

21 Jacob Wilhelm came to the United States to be a blacksmith on the building of the Eads bridge. When the Eads Bridge was completed in 1874, Jake Wilhelm moved to Spanish Lake, building a house and shop (c. 1881) near the present day intersection of Bellefontaine Road and Parker Road. Jacob's son Joseph and other family members ran the shop until 1975 when it was taken over by Bob Schantz. Schantz worked out of the old building until 1993 when he moved his business to another location. This made it one of the longest operating blacksmith businesses in the area. The St Louis County Historic Buildings Commission stated the **Spanish Lake Blacksmith Shop** was "the last surviving original blacksmith shop in the county,,and a unique reminder of the county's rural heritage."



This building was donated to Faust Park in 2013 and was recently rebuilt and restored. First use of the forge was at the 2015 Heritage Festival.

22 The **Fenton Mercantile** was built by John DeSalme and Henry Ludwig in 1908 to replace an original blacksmith shop that stood at the intersection of Main Street and Ware Street in historic Fenton. The original blacksmith shop burned down in 1906. The mercantile was in business until 1942. The building was donated in 2013 and is currently being rebuilt and restored. The picture shows the building during the removal from it's original site.



2016 Events in Historic Village

Open Houses– March 19 & 20, June 18 & 19, 25 & 26, July 30 & 31.
1-5 pm. Free to the Public. (Additional dates at Thornhill.)

Olden Days of Summer for Kids– June 10 & 24, July 15 9 am—12 pm

\$10/child advance tickets; \$15 at gate. Adults free.

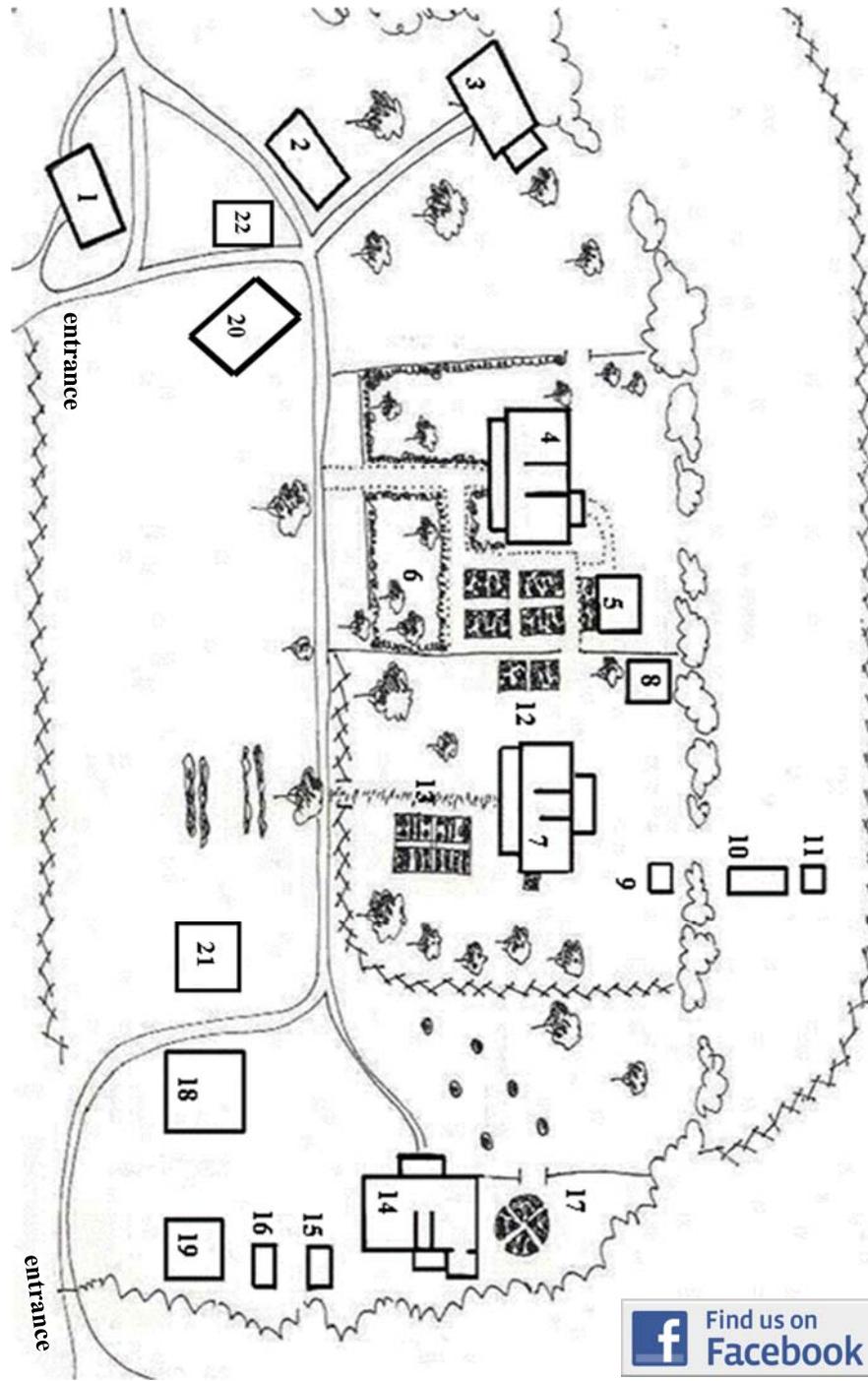
Faust Heritage Festival– September 17 & 18 10 am– 5 pm.
\$5/adult, \$2/child 4-12, under 4 free

History Hayrides– October 7 & 8; 6, 7, and 8 pm. \$10 per person.
Tickets must be purchased in advance. Available online.

Candlelight Tours at Thornhill– Dec 9 (6-9 pm); Dec. 10 (5-9 pm)
\$8/adults; \$5/child (4-12); free for 3 and under

For more information about events held at the Historic Village, please visit our Faust Park Facebook page or call or visit our park office to receive

Management has the right to deny admission to some areas for health and safety issues. For accommodations to make this program accessible call: 314-615-4386, 314-615-7840 TTY or 800-735-2966 (Relay MO)



Faust County Park 314-615-8328
15185 Olive Blvd Chesterfield, MO 63017
www.stlouisco.com/parks/faust

Faust Historic Village

Due to real estate development, many St. Louis County 19th Century structures have been lost. As part of our commitment to the preservation of local heritage, the St. Louis County Parks Department has rescued or rebuilt 20 buildings. The buildings date from 1840 to 1910 and represent the lives of individuals who lived in the small towns and farmland that are now part of St. Louis County.

1 The **Miles A. Seed Carriage House** is the lone survivor of the former Miles A. Seed estate. Seed built an elegant Queen Anne style home and accompanying carriage house in Woodland, now Jennings, Missouri around 1887. The elaborate mansion was demolished in the 1960s and can now only be seen in photographs on display inside the carriage house, now our park office. Seed, born in England in 1843, moved to St. Louis after the Civil War and invented a process to make photographic dry plates. He built a manufacturing plant in 1882 and made his fortune as the Midwest's largest photographic supplier. In 1902, Miles Seed sold the company, formulas and patents to Eastman Kodak and moved to New York to work as a consultant for Eastman Kodak.



2 The **Hoch House** (pronounced Hoke) was relocated from the area of Chesterfield Pkwy and Olive Blvd. This typical German brick cottage was built around 1880, by a second generation immigrant and brick maker, Henry Hoch. He began a business in partnership with his brother, Edward, a bricklayer, and later operated a locally well-known general store, which was known most recently as Rinkles Market. Henry married Lena Mertz in 1872, creating a kinship with the Mertz Family. Henry and Lena raised three children in this small home.



3 **The Yokel Barn**, originally located at Chesterfield Parkway and Conway Road, is a typical timber framed structure of its time. This barn currently houses the Kaatmann blacksmithing tools. The Kaatmanns operated a blacksmith shop, on North Warson Road at Lindbergh, from 1912 until 1988 when the original shop burned. Demonstrations of blacksmithing can be viewed at various times throughout the year. The collection and demos may move to the other end of the Village soon. (see #21)



4 Though known to the community as the **Conway House**, this elegant late 1850s home was built by Dr. Frederick Bates, son of Missouri's second governor. It was originally located across Olive Blvd from the park entrance. Dr. Bates and his wife, Lavinia Meredith, lived comfortably on his income as a physician-farmer and his inheritance from his father. To run his farm of 209 acres and tend to his home, Dr. Bates maintained a slave force of four men, two women, and several children. Dr. Bates also became an investor in the Central Plank Road Company, created to plank Olive St. Rd. as a toll way. He died at the age of 36, in 1862. Lavinia had just given birth to their only child, a son, Woodville. A few years later Lavinia married Samuel Conway, one of the area's wealthiest landowners and among the area's earliest settlers. Lavinia was Mr. Conway's third wife. He left his home place to his children and lived his last years here with Lavinia.



5 Located in the Bates-Conway complex is the **Warmbrodt Summer Kitchen** built in Lemay in the 1850s and the *6* **Heritage Garden** which features medicinal, fragrance, culinary and ornamental plants, from period stock. Garden guides are kept in the green and white box near the garden's front corner. All Village gardens are tended by dedicated volunteers.



7 In contrast to the Conway, the **Mertz Cabin**, home of Ludwig and Salome Mertz, began as a modest, single room home in 1848. They raised six children in this hog trot (or dog trot) cabin after traveling three months from Alsace-Lorraine, as part of a large German migration to St. Louis in the 1840s. In typical fashion, they followed a cousin and were, in turn, followed by others, eventually forming a community then known as New Alsace.

On just thirty acres (now part of Maryville University), they grew potatoes, corn, peas, and beans, with enough oats and hay to support eight dairy cows. Like most area farmers, they "trucked" their produce to the city markets until the establishment of the railroad made markets farther away accessible. In the 1880s the Mertz family tried their luck with wine making and wheat, by then a major export to Europe.



8 The Mertz complex also features the **Wiehage Smokehouse** that hails from another branch of the Mertz family, as well, as an *12* insecticidal and dye garden, and a German "useful garden." These *13* **nutzgardens** typically run right up to the home, leaving little, if any, lawn. Useful gardens would have contained all manner of herbs, fruits, seasonal vegetables and flowers. Ours is a mix of German favorites and mid-century American novelties.



9 To complete the Mertz homestead complex you will find a **bee hive oven**. They were commonly used to bake outdoors during the hot summer months in order to keep the heat out of the house, *11* an **outhouse** and *10* a **woodshed**. Take notice of the split rail fence here and throughout the village. This type of fencing was commonly used during the time period.

14 The lot on which the **Davis House** was built in the 1840s, (adjacent to the Conway House across Olive Blvd.) was originally owned by one of the area's earliest settlers, John Long. The home retains many architectural changes that were made over time to its original two story log construction. By 1853 the house was owned by Ben Townsend and his wife, Lucinda, as a "country home". Ben lived and worked in St. Louis and appeared to be fairly wealthy. Only one year later, however, Ben died and left his properties and substantial debt to his wife.



Like most women of the day who had little education or work training, Lucinda did not fare well on her own. By 1870, she and her children had been forced to sell all of the other properties and she eventually had to sell the farm as well. It then passed through many other owners before its donation to St. Louis County. The Davis House complex also features a *15* **washhouse**, *16* **smoke house**, and *17* **gardens**.



18 The **Sellenriek Barn**, a log structure with a timber framed extension, was probably built before the Civil War. Frank Sellenriek was the son of Franz, an immigrant from Prussia. Frank's farm was originally located across from the Mormon Temple on Hwy 40 in present day Town and Country.

19 The **Schlueter Barn** originally sat off Sulphur Springs Road, south of Manchester on modern Catania Drive. William Schlueter bought a 40 acre farm in 1853 and then in 1868 bought an additional acre to allow room for him to build this barn. The barn was donated to the county and moved to Faust Park in the late 1980s.



20 The **Alt Schoolhouse** was originally located on Reinke Road in Ellisville. This school was built by the members of the Evangelical Lutheran Concordia Congregation UAC, formed in 1851. Initially, a log church was erected in 1854 and a log parsonage was built about 1857. On April 28, 1859 the congregation hired their first teacher for \$100 per year and charged students \$.75 per month. The original church was destroyed by fire in the 1860s. This structure was the replacement church/school rebuilt in the 1860s. In 1874, a new church was built and the school became the sole tenant of this building for the first time. Later becoming part of Rockwood School District, this one room school was in continuous use until 1951, teaching grades 1 thru 8, in alternating years. The schoolhouse was given to St. Louis County in 2006 by St. John's Lutheran Church and has been restored in Faust Park.

