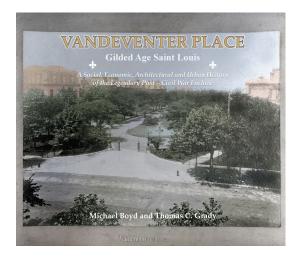
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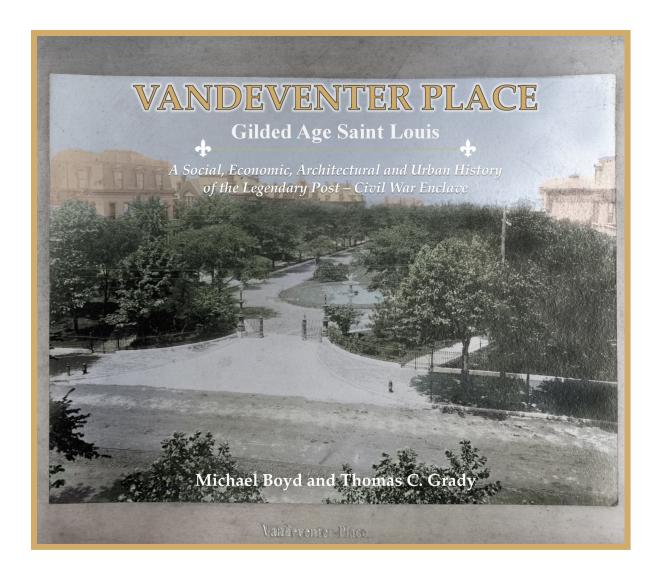
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The History and traditions of Saint Louis are a fascinating, complex subject. This book is one element in the story which, until now, has evaded a comprehensive publication. To most St. Louisans of long presence in the town, the mention of Vandeventer Place conjures up a mixture of amazement and mystery. The finest book published which details the Street's architecture in part is "Architecture of the Private Streets of St. Louis, the Architects and the Houses They Designed," by Charles C. Savage - University of Missouri Press c. 1987. That work offers the serious student of turn of the Nineteenth Century architecture a professionally outlined, detailed description of the many featured homes of Vandeventer Place, as well as many others from the numerous old private streets of St. Louis. It is a masterpiece of architectural erudition we commend to the serious student and enthusiast.

In this work, and for the first time, we offer the comprehensive view of all fifty homes in Vandeventer Place, with biographical detail of the owners and the source of their considerable Gilded Age wealth, not as gossip but as a study of how wealth was gained and held in the time just after the Civil War. We also include the 1900 Census record of the people who lived in the homes as staff and their ethnologies for historians and the curious.