

## **Des Peres Presbyterian Church, 2255 Geyer Rd., Frontenac, 1834, NR**



A landmark from the early days of Frontenac is the Des Peres Presbyterian Church. Seating about 100, it is the oldest stone church for Protestants in the state. One of its first pastors was Elijah Parish Lovejoy, who made the journey from St. Louis by horseback. An outspoken abolitionist, he is revered today as a martyr to freedom of the press, having been killed in Alton, Illinois, while defending his printing press from a mob. Before the Civil War, the congregation included slave owners, but the church is rumored to have been a stop on the Underground Railroad which aided runaway slaves escaping to the north. A new Des Peres Presbyterian Church was built on Clayton Road in 1955, but the old building is still used occasionally for Sunday services.

## **Snyder Farm, 711 Oak Valley Rd., Frontenac, c. 1857**



The Snyder Farm is another reminder of Frontenac's rural origins. John Snyder migrated to Missouri from Pennsylvania, and he learned a variety of skills after his arrival. He was first a brick layer, then a builder or contractor, after which he became a grocer. An atlas published in 1862 shows Snyder as the owner of 250 acres. The brick Federal Style house on the property was owned by Snyder's descendents until 1974.