

Truman, Harry S., Dam and Reservoir Buildings Inventory
Various rural sites in the vicinities of Rich Hill and
Rockville in Bates County; Clinton, Deepwater, LaDue,
and Urich in Henry County; Monegaw Springs, Osceola,
and Taberville in St. Clair County; and Schell City,
Vernon County
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1287

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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HARRY S. TRUMAN DAM AND RESERVOIR
BUILDINGS INVENTORY

HABS No. MO-1287

Location: various rural sites in the vicinities of Rich Hill and Rockville in Bates County; Clinton, Deepwater, LaDue, and Urich in Henry County; Monegaw Springs, Osceola, and Taberville, in St. Clair County; and Schell City, Vernon County, Missouri (see survey forms in field records for exact addresses)

Present Use: inundated by reservoir

Significance: These 40 vernacular farm houses and other structures were typical of those built in the southwestern Missouri area during the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Simplicity and functionalism were the hallmark characteristics of these rural buildings.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Built between 1880 and 1920, these residential, agricultural, commercial, and civic structures straightforwardly expressed the functions for which they were intended.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Generally modest and unadorned, the structures were typical of many similar structures built in this time period in this rural area, many in quite isolated surroundings. Only a few of these buildings were in active use at the time of the survey. For the most part, they were moderately or severely deteriorated.

The T-shape plan predominated among the non-agricultural buildings examined in the survey. Of these, the majority were three bays wide, and of either one or two stories. Most of the buildings were wood-framed, with horizontal weatherboarding, and had one or more interior chimneys. One structure unique to this inventory was composed of brown clay tile, a regional building material. Porches were common elements of these buildings, some featuring decorative woodwork. All but two of these buildings had gable roofs, sometimes with decorative shingles in the gable ends. Outbuildings were a common feature but most were in ruins. The single commercial building had a false front. The single civic building (a meeting hall) looked like an extremely plain residence.

Ten barns and one silo were surveyed. The majority of the barns were of a three-aisle plan, and all were covered with vertical wooden siding. The silo was made of clay tile, and had a domed roof. The barns had either gambrel or gable roofs, the latter sometimes featuring rain hoods.

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PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

All information was summarized from inventory cards, which are filed as field records to this documentation.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The survey forms were compiled by George H. Yetter and David Alan Edwards, members of the HABS Harry S. Truman Dam and Reservoir summer team, in 1978.

Prepared and transmitted by: Holly K. Chamberlain
Historian
HABS
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