

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES  
Individual Inventory Form

1. Name of Resource: Arthur P. Stitzel House

2. Original Owner: Arthur P. Stitzel

3. Other Names: Longwood

4. Prehistoric Site	Building x	Object
Historic Site	Structure	Other

5. Location: 9707 Shelbyville Road  
Louisville, Kentucky

6. Owner's Name: John Snyder  
EPI Corporation [ P ]

7. Owner's Address: 9707 Shelbyville Road  
Louisville, Kentucky

8. Evaluation: National Register potential [ N ]

9. Recognition & Date: 1977  
 Nat.Landmark \_\_\_\_\_ Local Landmark \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nat.Register \_\_\_\_\_ HABS/HAER \_\_\_\_\_  
 Highway Marker \_\_\_\_\_ KY Inventory x \_\_\_\_\_  
 KY Landmark Certificate \_\_\_\_\_

10. N.R.Status & Date: n/a

11. N.R.Group:  
 District Name: [ ]  
 Mult.Resource Area: Jefferson County [ ]  
 Thematic Name: [ ]

12. Historical Theme:  
 Primary: Distilling Industry [16D]  
 Secondary: Architecture [030]  
 Other: [ ]

13. Statement of Significance:  
(see attached)

[ B ]

14. History:  
(see attached)

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person:  
(See attached)

16. Date:  
 Original Building ca. 1922 [ 4 ]  
 Addition 1986 [ 1 ]

17. Style:  
 Georgian Colonial Revival [ 51 ]  
 Modern Vernacular [ 7V ]

18. Architect/Builder: Joseph and Joseph

19. No. of Stories: [ 2.0 ]

20. Original Floor Plan: Filled L [ ]

21. Single Pile Double Pile x N.A.

22. Roof Form & Material: Original x  
Hipped Not Original

23. Structural Material: Wood Frame - Sawn [ W ]

24. Exterior Material: Brick [ B ]

25. Foundation Material: Stone [ S ]

26. Major Alterations: Moved/Rebuilt None  
Additions x Other

27. Special Features: Entry portico with sidelights and transom

28. Outbuildings: None [ ]

29. Original Function: Single Dwelling [01A]

30. Present Use: Business [02A]

31. Condition: Excellent [ E ]

32. Endangered: Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
No x \_\_\_\_\_

33. Attach Photos:  
 Roll: Photo Nos: No. of Slides:

34. Prepared by: MCoppel/T.James/D.Stern

35. Organization: KHC; Jeff Co. Hist.Pres.&Arch.

36. Date: 16 July 1986/9 November 1988

37. New Survey \_\_\_\_\_ Resurvey x \_\_\_\_\_

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Resource # JF337

38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Quadrant: <u>Jeffersontown</u>	Zone <u>16</u>	Easting <u>624760</u>	Northing <u>2234030</u>	39. G.I.S. Mod. [ ]	40. Coordi.Accuracy [ ]
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41. UTM Points of Boundary (for N. R. eligible sites only):

A. -----	D. -----
B. -----	E. -----
C. -----	F. -----

42. Total Acreage in Present Property: 7.052 43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary: 7.052

44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):

(see attached site plan)

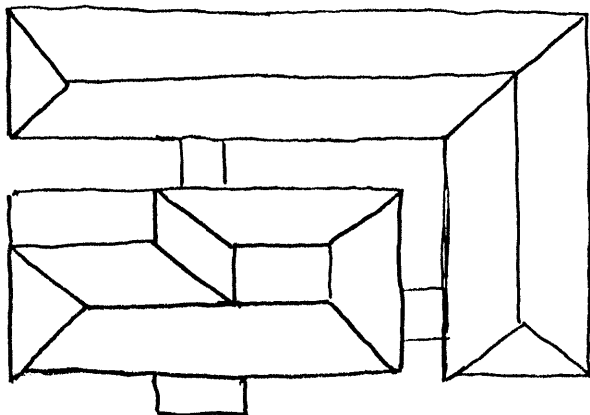
The boundaries follow current and historic property lines, reflecting the historical, semi-rural setting. The house appropriately is the focal point of its setting, grandly revealed from behind a cluster of mature trees leading up the curving drive to the small hill on which the house sits.

The site consists of 7.052 acres and comprises all of Lot 71 of County Block 22, in the unincorporated area of Jefferson County.

The nominated area includes one contributing building and one contributing structure:  
House  
Garden wall

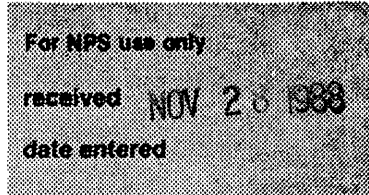
45. Description and House Plan:

(See attached description)



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National Park Service**

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



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Arthur P. Stitzel House

This building was constructed for local distillery magnate Arthur P. Stitzel and serves as a good example of Georgian Revival architecture as applied to a semi-rural site in eastern Jefferson County. Stitzel was president of the Louisville-based Stitzel Brothers distillery, oversaw the merger of the company with W.L. Weller and Sons, and served for fifteen years as president of Stitzel-Weller Distillery. The house, built during Stitzel's term as president of the merged company, is the best tangible historic link with him and the company, the oldest continuously operating bourbon distillery in the world. The building's period of significance is 1922-1935, the time during which Stitzel was most active and successful with the company and was in an economic position which enabled him to have a substantial, high style house built. The building is important, also, as a residential design of the local architectural firm of Joseph and Joseph, locally recognized for its outstanding commercial, institutional and residential designs.

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Revival styles became popular in the early decades of the 20th Century as appropriate reflections of a new aristocracy created from the fruits of the previous century's technological revolution. To Arthur P. Stitzel (1875-1947), this was an ideal expression of his successful entrepreneurial achievements.

In 1902, at the age of 27, Stitzel was a partner in the whiskey distribution business of Hilmar Ehrmann and A.P. Stitzel Co. At that time he assumed operations for his father of the family's distilling business Stitzel Brothers, in west Louisville. One of his first projects was the expansion of the business and the accompanying construction of a new distillery complex near the Bourbon Stock Yards at the eastern outskirts of Louisville. The office building at 1033 Story Avenue (JFCB-244, Butchertown Historic District) is the sole remaining structure of the complex.

In 1907, Stitzel forged an agreement with W.L. Weller and Sons. Stitzel Brothers manufactured several thousand barrels of specific bourbons which Weller marketed. Between 1917 and 1920, under Stitzel's guidance, a merger was actively effected between the two companies. Stitzel-Weller Distillery was in full operation prior to the 1920 Prohibition Act. Throughout the 1920s, Stitzel-Weller marketed its bourbons as medicinal products as one of a limited number of distilleries authorized by the federal government to provide such whiskey. According to a company history prepared in 1950, "the medicinal whiskies bottled and distributed by these houses commanded a prestige and a price to pharmacists unrivaled by any other old whiskies on the market."

On the eve of Stitzel's retirement, he witnessed construction of a new distillery complex located on twenty acres southwest of Louisville on Dixie Highway. Completed in 1935, based on a design by Joseph and Joseph, the new facility produced fifty barrels of bourbon a day and had a storage capacity of 12,600 barrels.

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(Additions to this complex completed in the late 1940s tripled the production capacity and provided warehouse space for 190,000 barrels of bourbon whiskey.)

Today the distillery continues in operation in its 1935 complex under the name of its most popular brand, Old Fitzgerald. For at least thirty years, this brand has been ranked first in Kentucky among preferred bourbons. The distillery also produces the brands of Rebel Yell, Cabin Still, and W.L. Weller. Claiming the Weller roots which date to 1849, the distillery claims that it may be the oldest continuously operating bourbon distillery in the world.

Between 1905 and 1922, Arthur P. Stitzel and his wife, Florence E. Koch Stitzel, resided near the distillery complex in the Clifton neighborhood of east Louisville. In 1922, the Stitzels purchased 7.052 acres of land farther east of the city between St. Matthews and Middletown. There they established a beautifully-landscaped, serene suburban homesite with an imposing Georgian Revival residence designed by the noted firm of Joseph and Joseph.

Alfred S. Joseph (1878-1973) and Oscar G. Joseph (1883-1964) founded one of Louisville's most prominent architectural firms-- Joseph and Joseph. Examples of their work include several National Register structures--Elks Athletic Club (now YWCA), Breslin (Fincastle) Building, Commodore Apartment Building, and the Keneseth Israel Temple.

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- Carson, Gerald. The Social History of Bourbon. New York, 1963.  
City Directories, 1902-1950. Louisville, Kentucky.
- Crowgey, Henry G. The Formative Years of Kentucky's Whiskey Industry. Ph.D. Dissertation, University Microfilms copy, 1968.
- "Former Louisville Architect, Oscar G. Joseph, 83, Dies." Courier-Journal, March 17, 1964.
- History of Kentucky, Vol. 4, Louisville, 1928.
- Jefferson County Deed and Will Books.
- "Kentucky Saga." The Decanter. Louisville, 1950.
- "Retired Louisville architect Alfred S. Joseph, Sr. dies." Courier-Journal, August 14, 1973.
- Sanborn Maps, 1905-1927, 1929-1969 sets.
- Typewritten summary of interview with Alfred S. Joseph II, April 11, 1978. Files of Louisville Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission. Photocopy in files of Jefferson County Office of Historic Preservation and Archives.

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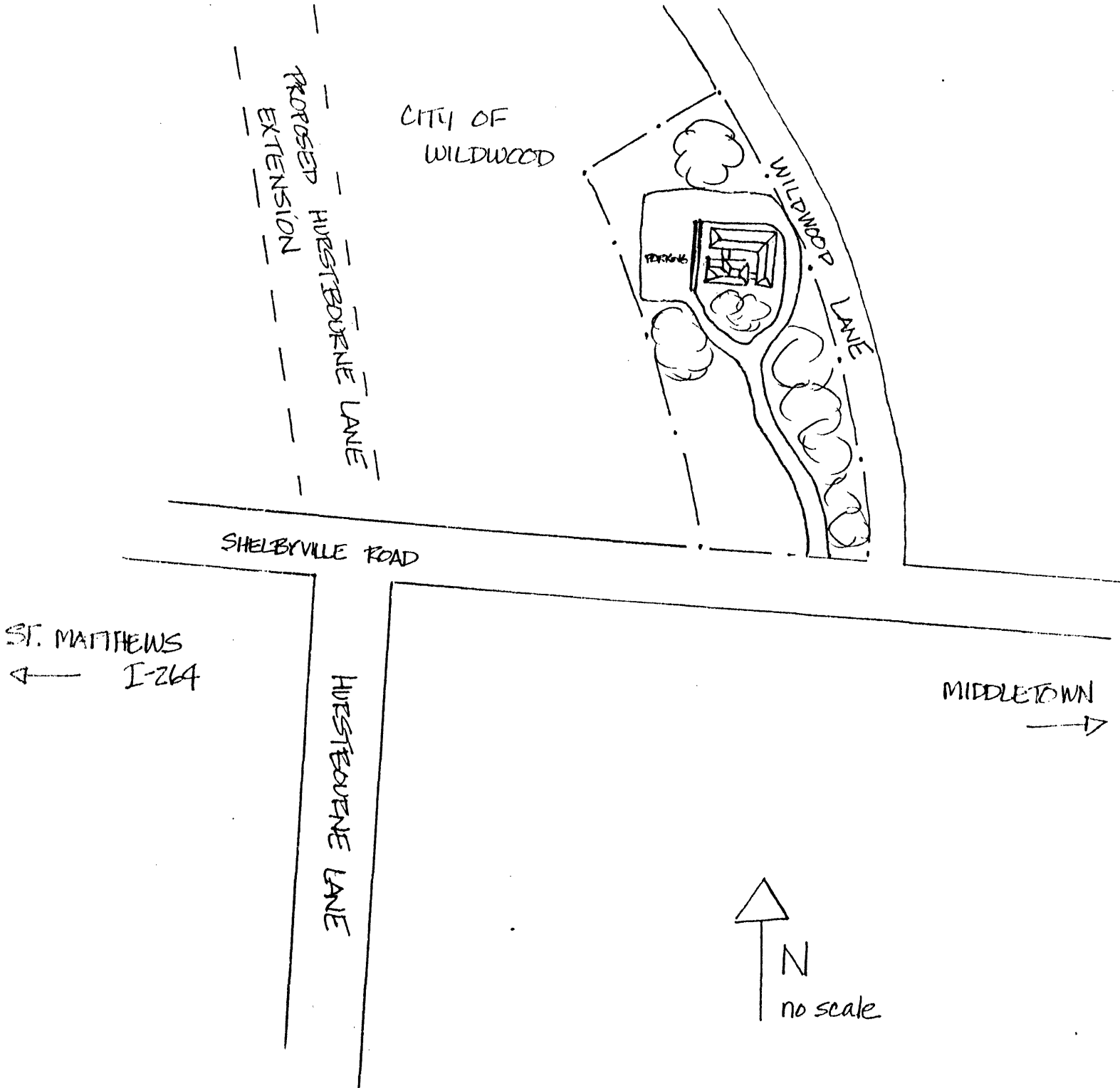
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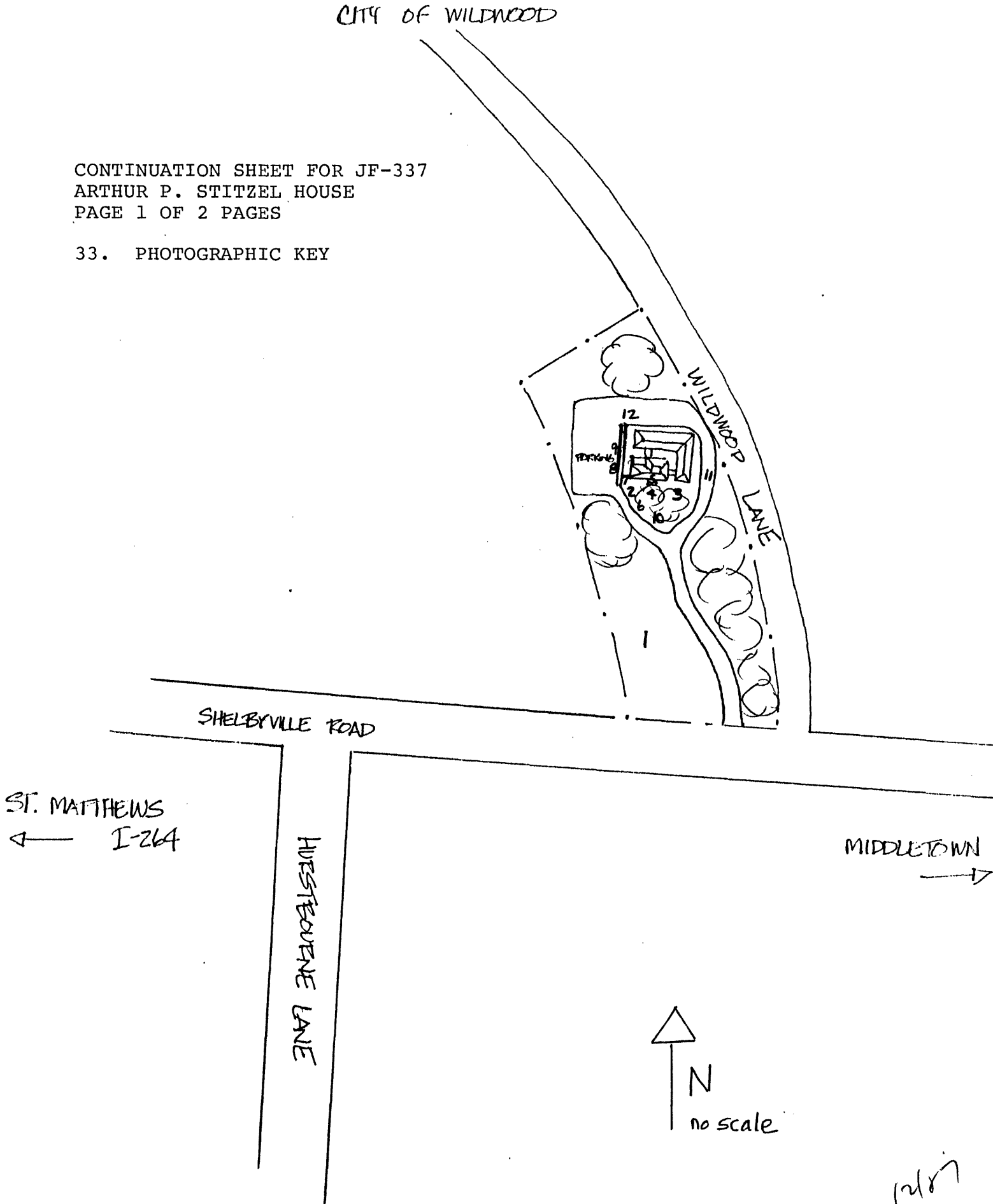
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CONTINUATION SHEET FOR JF-337  
ARTHUR P. STITZEL HOUSE  
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33. PHOTOGRAPHIC KEY



1 PHOTOGRAPHIC KEY

a/2/87



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The Arthur P. Stitzel House sits atop a small hill on a little more than seven attractively-landscaped acres in eastern Jefferson County. It faces south to U.S. 60 (Shelbyville Road) and is immediately east of Hurstbourne Lane, a major north-south connector in eastern Jefferson County. North of the site is a residential development, the city of Wildwood. East and south of the property are shopping and similar commercial enterprises. This section of the county is the most rapidly developing suburban residential/commercial/industrial area in the state.

The house sits away from the road on an arc-shaped parcel of rolling land. Approximately four of the total seven acres lie between the house and Shelbyville Road, providing seclusion from encroaching development. The drive from Shelbyville Road winds its way around a depression at the southwest corner of the property, upward past a grove of mature trees located on the eastern section of the property to reveal the house at the highest elevation of the site. To the west of the house, on a level section with a slightly lower elevation than that of the house, is the former flower garden site and current location of a parking area.

To the west of the house, on a level section with a slightly lower elevation than that of the house, is the site of a former flower garden. This site is currently being used as a parking area for the office use which now occupies the property. The parking area was located on the garden site so as not to require removal of or damage to any original mature trees on the property; not to detract from the view of the seven-acre site from the road; and to be convenient to the office use.

The Georgian Colonial Revival style building features a symmetrical, two-story, five-bay facade set on a rough-cut coursed limestone foundation. It is faced with a common bond, painted brick veneer and sports a vertically-laid brick belt-course and brick quoins. The house was painted a number of years ago. It is now painted a medium base color with light trim to emphasize detailing. The hipped, slate shingle roof sits atop a modillioned and bracketed cornice. Two brick chimneys with stone trim rise above the roofline.

The most commanding decorative feature of the structure is its Tuscan columned entry portico supporting a dentilled cornice, exaggerated fascia and ornamental, balustered and

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panelled railing. The tripled columns are enhanced by decorative metopes set above the columns, into the fascia. Under the portico is an entry with a panelled door flanked by slender, fluted colonettes and multi-paned sidelights, the entirety of which is set under an elliptically arched transom with an inset round arched fanlight. The entry surround is composed of brick stretchers and a panelled keystone.

Windows are 8/1 sash with the first story windows topped by jack arches. The central second story window is flanked by narrow 4/1 windows and the grouping is flanked by rectangularly-shaped, stylized sculpture insets.

At the rear of the structure, filling the interior of the "L", is a single story section constructed and trimmed in the manner of the main block.

A single story, hipped-roofed, brick addition has been constructed adjacent to the north and east facades of the structure to provide office space. This addition has a low, limestone foundation and a beltcourse which corresponds to that of the main house. It is connected to the house by two hallways which feature groupings of large, single-light windows, the sills of which align with those of the main house and form a stringcourse on the addition.

The addition reflects a conscientious decision to create a compatible, yet distinct, building to harmonize with the original historic structure. The addition employs similar, complimentary materials to those found in the house. It is of a suppressed, single story and located on the least visible area of the property so as not to compete with or detract from the commanding presence of the original structure. The addition is painted a single color, the lighter trim color of the house to further compliment without mimicing.

A brick wall, constructed at the time of the house to separate it from a flower garden, currently provides a physical separation between the building and a parking area. (The flower garden had long been abandoned.) The brick wall is painted the colors of the house to identify it as an original element of the property.

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Integrity of the property is intact as its location and setting are original. The placement of the addition is in the most unobtrusive portion of the lot, assisting in maintaining the original significance of the setting.

Design, materials, and craftsmanship compliment the original dwelling through the continuation of the stringcourse; use of brick as a building material; integration of window sill placement; and retention of a low-hipped roof and definite eaves.

Feeling and association are maintained through the retention of the property's primary features in their original relationship to each other. New elements are subdued and attempt to harmonize with the originally significant elements.