**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>Zephaniah Sappington House</th>
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<table>
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<th>LOCATION</th>
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**STREET & NUMBER**

11145 Gravois Road

**CITY, TOWN**

Crestwood

**STATE**

Missouri

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT**

#3 Hon. Richard A. Gephardt

**COUNTY CODE**

St. Louis 29

**PROPERTY CODE**

St. Louis 189

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASSIFICATION</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
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</thead>
</table>

- **CATEGORY**
  - DISTRICT
  - BUILDING(S)
  - STRUCTURE
  - SITE
  - OBJECT

- **OWNERSHIP**
  - PUBLIC
  - PRIVATE
  - BOTH

- **STATUS**
  - OCCUPIED
  - UNOCCUPIED
  - WORK IN PROGRESS
  - ACCESSIBLE
  - IN PROCESS
  - BEING CONSIDERED

- **PRESENT USE**
  - AGRICULTURE
  - COMMERCIAL
  - EDUCATIONAL
  - ENTERTAINMENT
  - GOVERNMENT
  - INDUSTRIAL
  - MILITARY
  - MUSEUM
  - PARK
  - RELIGIOUS
  - SCIENTIFIC
  - TRANSPORTATION
  - OTHER

<table>
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<tr>
<th>OWNER OF PROPERTY</th>
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</table>

**NAME**

John Martin Dressel

**STREET & NUMBER**

11145 Gravois Road

**CITY, TOWN**

St. Louis

**STATE**

Missouri 63126

<table>
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<tr>
<th>LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</th>
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**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.**

Recorder of Deeds, St. Louis County Government Center

**STREET & NUMBER**

7900 Forsyth Boulevard

**CITY, TOWN**

Clayton,

**STATE**

Missouri 63105

<table>
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<th>REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</th>
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**TITLE**

1. Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

**DATE**

February 15, 1966

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS**

St. Louis County Parks and Recreation Department

**CITY, TOWN**

1723 Mason Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63131
2. Old St. Louis Homes by Elinor Coyle
   
   1979
   
   published: St. Louis, The Folkestone Press

3. Missouri State Historical Survey
   
   1977
   
   Department of Natural Resources
   P.O. Box 176
   Jefferson City, Missouri
The Zephaniah Sappington House is located at 11145 Gravois Road, just west of Sumter Drive and about 1/4 mile south of the city limits of Crestwood, Missouri. It is a rectangular two-story weatherboarded log structure with a one-story south wing; the main elevation facing due east, is at a slightly acute angle to the road. A two-story, five-bay gallery extends across this front and continues as a one-story porch across the wing.

A rudimentary knowledge of classical proportions is evident in the simple column-like shapes of the wooden posts, the slightly irregular pattern of intercolumniation and the shorter scale of the second-floor posts. The first floor of the gallery is flagstone, while the second floor is wooden with a simple wooden balustrade. Behind the gallery the pattern of fenestration is irregular; doors are placed in the southernmost bay of the wing and the second bay from the north. Two large squared rubble chimneys mark the ends of the main block.

Inside the house is only one room deep, and circulation was originally primarily by the gallery, which before 1887 was matched by another on the west side of the house. The exterior walls protected by these two galleries were originally plastered. This plaster survives behind the second floor of the remaining gallery. The south wing was built using materials from the old west gallery.

Two board-and-batten outbuildings survive on to the northeast of the house as well as a small log structure with a frame wing. The ground drops rapidly to the east of the house toward a small spring, the source of a branch of the Gravois Creek. According to tradition, this was the site of a mill built by Rezin Sappington, a brother of Zephaniah, and two millstones survive, incorporated into low garden walls.

The present owner of the property was born in 1887. His property will revert to the owners of the surrounding apartment development on his death. An approved plat of this development on file with St. Louis County shows a street crossing the present site of the house. Thus, although the house and outbuildings are in good condition and a source of community pride, the continued existence of this important historic site is seriously threatened.

FOOTNOTES

1. Information provided by owner. The galleries may have been added to the house about 1830, according to William Bodley Lane.


E SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

- PREHISTORIC
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- XX1800-1899
- 1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCIAL
- COMMUNICATIONS
- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLOSION/SETTLEMENT
- INTERNATIONAL
- INVENTION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICAL
- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES  c. 1815

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Zephaniah Sappington House is, with nearby "White Haven," one of two important two-story galleried pioneer houses in St. Louis County. It is also significant as one of a cluster of early houses in the Crestwood area that are connected by kinship.

Zephaniah Sappington was born about 1782 in Ohio County, Virginia (now West Virginia), the eldest son of John Sappington (1753-1815) and Jemima Fowler, who had been married February 1, 1781. With his parents and sixteen younger siblings, he came to the Louisiana Territory in 1804 or shortly after. He married Margaret Parke, the sister of his own sister Margaret's husband, Jonah Parke. With other members of his family, he joined the militia at the outbreak of the War of 1812 and served briefly. He probably built this house shortly after his father's death in 1815, on a grant of nearly two quarters of Section 20, Township 44 North, Range 6 East.

By this time, his brother Thomas had built the brick house now at 1015 South Sappington Road; William Lindsay Long, the husband of his sister Elizabeth, had built "White Haven," now at 9050 Whitehaven Drive; and Joseph Sappington had built the log house at 10734 Clearwater Drive. These houses were joined in 1820 by William L. Long's second house at 9385 Pardee Road. All these buildings are on or have been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1857 Zephaniah Sappington died, and on a map of about 1870, his property is shown divided among George and Perry, nephew Thomas J., and one Jemina Steinhauer. She may have been a daughter of Zephaniah and the wife of H.F. Steinhauer, who owned the property in 1875. The old house on her portion of the property was occupied by tenants, and when it was sold in 1887 to Henry Dressel, it required extensive repairs. Dressel was a son of Caspar Dressel, an immigrant from Bavaria who settled in south St. Louis in 1857.

John M. Dressel, son of Henry, was less than one year old when his family moved into the Zephaniah Sappington House. He returned to the house at the time of his marriage in 1916 and remains there today. He played an important role in the development of the suburban school system, serving as clerk of the Sappington Board of Education from 1927 to 1949 and as chairman of the newly merged Lindbergh School District from 1949 to 1956.

FOOTNOTES


### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

- **ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY**: 1.80 acres

  **QUADRANGLE NAME**: "Webster Groves, Mo."

  **UTM REFERENCES**

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<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
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  **QUADRANGLE SCALE**: 1:24,000

- **VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

  A triangular parcel, extending 327.25 feet along the north side of Gravois Road, and bounded on the northeast by 410 feet of Fort Sumter Lane and on the west by 416.36 feet of Southwoods Plat 1. (Southwoods Apts.).

### LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>CODE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FORM PREPARED BY

- **NAME / TITLE**: Esley Hamilton

  **ORGANIZATION**: St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation

  **DATE**: December, 1979

  **STREET & NUMBER**: 1723 Mason Road

  **TELEPHONE**: (314) 822-8475

  **CITY OR TOWN**: St. Louis

  **STATE**: Missouri 63131

### STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

- **THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:**

  - NATIONAL __
  - STATE ___
  - LOCAL X

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

**STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE**

- **TITLE**: Director, Department of Natural Resources and State Historic Preservation Officer

  **DATE**

### FOR NPS USE ONLY

- **HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

  **DATE**

- **KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

  **ATTEST**: ______________

  **DATE**

- **CHIEF OF REGISTRATION**


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**ITEM NUMBER 11 PAGE 1**

2. James M. Denny, Section Chief, Nominations-Survey and State Contact Person
   Department of Natural Resources
   Office of Historic Preservation
   Jefferson City

   March 7, 1980

   314/751/4096

   Missouri 65101
ZEPHANIAH SAPPINGTON HOUSE
Crestwood, Missouri
U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle
"Webster Groves, Mo. and Ill." (1954) photo-revised 1968 and 1974

Scale: 1:24,000
UTM Reference:
A. 15/729325/4268960
Photo Log:

Name of Property:  Sappington, Zephaniah, House
City or Vicinity:   Crestwood
County:  St. Louis County       State:  MO
Photographer:  Esley Hamilton
Date Photographed:  Dec. 1979

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

1 of 5. View of house and barn from NE.
2 of 5. View of house from SE.
3 of 5. View of gallery from NE, showing exterior plaster on second floor.
4 of 5. View of outbuildings, from right foreground wood shed, barn-garage, potting shed.
5 of 5. View of garden with millstone and log shed.