1. Name

historic Mudd's Grove

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 302 W. Argonne Drive

city, town Kirkwood

3. Classification

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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4. Owner of Property

name William Bodley Lane

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds, St. Louis County Government Center

street & number 41 South Central Avenue

city, town Clayton

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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date February 15, 1966

depository for survey records Library of Congress

city, town Washington

### 7. Description

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<td><strong>ruins</strong></td>
<td><strong>original site</strong></td>
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Mudd's Grove is a brick house, constructed between 1859 and 1866 in a transitional late Greek Revival-early Victorian style. The five-bay symmetrical front faces north from its site at the southwest corner of Argonne and Harrison in Kirkwood, Missouri. The front of the house was symmetrically planned, two-and-a-half-stories, with central corridors and four rooms on both full floors. A two-story flounder-roofed wing extends south from the southwest corner. The salmon brick has been painted red with white trim and dark green louvered shutters. Double chimneys in the paraped gable collect eight fireplace flues. A ninth chimney is on the west side of the wing. The roof is seamed metal. White column-like porch posts support a two-story Greek Revival portico at the main entrance. In 1902, architect Ernest Klipstein added a one-story veranda across the side bays of the front facade and extending one bay around the corners. This closely follows the original portico except that its plain frieze is accented by dentils, while the upper frieze, extending as a cornice across the front of the house, has scrolled brackets, which are repeated in the pediment. The balustrade, repeated on the second-floor balcony, is fretted in a double diamond pattern. Most windows are tall, six-over-six. The front entrance (three feet above ground level) has a large single-leaf wood door with side lights and transom set in simply trimmed wood. Elaborately wrought iron grills are fitted over these windows.

A two-story gallery of somewhat simpler design once stretched across the rear of the house to the wing. The upper gallery was glazed about 1910 by Mrs. George Dana, who called it her glass room. The lower gallery was enclosed in 1923 and further altered in 1941. The two-story flounder-roofed wing was built to contain a first-floor kitchen and pantry and three rooms upstairs, for cook, nursemaid, servant, yardman, and stableman. The room for the two men had a separate entrance via an enclosed back stair.

Two bedrooms and a large closet occupy the third floor. A large south-facing dormer lights the staircase.

Mudd's Grove was converted into a two-family dwelling in 1923. Although the house was returned to single-family use in 1946, some of the alterations were left in place. The first-floor hall was divided behind the front parlor doors to create a shared entry foyer. The west front rooms, originally a family parlor and dining room, were combined. The east parlors were unchanged, but in the gallery behind them a kitchen was created for the east unit and a stairway for the west unit. Access to the new stair required elimination of the pantry. The male servants' staircase at the back of the wing was removed and a new kitchen installed there, while the old kitchen with its fireplace became a dining room. Upstairs, the southwest bedroom of the west unit was narrowed to open a corridor to the new stair, and the existing upstairs hall was narrowed by insertion of closets. At the end of the hall, a bathroom was constructed overlooking the entrance. Two of the servants' rooms in the wing were combined into one bedroom, with two closets over the former back stair.
8. Significance

Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below
--- | ---
prehistoric | archeology-prehistoric
1400-1499 | archeology-historic
1500-1599 | agriculture
1600-1699 | X. architecture
1700-1799 | art
1800-1899 | commerce
1900- | communications

Areas of Significance:
- landscape architecture
- religion
- law
- science
- economics
- literature
- sculpture
- education
- military
- humanities
- engineering
- exploration/settlement
- philosophy
- politics/government
- transportation
- invention
- social/
- theater
- communications
- industry
- invention
- other (specify)

Specific dates 1859-64

Builder/Architect John Hoffman/Peers Griffin (?)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Kirkwood Historical Review recently noted, "For good reason, Mudd's Grove has attracted more attention than any other residence in Kirkwood." The regional and state surveys in which the house has been included, listed in Section 6 of this nomination, attest to its wider recognition as well. It is primarily significant for its association with Henry Thomas Mudd, a leader of early Kirkwood and progenitor of a well-known American family, and for its architecture, an exceptionally fine and little-changed example of the transition between the Greek Revival and the early Victorian styles. The outbuildings and verandah are themselves significant as examples of designs of Ernest Klipstein, a notable St. Louis architect, while several later owners have also achieved a degree of prominence.

The quality of the design of Mudd's Grove is epitomized by the end walls, in which the windows are graduated in size from the largest on the first floor to the smallest on the third, a subtle feature not noticed by the casual observer but giving the house its air of gravity and repose. Mudd's Grove is among the largest houses built in the Greek Revival style in St. Louis County, and ranks just behind the Martin Hanley House in Clayton or Jarville on Mason Road in its stylishness. The design of the original portico is very close to that of the Christopher Hawkin House in Webster Groves, and the similarity of the woodwork and detailing with that house and others known to have been designed and built by Griffin and Bigelow of Webster Groves suggests that Mudd's Grove too may have been built by that firm. Peers Griffin was the architect, while his cousin Jotham Bigelow handled construction. Among their known works are their own houses at 224 College and 1 Claiborne Place, both in Webster Groves, and houses for John Fulton at 300 North Gore in Webster Groves and for Hannah Roberts at 765 Kirkham in Glendale.

The builder of Mudd's Grove was not actually Henry T. Mudd but John Hoffman, a rather shadowy figure who was active in Kirkwood's early years. He owned considerable real estate in and around Kirkwood in the years after it was laid out in 1853, and he sold one tract to the School District for their first schoolhouse. He also participated in the founding of the Kirkwood Seminary, a private girls school. Because of Hoffman's many landholdings, his place of residence at any given time is difficult to pinpoint. He is known to have built circa 1875, the house at 142 West Monroe, which he later gave to his daughter Lizzie Ward, but he also owned a tract south of West Adams Avenue on the west edge of town, and he may have lived there. The Kirkwood Association sold Hoffman Blocks 27 and 28 of the new town of Kirkwood in 1859. The house was undoubtedly built (on Block 27) by 1864 when he sold the two blocks for $16,000 to Frances P. Hodgen, the wife (perhaps by then the widow) of Jacob Hodgen and the mother of Sarah Elizabeth Mudd. The Hodgen family of Hodgenville, Kentucky (birthplace of Abraham Lincoln), had settled in Pittsfield, Pike County, Illinois. Jacob Hodgen was called
9. Major Bibliographical References


2. Cotton, W. Phillip. 100 Historic Buildings in St. Louis County. St. Louis: St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation, 1970

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property: .73 acre

Quadrangle name: "Kirkwood, Mo.", Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

UTM References

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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>D</td>
<td>E</td>
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Verbal boundary description and justification:
Town of Kirkwood, part of Lot 27, fronting 200 ft. on the south side of West Argonne Drive and 160 feet on the west side of Harrison Avenue.

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

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<td>St. Louis</td>
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: 1. John G. Kemper/intern architect & William B. Lane/architect

organization: Kirkwood Historical Society
date: December 20, 1983

street & number: 101 S. Harrison Ave

telephone: 314/965-5808

city or town: Kirkwood

state: Missouri 63122

city or town: Kirkwood

state: Missouri 63122

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national ___ state ___ local ___

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Director, Department of Natural Resources and
State Historic Preservation Officer
date: 2/9/84

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Reference</th>
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<td>Historic Buildings in St. Louis County published: St. Louis County Dept. of Parks and Recreation Clayton, Missouri</td>
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<td>Historic Buildings in St. Louis County published: St. Louis County Dept. of Parks and Recreation Clayton, Missouri</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Old St. Louis Homes by Elinor Martineau Coyle published: The Folkestone Press St. Louis, Missouri</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Volume I, Survey, Missouri's Comprehensive Statewide Preliminary Historic Preservation Plan Missouri Department of Natural Resources Jefferson City, Missouri</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>The Building Art in St. Louis by George McCue published: St. Louis Chapter, A.I.A. St. Louis, Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Historic Sites Inventory published: East-West Gateway Coordinating Council St. Louis, Missouri</td>
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</table>
After 1944 the rear gallery was further reworked. The kitchen was removed and the space divided into a lavatory, an elevator, and a breakfast room with a bay window. A new smaller kitchen was built east of the breakfast room and a small screened porch east of that.

In spite of these alterations, Mudd’s Grove retains its outstanding decorative features. All nine of the Greek Revival mantels are in place; they are basically alike, but those in the east parlors are of chunkier dimensions than the others. Florid plaster medallions ornament the ceilings in those two rooms, in which heavily molded plaster cornices are underlined by a patterned picture molding. Overdoors are also corniced. The sliding doors between the east parlors have been replaced, but others are original.

Behind the house are two outbuildings built in the first years of this century. Both are one-story shingled frame structures with hip roofs. At the entrance to the driveway on Harrison is the gate lodge, built about 1902, a structure originally used as a retreat for younger members of the Dana family and currently as an office. Its main features are banks of diamond-paned windows on east and west sides. An eyebrow dormer has been removed from the east slope of the roof, but a matching dormer on the west side survives. The garage, set farther back on the property, was built perhaps a decade later but with similar details, including an eyebrow dormer. Three glazed paneled double doors face north. The buildings represent a point of transition between horse-drawn and mortar vehicles; the center bay has doors on both sides to facilitate the passage of carriages, while one side bay has a grease pit for automobiles.

Mudd's Grove has been recognized for its architectural and historical significance by the Historic American Buildings Survey and the St. Louis County Historic Buildings Commission. It has been designated a landmark by the City of Kirkwood.
Elder from his office in the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ. He ran a store in which he first employed young Henry T. Mudd, later taking him as a partner and as son-in-law. Jacob Hodgen's son Dr. John T. Hodgen married Mudd's sister Elizabeth.

Henry T. Mudd was born in Maysville, Kentucky, in 1818 and was brought to Missouri the following year. After the death of his father in Louisiana, Missouri, in 1833, the family moved across the river to Pike County, Illinois, where young Henry eventually succeeded in purchasing a farm and where he served 1843-1847 as Clerk of the County Council. In 1856 he moved to St. Louis as a commission merchant, but the venture proved unsuccessful and closed two years later. He arrived in Kirkwood in 1859 lacking the financial wherewithal he had previously enjoyed, and it is possible that John Hoffman built or financed Mudd's Grove for him at that time. If not in 1859, then certainly in 1864 financial considerations were paramount in Mrs. Hodgen's involvement. Within fifteen months she had returned to Pittsfield, selling the property to her daughter Sarah Elizabeth for only $10,000. Mudd's fortunes soon revived in the real estate or "land-trading" business. He became president of the Ozark Land Company and at his death held tracts of land in eight counties of Missouri plus others in Illinois, Texas and Nebraska.

He also gave a great deal of time to public service. He served from 1859 to 1865 as auditor of St. Louis County, as trustee of the town of Kirkwood from its chartering in 1865 to 1868, as member of the board of the Kirkwood School District from its founding in 1865 until 1872 and again from 1878 to 1882, as president of the county Board of Assessors in 1870, and as state legislator from 1872 to 1874 and again in 1879. In the last position he was instrumental in obtaining legislation to protect fish and game, a very early example of conservation. In 1875 he was a delegate to the state Constitutional Convention, at which he was the first to advocate the separation of the City of St. Louis from its county. This idea was incorporated in the new constitution, and Mudd was then appointed one of the thirteen Freeholders charged with devising a plan of separation. St. Louis then became the first independent city in the nation, a status that has variously been viewed as a blessing or a disaster.

In addition to his public offices, Mudd served from 1859 to 1868 as president of the State Horticultural Society, keeping it alive through the Civil War when all such organizations in the southern states succumbed. He was active in the Masons from an early age and organized the Kirkwood Masonic Lodge in 1873. Among his other honors, Mudd was president of the state agricultural board and curator of the state university.

Early in 1882 Mudd sold his Kirkwood home and moved back to the city of St. Louis. The next year his wife died, and the following year he married Mrs. Katherine Lucinda Woolfolk Brown, another resident of Pittsfield. She died in 1902 at their apartment in the Grand Avenue Hotel, and he died the following year. Of his eight children, three became very prominent. Dr. Henry Hodgen Mudd (1844-1899) and Dr. Harver Gilmer Mudd (1857-1933) both became prominent surgeons associated with St. Louis Medical College,
following their double uncle, John Thompson Hodgen (1826-1882), long President of the college and "one of the greatest of Western physicians and surgeons."12 Seeley Wintersmith Mudd (1861-1926), a mining engineer, made a fortune in Leadville, Colorado, and Los Angeles by advising on the mining of copper and sulphur. His son Dr. Seeley G. Mudd of New York became a nationally known benefactor of colleges and universities. 13

Mudd's Grove was purchased in 1882 by Sarah A. Behr, the wife of Peter Behr.14 They sold it in 1889 for $8,000 to George Davis Dana, whose wife, the former Virginia Lord, may have been related to Mrs. Behr.15 Dana (1845-1906) was at that time associated with the Excelsior Manufacturing Company, makers of stoves and ranges.16 On the dissolution of that company in 1896 he formed the Charter Oak Stove & Range Co., of which he became the vice president and manager. St. Louis had been a center of stove manufacture since 1842 and by 1910 was making twice as many stoves as any other city in the United States.17 Charter Oak, with Dana its head, was a leader in this industry. George Dana's surviving son Leslie (1873-1955) served as president of Charter Oak until his retirement in 1940, when the company was dissolved.18

The Danas added the one-story verandah to the existing two-story portico of Mudd's Grove and built the gate lodge and garage at the rear. The architect for these improvements is said to have been Ernest Klipstein (1866-1931). A graduate of MIT, Klipstein practiced independently from 1898 to 1908 and then formed a partnership with Walter Lincoln Rathmann which endured until his death.19 He was a personal friend of Leslie Dana, attending him at his wedding in 1901 and designing his house at 1 Brentmoor Park in Clayton a decade later. Klipstein and Rathmann did several other houses in nearby Brentmoor, including Klipstein's own Breton chateau.20 The firm became closely associated with Anheuser-Busch, designing the Bevo Plant at Broadway and Pestalozzi in St. Louis, the Bevo Mill restaurant on Gravois, and the Bauernhof, a palatial stable for August Busch's residence at Grant's Farm.21 Other industrial commissions included plants for Morse-Jones and Certain-teed. Klipstein's work at Mudd's Grove is minor but typical of his ability to combine practicality with style in a way that made him one of the region's most appealing architects.

After Virginia Dana's death in 1915, Leslie Dana rented the house while he sold other parts of Block 27. In 1923 he sold the remaining 200 by 160-foot lot to Lawrence E. Mahan (1892-1946).22 Then associated with the Real Estate Mortgage Trust Company, Mahan later formed his own investment firm and became active in the Mortgage Bankers Association.23 He divided Mudd's Grove into two units, 302 and 304 West Argonne, living in 304, the west one, himself. In 1926 he and his wife Julia sold the property to William and Grace Somerville, who lived in the east apartment until after 1930.24 They moved to Dallas, Texas, but retained this property until 1944, when they sold it to Mina B. Muckerman.25 She was the wife of Francis X (Frank) Muckerman, whose father John C. (1868-1951) and uncle Ignatius C. had founded Muckerman Ice & Coal in 1889, reorganized as Polar Wave Ice & Fuel in 1903 and as City Ice & Fuel in 1926.26 The Muckermans lived at first in the east part but after 1946 reopened the whole house for
themselves. They sold the property in 1949 to Union Realty & Securities Company, which sold it to William Bodley Lane in 1955. Mr. Lane is a descendant of the Bodley family, important in early Kirkwood, and this has led many people to assume incorrectly that Mudd's Grove is the ancestral Bodley home. Mr. Lane is an architect specializing in historic preservation and has contributed to such notable restorations as the Payne-Gentry House, the Thomas Sappington House, and Oakland, all in St. Louis County.

Notes


2. These and other houses mentioned below are pictured in Historic Buildings in St. Louis County (Clayton, Mo.: St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation, 1983).

3. Ann Morris, survey of Webster Groves, conducted for the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation, 1981.


14. Title abstract in the possession of William Bodley Lane.

15. Of the three sons of Peter and Sarah Behr, one had the middle name Lord and another Leslie, both names in Mrs. Dana's family, while the third, Peter Bernard Behr, was an attendant at Leslie Dana's wedding. See Missouri Historical Society, Bulletin, Vol. XXI (July 1965), p. 344; Necrology Scrapbook XVIII, p. 53; Sprague Scrapbook I, p. 13.

16. Biographies of George D. Dana are found in John W. Leonard, ed., The Book of St. Louisans (St. Louis: The St. Louis Republic, 1906); and St. Louis The Fourth City...De Luxe Supplement, Vol. 1, pp. 67-68.


20. Brentmoor Park and Brentmoor are included with Forest Ridge in a district listed in the National Register of Historic Places.


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet  Mudd's Grove  Item number  9  Page  1


2. Esley Hamilton, Administrative Assistant
   St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation, December 1983
   41 South Central Avenue (314) 889-3357
   Clayton, Missouri 63105

3. James M. Denny, Chief, Survey & Registration
   and State Contact Person
   Missouri Department of Natural Resources
   Historic Preservation Program
   P.O. Box 176
   Jefferson City,
   Missouri 65102
Mudd’s Grove
3rd Floor
U.S.G.S. "Kirkwood, Mo." 7.5' Quadrangle
Scale: 1:24,000
(1954-rev. 1974)

MUDD'S GROVE
302 West Argonne Drive
Kirkwood, Missouri 63122

UTM REFERENCES:
A. 15/725540/4273285
Photo Log:

Name of Property: Mudd's Grove
City or Vicinity: Kirkwood
County: St. Louis County State: MO
Photographer: John Kemper
Date Photographed: Nov. 1983

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

1 of 12. View from house from NE.
2 of 12. View of house from NE, showing S porch before enclosure.
3 of 12. View of house from NW.
4 of 12. View of house from SW.
5 of 12. View of house from SE, showing enclosure of S porch.
6 of 12. View of front porch, looking W from E end.
7 of 12. View of front hall, looking S from front door.
8 of 12. View of E parlors looking NE, essentially unchanged since 1983.
9 of 12. View of W double parlor from N.
10 of 12. View of gate lodge from NE.
11 of 12. Detail of E windows of gate lodge.
12 of 12. View of gate lodge from NE.