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Guided Tours and Special Activities

Hours: Open for special events or by appointment. Call the Ballwin Government Center at (636) 227-8580.

Directions: Manchester Road to Holloway Road in Ballwin, North on Holloway to Park Drive.

Location: The Harrison-Schmidt-Dalke House is located in Vlasis Park on the southeast corner of Holloway and Park Drive.

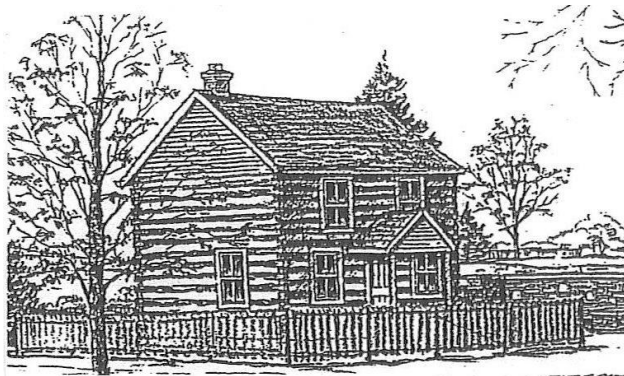
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BALLWIN HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Ballwin Government Center
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Ballwin, MO 63011
(636) 227-8580

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The Harrison-Schmidt-Dahlke
Log Home established 1849



THE HARRISON-SCHMIDT-DAHLKE HOME

Joseph Harrison bought 59-96/100 acres in 1830 from Charles W. and Mary Maupin for the sum of \$63.70. Joseph's son, Joshua and his wife built the home in 1849. Thus, the Harrison's became neighbors of John Ball, founder of Ballwin., Missouri. Research indicates the house is the oldest log home still standing in Ballwin.

This typical two-story crib-type home was built with v-notched log and chinking consisting of mud, straw, seeds and pebbles. The large foundation stones were gathered from the farm. The walls were finished with plaster made of a fine mixture of lime and sand. The home measured 21 feet x 17 feet 6 inches and showed no evidence of having a fireplace. Heat was provided by a stove. At Joshua's death in 1879, his will indicated he had acquired 227-97/100 acres.

The home was originally located about $\frac{1}{4}$ miles north of its present location in Vlasis Park. In 1992 it was dismantled and rebuilt on Park Drive at Holloway Road.. Only three families lived in this home. Following is the genealogy of the Harrison's, Schmidt's and Dahlke's.



HARRISON - 1849 - 1870

Joshua and Martha Harrison, Joseph Harrison (Father of Joshua) born December 9, 1780 in Maryland; died August 9, 1852, buried in Manchester United Methodist Church cemetery.

Sarah (Hunt) Harrison, wife of Joseph, was born in 1787 in Talbot County, Maryland. They were married there on November 21, 1808. Sarah died prior to 1830.

Joshua Harrison, born September 22, 1809 in Maryland, died October 20, 1879. Joshua married Martha Ann Shotwell, December 1, 1831 in St. Louis. Martha Ann (Shotwell) Harrison, born January 15, 1814 in Kentucky, died February 27, 1890. Joshua and Martha Ann Harrison are buried at Manchester United Methodist Church cemetery. The Harrison's sold the house to William and Henrietta Schmidt in 1870.

SCHMIDT - 1870 - 1890

William Schmidt, born in Saxony, Germany in 1827 was a shoemaker and farmer. He immigrated to America, entering at the Port of New York. In 1852 he met and married another immigrant, Henrietta Eggers, who was born in Baden, Germany on May 12, 1827.

Records show they had seven children, who were born in four states as the family moved westward from New York. Charles, Louis, Henrietta, Johanna, William, Margaretha and Edward were born between 1853 and 1872. They were confirmed between 1868 and 1886 at the United Evangelical Church of Manchester, now St. John's United Church of Christ.

William died April 8, 1875 and is buried at St. John's Church Cemetery. Henrietta died November 22, 1920 and is buried at New Picker's Cemetery.



DAHLKE - 1891 - 1990

Charles Dahlke was born in Hanover, Germany in 1860; died June 14, 1928. Charles married Wilhelmina Klug on November 28, 1884 near Berlin, Germany, and immigrated to America in 1891.

Wilhelmina (Klug) Dahlke was born in Technow, Germany on June 29, 1860; died March 25, 1942. Charles and Wilhelmina Dahlke are buried at St. John's United Church of Christ Church Cemetery in Manchester, Missouri.

Their children were Wilhelmina, Born January 24, 1886; Mary, born October 30, 1887; Paul, born August 1, 1888; Hedwig, born September 18, 1890; Anna, born August 10, 1894; and Theodore, born January 3, 1900. The first four children were born in Germany.

Theodore (Ted) Dahlke (youngest child of Charles and Wilhelmina) lived his entire life in the house. He married Elsie Buermann, also of Ballwin, on November 30, 1921, and bought the house in 1942 from his mothers' estate. Elsie died April 6, 1978 and Theodore on January 13, 1987. Both are buried at the St. John's United Church of Christ Cemetery in Manchester, Missouri.

Their three children are Melvin, born February 7, 1924; Verna, born November 1, 1926; and Bernice, born August 22, 1929.