

John Dietrich House, 355 Dietrich Rd., near Manchester, 1856



A German built log farmhouse which survives in something more akin to its original state is the John Dietrich House. Although in construction method it's related to several other log houses, its later date, location and usage relate it more to the rural community farmhouse stock. Later, the dot-trot area of the log house was enclosed and a frame addition was added. An old log barn also survives on the site, and both buildings are in excellent condition. John Dietrich, the probable builder of the house, bought the land in 1856. Besides farming, the Dietrichs also operated a grocery store at the corner of Manchester and Meramec Station roads.

“Jarville” 1723 Mason Rd., near Manchester, 1853, NR



This is the earliest suburban estate in the county and is located between Manchester and Town and Country. The Edgar Queeny House, or “Jarville,” has early associations with prestigious pioneer settlers of St. Louis and continued to attract notable St. Louis citizens as owners into this century. Jarville is a spacious Greek Revival style “cottage” constructed in 1853 and remodeled in 1924 and 1931 to reflect the tastes of prosperous St. Louis businessmen of the period.

It was built by Hyacinth Reynard, born in Liege, Belgium, in 1793. In 1818 he married Marie Louise Papin, a granddaughter of Marie Louise Chouteau, and in so doing moved into the center of St. Louis society. In 1852, he was married a second time to Celine Vigne, and Reynard evidently built Jarville for her.

Jarville underwent its first remodeling under the ownership of Charles Pope O’Fallon. He leased the property to Webster Tilton, who hired the architectural firm of

Jamieson & Spearl to remodel the house into a suburban residence in 1924. Edgar M. and Ethel S. Queeny purchased the property in 1931. Edgar Monsanto Queeny was one of the leading figures in St. Louis life at the time. His father James F. Queeny founded the Monsanto Chemical Company in 1901, and Edgar had risen to president by 1928. The Queeny's hired William Crowell of the firm of Mauran, Russell & Crowell to transform the land around the house into a lavish suburban estate.

Jarville is now part of 570-acre Queeny Park, managed by the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation. It houses the Dog Museum and is open to the public.

Lyceum (Manchester City Hall), 14318 Manchester Rd., Manchester, 1894, NR



A later community gathering place in Manchester is the Lyceum. It was a multi-use building of a type which was once common, but is now extremely rare in Missouri. The building originally contained a tin shop on the first floor operated by John Straszer, the president of the Bank of Manchester. The second floor contained an auditorium, which was used for political meetings, dances and amateur theatricals. From 1928 to 1932 the building functioned as a movie theater. The Lyceum was sensitively converted into the Manchester City Hall by Gerhardt Kramer in 1981.

Manchester Methodist Church, 129 Woods Mill Rd., Manchester, 1856, NR



The Manchester Methodist Church is one of the more notable early churches in the county. The original building is constructed of brick in the Greek Revival style. The cupola on the church is original. It is the home of the oldest Methodist congregation in the county, founded in 1827, prior to the construction of the building, when Manchester became a stop on the “St. Louis Circuit.” John Ball, who platted Ballwin in 1837, is buried in the adjoining cemetery. From these pioneer roots Manchester Methodist is now the largest Methodist congregation in Missouri, and the building has several additions.

**Thomas Mason House, 1400 Thomas Mason Place, near Manchester,
1818**



The Thomas Mason House on Weidman Road near Manchester was constructed about 1818. It is a two-and-a-half story stone structure composed of coursed, squared limestone. The hand-hewn rafters are held together with wooden pegs. It is the oldest stone residence in St. Louis County and one of the oldest in the state.

**Hugh Tumilty Farmhouse, 825 Sulphur Springs Rd., Manchester, c.
1832**



The Hugh Tumilty Farm reflects to some degree the changes which occurred in Manchester. The original house was a dog-trot log structure which functioned as the family farm house. Hugh Tumilty was a native of Ireland who came to St. Louis County in the 1830s along with his father and several brothers, all of whom purchased land south of Manchester. Hugh Tumilty died in 1845 leaving behind a widow, Mary, and three children. It was probably Mary Tumilty who was responsible for expanding the house into the current two-story, Federal style frame house. The original log structure forms the core of the house.

Wagonmaker's House, 14360 Manchester Road, Manchester, 1840s



The Wagonmaker's House was constructed in the 1840s. Of vernacular design, the building may already have been standing when Luke Gillam purchased the land in 1839. John Bauman and Joseph Killigen leased the building for five years beginning in 1855, and ran a blacksmith's shop and a wagonmaker's shop. In 1863 the property was sold by Jana Couch to George Kropp who was also a blacksmith and a wagonmaker. Kropp died in 1879.

Over the years the building was altered and adapted to new uses, but its age is still evident. It is now protected as part of a local historic district that encompasses fifteen nineteenth-century buildings on the south side of Manchester Road from Meramec Station Road to Sulphur Springs Road.

Woerner Cabin, 466 Carman Rd., east of Dietrich, NR. Manchester, c.1860 (demolished)



The land the Woerner Cabin stands on was granted to Thomas Biddle around 1830 by the U.S. Government. Thomas Biddle was the paymaster at Jefferson Barracks and the brother of Nicholas Biddle, head of the Bank of the United States in Philadelphia. Biddle was killed by Spencer Pettis in 1831 in one of the most notorious duels in American history. Biddle's widow, Anne was the daughter of John Mullanphy, often cited as St. Louis's first millionaire. She sold the property to William Keatley in 1832 William Keatley sold the 80 acres to George White in 1837 and sold it later to Peter Breen. In turn Breen sold the property to George Andrew Woerner. Sometime between 1870 and 1878, the property was acquired by Andrew Schulz and in 1884 sold it to Nicholas Bopp. Since then the site cabin has been demolished and replaced by the Gascony Acres subdivision.