

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

304



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 Biddle Street Market

Other names/site number New Biddle Market

Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

2. Location

Street & number <u>1211-19 North Tucker Boulevard</u>	N/A	not for publication
City or town <u>St. Louis</u>	N/A	vicinity
State <u>Missouri</u> Code <u>MO</u> County <u>Independent City</u>	Code <u>510</u>	Zip code <u>63101</u>

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

I hereby certify that this 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 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 local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Toni M. Prawl 04/13/15 (see continuation sheet)
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:)

by Barbara Wyatt 6-1-15
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property

St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State

5. Classification

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

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

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>		Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE/marketplace

COMMERCE/TRADE/warehouse

COMMERCE/TRADE/warehouse

GOVERNMENT/Public Works

SOCIAL/civic

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals/Italian

foundation: Concrete

Renaissance

walls: Brick

Steel

roof: Asphalt

other: Limestone

Terra Cotta

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUATION PAGES

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property

St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State

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.)

- 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

COMMERCE

Period of Significance

1932-1946

Significant Dates

1932

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Osburg, Albert A./Architect

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUATION 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
- 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:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Landmarks Association of St. Louis

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property

St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Under 1 acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1 38.637713 -90.194920 3 _____
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

2 _____ 4 _____
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

_____ NAD 1927 or _____ NAD 1983

1 15 744152.43 4280308.21 3 _____
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

2 _____ 4 _____
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (On continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (On continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Matt Bivens, Historic Preservation Director

organization Lafser & Associates date 9-25-2012/ REV 3-1-2013

street & number 1215 Fern Ridge Parkway, Suite 110 telephone 314-560-9903

city or town St. Louis state MO zip code 63141

e-mail msbivens@lafser.com

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.

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property

St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State

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: Biddle Street Market

City or Vicinity: St. Louis

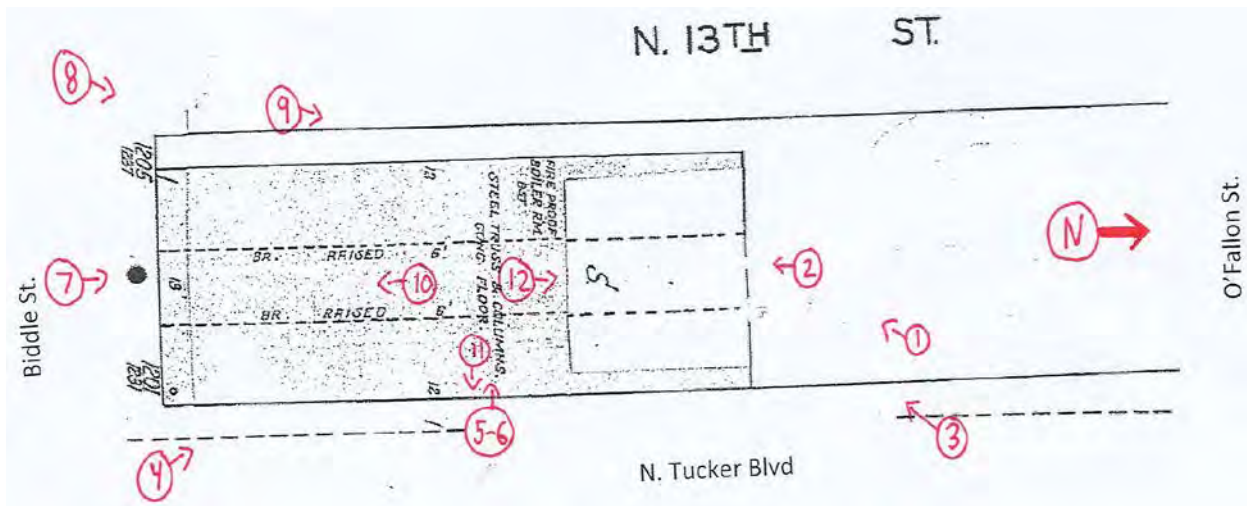
County: (Independent City) State: Missouri

Photographer: Matt Bivens, Historic Preservation Director, Lafser & Associates

Date Photographed: October 1, 2012

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

- 1 of #12: Exterior north elevation; camera facing southwest
- 2 of #12: Exterior north elevation window detail above entrance; camera facing south
- 3 of #12: Exterior north (right) and east (left) elevations; camera facing southwest
- 4 of #12: Exterior east elevation; camera facing northwest
- 5 of #12: Exterior east elevation terra cotta surround at entry detail; camera facing west
- 6 of #12: Exterior east elevation terra cotta details above entry; camera facing west
- 7 of #12: Exterior south elevation; camera facing north
- 8 of #12: Exterior south (right) and west (left) elevations; camera facing northeast
- 9 of #12: Exterior west elevation; camera facing northeast
- 10 of #12: Interior showing main arcade and roof structure; camera facing south
- 11 of #12: Interior east entry; camera facing east
- 12 of #12: Interior showing main arcade, roof structure, and side bays; camera facing north



Biddle Street Market
Name of Property

St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State

Figure Log:

Include figures on continuation pages at the end of the nomination.

Figure 1: Advertisement from "The Pictorial Guide to St. Louis with Plans and Views." (St. Louis: Slawson & Pierrot/Camille N. Dry) 1878. Page 42.

Figure 2: Drawing of original South Public Market in Carondelet circa 1870 (top) and present building today in 2012 (below). Note that the original structure is extant behind a modern storefront and that the side bays are bricked-in.

Figure 3: Kilburn wood engraving of the 2nd Biddle Market (the first was wood frame), circa 1860s.

Figure 4: Biddle Market, photographer unknown 1900. Top: intersection; bottom-close.

Figure 5: Oliver & Whipple's Fire Insurance Map of St. Louis, Mo., 1876. Vol. 2. (St. Louis: Oliver & Whipple, 1875). View of market and surrounding blocks.

Figure 6: Oliver & Whipple's Fire Insurance Map of St. Louis. MO, 1876. Vol. 2. (St. Louis: Oliver & Whipple, 1875). Detail of market.

Figure 7: Dry, Camille N. and Richard J. Compton. *Pictorial St. Louis: The Great Metropolis of the Mississippi Valley-A Topographical Survey Drawn in Perspective A.D. 1875.* (St. Louis: Compton & Dry, 1876).

Figure 8: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. Volume 2, plate 102, 1909.

Figure 9: "Twelfth Street: St. Louis' Most Needed Commercial Thoroughfare." (St. Louis: City Plan Commission, 1919).

Figure 10: From "Old Biddle Market Will Be Razed Soon for New Structure." *St. Louis Globe-Democrat.* October 4, 1931.

Figure 11: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. Volume 2, plate 15, 1950.

Figure 12: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. Comparison of markets: 1909 (left) & 1950 (right).

Figure 13: *City of St. Louis: New Biddle Market.* Albert A. Osberg. Architectural Drawings, 16 sheets, 1931. This is from sheet number 5.

Figure 14: *City of St. Louis: New Biddle Market.* Albert A. Osberg. Architectural Drawings, 16 sheets, 1931. This is from sheet number 5. (Large Format)

Figure 15: *City of St. Louis: New Biddle Market.* Albert A. Osberg. Architectural Drawings, 16 sheets, 1931. This is from sheet number 6. (Large Format)

Figure 16: *City of St. Louis: New Biddle Market.* Albert A. Osberg. Architectural Drawings, 16 sheets, 1931. This is from sheet number 6 (top) and Sheet number 3 (bottom). (Large Format)

Figure 17: *St. Louis Globe-Democrat.* "Biddle Market." Real Estate Section. May 1, 1932.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Summary

The Biddle Street Market is located at 1211-19 North Tucker Boulevard in St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri. Constructed in 1932, the building is a rectangular one-story commercial building of steel frame construction with variegated buff brick curtain walls laid in a Flemish bond. The long north-south axis has a full-length gabled monitor with boarded clearstory windows. A slightly projecting frontispiece with a shaped parapet and Italian Renaissance detailing is centered in each elevation. Brick pilasters and pilaster strips with limestone bases define corners and the building's twenty-eight recessed, former market stall openings. North and east elevations retain terra cotta, semi-circular arch surrounds with acanthus leaves and rope moldings but the south and west elevations have been simplified. A rose window with terra cotta tracery and inset stained glass is above the north entrance. Ornamental terra cotta rosettes, tiles, and stone insets embellish cornices and rooflines. Despite infilled areas and other changes, the original design is readily identifiable. The interior retains its open arcade, pedestrian axis, and radiating divided rooms that served as market stalls. Despite these alterations, the Biddle Street Market continues to reflect its historic past as a public market.

Site

The Biddle Street Market occupies St. Louis City Block 564 east whose boundaries include North Tucker (Twelfth) Boulevard to the east, Biddle Street to the south, North 13th Street to the west, and a fenced-in parking area and O'Fallon Street at the north. New construction and the historic Shrine of St. Joseph Church (NRHP listed as St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church 5-19-1978) are visible to the south and east while a fast food restaurant, vacant lots, and an automotive impound yard are to the west and north. Also, immediately north is a metal-clad brick and cast iron building which is the last physical remnant of the former dense residential and commercial neighborhood. (See Biddle Market Boundary Map).

Exterior

The Biddle Street Market has a rectangular footprint measuring 194' 10" by 72' 2" with the shorter north and south as well as the longer east and west elevations being symmetrical—and technically serving as four primary facades. The short elevations front along Biddle Street at the south and the fenced-in, poured concrete yard at the north. All elevations are comprised of variegated buff brick laid in Flemish bond with terra cotta and stone ornamentation. A terra cotta blind arcade comprised of semi-circular arches (reminiscent of Italianate window hoods) accents the rooflines of the

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

north and south building ends. Multi-colored rosettes, panels, and details embellish each elevation.

The north façade is symmetrical and comprised of five bays within three building sections separated by brick pilasters set upon limestone bases (Photo 1). A centralized entry with newer metal door and brick infill is set within a semi-circular arch and is situated within a slightly projecting bay framed by brick pilasters that terminate above the roofline. Terra cotta surrounding the entry is highly stylized with acanthus leaves and rope molding. A low gable roof with ornamental terra cotta cap, panel insets, and cornice accent the parapet. A terra cotta blind arcade comprised of semi-circular arches (reminiscent of Italianate window hoods) accents the roofline. Above the primary entrance is a rose window with terra cotta tracery and inset stained glass (Photo 2). Flanking the entrance are two storefronts per side—set above ornamental brick knee walls with bricks stacked on header side. Storefront openings have recessed brick infill and a double-hung metal window per bay. The sides are framed with brick stacked on stretcher side, and above each of the four storefront openings are two soldier courses of buff brick.

The east elevation at North Tucker features a centered entrance bay which projects from the main building (Photos 3 and 4). Terra cotta surrounding the entry is highly stylized with acanthus leaves and rope molding (Photo 5). Crowned by a similar, ornamented gable roof, a smaller oculus window with marble inset is comprised of terra cotta and cut brick (Photo 6). The entry is a newer door within an infill brick field set inside of a semi-circular arch opening. Flanking the entry wing are five storefront bays at either side with a low-slope shed roof visible above. Each storefront bay is separated by a pilaster of brick above a limestone base. Two of the northernmost storefront bays have newer entry doors and all of the bays have buff-colored brick infill recessed back from the exterior wall. Either single or paired, newer metal double-hung windows are placed within the bays. Above the storefronts is a double row of soldier courses. Immediately under the roofline are three corbelled courses with a band of modified herringbone brick below; separating the sections between bays and at the center of each bay is a colored terra cotta tile laid square and diagonally. Visible above the main roofline is a projecting monitor with low gable roof and boarded windows. Here, a course of soldier bricks contains similar colored tiles set under a dentilled brick cornice barely visible under a metal gutter. A single brick chimney is visible above the roofline.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

The south elevation is identical to the north with the exception of the former entrance bay which has been converted to a garage opening with brick infill above. A vented louver is installed within the rose window beyond (Photo 7). Curb cuts allow access into the building from the street. Within the interior beyond the garage bay is a parking area. Brick kneewalls on this elevation are also slightly different and contain a recessed tripartite design with a diagonal Della Robbia Bond (reminiscent of woven fabric) flanked on each side by bricks stacked on header sides (Photo 8).

Again, the west elevation is nearly identical to the east with the exceptions of a garage door installed in the former pedestrian entrance at the center of the building and with four of the storefront bays containing newer entrance doors (Photos 8 and 9). The similar details of the monitor are also visible above the main body of the building. The chimney stack originates on this elevation and intersects the monitor structure nearer the north wall. A series of smaller vents protrude from the roofline.

Interior

The interior of the Biddle Street Market is comprised of an axis floor plan. Running north and south the space is entirely open to the full building height where the original steel roof trusses are exposed at the ceiling (Photo 10). Above the trusses the original wood roof decking is exposed. Intersecting at the center of this main arcade are smaller wings running west and east denoted by wide arches. These smaller corridors are contained under the one-story portion of the building (Photo 11). The ceilings have exposed concrete while the walls are exposed brick that are either natural (variegated buff brick) or painted. Radiating from the center arcade and in line with the smaller corridors are several one-story spaces denoted by flat arches supported on steel lintels. Dividing these spaces are brick pilasters visible from the main arcade. Steel columns are encased in concrete behind the pilasters (Photo 12).

At the north end of the building is a newer, removable wall which separates the space from the remainder of the building. Some of the side bays have concrete block infill while others are open and some have fencing in order to create locked storage. The majority of the interior is used for automobile parking. Behind the garage bay at the south wall the interior arch detail is intact above the door. The pedestrian entrances, although modified for smaller doors, have intact ornamentation and their original dimensions are clearly identifiable. A partial boiler room is located under the structure and is equipped with steam tunnels to the main building.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Integrity

Typical of a city-owned and operated structure, the Biddle Street Market was renovated for historic and later uses after its short life as a public market. Unfortunately no building permits exist that illustrate what changes were made and when. However, historic building plans indicate that the building was first modified in 1946 when it became a privately-owned supermarket. It was likely at this time that many of the original storefront openings were adapted to either be closed-in with the insertion of windows or to have the storefront removed and replaced with infill while the entrance was retained.

Additional physical evidence that exists is a set of plans from 1969 which show the existing conditions in 1946 and the proposed renovation. At this time the building was proposed for reuse as offices for an extension center for the University of Missouri. It appears that at least three additional openings were closed and new pedestrian doors and a garage bay entry door was installed. It also is evident that the temporary wall at the north end was installed at this time.

Despite these renovations, all of the original storefront openings are visible from the exterior and on the interior. Each of the twenty-eight storefront openings remains to be defined by its original brick pilasters and flat arch. Also, many of the storefront openings retain their original decorative brick kneewalls as well as evidence of original door locations. In fact, replacement doors, when installed in the 1946 and later 1969 renovations respect the original openings. In addition, brick was recessed back from the storefront openings, and thus provides a visual link to the original design intent. Some original dividing walls were removed in 1946 and additional were removed during a 1969 alteration. Most of the interior bays are still open and a few have recessed concrete block infill. Despite the interior modifications the space within continues to evoke a market structure, visually defined by a high ceiling, and brick piers creating intimate spaces. Regardless of overall reversible changes, the building retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Despite the loss of much of the historic neighborhood that originally surrounded the market the building retains some integrity of setting.

The original design of the building is provided in figures 12-15.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

The Biddle Street Market at 1211-19 North Tucker Boulevard in St. Louis is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of COMMERCE. Constructed in 1932 during a period of city reform, the building is locally significant for its role as a public marketplace for farmers' produce. Like an earlier Biddle Market on the same site, it was an integral element of its diverse neighborhood although it soon came to be considered a 'white elephant' due to the rapid growth of small, private grocery stores and larger supermarkets across the city. Designed by city architect Albert A. Osburg, the rectangular building features a monitor roof, intricate brickwork and terra cotta detailing suggestive of Italian Renaissance styling. The nominated building was the last of three city markets to be constructed under a 1923 public improvements bond issue.¹ The period of significance begins with the Biddle Street Market's opening in 1932 and ends in 1946 when the building was last used as a public market. The property has been altered but remains sufficiently evocative of its historic appearance through the Great Depression and World War II. After the period of significance it became a modern supermarket, operating as such from 1947 through the early 1960s. It remains a city-owned property today, housing a division of the St. Louis Health Department.

Background: Early Markets

Throughout recorded time, trade has depended on the congregation of people in open sites, thoroughfares, and later public squares. The evolution of a permanent gathering place can be drawn from nomadic convoys and eventually, stable marketplaces. Individually-owned and operated market stalls would become permanent once settlements were stationary and clientele could be predictable. To house these stalls, public market places evolved and soon contained a variety of goods and services. Along with the access came the unpredictability of prices and quality when weights and measures were not commonplace. American markets, first beginning with the native populations and then with the first permanent European emigrants were similar.

Marketplaces for foodstuffs and trade items have always been essential to developing villages and early St. Louis was no exception. The founding of St. Louis in the 1760s included the provision for a public market and additional blocks for public use, located

¹ The other two were the Union Market, built in 1924 (NR listed 1-16-1984) and the Soulard Market (NR listed in Soulard Neighborhood Historic District on 12-26-1972), built in 1929.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

at the very heart of the village and immediately situated along the Mississippi River. The first public market was officially established in 1812. Immediate access to boat landings was crucial and the market provided a connection between the permanent settlers of the future city with trade routes north and south and across the country. Assuring complete control of the supply to a population who could not grow all of its own food, an ordinance was passed in 1812 prohibiting the sale of foodstuffs at any other locations in the city except for the primary market.

An increase in population and a steady demand for goods led to the construction of a larger, mixed-use market building by 1830. While the market stalls were placed on the ground floor, the building also housed the city jail in the basement, city offices on the 2nd floor and rental space on the 3rd. Once the village became a town and the town evolved into a city, its fathers planned construction of additional markets laid throughout the grid—many of them on lands that were donated to the city by its wealthier and founding families.

Common fields which formerly dotted the St. Louis once provided ample land for farming but soon each site was swallowed by city growth. Such subsequent expansion of the city coupled with changes in transportation methods of goods (especially with the emergence of the railroad in the 1860s) resulted in continued construction of supplementary market places and open air structures.²

Population increased steadily, from 160,773 in 1860 to 310,000 in 1870 and to 500,000 by 1875. In 1870 St. Louis was served by the principal Union Market. Fourteen other smaller markets were soon scattered within its boundary (Figure 1). Such markets included the South Public Market in Carondelet (Figure 2), the Sturgeon Market at Broadway and North Market, the Soulard Market at 7th Street near Carroll Street, and the Carr Market at the corner of 24th and Wash (now Cole) Streets. Each market represented the points furthest north, south, and west of the city core and identified by multiple ethnic groups who settled in those areas.

At the beginning of the fiscal year for 1875, the City of St. Louis had assets in real estate and personal property valued at a little over \$13.7 million of which public markets and grounds was \$762,850.³ Markets were spread across the city, most of them not further

² One of the earliest markets built in the city, still extant, was Reservoir Market built circa 1865. Located at 2616 North 22nd Street the building served residents of the northern parts of the city but today sits vacant.

³ Camille N. Dry and Richard J. Compton. Pictorial St. Louis: The Great Metropolis of the Mississippi Valley-A Topographical Survey Drawn in Perspective A.D. 1875. (St. Louis: Compton & Dry, 1876), page 14.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

than a few blocks from one another, serving every populated neighborhood. Eventually markets began to close and only ten remained in 1888 but the cultural impact of the market was already engrained. As *Commercial and Architectural St. Louis* put it:

“St. Louis maintains a system of markets where the production of the gardener, the florist, the fruits of all climes, and where fish, foal, dressed meats, game, butter, etc., are to be had in great abundance and at all times of the year. These market places are a great convenience to the people, and one of the sights of this city is the crowds, the lights, the display and the traffic at Union Market, especially on Saturday evening.”⁴

Market Building Improvements

Between 1904 and 1930, the City had transitioned from the end of the grandiose Victorian period marked by the World’s Fair (Louisiana Purchase Exposition) into a period more progressive and marked with long-range planning and municipal improvements. Following New York in adoption of official zoning regulations, St. Louis was the second city to implement a plan in 1918. However, efforts to improve city-owned property began nearly two decades earlier when in 1900 the Municipal Code of St. Louis was annotated and republished to address the four city-operated markets including the Union, City, Soulard, and South markets. It was also during this period that the city began to plan for the replacement of its early public markets as a direct response to their condition and lack of sanitation. The negative image of the long-deteriorating city market had to be addressed and it was soon proved that “specialized market houses were objects of city boosterism, praised not only for their architectural merit but also their ability to contain a city’s food marketing under one roof.”⁵

By 1910, the City of St. Louis was operating three municipal markets and owned the land under a fourth (the original Biddle) which was privately run. The downtown Union Market (*original since demolished and replaced by the new Union Market in 1924-25*) at Broadway and Morgan (*now Convention Plaza/Delmar*) was touted as “one of the most important markets in the country, though not the finest.”⁶ The other two city-

⁴ Commercial and Architectural St. Louis. (St. Louis: Jones and Orear) 1888. Page 207.

⁵ Helen Tangires. “Public Markets and Municipal Reform in the Progressive Era.” From *Feeding the Cities*. Spring 1997, volume 29, number 1.

⁶ Charles Claude Casey. “Municipal Markets of St. Louis.” *Municipal Journal and Engineer*. New York. Volume XXVIII, Number 17, page 611. April 17, 1910.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

owned markets included the Soulard and the South Markets (at 7701 South Broadway in Carondelet- see Figure 2). The former was mostly deserted with the exception of its wagon business while the later had steady patronage; both markets were allowed to run down and were considered to be a burden to the city. The privately-run Biddle Market on the other hand, was managed more energetically and was highly profitable (Figure 3 shows early view). Despite its great success, Biddle was classified as unsanitary by 1910.

In 1910, the *Municipal Journal and Engineer* launched a series of articles which, for the most part, were critical of municipal-owned markets including those in St. Louis. At that time, St. Louis was among at least 59 American cities owning such properties. While it was common knowledge that the markets were deteriorating, the publication of details about their poor condition (specifically in the April 1910 issue) hit home, causing great concern among city fathers. In early 1914, in connection with a proposed general bond issue for the construction of new markets on existing sites, the Civic League of St. Louis asked the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to evaluate the city's four public markets. The USDA's report was highly negative, citing the lack of inspections and asserting that "a city cannot establish a market and expect it to run itself." The Biddle, Soulard and South markets were described as having fallen into decay and disuse, while conditions at the Union Market were said to be intolerable. Suggestions were made for improvements, but it was apparent that all of the buildings would soon need to be replaced altogether.⁷

The criticism continued through 1915 as the condition of the markets worsened. As a result, the Civic League proposed a "public markets bill" which would place the four public markets under the jurisdiction of the Health Commissioner in addition to appointing a market inspector. Accordingly, out of the \$40,000 annual revenue received from market stall rentals, the city only used \$7,000 for their supervision—which was often under an unqualified market master.⁸ Also proposed under the bill were standard measures for the sale of eggs, fruit and vegetables, the wrapping of bread and provision of sanitary containers for bakery items, and improvements to the market sites including street shade trees and other landscaping.

⁷ Charles Claude Casey. "Municipal Markets of St. Louis." *Municipal Journal and Engineer*. New York. Volume XXVIII, Number 17, page 611. April 17, 1910.

⁸ "Civic League to Support Many Pending Bills." *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. October 3, 1915, page 14.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

The Biddle Market

Ground for a public market in the central, northern part of the city was donated to the city by Mrs. Ann Mullanphy Biddle via her will dated January 2, 1845. In it, the property was conveyed in trust to the city under the condition that the "same shall always be for a market place;" Ordinance #1672 was then approved and the land was declared "public property for market purposes."⁹ A few years later, in 1849, Ordinance #2288 authorized erection of the original Biddle Market at Thirteenth and Fourteenth Streets between Biddle and O'Fallon.¹⁰ Built initially as a wooden structure in the mid-1850s, it was replaced by a brick building in the 1860s (Figures 3 and 4). Like the other city-built markets, a dense neighborhood around it was served and the building quickly became a social and commercial center (Figures 5 and 6).

A decade after the land donation, on December 20, 1855, Ordinance #3498 was approved, giving the city the right to take possession of the market upon paying the stock holders the value of the market. *(No historic records have yet been discovered that name these stock holders but what is known is that the market structure was still privately-owned while the land below it was the city's in perpetuity.)*

Rivaling the city-owned Union and the Soulard Markets both in capacity and diversity, the Biddle Market was the last privately-owned market in business in St. Louis in 1910. From the 1850s to the 1910s, it had grown and served the population of the "tenement district" surrounding it (Figure 7). As can be imagined, the building fabric (as did that of the other markets) took a heavy toll during that period. In addition, neighborhood decline and overcrowded conditions resulted in a lack of sanitation and within these six decades of heavy use, the market was no longer maintained in a hygienic condition. In fact, the structure had no sanitary or drainage provisions, only street gutters.¹¹

Maintenance and operating expenses of the three St. Louis markets had increased from a little over \$6,600 in 1902 to nearly \$12,000 by 1909—practically doubling expenses in just seven years.¹² The Biddle Market, although fully rented, had claimed to make such little profit that a maintenance staff could not be retained. Ultimately the

⁹ City of St. Louis Assessor Office. Abstract from Comptroller's Office. Book 358, page 55, 1909. Instrument Will #2133 Mrs. Ann Biddle to City of St. Louis.

¹⁰ The Revised Ordinances of the City of St. Louis, 1850, page 261.

¹¹ Charles Claude Casey. "Municipal Markets of St. Louis." *Municipal Journal and Engineer*. New York. Volume XXVIII, Number 17, page 611. April 17, 1910.

¹² Charles Claude Casey. "Municipal Markets of St. Louis." *Municipal Journal and Engineer*. New York. Volume XXVIII, Number 17, page 611. April 17, 1910.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

market declined enough to require replacement (Figure 8 shows market site). By September 25, 1914 the city assumed ownership of the building and by 1920 had begun to impose regulations on it as part of the approved Public Markets Bill.

Efforts such as the Twelfth Street plan proposed by the City Plan Commission in 1919 and the creation of a bond issue in 1923, resulted in the planning for and the funding of a new Biddle Market. The city fathers were motivated to make a change for its citizens and a new marketplace would be the answer.

Elaboration: Construction of the new Biddle Market

Although a new market building was prematurely illustrated on the street plan at Biddle Street as published in the Twelfth Street plan in 1919 (Figure 9), planning was slow and the decade following the 1923 bond issue saw only the construction of the new Union Market in 1924-25 and the Souldard Market in 1929 out of the \$1,250,000 fund. It was not until September of 1931, that Chief Engineer of the Division of Bridges and Buildings in St. Louis, L. R. Bowen approved designs for a third new market. With a full allocation of the remaining \$80,000 left over from the bond, the remaining balance was taken from the municipal budget. Designed by city architect Albert A. Osburg, this "New Biddle Market" was to be located on the site of the original and early Biddle Markets at High (*later Twelfth and now Tucker*), Biddle, Thirteenth, and O'Fallon Streets. Bids for the construction were due by contractors on October 27, 1931 with a decision by the Board of Public Service some ten days later. Bowen expected construction of the new edifice to take six months.

By the beginning of October 1931, the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* had enthusiastically announced "Old Biddle Market Will Be Razed Soon for New Structure; Trading Place Has Been Visited by Throngs Since Year 1845" (Figure 10). The unknown writer elaborated:

"Work of tearing down the ramshackle frame building that for generations has been the Biddle Market will begin early next month, and in its place will be erected a new modern structure of brick, steel, and tile that will cost the city approximately \$100,000."¹³

¹³ "Old Biddle Market Will Be Razed Soon for New Structure." *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*. October 4, 1931.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Assuming that the writer was referring to the wooden additions that were associated with the brick market, he was unaware that the first structure was not built until the mid-1850s, was replaced, and had evolved over time.

Demolition and site clearing was quick and on November 22, 1931, the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* announced "Work is Started on Biddle Market." Winning the bid for the new building, the Kaplan-McGowan Company of St. Louis was to complete the building, platforms, and site improvements by May 1, 1932. The *Globe-Democrat* announced that a total of sixty stores and shops, with fifty-three of them having street frontage was planned within the main structure while the sheltered platform would contain an open market allowing approximately 400 feet of curb space for wagons to back in and sell their products.¹⁴ (A review of the original plans confirms these numbers.) The city had surely outdone itself and the patience of the area's citizens would soon pay off with a clean, new building providing the freshest and greatest variety of produce, meats, breads, and other commodities.

The new building's design was a sharp contrast to the old Biddle Market in that it was based on a Renaissance style with Italian motifs. The city architect chose an inspiring design sure to attract customers as well as to illustrate the city's desire to provide its residents with stimulating, new buildings. The structure as designed included a total of twenty-four individual stores under the lower-ceilinged spaces with a small-sized restaurant situated at the northeast corner of the building. Additional shops were located in both the main arcade and the smaller corridors as well as at the exterior of the building to achieve a grand total of sixty. The long north-south axis contained the main arcade while smaller circulation corridors ran east and west with access to High and Thirteenth Streets. Separate restrooms for men and women were adjacent to the westernmost side corridor; the market master's office was adjacent to the women's restroom. Constructed of steel columns and trusses supported by concrete stanchions and girders with a concrete floor and brick veneer curtain walls, the main market building was complemented by a steel-framed sheltered market and an open air market (both since replaced by a vacant, paved lot). (Figures 11 and 12 show the market on site with details of the area; Figures 13-16 show the original building design plans). Regardless of the city's intentions and the contractor's expectation the building was not yet complete by the May 1932 deadline (Figure 17 shows then status).

¹⁴ *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*. "Work is Started on Biddle Market." November 22, 1931.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Construction of the Biddle Market was not without controversy. Some residents and city officials simply questioned the need for another public market. The Union Market had then recently come under scrutiny due to a decline in business and the city had refused a request by stall owners asking for lower rents. Old market buildings were sold by the city and began to provide new uses. At the end of 1930, only four public markets existed in the city including the Biddle (old), the St. Louis County Producers Market (at 4060 West Pine), and the Soulard and Union Markets. However, even with the arrival of smaller, private corner grocery stores and meat markets, public markets still provided better food with a greater variety. But with the emergence of refrigeration and later improvements in transportation and distribution of foodstuffs, the 1920s saw private neighborhood stores becoming sufficient for the needs of its populations, forcing the city fathers to reevaluate their intentions. Biddle Market would be the last of its kind.

Architecture of the Market

The new Biddle Market was designed in an Italian Renaissance Revival style in the early 1930s (Figures 13-16). The architectural style of the Renaissance was considered to be flexible—that is, a style which lent itself to fluent architectural expression in many types of building.¹⁵ It was a style that had proportion as well as detail and typically Italian designs were refined and more subtle than other styles. Besides domestic preferences in use of the style it was highly popular as the design of choice for many important city buildings. Architects employed by the city during the early decades of the 20th century were deeply influenced by both Classical and Renaissance Revival motifs and Albert Osburg, the building's architect, was no exception. City buildings of this period often had Italian characteristics, especially city markets and other municipal buildings that were constructed in the 1920s and 1930s.

After working for the city since 1912, Osburg was appointed city architect in 1925. Two years before designing the nominated building in an Italian Revival style in 1931, Osburg designed the Soulard Market in 1929 (inspired by Brunelleschi's Foundling Hospital in Florence, Italy). Osburg was born in St. Louis in 1887 and received his higher education at Washington University's School of Fine Arts. Employed with the city until 1954, he died in 1976. His prolific career included a variety of styles and building types and are best witnessed in the portions of the eclectic Robert Koch Hospital (NRHP listed 10-31-1984), the Art Deco Homer G. Phillips Hospital beginning in 1933 (NRHP listed 9-23-

¹⁵ Charles Matlack Price. "The Practical Book of Architecture." (Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1916). Pages 157-158.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 13

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

1983), several city police stations in the 1930s, the Vashon Community Center in 1936 (NRHP listed 8-11-2005), the Municipal Bath House Number 6 in Old North St. Louis in 1937 (NRHP listed Murphy Blair District 1-26-1984), the Tandy Community Center in 1938 (NRHP listed 9-17-1999) and several others.

The Role of the new Biddle Market

Almost as long as the site had been occupied by a public market in the mid-1850s its significance to the population it served was unmistakable. In a time where the majority of residents' only means of transportation were their own two feet, access to a centrally-located "neighborhood" market to obtain fresh food and produce was essential. In the first half of the nineteenth century the area saw emigrants from Ireland, Germany, Austria, Eastern Europe, and Italy and eventually saw heavy Polish populations along O'Fallon Street and Cass Avenue nearby. These populations depended heavily on easily accessible, fresh foodstuffs, especially in a time before refrigeration.

It was however the Jewish population who had begun to settle on Morgan (now Delmar), Carr, and Biddle Streets particularly in the last half of the nineteenth century. In fact, the Biddle Street Market became a hub of commerce to the Jewish citizens with merchants who "sold Jewish foods, literature, religious artifacts, and newspapers from the storefronts along Biddle Street, O'Fallon Street, Carr Street, and Franklin Avenue...non-Jewish residents shared in the local culture and gradually adopted a variety of Yiddish expressions used in the area, which was sometimes called Little Jerusalem or the Ghetto."¹⁶ By the time the new Biddle Market was constructed in 1932, the site had become a vital meeting area for social engagements and exchanges of Jewish culture. The new market assumed its role as a primary source for Jewish essentials and kosher foods. The market would continue in this important role through the 1930s.

Constructed at a time when the public market was beginning to phase out, the Biddle Market was one of four "white elephants" left in the city by 1940. In comparison to the Union Market which had been converted to partial usage as a bus terminal in the mid-1930s and the Soulard Market which contained a central gymnasium and community center, the Biddle Market remained as originally intended. Beginning in 1939, the Hampton Village Market at Chippewa and Hampton significantly changed the game, serving the new subdivisions further west of Kingshighway and to the city limits,

¹⁶ Bonnie Stepenoff. "The Dead End Kids of St. Louis." (Columbia, Missouri and London: University of Missouri Press, 2010), page 14.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

providing over 10 acres of mixed-use market space and a focus on automobile accessibility. In addition, neighborhood corner stores and chain stores were becoming popular alternatives. Biddle Market had continued to serve the walking classes primarily and soon saw its first African-American residents who began to call the "north side" home. The Biddle Market operated at full capacity into the early 1940s.

Conditions and Competition Worsen

Although the city markets were still quite new the sanitary conditions were of continuous grave concern. In 1941, the Mayor's Advisory Committee on City Survey and Audit published a summary report entitled "The Government of the City of St. Louis" which stated that "immediate steps be taken to clean up the markets, especially Biddle Market, and that if thereafter the market is not kept clean and in order steps should be taken to replace present employees with others who will..."¹⁷

Conditions began to slowly improve at the markets and residents could always depend upon a fresh pick to feed their families but the growth of smaller, family-owned neighborhood stores quickly began to negatively impact the public marketplaces. As a result, traffic to Biddle Market began to slow and competition from other alternative stores reduced those vendors within the premises who depended on a steady clientele. As the Jewish population moved farther west and a surrounding neighborhood lay in physical decline, poorer emigrants from the south began to occupy the age-worn structures of the area and established new stores and business types. By February of 1946, the Biddle Market was only about half occupied and as a result, the city council made an important decision to end its operation.

Short-lived as the structure's service was, the life of the Biddle Market as a public marketplace for farmers' produce ended in September of 1946 when it reopened as a privately operated supermarket. Leased from the city by Food Center of St. Louis, Inc., the company remodeled the structure at a cost of \$175,000. A simple decision based on best financial gain of the structure to the City of St. Louis—the income produced yearly by the market was only \$6,000 compared to a five-year lease taken by Food Center for an annual rental of \$7,500—a dependable \$37,500 and no longer requiring the city's concern for maintaining it.¹⁸ Along with a 5,000 square foot food and vegetable department (*created within the original open-air addition, then enclosed*),

¹⁷ "The Government of the City of St. Louis." Mayor's Advisory Committee on City Survey and Audit. 1941. Page 38.

¹⁸ "Old Biddle Market to Be 'Super' Store." *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*. September 8, 1946.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 15

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

departments of the building included a phonograph record and sheet music section, a liquor, drug, and tobacco section, and two lunch counters.

Coverage of the building conversion was provided in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* on September 8, 1946, which stated "White Elephant Biddle Market Converted into Super Food Store." The source indicated that the building's high cost of maintenance coupled with its location in a deteriorated neighborhood signaled its demise. However, new life of the building was promising. The open-air portion at the north was enclosed, keeping with the trend in super stores at the time. Inside the main structure was a frozen food and dairy section, a 100-foot meat department, a New York style delicatessen, a specially-designed glass-enclosed fish department, and other specialty areas.¹⁹

Ceasing operations just over a decade later in April 1957, Food Center abandoned the structure, and the building remained vacant until October of that year. The vacancy was temporary since a plan to renovate and reopen the Biddle Market was on the table. Approved during a meeting of the Biddle Market Association (a group of nearby business owners) on October 14, 1957, the plan included members' personal pledges of \$10,000 to improve the structure, as well as, to provide a parking area adjacent the structure. Considered to be highly lucrative because of the needs of the 7,000 plus families who resided in the immediate area, the Association's plan was to lease the building from the City and then to sublease it to individual merchants within.²⁰ The Association also planned to include different types of shops including a restaurant, a furniture store, a dry goods and a hardware store.

The Market Today

With the loss of Biddle Market as a public market only the Soulard and the Union Markets existed through the 1950s. With the emergence of larger supermarkets in the 1960s, the public market ideal quickly began to fade into obscurity. Ultimately changes in inner city neighborhoods lead to the decline of the Soulard Market in the 1960s. The Union Market was eventually abandoned and it closed in 1982 only to be remodeled as a Drury Inn. Eventually the Soulard Market reinvented itself through a period of neighborhood revitalization in the 1970s and today remains an active public market within the city limits. The Biddle Market closed for its original purposes forever.

¹⁹ "White Elephant Biddle Market Converted Into Super Food Store." *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. September 8, 1946.

²⁰ "Plan For Reopening of Biddle Market: Civic Group Also Adopts Proposal for Large Parking Lot." *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. October 15, 1957.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 16

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

In 1969, plans to redevelop the Biddle Market as an extension of the University of Missouri required some minor, reversible modifications of the building. Ultimately the City began to use the structure to house its health division section for rat and mosquito control—an undeserving purpose for this former social city center. In the near future, the building will be rehabilitated and put to active, adaptive reuse as an office and mixed-use structure.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 17

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 18

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St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 19

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Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 20

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

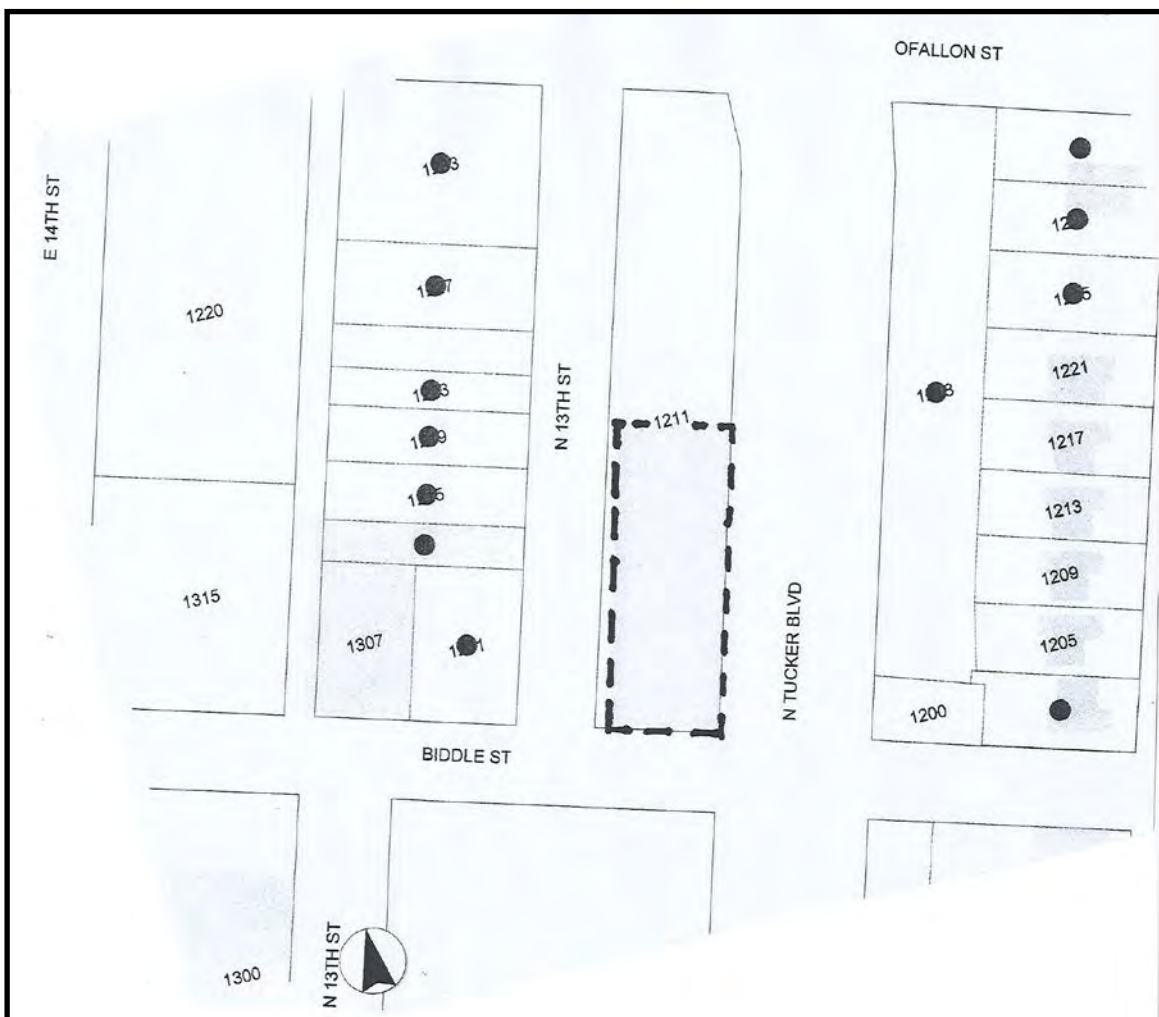
Verbal Boundary Description

The Biddle Market at 1211-19 North Tucker Boulevard in St. Louis (independent City), Missouri, is located on city block 564 east just north of downtown St. Louis. The building measures 194' 10" by 72' 2" with the long axis pointing north and south. The nominated property is legally known by the Assessor's Office as parcel number 05640300100. The property was historically part of Ann Biddle's Addition to the City of St. Louis. A dashed line on the accompanying map entitled "Biddle Market Boundary Map" indicates the boundary of the nominated property.

Boundary Justification

The nominated parcel includes the building footprint because of historic and contemporary changes to the remainder of the city block. Only the building maintains its historic integrity.

"Biddle Market Boundary Map"



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

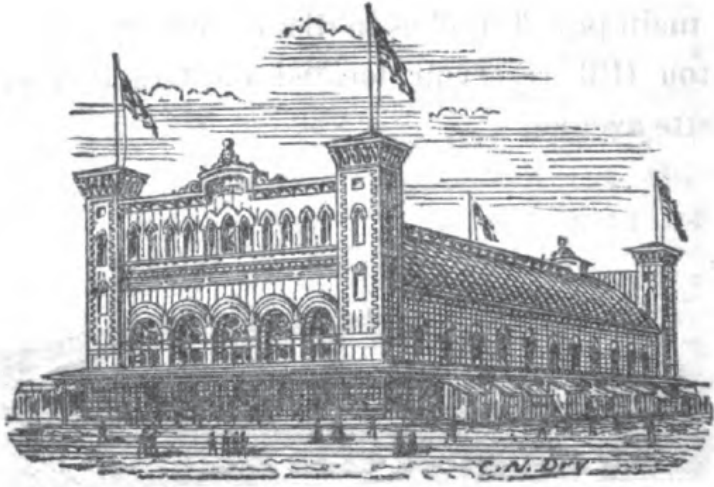
Section number Figures Page 21

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 1: Advertisement from "The Pictorial Guide to St. Louis with Plans and Views." (St. Louis: Slawson & Pierrot/Camille N. Dry) 1878. Page 42.

MARKETS.

UNION MARKET.



THE principal Market in the City is Union Market, Situated on Christy Avenue to Morgan, 5th and 6th Streets.

Following are the names and locations of the others.

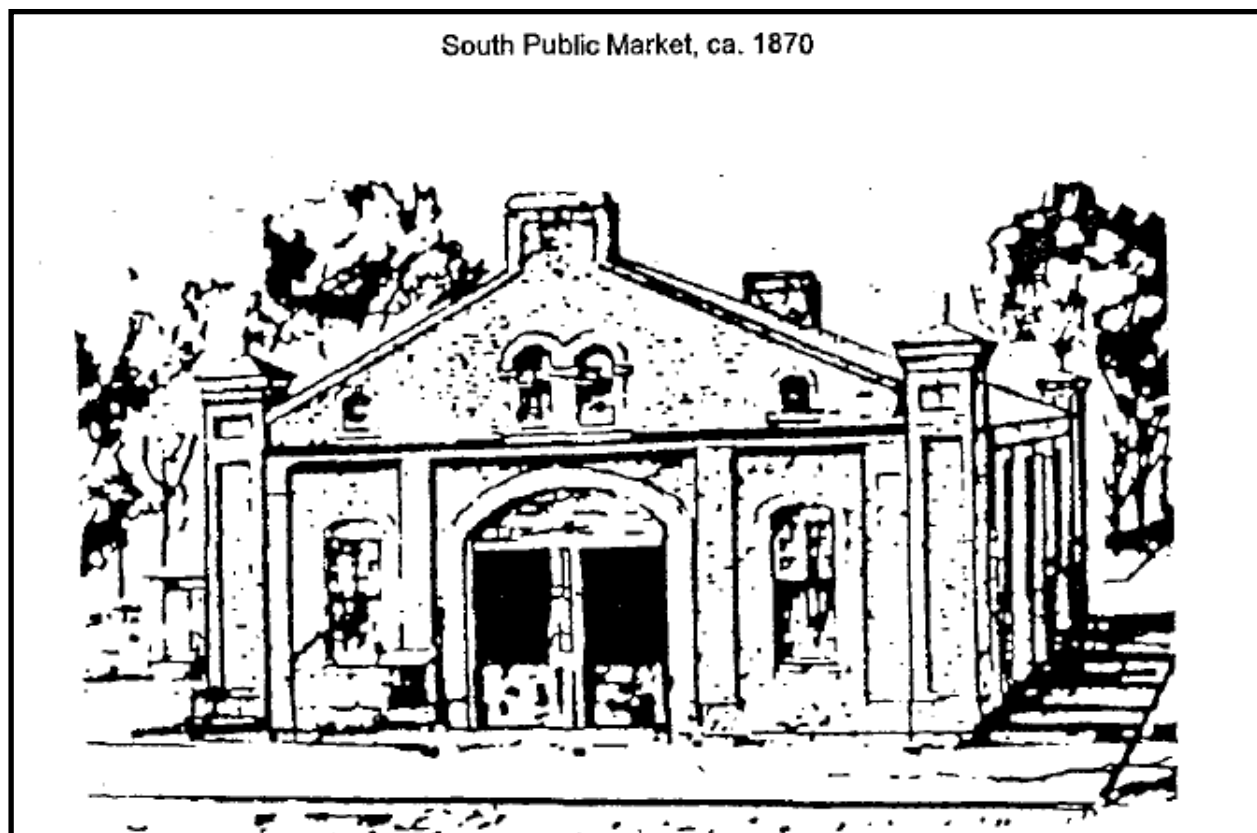
Allen Market.....cor. State & Ru-sell Aves.
Biddle Market.....cor. 13th & Biddle Streets.
Carr Market.....cor. 24th & Wash Streets.
Center Market.....on 7th bet. Spruce & Poplar.
City Market.....cor. Broadway & Biddle.
French Market.....on Convent, junc. 4th & 5th Sts.
Lucas Market.....on 12th, Chestnut to Olive Sts.
Maguire Market.....Broadway & Bremen Aves.
Mound Market.....Broadway & Howard St.
Reservoir Market.....W. 18th near Benton Sts.
Soulard Market.....on 7th St. near Carroll St.
Sturgeon Market.....Broadway & North Market.
HAY MARKET.....on 12th bet. Olive & Locust Sts.
COAL MARKET.....on 12th bet. Chestnut & Market Sts.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 22

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 2: Drawing of original South Public Market in Carondelet circa 1870 (top) and present building today in 2012 (below). Note that the original structure is extant behind a modern storefront and that the side bays are bricked-in.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 23

Biddle Street Market

Name of Property

St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 3: Kilburn wood engraving of the 2nd Biddle Market (the first was wood frame), circa 1860s.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 24

Biddle Street Market

Name of Property

St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 4: Biddle Market, photographer unknown 1900. Top: intersection; bottom: close.

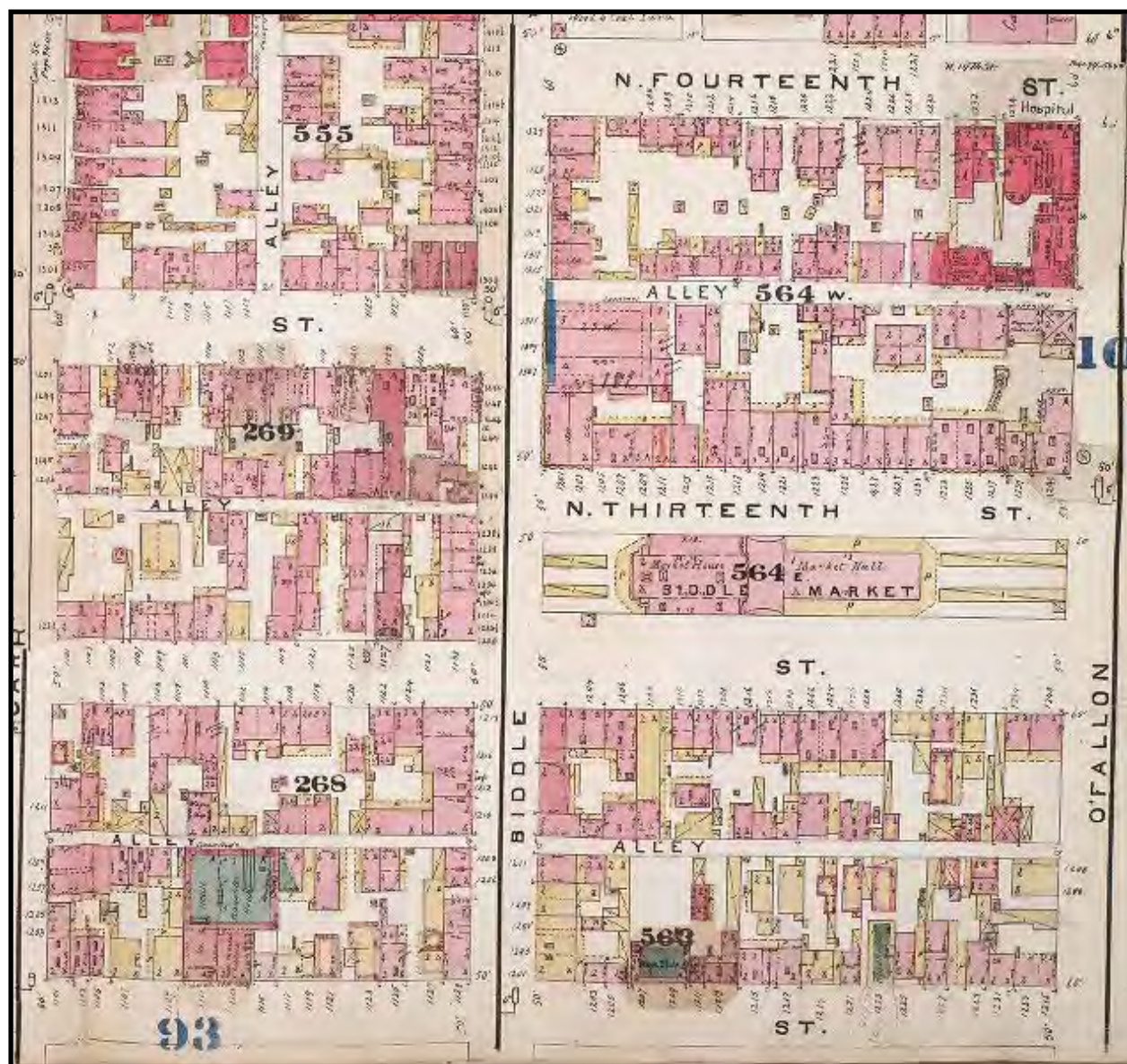


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 25

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 5: Oliver & Whipple's Fire Insurance Map of St. Louis, Mo., 1876. Vol. 2. (St. Louis: Oliver & Whipple, 1875). View of market and surrounding blocks.

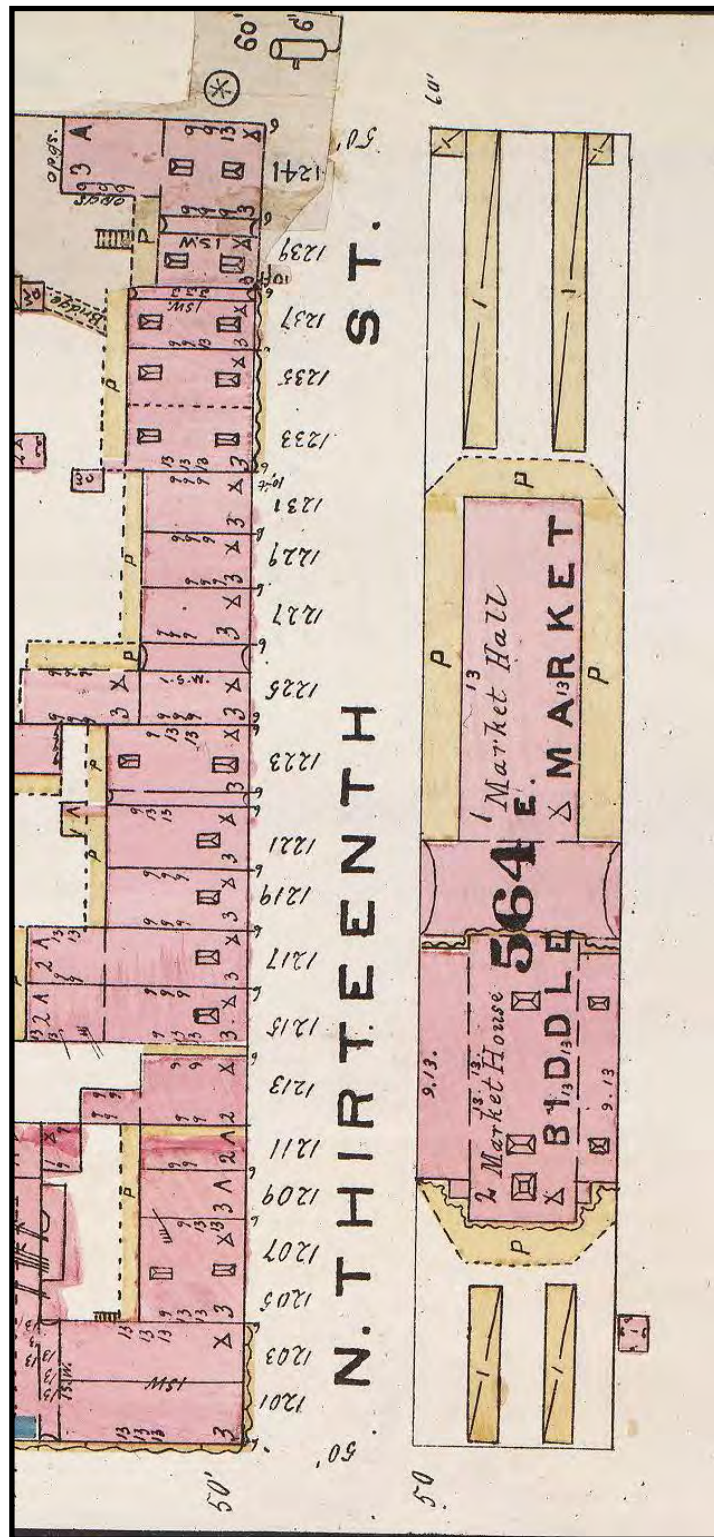


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 26

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 6: Oliver & Whipple's Fire Insurance Map of St. Louis. MO, 1876. Vol. 2. (St. Louis: Oliver & Whipple, 1875). Detail of market.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 27

Biddle Street Market

Name of Property

St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 7: Dry, Camille N. and Richard J. Compton. *Pictorial St. Louis: The Great Metropolis of the Mississippi Valley-A Topographical Survey Drawn in Perspective A.D. 1875.* (St. Louis: Compton & Dry, 1876).

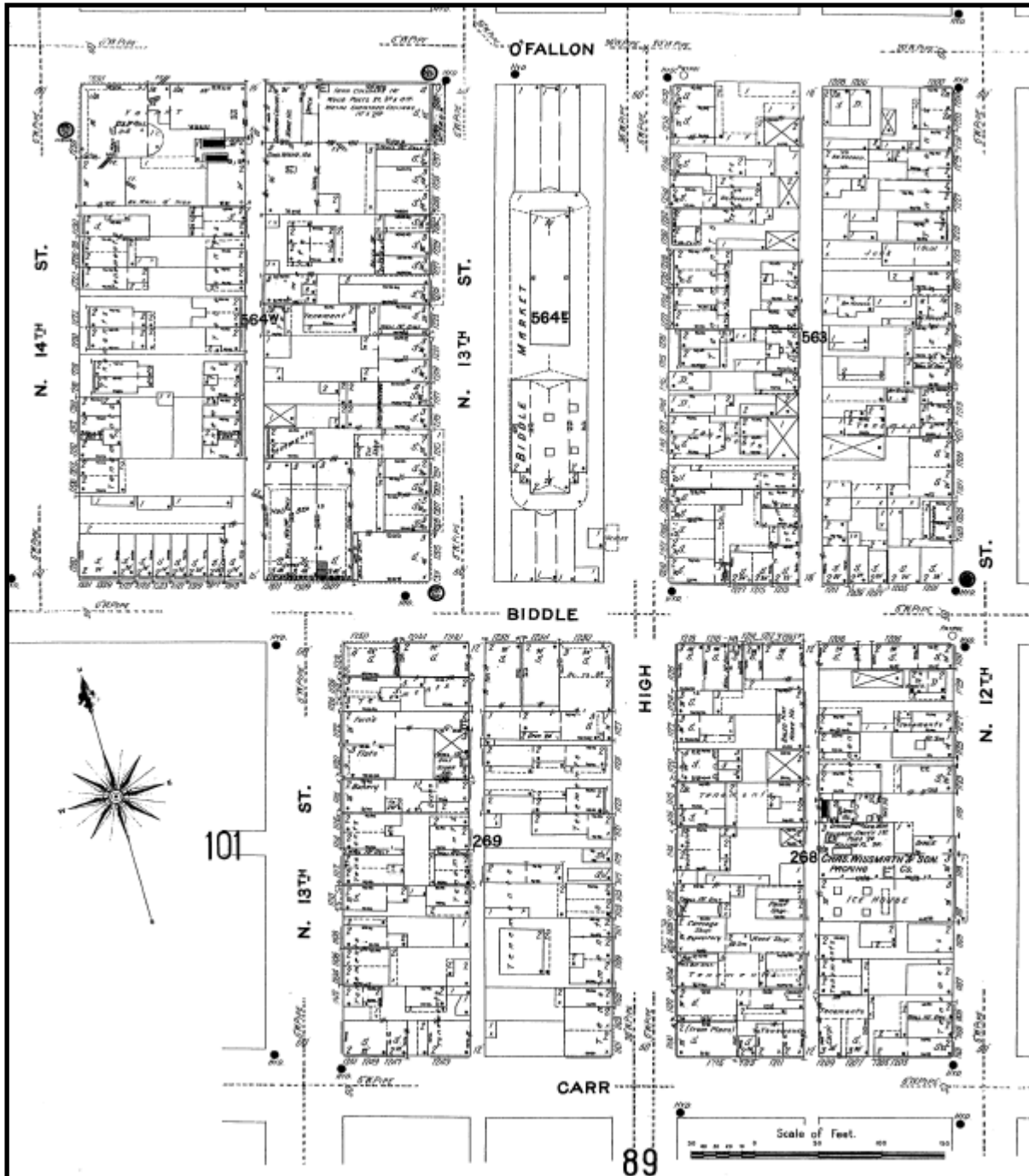


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 28

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 8: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. Volume 2, plate 102, 1909.

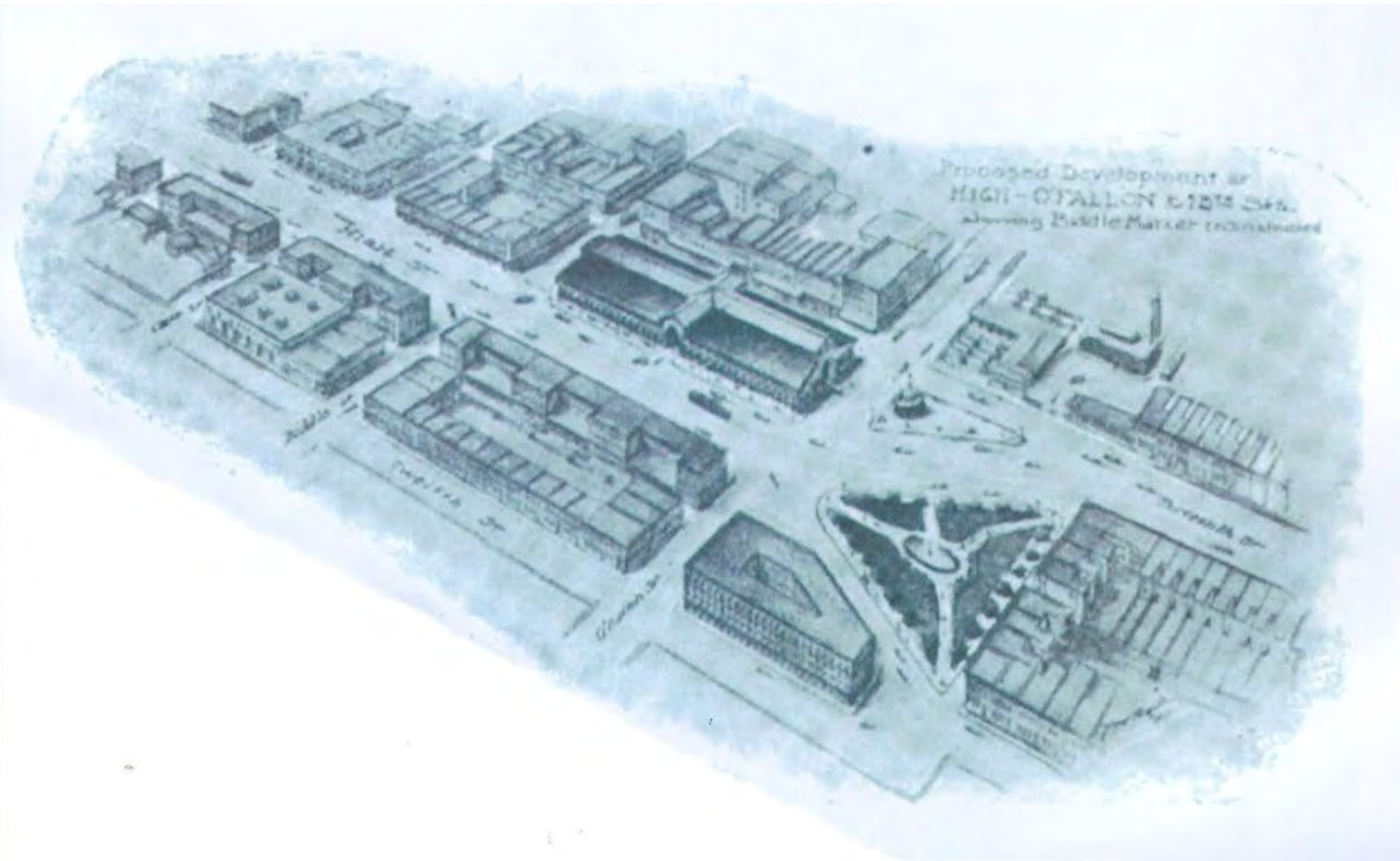


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 29

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 9: "Twelfth Street: St. Louis' Most Needed Commercial Thoroughfare." (St. Louis: City Plan Commission, 1919). Note that a new Biddle Market is clearly illustrated below and located at a major thoroughfare. Indicated in a section of the report under "Connections North" the proposal was to create an ordinance for the extension of Twelfth Street north from Washington Avenue via High Street (soon to be Twelfth and now Tucker) and ultimately meeting with Florissant Avenue farther north. The plan also included an illustration of the extant Biddle Market seen in Figure 4 earlier.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 30

Biddle Street Market

Name of Property

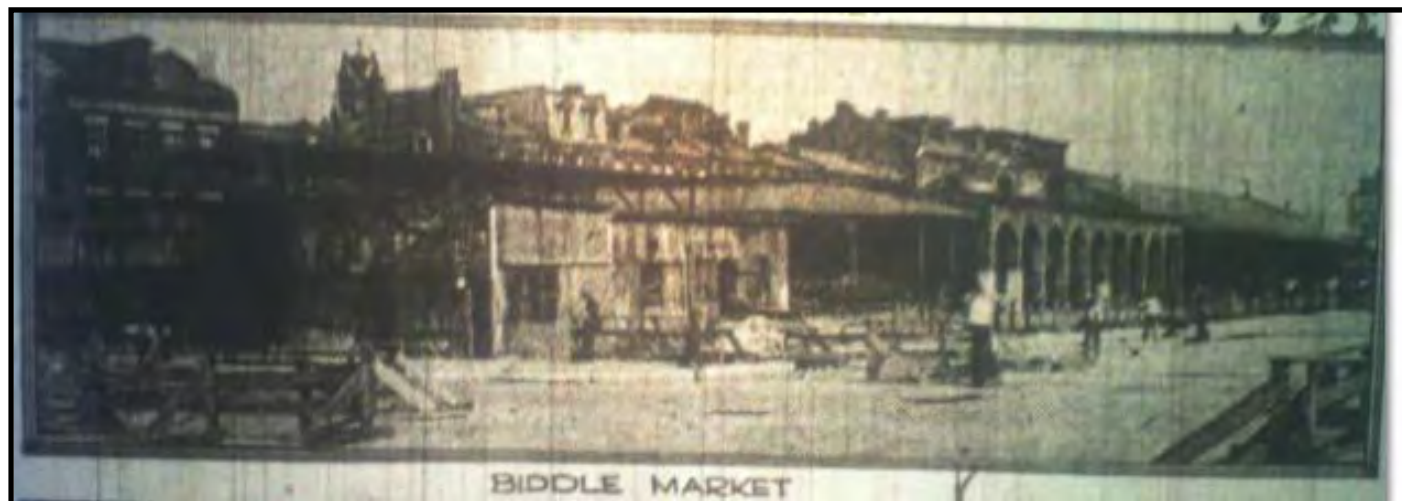
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 10: From "Old Biddle Market Will Be Razed Soon for New Structure." *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*. October 4, 1931.

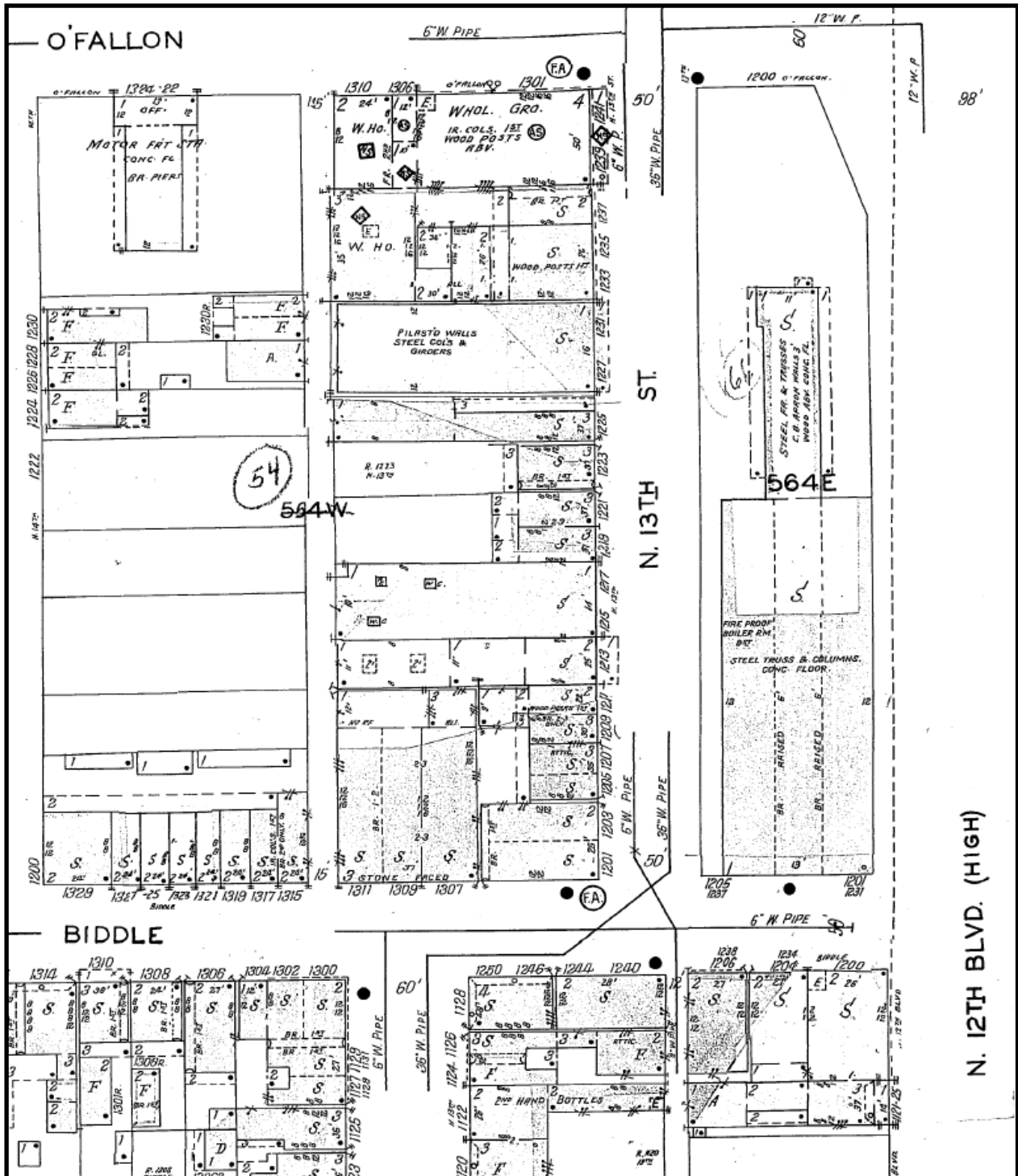


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 31

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 11: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. Volume 2, plate 15, 1950.

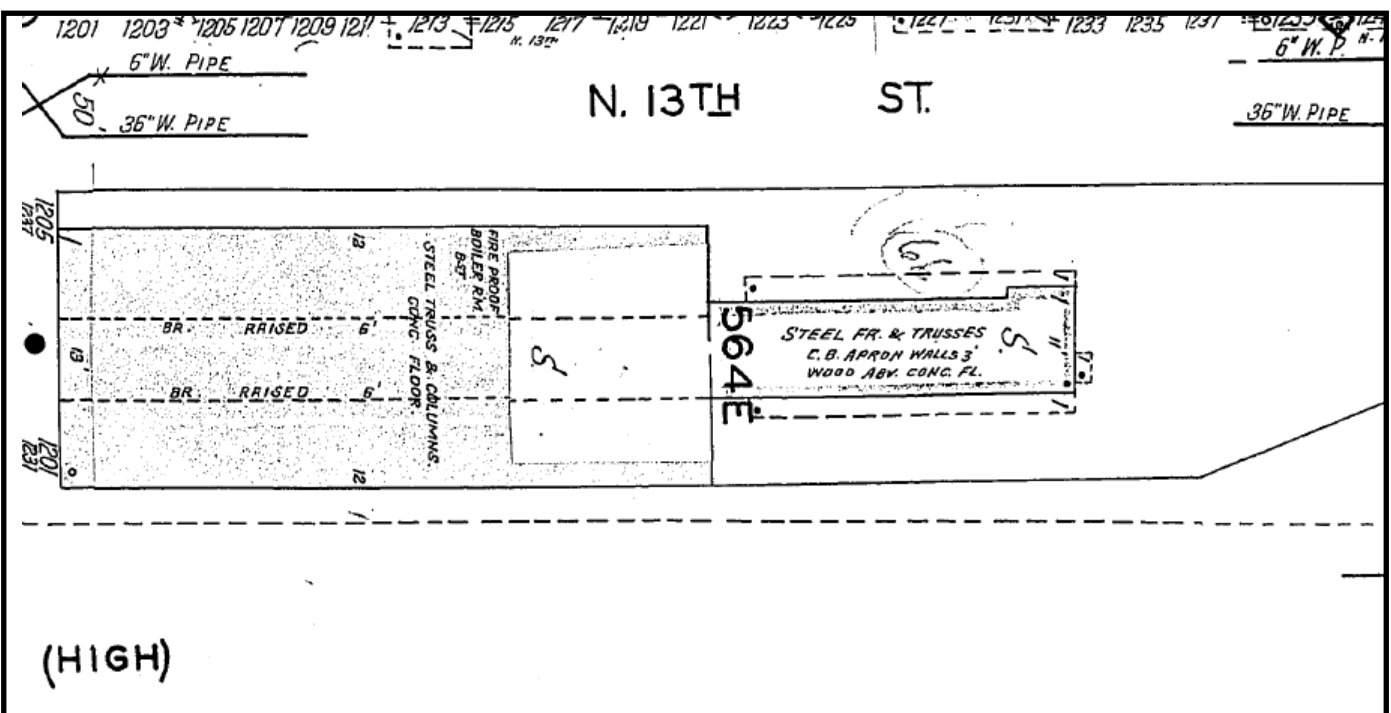
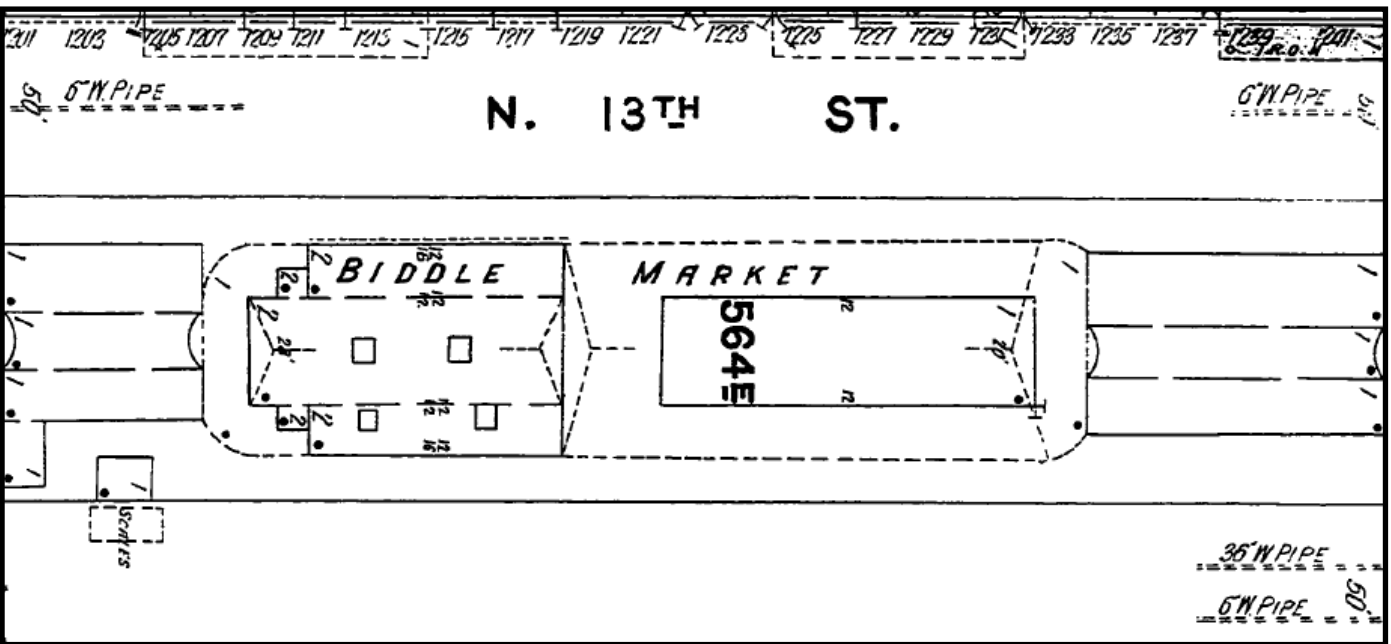


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 32

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 12: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. Comparison of markets: 1909 (left) & 1950 (right).



(HIGH)

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 33

Biddle Street Market

Name of Property

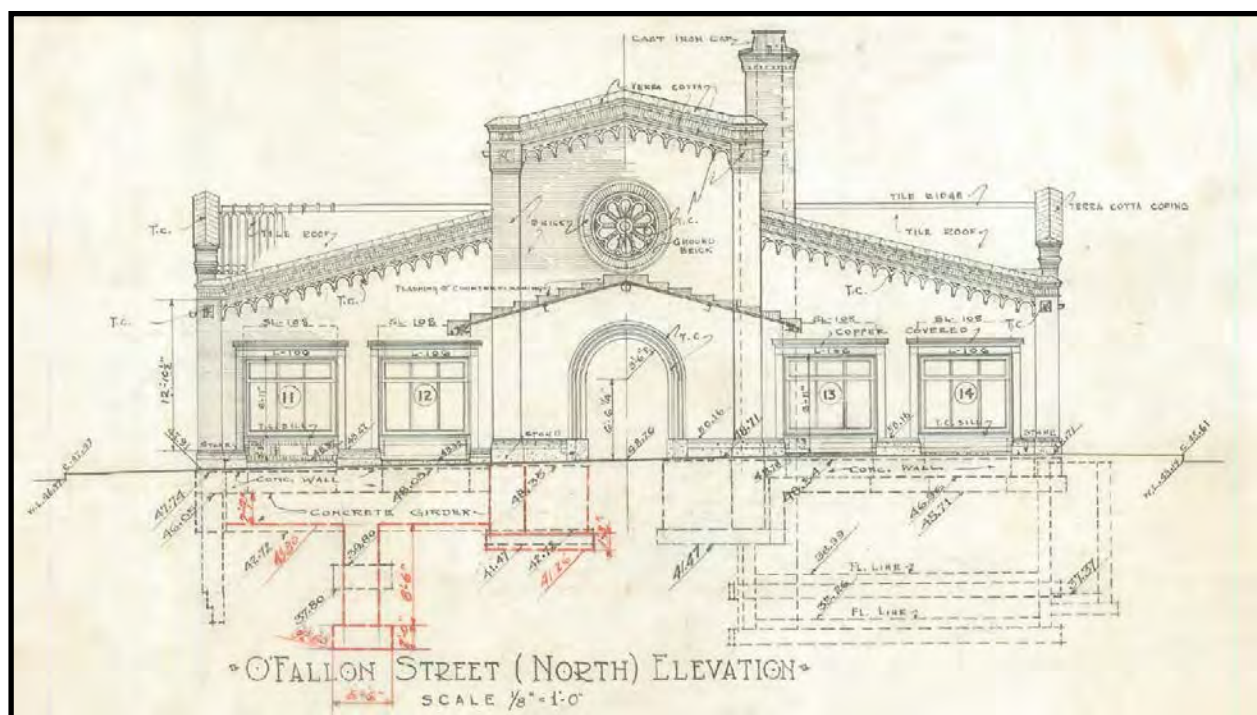
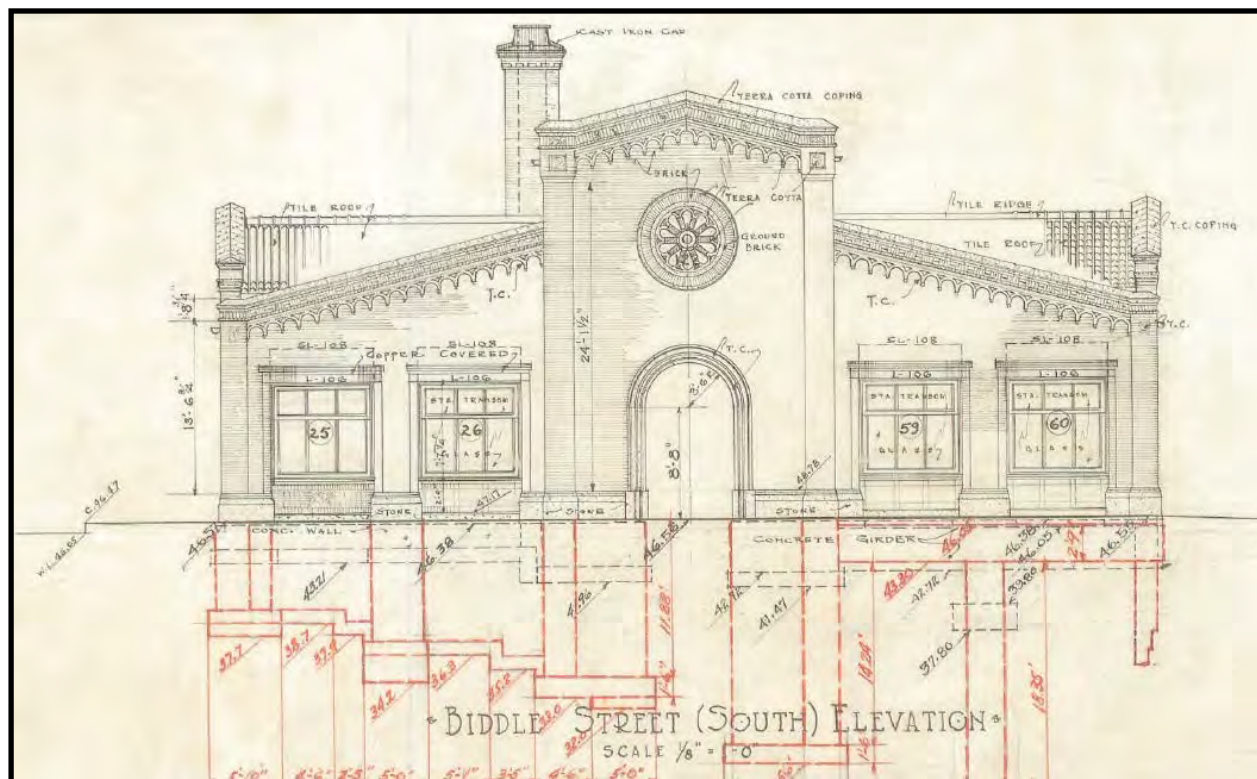
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 13: City of St. Louis: New Biddle Market. Albert A. Osberg. Architectural Drawings, 16 sheets, 1931. This is from sheet number 5.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 34

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 14: *City of St. Louis: New Biddle Market.* Albert A. Osberg. Architectural Drawings, 16 sheets, 1931. This is from sheet number 5.

Building Plans (see 11x17 version).

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 35

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 15: *City of St. Louis: New Biddle Market.* Albert A. Osberg. Architectural Drawings, 16 sheets, 1931. This is from sheet number 6.

Building Plans (see 11x17 version).

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 36

Biddle Street Market

Name of Property

St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 16: *City of St. Louis: New Biddle Market.* Albert A. Osberg. Architectural Drawings, 16 sheets, 1931. This is from sheet number 6 (top) and Sheet number 3 (bottom).

Building Plans (see 11x17 version).



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 37

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

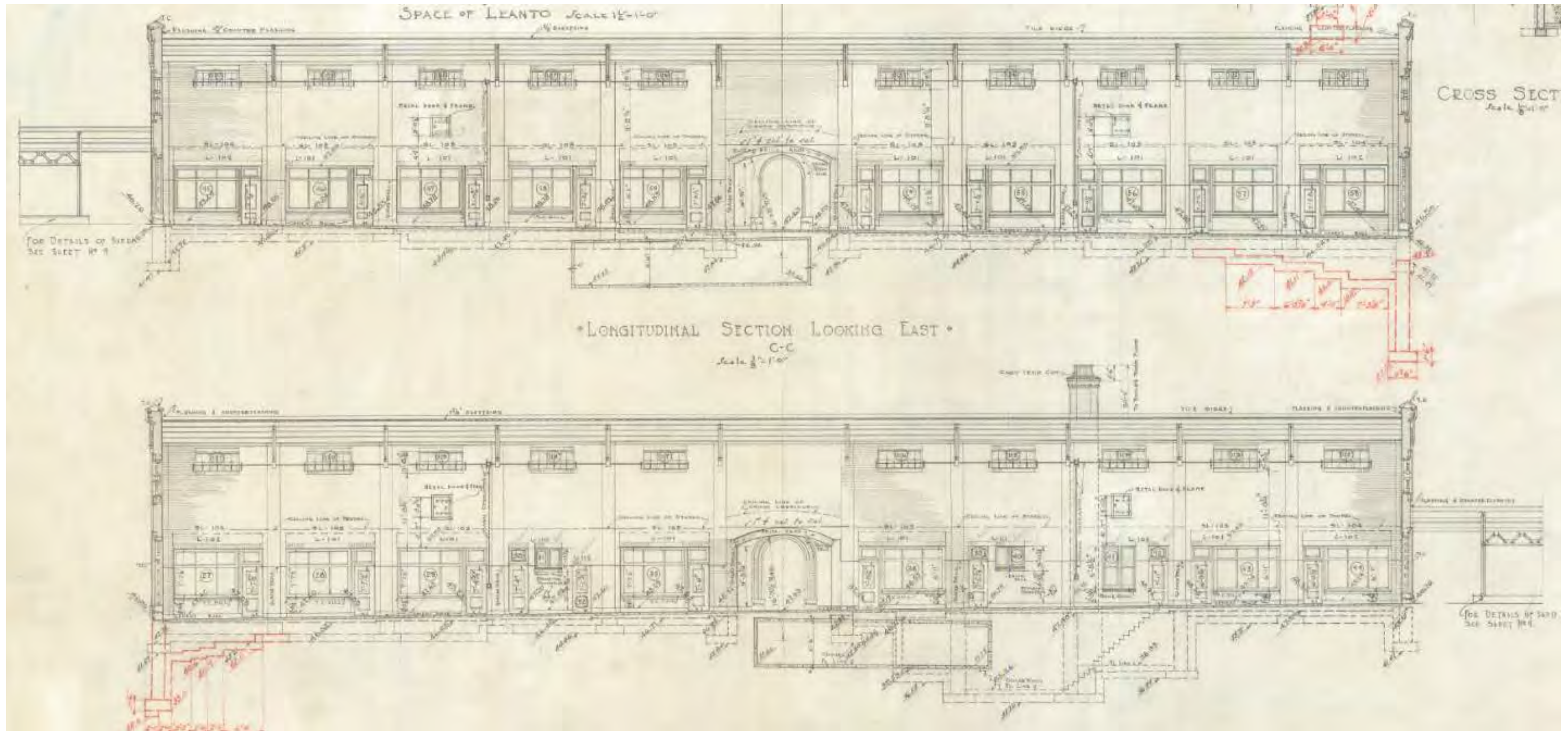
SHPO Comments: 4/10/15

This nomination was presented at the February 8, 2013 MOACHP meeting. A draft with minor changes was submitted in April 2013; however, it did not fully address staff and Council comments. Our office did not receive a NPS ready post-MOACHP draft after this date. As it is several years after the meeting date we are sending it for substantive review. SHPO staff feels the property may be eligible but the argument could be made stronger for its area of significance. Because of this we are marking it "not eligible" as we feel the nomination is incomplete.

Joni M. Drawl, 04/13/15

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 15: City of St. Louis: New Biddle Market. Albert A. Osberg. Architectural Drawings, 16 sheets, 1931. This is from sheet number 6.

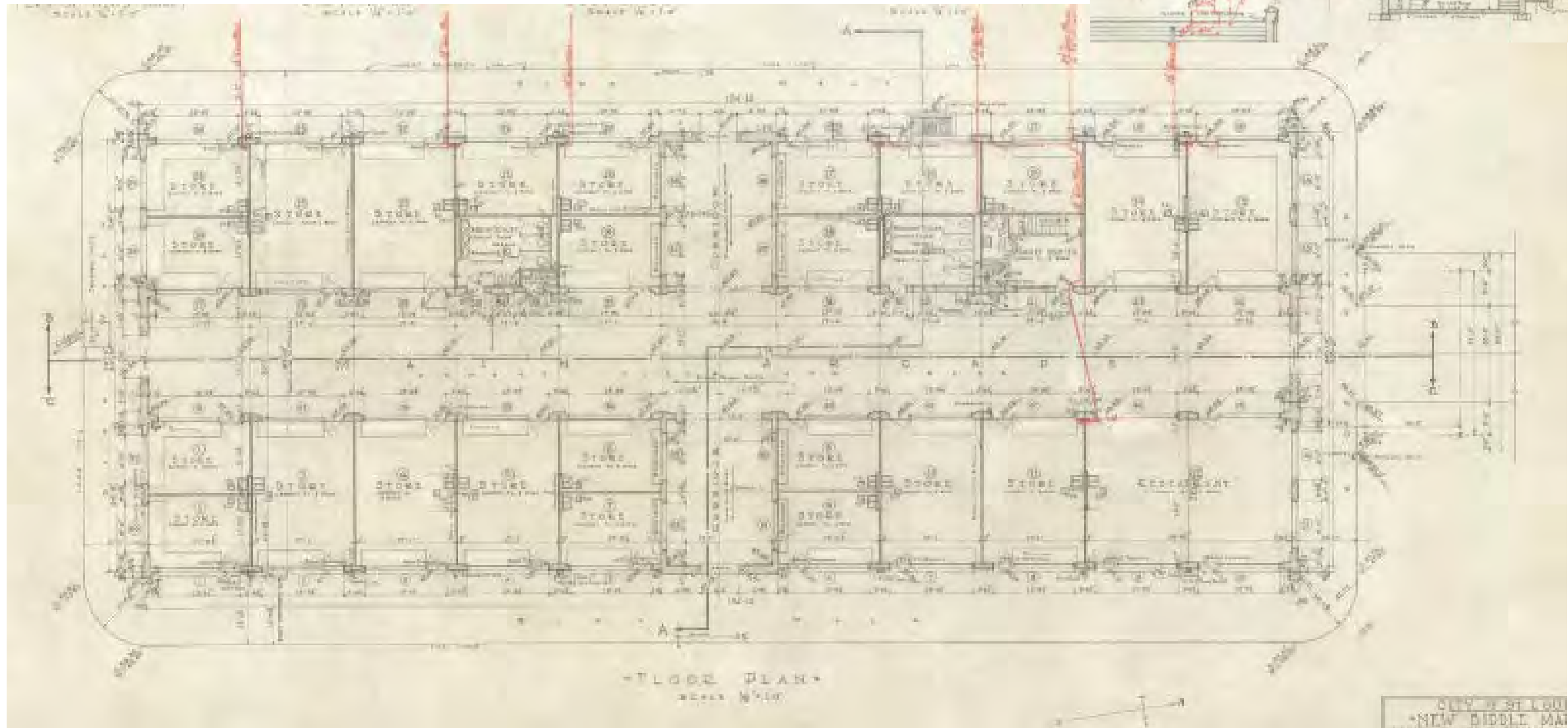
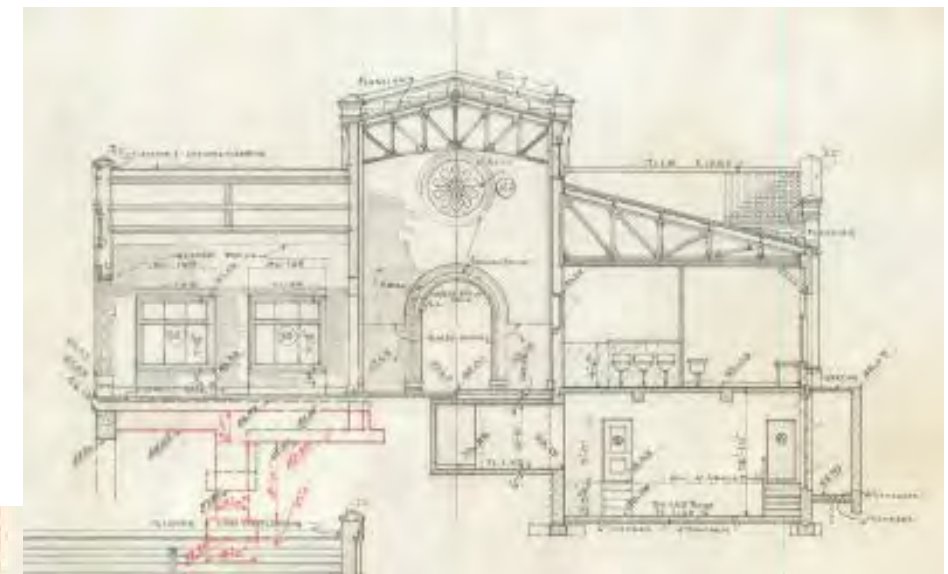


National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 35

Biddle Street Market
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 16: City of St. Louis: New Biddle Market. Albert A. Osberg. Architectural Drawings, 16 sheets, 1931. This is from sheet number 6 (top) and Sheet number 3 (bottom).





CITY OF ST. LOUIS
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
MOSQUITO AND RAT CONTROL
1212 NORTH 13TH ST
ENTRANCE ON SIDE STREET

SNOW
ROUTE



OFFICE
SCHOOL
COUNSELOR
LAWRENCE
M. BROWN



















NO SMOKING

FLAMMABLE
3



CITY OF ST. LOUIS
HEALTH
48-715

12-7

National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Biddle Street Market
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MISSOURI, St. Louis

DATE RECEIVED: 4/17/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/08/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/26/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/02/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000304

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 6-1-15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Biddle Street Market is listed in the National Register under Criterion A for its local significance in Commerce. The period of significance is 1923 to 1946, reflecting the years the City of St. Louis operated a market in this large building with Italian Renaissance references. Although the building was not used for food marketing after 1946, it still retains interior divisions on either side of the central axis and the storefront divisions are evident on the exterior. Because the building is nominated for its historical function as a market, the retention of these interior spaces and exterior storefronts is an important aspect of the building's integrity.

RECOM./CRITERIA A

REVIEWER Barbara Wippl

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE 202-354-2252

DATE 6-1-15

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



STATE OF MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, Governor • Sara Parker Pauley, Director



www.dnr.mo.gov

Memorandum

Date: April 10, 2015
To: Stephanie Toothman, Keeper, National Register of Historic Places
From: Toni M. Prawl, Ph.D., Deputy SHPO and Director, Missouri SHPO *tmP*
Subject: **Biddle Street Market St. Louis (Independent City), MO, National Register Nomination**

Our state review board, the Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, approved the above nomination on February 8, 2013. All owners and appropriate elected public officials were notified and provided at least thirty (30) days to comment on the above proposed nomination in accordance with Section 36CFR60.6, interim regulations, using the exact notification format recommended by the National Register. **The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.**

Please find enclosed the following documentation:

- 1 CD with original National Register of Historic Places registration form, MOACHP minutes, and SHPO comments
- Multiple Property Documentation Form
- Photographs
- 1 CD with electronic images
- Original USGS map(s)
- 3 Piece(s) of correspondence (cover letter, signature page, SHPO Comments)
- Other: _____

Comments:

- Please ensure that this nomination is reviewed**
- The enclosed owner objection(s) do do not constitute a majority of property owners.
- Other: _____

Diedriech, Michelle

From: Diedriech, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2013 9:39 AM
To: Matt Bivens (msbivens@lafser.com)
Subject: Biddle Street Market

Hi Matt,

I took a quick look at Biddle Market. We need a few things tweaked before we can send this off.

We need a current floor plan of the property. Add it to the figures.

Jacket: x in section 3 in front of __nomination
9: x for __State Historic Preservation Office as a major Biblio Reference
10: Remove the UTM numbers (we don't need them if we have Lat/Long)

Owner Info: Apparently the Park Service no longer wants owner info. On initial submissions we've been telling folks to add it to the last continuation page or on a separate page. Since we already have this information on file we no longer need it. Remove.

I read the nomination as it was presented to the Council and this is an improvement. However, the significance is buried under a lot of history and architectural information. In fact, the significance as it relates specifically to this property is only a page. Is it enough? I'm not sure. It would help if the other areas of this nomination could perhaps be edited down a little more and the information on page 13 beefed up. While it's mentioned, a more thorough discussion of the neighborhood Biddle Market served and its dependence on the Market could help *if* the evidence is out there to support it. Were there other nearby food places residents could shop at during the period of significance? (if this was mentioned in the nomination it wasn't apparent).

I won't disagree with Roger; Commerce could be a viable area of significance for this property but I'm unsure if it's the best. What I found more intriguing was the connection to the Jewish community. Do you think this could be listed under Ethnic Heritage? In the current discussion Biddle Market's relationship to the Jewish community struck me as more significant than the "commerce" argument. Of course, if you were to go this route further research and a re-write would need to be made.

I understand deadlines are in place. If you make the technical corrections above (you may e-mail an updated version in Word format) I will send this to the Keeper, **however, since we are short staffed I am requesting substantive review from the Park Service.** The stronger the nomination the less chance it will be returned.

Thanks

Michelle

Michelle Diedriech
Survey Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone: direct line (573) 526-1680, toll free 800-361-4827
FAX: (573) 522-6262

**Minutes
of the
MISSOURI ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
February 8, 2013**

The Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation met at the Lewis and Clark State Office Building, 1101 Riverside Drive, Jefferson City, Missouri from 9:00 a.m. to 1:44 p.m. on February 8, 2013.

The following council members were present: Ms. Mimi Stiritz, Dr. Bob Wieggers, Mr. Allen Shirley, Mr. Tom Kuypers, Dr. Tony Holland, Ms. Kacky Garner, Dr. Bonnie Stepenoff, Mr. Brent Crittenden, Mr. Dwight Wyatt and Ms. Cheryl Hibbeler. Present from DNR and the State Historic Preservation Office: Mark Miles, Michelle Diedrich, Roger Maserang, Cathy Sala, Jo Ann Radetic, Chris Tellman, Rebecca Rost, JoAnn Radetic, Elizabeth Watkins, Stephanie Reed, Van Beydler and Tiffany Patterson. Guests: Frances Wyatt, Rich Lawson, Michelle Brooks, David Taylor, Jay Burchfield, Jane Beetem, Deb Sheals, Matt Bivens, Mr. and Mrs. Brian Parker, Karen Bode Baxter, Michael Deetz, Donna Deetz, Heather Carpini, Rachel Nugent, Hank Stratman, Karen Daniels and Toni Prawl.

Biddle Street Market, 1211-19 North Tucker Boulevard, St. Louis [Independent City]

Preparer & Agency: Matt Bivens, Lafser & Associates

Staff Comments: For National Register listing purposes, the significance of a nominated property should never be considered self-evident. There is a great deal of background, deep and otherwise, yet little or no history regarding the Biddle Street Market has been provided for its 1932-1946 period of significance. For this property to be eligible under Criterion A in the area of Commerce, a case needs to be made that it was *significant* in the city's commercial history during this period rather than merely associated with it (see NR Bulletin 15: *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, p. 12). (Community Planning & Development – proposed as the area of significance in an earlier draft – would not fly since this is a single building.) Regarding the property description, the Section 7 summary paragraph seems to paint too rosy a picture for a building that, in sum, has seen a lot of alteration (too much for listing under Criterion C for Architecture). At a minimum, the Section 7 summary paragraph and the integrity discussion need to own up to the fact that the south and west elevations have lost their semicircular entrance surrounds and other detailing. There are a few typos and awkward phrases.

Mr. Bivens gave a PowerPoint presentation and answered questions. Ms. Stiritz requested a motion for the Biddle Street Market. Dr. Stepenoff made a motion to approve and submit to the Keeper of the National Register provided staff and Council comments are addressed in the final submission. Dr. Holland seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

NO COUNCIL COMMENTS



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

June 2, 2015

Toni M. Prawl, Deputy SHPO and Director
Missouri State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Dr. Prawl:

We reviewed three National Register nominations you submitted for substantive review: the Dr. George Ashe Bronson Residence, the Biddle Street Market, and Stouffer's Riverfront Inn. In each case, the Review Board approved the nomination and the State Historic Preservation Officer did not sign the nomination because the documentation was considered insufficient to demonstrate eligibility. A determination by the Keeper of the National Register was requested. In all cases, well over 90 days had passed since the meeting of the Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

The minutes of the meetings of the Council were submitted with the nominations, and in each case the Council's comments were minimal, indicating its general acceptance of these nominations. Based on our review, the documentation in the nominations for the Bronson Residence and the Biddle Street Market is sufficient to make the case for eligibility. These nominations were signed for the Keeper on June 1, 2015. The case for the eligibility of Stouffer's Riverfront Inn under Criterion C and Criterion Consideration G has not been made. The Council approved this nomination, although it agreed with SHPO staff that certain areas need further development. We agree with the SHPO's identification of deficiencies, and the nomination will be returned by the National Register.

Sincerely,

Barbara Wyatt, Historian
National Register of Historic Places/
National Historic Landmark Program

REVIEW COMMENTS

BIDDLE STREET MARKET, 1211-19 North Tucker Boulevard, St. Louis (Independent City)

Preparer: Matt Bivens

Reviewer: R. Maserang

November 15, 2012

This nomination is tentatively scheduled for consideration by the Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (MOACHP) at its February 8, 2013 meeting in Jefferson City. Consideration on February 8 assumes that an adequate revised draft is received by our office by December 14. If in staff's opinion the revised nomination is not ready for consideration at the February meeting, it may be revised for presentation at a later meeting.

General:

I enjoyed reading this nomination, but it's a bit rougher than some of your other submissions that I've reviewed. While Section 8 contains a lot of information, I had to keep going back and forth to follow parts of the discussion (it could stand editing to reduce the number of awkward phrases and to make the material more coherent). It also might be helpful to provide a brief, year-by-year chronology for the Biddle markets. Also, too much space is devoted to markets other than the nominated property and to deep background in general. Finally, and this is very important, the first eight years of the market's history (1932-1940) aren't really covered in the nomination, but need to be. Obviously these are significant years since the POS begins in 1932 and runs through 1946.

I'm glad that you didn't claim significance under Criterion C for Architecture (because of all the infill). Criterion A for Commerce is probably the only way this building can be presented as eligible for listing.

Jacket:

Re: item 2, city or town, delete "(Independent City)"

Re: item 2, county, enter "St. Louis (Independent City)" or just "Independent City"

Re: item 3, add an "X" in front of nomination, meets, local, and applicable NR criterion A

Re: item 6, historic functions, delete "SOCIAL/civic"

Re: item 8, significant person, enter "N/A"

Re: item 8, cultural affiliation, delete "JEWISH" and enter "N/A" (Cultural affiliation should be provided only when Criterion D is checked.)

Re: item 8, architect/builder, delete "Albert A. Osburg" and enter "Osburg, Albert A./Architect"

Section 7/Description:

I'd like to see the Section 7 summary paragraph simplified more or less as follows, assuming that what I've written is correct:

The Biddle Street Market is located at 1211-19 North Tucker Boulevard in St. Louis, Missouri. Constructed in 1932, this is a rectangular one-story commercial building of steel frame construction with variegated buff brick curtain walls laid in a Flemish bond. The long north-south axis has a full-length gabled monitor with (boarded) clearstory windows. A slightly projecting frontispiece with a shaped parapet and Italian Renaissance detailing is centered in each elevation. Brick pilasters and pilaster strips with limestone bases define corners and the building's twenty-four recessed, former market stall openings. North and east elevations retain terra cotta, semi-circular surrounds with acanthus leaves and rope moldings but the south and west elevations have been simplified. A rose window with terra cotta tracery and inset stained glass is above the north entrance. Ornamental terra cotta rosettes, tiles, and stone insets embellish cornices and rooflines. The south and west elevations have lost their semi-circular entrance surrounds and other detailing. Despite infilled areas and other changes, the original design is readily identifiable. The interior retains its open arcade, pedestrian axis, and radiating divided rooms that served as market stalls. Despite these alterations, the Biddle Street Market continues to reflect its historic past as a public market.

The next paragraph seems okay.

In the bottom partial paragraph on 7.1, is the first sentence worded the way you intended ("two and two symmetrical elevations...")?

There are a few redundant sentences in other parts of Section 7--it would be a better, smoother read if you could fix some of that.

Instead of saying "north-facing" façade, just say north façade, west façade or elevation, etc.

On 7.2, top partial paragraph, "...rosettes, panels, and details [embellish] each elevation." (In any case, avoid saying "visual" ornamentation.)

On 7.3, top paragraph, "...with a diagonal Della [Robbia bond] (reminiscent of woven..."

On 7.4, first paragraph, what "historic resources" indicate that the building was first modified in 1946? Perhaps this needs a footnote?

On 7.4, third paragraph, second sentence: It sounds as if you are saying that each opening had a flat arch originally as well as today. Yet the four primary entrances all seem to have had round arches prior to the modifications in 1946 and 1969.

On 7.4, later in the same paragraph, "[Despite] the loss of much of the historic neighborhood..."

Section 8/Statement of Significance:

Here's a revised version of the Section 8 summary:

The Biddle Street Market at 1211-19 North Tucker Boulevard in St. Louis is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of COMMERCE. Constructed in 1932 during a period of city reform, the building is locally significant for its role as a public marketplace for farmers' produce. Like an earlier Biddle Market on the same site, it was an integral element of its diverse neighborhood although it soon came to be considered a "white elephant" due to the rapid growth of

small, private grocery stores across the city. Designed by city architect Albert A. Osburg, the rectangular building features a monitor roof, intricate brickwork and terra cotta detailing suggestive of Italian Renaissance styling. The nominated building was the last of three city markets to be constructed under a 1923 public improvements bond issue [insert footnote: "The other two were the Union Market, built in 1924 (NR listed 1/16/84) and the Soulard Market, built in 1929."] The period of significance begins with the Biddle Street Market's opening in 1932 and ends in 1946 when the building was last used as a public market. The property has been altered but remains sufficiently evocative of its historic appearance through the Great Depression and World War II. After the period of significance it became a modern supermarket, operating as such from 1947 through the early 1960s. It remains a city-owned property today, housing a division of the St. Louis Health Department.

So money from the 1923 bond issue was still available for construction of Biddle in 1932, right?

I found portions of Section 8 difficult to follow. And I'm not even sure that my understanding of the nominated property is correct. The original Biddle Market was a privately owned (on privately owned land) and privately operated public market—is that correct? But the nominated Biddle Market was a public market (although constructed on the original site with city urban improvement funds and consequently owned by the city) from 1932 until 1946, when it became a privately operated public market? Did the city continue to own Biddle after 1946 or was it sold at or around this time? (Is the above basically correct?)

In general, it seems to me that too much space is devoted to markets other than the Biddle Street Market. The early history of the nominated building is largely missing from the discussion as well, and this is much more serious. For example, in the subsection titled **Life and death of the new Biddle Market** (page 8.12), the narrative fails to provide any information about the first eight years of its existence (1932-1940). Since the POS is 1932-1946, this hole will need to be filled.

On 8.5, the last two paragraphs really should be combined and tightened up, beginning with "[Throughout] recorded time, trade has [depended on the congregation of...]" (Instead of using two "background" subheads, just use one: Background: Early Markets.)

In the bottom paragraph, "...have always been [essential to developing villages]—and the City of St. Louis was no exception."

In the same paragraph, "Immediate access to boat landings was crucial," etc.

It wouldn't hurt to insert a footnote earlier than in the middle of 8.6—the nomination presents at least some factual information before the middle of 8.6 that isn't generally known.

Capitalization of "city" is inconsistent. Be consistent, preferably by lower-casing it. And most of the time, just saying St. Louis is preferable to City of St. Louis.

On 8.6, third paragraph, "Population increased steadily, from 160,773 in 1860 to 310,000 in 1870 and to 500,000 by 1875."

In the same paragraph, there's a reference to "Wash" Street. Is that correct or should it be Washington? If correct, is there still a Wash Street in St. Louis?

On 8.6, bottom partial paragraph, "...valued at a little over \$13.7 million [delete 'dollars'] of which public markets and grounds was [\$762,850]."

Same paragraph, "...another, serving every populated neighborhood [delete 'citywide']."

Re: footnote #1, is the Reservoir Market "extant" at 2616 North 22nd St.?

On 8.7, middle paragraph, "Second only to New York in the number of zoning regulations adopted, St. Louis implemented..." [Is that what you meant by saying second only to N.Y. in adopting regs—the number of them? If not that, what?]

In the same paragraph, "...when in 1900 the [Municipal Code] of St. Louis was annotated and republished to address the four city-operated [markets] including the Union, City, Soulard and South [markets]."

On 8.7, bottom partial paragraph, "...and owned the land under a fourth [(the original Biddle)] which was privately run."

On 8.8, first complete paragraph, aren't most analytical, in-depth or informative pieces of writing such as "Municipal Market Buildings" essentially proactive? Unless in this case there is something about the published material that made its publication exceptionally proactive in some way (which you haven't made clear), I wouldn't call it proactive.

In the same paragraph, North and South (as regions of the country rather than as directions or points of the compass) should be capitalized. But it doesn't seem correct to refer to a majority of municipal markets in the North and a majority of public markets in the South, since weren't they all "public" markets? Or is there a more accurate way of differentiating between the kind of market the North mainly had versus the kind that prevailed in the South? Was the main difference the type of ownership—municipal-owned public markets versus privately-owned public markets?

Actually it wouldn't be a bad idea to combine the two middle paragraphs on 8.8, something like this if I'm understanding it correctly:

In 1910, the Municipal Journal and Engineer launched a series of articles which, for the most part, were critical of municipal-owned markets including those in St. Louis. At that time, St. Louis was among at least 59 American cities owning such properties. While it was common knowledge that the markets were deteriorating, the publication of details about their poor condition (in the April 1910 issue) hit home, causing great concern among city fathers. In early 1914, in connection with a proposed general bond issue for the construction of new markets on existing sites, the Civic League of St. Louis asked the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to evaluate the city's four public markets. The USDA'S report was highly negative, citing the lack of inspections and asserting that "a city cannot establish a market and expect it to run itself." The Biddle, Soulard and South markets were described as having fallen into decay and disuse, while conditions at the Union Market were said to be intolerable. Suggestions were made for improvements, but it was apparent that all of the buildings would soon need to be replaced altogether.

On 8.8, second paragraph, the expression "hardened the blow" just didn't seem apt.

On 8.9, top, when you say "by the close of [the] 1910s, do you just mean "by 1920"?

On 8.9, second paragraph, "A few years later, in 1849, Ordinance #2288 authorized erection of the original Biddle Market at Thirteenth and Fourteenth Streets between Biddle and O'Fallon."

In the same paragraph, "A dense neighborhood was served, and the building quickly became its social and commercial center" (Figures 5 and 6). "In fact, the structure had no sanitary or drainage provisions, only street gutters."

Next paragraph, "From the 1850s to the 1910s, it had grown and served the population of the "tenement district" surrounding it (Figure 7).

On 8.10, last paragraph, "[Delete 'Replacing the extant old Biddle Market'] The new building's design was a sharp contrast to the [old Biddle Market] in that it was based on..."

In the same paragraph, "The long [north-south axis] contained the main arcade while smaller..."

And, "Separate restrooms for men and women were adjacent to the westernmost side corridor; the market master's office was adjacent to the women's restroom."

On 8.11, top paragraph, "[Construction of the Biddle Market was not without controversy. Some simply questioned the need for another public market. The Union Market had come under scrutiny due to a decline in business. The city had refused a request by stall owners had for lower rents...." Etc.

Middle paragraph, "Architects employed by the city during the early decades of the 20th century were deeply influenced by both Classical and Renaissance Revival motifs and Albert Osburg, the building's architect, was no exception. City buildings of this period..."

"After working for the city since 1912, Osburg was appointed city architect in 19___. Two years before designing the nominated building in an Italian Revival style in 1931, Osburg designed the Soulard Market (inspired by Brunelleschi's Foundling Hospital in Florence, Italy). Osburg was born in St. Louis in 1887 and received..."

Footnote #13 is incomplete. Please add the author's name, Charles Matlack Price, and other bibliographical info (and include this source in Section 9).

On 8.12, as mentioned earlier in these comments, the discussion of the building's history skips the market's first (and presumably its most important) decade. Since the period of significance begins in 1932 and ends in 1946, some discussion of the market's history and significance during this entire period is essential. Remember that for National Register listing purposes, significance should never be considered self-evident. (Even if the Biddle Street Market were the city's only such market during these years, it still would be necessary to make a credible argument for significance under commerce or whatever criterion/area of significance was claimed.)

Other:

Re: Section 9, please add the Union Market NR nomination (written by Mary M. Stiritz in 1983) to the bibliography.

Re: the photo log, city or vicinity, delete (Independent City); just enter St. Louis.

Re: county, delete N/A and enter St. Louis (Independent City)

Re: photo 3, the camera is facing southwest, not northwest.

Re: photo 12, the camera is facing north, not northeast.

We have two sets of 5x7 b&w digital prints, but we still need the photo disk.

We also need an electronic version (of the revised draft) in MS Word or compatible format.

Diedriech, Michelle

From: Diedriech, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2013 9:39 AM
To: Matt Bivens (msbivens@lafser.com)
Subject: Biddle Street Market

Hi Matt,

I took a quick look at Biddle Market. We need a few things tweaked before we can send this off.

We need a current floor plan of the property. Add it to the figures.

Jacket: x in section 3 in front of __ nomination

9: x for __ State Historic Preservation Office as a major Biblio Reference

10: Remove the UTM numbers (we don't need them if we have Lat/Long)

Owner Info: Apparently the Park Service no longer wants owner info. On initial submissions we've been telling folks to add it to the last continuation page or on a separate page. Since we already have this information on file we no longer need it. Remove.

I read the nomination as it was presented to the Council and this is an improvement. However, the significance is buried under a lot of history and architectural information. In fact, the significance as it relates specifically to this property is only a page. Is it enough? I'm not sure. It would help if the other areas of this nomination could perhaps be edited down a little more and the information on page 13 beefed up. While it's mentioned, a more thorough discussion of the neighborhood Biddle Market served and its dependence on the Market could help *if* the evidence is out there to support it. Were there other nearby food places residents could shop at during the period of significance? (if this was mentioned in the nomination it wasn't apparent).

I won't disagree with Roger; Commerce could be a viable area of significance for this property but I'm unsure if it's the best. What I found more intriguing was the connection to the Jewish community. Do you think this could be listed under Ethnic Heritage? In the current discussion Biddle Market's relationship to the Jewish community struck me as more significant than the "commerce" argument. Of course, if you were to go this route further research and a re-write would need to be made.

I understand deadlines are in place. If you make the technical corrections above (you may e-mail an updated version in Word format) I will send this to the Keeper, however, since we are short staffed I am requesting substantive review from the Park Service. The stronger the nomination the less chance it will be returned.

Thanks

Michelle

Michelle Diedriech
Survey Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone: direct line (573) 526-1680, toll free 800-361-4827
FAX: (573) 522-6262

**Minutes
of the
MISSOURI ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
February 8, 2013**

The Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation met at the Lewis and Clark State Office Building, 1101 Riverside Drive, Jefferson City, Missouri from 9:00 a.m. to 1:44 p.m. on February 8, 2013.

The following council members were present: Ms. Mimi Stiritz, Dr. Bob Wieggers, Mr. Allen Shirley, Mr. Tom Kuypers, Dr. Tony Holland, Ms. Kacky Garner, Dr. Bonnie Stepenoff, Mr. Brent Crittenden, Mr. Dwight Wyatt and Ms. Cheryl Hibbeler. Present from DNR and the State Historic Preservation Office: Mark Miles, Michelle Diedrich, Roger Maserang, Cathy Sala, Jo Ann Radetic, Chris Tellman, Rebecca Rost, JoAnn Radetic, Elizabeth Watkins, Stephanie Reed, Van Beydler and Tiffany Patterson. Guests: Frances Wyatt, Rich Lawson, Michelle Brooks, David Taylor, Jay Burchfield, Jane Beetem, Deb Sheals, Matt Bivens, Mr. and Mrs. Brian Parker, Karen Bode Baxter, Michael Deetz, Donna Deetz, Heather Carpini, Rachel Nugent, Hank Stratman, Karen Daniels and Toni Prawl.

Biddle Street Market, 1211-19 North Tucker Boulevard, St. Louis [Independent City]

Preparer & Agency: Matt Bivens, Lafser & Associates

Staff Comments: For National Register listing purposes, the significance of a nominated property should never be considered self-evident. There is a great deal of background, deep and otherwise, yet little or no history regarding the Biddle Street Market has been provided for its 1932-1946 period of significance. For this property to be eligible under Criterion A in the area of Commerce, a case needs to be made that it was *significant* in the city's commercial history during this period rather than merely associated with it (see NR Bulletin 15: *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, p. 12). (Community Planning & Development – proposed as the area of significance in an earlier draft – would not fly since this is a single building.) Regarding the property description, the Section 7 summary paragraph seems to paint too rosy a picture for a building that, in sum, has seen a lot of alteration (too much for listing under Criterion C for Architecture). At a minimum, the Section 7 summary paragraph and the integrity discussion need to own up to the fact that the south and west elevations have lost their semicircular entrance surrounds and other detailing. There are a few typos and awkward phrases.

Mr. Bivens gave a PowerPoint presentation and answered questions. Ms. Stiritz requested a motion for the Biddle Street Market. Dr. Stepenoff made a motion to approve and submit to the Keeper of the National Register provided staff and Council comments are addressed in the final submission. Dr. Holland seconded. The motion carried unanimously.



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF ST. LOUIS
MISSOURI**

RECEIVED

FEB 20 2013

**STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICE**

CITY HALL - ROOM 200
1200 MARKET STREET
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103-2877
(314) 622-3201
FAX: (314) 622-4061

**FRANCIS G. SLAY
MAYOR**

February 13, 2013

Mr. Mark Miles
Director and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State Historic Preservation Office
Department Of Natural Resources
Post Office Box 176
Jefferson City, MO. 65102

**RE: Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places:
Biddle Street Market, 1211-19 North Tucker Boulevard**

Dear Mr. Miles:

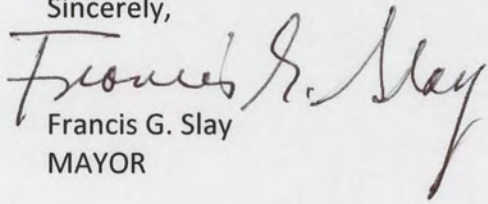
In accordance with the Certified Local Government requirements, I am writing to advise you that the Preservation Board of the City of St. Louis has reviewed the above-referenced single site nomination. The Board determined that the Biddle Street Market meets the eligibility requirements for the National Register of Historic Places in terms of historic significance and integrity. Further, the Preservation Board recommends that this property be placed on the National Register.

As the Chief Executive Officer of the City of St. Louis, I support the Preservation Board's decisions. A copy of the Preservation Board's report for each nomination is attached.

The placement of these properties on the National Register will aid in the redevelopment of the city and, in particular, the neighborhoods in which they are located.

Please feel free to contact me or Patrick Brown of my staff if you have any questions. Thank you for everything you do for our city and for our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francis G. Slay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "S" at the beginning and a long, trailing flourish at the end.

Francis G. Slay
MAYOR

ATTACHMENT

C: JoAnn Radetic, Certified Local Government Coordinator
Betsy Bradley, Cultural Resources Office Director
Patrick Brown, Mayor's Office