

Clusky-Elms House, 2520 McLaren Ave., Jennings, 1871 (demolished)



The Clusky-Elms house was designed by Charles B. Clarke, a well-known but controversial and innovative architect. His designs were infamous at the time due to his use of top heavy towers, extreme asymmetry, and use of massive vertical divisions. James C. Elms bought the house in 1873-1874. Elms was a successful entrepreneur and hair dresser who developed hair treatment products for his company, the J.C. Elms European Hair Company. The success of Elms' company and his role in the hair dressing industry was important contributions to the commercial development of the city of St. Louis. Elms lived in the house until his death in 1926.

Miles Seed Factory, 8709 Xograph Ave., Jennings, 1890-1915



Jennings was the home of Miles A. Seed, who moved his factory there in 1878, boosting the area's population from 100 to +800. He made a fortune producing photographic dry plates, for a time rivaling George Eastman. In addition to his factory, Seed and his partners built houses for rent and a community hall for use by the employees. Some of these buildings, most dating from the 1890s, survive in the block bounded by Hord, Xograph and McLaren.