

United States Department of the Interior
National 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 Sage Chapel Cemetery (Preferred)

Other names/site number O'Fallon Cemetery, O'Fallon City Cemetery, Osage Cemetery, Femme Osage Cemetery, Colored Church Cemetery, Cravens Cemetery, Wishwell Cemetery, St. Shepard Cemetery

Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

2. Location

Street & number On Veterans Memorial Parkway 0.3 miles east of Highway K

n/a

not for publication

City or town O'Fallon

n/a

vicinity

State Missouri Code MO County St. Charles

Code 183

Zip code 63376

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 C D

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

9/20/18
JP 09/17/18

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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles County, Missouri

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

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

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| | | buildings |
| 1 | | sites |
| | | structures |
| | 2 | objects |
| 1 | 2 | Total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY/Cemetery

FUNERARY/Graves/burials

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY/Cemetery

FUNERARY/Graves/burials

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: N/A

walls: N/A

roof: N/A

other: N/A

X

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUATION PAGES

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles County, Missouri

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance

ETHNIC HERITAGE/Black

Period of Significance

c.1881-1968

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

☒ **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUATION PAGES**

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)

☐ previously listed in the National Register

☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark

☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State agency

☐ Federal agency

☐ Local government

☐ University

☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles County, Missouri

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.0 acres

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1 38.800034 -90.694882
Latitude: Longitude:

3 _____
Latitude: Longitude:

2 _____
Latitude: Longitude:

4 _____
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 Dorris Keeven-Franke and Justin Watkins; Amber Cox (MO SHPO)

organization _____ date 06/18/2018

street & number 1355 Fairgrounds #430 telephone 636-221-1524

city or town St. Charles state MO zip code 63301

e-mail Dorris.keevenfranke@gmail.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

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

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

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles County, Missouri

County and State

Photographs

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

Photo Log:

Name of Property: **Sage Chapel Cemetery**

City or Vicinity: **O'Fallon**

County: **St. Charles**

State: **Missouri**

Photographer: **Dorris Keeven-Franke**

Date

Photographed: **1/18/18-1/26/18**

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

1 of 9: Facing west, this is the gravestone of Priscilla Ball which is the oldest extant stone in the cemetery.

2 of 9: Facing north, this is the old road bed still visible, with Veterans Memorial Parkway intersecting it.

3 of 9: View from the Northeast corner looking towards the Southwest corner showing subdivision and neighbor's fencing

4 of 9: View from the Southwest corner looking towards the Northeast corner

5 of 9: Facing west, this is the homemade concrete marker of Delliah Dier

6 of 9: Facing west, this is an example of one of the broken stones.

7 of 9: Facing west, this is the Howard Morris stone which recently replaced a severely broken stone for this WWI veteran on 8/12/17, which was done by the neighboring V.F.W. Post 5077

8 of 9: Facing south, this is the first sign placed approximate fourteen years ago

9 of 9: Facing south, this is a new sign made and placed by a Boy Scout Eagle Project in 2015.

Figure Log:

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

Figure 1: Appendix A: List of the 117 people who research has identified as being buried in Sage Chapel Cemetery.

The * symbol identifies those able to be located by an extant marker.

Figure 2: Site Map

Figure 3: Context Map, GoogleMaps, 2018. Latitude/longitude coordinates: 38.800034, -90.694882

Figure 4: Plat Book of St. Charles County, Missouri (Des Moines, IA: Northwest Publishing Co., 1905)

Figure 5: 1994 USGS map with location of Sage Chapel Cemetery indicated.

Figure 6: Examples of pre-1968 extant grave markers

Figure 7: The original gravestone for Howard I. Morris and the replacement stone, donated by the V.F.W. Post 5077.

Figure 8: Examples of grave markers for burials added after 1968

Figure 9: Census data for St. Charles County and O'Fallon, 1860-1970.

Figure 10: Excerpt from 1905 map of O'Fallon showing the African American enclave along Sonderen.

Figure 11: Excerpt from 1932 map of O'Fallon showing the African American enclave along Sonderen.

Figure 12: Preacher Jefferson Franklin Sage

Figure 13: Extant African American School. Google Maps Street View from July 2017.

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles County, Missouri

County and State

Figure 14: Willis Thornhill's former residence once associated with the local African American Odd Fellows Lodge, at 116 Sonderen Street. Google Maps Street View from July 2017.

Figure 15: Faces of some of those buried in Sage Chapel Cemetery. Personal photographs with digital copies in Dorris Keeven-Franke's personal collection.

Figure 16: Site Map for Photos

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Summary

Sage Chapel Cemetery is an African-American cemetery located on Veterans Memorial Parkway 0.3 miles east of Highway K in O'Fallon, St. Charles County, Missouri. The cemetery does not have a designated postal address. This is the only African-American cemetery still in existence in the City of O'Fallon; it most likely began as a burial ground for the former enslaved members of the Samuel Keithly household. It contains at least 117 burials (Figure 1) that have been documented by headstones, obituaries, death certificates and/or living family members. Of these at least 17 were born into slavery. It became a formal one-acre plot to be used as a cemetery when deeded to the Trustees of the African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church in 1881; c.1881 therefore marks the start to the period of significance. However, it is likely this site was used as a burial ground for slaves prior to the land officially being deeded to the A.M.E. Church.¹ The period of significance ends in 1968, but the last internment was made in 2015. The earliest extant gravestone dates to 1900 (Photo 001). Area African-American families have used this cemetery for over 100 years. The church building that was originally associated with the cemetery was located ½ mile to the north, and despite exhaustive research, no records have ever been found that are associated with either that church congregation or this cemetery. The church building itself is no longer exists, and the congregation ceased meeting over seventy-five years ago.

The cemetery is largely a grassy lot with 32 grave markers still visible (Figure 2); four of these markers are for two individuals. Three graves are marked by handmade family memorials – which include garden ornaments and small statues – that do not have a gravestone. Several mature trees dot the landscape, which is flat. Overall, the cemetery looks much as it did historically, though some of its grave markers have been lost to time. One marker has been replaced (as discussed below). 12 burials are known to have been added after 1968 as the cemetery continued to accept occasional burials. The area around the cemetery now houses modern residences, a Veterans of Foreign Wars Post, and some commercial development further west and across the street (Figures 2 and 3). A wooden privacy fence separates the cemetery from the neighboring yards on the south and west and a tree line associated with an old road bed marks the cemetery's eastern boundary. The northern boundary extends to the sidewalk running along Veterans Memorial Parkway. The cemetery grounds represent a single contiguous site of the same dimensions as it was historically.

There have been very few alterations to the cemetery grounds. Two signs were added in recent years in order to make the public aware of its existence. These are the **two noncontributing objects** in the resource count. They sit facing north and are visible

¹The land deeded for the church that was originally associated with the cemetery was ½ mile distant from Sage Chapel Cemetery's location, suggesting that the land specifically deeded for use as a cemetery was already being utilized for this purpose at this time. Local oral histories also indicate that the site was used as a burial ground for slaves prior to the land officially being deeded in 1881.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

from Veterans Memorial Parkway. The first is a small wooden sign made by local-residents' fourteen years ago (Photo 008); its fading white letters read "SAGE CHAPEL CEMETERY." The second sign is a recent Boy Scout Eagle project, completed in 2015 (Photo 009). This is a larger wooden sign that reads "SAGE CHAPEL CEMETERY Est. 1881."

Setting

This property originally belonged to the Samuel Keithly family who arrived in Missouri by 1817 (discussed further below). Throughout history Sage Chapel Cemetery has been near a roadway. Today, two lines of trees (Photo 002) demark an old wagon road that originally ran along the east side of the cemetery. They delineate the first documented roadway which appears on the 1905 plat map (Figure 4). The westernmost line of trees associated with this old roadway marks the east side of the cemetery which adjoins the property of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (V.F.W.) Post No. 5077. There is a small expanse of grassy space on the other side of the roadbed before reaching the parking lot for the VFW Post. The VFW Post No. 5077 purchased their property in 1976.² The cemetery property is bounded, and fenced, on the south and west (Photo 003) by the Spring Hill Subdivision, which was platted in 1993. Subdivision property owners have erected the only known fences to have ever existed on the western and southern cemetery boundaries; some of these fences are partially on the cemetery's legal parcel, but are associated with the neighboring residences and so are not included in the resource count. In 1922, property to the north of the cemetery was deeded by Gerhard B. and Elizabeth Sonderer to the State of Missouri for a new highway, State Highway 2.³ The highway later changed names to United States Highway 40 in 1926.⁴ Today, this road is called Veterans Memorial Parkway, a street which serves as a service road for Interstate 70 (Figures 3 and 5). Immediately across the Parkway from the cemetery and the VFW Post are residences and some commercial development (Photo 002, 004).

Description

The cemetery is a level piece of grassy ground (Photos 003 and 004) where there are at least 117 burials (Figure 1). The property is one acre, as it was originally deeded. Mature trees line the border of the cemetery and are interspersed throughout the landscape, although a few have been lost. There are cedar trees at three of the four corners (Figure 2). The middle of the cemetery remains only sparsely populated by markers (Photo 003), but several of the families describe vividly that they know there are graves interspersed throughout the cemetery and centrally located. Documentation

² St. Charles County Plat Book 31, p. 196, Subdivision Plat 6 April 1993; St. Charles County Deed Book 737, p. 1270, 4 August 1976; VFW Hall Deed, Deed Book 792, p. 1375, 9 March 1978.

³ St. Charles County Deed Book 154, p. 82, 10 November 1922.

⁴ "Big Trans-Continental Traffic Increase This Year is Predicted," Joplin (MO) Globe, 14 February 1926 (Newspaper.com)

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

of burials through death certificates, obituaries, and local oral tradition substantiates this.⁵

There is no organization, such as straight rows, for the cemetery. Families have simply added individual members as close as possible to other family members as they have passed. Many families were unable to afford markers and are known to have used wooden markers or relied upon temporary funeral home markers which have been lost over time.

Thirty-two extant gravestones in various states of disrepair mark some graves; this number includes those that were added after 1968 (discussed below). Four of these stones are for two individuals. The earliest extant stone dates to 1900 (Photo 001). Gravestones vary from rocks and homemade pieces of concrete with letters carved into them (Photo 005), to small plain granite markers. Many of the markers lack any stylistic detailing, but a good proportion do include common cemetery motifs such as flowers with leaves and Christian symbols such as crosses or praying hands (see Figure 6 for examples of extant stones dating prior to 1968). Crosses and flowers are the most common motifs seen on the extant stones. Some markers are currently broken (Photo 006), are flat on the ground, and many need some repair. There are also family memorials placed on three graves that do not have formal gravestones identifying who is buried in that specific location. These memorials include artificial flowers, garden stones or ornaments, small statues, and other simple, more temporary but maintained markers. Artificial flowers are in fact quite common and are present at most of the known gravesites.

A new marker was donated in August of 2017 by Sage Chapel Cemetery's neighbor V.F.W. Post 5077 to replace the World War I marker of veteran Howard Morris (Photo 007) that had fallen and become severely deteriorated. The replacement stone is in keeping with the first marker's appearance (Figure 7).

12 burials have been added since 1968. These more recent burials have markers that are generally in keeping with the extant historical markers (see Figure 8; the first photograph represents a family memorial with a garden stone, flowers, and simple name marker as there is no gravestone in place). Beyond the death date, most of these later markers are indistinguishable from the earlier stones and memorials and include similar motifs including crosses and flowers with leaves.

As noted above two signs (noncontributing objects) were added to the cemetery in recent years (Photos 008 and 009). It is unknown whether there would have ever been similar historic signage. The only intrusion to the cemetery grounds involves a small

⁵ Lucille Wiechens and Carrol Geerling, *Cemeteries of St. Charles County, Missouri*, Vol. V (Bridgeton, MO: Lineage Press, 1988), Sage Chapel Cemetery discussed on page 114.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles County, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

portion of the privacy fencing associated with the residences that abut the cemetery to the west and south. A piece of the fencing cuts through a very small portion of the southwest corner of the cemetery. This likely occurred due to confusion over parcel lines and the lack of maintenance to the cemetery grounds occurring in the 1980s and 1990s which obscured parts of the cemetery. Regardless, no known burials are located in that far southwestern corner, and the fence only obscures a very small portion of the original cemetery grounds. The fencing now serves to protect and divide the cemetery from the backyards associated with the subdivision.

The cemetery is now maintained by the park system of the City of O'Fallon, and is serene, quiet and park like despite its now somewhat modernized location in the midst of a growing city.

Integrity

Today Sage Chapel Cemetery looks much like it has for well over 100 years and includes the historic acreage as deeded in 1881. Though 12 burials have been added after the 1968 end date to the period of significance, the markers for those burials are very similar to many of the extant earlier markers, and thus they do not impact the historic appearance of the cemetery. The families of those buried here maintained the cemetery up until the 1980s. Though no fencing remains that is associated with the cemetery, some do remember an iron fence that once ran along the front of the cemetery; it is unknown when this fencing might have been removed.⁶ In the late 1980s the cemetery became neglected and neighbors were not even aware that there was a cemetery on the property. The cemetery received some backhoe damage in 2012 because of a landscaper coming through the cemetery to work on the backyard of one of the homes bordering the south side. The following year, the O'Fallon Historic Preservation Commission visited Sage Chapel and placed flowers on marked and unmarked graves based on the research of area historian Mary Hogan-Smith. After that damage occurred in 2012, awareness of the cemetery and its condition increased. The cemetery was cleaned and the grass cutting began again and it has been steadily maintained to-date. Trees have occasionally been removed as needed.

The setting has been somewhat impacted by modern development around the cemetery, most of which is residential. However, the cemetery maintains integrity, especially as it relates to its historic location and boundaries, feeling and association. Today it appears just like residents, many of whom are nearly 90 years of age, say it always has. It still sits unchanged and serene providing an enduring testimony to those buried here.

⁶ Mary Patrick Stephenson (resident of O'Fallon born in 1928) in video interview with Dorris Keeven-Franke, April 2018.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Summary

Sage Chapel Cemetery is located on Veterans Memorial Parkway 0.3 miles east of Highway K in O'Fallon, St. Charles County, Missouri. It is locally significant under Criterion A, Ethnic Heritage/Black. Sage Chapel Cemetery provided the African-American community of the City of O'Fallon a dedicated location for burial for well over 120 years. Now maintained by the City of O'Fallon, it provides not only a voice for the African-American community, but an opportunity for a greater discussion of local African-American history and heritage. According to the oral history of descendants, the cemetery may have begun as a burial ground for slaves owned by the Keithly family. Later, on the 20th of August 1881, it was conveyed by deed from Jasper N. Castlio and his wife Mahalah (daughter of Samuel Keithly) to the Trustees of the African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church: Walter Burl, Jack Patterson and Taylor Harris.⁷ The period of significance begins in c.1881, when the land for the cemetery was officially deeded to the African American community, though burials likely occurred prior to this date. The period ends in 1968, the 50 year mark, as no more specific end date to the period of significance could be determined. The cemetery continued to occasionally be utilized by the local African American community until the final burial in 2015. There were only 12 burials between 1968 and 2015. The cemetery meets Criteria Consideration D due to its association with the local African American community. Further, as will be discussed below, little else remains of this community both in regard to physical and documentary resources. It is one of only three known remaining resources associated with the local African American community in O'Fallon and it is the only extant resource that is still clearly associated with its original use. This cemetery serves as a visual reminder of a time of segregation and continues to educate the entire community. Many members of the community who are descendants of those buried there remain and take great pride in Sage Chapel Cemetery and appreciate the open dialogue it creates with its presence, feeling that it provides an opportunity for their voices to be heard. This nomination is being made on their behalf.

Brief History of O'Fallon, Missouri

The first settlement in what would become St. Charles County was established by Frenchman Louis Blanchette in 1769, though Native American tribes had lived in the area for some time, and the French had been exploring the territory since the 1710s.⁸ One of the first Americans to settle in the region was trailblazer Col. Daniel Boone and his family, who arrived in c. 1795.⁹ Jacob Zumwalt and his family arrived c. 1798 settling in what would become the city of O'Fallon several decades later.¹⁰ They constructed a log home (recently reconstructed) now known as Zumwalt's Fort: the Zumwalts allowed

⁷ St. Charles County Recorder of Deeds, Book 35 Page 16

⁸ *History of St. Charles County, Missouri (1765-1885)*, 88.; O'Fallon Historical Society "History," Accessed May 24, 2018, <https://ofallonmohistory.com/history/>

⁹ *History of St. Charles County, Missouri (1765-1885)*, 95-96.

¹⁰ Ibid.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

local area families and their slaves who fled to the fort protection during the War of 1812.¹¹

Settlement and growth of the area continued well into the 1800s due, in large part, to westward expansion. With the purchase of the Louisiana territory in 1803, a large number of new settlers began to arrive.¹² With the U.S. financial crisis in 1837, families moved west with their slaves to snap up inexpensive land. This influx of settlers arrived from not only the east coast and states like Virginia and Kentucky but Europe as well. In Europe, books such as Gottfried Duden's *Report on a Journey to the Western States* inspired Germans in particular, seeking political refuge and better opportunities for their families, to immigrate to the area. The first influx of German settlers arrived in 1833, many of whom settled in St. Charles County.¹³

Thus St. Charles County, and ultimately the city of O'Fallon, was established largely by American settlers, many of whom arrived from states where slavery was common practice and thus brought slaves with them, and German settlers, the majority of whom were abolitionists.¹⁴ As the state developed, so did the coexistence of these two cultures, with several families intermarrying. This often created a cultural anomaly: German immigrants who were slave owners. By the 1850s the community was a mix of early American slave owners and German abolitionists who sometimes owned slaves themselves.

O'Fallon itself was founded by the Krekel family who were German immigrants. O'Fallon's first land owner, Arnold Krekel, was an early immigrant who arrived in St. Charles County with his father and siblings in 1832. He did own a slave in 1860, though he was an abolitionist.¹⁵ He served as a Provost Marshall for St. Charles County and as a Colonel in the Union Army during the Civil War.¹⁶ He also served as the head of Missouri's Constitutional Convention and signed Missouri's Emancipation Proclamation of January 11, 1865.¹⁷ His younger brother Nicholas Krekel built the first residence and

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² *History of St. Charles County, Missouri (1765-1885)*; Lorenzo J. Greene, Gary R. Kremer, and Antonio F. Holland, *Missouri's Black Heritage*. Revised and updated by Gary R. Kremer and Antonio F. Holland (Columbia, MO: University of Missouri Press, 1993), 20.

¹³ *History of St. Charles County, Missouri (1765-1885)*, 103-104.

¹⁴ Ibid. 180.

¹⁵ Abolitionist German families owning slaves was not necessarily uncommon: "Most were of the belief, that until the practice of slavery was abolished, they could provide a much better living environment for the African-Americans than they would encounter in the south."; Dorris Keeven-Franke, "Arnold Krekel," St. Charles County History, February 26, 2018, accessed May 24, 2018,

<https://stcharlescountyhistory.org/2018/02/26/arnold-krekel/>

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Dorris Keeven-Franke, "Missouri's Slaves Emancipated," St. Charles County History. January 11, 2016. Accessed May 24, 2018, <https://stcharlescountyhistory.org/2016/01/11/missouris-slaves-emancipated/>

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

served as the first retailer in 1856, and by 1857 served as U.S. Postmaster, and Station Master for what became the Wabash Railroad.¹⁸

With the railroad's expansion in 1856 O'Fallon saw growth, and the sale of Public Lots occurred on July 22, 1870. The town was not incorporated until 1912, when it had approximately 600 residents.¹⁹

History of O'Fallon's African American Community

As touched on above, the first African Americans to arrive in Missouri (and St. Charles County) were typically slaves who moved with American settlers from slave states such as Virginia and Kentucky. Earlier arrivals – of which there would only have been a few – may have been black Africans who were enslaved by the French who first settled the area in the 1700s.²⁰

In 1803, the total population of what would become Missouri was 10,340, of which 1,320 (close to 13%) were slaves.²¹ Many of the early American settlers of Missouri (and St. Charles County) brought not only their slaves with them but also their ideas about slavery. As early as 1804 Black or Slave Codes were enacted and based on those established in Virginia; this code "made no distinction between slaves and other property."²²

The issue of slavery ultimately became a key issue for Missouri's statehood, with controversy focused on whether Missouri should be established as a "free" or "slave" state.²³ Missouri was finally able to gain admission to the Union in 1821 as a slave state with Maine joining as a free state.²⁴

At the state level, the new state legislature in the nearby town of Saint Charles passed a law prohibiting free blacks from entering or settling in the state in 1825. There was also legislation passed allowing citizens to arrest runaway slaves.²⁵ In 1837, The Missouri General Assembly in Jefferson City passed an act prohibiting abolitionist publications from being published or circulated in the State of Missouri.²⁶ However, as home to a

¹⁸ O'Fallon Historical Society, "History," Accessed May 24, 2018, <https://www.ofallon.mo.us/ofallon-history>

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Greene, Kremer and Holland, 8.

²¹ Ibid, 20.

²² Ibid, 21.

²³ Ibid, 22.

²⁴ Ibid, 22-23. "Missouri Compromise," A+E Networks, 2009, accessed May 24, 2018,

<https://www.history.com/topics/missouri-compromise>

²⁵ "Missouri's Early Slave Laws: A History in Documents," Missouri State Archives: Missouri Digital Heritage, accessed May 24, 2018,

<https://s1.sos.mo.gov/archives/education/aahi/earlyslavelaws/slavelaws>

²⁶ Ibid.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

large German population, Missouri was also home to large number of abolitionists, and thus was a hotly contested state during the Civil War. Immigration from Ireland and northeastern states in the decade prior to the outbreak of the war also contributed to a population often split between Union loyalists and Southern sympathizers.²⁷

Missouri freed their slaves on January 11, 1865 and slaves were freed nationally with the ratification of the 13th Amendment on December 6, 1865.²⁸ However, in the decades to come freed African Americans began to see a loss of freedoms, rather than the gains they had hoped for, particularly in the former slave states.²⁹ Missouri's 1875 constitution, for example, allowed separate schools for black and white students and there were instances where desegregated schools were re-segregated.³⁰

Statistics show a drop in the African American population in St. Charles County after the Civil War. The population then began to rise and was higher than prior to the Civil War by 1880; this is likely due to the large number of freed African Americans that were arriving in St. Louis from other former slave states as they made their way to regions considered friendlier to African Americans, such as Kansas.³¹ As individuals arriving in the region ran out of funds to continue traveling they may have ultimately settled in the area, including St. Charles County and O'Fallon, which is approximately 35 miles from St. Louis. However, *proportionally* the local African American population continued to dwindle compared to pre-Civil War numbers. In 1860, St. Charles County had a population of which a little over 15% was African American. By 1970, just over 1% of the population was African American. See Figure 9 for available census data for St. Charles County and O'Fallon from 1860 to 1970.³²

Despite these population changes, African American communities began to establish themselves throughout Missouri. After the Civil War, an African-American enclave, or "community of freed blacks"³³ developed along a north-south road at the eastern town limits of O'Fallon, extending from the Wabash Railroad to the south (see Figure 10 which depicts a portion of this enclave in 1905 and Figure 11, showing the area in

²⁷ "Guide to American Civil War in Missouri: A Brief History," The State Historical Society of Missouri, adapted from Prologue to *The Civil War's First Blood: Missouri, 1854-1861* by James Denny and John Bradbury, published by Missouri Life Media. Accessed May 24, 2018, <https://shsmo.org/research/guides/civilwar/abriefhistory.html>

²⁸ Greene, Kremer and Holland, 88.

²⁹ Ibid, 104.

³⁰ Ibid, 107.

³¹ Ibid, 104-105.

³² The City of O'Fallon has seen exponential growth since 1970. In 2010 the city of O'Fallon had a total population of 79,329. Of this population approximately 10% were minorities, with an African American population of 3,164, or about 4%. U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census of Population and Housing, Summary Population and Housing Characteristics, CPH-1-27, Missouri U.S. Government Printing Office, (Washington D.C. 2012), Accessed April 27, 2018, <https://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/cph-1-27.pdf>

³³ O'Fallon Historical Society, "History," Accessed May 24, 2018, <https://ofallonmohistory.com/history/>

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

1932). Later, it became Sonderen Street, so named for Gerhard B. Sonderen, who initially owned much of the property. There they had residences, an African-American school and three churches: Wishwell Baptist Church (also referred to as the African Baptist Church³⁴), Cravens Chapel³⁵ (the Methodist Episcopal Church, North) and the African Methodist Episcopal Church that was first associated with Sage Chapel Cemetery and referred to as Sage Chapel. All of these churches are visible in Figure 10. The school remains (discussed further below) but the churches and most of the residences have been lost. There was a “colored Odd Fellows Lodge” in Willis Thornhill’s house, which is the only extant residence (also discussed further below).³⁶

The first of the three African-American churches to serve the community was located on property owned by German born Henry Ernst and had been sold or gifted out of his estate to African Americans John C. Edwards and William D. Williams.³⁷ In 1872, Edwards and Williams deeded a square sixty feet on all sides to Joshua Wayne, James Dyer, and Washington Gibson, trustees for the A.M.E. Church, North, which eventually acquired the name Cravens Chapel (not extant).³⁸ Cravens stood along Sonderen near the railroad tracks.

This community along Sonderen continued to grow on property that oral tradition states was gifted to them by their former owners, but the community’s status as an African American enclave was also documented by U.S. Censuses from 1870 to 1940. The 1920 Census taker Warren Barebo referred to the area running from the Wabash Railroad south to Sage Chapel Cemetery as “Nigger Hill”; this is also noted on the 1930 federal census.³⁹ The land was part of the former plantation of Samuel Keithly. The distance from the railroad to Sage Chapel Cemetery is just one mile.

In 1881 there was no official burying ground established for the African-American community in O’Fallon. The closest known location with African-American burials at this time was the Catholic cemetery associated with St. Paul Catholic Church. That cemetery has both white and African-American burials. This church and associated cemetery are still extant (1223 Church Road, St. Paul) and still in use. St. Paul, Missouri is a community established by German immigrants in 1834 and adjoins O’Fallon on the northwest side of O’Fallon. The earliest African-American burial in St. Paul Catholic

³⁴ Many of these churches had several names historically, often very similar to the names of other local African American churches. To avoid confusion they are referred to by their most identifiable name.

³⁵ Some maps, including Figure 10, label Cravens as African Methodist Episcopal Church, North. This church is more accurately referred to as Northern Methodist. It was most commonly known as Cravens Chapel (O’Fallon Centennial 1856-1956, page 23).

³⁶ St. Charles County Recorder of Deeds, Book 105, page 455.

³⁷ St. Charles County Deed Book 7, p. 154, 27 January 1869

³⁸ St. Charles County Deed Book 28, p. 13, 16 April 1872

³⁹ 1920 U.S. Federal Census, Missouri, St. Charles County, Dardenne Twshp, O’Fallon City, Sheet 2 B, taken the 8 January 1920 by Warren Barebo; 1930 U.S. Federal Census, Missouri, St. Charles County Ward 1, O’Fallon City, Sheet 2B taken the 3 April 1930 by Warren Barebo.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Cemetery was Eleanora Hayden, who was buried there on April 1, 1871.⁴⁰ These burials were segregated within the cemetery. St. Paul continued to receive African American burials well into the twentieth century.⁴¹ The lack of a burying ground for all the members of the African-American community in O'Fallon would be solved by the formation of the second church to serve the local African-American community: the A.M.E. Church that would become Sage Chapel.

History of Sage Chapel Cemetery

Slave owner Samuel Keithly/Keithley Sr. (it is spelled both ways in legal documents) was born March 31, 1789 in Green County, Kentucky and died October 12, 1870 in O'Fallon, Missouri.⁴² According to the 1850 U.S. Census Slave Schedule for St. Charles County, Keithly owned twelve slaves.⁴³ In 1860 Keithly owned 19 slaves.⁴⁴

Of the 117 documented burials in Sage Chapel Cemetery (Figure 1), at least 17 were born as slaves. Of the 32 extant stones, six are known to mark the graves of former slaves. At least four of these individuals were former slaves of Samuel Keithly.⁴⁵

Jasper Newton Castlio's wife Mahala Castlio inherited this land from her late father, Samuel Keithly. This included Lots 6, 7, and 8 of what is described as the Keithly partition of 1871. Ten years later, this couple decided to deed a portion of their property to the newly formed A. M. E. congregation that would become Sage Chapel. On August 20, 1881, the Castlios deeded a half-acre plot of ground out of Lot 6 of Keithly's partition and one acre out of Lot 8 of Keithly's partition to Walter Burrell, Jack Patterson, and Taylor Harris, as Trustees of the A.M.E. Church. The half-acre lot was deeded for the site of their church and the one-acre lot was deeded specifically for the site of the church's cemetery.⁴⁶ The church property was located on what is today Sonderen Street about half-way between the Railroad tracks and Sage Chapel Cemetery, or a distance of about ½ mile (see Figures 10 and 11, it is the African M.E. Church at the bottom of the cutout in Figure 10). The lands for the church and cemetery were placed under a deed of trust on December 1, 1881 by the church trustees.⁴⁷ By 1883, Patterson had left as a trustee of the A.M.E. Church in O'Fallon, leaving only two trustees. Burrell and Harris deeded the east half of the church's half-acre lot to James Edwards in 1883. The

⁴⁰ St. Paul Catholic Church Burial Index at the St. Charles County Historical Society; some of the later Hayden family members are buried at Sage Chapel Cemetery.

⁴¹ The latest identified is Mary Dryden, who died at the age of 103 on 19 July 1965 in St. Louis and was buried in St. Paul, MO: https://www.sos.mo.gov/images/archives/deathcerts/1965/1965_00029330.PDF

⁴² "Samuel Keithly," Find A Grave, Added July 18, 2006. Accessed May 9, 2018, <https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=14975562>

⁴³ 1850 U.S. Census Slave Schedules, District 78, St. Charles Co., MO, www.ancestry.com

⁴⁴ 1860 U.S. Census, Slave Schedules, District 78, St. Charles Co., MO, www.ancestry.com

⁴⁵ 1850 United States Census Slave Schedules, District 78, St. Charles Co., MO & 1860 United States Census Slave Schedules, District 78, St. Charles Co., MO, www.ancestry.com

⁴⁶ Deed Book 35, p. 16, 20 August 1881

⁴⁷ Deed Book 34, p. 164, 1 December 1881

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

| |
|--|
| Sage Chapel Cemetery |
| Name of Property |
| St. Charles, Missouri |
| County and State |
| N/A |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

deed shows that a church building had been built by that time.⁴⁸ Although the cemetery was officially deeded and established in 1881, the earliest death date on an extant gravestone at Sage Chapel Cemetery is 1900.⁴⁹ Earlier markers have been lost to time.

At the same time as the Trustees acquired the property, the St. Charles African Methodist Episcopal Conference had a Pastor named Jefferson Franklin Sage who preached in this area (see Figure 12).⁵⁰ Sage, born a slave in Missouri in 1854, made his home in Jonesburg, Missouri, and ministered in the A.M.E. St. Charles Church Conference in 1881. He appears on the Missouri State Census in Jonesburg, Montgomery County for 1876, with his wife Eliza and their two small sons Dick and John.⁵¹ From the A.M.E. Conference reports made by Brother Samuel Jenkins on November 28, 1878, we know that Sage is noted as a "Local Preacher ... Jefferson Sage of Jonesburg," indicating he is a member and a Minister of the St. Charles Conference.⁵² By 1880, Preacher Sage moved to St. Charles, Missouri with his second wife, Mary.⁵³ Preacher Sage is then noted in the records of the A.M.E. St. Charles Church Conference as a traveling Pastor in 1886 and in 1888.⁵⁴ His mission is along a route between the City of St. Charles, Missouri, and his former home of Jonesburg. This route coincides with today's Veterans Memorial Parkway. Research shows that Jefferson Franklin Sage had left the O'Fallon area by 1894, because his daughter Ruth is born in Kansas in May of 1894, where he is an A.M.E Minister of the Gospel there.⁵⁵ However, his early association with O'Fallon may be the reason this A.M.E. Church was referred to as Sage Chapel and the cemetery as Sage Chapel Cemetery.⁵⁶

African American Resources in O'Fallon and the Surrounding Area

⁴⁸ Deed Book 33, p. 460, 12 November 1883

⁴⁹ Lucille Wiechens and Carrol Geerling, *Cemeteries of St. Charles County, Missouri* V (Bridgeton, MO: Lineage Press, 1988): 114

⁵⁰ Dorris Keeven-Franke, "Preacher Jefferson Franklin Sage," St. Charles County History, October 16, 2017, accessed May 24, 2018, <https://stcharlescountyhistory.org/2017/10/16/preacher-jefferson-franklin-sage/>

⁵¹ 1910 Missouri State Census, Montgomery County, Roll MOSC_4716

⁵² African-Methodist Church Book, Donated by Wardell Reed to the St. Charles County Historical Society, St. Charles County, MO. in 2010. These are Conference Records of the St. Charles African-Methodist Episcopal Churches in St. Charles County.

⁵³ 1880 U.S. Federal Census, St. Charles County, Saint Charles, Enumeration District 201, Roll 714, Page 72A

⁵⁴ African-Methodist Church Book.

⁵⁵ 1900 U.S. Federal Census, Ottawa Kansas, Enumeration District 0086 Ward 2, Franklin Roll 480, Page 10A

⁵⁶ In addition to the above citations, some of this information is also corroborated by Lloyd Monroe, descendent of Rev. Jefferson Franklin Sage.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

A third African-American congregation to form was Wishwell Baptist Church (not extant). It too acquired property that was formerly part of the Keithly partition for a church building. It was on Sonderen Street, equidistant between Cravens Church and Sage Chapel, and about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from Sage Chapel Cemetery (it is labeled as the African Baptist Church in Figure 10). George and Martha Murray deeded land in the northwest corner of a one-acre lot to W. C. Long, George Washington, and Daniel Frost, Trustees of the African Baptist Church, in 1899.⁵⁷

The Wishwell Baptist and Cravens Methodist churches jointly purchased a one-acre parcel of land for a burial ground in 1901 and named it Union Cemetery (not extant). Only 3 burials were able to be located there in 1988.⁵⁸ All three seemed to have happened at Union Cemetery by 1909. There is no indication that the Union Cemetery was receiving any burials after 1929, and no trace of this cemetery remains today. We do know that both Cravens and Wishwell members were buried after 1909 in Sage Chapel Cemetery, making this a community cemetery, rather than one affiliated with a specific religious group or denomination. The Sage Chapel associated A.M.E. church operated from 1881 to c. 1932, Wishwell Baptist from 1899 to 1966, and Cravens Chapel from 1872 to c. 1957. To date no records associated with these churches have been located and all three are no longer extant.

There are no other African-American cemeteries located in O'Fallon. Other than Sage Chapel Cemetery, only two extant resources in O'Fallon are known to have been associated with the local African-American community historically. These resources are essentially all that remains of the enclave along Sonderen, an area that has largely been redeveloped. The school is still extant at 315 E. Elm Street. It has been altered over time with vinyl siding and changes allowing for its current function as a restaurant (see Figure 13). Across the street Willis Thornhill's house at 116 Sonderen Street, once utilized by the members of the African American Odd Fellows Lodge, still stands, though it too has seen some alterations including vinyl siding (Figure 14).

Criterion A: Ethnic Heritage/Black & Criteria Consideration D: Cemeteries

Sage Chapel Cemetery is significant under Criterion A, Ethnic Heritage/Black for its important association with the local African-American community. It meets Criteria Consideration D for Cemeteries. It is not only one of the few extant local resources associated with African-Americans, it is the only one that remains clearly tied to and still utilized by this community. Though there will be no future burials in the cemetery, it remains a place where local African Americans can go to remember and acknowledge their predecessors.

⁵⁷ Deed Book 84, p. 56, 16 November 1899

⁵⁸ Lucille Wiechens and Carrol Geerling, St. Charles County Cemetery Books Vol V, Union Cemetery discussed on page 107.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 13

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

As the African-American population of St. Charles County and O'Fallon dwindled in the century after the Civil War, so did the resources associated with this community. This is especially true as the area has seen such dramatic population growth – and therefore modernization and loss of historic resources – in a short amount of time. Not only has Sage Chapel Cemetery remained largely unaltered, it retains the same acreage as originally deeded.

Additionally, this cemetery reflects many decades of local African-American heritage. It includes burials of those who were born into slavery, those who were freed, those who were among the first generation of African-Americans who were born free, and those who faced and lived through decades of segregation and discrimination. Those buried here were of various religious denominations (Methodist, Baptist, and Catholic, see below) and from a variety of social classes (see the variation in gravestones). Those buried here include railroad workers, artists, carpenters, mechanics, pastors, laundresses, farmers, church trustees, and military veterans, to name only a few. The cemetery provides a crucial snapshot of O'Fallon's African-American community from c.1881 to 1968 and beyond.

Additional Discussion

In 1929, Charles E. Sallee died in his home north of Wright City, Missouri on February 8th or 9th and was buried in the "O'Fallon Colored Church Cemetery": another name for Sage Chapel Cemetery.⁵⁹ When his daughter, Georgia Mae (death certificate) or Schylar (tombstone) Sallee, died two years later, the cemetery was called "Osage Cemetery" on her death certificate.⁶⁰ Both Charles and "Schylar" have tombstones at Sage Chapel Cemetery. Charles Sallee's widow, Ardalia, remarried to one Edward Welch. Her obituary states that she joined Wishwell Baptist Church in May 1898 "under the pastorate of Rev. Long."⁶¹ This would indicate that the family may have been affiliated with Wishwell. If so, this would also be an indication that, by 1929, Wishwell Baptist Church was no longer burying in Union Cemetery but also using Sage Chapel Cemetery. Members of Wishwell's congregation continued to utilize Sage Chapel Cemetery from this point on until its dissolution in 1966.⁶² The first mention of Sage Chapel Cemetery by that name appears on the 1954 death certificate for John Rafferty,

⁵⁹ *Warrenton (MO) Banner*, 15 February 1929 (says he died 8 February); death certificate says he died 9 February and that he was buried in O'Fallon Colored Church Cemetery,

https://www.sos.mo.gov/images/archives/deathcerts/1929/1929_00009563.PDF

⁶⁰ Georgia Mae "Schylar" Sallee died 27 July 1931,

https://www.sos.mo.gov/images/archives/deathcerts/1931/1931_00027960.PDF

⁶¹ "Obituary of Mrs. Ardalia Welch," *Warrenton (MO) Banner*, 4 February 1960 (Newspapers.com); her sister Cora married Simon Leslie White and is buried with him at Sage Chapel Cemetery

⁶² Deed Book 447, p. 532, 17 March 1966

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

an unmarked burial.⁶³ Oral histories from his descendants relay that Rafferty was born a slave on the Keithly family estate (his property is noted on the 1932 map, Figure 11). His is also the first documented burial in Sage Chapel Cemetery from Cravens Methodist Church.⁶⁴ Over time, not only has the reason for the name Sage Chapel Cemetery become speculation, but other names have been attached to it through those who came to reside there. Oral history of African Americans in O'Fallon state that it was named Sage Chapel because "the blacks liked to worship in a field of Sage."⁶⁵

Sage Chapel Cemetery's association with the entire African-American community of O'Fallon contributed to its being referred to by many names, including O'Fallon Cemetery, O'Fallon City Cemetery, Osage or Femme Osage Cemetery, Colored Church Cemetery, St. Shepherd Cemetery, Hayden Cemetery, and even Cravens Cemetery and Wishwell Cemetery. Those known to have been buried here may have their burial site listed as any of the above on their death certificate. However, the cemetery is most commonly known as Sage Chapel Cemetery, and it is the name preferred by the local community.

There were a few burials in Sage Chapel Cemetery during the 1960s, but few illustrate the story of the African-American community and their relationship to the larger community of O'Fallon better than that of Claude (on the tombstone) or Clyde (obituary) Dierker.⁶⁶ He is fondly remembered by his family and his community, and his story shares a description of an unusual burial in the Sage Chapel Cemetery. Born on July 5, 1922, to Edward and Bettie (Williams) Dierker, he was the fourth son of their ten children. The family lived near the intersection of Elm and Sonderen, next to the Cravens Methodist Episcopal Church (not extant) and O'Fallon's small black one room schoolhouse (Figure 13). On Friday, October 27, 1967 forty-five-year-old Clyde's home was engulfed in a fire at just ten minutes past 9 p.m. He was home alone at the time, and even though O'Fallon Fire chief Bill Steiner battled the blaze for several hours, the entire house was destroyed, and Clyde perished. It was difficult to keep the fire from spreading to the neighboring buildings. He left behind four brothers – Louis, Frank, Bill and Julius Dierker – and two sisters – Arie Harvey and Mae White.

Dierker's Funeral services were held by the Parish Priest Father Raymond Diermann at the nearby Assumption Parish where the family were members. At a meeting of the O'Fallon Historic Preservation Commission, Commissioner Don Dietrich, who had served as a twelve-year-old altar boy for the funeral, recalled "It was so emotional!" Everyone was distraught as Clyde was well-loved and single. This was a rare event for

⁶³ John Rafferty Jr. was born in 1860 and died 7 April 1954; https://www.sos.mo.gov/images/archives/deathcerts/1954/1954_00013057.PDF John was born a Keithly slave, as was his father, John Rafferty Sr. who was born in 1835 and died c. 1880. It is likely that his was the first burial in Sage Chapel Cemetery.

⁶⁴ "John Rafferty Funeral Held Sunday April 11," *O'Fallon Community News*, 7 April 1954

⁶⁵ Interviews with Phyllis Hayden, Betty White, Mary Stephenson

⁶⁶ Obituary in *O'Fallon Community News*, 1 November 1967

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 15

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Dietrich, too, who could not remember another traditional Catholic funeral held in Sage Chapel Cemetery. This was not a staid and solemn burial, but one complete with many emotional outbursts from the women attending that day. Claude and his cousins, the Williams, Lucketts, and Haydens, are only two generations removed from slavery. His neighbors in life were the Edwards, Claiborne and White families, who were also his relations (see Figures 10 and 11: the 1905 map of Sonderen includes properties owned by the Claiborne, White, and Edwards families, the 1932 map shows properties owned by the White, Williams, and Edwards families). All of these families have loved ones buried at Sage Chapel Cemetery. This was a close-knit community, where everyone was related somehow. It apparently did not matter which Church they attended, they were all joined by not only their color but by family relationship. Many of those who lived along Sonderen are buried in Sage Chapel Cemetery (see Figure 15 for a photograph of Simon and Cora White who lived along Sonderen and are buried in Sage Chapel Cemetery, along with photos of other members of this community buried here; Figure 11, the 1932 map of Sonderen, shows Simon White's property).

We close the period of historical significance in 1968, but there have been a few modern developments since then. Sage Chapel Cemetery has received twelve burials from 1968 to 2015. The first cemetery sign was placed in Sage Chapel Cemetery in 2004 by the David Hinman and Louis Swinger families. The cemetery received a second sign from a Boy Scout project in May 2015.⁶⁷ Both signs stand today. Members of the African-American community do not wish for the first one to be removed, and are extra fond of it.

Sage Chapel Cemetery is a memorial to the O'Fallon African-American community that still exists today. It became a final resting place for many with connections to that community. Those interred there died in O'Fallon, St. Peters, St. Charles, Wright City, Kinloch, and St. Louis, Missouri, and in Vinton, Louisiana. It is the final resting place for at least two veterans, Howard I. Morris and Leo Larue Hart.

When O'Fallon resident Jim Frain first visited the Sage Chapel Cemetery in June 2013, he noticed that the headstone for Howard Morris, a World War I veteran, was broken and in danger of being lost. He approached his friend, Sheldon Hartsfield, also a veteran, and a member of the V.F.W. Post 5077, Sage Chapel Cemetery's neighbor to the east. Taking further action, Frain, and a few other members of the community came together, wanting to draw attention to the plight of the derelict cemetery.

Since then, area historians have researched the cemetery's history and the City of O'Fallon began to maintain the cemetery. They have not only cut the grass, but when large trees were toppled, they addressed the situation. The African-American

⁶⁷ See https://archive.org/details/O_FallonTV_-_Sage_Chapel_Cemetery_Sign_Dedication_O_Fallon_Missouri for a video on the dedication of the cemetery sign.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 16

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

community took notice, and the City's Communications Department became involved and created videos in recognition of O'Fallon's Black History Month. Flowers were donated, and members of the Historic Preservation Commission placed them on all the visible graves. Community involvement grew larger with other programs about the African-American Community, bringing Mayors and representatives from neighboring cities. Most recently, in August of 2017, the community's concern for this local landmark came together with a most moving tribute in realization of its importance. The family of Howard Morris, Ms. Phyllis Hayden, was presented a brand-new headstone for her uncle, with a full military funeral conducted by the V.F.W. Post 5077. One of the most beautiful ceremonies, attended by hundreds, this was a genuine demonstration of the love the O'Fallon community has for this landmark and the people associated with it.⁶⁸

Conclusion

Sage Chapel Cemetery is being nominated under Criterion A, Ethnic Heritage, for its association with the local African-American community. Its period of significance begins in c.1881, the year the site was officially deeded to the local African American community for use as a cemetery (though some burials likely occurred earlier) to 1968. Use of the cemetery continued beyond 1968 with the addition of 12 burials. The cemetery largely retains its historic appearance, including its original acreage, as deeded. This cemetery is significant to more than the African-American community of O'Fallon. While this may be only a portion of the city's rich history, it is a very necessary part. It provides dialogue and an opportunity to reach out and seek greater understanding. It is significant in an educational role: as the stories of over one-hundred of our residents are shared, everyone will be able to learn. Furthermore, it is one of the few remaining resources associated with – and the only one that remains intimately connected to – this local African-American community. Sage Chapel Cemetery is already significant as a burying ground where people's lives should never be forgotten. But even more important is the role the cemetery continues to play in our community's history which also needs to be acknowledged, and the voices of these individuals heard.

⁶⁸ See <https://sagechapel.com/2017/08/24/howard-morris-ceremony/> for photographs and a video of the ceremony held at Sage Chapel Cemetery for Howard Morris on August 12, 2017. This link includes other videos concerning Sage Chapel Cemetery and its history.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 17

| |
|--|
| Sage Chapel Cemetery |
| Name of Property |
| St. Charles, Missouri |
| County and State |
| N/A |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

Bibliography:

1895 Kansas State Census, www.ancestry.com

1910 Missouri State Census, Montgomery County, Roll MOSC_4716

1880, 1900, 1920, 1930, 1940 United States Census records, www.ancestry.com

1850 United States Census Slave Schedules, District 78, St. Charles Co., MO, www.ancestry.com

1860 United States Census Slave Schedules, District 78, St. Charles Co., MO, www.ancestry.com

1880 United States Federal Census, St. Charles County, Saint Charles, Enumeration District 201, Roll 714, Page 72A.

1900 United States Federal Census, Ottawa Kansas, Enumeration District 0086 Ward 2, Franklin Roll 480, Page 10A.

1920 United States Federal Census, Lexington, Ward 3, Lafayette County, Missouri Page 4A
Enumeration District 117

1920 United States Federal Census, St. Charles County, Dardenne Twshp, O'Fallon City, Missouri, Sheet 2 B, taken the 8 January 1920 by Warren Barebo.

1930 United States Federal Census, St. Charles County Ward 1, O'Fallon City, Missouri, Sheet 2B taken the 3 April 1930 by Warren Barebo.

African-Methodist Church Book, Donated by Wardell Reed to the St. Charles County Historical Society, St. Charles County, MO. in 2010. These are Conference Records of the St. Charles African-Methodist Episcopal Churches in St. Charles County.

American Press (Lake Charles, Louisiana), obituary of Leo Larue Hart, 19 March 2007, "America's Obituaries and Death Notices," Newsbank, accessed via the St. Charles City-County Library District's Electronic Databases

Baraba, Sarah, "St. Charles County Historical Society Helps Man Uncover Family History," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, 15 February 2013

Baue Funeral Home records (1935-1988), St. Charles County Historical Society

Baue Funeral Home website, obituary of Delories Dee Thomas, www.baue.com

"Big Trans-Continental Traffic Increase This Year is Predicted," Joplin (MO) Globe, 14 February 1926 (Newspapers.com)

Bruère, Theodore and W. W. Edwards, *Illustrated Atlas of St. Charles County, Missouri* (Illinois: W. R. Brink Co., 1875)

Castlio, Mary Iantha, *Some Missouri Pioneers: Their Ancestors, Descendants, and Kindred from Other States* (Windsor, MO: Mary Iantha Castlio, 1923)

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 18

| |
|--|
| Sage Chapel Cemetery |
| Name of Property |
| St. Charles, Missouri |
| County and State |
| N/A |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

Drummond, Malcolm C. *Historic Sites In St. Charles County Missouri*. St. Charles County Historical Society: Harland Bartholomew and Associates, 1976.

Find A Grave. "Samuel Keithly." Added July 18, 2006. Accessed May 9, 2018.
<https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=14975562>

Frain, Jim, "Sage Chapel Cemetery Visited with Flowers from the O'Fallon Historic Preservation Committee," 4 September 2013, O'Fallon patch.com posting

General Land Office Records, Bureau of Land Management, United States Department of Interior,
<https://glorerecords.blm.gov/default.aspx>

Grant Chapel A.M.E. Church binder, St. Charles County Historical Society.

Greene, Lorenzo J., Gary R. Kremer, and Antonio F. Holland. *Missouri's Black Heritage*. Revised & Updated by Gary R. Kremer and Antonio F. Holland. Columbia, MO: University of Missouri Press, 1993.

"Guide to American Civil War in Missouri: A Brief History." The State Historical Society of Missouri. Adapted from Prologue to *The Civil War's First Blood: Missouri, 1854-1861* by James Denny and John Bradbury, published by Missouri Life Media. Accessed May 24, 2018.
<https://shsmo.org/research/guides/civilwar/abriefhistory.html>

Hayden, Phyllis. Interview with Dorris Keeven-Franke. February 2018.

History of St. Charles County, Missouri (1765-1885). First published in 1885, 2nd printing 1969, 3rd printing 1997 with introduction by Paul R. Hollrah.

"Howard Morris Cemetery." *Sage Chapel Cemetery: O'Fallon Missouri*. August 24, 2017. Accessed May 24, 2018. <https://sagechapel.com/2017/08/24/howard-morris-ceremony/>

Jost, Ashley, "Genealogical Research Connects Descendants of Former Slaves in O'Fallon, MO," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, 16/17 July 2017

Keeven-Franke, Dorris. "Arnold Krekel." *St. Charles County History*. February 26, 2018. Accessed May 24, 2018. <https://stcharlescountyhistory.org/2018/02/26/arnold-krekel/>

Keeven-Franke, Dorris. "Missouri's Slaves Emancipated." *St. Charles County History*. January 11, 2016. Accessed May 24, 2018. <https://stcharlescountyhistory.org/2016/01/11/missouris-slaves-emancipated/>

Keeven-Franke, Dorris. "Preacher Jefferson Franklin Sage." *St. Charles County History*. October 16, 2017. Accessed May 24, 2018. <https://stcharlescountyhistory.org/2017/10/16/preacher-jefferson-franklin-sage/>

"Missouri Compromise." A+E Networks. 2009. Accessed May 24, 2018.
<https://www.history.com/topics/missouri-compromise>

"Missouri's Early Slave Laws: A History in Documents." Missouri State Archives: Missouri Digital Heritage. Accessed May 24, 2018.
<https://s1.sos.mo.gov/archives/education/aahi/earlyslavelaws/slavelaws>

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 19

| |
|--|
| Sage Chapel Cemetery |
| Name of Property |
| St. Charles, Missouri |
| County and State |
| N/A |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

Morris, Robert R., *O'Fallon, MO: A Good Place to Live* (O'Fallon, MO: Donning Company Publishers, 2006)

Missouri State Archives, "Missouri's Early Slave Laws: A History in Documents,"
<https://s1.sos.mo.gov/archives/education/aahi/earlyslavelaws/slavelaws>

O'Fallon Community News obituaries, 1954 (John Rafferty at St. Charles County Historical Society); 28 February 1957; 6 October 1965; 17 August 1966; 1 November 1967

O'Fallon Historical Society, "History," Accessed May 24, 2018, <https://www.ofallon.mo.us/ofallon-history>

Plat Book of St. Charles County, Missouri (Rockford, IL: W. W. Hixson & Co., 1930)

Plat Book of St. Charles County, Missouri (Des Moines, IA: Northwest Publishing Co., 1905)

Plat Map of St. Charles County, Missouri (Quincy, IL: Artcraft Co., 1948)

Sage Chapel Cemetery topography map, www.topoquest.com

Sanborn Map Company. "O'Fallon, Missouri, 1912 November." Digital Library, University of Missouri, Accessed April 27, 2018, <https://dl.mospace.umsystem.edu/mu/islandora/object/mu%3A143247>

Secretary of State of Missouri, Missouri Digital Heritage, Missouri Death Certificates,
<https://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/Archives/ArchivesMvc/DeathCertificates>

St. Charles Banner-News (daily) obituaries, 19 April 1972; 20 April 1972; 18 June 1976; 24 August 1976; 6 March 1978

St. Charles Cosmos-Monitor obituaries, 27 July 1904; 19 June 1907; 29 December 1909 (from 1909 binder that used to be at the St. Charles County Historical Society); 25 April 1917 (daily); 30 October 1935 (daily); 19 September 1957 (daily); 3 October 1957 (daily)

St. Charles County Assessor, Property Search Database

St. Charles County GIS map, Sage Chapel Cemetery, retrieved 27 December 2017

St. Charles County Recorder of Deeds, various deed records and Plat Book 31, p. 196

St. Charles Journal obituaries, 1 August 1963; 24 April 1972; 21 June 1976; 25 August 1976; 8 March 1978; 13 July 1988

St. Charles Post, 6 December 1982 and 9 February 1983

St. John's A.M.E. Church book (St. Charles A.M.E. circuit records), St. Charles County Historical Society

St. Louis Post-Dispatch obituaries, 11 September 1936; 29 August 1940; 24 July 1963; 5 March 1978; 29 December 1981 (St. Charles Post); 11 July 1988 (St. Charles Post)

St. Paul Catholic Church Burial Index at the St. Charles County Historical Society

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 20

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Stephenson, Mary Patrick. Resident of O'Fallon, born in 1928. Video Interview with Dorris Keeven-Franke. April 4, 2018.

Swinger, Pat, "Sage Chapel," *O'Fallon Community News*, 18 February 2004

United States Census Bureau, 2010 Census of Population and Housing, *Summary Population and Housing Characteristics, CPH-1-27, Missouri* U.S. Government Printing Office. Washington D.C. 2012. Accessed May 24, 2017. <https://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/cph-1-27.pdf>

United States Census Bureau. "Census of Population and Housing." 1860-1970. Accessed April 27, 2018. <https://www.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html>
United States City Directories 1922-1995, www.ancestry.com

United States Social Security Applications & Claims Index, www.ancestry.com

Warrenton Banner obituaries, 15 February 1929; 4 February 1960

Wentzville Union obituaries, 21 January 1916; 27 April 1917; 8 February 1918; 23 April 1920 (estate sale);

Westhoff, Herbert and George Allred, *O'Fallon Centennial, 1856-1956* (Warrenton, MO: Bilmac Press, 1956)

White, Betty. Interview with Dorris Keeven-Franke. October 28, 2017.

Wiechens, Lucille and Carrol Geerling, *Cemeteries of St. Charles County, Missouri*, Vol. V (Bridgeton, MO: Lineage Press, 1988).

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 21

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Verbal Boundary Description: Sage Chapel Cemetery is a 1.02 square acre bounded on the north by Veterans Memorial Parkway, on the east by the property of Post 5077 of the Veterans of the Foreign Wars, on the south and the west by the Spring Hill Subdivision. See Figure 2.

Boundary Justification This is the same one acre tract of land deeded to the Trustees of the African Methodist Episcopal Church to be used as a cemetery in 1881.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 22

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 1. Appendix A: List of burials in Sage Chapel Cemetery as documented by grave markers, family members, death certificates and obituaries.

1898-1968

1. Abbingtion/Abington, Edward Hayner 23 Aug 1902 - 30 May 1966
2. Abbingtion, Liberty M. 21 Dec 1857 - 14 Jun 1931
3. Abernathy, Mable Tucker Edwards Claiborne 8 Jul 1887 - 28 Oct 1935
4. Abington, Eldora Welch 15 Jun 1863 - 25 Mar 1921*
5. Abington, Frank McKennie 3 Sep 1882 - 26 Oct 1919
6. Abington, Zone d. 24 Jul 1904
7. Ball, Thomas Hubert 14 Apr 1904 - 27 Feb 1933
8. Ball, Priscilla Admire 1812 - 25 May 1900*
9. Brady, Frank 2 Feb 1863 - 16 Mar 1942
10. Brady, Maria/Mary Carter Aug 1858 - 8 Mar 1924*
11. Brady, Myrtle Sep 1889 - 27 Jan 1913
12. Burrell, Martha J. Williams Apr 1854 - 25 Jan 1908*
13. Carter, Elvira Elizabeth Luckett 24 Dec 1885/1884 - 18 Sep 1957
14. Carter, Fred 21 Aug 1890 - 4 Nov 1918
15. Carter, William 17 Nov 1884 - 12 Oct 1938
16. Claiborne, Amos W. 23 Feb 1869 - 2 Aug 1910
17. Claiborne, Clarence 4 Mar 1909 - 2 Feb 1945
18. Claiborne, Hilda Abington 14 Oct 1869 - 23 Sep 1903
19. Claiborne, Lucy Whitehead Mar 1848 - 5 Mar 1922
20. Claiborne, Mary Smith Feb 1855 - 19 Mar 1917
21. Claiborne, Sparrel 1830 - 21 Mar 1915
22. Clarence, Jane E. Hayden 9 Sep 1876 - 23 Dec 1946*
23. Clarence, Thomas 1877/1881 - 23 Oct 1923*
24. Clarence, William Harrison 23 Dec 1888 - 29 Sep 1965*
25. Cooper, Infant d/o Albert & Nellie M. (Luckett) b/d 22 Apr 1939
26. Crowder, Albina 15 Oct 1905 - 20 Nov 1920
27. Crowder, Berniss 6 Feb 1916 - 8 Jun 1920
28. Crowder, Joe 20 Feb 1886 - 30 Mar 1926
29. Crowder, Lizzie age 10m - 30 Mar 1925
30. Davis, Winston d. 19 May 1907*
31. Dierker, Alice 25 Aug 1910 - 2 Sep 1910
32. Dierker, Annie 24 Nov 1899 - 26 Apr 1917

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 23

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

33. Dierker, Claude/Clyde 5 Jul 1922 - 27 Oct 1967*
34. Dierker, Ed 7 Apr 1870 - 27 Apr 1940
35. Dryden, Frances Rafferty Letcher 15 Aug 1860 - 2 Mar 1938
36. Dyer, Delia D. Nash 1 Jan 1884/1878 - 9 Apr 1953*
37. Edwards, Alvin/Treny/Trevy Nov 1889 - 13 Jun 1907
38. Edwards/Vardeman, Arthur M. 28 Aug 1881 - 25 Jun 1951 –
39. Edwards, Dorothy Patrick Smith Hart Turner 28 Feb 1904 - 2 Feb 1952*
40. Edwards, Ernest 5 Nov 1916 - 9 Mar 1966
41. Edwards, Fred 9 Mar 1912 - 9 Mar 1931
42. Edwards, Georgia Clark Benton Mar 1882 - 29 Feb 1932
43. Edwards, John 10 Jun 1883 - 21 Dec 1910
44. Edwards, Marshal 3 Feb 1874 - 26 Jun 1902*
45. Edwards, Mary J. Stone 18 Jun 1856 - 20 Nov 1921*
46. Edwards, Artie Mishey Letcher Vardeman Hubbard 10 Nov 1881 - 30 Sep 1957*
47. Edwards, Roman V. 2 Aug 1893 - 29 Oct 1898*
48. Edwards, Virginia Hayden c1910 - 18 Jul 1958
49. Edwards, Wesley 12 Mar 1888 - 10 May 1945
50. Hubbard, Gilbert 7 Jul 1898 - 10 Apr 1919
51. Hughes, Infant d/o Georgie b/d 9 Mar 1910
52. Lockett, Albert J. 18 Apr 1903 - 16 Aug 1926
53. Lockett, John Leslie 27 Jun 1915 - 16 Jan 1916
54. Lockett, Margaret Lee Hughes 8 May 1889 - 3 May 1953*
55. Lockett, Nellie Rafferty 27 Feb 1894 - 23 Jan 1923
56. Morgan, Ester Maria 27 Dec 1912 - 6 Mar 1913
57. Morris, Howard I. 8 Oct 1889/1887 - 29 Apr 1957*
58. Morris, Mary Truelove Lockett Vardeman 22 Mar 1885 - 8 Jan 1961
59. O'Day, Albert 7 Feb 1896/1894/1897 - 28 Aug 1940
60. O'Day/Otey, Ed 7 Jul 1920 - 7 Mar 1922
61. O'Day, Edith 1 Jun 1922 - 1 Apr 1923
62. O'Day, Jim 23 Sep 1916 - 2 Feb 1919
63. Owens, George Lewis 1880 - 6 Jul 1935
64. Rafferty, Alena B. Burrell Oct 1868 - 27 Jul 1925
65. Rafferty, John, Jr. 12 Aug 1860 - 7 Apr 1954
66. Robinson, Coattie/Cody Cleveland 24 Nov 1885 - 23 Sep 1927
67. Robinson, Erma 27 Apr 1925 - 7 Sep 1927
68. Sallee, Charles Edward 2 Apr 1876/3 Apr 1878 - 9 Feb 1929*
69. Sallee, David Grant 4 Jul 1910 - 5 Jul 1910

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 24

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

70. Sallee, Mary Elizabeth 4 Jun 1918 - 26 May 1919*
71. Sallee, Skylar/Georgia Mae 24 Jun 1913 - 27 Jul 1931*
72. Sanders, Adell 1 Aug 1909 - 1 Feb 1911
73. Sanders, Agnes 24 Dec 1912 - 29 Jan 1915
74. Sanders, Carl Rodger 2 Feb 1900 - 13 Apr 1937*
75. Sanders, George 30 Mar 1845 - 6 May 1940*
76. Sanders, Mary J. 3 Aug 1909 - 8 Nov 1948
77. Sanders, Mary Ellen Thomas Mar 1874 - 1 Dec 1915
78. Sanders, Taylor M. 1 Apr 1900 - 10 Feb 1953
79. Stewart, Granville 1 Oct 1886 - 26 Feb 1957
80. Stewart, Raymond 4 Jun 1906 - 6 Jan 1946
81. Taylor, Marie 28 Dec 1911 - 12 Jul 1912
82. Taylor, Smith d. 28 Dec 1909
83. Thomas, Andrew Okay Jun 1857 - 17 Feb 1912
84. Thomas, Dorothy May 15 Oct 1929 - 7 Feb 1930
85. Thomas, Eugene E. "Slick" 15 Feb 1930 - 23 Jul 1963
86. Thomas, George 17 Oct 1870 - 15 Jul 1911
87. Thomas, Henry C. 21 Aug 1889 - 21 Oct 1913
88. Thomas, Infant d/o Nathaniel & Lovetta (Hayden) b/d 25 Jul 1934
89. Thomas, John E. 22 Dec 1895 - 23 Oct 1911
90. Thomas, Nathaniel George 8 Jul 1902 - 27 Mar 1947
91. Thomas, Sedalia "Selley" Letcher Jun 1885 - 17 Jul 1910
92. Tucker, Henry 1871 - 25 Dec 1950
93. Tucker, Mary 1866 - 26 Feb 1934
94. Tyler, Elenora Stewart Jul 1874 - 23 Apr 1905
95. Vardeman, Florence Beatrice 7/8 Aug 1902 - 28 Feb 1911*
96. Vardeman, John W. 1 Mar 1875 - 29 Jan 1918
97. Vordiman, Rolf Chester 5 May 1912 - 12 Jun 1912
98. Washington, Lottie M. Thomas O'Day 5 Jun 1900/11 Jun 1898 - 16 Jun 1961*
99. White, Frona May 4 Feb 1912 - 26 Mar 1912
100. White, Jessie L. 4 Nov 1908/1910 - 20 Nov 1927*
101. White, Lucy Singleton Hughes St. Clair 16 Feb 1864 - 22/23 Jan 1958*
102. White, Rufus Mar 1852 - 27 Feb 1919
103. White, Simon Leslie 7 Aug 1881 - 13 Aug 1966*
104. Williams, Infant s/o Frank & Stella Marie (Luckett) b/d 26 Oct 1937
105. Wyatt, Elizabeth Claiborne Mar 1884 - 4 Apr 1919

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 25

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

1969-2018

- 106. Furlow, Lovetta/Vetta/Velta/Veltha Hayden Thomas 13 Jan 1906 - Jan 1981
- 107. Hart, Leo Larue (AKA Leon Baskerville) 25 Jun 1931 - 12 Mar 2007*
- 108. Hayden, Catherine Marie Williams 16 Oct 1927 - 7 Jul 1988
- 109. Hayden, Elizabeth Ashley 5 Aug 1891 - 3 Mar 1978*
- 110. Lockett, Leslie/Lester H. 12 Apr 1898 - 18 Apr 1972*
- 111. Norris, Betty Mae Elizabeth Hart Shorty 4 Mar 1933 - 28 Dec 1981*
- 112. Riley, Douglas Dean 5 Jan 1956 - 10 Apr 2015
- 113. Thomas, Delories Ruth "Dee Dee" Locke Bergesch 27 Aug 1946 - 8 Nov 2003
- 114. Thornton, Cora LuLurean White/LuLurean Cora 20 Apr 1922 - 18 Dec 1986/1990*
- 115. Vardeman, John Bearl 11 Nov 1910 - 17 Jun 1976
- 116. Vardeman, Mary Elizabeth Mozee 27 Sep 1914 - 23 Aug 1976
- 117. White, Cora E. Abington 10 Sep 1882 - 23 Nov 1972*

* denotes those with extant markers

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 26

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 2. Site Map, created utilizing GoogleMaps, 2018. Latitude/longitude coordinates are centered within the below boundary: 38.800034, -90.694882

The two red rectangles indicate the location of the two noncontributing signs.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 27

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

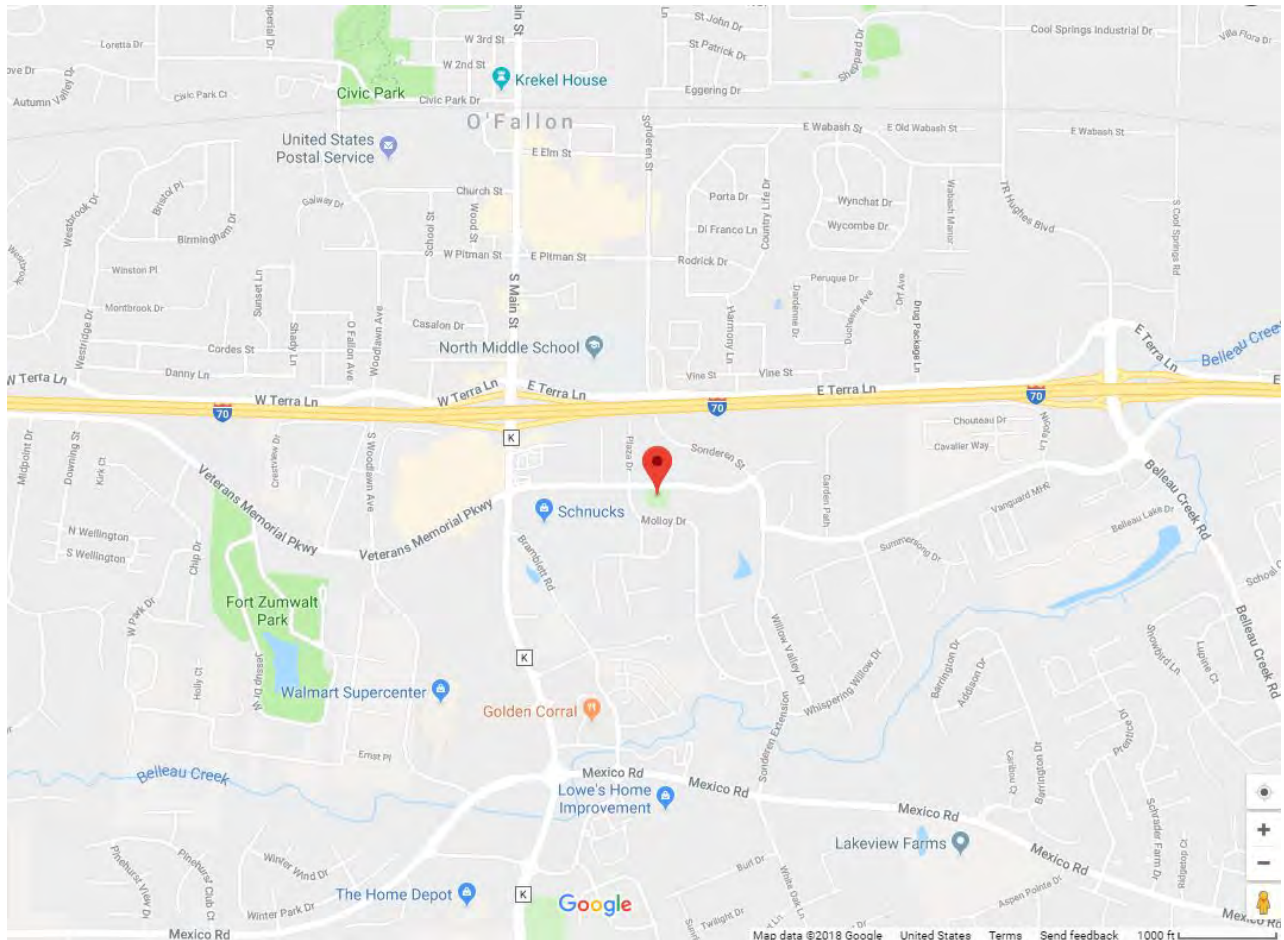
St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 3. Context Map, GoogleMaps, 2018.
Latitude/longitude coordinates: 38.800034, -90.694882



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 28

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 4: Plat Book of St. Charles County, Missouri (Des Moines, IA: Northwest Publishing Co., 1905)



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 29

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

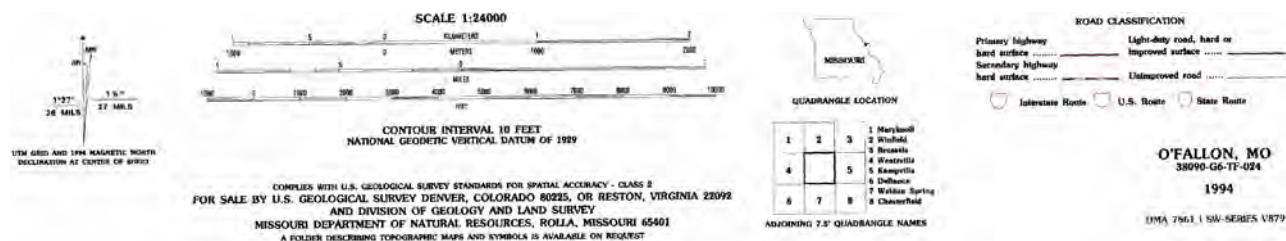
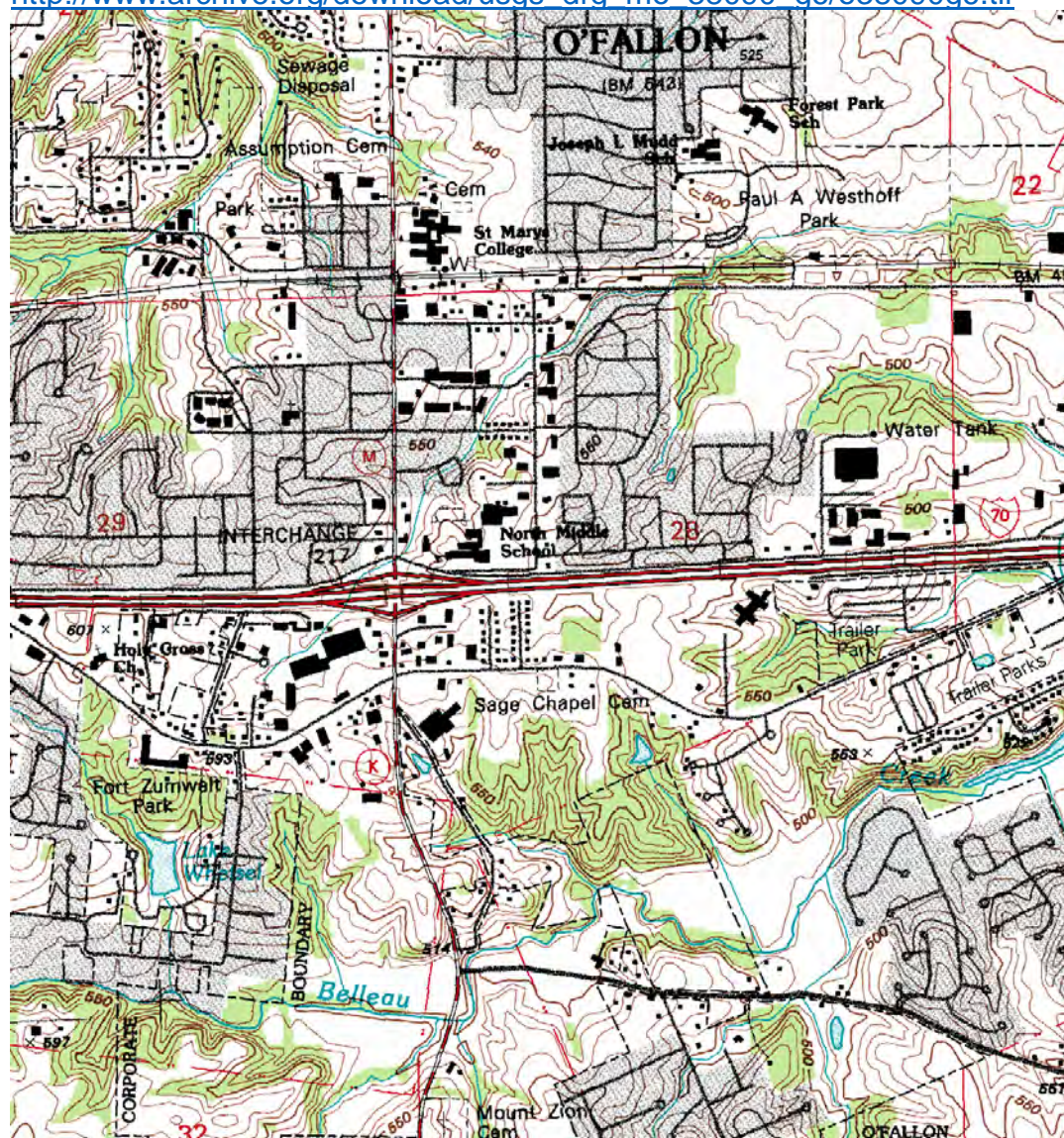
St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 5. O'Fallon 1994 USGS map with location of Sage Chapel Cemetery indicated. Available online via the Internet Archive, https://archive.org/details/usgs_mo?&sort=-downloads&page=4, direct download link: http://www.archive.org/download/usgs_drq_mo_38090_q6/o38090q6.tif



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 30

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 6. Examples of pre-1968 extant grave markers. Photographed by Justin Watkins and Dorris Keeven-Franke.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 31

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 7. The original gravestone for Howard I. Morris and the replacement stone, donated by the V.F.W. Post 5077. Photographed by Justin Watkins and Dorris Keeven-Franke.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 32

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 8. Examples of grave markers for burials added after 1968. The first photograph represents a family memorial with a garden stone, flowers, and simple name marker as there is no gravestone in place. Photographed by Justin Watkins and Dorris Keeven-Franke.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 33

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 9. Census data for St. Charles County and O'Fallon, 1860-1970. Pulled from "Census of Population and Housing," U.S. Census Bureau, 1860-1970. Accessed April 27, 2018. <https://www.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html>

| Census Year | <i>St. Charles County</i> | | | <i>O'Fallon</i> | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------|-------|-------|
| | White | Black | Total | White | Black | Total |
| 1860 | 14,313 | 2,210 | 16,523 | -- | -- | -- |
| 1870 | 19,381 | 1,922 | 21,304 | -- | -- | -- |
| 1880 | 20,652 | 2,411 | 23,065 | -- | -- | 295 |
| 1890 | 20,656 | 2,315 | 22,977 | -- | -- | -- |
| 1900 | 22,332 | 2,139 | 24,474 | -- | -- | -- |
| 1910 | 22,974 | 1,718 | 24,695 | -- | -- | 600* |
| 1920 | 21,578 | 1,249 | 22,828 | -- | -- | 588 |
| 1930 | 23,290 | 1,063 | 24,354 | -- | -- | 594 |
| 1940 | 24,542 | 1,019 | 25,562 | -- | -- | 618 |
| 1950 | 29,069 | 765 | 29,834 | -- | -- | 789 |
| 1960 | 52,054 | 916** | 52,970 | 3,729 | 34 | 3,770 |
| 1970 | 91,546 | 1,155 | 92,954 | 6,994 | 15 | 7,018 |

*According to a November 1912, Sanborn Map, O'Fallon's population in 1912 was 600. Source: "O'Fallon, Missouri, 1912 November," Sanborn Map Company, Digital Library, University of Missouri, Accessed April 27, 2018, <https://dl.mospace.umsystem.edu/mu/islandora/object/mu%3A143247>

**Some census data, depending on the year, reports minorities as "Nonwhites", thus it does not differentiate between African Americans and other races. However, in those years where they were differentiated, the numbers of other races were very low; thus most of the population within St. Charles County historically was made up primarily of those identifying as "White" – sometimes foreign born, which is not differentiated here – and African Americans. For example, in 1970 O'Fallon, 6,994 individuals were classified as "White", and 15 were classified as "Negro." Thus there were only 9 counted as another race (for that census year: Indian, Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, and "All other"). In 1920, St. Charles County, only one individual was counted as another race.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 34

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

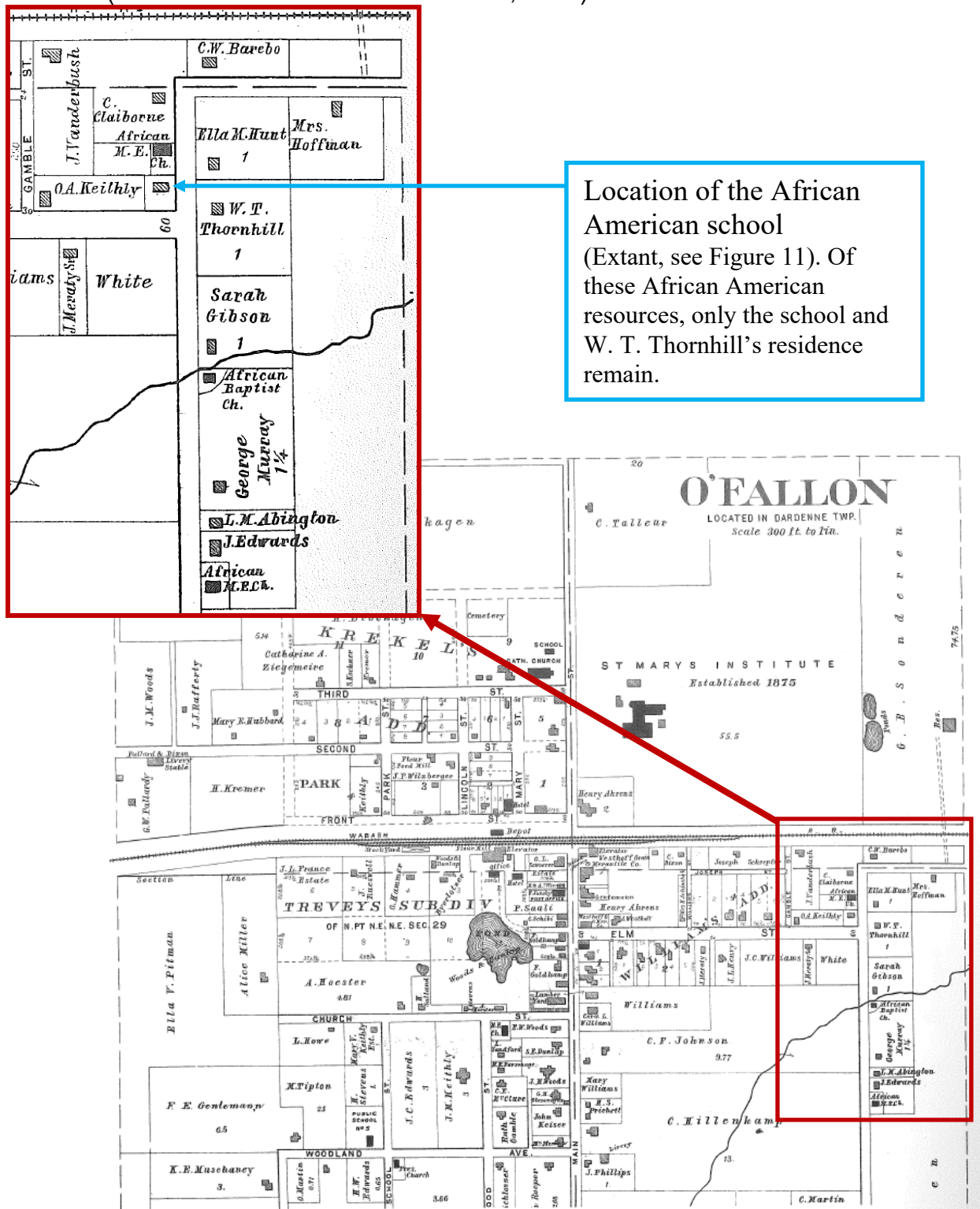
St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 10. Excerpt from 1905 map of O'Fallon showing the African American enclave along Sonderen. Source: Malcolm C. Drummond, *Historic Sites In St. Charles County Missouri* (Harland Bartholomew & Associates, 1976)



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 35

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 11. Excerpt from 1932 map of O'Fallon showing the African American enclave along Sonderen.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 36

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 12. Preacher Jefferson Franklin Sage.

Source: Keeven-Franke, Dorris. "Preacher Jefferson Franklin Sage." St. Charles County History. October 16, 2017. Accessed May 24, 2018. <https://stcharlescountyhistory.org/2017/10/16/preacher-jefferson-franklin-sage/>



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 37

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 13: Extant African American School at 315 E. Elm Street, now utilized as a restaurant. Google Maps Street View from July 2017. Accessed May 7, 2018.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 38

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 14: Willis Thornhill's former residence at 116 Sonderen Street, once associated with the local African American Odd Fellows Lodge. Google Maps Street View from July 2017. Accessed May 7, 2018.



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 39

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

St. Charles, Missouri

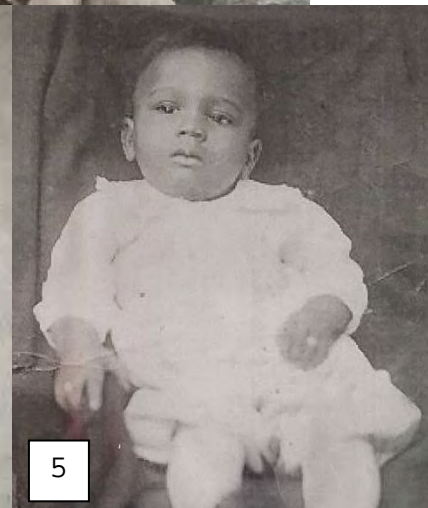
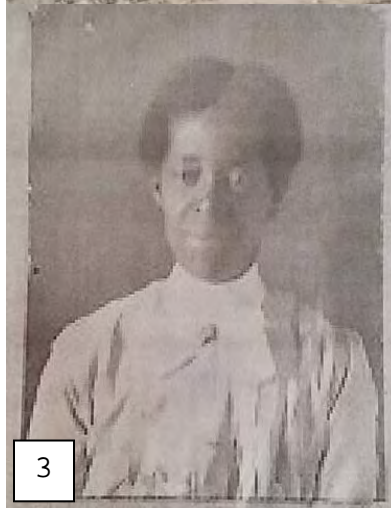
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 15: Faces of some of those buried in Sage Chapel Cemetery. Personal photographs; digital copies in Dorris Keeven-Franke's personal collection.

1) Simon and Cora White, with Arlene, Betty, and Michael – they lived on Sonderen Avenue 2) Dorothy Edwards 3) Frances Rafferty Dryden 4) Frank Brady 5) Nellie Luckett



National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 40

Sage Chapel Cemetery

Name of Property

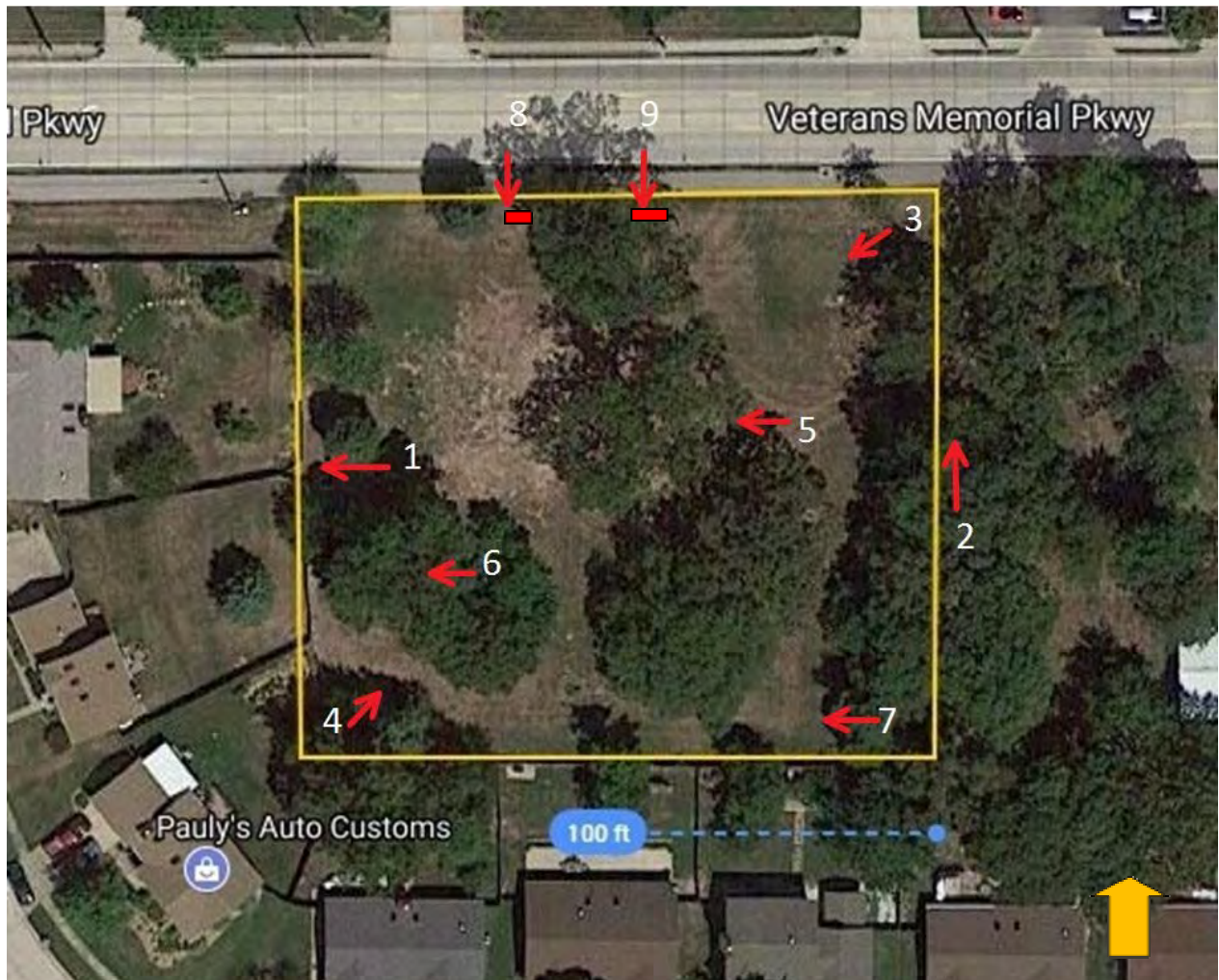
St. Charles, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 16: Site Map for Photos, Source: GoogleMaps, 2018











DELLIAH DIER

BORN - 1878

DIED - 1918

APRIL 9







HOWARD I MORRIS

MISSOURI

PVT HQ CO 65 PIONEER INF

WORLD WAR I

OCT 8 1889 APR 29 1957



LAGE CHAPEL

CEM: TEL

SAGE CHAPEL CEMETERY

Est. 1881

