Stone

walls: Brick

Wood

roof: Asphalt

other: Wood

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUATION PAGES

Coleman, Lewis Shaw, House  
Name of Property

Lawrence County, Missouri  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**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.

**Areas of Significance**

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1914, c.1927, c.1955

**Significant Dates**

1914, c.1927, c.1955

**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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUATION PAGES

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

Coleman, Lewis Shaw, House  
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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1 36.971988 -93.716908 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

2 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)  
\_\_\_\_\_ NAD 1927 or \_\_\_\_\_ NAD 1983

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

3 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

4 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (On continuation sheet)

**Boundary Justification** (On continuation sheet)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kelly and Mary Jo Johnston / homeowners  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 3/3/2016  
street & number 227 E College St telephone 434-249-1981  
city or town Aurora state MO zip code 65605  
e-mail johnston9494@yahoo.com

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Photographs**
- **Owner Name and Contact Information**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Coleman, Lewis Shaw, House  
Name of Property

Lawrence County, MO  
County and State

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log:

Name of Property: Coleman, Lewis Shaw, House

City or Vicinity: Aurora

County: Lawrence State: Missouri

Photographer: Kelly Johnston

Date  
Photographed: 3/1/2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo Number	Description	Camera Direction
1	Front Façade	North
2	Operable Gable Vent 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor	North
3	Front Porch	Northwest
4	Front Door	North
5	Southeast Property Corner	Northwest
6	West Façade	East
7	Operable Gable Vent 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor	East
8	Rear Façade	South
9	East Facade	West
10	Carriage House Front and East Façade	Northwest
11	Garage	Northwest
12	Garage	Northeast

### Figure Log:

- Figure 1: Contextual Map (page 17)
- Figure 2: Site Map / Photo Map (page 18)
- Figure 3: Floor Plans (page 19)
- Figure 4: Coleman House 1937 Photo (page 20)
- Figure 5: Coleman House Second Floor Millwork (page 20)
- Figure 6: Comparison Property 1 (page 21)
- Figure 7: Comparison Property 2 (page 21)
- Figure 8: Comparison Property 3 (page 22)

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Coleman, Lewis Shaw, House
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

**SUMMARY**

The Lewis Shaw Coleman House is a two-story Craftsman style airplane bungalow located at 227 East College Street in Aurora, Lawrence County, Missouri. Aurora is a city of 7,508 residents<sup>1</sup> located in the Ozarks about 30 miles southwest of Springfield, Missouri.

The house was built in 1914 by the Coleman family, owners of lumber mills and a local lumber company and is eligible for National Register listing under Criterion C, ARCHITECTURE at the local level.

The U-shaped floor plan rests beneath eight roof gables with wide sheltering overhangs, exposed rafter tails, projecting stacked beams within the gables, and triangular operable gable attic vents. The first floor walls are brick above a battered limestone river rock rubble foundation. Matching stonework is found both in the tapered limestone piers supporting the oversized open-timbered end-gabled front porch and in two full-height limestone chimney stacks at the rear of the home. As is characteristic of the airplane bungalow type, the second floor 'airplane' level covers a smaller footprint than the main level below and is clad in wood shake shingles. Asphalt shingles cover the roof.

The house sits on a double corner lot in Aurora's Rinker and Elliott Addition fronting south onto College Street and diagonally opposite a large city park. The property is bounded on two sides by a decorative short wall of brick matching that of the house. Behind the house at the northeast corner of the property sits the circa 1927 carriage house, a contributing building, built with stonework, brickwork, gable, and roof styling matching the 1914 house. A circa 1955 garage, constructed in the distinct Craftsman style of the 1914 house, contributes to the architectural significance of the property and is located north of the house.

The Coleman house is built with definitive Craftsman features including exposed rafters in open eaves, low-pitched gable roofs with wide overhangs, decorative gable beams, large windows to connect the house with nature, and a prominent front porch with tapered stone columns matching the battered stone foundation. Exterior alterations in the 1950s<sup>2</sup> were in keeping with the style of the home, including a sunroom addition on the east and window modifications on the west façade. The home retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, association, and feeling. It is a superb local example of a Craftsman style airplane bungalow in the Southwest Missouri Ozarks.

**ELABORATION**

**SETTING**

Lewis Shaw Coleman chose a newly-vacant double corner lot at the northwest corner of Park and College Streets to build a new Craftsman style home for his young family in 1914. A large Victorian home built on the same site by Mrs.

<sup>1</sup> "2010 United States Census", United States Census Bureau, accessed March 1, 2016, <http://factfinder2.census.gov>.

<sup>2</sup> Betty Arnaud, Interview by author. 2015.

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Jeanette Seburn in 1906<sup>3</sup> had recently burned<sup>4</sup>. The site is a part of the 1886 Rinker and Elliott Addition to the city of Aurora<sup>5</sup>. The house sits in a residential neighborhood three blocks east of the Aurora town square and City Hall (Figure 1). Today, nearby residences range from large Victorian-era homes to mid-twentieth century ranch houses. Oak Park, which was already present when the Coleman house was constructed in 1914, is located directly southeast from the property.

Vacant land north of the home and adjacent to the property was not owned by the Coleman family during the 1914 period of significance. Later owners of the Coleman home, the Moore family, acquired this nearly one-half acre vacant property after 1930, then sold the property before 1983<sup>6</sup>. The current owners reacquired the still vacant property in 2015. Since this vacant lot was not associated with the Coleman house during the 1914 period of significance, it is not included within the National Register boundary (Figure 2).

A short brick wall with masonry cap separates the front yard from the public sidewalk along College Street and extends to the property boundary to the west. This wall also wraps the property on the east along Park Avenue and is embellished by taller capped brick columns at the front walk, corners, and at regular intervals along its length (Photo 5).

**EXTERIOR**

**South Façade** (Photo 1)

The two-story Craftsman style airplane bungalow has three front-facing gables, the largest covering the front porch and entry door. Decorative timbers project beyond the bargeboards on all gables. Attic ventilation is controlled by tilting full width and height triangular wooden panels mounted on bottom hinges inside the attic just behind open vertical slits visible in all three gables. Small chains attached to the interior hinged panels extend through each gable allowing the panel to be tilted open or closed and secured from outside the building (Photo 2). This hinged panel-and-chain technique for adjustable bungalow attic ventilation is described in detail and recommended by Charles E. White Jr. in his 1923 volume *The Bungalow Book*<sup>7</sup>.

The front-facing porch, centered over the main entrance, is dominated by an oversized timber-framed king post truss. On the front half of the porch, rafters are exposed from eave to ridge and framed without horizontal members crossing from eave to eave. The rear half of the porch is framed with horizontal members supporting a wooden bead board ceiling above the main entrance. The porch roof structure rests on two tapered stone columns continuing to ground level without a break at the poured concrete porch floor. Individual stones project from each column to support symmetric wooden knee-braces spanning upward to the truss bottom chord. The stone used in the columns matches the foundation stone. Symmetric short walls of matching stone with masonry cap blocks flank three steps ascending from the sidewalk leading to College Street. Matching capped stone walls enclose the porch sides filling the space between columns and exterior brick walls (Photo 3).

<sup>3</sup> Robert G. Lowry, *Yesterday and Today: Aurora Centennial 1870-1970*. (Aurora: MWM Color Press, 1970), 42.

<sup>4</sup> "Louis Coleman Will Build A Fine Home", *Aurora Advertiser*, July 3, 1913.

<sup>5</sup> Lawrence County Assessor, *Property Record Card*, Mount Vernon, Missouri, 2010.

<sup>6</sup> Betty Arnaud, Interview by author. 2015.

<sup>7</sup> Charles E. White Jr., *The Bungalow Book*. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1923), 59.

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Surrounding the house on the first floor, a continuous masonry sill separates the limestone foundation below from the red brick walls above. The inset brick wall at the back of the porch and the fireplace hearth bricks inside the home are stained with matching brown pigment altering the color of the bricks. The cross-gabled second story (airplane) walls are covered with wood shake shingles.

With the exception of the sunroom, this façade's first floor windows are 1950s diamond-pane leaded glass casement windows with wide masonry headers and sills. Across this façade from left (west) to right (east) the dining room windows are quadruple casements, the front door is flanked by paired double casement windows, a quadruple casement bow window lights the study, and the sunroom is fitted with a bank of six tall casement windows in a three-over-one pattern. Second floor casement windows are plain glass with narrow exterior trim arranged in paired sets of three. The 1950s sunroom addition on the east (right) respects the style of the house with matching roof, foundation, sill, and brick treatment. Bargeboards on all facades of all buildings are wrapped in brown painted metal.

The original 42"-wide oak front door with six symmetric beveled glass lights positioned three-over-three high above a decorative horizontal bracket retains the original brass lockset and door knocker designed in the Craftsman style<sup>8</sup>. (Photo 4)

**West Façade** (Photo 6)

A 1950s alteration modified this façade filling two window openings with original bricks and adding a side entry. The first floor windows are 1950s diamond-pane leaded glass casement windows arranged in three groups. From left (north) to right (south) a pair of small casement windows align with the kitchen sink, a set of four casement windows further illuminate the kitchen, and the side entry includes diamond-pane beveled glass French doors with matching diamond-pane leaded glass sidelights. The side entry is protected by an external wooden storm door with a single large central glass pane flanked by wooden storm panels with glass panes covering the sidelights. Second floor 1950s casement windows are plain glass and not symmetrical. The single left (north) casement window illuminates the bathroom and the paired casement windows on the right (south) light a bedroom. The second floor gable with decorative timbers includes a matching operable attic ventilator as described on the south façade (Photo 7). Three original basement windows perforate the stone foundation.

**North Façade** (Photo 8)

The circa 1955 contributing detached garage partially blocks the wide view of the north façade. The gabled kitchen wing is visible to the West (right) with the gabled master bedroom wing to the East (left). The flared rubble stone foundation, typical of all façades, is clearly visible. A 1950s alteration filled a small north kitchen window opening with original bricks and replaced bricks on the East exterior kitchen wall. The first and second-floor windows are 1950s casement windows. The kitchen window is a double-leaded glass window. The small living room window (not visible in photo 8) is a single diamond-pane leaded glass casement window. The master bedroom wing west wall includes a set of four casement windows (not visible in photo 8) with plain glass. Second floor casement windows are plain glass and flank an exterior end stone chimney. Two full-height limestone chimney stacks enclose three flues servicing a fireplace, furnace, and the kitchen. A short stone wall with masonry cap encloses a planter bed surrounding the base of the center chimney. The two first floor gables with decorative timbers include matching operable

<sup>8</sup> Betty Arnaud, Interview by author. 2015.

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attic ventilators as described on the south façade. The sunroom North façade includes a centered entry door with a three-over-one glass panel. A fixed glass transom spans the door header. Two pairs of three-over-one casement windows (partially visible in photo 8) symmetrically flank the entry door.

**East Façade** (Photo 9)

The 1950s sunroom addition to the left (South) respects the style of the house with a wall of eight three-over-one casement windows and matching roof, foundation, sill, and brick treatment. The sunroom gable matches stylistically without the operable ventilator described on the south façade. First and second floor windows are 1950s casement windows. The first floor windows to the right (North) of the sunroom are arranged with three plain glass casement windows in the bathroom, one small plain glass casement window in the master bedroom closet, and a bank of four plain glass casement windows in the master bedroom. Three second floor plain glass casement windows illuminate a bedroom while the single-pane glass casement window is in a walk-in closet. The multi-level wooden deck is a 1990s addition.

**Interior** (Figure 3)

The Lewis Shaw Coleman house front door opens directly into the living room with the original brick fireplace located straight ahead tucked under stairs leading to the second floor. The dining room is to the left (west). To the right (east) is a small study and beyond is the sunroom. The master bedroom and adjacent full bath are in the northeast wing of the first floor. The kitchen fills the northwest wing of the first floor. The rear entrance to the home is from the kitchen. Stairs to the partial basement are also located in the kitchen.

Two bedrooms and a full bath are located on the second floor. These upstairs bedrooms retain their original painted 1914 millwork including paneled doors with five-inch side casings, and six-inch head casings with decorative mitered caps. The one-piece baseboards are eight inches tall. (Figure 5) Matching wide original trim surrounds the windows.

Rooms on the first floor were updated in the 1950s to match then-popular design styles. In the 1990s, the kitchen and master bath were updated again to match contemporary styles. The current owners are rebuilding first floor interior features in the Craftsman style.

**Carriage House** (Photo 10)

This contributing circa 1927 carriage house is built with stonework, brickwork, open eaves, decorative gables, and low-pitched roof matching the style and materials of the main house. This carriage house is about sixteen feet wide by twenty feet deep. This carriage house building replaced a larger one and one half story stable building extant in 1914 at this location<sup>9</sup>. The one story carriage house with the current footprint first appears on the 1927 Sanborn map designated as an "auto house or private garage"<sup>10</sup>. In the 1950s, the carriage house was converted to living space replacing the original carriage house doors with a single ten-pane pedestrian door and four six-pane casement windows<sup>11</sup>. Both the east and west façades include a single small

<sup>9</sup> Aurora, Missouri 1914 #12 Map. Sanborn Map Company, 1914. From Special Collections, MU Libraries, University of Missouri-Columbia, *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Missouri Collection*. <http://cdm.sos.mo.gov/cdm/singleitem/collection/sanbornmaps/id/73/rec/12> (accessed May 31, 2016).

<sup>10</sup> Aurora, Missouri 1927 #14 Map. Sanborn Map Company, 1927.

<sup>11</sup> Betty Arnaud, Interview by author. 2015.

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window opening where the original windows were replaced at an unknown date with double hung four-over-one windows. The North façade includes two window openings, one filled with a window air conditioner and one with a three-over-one muntin pattern. This small carriage house is located northeast of the main house near the driveway entrance.

**Garage** (Photo 11 & 12)

This contributing circa 1955 two-car detached garage sits just eight feet north, yet separate from, the main home. An interview with the granddaughter of the homeowner at the time the garage was built<sup>12</sup> along with dating of extant mechanical equipment established the construction date. The garage design follows the stylistic lead of the main home with open eaves, decorative gables with projecting double-stacked beams, and low-pitched roof. The west and east gables match the main house stylistically without the operable gable ventilator. The walls are covered with painted lap siding. The roof material is asphalt shingles. The garage is about twenty three feet wide by twenty one feet deep. On the south façade, a pedestrian entry door is aligned with the main house kitchen entrance. This wooden pedestrian door into the garage is decorated with three-over-three glass panes high on the door with vertical panels below. The west and north façades each have a centered double hung six-over-six window. The east façade includes a full-width decorative wooden garage door. A concrete drive leads to this building from Park Street at the east edge of the property.

**INTEGRITY**

The 1914 Lewis Shaw Coleman house, the contributing carriage house, and garage possess the integrity to convey their historic significance and character as described in each of the following components.

**Location:** All buildings remain in their original locations.

**Setting:** The home was built in a residential neighborhood. The surroundings today remain an established residential neighborhood comparable to the environment during the periods of significance.

**Materials:** The home retains the original exterior building materials from the periods of significance as detailed in the Narrative Description for each façade. Original wooden casement windows in the house were replaced in the 1950s again with wooden casement windows. The upstairs bedrooms retain their original interior millwork. Materials in the carriage house and garage are primarily original, maintaining the material integrity of those buildings.

**Design:** The property retains the original elements that create the style, form, space, structure and plan of the home and contributing buildings. Extant original character-defining design features include battered rubble stone porch piers and foundation, woodwork in the eaves of the front-facing gables, and low-sloped roofs with exposed rafter tails. Additionally, the smaller second story that typifies the airplane bungalow remains intact. Exterior alterations including the sunroom addition and the west façade fenestration were executed sensitively in keeping with the Craftsman design style and building materials present in the original construction. The diamond-shaped muntin pattern in the replacement windows is consistent with diamond-shaped windows in prominent Craftsman style homes contemporary to the periods of significance including the 1911 Craftsman home designed by Gustav Stickley as his private residence<sup>13</sup>. The choice of both beveled glass and lead muntins in

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> David Cathers, *Stickley Style: Arts and Crafts Homes in the Craftsman Tradition* (New York: Simon & Shuster, 1999), 69.

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the 1950s replacements is in keeping with the design style given that "Beveled glass, clearly defined by lead muntins, was seen in grander Bungalows"<sup>14</sup>. These replacements support the property's ability to convey the Craftsman design style. The design elements for the carriage house and garage also strongly support the Craftsman style with low sloped roofs, exposed rafter tails, and decorative gable beams.

**Feeling:** Craftsman bungalows were deliberately designed to feel larger than contemporary houses of similar scale in part by connecting the primary interior spaces with outdoor living areas via broad covered porches and banks of large windows, creating an informal and welcoming impression.<sup>15</sup> The Lewis Shaw Coleman house exemplifies these techniques. The whole of the architectural features and setting of the Lewis Shaw Coleman house, the carriage house, and garage retain their integrity to evoke a feeling of historic significance in keeping with the Craftsman bungalow style.

**Workmanship:** Architectural features including the original stonework on the porch and foundation, brickwork on first floor walls, and carpentry in gable vents and exposed beams exhibit a high level of craftsmanship and attention to material quality and detail. Similar examples of workmanship are evident in the carriage house and garage where craftsmen went to extra effort to follow the lead of the 1914 craftsmen in fabricating the exposed rafter tails, gable vents, and elaborate stacked gable beam details.

**Association:** The property retains the original architectural features that convey its historic association with the Craftsman style airplane bungalow.

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<sup>14</sup> Treena Crochet, *Bungalow Style* (Newtown, Connecticut: Taunton Press, 2005), 17.

<sup>15</sup> Paul Duchscherer and Douglas Keister, *Inside the Bungalow: America's Arts & Crafts Interior* (New York: Penguin Studio, 1997), 9.

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Name of Property
Lawrence County, MO
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**Statement of Significance**

**SUMMARY**

The Lewis Shaw Coleman House at 227 East College Street in Aurora, Lawrence County, Missouri, is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Constructed in 1914, the Coleman house is a superb example of a Craftsman style airplane bungalow. The 102-year-old home's excellent condition, unusual cross-gabled second 'airplane' story, and vivid expression of well-developed Craftsman bungalow detailing through the application of high-end building materials testify to its significance. A battered rubble stone foundation capped with a broad horizontal masonry course supports red brick walls on every first floor façade. The second floor cross-gabled airplane level is clad in rustic wood shake shingles and capped with a low-pitched roof. Massive full-height tapered stone columns frame the prominent front porch supporting an oversized wooden truss. Projecting double-stacked beams visibly embellish all eight roof gables. Roofs are low-sloped with broad sheltering eaves and exposed rafter tails. Tall diamond-pane casement windows are grouped to flood rooms with light and connect the house to its natural setting. The home is an exceptional example of Craftsman Bungalow architecture that stands out among the many local houses of this architectural classification which appear to be of simpler design. As the home neared completion in 1914, the local newspaper boasted the new Coleman bungalow showed "the progressive spirit of the city"<sup>16</sup>. In 1937 the Coleman home was pictured along with the bungalow at 303 E. College (Figure 6) as one of only two Aurora airplane bungalows in *Lawrence County in Pictures*<sup>17</sup>, a promotional publication documenting significant area homes and businesses. In 2014 *American Bungalow* magazine featured the Coleman bungalow in the Family Album section<sup>18</sup>. The home speaks to local history having been built just after the height of Aurora's early population growth by a prominent local family, owners of six lumberyards among other businesses. As evidenced by comparison properties, the Coleman house is an early representation of the Craftsman style bungalow in Aurora which may have influenced future construction. Its stylistic contrast to the dozens of local Craftsman Bungalow houses makes the Coleman House a rare example in the region and locally significant. The carriage house and garage were both designed to reflect the distinct Craftsman style of the 1914 house. The periods of significance are 1914, circa 1927, and circa 1955, the dates of construction for the three buildings.

**NARRATIVE**

**Development of Aurora through 1920**

Established in 1870, Aurora, Missouri, saw sudden population growth due in large part to a mining boom in 1885<sup>19</sup> which spiked the population over 3,400 by 1890. Aurora's population peaked in 1900 at 6,191 a gain of over 77 percent. As the mining industry faded, by 1910 the population had fallen 33 percent to 4,148 and by 1920 saw another drop of 13.8 percent to 3,575<sup>20</sup>. However Aurora's business infrastructure remained strong into the 1920's with three banks, three flour mills, a shoe factory, a daily and weekly newspaper, and three lumber yards including the M.L. Coleman Lumber Company among the local businesses<sup>21</sup>.

<sup>16</sup> "2 New Bungalows Will Be Erected In a Short Time", *Aurora Advertiser*, February 13, 1914.

<sup>17</sup> *Lawrence County in Pictures* (Aurora: Mid-West Map, 1937), 25.

<sup>18</sup> "Family Album." *American Bungalow*, Winter 2014, 8.

<sup>19</sup> Lowry, 1-3.

<sup>20</sup> "Census of Population and Housing", United States Census Bureau, accessed January 31, 2016. <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html>.

<sup>21</sup> *Lawrence County in Pictures and Prose: Describing Its Resources, Enterprises and Opportunities, and the Men Behind Them* (1922), 3.

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McCord Lafayette (M.L.) Coleman was one of the business 'giants' of Aurora operating six lumber yards in the region as well as a hardware and implement business. He founded the largest milling company in Aurora and served as president of a local bank. He was successful in mining, owned a 120-acre apple orchard, and a large herd of Jersey milk cows<sup>22</sup>. Lewis Shaw Coleman was his only son.

In 1914 Lewis Shaw Coleman was 28 years old, the father of two children with his wife Mary Kate Miller Coleman, herself the daughter of a prominent local lumberman Thomas Alexander Miller who in 1915 would be elected mayor of Aurora<sup>23</sup>. Lewis and Mary, a high-profile couple, the children of two of the most prominent local businessmen who both owned a string of lumber yards, were well positioned to build a remarkable home when a prime building lot unexpectedly became available within three blocks of the center of Aurora. A large Victorian home built in 1906 by Mrs. Jeanette Seburn on a prominent corner lot at the northwest corner of Park and College Streets burned to the ground.<sup>24</sup> Lewis Shaw Coleman purchased the newly vacant building site in 1913 planning "to have a fine residence erected"<sup>25</sup>.

As construction neared completion in 1914, the local newspaper pronounced the significance of the Coleman bungalow writing "Louis (sic) Coleman is completing a beautiful bungalow on East College", adding that such homes "show the progressive spirit of the city. Builders here see the beautiful possibilities in these creations in the architectural lines"<sup>26</sup>. Contemporary accounts of the construction did not note the architect of the Coleman House and the architect currently remains unknown.

#### Lewis Shaw Coleman Home Chronology

Built by Lewis Shaw Coleman and Mary Kate Miller Coleman in 1914.<sup>27</sup>

O.E. Moore purchases the home in 1930.<sup>28</sup>

Billie and Terry Duncan purchase the home in 1983.<sup>29</sup>

Wayne and Mary Lou Holmes purchase the home in 2004.<sup>30</sup>

Kelly and Mary Johnston purchase the home in 2009.

#### Significance for Architecture

##### **Craftsman Bungalows**

The bungalow as a distinct architectural style emerged from the British Empire in India where, beginning in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, "a new form of dwelling had been produced, based on a Bengal prototype but used only by Europeans"<sup>31</sup>. Into the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century Europeans introduced the bungalow into England as a "purpose-built leisure or holiday dwelling".<sup>32</sup>

<sup>22</sup> *Lawrence County in Pictures and Prose*, 14.

<sup>23</sup> *History of Dade County and Her People* (Greenfield: Pioneer Historical Company, 1917), 174-78, <https://archive.org/details/historyofdadecou00greeiala> (accessed February 29, 2016).

<sup>24</sup> Robert G. Lowry, *Yesterday and Today: Aurora Centennial 1870-1970*. (Aurora: MWM Color Press, 1970), 42.

<sup>25</sup> "Louis Coleman Will Build A Fine Home"

<sup>26</sup> "2 New Bungalows Will Be Erected In a Short Time."

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

<sup>28</sup> Lawrence County Recorder of Deeds, *Deed Book 152* (Mount Vernon) 94.

<sup>29</sup> *Property Record Card*.

<sup>30</sup> Wayne Holmes, interview by author, 2009.

<sup>31</sup> Anthony D. King, *The Bungalow: The Production of a Global Culture* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995), 30.

<sup>32</sup> Ibid. 9.

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After touring England in the late 1800s, Gustav Stickley, a native of Wisconsin, began promoting the bungalow style in the United States through his popular monthly journal *The Craftsman*. In each issue, American readers were encouraged to purchase Stickley's Craftsman bungalow house plans and furnishings with the goal of living a simpler life in closer touch with nature as part of the larger Arts and Crafts movement.<sup>33</sup>

Americans responded enthusiastically. *The Craftsman* was in continuous publication for fifteen years beginning in 1901<sup>34</sup> reaching yearly circulation numbers in excess of 25,000, considered large for such a specialized publication<sup>35</sup>. Stickley's success along with publicity surrounding the "ultimate bungalows" built in California by architects Charles and Henry Greene<sup>36</sup> influenced many architects and entrepreneurs to promote the bungalow style through publication of magazines, articles, and plan books, some even exceeding Stickley's circulation numbers<sup>37</sup>. "In the ten years after 1906, bungalow books and articles (many originating in California) flooded on to the market, helping to disseminate the idea throughout the States".<sup>38</sup> As a result of this publicity, "the one-story Craftsman house quickly became the most popular and fashionable smaller house in the country"<sup>39</sup>. Attention was so widespread that "bungalow fever"<sup>40</sup> was even met with articles lampooning the "rampant craze for the Bungle-oh"<sup>41</sup>. Americans came to see bungalows as more than utilitarian shelter, instead becoming the "ideal vehicle for artistic self-expression", even "dwellings for the socially enlightened".<sup>42</sup>

As the popularity of the bungalow spread across America in the early 1900s, residents of Aurora were kept well informed. The railroad's arrival in Aurora in 1870 had for the first time reliably connected the community directly to the centers of American popular culture providing regular service for the delivery of the latest news and trends through printed media.<sup>43</sup> In Aurora, the Coleman and Miller families' ownership of local lumber yards likely engaged them in the bungalow trend as plan books were "often handed out by lumber dealers to whet the appetites of prospective homeowners".<sup>44</sup>

Craftsman bungalows are identified by several design features which in combination function to define this architectural style. Typically roofs are

<sup>33</sup> Ibid. 134-135.

<sup>34</sup> Marilyn Fish, *The New Craftsman Index: An Annotated Chronology, Subject and Author Index of Gustav Stickley's The Craftsman, 1901-1916* (Lambertville, New Jersey: Arts and Crafts Quarterly Press, 1997), 22.

<sup>35</sup> Mark Alan Hewitt, *Gustav Stickley's Craftsman Farms: The Quest for an Arts and Crafts Utopia* (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2001), 80.

<sup>36</sup> Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide To American Houses* (New York: Knopf, 1995), 454.

<sup>37</sup> Lawrence Kreisman, "Stickley's Legacy," *Seattle Times*, August 26, 2007, <http://www.seattletimes.com/pacific-nw-magazine/stickleys-legacy/> (accessed April 11, 2016).

<sup>38</sup> *The Bungalow*. 144.

<sup>39</sup> *A Field Guide To American Houses*. 454.

<sup>40</sup> *The Bungalow*. 136-137.

<sup>41</sup> L.D. Thompson, "A Rampant Craze For The Bungle-oh", *Country Life*, July, 1912, <https://books.google.com/books?id=WM8xAQAAMAAJ&dq=country%20life%20in%20america%20july%201912&pg=RA1-PA96> (accessed April 10, 2016).

<sup>42</sup> *Inside the Bungalow*. 4.

<sup>43</sup> Jessie C. Miller, et al., *Lawrence County Missouri History* (Mt. Vernon, Missouri: Lawrence County Historical Society, 1974), 333.

<sup>44</sup> "House Plans From Books and Kits - 1900 to 1960," *Antique Home Style*, <http://www.antiquehomestyle.com/plans/> (accessed April 11, 2016).

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gabled and sloped with a low pitch. Eaves are wide to create a sense of shelter and are open, exposing the lower ends of the roof rafters. Decorative brackets or beams often embellish the open gables. Porches are prominent and may be full or partial width and serve to create an outdoor room, connecting the house with its natural surroundings. Tapered porch columns of wood or stone often support the gabled porch roof.<sup>45</sup> Under the porch, the entry door typically opens directly into the living room.<sup>46</sup>

**Craftsman Airplane Bungalows**

A variation of the Craftsman bungalow, the Craftsman airplane bungalow is identified by a second floor with a smaller footprint than the first floor, often affording a panoramic view<sup>47</sup>. Some trace this bungalow variation to the influence of Japanese design beginning with the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial International Exhibition and a subsequent series of world fairs in the United States highlighting Japanese designs.<sup>48</sup> Of particular note was the Phoenix Hall near Kyoto, Japan, a world's fair model of which created the illusion of the building as a bird in flight.<sup>49</sup> The well-timed influence of exotic Japanese architecture in America coupled with Orville and Wilbur Wright's successful flight in 1903 may have hatched both the panoramic upper floor and the moniker 'airplane' bungalow.<sup>50</sup> Many factors led to the appearance of the Craftsman airplane bungalow creating "a fascinating artifact in the cultural landscape" that tell "a meaningful story about American culture" through "the convergence of multiple exotic culture traits".<sup>51</sup>

**Comparison with Similar Properties**

Aurora, Missouri experienced residential growth during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century at the height of popularity for the Craftsman bungalow architectural style. A large number of homes of this style exist in Aurora today. While a comprehensive reconnaissance survey of Aurora buildings has not been completed, a representative sample of Aurora Craftsman bungalows provides a basis for comparison.

**Comparison Property 1** (Figure 6)

This home is located just across Park Street east of the Coleman house at 303 East College Street. The 1914 Sanborn map shows this house built without a second floor airplane level<sup>52</sup>. Thirteen years after the Coleman house was built across the street, the 1927 Sanborn map shows the airplane level had been added in the intervening years<sup>53</sup>. Along with the Coleman house, this home was featured as one of two Aurora Craftsman airplane bungalows in a 1937 publication<sup>54</sup>. Built with front gables, the walls are covered in painted narrow wooden lap siding. The two-level porch is floored with both wood and concrete and is supported by straight wooden columns. Roof gables include rectangular vents and are decorated with brackets tucked under the eaves. The second level is oriented with a front-facing gable. The roofing material is asphalt shingles. A red brick chimney is near the front of the house and a

<sup>45</sup> *A Field Guide To American Houses*. 453.

<sup>46</sup> "Bungalow Style - 1900 to 1935," *Antique Home Style*, <http://www.antiquehomestyle.com/styles/bungalow.htm> (accessed April 11, 2016).

<sup>47</sup> *A Field Guide To American Houses*. 458.

<sup>48</sup> Brooks Green, "The Airplane Bungalow: An Exotic House Form in the Arkansas Landscape," *The Arkansas Historical Quarterly* 53, no. 4 (Winter, 1994): 440, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/40030908> (accessed April 13, 2016).

<sup>49</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>50</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>51</sup> *Ibid.*, 445.

<sup>52</sup> *Aurora, Missouri 1914 #12*.

<sup>53</sup> *Aurora, Missouri 1927 #16 Map*. Sanborn Map Company, 1927.

<sup>54</sup> *Lawrence County in Pictures*, 24.

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chimney covered with stucco is near the rear. Most windows are wooden one-over-one double hung style. This simpler compact design includes distinctive elements of the Craftsman airplane bungalow style.

**Comparison Property 2** (Figure 7)

Located just west of the Coleman house at 210 East College Street, this bungalow is typical of many similar homes built in this architectural style in Aurora, Missouri. The rectangular foot printed, front gable home presents classic bungalow details including low-pitched roofs, open eaves with exposed rafter tails, bracketed gables, and a prominent front porch with wooden floor (later screen enclosed) supported by tapered wooden columns.

**Comparison Property 3** (Figure 8)

Located just southeast of the Coleman house at 516 South Oak, this airplane bungalow does not appear on the 1927 Sanborn map<sup>55</sup> but was extant on the 1945 Sanborn map<sup>56</sup> placing its construction date at least thirteen years after the Coleman house. The house has a foundation covered in local fieldstone. Walls are stucco with painted hexagon shingles covering the lower and upper gables including decorative brackets. The porch is supported by straight wooden columns and covered with a hipped roof with exposed rafter tails.

**Comparison Summary**

The Lewis Shaw Coleman house is significant as one of the earliest representations of the Craftsman style bungalow in Aurora which may have influenced future construction as evidenced in the comparison properties. The Coleman house is unique based on several defining architectural features. Eight open-ended low-sloped gables visible from every façade are crafted with double-stacked wooden beams which project well beyond the bargeboards to add visual emphasis to this craftsman detail. The second story rises above the larger first floor as a unique cross-gabled 'airplane' level. The grand front porch expresses high-end craftsman detailing with full-height tapered stone columns supporting a large timber-framed truss. On all facades, thick masonry sills and lintels define large diamond-pane windows accentuating the flared stone foundation which wraps the house and supports dark red brick walls. A low wall of brick matching that of the house surrounds the house on two sides of its corner lot. These features are in contrast to the dozens of local contemporary Craftsman Bungalow houses and position the Coleman House as a regionally rare and locally significant example of Craftsman bungalow architecture.

**CONCLUSION**

The Lewis Shaw Coleman Home is eligible for the National Historic Register under Criterion C, ARCHITECTURE at the local level. It is a superb example of Craftsman bungalow architecture that retains high integrity through location, design, workmanship, and materials. In addition, the home and contributing buildings stand out as rare in the context of its immediate surroundings, against which its excellence of design, craftsmanship, and materials are unique.

<sup>55</sup> Aurora, Missouri 1927 #16.

<sup>56</sup> Aurora, Missouri 1945 #16 Map. Sanborn Map Company, 1945.

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

The Lewis Shaw Coleman House is located at 227 East College Street in Aurora, Lawrence County, Missouri. It sits on the northwest corner of Park Avenue and East College Street. It is located in Section 7, Township 26 North, Range 25 West, Lots 1 & 2 of Block 3 of Rinker & Elliott's Addition to Aurora, Lawrence County, Missouri.<sup>57</sup>

**Boundary Justification**

The boundaries of the nominated property include the parcels of land historically associated with the resource during the periods of significance.<sup>58</sup>

<sup>57</sup> *Property Record Card.*

<sup>58</sup> *Ibid.*

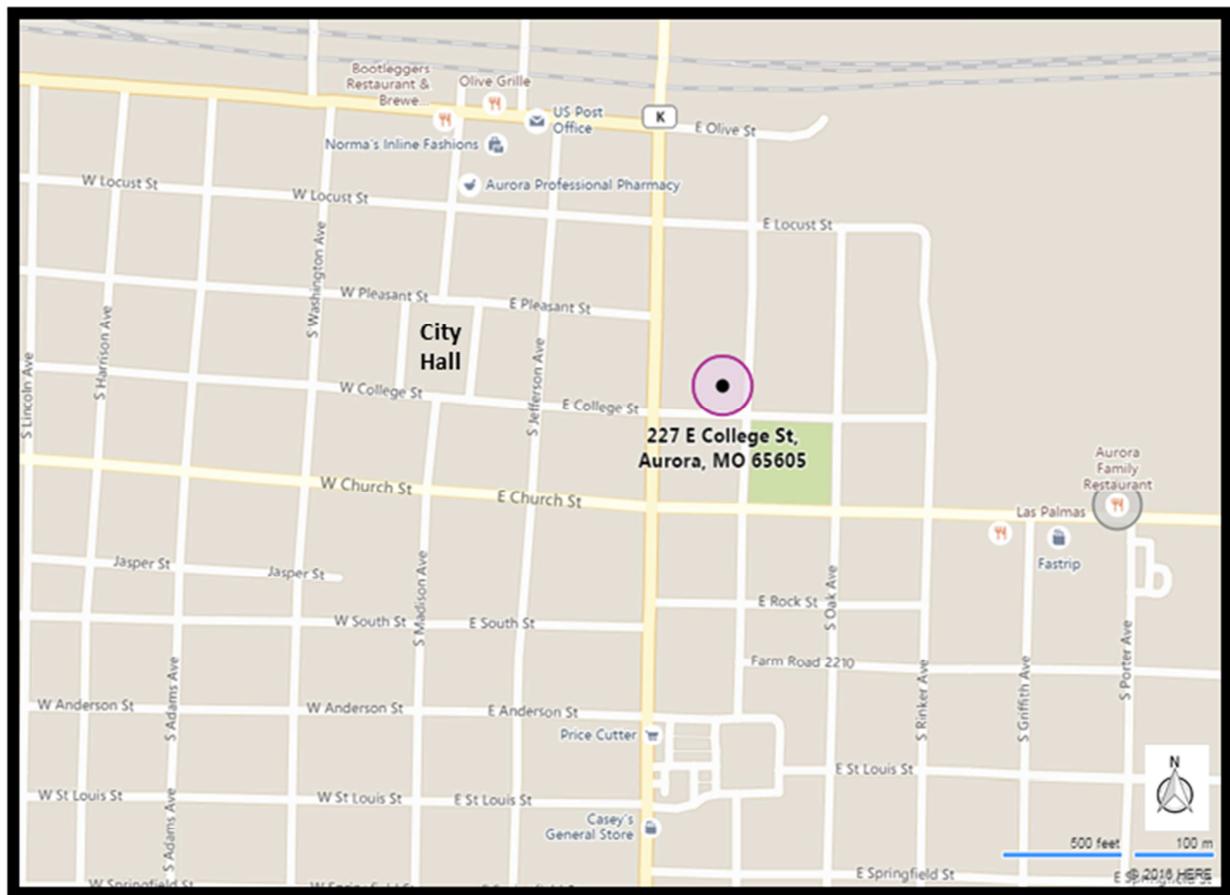
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Figure 1

# Contextual Map



<http://www.bing.com/maps>

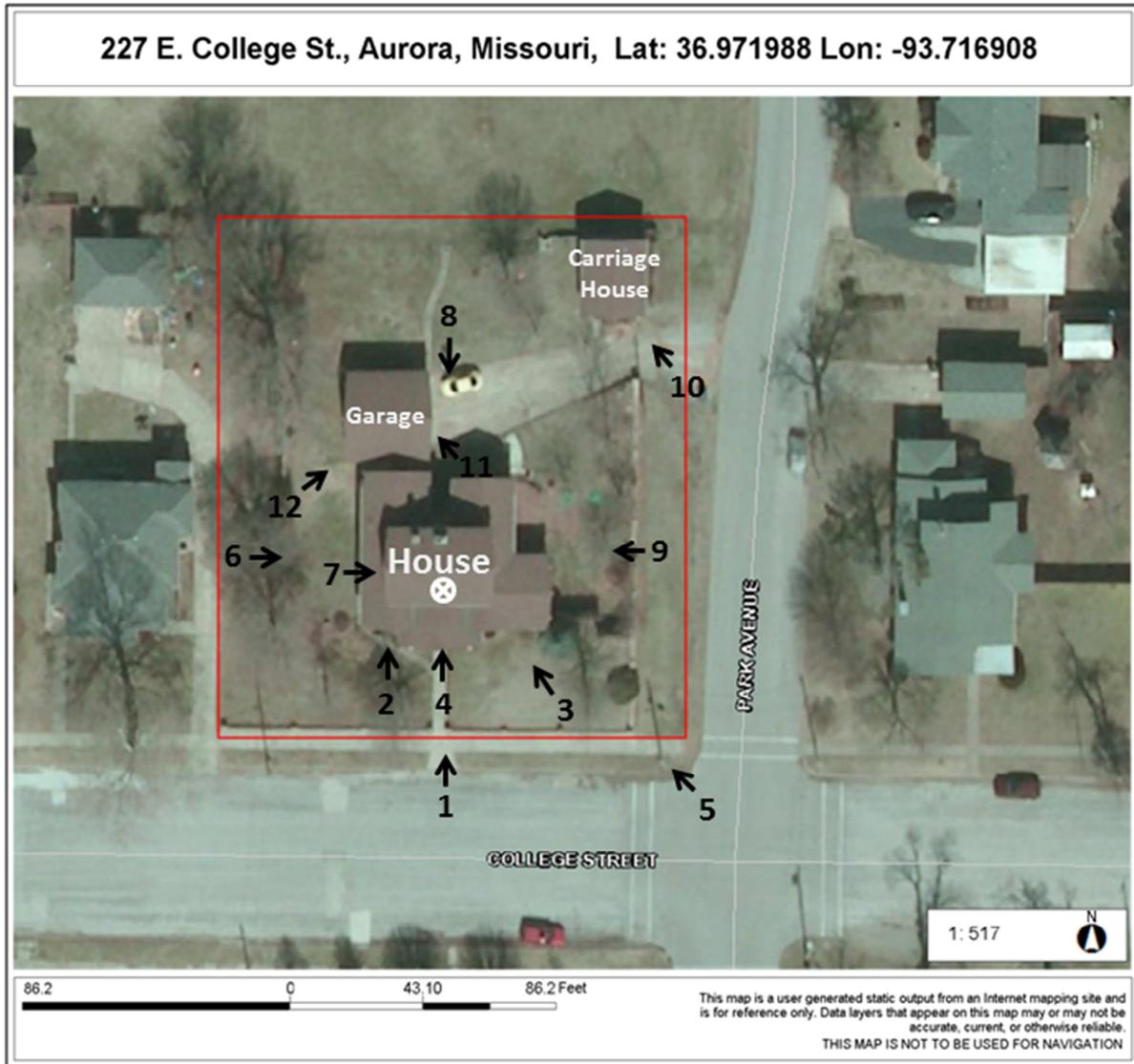
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Figure 2

# Site / Photo Map



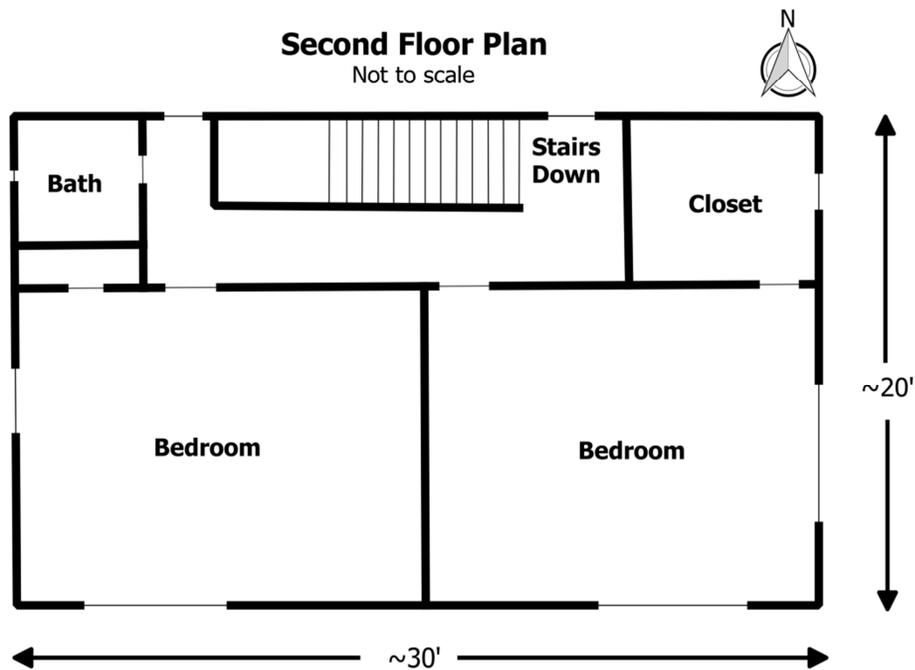
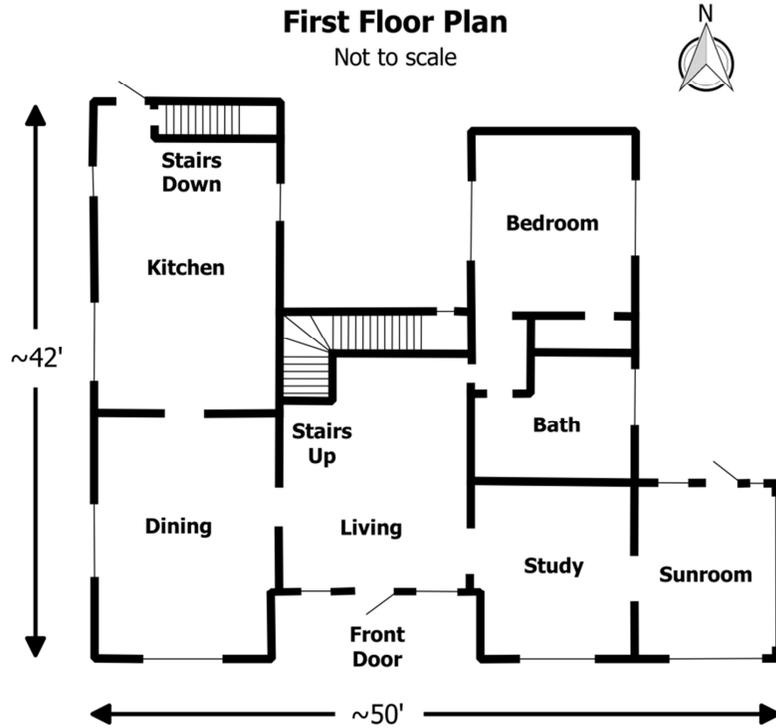
Aerial map of the National register boundary of the contributing house, carriage house (NE) and garage (N). <https://lawrence.integritygis.com>

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Figure 3



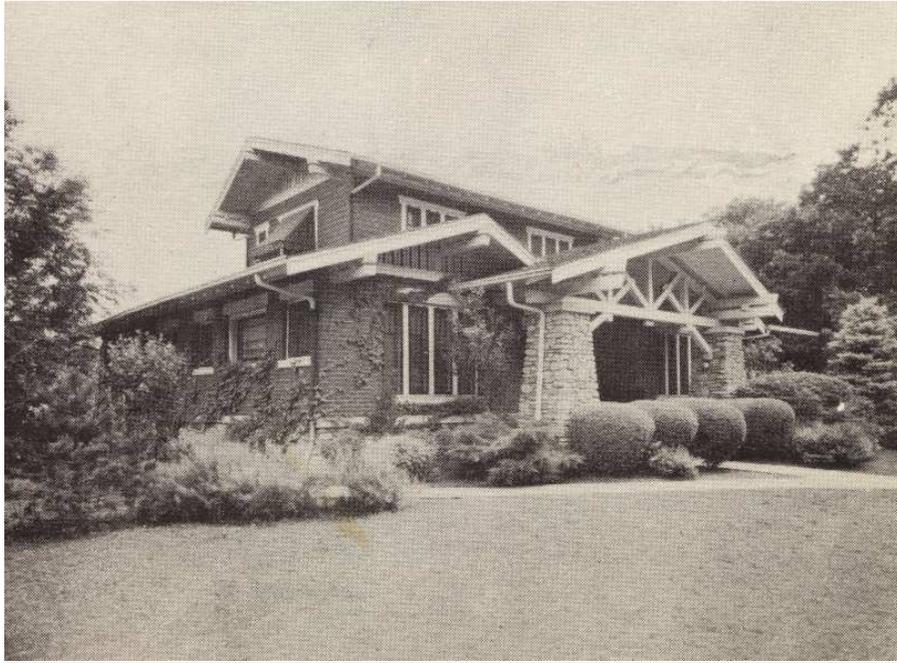
Floor plans drawn by author

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**Figure 4**



Lewis Shaw Coleman House

Source: *Lawrence County in Pictures*. Aurora: Mid-West Map, 1937, p25.

**Figure 5**



Lewis Shaw Coleman House second floor bedroom millwork

**Figure 6**

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Comparison Property 1 - 303 East College Street, Aurora, Missouri

**Figure 7**



Comparison Property 2 - 210 East College Street, Aurora, Missouri

**Figure 8**

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Comparison Property 3 - 516 South Oak Street, Aurora, Missouri

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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**Owner Notification**

Kelly and Mary Jo Johnston  
227 East College Street  
Aurora MO 65605



2272





















