

# The *TIMES* of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

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JUNE 1986

FREE

The oldest neighborhood newspaper in St. Louis

## Rehab Refresher: Historic District Standards Explained

It has been several years since anything detailed has been published about the Skinker-DeBaliviere Historic District, which also includes Lindell (the Catlin Tract) and the city portion of Parkview. As spring and early summer are busy times for home improvements and rehab projects and with all the new neighborhood residents, this seemed like an opportune time to review the Historic District Standards as well as what work requires building permits. A map accompanies this article outlining the boundaries of the district as amended in 1984.

### When Are Permits Required?

Almost all exterior changes to a building within the Historic District require building permits, including:

- 1) Window and door replacements — even if the replacement is identical to the original. Storm doors and windows do not require permits if they are color finished.
- 2) Roofing — if new roofing material is not identical to the old roof covering, i.e. if clay tiles are replaced with asphalt shingles. Also if material being used is the same as the old roof, but it is the third reroofing.
- 3) Removal of any architectural details, such as cornices, soffits, porch railings, columns, ornamental iron work, chimneys, window trim.
- 4) Any demolition work, including frame garages, building additions, porches.
- 5) Any permanent closure of windows, doors or commercial storefronts.
- 6) Painting of any previously unpainted brick or stone surface.
- 7) Construction of any permanent structure 18" high including: fences, decks, garages, storage sheds larger than 35 square feet, retaining walls, porches.
- 8) Interior permits are required if the use of the building is being changed, walls are being moved or removed and/or if the baths and kitchens are being extensively remodelled.

With very few exceptions, the building permit requirements for structures in historic districts are the same as for those in non-designated areas. Permits are required by the City in order to assure safe construction practices and materials and to maintain property values. In an historic district, the preservation of individual buildings as well as the architectural features which provide the district its visual integrity become important.

### Why Is Skinker-DeBaliviere/Catlin Tract/Parkview An Historic District?

The Skinker DeBaliviere area was designated an historic district primarily because it is a well-preserved, early twentieth century neighborhood possessing a high degree of visual continuity — a quality referred to as a "sense of time and place." This character comes from several factors: the neighborhood was developed for the most part during a short period of time (1905-1925) and the development was well regulated. Building types, materials, uniform set-back from the street, scale, and styles all combine to form this sense of time and place. The accompanying photo of the 5800 block of DeGiverville shows the rhythm and balance of one of the area's streetscapes. In larger and smaller scales, this is repeated along all of the streets.

### Residential Appearance Standards

In order to preserve the overall appearance of the neighborhood the following standards were developed by neighborhood residents in 1977. They were established to control the use of structures and to establish criteria by which alterations to existing structures as well as new construction can be reviewed by the City's Heritage & Urban Design Commission. Some of the guidelines are precise whereas others are, by necessity, more general, allowing a range of alternative solutions all of which are compatible with the existing neighborhood. In the two private areas included, Parkview and the Catlin Tract, the trust indentures and other legal agreements remain in full effect in addition to and unaffected by the Historic District standards. Due to space limitation, only the standards for residential buildings are printed below; standards also exist for commercial and industrial buildings.



Photo by King Schoenfeld

5800 block of DeGiverville

1. **Use:** A building or premises shall be utilized only for the uses permitted in the zoning district within which the building or premises is located.
2. **Structures:** New construction or alterations to existing structures.
  - a. **Height:** New buildings or altered existing building, including all appurtenances, must be constructed to within 15% of the average height of existing residential building on the block.
  - b. **Location, Spacing and Setback:** New or moved structures shall be positioned on their lots so that any existing rhythm of recurrent building masses to spaces is continued. Existing building lines shall be strictly maintained, with no portion of any building (excepting any open porch, open veranda, open stone platform, or open balcony) to be constructed beyond the existing building line. Aforesaid open porches or platforms shall not extend beyond the existing front porch line of the block. No existing front porches may be enclosed. All designs for new construction, or for major alterations to the front of a house or premises, must be approved by the Heritage & Urban Design Commission (HUDC).
  - c. **Exterior materials:** Exterior materials when visible from the street must be of the type originally used when the Skinker-DeBaliviere area was developed: brick, stone, stucco, wood, and wrought and cast iron. Aluminum siding or other non-impact-resistant exterior materials are not acceptable. Material samples along with plans for their use must be submitted to the HUDC for approval. Perma-stone (or other artificial masonry) or other siding or facing materials are not generally acceptable. Exposed concrete is not acceptable.
  - d. **Details:** Architectural details on existing structures shall be maintained in a similar size, shape, detail and material. Renovations should not alter any existing window or door opening, or remove any columns, pediments, dormers, porches, bay windows, or other important architectural features unless they are badly deteriorated, or unless the design of any new construction is compatible in scale, materials, and color with existing features of the building and with adjacent historical structures. All new or replacement storm windows and screen frames, and storm and screen door frames shall be of wood or factory-finished color metal when on the front of the building. Raw or unfinished aluminum is not acceptable, and where it currently exists, owners are encouraged to paint it. Awnings on the front of a house should be canvas or canvas-type materials. Metal awnings are not acceptable. If a building has been inappropriately "modernized," restoration or design improvements are encouraged.

New buildings should be detailed so as to be compatible with existing building, respecting scale, rhythm, window proportions, important cornice lines, use of materials, etc.

Continued on page 7

## ROLLER SKATING PARTY

The second annual Skinker DeBaliviere Roller Skating Party will be held on Saturday, June 21, from 5:15 to 7:15 p.m. at Steinberg Memorial Skating Rink in Forest Park.

Admission is \$3.00 for adults and \$1.50 for children ages six to twelve. Children under six are free. Rink regulations require that we sell tickets in advance only. No tickets can be sold at the gate.

Your ticket will entitle you to two hours of private skating amid the sun and fresh air, and light refreshments.

Anyone interested in recording a party tape of good roller skating music to be played during the event should contact Bob Dowgwillo (726-0740) as soon as possible.

Hope to see you at the rink.

## A Tradition Is Broken —

## Times To Publish July Issue

For the first time in sixteen years, *The Times* will be publishing a July issue. The deadline will be June 15 with distribution the first weekend of July. We will not publish in August (even volunteers need a vacation). The deadline for the September issue will be August 15.

# Flag Day Marks Festivities For June Jubilee

Saturday, June 14 is the date scheduled for the annual Rosedale Rags to Riches festival that gets the summer off to a great start.

Rags to Riches is sponsored by the Rosedale Neighborhood Association, but really benefits the entire Skinker-DeBaliviere Community, and participants from Washington Heights and Parkview are welcome. This year there will be a special book sale that will help raise needed funds for the continued publication of *The Times of Skinker DeBaliviere*.

There will be some additional advance publicity in other areas of the city in order to attract more people and provide a greater opportunity for those who want to have a yard sale. With this increased publicity, we will need more firm commitments for yard sales and reservations for a spot on the map should be made early. Rosedale will provide detailed maps for shoppers which will outline where the yard sales will be. The cost for a yard sale and a spot on the map will be \$750 per household and reservations should be made through Nancy Farmer at the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council. Combining forces with a neighbor could be a possibility for those who do not have a lot to sell on their own.

As in past years, food and refreshments will be available for a charge. There is even talk of ribs as a possibility for variety from hot dogs and hamburgers. The Men's Liberation Bakesale will also hold forth. Naturally, anonymous contributions will be needed, so dust off that flour sifter and sharpen those skills. Call Paul Kurtz at 727-6377 to donate baked goods.

The barbecue, bake sale, and bookfair will all be located on the parking area of the Kingsbury Animal Hospital, Kingsbury and Skinker, for which we would like to thank Steve Brammeier for his gracious support. The events will begin at 8:30 a.m. on June 14 and any questions or suggestions should be directed to Nancy Farmer at the Council, 862-5122, or Frank Burke at 862-2279, evenings.



A happy moment from "Penelope, Pride of the Pickle Factory."

## "Penelope" Pleases Packed House

by Tom and Ginny Klevorn

*Applause, applause, applause...* These are the only words which will adequately describe the actors, set, and fare of the Skinker DeBaliviere 20th Anniversary Dinner Theatre held on Saturday, May 17, 1986, at New City School.

The presentation, "Penelope, Pride of the Pickle Factory," brought to life some of the many talented actors and actresses living in Skinker-DeBaliviere. You may know them better as the "Double Decade Pickled Players."

Rita Sweets — with assistance from Arline Webb, Susan Fay, and Nancy Farmer — did an outstanding job directing the production. The play revolved around Jasper Grimwold (Dan Shea) trying to steal the secret formula for Blocker's pickles and a love story between good, honest Penelope Trueheart (Karen Kelsey) and handsome, honest Melvin Wentworth (Paul Kurtz).

Dan Shea, through his exceptional performance as the villain, caused the audience to "boo" and "hiss" every time he slithered onto the stage. Rich Lake, an undercover agent on the trail of Grimwold, added an element of adventure by posing as Count Frisby, whom Penelope distrusted and Bertha Blocker (Kathleen Williams) loved. Widow Trueheart (Betty Nerviani) gave a convincing performance as Penelope's mother until she felt compelled to disclose that Bertha Blocker was Penelope's true mother. Following Cal Stuart's lead, the audience of approximately 250, slipped into an exciting and enjoyable evening.

The Double Decade Pickled Players included: Karen Kelsey, Venita Lake, Tina Renard Offner, Peggy Peters, Roy Bell, Dan Shea, Kathleen Williams, Rich Lake, Paul Kurtz, Betty Nerviani, Al Nerviani, and Cal Stuart, with guest appearances by John Roach and Steve Vossmeier.

The production staff included: Rita Sweets, Arline Webb, Susan Fay, Nancy Farmer, Bill Christman, Bob Dowgwillo, Peggy Peters, Venita Lake, Steven Radecke, Larry Pressgrove, Dale White, and Ken Cohen.

The cooks included: Neville Vatcha, Sam Green, and Hitch Powell.

A good time was had by all who attended.

### The TIMES of... SKINKER DEBALIVIERE

Editor: Katie Kurtz, 727-6377

Business Manager: Jane Geer, 721-8584

The Times of Skinker-DeBaliviere is published by the West End Publishing Co., a not-for-profit, community organization. Members of the Board of Directors are:

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#### Guidelines for Submitting Copy

*The Times* welcomes unsolicited articles and letters. Because of the small size and volunteer nature of the writing staff, the quality and range of *The Times* has always depended in large part on submissions from non-staff area residents.

All material—articles, letters, notices, classified ads—must be typewritten on opaque paper, double-spaced, and signed. Signatures on correspondence to the editor may, on publication, be omitted by request. Calendar listings should be phoned or mailed to the staff member responsible for the Calendar of Events. Deadline for all copy is the 15th of the month.

In a news article it is essential that the writer state the most important information in the first paragraph. The writer is responsible for the accuracy of data, including times, dates, locations and particularly the spelling of names.

Any pictures or illustrations submitted should be in black and white.

The editor retains the right to omit or alter any material.

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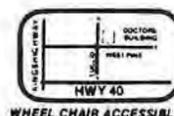
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# June Calendar

- 1 Exhibit opening: "Where the Sun of Freedom Shines," tracing history of German settlement in Missouri from 1800 to present. U. City Public Library, 6701 Delmar. Call 727-3150 for times. Thru June.  
Continuing at Missouri Historical Society: "Jewish Life in America: Fulfilling the American Dream — 150 Years of Jewish Life in St. Louis," Lionberger Gallery, thru 6/29.
- 8 David Lipman & Charles Klotzer to discuss roles as Jews in the Print Media, 2 p.m., Emerson Auditorium, Missouri Historical Society, free.  
"The Dream Spinner," film of the story of Gottfried Duden and the settlement of "The Land We Cherished," U. City Library auditorium, 6701 Delmar, 2:30 & 3:30 p.m.
- 10 Preschool story hour, 10 a.m., Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union, 367-0714, free. (also 6/17 & 6/24)  
Steven Rowan speaks on "German Radicals and Trouble Makers in Missouri (1850s)," 7:30 p.m., U. City Library Auditorium, 6701 Delmar.
- 11 Steven Rowan speaks on "Germans in Missouri During the Civil War," 7:30 p.m., U. City Library Auditorium, 6701 Delmar, refreshments.
- 12 Jewish Film Series: Jewish Comedy Night — "Insurance" w/ Eddie Cantor; "Cohen on the Telephone" w/ Monroe Silver; Four Marx Brothers Classics; "The Gorilla" w/ the Ritz Brothers. 7-10 p.m., Emerson Auditorium, Missouri Historical Society; \$2 per person includes refreshments.
- 14 5-Kilometer Run to benefit Shriners Hospital, 7:30 a.m. run begins; 8:15 a.m. fitness walk/run begins — both at Kiener Plaza. Fee: \$5. Call 647-9211 to register.  
Rosedale's Annual Rags to Riches Sale, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., call 862-5122 for info. (See related article.)
- 15 Elinor Martineau Coyle will introduce her new book, *Saint Louis Treasures*, in an illustrated talk, 2 p.m., Missouri Historical Society, free.
- 16 Hamilton Community School's summer camps begins and runs thru 8/8. (See related article.)
- 18 Children's Summer Films, "Paddle to the Sea" & "Log Raft," 3 p.m., Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union, free.
- 19 "Patchwork: A Summer on the Frontier," free educational programs for children ages 6 thru 13 begins at Missouri Historical Society, thru July. (See related article.)  
Jewish Film Series: Jews in the Film Industry — "Scarlet Street" w/ Edward G. Robinson; "Golden Boy" by Clifford Odets. 7-10 p.m., Emerson Auditorium, Missouri Historical Society; \$2 per person includes refreshments.  
David W. Detjen speaks on "St. Louis German-American Political Activity, 1900-1920," 7:30 p.m., U. City Library Auditorium, 6701 Delmar, refreshments.
- 21 BREAKFAST — BAGELS AND BARGAINS, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., special event in U. City's Market in the Loop, 6653 Delmar. Open market with artists, craftspeople, flea markets & garage sales. Call 862-6767 for info.
- 2nd Annual Skinker DeBaliviere Roller Skating Party, 5:15-7:15 p.m., Steinberg Memorial Skating Rink, Forest Park, \$3; \$1.50 for children 6-12; under six, free. Call 726-0740 for info. (See related article.)
- 22 "Crossovers: Musical Judaica and Opera" with cantors Ed Fogel and Leon Lissek; 2 p.m., Emerson Auditorium, Missouri Historical Society, free.
- 23 "Turtle tails and tales," program of turtle stories and crafts, 3 p.m., Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union, free.  
CASA Summer Session begins; runs thru 8/2. (See related article.)
- 24 Slide/tape program, "Missouri Origins" which examines conditions in Germany leading to the 19th cent. emigration and experiences of these settlers in Missouri; 7:30 p.m., U. City Auditorium, 6701 Delmar.
- 25 Children's Summer Films, "Home Run for Love" & "Sports Suite," 3 p.m., Cabanne Branch Library, 1106 N. Union, free.  
"The Missouri Rhineland," a slide/tape program depicting German settlement & influence along the Missouri River, 7:30 p.m., U. City Library Auditorium, 6701 Delmar.
- 26 Jewish Film Series: From Anti-Semitism to Inclusion — "Gentleman's Agreement," 7-10 p.m., Emerson Auditorium, Missouri Historical Society; \$2 per person, includes refreshments.
- 29 "Saxon Hills Heritage," a videotape relating the story of the Saxon Lutheran emigration and settlement of Perry County, 2:30 & 3:30 p.m., U. City Library Auditorium, 6701 Delmar.  
"Remembering the St. Louis Jewish Experience" — personal reminiscences of St. Louis Jewish families; 2 p.m., Emerson Auditorium, Missouri Historical Society, free.

# Summer Programs

## ... At CASA

A variety of new programs are in the summer curriculum lineup at CASA Schools for the Arts. They are Jazz Improvisation for Instrumentalists, Jazz Ensemble, RiverFaces Workshop, Ballet, for all ages; Sight-singing, Music Appreciation, Piano for Beginners (children) and Concert Ensemble training.

In addition, the summer morning arts camp for children at CASA Midtown School for the Arts is expanded to five days a week, 9 a.m. to noon.

The summer session at CASA runs six weeks, June 23 through August 2, with registration at all five CASA Schools for the Arts the week of June 16.

Schools and locations are: CASA Linden-

wood, at Lindenwood College, St. Charles; Midtown, 3207 Washington Avenue; University City, 560 Trinity Avenue at Delmar; Webster Groves, 23 North Gore Avenue, and West County, at Maryville College, 13550 Conway Road.

Also available in summer school is regular CASA instruction in orchestral instruments, piano, voice and guitar; visual art classes, modern and jazz dance, mime, ceramics, and creative dramatics. Not all courses are offered at all locations.

For full information on CASA summer courses, including registration dates and times, at the different schools call the CASA Schools office, 863-3033.

## ... At The Historical Society

Children may combine fun with learning in "Patchwork: A Summer on the Frontier," a series of free educational programs presented by the Missouri Historical Society and sponsored by Famous-Barr. Opening June 19, the series will run through July. Each Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., children ages 6 through 13 are invited to learn about aspects of frontier history in the Emerson Auditorium in the Jefferson Memorial Building in Forest Park.

The first theme, "Gee Haw Whimmy Diddle:

The Physics and Fun of Pioneer Toys," offered in cooperation with the St. Louis Science Center, takes place on June 19. The June 24 program, "Tale Blazers of Missouri," will highlight stories collected and told by Carol Kaminsky. "Wildlife of the Frontier," presented in cooperation with the St. Louis Zoo, will take place June 26.

The series continues through July (with the exception of July 3). For a free brochure with a complete listing of programs, please call 361-9265.

## ... At Grace United Methodist Church

The day of fun, excitement, motivational and educational opportunities is fast approaching! The Hamilton Community School's summer camp, "Hands On," starts Monday, June 16 and runs thru August 8 at Grace United Methodist Church, 6199 Waterman.

The theme for this year's program will be "Tools for Building a Better You." The "BEST"

test (Basic Essential Skills Test) which also teaches life skills will be incorporated into the program.

All parents are encouraged to register their children between the age of 6-13; enrollment is limited. The investment cost of this eight-week camp is \$60 for the 1st child; \$30 for the 2nd and 3rd child and \$10 for each additional child per family.

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## New Officers Elected For Rosedale

New officers for the Rosedale Neighborhood Association are in place following an election by acclamation on April 28 during a meeting held at the 28th Ward Democratic Headquarters. There being no nominations from the floor, the proposed slate of candidates was accepted without change.

This meeting was the first general meeting of the Association for 1986. The traditional pot luck dinner preceded business, with plenty of opportunity for neighbor to meet neighbor.

All residents of the 6000 and 6100 blocks of the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood are automatically members of the Association. The Association solicits annual membership dues of \$5.00 per household to help defray operating expenses. Payment of the dues remains voluntary, and can be made at any time.

Rags to Riches is the Association's major fund raising event. This neighborhood-wide yard sale will be held on Saturday, June 14.

Frank Burke (862-2279) is this year's chairman. As in the past, the Association will donate a major portion of the proceeds to our local newspaper, *The Times of Skinker DeBaliviere*.

The executive committee is already looking beyond the yard sale and planning the agenda for the rest of the year. Your ideas, suggestions, and concerns are sought and welcomed. Do not hesitate to contact your duly elected officers.

This year's officers are as follows:

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| President             | Bob Dowgwillo     |
| First Vice President  | Maverine Wilson   |
| Second Vice President | Frank Burke       |
| Secretary             | Steve Littlejohn  |
| Treasurer             | Mary Claire Kerz  |
| North Side Rep        | Paul Kurtz        |
| North Side Alternate  | Ginny Klevorn     |
| South Side Rep        | Karleen Hoerr     |
| South Side Alternate  | Susan Littlefield |

## Brightside Blitzers



Despite threatening skies, Operation Brightside on May 10 was a success. Alleys such as the one above, 6100 McPherson, received a good clean-up. From left are: Zachary Tinsley; Theodore Garcia; Bob Dowgwillo; Alicia, Erica and Arline Webb; and Antwon Shaw.

## Vicissitudes

by Lisa Horner

It's so great when the weather starts allowing us to see more of each other. We lose touch over the long, cold winter, and at last we can catch up and share news.

Late in April, the Rosedale Neighborhood Association held its first official meeting in a very long time, at the 28th Ward Club Headquarters. Those who attended brought a delicious array of "potluck" dishes for all to share. The primary purpose of the meeting was the election of officers. The following slate was unanimously elected:

- Bob Dowgwillo (6100 Pershing) — President
- Maverine Wilson (6000 Washington) — First VP.
- Frank Burke (6100 McPherson) — Second VP.
- Steve Littlejohn (6100 Kingsbury) — Secretary
- Clare Kerz (6100 Washington) — Treasurer
- Karleen Hoerr (6100 Kingsbury) — South rep.
- Paul Kurtz (6000 Washington) — North rep.

On May 10, we had a real opportunity to see our neighbors as well as work side-by-side in real community effort, as we took to the alleys with shovels and brooms for Operation Brightside's Blitz Day. The alleys sure needed the spruce up and many neighbors turned out to do just that. Fortunately, the rain held off until afternoon. Sam Green, our Area Commander, was at the 28th Ward Headquarters early, handing out tools, bags, and flowers. Later, Father Polizzi, Ray Breun, and Bob Schnaible were busy cooking up enough hot dogs to keep the workers satisfied. Congratulations to Sally Boggemann, 6100 Washington, and her daughter, Sarah Reading, the new neighborhood celebrities. A picture of them cleaning their alley was on the front page of the Central West End Journal, as a lead-in to the story on Blitz Day.

The brightest spot in the last month's social events, however, was the outstanding Skinker-DeBaliviere Dinner Theater on May 17. What a treat! I'm sure no one will ever forget Paul Kurtz as the dashing hero, or Karen Kelsey as his cheerful, sweet, honest, and loyal heroine. Especially memorable was Dan Shea's portrayal of the evil villain — SUPER! It was so nice to see everyone all dressed up and having such fun. Sam Green and Neville Vatcha deserve a lot of credit for preparing almost 200 filet mignons. I'm not sure if Pat McLafferty, who was responsible for organizing and serving the dinner, ever got a chance to sit down. Nor did Nancy Farmer, executive director of the Community Council, and Karleen Hoerr, president. They are to be congratulated for putting this event together. What a marvelous evening.

We'd like to welcome Rebecca Wu, who is the new secretary at the Community Council office. Rebecca is currently living in U. City, but plans to make Skinker-DeBaliviere her home in August when she marries James Bakeman, 6100 Pershing. James has recently graduated from the seminary and hopes to become a minister soon. Rebecca, besides being a secretary, loves the piano. She had her own studio and gives piano lessons.

Another welcome is extended to new neighborhood residents, Norman Eisenberg and Karen MacCausland, 6100 Westminster. Also part of their family are Joshua Moore, 7, Karen's son, and their one year-old son, Aaron. Karen works for Christian Hospital's substance abuse program as a counselor at Edwardsville High School. She recently finished her Master's Degree at Washington University doing research in our area and recent efforts to renovate. That research is what led Norman and Karen to buy a home in the neighborhood. Norman is an analyst for the U.S. government at the records center on Page.

As part of the River Styx Poetry Series, David Clewell, 6100 Pershing, gave a reading of his poetry at Duff's Restaurant on May 19. David is a professor at Webster University in the English department.

Congratulations to Al Nerviani on his recent retirement. Al and Betty Nerviani live in the 6100 block of Kingsbury.

Congratulations are also extended to Greg Freeman of 5700 DeGiverville. Greg was promoted to Late Night City Editor at the Post. Elizabeth Freeman, Greg's wife, is a freelance writer and is on the *Times* board.

The *Times* is really sorry to be losing Ellen Matthews, 6300 Pershing. Ellen's husband, Dwight, has taken a position at Cornell and their family will be moving to New York this summer. Ellen and Dwight will be missed in the neighborhood as well as at New City School, where Ellen has been teaching. Fortunately, Susan Rothschild, 6200 Washington, will be replacing Ellen to represent Parkview on the *Times* board.

Speaking of Parkview, it has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places. More on that in the September issue.

Mark your calendars now for alternating Sundays beginning September 7 for Four Evenings at Four Corners. It promises to be great entertainment.

Don't forget our next big neighborhood event is Rags to Riches on June 14. Even if you're not planning a yard sale, you might find the bargain you've been looking for. Hope to see you out and about that day.

Sorry, Steve, I wanted to write about the very old turtle you found in your back yard, but I ran out of space. Really!

## In Your Ear

by Tom Hoerr

As noted elsewhere in this gala issue, the now-annual RAGS TO RICHES neighborhood "trade your junk" sale is about to begin. There's something about a rummage sale that brings out the best in humanity. Old toys are discarded along with unfulfilled dreams and worn-out shoes. If an undergraduate archeological student can tell a lot about ancient Greeks by the remnants of their garbage, think what we can all know about each other by perusing the "for sale" pile down the block!

Our garbage contains, surprisingly, things we value. Think about that for a second: sure, we throw away things that are no longer useful to us, but they obviously had utility and value in the first place or we wouldn't have had them to throw away. Archeologists find pottery, coins, and tools, all items of worth. You never hear of an archeologist finding a TV Guide, the *Globe's* editorial page, or road map of LaDue, now, do you? Of course not! Those things just weren't important to the people of ancient Greece.

Now I'm not against rummage or garage sales, mind you. In fact, I suspect that it's only because my household has had such sales that my marriage has survived 'to these many years. My wife, you see, has an absolute fetish for shoes. Somehow in her early childhood, my wife's mother must have made her wear shoeboxes or soup cans to school (maybe that's why her nickname was "Campbells!"). At the very least, whenever she did get to purchase new shoes, she wasn't allowed to wear them home from the store. Well, you can imagine how she reacts to that now that she's an adult with her own charge account(s). (Charge accounts which she never ceases to tell me are based on her income.)

Karleen has so many shoes that when you look in her closet, it looks like her shoes have shoes! She has spring shoes, sandals, fall shoes, prom shoes, summer shoes, open-toed shoes, athletic shoes, casual shoes, formal shoes, winter shoes, boots, comfortable shoes, (many) uncomfortable shoes, tall shoes, soft-soled shoes, borrowed and unreturned shoes, virgin shoes still in the box, toe shoes, and semi-casual shoes. Then she has shoes that she actually wears, all of the above again only this time in her size. If you gandered in her closet, you'd think there was a shoe convention taking place.

What's worse is that not only is her walk-in closet full of shoes, they're not even arranged in any logical semblance. I'm not an orderly person, as my desk (and life) will attest, but everyone knows that at the very least, shoes should be arranged heel-toe-heel-toe. Shoes should be lined up in an array, wing-tip to wing-tip, not unlike the American bombers when they were attacked at Pearl Harbor. Granted, it almost cost us the Pacific at Pearl,

but no one is going to bomb the shoes. At least you could then have a reasonable chance of getting a matched set on the first one or two or eleven tries. My wife is unfailingly late and most often it's because she's looking for "the other shoe." I swear, sometimes I think that there is no "other shoe"; it's like an apparition, the "other shoe" is somewhere with Judge Crater, Amelia Earhart, and the Treasure of Sierra Madre. In the mad hunt not to be later than we already are, the shoes she grabs are like snowflakes: no two are ever alike.

If the shoes can't be lined up, they should at least be arranged by color or season or arch support. But not my wife, no siree! Her method for arranging shoes is to throw them in the closet on top of one another. Karleen has the Darwinian philosophy of shoe survival. She kind of figures that the strongest shoes will win and rise to the top.

Years ago we found that someone had come in the house and used a Swiss Army Knife to slash the insteps of all her shoes. The police came and told us that they knew of the criminal although they were unable to identify him other than that he was some kind of arch-fiend.

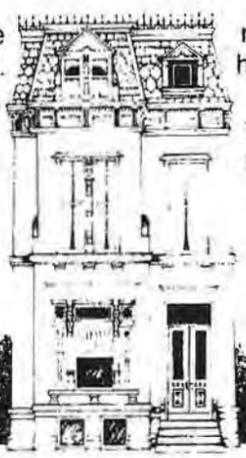
Back to the marriage: Why, you ask, is it only because of such household sales that my marriage has survived? Because at every sale my wife sells a pack of her shoes. That's right, the shoes listed above are those left after several garage sales where hoards and teeming masses of her shoes were sold. It's kind of like the desert, though; I mean, you can sell some sand, but the Sahara is still the Sahara. Without the sales, her shoes would have grown and multiplied, not unlike the scene in Disney's "The Sorcerer's Apprentice." Can't you just see Karleen, I mean Mickey, wearing his sorcerer's hat and using a broom, fighting against her shoes as they pour down the stairs? My wife is the only person I know who couldn't understand why Mrs. Marcos was criticized for *her* shoe collection.

It's not as if Karleen even wears the shoes. There's just something about all these shoes in her closet that she enjoys. I personally don't understand this. I mean, I have a clock collection, a cigarette table lighter collection, a book collection, am beginning to collect chess sets, and love to buy funky old statues, but that's different. At least you can use the things I collect.

Anyway, on RAGS TO RICHES day, if you're in the Rosedale neighborhood looking for size 5½ ladies shoes, you'll know where to go. If you're looking for shoeboxes (empty or full) you'll also know where to go. And, while there are no guarantees, I wouldn't be at all surprised if Mrs. Marcos shows up with her credit cards or gold bullion in hand. If she does, I'll be the first to say, "I toed you so."

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# Texas: More Than 150 Years of St. Louis Interests

by Ray Breun

Mexico won its independence from Spain in 1821. That victory allowed the mercantilist and trading interests of St. Louis to venture into the Santa Fe trade. Previously, Auguste P. Chouteau and Jules DeMun had been imprisoned in 1817 when they tried to trade in the Santa Fe market. The Spanish stopped them and one of the McKnight boys, either Robert or John, on their way to Chihuahua from Santa Fe and put them in prison for nearly two years. The trade with the Southwest out of St. Louis only began in earnest after Mexican independence in 1821.

The Santa Fe Trail begins in Independence, but its source is St. Louis. When the Bent brothers, William and Charles, built Bents' Fort on the Arkansas River in Colorado, they brought St. Louis trading expertise to the edge of United States Territory. At that point, the trail crossed the Arkansas into Mexican lands. Santa Fe was the focal point of the Southwest trading area. The profits were enormous, and so were the risks. Both Bents died violently. Yet, through Santa Fe went most of the trade to Texas until after that country won independence in 1836 and voted to become a part of the United States in 1845.

The year of Mexican independence was also the year the Bank of Missouri failed. That event so disappointed Moses Austin, one of the major stock holders of the bank, that he gave up his United States citizenship, went to Mexico, and took title to the lagging land grant known as Tejas or Texas. Taking his family, including his son, Stephen, he moved to Texas. He returned to Missouri annually to inspect his mining properties near Iron Mountain and Old Mines in the St. Francois Mountains. In 1823, he died in Potosi. His Texas land grant became the property of his son as did the mining interests in Missouri. Texans have tried for years to have Moses Austin's body reburied in Austin, Texas, the state capitol. Three attempts have been made to steal the body. It still remains in Potosi.

A great number of Missourians moved into

the Southwest due to the trading and land possibilities. Like the Spanish, the Mexican government saw settlement along the Rio Grande — from Taos to the Gulf — as a means of controlling the expansionist tendencies of the United States. In fact, the opposite emerged as Americans settled into the lands south of the Arkansas River and between the Rio Grande and the Mississippi.

The period from 1836 to 1845, when Texas was an independent country, saw a large movement of Americans to Texas. The influence of the original Missouri settlers waned as the Roy Beans replaced the DeMuns and the Chouteaus. Large ranches were established during this period which lasted into the present day. After the Civil War, cattle drives from Texas first came to Sedalia, Missouri, testifying to the hold the St. Louis region had on trade into the Southwest.

Missourians generally are largely unaware of the impact of the state on the Southwest. Texans as well do not know the story of Moses Austin who first came to Missouri in the 1790's, founding Herculaneum in 1797 to be the Mississippi base of his mining activities. After 1840, particularly after the discovery of gold in 1849, the interest of Missourians shifted to California. The Southwest, including Texas, lost its gleam. Yet anyone from Missouri traveling in the Southwest can find numerous examples of the past relationship between the leading emporium of the Mississippi, St. Louis, and the original settlement of Texas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona. In addition to the historical element, the lands from the Sangre de Christo Mountains to the Llano Estacado are of great visual interest and beauty. The rift valley of the Rio Grande is the complement to the alluvial valley of the Mississippi. The variety of land forms, fauna, and temperments is almost with parallel. And all of this was opened to the United States by traders and merchants from St. Louis in the first quarter of the nineteenth century.



Richard Webb, with help from daughter Alicia.

## Macho Menus: Deluxe Omelette

by Richard Webb

*(Editor's Note: Richard Webb is an import; he grew up in the Southwest and came to St. Louis in 1976. Since the time he moved into the neighborhood, he has co-chaired the Skinker-DeBaliviere Art Fair and been the Business Manager of The Times (then known as "The Paper"). His current activities include graduate school at Washington University, YMCA fund-raising activities, and trying — with difficulty — to keep up with two active children. He and his wife, Arline, live in the 6100 block of Pershing.)*

This is basically a very simple recipe requiring little effort, though it does take approximately 45 minutes to prepare. One caution; do not allow your guests to see the recipe or the onion; what they don't know, they will find quite palatable.

### Ingredients:

- 1 med Yellow onion — peeled and chopped fairly small
- 1/4 lb. White mushrooms — sliced
- 1/3 Green pepper — chopped
- 2 Tbs. Olive oil
- 1 Tbs. Butter
- 1/2 cup White wine

- 3 eggs
- 1/3 cup milk
- Pinch Tarragon
- Pinch Basil
- Pinch Thyme
- Salt (To taste)
- Pepper (To taste)
- 1/4 lb. Canadian or sharp American cheese (grated works best)

### Optional Ingredients:

- 1 small clove Garlic — finely minced
- 8 oz. Wine (of choice) for the chef

Melt 1/2 Tbs. of butter in a large skillet, add the olive oil and the vegetables. Cook the vegetable mixture over low heat until soft, stirring occasionally (approximately 25 min). This is also the time to add the optional ingredients if desired. Add the white wine and increase the heat slightly; continue cooking until most of the liquid is boiled off (about 10 min).

**CAUTION: DO NOT ATTEMPT TO REDUCE THE COOKING TIME, THE FLAVOR WILL SUFFER (as may your guests).**

During this time mix the eggs, milk and spices (grind the spices to powder as you add them). Whisk to a smooth consistency. Melt the remaining butter in an omelette pan and coat the pan.

Drain the remaining liquid from the vegetable mixture into the omelette pan and add the egg mixture; cook over medium heat.

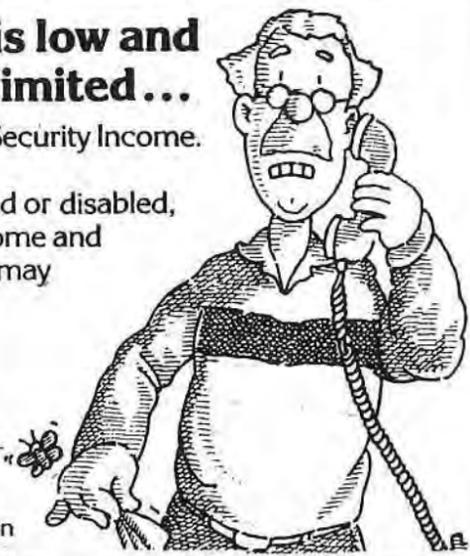
When the egg mixture is ready, place the cheese on the omelette, allow to melt, add the vegetable mixture, fold the omelette and serve. Serves 2.

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# Tales Of Treachery At The Kiosk

Adult Books by Mary Ann Shickman  
Field of Blood by Gerald Seymour;  
Norton, 1985.

Have you ever heard of Gypo Nolan in the Irish Classic *The Informer*, written in 1925 by Liam O'Flaherty? The informer in *Fields of Blood* is Gingy McAnally who joined the IRA for life in Belfast at age twenty. After a short time, he is arrested for having firearms and spends five years in prison. When he is released, he learns to launch the R.P.G. missiles and "knocks off a couple Brits." Then, at age 29, Gingy leaves his wife and children behind and goes south to the Republic to live. After he is there for awhile, the Chief of the IRA has him brought back against his will. The Chief sweet-talks him into executing an important judge. Gingy kills the judge and a couple of detectives but is spotted by the British as he goes off in the getaway car. That same night, while he is sleeping with his wife, the Royal Ulster Constabulary breaks in on him and takes him away, charging him with murder.

Gingy is faced with a twenty-five year prison sentence so he decides to go "super-grass" or to be an informer, agreeing to give names of some thirty men very high in the organization including the Chief. They agree to bring his wife and children to stay with him before the trial. His wife finds him despicable for being a tout and all of Gingy's relatives are angry and bitter for his not spending 25 years

in prison instead of informing. His wife leaves with the children before the trial begins and Gingy has to face one by one all the men he is accusing. He is almost to the breaking point but is befriended by a young British officer named David Ferris. Ferris is the only hope for the constabulary to get Gingy to go through with the trial.

The characters in the book definitely have dimensions; however, the IRA are cast as the "heavies." Mr. Seymour, who is an Englishman, ignores the poverty and squalid delapidation of the Catholic part of Ulster which is in sharp contrast to the lovely cottages and gardens where the Ulster Protestants live in middle-class comfort. Mr. Seymour says of the Catholics: "Why don't they give up and live in peace and quiet?" Indeed, Mr. Seymour why do you think they don't?

As a character, Gingy could never stand up to the classic character of Gypo Nolan any more than could Gerald Seymour stand up to Liam O'Flaherty. Mr. Seymour is more to be compared to John LeCarre. But then I am catholic with a small "c" when it comes to reading and I finished this book within 24 hours — time out for eating and sleeping. It is an exciting book and I'm sure you will feel the same.

## Books for Children by Arlene Sandler

As you might have predicted, we have no children's books about terrorists at the Kiosk, but we do have several set in some part of the British empire, past or present. They are exciting stories complete with villains.

For the very youngest, Tracey Campbell Pearson's *Sing a Song of Sixpence* is the familiar nursery song told with colorful, comical illustrations. The blackbirds are clearly the villains here. They thoroughly upset the king's entire household, knocking over thrones, flying away with shillings, and bathing in goblets. The maid's nose is happily replaced in this version of the song.

Also for young readers is *Plaid Bear and the Rude Rabbit Gang*. The rude rabbits, a cheeky bunch of hoodlums, try to spoil Plaid Bear's holiday in Dingle-by-the-Sea. Somehow the rabbits ruin every activity that Plaid Bear plans with his friends, even a beautiful day at the beach that is "sunny and warm, with no chance of rabbits." The rude gang is finally stopped by the police. Their appropriate punishment turns out to be fun for them and fun for the whole village.

An old favorite of mine, *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase*, will become an old favorite of fourth to sixth graders who enjoy high suspense and surprise treachery set in Victorian England. The terrorist here is the very evil Miss Slighcarp, who poses as Bonnie's new governess in order to take over her parents'

estate. Bonnie's orphan cousin, Sylvia, becomes a Slighcarp victim too when she comes to live there. One by one, the servants are dismissed and the two girls become not only servants themselves, but prisoners. They are sent to live at a school that is really a workhouse, but with the help of their good friend Simon, they manage a clever escape.

Another gripping period piece is *The Ghosts of Austwick Manor*, for older readers. Set in contemporary Canada, the story takes the reader and several characters back into English history through several generations of the MacDonald family. Fifteen-year-old Don MacDonald inherits a replica of the old family home in England, built in 1553. Exquisitely faithful to the original Austwick Manor, the dollhouse came with tiny, authentically dressed dolls that come to life at night when Don's younger sisters approach the house and are magically drawn into its past. Don eventually joins them and the three become dangerously involved in centuries of political intrigue at night while they struggle against their parents' disbelief during the day. The two girls must find a way to save Don from an ancient curse.

Summer's on the way and so is the annual Summer Reading Club. Sign up at the Kiosk any time after June 1st. Don't take a vacation from reading.

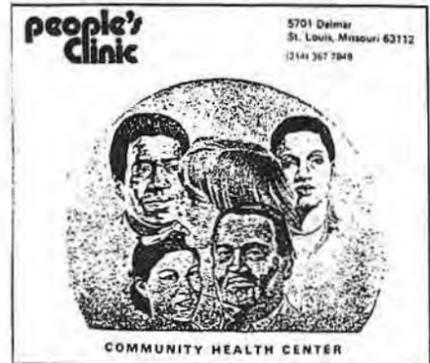
## You Need To Know

# Time To Lace Up

Q. How can I make sure my toddler's feet are developing properly?

A. First, don't force your child to walk before he or she is ready. When you purchase children's shoes, buy good quality shoes that are properly fitted. Proper sock size is also very important. I advise high-top shoes for the first one to two years, which give needed support to ankles. Check shoe and sock size every two months. Avoid used or heavily worn shoes because improper footwear can cause developmental problems in young feet.

Infant feet often appear to be flat because the arches have not yet developed.



Be on the lookout for outward problem signs such as bowlegs, pigeon toes or toes that over or underlap. Report these problems to your podiatrist or pediatrician as soon as possible. The earlier foot problems are identified, the better the chances for successful corrective treatment.

Dr. Michael Chavis  
Podiatrist

People's Clinic welcomes inquiries from readers. Address questions to Andrea Armstead, People's Clinic, INC., 5701 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63112. Deadline: 1st of every month.

# Rags to Riches Book Sale

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Continued from page 1

Complete plans for all proposed new construction or alterations must be submitted to the HUDC.

e. **Roof Shapes:** When there is a strong, dominant roof shape in a block, proposed new construction or alteration should be viewed with respect to its compatibility with the existing adjacent buildings.

f. **Roof Materials:** Roof materials shall be slate, tile, copper or asphalt shingles where the roof is visible from the street. Brightly colored asphalt shingles and shiny metal or plastic are not acceptable. A consistent material should be used on any given roof. Installation of skylights or solar panels, where prominently visible from the street, will be judged individually on their visual compatibility.

g. **Walls, Fences and Enclosures:** Front — Earth-retaining walls are permitted, to be constructed of brick, stone or railroad ties only, not to exceed maximum grade of the lot. Side — Fences or walls on or behind the building line, when prominently visible from the street, must be of wood, stone, brick, brick-faced concrete, ornamental iron, or dark-painted chain link. Fiberglass panels, wire-screening, or unpainted chain link are not permitted. All side fences shall be limited to six feet in height.

Parkview and the Catlin Tract have further restrictions on fences and residents are encouraged to check with the appropriate sources for current information.

h. **Landscaping:** The installation of street trees is encouraged. In front of new buildings, street trees may be required. Front lawn hedges shall not exceed four feet in height along the public sidewalk. No live trees shall be removed for new construction without the approval of HUDC.

i. **Paving and Ground Cover Material:** Where there is a predominant use of a particular ground cover or paving materials, any new or added material should be compatible with the streetscape, and must not cause maintenance problems or hazards for public walkways. Loose rock and asphalt are not acceptable for public walkways, nor for ground cover in areas bordering public walkways.

j. **Street Furniture and Utilities:** All free-standing light standards placed in the front yard of any structure or premises shall be either from the period of original construction in the neighborhood, or be of authentic period styling, or of high quality contemporary design. The design and location of all items of street furniture must be approved by HUDC prior to placement. Where possible, all new utility lines shall be underground. No commercial or political advertising may occur on the public right-of-way.

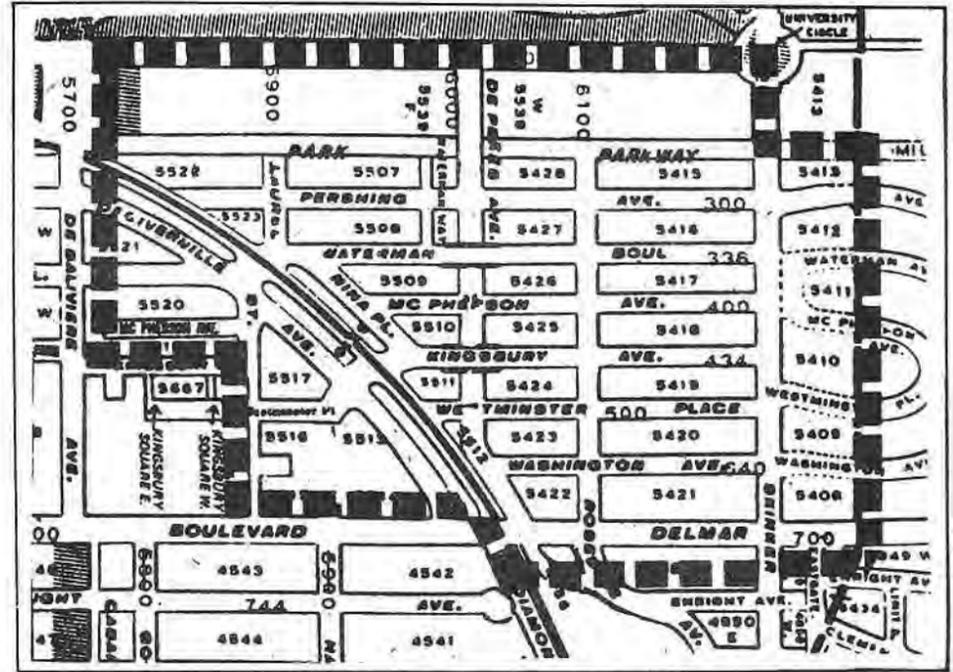
**Submissions Guidelines for Heritage & Urban Design Commission Review**

The following outline was published by the DeSales Community Housing Corporation in a brochure on Fox Park, an addition to the Compton Hill Historic District. As the review procedure is the same for all historic districts and the outline was so well done, it has been reprinted below. One footnote, however, is needed. There is confusion in the Skinker-DeBaliviere area concerning what work has to be reviewed by HUDC. In the standards, mention is often made of alterations, etc. which are visible only from the street. Many Skinker-DeBaliviere residents are therefore rightly confused when they find that HUDC needs to review fences, back porches, garages, etc. Because this work requires a building permit, the Building Division automatically refers the permit application to HUDC for review and approval. Generally, according to a recent conversation with a staff member at HUDC, upon receipt of plans and verification that indeed the work being done is not visible from the street, the permit will be issued promptly. However, if the permit includes work to all portions — front and rear — full commission review is needed.

Design Review is basically a two-step process:

First: Heritage Staff reviews materials submitted for completeness and appropriate information for a specific project. If acceptable the project is scheduled for Commission review. Staff review includes compliance with applicable Historic District Guidelines, parks, landmarks, etc. Copies of ordinances designating historic districts (usually including design guidelines) or the Heritage and Urban Design Ordinance #57986 can be obtained from the Register's Office, Room 210. Persons with questions should contact the Heritage Staff at 622-4099.

Second: Commission Review (Design Review/Regular Meeting), in the form of a scheduled meeting where all interested parties may discuss the project prior to Commission action. Contact the Heritage Office at 622-4099 for information regarding: Deadline dates, Projects scheduled for review, Meeting times, Dates and locations.



Map of Skinker-DeBaliviere Historic District.

**Materials Required and/or Suggested for Review**

1. **Site Plan:** Drawn to suitable scale (such as 1" = 20'); clearly showing all existing conditions such as: streets, sidewalks, adjacent buildings, existing trees and shrubbery, fences, retaining walls, pavement, etc. Clearly indicate all alterations/changes proposed such as: walls, fences, porches, driveways, decks, storage, etc.
2. **Elevations:** Drawn to a suitable scale (such as 1/4" = 1') showing all existing conditions such as roofs, dormers, chimneys, parapets, cornices, windows, doors, porches, steps, railings, significant grades, etc. Also indicate graphically or by notation all proposed repairs and alterations showing, to scale, such changes in relation to the elevations involved. Indicate materials (slate, copper, brick, stone, wrought iron, wood, etc.) and colors. The intent of these drawings is to give an accurate picture of the building as it exists and the extent and specific location of proposed alterations.
3. **Details:** Sections, details, etc. may be necessary to show the method of constructing a cornice, for example. Such special conditions should be drawn for exterior detail being re-built, as needed.
4. **Graphics/Special Requirements:**
  - a. **Photographs:** Clear, well-focused photographs are required showing the site and building or buildings involved. The number and extent of detail needed is clearly related to the scale and type of project and the amount of work required or proposed.
  - b. **Renderings, Perspectives:** May be necessary to adequately demonstrate your specific proposal in terms of street views, vistas, other buildings, neighborhood context, adjacent landmarks.
  - c. **Photographs, Site Plans, Maps, etc.:** As needed in specific cases due to the scale, extent, nature of specific project. Staff may request this information based on review of the project.

5. **Plans:** Generally, the plans of interior work, as submitted and accepted by the Building Division are sufficient for Heritage Review; however, specific projects may require explanation/documentation (see Building Division, Permit Section, Room 426 City Hall).

\*NOTE: Heritage and Urban Design Review is concerned with exterior review of existing and proposed conditions (both the entire site and buildings). Any means that clearly show graphically what the entire project looks like and will look like are encouraged. Please note that large size submissions are very helpful as this makes review by the Commission (a whole group of people) easier and is more comprehensible. Note that the Commission consists of citizens, not all of whom are trained architects; therefore, clarity and completeness of the whole picture is the goal. The presentation should be planned to simply, clearly and completely give an ordinary person a readily understood overall picture of the project. You may choose to briefly explain the project personally to the Commission during scheduled meetings.

\*Submission for Permits: Room 426, City Hall, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

\*Submission for Heritage Acceptance: Room 416, City Hall, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

\*Note: Preliminary Approvals: May also be applied for. Persons wanting more information should contact the Heritage Office.

If work is done without the necessary permits, a work stop order will be issued by the City. Work is halted until the owner and/or contractor apply for the required permits and the necessary review is completed. The Building Division and HUDC have the power to require that any work done without permits and which do not meet building codes or Historic District Standards be redone to meet specifications. Owners are ultimately responsible for obtaining necessary permits, even if contractors have been hired.

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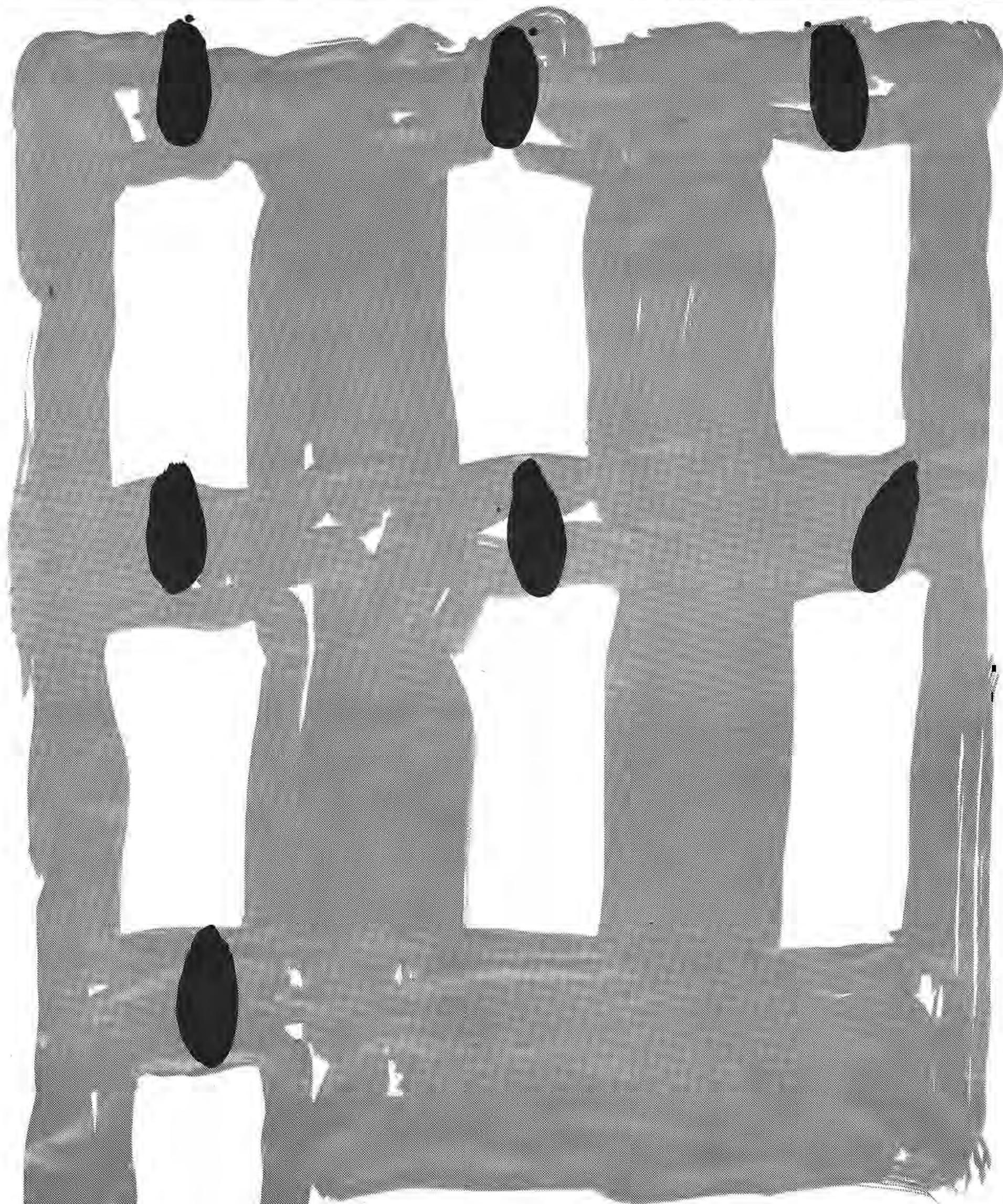
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