NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

Historic name The Benton Club of St. Joseph

Other names/site number Benton Club House Company

Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

2. Location

Street & number 402 N. 7th Street | N/A | not for publication

City or town St. Joseph | N/A | vicinity

State Missouri Code MO County Buchanan Code 021 Zip code 64506

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this _X_ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property _X_ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide _X_ local

Applicable National Register Criteria: _X_ A ___ B ___ C ___ D

Toni M. Prawl AUG 1 1 2017

Signature of certifying official/Title Toni M. Prawl, Ph.D., Deputy SHPO Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

_____ entered in the National Register _____ determined eligible for the National Register

_____ determined not eligible for the National Register _____ removed from the National Register

_____ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

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

X	private
	public - Local
	public - State
	public - Federal

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

X	building(s)
	district
	site
	structure
	object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		**Total**

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social - Clubhouse
Social – Meeting Hall

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social – Club House
Social - Civic

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late Victorian/ Italianate

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Brick
walls: Brick
roof: Other
other:

X **NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUATION PAGES**

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

[X] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

[ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

[ ] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

[ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

[ ] A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

[ ] B removed from its original location.

[ ] C a birthplace or grave.

[ ] D a cemetery.

[ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

[ ] F a commemorative property.

[ ] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

Social History

Period of Significance

1887 to 1967

Significant Dates

1900

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Architect of home unknown

Architect of ballroom addition – Eckel, Edmond

[X] **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUTATION PAGES**

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
____previously listed in the National Register
____previously determined eligible by the National Register (may be eligible)
____designated a National Historic Landmark
____recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
____recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
____recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

_X_State Historic Preservation Office
____Other State agency
____Federal agency
____Local government
____University
_x_Other
Name of repository: **The Benton Club/S. Lehr archives**

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):_____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

	Latitude:	Longitude:		Latitude:	Longitude:
1	39.769250	-94.852250	3		
2			4		

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)
_____ NAD 1927 or _____ NAD 1983

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1				3			
2				4			

Verbal Boundary Description (On continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (On continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Suzanne Lehr, Research Associate, St. Joseph Museums, Inc. and Corinda Stallbaumer, Consultant
organization Member of the Benton Club of St. Joseph date January 13, 2017
street & number 2 Antilles Street telephone 816-233-5865
city or town St. Joseph state MO zip code 64506
e-mail slehr@suddenlink.net

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:**
  - A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
  - A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Photographs**
- **Owner Name and Contact Information**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Photographs

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

Photo Log:

Name of Property: The Benton Club of St. Joseph

City or Vicinity: St. Joseph

County: Buchanan State: Missouri

Photographer: Suzanne Lehr except where noted.

Date Photographed: August 16-17, 2016, March and April 2017.

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

1. Front of building. View is of east side of building. Camera is pointed west.
2. View of the south side of The Benton Club. Camera is pointed north.
3. View of the west side of The Benton Club facing the alley. Camera is pointed northeast. (Fenced police parking on other side of alley does not allow for straight on view. See photograph #16 and Figure F05).
4. View of north side of the building closest to the east façade. Camera is pointed southwest.
5. View of front door of George Olds' original home. Camera is pointed southwest.
6. Room behind George Olds' parlor – now used for card games, dining, and small weddings. Camera pointed west.
7. Stairs to George Olds' bedrooms. Camera pointed west.
8. George Olds' room facing east – now used for dining. Camera is pointed east.
9. George Olds' room with windows that overlooked the garden. Ballroom built where garden was. Camera pointed west.
10. Original door to Carter's rental. The original porch is now enclosed. Camera pointed west.
11. Renter Charles Carter's room on the east end of the home. Camera pointed north.
12. Stairs to Carter's bedrooms. Camera pointed east.
13. Picture bar. Once part of Norman's small apartment rental. Camera pointed north.
14. Ballroom addition added in 1900. Camera pointed south.
15. Ballroom addition bar. Camera pointed southeast.
16. View of the west side (north end) of The Benton Club facing the alley. Camera is pointed southeast.

Figure Log:
Include figures on continuation pages at the end of the nomination

F1. Google Map - Downtown St. Joseph, MO (expanded area) with the location of The Benton Club marked.
F2. Google Map – Downtown St. Joseph, MO with coordinates and reference picture of the Benton Club.
F3. Google Map – Earth view of The Benton Club and area.
F4. Google Map – Earth view (enlarged) of The Benton Club building (police parking lot to the west).
F5. Google Map – Street view of The Benton Club west view from 6th Street.
F6. The Benton Club of St. Joseph Floor Plan with photograph numbers.
F7. 1887 photograph of building. View is of the east and south side of building from the intersection of Faraon Street and 7th Street. Camera pointed northwest. Unknown photographer.
F8. Porch with railing lights for porch parties from the south. Camera is pointed north.
F9. Porch front foot rail. Camera is pointed southeast.
F10. View of south entrance to the porch with wrought iron decorations. Camera is pointed north-northwest.
F11. Front porch column with buzzer for calling attendant – no longer functional. Camera pointed southeast.

F12. Leaded glass windows on the north side of the east facade. Originally Carter's rental side. Camera pointed west.
F13. View of structure showing decorative quoins. Camera pointed west.
F14. View of west side of building showing arched windows and double door. Camera is pointed northeast.
F15. View of kitchen door on north side of building. Camera pointed southwest.
F16. Originally George Olds' parlor – now used as part time library for card games and entry office. Camera pointed east.
F17. Thomas Hart Benton's portrait on west wall of Library/Office room. Camera pointed west.
F18. Game Room behind George Olds' parlor. Close up of Senator Benton's portrait and recent additions of complimentary mantel decorations.
F19. Game Room behind George Olds' parlor, featuring veterans' photographs on north wall, staircase to second floor, and long radiator on south wall.
F20. View of recessed window now a mirror in enclosed Carter entrance.
F21. Plate rail in George Olds' room overlooking the garden/ballroom.
F22. Fireplace and one window in room now called the Black Room or the Mirror Room.
F23. Mural of historic Hall Street home decorates what is now known as the Ladies Card Room or Enright Room.
F24. Enright Room south wall.
F25. Club's board room now located in northeast part of Marius Norman's rental.
F26. Charcoal sketch by Grant Wood of man in old-fashioned night clothes stealing down the stairs with his lantern.
F27. An original radiator still in the building.
F28. Photo of Thomas Hart Benton II, grandnephew of Senator Benton. Guest of honor at the 75th Anniversary Party – 1962. Benton seated at the bar.
F29. A picture of Thomas Hart Benton II completing a drawing at the 75th Anniversary celebration.
F30. The completed drawing by Thomas Hart Benton II.
F31. Photo of Thomas Hart Benton II's visit. Photo is in Picture Bar on east wall with sketch he made.
F32. The Benton Club of St. Joseph - Sanborn Maps excerpts from 1888, 1897, and 1911.
F33. St. Joseph Missouri – Sanborn Maps excerpts from 1888 of area around The Benton Club of St. Joseph.
F34. Sanborn Maps notation key description.
F35. The Benton Club of St. Joseph Floor Plan – second floor.

SUMMARY

The Benton Club of St. Joseph is located at 402 N. Seventh Street, St. Joseph, Buchanan County, Missouri.

Prior to the purchase of George Olds' double-brick residence by The Benton Club House Company, known since 1887 as The Benton Club of St. Joseph, excavation had been completed in June 1878 for George Olds for the erection of a double tenement house at the northwest corner of Seventh and Faraon Streets. The architect for this structure is unknown. According to an untitled news article in The St. Joseph Daily Herald, the double-brick house was to be two stories in height with a pavilion roof. The front was to be square with massive double windows. The entrance was designed on the east facade with the entrance hallway dividing Olds' front parlor from his back parlor and dining room. The kitchen was to adjoin the dining room and the stairway was to lead to bedrooms and bathrooms on the second floor. The house was to be built of brick with fancy stone cornicing.[1]

The announcement describing the home prior to construction was quite accurate. By January 2, 1879, George Olds' double-brick residence at Seventh and Faraon streets was completed at a cost of $11,000.00.[2] There was one resident: George Olds, general freight agent for the Kansas City, St. Joseph, and Council Bluffs Railroad. The entrance to the second half of the double-brick residence was in the center of the Seventh Street façade, inset beneath a small porch roof. This apartment also had a stairway leading to bedrooms and bathrooms on the second floor. By 1880, a second resident was renting the second half of this double-brick residence: Charles M. Carter, Auditor for the Kansas City, St. Joseph, and Council Bluffs Railroad. Also, by 1880, an apartment had been attached on the north side to this double-brick residence. The exact date of the addition is unknown, but what is evident is the entrance to this apartment was on the north side of the building, as there is evidence the doorway was later bricked up. It is known the apartment was rented by Marias S. Norman, a partner of Charles Noyes in establishing the Noyes-Norman Shoe Factory. The importance of this information is to establish the date by which not only the second half of the double-brick residence was completed and occupied, but also to show the apartment had been added by then.[3]

The design was late nineteenth century Italianate. Italianate architecture was the most popular style of housing during the Victorian era which stretched from mid-to-late 1800s.[4] This type of structure was typically two to three stories in height, as was Olds' house. The house had a hip roof [5] with a tall cupola [6] on a portion of the second story. The pavilion roof on the house was made of asphaltic composition shingles and featured broad, overhanging eaves.

The importance of the above description is that when the house was purchased by The Benton Club House Company (1887), later known as The Benton Club of St. Joseph, no major structural changes were made, other than additions to the basic house to accommodate the Club and its associated activities.

Shortly after the 1887 purchase, the cupola was removed and a wrap-around porch connecting the original three residences was added. The original club house was remodeled shortly after The Benton Club of St. Joseph took ownership and changes were added from time to time.[7] In November of 1900, a ballroom to the west and south of the current structure was added on land previously serving as a summer garden.[8]

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[1] *St. Joseph Daily Herald,* "George Olds' Residence." June 12, 1878.
[2] *St. Joseph Evening News,* January 2, 1879.
[3] *St. Joseph City Directory 1880, (Norman, Marias S., r. ns. Faraon, bet. 6th and 7th), 256.*
[4] Old house web, *"Italianate, 1850-1890,"* http://www.oldhouseweb.com/architecture-and-design/italianate-1850-1890.shtml.
[5] *Wikipedia, "Hip roof,"* http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hip_roof.
[6] See Figure F07.
[7] Bert Rushton, "Benton Club Has Won Coast to Coast Fame," *St. Joseph News-Press,* July 1, 1941.
[8] See Photographs 14 and 15.

The $3,000 one story 40 x 51 foot addition was designed by premier architect Edmond J. Eckel, L'Ecole des Beaux Arts, Paris France.[9] [10] Other changes made before the addition of the ballroom were made soon to the structure to make it easier to utilize the building as a club. A roof garden on the east was established on the second floor of the north end of the front porch roof, but later some of the area was taken up by large air conditioning units.[11] Despite alterations to the clubhouse's main façade shortly after occupation by The Benton Club of St. Joseph, both the exterior and interior possess integrity. Any alterations made to woodwork, floors, walls, or doors during this time were sympathetic to the original materials and designs. All major changes happened during the period of significance to accommodate the social club and its activities. What was originally designed to be a house transferred well to functioning as a club house. The period of significance extends from 1887, the year of the purchase by The Benton Club House Company, to 1967.

ELABORATION

Site The Benton Club of St. Joseph stands on a relatively level site on the southeast corner of a block bordered by Seventh Street to the east, Sixth Street to the west, Faraon Street to the south, and Robidoux Street to the north. The nominated property sits on level ground with approximately 10 additional feet of lawn on the south and north sides, an alley along the back side (west) and a front lawn (east). The east and south lawns are bordered by stone walls. The wall on the south side drops from 18 inches at the east end and increases to four feet at the west end. This wall separates the south lawn from the sidewalk on Faraon Street, as the level of the land on which the building rests does not correspond to the sidewalk and roadway on the south, as Faraon street gradually slopes west.[12] A level wall separates the east lawn from Seventh Street.[13]

The original town laid out in 1843 was a scant quarter-section reaching Robidoux Street and Sixth Street on the northwest corner, just shy one block of including the land where George Olds built his home.[14] East of The Benton Club of St. Joseph today is an open area once occupied by Methodist Medical Center (hospital) and is currently available for small house construction. South of the club across Faraon Street is a parking garage. West of the club is the police parking lot on the other side of the alley behind the club, and north of the club are rental apartments. When the club began in 1887, the surrounding area featured small dwellings.[15]

Landscaping is minimal. The front lawn is grass. Several bushes are planted beneath the porch railing and one green ash tree graces the east lawn near Seventh Street. Spirea bushes are planted beneath the windows along the southern side of the building. An alley borders the full length of the back (west) of the building, so there is no room for landscaping, and very little space is between the north of the building and the much newer rental complex beside it. Much of this space is filled with kitchen accessories (vents, ramp, freezer, air conditioning unit, trash containers, etc.)[16]

Exterior

The club's primary façade faces Seventh Street. The Benton Club of St. Joseph rests on a brick rectangular foundation measuring approximately 100 feet by 92 feet. Footings for the porch extend out

[9] *St. Joseph Daily News,* "BENTON CLUB ADDITIONS." *November 27, 1900.*
[10] *St. Joseph News-Press, "E. J. ECKEL IS DEAD AT AGE OF 89; WAS NATIONALLY KNOWN."* December 12, 1934.
[11] Sheridan A. Logan, *OLD SAINT JO Gateway To The West, 1799-1932,* (South Lunenburg, Vermont: The Stinehour Press, 1979), 179.
[12] See Photograph 02.
[13] See Photograph 01.
[14] See Figures F01, F02 and F03.
[15] See Figure F33 and Figure F34.
[16] See Photograph 04.

from the main house 10 feet to the east and 100 feet from north to south. The porch floor is hardwood and the porch ceiling is beaded siding. Four antique ceiling fans are suspended along the ceiling.[17]

The four facades of the building are made of brick, some interspersed with decorative stone. All brick is mortared with the traditional undyed mortar. All four sides have brick foundations, as well as brick walls. Both stories are faced with red brick, but laid in different patterns, as will be described below. The second story features a hipped roof and asphaltic composition shingles cover the roof. There are four brick chimneys for the four interior fireplaces. All have been capped to prevent birds and other animals from being able to enter.

East (main) façade The main face brick façade clearly defines the double-brick residence design with the attached apartment to the north. Shortly after the purchase by The Benton Club House Company, a two–story veranda was extended across the main façade, tying the double-brick residence together with the added apartment. Below the porch's cornice are dentils, set far apart. The wooden balustrades on both the first and second levels stretch the length of the porches for safety and decorative purposes.[18] Curving inside the balustrade on the first floor and stretching to the center steps in front of Charles Carter's original part of the double-brick house is a solid round iron railing originally designed as a foot prop for men lounging in rocking chairs with their feet up for comfort.[19] The center steps were originally designed for entry to the rental side of the double-brick residence and today serve as the main entrance to the club.

The door to George Olds' home's original entrance is a double door and is recessed an additional 10 feet.[20] The door to the right has the handle which opens the door. The door to the left does not have a handle, but can be opened from the inside. The door to the rental half is a single door surrounded by leaded glass on each side and in the transom.[21] Between the main façade and the south façade on the southeast corner of the building is an angular corner with a structural bay featuring three separate one-over-one double-hung windows.[22] All windows are original, one-over-one double-hung, unless otherwise noted. A beautiful, large, elaborate antique wrought iron light fixture hangs on the angular corner and a small amount of antique iron fencing dresses up the corner where the landscaping bushes begin on the south lawn.[23]

Eleven classic round columns support the ceiling of the porch.[24] Five columns are in front of Olds' portion of the original house and six columns are in front of the second half of the house and the added apartment. A club addition on the third column from the south was the installment of an electric button on that column, one of several throughout the club used in early years for communicating with staff. Men lounging in rockers on the porch could easily call for a staff member when wanting to order food or a libation.[25] The buzzers remain, but are no longer operational.

On the first floor the eight windows for the façade of the double-brick residence area are double hung sash windows with stone lintels above each window. Windows for the second half of the double-brick residence are decorative leaded glass windows[26] and include a leaded glass window above the current entrance door to that room. The original entrance to the addition was on the north side of the building, but

[17] See Figure F08.
[18] See Photograph 01.
[19] See Figure F08 and Figure F09.
[20] See Photograph 05.
[21] See Photograph 01.
[22] See Photograph 05 and Photograph 02.
[23] See Figure F10.
[24] See Photograph 01.
[25] See Figure F11.
[26] See Figure F12.

has been bricked over.[27] After the north door was bricked over, a door was added on the east façade for entrance to what is now used as the board room. The first floor has 12 bays. The first three bays, starting at the south end of the east façade, each have one window situated in three walls that make up half of a hexagon shape. The next bay is recessed, facing east; and is the entrance to the original home (the Office Entry on the accompanying floorplan).[28] The next two bays each have one window. Set back from this are the next six bays: the main entrance, a bay of six decorative leaded glass windows, a single door entrance with transom, and then three more windows. A single window is also situated in the wall of the lunch room just north of the Office Entry. It faces south.

There are 15 bays on the second floor east façade. Two of the bays are on sections that extend out and one bay faces south and one bay faces north. All other bays and the doors face east. The bay on the far north end is an original door with a transom opening onto the porch. Some of the windows in the second story addition are two over two double hung sash windows. The second floor has not been used for more than 50 years other than for storage. The other door exited the upstairs apartment.[29]

Stone quoins decorate every corner of the original half of the double tenement home, as well as decorative pilasters between the windows and doors on the exterior of both floors.[30] This detailing was not included for the second residence or the apartment addition. The pilasters are difficult to see because they are not deep. The eaves on second floor are braced by curved wooden brackets. Beneath the wide overhanging eaves on the original residence and south addition are dentils similar to those on the porch.

South (side) façade The south façade is face brick. The brick foundation wall comes up to a horizontal water table of cut stone thence upward of face brick, decorated with a series of large and small brick pilasters with stone quoins. There are four bays of paired double hung windows on the first floor separated by pilasters. Another pair of double hung windows, a much smaller single window, two larger windows, and two more pairs of windows are on the second floor. The windows have stone sills and stone lintels with stone capitals centered over the lintels.[31] The south façade was lengthened at the rear in the early years of the club to provide more room. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for 1888, 1897, and 1911 detail the size of the building for those years.[32] The extension can only be barely noted where the brick foundation addition begins. The brick is identical, but the brick foundation barely shows where the old brick foundation meets the new. Spirea bushes block the view of the foundation and a pilaster conceals the first and second floor extension.

The upper cap of the brick wall includes guttering, soffits supported by elaborate carved woodwork, and an approximately two foot fascia with carved brackets and appropriate molding.[33]

West (back) façade The back façade's original brickwork is running bond for seven courses divided by a header course and then repeated. One window on the north end of the west façade's second floor has been bricked over, as well as other windows and doors when the squash court was created.[34] There are seven arched half-moon windows at the top of the one story 1900 ballroom addition, which allows light into the ballroom.[35] One of the arched windows matches the others, but was used for installation of a vent behind the stage.[36] There is one double door opening into the ballroom from the alley.[37] The alley bisects

[27] See Photograph 04.
[28] See Figure F06.
[29] See Photograph 01.
[30] See Figure F13.
[31] See Photograph 02.
[32] See Figure F32 and Figure F34.
[33] See Photograph 02.
[34] See Photograph 16.
[35] See Photograph 03.
[36] See Figure F14.

the block, separating a police parking lot facing west on the western half of the block from The Benton Club of St. Joseph.[38] The police parking lot for police vehicles is not open to the public and, therefore, did not allow photography from the distance needed for a full photograph of the entire west façade. A Google street view map is included in the Figures.[39] The double door entering the ballroom dates to the 1900 addition.[40] The ballroom in the center of Photograph 16 was added in 1900. All the second story windows that opened toward the garden were infilled when the ballroom was added. A total of 10 windows were closed, some of which can be seen in the Google street view from Sixth Street.[41]

North (side) façade The north side is face brick. The foundation wall is brick. On the east end of the north side there is evidence of a single door and window, now bricked up, that once were used by the apartment attached to the double-brick residence.[42] The wrap-around porch continues around the main façade to incorporate the northern apartment addition as part of the clubhouse.[43] On the north façade itself there is a double door to the kitchen.[44] A small non-historic ramp enters the kitchen for easy access and trash cans are just outside the door. There are two simple windows upstairs and one down. A massive air conditioning unit sits close to the western edge of the north side of the building. Massive exterior vents allow cooking gases to escape to the outside.[45] Beside this end of the building on the northeastern quarter of the block is a rental apartment unit and then beyond it is an attorney's office on the northeastern corner of the block.

Interior

The interior is trimmed throughout with original woodwork and flooring. Walls are plaster and the fireplaces retain their original mantels and brick work.

The use of the rooms of the double-brick residence are easy to discern and the two stairways to the second floor remain as originally designed. The floor plan is largely unaltered from the 1878 house plan, except for the extensions. Looking at Figure F06, George Olds' residence included the library, game room, hallway, men's restroom, black room, and lunchroom. Charles Carter's residence included the east (main) entrance, Enright room, picture hall, staircase,[46] and women's restroom. Marius Norman's apartment included part of the board room, part of the picture bar, locker rooms, and the eastern part of the kitchen, and his entrance was on the north side. Sometime between 1888 and 1897, both the first and second floors were extended to the west[47]. The back portion of what is now the kitchen was extended and later served as the squash court. The exact date of the extension is unknown, but the date of the building of the squash court occurred shortly after 1933.[48] When it was eliminated in 1946, the flooring on second floor covered what had been a two-story open area for playing squash, and the first floor area became an extension of the kitchen.[49] It was not part of Norman's original apartment.

Basement No changes appear to have been made to the basement. It is unfinished and simply houses the furnace, water lines, and electrical wiring. The stairway to the basement is at the rear of the second half of the original residence and no basement exists under the original added apartment.

[37] See Figure F05 and Photograph 16.
[38] See Figure F04.
[39] See Figure F05.
[40] See Photograph 16.
[41] See Figure F05.
[42] See Photograph 04.
[43] Ibid.
[44] See Figure F15.
[45] See Photograph 04.
[46] See Photograph 12.
[47] See Figure F32 and Figure F34.
[48] The Benton Club meeting minutes, November 13, 1933.
[49] The Benton Club meeting minutes, April 3, 1946.

First Floor The double door entry to George Olds' portion of the house opens into a hallway that extends west. The floor is hardwood.[50] To the immediate south is Olds' original parlor featuring three double hung windows to the east and one facing the south.[51] In front of the west wall is a reception counter, as this room now serves as a part-time office.[52] One antique light fixture hangs in the center of the ceiling.

West of the parlor is a long room with original woodwork and parquet flooring.[53] The room was lengthened after becoming a social club, but there is no internal discernable evidence as to where the addition began.[54] Two antique light fixtures hang from the ceiling. On the fireplace wall hangs a restored portrait of Senator Thomas Hart Benton for whom the social club is named. The portrait originally came from artist Henry C. Thompson of Bonne Terre, Missouri.[55] The fireplace mantle is painted and is surrounded by painted wood with stained stone inserts surrounding the opening along with wrought iron trim.[56] A framed Thomas Hart Benton letter dated July 15, 1857, a military photo of the Bataan Death March, and a framed painting of various 139th Air Guard aircraft from 1946 – 1986, and a photograph of 2nd US Cavalry officers dated September 1908 are hung on the south wall. An original long radiator also stands along the south wall. On the north wall are multiple framed stock certificates dating back to the origin of The Benton Club House Company. The walls are also decorated with members' photos who were soldiers in WWI and WWII.[57] Behind this wall is the stairway to the second floor.[58]

On the opposite side of the entrance hall even with the Olds' parlor is what is called the lunch room.[59] On the east end of the room are two double hung windows, and another double hung window that faces the recessed entry to the Olds entrance.[60] A window on the north wall of the lunch room was replaced with a mirror when The Benton Club of St. Joseph did the 1887 renovations and enclosed the original entrance to Charles Carter's half of the double-brick residence. Inside the lunch room (originally part of Olds' residence) shutters cover the replaced window that once looked out onto Carter's entrance alcove.

The mirror is only visible to those entering what was once Carter's entrance to his side of the double-brick residence. Originally the entry was recessed and this window (converted to a mirror) looked out onto the small covered porch.[61] The original exterior columns stand today, but the entry door has been brought out to meet the east wall stretching the length of the east façade and now the original exterior columns are inside on each side of the entrance hallway.

West of the lunch room is another dining room, often called the Black Room or the Mirror Room, with original wood wainscoting more than halfway up the wall.[62] The wainscot is topped by a plate rail.[63] The floor is parquet. The rust/brown speckled brick in the fireplace is special glazed 6 x 1 ¾ brick laid with buttered joints and the andirons appear to be ancient soldiers in unusual mid-eastern uniform.[64] Two windows on the west overlook what is now the ballroom, as does a window to the north. Originally these windows were at the back of George Olds' portion of the home, but when the ballroom was added, the

[50] See Photograph 10.
[51] See Figure F16.
[52] See Figure F17.
[53] See Photograph 06 and Figure F19.
[54] See Figure F32 and Figure F34.
[55] G. L. Zwick and others, *The Benton Club of Saint Joseph 1951 (* St. Joseph: The Benton Club of St. Joseph, 1951), 6.
[56] See Figure F18.
[57] See Figure F19.
[58] See Photograph 07.
[59] See Figure F06.
[60] See Photograph 08.
[61] See Figure F20.
[62] See Photograph 09.
[63] See Figure F21.
[64] See Figure F22.

original windows were left and today they overlook the ballroom.[65] The crown molding is three-piece crown molding with carved wooden brackets.

To the north of the two rooms just described is the main hallway that once was the entrance to the second half of the double-brick residence. The hallway stretches east to west to the steps that now go down to the ballroom. The flooring is parquet. Two original antique small five-bulb chandeliers hang from the ceiling. One has tiny cloisonné bulb cups and one is delicate wrought iron. On the south wall of this hallway is one of the original radiators that were used for heating.[66]

To the north of the hallway entrance is the Enright Room which was once the parlor for Charles Carter. This room has lightly stained wood paneling. The fireplace is black brick with a wrought iron decorative jam and header. The andirons are cast iron.[67] Two murals decorate the south and west walls. They are murals of an 1887 wedding at the home of Nathan Ogden on historic Hall Street in St. Joseph.[68] The mural was originally painted by John Falter.[69] The home is a bed and breakfast today and is called Shakespeare Chateau. West of the Enright Room is a hallway connecting the entrance hallway to the bar (once part of the apartment) and west of the hallway is the women's restroom, part of Carter's original residence. There is no discernable evidence there was change to that wall structure. The room was just converted to a restroom. Bathrooms and bedrooms for Olds, Carter, and Norman were on the second floor.[70]

Adjoining Carter's parlor (Enright Room), the rooms to the west that were part of the apartment now house the board room, bar, locker room, and kitchen. The board room has walnut paneling.[71] Windows along the east side face out to Seventh Street. One door goes into the Carter parlor and one goes into the small bar area.[72] A pass-through window between the board room and bar is now closed with diamond-paned glass. The kitchen is beyond the bar. The bar is smaller than once used as a room in Norman's apartment. A storage area runs east to west behind the wall of the bar and to the north wall. Originally the storage area and the bar were all one room in Norman's apartment. The outer wall (north) was the original north side of Norman's apartment. The door and window evident on the outside are located in such a way as to lend evidence that his stairway (which no longer exists) to the second floor was along this wall, as was a window that faced to the north. Multiple liquor lockers are still in place as they were used for many years when the club did not serve liquor, but members brought their own and it was stored in those lockers. Some members still bring their own special liquors and use the lockers. There is also space for storage of liquor the club serves. These lockers block the wall from the inside view today and that is why conclusions must be drawn from the exterior view. A variety of paintings, sketches, and photographs decorate the bar walls. One done by artist Thomas Hart Benton will be referenced in Section 8. Another is an undated charcoal sketch of a man in old-fashioned night clothes stealing down the stairs with his lantern.[73] Beneath the sketch is penciled "To the Benton Club in the hope that Leo Sanders may show me the Bar sometime." It is signed Grant Wood.[74] Artist Wood died in 1942 and unfortunately there is no information available about Leo Sanders or the year Grant Wood visited the club and left behind this special remembrance.

[65] See Photograph 09.
[66] See Figure F27.
[67] See Photograph 11.
[68] See Figures F23 and F24.
[69] Isobel McGowen. Biographical Notes on Nathan Phillips Ogden, November 13, 2013.
[70] See Photograph 12.
[71] See Figure F25.
[72] See Photograph 13.
[73] See Figure F26.
[74] Biography.com' "Grant Wood – Painter, Educator," http://www.biography.com/people/grant-wood-9535250.

Second Floor At least seven bedrooms and five bathrooms were once in use, after the house became a social club. Businessmen unable to get to their homes when roads were icy, snowy, or muddy could stay overnight at the club. It has been more than 50 years since they functioned for the original purpose. None of the bathroom fixtures are currently present. They were removed and today all of second floor is used for storage of holiday decorations, extra chairs, tables, dishes, and glassware. Old fixtures that do not appear to be originals are also there. Known original fixtures have been put back on the first floor. Peeling wallpaper and paint are indications that this level has not been used other than for storage for many years. Unfortunately no floor plan for second floor has been found, however a sketch has been created.[75] The second floor was not photographed because it is full of stored items such as holiday decorations, extra dishes, chairs, and extra tables for large banquets, and the rooms are not well lit.

The second floor porch has two doors opening to it at the far north end of the east façade. One appears to have been shared by Olds and Carter and the other exited Norman's apartment. The porch does extend the entire length of the east façade, and there are records that at one time parties were held there. In 1903 the board of directors recommended "the Roof Garden be made an attractive place for the members during the summer months." They recommended that furniture for same be purchased at once.[76] At a later meeting it was noted: "On account of the popularity of the new Roof Garden, it has been decided to serve a Table D'Hote vegetable dinner six to eight p.m. Monday, Thursday and Saturday evenings of each week, commencing Saturday evening, July 25th for a charge of seventy-five cents per plate."[77] Today air conditioning units take up much of the available space and this has limited the use of this porch for recreation. The balustrade is still in place and lends credibility to the original design of the residence.

Attic There is no attic accessible to this building.

INTEGRITY AND CONCLUSION

Some alterations took place after the purchase of the property by The Benton Club House Company. The wraparound porch railing extension, the addition of the ballroom, and the enclosure of the small porch entrance to Charles Carter's residence have been mentioned. All of these alterations occurred during the period of significance: additionally, the woodwork, flooring, and walls were made to match the original structure. The major changes all occurred shortly after purchase by The Benton Club House Company in 1887. Sometime later the first and second floors on the north and south were lengthened.[78] The addition of the ballroom was completed in 1900.

In the November 13, 1933, minutes of the Benton Club of St. Joseph, a motion was made for a committee of three to get specifications and bids on building a squash court, the money to be subscribed and obtained without any obligations to the club.[79] An undated newspaper article entitled WORK AT BENTON CLUB describes two floors being altered. "A squash court and gymnasium are being installed at the Benton Club. Under the direction of Eckel & Aldrich, architects, and Sam Hotchkiss, contractor, part of two floors are being altered to make room for the court, gymnasium, locker room and showers."[80] According to the April 8, 1946, minutes of The Benton Club of St. Joseph, the House committee voted "that the squash court should be converted into suitable rooms for service and storage for the kitchen, and

[75] See Figure F35.
[76] The Benton Club meeting minutes, May 6, 1903.
[77] The Benton Club meeting minutes, July 21, 1903.
[78] See Figure F32 and Figure F34..
[79] The Benton Club meeting minutes, November 13, 1933.
[80] *St. Joseph News-Press, "WORK AT BENTON CLUB." n.d.*

for restrooms, including showers, for the use of employees.[81] At the following board meeting on June 10, 1946, the Board of Directors voted to procure plans and estimates for the changes to the squash court.[82] No evidence of the court remains, although the locker room area is still in evidence but has not been used in the past 50 years.

The vast majority of the original structure remains the same. Alterations have made little change to the appearance today. All is in good repair and all of the structure is original within the period of significance, which is expected of sites eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. While the setting has been impacted due to modern development around the club, 402 N. Seventh Street still maintains its integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and is still in everyday use by The Benton Club of St. Joseph. Were it possible for the founding members to visit the club today, they would have little trouble recognizing the interior and exterior of the club they founded.

[81] The Benton Club meeting minutes, April 8, 1946.
[82] The Benton Club meeting minutes, June 10, 1946

SUMMARY

Located at 402 North Seventh Street, Buchanan County, St. Joseph, Missouri,[83] The Benton Club of St. Joseph is locally significant under National Register Criterion A for SOCIAL HISTORY.

The nominated property was built as a double-brick residence with an added apartment in 1879-1880. Within nine years on June 10, 1887, the structure was purchased by The Benton Club House Company to be used as a men's social club. On June 14, 1887, the Board of Directors met for the purpose of organizing The Benton Club of St. Joseph as an unincorporated association. "The Benton Club agreed to lease the property from the Club House Company at an annual rental of $1,500, being 6% of the cost of the property and improvements. The Club was to pay the taxes and insurance, as well as necessary repairs." At that same meeting the Board of Directors adopted a constitution and a set of by-laws.[84]

As described in Section 7, the structure adapted well to use by The Benton Club House Company, later known as The Benton Club of St. Joseph. In the earliest days the purpose for the formation of the club was for businessmen in the downtown area to have a place to lunch, as there were no restaurants, as well as for the men to have a place to spend the night when roads in those early years were not paved and were often muddy, icy, or snow covered. Weather issues often made it impossible for men to have enough time to get home for lunch and back again for work. At night they did have more time to make the trip one way, but even then the travel conditions sometimes made that impossible and they depended upon also having dinner at the club, as well as spending the night. The club was formed for business and professional leaders of the community for what was described as ease of access to a restaurant and a place to stay in bad weather and for friendly association. St. Joseph was one of the most prosperous towns in the 1880s and 1890s, known as St. Joseph's Golden Age. The 1860 U. S. census indicates St. Joseph was larger than Kansas City, Omaha, Nebraska, and Council Bluffs, Iowa combined.[85]

The period of The Benton Club of St. Joseph's social significance extends from 1887 to 1967 during which time the purpose, the membership requirements, and educational events have adapted to societal changes. The period of significance ends in 1967, as use of the club continues to date and no more specific end date could be determined. As noted above, the addition of the ballroom in 1900 indicated that the club was indeed changing with the times.

ELABORATION

SOCIAL HISTORY: The Benton Club of St. Joseph Origin

St. Joseph, Missouri, was the second largest city in Missouri in the 1880s, second only to St. Louis, Missouri. Incorporated in 1843 as a city, the town grew as it was the "jumping off" place for westward expansion. Senator Thomas Hart Benton, born in North Carolina, came to Missouri in 1815 and settled in St. Louis. Although it is unknown as to whether he ever visited St. Joseph, he did become a leading proponent of westward expansion and thousands of people heading west came through St. Joseph during their migration. The railroad had ended here in 1859 and the steamboats also came this far. It was here that wagons, stock, supplies, arms and ammunition, food stuffs, and all else that would not be available

[83] See Figure F02.
[84] McDonald and Logan, *The Benton Club*, 1-2.
[85] Logan, *OLD SAINT JO*, 175.

beyond St. Joseph was purchased by the travelers, as they had been unable to bring such items by train or steamboat. Many of the men involved in the founding of The Benton Club of St. Joseph were members of families who made their fortunes in businesses that outfitted or provided services for those headed west. The "Golden Age of St. Joseph" began in the 1880s and continued into the 1920s.[86]

Winslow Judson, born in 1845 and a graduate of the Albany, New York Law School, came to St. Joseph, Missouri, in 1866, and formed a law partnership with W. D. B. Motter. In 1878 their firm associated with Chicago attorneys Isham and Lincoln (Robert T. Lincoln, son of Abraham Lincoln) in a foreclosure and reorganization of the Saint Joseph and Denver City Railroad as the Saint Joseph and Grand Island Railroad. Their fee, $55,000, divided equally between the two firms, was one of the largest ever paid up to that time in the United States.[87]

Now a financially successful forty-two-year-old businessman, in 1887 Judson and his partner W. D. B. Motter sent invitations to 125 leading citizens of St. Joseph requesting they join in the formation of a social club. On June 8, 1887, papers of incorporation of The Benton Club House Company were filed at the Buchanan County Courthouse. Forty-one men responded and became the original stockholders, each subscribing $500.00. The corporation was organized with a life of fifty years. At the creation there was no knowledge as to how long the club would exist. On June 10, 1937, the corporate existence of the Benton Club House Company expired and that is when the property became officially owned by The Benton Club of St. Joseph.[88]

In 1887 The Benton Club House Company's capital stock consisted of 250 shares of $100 par value, a total of $25,000. On June 10, 1887, the Company purchased George Olds' property at 402 N. Seventh Street for $20,000 which included two lots and the three connected dwellings on the northwest corner of Seventh and Faraon Streets.[89]

The original stockholders were:[90]

J. N. Burnes, Jr.	W. E. Hosea	A. Nunning
D. D. Burnes	I. T. Hosea	C. A. Pfeiffer
John B. Brady	Winslow Judson	M. A. Reed
J. S. Brittain	Arthur Kirkpatrick	A. N. Schuster
J. A. Corby	John S. Lemon	J. Francis Smith
Gen. James Craig	Dr. John S. Logan	D. M. Steele
R. T. Davis	W. A. P. McDonald	Thos. E. Tootle
Dr. T. H. Doyle	R. L. McDonald	R. E. Turner
W. G. Fairleigh	D. McCool	T. F. VanNatta
J. M. Frazer	W. D. M. Motter	J. W. Walker
C. B. France	Joshua Motter	S. A. Walker
J. C. Gregg	W. F. Merrill	W. W. Wheeler
H. R. W. Hartwig	James McCord	Wm. M. Wyeth
Willard P. Hall, Jr.	S. M Nave	

[86] Logan, *OLD SAINT JO*, 24, 26, 49, 59, 158, 177.
[87] Logan, *OLD SAINT JO*, 175.
[88] *Recorder of Deeds Certificate*, 11BU-CV0076, (Buchanan County, May 27, 2011).
[89] Dr. Wallace McDonald and Sheridan A. Logan, *The Benton Club of St. Joseph, Missouri 1887-1981.* (St. Joseph, MO: The Benton Club of St. Joseph, 1981), 1.
[90] Ibid., 1.

Biographies of nine of the original members are included under **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Biographies of Several Founding Members (**page 25).

Many of the businessmen in downtown St. Joseph had difficulty getting home for lunch in weather that was icy, snowy, or muddy and there were few places available to them other than the pubs. At times they were also unable to get home in the evening for the same reason and so Judson and Motter realized the need for a place for businessmen to gather for meals and have a place to stay overnight. Many of the men interacted with one another in business or socially, and so it was attractive to them when this opportunity came available. There were social clubs that held regular meetings, but these were not clubs that had clubhouses or offered what The Benton Club of St. Joseph envisioned. In 1898, The St. Joseph County Club was next to be founded at a residence owned by John Corby and its primary offering was golf. The first round of golf was played there in 1899. In 1903 The Country Club then moved from its original location in to what is now known as the Moila Country Club. It again moved in 1911 to its current site with a newly constructed clubhouse. The 1911 clubhouse burned in 1921 and was rebuilt in 1922.[91]

Other organizations, such as numerous Masonic organizations, have existed, but none have been similar in format to The Benton Club of St. Joseph. In the 1870s Lake Contrary was developed as a recreation area. There was an arcade, casino, theater, amusement park, race track, and hotels.[92] The St. Joseph Boating Club built the Lotus Club at Lake Contrary for their social enjoyment, but fire destroyed the club house in 1923 and it was not rebuilt. In 1964 the park closed.[93]

Just prior to the Civil War, Constance Fauntleroy Runcie formed her first women's club, the Minerva Society in New Harmony, Indiana, which closed shortly after the war began. It has often been credited as the first women's club in the United States, but that has not been proven. She formed the Bronte Club in Madison, Indiana, and then moved to St. Joseph, Missouri, ten years later. After raising her family, she founded The Runcie Club on October 2, 1894. It was the first Literary Club in the city and club meetings were held during her lifetime in Constance Runcie's home. Today the club meets in various locations such as the Albrecht-Kemper Art Museum, the Benton Club, and the St. Joseph Country Club. It officially incorporated for educational, scientific, and literary purposes and has existed for 123 years.[94]

Around 1910 a Monroe Club was housed downtown at 114 South 7th Street. This was a commercial area and no information about the purpose of the club has been found. It evidently did not survive long.[95]

With segregation restricting the intermingling of races in the 1940s, two black clubs formed. The Hawks Club was for men and The Empress Club for women. Neither group had a clubhouse, so they met in homes. Within a few years the decision was made to form a social club for both men and women and the women chose the name Tes Trams, which in reverse spells Smart Set. In 1954 Douglas School, a black elementary school at Russell and Barbara Streets, closed and The Tes Trams Club purchased the

[91] St. Joseph Country Club, *St. Joseph Country Club | Founded 1898*, http://www.stjoecc.com/-club-history.
[92] Davis, Robyn L. and J. Marshall White, *St. Joseph Missouri A Postcard History* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 1999),100.
[93] Grenier, Mildred, St. Joseph A Pictorial History (Virginia Beach: The Donning Company Publishers, 1981), 156-157.
[94] THE RUNCIE CLUB St. Joseph, Missouri (St. Joseph, MO: The Runcie Club, 2016), 1.
[95] Wolfenbarger, Deon, "St. Joseph's Commerce and Banking Historic District", *National Registry of Historic Places*, https://dnr.mo.gov/shpo/nps-nr/01000709.pdf, Sec. 7, page 23.

property for $2,000. The club membership continues to dwindle and in 2008 there were only 30 members.[96]

The Benton Club of St. Joseph is one of the oldest social clubs in St. Joseph and the only one that still operates out of its original clubhouse. It maintains many of the early features, including, for example, the ballroom, the bar, finishes, foot rails along the porch railing, and even early artwork.

A newspaper announcement dated May 12, 1887, stated there were plans being made to establish a gentlemen's club in St. Joseph and announced "The exact location of the club house has not yet been fully determined upon, but an amount of money sufficient to purchase a lot and erect thereon a handsome building has been subscribed. The gentlemen interested in this movement are well known in business and social life, and expect to make the Benton Club the finest organization of the kind on the Missouri river."[97] Shortly after that date the men made the decision to purchase the lot and three residences and chose to move into the structure already on the site. The description of how the three residences were connected is described in the second paragraph of the Summary for Section 7.

On June 14, 1887, eight men, constituted as the Board of Directors, met at the Chamber of Commerce Building to organize The Benton Club of St. Joseph, an unincorporated association. Winslow Judson was elected President, Dr. T. H. Doyle, Vice-President, and W. A. P. McDonald Secretary-Treasurer. W. D. B. Motter, H. W. Hartwig, J. W. Walker, W. F. Merrill, and D. McCool rounded out the Board of Directors.[98]

The Charter Members of the Club, the original 41 stockholders of The Benton Club House Company, then sent invitations to 138 men offering an admission fee of $100 and annual dues of $50. There is no information as to the specific reasons certain men were invited to join, but perusal of many of their obituaries lends evidence these were leading businessmen of the era.[99] The response brought the total membership of charter members to 105 men. The Benton Club agreed to lease the property from The Benton Club House Company for $1,500 annually and the Club was to pay the taxes, insurance, and necessary repairs. The Benton Club of St. Joseph's Board of Directors also adopted a constitution and a set of by-laws.[100] As described above, the club itself was known as The Benton Club of St. Joseph, though the Benton Club House Company was the corporation that initiated and organized the club. The Benton Club House Company-00003462 expired as a corporation/entity on June 10, 1937.[101]

The club was named for one of Missouri's first two United States Senators, Thomas Hart Benton. Although Benton was deceased by the time the men named the club, they wished to honor him as he had impacted St. Joseph significantly by playing a significant role in achieving statehood for Missouri in 1821, in securing the Platte Purchase of 1836, and had served as a United States Senator for Missouri for 30 years.[102]

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[96] Weston, Alonzo, "Black Social Club Survives", St Joseph News-Press on line, http://www.newspressnow.com/news/black-social-club-survives/article_33d34c2a-850f-57eb-8f2c-4a58b54bbb92.html
[97] *St. Joseph Daily Gazette,* "A New Club." May 12, 1887.
[98] McDonald and Logan, *The Benton Club*, 1.
[99] Mount Mora Cemetery Preservation and Restoration Association *Archives* ,n.d. (St. Joseph, MO).
[100] McDonald and Logan, *The Benton Club,* 2.
[101] State of Missouri, Secretary of State. *RE: Benton Club House Company-00003462 1937* (Jefferson City, MO: Letter, 2010),1.
[102] Ibid., 2.

Alterations to convert the residences to a club began immediately and interior work was expected to be completed by carpenters within two weeks.[103] Electric bells and speaking tubes were installed to connect all the rooms.[104] None of the bells or tubes function today, although some still exist.[105]

The founder, Winslow Judson, lived only three more years to enjoy the club he envisioned, dying in 1890 at age 45.[106] However, the club continued to operate and was incorporated by the State of Missouri on October 23, 1894, as The Benton Club of Saint Joseph.[107]

SOCIAL HISTORY: Social Activities of The Benton Club of St. Joseph

The Benton Club of St. Joseph began as a men's social club and currently is one of only ten clubs in Missouri to have survived and be listed as one of the traditional gentlemen's clubs in the United States. Only four of the ten existed in the 1800s and The Benton Club of St. Joseph is the second oldest. "Historically, these clubs were exclusively for men, but most (though not all) in the United States now admit women."[108]

On November 10, 1887, the club hosted a formal open house from 9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. All members and their families and friends were welcomed. Any rules, such as the hours women could attend, were suspended for that day only. At that time women were only allowed the privilege of visiting The Benton Club of St. Joseph once a week on Thursday.[109] The October 17, 1892, minutes of The Benton Club of St. Joseph record the decision "to grant use of the club house to ladies on every day during the week for luncheon, dinners, and suppers." [110] The February 4, 1901, minutes of the Benton Club of St. Joseph state the decision to permit citizens of St. Joseph other than members to attend entertainments given at the club.[111]

Prior to the 50th anniversary of the club in 1937, a ladies' lounge was decorated for the women for their gatherings with other wives. A telephone was also made available, being listed under the name Mrs. C. Benton.[112] At some point they were allowed to bring non-member friends for luncheons and playing cards. Old minutes were previously scanned and many are very faint and difficult to read, thus establishing specific dates for some changes is extremely difficult. Male members of all races and religions have been allowed membership within the past 30 years and today there are no restrictions as to race, religion, or sex. The decision to allow female members with full rights was made in 2013.[113] All individuals are welcome to seek membership and today women serve on the current Board of Directors. Today there is an unwritten rule abided by all, that women do not eat lunch in what is known as the men's dining room. All seem to enjoy honoring the age old tradition that is the very last one originally ordained by the founders. They do have dinner in the room in the evening and enjoy all others areas of the club at all times the club is open.

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[103] *St. Joseph Daily News, August 7, 1887.*
[104] Logan, *OLD SAINT JO*, 178.
[105] See Figure F11.
[106] *The St. Joseph Daily Gazette,* "Col. Judson Dead." April 8, 1890.
[107] McDonald and Logan, *The Benton Club, 3.*
[108] Wikipedia, "*List of traditional gentlemen's- clubs in the United States."* *h*ttps://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_traditional_gentlemen%27s_clubs_in_the_United_States.
[109] Zwick, *The Benton Club,* 4.
[110] The Benton Club meeting minutes, October 17, 1892.
[111] The Benton Club meeting minutes, February 4, 1901.

The Benton Club of Saint Joseph was incorporated by the State of Missouri on October 23, 1894, for the purpose of:

> furnishing facilities for bringing together, as often as may be, gentlemen in commercial, manufacturing, and professional interests in the City of St. Joseph, for educational purposes through the medium of discussion of all general educational and scientific subjects, and the reading of papers, magazines, periodicals and books of scientific, literary, and financial character, and the submission of original essays and papers, and the discussion of the same from time to time, upon all themes tending to train, stimulate and develop the mental and moral faculties of its members, especially such as have a trend for benevolence, good will and morality in the community; the submission and discussion of original plans and enterprises for the higher and better education of all inhabitants of said City of St. Joseph, and the promotion of public benefactions; and, as incidental to said object and to facilitate the same, establish and maintain a Library and Reading Room, furnish such accommodations as are required during the interests of business by erecting and maintaining a building in said City, or leasing such buildings as may be useful."[114]

During the years after the club's formation and prior to 1967 there was a gradual growth in other opportunities for men to meet socially in other places. The club formed before there were multiple restaurants in all areas of the community. Once the Country Club formed, there was another club of similar attraction with regard to fine dining. In the years prior to 1967 couples began enjoying one club on one night of the week-end and the other club another night of the same week-end. The Country Club also offered tennis courts, a swimming pool, and golfing and this attracted many to now enjoy memberships in both clubs. However, the Benton Club appealed more to adults than adults with children, as there were no play areas at The Benton Club of St. Joseph, as there were at The Country Club. Since the founding of The Benton Club of St. Joseph, the entertainment has focused on dinners and parties and opportunities for the men to meet and discuss professional interests. Since 1967 it has remained a significant social club adding programs designed for the interests of all adults.

In today's world, fathers are much more involved with day-to-day play and caretaking and activities at The Benton Club of St. Joseph have been evolving to include families with children. Often birthday parties are hosted in the ballroom and Bounce Houses are brought in for the children's enjoyment. Adult programming does continue with the medical doctors' organization, The Ensworth Society, holding their monthly meetings at the club. The Edmond Jacques Eckels & Harvey Ellis Historical Foundation, a nonprofit corporation, was founded October 2,1998, for the following purpose:

> "Activities of the organization consist of conducting public discussion groups, forums, panels, lectures and similar programs related to the history, tradition and cultural heritage of the area in and around St. Joseph, Missouri. Such programs shall be informational in nature and not involve the advocacy of issues."[115]

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[112] *The St. Joseph News-Press,* "Benton Club to Mark Fiftieth Anniversary." March 7, 1937, sec. B.
[113] Brett Hausman, Past-president of The Benton Club of St. Joseph, personal interview to Suzanne Lehr, April 23, 2017.
[114] McDonald and Logan, *The Benton Club, 3-4.*
[115] "Edmond Jacques Eckels & Harvey Ellis Historical Foundation, Certificate of Incorporation , Jefferson City: Missouri Secretary of State, October 2, 1998.

This organization functions solely at the Benton Club and expands on the original mission of The Benton Club of St. Joseph which includes professional development and educational discussions.

Memberships have always been made by the nomination and voting process which continues today. Most members are active in the community in some avenue, either through work or volunteerism. However, there are some non-resident members who are well known by members and are nominated by those who know they would enjoy the club and what it offers. They have always been guests previously, so the nominator knows them through work or social interaction.

Today there are, among others, two YMCAs, one YWCA, a Genesis Fitness Center, an Anytime Fitness Center, and a fitness center at the newly renovated St. Joseph Country Club. In the 1936 era there were not as many opportunities to exercise the need for fitness options and the multiplication of them is most probably what led to the demise of the need for the squash court and gymnasium at The Benton Club and the Club focused on developing other events and activities for its members.

Principal social functions in the first years were Christmas afternoon and New Year's Eve dances, occasional Saturday night dances, and an annual Bachelors' Ball, given by the unmarried men of the club, solely for the purpose of socialization.[116] [117] The club has numerous photographs of special parties through the years. They often had themes and involved costumes, but were not necessarily events each year.

Anniversaries have been celebrated through the years. The Benton Club of St. Joseph marked its fiftieth anniversary with a grand party in 1937.[118]

The year 1962 marked The Benton Club of St. Joseph's celebration of its 75th birthday with a gala supper party and ball. Special guests were artist Thomas Hart Benton and his wife Rita Benton. Benton was the grand-nephew of Senator Thomas Hart Benton for whom the club is named. Benton drew a small sketch of the occasion and today it hangs on the wall in the club bar, along with a photo of him in attendance.[119] The highlights of the social events in recent years include the Christmas egg nog party, the Christmas day tea dance and the New Year's Eve party. Women have attended more often and the men's card room has been busy at all times, as well as the dining rooms during the lunch hours.[120]

Minutes of the May 13,1968, Annual Meeting report that in 1967 and 1968 there were more activities offered than in prior years. Mr. James Weakley, Entertainment Chair, reported there were 158 members at that time. He specifically highlighted the annual picnic, and the Christmas and New Year functions.[121] Scanned minutes prior to these were dated 1960 and were very difficult to read and they jumped back to 1960. Original copies of the minutes have not been located.

In 1987 the club celebrated its 100th anniversary with nearly 100 guests in attendance. The elegant dinner-dance was said to rival the galas of St. Joseph's Golden Age. The club was decorated with white

[116] Zwick, *The Benton Club,* 4.
[117] *St. Joseph Gazette, "*Bachelors' Ball Is Brilliant Occasion at the Benton Club." March 10, 1937.
[118] *The St. Joseph News-Press,* "Benton Club to Mark Fiftieth Anniversary." March 7, 1937, sec. B, 1.
[119] See Figures F28, F29, F30, and F31.
[120] *St. Joseph News-Press,* "Benton Club Marks Its 75th Birthday with Ball Saturday." November 15, 1962.
[121] John H. Roth, III, Secretary of The Benton Club, Minutes Benton Club Annual Meeting, May 13, 1968.

and silver chrysanthemums, snapdragons, filmy white ostrich feathers, and glittering fern branches. Dinner was following by dancing into the early hours of the next morning.[122]

In 1998 The Eckel-Ellis Historical Foundation (501)(c)(3) was formed to extend to the community the Benton Club's commitment and involvement with the historical past of St. Joseph, as well as to continue its traditions.[123] During the past 18 years a wide variety of programs have been offered to the membership and multiple community groups now choose to have their meetings at the club. There is no specific organization like this to have existed at the club prior to 1999.

There are no records available as to specific programs offered during the early years. The Benton Club's library was originally located in what is now the game room. The library became the repository for books, newspapers, and magazines of interest to the businessmen who frequented the club.

In 2014 in response to a recent passage of the St. Joseph Smoke-Free Indoor Air Ordinance of 2014, then president of the Board of Directors, Dr. Philip Nitse, informed the membership the club would honor the law.[124] That same year the club announced the intention to expand a long-standing program of opening the club's doors during time of war to military officers. Today the expansion allows all officers of both the Air Guard and the National Guard to be guests at the club.

Currently members and their guests can enjoy Premium Wine Society Dinners several times per year featuring various wines and related cuisine. Special occasions such as Valentine's Day, Mardi Gras, and St. Patrick's Day are honored by evenings offering dinner menus related to the events. Eckel-Ellis Lecture Series programs for members and guests cover a wide range of subjects. Recently the club president, Eric Montegna, a presidential and vice-presidential historian who has visited almost every one of the presidential graves, presented a fascinating power-point along with interesting little-known stories. He would visit them all, but in one case the president's ashes are still in his home and in another case the remains are not in an area accessible to the public. Another recent program was an interview done by Suzanne Lehr, historian of Mount Mora Cemetery where many of the early club members are buried. "Living history characters" came alive as the historian interviewed the club's early founders (portrayed by current club members) who shared fun stories of the club's early history.

Easter Brunch, Mother's Day Brunch, Porch Parties Celebrating Fathers, Oktoberfest Annual Dinner, Eckel-Ellis Lecture Series at various times throughout the year, Annual Club House Birthday Party, Christmas Formal, Father-Son Christmas luncheon, and New Year's Eve Dinner Dance are all annual events.

Service clubs such as Buchanan County Medical Society, Booster's Club, Breakfast Club, City of St. Joseph, Commerce Bank Corporate, Daily's Premium Meats, Delta Kappa Gamma, Downtown Rotary, Ensworth Medical Society, Farmer's State Bank, Heartland Foundation, Jester's, Noyes Home, Phi Delta Theta, Retired Military Officers, Runcie Club, St. Joseph Bar Association, St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce, St. Joseph Host Lions Club, St. Joseph Museums, and The St. Joseph Symphony Society meet in the ballroom for luncheon/dinner meetings. Women's groups have bridge or mah jongg games. In other cases gatherings such as wedding showers, rehearsal dinners, weddings, wedding receptions,

[122] Barbara Butler, "Benton Club celebrates 100th birthday in a big way," *The News-Press Gazette,* November 22, 1987.
[123] Larson and Houts, *The Benton Club* ,8.
[124] Dr. Phillip Nitse, Letter mailed to the membership, July 2014 .

baby showers, birthday parties, retirement parties, and other special events enjoy the hospitality of the club and its staff. Weekly Wednesday night family-style fried chicken and barbequed rib dinners bring together members and often their children.[125]

The membership of The Benton Club of St. Joseph was notified March 28, 2017, that a reciprocity agreement has been agreed upon between The Benton Club of St. Joseph and The University Club of Missouri University. The prestigious club, The University Club of Missouri University, founded in 1895, is one of the four surviving traditional gentlemen's clubs in Missouri.[126]

CONCLUSION

The Benton Club of St. Joseph carries on the founding principles and traditions, while honoring the evolving cultural changes. It is locally significant under Criterion A for SOCIAL HISTORY. Many business men still choose to meet for lunch at the club during the week. Retired men often stay on to play cards in the afternoon. Many women's groups meet for lunch and mah jongg or bridge. In addition, as the club has reached out to the community, many groups, as previously described, now also enjoy the hospitality and ambience of this club.

The Benton Club of St. Joseph has continually operated for 129 years and currently is one of only ten clubs in Missouri to have survived and be listed as one of the traditional gentlemen's clubs in the United States. The Benton Club of St. Joseph is the only one of its kind in the city, and this has remained true since its inception.

[125] Bill Calderwood, Manager of The Benton Club of St. Joseph, personal interview to author, March 28, 2017.
[126] Bill Calderwood, Manager of The Benton Club of St. Joseph, email to membership, March 28, 2017.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Biographies of Several Founding Members

General James Craig (1817-1888) began working in a mercantile at age eight and remained in this work until age 21, but during this time he read law and was admitted to the bar at age 22. After his marriage he settled in Holt County, Missouri, and due to his geniality and popularity, he established an extensive practice. Within two years he was chosen to represent Holt County in the legislature. At the close of his term, the Mexican War broke out and Craig raised a company of men and was sent to the plains to keep the Indians in check. Mustering out in 1848, he resumed his law practice. Soon after, he joined the sixty thousand who traveled to the Pacific coast due to the discovery of gold in California. Multiple hardships returned him to St. Joseph where he was soon elected prosecuting attorney. In 1846 he was elected to Congress for two terms. Upon retirement he was made president of the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad, aiding in starting the railroad west of the river. At the outset of the Civil War he cast his lot with the Union and President Lincoln commissioned him a brigadier general. Among his many accomplishments was his leadership in the active war on the murderous guerrilla bands and Bloody Bill Anderson was killed by his troops.[127]

Col. Winslow Judson (1845-1890) graduated Hamilton College and Albany Law School, both in New York, which then led to his practice of law in 1867 in St. Joseph, Missouri. In addition to the information above, he was instrumental in organizing the St. Joseph Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce and The St. Joseph Terminal Company. He was vice-president of the St. Joseph, St. Louis & Santa Fe Railroad Company from its inception and was able to get the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad to extend to St. Joseph.[128] He organized The Benton Club of St. Joseph in 1887 and became the club's first president.

John Sublett Logan, M.D. (1836-1909) read medicine with Dr. Alexander Schue, a renowned physician in his time. He graduated from the Kentucky School of Medicine and then attended Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia. During the Civil War he served for three years as a surgeon for the United States Army. During this time he made a valuable discovery in the treatment of gangrene using bromine. Both the Union and Confederate armies profited by this discovery.[129] Following the war, he served as fish commissioner of the State of Missouri under Thomas J. Crittenden, and later was appointed for a term of four years by Governor Lon C. Stephens as a member of the board of managers of the Bureau of Geology and Mines for the State of Missouri.[130]

James Walker Field McCord (1876-1903) was a descendant of Col. John and Anna Rogers Clark Field. Mrs. Field was a sister of George Rogers Clark, one of the leaders of the Lewis and Clark expedition. McCord's family was one of the oldest in Virginia. At age 14 he was left penniless and fatherless, but during his lifetime he founded most of the ten companies with which he was associated, all stretching from St. Joseph, Missouri, to Omaha; Fort Worth; Oklahoma City; Pueblo, New Mexico; Hutchinson, Kansas; Topeka, Kansas; Denver; and Kansas City. One of the best merchants of the west, at the time of his

[127] *The St. Joseph Daily Gazette,* "DEATH OF GEN. CRAIG - HE EXPIRES SHORTLY AFTER TEN O'CLOCK LAST NIGHT." October 22, 1888.
[128] *The St. Joseph Daily Gazette,* "Col. Judson Dead." April 8, 1890.
[129] *The Daily News' History of Buchanan County and St. Joseph, MO.* (St. Joseph: The St. Joseph Publishing Company, 1898), 501.
[130] Members at aol online, "Buchanan County, MO – History of Buchanan County and St Joseph", http://members.aol.com/buchanancomo/loganj.html, 4.

death his fortune was estimated at three to six million dollars amassed by "aggressive, thorough, honest, and conservative business methods." [131]

W. A. P. McDonald (1847-1938) began working as a St. Joseph Gazette reporter using the pen name Alonzo Price. He was born William Alonzo McDonald, but admired Gen. Sterling Price so much he later incorporated his name into his own and became William Alonzo Price McDonald and was known as W. A. P. McDonald. Later he managed the St. Joseph Board of trade from 1884-1919, was associated with the R. L. McDonald Mfg. Co., was vice-president of the State National Bank, and was managing director of the Central Savings Bank.[132]

In 1868 he purchased a wooden, French-built velocipede from a team of French acrobats for $125.[133] Although it was believed at the time to be the first bicycle in the United States, the information that it was no doubt one of the first was verified via email correspondence with Carl F. Burgwardt of the Pedaling History Bicycle Museum in Orchard Park, New York, October 16, 2003.

Mr. McDonald came to the aid of The School of the Ozarks in the late 1920s by financing a 15-bed hospital for the school.[134]

William D. B. Motter (1848-1894) was born in Hagerstown, Maryland. He read law with his father and at age 18 was admitted to the bar. In 1871 he was practicing law in Kansas and soon after became a member of the law firm of Judson, Barnard, & Motter in St. Joseph. The major focus was bankruptcy litigation. Several significant proceedings are recorded in Motter's obituary, but the most significant one was the partnership of Judson & Motter with Isham & Lincoln described above. The same year Judson and Motter organized The Benton Club House Company, Motter organized the St. Joseph Loan and Trust Company and served as president and general manager until his death.

Motter's private library was considered the largest and most valuable in the west and his law library was equally extensive. He was described as "a man of decided literary tastes, and a thorough scholar.[135]

Charles Anton Pfeiffer (1844-1928) born in Sigmaringen, Germany, came to America at age five. As a child he began learning the trade of becoming a practical stone and marble cutter, learning the art of sketching and drawing, estimating, and eventually managing the large establishment begun by his father. The firm ranked prominently, there being no companies equal to them outside of Chicago and St. Louis.[136] An extensive number of mausoleums and tombstones at Mount Mora Cemetery in St. Joseph Missouri, were crafted by Pfeiffer Stone Works. The company developed a quarry of high grade marble in northwest Arkansas and a town named Pfeiffer was established at the quarries.[137]

Mr. Pfeiffer served as Mayor of St. Joseph in 1912 and, despite a recall for his ouster, Pfeiffer was retained in office. The criticism was for his efforts to expand the park and boulevard system in St.

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[131] *St. Joseph News-Press,* "Death Claims James McCord." September 25, 1903.
[132] Walt Drannan, "Velocipede wheels reporter toward notoriety," *St Joseph News Press,* June 18, 1999, sec. E.
[133] *St. Joseph News-Press,* "Age Not Matter of Years to St. Joseph Resident." August 15, 1931.
[134] Helen and Townsend Godsey, *FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX: a biography of THE SCHOOL OF THE OZARKS…a Unique American College,* (Point Lookout, MO: The School of the Ozarks, 1984), 294.
[135] *St. Joseph Weekly Herald,* "W.D.B. Motter Died at His Residence Sunday Afternoon," Thursday, January 25, 1894.
[136] *The History of Buchanan County, Missouri* (St. Joseph: St. Joseph Steam Printing Company, 1881), 855.
[137] *St. Joseph Gazette*, "Former Mayor Pfeiffer Dies." April 22, 1928.

Joseph.[138] The Parkway system is largely credited to a prominent designer, George E. Kessler of Kansas City, Missouri. He was later supported by George Burnap, a landscape designer who was responsible for the design of many public grounds in Washington, D. C. and also W. L. Skoglund, a landscape architect responsible for much of the planning. The parkway system was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on January 20, 1995.[139] According to city records, today's parkway is a beautiful 25-mile long boulevard drive system that meanders from Krug Park on the northern edge of the city to Hyde Park on the southern edge.[140]

Mr. Pfeiffer served a short time under Capt. Louis Hax, Company B, 87th regiment, M.S.M. near the close of the Civil War.[141]

Adam N. Schuster (1837-1912) an immigrant from Rheinish, Prussia, in 1857 was an early pioneer who started his business in Savannah, Missouri, and later in St. Joseph built up a large fortune as a jobber, banker and cattle man well known throughout the West. His last venture was heading the largest wholesale clothing house in the west during his time. He was a founder of the Schuster-Hax National Bank which later consolidated with the Saxton National Bank and eventually became the First National Bank. He gave liberally to funding for the Y.M.C.A., a special interest of his, and he served as president.[142] Schuster's death certificate was filed August 24, 1912. [143]

Hon. Dudley Mitchell Steele (1821-1896) left Lexington, Kentucky, due to the lure of accounts of the rich Platte Purchase. He began farming in Andrew County, Missouri, then engaged in merchandising in St. Joseph, Missouri. He soon became involved in herding cattle across the plains and the Steele, McCord & Co. became one of the most prominent dealers in and raising American stock in Upper California. He was elected in 1856 to represent Colusa and Tehama counties in the California State Legislature, having received the largest vote ever cast in the district. Upon his return to St. Joseph, over time he became president of the St. Joseph Fire and Marine Insurance Co., president of the Merchants Insurance Company, a partner in a wholesale grocery business with Samuel R. Johnson of Council Bluffs, president of the St. Joseph & Denver City Railroad, president of the St. Joseph Board of Trade, and director of the St. Joseph Bridge Company.[144]

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[138] Fred Slater Timely Observations Emeritus, *"History sides with mayor in recall." St. Joseph News-Press,* October 3, 2003.
[139] Joe Blumberg, "Parkway System's beginning marked by political strife." *St. Joseph News-Press, October 30, 2005.*
[140] Frederick W. Slater, *"Park system was begun here in 1855." St. Joseph News-Press,* July 4, 1976.
[141] Fred Slater Timely Observations Emeritus, *"History sides with mayor in recall." St. Joseph News-Press,* October 3, 2003.
[142] *St. Joseph Gazette,* "Death Comes To Local Pioneer." August 23, 1912.
[143] *Missouri State Board of Health Bureau of Vital Statistics Certificate of Death,* filed August 24, 1912*).*
[144] *The History of Buchanan County, Missouri,* (St. Joseph, MO: St. Joseph Steam Printing Company. 1881), 902-903.

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Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 7 and 8, Block 15, Smith's Second Addition, Southeast Quarter Section 8, Township 57-North, Range 35 west of the Fifth P.M.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries include the entire parcel historically associated with the Benton Club.

Figure #01 Google Map Downtown St. Joseph, Missouri (expanded area) with location of The Benton Club marked. https://www.google.com/maps/place/402+N+7th+St,+St+Joseph

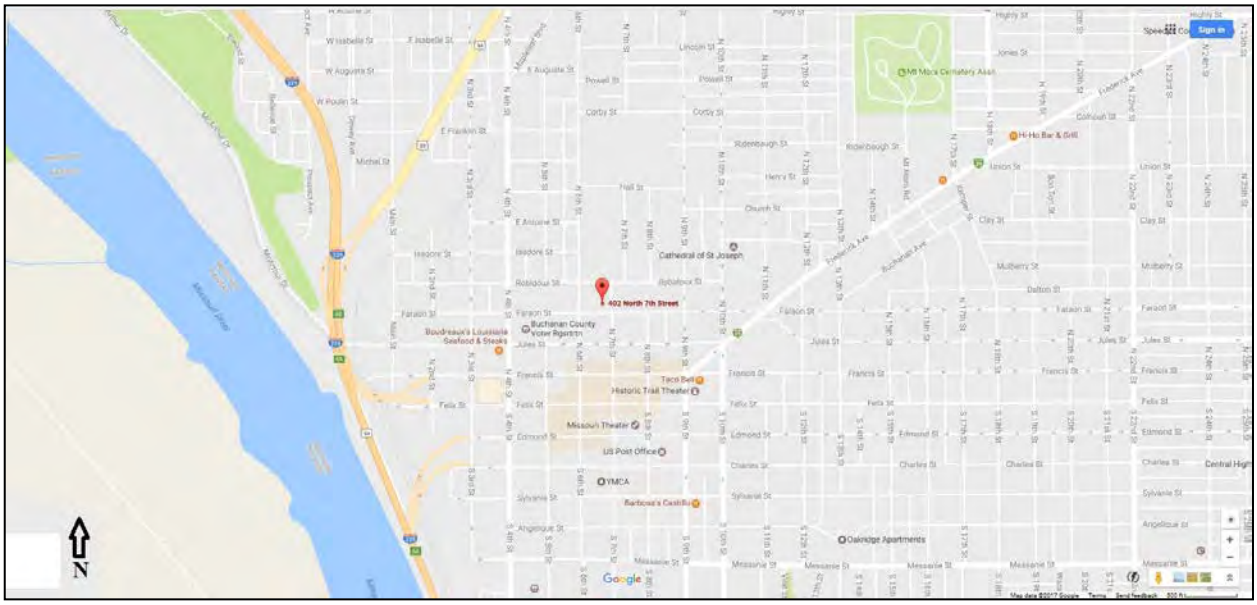


Figure #02 Google Map with coordinates for The Benton Club. Latitude and Longitude displayed. Location marked on map. https://www.google.com/maps/place/402+N+7th+St,+St+Joseph

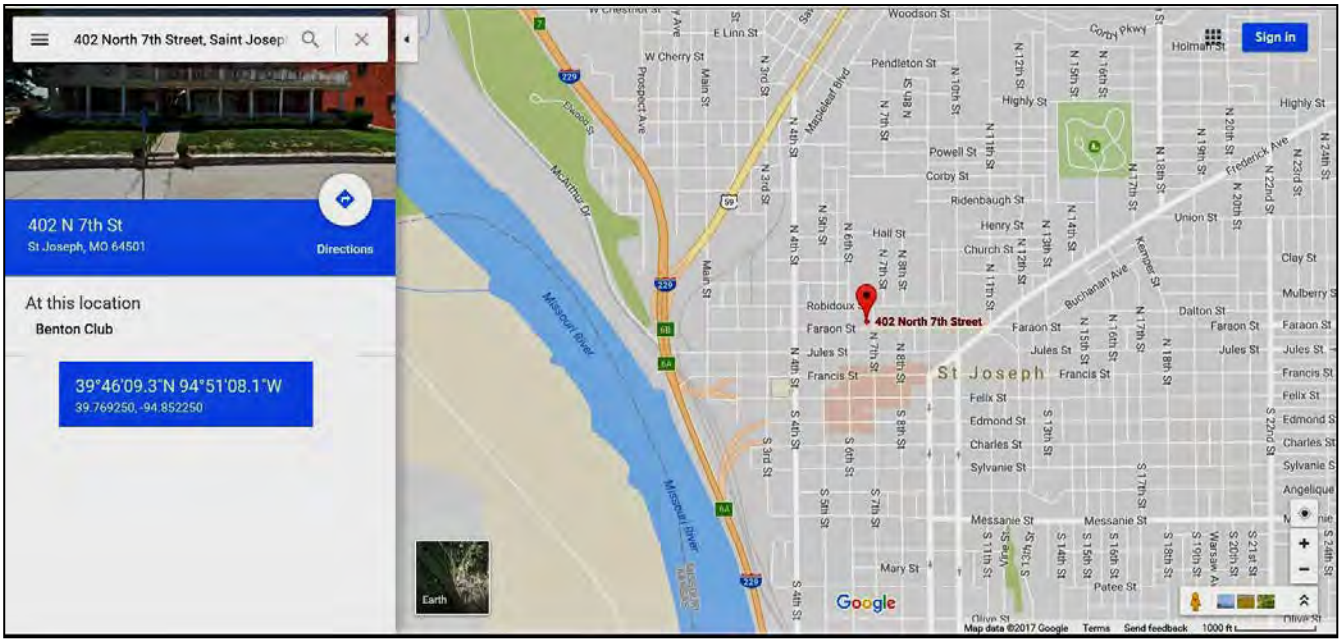


Figure #03 Google Map - Earth view of The Benton Club and area. The Benton Club marked and also bounded with yellow. https://www.google.com/maps/place/402+N+7th+St,+St+Joseph

Figure #04 Google Map – Earth view of The Benton Club building (police parking lot to the west). The Benton Club location is marked and bounded by yellow.
https://www.google.com/maps/place/402+N+7th+St,+St+Joseph
402 N 7th Street, St. Joseph, Missouri 64501
39°46'09.3"N 94°51'08.1"W

Figure #05 Google Map - Street View (2013) The Benton Club west view from 6th Street.
401 N. 6th St. St. Joseph, Missouri.
https://www.google.com/maps/place/402+N+7th+St,+St+Joseph
Accessed May, 2017 by Amber Cox.

Figure #06 The Benton Club Floor Plan – First Floor - with photograph numbers. Prepared by Corinda Stallbaumer.

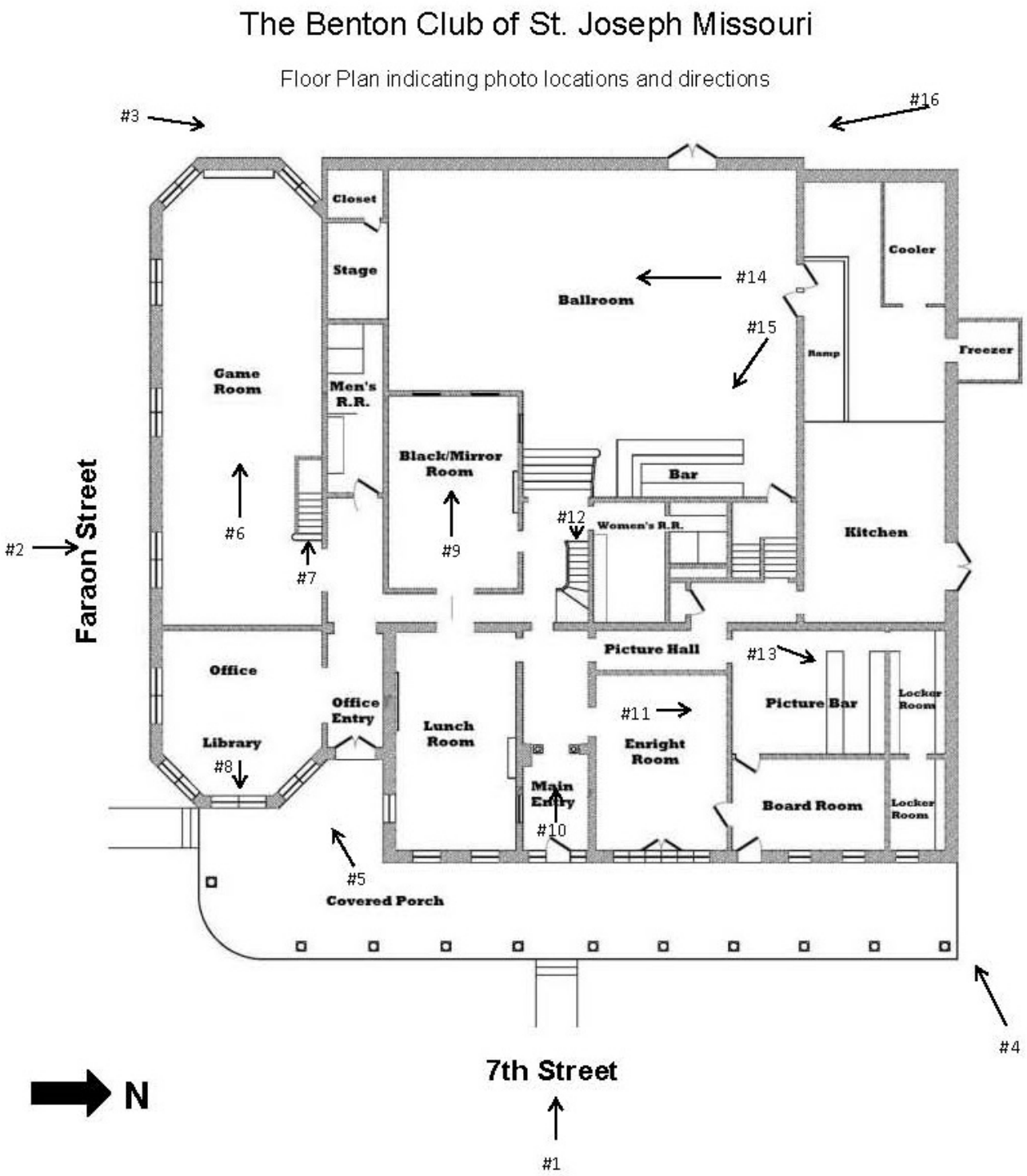


Figure # F07 Photograph of the building taken after purchase by The Benton Club House Comapny. View is of the east and south side of building from the intersection of Faraon Street and Seventh Street. Camera is pointed northwest. Unknown photographer.[145]

[145] McDonald and Logan, *The Benton Club*, 0

Figure F08. Porch with railing lights and ceiling fans. Used for porch parties. Camera is pointed north. Photograph taken from south end of porch.

Figure F09. Front porch with foot rail. Camera is pointed southeast.

Figure F10. View of south entrance to the porch, with wrought iron decorations. Camera is pointed north-northwest.

Figure F11. Front porch column with buzzer button for calling attendant – no longer functional. Camera pointed southeast.

Figure F12. Leaded glass windows on north portion of the east façade. Originally Carter's rental side. Camera pointed west.

Figure F13. View of structure showing decorative quoins and wooden brackets on eaves. Camera is pointed west.

Figure F14. View of west side of building showing arched windows and double door. Camera is pointed northeast.

Figure F15. View of kitchen door on north side of building with ramp. Camera is pointed southwest.

Figure F16. Originally George Olds' parlor – now used as part time library for card games and Office. View is of east portion of the room. Camera pointed east.

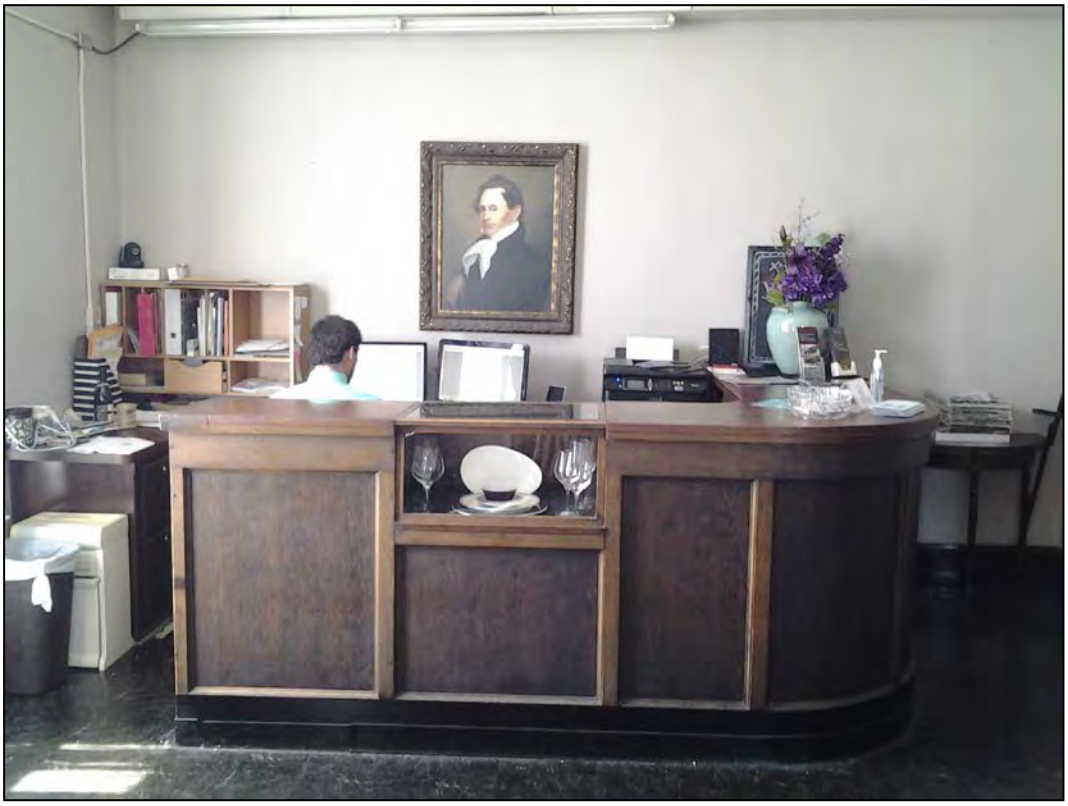


Figure F17. View of west side of George Olds' parlor. Used as office. Portrait of Thomas Hart Benton on wall. Camera pointed west.

Figure F18. Game Room behind George Olds' parlor. Close up of Senator Benton's portrait and recent additions of complimentary mantel decorations. Camera pointed west.

Figure F19. Game Room behind George Olds' parlor, featuring veterans' photographs on north wall, staircase to second floor, and long radiator on south wall. Camera pointed west.

Figure F20. Recessed window, replaced with mirror in enclosed Carter's entrance. Camera pointed southwest.

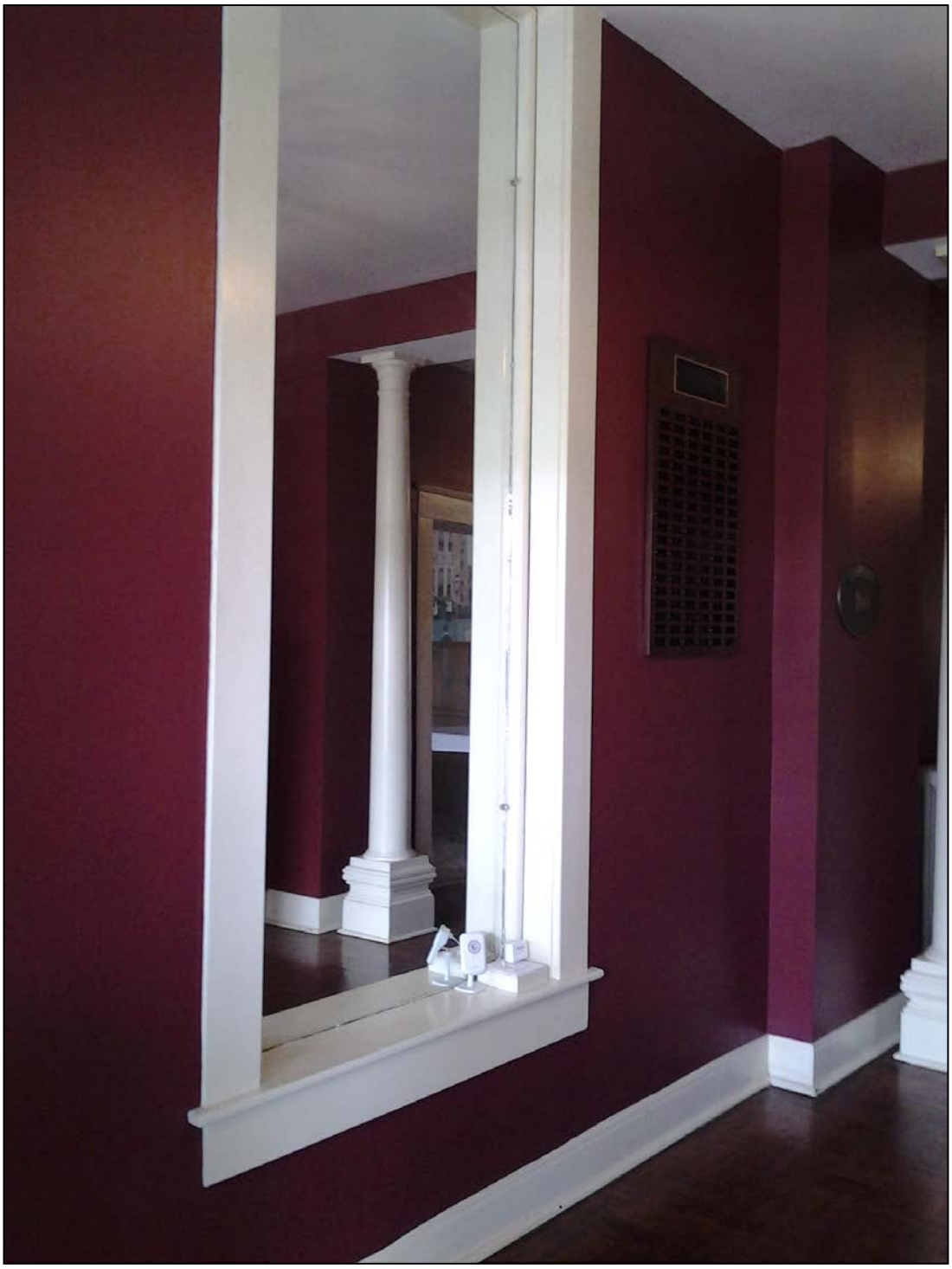


Figure F21. Wainscoting and plate rail in Mirror Room/Black Room. Overlooking garden/ballroom. Camera pointed southwest.

Figure F22.

Opposite wall of Black/Mirror Room with brick fireplace and one window overlooking the garden/ballroom. Camera pointed northwest.

Figure F23. Enright Room with a mural of an 1887 wedding at the home of Nathan Ogden on historic Hall Street in St. Joseph.

Figure F24. Another view of the Enright Room with another mural of wedding at the historic Hall Street home of Nathan Ogden, St. Joseph.

Figure F25. Board room with walnut paneling. Originally part of Marius Norman's rental.

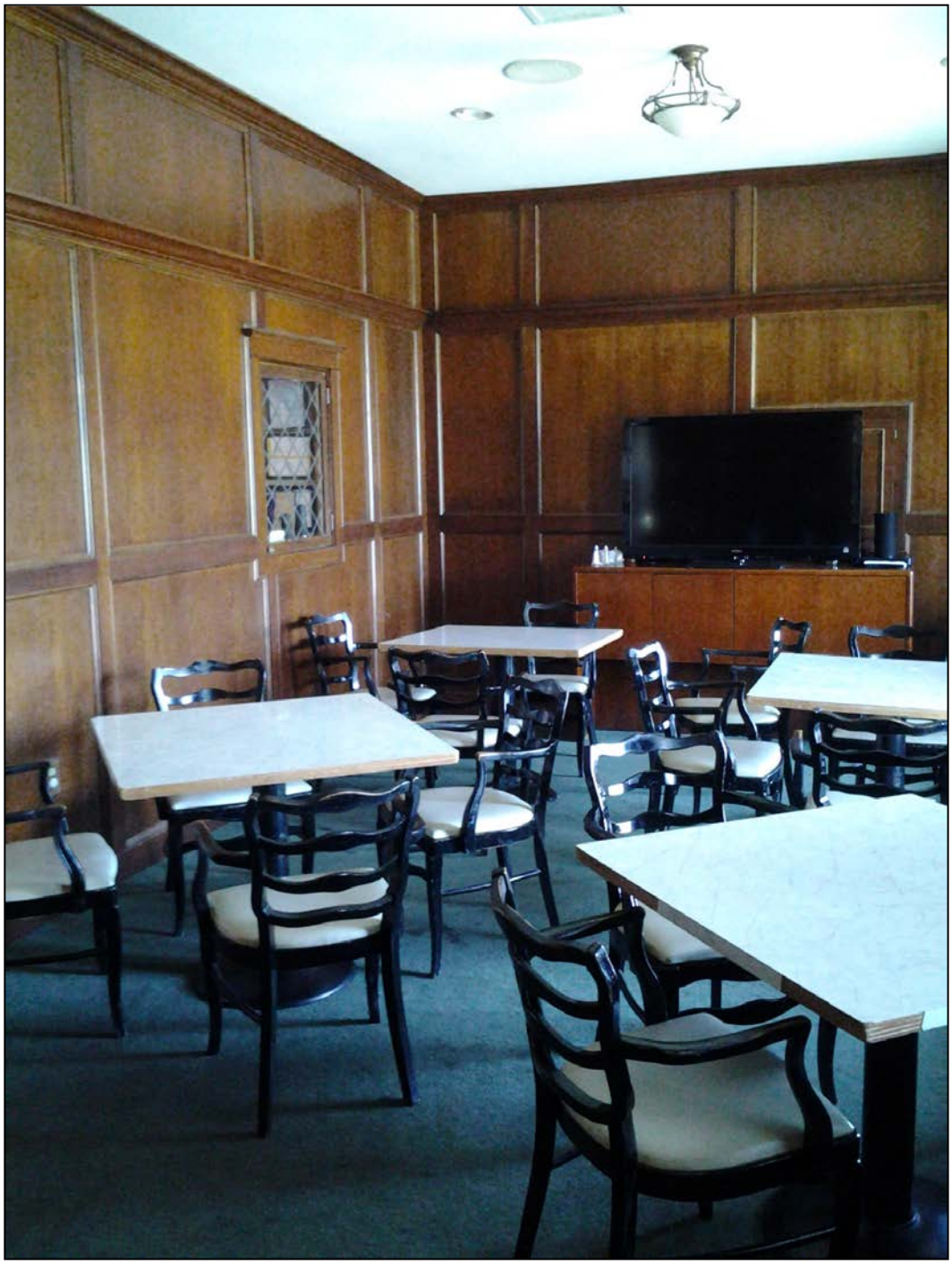


Figure F26. Grant Wood charcoal sketch of man in old-fashioned night clothes stealing down the stairs with his lantern.

Figure F27. An original radiator still located in the entry hall.

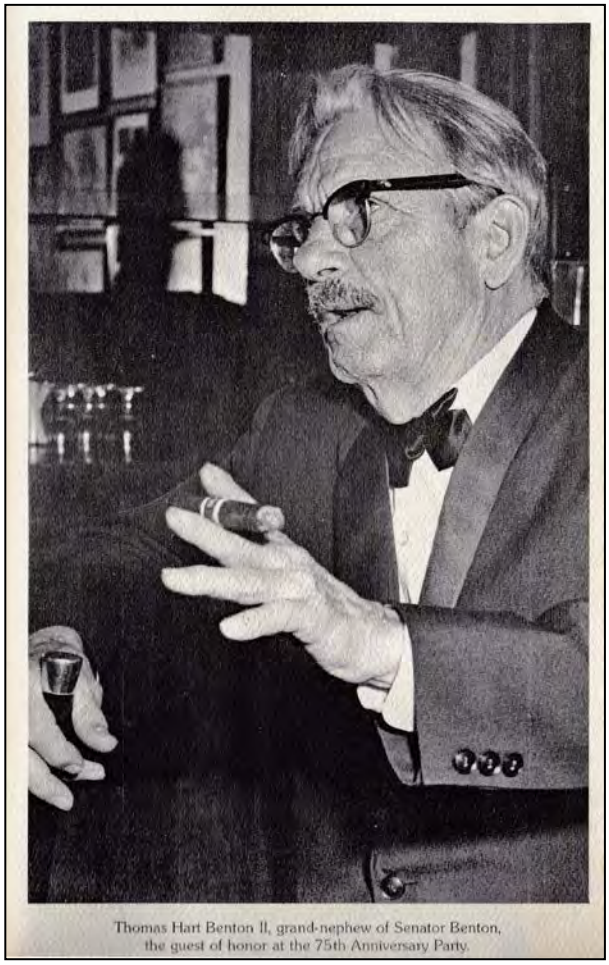


Figure F28. Thomas Hart Benton II sitting at the bar in Picture Bar at 75th Anniversary celebration.

Figure # F29. Picture of Thomas Hart Benton II completing a drawing at the 75th Anniversary.

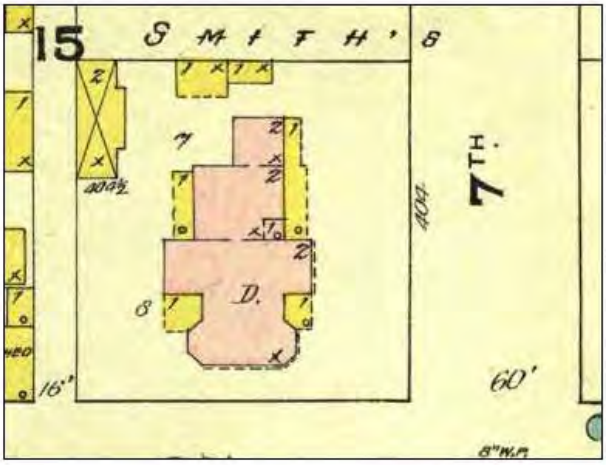
Figure # F30. Thomas Hart Benton II drawing.

Figure F31. 75th Anniversary celebration. Thomas Hart Benton II in center.

Left to Right: Jim Weakley, O. W. Watkins, Elliot Marshall, Henry Bayer, Charles Douglas, William Wyeth III, Wallace Orr, James Bruce, John Henry Roth, Wesley Lehr, Center: Thomas Hart Benton II.

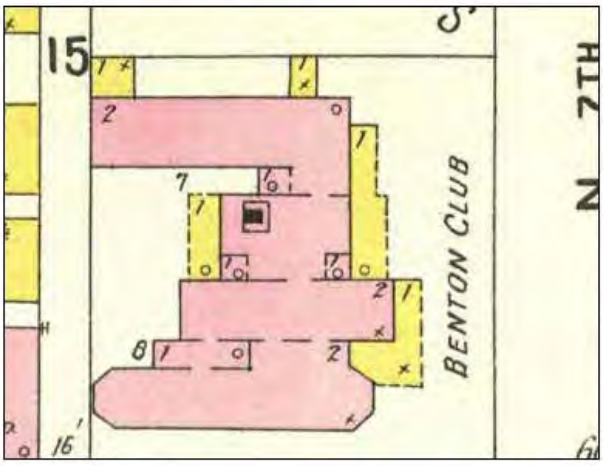
Figure 32 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps – 1888, 1897, 1911. Compiled from noted websites by Corinda Stallbaumer. Sanborn Map and Publishing Company, Ltd. Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of St. Joseph, Missouri. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1888, 1897, 1911. Sanborn Maps of Missouri (Collection), University of Missouri Digital Library. Specific links noted for each map used.

Benton Club – Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps – 1888, 1897, 1911



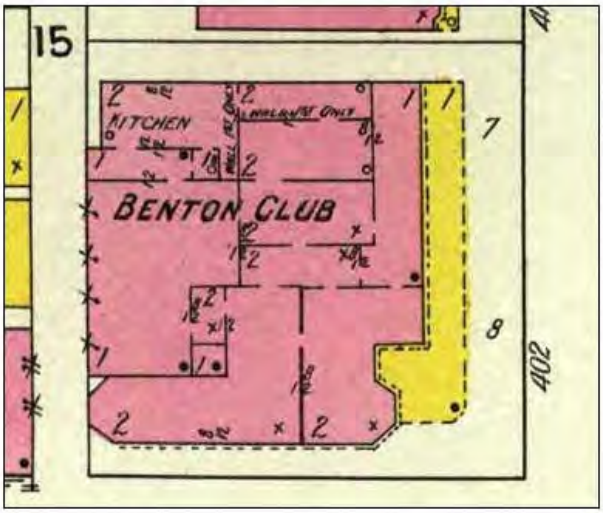
The Benton Club – 1888

http://dl.mospace.umsystem.edu/mu/islandora/object/mu%3A143783



The Benton Club – 1897

http://dl.mospace.umsystem.edu/mu/islandora/object/mu%3A144401



The Benton Club – 1911

http://dl.mospace.umsystem.edu/mu/islandora/object/mu%3A143862

Figure F33 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps – Benton Club Area Maps 1888. Compiled by Corinda Stallbaumer from websites noted. Sanborn Map and Publishing Company, Ltd. Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of St. Joseph, Missouri. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1888. Sanborn Maps of Missouri (Collection), University of Missouri Digital Library. Specific links noted for each map used.

The Benton Club Sanborn Maps – 1888

The club (noted with blue border) was surrounded by similar dwellings

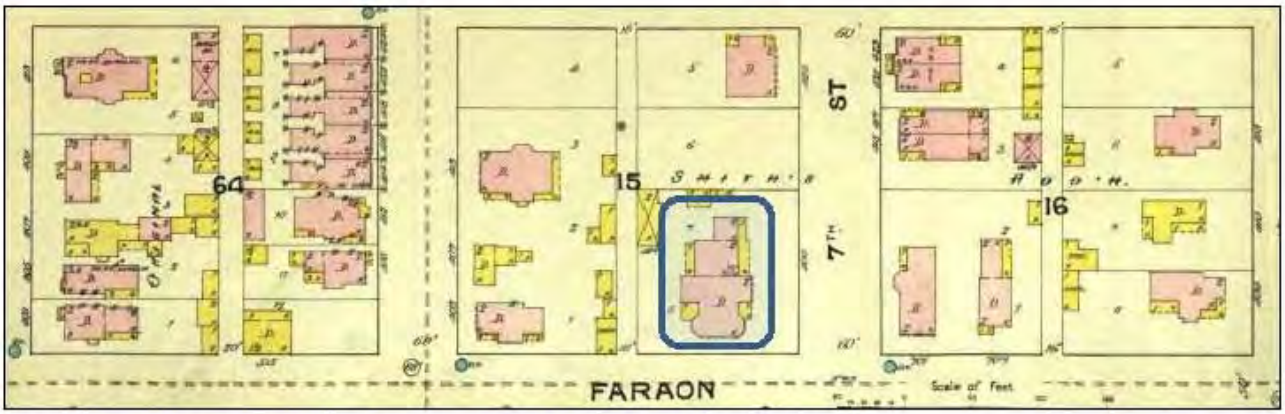


Figure 1 http://dl.mospace.umsystem.edu/mu/islandora/object/mu%3A143783

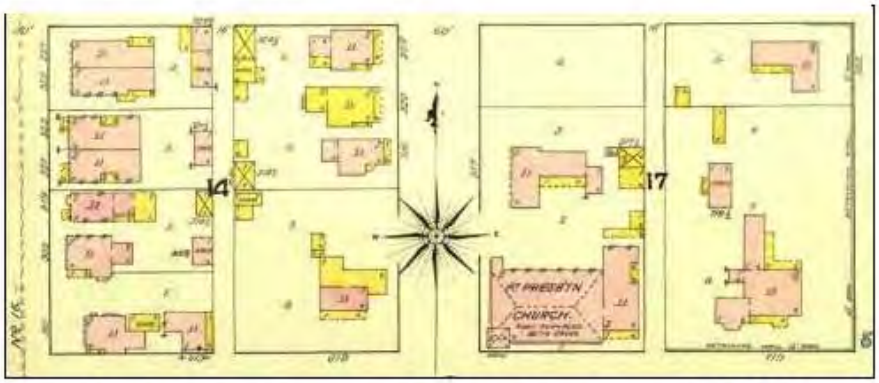


Figure 2 http://dl.mospace.umsystem.edu/mu/islandora/object/mu%3A143790

The Benton Club of St. Joseph
Name of Property
Buchanan County, Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 34 Sanborn Map keys. Compiled by Corinda Stallbaumer from websites noted. Sanborn Map and Publishing Company, Ltd. *About This Collection – Sanborn Maps*.| Digital Collection | Library of Congress. https://www.loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps/about-this-collection/

Sanborn Map keys - https://www.loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps/about-this-collection/

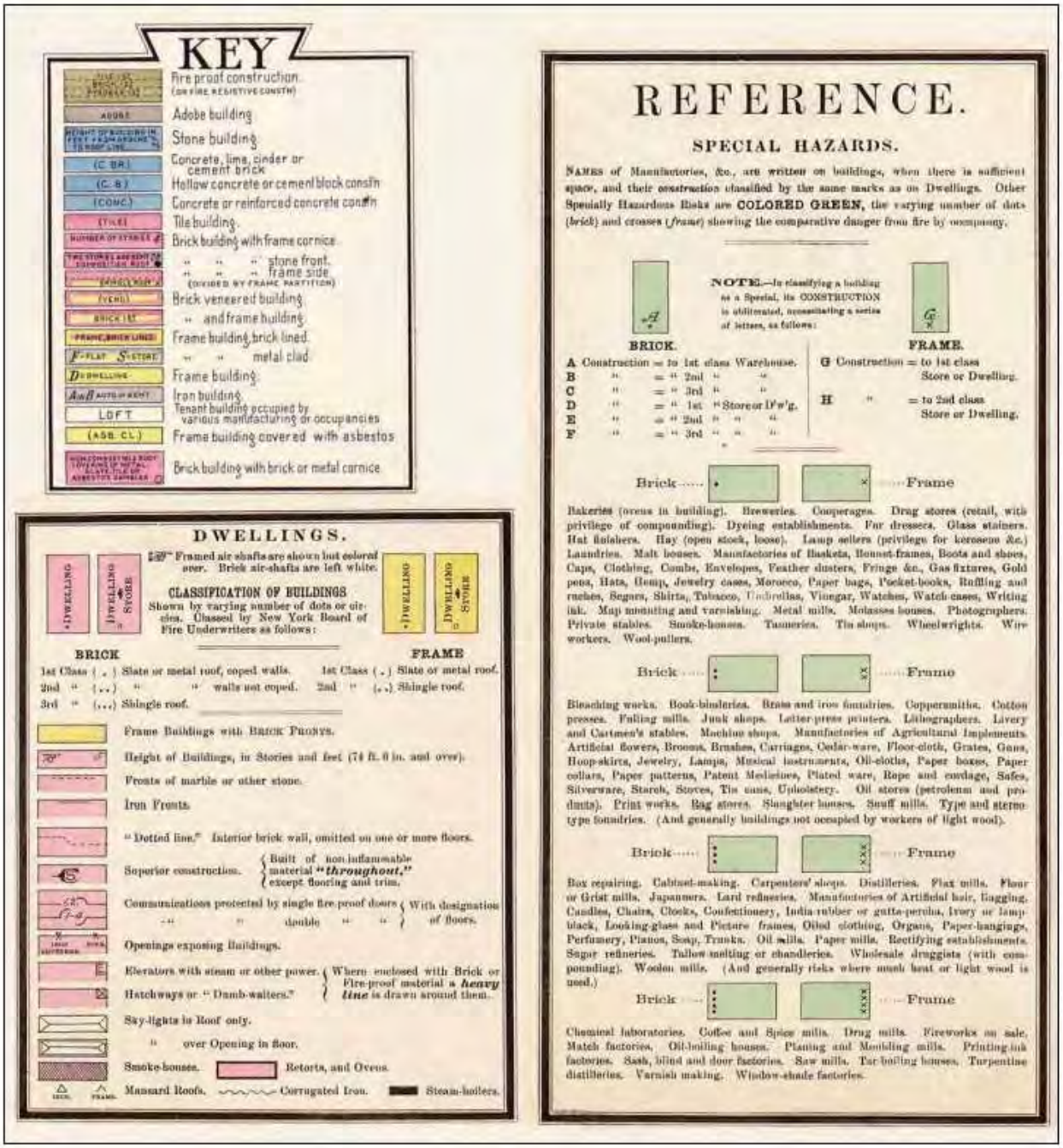
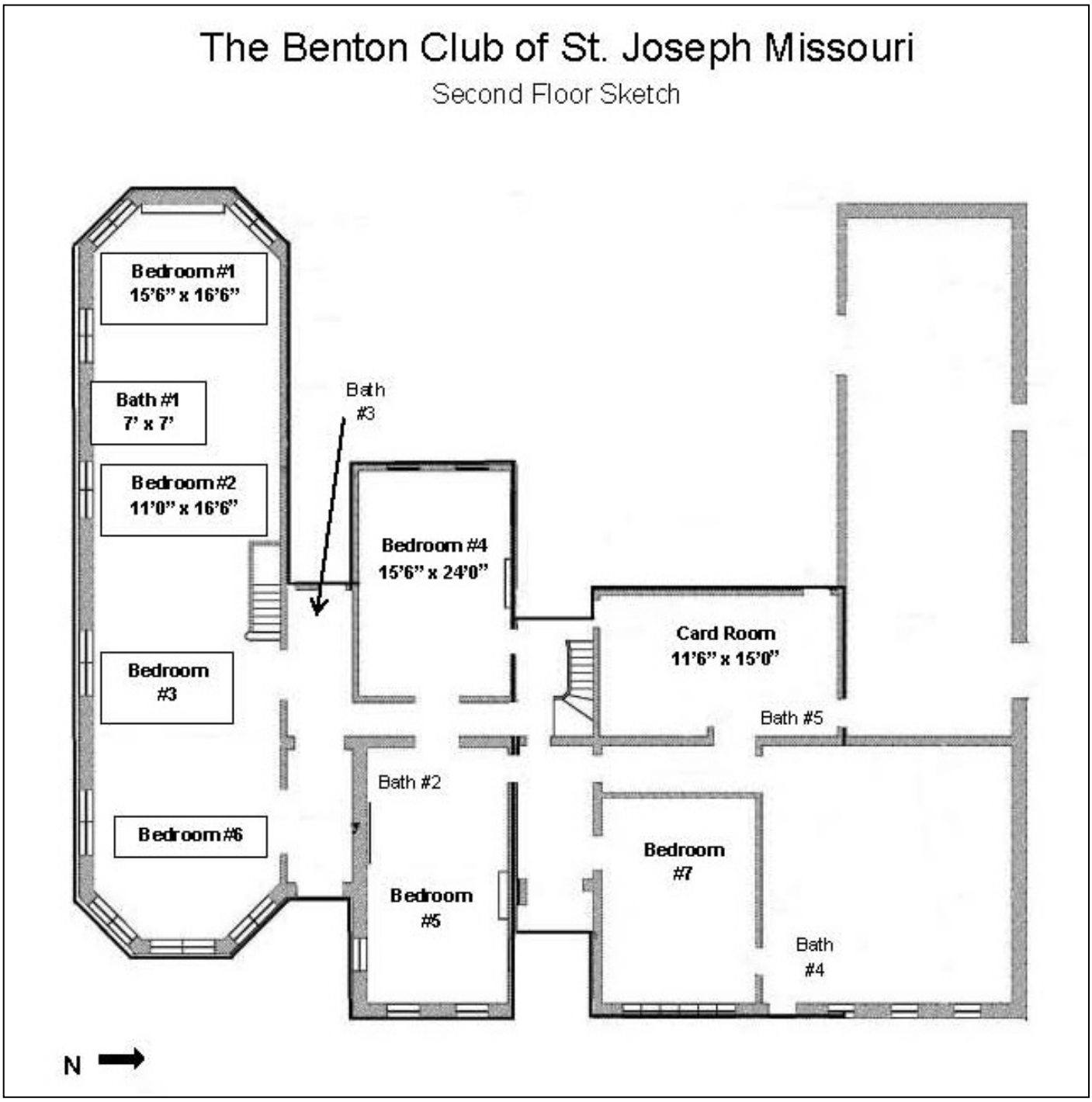


Figure 35 The Benton Club of St. Joseph Floor Plan Sketch – Second Floor
Prepared by Corinda Stallbaumer from architectural plans.



RESERVED
PARKING

Founded 1887

Bright