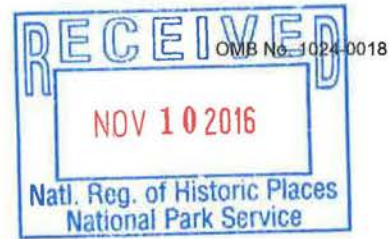


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



902

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 Turkey Hill Grange Hall

other names/site number _____

Name of Multiple Property Listing _____

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

street & number 1375 East State Route 15 not for publication

city or town Belleville vicinity

state Illinois county St. Clair zip code 62220

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

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

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: x A B x C D

[Signature] Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date 11-01-16

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
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:

X 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 Dyall
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 12-27-16

Turkey Hill Grange Hall
Name of Property

St. Clair County, Illinois
County and State

5. Classification

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

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

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

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 | | buildings |
| | | site |
| | | structure |
| | | object |
| 1 | | Total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social/ Meeting Hall

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social/ Meeting Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Neo-Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete
walls: Brick
roof: Asphalt shingles
other: Trim and terrace: Concrete

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity).

Summary Paragraph

Turkey Hill Grange Hall is significant as the most substantial extant grange hall in Illinois, designed by prominent local architects with classical revival details to represent the ideals of the Grange. It is also one of the best examples of a hall built to meet the particular needs and specifications of this fraternal organization. The period of significance is from 1937 when the building was completed, to 1966, the fifty-year cut-off date for the National Register. The hall is Turkey Hill Grange's third on this site, and has retained an extraordinary degree of integrity in its location, setting, design, materials and feeling as it clearly represents its history.

Turkey Hill Grange Hall is located at the northwest corner of East State Route 15 and Green Mount Road on the east side of Belleville, Illinois, on property that was rural until acceded to the city in 2000. Both State Route 15 and Green Mount Road are heavily traveled. Route 15 runs mostly east-west at this point. Green Mount Road is a popular road that connects from Route 15 to routes 158 and 161 and built-up areas to the north. The hall is set back about a hundred feet from each of these roads, though it was originally further from the roads as they have been widened over time. Access to the hall is from Green Mount Road, into asphalt parking areas on the north and west sides of the building. To the west of the building lot is an unaffiliated retail area. To the north of the building parking lot are orchards, and across the road to both the north and east are fields, with the exception of a commercial/industrial building set back on the northeast corner of the intersection. Density becomes greater both to the west and north of the hall as the roads lead into the town of Belleville and its environs. The rectangular grange hall building is one story in height on a high raised basement, and consists of a main block with an original south extension. The total building, approximately 92' by 42', faces the roads both to the south and east with significant façades, though the south façade is historically considered to be the front of the building. There is an addition at the rear, northwest corner of the main block. The hall has retained high integrity in both interior and exterior and continues to be well maintained.

Narrative Description

All four elevations of the building, including the addition, are faced in multi-hued red brick laid in running bond with buff mortar. The foundation, basement and terrace floors, window sills, column caps and other details are all of concrete, while the window heads are brick. Structural steel columns support the main floor, and walls are constructed of tile faced with the red brick. The gabled roofs of the main block, the south extensions and the addition are all covered with grey composition shingles, in good condition. There are five symmetrically located gable-roofed wooden attic vent dormers in the roof – the original sixth was removed for the placement of the roof of the addition. The windows throughout the building are original, wood sash with divided lights, except for those in the newer addition. The windows currently have storm panes on the exterior.¹

¹ The information in this section is taken from an inspection of the building, and from the original architects' drawings which are in the possession of Turkey Hill Grange.

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The south-facing façade is the grandest, characterized by classical revival details and three gables facing the street. In addition to the main gabled end, there is an extended front block, about eighteen feet deep, consisting of twin gables lower than the main gable, which flank a flat-roofed portion. Each of the twin gable ends has a set of double-hung windows at both the upper and lower (raised basement) levels which have six-over-six lights, though the lower windows are shorter than the upper. The flat-roofed center portion features a set of Palladian windows in the upper level, with header bricks surrounding the arch of the taller fixed-sash central window. Below that is a further flat-roofed rectangular projection that contains the entrance. It is about six feet deep and fourteen feet long, with a segmental-arched opening, also delineated with two rows of header bricks. The wooden double entry doors each have three panels below a four-light fixed window in the upper panel. The doors are set beneath a fixed, arched transom window with a leaded-glass fanlight. A set of coach lights frame the entrance. This was an original condition though it is not known if the current lights are the original. There is a single, double-hung window on each of the east and west sides of the entrance projection.

The east façade is ten bays long. The façade is symmetrical, with a belt course that delineates the main floor level from the basement. The raised terrace at the main floor level is centrally located, forty feet long – the length of the four central bays—and projecting twelve and a half feet from the main façade. It has a concrete surface. At the two central-most bays are of sets of double doors that lead from the main floor out onto the terrace. The original wooden doors match those of the south entrance with panels set beneath fixed four-light windows in the upper panels. The doors are set beneath rectangular transoms, each with five fixed lights. The terrace is reached from ground level via a concrete stair of ten steps. The balustrade of both the stairs and the terrace consists of a simple iron railing that appears to be original, with thick L-shaped brick posts at each corner that are topped by concrete “stone” caps. The double-hung windows on either side of the sets of entry doors are double-hung, with nine-over-nine lights. At the raised basement level, the fenestration pattern is repeated, though the windows are shorter and have six-over-six lights.

The west façade, which faces a parking area, repeats the basic fenestration pattern of the east façade, though it does not have any entrances or a terrace. The windows are, like the east façade, regularly-spaced double-hung windows of nine-over-nine lights. In the central bays, the windows are in sets of two, with two individual window bays on either end. The northernmost three windows were enclosed for the construction of an addition which was completed in 2003. It is 18 by 30 feet, recessed about four feet from the north wall of the main block, and faced in brick that very closely matches the original, laid in the same bond with matching mortar. This brick was salvaged from the Old Central Junior High School, designed by the same architects as the Grange hall and demolished in 2012. The lower, perpendicular gabled roof of the addition has a slope the same angle as that of the main block, and it has a matching 5' round attic vent articulated with a surround of header bricks. There are no openings in the south or west walls of the addition other than small vents.

The north, or rear elevation, faces the parking lot. It is plain, bisected by a brick chimney stack that extends a few feet above the roof peak. To the east of the chimney is a door leading a few steps down to the basement level, and a single six-over-six window. To the west of the chimney is single door opening to interior steps down to the basement, and a single six-over-six double-hung window. The north elevation of the addition has a new aluminum door and sidelight assembly that enters the building, like the south entrance, at the landing level between basement and main floor. This entrance is sheltered beneath a flat-roofed overhang supported by thick brick columns. At the upper floor level of the addition is a set of nine-over-nine double-hung aluminum windows to match existing on the original building.

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Interior

The entrance on the south gabled end leads to the landing of the main interior stairhall, from which one can descend to the basement or ascend to the main floor. The wide stairs have a solid balustrade surmounted by a wood hand rail. Centered at the top of the stairs on the landing are paneled wooden double doors into main floor meeting hall. Just to the east before entering the main hall is the original ticket booth, where tickets to dances and events were sold. To the east and west of the stairhall landing, respectively, are the women's lounge and bathroom, and the men's bathroom and ante room. The ante room has historically been used as a lounge as well as a storage area for ritual regalia and records.

Through the double doors, the main meeting hall is about 74 feet long and 40 feet wide, with a high arched ceiling. The entire main-floor level retains the original maple strip flooring and wood trim of pine with a walnut stain. The ceilings are covered in original Celotex acoustic tiles, a fiberboard with heat and sound insulation properties that was promoted at the time. The walls are finished with plaster and painted off-white. Extending across the north end of the meeting hall is a stage, raised 3 ½ feet from the floor and with a proscenium opening 28' long. A door on each side of the stage leads to steps up to the stage floor level. Alternatively, the stage can be reached by rear stairs on the west side leading up from the basement. The arch of the stage proscenium has rounded corners with a double-mold surround, and a red velvet curtain which is a replacement from the original, though of the same design. Placed in front of the velvet curtain is an original painted canvas curtain of the type common in movie theaters during the 1920s and 30s. It is usually rolled up and is therefore in perfect condition, featuring a central landscape scene surrounded by advertisements from local businesses in 1937. The curtain is possibly from the Anderson Scenic Company of Buffalo, New York, which developed a strategy to outfit Grange halls with stage curtains at no cost to the Granges. The company's advertisements which appeared in the *National Grange Monthly* throughout the 1920s, proclaimed:

Your Grange Home Is your Grange Hall. Nothing will add so much to the appearance of your Grange Home as a new Stage Curtain. You can have one without expense to your Grange. We will install one of our beautiful hand painted TASCOS CURTAINS, on approval. TASCOS CURTAINS are hand painted, with scenic center piece, of your own selection, around which we group the business cards of your local or county merchants and the whole blends into a very pleasing effect. The merchants' cards pay the cost of the curtain.²

The meeting hall is furnished much as it always has been with chairs, lecterns and consoles arranged to accommodate the various offices and rituals of the Grange. Historic documents, portraits and artifacts adorn the walls and an exhibit case. At the south end of the meeting hall, to the west of the double doors, is a door that leads into the original anteroom.

The full basement consists of a fellowship hall, with a large kitchen on the east under the projecting terrace. It has been updated over the years, but the plan is still very much similar to the original, with a long serving counter dividing it from the fellowship hall. A small room at the southwest corner, near the main stairs, was historically a coat check room but is now used for storage. Across the north end there were originally four rooms, each about twenty feet deep. The western and easternmost rooms were dressing rooms, each with a stairs leading up to the backstage area. The configuration and use of the

² Holly Anne Taylor, "Grange Halls in Washington State: A Critical Investigation of a Vernacular Building Type," (MS Thesis, U. of Washington, 2013), 166. (Taken from Advertisement, *National Grange Monthly*, all issues in 1928).

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western room is as original, with extant staircase. To the east of the westernmost room is the original and current furnace room, which has a door from the parking lot leading down to the basement level. A wall has been built to separate the stairs from the furnace room. Next to that was the original coal room, which has been joined to the easternmost dressing room to form a larger room that is now used for food preparation. The original back staircase has been removed from that room.

Alterations/Additions

In 2003 an addition was made at the northwest corner of the building in order to allow for the installation of an elevator to make the hall ADA compliant, and to add a set of restrooms at that end of the hall at both the basement and main floor levels. The addition is 18 by 30 feet, recessed about four feet from the face of the existing rear, north wall. This construction necessitated the closing up and reconfiguration of a few windows. On the upper level the two single, northernmost windows on the west wall (that opened into the backstage area) were closed off and the set of windows to the south of that was reconfigured to into a doorway connecting into the hall. Similarly, on the lower level a single window and a set of windows were altered. The addition is entered from the north parking lot at street level, facing the elevator which either descends to the lower level or ascends to the upper level from this point. The exterior features of the addition are described above.

Other than the addition, changes to the exterior include the addition of large air conditioning ducts against the rear, north wall, and a temporary pent roof over the side door to the kitchen on the east. At the lower level beneath the terrace, a large vent pipe has been added for the kitchen, and two of the single lower level windows were bricked in to allow for more cupboard space in the kitchen. On the interior, as mentioned the velvet stage curtain has been replaced, and stage lights and fans have been added to the ceiling.

Integrity

The Turkey Hill Grange Hall has exceptional integrity. The building retains its original location, massing, materials, fenestration patterns, wood multi-light windows and decorative features on both the exterior and interior. On the exterior this includes brick and concrete, lintels, entry surrounds, doors, transoms and cornices. In the interior, the original floor plan remains throughout – in the lower level fellowship hall and kitchen, and in the staircase, main hall and lounge areas. The stage with painted Tasco curtain remains in perfect condition, in addition to the original floors, plaster walls, trim and other woodwork. The meeting hall interior remains intact with the exception of the 2003 door opening in the northwest corner leading to the new elevator and additional bathrooms. There has been some updating of the kitchen and bathrooms over the years.

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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

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Social History

Agriculture

Period of Significance

1937 - 1966

Significant Dates

1937

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

N/A

Architect/Builder

Rubach, Otto W. (1874 – 1959)

Weisenstein, Lyman (1906 – 1999)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

The Turkey Hill Grange Hall is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Social History and Agriculture, and under criterion C in the area of Architecture. The Order of Patrons of Husbandry, also known as the Grange, was the “largest, most comprehensive, and most thoroughly organized of the agencies which the farmers used in their efforts to improve their position materially, politically, socially, and intellectually through organized cooperation.”³ Turkey Hill Grange #1370, organized in 1874, is the earliest remaining grange in St. Clair County, and has a history of participation in the progressive coalitions that have shaped the political agenda of the country. The current hall, dating from 1937—its third on the original site -- has played a vital role in this process by advancing economic and political interests of its members during its period of significance.

Initially, the Grange was founded largely to relieve rural conditions in the United States immediately following the Civil War. Due to poor roads, inadequate transportation, and little means of communication of any kind, farm people were still very isolated and the Grange became, for some, their only social life. Its founding principles centered on defending the welfare of rural people through cooperation. Notably, the Grange was the first national family-centered fraternal organization, stressing the importance of women as equal members, and requiring their participation to start a local order. The activities and programs were directed at all, including women, youth, children and seniors.

In spite of its social beginnings, among the most important contributions of the Grange has been in promoting the interests of agriculture within the halls of legislation. At the time Turkey Hill Grange was founded, farmers were being drawn to what had become known as “the Granger movement” by the continued need for unified action against the railroad and grain elevator monopoly. As these issues reached a high pitch and became increasingly political, granges became centers for lively discussion against railroads, middlemen and unproductive classes. As this “Granger Sentiment” became nationally widespread, the remedies they demanded resulted in the “Granger Laws” of the late nineteenth century.

With some of the richest and most productive soil in the world, Illinois still has almost eighty percent of its land in cultivation, and agriculture, along with associated industries, remains the most important business in the state.⁴ With almost 2,000 local granges at its peak, the Illinois State Grange developed political clout and became a leader in advocating for regulation of public utilities, and it was in Illinois that the most important of these “Granger Laws” were tried and declared valid. The most nationally significant of the Granger cases was *Munn v. Illinois*, in which the Supreme Court in 1877 upheld the 1871 Illinois Law with its power to impose standards on businesses, thereby reaffirming that a private enterprise that affects the public interest is subject to governmental regulation.⁵

³ Solon J. Buck, *The Granger Movement: A Study of Agricultural Organization and Its Political, Economic and Social Manifestations, 1870-1880*. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1963).73.

⁴ Over 74,000 Illinois farms till over 27 million acres of land, and the total value of corn grown in the state is over four billion dollars. (Dept. of Agriculture statistics, 2014).

⁵ "Munn V. Illinois (1877)." *Gale Encyclopedia of U.S. Economic History*. 2000. Accessed April 04, 2016 from Encyclopedia.com: <http://www.encyclopedia.com/doc/1G2-3406400611.html>

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Turkey Hill Grange has supported and lobbied for these and many causes, mostly but not exclusively those affecting rural people. Education and community social service have always been important as well, with regular local programs that have included lectures, debates, concerts and literary readings. Stress on cooperative efforts have proved fruitful, whether to achieve legislative goals, to help a neighbor or a national or international cause.

In the mid-1930s as the United States was still recovering from the Great Depression, the country witnessed the lowest farm prices on record. The Grange, including Turkey Hill, supported key elements of Roosevelt's New Deal including the Farm Credit Administration and the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933, which was the first of what came to be omnibus legislation called "Farm Bills." In this environment, Turkey Hill Grange began discussions to construct a new hall, and finally approved doing so in October, 1936. The hall was built with many hours of labor from the members, as well as personal donations from a financially struggling membership. Construction began in March, 1937 and was completed by July. While it is a version of the plans and suggestions promulgated by the National Grange for local, vernacular halls, the members of Turkey Hill Grange hired prominent local architects Rubach & Weisenstein and constructed a larger, more substantial brick hall to accommodate their growing membership and all its attendant activities and rituals. They also chose to add neoclassical details that give the building distinction, and reflect many of the ideals of the order.

The period of significance is from 1937, when building was completed, to 1966, reflecting the building's role in the social and political history of St. Clair County and of the Patrons of Husbandry. These dates extend from the date of construction through the National Register's fifty-year cut off. Turkey Hill Grange retains its original function as it is still an active Grange hall. The building is well maintained in good condition and retains excellent integrity.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

History

During and immediately following the Civil War, farmers were able to command high prices for their goods, which enabled them to pay the inflated prices that corporations were charging for farm equipment and for necessary services such as grain elevators and railroad shipping. After the conflicts, and those in Europe at the time, prices began to drop and the grain growers found themselves in acute distress. The elevators were often owned by the railroads and colluded to charge high prices for their services, weighed and graded grain without supervision, and used their influence with the railroads to ensure that cars were not available to farmers who sought to evade elevator service.

In this post-Civil war era, the Patrons of Husbandry (commonly known as the Grange) originated out of a meeting of at the Department of Agriculture in Washington, DC, on December 4, 1867.⁶ One of those attending was an employee of the Department of Agriculture named Oliver Hudson Kelley, who a year earlier had been sent by the department on an information-gathering tour of the post-civil war south. He was shocked by what he found: the ignorance of sound agricultural practices, lack of education, and the isolation and poor social life of farmers.⁷

⁶ Oliver H. Kelley, *Origin and Progress of the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry in the United States: A History from 1866 to 1873* (Westport, CT: Hyperion Press, 1975 [Orig. 1875])

⁷ Another of the original seven founders was William Saunders of Illinois, a friend of Abraham Lincoln, who became the first Master of the National Grange. Saunders was a noted landscape artist who had prepared the original plans for the

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The group originally hoped to bring farmers together for educational discussions and social purposes, and designated Oliver Kelley to travel the country to organize them. Kelly was a member of the Masonic Order in Minnesota, and had used that connection to open doors in the south on his first tour. It also influenced his organization of the Grange as a “secret” fraternal organization, as he believed it would more closely bind together the members in common purpose. He thought the situation of farmers could best be remedied by an organization that would bring farmers together in groups for the study and discussion of their problems. In the end, however, the organization won adherents less for its social and educational advantages than for the opportunity it presented for farmers to unite against railroads and elevators and to institute cooperative methods of buying and selling. Rumbblings of farmer revolt began in the late 1860s, and already by that time the Grange was becoming more political than educational in nature as their grievances grew out of their almost complete dependence on outside markets for the sale of their produce, and on corporation-owned elevators and railroads for its handling. Industrialists such as the Goulds and the Vanderbilts owned the railroads and consolidated them, controlling the transportation business of the whole nation.

In Illinois, Oliver Kelley had organized Garden City Grange No. 1 on April 24, 1868 in Chicago, in the offices of *Prairie Farmer* magazine.⁸ That grange did not thrive, but further granges were organized in late 1870 and early 1871, and membership began to grow quickly as Kelley continued to travel through the Midwest. In 1869 the legislature of Illinois had passed an act that required the railroads to charge only “just, reasonable, and uniform rates,” but the act provided no adequate means of enforcement and nothing changed. The owners boasted that the only rule for fixing rates was to charge all the traffic would bear without putting the shippers out of business. Thus began the fight to control railroads. Due to pressure from grangers and other farmers, Illinois adopted a new constitution 1870 in which the legislature was authorized to make new laws to correct railway abuses and extortions. In 1871 Illinois farmers were able to get the state legislature to pass a bill fixing maximum rates that railroads and grain-storage facilities could charge and establishing a state board of railroad and warehouse commissioners to enforce them. These commissions also prohibited discrimination in rates and services, and established standards of service. Again, however, the railroads refused to comply, and the Illinois supreme court sustained their position.⁹

Farmers continued their coordinated action, often through the granges. At grange meetings and picnics, farmers exhorted one another to nominate and elect to office only those who shared their views. In the event corporation control over the Republican and Democratic parties could not be overthrown, they planned to form independent, reform, or anti-monopoly parties through which to carry on the fight. As the granger-led movement increased, other Midwestern legislatures yielded and passed laws that established regulatory commissions to monitor the practices of railroads. These “Granger Laws,” as they became known, were continually challenged in the courts.

The political power of grangers in the state was strengthened in 1872, when the Illinois State Grange was organized with seventy active local granges, and new granges being formed throughout the state every day. At the first annual meeting in Dixon that year, resolutions were adopted petitioning the law-makers for additional reforms, among them being the demand that at least one member of the Railroad and Warehouse Commission, appointed by the Governor, be an actual farmer.¹⁰

Illinois State Normal University campus.

⁸ *Prairie Farmer*, April 25, 1868, p.4. Illinois Digital Newspaper Collection, retrieved May 16, 2016. *Prairie Farmer* is the oldest known continuously published magazine in Illinois. It was first published in 1841 in Chicago, Illinois.

⁹ Buck, *Granger Movement*, 60.

¹⁰ Illinois State Grange Proceedings, 1872.

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In January, 1873 the National Grange was incorporated under an Act of Congress. There were a number of important provisions, which pointed to the social conditions that marked the organization's beginnings. Farm people were still very isolated and the Grange became, for some, their only social life. Provisions that were stressed under the national incorporations stated that members should be interested in agricultural pursuits, the discussion of political or religious questions was not encouraged in the work of the order (this did not last), and there was to be no application of political or religious tests for membership. The national incorporation tried to re-affirm that the Grange was to be a non-partisan, social and intellectual oriented fraternity. Notably, the Grange was the first fraternal organization in the country to stress the importance of family and to include women as equal members. In fact, it was required that at least one-third of the charter members be women in order to start a grange. No charters were issued to a subordinate Grange unless at least nine men and four women were pledged as members, and the activities and programs were directed at all.¹¹

The financial panic of 1873 and resulting financial depression alarmed farmers, as it reduced the prices of their commodities and increased their debts. Grange membership grew rapidly as farm families joined together to help each other. Independence Day 1873 was long remembered nationally as the "Farmers' Fourth of July". On that day, many rural audiences listened with approval to the reading of a "Farmers' Declaration of Independence," which recited farmers' grievances and asserted their determination to use the power of the state to free themselves from the "tyranny of monopoly." By the second annual meeting of the Illinois State Grange, in Bloomington that year, there were about 800 granges in the state and Illinois stood second in the nation in membership. Sometimes as many as ten granges in one day were reported organized. With the economy failing, an important goal became the cooperative purchasing of supplies and implements, and the promotion of cheaper transportation of products.

By the mid-1870s, farmers were drawn to what had become known as "the Granger Movement" by the continued need for unified action. The movement picked up adherents as popular excitement on the railroad question reached a high pitch and became increasingly political.¹² 1874, the year during which Turkey Hill Grange was chartered, saw the most rapid expansion of the Grange nationally, with nearly 500,000 members in 22,000 local granges. Granges were forming nationally at the rate of about eighty per day.¹³

The National Grange session that year was in St. Louis, where the goals of cooperation were stressed as they discussed and formulated principles of the organization. Most importantly, they reaffirmed "acting together for our mutual protection and advancement." The Declaration of Purposes goes on to state, "We are not enemies to capital, but we oppose tyranny of monopolies." It was also at this meeting that they endorsed the enduring motto, "In essentials Unity, in non-essentials Liberty, and in all things Charity."¹⁴

Refusal of the railroad companies to obey the law was a constant subject of discussion. Public meetings were held whose time was divided between denouncing monopolies for their encroachments on the rights of the people, and denouncing the state authorities for not enforcing obedience of the laws. Granges became centers for free and lively discussion against railroads, middlemen and unproductive classes. So widespread did they become that the sentiments which they advocated, the methods they proposed, and the remedies they demanded became known as "Granger Sentiment," and the resulting laws as "Granger Laws." The Illinois State Grange

¹¹ Charles M. Gardner, *The Grange ~ Friend of the Farmer, 1867-1947* (Washington, D.C.: National Grange, 1949) 25.

¹² The Credit Mobilier railroad scandal, in which bribes and discounted Credit Mobilier stock were given to U.S. Congressmen to favor the Union Pacific Railroad, had caused widespread distrust of the federal government after the story broke in 1872.

¹³ D. Sven Nordin, *Rich Harvest: A History of the Grange 1867 – 1900* (Jackson: University of Mississippi Press, 1974)

¹⁴ National Grange Proceedings, October, 1974.

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was a leader in advocating the system of regulating public utilities of all kinds, and it was in Illinois that these “Granger Laws” were tried and declared valid.

Meanwhile, independent farmers’ political parties began appearing all over the country, as outgrowths of the Granger Movement. At their grange meetings farmers were urged to vote only for candidates who would promote agricultural interests. If the two major parties would not check the monopolistic practices of railroads and grain elevators, the grangers turned to their own parties for action. In many Illinois counties the “Anti-Monopoly” party became strong enough to hold the balance of power between the parties. For example, in 1874 the movement succeeded in defeating the only Republican state candidate that had been defeated in twenty years. The explosion in Illinois grange membership continued through 1875, with over 1500 active granges. A year later, the two major political parties were otherwise so evenly divided that seven grange members who were elected to the Illinois state legislature held the balance of power. At that time the state legislature elected the U.S. Senators, and by holding together these seven were able to keep either party from the necessary majority and were successful in helping to elect the grange-favored David Davis to the U.S. Senate in 1876.

The most nationally significant of the granger cases was *Munn v. Illinois*, in which a Chicago grain-storage facility challenged the constitutionality of the 1871 Illinois law setting maximum rates. When *Munn vs. Illinois* came before the Supreme Court in 1877, the issue of state regulation was again raised. The Supreme Court upheld the Illinois Law and its power to impose standards on businesses "clothed with a public interest," thereby reaffirming that a private enterprise that affects the public interest is subject to governmental regulation.¹⁵ This decision was often later cited in support of other granger laws that were passed, primarily in Midwestern states, to curb unfair business practices of the railroads. Ultimately, however, the states found it difficult to enforce their laws on carriers that moved between states, which led to the creation of the Interstate Commerce Commission in 1887, placing responsibility for the regulation of interstate business transportation in the hands of the federal government.¹⁶

After the resolution of this important case in 1877 grange membership declined, attributed to various causes including financial losses associated with the failure of cooperative ventures, the rise of the Greenback Party and a migration of members to even more radical agrarian political organizations.¹⁷ Grange members continued to engage in social, recreational and educational opportunities, and in 1878, Master of the Illinois State Grange A.P. Forsyth, who was also at that time serving in the House of Representatives, was appointed by the National Grange as one of its first two legislative representatives. Cooperative sales increased in some regions, but the so-called Granger Movement had much declined by the end of the 1870s.

A precipitous decline in Illinois grange membership continued until 1889 at which time there were just 92 granges with a total membership of 1,225. Then an announcement of an increase of 50% in binder twine prices in the spring of 1889 caused near panic. A meeting of farmers was held in Bloomington in April of that year, with the purpose to combat the “twine trust” but also included renewed concern about all monopolies. A loose confederation of farmers was formed under the leadership of the Master of Illinois State Grange. As a result of boycott plans and the formation of the confederation, twine prices promptly declined and binder twine was bought through the Grange for many years.¹⁸ The affair stimulated farm organizations in Illinois by showing

¹⁵ Russell B. Nye, *Midwestern Progressive Politics: A Historical Study of Its Origins and Development, 1870 - 1958*. (East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 1959) 39.

¹⁶ Nordin, *Rich Harvest*,

¹⁷ Gardner, *Friend of the Farmer*, 38.

¹⁸ Nordin, *Rich Harvest*,

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farmers once again that practical results could be achieved through united action. Thus began a general increase in membership began that lasted many years, primarily by adding new members to existing granges rather than by organizing new units.

A change in policy in the late 1880s may have also influenced membership. The Order adopted a more general long-term strategy of promoting issues that supported farmers and improved rural life – returning to the original purposes and goals of the founders. This brought about unity in the membership and a new spirit of cooperation, thereby inaugurating a period of successful legislative advocacy and growth in membership which continued into the twentieth century. The Grange’s political agenda during the last two decades of the nineteenth century could be described as progressive but not aligned with any particular party. Growth was attributed to new member interest in forming cooperatives, so that implements and other products could be purchased in bulk.

While the Grange was not wholly responsible for any of the important legislation of the 1870s, it has been an important and sometimes dominant factor influencing many federal policies. The Grange’s national legislative agenda was, and is still, voted on by delegates from every state who attended the annual meetings of the National Grange. Resolutions are initiated at local “Subordinate” granges, where they are discussed and voted on, then passed on to the county or “Pomona” Granges and thence to the state granges.

Many efforts and resolutions took more than a decade to bear fruit. For example, in 1876, the National Grange started working toward the goal of having a farmer serve as a presidential advisor, but it took until 1889 for the director of the Department of Agriculture to be elevated to a cabinet position. In the 1880s they began efforts to establish rural free delivery of mail, which was finally established nationwide in 1896. They also began to lobby in the 1880s in favor of direct election of senators (who were then appointed by state legislatures), a change was not made until the Seventeenth Amendment to the United States Constitution in 1913.¹⁹ While the Morrill Act of 1862 enabled the establishment of land grant colleges, few were actually established until, with strong support from the Grange, the Hatch Act of 1887 provided federal funding for state colleges and associated agricultural experiment stations. These stations provided critical research services to farmers, and were further developed and formalized as the Cooperative Extension System, again with grange support, by the Smith-Lever Act of 1914.²⁰ Other important efforts that began in the 1890s and continued into the twentieth century included support for pure food and drug laws, anti-trust laws, and funding for farm-to-market roads.

Equally important as the political and social activities of the various granges were their business ventures. They developed a variety of successful cooperative business initiatives that benefited members. Dismayed by the high cost of insurance and various commodities, grangers began various business ventures, such as mutual companies for both property and life insurance. These were early forerunners of the many strong mutual companies in existence today. The Illinois State Grange Business Office was maintained in Chicago for twelve years, contracting for the buying and selling of produce, livestock, and supplies of all kinds. It was discontinued, as insufficient volume failed to make co-operative purchasing the complete success counted on by the early membership, but it was recommended that counties set up their own cooperatives. This was done very successfully, and buying in carload lots and buying direct from manufacturers realized very large savings. Grange stores used a central depot for samples and repairs were operating in most counties. Montgomery Ward and Company, of Chicago, was the first mail order house to cater to rural areas and worked so closely through the Grange that for many years their catalog bore the title, “The Original Grange Supply House.”²¹

¹⁹ Gardner, Friend, 127 – 130.

²⁰ Ibid., 134.

²¹ Grommet, Wilma. “History of Illinois State Grange, 1869 - 1971,” (unpublished ms., 1971), 8.

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Granges founded numerous cooperative elevators, creameries, and general stores, although most of these establishments eventually failed to survive the ruthless competition of private business. They also tried other experiments, such as buying through purchasing agents or through dealers who quoted special prices to Grangers, patronizing mail-order houses, and manufacturing farm machinery. Some of these, in particular the manufacture of farm machinery, were ill conceived and resulted in serious financial reverses.

Twentieth Century

The Patrons of Husbandry as a fraternal organization survived the Granger movement, won new adherents and in the twentieth century even recovered some of its influence in politics. Its identity, mission and membership continued to evolve throughout the twentieth century, in relation to changes in farming and in rural populations. According to the United States Census, the population of many settled rural districts in the northern states began to decrease in 1890, and nationally the rural population declined as a share of overall population beginning in 1900. The Grange saw a shift at this time from marketing and merchandizing to legislation and education to help solve the farmer's problems.

In the first decade of the twentieth century, concern about the declining rural population led sociologists and agricultural economists to propose a series of reforms intended to make rural living more satisfying, thus encouraging rural residents to remain on farms rather than migrating to cities. To this end, President Theodore Roosevelt appointed the Country Life Commission in 1908, and a panel of respected scholars and rural leaders spent a year traveling around the country collecting survey data on the status of farming after the impact of industrialism, and taking testimony regarding the problems of rural life.²² The Commission's formal work concluded with a report of its findings published in 1909, resulting in what was known as the Country Life Movement, which led to two decades of progressive efforts aimed at bolstering rural communities. Although the study and its conclusions were viewed skeptically by grange members since they were already engaged in most of the suggested activities (scientific farming methods, farm cooperatives, use of modern conveniences and improved schools), the movement nevertheless coincided with a revitalization of the Order.

The Grange's stability and growth during the early twentieth century can in part be attributed to its return to its founding principle of nonpartisanship. The decade of the 1910s saw an expansion of grange membership, and a number of legislative achievements that reflected a close alignment between their goals and the broader social, political and economic agendas of the Progressive era. 1910 also saw the establishment of a successful *National Grange Monthly*, the popular publication which documented activities of the National Grange, shared news submitted by state and local granges, and included educational features intended to foster a sense of shared identity among Patrons. The newspaper's eclectic content emphasized modernization of farming and the farm home, and routinely profiled granges taking on interesting community service projects, as well as successful political initiatives at the national, state and local levels.

Issues related to farm credit and rural electrification became increasingly important, some of which were addressed, at least in part, in the Federal Farm Loan Act of 1916. The labor and persistence of grange members contributed to many noteworthy advances such the teaching of vocational agriculture in public schools; rural mail delivery and later parcel post delivery; women's suffrage; Postal Savings Banks; the election of U.S. Senators by direct vote of the people; Civil Service; state income tax; temperance; rural electric cooperatives;

²² William L. Bowers, *The Country Life Movement in America 1900 – 1920*. (Port Washington, NY: National University Publications, 1974)

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federal and state highways; the farm credit administration; soil conservation districts; and the Agricultural Adjustment Act regulating production to demands of consumers.

During World War I, the Grange was urging crop and livestock production as food was needed for the armed forces and for our allies. Farmers prospered until the ending of the war, and then this huge production was no longer needed and prices declined. This started a large migration of young people from the farms to the cities. In 1924, Illinois State Master E.A. Eckert reported that "The farmer has had four years of depression, and in many cases is at the end of the trail. From reliable reports we learn that over three million people have left the farm in the last four years." It was during this time that the Grange assisted in establishing the St. Clair County Farm Bureau, with the Master of Turkey Hill Grange as its first President. By 1929, farming was in a ten-year period of depression which left abandoned farms and financial ruin. All during the depression years, however, grange membership rose as members banded together to help one another and, with no money for luxuries, the Grange provided the social life.²³

Turkey Hill

It was in February of 1935 that Turkey Hill Grangers began to discuss the need to either renovate their existing hall or to construct a new one, as it was in need of extensive repairs. Turkey Hill Grange #1370 had originated on April 9, 1874, at the Mt. Pleasant School, with nineteen charter members from the area known as Turkey Hill in St. Clair County. An early and significant settlement in Illinois, Turkey Hill was centered around a high, once wooded, ridge located on the east side of the present city of Belleville. The oldest county in the state, St. Clair was designated as such in 1790, named for Arthur St. Clair, a Revolutionary War general and the first governor of the Northwest Territory. The riverfront village of Cahokia, founded in 1697, served as its first county seat. However, new settlement patterns inland from the Mississippi River meant Cahokia was distant from the new population center. In 1813 the Territorial Legislature moved the seat east to the property of George Blair, who named the new town Belleville, French for "Beautiful City." Belleville subsequently acquired its city charter in 1850.²⁴

The area of Turkey Hill, just to the east of what became the city limits, was so named by the Tamaroa Indians, in their language and before settlement by Europeans, due to the abundance of wild turkeys. Tradition holds that the Tamaroa, a tribe of Native Americans that were part of the Illiniwek Confederacy, had a large settlement on Turkey Hill, although the Kickapoos were also settled in the area. There were great battles in the vicinity evidenced by the flints and arrowheads found near a spring on a Turkey Hill farm that was also the location of a trading post for the natives and the French.²⁵

Other early settlers were Virginian soldiers who were sent to the nearby forts and subsequently sent for their families and settled there. William Scott, who settled on Turkey Hill in 1797, is credited with being one of the first American-born settlers in St. Clair County. Scott and his large family of sons made "large improvements" on the hill, and were later joined by other families. At that time, wheat flour was not much in use and cornmeal was difficult to obtain or to mill, so settlers located around Turkey Hill as it was the location of a grist mill, and also had an early school.

²³ Grommet, "History of the Illinois State Grange," 14

²⁴ Robert L. Gentsch, *The Early History of Belleville, Illinois, to 1850*. (Master's Thesis, Washington Univ., St. Louis, 1963)11

²⁵ *History of St. Clair County, Illinois*. (Dallas, TX: Curtis Media Corp) 1992.

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Belleville's rise as a city coincided with demographic movement. German immigrants, many fleeing political persecution, defined much of the character of early Belleville as they arrived in waves from 1830-1848.²⁶ These immigrants worked first as farmers and later many became civic and business leaders. By the time of the Civil War more than half of the 4,396 volunteers from the county were Germans or German-Americans, as well as ardent Unionists.²⁷

In 1848, the original Scott farm of 400 acres was purchased by Michael Miller, whose sons became charter members of Turkey Hill Grange in 1874. The charter members included many of the most prominent farm families in the area. In addition to the Millers, there were both men and women from the Terrell, Helms, Wilderman and Stookey families. In the early days the Grangers met in members' homes. Shortly after Turkey Hill Grange was organized, the St. Clair County Council (of local granges) was formed, which, like all county grange councils, became known as a Pomona Grange in 1883. One early cooperative activity was a grange store, located where the Belleville City Hall now stands.²⁸ By 1881, Turkey Hill Grange had 117 members, and despite the national decline in membership, by 1885 they grew to a point where they needed their own hall. Early members Henry and Mary Eckert conveyed, for \$1, a one-acre site for a hall at a corner of their property about a mile west of Turkey Hill, with the restriction that it "be used for purpose of school or Grange or both and where the same shall cease to be used for said purposes, to revert to the grantors, the grantee reserving the right to remove the building."²⁹ The Grangers constructed a substantial two-story frame building with Victorian details. Attesting to the importance of education to grange members, they put the first public school in the county, known as Grange Hall School, in the ground floor of the building and the meeting hall above on the second floor.

By 1898, all the Granges in St. Clair county that had been founded before 1874 had disbanded, leaving Turkey Hill as the earliest extant Grange in the county. Some of disbanded grange members joined Turkey Hill, which at that time already had the first of its numerous female Masters, Laura Patterson. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, Grange meetings were all-day affairs, with business meetings in the morning followed by a basket lunch, and an afternoon program of discussions, essays, debates, music and lectures. Turkey Hill members continued to be active in political affairs, with one of them riding the area on horseback to secure signatures on a petition for Rural Free Delivery of mail. The lobbying was successful and Turkey Hill became the first route in the county on March 1, 1900.³⁰

The hall continued to serve the purposes of the expanded Grange until January 28, 1904, when it was destroyed by a fire that started in the coal stove. The grangers immediately decided to replace the hall in its exact form, and constructed a duplicate that was completed by November.³¹ It served the Turkey Hill Grange for many years.

In 1932, still in the midst of the Great Depression, Turkey Hill Grange was the first in Illinois to receive a Model Grange certificate from the National Grange, based on increased membership, educational programs and

²⁶ As late as the 1940s Belleville was still known as a "Dutch Town" and remains anchored by German cultural institutions.

²⁷ *Belleville Daily News-Democrat*, April 11, 1936.

²⁸ Lora Stookey, "History of St. Clair County Granges," (*Belleville News Democrat*, April 14, 1934).

²⁹ Deed recorded February 6, 1886. Copy in possession of Turkey Hill Grange.

³⁰ Lora Stookey, "History of Turkey Hill Grange," (Unpublished ms. April 27, 1974) 4, 8.

³¹ Undated photograph of hall built in 1904.

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community service.³² Throughout the 1930s the country was still recovering, as the years before 1933 had witnessed the lowest farm prices on record and foreign markets for agricultural products had disappeared. Key elements of Roosevelt's New Deal that were supported by Grangers included the Farm Credit Administration established in 1933 and the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933, which was the first of what came to be called "Farm Bills," omnibus legislation passed every five to seven years that regulate and fund dozens of agricultural programs at the federal level. Another major concern that was discussed at Turkey Hill Grange was the Rural Electrification Program. With "reconstruction" following the Depression, farmers were modernizing and needed electricity to support their homes and businesses. Other meeting reports in 1935 were on the topics of the rise of Tuberculosis, and the Dearborn Conference on Agriculture, Industry & Science, in which the Grange participated.³³ The Turkey Hill Grange Study Club during this time held a debate on "Resolved That the President's Plan Concerning the Supreme Court Be Adopted."³⁴

By 1935 the Grange hall was in need of major repairs, and as grange membership was rising they also needed more space. A committee was appointed to look into the matter of repairing or rebuilding, which led to many lively discussions at Grange meetings. Numerous ideas and sketches were presented, but when it became known that Grange Hall School, which still occupied the ground floor, planned to vacate the building in 1936 to move to their own facility, the decision to build a new hall coalesced. In October of 1936, with a membership of 245, a secret ballot was taken on whether to build a new hall. It passed by a wide margin with the suggested budget of \$6,000. But in a special meeting at the end of the month, plans from Rubach and Weisenstein Architects were presented with an estimated total cost of \$15,000 including lights and heating. This led to suggestions that the size of the porch be reduced and other efforts made to reduce the cost.

By the end of November, a new budget of \$11,200 was agreed with the added suggestion that it could be reduced to around \$9,000 if the members donated labor for the construction. It was finally approved "that the Building Committee be given full power to proceed with the building of a new Grange Hall that will fulfill the following conditions:

1. The entire cost of the building, including lighting, heating, plumbing, and architects fee is to be approximately \$10,000 but under no circumstances to exceed \$11,000.
2. The present building is to be used in such a manner as will net the greatest financial return.
3. The plans submitted by the architect shall be used. These plans shall include a revised porch and shall be subject to other minor revisions at the discretion of the Building Committee.
4. The new building is to be a brick and tile structure.
5. The responsibility of financing the construction of the new building shall rest with the Building Committee."³⁵

Despite the ongoing construction of the new hall and successful social programs, Turkey Hill grangers remained concerned about the depressed state of the agricultural economy. The minutes from December, 1936, for example, report on discussion and resolutions passed regarding the WPA farm programs, and other minutes from that year report support for the New Deal's Rural Electrification Act, long supported by the Grange and finally passed in 1936.

The last meeting in the old hall was on January, 23, 1937, just one week before the last remaining charter

³² *Belleville Daily Advocate*, April 11, 1934

³³ Turkey Hill Grange meeting minutes, various dates 1935 - 1937.

³⁴ *Belleville Daily News-Democrat*, April 8, 1937

³⁵ Turkey Hill Grange meeting minutes, Nov. 28, 1937

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member of Turkey Hill Grange died. In February the old hall was sold for \$325, torn down and removed. Less than a month later, the concrete footings for the new building were poured, and by the first of April the steel supports were being installed. By mid-April, the face brick was being set.³⁶

Like the earlier Turkey Hill Grange halls on this site, the new one was built with many hours of labor from the members, as well as personal donations from a membership that was struggling financially. The grangers organized work crews of farmers who were skilled in the building arts, as most had built their own homes and barns and were experienced in electrical and plumbing systems and repairing machines. At one point during the construction, Union members came to the site and protested that members were doing construction, but the matter was resolved and work commenced.³⁷

The minutes of April 24, 1937 reported on the laying of the granite cornerstone on April 17, with “placing of papers in the box” and the Master and Secretary were authorized to proceed with borrowing up to \$11,000 for the hall, which was expected to be finished by June 1.³⁸ Grangers filled out cards pledging a number of hours of labor, and/or an amount to loan or donate to the project. Significantly, on April 27, A.O. Eckert, descendant of Henry and Mary Eckert, signed over a quit claim deed to the property, negating the 1885 restricted deed so that Turkey Hill Grange now owned the property outright. During May, grangers installed the wiring and provided other labor, and began planning the dedication celebration. The hall was completed by July 1, and the first meeting in the new hall was held on July 10, 1937. The final cost had risen to \$18,264.67, with a bank note of \$14,000 and the remainder from donations, personal loans and other Grange accounts.³⁹

The formal dedication, on August 1, was a huge celebration with well over 500 people attending. The newspapers reported on the new hall, “...which will rank among the most beautiful and complete Grange halls in the United States...The new Grange hall is modern structure, 42 x 92 feet in size, with a 40 ft. open terrace...” The dedication took place with a full day of festivities including speeches, tableaux, readings and entertainment, followed by a chicken supper serving 500 people, and capped off by an evening dance.⁴⁰

WWII and after

In 1941 when the Pearl Harbor attack stunned the nation, farmers were quick to respond with another unprecedented production of food. Grangers voluntarily took over the farm work of neighbors who left to serve the country as soldiers, and the records of Turkey Hill Grange confirm that they immediately enlisted in Red Cross campaigns, salvage drives, blood donations and bond sales. Nationally, membership in the Grange peaked in the late 1940s at more than 800,000 men and women in 35 states.

Following the war, Turkey Hill Grangers remained involved in community service, raising funds for a new local hospital as well as for the Red Cross and Korean relief. They took part in programs to send surplus crops to starving countries, and made contributions to health research organizations. This was also the beginning of the Grange Community Service contest sponsored by Sears Roebuck and Company, which began in 1948 and continued until 1968, though it still exists in another form and Turkey Hill Grange has always participated and often been the recipient of an award. Other community services performed by Turkey Hill and other Illinois Granges through the years include the establishing and staffing of retarded children’s schools, organizing

³⁶ Turkey Hill Grange meeting minutes, various dates in 1937.

³⁷ Interview with Dale Helms, May 5, 2016 at Turkey Hill Grange Hall

³⁸ *Belleville Daily News-Democrat*, April 15, 1937

³⁹ Turkey Hill Grange meeting minutes, various dates in 1936 and 1937.

⁴⁰ “Turkey Hill Hall Dedication,” (*Belleville Daily Advocate*, August 2, 1937).

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community swimming lessons and hospital volunteers, assisting in road building, establishing blood banks, and always helping neighbors in need. Illinois state Masters have served on the Farmers Home Administration advisory committee, the Board of Directors of the Illinois Highway Users Conference and as advisors to the Secretary of Agriculture.⁴¹

In 1952, Turkey Hill Grange was home to 325 members, and the Illinois State Grange reached a new post-war peak in membership with 101 Granges and 9,822 members. In that year, fifteen years after the construction of the new hall and on the 78th anniversary of the Turkey Hill Grange, the bank note was paid off and celebrated at the grange hall with a ceremonial burning of the note. Turkey Hill Grangers also continued to endorse and lobby for many federal initiatives perceived as beneficial to farmers and rural residents, such as the Interstate Highway system and various power projects.

However, as with other fraternal organizations, the Grange saw its membership decline during the second half of the twentieth century, with a precipitous drop of almost twenty percent between 1952 and 1962.⁴² The decline in the number of subordinate Granges was similar: from a peak of more than 8,000 local Granges in 1935, the number fell to around 6,000 by 1966, a reduction attributed largely to the population shift away from farms, plus competition for time and attention from television and other activities, the death of aging members, loss of member services, and shortages of juvenile Granges.⁴³ In 1961, Master Dorsey Kirk explained that “The productive capacity of the farmer continues to exceed our need for food and fiber. With one worker producing enough supply the needs of twenty-five people, we find only a small percent of our population needed to supply our needs.”⁴⁴ As production continued to increase, the costs of production also rose but prices for products fell. In 1964, Turkey Hill members and other grangers again turned to the legislature for protection, insisting that consumers pay some of the benefit of agriculture’s progress.

While the National Grange had maintained offices in Washington, D.C., for most of its history, in 1920 it was encouraged by membership growth to establish a building fund dedicated toward the acquisition of a permanent headquarters. Subsequently, the Grange purchased an office building fronting Lafayette Square, across Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House, in 1943. Later, it did a property exchange with nearby government offices and acquired land to construct a new office building at 1616 H Street NW that was dedicated in 1960. That building remains as the national headquarters, from which the Grange promotes its legislative resolutions.

Architecture

As early as 1878 the National Grange appointed a committee to consider plans for Grange halls, but it was decided that it was better to leave the matter to the states and communities, encouraging them to select their own designs and plans.⁴⁵ However, the 1920s was a period of growth and stability for the Grange at the national level as membership had doubled in the previous twenty years, and there was a corresponding renewed emphasis on the value of community buildings that likely encouraged many granges to build or acquire their own halls. There was also a proliferation of plan books and pattern books available during the 1910s and 1920s for barns, houses, and even community buildings that may have created an expectation among grange members

⁴¹ Grommet, *History of Illinois State Grange*, 9.

⁴² David H. Howard, *People, Pride and Progress: 125 years of the Grange in America* (Washington D.C.: The National Grange, 1992) 227.

⁴³ Wm. Louis Robinson, *The Grange 1867 – 1967: First Century of Service and Evolution* (Washington, DC: National Grange, 1966) 9.

⁴⁴ “Illinois State Grange 125th Anniversary Program” (1996) 54

⁴⁵ Taylor, “Grange Halls in Washington State,” 140.

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who sought similar printed resources addressing the construction of grange halls.⁴⁶ Finally, in 1928, Grangers were pleased to hear that a long-promised booklet covering plans and suggestions for grange hall design was issued by the National Grange, with the title *Grange Hall Suggestions*. It was prepared in cooperation with Benton M. Stahl, Professor of Agricultural Engineering at Ohio State University, as the primary author, along with Alfred Vivian, Dean of the College of Agriculture, who was a prominent patron of the Grange and gave lectures on Grange history and ritual.

The interior features of grange halls were (and still are) influenced by two key considerations, both of which are clearly reflected in the Turkey Hill Grange Hall: requirements for appropriate conduct of Grange meetings, and allowances for flexibility to encourage community use of the buildings. As *Grange Hall Suggestions* instructed:

It must always be borne in mind that the real purpose of the building is for a Grange hall, and its first need is to be properly suited to Grange work. The other needs come after this, but it is possible to build a Grange hall with the lodge room of proper shape, size, and dimensions for Grange work, yet suitable as a community auditorium.⁴⁷

Grange Hall Suggestions includes illustrations, floor plans, and other suggestions that were useful to building committees, generally based upon the experiences of many granges in constructing halls of their own. It emphasizes the unique history attributed to each local grange building, and offers tips on how to construct the most beneficial grange hall to serve the local population. Tips include the need to incorporate a stage, curtains, raised positions for officers, kitchen equipment, and a room for juvenile members. The booklet takes into account that some Grange halls have been built specifically by and for grange members, while other halls are re-purposed schools and churches.⁴⁸

The halls depicted in the booklet were offered as inspirations. Only one fairly detailed drawing of a “Proposed Grange Hall Plan” was included. Photographs and general descriptions of an additional fourteen halls were included, with some very basic plan sketches. Interior features were critiqued in accompanying “architect’s notes” intended to provide guidance to Granges considering building new halls.

Interestingly, and consistent with the Grange’s founding principle of gender equality, the authors of *Grange Hall Suggestions* also offered the advice that “There should always be a woman on the building committee,” apparently to ensure that all aspects of hall planning were properly considered.⁴⁹ This advice was followed by Turkey Hill Grange in 1936 when they appointed a woman to the investigative and building committees.

It is likely that this booklet was supplied to the architects of Turkey Hill Grange in 1936, along with other guidance concerning dimensions, style preference, and budget. The plan reflects nearly all of the suggestions from the booklet. For example, the anteroom was a significant structural component that distinguished grange halls from other kinds of general purpose community buildings. While grange halls were often used for public gatherings, grange meetings were open only to members of the fraternal order. During meetings, the main entrance to the hall was to be locked but the door into the anteroom was open, with the Gatekeeper (a Grange officer) stationed by the anteroom so that any person attempting to enter the meeting had to know the password to be allowed into the hall. The anteroom was also where the ritual regalia was stored.

What the booklet did not address was architectural style. Most grange halls did not feature decorative details,

⁴⁶ Sears, for instance, published pattern books and many plans for bungalow-style homes, and the U.S Dept. of Agriculture published plans for community buildings starting in 1920.

⁴⁷ Taylor, “Grange Halls in Washington State,” 140. (Taken from *Grange Hall Suggestions*.)

⁴⁸ National Grange, *Grange Hall Suggestions*, 1928.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

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but the form of the buildings often reflected the form or style of residential buildings that were popular at the time. In Illinois, grange halls are typically rectangular blocks with a covered entrance in the gabled end, often resting on a slightly raised basement so that the entrance is reached by a few steps. They are usually of timber construction covered in wood or other siding, and are considered vernacular as most granges did not engage an architect.

Many grange halls constructed in the 1920s and 1930s, like the grange on the cover of *Grange Hall Suggestions*, reflect the bungalow form that was prevalent in residential buildings at the time. Bungalows are generally defined as single story modest structures with a broad gable end facing the street, echoed by a gabled veranda-style porch supported on simple square brick columns, often accessed by a few steps up from the street.

The plan of Turkey Hill Grange Hall reflects the plans and suggestions offered in the booklet. The fellowship hall and kitchen are, typically, in the lower level, with the main meeting hall on the upper level. The hall dimensions are larger than those proposed in the booklet, and provide generous proportions and space to accommodate the various offices and rituals, as well as social activities. The prominent stage offers opportunity for the plays and programs that are typically performed at grange halls, and features a perfectly preserved original hand-painted canvas curtain.

The members of Turkey Hill Grange, however, wanted something more substantial than the typical grange hall, with an extra level of architectural detail. In order to do this, they chose a prominent architectural firm, something few granges had the means or inclination to do. In lieu of the usual frame construction, they chose to face the tile-walled structure with red face brick on all facades, and to add classical revival details that give the building distinction. The symmetrical west façade of the building is the most markedly classical, with twin gables flanking the center bay with its projecting, arched entrance. The arch frames a leaded-glass fanlight over the set of double doors with multi-light panels. The prominent second floor Palladian window repeats the arch, and emphasizes the classical design. Original multi-paned windows throughout the building add another level of detail, as do the gabled roof dormer vents and the round vent window in the peak of the gable. These classical details, along with the broad terrace and its gracious sets of doors, all attest to a sophisticated level of design.

The classical revival styles that date from the 1890s through the early twentieth century are based on a loose synthesis of elements from both the Greek and Roman orders, which were in turn revivals of early nineteenth century styles. Those first classical-revival styles first emerged in the eighteenth century as a striving for greater simplicity and order in reaction to the excesses of the late Baroque and Rococo. Prior to the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago, most buildings tended to exhibit the more picturesque styles of historic eclecticism from the mid-nineteenth century, such as Victorian Italianate and French, followed by the Victorian Queen Anne and Romanesque. The emphasis of most architects of that time was on exterior decoration rather than the floor plans and interior spaces, which changed little. Chief Architect Daniel Burnham's vision for the Columbian Exposition went beyond that of a single building to embrace the monumentality of the City Beautiful Movement with its stress on classicism and the Beaux Arts. The beauty of the resulting so-called "White City" influenced architecture in Chicago and the nation for the decades. The subsequent revival of buildings exhibiting classical revival details once again represented the changing tastes in design away from the earlier picturesque styles.

Classical Revival is generally characterized by symmetry, often with a certain degree of monumentality, often employing columns or pilasters, porticos, multi-light and Palladian windows, fanlights and details such as quoins, balustrades, and entablatures. In Turkey Hill Grange Hall, the classical design is interpreted in a quiet classicism

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that reflects both simple elegance and the democratic ideals that the Grange promotes. The architects cleverly incorporated the details into the basic plan and form of a traditional Grange hall.

Rubach & Weisenstein, Architects

The members of Turkey Hill Grange chose the firm of Rubach & Weisenstein to design their new building. Otto W. Rubach (1874 – 1959), the senior member of the firm, was born in Belleville and raised on East Washington Street. He became one of the most prominent architects in St. Clair County during his career, which lasted from the 1890s to the late 1940s. As a young architect at the turn of the nineteenth century, Rubach had become the partner of architect Frank Riester (1869 – 1949).⁵⁰ A 1910 ad lists the firm of Riester and Rubach with offices in Belleville and East St. Louis. Rubach was apparently the principle designer for the firm and as such, was responsible for the design of many important buildings in St. Clair county. As an example, in 1910 it was reported, “Otto W. Rubach of Riester & Rubach draws plan for Court House Addition.”⁵¹ He is also credited with the design of the prominent commercial building at the corner of East Main and High Street from 1910, which featured an ad that proclaimed “An adherence to this determination for highest standards led to the selection of the firm Riester and Rubach, who are justly regarded as the leading architects of this section of the country.” Among other important commissions were the Belleville Shoe factory (E. Main St., 1910) the Greek Revival- style Belleville Savings Bank from 1912, also on E. Main Street, the Carnegie Library (121 E. Washington St., 1915) and the Belleville Township High School (2600 W. Main St., 1916).⁵² The firm was also noted as the architects of many other schools in the county, including Bunsen, Franklin, Roosevelt, and Washington elementary schools, East St. Louis Senior High School and Lincoln High School for Negroes, also in East St. Louis.

Rubach designed over fifty residences in various architectural styles, both with the firm and on his own. After Riester became an invalid in 1924 and retired in 1927, for several years Rubach worked alone, continuing to design other commercial and residential buildings. In 1929 he designed the Security Abstract and Title Company building (behind city hall). Also during this time, he designed the extant Prairie-style home at 3201 West Main Street in 1928 for the president of the U.S. Smelting Furnace Company, which was later purchased for use as his office.

In 1933 Rubach brought on the much younger Lyman J. Weisenstein (1906 - 1999) as a partner to form the architectural firm of Rubach & Weisenstein.⁵³ They took offices in the prominent Belleville Bank and Trust Building on the northeast corner of the town square. Weisenstein was also a local, and after his education he worked for a while with his father at Weisenstein & Son, building contractors, but since at least 1929 he had worked as a draftsman with Rubach.⁵⁴ In 1935, Rubach & Weisenstein were commissioned to design the new Belleville Township High School Gym, a large addition to the 1916 building that Rubach had designed. In 1936, when they designed the Turkey Hill Grange Hall, they were at the height of their careers as prominent and respected local architects. After Rubach retired, Weisenstein took on other partners to form the successor firm, and remained in their offices on West Main Street until 1997.

⁵⁰ The first Belleville City Directory that had a classified listing for architects was 1901-02: page 297. The only listing was for Riester and Rubach, with offices at the Court House.

⁵¹ *Belleville Daily Advocate*, April 2, 1910.

⁵² Now Lindenwood University Belleville campus.

⁵³ *Belleville Daily Advocate*, January 2, 1933.

⁵⁴ Belleville City Directories, 1929 – 1935.

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Later History

The centennial of the National Grange in 1967 was marked by the issuance of a commemorative stamp by the United States Postal Service. That same year the National Grange initiated an effort to communicate to the public that membership in the Grange was not just for farmers, but for all rural residents interested in community service. It was stated that the Grange was open to anyone interested in agriculture, adding, “If you eat food, you should be interested in agriculture.”⁵⁵

One major issue in which grange members were involved in the 1970s was the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act of 1972, which authorized a major expansion of USDA lending activities as administered by the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA). As amended, the act authorizes the USDA’s agricultural and rural development lending programs, and includes authority for farm ownership loans, farm operating loans, and emergency disaster loans. It also authorizes rural development loans and grants.⁵⁶ Other issues that are still of interest include various international treaties and trade agreements regarding export of commodity crops.

In 1974 upon its centennial, Turkey Hill Grange had 241 members, and was the largest grange in the state. In addition to the celebrations, they embarked on a program to repair and redecorate the hall, but did not make any alterations of note. The National Grange, to mark the centennial of the original *Declaration of Purposes* in that same year, disseminated a slightly abbreviated version of this document, recognizing such things as the impact of agribusiness on rural life.⁵⁷

Turkey Hill Grange members began the twenty-first century by having their property annexed into the City of Belleville in 2000. The members, some of whom are now fourth and fifth-generation, also embraced modern changes to the organization and its rituals. For example, Turkey Hill has adopted the National Grange’s twenty-first century revisions to key governing documents that reflect efforts to translate the grange’s values into more contemporary language. An alternative version of the *Grange Manual* has been created for optional use, which identifies local groups as community granges rather than subordinate granges, and substitutes the term President instead of Master for the elected leader of the local grange. Abridged versions of the rituals to open and close meetings were also included in the alternative manual, but the remainder of the traditional ritual was unchanged.⁵⁸

The Grange is continuing its long tradition of advocating for all Americans, especially those under-represented residents of farms, small towns and rural areas. Their philosophy has always been that what is good for America’s farms and rural residents is good for the entire nation. More recent publicity efforts have focused on issues such as environmental stewardship and the resurgence of interest in locally-grown food. The tag-line on 2012 news releases from the National Grange stated that the Order “has evolved into the nation’s leading rural advocacy organization” with 160,000 members active in 2,100 local Granges.⁵⁹

Turkey Hill Grange, along with the National Grange, remains active as a fraternal organization for those interested in agriculture and rural life, and takes an active stance on national legislation affecting the

⁵⁵ Taylor, “Grange Halls in Washington State,” (From interview with National Grange Executive Committee Member Nov.16, 2012) 241.

⁵⁶ Nationalaglawcenter.org/farmbills. Accessed April 16, 2016.

⁵⁷ Howard, *People*, 245.

⁵⁸ Ibid.

⁵⁹ National Grange website, www.nationalGrange.org, 2013

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agricultural sector.

Comparable Sites

In a state that once had almost 2,000 granges, only a small percentage of grange halls remain extant, as many that were purpose built have been demolished. Of those that remain, many are abandoned and some are used for other purposes. St. Clair County has probably a dozen or so halls that are still in use in some form, most built in the 1930s or later.

The hall most comparable to Turkey Hill is that of Shiloh Valley Grange #1807, which is no longer used by the Grange but is used for community activities. The Shiloh Valley Grange hall was built in 1922 as a combination of the typical grange hall plan rendered in the bungalow style that was popular at the time, with a large cross gabled roof over the porch on the long side which faces the road. The main hall is on a slightly raised basement, and the porch is supported with stocky columns. It is frame construction with wood siding, and remains in fair condition.

One of the most typical extant halls is that of Woodland Grange #1736, which was completed the same year as the Turkey Hill hall. It is a simple rectangular hall on a slightly raised basement, of frame construction with the entrance on the gabled end, reached via a few steps up to the covered entry. It is no longer in use, and is in somewhat deteriorated condition. Another extant hall, similar to that, is of Progressive Grange #1811, built in 1932. It is still in use.

The only grange hall in Illinois currently on the National Register is the hall of Somerset Grange #1553, located about four miles north of Murphysboro, in Jackson County. Designated in 1990, it is a one-room brick hall constructed in 1912, significant for its association with the social and political activities of the rural township where it served as a community meeting hall as well as a Grange hall. It is currently not in use, it appears to be in fair condition though the windows are boarded up, and otherwise has good integrity.

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Illinois Granger, March 1949; May 1958

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: Turkey Hill Grange Hall

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Approx. one acre

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

| | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|---|----------|-----------|
| 1 | <u>38°28'40.64"N</u> | <u>89°56'22.46"W</u> | 3 | _____ | _____ |
| | Latitude | Longitude | | Latitude | Longitude |
| 2 | _____ | _____ | 4 | _____ | _____ |
| | Latitude | Longitude | | Latitude | Longitude |

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Turkey Hill Grange Hall
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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Reference to claim number two hundred eighty-six (286) in Recorder's Office of St. Clair County, Illinois, in Book of Plat "C" on page 347. "Commencing the Survey thereof on the Southeasterly line of said Survey distant twenty-five (25) feet Northeastwardly from a stone in the middle of State Bond Issue Route No. 13, formerly the Belleville and Jefferson Road; thence Northeastwardly along the Southeasterly line of said Survey, two hundred two hundred twenty-eight (228) feet; thence Northwestwardly at right angles one hundred ninety-one (191) feet; thence Southwestwardly at right angles two hundred twenty-eight (228) feet; thence Southeastwardly at right angles one hundred ninety-one (191) feet to the place of beginning; Excepting, however, the coal underlying said premises; Situated in the County of St. Clair, in the State of Illinois."

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The above-described lot constitutes the property historically associated with Turkey Hill Grange Hall as originally donated to the Grange in a deed filed February 6, 1886, with restrictions which were removed per an unrestricted quit claim deed in in April 27, 1937 upon construction of the current hall.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan Baldwin Burian date _____
organization Baldwin Historic Properties telephone 312.515.9170
street & number 60 E Monroe St., Ste. 2402 email sbburian@gmail.com
city or town Chicago state IL zip code 60603

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

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Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, 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: Turkey Hill Grange Hall
City or Vicinity: Belleville
County: St. Clair **State:** Illinois
Photographer: Dave Philip; Susan Burian
Date Photographed: April 7, 2016; May 5, 2016

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

| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| Photo 1 of 15: Looking northwest toward south and east elevations. | 4/7/16 | Philip |
| Photo 2 of 15: Looking north toward south elevation | 4/7/16 | Philip |
| Photo 3 of 15: Looking northwest toward south elevation | 4/7/16 | Philip |
| Photo 4 of 15: Looking west toward east elevation | 4/7/16 | Philip |
| Photo 5 of 15: Looking northeast toward south and west elevations | 4/7/16 | Philip |
| Photo 6 of 15: Looking southeast toward west and north elevations | 5/5/16 | Burian |
| Photo 7 of 15: Looking south towards interior entry area | 4/7/16 | Philip |
| Photo 8 of 15: Looking north up the main stairs | 5/5/16 | Burian |
| Photo 9 of 15: Main floor, looking northeast toward ticket counter | 5/5/16 | Burian |
| Photo 10 of 15: Main floor, looking southeast into ladies' lounge | 4/7/16 | Philip |
| Photo 11 of 15: Main floor, looking north-northwest into meeting hall | 4/7/16 | Philip |
| Photo 12 of 15: Main floor, looking north-northeast toward stage | 5/5/16 | Burian |
| Photo 13 of 15: Main floor, looking north toward historic stage curtain | 5/5/16 | Burian |
| Photo 14 of 15: Basement, looking southeast into fellowship hall | 4/7/16 | Philip |
| Photo 15 of 15: Looking north into addition | 5/5/16 | Burian |

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GIS Location Map
Turkey Hill Grange Hall
Belleville, St. Clair County, IL

38°28'40.64"N
89°56'22.46"W

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 100 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.

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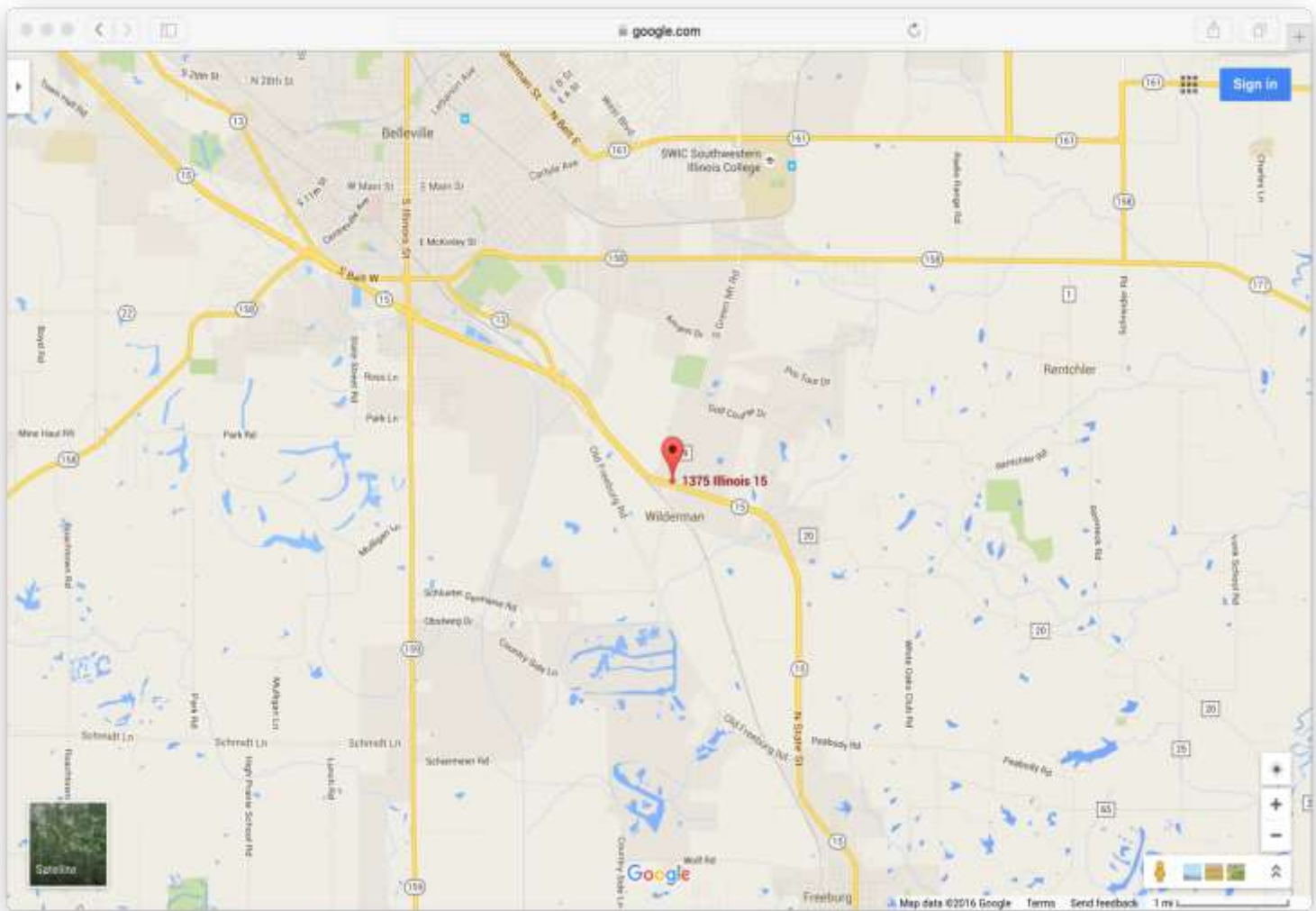
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Index to Figures

(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all documents should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.)

- Figure 1: Map
- Figure 2: Site Plan
- Figure 3: Current Floor Plan
- Figure 4: Original Floor Plan, main floor
- Figure 5: Historic Photo, 1937
- Figure 6: "Grange Hall Suggestions"
- Figure 7: Suggested Plan for Grange Halls

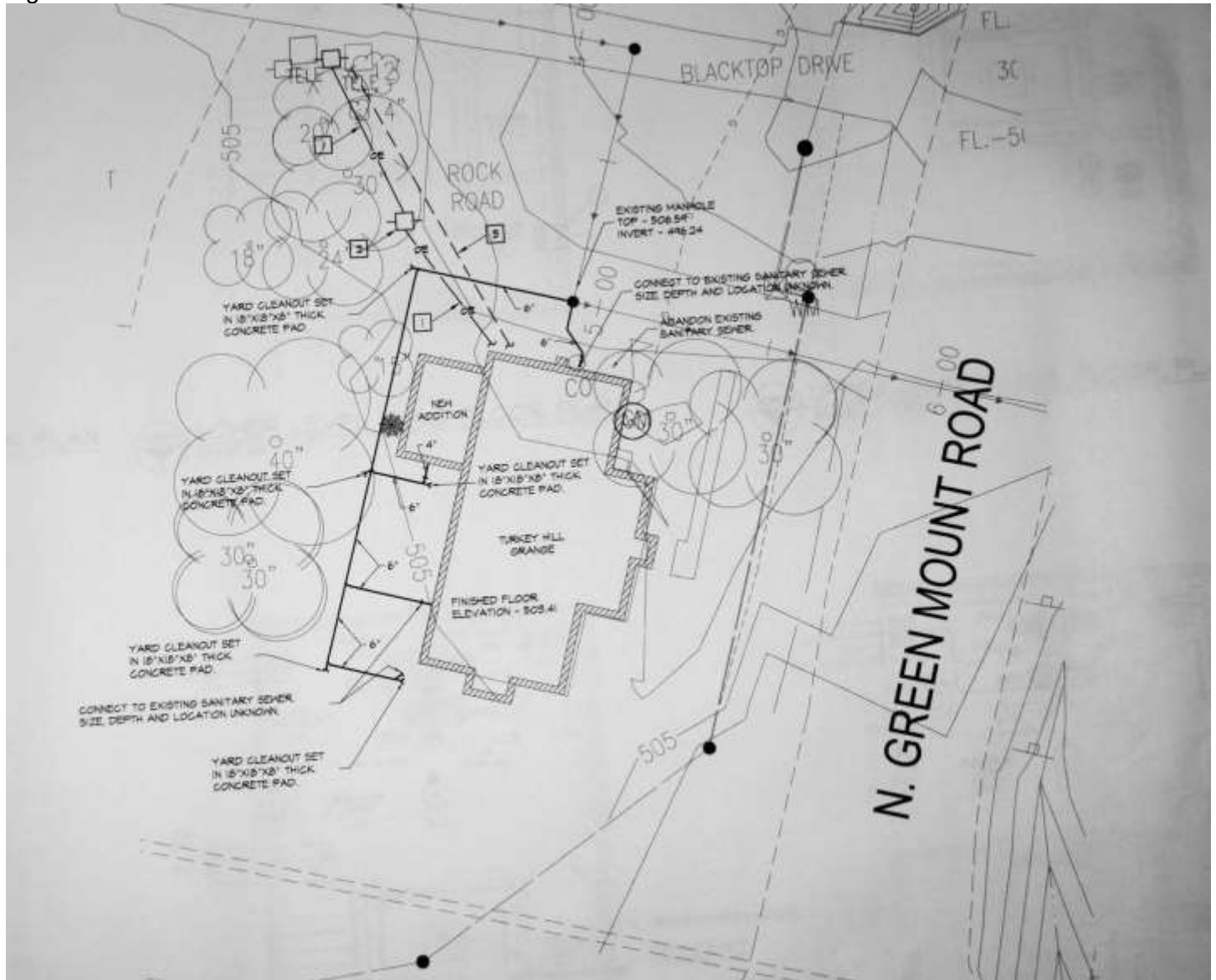
Figure 1. Map



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Figure 2. Site Plan



Turkey Hill Grange Hall
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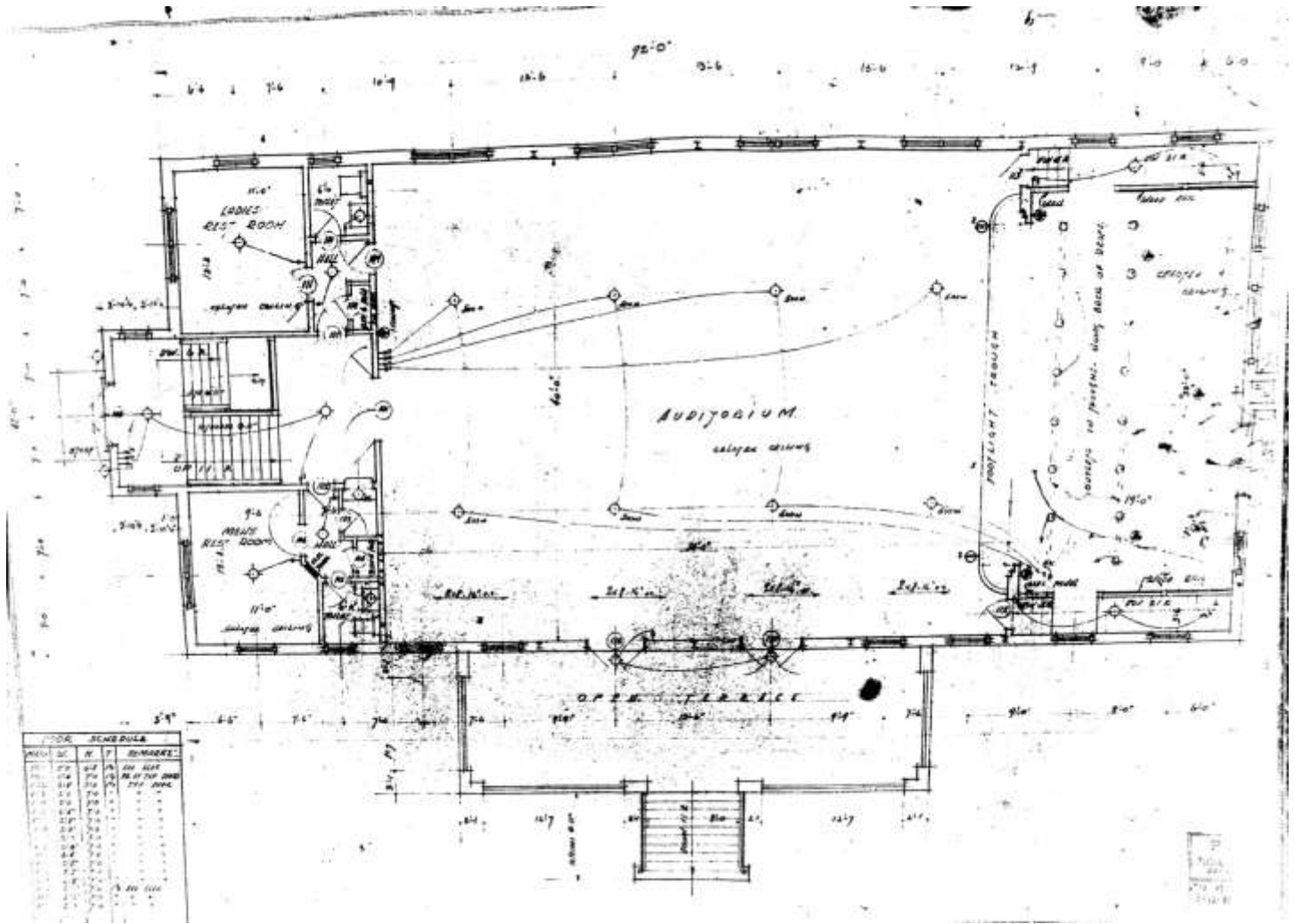
Figure 3. Current Floor Plan



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Figure 4. Original Historic Floor Plan, main floor



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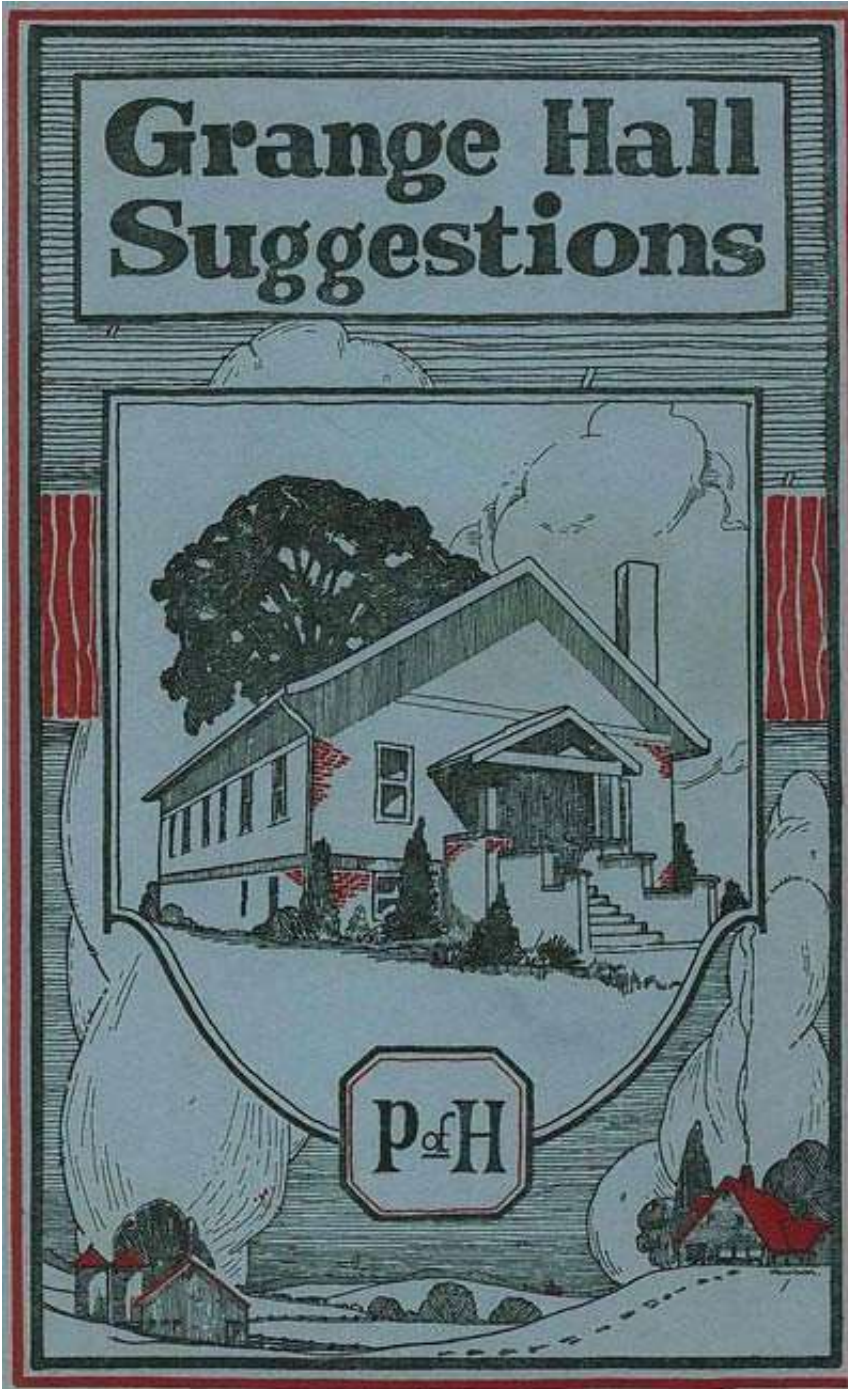
Figure 5. Historic Photo, 1937



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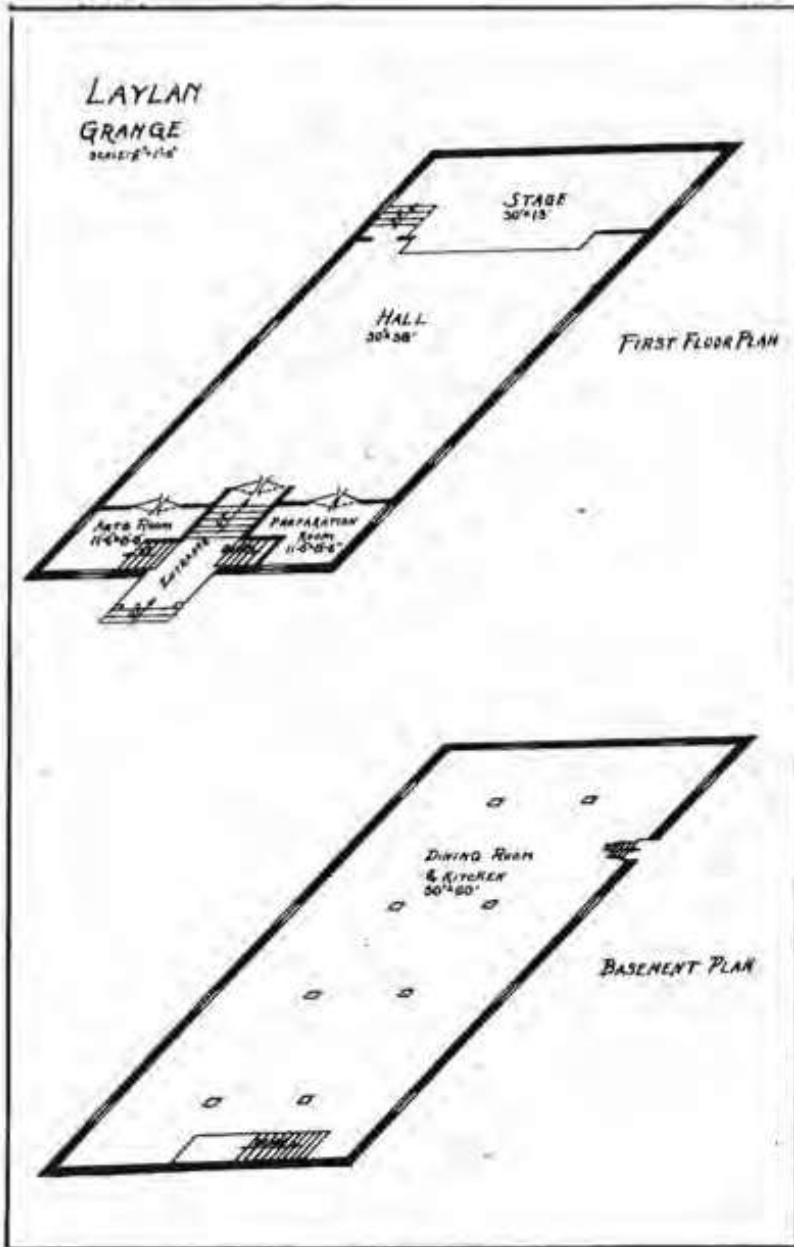
Figure 6: "Grange Hall Suggestions"



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Figure 7: Suggested Plan for Grange Halls











HALL RENTAL - 531-2600
TURKEY HILL GRANGE

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ROOFING & WALL BOARD
PHONE 105 - 319 E. MAIN ST.

Klamm FLORIST
FLOWERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS
PHONE 304 - BELLEVILLE

FREEBURG BOTTLING WORKS
J.J. ROE/TERER
HIGH GRADE SODA WATER
PHONE 41 - FREEBURG

HAUSMANN
GROCERIES
VEGETABLES IN SEASON
PHONE 301 - 319 S. ILLINOIS

ADAM CAR IMPLEMENT
BELLEVILLE

NEW ERA OIL CO.
GAS OILS
CARS & TRUCKS

ST. CLAIR MARKET
DRY GOODS
MEATS

BELLEVILLE LEADING
FELNER RATHEN DRY GOODS CO.

Belleville Daily News Democrat.
ST. CLAIR COUNTY'S FAVORITE NEWSPAPER
ALL THE NEWS ALL THE TIME.
BELLEVILLE ILLINOIS

L.R. MCKINLEY
SALES SERVICE
CHEVROLET
319 E. MAIN ST.
BEST PLACE TO BUY A USED CAR

CONRAD MENG & SON
FURNITURE
Maytag

MERCK BAKERY CO.
OUR PHOTOS ALWAYS PLEASE
PRIME STUDIO
26 W. MAIN ST.

SCHMIDT-ETLING
FARM POWER EQUIPMENT
SALES & SERVICE
216 218 E. A ST. BELLEVILLE
PHONE 88

GUNDLACH & CO.
FUNERAL HOME
PHONE 29
HIGH AT 'A' ST. BELLEVILLE

ARTHUR W. BISCHOFF & CO.
REAL ESTATE
Industrial Securities
35 PUBLIC SQUARE
BELLEVILLE





EXIT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 11/10/2016 Date of Pending List: 12/12/2016 Date of 16th Day: 12/27/2016 Date of 45th Day: 12/27/2016 Date of Weekly List: 1/5/2017

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 12/27/2016 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

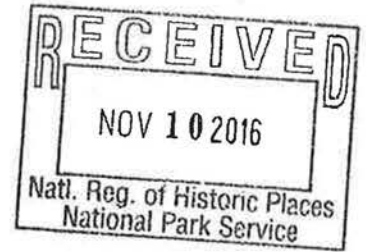
Recommendation/ Criteria:

Reviewer Barbara Wyatt Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2252 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



November 2, 2016

Ms. Barbara Wyatt
National Register of Historic Places Program
National Park Service, Department of the Interior
1201 Eye Street, NW (2280)
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Wyatt:

Enclosed are the disks that contain the true and correct copies of the National Register nominations recommended for nomination by the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council at its October 28, 2016 meeting and signed by the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer:

Marquette Apartments, Peoria, Peoria County
Turkey Hill Grange Hall, Belleville, St. Clair County
Edward D. Brigham House, Glencoe, Cook County
William and Jennette Sloane House, Elmhurst, DuPage County
Potter and Barker Grain Elevator, La Fox, Kane County
Brainerd Bungalow Historic District, Chicago, Cook County

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PACKAGE ALSO CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING:

Middletown Historic District (Additional Documentation), Alton, Madison County

Approved at the June 24, 2016 meeting

North Geneva Historic District (Additional Documentation and Boundary Decrease), Geneva, Kane County, IL
Central Geneva Historic District (Additional Documentation and Boundary Increase), Geneva, Kane County, IL

Please contact me at 217/785-4324 if you need any additional information. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Andrew Heckenkamp, Coordinator
Survey and National Register program

enclosures

1 Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield IL 62701

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