NPS Form 10-900
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

OMB No. 1024-0018

48

RECEIVED 2280
JAN 23 2014
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NAT. PARK SERVICE

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

Historic name **Sojourners Club**

Other names/site number **N/A**

Name of related Multiple Property Listing **N/A**

2. Location

Street & number **211 South Elson Street** | **N/A** not for publication

City or town **Kirksville** | **N/A** vicinity

State **Missouri** Code **MO** County **Adair** Code **001** Zip code **63501**

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

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

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

___ national ___ statewide **X** local

Applicable National Register Criteria: **X** A ___ B **X** C ___ D

Mark A. Miles JANUARY 15, 2014

Signature of certifying official/Title Mark A. Miles, 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:)

for Edson H. Beall 3-11-14

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

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

X	private
	public - Local
	public - State
	public - Federal

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

X	building(s)
	district
	site
	structure
	object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	**Total**

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Clubhouse
EDUCATION: Library

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Civic

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS : Prairie School & Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: **Concrete**
walls: **Brick**
Stucco
roof: **Asphalt**
other:

X **NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUTATION PAGES**

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

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

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

[ ] B removed from its original location.

[ ] C a birthplace or grave.

[ ] D a cemetery.

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

[ ] F a commemorative property.

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

Areas of Significance

SOCIAL HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1916 - 1963

Significant Dates

1916

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Architect: Dunbar, Irwin

[X] STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUTATION PAGES

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

X State Historic Preservation Office
____Other State agency
____Federal agency
X Local government
X University
X Other

Name of repository: Truman State University, Pickler Memorial Library; Adair County Historical Society

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property **Less than one acre**

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

1	**40.193366**	**-92.584048**	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 **Cole Woodcox**
organization **Truman State University** date **24 July 2013**
street & number **616 East Harrison Street** telephone **660.785.4437**
city or town **Kirksville** state **MO** zip code **63501**
e-mail **cwoodcox@truman.edu**

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

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

Photographs

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

Photo Log:

Name of Property: **Sojourners Club**

City or Vicinity: **Kirksville**

County: **Adair** State: **Missouri**

Photographer: **Cole Woodcox**

Date Photographed: **June 2012**

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

Photograph 1 of 5: North (left) and West (right) façades, looking southeast.
Photograph 2 of 5: West (left) and South (right) façades, looking northeast.
Photograph 3 of 5: South Room, First Floor, looking southwest.
Photograph 4 of 5: Club Room, Second Floor, looking south.
Photograph 5 of 5: East (left) and North (right) façades, looking southwest.

See Photo Key below (Sanborn Map Company, *Fire Insurance Maps for Kirksville, Missouri, 1925*) for direction of camera.

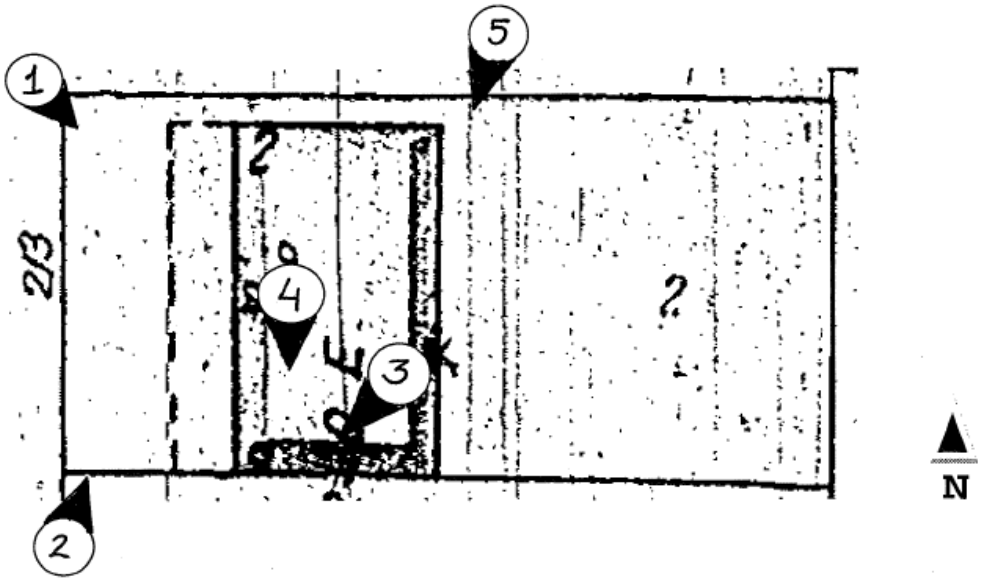


Figure Log:

Image A	Sanborn Company, *Insurance Maps of Kirksville, Missouri,* 1925.
Image B	Plan: Sojourners Club, Basement.
Image C	Plan: Sojourners Club, First Floor.
Image D	Plan: Sojourners Club, Second Floor.
Image E	View from the Adair County Courthouse, looking south, c. 1912.
Image F	Sojourners Club, West Façade, c. 1928.
Image G	Sojourners Club, 1949.
Image H	Sojourners Club and Elks Club, c. 1920.
Image I	First Floor: Staircase, looking east.
Image J	Second Floor: Kitchen, looking west.
Image K	Club Room, 1937.
Image L	The Princess Theatre.
Image M	The Acacia Club.
Image N	Trinity Episcopal Church.
Image O	Dr. James F. Clarke House.
Image P	Ernest M. Wood Studio.
Image Q	Dr. Edward Grim House.
Image R	Masonic Temple Building.
Image S	Baylor Building.
Image T	Odd Fellows Building.
Image U	Elks Club.
Image V	Proposed Masonic Temple (1920).
Image W	Book Review Club, 1935.
Image X	North Room, First Floor, Sojourners Club, circa 1960.
Image Y	Children's Library, Basement, 1955.
Image Z	Book Chatter Club meeting, 1955.

SUMMARY

Designed by local architect Irwin Dunbar, the Sojourners Club at 211 South Elson Street, Kirksville, Adair County, Missouri, is a rectangular, two-story, brick and stucco structure with a full-width, one-story veranda and second-story terrace. This building was erected in 1916 for a local women's club and the public library they administered. The club house displays elements that are characteristic of both the Prairie School and Craftsman styles. As a Prairie School structure, its horizontality is underscored by a full-width veranda, a clear division between the brick lower stories and stucco upper story, wooden bands, wide eaves, a low pitched hip roof, and a long strip of windows set in an attic dormer. In contrast, the brackets, exposed rafters, moderately projecting exterior chimneys and interior finishes are among its Craftsman elements. The Sojourners Club is an excellent local example of these two styles applied to a modestly scaled public building.

Measuring approximately 34 feet by 56 feet, the nominated property is divided vertically into two bays on its south and north elevations and into five bays on its east and west fronts. The clubhouse's primary façade (the west elevation) faces South Elson Street. Like the simple volumes of the exterior, the interior's open plan is functional and conservatively decorated.

Despite alterations to the clubhouse's main façade, both the exterior and interior possess integrity. They retain almost all of their original materials and decorative features so that the building readily communicates its historic function as a clubhouse. The period of significance extends from 1916, the year of construction, to 1963, the arbitrary cutoff date since the building continued to be used for its original purposes until the 1980s. Given its form, eclectic details, workmanship, original use and condition, the Sojourners Club is locally significant and eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: SOCIAL HISTORY and Criterion C: ARCHITECTURE.

ELABORATION

Site The Sojourners Club stands on a level site in the 200 block of South Elson Street, directly south of the Adair County Courthouse (NR listed 08/11/78) and the Courthouse Square District (NR listed 05/21/09), the historic center of Kirksville's commercial district. The building has a shallow setback from the street and covers the front half of a single lot, approximately 66 feet by 125 feet.[1] During the last decade of the nineteenth century, a small blacksmith and wainwright's shop occupied this parcel (Original Town, Block 23, Lot 2).[2] That structure was razed around 1910 and the lot remained vacant until its donation to the Sojourners Club in 1916.[3] The site of the nominated property is level except for the northwest section of lot, which slopes down slightly toward the west away from the building and toward South Elson Street.

---

[1] See Image A.

[2] See *Insurance Maps of Kirksville, Missouri,* New York City: Sanborn Map Company, 1891, 2 and *Insurance Maps of Kirksville, Missouri,* New York City: Sanborn Map Company, 1898, 3 and *Insurance Maps of Kirksville, Missouri,* New York City: Sanborn Map Company, 1906, 6.

[3] See Image E and *Book of Adair County History,* Kirksville, Missouri: Simpson Printing Co., 1976, 155 and *Insurance Maps of Kirksville, Missouri,* New York City: Sanborn Map Company, 1914, 6.

Landscaping is minimal. Historic photographs indicate that the property has always had few plantings and the clubhouse is unobstructed by trees.[4] A concrete alleyway follows the north property line and a concrete parking lot fills the eastern half of the parcel. Because large buildings formerly on either side of the Sojourners Club have been razed, the clubhouse now stands alone, constituting a major architectural presence along South Elson Street, a primary street in Kirksville's Central Business District. The nominated property serves as the last building in a transitional block between adjacent commercial and residential districts. It shares the 200 block of South Elson Street with the Bank of Kirksville, a one-story Mid-Century Modern building, and the Princess Theatre, a two-story structure and former cinema.[5] Two historic, three-story brick buildings associated with A.T. Still University, a medical college, are located directly across the street.

Exterior

The Sojourners Club rests on a brick rectangular foundation measuring approximately 34 feet by 56 feet. Footings for the veranda extend out from the main block another 10 feet to the west. The primary (west), secondary (north and south) and tertiary (east) façades of the club are made of brick and stucco. The basement and first story are faced with red clinker brick laid in running bond and set in red-tinted mortar. Stucco covers the second story. The attic story features a low, hipped roof with a single hipped dormer on the west elevation. Originally the gently pitched roof was covered with mission tile; these were removed in 1967. Asphalt shingles currently cover the roof. The chimney on the north side (left) is brick above the roofline and that on the south (right) is a chimney pipe. Exterior decoration is limited on all four elevations and is both structural (e.g., formed by courses of soldier bricks) and applied (e.g., curved wooden brackets and wooden bands).

West (main) façade[6] The symmetrical main elevation consists of a two-story, five bay arrangement. A five bay, full-width, one-story veranda, approximately 10 feet by 52 feet, extends across the main façade. Ingress to the clubhouse is made through the central or third bay by means of a straight run, concrete staircase set between brick piers with limestone caps. Six concrete steps lead up to a veranda. To the north, paralleling the main staircase, is an original, second straight run staircase of six steps which descends from street level to a recessed basement entrance. Because of its scale and placement, the veranda forms this elevation's main feature. The brickwork for the veranda rises up six feet from grade to form a half wall balustrade, which is pierced in the first and fifth bays by concrete gutters. Six brick pedestals across the veranda also rise up from grade level to a height of six and a half feet. Both the balustrade and pedestals are topped with limestone. Six brick pillars continue up from the pedestals to limestone abaci. Each pillar features a series of soldier bricks near the top, an arrangement that faintly suggests a capital. The spacing for these six pillars is irregular. The first and fifth openings created by the pillars are wide; the second and fourth are narrow; the third or middle opening is wider than the

[4] See Images F, G and H.
[5] The Bank of Kirksville was built in 1960 and the Princess Theatre in 1915. The latter was designed by Irwin Dunbar, the architect of the nominated building, and erected one year before the Sojourners Club.
[6] See Photographs 1, 2 and Image F.

two that immediately flank it (the second and fourth) but narrower than the two end bays (the first and fifth). The overall effect of the intercolumniation is to concentrate attention on the main entrance to the club. Broad wooden beams extend from pillar to pillar and rest atop the pillars' abaci. The ceiling of the veranda is covered with original bead board. A single, curved brace is centered on each brick pillar and lends support to the deep eaves. A terrace for the second story is set atop the veranda pillars.

Moving from north (left) to south (right), the two northernmost bays of the veranda were altered sometime after 1949 when they were enclosed with stucco infill. The first bay contains signage for the Adair County Historical Society; the second holds a 6/1 wooden double-hung-sash window. The main entrance to the clubhouse is set in the third bay and features a beveled full light, single leaf wooden door with beveled glass sidelights. The fenestration for the first floor continues with original 12/1 wooden double-hung-sash windows set on a brick sills in the fourth and fifth bays.

The second floor is covered with rough finished stucco. Original 12/1 wooden double-hung-sash windows are set in the first, second, fourth and fifth bays. A tripartite arrangement fills the third or central bay: an original, wooden half-light door with 12 lights is flanked by 2 small original 9/1 wooden double-hung-sash windows. Wooden transoms composed of 3 lights are set above each of these 3 openings. The door opens onto the terrace that runs across the west façade. The original window and door surrounds for this floor are simple, unadorned and wooden. The lintels for the windows and door are incorporated into a wooden belt course. In turn, this belt course separates the second story from the cavetto frieze that functions as a transition between the vertical wall surface and deep eaves of the hip roof. Thirteen large, curved braces are displayed in the frieze and extend out to the edge of the wide eaves. Originally, a closed stucco balustrade with wooden panels and open radial ornamentation enclosed the second-story terrace. This was replaced during the 1930s with a metal pipe balustrade, which, in turn, was removed during the 1960s.[7]

The sole feature of the attic is a low, hipped dormer centered in the roof. The dormer has 4 small square wooden windows each made up of 9 lights. A boxed cornice and wide eaves cap the dormer.

South (right) façade[8] The brickwork introduces subtle decorative elements to this and the east and north facades. A watercourse made of soldier bricks delineates the separation between the basement and the first floor. At the top of the first floor a second course of soldier bricks is angled slightly away from the building and capped with 2 courses of brick. The profile made by these courses of brick creates both a belt course between the first and second stories.

At the basement level, there are four original 9/1 wooden double-hung-sash windows. The four windows are grouped, two on either side of the chimney.

On the first floor there are 2 original 12/1 wooden double-hung-sash windows on brick sills. These openings flank a shallow, stepped chimney with limestone caps.

---

7 See Images F, G and H.
8 See Photograph 2.

The second story displays 2 original 12/1 wooden double-hung-sash windows and the same wooden belt course and cavetto frieze seen on the primary façade. Seven large curved brackets are set in the frieze on this elevation.

East (rear) façade[9] This tertiary elevation continues the same materials and design elements found on the primary and secondary façades. Unlike the other façades, vertical alignment of the fenestration on the east façade is not exact. Instead, the window placements are functional and directly reflect the location of interior spaces. The basement has 3 original 2-light, wooden awning windows. The first floor displays 6 original 12/1 wooden double-hung-sash windows on brick sills. The second floor fenestration is the most irregular. There are 5 original wooden double-hung sash-windows. These second floor windows have some vertical alignment with the windows on the basement and the first floor. Moving from south to north along the second story, the first and second windows are 12/1 wooden double-hung-sash and are the same size as those on other elevations. The next two windows (third and fourth) illuminate a corridor. They are smaller than the first and second windows and are 9/1 wooden double-hung-sash windows. The fifth window is the smallest. It illuminates the kitchen and is 6/1 wooden double-hung-sash window. While the cavetto frieze continues onto this side of the nominated property, the curved brackets are reduced to two – one at the southern end and another at the northern end of the frieze band.

North (left) façade[10] The basement level of the north elevation displays 2 windows – the eastern window is a 1-light replacement window, the western one is an original 2-light wooden awning window. The course of soldier bricks that form the water table between the basement and first floor continues around this side of the building. Four pairs of casement windows set on brick sills are placed high in the wall of the first floor. Two sets of 8-light, paired wooden casement windows flank the east side of the centrally placed exterior chimney and two sets of 12-light, paired wooden casement windows flank the west side. Although the chief building material for the chimney is brick, there are limestone amortizements as the stack narrows between the first and second stories. The second story has the same materials found on the other three façades. Two 12/1 wooden double-hung-sash windows are placed on either side of the chimney whose shaft continues through the attic roof several feet and terminates in a course of ornamental brickwork around the chimney cap. The second-story windows differ in height from each other. The eastern (left) window is the shorter of the two and lights the kitchen. Six brackets, three on each side of the chimney breast, are placed in the frieze on this elevation.

Interior

The interior is trimmed throughout with typical Craftsman style details and retains almost all of its original finishes – oak floors, built-in oak cabinets, an oak staircase, pine door and window surrounds, plaster walls, pressed metal ceilings, original hardware and light fixtures. The rooms

[9] See Photograph 5.
[10] See Photograph 1 and Image F.

for first story plan are arranged around a central stair hall. The second story plan is organized around a corridor. The attic story is unfinished.

Basement[11] This space originally housed both an assembly room, rented out to various local organizations, and the children's section of the library that the Sojourners administered. A straight run staircase leads down from South Elson Street to a recessed entry and a half-light single-leaf door, which leads to the lobby. In turn, this lobby opens onto a large assembly room on the south (right) and onto utility rooms on the north (left). A narrow interior staircase from the assembly room also occupies space on this floor.

First Floor[12] A vestibule with original built-in oak cabinets leads into the front lobby. A beveled, full-light, single-leaf wooden door in the west wall opens into lobby from the vestibule. Both this door and the front door have beveled glass sidelights. Sets of wooden French doors with beveled glass panes separate the lobby from the south and north rooms. An oak quarterpace staircase dominates the east wall.[13] Original, Craftsman influenced square balusters and newel posts, with recessed square panels, rest on the stairs. A short run of 4 stairs ascend to a landing then turn 90 degrees (east); a longer flight of 12 stairs leads to the second floor. The ceiling and cornice in the front lobby are original pressed metal.[14]

South (right) of the front lobby is the first of two large rooms on this floor. The Sojourners used both spaces for social gatherings and later as part of the public library.[15] The south wall of the south room presents an original masonry mantelpiece with a ceramic tile hearth. An original pressed metal cornice and ceiling finish the south room.[16]

On the other side of the lobby (left) is the north room, almost identical in size to the south room. The Craftsman tradition is unmistakable in the treatment of the northern wall where an original brick and plaster mantelpiece is flanked by built-in oak bookcases with beveled glass doors. The cases, however, extend across the whole wall, making the scale somewhat larger than that usually found in a domestic Craftsman setting but a scale, nonetheless, appropriate for library shelves. Two sets of wooden French doors in the west wall lead into a small office (the addition filling the north end of the veranda) and a second single-leaf wooden door in the south wall opens into the back lobby.

The back lobby has original wooden shelving. Set between the north and south rooms, this large storage room completes the first floor.

Second Floor[17] For 70 years, the Sojourners Club held its semi-monthly meetings on this floor. The spatial arrangements consist of a large L-shaped club room, a kitchen, a bathroom, a cloakroom and a staircase to the first floor. A hallway connects all these spaces. The most important space on this floor, the club room, stretches across the entire west and south sides of

[11] See Images B, Y and Z.
[12] See Image C.
[13] See Image I.
[14] See Photograph 3.
[15] See Image X.
[16] See Photograph 3.
[17] See Photograph 4 and Images D, J, K and W.

the building. It retains most of its original finishes – metal hardware, plaster walls, pine door and window surrounds. The existing light fixtures are modified from the originals.[18] However, the original plaster ceiling has been covered with acoustic tile and original curved brackets have been removed. Returning to the corridor at the rear (east), this space opens onto a cloakroom where club members could leave hats, coats, etc., before entering the club room. A five-paneled wooden door opens off the corridor and into a second space, containing a small bathroom. The corridor also leads to one final room, the kitchen, which occupies the northeast corner of this floor.[19] This room retains an original built-in wooden cabinet on the north wall and an original, long, built-in wooden cabinet along the south wall. Two five-paneled, wooden swinging doors in the kitchen's west wall open into the club room.

INTEGRITY AND CONCLUSION

Some alterations (many carried out during the period of significance) have been made to the exterior of this 1916 building and affect its historic integrity. Even though the roof materials were changed in 1967; the second-story stucco and decorative wooden bands were repainted a uniform color; the original, closed stucco balustrade with wooden panels on the second-story terrace was removed circa 1935 and its replacement (a metal pipe balustrade) taken off in the 1960s; and the first-story porch partially was enclosed after 1949 to provide office space for the growing lending library, the Sojourners Club continues to communicate its Prairie School and Craftsman affinities. It is a rare local example both of the Prairie School style and of a freestanding clubhouse. The building still retains its location, setting, workmanship, feeling and association integrity. Inside, its original plan, uncomplicated window and door surrounds, stairway, mantle pieces, built-in cabinets and bookcases, and most of its original plasterwork, hardware and lighting fixtures remain. The building is currently occupied by the Adair County Historical Society, which helps maintain the structure and its high profile in Kirksville's Central Business District. The nominated property is in good repair and manifests the physical condition expected of sites eligible for listing on the National Register.

[18] Compare Photograph 4 and Image K.
[19] See Image J.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located at 211 South Elson Street in Kirksville, Adair County, Missouri, the Sojourners Club is locally significant under National Register Criterion A for SOCIAL HISTORY and Criterion C for the area of ARCHITECTURE.

Designed by local architect, Irwin Dunbar, the nominated property was erected to accommodate both a women's club and the public library they administered. Founded in 1897, the Sojourners Club is a local example of a nationwide trend in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries of organized efforts by women to improve their communities through municipal projects, the lending library housed in this structure being one such undertaking.

In addition to the clubhouse's strong connections with a local women's group, the Sojourners Club presents an unusual combination of Prairie School and Craftsman styles within the architectural context of commercial, social and medical buildings that make up Kirksville's central business district. Representative of Irwin Dunbar's work on other buildings in Kirksville between 1914 and 1917, the Sojourners Club adeptly joins sound workmanship and artistic values with the spatial requirements of a philanthropic organization and the public lending library it administered. Dunbar's blend of materials and stylistic elements make this a noteworthy example of early-twentieth century club architecture in rural northeast Missouri. When construction finished in 1916, the Sojourners Club was one of two free standing clubhouses in Kirksville's commercial center.[20] In addition, this building is among the few early examples of this local architect's work to retain integrity.

The period of significance extends from 1916, the year of the building's erection, to 1963. 1916 reflects the clubhouse's significance to local social history as well as architectural history. The Sojourners Club corresponds to the midpoint of a construction boom from approximately 1890 to 1940 that produced many of downtown Kirksville's architect-designed buildings. Because the nominated property functioned as both a clubhouse and the only lending library open to local citizens until the 1980s, it continued to serve a vital role in Adair County well beyond 1963, the fifty-year cutoff date recommended for the National Register.

ELABORATION

SOCIAL HISTORY: The Sojourners Club & its need for a clubhouse While the Sojourners Club is proposed as locally significant in the area of ARCHITECTURE (infra), the use of this building is intimately tied to SOCIAL HISTORY. Because of its patron, an important local women's club, the nominated property is associated with the accomplishments of Kirksville women and by extension with the Women's Club Movement, as this early-twentieth century social movement across America became known.

Several women's groups existed in Kirksville in the late-nineteenth century, however, most of these 1) focused their membership and activities on college students, or 2) were associated with local religious groups, or 3) were female divisions of national fraternal

[20] One was for men, the Elks Club, and the other for women, the Sojourners Club. The two clubhouses stood next to each other on South Elson Street.

organizations like the Masons, Odd Fellows, etc.[21] The formation of the Sojourners Club arose from a different source: women in Kirksville in the 1890s wanted to provide "introduction, fellowship and hospitality for the numerous strangers who are constantly in town, who need the advantages of a library and personal acquaintance."[22]

Established as a for-profit medical college in 1892, the American School of Osteopathy (A.S.O.) also ran a popular clinic in Kirksville. The popularity of osteopathic treatments at the A.S.O. clinic helped to sustain a number of hotels and boarding houses, as well as other local businesses.[23] In response to the need for sociability between women visiting the A.S.O. clinic and local inhabitants, Mrs. Joseph B. Foraker worked with prominent women in Kirksville to organize the Sojourners Club in 1897.[24] Mrs. Foraker, the wife of a U.S. senator from Ohio, was a temporary Kirksville resident while her son received osteopathic treatments at the A.S.O.[25] Among the club's 25 founding members in 1897 were Mrs. W.E. Noonan, wife of a Kirksville mayor; Mrs. Martha Doneghy, director of a local literary magazine (*The Norus*); Mrs. Cora McDonald, head of the English department at the University of Chicago; and Dr. Minnie M. Brashear, a Kirksville native who attended Radcliffe College and become an English professor at the University of Missouri and an active member of the League of Women Voters.[26] Membership was not associated with any particular church, college or men's club. The Sojourners Club is Kirksville's oldest, existing women's organization. One hundred and sixteen years later, it now meets semi-monthly and continues to conduct philanthropic work.

As with many women's groups across the nation at the turn-of-the-last-century, the Sojourners Club offered "literary entertainment and improvement for all members."[27] Kirksville residents, visitors and medical patients in town for an extended period, as well as occasional guest lecturers, gathered weekly to give readings, interact with each other, perform musical numbers and talk about history, science, art and literature, the cornerstone of the club's study curriculum.[28] Between 1900 and 1905, however, the topics and readings quickly evolved from

---

[21] See *City Directory of Kirksville, Missouri* for 1892, 1899, 1900, 1906, 1908, 1910, 1913, and 1916 as well as *Echo* for 1902, 1904, 1906, 1915 and 1916. A fuller discussion of women's clubs in Kirksville can be found in Violette, 160-162 and *Book of Adair County History*, 167-171. A local group called The Women's Relief Corps organized in 1885, but this service organization seems to have dwindled in membership and activity by the turn-of-the-last-century. The Monday Club, a local social club for women, was founded in 1904. The local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was established in 1907. In addition to these groups, by the early decades of the twentieth century, Kirksville had chapters of the Y.W.C.A., Christian Women's Temperance Union, Women's Progressive Farmer's Association, American Association of University Women and League of Women Voters, among others.

[22] *Sojourners Club Yearbook*, 1900-1901, n.p.

[23] Ultimately, a number of Kirksville businessmen and osteopathic doctors built the Travelers Hotel (NR listed 9/16/09) in 1923-1924 across the street from the Wabash train depot to capitalize on the number of people coming to the A.S.O. for treatment.

[24] See "A New Literary Club," *Kirksville Journal*, 4 November 1897: 5 and Violette, 397-398.

[25] Senator and Mrs. Foraker's belief in osteopathy was so fervent they persuaded two Kirksville doctors to move their medical practice to Washington D.C.

[26] See *A Book of Adair County History*, 167–170 and Shannon Walter, "Sojourner's offers culture," *The Index*, 1 April 2010: 13.

[27] *Sojourners Club Yearbook*, 1900-1901. n.p. For a discussion of women's clubs of the time see Anne Ruggles Gere, *Intimate Practices: Literacy and Cultural Work in U.S. Women's Clubs, 1880 – 1920*, Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois, 1997.

[28] See David C. Nichols, *Founding the Future: A History of Truman State University*, Kirksville, Missouri: Truman State University Press, 2007, 29 and Violette, 397-398.

discussions of individual authors (e.g., Montaigne, Stowe, Barrett-Browning, the Brontës, Whittier, Franklin, etc.) to month- or year-long thematic inquiries (e.g., the World's Columbian Exposition; the Louisiana Purchase Exposition; American History; European Cities; South America).[29] Meetings also featured discussions of current events. Although broad topics dealing with women appear early in the club's records (e.g., "What Clubs Have Done for Women," "Women in Art"), from 1904 onward the frequency of discussions about women's issues and prominent contemporary women appears to increase: for instance, "Women and Reform," and individual presentations on Susan B. Anthony, Julia Ward Howe, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Ida Tarbell.[30] In short, the club membership moved increasingly toward incorporating women's history, achievements and contemporary concerns into its weekly programs.

The Sojourners incorporated in 1910. Their Articles of Association show that since the club's founding thirteen years before, its purpose had expanded along three main paths – socializing; self-improvement (through discussing texts and lectures and through classes on home economics); and civic improvement projects.[31] In addition, the 1910 Articles of Association averred that members sought "to establish and maintain a Library and Club House."[32]

Although extant club records do not document the precise reasons for building a permanent meeting place, at least two motivations appear to have been at work. First, growth in membership. The club had 25 charter members in 1897. By 1909, it had 81 members and in 1914 its membership was approximately 125. In 1916 (when the Sojourners moved into the nominated property), membership was approximately 135 women.[33] Thus, one reason for a purpose-built clubhouse is probably related to the club's size. It had outgrown meeting in private houses. Moreover, assembling in community halls and college classrooms might incur the cost of rent or might be subject to availability or might not have the necessary equipment for cooking demonstrations and other new programs as the club's activities expanded. A clubhouse would offer a stable venue for activities. Plus, an unvarying address meant visitors to Kirksville could easily locate where meetings were held.

A second incentive for building a clubhouse comes from a juncture between local history and the Sojourners' maintaining a small library for its members' use. By early 1902, the Sojourners Club had initiated work to request a Carnegie Library for Kirksville. And, in the spring

---

[29] *Sojourners Club Yearbooks*, 1900-1901 to 1905-1906.

[30] Tarbell had begun publishing her famous series of articles on John D. Rockefeller in November 1902 and had just published *The History of the Standard Oil Company* in 1904.

[31] "The objects and purpose for which this corporation is formed, are benevolent, social, literary, chartable and altruistic; to afford literary entertainment, and improvement of all its members; social introduction, fellowship, and hospitality for strangers; to promote and provide social and educational advantages for its members; to provide and maintain Rest Rooms for the comfort and pleasure of visitors visiting the city of Kirksville; to better the conditions in the home; to increase knowledge in cookery and in sciences pertaining to the household; to assist and promote sanitary work and civic improvement in said city; and to encourage the introduction of Home Economics in the Public Schools of this State; to establish and maintain a Library and Club House." "Articles of Association," *Sojourners Club Yearbook*, 1910-1911. n.p.

[32] This phrase became part of Article II in the club's constitution.

[33] By 1918, membership had increased to approximately 170 women and by 1919-1920 to approximately 185. See the *Sojourners Club Yearbook* for 1914-1915, 1916-1917, 1918-1919 and 1919-1920. Between 1912 and 1916, the club held its book discussions in a room in the Kirksville Trust Company Building on the northeast side of the Courthouse Square.

of 1902, Andrew Carnegie offered $15,000 to endow a public library in Kirksville.[34] Local leaders even selected a site for the Carnegie library. As usual, Carnegie's offer was contingent on creating a local tax to maintain the library. That autumn, however, citizens opposed to the tax levy took the matter to court. The issue of the tax's legality was finally resolved that winter: a judge issued an injunction to restrain any library tax collection thereby making "a Carnegie Library impossible in Kirksville."[35] This was the first of four failed attempts to fund a public library. Adair County remained without a tax-supported public library until 1986.

The Sojourners undertook a community project to correct this refusal of a Carnegie library. Since its beginning, the club had collected books to lend to members, study and then discuss at meetings. Over the years, as they studied various authors and themes, the club's private book collection expanded. Their library numbered around 1,000 volumes in 1904 and, six years later, around 2,000 books.[36] They opened their own collection up for public use in 1910 and continued to operate the only public library in Adair County for the next seventy-six years.[37] The books had to be housed somewhere. Before the erection of the Sojourners Club, this lending library of 2,000 volumes had temporary accommodation in a room in a local commercial block downtown.

In summary, providing 1) a consistent meeting venue for over 130 local and visiting women and 2) a supervised space for storing and lending books, seems to have precipitated the push to erect a clubhouse.

SOCIAL HISTORY: The Sojourners Club & the Women's Club Movement

Because the Sojourners had already existed for nineteen years before erecting a purpose-built clubhouse, the nominated property's ties to social history predate its actual construction. The Sojourner's activities, before and after 1916 (the year of construction), solidly join this edifice to the nationwide Women's Club Movement that happened in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries.

Beginning in 1901, a new feature in Sojourners Club meetings appeared regularly: "Parliamentary Drills." For years, approximately once a month, the Sojourners used a portion of their meetings to practice parliamentary procedure: developing bills, creating ballots, introducing

---

[34] The anticipated levy was $1,500 per year in exchange for Carnegie's $15,000. Many citizens favored a central location near the Courthouse Square for the library – the corner of Elson and Jefferson Streets, the approximate location of the nominated building, being one of the recommended sites. For the events around the 1902 library proposal see: "City Election Results," *Kirksville Democrat*, 4 April 1902: 1; "Public Library," *Kirksville Journal*, 1 May 1902: 1; "Letter from Andrew Carnegie," *Kirksville Democrat*, 2 May 1902: 1; "The Library Site," *Kirksville Democrat*, 5 September 1902: 1; "Library Laconics," *Kirksville Democrat*, 12 September 1902: 1; "Citizens Mass Meeting," *Kirksville Journal*, 18 September 1902: 1; "Saturday Mass Meeting," *Kirksville Democrat*, 19 September 1902: 1, 4, 5; "Question of Tax," *Kirksville Journal*, 6 November 1902: 1; "Local Items" *Kirksville Democrat*, 7 November 1902: 5; and "Collection of Library Tax," *Kirksville Journal*, 11 December 1902: 1.

[35] "Local Items," *Weekly Graphic*, 12 December 1902: 2.

[36] See Walter, 13.

[37] Although a 1944 article in the *Kirksville Daily Express* (infra) states that the library did not became public until 1932, E.M. Violette, writing in 1911, records that "a library was started soon after the club was organized, which has grown into a free library open to the public from nine am until noon each day"(397) and that the Sojourners were then "working to raise money towards building a club house and library building."(398) As already mentioned, the 1910 Articles of Association identify the library as one of the club's objectives. In addition, the Sojourners annual club bulletins throughout the '10s and '20s give the library's opening hours to the public. Thus, 1910 is the credible date.

motions, amending motions, tabling motions, calling for question, voting, etc. While these "drills" ostensibly helped the club learn to run efficient local meetings, they also trained women in leadership, as well as in the rhetoric and mechanics of legislative practice.

These Parliamentary drills occurred within a larger context, one that increases the association between the nominated property and social history. In 1900, the Sojourners Club joined the Missouri Federation of Women's Clubs and in 1901, for the first time, the Sojourners elected local delegates to attend the annual state convention of the Missouri Federation of Women's Clubs (MFWC).[38] The Parliamentary drills aided the Sojourners' involvement with a statewide network of women's groups. In turn, the MFWC was linked to the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC). Founded in 1890 and chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1901, the GFWC brought together women's clubs from across the nation to talk about civic improvements realized through volunteer work. In particular, the GFWC encouraged food regulation and sanitation, developing kindergartens in public schools and establishing public libraries. The Sojourners Club became officially affiliated with the GFWC in 1904. Six years later, the club opened a public library.[39]

As mentioned earlier, the Sojourners Club was incorporated in 1910. Two main changes seem to accompany that incorporation. The first is a revised organizational structure. In addition to the committees it had developed over the previous thirteen years, the club formally established two discrete "departments": it labeled one "Domestic Science" and the other "Civic League." The former focused on home economics and increased the club's presentations on household management. The latter worked with municipal improvement projects. By the following year (1911-1912), the Civic League had restructured itself to reflect the importance of local involvement in projects and accountability. It was organized by wards. Two female residents from each ward in Kirksville served on the club's Civic League. This meant that projects undertaken by the club were not only responding to local needs but also had citywide support. It also meant that women serving in the Civic League department knew their wards well and also understood citywide perspectives.

The second change after 1910 appears in the nature of the weekly programs. The topics discussed became even more focused: e.g., a two-year study of American History, a year-long study of Missouri History, a year-long study of "The Changing Status of Women." The Sojourners Club continued to discuss art, literature and history, but its meetings more frequently included lectures and presentations with direct connections to contemporary women's issues: for instance, "Club Work in Rural Communities," "Woman as Wage Earners," Women and birth rates, Women and social hygiene, Women and sexual hygiene, "The Legal Status of Missouri Women," "Laws Applicable to Women and Children," "Police Women and Their Work," "The Women's Peace Movement" and a discussion of Rheta Childe Dorr's *What Eight Million Women Want*.[40]

---

[38] *Sojourners Club Yearbook*, 1 October 1901, n.p. The Missouri Federation was founded in 1896, the year before the Sojourners Club itself was established.

[39] In this respect the Sojourners Club followed the lead of America's oldest women's clubs, Sorosis and the New England Women's Clubs. Both were founded in 1868 and both combined self-improvement programs and volunteer community projects like creating and maintaining kindergartens, libraries and public parks.

[40] See *Sojourners Club Yearbook* for 1913-1914, 1914-1915 and 1915-1916. Dorr's popular and influential study of women's issues, *What Eight Million Women Want*, was published in 1910.

Broader contexts are worth noting here. The Women's Club Movement was distinct from the Suffrage Movement, which developed during the 1910s. The first stressed women's personal development and community service. The second focused on securing a woman's right to vote in all elections. While the Sojourners Club *was* unambiguously allied with both the organizations and objectives that made up the Women's Club Movement, there is currently no direct documentation connecting them with the National American Woman Suffrage Association or its auxiliary, the National Woman's Party (founded in 1913) or the Missouri Equal Suffrage Association (established in 1911). Nevertheless, the Club's focus on civic involvement did smooth the progress of Adair County women toward holding elected public office. Although women were constitutionally barred from most elected state positions in Missouri, they could hold a few statewide and some local offices. The first two women to run for public office in Adair County were elected to the Kirksville School Board in 1918.[41] Both women were members of the Sojourners Club. Mrs. Estelle Paine had been one of the club's directors for several years during the 1910s, was a member of its Finance Committee the year the club moved into the nominated property and had served on its Home Economics Committee from 1914. At its first meeting in November 1918, the Kirksville School Board elected Paine its vice-president. At the same time she was working with the school board, Paine also served as chairwoman for the Sojourners' Domestic Science department. The second woman elected that year was Mrs. C. A. Robinson (Grace) who had worked with the club's School Committee (an outreach group to Kirksville schools) and had been a ward representative to the Civic League department beginning in 1911. Two Sojourners were publicly demonstrating their leadership abilities in local public office within two years of the club's occupying the nominated building and two years before the Nineteenth Amendment became part of the U.S. Constitution.[42]

The organization that moved into its new, purpose-built clubhouse in 1916 was proficient in parliamentary procedure, connected to state and national women's clubs, educated about current methods of household management, involved with civic improvement and had been running a public library for six years. And within two years of occupying this clubhouse, the Sojourners had two members elected to public office. They successfully executed key features of the nation-wide Women's Club Movement and were locally esteemed for their accomplishments in one area especially, community service (infra).

SOCIAL HISTORY: The Sojourners Club & Civic Projects In addition to stressing self-improvement and education, most women's clubs in America at the turn-of-the-last-century emphasized volunteer service in their local communities and advocated municipal progress. One tenet of the Women's Club Movement was that making a town better was an extension of making one's home better. A town's progress started with self-development and education and built up

[41] "City Election," *Kirksville Daily Express*, 2 April 1918: 1; "Two Women Elected," *Kirksville Daily Express*, 3 April 1918: 1; "Two Women Start Work on School Board," *Kirksville Daily Express*, 5 April 1918: 3.

[42] Missouri's Governor, Frederick D. Gardner, signed a presidential suffrage bill in April 1919 and the Missouri Legislature ratified the Nineteenth Amendment in July 1919. For a fuller discussion of this issue see John Saunders, "The Women of the Clubs: 1890-1920," *Preservation Issues*, 6:2, March/April 1996 and Mark H. Neill, "The Women's Rights Movement in Missouri," *Journal of the Missouri Bar*, March-April 2011, 114-119. By 1921 (the year after suffrage had been achieved nation-wide), women had been elected to a variety of positions in Adair County: three served on the Kirksville School Board, one was County Treasurer, another was County Recorder.

to volunteer community service. In the early-twentieth century, the Sojourners Club demonstrated this same arc of individual development leading on to community improvement.

The civic improvement and philanthropic work done by the Sojourners was both broad as well as being tailored to Kirksville's needs. Over the course of the club's first two decades, occasional weekly meetings included aspects related to the City Beautiful Movement, such as "The Effects of Beauty on Civic Life," "Park Systems" and "Improving Sanitary Conditions of Kirksville." This last presentation was given in 1903 as the club undertook one of its first philanthropic ventures: creating and maintaining a public women's restroom in the Adair County Courthouse. Other civic improvement projects rapidly followed. During the early-twentieth century, the Sojourners Club advocated for paved streets in downtown Kirksville; supervised the cleaning of those paved streets; raised money to pave the driveway at a local cemetery; collected and distributed clothing and coal to the poor. The club's volunteers were so well organized that they could often take on more than one major project at a time. For example, in 1910, the same year the club began to administer a public library for Adair County, the Sojourners were also raising money for a drinking fountain for animals to be set on the Courthouse Square. In addition to these activities in downtown Kirksville, the Sojourners also were also part of an effort to beautify the A.S.O. medical complex west of downtown. They raised funds to erect a bronze statue (NR listed 05/21/09) of the founder of osteopathy, A.T. Still, for the complex.[43] This particular activity occurred in 1916 (the start of the period of significance), at the same time the club was occupied with the construction of the nominated property.

The clubhouse itself, however, constitutes one of the Sojourners' principal efforts at making Kirksville better. The nominated property was erected to house both a private women's club and an ambitious municipal project – a public library.

The Sojourners began raising money for a clubhouse in 1910 (the same year the club was incorporated and opened its public library).[44] Around the same time, a Kirksville couple donated a lot on South Elson Street as the site for the women's new clubhouse.[45] The property was beside the Elks Club, thereby putting a prominent women's club next door to one of the town's leading men's clubs.[46] In 1916, the Sojourners commissioned a purpose-built clubhouse from Irwin Dunbar, a young, local architect.[47] The building was intended to function as a meeting place and to hold their growing library. The composition of the building's interior and exterior easily communicates these dual foci. A club room, kitchen and terrace filled the second floor. The kitchen was crucial to the domestic science presentations. The large club room accommodated weekly meetings.[48] Downstairs, a room for club teas and a room for the public lending library administered by the club throughout the period of significance occupied the first floor.

---

[43] The statue originally stood on the A.S.O. campus and was relocated to its current location on the Courthouse Square in Kirksville circa 1938.
[44] See "Sojourners Library Had Its Beginning in 1910," *Kirksville Daily Express*, 13 February 1944: 5.
[45] Violette, 398 and 728. The donors were Dr. Warren and Mae Hamilton. Dr. Hamilton was a trustee of both the A.S.O. and Elks Club, located on the lot next to the Sojourners Club.
[46] See Images A, F and H.
[47] The club moved into its new facility in November 1916 and held its first meetings there in December 1916. See *Sojourners Club Yearbook*, 1916-1917, n.p.
[48] See Images K and W.

This clubhouse gave the Sojourners space in which to host existing programs and to develop new ones. Beginning in 1922, both the club and clubhouse were associated with a local troop of Girl Scouts, helping to develop the next generation of female citizens. In 1933, the club began hosting an annual community art fair in the building and monthly exhibits of art by local school children. And by the 1950s, the clubhouse also housed the local Christian Science Reading Room. During that same decade the Sojourners significantly expanded library programs accommodated in the nominated property: in 1954, it organized a story hour for children;[49] it created the Book Chatter Club, a book group for adolescents, in 1955;[50] it set up and ran a traveling library for use at an air force base that opened in the 1950s north of Kirksville; it gave free library cards to international students attending the two colleges in Kirksville; it donated books to the Missouri State Penitentiary library; it lent books to two local hospitals and conducted another book loan service for rural school teachers in Northeast Missouri.

Throughout the period of significance, the growth of programs, particularly those associated with the library, changed the building's appearance. With regard to the clubhouse's exterior, the popularity of the library necessitated enclosing part of the verandah to produce more usable space. The interior was likewise affected. The original, built-in shelves in the north room on the first floor held the 2,000 volumes the Sojourners had when the clubhouse opened in 1916, but additional shelving was added as the library grew. In time, the library expanded from one room to occupying the entire first floor and part of the basement.[51] In 1944, the library contained over 10,000 volumes (as well as magazines and newspapers) and was used by 13,000 patrons annually. By the mid-fifties, the book collection had grown to 17,300 volumes. Indeed, the Sojourners Library was so successful that a tax-supported public library did not exist in Adair County until April 1986 when voters approved money for its creation. The Sojourners Library of over 30,000 volumes was sold for $1 to form the core of this new public library and the nominated property became the home of the county's first tax supported library on 1 July 1986. It continued in that role until 1988 when construction of the current Adair County Library was finished.[52]

In conclusion, the accomplishments of the Sojourners Club in the early-twentieth century are part of the general history of women's clubs across Missouri and the nation. As a member of the GFWC and the Missouri Federation, the Sojourners Club decided its own community projects. Repeatedly these local plans were in line with GFWC objectives: to use volunteer service to advance education, to promote familial and public health and to encourage civic involvement. Moreover, the club utilized its weekly meetings to develop leadership skills, direct community improvement projects, and discuss contemporary women's issues and the changing role of women. Until the right to vote was granted, a club ensured that women were engaged members of society. Their voices were heard, their concerns expressed and their labor organized to achieve local progress. The volunteer work done by the Sojourners enhanced the lives of Kirksville

[49] This program soon became part of the elementary teachers' training program offered at Truman State University. See Image Y.
[50] See Image Z.
[51] See Images X, Y and Z.
[52] See Amanda Jones, ed., *Adair County Revisited: Pictorial History of the 20th Century in Adair County, Missouri*, Marceline, Missouri: Heritage House Publishing, 1999, 68, 96, 97.

citizens. The proposed building is associated with their work and with projects that extended beyond 1963, the end of the period of significance.

ARCHITECTURE: The Sojourners Club & Local Architectural Context The architectural significance of the nominated property can be seen in the context of a robust period of building activity in Kirksville between the early 1890s to 1940. The Sojourners Club came at the midpoint of a construction boom that brought a variety of early-twentieth century vernacular and high styles to Kirksville's commercial center. Applying the Prairie School and Craftsman styles to this clubhouse set it apart from the designs that architects and contractors used elsewhere in the downtown of this small northeast Missouri town.

Although a few architectural firms practiced in Kirksville at the turn-of-the-last-century, most commercial, domestic and religious construction in town was vernacular. For instance, fires during the early 1890s destroyed several buildings around the central Courthouse Square; almost all of the replacement structures were not designed by architects.[53] The Sojourners Club stood close to many such buildings: warehouses, apartment buildings, commercial buildings as well as structures related to the expanding automobile business. These filled the central business district.

In contrast to these commercial and multi-occupant residential structures, most of the town's major public buildings *were* architect-designed, but by firms outside Adair County. For instance, in the two decades before the construction of the Sojourners Club, the streetscape of downtown Kirksville was dominated by such buildings as the massive Romanesque courthouse (1898. NR listed 08/11/78) by Robert G. Kirsch from Milwaukee; a new Colonial Revival post office (1904) designed by John Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury; a Jacobean Revival office building, the Grim Building (1905. NR listed 06/27/79), designed by Albert B. Groves of St. Louis; a Collegiate Gothic high school (1914) produced by the St. Joseph firm of Funk & Gordon; and the Mission-styled Princess Theatre (1915) by local architect, Irwin Dunbar. All of these buildings remain and stand within three blocks of the Sojourners Club. Except for the Princess Theatre, the exteriors of all these buildings retain integrity. None of them, however, exhibit Prairie School traits, making the Sojourners Club a rare iteration of this style in Kirksville.

In the two decades after the construction of the clubhouse in 1916, Kirksville's downtown continued to develop a strong assembly of buildings by Midwestern architects. New architect-designed edifices included the Administration Building for the Kirksville College of Osteopathy (1922) by Sanneman & Van Trump from Kansas City;[54] the Travelers Hotel (1923-1924. NR Listed 09/16/09), also by Sanneman & Van Trump; the Neoclassical Revival Citizens National Bank (1924) by Irwin Dunbar; the Renaissance Revival Kennedy Theatre (1926) also by Dunbar; the Art-Deco Kirksville Daily Express Building (1930) designed by Bonsack & Pearce of St. Louis; the Egyptian Revival Masonic Temple (1930. NR listed 01/07/10) by the same firm; and Memorial Hall (1936) for the Kirksville College of Osteopathy, also by Bonsack & Pearce. All of these buildings

[53] Separate fires during the early 1890s altered the frontage of the north, west and south sides of the Court House Square. See E.M. Violette, *History of Adair County*, Kirksville, Missouri: Denslow History Co., 1911, 389-394 and *A Book of Adair County History*, Kirksville, Missouri: Simpson Printing Co., 1976, 131-135.
[54] This building stands directly across South Elson Street from the nominated property.

remain except for the Kennedy Theatre (which stood next to the Sojourners Club). They too stand within three blocks of the Sojourners Club. The exteriors of these buildings retain integrity; however, again, none of them put Prairie School details on display in downtown Kirksville.

The defining feature of most edifices standing close by the Sojourners Club is that they exhibit popular late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century revivalist styles. Part of this club's local architectural significance is that, instead of a revivalist like style, the exterior and interior arrangements strongly express Prairie School and Craftsman traits. This clubhouse displays an architectural style uncommon in the central business district. Likewise its form – a free standing clubhouse – was equally rare for Kirksville in 1916, a point discussed below.

ARCHITECTURE: The Sojourners Club & Its Architect Irwin Dunbar (1888 – 1975) was born and raised in Schuyler County, immediately north of Adair County.[55] In 1914, he graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Missouri – Columbia and moved to Kirksville where he set up office by himself and began a career as an architect.

Dunbar left and returned to Northeast Missouri several times throughout his life. Because of these moves, his architectural work in Kirksville falls into three easily distinguishable periods: 1914 to 1917; 1919 to 1926; and 1932 to 1944. His work is varied in its stylistic features – from Craftsman to Gothic or from Tudor to Classical Revival or Art Deco.

Dunbar worked alone. Since he joined the United States Army Engineers in World War I, his first architectural projects are restricted to a three year period between 1914 and 1917. Some of his earliest commissions in Kirksville may include undocumented but locally attributed Craftsmen residential designs. Of note during this period, however, are four documented commissions. His first large building contract was for the Mission Revival style Princess Theatre (1915, 202 South Franklin Street),[56] followed soon by the Sojourners Club (1916), then the Craftsman-styled Acacia Club (1916, 205 East Jefferson)[57] and then by his first ecclesiastical commission -- Trinity Episcopal Church (1917, 124 North Mulanix Street. NR listed 01/02/08), a Craftsman and Gothic Revival influenced design.[58] All four buildings are standing; three retain integrity (the Acacia Club, the Sojourners Club and Trinity Episcopal Church). Dunbar's early style utilized simple forms and exposed woodwork features on the exteriors of all four buildings.

The Sojourners Club has local architectural significance as one of this regional architect's earliest executed designs. It indicates his initial attempts at composition, at working within clear design constraints and at developing solutions for a multi-purpose building. This building was one of Irwin Dunbar's first chances to apply his own ideas to a structure that had to operate as both a private club and an important public amenity.

Dunbar served in France during World War I for nineteen months with Company H of the 23rd Engineers. After the war, he remained in France in order to study art at the Beaux-Arts University in Toulouse. He returned to Kirksville in 1919, re-established his own practice and was married in 1922. Foremost among the buildings he designed in Kirksville during his second

[55] See "Irwin Dunbar Dies; Well Known Architect Here," *Kirksville Daily Express*, 31 August 1975: 1-2 and *A Book of Adair County History*, 359.
[56] See Image L.
[57] See Image M.
[58] See Image N.

residency there (from 1919 to 1926), are the Gothic Revival styled Presbyterian Church (1922), the Neo-Classical Revival styled Citizens National Bank (1924), the Rollins Apartments (1925), the Baxter-Miller Building (1926. NR listed 05/21/09), the Adair County Home for the Indigent (1926), and the Renaissance Revival styled Kennedy Theater (1926).[59] All but the last of these are still standing and retain integrity.

The Dunbars left Kirksville in 1926 for Whittier, California. He worked for an architectural firm and studied architecture at the University of Southern California and at the Chouinard School of Art, Los Angeles. Then, during the Depression, the family returned to Kirksville and Dunbar worked as an architect for the Missouri Highway Department. Projects between 1932 and 1944 include several houses in Adair County, the Art Deco styled Rieger Armory in Kirksville (1938; standing and retains integrity) and the Art Deco styled public swimming pool in Macon, Macon County, Missouri (1938; standing and retains integrity). These represent some of the most varied and complex of his architectural designs. Due to the lack of construction work during World War II, he moved to Moline, Illinois where he worked as an architect for John Deere & Company until 1958 when he retired and returned to Kirksville, where he died in 1975.

ARCHITECTURE: The Sojourners Club, Prairie School & Craftsman Styles Around 1900 in Chicago, the Prairie School of architecture developed in sympathy with the ideals of the English Arts and Crafts Movement, which stressed handcrafting as a reaction against mass production manufacturing. The Prairie School also attempted to create a design aesthetic that was not based on Greco-Roman classicism. It produced plans and elevations sympathetic to the broad open expanses of the American Midwest. What developed between 1890s to 1920s was referred to as the Chicago School and became known later as Prairie School style. Its dominant elements are horizontality and ahistorical ornament. The horizontal emphasis is most often expressed by a low pitched hipped roof with oversized eaves and strong horizontal lines created by fenestration, wooden bands or a full-width one-story veranda, a central chimney. The ahistorical ornamentation takes the shape of straightforward geometric forms (rectilinear or curvilinear) in the masonry, glazing, wooden ornament, etc.[60] Not all Prairie School buildings are as high-style as those created by its leading Midwestern promoters (e.g., Frank Lloyd Wright, Elmslie & Purcell, Walter Burley Griffin, etc.). More modest examples of the Prairie School exist across the Midwest.

The Sojourners Club is an important example of the Prairie School style in northeast Missouri. This building shows the horizontal emphasis and plain geometric shapes typical of the Prairie Style, viz., a two-story main structure with a full width single-story veranda, a broad low-pitched hipped roof with deep eaves, a contrasting stucco frieze band under the eaves, squat pillars supporting the veranda roof and minimal geometric ornament in the form of wooden brackets and simple ornamental brickwork. At the Sojourners Club the use of brick, stucco and

[59] The Kennedy Theatre stood immediately north of the Sojourners Club. By the late 1920s, three of the five buildings on this block in downtown Kirksville had been designed by Irwin Dunbar.

[60] See Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, New York City: Alfred A. Knopf, 439-451. A developed analysis of Prairie style can be found in H. Allen Brooks, *The Prairie School*, New York City: W.W. Norton, 2006 and the same author's *The Prairie School: Frank Lloyd Wright and his Midwest Contemporaries*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1972.

wood on the exterior generates a typical Prairie School feature: distinct textures. Moreover, strong horizontal zones are created by patterns of stucco and exposed wood on the second story.

The nominated property also incorporates several traits from the Craftsman style. Architecturally, the term "Craftsman" comes from the eponymous magazine published by the American designer, editor and furniture maker Gustav Stickley, between 1901 and 1916. The magazine's house and furniture designs foster encouraged Arts and Crafts ideals: simple forms, exposed natural materials and the visibility of skilled handiwork.[61] How the framing members around the second-story doors and windows are articulated to expose the Sojourner Club's construction is one instance of the Craftsman style's stress on revealed structural elements, an attribute it also shared with many Prairie School designs.

Dunbar freely borrowed from the Prairie School and Craftsman styles for his design at the Sojourners Club. The Craftsman elements include the decorative brackets, windows with multiple lights in the upper sash and a single light in the lower one, simple stout pillars set on pedestals around the veranda and projecting limestone caps that define the tops of the parapet and pillars. Inside, numerous Craftsman details can be found in the clubhouse, such as large brick fireplaces on the first floor, simple built-in oak cabinetry in the vestibule and the wood and glass cabinets in the north room. Returning to the exterior, Prairie School features on the nominated property can be seen in the emphasis on horizontality, gently pitched hipped roof, deep eaves and broad, single-story veranda. While it is doubtful that Dunbar was attempting to duplicate the high-style of Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie School manner, he did incorporate some Prairie School design elements into this functional building in a small rural town.[62]

Marketing and accessibility facilitated the popularization of both the Prairie and the Craftsman styles.[63] Sets of working drawings for Prairie School and Craftsman styled houses could be found in periodicals like *Inland Architect, The Western Architect* or *The Craftsman* or in pattern books. And entire homes could be purchased as kits from Sears Roebuck, the Aladdin Company, etc. In addition, numerous Mid-western architects popularized the Prairie and Craftsman styles. In 1916, samples of Frank Lloyd Wright's work could be found in periodicals or constructed in Illinois.[64] However, actual built examples by other practitioners of the Prairie School style could be found closer to Kirksville in the work of Francis Barry Bryne or Ernest M. Wood, among others.[65] Bryne's residential design (1915-1916. NR Listed 02/08/80) for Dr. James F. Clarke stands in Fairfield, Iowa, 95 miles northeast of Kirksville, and is coeval with the

---

[61] For a discussion of the late-nineteenth century origins and history of the Arts and Crafts movement in the United States see Adrian Tinniswood, *The Arts & Crafts House,* New York City: Watson-Guptill Publications, 1999.

[62] The first Prairie School houses were designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1900 and feature either the all stucco or all brick exteriors that typify most Wright domestic designs. The Beachy House in Oak Park, Illinois (1906) is a rare combination in Wright's domestic oeuvre of brickwork on one story and stucco on the other.

[63] For discussions of the Craftsman movement see Barry Sanders, *A Complex Fate: Gustav Stickley and the Craftsman Movement,* Washington, D.C.: Preservation Press, 1996; Diane Maddex, *Bungalow Nation,* New York City: Harry N. Abrams, 2003.

[64] At 197 miles away, the Dana Thomas House (1902-1904) in Springfield, Illinois was the closest Frank Lloyd Wright building to Kirksville in 1916.

[65] Byrne's office in 1915, however, was located in Chicago, whereas Ernest M. Wood lived and worked in Quincy. In addition to Wood, two other Quincy architects (Martin Giese and George Behrensmeyer) designed a number of Prairie Style styled buildings still standing in western Illinois.

Sojourners Club.[66] And Wood adeptly applied the Prairie School style to his own office (1912, NR Listed 08/12/82) in Quincy, Illinois, 90 miles east of Kirksville.[67] Although Wood did design buildings in northeast Missouri around the period of significance, none of the first four documented structures that Dunbar built in Kirksville are as stylistically complex as Wood's Prairie School styled creations. The cavetto frieze punctuated with wooden bands on the Sojourners Club is striking and an unusual Craftsman feature, but it is not sophisticated . Instead, Dunbar's initial designs in Kirksville at this time are practical and modest but attractive. The Sojourners Club applies Prairie School and Craftsman details to a simple volume. The Acacia Club uses Craftsman details. The exterior and interior designs for Trinity Episcopal Church intermingle Craftsman and Gothic revival elements. And, finally, the exterior composition for the Princess Theatre united Craftsman and Mission Revival styles. Dunbar felt comfortable enough with the Craftsman style to use, adapt and combine it with other styles. And by incorporating popular styles, these four early buildings by Dunbar presented up-to-date, nation-wide trends to this rural Missouri town.

The use of Prairie School and Craftsman elements at the Sojourners Club intersects with two architectural developments in Kirksville. First, the Prairie School and Craftsman styles began to appear in the town's domestic architecture around 1914, roughly when Irwin Dunbar moved to Kirksville and started his practice. A number of comfortable two- and two-and-a-half-story Craftsman houses were constructed in Kirksville between 1914 and 1917.[68] These domestic examples, together with the Sojourners Club, demonstrate a rapid appearance of these two styles in Kirksville. Second, the Craftsman style is a common characteristic across Dunbar's documented works from 1914 to 1917, the first phase of his practice in Kirksville. His designs for the Princess Theater, the Sojourners Club, the Acacia Club and Trinity Episcopal Church were all built during this three year period. Each of these structures evinces strong Craftsman elements: simple cubic volumes, applied wooden bands, unenclosed eaves, purlins, exposed rafter tails, decorative beams, a moderately pitched roof, etc.

Although there was no local tradition for applying the Craftsman style to a clubhouse, Dunbar selected it twice in 1916: once when planning the Sojourners Club and again for the Acacia Club. As a consequence, the nominated building incorporates stylistic elements familiar to its architect but 1) elements not often used in local club architecture and 2) elements from two popular national styles – the Prairie School and Craftsman -- but two styles not frequently seen on buildings in Kirksville's central business district.

ARCHITECTURE: The Sojourners Club & Local Clubhouses The Sojourners Club represents a transition in club architecture in Kirksville: a movement away from meeting in homes, churches or rooms located above revenue-generating space on the floors below and one toward meeting in a freestanding building devoted to the club's specific needs.

---

[66] See Image O.
[67] See Image P.
[68] One of the best local examples still standing and with integrity is the Prairie School style house built on East Patterson Street for Dr. Edward Grim in 1915. See Image Q. Other notable, extant Craftsman examples with integrity in Kirksville are the Baxter House, 503 South Florence Street (1914); the Givens House at 715 East Harrison Street (1916) and the Stephenson House at 723 East Harrison Street (1917).

From 1910 to 1920, there were approximately twenty-four men's and women's clubs in Kirksville.[69] The Masons, Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows and Elks were the largest fraternal organizations in town. When the nominated property was constructed in 1916, the local Masonic lodges assembled in a two-part commercial building constructed in 1891;[70] the Knights of Pythias rented rooms above a bank on the Courthouse Square;[71] and the Odd Fellows met in a new building.[72] Built in 1913, their lodge hall was new but followed a ubiquitous format: the Odd Fellows met on the top floor of a multi-story, revenue-producing, commercial structure.[73]

In contrast, the Elks, the wealthiest of the men's clubs, erected the town's first freestanding clubhouse in 1910.[74] This large building on the northeast corner of Jefferson and Elson streets freely mixed Colonial Revival and Craftsman elements. The club was well appointed and contained a lodge room for its 400 members, bowling alley, ladies parlor, card room, billiard room and dormitory rooms.[75]

Kirksville's second freestanding men's club was erected in 1916 (the same year as the Sojourners Club). The Acacia Club, designed by Irwin Dunbar, sheltered a local medical fraternity.[76] In plan, it was strictly functional: a double-loaded corridor. It more closely resembled a dormitory than a clubhouse whose rooms might vary in size according to multiple functions. Nevertheless, it was a purpose built, freestanding clubhouse.

Unlike the Acacia Club, the Masons in Adair County did want a spatially complex building. In 1919, they started planning a new Masonic Temple and by the following year, 1920, had asked George P. Behrensmeyer, an architect in Quincy, Illinois to produce plans for a substantial, freestanding, exclusively Masonic building.[77]

Local women's clubs most often met in churches, rented halls, members' homes or the buildings owned by their associated religious, educational or fraternal organizations.[78] Only two of Kirksville's women's groups had freestanding clubhouses during the early-twentieth century: the YWCA and the Sojourners Club. No other freestanding clubhouses were specifically associated only with women's groups in Kirksville during the twentieth century.

The Kirksville YWCA was established in 1899, associated with the A.S.O. and offered female medical students lodging and a center for social activities.[79] The group lacked a purpose built house, however, and was peripatetic. It met in various houses near the A.S.O. at the turn-of-the-century. In the 1916, the YWCA was housed in a vernacular one-and-a-half story frame

[69] See Violette, 151-165; W.H. Hoffman, *City Directory of Kirksville, Missouri,* Quincy, Illinois: Hoffman Directories, 1913, 21-24 and W.H. Hoffman, *City Directory of Kirksville, Missouri,* Quincy, Illinois: Hoffman Directories, 1916, n.p.
[70] See Image R.
[71] See Image S.
[72] See Image T.
[73] While the three structures just mentioned were all standing in 1916, the period of significance, only the second, the Baylor Building, remains today and lacks architectural integrity.
[74] See Image U. The architect of this clubhouse is unknown, but the building cost between $30,000 and $32,000. By comparison, the construction of the Sojourners Club cost $35,000. See Violette, 155-156 and 975 and *A Book of Adair County History*, 157. The Elks Club was razed in 1963.
[75] See "Elks to Build Home," *Kirksville Journal*, 10 March 1910: 5; "Formal Opening of Elks Home," *Kirksville Journal*, 29 December 1910: 1 and "Hundreds Attend Elks Opening," *Kirksville Journal*, 5 Jan 1911: 1.
[76] See Image N.
[77] See Image V. The Masons waited another ten years before building their new Egyptian Revival temple in 1930.
[78] See *City Directory of Kirksville, Missouri* for 1913 and 1916 and *A Book of Adair County History*, 170-171.
[79] See Violette, 266 and 237.

building (no longer standing) located two blocks west of where the Sojourners Club was then under construction.

The Sojourners Club, in contrast, was expressly designed to accommodate its members' weekly, and later semi-monthly, meetings. Their unassuming but distinctive clubhouse was set in the town's commercial district and next door to an affluent men's club. Its prominent location, building materials, use of an architect, incorporation of Prairie School and Craftsman styles, scale, proportions and functions make the Sojourners Club unique architecturally among meeting places for local women.

In summary, between 1910 and 1920, three local men's clubs and one women's club chose to finance and erect freestanding, purpose-built clubhouses. The Sojourners Club is one of four local buildings that show this shift in how clubs expressed their architectural presence in Kirksville during the early-twentieth century. It is one of three that remain standing.

CONCLUSION

The Sojourners Club looks today much as it did when Irwin Dunbar designed it in 1916. Despite changes to the veranda, balustrade and roofing materials, this historic building provides one of the few local examples of Prairie School style. And it is a good example of early-twentieth century clubhouse architecture in Kirksville. Even though it was located near the middle of a block, the Sojourners Club was designed to be a freestanding building with narrow, open space around; this necessitated visible detailing on all sides. Unlike the surrounding two-part commercial blocks with party walls and ornamentation restricted to one or two facades, the Sojourners Club exhibits distinguishing stylistic components on each of its four elevations.

What is more, the clubhouse has robust connections with local social history. The nominated property is associated with leading women, their philanthropies and aspects of the Women's Club Movement. It housed an organization focused on the development of women's intellectual, cultural, social, domestic and leadership skills and on civic engagement. For over seventy years the nominated property was a center of community activity -- used by this women's club and their principal philanthropy, Adair County's only lending library for its citizens.

Its function as a women's clubhouse and a public library, together with its rare hybridization of Prairie School and Craftsman detailing in the central business district, make the Sojourners Club a significant part of both Kirksville's social history and its architectural environment.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Published Sources

A Book of Adair County History. Kirksville, Missouri: Simpson Printing Co., 1976.

Baker, John Milnes. *American House Styles*. New York City: Norton, 1994.

Blair, Karen J. *The History of American Women's Voluntary Organizations, 1810-1960 : A Guide to Sources*. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1989.

"Book Chatter Club." *Kirksville Daily Express*. 24 July 1955: 5.

Bowcock, J.B. *A History of Kirksville*. N.p.: n.p., 1925.

Brooks, H. Allen. *The Prairie School*. New York City: W.W. Norton, 2006.

------. *The Prairie School: Frank Lloyd Wright and his Midwest Contemporaries*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1972.

"Citizens Mass Meeting." *Kirksville Journal*. 18 September 1902: 1.

"City Election." *Kirksville Daily Express*. 2 April 1918: 1.

"City Election Results." *Kirksville Democrat*. 4 April 1902: 1.

"Collection of Library Tax." *Kirksville Journal*. 11 December 1902: 1.

Davey, Peter. *Architecture of the Arts and Crafts Movement*. New York City: Rizzoli, 1980.

Echo. Kirksville, Missouri: First District Normal School, 1902.

Echo. Kirksville, Missouri: First District Normal School, 1904.

Echo. Kirksville, Missouri: First District Normal School, 1906.

Echo. Kirksville, Missouri: First District Normal School, 1915.

Echo. Kirksville, Missouri: First District Normal School, 1916.

"Elks to Build Home." *Kirksville Journal*. 10 March 1910: 1.

Fire Insurance Maps of Kirksville, Missouri. New York City: Sanborn Map Company, 1914.

Fire Insurance Maps of Kirksville, Missouri. New York City: Sanborn Map Company, 1925.

"Formal Opening of Elks Home." *Kirksville Journal.* 29 December 1910: 1.

Gere, Anne Ruggles. *Intimate Practices: Literacy and Cultural Work in U.S. Women's Clubs, 1880 - 1920.* Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois, 1997.

"Gives History of Sojourners Group Here." *Kirksville Daily Express.* 6 February 1955: 5.

Hoffman, W.H. *City Directory of Kirksville, Missouri.* Quincy, Illinois: Hoffman Directories, 1913.
-----. *City Directory of Kirksville, Missouri.* Quincy, Illinois: Hoffman Directories, 1916.

-----. *City Directory of Kirksville, Missouri.* Quincy, Illinois: Hoffman Directories, 1921.

Houde, Mary Jean. *Reaching Out: A Story of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.* Washington, D.C.: General Federation of Women's Clubs, 1989.

"Hundreds Attend Elks Opening." *Kirksville Journal.* 5 January 1911: 1.

"Irwin Dunbar Dies; Well Known Architect Here." *Kirksville Daily Express.* 31 August 1975: 1-2.

Jones, Amanda, ed. *Adair County Revisited: Pictorial History of the 20th Century in Adair County, Missouri.* Marceline, Missouri: Heritage House Publishing, 1999.

Kaplan, Wendy. *The Art that is Life: The Arts and Crafts Movement in America, 1875-1920.* Boston: Museum of Fine Arts and Little, Brown, 1987.

Knobbs, W.J. and the Kirksville Chamber of Commerce. *Photographic Description of Kirksville, Missouri.* Kirksville, Missouri: Chamber of Commerce, 1928.

Knupfer, Anne Meis, and Christine A. Woyshner, eds. *The Educational Work of Women's Organizations, 1890-1960.* New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.

"Letter from Andrew Carnegie." *Kirksville Democrat.* 2 May 1902: 1.

"Library Laconics." *Kirksville Democrat.* 12 September 1902: 1.

"The Library Site." *Kirksville Democrat.* 5 September 1902: 1.

"Local Items." *Kirksville Democrat.* 7 November 1902: 5.

"Local Items." *Weekly Graphic.* 12 December 1902: 2.

Maddex, Diane. *Bungalow Nation*. New York City: Harry N. Abrams, 2003.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York City: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984.

Naylor, Gillian. *The Arts and Crafts Movement*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press, 1980.

-----. *The Arts and Crafts Movement: A Study of Its Sources, Ideals and Influence on Design Theory. Cambridge, Massachusetts:* MIT Press, 1980.

Neill, Mark. H. "The Women's Rights Movement in Missouri." *Journal of the Missouri Bar*. March-April 2011: 114-119.

"A New Literary Club." *Kirksville Journal*. 4 November 1897: 5.

Nichols, David C. *Founding the Future: A History of Truman State University*. Kirksville, Missouri: Truman State University Press, 2007.

Ohman, Marian M. *Twenty Towns*. Columbia, Missouri: University of Missouri – Columbia, Extension Division, 1985.

Poppeliers, John C., et al. *What Style Is It: A Guide to American Architecture*. New York City: Preservation Press and John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1983.

"Public Library." *Kirksville Journal*. 1 May 1902: 1.

"Question of Tax." *Kirksville Journal*. 6 November 1902: 1.

Rifkind, Carole. *A Field Guide to American Architecture*. New York City: New American Library, 1980.

Sanders, Barry. *A Complex Fate: Gustav Stickley and the Craftsman Movement*. Washington, D.C.: Preservation Press, 1996.

"Saturday Mass Meeting." *Kirksville Democrat*. 19 September 1902: 1, 4, 5.

Saunders, John. "The Women of the Clubs: 1890-1920." *Preservation Issues*, 6:2. March/April 1996.

"Sojourners Pack Books for Missouri Penitentiary." *Kirksville Daily Express*. 1 December 1954, B:4.

"Sojourners Library Had Its Beginning in 1910." *Kirksville Daily Express*. 13 February 1944: 5.

Thompson, Amanda, ed. *Pages of Our Past: Adair County Missouri*. Marceline, Missouri: Heritage House, 1993.

Tinniswood, Adrian. *The Arts & Crafts House,* New York City: Watson-Guptill Publications, 1999.

"Two Women Elected," *Kirksville Daily Express*, 3 April 1918: 1.

"Two Women Start Work on School Board," *Kirksville Daily Express*, 5 April 1918: 3.

Van Laningham, J.L. *Native of Adair*. Marceline, Missouri: Walsworth Publishing Co., 1993.

Violette, E.M. *History of Adair County*. Kirksville, Missouri: Denslow History Co., 1911.

Walter, Shannon. "Sojourner's offers culture." *The Index*. 1 April 2013: 13.

Whiffen, Marcus. *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press, 1996.

Unpublished Sources

Baxter, Karen Bode. *Missouri Historic Inventory Form – 211 S. Elson St.* Kirksville, Missouri, 2010. Copy in Missouri Cultural Resource Inventory, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, Missouri.

Missouri Federation of Women's Clubs, Record Books, 1896-1933. 5 Volumes. The State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri.

Photographs in the Adair County Historical Society, Kirksville, Missouri.

Photographs in the Special Collections Department, Pickler Memorial Library, Truman State University, Kirksville, Missouri.

Selby, P.O. *Bits of Adair County History*. Unpublished manuscript. Vols. 1-7, 1960-1975. Pickler Memorial Library, Truman State University, Kirksville, Missouri.

-----. *A Historical Tour of Adair County*. Unpublished manuscript. 1973. Pickler Memorial Library, Truman State University, Kirksville, Missouri.

Sojourners Club Minutes: 1904 - 1910. Adair County Historical Society, Kirksville, Missouri.

Sojourners Club Yearbooks: 1900 - 1928. Adair County Historical Society, Kirksville, Missouri.

Sojourners Club Yearbooks: 1928 - 1943. Adair County Historical Society, Kirksville, Missouri.

Sojourners Club Yearbooks: 1943 -1955. Adair County Historical Society, Kirksville, Missouri.

Thomas, John. *Missouri Historic Inventory Form – 211 S. Elson*. Kirksville, Missouri: NEMO RPC, 1986. Copy in Missouri Cultural Resource Inventory, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, Missouri.

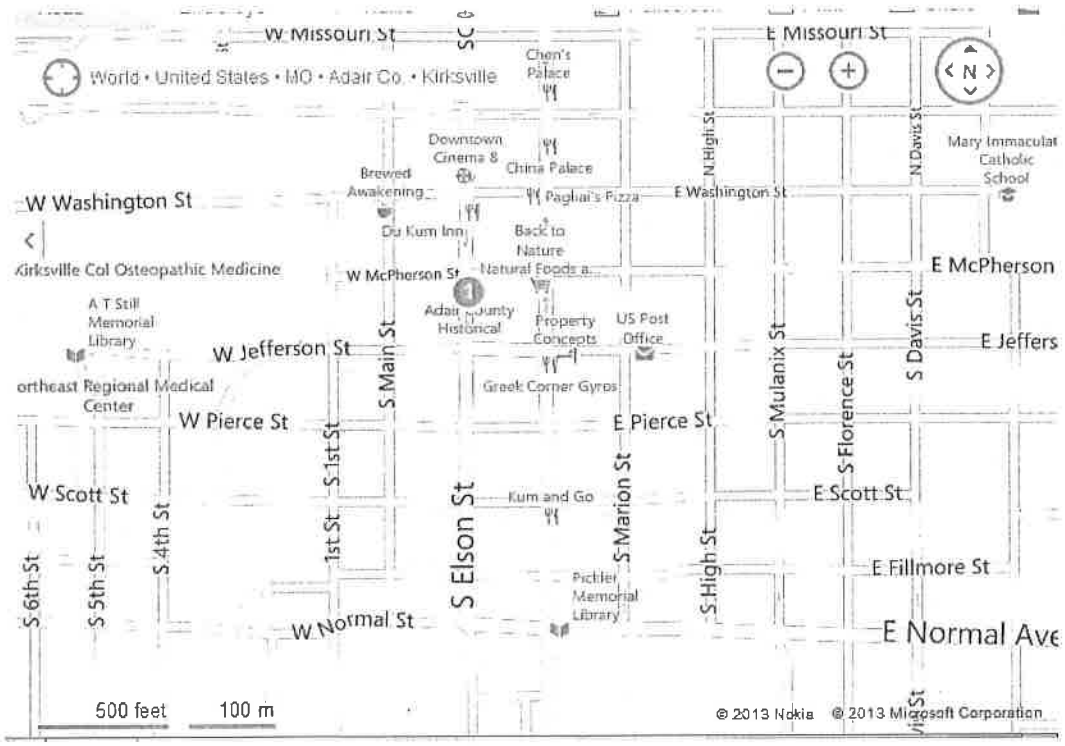
White, Kristin Kate. "Training a Nation: The General Federation of Women's Clubs' Rhetorical Education and American Citizenship, 1890-1930" Ph.D. dissertation, Ohio State University, 2010.

Verbal Boundary Description

All of Lot 2, Block 23, Original Town, Section 9, Township 62, Range 15 -- a sector laid out in the center of Kirksville, Adair County, Missouri.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries include all of the single lot donated to the Sojourners Club in 1910 and historically associated with its clubhouse since 1916.



1) Sojourners Club
211 South Elson Street
Kirksville
Missouri, 63501

Latitude	**40.193366**
Longitude	**-92.584048**

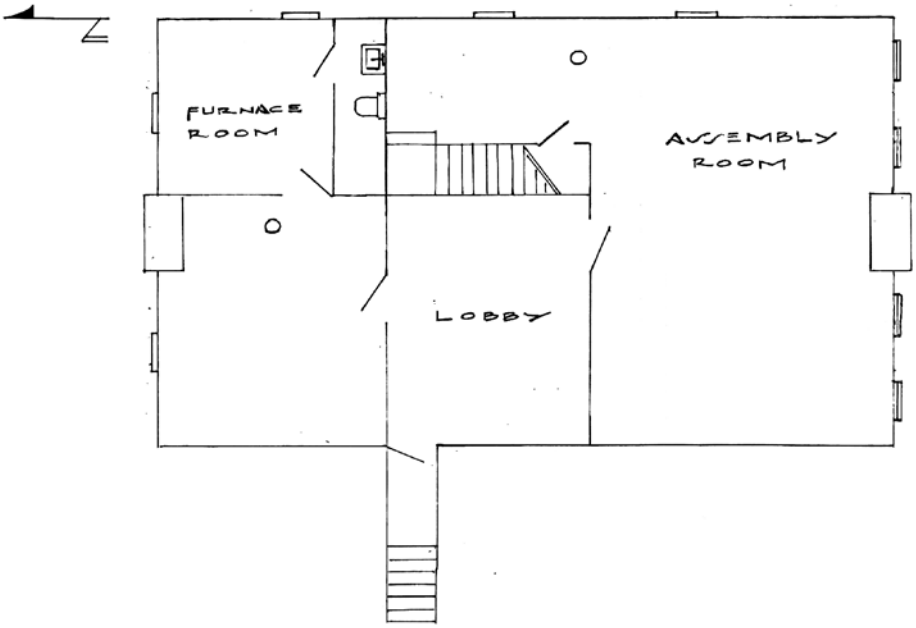


Image B Sojourners Club, Basement. Not to scale.

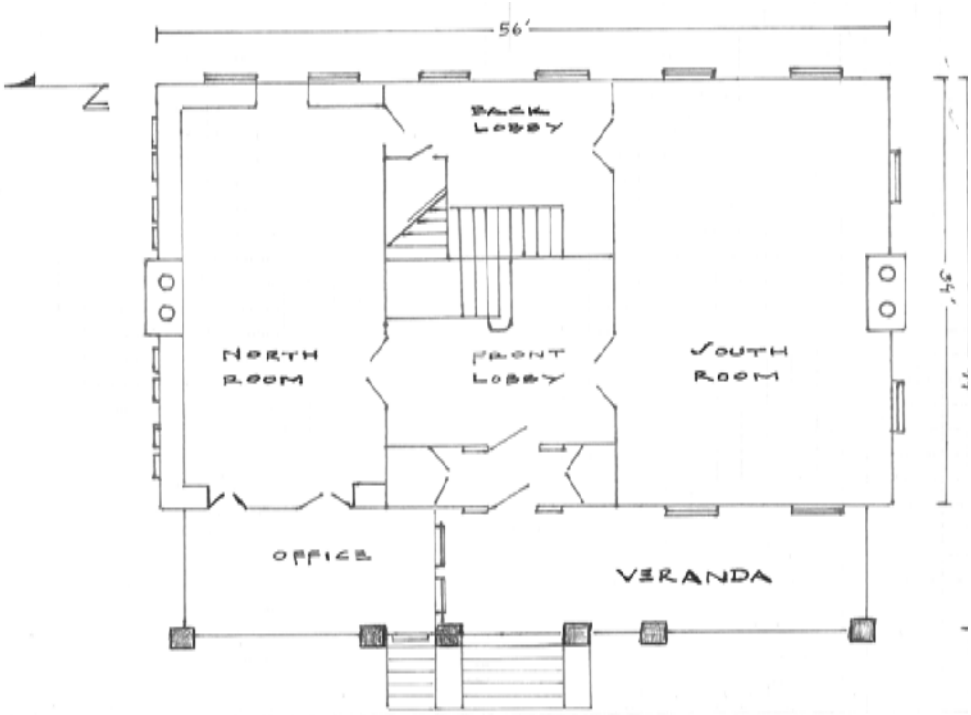


Image C Sojourners Club, First Floor. Not to scale.

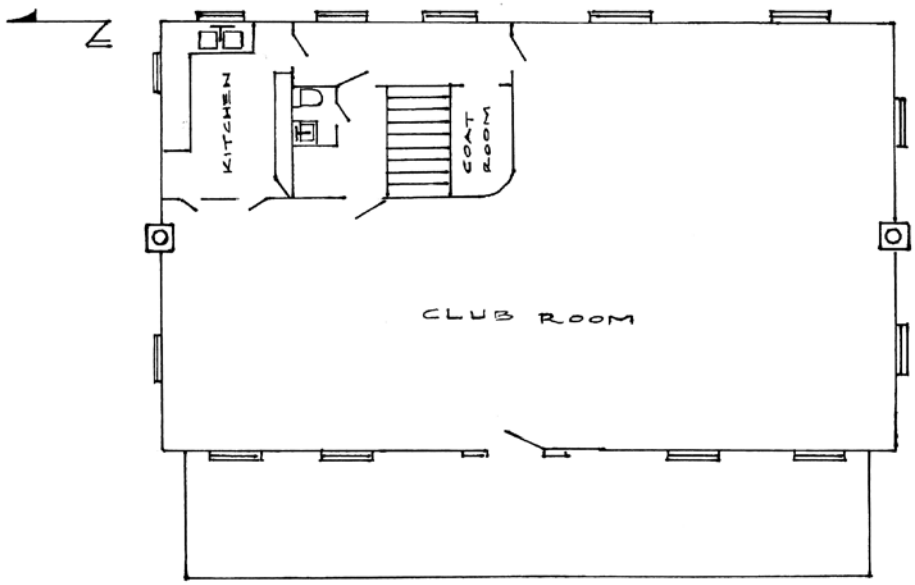


Image D Sojourners Club, Second Floor. Not to scale.

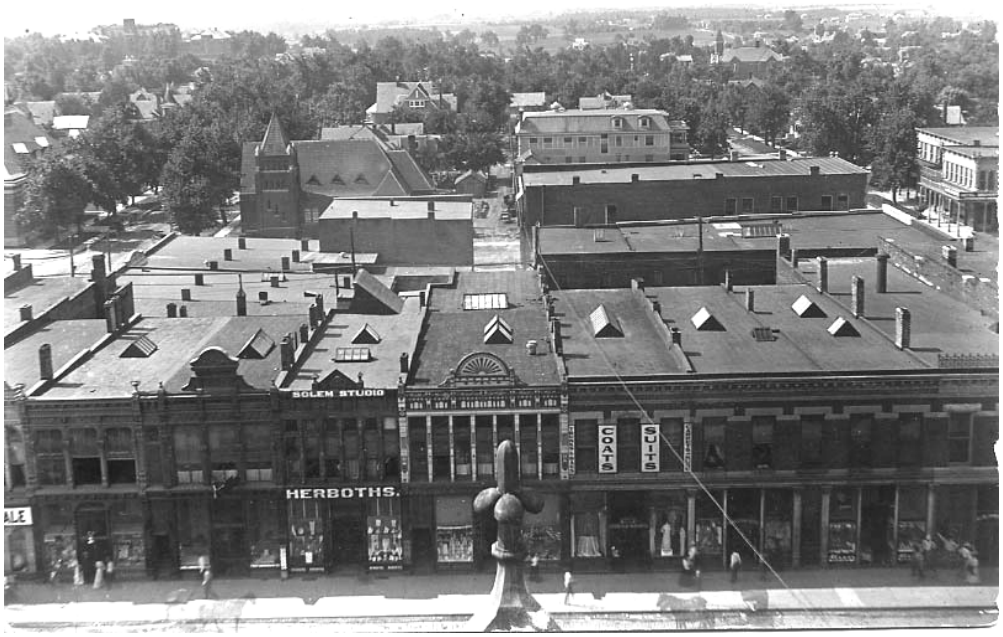


Image E View from the Adair County Courthouse, looking south (circa 1912). The Sojourners Club was built on the vacant lot in between the Journal Printing Company (built 1905, the tall two-part commercial building in the right mid-ground of the photograph) and the Elks Club (built 1910, the two story building with attic dormers immediately above the Journal Printing Company.

Image F Sojourners Club, West Façade, c. 1928. Note the original configuration of the veranda and second story terrace (closed balustrade) as well as the contrasting paint on the second story stucco and wood. (Truman State University).

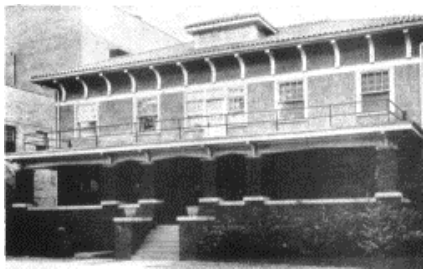


Image G The Sojourners Club, 1949. (Truman State University).

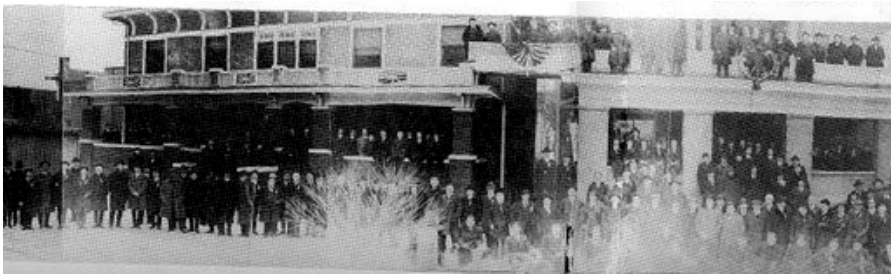


Image H The Sojourners Club and Elks Club, c. 1920. (Adair County Historical Society).

Image I First Floor: Staircase, looking east.

Image J Second Floor: Kitchen, looking west.

Image K Luncheon for the CW Chapter of the BPOE, 1937, Kirksville, MO. View of the Club Room, looking north. (Truman State University).

Image L The Princess Theatre (built 1915), Kirksville, MO. Extant. 202 S. Franklin St.

Image M The Acacia Club (built 1916), Kirksville, MO. Extant. 207 E. Jefferson St.

Image N Trinity Episcopal Church (built 1917), Kirksville, MO. Extant. 124 N. Mulanix St. NR Listed 01//02/08.

Image O Dr. Clarke House (built 1915-1916), Fairfield, IA. Extant. 500 S. Main St. NR Listed 02/08/80.

Image P Ernest M. Wood Studio (built 1912), Quincy, IL. Extant. 126 N. 8th St. NR Listed 08/12/82.

Image Q Dr. Edward Grim House (built 1916), Kirksville, MO. Extant. 214 E. Patterson St.

Image R The Masonic Temple Building (built 1890), Kirksville, MO. Razed.

Image S The Baylor Building (built 1885) where The Knights of Pythias met in a rented room upstairs. Kirksville, MO. Extant. 121 W. Washington St.

Image T The Odd Fellows Building (built 1913), is in the foreground on the far right. Kirksville, MO. (Pickler Memorial Library). Razed.

Image U The Elks Club (built 1910), Kirksville, MO. (Truman State University). Razed.

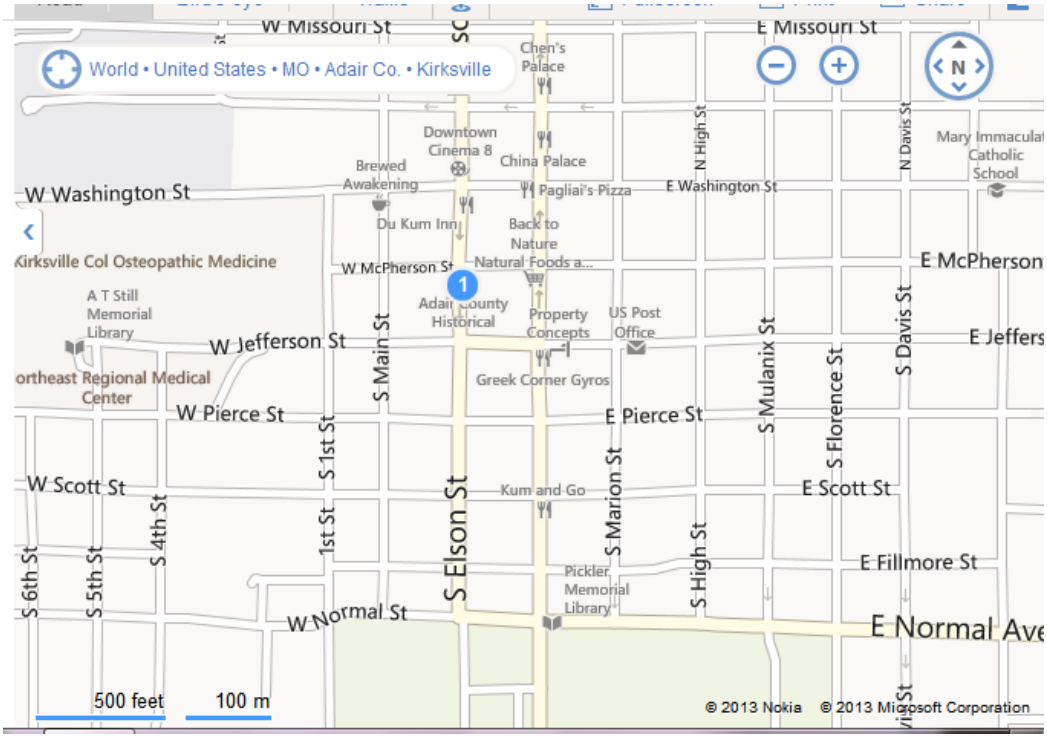
Image V Proposed Masonic Temple (1920), Kirksville, MO (Kirksville Masonic Temple Association).

Image W Book Review Club in the Club Room, Second Floor, Sojourners Club, in 1935. (Adair County Historical Society).

Image X North Room, First Floor, Sojourners Club, circa 1960, (Adair County Historical Society).

Image Y Children's Library, Basement, Sojourners Club, in 1955. (Adair County Historical Society).

Image Z Book Chatter Club meeting in the Children's Library, Basement, Sojourners Club, in 1955. (Adair County Historical Society).



1) Sojourners Club
211 South Elson Street
Kirksville
Missouri, 63501

Latitude	**40.193366**
Longitude	**-92.584048**

VISITORS WELCOME
ADAIR COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MUSEUM • LIBRARY

VISITORS WELCOME
ADAIR COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MUSEUM • LIBRARY

PORTER SCHOOL