

WHY IS THERE A SCHOOL BUS STOP HERE?

Due to proposed highway expansion, the bus stop needed to be moved from its original location. There was interest in acquiring it because of the historical link to Shaw Nature Reserve and the Missouri Botanical Garden.

This building, officially named the Henry Shaw Gardenway Bus Stop, was originally located along route 50 (later also designated Route 66) near Allenton, MO. The building remained in place even as Route 66 gave way to Interstate 44.

In 1995, the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) began planning improvements to the I-44 Allenton/Six Flags interchange. Since the bus stop was only inches from the existing shoulder of the road with the railroad embankment at the rear, it had to be removed to make room for the highway improvements.

ABOUT THE BUS STOP

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), working in conjunction with the Henry Shaw Gardenway Association and the Missouri State Highway Commission, built the Henry Shaw Gardenway Bus Stop in 1939.

The Henry Shaw Gardenway Association (named for the founder of the Missouri Botanical Garden) was formed in 1933, with its primary emphasis being roadside beautification along Route 66 between Shaw Nature Reserve (Gray Summit) and Missouri Botanical Garden (St. Louis). The bus stop was one of several highway enhancements accredited to the association. Although the initial plan was to build several bus stops along the Gardenway to serve as shelters for school children, this was the only one built. The CCC workers who were to construct the shelters were transferred to Babler State Park in 1941.

The National Park Service provided the building plans for the bus stop. The design reflects the “rustic architecture” style favored by

Shaw Nature Reserve expressed interest in moving the structure here because it was located along the former “Henry Shaw Gardenway,” the 35-mile stretch of highway that is now I-44, between Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis and Shaw Nature Reserve here at Gray Summit. The State Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation approved the move in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.

In the early morning of September 29, 2002 the school bus stop was transported 9 miles west on I-44 and was placed on a new foundation here near the wetland and tallgrass prairie habitats, restored, and opened to the public in 2003. We hope you enjoy it!

the Park Service at the time. The rustic style uses natural materials left in as natural a state as possible to blend into the landscape. This eleven by fifteen foot building is a prime example of the rustic style. It is constructed of native rough-dressed stone with a stone slab floor. The exposed beams, benches, and shake shingle roof are made of wood. The wood plank shutters have iron hinges and fasteners.

The bus stop sat undisturbed for 65 years until the recent need for highway improvements required its relocation. The relocation efforts continued the tradition of cooperation between the Missouri Botanical Garden, Shaw Nature Reserve, and the Missouri Highway and Transportation Commission that was evidenced in the original Henry Shaw Gardenway projects.

We feel very fortunate to be able to provide a historic shelter for our visitors and a new home for the Henry Shaw Gardenway Bus Stop.



SHAW NATURE RESERVE

a division of the  MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

Those responsible for the acquisition, relocation, and restoration of the Henry Shaw Gardenway Bus Stop:

Federal Highway Administration • Missouri Department of Transportation • Henry Shaw Ozark Corridor Foundation • Shaw Nature Reserve of the Missouri Botanical Garden
Marilyn Chryst, in memory of Tom Chryst • Expert House Movers, Inc.

The following Eureka, Missouri Businesses: Rockwood Bank • Jefferson Bank and Trust • Pioneer Bank and Trust • Long Ford