NPS Form 10-900-b
(March 1992)

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Multiple Property Documentation Form

This form is used for documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form (National Register Bulletin 16B). Complete each item by entering the requested information. For additional space, use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

_X_ New Submission ____ Amended Submission

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

Historic Resources of Augusta, Missouri

B. Associated Historic Contexts

(Name each associated historic context, identifying theme, geographical area, and chronological period for each.)

German American Culture in Augusta, 1833-1944

C. Form Prepared by

name/title Mary M. Stiritz

organization n/a

street & number 12 Wydown Terrace telephone 314/721-6289

city or town St. Louis state Missouri zip code 63105

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Claire F. Blackwell 9 August 1994

Signature and title of certifying official Claire F. Blackwell/Deputy SHPO Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

I hereby certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Signature of the Keeper 9/28/94
Date

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E. Statement of Historic Context

INTRODUCTION
The small geographic and demographic size of Augusta, finite number of historic properties, and interrelated and overlapping historic themes indicated an organization of the Multiple Property submission with one historic context which characterized the primary determinant of the town's history, "German American Culture In Augusta, 1833-1944". The context has been divided into five subtheme headings which represent various aspects of the broad context:

Immigration and Settlement ca.1830-1860
Development of Cultural Traditions and Institutions ca. 1850 - 1865
Wine Industry ca. 1850 - 1917
Architecture ca.1836-1943
Persistance and Decline of Ethnicity ca.1890-1944

Immigration and Settlement ca.1830-1860
Following the end of the War of 1812, the Missouri Territory witnessed a tidal wave of settlement. Emigrants predominantly from the Upland South states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, and the Carolinas sought new homes and opportunities in the Territory's productive lands. Some, attracted by the absence of antislavery restrictions successfully established themselves southern style as small planters with farms and slaves. Among the newcomers to St.Charles county was Augusta's founder, Virginia-born Leonard Harold. In 1821 (the same year Missouri achieved statehood) Harold purchased a 360 acre tract with an excellent boat landing on the north shore of the Missouri River. According to the 1885 county history, Harold was,"for many years monarch of all he surveyed, living alone on the village site"[1] where, circa 1836, he constructed a two-story log house near a small creek at the northwest edge of the future town of Augusta. His farmstead included two families of slaves.

During the 1830s Missouri began receiving a steady influx of German settlers which reached such proportion that the state, by 1850, ranked fourth in the ratio of German-born to total population. The Mississippi and Missouri River systems provided excellent connections from the port of New Orleans into Missouri and facilitated development of the strongest German areas in the state. A part of the "German-belt" which extended along both sides of the Missouri River from St.Louis, St.Charles County and Augusta were

areas of early German settlement in the Missouri River hill country which prompted a flurry of town platting and promotion.

In 1836, Leonard Harold subdivided a portion of his tract and laid out the Town of Mt.Pleasant, later renamed Augusta in 1842 when it was discovered that the original name already was registered with the Postal Service for another town. Harold's nine-block town was well-situated at a good landing on the north bank of the Missouri River about forty miles from its confluence with the Mississippi and about the same distance (by land) from St.Louis (Fig.1). Later in 1836, Harold extended the original town with an adjacent fifteen-block addition to the west which completed three tiers of blocks paralleling the river. Lots were generously sized, measuring 60 X 100 feet.

Among the first Germans to settle in the Augusta area were members of two emigration societies, many of whom had been inspired by Gottfried Duden's "Report" (published in Germany in 1829) which, while mixing fact and fiction about his three-year sojourn on a nearby Missouri River farm, aroused great enthusiasm for settlement in Missouri. The Berlin Society, appraised the "most aristocratic" of these organizations but the least effective in attracting subsequent immigration, began arriving around Augusta in 1833. Dubbed Latin Farmers because of their greater command of the classics than farming, a few members of this loosely organized group purchased lots in Augusta, although most located outside town on farms.[2]

Another immigrant group of Latin Farmers, the Giessen Society, also settled in Duden country in the early 1830s. Led by students of the German liberal movement, Frederich Muench and Paul Follenius, the group was named after the university town in northern Germany where Follenius lived and attended school with Muench. The composition of this group was planned with a cross section of German social classes.[3] Perhaps the most important member to move to Augusta, George Muench (Frederich's brother), purchased a seven acre farm site in 1859 at the edge of town where he built a house and winery, and planted vineyards which became Augusta's most prosperous winery, the Mt.Pleasant Wine Company. The majority of Augusta's German settlers, however, were not members of organized emigration societies but were representatives of the rural peasantry who found their way there through chain migration, a personal network of family and friends which according to one authority led to a "remarkably strong and persistent ethnic

identity", more resistant to the assimilation process than the educated bourgoisie.[4]

Walter Kamphoefner's studies of 19th century German immigration to St.Charles county demonstrated that the presence of similar Old World German local origins and dialect exerted strong influence on the survival of customs and cohesiveness of "transplanted" ethnic communities in America. His 1860 census tabulations for Femme Osage Township (which included Augusta) indicated that the regional origins of those immigrants were concentrated in northwest Germany: 40 percent from Prussia (which usually meant Westfalia); 26 percent from Hannover; and 11 percent from other north German provinces.[5] Similar figures were compiled for Germans listed under a census heading of "Augusta Post Office" in 1860. Out of 277 heads of household, 254 were German-born and another nine were from Holland, Switzerland or Austria, figures lending support to Frederich Muench's report in 1858 that Augusta was "entirely German".[6] Consistent with Kamphoefner's township totals, Augusta numbered 109 households from Prussia; 56 from Hannover; 21 from Oldenburg; and 23 from north German Hessia.

The period immediately preceding the Civil War witnessed the most rapid rate of growth in St.Charles county. In 1860, German immigrants held the largest share of the total population they would achieve, although moderate gains in numbers of Germans continued. Effects of these population trends were evident in Augusta where in the mid-1850s Bavarian-born Christian Knoernschild opened new subdivisions comprising eighteen blocks adjacent on the north of Leonard Harold's,indicating a demand for town lots as the population swelled. Knoernschild had purchased the land in 1854 from Harold, including the latter's farm and log house which Knoernschild later enlarged after construction of a sizable barn.

Development of Cultural Traditions and Institutions,ca.1850-1865

By 1860, Augusta was a thriving German village, so complete that emigrants had few economic or cultural needs which could not be met within the community itself. According to the Missouri State Gazetteer and Business Directory, the town contained 350 inhabitants, "a church, a flouring and saw mill, ten stores of various kinds, distillery, and saddle tree manufactory." The 1860 census revealed eleven carpenter/cabinetmakers plus six apprentices working in the Augusta area, along with three brick/stone masons,

two boot and shoe makers, two wagon makers, three tailors, two dressmakers/milliners, a tin and sheet metal worker, watchmaker, gunsmith, cigar manufacturer, cooper, and harness and saddle maker. Augusta's wide range of skilled artisans corrobated evidence that Germans dominated specialized trades in mid-19th century St.Charles county.

Among the institutions, industries, and occupations characteristic of German settlements in Missouri, Augusta already boasted a Turnverein, a Harmonie Verein, three German language churches (Evangelical, Lutheran and Roman Catholic), a wine garden, brickyard, and brewers. Later, cornet and string bands, veteran clubs, church vereine and by the 1890s a base ball club offered group participation for those of like-mind. The proliferation of diverse organizations or societies in such a small community can be viewed as some scholars have as an instinctive characteristic of the German people transplanted to the United States which reflected a bond of cultural unity among German Americans.[7] The Harmonie Verein, in particular, held a central place in the town's cultural life, providing musical entertainment and socialization following its organization in January 1856 when, it is told, charter members were forced by Missouri temperance laws to gather in a tent on the frozen Missouri River in order to enjoy wine and song. In 1858, the club expanded into literary activities with the establishment of a library which grew to 3500 volumes, most of which were in the German language. The Verein's club house and dance hall was constructed in 1869 on grounds at the northeast edge of town.[8]

When St.Louis German newspaper editor Carl Schurz (later U.S. Senator and Secretary of the Interior) visited Augusta in 1867, he was greatly impressed with the community and praised it as "conserving the best features of German life". His speeches there were all in the German language since he found that the only Americans present in Augusta were the "shoemakers apprentice" and "several Negro families, among whom the children can already speak German."[9]

During the Civil War Missouri Germans made significant contributions to the Union cause through staunch abolitionist views and heavy volunteerism in the Union forces. Strong support from Augusta came both in the political arena and in military manpower. Through the leadership of Augusta's educated liberals, the town set the pace for St.Charles county, taking a strong moral position against slavery which was manifested in public rallies and the vote for Lincoln in 1860.[10] In the spring of 1861 thirty members of the

Harmonie Verein enlisted following President Lincoln's call for volunteers. These men were among the troops who took Camp Jackson in St.Louis, an action which some credit with holding Missouri in the Union. Three members fell in the battles of Wilson's Creek and at Pea Ridge.[11] Moreover, massive enlistment from Augusta in the militia kept the county free of guerilla war, a rampant and destructive force in many other counties.[12] The Augusta area escaped battle incidents, although there is report of General Sterling Price's Confederate troops passing through, causing townspeople to take cover and hide. A German company of militia led by Capt. Maupin of Washington, Missouri was stationed at Augusta in the fall of 1864. (In 1906, the Sons of Union Veterans was organized in Augusta.)

Wine Industry, ca.1850-1917

Grape cultivation and wine making, one of the major reflections of Old World cultural patterns transplanted to Augusta, were early undertaken by local Germans. That the soil and climate of the Missouri River bluffs were well-adapted to grape growing was noted in the 1820s by Gottfried Duden who observed that "grapes from the Rhine would do very well on the Missouri." He described local hills so densely covered with grapevines that "wagonloads of grapes can be gathered in a short time" although he believed that the quality of indigenous grapes could be improved by professional culture.[13] Nearby Hermann, Missouri is generally credited as the cradle of wine making in Missouri, apparently initiated by emigrants from the Rhineland in the early 1840s. The success of those early vineyards prompted planting in Augusta by 1850 when it was reported that "regularly staked vineyards began to make their appearance.[14]

In many ways grape cultivation was well-suited to conditions in Augusta and other Missouri River towns. The availability of town lots at little cost combined with the profit potential offered by viticulture which was land intensive (requiring only small parcels compared to other crops), tempted many town lot owners to experiment on an adjacent lot or two, or in some cases a full city block or more. In fact, there is evidence through census, tax and probate records which suggests that many town blocks were planted with vineyards; this is supported by the 1905 Plat (Fig.2) which graphically reveals the low building density where numerous blocks remain unimproved and many others have only one building.

Moreover, the German reputation for patience, tenacious labor, and scientific skill, whether real or self-imaged, were important attributes for the somewhat risky (due to the vine's vulnerability to disease and to climactic changes) and demanding process of producing wine.[15] In any event, the German monopoly of vine cultivation was confirmed by census records as well as by contemporary 19th century Missouri writers such as Frederick Muench who noted in his practical treatise, School for American Grape Culture (1865), that "thorough knowledge of [the grape's] proper treatment was brought here by the recent German immigration, and in the West it is almost exclusively the Germans that have given their time and industry to it".[16] Wine making (and drinking) were also proudly expressive of an ethnic identity in a period when the spectre of temperance laws in Missouri ostracized Germans as a group. An important ancillary to wine making was its sale, and Augusta became widely known in the surrounding countryside for its popular gathering spots offering gemutlichkeit around a pitcher of wine. At one time the town boasted eight saloons or wine halls.[17]

Within the decade 1860-1870, Missouri wine production climbed from sixth to first place in national rank, outdistancing California, New York, and Ohio, previously the three leading states.[18] During this period the wine industry in Augusta also exhibited significant growth and development which was notably reflected in the general increase in number of producers from five in 1860 to fourteen in 1868; in the incorporation of the Augusta Wine Company, a co-op of local growers which constructed a communal wine cellar and hall in 1867; and in the founding of the George Muench winery (later, Mt.Pleasant Winery). Emblematic of this dramatic expansion was the town's decision in 1866 to issue an official municipal seal which depicted a cluster of grapes prominently placed in the center.[19] Figures reported for 1869 indicated that Augusta's production of more than 15,000 gallons of wine was about half the total for Gasconade County (largely Hermann), and somewhat less than one-fifth of the statewide total.[20]

Per capita production of wine in Augusta varied greatly from as few as ten gallons, representative of non-commercial manufacture for private consumption, to as many as 3000 gallons by one vintner in 1880. Considerable variance was also found in size of vineyards although all were small by comparison to land utilized for other crops. According to the 1880 Federal Agricultural Census (the last census to report agricultural products) Augusta area vintners reserved as little as 1/3 acre and none exceeded 7 acres in vines.

Volatility of the annual grape crop along with incomplete reporting of production resulted in significant fluctuation of persons identified as wine producers for any given year, making it difficult to fully assess the extent of wine production.

During the last two decades of the 19th century Missouri declined to third and fourth place in national production of wine, and in both 1900 and 1910 census years, the state ranked sixth. Augusta's contribution remained strong. According to the 1885 county history, the Augusta area was the premier wine-producing region of the county with extensive vineyards covering 200 acres. Twenty wine cellars were reported in Augusta, having a total capacity of 100,000 gallons. It was estimated at that time that two-thirds of the vineyards were planted in Concord grapes, a popular variety which had taken lead over the original Catawba vines. The average yield was 500 gallons per acre, requiring about eighteen pounds of grapes to produce a gallon of wine.[21]

During the early 20th century German Americans in Missouri witnessed the forces of prohibition and liquor control gaining strength, events which were especially threatening to the state's wine and beer industries. In 1904, Missouri organized a chapter of the national German-American Alliance (Deutsche-Amerikanischer National-Bund). Originally committed to preserving German identity and culture, the Alliance soon became a vocal ethnic political lobby whose efforts were directed at opposing prohibition. Not surprisingly, in 1916 Augusta organized a Stadtverband, an official branch of the State Alliance.[22] However, most likely the town was represented earlier by individual members. For Augusta as well as other Missouri German communities, membership in the Alliance acknowledged a sense of identity with others of German descent, a larger German culture apart from mainstream native American society.

Although the efforts of the Alliance ultimately failed when Missouri became the 37th state to ratify the 18th Amendment on January 16, 1917 (missing the opportunity to be the decisive 36th vote by forty-three minutes), they did succeed in securing opposing votes in the State Legislature of all the heavily German counties, including St.Charles county. With wineries and saloons shut down, part of Augusta's economic base was clearly diminished, and a significant aspect of German social life was forced underground or eliminated. Fortunately, the diversified agricultural countryside which traded in Augusta remained stable and local commerce

continued to be brisk. The wine industry, however, never revived after the repeal of Prohibition until the late 1960s when Mt.Pleasant Winery was reopened.

Architecture, ca.1836-1943

The architectural character of Augusta reflects the conservative values and generally limited circumstances of the German emigrant community as it evolved from a frontier settlement to a small rural town. A preponderance of unstyled, vernacular frame buildings distinguishes Augusta from the more familiar brick typical of German settlements in Missouri. An intimate domestic quality pervades the town, evoked by small, unprepossessing designs which exhibit plain but solid workmanship of skilled German American builders. Even commercial/industrial buildings share an essentially domestic scale and form. Among the physical elements which set Augusta apart from larger, more developed Missouri-German river towns are the strong presence of small to moderate-sized outbuildings (privies,sheds, and agricultural properties),evidence of urban farmsteads; the general absence of sidewalks, and the numerous streets which terminate in blocks of unimproved wooded or open land, some undoubtedly the former sites of small vineyards (Fig.3, aerial view).

Augusta's long tradition of building in wood was initiated in both log and half-timbered (fachwerk) methods of construction. Although the first house constructed was log (that of town founder Leonard Harold) evidence from buildings erected after the town was platted indicated that half-timbered houses (a wooden structural frame filled-in with brick nogging) paralleled log construction. The tradition of fachwerk construction in northwest Germany where most townsmen originated may account for its appearance in Augusta.

The use of brick nogging indicates early manufacture of brick, yet all-brick construction ranked a very distant second to frame. The oldest brick house dated was erected circa 1855 by Prussian tanner Robert Ewig, a small, three-bay buidling displaying what is probably an original frame rear section. About half of the total brick buildings were constructed in the 1860s, and the remainder in the latter 19th century. As early as 1860, a brickyard was reported in Augusta, operated by Hannoverian Bernhard Kuper, However, the small number of brick buildings is consistent with the ratio of brickmasons to carpenters revealed in an examination of five census years (1860-1910) which showed carpenters outnumbered brickmasons approximately four to one. In both 1900 and 1910 census years

there were four house carpenters in Augusta and no brick masons.

Frame and brick buildings share the same simple traditional plans (such as hall-parlor and central passage) and overall Missouri German vernacular designs found throughout the state, which are an amalgam of Anglo-American and Old World German sources. The buildings differ principally in detailing which sometimes exhibits limited affinities with national trends of fashion. Primary traits include austere, planar,symmetrical facades, and sparse detailing, limited in brick buildings to simple denticulation and corbeling at the cornice line. Flat brick arches typify the vernacular neoclassicism of the earliest brick buildings, superceded by the segmental arch, a form associated with the imported Rundbogenstil, a style more fully elaborated in the 1861 design of Ebenezer Evangelical Church. In the early 20th century, a few houses illustrate greater degrees of acculturation in their adoption of national house styles and types such as Queen Anne and Craftsman/Bungalow, yet retain the modest size, scale and materials of earlier buildings.

Only one historic building remains along the former riverfront, a house-store (combination residence/hotel/saloon) which accommodated first the river trade and then railroad commerce. Commercial activity shifted to the north town boundary where streets connected to county/state roads and where now are located historic house-stores and small commercial buildings typifying rural Missouri German design conventions. This northern edge of town had also been a locus of residential and institutional development. At one time the town hall,bank,school,post office and Evangelical church were clustered there amid residences. Characteristic of small historic towns, this close association of residential, commercial and institutional buildings is a significant configuration preserved in Augusta.

Properties associated with Augusta's wine industry include several houses scattered thoroughout town which feature deep basements utilized as wine cellars. More specialized wine properties designed for larger production are found in the Augusta Wine Co. building and the Mt.Pleasant Winery, both of which feature vaulted wine cellars under brick wine halls.

Persistance and Decline of Ethnicity ca.1890-1944

As a result of events in the latter 19th century, Augusta's growth was constrained, helping to preserve the community's conservative

culture and leaving it less open to influence of urban American customs and technologies. Following a flood in 1872, the Missouri River changed course and eventually left Augusta without a riverfront. Settlement was inevitably deterred with the loss of direct access to river trade, coupled with the fact that rail connection did not reach Augusta until 1891 when the Missouri, Kansas & Texas line completed tracks. By that time, however, immigration had waned and the town ceased to grow. Population of 291 reported in 1890 dropped to 238 by 1900 and did not reach 300 until 1920, after which it declined to as few as 218 in 1950.

Despite the absence of significant growth in population and setbacks in transportation, Augusta flourished culturally. Music continued to occupy an important role in the life of the community and earned a reputation for excellence countywide. An 1898 Business Directory listed three music teachers, along with a Cornet Band and also a String Band. By the mid-1880s, the Harmonie Verein boasted several dozen members all playing instruments and annually sponsored seven different festivals which drew visitors from many neighboring German towns.[23] In 1890, the Harmonie Verein erected a new bandstand on their grounds at the edge of town. In the early 20th century the society promoted railroad excursions to attend their music festivals.

When the United States entered World War I in 1917 German ethnic identity was once again challenged as it had been with Prohibition. The former duality of cultural ties to the Old World and political ties to America was no longer compatible. German-Americans in St.Charles county provided exceptionally strong support to the Allied effort. Nonetheless, German ethnic custom and language lingered on in rural areas such as Augusta which were more insulated against native American Germanophobia. Not until the mid-1920s did Ebenezer Evangelical Church adopt English in their parish records, and German services were still offered in the mid-1930s.

In the 1941 WPA Guide to Missouri, Augusta was described as a village of 252 persons, with "low, white frame houses...scattered along the abrupt Missouri River bluffs...a small, neat trading center and shipping point for near-by German farm families."[24] As Walter Kamphoefner's study reveals, ethnicity persisted well into the mid-20th century in rural St.Charles county where Germans still dominated agriculture and the German language was preserved by third-generation Germans at a five times greater rate than people of German descent living in urban St.Louis.[25]

NOTES

1.History of St.Charles, Montgomery, and Warren Counties, Missouri, (St.Louis:National Historical Co., 1885), p.236.

2.Walter D.Kamphoefner, "Transplanted Westfalians:Persistence and Transformation of Socioeconomic and Cultural Patterns in the Northwest German Migration to Missouri", (Ph.D. diss. University of Missouri-Columbia, 1978), p.142; Charles van Ravenswaay,The Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri, (Columbia, MO: University of MO Press, 1977),pp.31-37.

3.van Ravenswaay, Arts and Architecture, pp.37-39.

4.Walter D.Kamphoefner, The Westfalians:From Germany to Missouri,(Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1987),pp.170-171.

5.Kamphoefner, "Transplanted Westfalians" (dissertation),pp.125-134.

6.Frederich Muench, Der Staat Missouri, (New York, 1859),p.76.

7.Audrey Louise Olson, "St.Louis Germans, 1850-1920: The Nature of an Immigrant Community and Its Relation to the Assimilation Process", (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Kansas, 1970), pp.133-34. The author notes in Chapter V, "Gemutlichkeit", that German organizations were "both divisive and cohesive --divisive by virtue of their varieties and numbers, and cohesive by reason of the fact that they were carriers of gemutlichkeit, an untranslatable term connoting conviviality, comaraderie and good fellowship, love of celebrations, card playing, praise of this so-called German way of life."p.134.

8.History of St.Charles County, pp.237-8.

9.Quoted in Kamphoefner, The Westfalians, pp.170-71.

10.Dr.Anita M. Mallincrodt, "The Town of Augusta", lecture, St.Charles Historical Society, St.Charles, MO, 24 June 1993.

11.Carl Wencker to R.A. Hoffmann, 2 February 1906, Archives, Missouri Historical Society, St.Louis, Missouri.

12.Dr.Anita M. Mallinckrodt lecture, 24 June 1993.

13.Gottfried Duden, Report on a Journey to the Western States of North America, trans. George H. Kellner et al (Columbia, MO: sTate Historical Society of Missouri, 1980),p.252; p.56.

14.History of St.Charles County (1885), p.237.

15.See Walter Kamphoefner's dissertation "Transplanted Westfalians" p.157; pp.165-67 for discussion of German national traits and expression in specialized agriculture; George Husmann in Hand-Book of Missouri (St.Louis, 1880) pp.22-23.. delineates qualities required in a successful vintner. An early example of Missouri German ehtnic bias characterizing native American farmers as having "no genius for pursuits that require scientific and patient observation", and being "too restless and impatient" to cultivate vineyards is found in "Cultivation of Grapes in Missouri", Western Journal (1849),p.130.

16.Fredrich Muench, School for American Grape Culture, trans.from the German by Elizabeth H. Cutter (St.Louis: Conrad Witter, 1865) p.8.

17.Washington Missourian, "Augusta Once Had 8 Saloons", 16 June 1955. For discussion of the essential role alcoholic beverages played in German daily life as a custom symbolic of ethnic cohesiveness,see Audrey Louise Olson, "St.Louis Germans, 1850-1920: The Nature of an Immigrant Community and its Relation to the Assimilation Process", (dissertation, University of Kansas, 1970) p.134; p.213.

18.U.S.Federal Census, 1900: Manufacturing Part III, pp.624-30.

19.Anita M.Mallinckrodt, Historical Highlights from Town Board Records 1855-1903 (Washington, MO: Missourian Publishing Co.),p.26.

20.The Grape Culturist, July 1870, p.188.

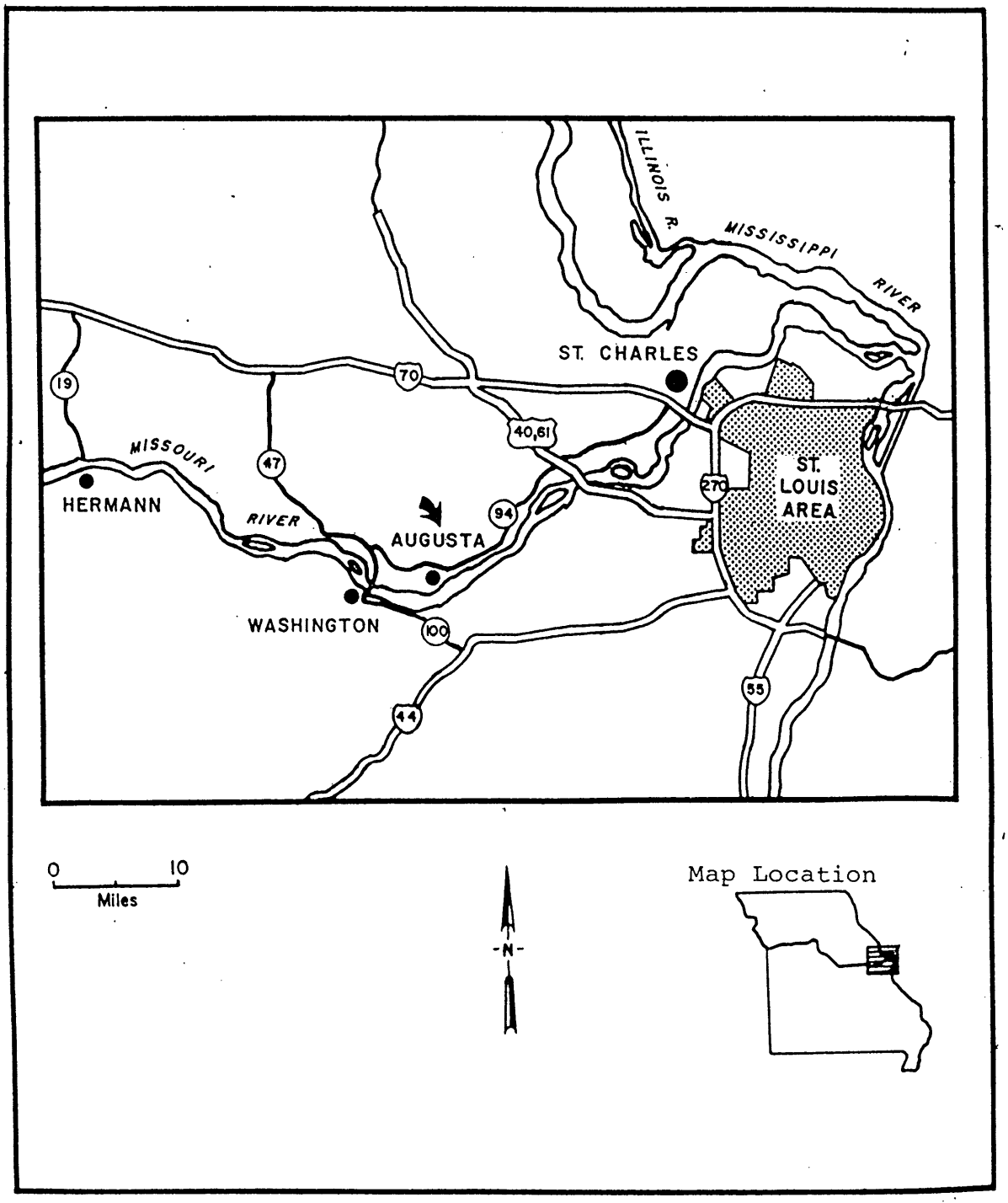
21.History of St.Charles County, p.139.

22.David W.Detjen, The Germans in Missouri, 1900-1918: Prohibition, Neutrality, and Assimilation, (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1985), p.128.

23.Dr.Anita M. Mallinckrodt, "The Town of Augusta", lecture, St.Charles County Historical Society, St.Charles, MO, 24 July 1993.

24.Missouri: A Guide to the "Show Me" State, (New York: Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1941),p.363.

25.Kamphoefner, The Westfalians, p.172-73.



LOCATION MAP OF AUGUSTA, MISSOURI
FIG. 1

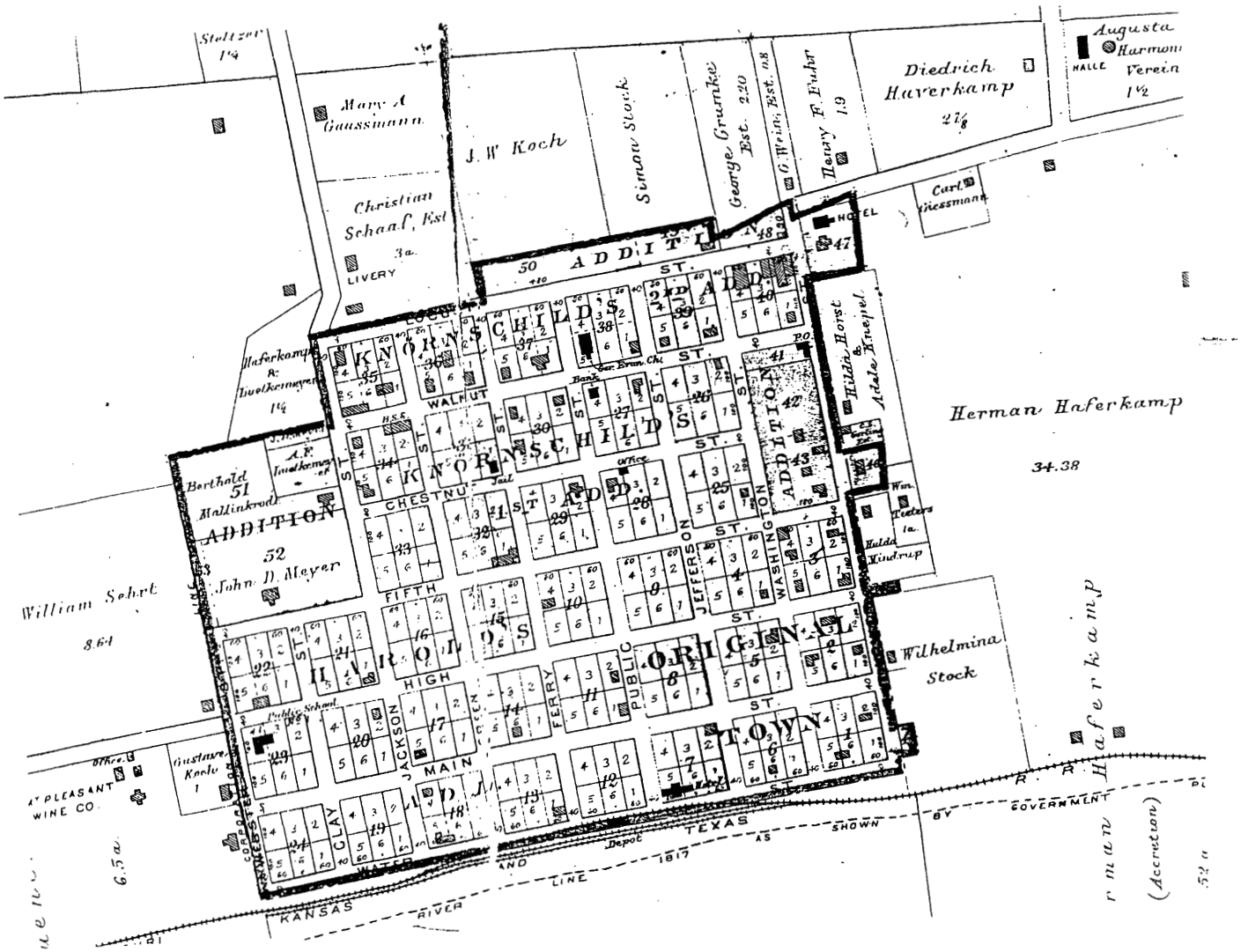

Augusta
Harmonie Verein
Diedrich Haverkamp
Henry F. Fuhr
George Grunke Est.
Simon Stock
J. W. Koch
Mary A. Gaussmann
Christian Schaaf, Est
LIVERY
Carl Giessmann
HOTEL
Hilda Horst & Adele Knepel
Herman Haferkamp
34.38
Wilhelmina Stock
William Schrt
8.64
Berthold Mallinkrodt
ADDITION
52
John D. Meyer
KNORNS CHILDS ADDITION
ORIGINAL TOWN
WALNUT
CHESTNUT
FIFTH
HIGH
MAIN
JACKSON
CLAY
FERRY
PUBLIC
JEFFERSON
WASHINGTON
ST.
Public School
Office
Jail
Bank
Gustave Koehler
Hulda Lindrup
Wm. Tieters
Depot
TEXAS
KANSAS
RIVER
LINE
AND
1817
AS
SHOWN
BY
GOVERNMENT
(Accretion)
R. R.
Haferkamp

FIG. 2

Figure
3
N
LOCUST ST.
WALNUT ST.
GREEN ST.
CHESTNUT ST.
FIFTH ST.
JACKSON ST.
MAIN ST.
HIGH ST.

F.Associated Property Types

I. Name of Property Type: Vernacular Residence

II.Description:

These houses, built circa 1836-1943, represent the dominant building tradition in Augusta. Exhibiting minimal influence of national styles, they illustrate local Missouri German vernacular conventions and preferences for unembellished, plain exteriors and simple traditional plans. The vast majority are 1 1/2 story cottages three to five bays wide resting on stone foundations, and most often featuring a side-gabled roof although front gables do occur; a few rise two full stories. Several 19th century houses were constructed with deep basements and doorways giving exterior access, features intended for the storage of wine. Small wood porches or stoops located at center bays frequently employ Late Victorian ornamental detailing. A couple of examples are designed with full-facade porches formed by an overhang of the main roof. Almost all houses, especially those originally having two-room hall-parlor plans, have received rear additions.

Weatherboarded frame construction outnumbers brick buildings nearly four to one. Included in the frame count are two log houses and a few half-timbered nogged with brick. Brick houses employ either jack arches or segmentally arched openings and usually include brick denticulation or corbeling at the cornice; a couple of examples are trimmed with wood brackets or vergeboards. Lintels of frame houses are usually untrimmed but a few gables have gingerbread detailing. .

Subtype: House-store

This building type combines place of residence with workplace. Usually the functional division is demarcated between different stories of the building (first story reserved for commerce and upper stories for living quarters), but occasionally function was divided on the ground floor between different sides of the house. There are few design elements which distinguish the house-store from purely residential buildings except for the use in some instances of larger, double-entry doors, and occasionally a full-facade glazed storefront. Some of the larger buildings had multiple functions; in addition to serving as owner's residence, they operated as hotels offering extra sleeping rooms to travelers along

with saloon/restaurant services.

Subtype: Outbuildings
Outbuildings generally fall into two groups: small to moderate size buildings, located on town subdivision lots, which were devoted to domestic needs of the household; and larger barns and storage buildings, located on farm or vineyard sites now within the town corporate boundaries, which served agricultural needs. Buildings in both groups are nearly all of very plain frame construction (with a few small brick, clay tile, or stone examples), and share similar scale, rectangular form, and gable roofs; size and number of openings vary, depending on function. The buildings associated with domestic use include privies, smokehouses, storage sheds, garages, poultry houses, ice houses, and buildings which were probably multipurpose and whose function changed over time with openings altered to fit the new function. These domestic outbuildings are vestiges of a way of life once common in rural ethnic communities where households lacked many public services such as sewers, running water, central heat and light, refrigeration, and full service groceries, thus requiring families to supply these basic services. The typical town residential lot was full of various outbuildings which were used to store fuel for cooking and heating, house a milk cow, chickens, or a horse; and store equipment, tools and animal feed. Some of the larger barns are associated with farmsteads which included vineyards and functioned as storage facilities for grapes and equipment necessary for viticulture.

III. Significance:
The modest brick and frame vernacular buildings in Augusta make a major contribution to defining the nature and character of the German immigrant commmunity as it was settled and developed, and thus relate to the Historic Context, "German American Culture in Augusta, 1833-1944" and its subthemes. The buildings are indicators of the conservative values and achievement of these people whose respect for solidly-built, well-crafted houses expressed their desire for permanency in the New World, and pride in ownership of property. The materials and methods of construction are representative of local industries and craftmanship which were dominated by immigrant labor; the buildings'simple, sparsely detailed designs reflect traditional conventions of Missouri German builders, and thus may be significant under Criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE.

Vernacular residences and subtypes may also be significant under Criterion A in the area of ETHNIC HERITAGE:EUROPEAN if the buildings are associated with persons whose ethnic background and/or occupation reflect the town's collective German heritage; and in the area of COMMERCE, applicable for the house-store subtype which was the earliest, most prevalent building type utilized for commerce, and which often was represented in the largest, pivotal buildings.

IV. Registration Requirements:
To be individually eligible under Criterion C these buildings must retain integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Since these buildings include the oldest properties existing in Augusta they have necessarily undergone various alterations over decades of continual use. Because the majority of examples were originally quite small, one of the most prevalent if not standard alterations is the addition of one or more rooms. The house can be considered meeting the general defining characteristics of the property type if it retains simplicity of design with only limited elaboration of stylistic detailing. Porch additions or replacements are allowable if they do not conceal primary features of the facade. Because of the high incidence of the use of vinyl or metal sheathing over weatherboarding, nonhistoric covering should not by itself disqualify a building as noncontributing so long as fenestration remains intact and no other significant features are obscured. For listing in a district under Criterion C, Vernacular Residences should retain sufficient physical characteristics to identify them as belonging to the period of their construction, but evaluated with more latitude with respect to physical integrity than allowable for individual listing. Under Criterion A, in the area of ETHNIC HERITAGE: EUROPEAN, the buildings should be directly associated with persons whose ethnic background and/or occupation contribute to defining the community's collective German heritage; and in the area of Commerce, the buildings should be linked to a commercial activity which contributed to the town's development.

I. Name of Property Type: Styled Residence

II. Description
A small percentage of Augusta's residences reflect sufficient overall characteristics of national architectural styles to distinguish them from other town dwellings which may display an element or two of stylistic ornament but basically remain

vernacular. Frame Queen Anne houses rising 1 1/2 or 2 stories high feature compound roof forms, irregular plan shapes sometimes with small turrets and bays, wrap-around front porches, ornamented gables accentuated with patterned shingles, and gingerbread trim. Bungalow/Craftsman houses exhibit the characteristic 1 1/2 story height, full-facade front porch with shed-roof supported by tapered wood piers, and oversized front dormers. All are of frame construction on concrete foundations.

III. Significance:
The styled houses, all dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, are representative of Augusta's process of acculturation as increased exposure to national trends of culture created local demands for newer, more fashionable designs in houses. Although generally the houses are more modest than textbook examples of the styles, they nonetheless are significant local expressions within the constraints of the owners' circumstances. The Styled houses may be eligible under Criterion C and significant in the area of ARCHITECTURE.

IV. Registration Requirements:
To be eligible for listing in a district,the houses should retain the primary characteristics of the style they represent within the local context. Additions are permissible if they do not obsure principal features of plan or main elevations. Vinyl or metal sheathing conforming to weatherboard design is acceptable if it maintains the visual integrity of the wall surface. To be individually eligible, the house must be unusually well-preserved, with virtually no alterations to plan or design, and exhibit the most complete assemblage of design elements of its style known to exist in the local context.

I.Name of Property Type: Commercial/Industrial Building

II. Description
A few one-story buildings were devoted exclusively to commercial use. They are simple vernacular designs with little or no allusions to style. The earliest extant example is a circa 1880 addition with glazed storefront to the Tiemann house-store at 5595 Walnut. Good examples of commercial garages and/or filling stations from the 1920s and 1930s remain executed in concrete block, frame, and in brick.

Two properties associated with Augusta's wine industry, the circa 1867 Augusta Wine Co. building, and the 1881 Mt.Pleasant Wine Co. functioned both as commercial establishments for the sale of wine and as light industrial processing and storage facilities. Both gabled-roof, brick buildings are comparable in size and rectangular plan shape. Both are articulated with segmentally arched openings and trimmed with brick denticulation. The Augusta Wine Co. building is reported to have two levels of wine cellars but they are not open for inspection. Mt.Pleasant Winery features two connecting vaulted brick cellar chambers.

III. Significance

Most of the commercial activity in Augusta was conducted in house-stores, multi-purpose buildings combining place of residence with business, which have been defined as a subtype of the Vernacular Residence Property Type. The purely commercial properties are representative of specialized activities which met the needs of the community, especially in the early 20th century when automobiles were introduced. The unpretentious, simple vernacular designs and materials of the commercial buildings reflect the conservative values and limited circumstances of the community, and are good representative examples of the period of construction; they thus may be eligible for listing under Criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE, and relate to the subtheme of "Architecture ca.1836-1943" of the Historic Context, "German American Culture In Augusta, 1833-1944".

The wineries are important examples of an industry closely associated with the culture-defining characteristics of Missouri German ethnic communities and are eligible under Criteron A in the area of ETHNIC HERITAGE:EUROPEAN. They are also significant for the quality of their vernacular design, and method of construction and are eligible under Criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE. They relate to the Historic Context subthemes, Wine Industry ca.1850-1917", and "Architecture ca.1836-1943".

IV.Registration Requirements

For listing in a district under Criterion C, the buildings must exhibit integrity of design, materials and workmanship so that they are recognizable to their period of construction; and under Criterion A, in the area of ETHNIC HERITAGE: EUROPEAN they must be directly associated with a commercial/industrial activity which expresses Augusta's German heritage. To be individually eligible, the properties should retain a higher degree of physical integrity

than required for district listing, and/or be an unusally good example of a Missouri German ethnic commercial/industrial activity.

I. Name of Property Type: Institutional Buildings

II. Description
The comprehensive "Architectural and Historical Survey of Augusta" conducted in 1991 which inventoried all of the buildings standing within the corporate limits of the town identified and evaluated all seven extant institutional buildings. Only two buildings, a circa 1965 Post Office and a 1976 library, were assessed as ineligible for listing in the National Register due to their recent date of construction.

Institutional buildings include public buildings constructed to serve the whole community such as a school, post office or firehouse as well as buildings used by a defined sector of the population such as a church or a social club. The Institutional buildings are of brick, frame or concrete construction and are generally of substantial size, designed to serve communal public assembly, or in the case of the firehouse, to shelter vehicles used for municipal service. For the most part, the buildings are plain, sparsely detailed, and follow simple vernacular conventions. One of the most imposing institutional buildings, Ebenezer Evangelical Church (now Ebenezer United Church of Christ) erected in 1861, is a brick building articulated in a simple Romanesque Revival style featuring round arches and corbeled brickwork characteristic of Missouri German rural churches. The circa 1905 former Post Office is the most modest of the group, but takes advantage of its corner site with an angled entrance. Its frame vernacular design features imbricated shingle trim. The Harmonie Verein, constructed in 1869 exhibits board-and-batten construction trimmed with curved eave brackets; nearby is an octagonal frame bandstand which the musical society erected in 1890.

III. Significance
Institutional buildings contributed to Augusta's cultural cohesiveness by providing services which allowed the community to develop as a virtual self-contained entity, thus serving to transmit and reinforce traditions and values as well as to socialize the inhabitants. The church and music society buildings played central roles in the cultural life of the community and are

eligible for listing under Criterion A in the area of ETHNIC HERITAGE:EUROPEAN. They are also good representative examples of vernacular design and significant under Criterion C; they are related to the Historic Context, "German American Culture In Augusta, 1833-1944" and its subthemes.

The post office although of very modest size and vernacular design was the first building constructed specifically for postal service in Augusta. (Previously, postal work was conducted in the place of business of the local postmaster.) The 1943 brick firehouse and 1939 concrete public school building illustrate straightforward functional design of their period and maintain the scale, materials, and simple design characteristic of Augusta's historic properties. These buildings are eligible for listing under Criterion C in the area of ARCHITECTURE.

IV.Registration Requirements:
Institutional buildings meet registration requirements under Criterion A if they played a significant role in the social or public life of Augusta and were built during the period of significance. Institutional buildings in districts should retain a sufficient number of features to identify the period of construction, and should exhibit the simplicity of form and design characteristic of Augusta's vernacular design traditions. For individual listing under Criterion C, the building should illustrate a singular example of a design which retains a high degree of integrity of design, materials and workmanship.

G.Geographical Data

The corporate limits of the town of Augusta, St.Charles County, Missouri

H. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

The Multiple Property submission for historic resources in Augusta, Missouri is based on a 1991 survey of the town conducted by Mary M.Stiritz under the auspices of a matching grant from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Program, and the town of Augusta. The survey inventoried all of the buildings standing within the corporate limits of Augusta, a total of 131 properties. Each resource was photographed and inventory sheets were completed which included building-specific information gathered from deeds, tax records, old fire insurance policies, probate records, and census data, in addition to references to people or events mentioned in secondary sources. Interiors of approximately one-third of the contributing buildings were inspected to identify representative plan types and to locate wine cellars. At the conclusion of the Survey, noncontributing buildings were identified on the Survey map following National Register standards for evaluation of integrity. The Survey Report identified and discussed the cultural history of the town, drawing upon data entered on inventory sheets and upon an analysis of the German heritage found in recent scholarship.

Because of the small size of the town and limited number of eligible properties, one historic context was developed which encompassed the entire period of significance based on the date of the earliest extant building and extending to the arbitrary 50 year cut-off date, 1944. The context focused on the primary theme, German heritage, and was organized into subheadings which discussed significant aspects of the German heritage. The property types were based on style and function. Integrity requirements were based on knowledge of existing properties, both in Augusta and in other Missouri German communities which contain similar building stock. National Register standards for assessing integrity were applied.

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