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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

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

1. Name of Property

Historic name The Home of the Friendless

Other names/site number Charless Home

Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

2. Location

Street & number 4431 South Broadway

N/A	not for publication
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City or town St. Louis

N/A	vicinity
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State Missouri Code MO County Independent City Code 510 Zip code 63111

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

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

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

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Toni M. Prawl

09/16/15

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

Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain): _____

Joe Elson H. Beall

11.9.15

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Home of the Friendless
Name of Property

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

5. Classification

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

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

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

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	0	buildings
0	2	sites
1	0	structures
		objects
4	2	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Institutional Housing

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/ NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS:

Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE

walls: STONE

BRICK

roof: ASPHALT

other:

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUATION PAGES

Home of the Friendless
Name of Property

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUATION PAGES

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: Missouri History Museum, St. Louis, Missouri
State Historical Society, St. Louis, Missouri

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

Areas of Significance

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1853-1965

Significant Dates

1853

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Home of the Friendless
Name of Property

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

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 7.9 acres

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: N/A

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1 38.575301 -90.235102 3 _____
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

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

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

_____ NAD 1927 or _____ NAD 1983

1 _____
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (On continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (On continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rachel Nugent, National Register Coordinator; Lauren Rieke, Associate

organization Rosin Preservation date June 2015

street & number 215 W. 18th Street #150 telephone 816-472-4950

city or town Kansas City state MO zip code 64108

e-mail lauren@rosinpreservation.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Home of the Friendless
Name of Property

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

Photographs

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

Photo Log:

Name of Property: Home of the Friendless

City or Vicinity: St. Louis

County: Independent City State: Missouri

Photographer: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography

Date
Photographed: March 2, 2015

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

- 1 of 20: Primary (east) elevation, Blocks A, D and G. View northwest.
- 2 of 20: East elevation, Blocks G and E. View northwest.
- 3 of 20: East elevation, Block B. View west.
- 4 of 20: North elevation, Block E, and Resource C. View south.
- 5 of 20: Northwest corner, Blocks F, H and I. View southeast.
- 6 of 20: South elevation, Block F. View north.
- 7 of 20: West elevation, Block B. View east.
- 8 of 20: North elevation, Blocks C and J. View southwest.
- 9 of 20: North elevation of Block K, west elevation of Block D. View southeast.
- 10 of 20: South elevation, Blocks D and K. View north.
- 11 of 20: Southeast corner of property and adjacent Interstate Highway 55. View southwest.
- 12 of 20: Southwest corner of property and adjacent residential block. View north.
- 13 of 20: Block A, first floor, lobby. View northwest.
- 14 of 20: Block C, first floor, dining room. View west.
- 15 of 20: Block G, first floor, chapel. View northwest.
- 16 of 20: Block D, first floor, sunroom. View southeast.
- 17 of 20: Block A, second floor, library. View southeast.
- 18 of 20: Block E, second floor, corridor. View east.
- 19 of 20: Block F, first floor, corridor. View east.
- 20 of 20: Block D, second floor, resident room, typical. View northwest.

Figure Log:

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

Please note, Figures 1-6 and 32-38 are located at the end of the document in the "Figures" Section; Figures 32-38 are embedded within the document in the Section 7.

Figure 1: Home of the Friendless, context Map. *Source: ArcGIS 2013.*

Figure 2: Home of the Friendless, site Map. *Source: ArcGIS 2013.*

Figure 3: Photo Map, exterior.

Figure 4: Photo Map, first floor, existing conditions.

Figure 5: Photo Map, second floor, existing conditions.

Figure 6: Construction sequence map.

Figure 7: Resource 1, Block A, east elevation. *Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-2.*

Home of the Friendless

St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri

Name of Property

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- Figure 8:** Resource 1, Block A, west elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-3.
- Figure 9:** Resource 1, Block B, east elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-4.
- Figure 10:** Resource 1, Block B, west elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-4.
- Figure 11:** Resource 1, Block C, north elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-5.
- Figure 12:** Resource 1, Block C, south elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-5.
- Figure 13:** Resource 1, Block D, east elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-6.
- Figure 14:** Resource 1, Block D, west elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-6.
- Figure 15:** Resource 1, Block E, northeast corner. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-7.
- Figure 16:** Resource 1, Block E, north elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-7.
- Figure 17:** Resource 1, Block E, south elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-7.
- Figure 18:** Resource 1, Block F, east elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-8.
- Figure 19:** Resource 1, Block F, south elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-8.
- Figure 20:** Resource 1, Block G, north elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-9.
- Figure 21:** Resource 1, Block G, east elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-9.
- Figure 22:** Resource 1, Block G, south elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-9.
- Figure 23:** Resource 1, Block G, north and west elevations. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-9.
- Figure 24:** Resource 1, Block H, southeast corner. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-10.
- Figure 25:** Resource 1, Block H, northwest corner. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-10.
- Figure 26:** Resource 1, Block I, northwest corner. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-11.
- Figure 27:** Resource 1, Block J, north elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-12.
- Figure 28:** Resource 1, Block J, west elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-12.
- Figure 29:** Resource 1, Block J, south elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-12.
- Figure 30:** Resource 1, Block K, north elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-13.
- Figure 31:** Resource 1, Block K, south elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015. Page 7-13.
- Figure 32:** Site map with identifying resources.
- Figure 33:** Home of the Friendless, earliest known photograph, n.d. The adjacent wings were demolished in the late-1800s. Source: *Missouri History Museum, St. Louis, Missouri.*
- Figure 34:** Home of the Friendless, n.d. The brick wing was demolished in the late-1800s. Source: *Missouri History Museum, St. Louis, Missouri.*
- Figure 35:** Home of the Friendless, c. 1900. Source: *Missouri History Museum, St. Louis, Missouri.*
- Figure 36:** Home of the Friendless, c. 1938. Source: *Eighty-Sixth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Home of the Friendless; on file at the State Historical Society of Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri.*
- Figure 37:** Entrance Hall of the Home of the Friendless, 1953. Source: *Home of the Friendless Centennial Report, 1953; on file at the State Historical Society of Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri.*
- Figure 38:** Chapel services in Living Room, 1953. Source: *Home of the Friendless Centennial Report, 1953; on file at the State Historical Society of Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri.*

Tables

Table 1: Permanent Homes for Women in St. Louis, 1904. Page 8-22.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Home of the Friendless
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

SUMMARY

The Home of the Friendless occupies a 7.9 acre site at 4431 South Broadway in St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri. Located south of downtown, along Interstate Highway 55, residential neighborhoods and a commercial strip surround the property. The property is comprised of three contributing buildings (the primary resource and two garages), two non-contributing sites (paved surface parking lots), and one contributing structure (a rock wall). Located at the center of the lot, the main resource is a sprawling building with eleven connected blocks constructed between c. 1850 and 1995 (*Resource 1, Figure 6*). Most of the blocks are two-story rectangular forms with asphalt shingle side-gable roofs. Limestone clads the primary elevations; red brick clads the secondary elevations. A regular rhythm of bays with historic wood windows organizes each elevation. Public and private spaces organize the interior. Public spaces include the main lobby, chapel, dining room, and library. These are more decorative with wood bases and chair rails, decorative columns, and built-in cabinets. Double-loaded corridors lined with individual resident rooms and bathrooms organize the more utilitarian living quarters. These have a variety of finishes, including historic wood trim and doors and non-historic carpet and VCT tile flooring. Each block has experienced few alterations and overall the property retains integrity.

ELABORATION

SETTING

The Home of the Friendless is located at 4431 South Broadway in the Mount Pleasant neighborhood of St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri. Downtown St. Louis lies approximately four miles to the northeast. Interstate Highway 55 (I-55), with the Mississippi River adjacent, runs immediately east of the property (*Figure 1*). Single-family residences and multi-family apartment buildings constructed in the early 1900s characterize the surrounding neighborhood (*Photo 12*). Light industrial and commercial areas front the Mississippi River to the east (*Photo 11*).

The 7.9 acre property encompasses nearly an entire city block bounded by Osceola Street on the north, Broadway on the east, Dakota Street on the south, and Nebraska Street on the west (*Figure 2*). A limestone wall (*Resource 4, Photo 11*) lines the east perimeter of the lot along South Broadway. A chain-link fence encloses the remainder of the site. The informally landscaped property creates a park-like setting. Mature trees and bushes line the perimeter of the parcel and punctuate the otherwise open landscape within.

Three contributing buildings and two non-contributing sites dot the property (*Figure 32*). The main building sits at the center of the site (*Resource 1*). Multiple blocks radiate from the original building (*Block A*) to create a complex footprint. Two outbuildings are located north of the main building (*Resources 2 and 3*). A concrete driveway runs east-west from South Broadway to a circular drive in front of Block A (*Resource 5, Photo 1*). An asphalt driveway along Nebraska Street accesses an asphalt surface parking lot located at the northwest corner of the site (*Resource 6, Photos 5-8*). The parking lot extends east-west across the property and abuts the west elevation of the building. A concrete sidewalk meanders around the north and east perimeters of the property. Portions of the building and a wrought iron fence enclose a small courtyard on the east side of the building (*Photo 3*).

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Home of the Friendless
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Primary Building (Resource 1)

Contributing

The Home of the Friendless is a sprawling complex comprised of eleven blocks constructed between c. 1850 and 1995. The one- to three-story blocks compose an irregular footprint. All have similar massing, materials, and form. Newer additions are compatible with earlier sections of the building and do not compromise its integrity. In this description, the blocks are labeled A through J, corresponding to the chronology of construction (*Figure 6*). Block A is the original block (c.1850) that runs north-south at the center of the building. Block B runs north-south from the north elevation of Block A. Block C extends east-west from the north end of the west elevation of Block A. Block D runs north-south from the south elevation of Block A. Block E extends east-west from the north elevation of Block B. Block F extends east-west from the west end of the north elevation of Block E. Block G connects via an east-west corridor to the north end of the east elevation of Block A. Block H runs north-south from the west elevation of Block F. Block I runs north-south from the center of the north elevation of Block F. Block J connects to the west elevation of Block C. Block K extends east-west from the west elevation of Block D.

Exterior

Block A (c. 1850)

Block A is the original piece of the Home of the Friendless that was constructed shortly before the institution moved into the building. The two-story rectangular block has bilateral symmetry on the primary (east) elevation (*Photo 1, Figure 7*). It has a limestone foundation and an asphalt shingle side gable roof. Limestone clads the primary elevation; red brick clads the west elevation; the north and south elevations abut blocks B and D. A concrete porch with slender wood posts supporting a wood roof spans the east elevation. A wood railing encircles the balcony on the porch roof. A front gable with an elliptical window pierces the roofline above the main entrance. The north elevation connects to Block B. The south elevation connects to Block D.



Figure 7: Resource 1, Block A, east elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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Home of the Friendless
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Nine regular bays organize the east elevation (*Figure 7*). On the first story, a small non-historic vestibule projects from Bay 5. The vestibule has glazed wood walls, narrow sidelights, and a transom. A glazed wood panel door with a multi-light transom accesses the building within the vestibule. Glazed wood panel doors with transoms fill Bays 2 and 7 on the first story. A pair of glazed wood panel doors with a transom accesses the second floor balcony. Historic six-over-six double-hung wood windows with limestone sills fill the remaining bays on each story. All openings have painted segmental arch brick headers. Wood shutters flank the openings on the second story of the primary east facade.



Figure 8: Resource 1, Block A, west elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Seven bays organize the west elevation, south of Block C (*Figure 8*). Single openings in Bays 1-3 descend from left to right, aligned with an interior staircase. Bay 4 projects westward from the façade. An entrance with an elaborate wood surround with fluted pilasters and a broken pediment fills this bay at ground level. The glazed wood-paneled door has sidelights and a large twenty-one-light transom. A pair of non-historic casement windows pierces this bay on the second story. Historic six-over-six double-hung wood windows fill Bays 5-7.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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Home of the Friendless

Name of Property

St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Block B (1930)

Block B extends north-south from the north elevation of Block A (*Photo 3*). The two-story rectangular block has a limestone foundation and an asphalt shingle side gable roof. Limestone clads the east elevation; red brick clads the west elevation. The north elevation connects to Block E. The south elevation connects to Block A.



Figure 9: Resource 1, Block B, east elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Eleven regularly spaced bays organize the east elevation (*Figure 9*). First story openings have segmental arch brick lintels; second story openings have flat arch brick lintels. A corridor connecting to Block G fills Bay 1 on the first story. Historic six-over-six double-hung wood windows with limestone sills and painted wood shutters fill the remaining bays.



Figure 10: Resource 1, Block B, west elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Nine bays organize the west elevation (*Photo 7, Figure 10*). Unless otherwise specified, first story openings have segmental arch brick lintels; second story openings have flat arch brick lintels. All have limestone sills. Historic six-over-six double-hung wood windows fill Bays 1-8. A pair of historic six-over-six wood windows with a rowlock brick lintel fills the first story of Bay 6. A wide wood panel door with glazing fills Bay 9 at the ground level. A historic six-over-six double-hung wood window with a segmental arch brick lintel pierces the second story.

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Continuation Sheet

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Home of the Friendless

Name of Property

St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Block C (1931)

The three-story block has a limestone foundation, red brick cladding and a flat roof (*Photo 8*). A one-story wing projects from the west elevation, abutting Block J. A three-story circulation tower rises on the south elevation. Exterior brick chimneys rise above the roofline on the north and south elevations.



Figure 11: Resource 1, Block C, north elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Six bays organize the north elevation (*Figure 11*). All have with limestone sills and flat arch brick lintels. On the first story, Bays 2 and 3 have two single openings. Historic six-over-six double-hung wood windows fill each opening in Bays 1-4. Non-historic double-hung wood windows with simulated multi-light sashes fill Bays 5 and 6. On the second story, Bay 5 has two openings. Historic one-over-one double-hung wood windows fill each opening on the second and third stories.



Figure 12: Resource 1, Block C, south elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Five bays organize the first story of the south elevation (*Figure 12*). All have limestone sills and flat arch brick lintels. Bays 3 and 4 have two single openings. Non-historic double-hung wood windows with simulated multi-light sashes fill Bays 1 and 2. Historic six-over-six double-hung wood windows fill each opening in Bays 3-5. Historic one-over-one double-hung wood windows fill four bays on the second and third stories.

Block J abuts the first story of the west elevation (*Figure 12*). One-over-one double-hung wood windows fill three bays on the second story and two bays on the third story.

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Home of the Friendless
Name of Property
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Block D (1934)

Block D extends south from the south end of Block A (*Photos 1, 9, 10*). Similar to Block B, the two-story rectangular block has a limestone foundation and an asphalt shingle side gable roof. Limestone clads the east and south facades; brick clads the rear (west) façade. Two-story wings with flat roofs project from the south and west elevations. A brick chimney rises above the roofline on the west elevation. The north elevation attaches to the south elevation of Block A.



Figure 13: Resource 1, Block D, east elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Thirteen regularly spaced bays with limestone sills organize the east elevation (*Photo 1, Figure 13*). Bay 1, the flat-roofed south wing identified as the sunroom, has a band of three multi-light metal windows on each story. A recessed entrance fills the first story of Bay 13. In the remaining bays, first story openings have segmental arch brick lintels; second story openings have flat arch brick lintels. Single historic six-over-six double-hung wood windows with painted shutters fill each bay. Basement openings with historic steel casement or historic wood windows pierce the basement level in Bays 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10.

Three bays with bands of three multi-light metal windows organize the south elevation (*Photo 10*).



Figure 14: Resource 1, Block D, west elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Ten bays with historic six-over-six double-hung wood windows organize the west elevation (*Photo 9, Figure 14*). First story openings have brick segmental arch lintels; second story openings have brick flat arch lintels. Block K projects from the south end of the west elevation.

National Register of Historic Places
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Home of the Friendless

Name of Property

St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Block E (1939)

Block E extends east-west from the north elevation of Block B (*Photos 2, 4*). The two-story rectangular block has a limestone foundation and cladding and an asphalt shingle side gable roof. Limestone clads the east, south, and west elevations. A two-story limestone wing flanked by non-historic windowless brick circulation towers projects from the north elevation.



Figure 15: Resource 1, Block E, northeast corner. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.



Figure 16: Resource 1, Block E, north elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Seven bays with limestone sills organize the north elevation (*Photo 4, Figures 15, 16*). First story openings have segmental arch brick lintels; second story openings have flat arch brick openings. Block F connects to Bay 7 on the first story. Historic six-over-six double-hung wood windows fill the remaining bays. Shutters flank each window in Bay 1. Air conditioning units partially obscure each window Bay 2.

Three bays with historic six-over-six double-hung wood windows, limestone sills and louvered wood shutters organize the east elevation (*Figure 15*). A window replaces a former door on the second story of Bay 2; a historic metal balconette is extant. A historic wood fanlight pierces the gable end.



Figure 17: Resource 1, Block E, south elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Nine bays with limestone sills organize the south elevation (*Photo 2, Figure 17*). First story openings have segmental arch brick lintels; second story openings have flat arch brick openings. Historic six-over-six double-hung wood windows with limestone sills and louvered wood shutters fill Bays 1-8. A two-story curved bay window with three historic six-over-six double-hung wood windows fills Bay 9.

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Home of the Friendless
Name of Property
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County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Block F (1961)

Block F extends east-west from the north elevation of Block E (*Photo 6*). The one-story block has a brick foundation and cladding and a flat roof with an overhanging eave. Block H projects from the center of the north elevation. Bands of three-part aluminum frame windows pierce the north elevation, on each side of Block H. The west elevation connects to Block I.



Figure 18: Resource 1, Block F, east elevation. Source: Brad Finch, *F-Stop Photography*, March 2015.

A band of nine three-part aluminum windows pierces the center of the angled east elevation (*Figure 18*). All three lights of the window are fixed except in a few select locations where the bottom light is a hopper sash. A glazed aluminum frame door pierces the south end of the band.



Figure 19: Resource 1, Block F, south elevation. Source: Brad Finch, *F-Stop Photography*, March 2015.

A similar band of thirty-three three-part aluminum windows pierces the south elevation (*Photo 6, Figure 19*).

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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Home of the Friendless
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Block G (1963)

A chapel fills Block G (*Photo 2*). It connects via a limestone-clad corridor to the northeast corner of Block A. The one-story rectangular block has limestone cladding and a slate hip roof.



Figure 20: Resource 1, Block G, north elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.



Figure 21: Resource 1, Block G, east elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Three large segmental arched openings pierce the north, east and west elevations (*Photo 2, Figures 20, 21*). Dressed limestone surrounds each opening and extends from the foundation to slightly above the wall plane. Fixed, twenty-five-light fixed wood windows fill each opening.



Figure 22: Resource 1, Block G, south elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

A single segmental arched opening with a three-part fixed wood window pierces the south elevation (*Figure 22*).



Figure 23: Resource 1, Block G, north and west elevations. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

A segmental arched arcade with a flat roof forms the connecting corridor (*Figure 23*). Non-historic three-part fixed wood windows with insulated glazing line the corridor. Glazed wood doors replace two windows on the north elevation of the corridor. A pair of historic glazed wood panel doors with sidelights accesses the east elevation of the corridor.

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Block H (c. 1980)

Block H extends north-south from the west elevation of Block F (*Photo 5, 6*). It has a concrete foundation, brick cladding and a flat roof.



Figure 24: Resource 1, Block H, southeast corner. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

A two-part fixed aluminum window pierces the east elevation (*Photo 6, Figure 25*). A tall, three-part fixed aluminum frame window and a single fixed aluminum frame window pierce the south elevation.



Figure 25: Resource 1, Block H, northwest corner. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Three tall fixed aluminum windows pierce the west elevation (*Photo 5, Figure 26*). A glazed aluminum door accesses the ground level on the south end of this elevation. A concrete ramp leads to a replacement door on the first story of the north elevation. A single aluminum-frame window pierces this elevation west of the door.

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Block I (1980)

Block I extends north from the north side of Block F (*Photo 5*). The one-story rectangular block has a brick foundation and cladding and a flat roof. A pair of metal doors and a single metal door pierce the north elevation at the basement level (*Photo 5, Figure 24*). This elevation is otherwise devoid of fenestration.



Figure 26: Resource 1, Block I, northwest corner. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Five bays organize the first story of the east and west elevations (*Photo 5, Figure 24*). Pairs of one-over-one double-hung aluminum windows with brick sills fill each bay. At the basement level, two bays pierce the east elevation; one bay pierces the west elevation. All have the same pairs of one-over-one double-hung aluminum windows with brick sills. The south elevation abuts Block F.

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Block J (1995)

Block J extends west from the west end of Block C (*Photo 8*). The one-story block has a flat roof, a brick foundation, and red brick cladding. A brick chimney rises above the roofline on the south elevation. Fenestration consists of single openings asymmetrically arranged on each elevation. Double-hung wood windows have simulated divided-light sashes. The east elevation abuts Block C.



Figure 27: Resource 1, Block J, north elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

A recessed loading dock with a large elevated overhead door is located at the east end of the north elevation (*Photo 8, Figure 27*). A metal pedestrian door pierces this elevation at ground level; single one-over-twelve double-hung wood windows pierce the first floor.



Figure 28: Resource 1, Block J, west elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

A recessed loading dock with a concrete ramp and stairs is located on the north side of the west elevation (*Figure 28*). Single openings with one-over-one double-hung wood windows pierce the south side of this elevation. Two louvered vents and two windows pierce the basement level.



Figure 29: Resource 1, Block J, south elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Three bays organize the south elevation on the first floor and basement (*Figure 29*). One-over-one double-hung wood windows fill Bays 1 and 2; an eight-over-eight double-hung wood window fills Bay 3. Fixed wood windows fill basement openings.

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Block K (1995)

Block K extends west from the south end of the west elevation of Block D (*Photos 9, 10*). The two-story block has a concrete foundation, red brick cladding, and an asphalt shingle gable roof. A brick chimney rises above the roofline on the south elevation. The east elevation connects to Block D via a narrow three-story hyphen.



Figure 30: Resource 1, Block K, north elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Five bays organize the north elevation (*Photo 9, Figure 31*). On the first and second stories, the bays have concrete sills and segmental arched brick lintels. Pairs of double-hung wood windows with simulated eight-over-eight sashes fill these bays. Pairs of fixed six-light windows fill the basement openings.

A two-story angled bay window with six six-over-six double-hung wood windows projects from the west elevation (*Figure 31*). A metal pedestrian door pierces this elevation at the basement level.



Figure 31: Resource 1, Block K, south elevation. Source: Brad Finch, F-Stop Photography, March 2015.

Six bays organize the south elevation (*Photo 10, Figure 30*). Bay 6 is recessed from the façade. Bays have concrete sills, segmental arched brick lintels, and pairs of double-hung wood windows with simulated eight-over-eight sashes. A metal pedestrian door pierces the basement level in Bay 6.

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Interior

The interior configuration of the building reflects its multiple stages of development while the continuity of finishes presents a cohesive, unified design (*Figures 4-5*). The interior remains intact with few alterations. Double-loaded corridors lined with narrow, rectangular rooms organize the residential areas (*Photos 18, 19, 20*). The rooms have been periodically remodeled since the Home's inception. They have a combination of plaster and drywall walls and ceilings. Some have dropped ceiling grids with acoustical panels. Flooring varies throughout the building. Black and white linoleum tiles cover floors in the corridors, community spaces, and main dining room. Sheet vinyl, carpet, and non-historic wood planks cover floors in bedrooms, common rooms, and utility spaces. Composite tile covers the floors of the sunrooms. All rooms have wood or vinyl base trim. The narrow entrance to each residential room has a wood-frame screen door and a solid wood door. Doors have wood trim and jambs. Some windows have terrazzo sills, but most are simple wood sills. The bathrooms have non-historic fixtures. Most of the basement remains unfinished storage space.

Block A (c. 1850)

This block contains primarily public spaces. The main entrance opens into the lobby (*Photo 13*). A wide opening on the north wall accesses a small living room. The main corridor runs north-south through the center of the block. The elevator lobby, staircase, and secondary entrance are located on the west side of the corridor. Paired doors access Block B at the northwest corner of the block. A double loaded corridor organizes the second floor. A library occupies the space above the lobby (*Photo 17*). Paired doors at the center of the library access the porch roof. Resident rooms occupy the space adjacent to each side of the library.

The historic U-shaped staircase rises from the basement to the second floor. It has historic terrazzo tread and metal risers and rails. The elevator has non-historic cabs. The public spaces display more ornament than the private rooms. The main lobby and living room have historic crown molding, wainscoting, built-in cabinets, and transoms over wide openings, and non-historic engineered wood flooring. Three arches supported by square columns span the opening between the corridor and the library. The library has wood base, crown molding, and built-in cabinets, and non-historic carpet.

Block B (1930)

Resident rooms occupy the entirety of Block B. Single and double rooms line each side of the double-loaded corridor on both floors. Doors at the north end access Block E on each floor. A historic U-shaped stair with a metal rail connects the first to the second floor at the south west corner of the block.

Block C (1931)

Block C contains the dining room on the first floor with resident and employee rooms on second and third floors. A dining room fills the first floor of Block C (*Photo 14*). A concrete staircase with a metal rail rises from the first to the third floor on the south side of the block. Square columns with fluted wood molding and carved crown molding punctuate the dining room. VCT tile covers the floor. The coved ceiling has acoustical tiles and crown molding. The dining room was modified when Block J was constructed in 1995. Historically the kitchen occupying the very west end of Block C. Block J contained the kitchen and the dining room was expanded to fill Block C. The finishes that historically ornamented the dining room were extended to the expanded portion of the dining room to create a uniform appearance. Wood ornament includes carved chair rail and wood panels beneath the windows. Double-loaded corridors lined with

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resident and employee rooms and bathrooms run east-west through the second and third floors. A historic stair separate from the main stair rises to the third floor at the southeast corner of the block. A non-historic U-shaped concrete stair attaches to the south side of the block and connects the basement to the third floor.

Block D (1934)

Resident rooms and sunrooms comprise Block D. The double-loaded corridor lined with resident rooms terminates in a sunroom on the south end on both floors. Historic wood French doors access the sunroom. A U-shaped concrete stair with a metal rail rises from the first to the second floor in the northeast corner of the block. The sunroom has a black and white composite tile floor (*Photo 16*). Paired metal doors on the west side of the sunroom access the corridor in Block K. A communal bathroom is located on the west side of the corridor.

Block E (1939)

Resident rooms and communal spaces comprise Block E. Single rooms line the double-loaded corridor on the south side. The north side features a former beauty parlor, communal bathroom, and staircase. A historic U-shaped stair near the southwest corner of the block rises from the basement to the second floor. It has historic terrazzo treads and a metal rail. Non-historic drywall partitions enclose the historic stair. A finished space in the basement has black and white tile floor, bathrooms, and a kitchenette.

Block F (1961)

The former health center fills Block F. A large open room fills the east end of the block. A double-loaded corridor lined with hospital rooms and a nurse's station organizes the center of the block. Due to its specific function as a health center, the corridor in this block is wider with wider doors; rooms are larger; and trim and ornament are minimal. It has terrazzo floors with integrated base trim or wood base trim in the corridors and VCT tile with vinyl base in the rooms. Plaster covers the walls and dropped ceiling grids with acoustical tiles cover the ceilings. Wood doors set in metal frames access each room.

Block G (1963)

The chapel fills Block G (*Photo 15*). It has wood wall trim, wainscoting, and crown molding. Wood panels frame recessed window openings. The vaulted ceiling has a recessed, boxed light fixture with wood trim at the center. Carpet covers the floor in the chapel; the corridor has a slate tile floor. A historic concrete staircase with a metal rail on the east end of the corridor accesses the basement. The large open room has VCT tile floor and an acoustic panel ceiling. Wood paneling covers portions of the walls and square wood-clad columns that punctuate the space. A small historic bathroom has historic tile walls and floors.

Block H (1980)

A single room containing a large concrete wheelchair ramp with a metal rail fills this block. The S-shaped ramp rises from ground level to the first floor. Stairs on the south end of the block access a landing at the center of the ramp. Drywall covers the walls and ceiling. The windows have rowlock brick sills.

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Block I (1980)

Block I is an extension of the health center in Block F. Like the original health center, it has a wide, double-loaded corridor. Large hospital rooms with private baths line each side. A large open dining room fills the southwest side of the block. At the northwest corner, a U-shaped concrete staircase with a metal pipe rail descends to an exterior entrance. This block has terrazzo floors with integrated bases, simple wood wall trim, and dropped ceiling grids with acoustic tiles. Wood doors set in metal frames access each room.

Block J (1995)

This block contains several rooms which comprise the kitchen. They have various non-historic finishes, including linoleum or sheet vinyl floors, drywall walls, and dropped ceiling grids with acoustical tiles. A concrete stair with a metal rail rises from ground level to the first floor in the northeast corner of the block.

Block K (1995)

Like the historic wings, a double-loaded corridor organizes this block. It terminates in a sunroom on the west end. Resident rooms have private baths. U-shaped concrete stairs with metal rails are located at the northeast and southwest corners of the block; an elevator is located at the southeast corner. All rise from the basement to the second floor. VCT tile covers the floor in the corridor; resident rooms have carpet. Drywall covers the walls and ceilings. Non-historic wood unit doors and screen doors access each room.

Auxiliary Resources

Resource 2

Contributing

A garage, constructed c. 1915, stands north of the main building (*Photo 4, Figure 32*). The one-story two-car garage has a concrete foundation, brick walls, and an asphalt shingle front-gable roof. A non-historic metal overhead door pierces the east elevation; a historic glazed wood-panel pedestrian door and six-over-six double-hung wood window pierce the north elevation. The garage retains integrity and was constructed during the period of significance, rendering it contributing to the nomination.

Resource 3

Contributing

A garage, constructed c. 1965, abuts the east side of the parking lot (*Photo 5, Figure 32*). The one-story three-car garage has a concrete foundation, brick walls and an asphalt shingle hip roof. A historic two-car overhead wood panel door and a one-car overhead wood panel door pierce the west elevation. A non-historic pedestrian door pierces the south elevation. The garage retains integrity and was constructed during the period of significance, rendering it contributing to the nomination.

Resource 4

Contributing

A rubble limestone wall with a dressed limestone cap lines the east boundary of the property (*Photo 11*). Near the center of the property, the wall curves in at the main driveway to define the entrance. Rubble limestone columns with dressed limestone capitals and ornamental spheres articulate each end of the wall. Non-historic metal gates span the opening. The wall was constructed within the period of significance and retains integrity, rendering it a contributing structure to the nomination.

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Resource 5

Non-Contributing

The concrete driveway extends east-west across the east side of the property. From South Broadway, it terminates in a circular drive at the east elevation of the main building. A flag pole rises from a planter at the center of the circle.

Resource 6

Non-Contributing

The L-shaped asphalt surface parking lot and drive fills the northwest corner of the property. It connects to Nebraska Avenue at the west end via a short drive. The drive continues to the west elevation of the building. The wide parking lot extends north-south along the north side of the drive.

INTEGRITY

The Home of the Friendless retains all aspects of integrity and clearly communicates its historic function and the eras in which the various blocks were constructed. It stands in its original location and setting, surrounded by lush vegetation in a primarily residential neighborhood. The design, materials, and workmanship have remained constant through successive additions to the original building. Two-story rectangular blocks with limestone facades, gable roofs, and regularly spaced openings characterize the primary elevations of the various building campaigns. Historic (Blocks A-G) and non-historic (Blocks H-K) red brick blocks on the rear of the complex have compatible massing and form. These blocks provided necessary residential, medical, and utility spaces as standards for care evolved. Blocks constructed outside the period of significance are located at the rear (west side) of the building and compatible with earlier blocks to reflect the continuous evolution of the Home. The non-historic blocks are minimally connected to the historic blocks, preserving the materials and design of the historic blocks. The location, massing, and materials of the non-historic blocks do not compromise the integrity of the building and create a unified complex. Double-loaded corridors lined with individual rooms define the interior configuration. Continuous renovations in individual rooms created personal spaces for residents, while the historic layout of double-loaded corridors and small resident rooms remains largely unchanged. The building retains many of its historic features, including double-hung wood windows and interior solid wood unit doors and screen doors. Public spaces, including the lobby, library, and dining room remain intact, although some of the finishes have been altered. A small number of windows in the dining room have been replaced as part of regular maintenance. These windows fill the historic masonry openings and exhibit sash configurations that are compatible with the historic character of the building and do not compromise the integrity of the building. The nominated building retains the feeling of and association with charitable institutions devoted to elderly care that shaped the almost 160-year legacy of the Home of the Friendless.

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SUMMARY

The Home of the Friendless is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. It is locally significant in the area of SOCIAL HISTORY. Charlotte Charless established the Home of the Friendless (Home) in 1853 to “afford relief to destitute and suffering females,” specifically elderly women and widows who had lost their means of financial support.¹ The Home served as a senior care facility for nearly 160 years, becoming a landmark in the St. Louis community. When first established, it purchased an existing building to create a comfortable alternative to the destitution of the poorhouse, often the only alternative for residents. The Home quickly became a sanctuary for its residents, offering them security, companionship, and assistance. To accommodate increasing numbers of residents and changing standards of aid, the Home periodically expanded its facilities with a succession of ten additions in 1930, 1931, 1934, 1939, 1961, 1963, two c.1980, and two in 1995. As attitudes about the elderly and options for their care evolved through the late-nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the Home adapted its facilities to continue to fulfill its mission of providing support and hospitality to those in its charge. The Home enlarged its facilities and added wings dedicated to specific functions in order to meet the needs of the growing number of residents. Likewise, as the role of charitable institutions changed, the Home evolved from a residence into a nursing home, offering enhanced medical care and improved facilities. The Home of the Friendless was the oldest and largest facility in St. Louis to provide a home for elderly women and continued to modify that facility to provide excellent care throughout the period of significance. The period of significance begins in 1853, the date of the Home's founding, and ends in 1965, the fifty-year closing date for periods of significance where activities begun historically continue to have importance but no more specific date can be identified.²

ELABORATION

The Development of Elder Care Facilities in the United States

During the 1800s, urbanization and less reliable familial care left the elderly, namely unmarried women, increasingly destitute. With few other options, many sought respite in poorhouses.³ Publicly funded through local or state taxes, these poorhouses were intended to provide efficient and inexpensive support to impoverished, orphaned or mentally ill individuals with the promise of reform. However, most poorhouses offered inadequate and improper care for the elderly in unhealthy conditions. This aspect may have been somewhat intentional, to discourage dependence on poorhouses and government welfare.⁴

Beginning in the 1850s, large numbers of social and welfare organizations across the United States began to provide a variety of services to disadvantaged citizens. Many formed along ethnic, religious, or societal foundations to provide institutional housing and care for orphans, the mentally ill, and the elderly, among others. The old age homes run by such organizations were intended to be a respectable alternative to the poorhouse. Unlike modern nursing homes, however, these typically provided only residential and day-to-day care rather than medical care.⁵

¹ Gary Sluyter, *St. Louis' Hidden Treasure: A History of the Charless Home 1853-2003*, (St. Louis: The Senior Circuit, 2003), 13.

² In 1853, the Home of the Friendless purchased and established its facility in an existing building, *Block A* constructed c. 1850.

³ Carole Haber, *Beyond Sixty-Five: The Dilemma of Old Age in America's Past*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983), 28-30.

⁴ Steven Sek, *Housing The Frail Elderly: History, Contemporary Practice, and Future Options*, Master's Thesis, Ball State University, (Muncie, Indiana, 2011), 17.

⁵ Sek, 20.

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A report from 1904 analyzed poorhouses across the nation, noting statistics in gender, race, country of origin and age. The report revealed that over forty percent of all individuals in poorhouses were over the age of 60. Of these, ten percent were between the ages of sixty and sixty-four.⁶ As the nineteenth century progressed, poorhouses throughout the country came under the charge of the State Board of Charities. New laws prohibited the mentally ill, children, and individuals with special needs from residing in poorhouses, which provided inadequate care for these individuals. However, these new laws did little to improve the situation for the elderly. During this time, society portrayed senior citizens as impoverished, with a diminished capacity for work and little authority over family or employment. Statistics showed increasing numbers of the aged with ill-health and residing in poorhouses, resulting in a growing awareness of the needs required by these members of the population.⁷

As orphans and the mentally ill left poorhouses the population of these institutions changed to primarily house the elderly and disabled. The increasingly negative image of poorhouses as the only option for the elderly promoted the development of benevolent institutions, such as the Home of the Friendless, as alternatives for “upstanding” individuals.⁸ The positions of physician and superintendents gradually became more specialized and consequently, the poorhouses evolved into publicly-operated nursing homes in the early- to mid-twentieth century. By the 1920s, they came to be known as “infirmaries” or “hospitals.”⁹ The care provided by these early, unregulated facilities often remained inadequate with substandard living conditions. In addition to these nursing homes, private and benevolent institutions throughout the United States continued to provide care for the elderly. Private in-home nursing care also became an increasingly popular means of providing long-term elderly care, though this was typically available only to wealthier individuals.

With the start of the Great Depression in the 1930s, more elderly women found themselves without a place to live. Additionally, privately run facilities could not meet the demand for senior care. The national attitude concluded that the government should play a greater role in elder care. Public and academic sentiment began to promote the idea of an elderly pension as an alternative to charitable institutions and poorhouses-turned-nursing homes. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act in 1935, authorizing funding for the support of seniors and offering Old Age Assistance grants or “pensions” to states for retired workers not living in public institutions. The Old Age Assistance program started by the act would lead to the current Medicaid program of long term care.¹⁰

These cash payments would allow the elderly to reside in private dwellings, rather than public or institutional housing. However, some could still not afford to remain in their private houses. Fueled by the monies from these “pensions,” for-profit private nursing homes sprang up in cities across the United States during the 1930s. Like their poorhouse counterparts, these were unlicensed and unregulated

⁶ United States, Bureau of the Census, John Koren and William Alexander King, *Paupers in Almshouses 1904*, (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1905), 23.

⁷ Haber, 41-43.

⁸ Carole Haber and Brian Gratton, *Old Age and the Search for Security: An American Social History*, (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1993), 123, 128.

⁹ Elizabeth Rosin and Kristen Ottesen, “Buchanan County Infirmary,” National Register Nomination, (Kansas City, MO: 2007), 10.

¹⁰ Sek, 24.

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facilities. Some offered nursing care, hence the name, while others were simply rented rooms in private homes.¹¹

The number of nursing homes grew throughout the mid-twentieth century. World War II increased the number of people eligible for government assistance, such as veteran's benefits or benefits for surviving spouses. Additionally, amendments to the Social Security Act increased the number of individual receiving Old Age Assistance monies. The combination of increased government benefits and an aging population meant more people sought assistance in nursing homes, and the number of facilities likewise increased.¹²

Poorhouses had all but disappeared by the 1950s, replaced by nursing homes. These, however, offered few improvements. Many were substandard facilities not constructed as nursing homes, but rather had been converted from hospitals, hotels or private homes. An amendment to the Social Security Act in 1950 greatly changed the elder care system, by allowing for direct government funding of nursing homes. Facility regulations enacted in 1953, however, set standards for nursing home facilities and new ideas emerged that considered nursing homes as health-care facilities. The accommodations offered at nursing home facilities greatly improved in the 1970s and 1980s when legislation created regulations and licensure procedures.

Home of the Friendless History

The City of St. Louis' need for social services such as poorhouses and care facilities increased in the mid-1840s. As large numbers of immigrants began to settle in the city, the population rose from around 16,000 in 1840 to over 160,000 in 1860.¹³ The City of St. Louis had requested a petition to establish a county poorhouse in 1826. They may not have fulfilled this request until 1847, however, when the county converted a tract of land four miles from St. Louis into a publicly-owned poorhouse. Unfortunately, the nascent city had neither the proper infrastructure nor the financial means to establish other public facilities such as hospitals or asylums. Following a national trend, private groups and individuals, many of whom were women, established numerous philanthropic organizations beginning in the 1850s.¹⁴ Religious or social groups operated institutions such as St. John's Hospital (1856) and the Girls' Industrial Home (1854).¹⁵ It was during this time that Charlotte Charless established a residential home specifically for the care of widows.

Charlotte Taylor Blow Charless founded The Home of the Friendless (Home) in 1853. She was born on May 9, 1810 near Southampton County, Virginia. She moved with her family to St. Louis in 1830, and married Joseph Charless, Jr. on November 8, 1831. Joseph Charless was a prominent and enterprising businessman, who acquired great wealth through a number of ventures. Charlotte conceived of the Home when a close friend died in 1852 after years of living in the local poorhouse. She recognized the unfortunate circumstances that plagued many widows and sought a way to improve their situation. The Home would be a place in which people of "good moral character and destitute circumstances" could find

¹¹ Sek, 26

¹² "History of Long Term Care," Online resource, <http://www.elderweb.com/book/export/html/2806>, (accessed March 6, 2015).

¹³ Katharine T. Corbett, *In Her Place: A Guide to St. Louis Women's History*, (St. Louis: Missouri History Museum Press, 2000), 48.

¹⁴ William Hyde, and Howard Louis Conard, *Encyclopedia of the History of St. Louis, A Compendium of History and Biography for Ready Reference*, (New York: Southern History Co, 1899), 348.

¹⁵ Hyde and Conard, 346-347. St. John's Hospital was located 2228 Locust Street. It is no longer extant. The Girls' Industrial Home was located as 5501 Von Versen Avenue. It is no longer extant.

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a permanent or temporary home.¹⁶ An alternative to the poorhouse, the Home for the Friendless offered women over the age of fifty a place to live with adequate care, accommodations, and companionship.

In 1853 Charless, with a group of supporters, raised around \$20,000 in subscriptions to purchase an eight-acre parcel, the nominated property, four miles south of St. Louis in the town of Carondelet. The wooded property included a two-story limestone building with two brick wings, constructed c. 1850, as well as an orchard and gardens. The Missouri General Assembly incorporated the Home of the Friendless on February 3, 1853, and the home officially opened the following October. The charter established a Board of Trustees, comprised entirely of women, to operate and manage the Home, with a "Matron" as a female designated to oversee the daily workings of the Home. The position of Board President remained a female role throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Unlike similar homes operated by religious or social organizations, the personal wealth of Charless and her associates ensured the continued financial security of the Home.¹⁷

The first Annual Report for the Home states that eleven women resided there, though it is unknown which were permanent residents and which were there temporarily.¹⁸ The Second Annual Report in 1854 lists thirty-seven admissions, along with one child.¹⁹ All of the earliest residents were widows who, due to the societal circumstances of the period, were without any stable means of income. Many of the early residents were immigrants or women who had moved from the East. Others suffered from mental or physical ailments, most likely benefitting from the doctors who would occasionally visit the Home.²⁰

As a private institution, the Home placed certain restrictions on residents to ensure the continued functionality of the facilities. Only those aged fifty years or older were allowed to reside in the Home. Residents had to, abstain from alcohol, maintain their rooms, and respect the matron of the Home, among others.²¹ The Home did not guarantee a permanent residence for these women, however. If an individual did not properly follow the rules, the Board terminated her stay. Before becoming a permanent resident, women were required to sign a "Form of Obligation," which transferred ownership of their estate and any personal property to the Home.²² The Home could then sell the estate and use the funds to care for the resident and maintain its facilities. In addition to this, fundraising and donations remained the most important source of income for the Home. The Home was open to women of all religious affiliations. Pastors from various denominations would conduct religious services every Sunday in the chapel (Block A, *Figure 12*).²³ Residents were also required to attend daily Morning and Evening Prayers.²⁴

With the advent of the Civil War the need for charitable organizations in St. Louis, like the Home, intensified. Throughout the Civil War, the Home provided a temporary residence to many refugees displaced by the fighting. After the Civil War St. Louis boomed, reaching a population of 350,000 in 1880, further increasing the need for charitable services for its citizens.²⁵ More hospitals and orphanages

¹⁶ As quoted in Sluyter, 35.

¹⁷ Corbett, 71.

¹⁸ Sluyter, 36.

¹⁹ Sluyter, 36.

²⁰ Sluyter, 40.

²¹ Sluyter, 43-44.

²² Sluyter, 47-49.

²³ The chapel was converted to the living room when the permanent chapel (Block G) was constructed in 1963.

²⁴ Gary Sluyter, *St. Louis' Hidden Treasure: A History of the Charless Home 1853-2003*, (St. Louis: The Senior Circuit, 2003), 44.

²⁵ Corbett, 101.

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opened in St. Louis and the number of temporary residents at the Home began to wane. In 1873 the Home amended its charter to accept only permanent residents.²⁶

The Home continually expanded to meet the demands required of its elderly residents. Fifty-five women lived in the Home in 1883.²⁷ New wings constructed in 1888 and 1896 (*Figures 33-35, now demolished*) expanded the facilities, adding thirty bedrooms, utility spaces and common areas.²⁸ In 1903 the Home celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. Over the course of its first fifty years of operation it housed 343 permanent residents and ninety-two temporary residents in total. The Home also reported 197 cumulative deaths during this period. The Home had an average of 8.4 admissions per year as the number of residents gradually increased from nine women in 1853 to seventy-six in 1903.²⁹ In 1900 a room in an unknown part of the Home was designated the infirmary as a special place to care for the ill.³⁰

With little public support for elder care in St. Louis in the early 1900s, social organizations increasingly filled the demand for such services. The Home became one of only a few elder care facilities designated solely for women, and it was one of the largest in St. Louis during the early twentieth-century. A 1904 national report on benevolent institutions lists fifteen "Permanent Homes for Adults, or Adults and Children" in St. Louis. Of these, only four were specifically for elderly women, including the Bethesda Old Ladies' Home, Saint Ann's Widows' Home, and a Widow and Orphans' Home.³¹ Table 1 compares different statistics from the institutions.

Table 1: Permanent Homes for Women in St. Louis, 1904.

Name	Ownership	Adult Residents	Entrance Fee	Year Founded	Paid Employees	Maintenance Cost
Home of the Friendless	Private	74	\$200	1853	16	\$15,231
Bethesda Old Ladies' Home	Private	26	None	1889	0	\$2,205
St. Ann's Widows' Home	Religious Organization	34	None	1853	8	\$2,694
Widow and Orphans' Home	Private	9	None	1901	2	No report

This comparison shows that the Home of the Friendless had a significantly higher number of residents than these other institutions for women, despite having a high entrance fee. In addition, the dramatically higher maintenance cost suggests that the building was much larger than the other institutions.

The Home continued its service of residential care for elderly women. A similar study from 1910 lists only three homes specifically for elderly women in St. Louis; the Widow and Orphans' Home is not listed. Numbers for the Home of the Friendless show an increase in residents to seventy-nine, doubled entrance

²⁶ "A Century of Service: Home for the Friendless," *Bulletin of the Missouri Historical Society*, 10:2, (January 1954), 189.

²⁷ J. Thomas Scharf, *History of St. Louis City and County, Vol. 2*, (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts and Company, 1883), 1762.

²⁸ These wings were partially destroyed by fire and replaced with the current wings in the 1930s.

²⁹ Sluyter, 49.

³⁰ *Forty-Seventh Annual Report of the Trustees of the Home of the Friendless*, (St. Louis, MO: Home of the Friendless, 1900), 8.

³¹ United States, Bureau of the Census, John Koren and William Alexander King, *Benevolent Institutions 1904*, (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1905), 240. The Bethesda Old Ladies' Home is listed at 3120 Lafayette Avenue in 1904. This building appears to be extant. It is listed at 3660 Rutgers Street in 1910. This building is no longer extant. The St. Ann's Widow's Home is listed at 1236 North Tenth Street in 1904 and 5301 Page Avenue in 1910. Both buildings are no longer extant. The Widows and Orphans Home is listed at 1701 Lucas Avenue in 1904. This building is no longer extant.

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fees to \$400, and a total land value of \$100,000. The Bethesda Old Ladies' Home shows a slight increase in residents, to forty-three. Other statistical information for the Bethesda Old Ladies' Home and the St. Ann's Widows' Home was combined with affiliated organizations and could not be used for comparison.³²

During the early 1900s, many of the charitable institutions came under close scrutiny of federal, state and local government agencies. The 1913 Annual Report states that "the era of unbusiness-like charity is over," as it had been required to send information to institutes such as the Commerce of Labor in Washington, DC and the Central Council of Social Agencies in St. Louis.³³ State boards also began to require yearly statistics from the Home, such as number of residents, expenses, and employees. Additionally, two board members represented the Home on the Committee on Homeless Dependents, a division of the Central Council of Social Agencies in St. Louis. The 1913 report goes on to say that there were ten homes for the aged (male or female) in the city at the time that varied in size from twelve to over one hundred. It states that "there is no other Home which in any way fills the place of the 'Home of the Friendless.'"³⁴

The city of St. Louis continued to have a high demand for elder care facilities in the 1910s. In 1917, the Committee on Adult Dependents of the St. Louis Central Council Social Agencies stated that elder care facilities in St. Louis "disclosed a list of over one-hundred people anxiously waiting to be admitted to homes that were taxed to their capacity." The committee recommended constructing additions at two of the elder care facilities in the city to reduce the waiting list, neither of which were the Home of the Friendless.³⁵ During this decade, the Home remained a highly desirable place for elderly women. The waiting list for the Home stood at around thirty women per year during this time, although the building could only accommodate around seventy-five residents.

The Home remained significant as a leading women's home in St. Louis during the following decades. This was due in part to its ability to evolve according to the needs of the residents and the surrounding community. In 1923 it had three trained nurses on staff, in addition to a part-time physician to provide specialized care for residents.³⁶ During the Great Depression, the Home sought to help those displaced by the economic downturn and erected a new wing (Block B) in 1930 to accommodate twelve more residents. Three additional wings constructed during this decade: Block C in 1931 to create a new dining room, kitchen and employees quarters; and Block D in 1934, and Block E in 1939 to provide space for twenty-four new residents (*Figure 36*). The new residents met the same entrance requirements and were held to the same restrictions as previous residents.

These new wings served the same primarily residential function as the other wings and helped to support the function of the building as a whole. Throughout its history, the function of each area and room in the building remained largely the same, with each room type serving a unique purpose for the residents. The majority of the wings contained double-loaded corridors lined with resident rooms. These rooms allowed residents to have a private space of their own and a place to store personal belongings. Communal bathrooms were provided on each floor of each wing. As standards of living evolved some resident rooms

³² United States, Bureau of the Census, Edwin Munsell Bliss, John Koren, Joseph Adna Hill, *Benevolent Institutions 1910*, (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1913), 212-213.

³³ *Sixtieth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Home of the Friendless*, (St. Louis, MO: Home of the Friendless, 1913), 11.

³⁴ *Sixtieth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Home of the Friendless*, (St. Louis, MO: Home of the Friendless, 1913), 13.

³⁵ "Work of Social Service Council in St. Louis," *The Survey*, Volume 38 (August 11, 1917), 427.

³⁶ *Seventieth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Home of the Friendless*, (St. Louis, MO: Home of the Friendless, 1923), 13.

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were converted to private bathrooms for adjacent rooms. The function of these areas remained primarily for private use.

Communal spaces were distributed throughout the wings to facilitate social interaction between residents. Block A was constructed with a large lobby and reception area, office, and chapel on the first floor and a library on the second floor. The chapel was converted into the living room when the permanent chapel (Block G) was constructed in 1963. The dining room in Block C provided a place for women to congregate during meal time and was enlarged sometime after 1980 as the number of residents grew. Blocks D and E contained sunrooms on each floor. The sunroom on the first floor of Block E was converted into a resident room at a later, unknown date. Block E was also constructed with a beauty parlor to attend to the residents' personal care needs. A hall in the basement provided a large space for gatherings as such as movies or dancing. Basement recreation areas are intact in Blocks E and G.

In the 1930s and 1940s, the home increased its medical care offerings, following the national trend for increased standards of care in elder facilities. In 1939 the Home had a part-time occupational therapist and a part-time physician. Three employees were trained nurses: two worked during the day and one worked at night.³⁷ By 1943 the Home had hired another nurse to work the night shift.³⁸ If proper care could not be provided at the Home, residents were taken to a hospital at no additional cost.³⁹ As life expectancy rose during this time, the Home also increased its required age for entry. By the 1930s the board had raised the minimum age to sixty-five and then again to seventy by 1953.⁴⁰

In the 1940s the Home remained one of the few elder care facilities in St. Louis solely for women, although nationally around one-third of elderly homes were restricted to women.⁴¹ A survey from the period shows thirteen "Homes for the Aged" in the city. Of these only the Home of the Friendless and the St. Ann's Widows Home were solely for women. The two homes were of a similar size, with capacity for eighty-nine and ninety-six individuals, respectively, above the national average of seventy. Of the thirteen institutions listed in the city, only three, including the Home, were controlled by private organizations, rather than social or religious groups.⁴² Additionally, at this time, only around eleven percent of homes for the aged in the United States had been founded before 1874, making the Home among a small group of the oldest elder care facilities in the nation.⁴³

During World War II, residents responded to wartime rations and restrictions by cancelling festivals and other annual activities and contributing to wartime efforts by sewing garments for the Red Cross.⁴⁴ After the war, the Home remodeled and renovated the building to better accommodate new standards of living and medical care.

³⁷ *Eighty-Sixth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Home of the Friendless*, (St. Louis, MO: Home of the Friendless, 1939), 9.

³⁸ *Ninetieth and Ninety-first (sic) Annual Report of the Trustees of the Home of the Friendless*, (St. Louis, MO: Home of the Friendless, 1945), 11

³⁹ *Home of the Friendless, Centennial report, 1853-1953*, (St. Louis, MO: Home of the Friendless, 1953), 14.

⁴⁰ Centennial Report, 9.

⁴¹ United States, Department of Labor, *Homes for the Aged in the United States, Bulletin No. 677*, (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1941), 15.

⁴² United States, Department of Labor, *Homes for the Aged in the United States, Bulletin No. 677*, (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1941), 68-71.

⁴³ United States, Department of Labor, *Homes for the Aged in the United States, Bulletin No. 677*, (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1941), 5.

⁴⁴ *Home of the Friendless, Centennial report, 1853-1953*, (St. Louis, MO: Home of the Friendless, 1953), 13.

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The Home celebrated its 100th anniversary in 1953 with 110 residents and fifty-seven women on the waiting list (*Figures 37, 38*).⁴⁵ The Centennial Report discusses the diversity of women who had resided at the home in the previous one-hundred years. Some were single women throughout their lives, others were widows, and many had families and children. They had worked as teachers, nurses, missionaries, musicians, writers, and businesswomen.⁴⁶

The Home erected a health center wing in 1961 to accommodate changing standards for nursing homes that focused more on patient care, rather than simply residential services (Block F). Facility regulations enacted in the 1950s created new standards for elder care facilities and regarded them more as health care facilities. The new health care wing reflects these changes. In contrast to the elder care facilities of the earlier Home wings, the health care wing offers services such as medical treatments and interventions by trained physicians and nurses. To support these additional functions, the health care wing has wider corridors and larger rooms with private bathrooms to accommodate wheel chairs or wheeled beds, a diet kitchen in which to prepare specialty meals, a centrally-located nurse's station, and a lounge to preserve the communal aspect of the Home. Other changes to the Home in the 1960s include a chapel erected in 1963 to provide a more private, designated place for daily prayer and weekly religious services (Block G).

The Home readily adjusted to new requirements in nursing home regulations in the 1970s. By 1973 it had a designated Medical Committee to oversee the Infirmary and had passed State Inspection of its medical facilities without any need for improvements.⁴⁷ Reflecting new nursing home regulations, the official head of the Home was no longer a female with the title of "Matron," but it was a male with the title of Licensed Administrator. In 1977 the Board officially changed the name of the institution from "The Home of the Friendless" to "The Charless Home," to conform to new societal norms. New construction in the 1980s enhanced the health care facilities of the Home and further reflected the nursing home regulations enacted in the 1950s. A new wing constructed c. 1980 (Block H), housed a wheelchair ramp to provide better accessibility and direct access to the health care wing from the parking lot. The c. 1980 "West Wing" (Block I) created assisted living facilities, providing independent living quarters for residents who required regular visits from health care workers.

By the 1990s the Home offered residents independent living, assisted living, and nursing care. This adaptability was evident again in 1997 when the Home opened its doors to male residents. Just two years later, renovations created two-room suites that accommodated couples or those desiring additional space. Bethesda Long Term Care, Inc. obtained ownership and management of the Home in 2006. It officially closed in 2012 just one year before its 160th anniversary. The building is currently vacant.

As other institutions for the elderly in St. Louis closed during the 1900s, the Home endured. It is significant because it was able to adapt to evolving standards of care that required substantial changes in the management of the Home and the care of residents. The Home did not succumb to financial pressures, but continued to serve its mission of providing a Home for the elderly. It was one of only a handful of elder care facilities in the city that specifically served women and that was run by a private

⁴⁵ *Home of the Friendless, Centennial report, 1853-1953*, (St. Louis, MO: Home of the Friendless, 1953), 23.

⁴⁶ *Home of the Friendless, Centennial report, 1853-1953*, (St. Louis, MO: Home of the Friendless, 1953), 14.

⁴⁷ *Annual Report 1972-1973 of the Trustees of the Home of the Friendless*, (St. Louis, MO: Home of the Friendless, 1973), 5.

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organization. The Home continued to be a leader in elder care and to offer an important service to the women of St. Louis throughout the period of significance.

Construction History

The Home of the Friendless was constructed in multiple phases from c. 1850 to 1995. Although the exact construction date and purpose of the original building (Block A) are unknown, some sources indicate that a Swiss Protestant College erected the building prior to 1850.⁴⁸ Edward Wyman offered the property to the Board of the Home of the Friendless in 1853 for \$18,500. When purchased by the Home, this two-story stone building had two-story brick wings at either end of the rear (west) elevation (now demolished). Interior renovations began soon thereafter to provide functional spaces required by the Home. George I. Barnett, a prominent St. Louis architect, supervised the first remodel. In 1857, another project remodeled one of the unfinished brick wings into fifteen more rooms.⁴⁹

The following decades of the building's construction history are unclear. It appears that several wings were constructed and subsequently demolished in the late 1800s and early 1900s, either due to fire damage or the desire to update the facility. A large building campaign occurred in the 1930s. The Board of the Home authorized demolition and reconstruction of the north wing of the building in 1930 (Block B). Additional wings were completed in 1931 (Block C) and 1934 (Block D). A new wing (Block E) was completed in 1939, designed by architects Nagel and Dunn and constructed by the Gamble Construction Company.⁵⁰

Development continued in the 1960s. The Home added a health center wing in 1961 (Block F), connected at the northwest corner of the building to Block C. Two years later in 1963 a new chapel (Block G) attached via a corridor to the northeast corner of the original building (Block A). The health center improved in c. 1980 with the construction of a new wing on its north elevation (Block I) and a new wheelchair ramp (Block H) between 1971 and 1988.

The Home undertook two large construction projects in 1995. A new wing at the south end of the building added sixteen new and larger rooms and bathrooms as well as new utility spaces (Block K). A new kitchen wing constructed at the west end of Block C improved outdated kitchen facilities (Block J). With the construction of the kitchen wing, the existing dining room was enlarged and updated as well. The arrival of male residents in 1997 required the Home to redesign portions of the facility to include private baths and other amenities. The final major building campaign occurred from 1999 to 2001 with renovations to the Health Center, which provided larger rooms and space for modern physical therapy equipment.

⁴⁸ Scharf, 1761.

⁴⁹ Sluyter, 51.

⁵⁰ *Eighty-Sixth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Home of the Friendless*, (St. Louis, MO: Home of the Friendless, 1939), 8.

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Home of the Friendless
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Boundary Description

The Home of the Friendless is located at 4431 South Broadway in St. Louis, (Independent County), Missouri. Beginning at the intersection of the line common to Lots 2 and 3 of Theo Plate's Subdivision, as recorded in Plat Book 14, Page 91, City of St. Louis records, and the westerly line of Broadway (100 feet wide); thence along said westerly line South 09°05'29" West 401.90 feet to an iron rod (set) on the northwesterly line of Interstate 55 (variable width); thence along said northwesterly line South 29°23'01" West 33.77 feet to an iron rod (set); thence continuing along the said northwesterly line South 49°40'33" West 140.32 feet to an iron rod (set); thence continuing along said northwesterly line North 81°02'26" West 112.57 feet to an iron rod (set) on the easterly line of Oregon (60 feet wide) Avenue; thence along said easterly line North 09°17';31" East 60 feet to an iron rod (set) on the northerly line of Dakota (60 feet wide) Street; thence along said northerly line North 81°02'26" West 327.33 feet to an iron rod (set) on the easterly line of Nebraska (60 feet wide) Avenue; thence along said easterly line North 09°16'00" East 599.85 feet to an iron rod (set) on the southerly line of Osceola (60 feet wide) Street; thence along said southerly line South 81°02'46" East 449.39 feet to the westerly line of an alley (20 feet wide) as depicted on the aforementioned Theo Plate's Subdivision; thence along said westerly line South 09°05'29" West 60 feet to a cross (cut) on the westerly extension of the aforementioned line common to Lots 2 and 4; thence along said extension and along said common line South 81°02'46" East 146 feet to the point of beginning of this description and containing 7.932 acres, more or less.

Boundary Justification

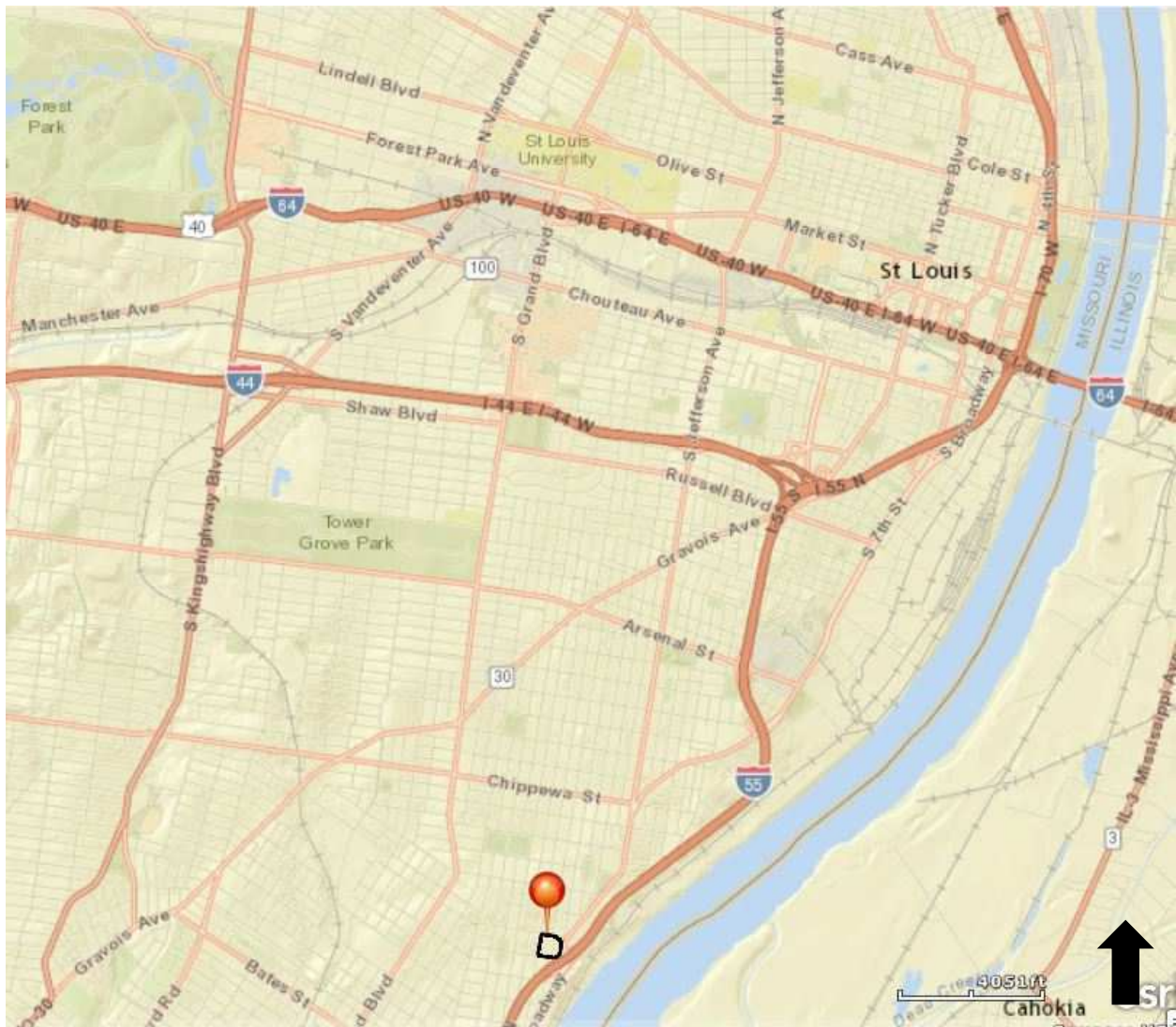
The boundary includes the parcels historically associated with the resource.

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Figure 1: Home of the Friendless, context Map. Location of property noted by pin at the bottom of the map. Source: ArcGIS 2013.



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Figure 2: Home of the Friendless, site Map. Source: ArcGIS 2013.



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Figure 3: Photo Map, exterior.

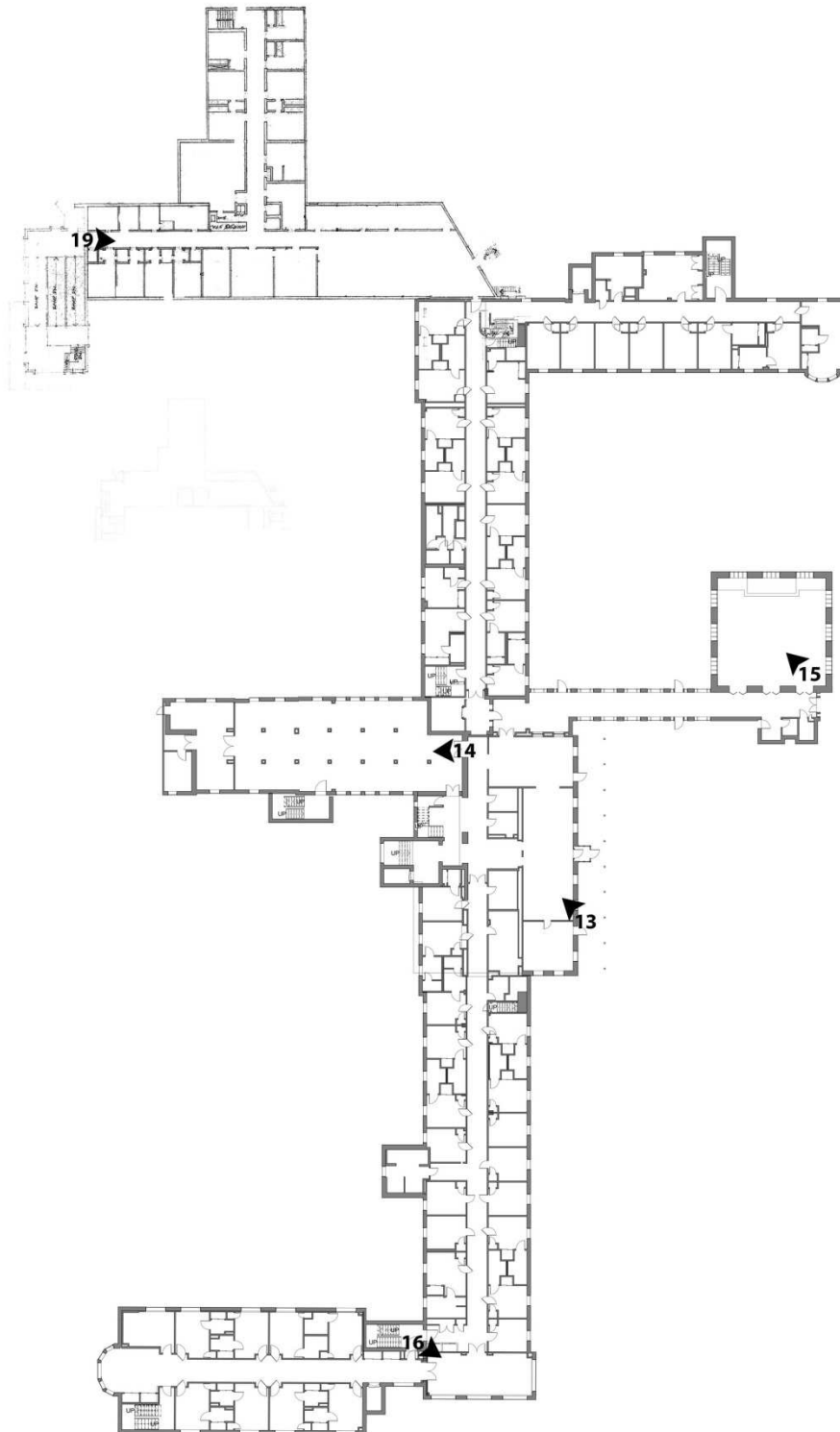


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Figure 4: Photo Map, first floor, existing conditions.

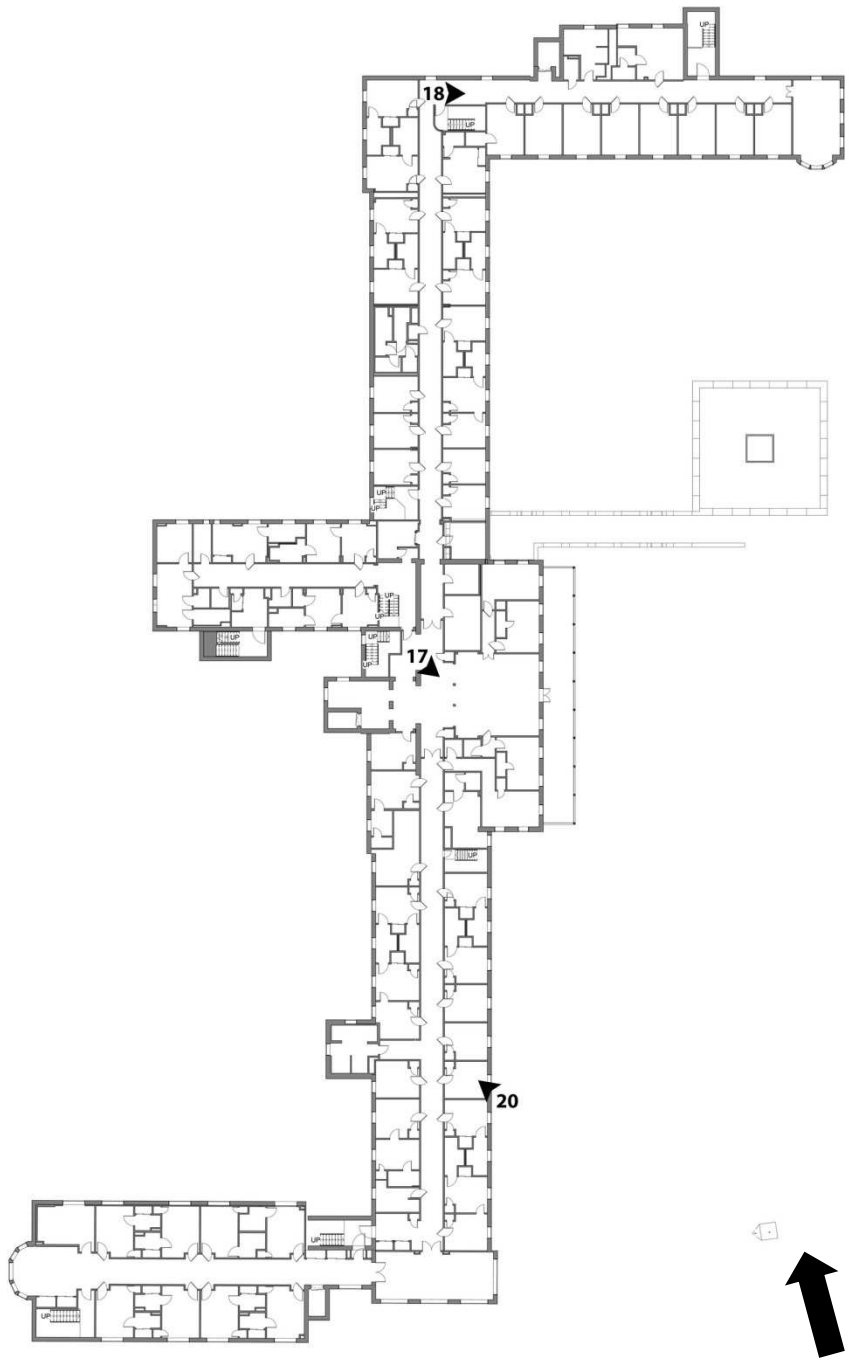


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Figure 5: Photo Map, second floor existing conditions.

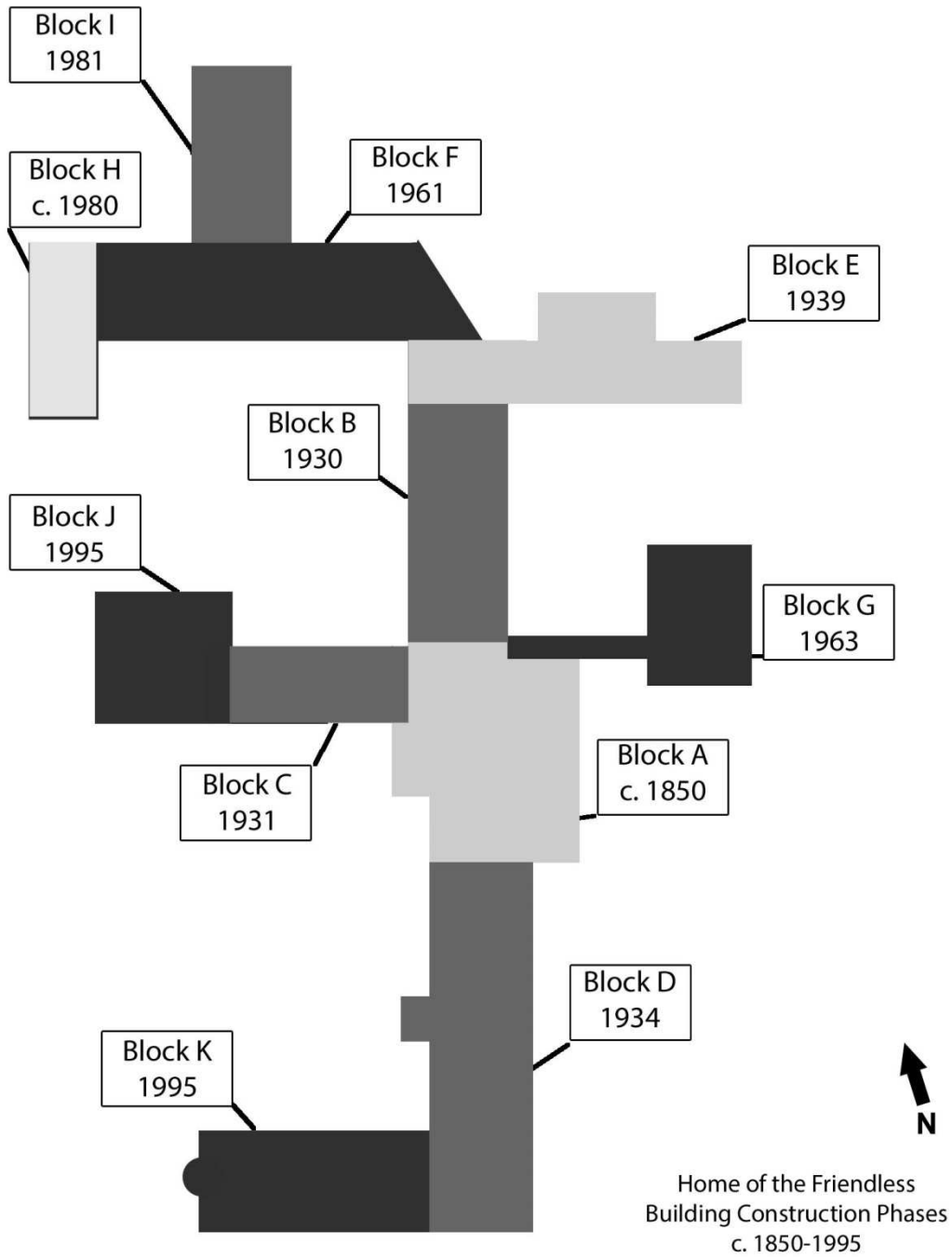


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Figure 6: Construction sequence map.



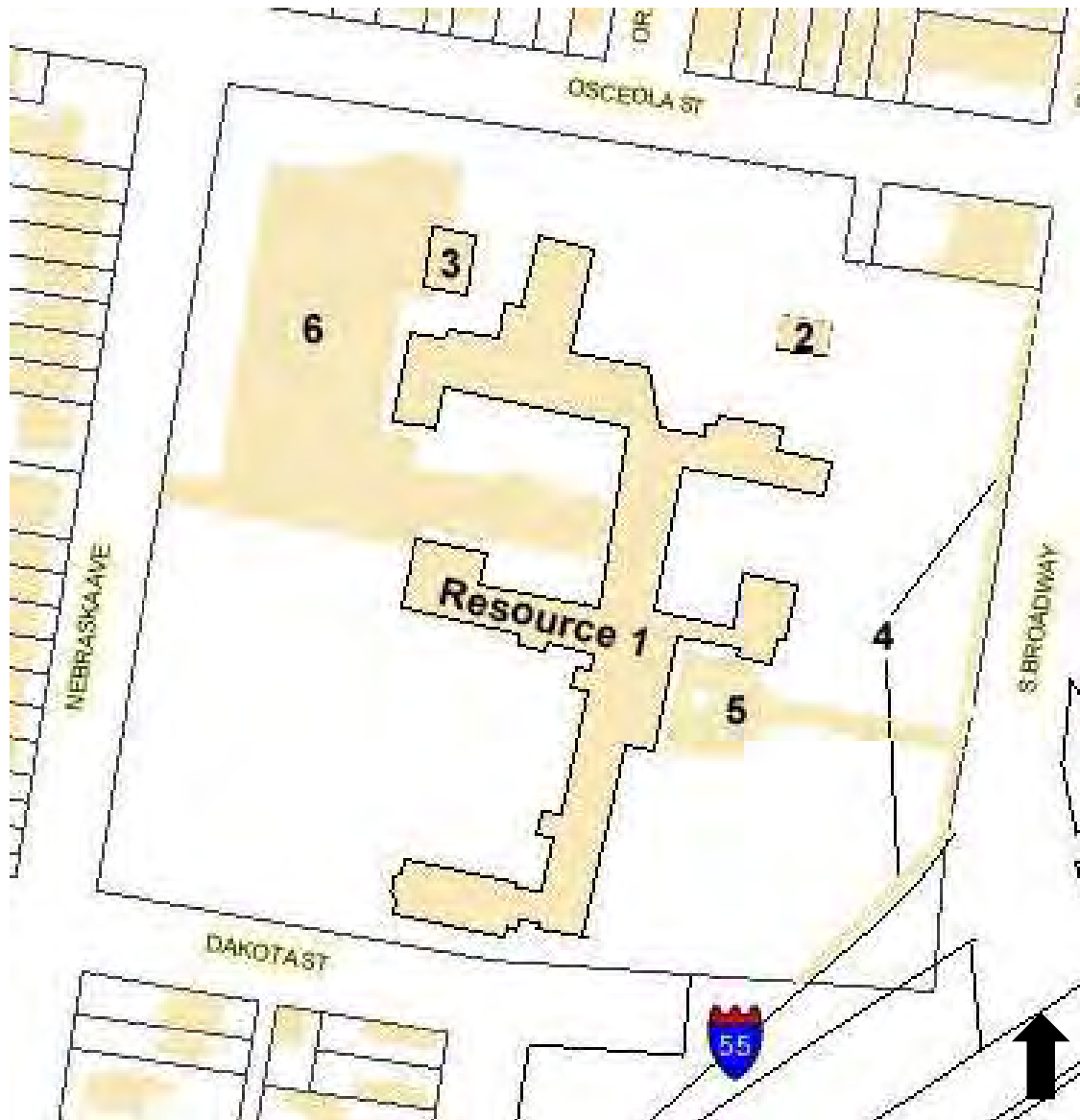
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Please note Figures 7-31 are embedded in the text in Section 7

Figure 32: Site map identifying resources.



1. Resource 1: Primary Building, contributing building.
2. Resource 2: 1915 Garage, contributing building.
3. Resource 3: 1965 Garage, contributing building.
4. Resource 4: Rock wall, contributing structure.
5. Resource 5: Parking lot, non-contributing site.
6. Resource 6: Parking lot, non-contributing site.

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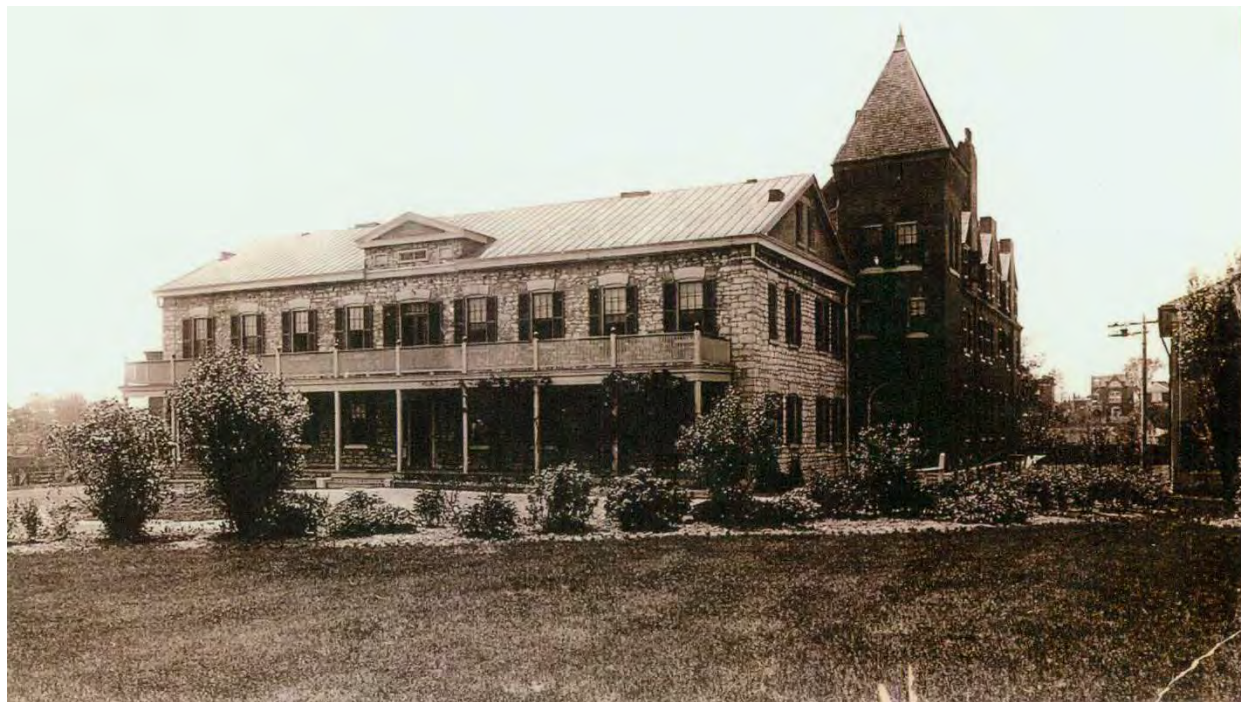
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Figure 33: Home of the Friendless, earliest known photograph, n.d. The adjacent wings were demolished in the late-1800s. *Source: Missouri History Museum, St. Louis, Missouri.*



Figure 34: Home of the Friendless, n.d. The brick wing was demolished in the late-1800s. *Source: Missouri History Museum, St. Louis, Missouri.*



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Figure 35: Home of the Friendless, c. 1900. *Source: Missouri History Museum, St. Louis, Missouri.*



Figure 36: Home of the Friendless, c. 1935. *Source: Eighty-Sixth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Home of the Friendless; on file at the State Historical Society of Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri.*



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Figure 37: Entrance Hall of the Home of the Friendless, 1953. *Source: Home of the Friendless Centennial Report, 1953; on file at the State Historical Society of Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri.*



Figure 38: Chapel services in Living Room, 1953. *Source: Home of the Friendless Centennial Report, 1953; on file at the State Historical Society of Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri.*



























SPEED
LIMIT
25
CAUTION
CHILDREN

















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Home of the Friendless, The

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MISSOURI, St. Louis

DATE RECEIVED: 9/25/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/19/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/03/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/10/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000773

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11.9.15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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

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

SEP 25 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

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

STATE OF MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

www.dnr.mo.gov

Memorandum

Date: September 16, 2015

To: Keeper, National Register of Historic Places

From: Toni M. Prawl, Ph.D., Deputy SHPO and Director, Missouri SHPO *TMP*

Subject: **Home of the Friendless, St. Louis (Independent City) MO, National Register Nomination**

Our state review board, the Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, approved the above nomination on August 14, 2015. All owners and appropriate elected public officials were notified and provided at least thirty (30) days to comment on the above proposed nomination in accordance with Section 36CFR60.6, interim regulations, using the exact notification format recommended by the National Register. **The enclosed disc contains the true and correct copy of the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.**

Please find enclosed the following documentation:

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

Comments:

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



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

**FRANCIS G. SLAY
MAYOR**

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

August 12, 2015

Ms. Toni Prawl
Director and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State Historic Preservation Office
Department Of Natural Resources
Post Office Box 176
Jefferson City, MO. 65102

RE: Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places:

Engine House No. 32
Philip and Louisa Green Home
The Home of the Friendless
Grand-Dover Park Historic District

Dear Ms. Prawl:

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

**FRANCIS G. SLAY
Mayor**

ATTACHMENT

C: Rebecca Rost, Certified Local Government Coordinator
Betsy Bradley, Cultural Resources Office Director

To: The Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Subject: Report of the Decision of City of St. Louis Preservation Board regarding The Home of the Friendless
From: Cultural Resources Office at City of St. Louis Planning & Urban Design Agency
Date: July 28, 2015

As a Certified Local Government, the City of St. Louis, based on the action of the City Preservation Board, has reviewed this proposed nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and considered the eligibility of the property.

At its meeting of July 27, 2015, the City of St. Louis Preservation Board considered the nomination of The Home of the Friendless, 4431 South Broadway, through written comments on the property prepared by the staff of the Cultural Resources Office.

Decision

The Board members agreed that The Home of the Friendless is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for its local significance in the area of Social Historic. The Home of the Friendless, also known as the Charless Home, was established by Charlotte Charless in 1853 to “afford relief to destitute and suffering females,” specifically elderly women and widows who had lost their means of support. The Home served as a senior care facility for nearly 160 years and offered a comfortable alternative to the destitution of the poorhouse, often the only alternative at the time it was established. Over the years, the Home periodically expanded to accommodate increasing numbers of residents and changing standards of care, with ten additions between 1881 and 1995.