

# History and Architecture at the Shults-Heimann Property



## SITE

Shults-Heimann Property  
Farmstead and resort  
Significant from 1867–1905

## LOCATION

Northeast District  
Moscow Mills  
Lincoln County, Route 61

## HIGHLIGHTS

Architectural Documentation  
Local History  
Historical Archaeology

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## INTRODUCTION

The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) is responsible for cultural resources under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The Shults-Heimann property was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office and a mitigation plan was prepared for the property.

## SHULTS-HEIMANN PROPERTY

Aylett Shults purchased the Shults-Heimann Property in 1867 for the Buffalo nursery, Shults' orchard and farming operation. The nursery prospered, and in 1886–1887 Shults constructed a new house on the property, the two-story Italianate-style house illustrated at the left. Following the death of Aylett Shults in 1890, his widow Lucy and two of their sons, John and Albert, converted the house into a summer resort known as the Evergreens, for a stand of evergreen trees located nearby. Guests were largely from the St. Louis area and would come to the Evergreens to escape the heat of the summer. Recreation included card parties, singing, and dancing as well as watching the activities of a functioning orchard. The house operated as a resort for a few years, and then returned to being the farmhouse.

## WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED

Research into the Shults-Heimann property taught us about the lives of the Shults family through family papers that had been preserved with the house. We also learned about the development of orchards in Missouri and Lincoln County and how the Buffalo Nursery reflected those developments. Additionally, we had the opportunity to study and document a well-preserved Italianate style building with exceptional craftsmanship before it was destroyed.

## PUBLIC BENEFIT

Public benefits of the work done at the Shults-Heimann Property include having the exceptional house recorded through photographs and measured drawings. In addition, nursery operations in Missouri and the role of this small resort have been thoroughly researched.



Shults-Heimann House