



Account 1.

Jarrot, a fur trader and land speculator, built his house of hand-made brick (probably made by slave labor) strong enough to withstand several remodeling jobs, including one in the Parks ownership period. The 1811 earthquake at New Madrid, MO, cracked the back wall and broke two of the chimneys.

The hand-made bricks are of a Flemish bond pattern across the back and west sides of the house with almost-black banding (created by over-firing the bricks) and with haphazard brick courses on the other two sides. Logs were cut from groves nearby for the woodwork and floor boards, including pine plank flooring of the ballroom.

Exterior walls and interior partitions are 16 inches thick; the door frames, of walnut, are doveled and tenoned together with oak, pegs, and the windows are 12-paned throughout.

Reference: Flannery, Toni, *Two Illinois houses, one restored, one in the raw*, 1972.

<http://cusd187.stclair.k12.il.us/Tricentennial/Records/>

Account 2.

St. Clair County court records corroborate this account. A case for Jarrot vs. Hicek (1813) contains an invoice dating from the approximately period of the earthquakes, which itemizes repair work on one of the chimneys. The date of other damage is more difficult to substantiate.

Reference: *Restoration Inventory, Nicholas Jarrot House*, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Historic Sites Division, Springfield, Illinois, June 14, 1982.



Historical Sketch (date unknown) showing Jarrot Mansion (towards left), Holy Family Church (middle), and houses no longer standing.