

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

1. Name

historic The Lighthouse

and/or common Caruthersville Water Tower

2. Location

street & number West Third Street _____ not for publication

city, town Caruthersville _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district

state Missouri code 029 county Pemiscot code 155

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name City of Caruthersville, Missouri

street & number 200 West Third Street

city, town Caruthersville _____ vicinity of _____ state Missouri 63830

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pemiscot County Courthouse

street & number _____

city, town Caruthersville _____ state Missouri 63830

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1982 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

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

city, town Jefferson City _____ state Missouri 65102

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Caruthersville Water Tower is of an elevated stand-pipe design common to water towers built in the latter part of the nineteenth and early twentieth century.

The steel-plated 40,000 gallon tank is supported by a brick masonry tower with Gothic-derived embellishments. It is of brick, laid in a common bond pattern. Walls are twenty-four inches thick. The exterior is covered with one-fourth inch thick stucco finish and the interior bricks are exposed. An interior switchback staircase of wooden construction has in the past provided access to an observation platform approximately fifty feet above the ground. The lower section of the staircase was removed after the water tower was closed in 1950. Entrance into the base of the tower is through a wooden door set in a recessed Gothic pointed archway. At varying levels on the upper one-third of the tower there are four pointed arched openings which served both observation and illumination purposes.

The water tank itself is made up of eight steel riveted bands. Horizontally, the plates which comprise the bands are singly riveted, vertically they are double riveted. A straight steel ladder is attached to the outside of the tank and access into the tank can be gained through an iron, hinged panel located on top of the tower. Topping the structure is a bracketed cornice and belt course. Above is a wrought-iron cresting similar to that found on roof ridges of Victorian Gothic and Queen Anne style residential structures.

The height of the tower is 115 feet, excluding the ornamental cresting. The diameter of the tower is 13 feet with a circumference of 41 feet. At the northwest side of the tower is a low concrete structure which originally housed the water pump and machinery. This attached structure measures 15'-2" by 8'.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1903 **Builder/Architect** George C. Morgan

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Since its completion in 1903, the Caruthersville water tower has served as a major landmark; observable from both the Mississippi River and from Missouri Highway 84. It is a significant example of the work done by George C. Morgan, a Chicago civil engineer who had a substantial business in the midwest in building standardized water systems. The majority of municipalities at the turn of the century were constructing standpipe towers of their own design, but Caruthersville chose to accept Morgan's unusual package.

In 1901, the town of Caruthersville issued bonds for \$26,000 for the construction of the water tower. Morgan received \$250 for his plans and was retained to act as an engineer and superintendent of construction for an unrecorded sum of money.

Older residents of Caruthersville fondly remember past days when the tower served not only as the city's modern water works system but as a point of recreation in the community; people would climb the tower to look across the Mississippi River for a view of Tennessee.

As the population of Caruthersville increased, a more reliable water distribution system was needed for reliable reserves and to insure enough water for fire protection. It was the economics of the standpipe construction that was its greatest asset and selling point, particularly for a community such as Caruthersville, which was constructing its first public water works system.

The tower is visible to all river traffic and until recent construction along the riverfront, it held the distinction of being Pemiscot County's tallest structure. The use of the tower was discontinued by the community in the late 1950's, but the tower was left standing because of its local status as a landmark.

9. Major Bibliographical References

1. Carol Ann Dubie. "The Architecture and Engineering of Elevated Water Storage Structures," Unpublished Thesis, George Washington University, May 4, 1980.
2. Pemiscot County Abstract Company, Recorder of Deeds, Pemiscot County Courthouse, Caruthersville Missouri

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1 Lot (less than 1 acre)

Quadrangle name Caruthersville, 7.5'

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

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

B

Zone		Easting				Northing							

C

Zone		Easting				Northing							

D

Zone		Easting				Northing							

E

Zone		Easting				Northing							

F

Zone		Easting				Northing							

G

Zone		Easting				Northing							

H

Zone		Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 8, Tract 4, Thrupp's map of City of Caruthersville, Missouri, being the city lot upon which the tower stands.

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

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title 1. Dennis L. Kellogg - Planner

organization Bootheel Regional Planning Comm. date

street & number Malden Industrial Park telephone (314) 276-2242

city or town Malden state Missouri

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

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

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

THE LIGHTHOUSE; CARUTHERSVILLE WATER TOWER

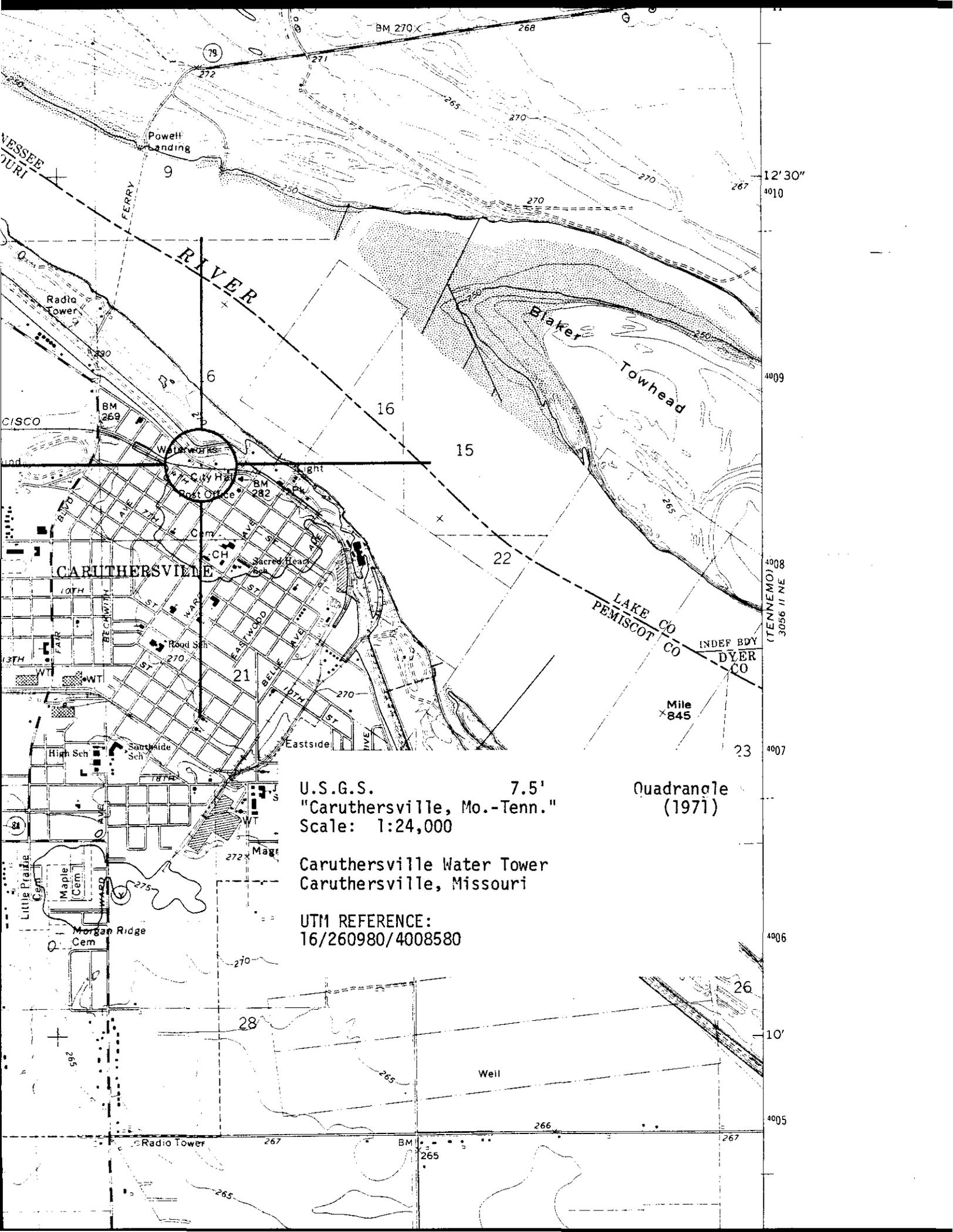
For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 11

Page 1

2. James M. Denny, Section Chief, Nominations-Survey
and State Contact Person June 1982
Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program 314-751-4096
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City Missouri 65102



U.S.G.S. 7.5'
"Caruthersville, Mo.-Tenn."
Scale: 1:24,000

Quadrangle
(1971)

Caruthersville Water Tower
Caruthersville, Missouri

UTM REFERENCE:
16/260980/4008580

12' 30"
4010
4009
4008
INDEF BDY
DYE
CO
3056 II NE
4007
23
4006
10'
4005

Mile
845

LAKE CO
PEMISCOT CO
INDEF BDY
DYE
CO

MISSOURI

RIVER

Blaker
Towhead

CARUTHERSVILLE

Powell
Landing

FERRY

Radio
Tower

BM
269

City Hall

Post Office

Waterworks

Light

CH

Sacred Heart
Sch

Rood Sch

High Sch

Southside
Sch

Magr

Little Prairie
Cem

Maple
Cem

Morgan Ridge
Cem

Well

Radio Tower

BM
265

267

266

265

267

265

79

272

271

BM 270 X

268

265

270

270

267

6

16

15

22

21

270

270

272 X

275

270

28

265

266

BM
265

267

265

26

COUNTY: Pemiscot

LOCATION: Caruthersville

OWNER: City of Caruthersville, Missouri
ADDRESS: 200 West Third Street, Caruthersville, MO 63830

DATE APPROVED BY A.C.: June 25-26, 1982

DATE SENT TO D.C.: July 17, 1982

DATE OF REC. IN D.C.: July 28, 1982

DATE PLACED ON NATIONAL REGISTER: September 9, 1982

DATE CERTIFICATE AWARDED
(AND PRESENTOR): April 20, 1983
Mailed from Central Office

DATE FILE REVIEWED:

Since its completion in 1903, the Caruthersville water tower has served as a major landmark; observable from both the Mississippi River and from Missouri Highway 84. It is a significant example of the work done by George C. Morgan, a Chicago civil engineer who had a substantial business in the midwest in building standardized water systems.



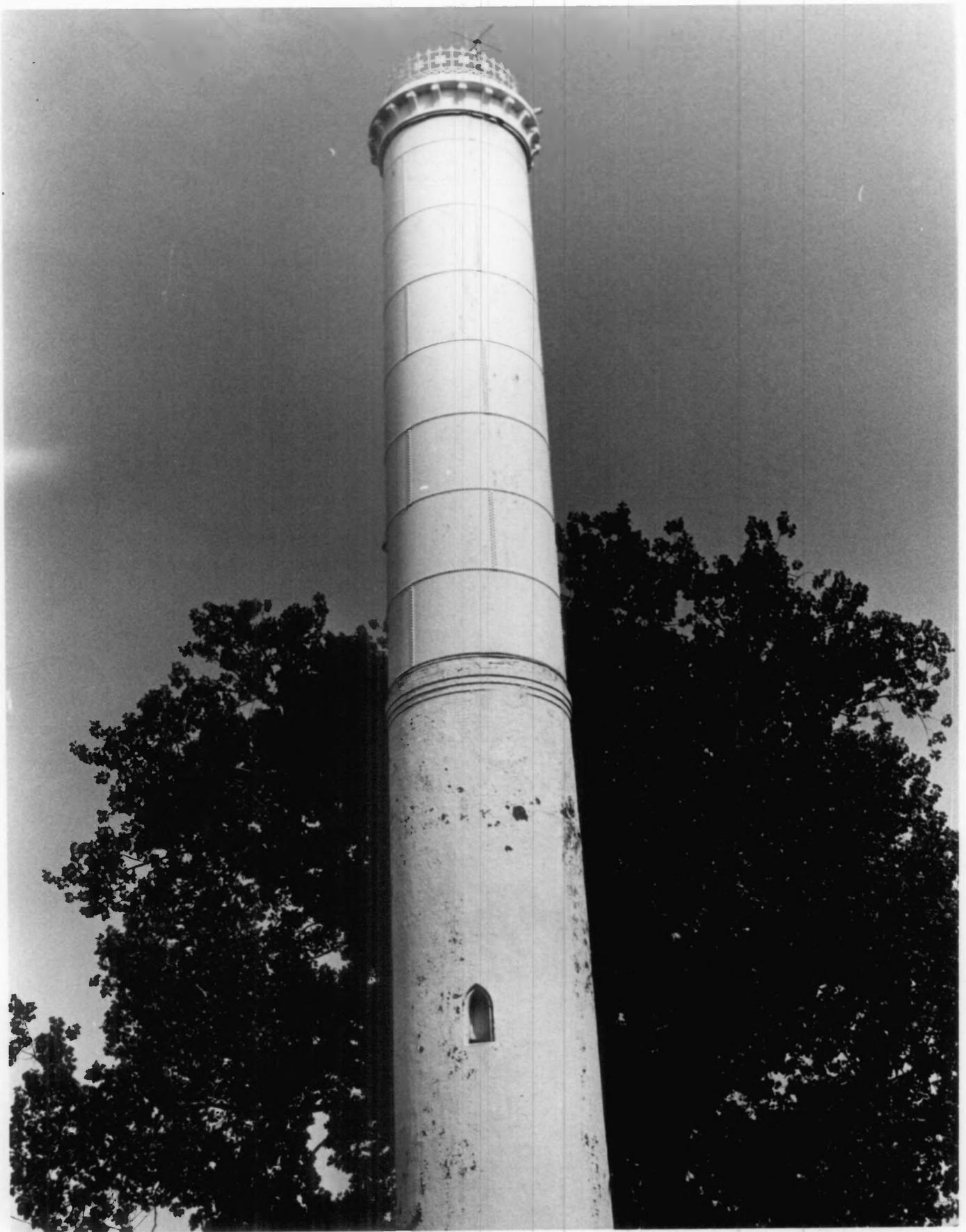
Caruthersville Water Tower
U.S. Hwy 85 Caruthersville
Pemiscot, MO

Mike Dale Sept. 18, 1980
Neg. Loc. Mrs. S. Swinger
Hwy Route U View-N.W.
Caruthersville, MO No. of



Caruthersville Water Tower
U.S. Hwy 85 Caruthersville
Pemiscot, MO

Mike Dale Sept. 18, 1980
Neg. Loc. Mrs. S. Swinger
Hwy Route U View-North
Caruthersville, MO No. of



Caruthersville Water Tower
U.S. Hwy 85 Caruthersville
Pemiscot, MO

Mike Dale Sept. 18, 1980

Neg. Loc. Mrs. S. Swinger

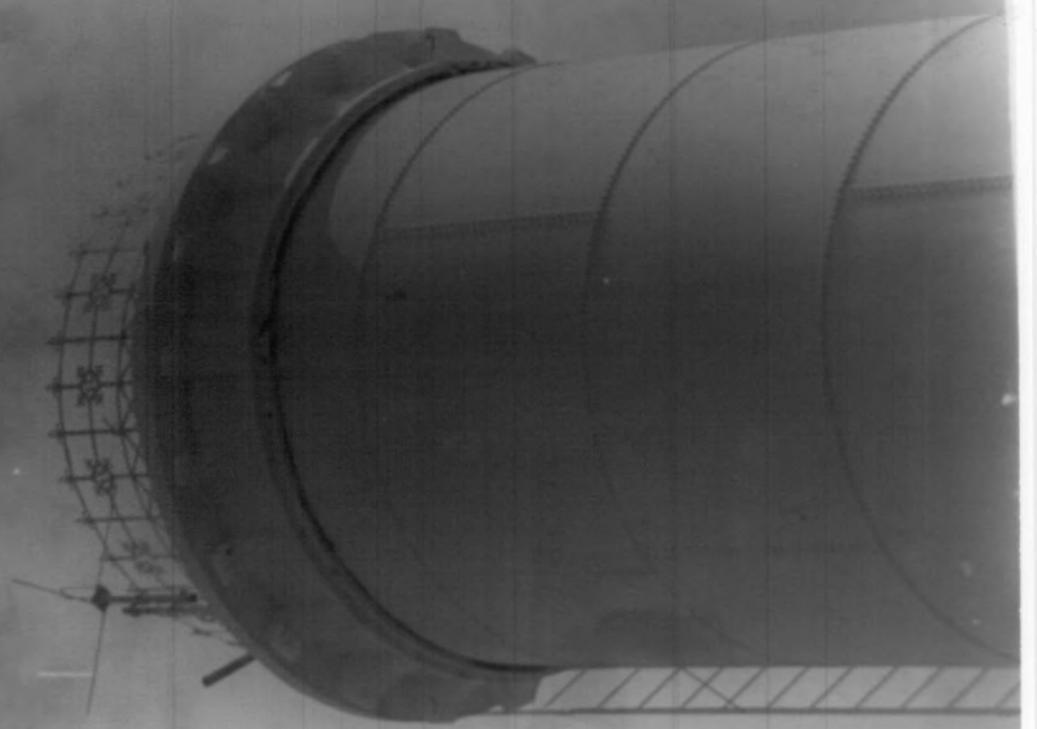
Hwy Route U View-N.W.

Caruthersville, MO No. of



Caruthersville Water Tower
U.S. Hwy 85 Caruthersville
Pemiscot, MO

Mike Dale Sept. 18, 1980
Neg. Loc. Mrs. S. Swinger
Hwy Route U View-detail of crown
Caruthersville, MO No. of



Caruthersville Water Tower
U.S. Hwy 85 Caruthersville
Pemiscot, MO

Mike Dale Sept. 18, 1980
Neg. Loc. Mrs. S. Swinger
Hwy Route U View-Brick
Caruthersville, MO Bond (inter.)
 No. of



Caruthersville Water Tower
U.S. Hwy 85 Caruthersville
Pemiscot, MO
Mike Dale Sept. 18, 1980
Neg. Loc. Mrs. S. Swinger
Hwy Route U View-Corner stone
Caruthersville, MO No. of

GEO. CADOGAN MORGAN,

HYDRAULIC ENGINEER,

1902 - CHICAGO.

EXTRA
PHOTOS

