



# LOCAL HISTORIC DESIGNATION BOOKLET

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Fond du Lac Historic Preservation Commission  
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## AETNA, NO. 5 193 NORTH MAIN STREET



Aetna Fire Company, No. 5 was organized October 25, 1874 with F.J. Martin, Captain of the Hose Company. Aetna Fire Station No. 5 was built on North Main Street in 1874 and had housed the city's central fire department until 1984 when the city built a new central fire station.

The building's architecture is in the Mediterranean tradition typified by its tall campanile. This tower had two purposes. It contained the bell used as a fire alarm and as a curfew. It also served as a



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

place to hang the fire hoses to dry. The name "Aetna" was often used by fire companies. It is the name of a volcanic mountain in Sicily.

The tower was rebuilt in 1975 as a part of the city bicentennial celebration, and in 1985 the building was purchased from the city by a private developer.

Aetna No. 5 presently houses two apartments on the upper floor and commercial rental space in the old apparatus room.

This building is currently on the National Historical Register. Aetna No. 5 is both historically and architecturally significant to the City of Fond du Lac, standing as a tribute to the one-time volunteer fire department of Fond du Lac.

Prepared by: Steve Schoofs  
Historic Preservation Commission  
May 16, 1990  
Meets Criteria A and C

### Reference Source:

- The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place Names, Ruth Shaw Worthing, Copyright 1976

*“Early fire stations are rare, often replaced with modern buildings, or seen as obsolete and poor candidates for adaptive reuse and demolished. Extant fire stations like this example are very significant as examples of how fire stations developed in the nineteenth century.”*

*--Excerpt from the Wisconsin Historical Society Website: [wisconsinhistory.org](http://wisconsinhistory.org)*



## THE BANDSTAND AT LAKESIDE PARK 650 NORTH MAIN STREET



In early part of 1900, one of the most needed buildings at Lakeside Park was said to be a bandstand.

William McDermott, a well-known resident of Fond du Lac, made a gift to the City of the bandstand. The original plans called for an octagon shaped building which is 30 feet tall, topped with a twelve foot flagpole. The flagpole was later removed. The architect of the building was Hiram P. Thompson.

The platform is elevated to eight feet with a liberal amount of ornamentation such as beaded posts, brackets, and scroll work. A protective railing was built around the platform.



*Photo Submitted by: Fond du lac Historical Society*

Original access to the platform from the ground level is located inside the building via a stairway and a trap door. At a later date, an outside stairway was constructed for easier access to the platform.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

The bandstand is located west of the pavilion at about the center of the lakefront. Sunday afternoon was a very popular time for the people of Fond du Lac to meet around the bandstand and enjoy a concert by the Military Band of the City. Now the only concert is held on the Fourth of July.

The May 30, 1959 issue of Saturday Evening Post drew national attention to the Bandstand. A color photograph and short story was featured. This

brought a request from the Mayor of New Berlin, New York, for the plans of the bandstand. It is not known if a copy of the bandstand was made.

Prepared by: Thomas Zonik  
Historic Preservation Commission  
March 27, 1990  
Meets Criteria A and C

*“Lakeside Park...includes more than one hundred and forty acres along the Shores of Lake Winnebago. It extends from Park Avenue west, including much that was in the Original Plat of the city. The land was privately owned until 1895 when the city council voted five hundred dollars to make tentative plans for a park.”*

*--The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names, page 54*

*By Ruth Shaw Worthing*



## THE BISSELL-DUFFY HOUSE 213 EAST FIRST STREET



The Bissel-Duffy House, built ca. 1880, is located on the northeast corner of Park Avenue and First Street. It is a two-story brick Italianate style house, now painted white. The exterior of the house features a (low) pitched hip-roof with wide, overhanging eaves, paired brackets under the eaves, and a paneled frieze. The tall, narrow first-floor windows are decorated with flat lintels and are symmetrically arranged. The 1869 “bird’s-eye-view” of Fond du Lac, shows the entire existing house with a



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

tall cupola (since removed), a prominent architectural feature of the Italianate style. The main house entrance is decorated with an arched fanlight and sidelights. In the interior of the home, most of the original woodwork and plaster walls are still intact.

This was the home of F. (Francis) Ryan Duffy who lived here between 1887 and 1934. F. Ryan Duffy was an attorney, World War I veteran, and U.S. Senator.

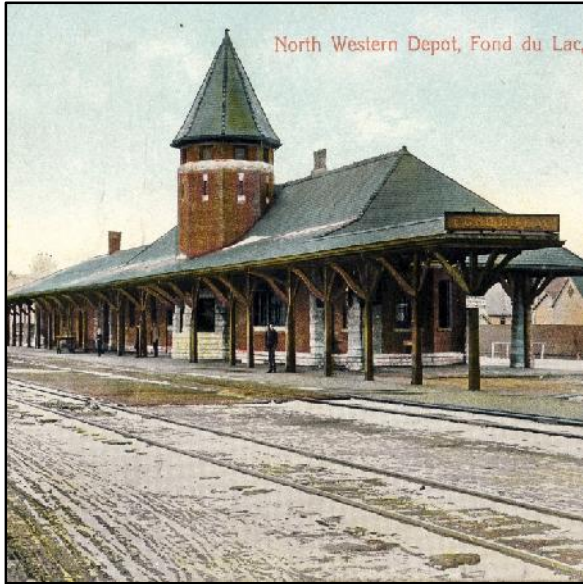
The Bissell-Duffy House is eligible for designation to the City of Fond du Lac list of historic structures under Criteria A, B, and C of the Historical Preservation Ordinance.

Prepared by: Herman Bender  
Historic Preservation Commission  
August 19, 1997





## CHICAGO AND NORTHWESTERN DEPOT 182 FOREST AVENUE



*Photo Submitted by: Fond du Lac Historical Society*

The passenger depot, located between Forest Avenue and Second Street, was built in 1890. It was enlarged shortly thereafter. It was built to replace the previous depot at Division Street. In the early years, Fond du Lac had 46 passenger and 54 freight trains every day. All passenger services ceased in 1975, and the depot was unused except for its telegraph office.

The depot stands as a monument to the railroading era of the past century. It is a classic example of railroad architecture. The railroads have

been very important to Fond du Lac. The Northwestern system began its career in the village of Fond du Lac on July 10, 1851 with the construction of the Rock River Valley Union Railroad. The Northwestern and other railroads have offered a great deal of employment opportunities to area residents.

The depot was designated an historic landmark in 1975 by the City of Fond du Lac.

Prepared by: Robert Oberbeck  
Historic Preservation Commission  
May 16, 1990  
Meets Criteria A and C



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

Reference Source:

- The History of Fond du Lac as Told by its Place-Names, Ruth Shaw Worthing, 1976

*“[The railroad] was built to provide year round transportation for the products of Fond du Lac’s mills. Wooden rails were used and a wide gauge of six feet was adopted. A second hand locomotive was bought in the east and came by boat to Sheboygan. Bringing it to Fond du Lac took six weeks but when the engine finally arrived, the whole village celebrated, mainly by taking the train to Oakfield and holding a picnic.”*

*--The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names, page 71*

*By Ruth Shaw Worthing*



*“The building was listed in the National Register in 1990 as a fine example of a Richardsonian Romanesque railroad depot designed by master railroad architect Charles Sumner Frost. The C & NW Railroad was the most significant line in eastern Wisconsin, and Fond du Lac was a main station. Substantial car shops for the line were operated in North Fond du Lac during the railroad’s historic period.”*

*--Excerpt from the Wisconsin Historical Society Website: [wisconsinhistory.org](http://wisconsinhistory.org)*



**CHIMNEY – FDL TABLE MANUFACTURING COMPANY**  
**239 WEST SCOTT STREET**



Industry is at the core of any community's development, however in Fond du Lac many of the early industries have moved or ceased to exist. Those that have endured and grown have moved into more modern spaces. As the community grows, it is imperative to remember what came before.

The area of West Scott Street, close to the railroad and Lake Winnebago, became prime real estate for industrial development. In 1874, John McDonald assumed financial control of a threshing machine manufacturing company, located at 65-71 West Scott Street.

John McDonald was not only a manufacturer, but a designer of threshing machines. In 1887, with two successful machine designs behind him, he moved his company to Minneapolis. McDonald's threshing machine was called the "Pride of the West". McDonald's designs and the threshing company was one of the foundation companies of what would eventually become Minneapolis-Moline.

The original location and manufacturing plant became the genesis for Fond du Lac Table Manufacturing Company. Incorporated in 1891 by Edward Blaesius, C.F. Karstens, and Louis Rueping, the company was devoted to the manufacturing of tables. The company's heritage is a bit older, having operated for some time under the name "Blaesius Table Manufactory".

In 1895, the company employed thirty men during its busy season. In 1896, the employee role had increased to 100 men as the company's lease was expiring. At that time, the physical plant—described as a two-story frame structure with several outbuildings—was purchased by Fond du Lac Table Manufacturing Company from a Chicago-based investment company that owned the facility.

By 1903, Fond du Lac Table Manufacturing Company was prospering, doing a business of \$100,000 annually, and processing more than one million board feet of lumber annually. Tables were manufactured in more than fifty different styles and ranged from dining room extension tables to pillar tables, which were shipped and sold throughout the United States.



The company needed to expand, as they were unable to keep up with the demand for their high-quality products. As part of the expansion, a new dry kiln was added to help prepare the wood for cutting. The kiln was large enough to hold three rail carloads of lumber.

Fond du Lac Table Manufacturing also benefitted from the expertise of other local companies. The kiln was an original design, and the machinery developed to work the wood from the kiln to the saw was designed and developed by Giddings and Lewis. Power for the manufacturing plant was provided through a large, long-g geared cut-off engine, manufactured by Nordberg of Milwaukee. This engine was the only one of its kind in the city and was powered by two large boilers. The pair of boilers was a purposefully redundant design, allowing one boiler to be serviced while the other was able to operate, in order to maintain manufacturing volume. These improvements provided Fond du Lac with a modern, efficient production facility which would operate until September, 1940.

By October of 1940, the address—239 West Scott Street—and fortunes had changed. H.A. Rosenthal, the city building inspector, issued a permit for the razing of the industrial plant. This particular economic engine of the Fond du Lac community was removed, but not entirely. Among the factory buildings, was a tall, brick chimney, which was part of the company's boiler system.

That chimney still stands today, as part of La Gran Plaza, a Mexican restaurant owned and operated by George Santos. The site of the grand manufacturing plant now includes two buildings—the restaurant and a grocery. Towering above it all, is the tall, brick chimney, which represents the heyday of industrialization during the late 9<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

It is the hope of this commissioner to designate the site and specifically, the tall, brick chimney, because of its historical significance in the manufacturing history of Fond du Lac. I recommend that we designate La Gran Plaza as a local historical site, based on criteria 1a, 1c, and 1d found in Section 11.16D of the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Prepared by: Mary Mullen  
Historic Preservation Commission  
October 8, 2010



## CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, THE APOSTLE 51 WEST DIVISION STREET



St. Paul's Parish was organized in 1849, under the direction of Bishop Kemper. The original cathedral was completed in 1852 and destroyed by fire on January 25, 1884. A larger and more costly cathedral was built beginning October 5, 1884 with the first service held on April 10, 1887. It is this structure that stands today on the corner of West Division Street and Sophia Street in the City of Fond du Lac. The cathedral was originally designated a historic landmark in 1973. The cathedral is constructed in the Gothic Revival style. When the cathedral was rebuilt in 1884, transepts and a chancel area were added. As a result of this architectural form, the cathedral brings to mind those churches of the late Middle Ages in Europe when the church was the center of the social as well as the religious life of the people.

The Right Reverend John Henry Hobart Brown, the first bishop, did not live to see the cathedral completed. He died on May 2, 1888. The Right Reverend Charles Grafton, the second bishop of the diocese, is credited with the creation of much of the present cathedral interior. Bishop Grafton used his personal funds, as well as enlisting the financial and artistic support of local, national, and international contributors, to transform the cathedral into one of the outstanding examples of religious art in the state. The work of Bishop Grafton followed a basic concept stated by Bishop Brown in 1883: "Nothing can be too beautiful, too grand, too costly for the service of God, but I do insist that the beauty, the grandeur, the costliness shall be pure, bold, and unworldly."



Prepared by: Robert Oberbeck  
Historic Preservation Commission  
April 18, 1990  
Meets Criteria A, B, and C

Reference Sources:

- A Photographic History of Fond du Lac County, Ray Thornton, Copyright 1977
- A Pilgrim's Guide to the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, the Apostle, Betty B. Payne, unknown date
- History of the Diocese of Fond du Lac 1875-1925, Right Reverend R.H. Weller, Copyright 1925

*"The organization of the church in 1848 was occasioned by the death of William Davis Tallmadge, a member of one of Fond du Lac's early families. Governor Tallmadge and friends of the family organized the first vestry.... The church, in art and architecture, reflects more of the long history of Christianity than any other church edifice in the city. The stained glass windows, which came from Canada, the carved wood from the Black Forest and the many art objects created here and abroad, have made it a veritable storehouse of religious art."*

*--The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names, pages 90-91*

*By Ruth Shaw Worthing*



*"Two other Gothic Revival structures are on the property with the church and are related to church operations. They are St. Ambrose Hall and the church hall and office building. They are connected to the church via limestone walls and an arcaded overhang. They are decorated with many gothic-arched openings and other Gothic Revival details.... While the exterior is certainly impressive, the interior is perhaps of more significant note. The building includes sculpture by Robert Powrie; stained glass windows by J.C. Spence & Sons of Montreal, Canada; German wood carvings; rood beam figures by woodcarver Robert Murray, as well as artwork by Anna Milo Upjohn and a sculpture by England's Mary Grant."*

*--Excerpt from the Wisconsin Historical Society Website: [wisconsinhistory.org](http://wisconsinhistory.org)*



## FOND DU LAC CIVIL WAR MONUMENT VETERAN'S PARK



If not for the early local artist, Mark Harrison, there probably would be no Civil War Monument. Harrison planted the idea for a Civil War Monument in his bequest to the community. He arrived in Fond du Lac in 1852. When he died in December of 1894 at the age of 75, he bequeathed \$1,500 for the installation of a clock on the bell tower of the courthouse. His will also designated \$500 as a personal donation for a Civil War monument on the courthouse lawn in tribute to the young men of Fond du Lac County who answered the call to serve. The Civil War Monument was purchased eight years after Harrison's death, and it became the unfortunate focus of one of the county's most celebrated scandals. No sooner had the monument been erected, then the Fond du Lac Edwin A. Brown Post 130 of the Grand Army of the Republic demanded an investigation. Members of the GAR post insisted that the monument was a composition of cheap metal "that was not worth the \$5,423 the county board committee had authorized."



Local residents expected a monument of granite, marble, or bronze, and they were angry when they learned the statue and its base were composed of an unspecified metal which was not identified until decades later as "white brass". For a time, the statue was the object of ridicule and was referred to as "the tin soldier".

The price of the monument included a plate bearing the names of Monument Committee Chairman M.M. Finnegan, committee members Peter Galloway, John Miles, and County Board Chairman Maurice McKenna. A later county board ordered that the names be covered, supposedly not because of the storm of indignation that raged around the statue, but because the county board did not

believe the committee members should be memorialized along with the soldiers. To calm the storm, a clean new plate with “Shiloh” engraved on it was bolted over the plate listing the community names.

Despite the concerns of the populace, the investigating committee also insisted that the monument purchased from the Bronze Monumental Company of Bridgeport, Connecticut “is of great durability and will withstand the encroachments of time and weather for many future generations.”

The monument has indeed stood the test of time. It was refurbished in the spring of 1987. It was dismantled and reinforced. The statue is now 104 years old and should be around for generations to come.

Eligible for designation as a historic site and historic structure per 11.16D.1.a and b of the Fond du Lac Municipal Code.

Prepared by: William Weinshrott  
Historic Preservation Commission  
March 22, 2006

Reference Source:

- Mentzer, Michael. *Fond du Lac County: A Gift of the Glacier*



## COLE HOUSE 303 GILLETT STREET



The house located at 303 Gillett Street was built around 1860. The two-story Italianate design house has a big, hip roof with wide eaves, paired brackets, and a paneled frieze. The house features clapboard siding and broad corner pilasters. The windows are generally single-light sashes, and some on the second floor have been somewhat enclosed. It is decorated with elaborate wooden surrounds.



*Photo Submitted by: Fond du Lac Historical Society*

The front entrance has a double wood door with arched transom that is decorated with hood, brackets, and pilasters. The front porch has a flat roof supported by grouped thin square posts and brackets. On one of the side walls is a two-story bay and oriel, both decorated with brackets and friezes.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

This home was once the residence of William I. Cole who was the Vice President of the Cole Savings Bank. He resided there from 1907-1932.

Because of the architectural importance of the Italianate design and as the former residence of one of Fond du Lac's prominent citizens, this home is appropriate for designation as a historic site.





## THE CONVENT OF THE HOLY NATIVITY 101 EAST DIVISION STREET



The convent of the Holy Nativity, located at 101 East Division Street (northeast corner of Amory and Division), started out as a private residence built for John Amory, one of two brothers (the



*Photo Submitted by: Fond du Lac Historical Society*

other being Samuel Burtus) who came from the East Coast to engage in the import and trading business.

The home and property were purchased in 1894 by Bishop Charles C. Grafton (see also St. Paul's Cathedral) for use as a convent for a Bostonian order of Episcopalian Sisters (first organized in 1882). The structure was greatly expanded upon to provide space for chapel, teaching rooms, sisters' rooms, a library, and workrooms for the production of ecclesiastical robes and altar breads. A cornerstone in the added section reads "1904".

The observer's first impression of the structure will be that it is built of pink brick, but closer inspection reveals that the exterior is a colored and patterned stucco or "brick-cote".

The original home portion of John Amory remains fairly intact and arranged as it originally was, with many original furnishings. This was confirmed by observation of the writer in the spring of 1988, when given a tour of the Convent.

The Convent was first designated by the Fond du Lac City Council as a Historic Landmark in 1973.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

Prepared by: Howard Floeter  
Historic Preservation Commission  
April 18, 1990

Reference Sources:

- The History of Fond du Lac as Told by its Place-Names, Ruth Shaw Worthing, 1976
- A Photographer's History of Fond du Lac County, Ray Thornton, 1977

*"In slightly more than a century the order [of the Congregation of St. Agnes] has achieved great goals in education and in nursing as well as in religious fields. It staffs schools at the primary and secondary levels and one four-year college—Marian College in Fond du Lac. It established a school of nursing in conjunction with St. Agnes Hospital and has operated other hospitals throughout the country."*

*—The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names, page 84*

*By Ruth Shaw Worthing*



*Editor's Note: On June 5, 2015, a fire destroyed a large portion of the structure of the Convent of the Holy Nativity. The fire was declared arson by the Fond du Lac Fire Department. At the time of this publication, the Historic Preservation Commission is still working to determine how the property may be affected by resulting alterations in the future.*





## THE DANA HOUSE 136 SHEBOYGAN STREET



Built approximately in 1909, the two-story single family home at 136 Sheboygan Street is an excellent example of the American Craftsman style popularized by Gustav Stickley, originally of Osceola, Wisconsin. The first residents were George and Agnes Dana; George was a local bookkeeper

with an office on South Main Street.



Further decorative elements include two-story projecting bays on the front façade and exposed rafters under the eaves.

The Craftsman movement included the honest use of materials that conveyed a rustic appearance by use of elements, such as log rafters. The subject property is one of the best examples of the Craftsman style within the proposed Sheboygan Street Historic District. This house features a sloping hip roof with a hip roof dormer. It also contains a stucco and brick exterior with applied stickwood on the upper floor in a faux half-timber

This property is an excellent candidate for designation based on criteria 1c found in Section 11.16D of the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Prepared by: William Weinshrott and John Miskov  
Historic Preservation Commission  
March 8, 2000



## THE DOTY HOUSE HIGHWAY K



The Doty House, also known as “The Homestead”, was built in 1839. The house was built of square logs with plastered interior walls. The interior still retains the random-width plank flooring, narrow step to the loft, and exposed (tamarack) tree trunk beams in the basement. The exterior is now covered with a brick façade.

Doty held one of the original land grants issued for the Wisconsin Territory and became owner of the site (now annexed into the Fond du Lac city limits) in 1836. He lived in the house between 1839 and 1843.

Doty founded the town and village of Taycheedah and was responsible for platting the City of Fond du Lac. He served as territorial governor of Wisconsin from 1841 to 1844.

Designated as a historic structure per City of Fond du Lac Ordinance No. 2420, page 4, under items:

- a. Exemplifies or reflects broad cultural, political, or economic or social history of the nation, state or community.
- b. Is identified with a historic personages or with important events in national, state, or local history.
- c. Embodies...characteristics of an architectural type or specimen, valuable for study of a period, style, method of construction, or of indigenous material or craftsmanship.

Prepared by: Herman E. Bender  
Historic Preservation Commission  
April 17, 1997

*“James Duane Doty was the man who first envisioned Fond du Lac...When he was only 22, he had revised and published the laws of the territory of Michigan, of which the future state of Wisconsin was but a small part...Doty organized the Fond du Lac Trading Land Company, and sold many shares in it, many of them to his friends in Green Bay...and introduced many of the friends he had acquired in his youth in Lowville, New York, to again become his neighbors in the west.”*

*--The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names, page 26*

*By Ruth Shaw Worthing*



## THE EBERT HOUSE 199 EAST DIVISION STREET



The house located at 199 East Division Street, locally known as the “Pink Lady” is a Queen Anne style residential structure. Our own Intensive Survey Report indicates that this home is more symmetrical and has more classical details typical of later versions of the Queen Anne style. The present owners have restored and maintained the home along with appropriate landscaping features.

The owner’s research indicates that the home was completed in 1892. The original owners were Rudolph and Louis Ebert. Their research also indicates that Mr. Ebert, a German immigrant, was the owner of an abstract and loan business, owner and president of the German Savings Bank in Fond du Lac, and owner of a lumber mill, as well as the Fond du Lac County Treasurer for six terms.



The house at 199 East Division Street appears to be eligible for designation as a local historic landmark under criteria “C” of Ordinance 2420, “Embodiment the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period, style, method of construction...” Secondly, it may be also be eligible under criteria “B”, “Are identified with historic personages or with important events in national, state or local history.”



## THE EL DORADO APARTMENTS 130 FOREST AVENUE



The El Dorado Apartments are a highly intact Classical, Revival-inspired four-story brick apartment building. The complex occupies a prominent corner lot in one of the City's oldest residential neighborhoods. Upon completion in 1922, it became the first—and until after WWII, the only—large scale modern apartment building in the City.

The El Dorado is an “L”-plan building and the two unequal length wings have principal north and east facing facades paralleling the street. The exterior design is dictated by the layout of the interior, the three upper floors being divided into three separate, roughly equal-sized zones, each of which is serviced by its own stairwell. Each stairwell descends to a principle entrance located at street level and are centered in slightly projecting full-height pavilions on the Military Road façade, while the single entrance on the Forest Avenue façade is placed just to the right of that façade's single projecting pavilion. The three pavilions comprise the principle architectural features of the main façades.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

The El Dorado is a steel frame construction on a poured reinforced concrete foundation. Both of the main facades are sided in dark brown, pressed brick with a wire finish, laid in both the American and the common pattern bond and stretcher fashions. A tall, brick parapet appears simple, but contains decorative elements which are a mixture of classical motifs and other motifs associated with the Art Deco style. The parapet is decorated with triangular and semi-circular pediments. Other decoration includes the simple, lozenge-shaped concrete squares centered on the spandrels located above each pair of first, second, and third-story windows in the projecting pavilion.

The interior is largely intact, although well-worn in places. When first built, the building was touted as a model of cleanliness and efficiency and advertised that the “highly polished terrazzo floors made up of a composition of crushed marble and cement, with their beautifully finished woodwork

and softened walls, will delight the eye while their simplicity of arrangement and design will delight all lovers of good housekeeping and cozy homes.”<sup>1</sup>

The El Dorado is also significant architecturally as a unique property type in Fond du Lac. It was the first apartment building in the City and was significant as such. It is Fond du Lac’s only example of the larger, more modern type apartment building that is commonly associated with the term. It is also locally significant as one of several buildings that, for a time, embodied the hopes and aspirations of the City. A short-lived, nationwide financial panic in 1920 put many building plans on hold, but as the local economy began to recover, the Immel Construction Company was awarded a contract to build a new high school, add on to the existing vocational school, and shortly thereafter announced plans to build the 30-flat apartment building.

John W. Immel, President of the Immel Construction Company announced: “The erection of Fond du Lac’s first apartment building will be a material factor in solving the unemployment problems in Fond du Lac this winter.”<sup>2</sup> The project was expected to furnish work for 50 men. The Immel Company decided to hold a contest for grade school and high school students to find a suitable name for the new building. The winning entry was announced two weeks later: George Svenson, a high school student, had proposed the winning name of “El Dorado” and received the sum of fifteen dollars for his suggestion.

Three families moved into the building before construction reached completion, and the entire building was rented one month after completion. Full occupancy continued to be the rule for the next several decades. The new building was an immediate success, and it quickly became a prestigious address and was viewed locally as a model of modernity.

#### Reference Sources:

- National Register of Historic Places Inventory; January 22, 1992.

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<sup>1</sup> *The Daily Commonwealth*. Fond du Lac, WI. September 23, 1922, pg. 8.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* October 14, 1921.



## THE ELKS LODGE 33 SHEBOYGAN STREET



Constructed in 1903, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge is located at 33 Sheboygan Street in the proposed Sheboygan Street Historic District. It is among the best local example of the Queen Anne style. The Lodge:

“...is a large and rambling Queen Anne building, with the style seen primarily in the form and massing of the building. The irregular plan of the building, with projecting gables, a fine corner tower, and very large veranda are outstanding details of the style. The fine brick



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

construction also makes this meeting hall significant.”

Besides its architectural significance, the property is important for its contributions to the City’s cultural and social development. The Lodge contains one of the earliest bowling lanes in the State of Wisconsin with many local and state champions using the facility as their home base. Additionally, the property has hosted a variety of Christmas, New Year’s Eve, and costume parties that are a regular part of the community’s social scene.

The Elks Lodge is eligible for inclusion on the list of local historic sites based on criteria (a) its impact on the local cultural and social history of Fond du Lac. Additionally the structure’s Queen Anne styling is one of the more prominent local examples of that type or architecture further qualifying the property under criteria (c).

Prepared by: William Weinshrott  
Historic Preservation Commission  
December 7, 1999

*“Social and fraternal orders were important in the historic fabric of society. In the past, and to some extent the present, one’s standing in social and fraternal groups was a means to achieve in business in a community. Usually the most significant historic movers and shakers of a community belonged to one of many fraternal groups.*

*Because of this, many business and political decisions were linked with members of these groups.”*

*–Excerpt from the Wisconsin Historical Society Website: [wisconsinhistory.org](http://wisconsinhistory.org)*





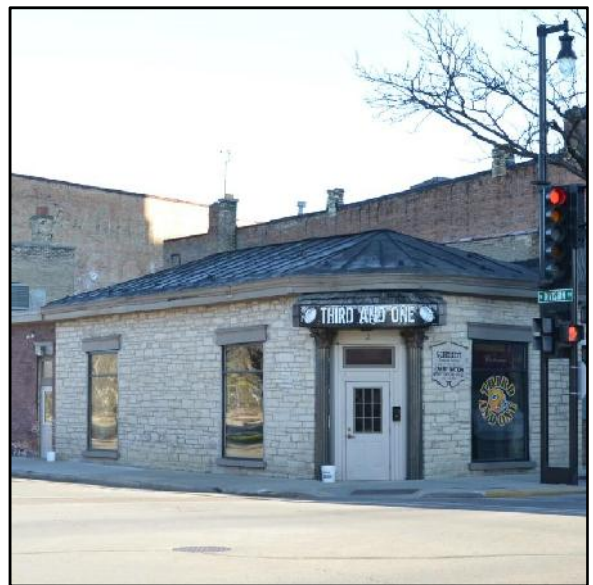
## FINNEGAN'S 2 NORTH MAIN STREET



Two North Main Street, at the corner of Main and Division Street, began its career as a bank in 1852. Its proprietors were the founders of the first real banking institution in Fond du Lac. In 1853, it was reorganized as the Bank of Fond du Lac, the first to be chartered under the state banking laws. Its capital stock was to be \$25,000, although business was at first begun with a much smaller amount. The stockholders of the reorganized bank were George McWilliams (early mayor of Fond du Lac and McWilliams Street is also named after him), James Ewen and Lyman Phillips of Fond du Lac, and O.P. Chandler of Vermont. A.G. Butler was President and Charles W. Winfield, Cashier. The bank of Fond du Lac failed in 1857.

During most of the years of this building's existence, it has served as a tavern under various names. On July 18, 1902, Carrie Nation, a nationally famous prohibitionist, supposedly "busted up" the saloon with her famous hatchet. The building still serves as a tavern.

The brick building has not changed much in recent history. It is noted for its tin roof and the columns on each side of the main entrance show the influence of Greek Revival architecture which was popular at the time of its construction.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

Prepared by: Tom Kitchen  
Historic Preservation Commission  
May 16, 1990  
Meets Criteria A and B

### Reference Sources:

- A Photographer's History of Fond du Lac County (Volume 1), Ray Thornton
- History of Fond du Lac, 1880



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF FOND DU LAC**  
**90 SOUTH MACY STREET**



The First Baptist Church of Fond du Lac is located one block west of the central business district on the northwest corner of Macy and First Street. The building is a two-story, Neo-Gothic church structure. The plan configuration is modified cruciform; the roof is moderately pitched, and its form is combination hip and gable. The foundations are rock-faced ashlar limestone, the walls are chocolate-colored vitrified brick, and the roofing materials are asphalt. Significant features include engaged buttressing piers and Bedford limestone trim on the gable parapets, kneelers, sills, springers, and keystones. The informally balanced fenestration juxtaposes Gothic and Tudor arches with perpendicular tracery and green stained glass on the east and south facades, and double-hung, single-paned sash on the west and north facades. The principal entrance is through a small projecting pavilion, similarly ornamented and opening onto Macy Street. The double doors include book matching tongue and groove paneling and wrought iron strap hinges.

The interior space is largely divided into the sanctuary and school, similar to the Akron plan. The sanctuary is a rectangular room with the organ, choir, and altar in a large central alcove. The pews arc to a central aisle, and the baptistery is to one side of the altar behind a low curtain. The school adjoins the sanctuary through sliding doors and consists of twelve cubicles on two levels, supported by iron columns and connected by a gallery. Each cubicle is labeled by grade and has an unfinished pine floor, blackboard, window, and curtain partition. A distinctive feature of the sanctuary and school is the extensive incandescent lighting along knobbed ceiling beams and the school gallery. Ancillary rooms include a pastor's study and choir room.

The First Baptist Church of Fond du Lac organized in 1845 and built its first church at the corner of Forest Avenue and Union Street in 1853. This church building (now demolished) accommodated the church until 1905, when the Baptists merged with the People's Church, an unaffiliated body organized in 1891. As a result of this merger, the congregation was forced to plan for a new building, as its Sunday School became one of the largest in the City with over 500 students. In constructing the church, the congregation selected local architect Marshall O. Pillsbury and general

contractor Matt Dreis. The total cost in 1907 came to \$30,000. An Estey organ was installed four years later with a \$1,000 matching grant from Andrew Carnegie.

While less imposing than the churches on South Marr Street, the First Baptist Church played a more visible role in the life of the community: they took a leadership role in union services with other



churches, pastors spearheaded campaigns against vice, and the 50-voice choir presented ambitious recitals and concerts including Handel's "Messiah". The congregation occupied the church until moving to a smaller structure in 1980.

The church is of local architectural significance as a fine example of early 20<sup>th</sup> century Neo-Gothic design. The delicately traced Gothic arched windows are glazed with green glass, and the heavy buttressing piers are applied to light masonry walls of brown brick. Outstandingly preserved, the

First Baptist Church incorporates the coloration and proportions of Craftsman-style design with the ornament and structural features of Gothic tradition. Its interior, remarkably intact, similarly combines Gothic and Craftsman design: foliated arches adorn doors and paneling, while ceiling beams are pegged and fitted for incandescent lighting. It is one of two examples of early 20<sup>th</sup> century Neo-Gothic design in Fond du Lac. (The other is the First Presbyterian Church, built in 1915.) While being distinguished by their building form, both incorporate a two-story gallery Sunday School. At the First Baptist Church, the interior is virtually intact: the Estey organ, baptistery, pews, and entire Sunday School with its gallery, chalkboards, and curtain partitions remain as they were in 1907.

#### Reference Sources:

- National Register of Historic Places Inventory; December 29, 1986



## FRANKLIN SCHOOL 401 SOUTH MILITARY ROAD



Franklin School is a two and one-half story brick structure sitting on a tall, limestone foundation. Its architectural features include a hip roof with a cupola and dormers. Originally built in 1907, it has had brick additions added to the south and west areas in 1957 and again in 1976. Although the additions are of a more contemporary nature, they have been made without affecting the architectural aesthetic of the original building. The original structure has had most of the original windows closed and replaced with smaller windows. All the windows in the dormers have been completely closed. In addition, the main entrance has also been closed off, allowing primary access through the new addition areas. Although not ideal from a historical architectural standpoint, the alterations have been made from a sympathetic standpoint to the original structure, and the changes were necessary from a practical and economical viewpoint to the function of the building. The building is in good repair, and much of the interior still offers the original aesthetic.

Beyond the architectural significance, Franklin School is of equal or greater value from a historical perspective. Franklin School was the name of the first school in the village of Fond du Lac. It was initially located on the east side of Main Street, between Second and Third Streets, and later rebuilt at Fifth and Marr. That Franklin School burned in 1848, shortly after opening, and was not replaced until 1850 when the Marr Street School was built.<sup>1</sup>

In addition to the Marr Street School, twelve other “Street” schools existed to satisfy the needs of the community. At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, educators and the community realized the need to build larger schools to accommodate the growth of the Fond du Lac area. The other schools in this new



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

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1. <sup>1</sup> The History of Fond du Lac County, Ruth Shaw Worthing

movement included Washington, McKinley, Wilson, Lincoln, Cleveland, Grant, and Roosevelt.

The Franklin School on Military was built during the Progressive Era, a period from approximately 1896 to 1915. A progressive movement in the United States is marked by an “attempt to develop the moral will, the intellectual insight and the political and administrative agencies to remedy the accumulated evils and negligences of a period of industrial growth.”<sup>2</sup>

The new Franklin School totaled 27,400 square feet in interior space, with an optimal enrollment at about 300 students. The first classes were held at the newly opened Franklin School on April 8, 1907. Students were transferred to relieve the overcrowded conditions at Lincoln and Union Schools. Miss Etta Gault was the principal with Miss Grace Palmer in charge of second grade and Miss Lorina Reichert teaching first grade. The full school was not utilized until the fall semester of 1907.<sup>3</sup>

The structure was designed by Robert A. Messmer (1870-1943), a Milwaukee architect who took over his father’s firm of H. Messmer & Son, renaming it R.A. Messmer & Brother. The firm specialized in plans for hospitals and public and semi-public buildings. This same firm designed high schools in West Allis, Hartford, Ripon, Shawano, Antigo, and Park Falls, to name a few. He also designed the Milwaukee Elks Club and the Wisconsin Building at the 1915 Pan American Exhibition in San Francisco. Robert Messmer and his firm have approximately 18 of their designs listed on the NRHP.

The Cartwright Survey identifies The Franklin School as noteworthy and eligible for National Register status.

A 1958 report, “School Buildings for Fond du Lac Today and Tomorrow”, developed by the University of Wisconsin School of Education in Madison states, “with respect to environment, the location of school sites leaves much to be desired in the cases of Franklin, Wilson, and Roosevelt.”

The best location noted in the report was that of Lincoln School, which has been gone for a number of years already. All the other schools of this same era—Washington, McKinley, Wilson, Cleveland, Grant<sup>2</sup>, and Roosevelt—were razed in the late 60s, thru the 70s and early 80s. These

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<sup>2</sup> The Progressive Movement 1990-1915, Richard Hofstadter

<sup>3</sup> The Daily Commonwealth, April 5, 0907

historic buildings were allowed to fall into disrepair and their historic value was overlooked in the zeal of a newer age of educational reform.

This property is an excellent candidate for designation based on criteria 1a, 1c, and 1d, found in Section 11.16D of the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Moreover, because the Franklin School and its location has already been raised as a potential issue, and because it is the last school of its era (no schools of previous eras remain either), I believe it's imperative that landmark status be granted to this facility.

Respectfully Submitted,

Commissioner Mary Mullen

September 13, 2000





## THE GALLOWAY HOUSE 336 OLD PIONEER ROAD



The Galloway House is a 30 room Victorian mansion, elaborately furnished with decorative woodwork inside and out. The original portion was built in 1847. Edwin G. Galloway purchased the home from Selim Newton in 1868.

Although Mr. Galloway had lived in the house for just a few years, he had greatly enlarged and embellished it. The Galloway House represents a classic Midwest version of an Italianate villa of Victorian elegance and beauty.

Edwin P. Galloway, grandson of the original owner, donated the home, carriage house, and the land on which it stood to the Fond du Lac County Historical Society in 1954. The Galloway House is an on-going project of the Historical Society and is listed on the National Register of Historical Landmarks.

Edwin H. Galloway was outstanding in the early history of the city of Fond du Lac. He had arrived in 1848 and became active in banking and lumbering. He served two terms in the Wisconsin

State Legislature, several terms as Chairman of the Fond du Lac County Board of Supervisors, was Mayor of Fond du Lac, and was strongly supported for the Republican nomination for Governor in 1871. Edwin H. Galloway died in 1876.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

Prepared by: Robert Oberbeck  
Member of the Historic Preservation Commission  
Report Adopted March 27, 1990  
Meets Criteria A, B, and C



Reference Sources:

- Ebernau, Theresa Galloway. "A Pioneer Family and Memories of the Old Home." Second Printing, 1973.
- Worthing, Ruth Shaw. "The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names." 1976.
- Galloway, Edwin Pierce. "I'd Hoot Him on the Pot." 1975.
- "Galloway House and Village," A Brochure. 1983.

*"Some of the farm buildings were razed, but the carriage house was preserved and extended. Another small barn was moved and transformed into a gristmill using millstones which had once ground flour for settlers in the 1850s....Displays in their proper settings [at the Historical Society] have created a village reminiscent of the turn of the century. A school, a photograph gallery, a church, a re-activated print shop, a toy shop, a railroad complete with rolling stock—offer a wide variety of attractions for every age."*

*--The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names, page 41*

*By Ruth Shaw Worthing*



*"Also on the property are an elaborately decorated gazebo and a number of buildings moved to the site as part of the museum grounds. The 20 museum buildings represent a "Victorian Village" and are interpreted in the same period as the house."*

*--Excerpt from the Wisconsin Historical Society Website: [wisconsinhistory.org](http://wisconsinhistory.org)*



## THE ADAMS HOUSE, CARRIAGE HOUSE, AND GAZEBO AT MELROSE FARM 336 OLD PIONEER ROAD



The Galloway House and Museum have been a foundation of Fond du Lac's historical heritage since 1954. Begun with the original Galloway home, the Museum has grown through acquisition and relocation of various historic structures from throughout the Fond du Lac area. Under consideration for local landmark consideration are three buildings that are original to the site.

The Adams House is currently used by the Fond du Lac Historical Society as an archive and research center and is open to the public. This building was built circa 1865-1868 and has undergone renovation over the years. A relatively Spartan interior and modified exterior would lead to a categorization of "vernacular" style to this old home. However, the casements around the windows, with arched tops are reminiscent of a Carpenter Gothic style and do work to marry this structure with the curves and arches of the Italianate designed Galloway House. Photographs of the original Adams House structure are unavailable, and it is difficult to assess its original appearance.

Of greater importance, is the history of this home, which was built for the widow of Dr. James M. Adams. Dr. Adams came to Fond du Lac County in 1845 and lived for a while in the city. His home was located on Sheboygan Street and was bordered by Adams Street at a time when it went through to Sheboygan. Dr. Adams moved to the town of Byron, on what is now Highway 175. Dr. Adam's niece, Maria Adams, was married to Edwin H. Galloway.

Dr. Adams and his wife had two sons who both died while in service during the Civil War, in 1864. Dr. Adams passed away from typhoid in December of that same year.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

As was often the custom, the family helped provide for the surviving family. Of some means, the Galloways built the Adams House and moved their aunt closer to the family. Mrs. Adams lived in the home until she passed away in January of 1896.

Over the years, the house has had many different residents. In 1989, the home was purchased by the Fond du Lac Historical Society and was annexed as part of the Museum complex.

The Carriage House is also an original structure to the Melrose Farm site, although an addition has been made from the original. The original features unique cantilevered trusses/support. This construction allowed for space optimization. The addition was done to aesthetically match the original structure and does not detract from the overall look of the building.

The gazebo, also original to this site, is quite unique in its survival over the years. A small, pleasant structure, it contains some unique detailing that compliments and ties it together with the Galloway House. The structure is in need of some repair, and the Historical Society has plans to restore it.

Although much has been done to the Adams House, it has historical significance to the community in respect to the contributions of Dr. James Adams and his family. In addition, it is a surviving part of the Melrose Farm complex.

The carriage house and gazebo maintain much of their original architectural integrity, and although they are not historically significant by themselves, their mere survival is testament to their value to the Galloway family and the community. As part of the original Melrose Farm complex, they are worth preserving.

For these reasons, I recommend that we designate all three of these structures as local historical sites, based on criteria 1A, 1C, and 1D found in Section 11.16D of the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner Mary Mullen

September 11, 2003



## THE GALLOWAY-KNAPP HOUSE 27 SOUTH PARK AVENUE



The house at 27 South Park Avenue is known as the Galloway-Knapp House. It was built circa 1890. It was the home of Maria Galloway, the widow of both Edwin A. Galloway and Gaines A. Knapp, a banker between the 1890s and the 1920s.

This house is architecturally significant in that it is the foremost example of what is described as a shingle style. The broad gables of the house and the wood shingle covering are common elements

for this style. The house has numerous windows including palladian, single pane, a second-story bay window and multi-light sashes.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

The current owners of the property are making a concerted effort to restore and maintain the architectural character of the residence. Although it could not be confirmed, the owners have been told this is the first, or one of the first, houses in Fond du Lac to have electricity.

There are some pictures that show the house at one time had a very large car port and porch area to the south side of the house along the circular driveway that is now present. The Cartwright report points out that this home has historic significance in that it is an interesting example of the shingle style house.

Prepared by: James Follmer, Commissioner  
Historic Preservation Commission  
November 9, 1999  
Meets Criteria C—Architecture



## GERHARD HOUSE 272 EAST DIVISION STREET



This is a two-story Colonial style residence with side gables and a Palladian dormer on the front of the house. It has a full basement and stucco exterior.

The home was originally constructed in 1927 for Emma Gerhard, granddaughter of the Gerhard Baker founder. City directories list the residence starting in 1928.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

The residence is included in the East Division Street Historic District, listed in the Cartwright Report (pages 122-126) as an area of many examples of fine architecture. The residence is not a unique style but does help contribute to the overall architecture of the area, maintaining the appearance of the gracious nineteenth and early twentieth century residential neighborhood.

Recommended for approval based on Section 11.16 D “1b” and “c” of the City’s Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Prepared by: Tracy Reinhardt  
Historic Preservation Commission  
June 16, 2008





## THE GILLETT HOUSE 131 GILLETT STREET



The Gillett House is located at 131 Gillett Street in the City of Fond du Lac. The current owner/occupants are Emil and Eunice Salzwedel.

The house was originally built sometime in the 1870s for the James Monroe Gillett family, Mr. Gillett, being the son-in-law of the Pettibones, an early and influential family in Fond du Lac. The house was constructed in the Second Empire Style, one of only two examples in the city that features a rectangular plan with a steep pitched mansard roof. The style takes its name from the French Second Empire, 1852-1870—the time of the reign of Napoleon III and the French architect, Francois Mansard. As in other Second Empire Style homes found in Wisconsin, the Gillett House included bracketed eaves, an Italianate detail.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

An early furniture company, the Fond du Lac Company, was organized by the Gilletts and other prominent members of the community, and a cabinet manufactured by the company is still in use in the home. The Gillett's son, Morrison, a lawyer and reporter, may be the founder of the Gillett(e) Blue Blade Company, which eventually became the Gillette Razor Company.

Prepared by: Herman Bender  
Historic Preservation Commission  
September 15, 1993  
Meets Criteria D1. (b) and (c)



## THE JOHN Q. GRIFFITH AND JOHN T. & MARGARET BOYLE HOUSE 133 WEST DIVISION STREET



Constructed in approximately 1870, the Griffith-Boyle home is a very good example of the Second Empire style. This style was developed by Francois Mansard (1598-1688) and is characterized by its steep pitched mansard roof. Besides the mansard roof, this property contains wide overhanging eaves decorated with pendant scroll brackets; a paneled frieze; a painted brick exterior; sash windows elaborately decorated with wooden architrave surrounds; bays decorated with paneled friezes, brackets, and pilasters; and an arched main entrance consisting of double wood paneled doors and other decorative features.



*Photo Submitted by: Fond du Lac Historical Society*

The home was constructed for John Q. Griffith, a local lumberman who founded the Wilbur and Henry Mill (1856) and later the Forest Street Mill (1859). In 1871, he constructed a larger mill on West Division Street. The property is also associated with John T. and Henry Boyle who succeeded the Griffiths as residents. The Boyles were local businessmen who operated a grocery store and manufactured yeast. Both were noted philanthropists having donated funds for the St. Mary's Springs Sanitarium, the Boyle Catholic Home for the Aged on North Park Avenue, and for the construction and equipping of St. Agnes Hospital.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

The property was sold in 1960 to Francis Newhouser which ended the Boyle family association with the property.

Prepared by: William Weinshrott  
Historic Preservation Commission  
May 19, 2003



*“Griffith first came to Fond du Lac as a supervisor of transportation between Fond du Lac and Sheboygan....His office is now the photography studio at the Galloway House Museum.”*



*“John and Henry Boyle came from the East where they had worked in a yeast factory. By 1893, they had perfected their own process and formed the Northwestern Yeast Company. They both accumulated personal fortunes and gave generously of their wealth. Among their gifts to St. Agnes Hospital were its first electrical elevator, a complete x-ray room, and the equipment for a pathological laboratory. John Boyle helped finance St. Mary Springs.”*

*–The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names, pages 44 and 15*

*By Ruth Shaw Worthing*



*“Also on the property is a ‘Victorian’ style playhouse, and a brick carriage house with a mansard roof and round arched openings. The [Griffith/Boyle] house has the mansard roof and classical details typical of the style, but the high quality of these details and the fact that they are so elaborate makes this house the best example of the style in the city, as well as one of the best houses of all styles in the city. The added playhouse and fine carriage house add to the property’s significance.”*

*–Excerpt from the Wisconsin Historical Society Website: [wisconsinhistory.org](http://wisconsinhistory.org)*



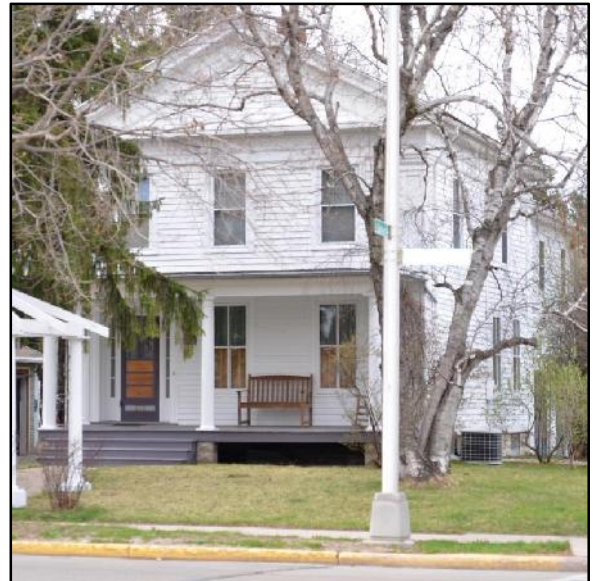
**THE HAMILTON HOUSE**  
**FOND DU LAC HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
**375 EAST DIVISION STREET**



The residence at 375 East Division represents the Greek Revival style of construction. It was popular between 1830 and 1870 in Wisconsin. Greek Revival houses are formal, orderly, and symmetrical. Although most Greek Revival houses in the state are of frame construction, this style also adorned brick, fieldstone, and quarried structures. The house at 375 East Division was built approximately in 1852 on the lot that is now 310 East Division (on the southwest corner of Division and Everett) facing north. Built by one of a set of brothers whom had emigrated from up-state New York, named Hamilton (one was Henry). A similar house was built on the southeast corner by the other brother. That house also moved (year unknown) and now sits on 54 Oaklawn Avenue.

The house was originally much larger. From physical evidence, there was a two-story rear wing (different than what is on it now) and a side wing (probably single-story) on the left side, if facing the front.

The house and lot were purchased around 1933 by Dr. David Twohig. He had the house moved in 1933 to 375 East Division for his daughter and son-in-law (Dr. Finn). The attached garage and front porch were put on at that time. The moving, foundation, and other construction were performed



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

by the brand new (at that time) company of C.D. Smith Construction. (One story is that the house was struck in the middle of Division Street for a while, pending completion of the foundation. To prevent its destruction as derelict, someone had to live in it on the street.) When moved, the rear wing was removed and now forms the back end of a house at 53 Cottage Avenue (exterior details are very

similar). It was then purchased by a Dr. Guth, then Franklin Osgood in approximately 1950, then by Howard and Debra Floeter in 1976.

While the current owners were remodeling the house, old 3/8" gas piping was found in the walls and ceilings for gas lighting. 24" wood pine boards exist for the roof sheathing. Most of the siding is original white pine. Lower floor windows (and glass) on the east and south are original.

This house represents an excellent example of Greek Revival construction and carries a high level of integrity and preservation. While these houses seem simple, they have architectural significance and efforts should be made to preserve them.

*"Charles S. Hamilton was a native of New York and a graduate of West Point where he was a classmate and friend of Ulysses S. Grant. Upon graduation, he served in the Mexican War after which he resigned his commission and made his home in Fond du Lac where he operated a flour mill. When the Civil War broke out, General Grant asked him to return to duty. He attained the rank of major-general before retiring....He served on the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents and later on the Board of Visitors of the United States Military Academy at West Point. In 1869 he was named U.S. Marshall for the District of Wisconsin....Sophia Street was named for his wife, the former Sophia Shepherd."*

*—The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names, pages 44-45*

*By Ruth Shaw Worthing*



## HOTEL CALUMET 68 HARRISON PLACE



The present day Calumet Apartments were built in phases, starting in 1907, with the brick portion of the Old Forest Avenue Hotel. Expanded in 1920-22 into its current “U” shaped configuration, the property was renamed the Hotel Calumet and, along with the Retlaw Hotel (now known as the Ramada), was part of the Schroeder Hotel Company of Milwaukee.

Given its proximity to the Chicago and Northwestern Depot, the main railroad station in Fond du Lac, the success of the hotel was tied to the railroad. However, according to its National Register nomination, “after World War II, as the travel habits of Americans changed, the need for [railroad related] hotel rooms declined in favor of motels on the edges of town, and it became increasingly difficult to operate the Calumet as a traditional hotel.”

In the 1960-80 period, the property gradually became more of a permanent residential facility and was operated as a boarding/rooming house. In 1989, new ownership, led by the Alexander Company of Madison, remodeled the property into 55 mostly efficiency and one bedroom



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

efficiency residential units. Currently, the property is owned by the Housing Authority of the City of Fond du Lac, and a number of rehabilitation efforts have already been undertaken and/or are planned, including an extensive brick restoration/tuck pointing project.

Besides its historical importance, the Calumet also has architectural details of importance. Built in the Classical Revival style, the three-story brick structure features “jack-arch lintels” accenting double-hung windows on the structure’s second and third floors. The first floor is mostly finished in a “store front design” along the Forest Avenue frontage, while the Harrison side features a decorative main entrance containing a pair of stone Tuscan columns.

The Calumet is eligible for designation as a local historic site based on 11.16 (D) 1a and c of the municipal code.

Prepared by: William Weinshrott  
Historic Preservation Commission  
June 8, 2004



## HOTEL RETLAW 1 NORTH MAIN STREET



The Hotel Retlaw (built in 1922-1923, with an addition in 1927), which is significant locally in the areas of architecture and commerce, was one of the most important commercial buildings built in Fond du Lac in the 1920s. It was the second hotel building built by Walter Schroeder (Retlaw is Walter spelled backwards), a prominent Milwaukee hotel magnate and insurance agency executive whose Schroeder Hotel Co. chain was one of the largest such chains in the Wisconsin in the 1920s. Schroeder had inherited his father's successful insurance, mortgage loan, and bond business in 1897. In 1912, he sold \$800,000 in bonds for the new Wisconsin Hotel Building in Milwaukee. However, the management of the hotel failed to make it pay, and in 1914, Schroeder took over the active management of the hotel himself as a trustee for the bondholders. Within a few years, the hotel was not only out of debt, but it was a prosperous enterprise –in the process, Schroeder found he enjoyed the hotel business. In the next ten years, he built the Hotel Astor in Milwaukee (1918-1920, 1925), The Hotel Retlaw in Fond du Lac, The Hotel Northland in Green Bay (1923), the Hotel Wausau in Wausau (1923), the hotel Loraine in Madison (1924), the Hotel Duluth in Duluth, Minnesota (1924), and the Hotel Schroeder in Milwaukee (1926-1928).



The Hotel Retlaw's principle architect was Herbert W. Tullgren, a Milwaukee designer, who was a widely known architect in Wisconsin and who acted as the principle architect for the Schroeder chain. A native of Chicago, he moved to Milwaukee with his father Martin, an architect, and his brother Minard, a builder, in 1904. Tullgren was best known as an architect of hotels and apartment buildings, having designed some fifty apartment buildings though out the state. He became the principle architect for the Schroeder Hotels, starting with his design for the Hotel Astor, in 1918. His later work for Schroeder included the Hotel Retlaw, the hotel Northland in Green Bay, and the Hotel



Loraine in Madison. He also designed the Shorecrest Hotel in Milwaukee and the Manitowoc Hotel in Manitowoc for others.

The relatively unaltered exterior of the Hotel Retlaw is a fine example of the restrained neo-classical revival style which Tullgren employed as the basis for all his work for the Schroeder chain. The significance of the building is greatly strengthened by the retention of much of Tullgren's excellent neo-classical interiors that he designed for the principle public rooms of the hotel, including the lobbies on the first floor and the ballroom, Civic Room, and several smaller meeting rooms on the second floor. The Hotel Retlaw was also the first all-steel frame building built in Fond du Lac and, at 235 rooms, was more than twice as large as its nearest competitor.



Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin

From the day of its opening until the 1970s, the Hotel Retlaw was the only first-class hotel in Fond du Lac, continually playing a prominent part in Fond du Lac's social and commercial life. In 1922, the City was experiencing a steady growth in population and was the center of a booming manufacturing area. Fond du Lac, at the confluence of several state and US Highways, as well as several railroads, proudly called itself the "Gateway to the Fox River Valley." However, this expansion in trade and population had yet to be matched by significant improvements in retail and institutional buildings which would reflect the City's growth and aspirations. Thus when Schroeder made his hotel plans known in 1922, he gave form to a popular sentiment in Fond du Lac. A local businessman speaking in *The Daily Commonwealth* just prior to the opening of the hotel was probably speaking for many: "When you consider that Mr. Schroeder came here and invested over a half-a-million dollars and did not ask a cent from the Fond du Lac people, it is obvious that he has displayed a very fine spirit and has expressed in a big way his faith in the growth and prosperity of Fond du Lac."<sup>1</sup> When the Retlaw officially opened on March 2, 1923, *The Daily Commonwealth* devoted a special section of the day's paper to the "palatial new Retlaw" and called the occasion "...Epoch Making in City." Article after

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<sup>1</sup> *The Daily Commonwealth*, February 24, 1923.



article extolled the virtues of the new building and detailed its equipment and vital statistics. An editorial in this section pointed out the importance of the impression such a building would make on visitors to the city and also noted that the Retlaw would employ 90-115 people which, even in 1927, would have made the hotel the fifth largest industry in Fond du Lac.

From 1923 to the 1970s, the Retlaw maintained its position as Fond du Lac's leading hotel. Such national figures as John F. Kennedy, Hubert Humphrey, and Eleanor Roosevelt, as well as many leading Wisconsin politicians, were all entertained in the Retlaw's ballroom. In 1950, Schroeder sold the Retlaw to Nick Frank who changed the name to the Retlaw Motor Inn and later sold the building to the Lynn Family, the current owners. Plans of the Lynn family to turn the building into apartments for the elderly fell through and although more than \$1,500,000 was spent renovating the dining rooms and kitchen, the hotel is currently vacant pending discussions with the Sheraton Hotel chain to acquire the building for hotel purposes.

#### Reference Sources:

- National Register of Historic Places Inventory; September 7, 1984

*“Several famous guests stayed at the hotel including Janet Gaynor (1933); Eleanor Roosevelt (1937); heavyweight boxing champion, Jack Dempsey; cowboy singer, Gene Autry; and bandleader Clyde McCoy. John and Jacqueline Kennedy stayed here in the 1960s. The infamous also stayed at the Retlaw, including mafia gangster, Joe Bonanno.”*

*--Excerpt from the Wisconsin Historical Society Website: [wisconsinhistory.org](http://wisconsinhistory.org)*



## **KALK - HABER HOUSE** **111 EAST 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET**



### **The Occupants**

The actual date of the house being built is unknown. It seems, from research, to have been built in approximately the late 1860s. The house was included in both the 1988 and 1991 Intensive Survey and was classified as being Shingle style with a gable roof. The front porch consisted of grouped round columns and covered most of the front façade of the building. There were a number of decorative windows on the house including two gothic-arched openings, an oval window, and a lunette. There is also a small oriel on the front façade. The house was declared architecturally significant and potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a good example of the Shingle style.

Unfortunately, the house was aluminum sided in 1995, and the oval window and the lunette window were covered over. The lunette space still exists in the dining room, however the window itself is missing. The gothic-arched openings still exist, the oval lead glass window still is intact behind the siding, and the small oriel is still visible. The original front porch was replaced with a smaller version.

### **The Occupants**

The first owner of the house appears to be Charles F. Kalk, a druggist. Mr. Kalk acquired the property in 1860 for an undisclosed amount. A city directory for 1865 lists him as boarding at 4<sup>th</sup> Street. A later 1868 directory lists his address as 53 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. C.F. Kalk was born in Berlin, Germany; came to the United States in 1848; and arrived in Fond du Lac in 1849. He began working as a clerk in a drugstore within a few months of his arrival in town. In 1857, he became partners with the owner of the drugstore. The partnership continued until 1866, when he sold his interest in the business back to the owner and formed another partnership with William F. Kent. The operated a drugstore at 488 Main Street. Mr. Kalk was active in local government and was Supervisor and Alderman for several terms, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, and member of the Board of Education.

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1875, C.F. Kalk sold the property to Harold M. Kutchin for the amount of \$3,000 and moved to 29 Sheboygan Street.

The Centennial 1876 Directory of Fond du Lac County lists the address of Mr. Kutchin as 53 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, and the Holland's Quadrennial City Directory of 1887 lists his house as 77 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, so it would appear that the two houses were renumbered as the legal description on the deeds stayed the same.

Howard M. Kutchin was a native of Norristown, Pennsylvania. He married Elise Irving, of Racine, in St. Louis, Missouri in 1866. In 1867, he purchased the *Fort Atkinson Herald* and was the



Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin

publisher until 1870 when he decided to move to San Diego, California and leased the paper. The paper started to fail, and he returned to Wisconsin in 1872, sold the paper, moved to Fond du Lac, and purchased *The Daily Commonwealth*. He continued to own and edit the paper, along with Mr. Waltrous, until 1884. While living in Fond du Lac, Mr. Kutchin was very active in state and federal politics.

In 1877, he was appointed Director of Wisconsin State Prisons. In 1879, President Rutherford B. Hayes appointed him Collector of Internal Revenue for the third district of Wisconsin. He held this position until Grover Cleveland was elected, and he was removed for being a member of the "other" party. He was also Chairman of the Republican County Committee and was Chairman of the Republican Congressional District Committee. At the state Republican Convention of 1886, he was elected Secretary of the State Central Committee and did campaign work. The stress from his many endeavors took its toll, and he was advised by his doctor to return to the west for his health. In 1887, he returned to San Diego and became active in San Diego politics (he was one of the people responsible for naming Balboa Park) and federal politics as a Special Agent to Alaska. His reports on the Alaskan fish and wildlife are still in publication. He sold the home to P.B. Haber on September 13, 1887 for the amount of \$2,000.

Phinelan B. Haber was born in 1855 in Vinland, Winnebago County. He came to Fond du Lac in 1872 and worked in a bookstore on Forest Avenue. He married Mary Ellen Dickinson in 1883 at St. Paul's Cathedral. Their only child, Marie was born in 1884 and passed away in 1896. In 1885, P.B. Haber, along with O.C. Steenberg and C.E. Maxwell, organized the Commonwealth Printing company and took over *The Daily Commonwealth*.

Commonwealth Printing was dissolved in 1888, and the P.B. Haber Printing company was organized with Mr. Haber as president and general manager. In 1890, the P.B. Haber Printing House was built at 18 Forest Avenue and still stands today. Mr. Haber continues on with the newspaper and his printing business until his retirement in 1926, when he sold *The Commonwealth* to the Reporter Printing Company.

P.B. Haber was associated with many other businesses in Fond du Lac. In addition to the newspaper, he owned and operated a job printing business which, in 1925, became the Fond du Lac Poster Advertising Company. The P.B. Haber Investment Company was organized in 1920, and together with H.F. Whitcomb, President of the old Wisconsin Central Railway, it secured the railway shops that were located in North Fond du Lac. Haber and S.D. Wyatt organized the Fond du Lac Land Company which built over 100 houses in the village that were sold to the railway shop employees on a monthly installment plan. He organized the Citizen's Building Company, which built the building on Brooke Street that was occupied by the Demountable Typewriter Company. He donated a triangular plot of land to the City, located at East Scott Avenue and Park Avenue. He was also a director of Commercial National Bank and a trustee of the Rienzi Cemetery Association.

He also had an interest in theater and was a manager of the old Amory Opera House for 12 years and with H.R. Potter, bought out the Crescent Opera House on East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street that he also managed. In 1906, the Henry Boyle Theatre—later the Garrick Theatre—on Sheboygan Street was built by Mr. Haber, Mr. Potter, and Mr. Boyle. Mr. Haber was the manager of the theatre for many years.

Mrs. Haber was active in the Daughters of the American Revolution and regularly hosted events for that organization at the home, many of which are described in early editions of *The Commonwealth*. She was active in the American Red Cross, and during World War I, "adopted"

several soldiers. Both Mr. and Mrs. Haber were active members of the Plymouth Congregational Church.

In 1927, Mr. Haber sold the home to St. Joseph's parish for the sum of \$1. For the next eighty years, the home was used as a convent for the sisters who taught at St. Joseph's School. It was during this time that the second floor chapel was added and later, a chapel in the basement. The beautiful stained glass windows of the second-floor chapel still exist. However, the basement chapel was lost during the flood of 2008. My husband and I purchased the house from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee in January, 2008.

Prepared by: Sandra Albano  
111 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Fond du Lac, WI  
Approved: September 7, 2010



## THE BLANKENBURG HOUSE 47 SIXTH STREET



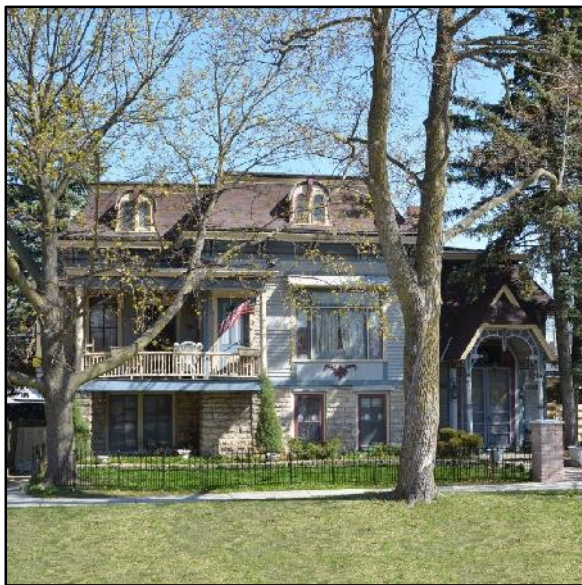
This is a Second Empire style home which was a dominant style for American houses constructed between 1860 and 1880, although the first examples were built in the 1850s, with later examples occurring in the 1880s. The style was most popular in the Northeastern and Midwestern states and less common on the Pacific Coast. It's relatively rare in the southern states, although scattered examples survive in all regions settled before 1880. The house at 47 Sixth Street is a raised two-story home with a trademark Second Empire mansard roof



*Photo Submitted by: Fond du Lac Historical Society*

and unusual projecting round arched dormers filled with double panes of round, arched glass. The building has an unusual, raised limestone foundation with larger openings, which upon entry, causes you to step down several steps to the main room. In addition, there are Italianate style details such as paired brackets under the eaves. The main entrance could be a later addition with details that suggest

the stick style. For example, the entryway doors are highly decorative and the entrance is covered with a Jerkinhead style overhang with turned posts and fancy stickwood decorations.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

Mr. Albert C. Blankenburg owned a furniture store located at 558 Main Street, which is now part of the site for the present day National Exchange Bank (130 South Main Street). This report includes a photograph of the house; the store; his wife, a teacher and performer of music, voice, and several instruments; and maps of the area with house

shown (city maps of 1893 and 1896). Also included are photographs of Mr. Blankenburg in front of his store, his daughter, and her husband, who became a constable in Fond du Lac.

Recommended for approval based on "Criteria C"

Prepared by: William Weinshrott  
Historic Preservation Commission  
November 9, 2000





**THE LIGHTHOUSE**  
**LAKESIDE PARK**  
**650 NORTH MAIN STREET**



*Photo Submitted by: Fond du Lac Historical Society*

On September 9, 1932, W.J. Nuss, a local lumberman, donated the materials to build the Lighthouse. It is located on the end of the breakwater entrance at the Big Hole. The foundation is made of fieldstone which came from a farm in the Chilton area.

The Big Hole was renamed “The Lighthouse Harbor” on March 1, 1933. The breakwater in front of the harbor is now known as Lighthouse Point. Construction began in March, 1933. Work was done by local, unemployed men hired through the WPA.

Since all materials were donated, there was no municipal cost.

R.A. Sutherland prepared the plans for the structure, which follows a Cape Cod design. It is 40 feet high and 13 feet wide. The first 10 feet of the octagonal shape building is flagstone while the balance is wood. A winding stairway inside leads to the top. Around the top is a catwalk, and a beacon is on the roof.

Park Superintendent Frank Russell and Mr. Sutherland supervised the construction. The flagpole was donated by Mr. Russell. Four persons donated \$5 each for the anchor that still sits in



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

front of the building. The iron railing around the catwalk was made and given by W.H. Manowski and E.A. Becker.

Ceremonies for the laying of the cornerstone were held on June 10, 1933 with several hundred persons participating. The Fond du Lac High School band performed a concert while the Seascouts and Boy Scouts were on duty. The cornerstone was laid by Mayor Albert J. Rosenthal.

Prepared by: Thomas Zonik  
Historic Preservation Commission  
March 27, 1990  
Meets Criteria A and C

*“Lighthouse Harbor...was originally called the “Big Hole”. As a harbor it was unsatisfactory. In 1935 plans were made to have it dredged by the United States Rivers and Harbor Commission to a uniform depth of twelve feet.*

*Since that time other improvements have been made and the number of moorings greatly increased....The lighthouse has been the subject of many paintings and is the official symbol of the county government.”*

*--The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names, pages 57-58*

*By Ruth Shaw Worthing*



## THE LONGUA-HELZ HOUSE 232 EAST DIVISION STREET



The home, located at 232 East Division Street, is a Craftsman style house. Carol Lohry Cartwright, in her Architectural and Historical Resources Survey prepared for the City of Fond du Lac in 1992, states, “The Craftsman style in Wisconsin was popular between 1900 and 1930 and is distinguished by its high regard for natural materials, honest construction techniques and high quality wood craftsmanship, both on the exterior and interior of the house.”

The house, located at 232 East Division Street, is described by Carol Cartwright in this same study as follows, “...this two-and-one-half story Craftsman style house has a stucco and clapboard exterior, shingled gables, and a small verandah with brick piers and balustrade and a prominent shingle



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

gable.” It is one three houses in Fond du Lac that are potentially eligible for the National Register as Craftsman houses. The 232 East Division street house is described as the Longua-Helz House and is located in the proposed East Division Street Historical District. It was built in 1915 by Dr. Helz, a physician working with St. Agnes hospital. It is described as having multiple gables, stucco and brick exterior, abundance of simple wood trim, exposed rafters, brackets, and massive front entry porch.

The 232 East Division Street house is eligible for inclusion to the list of local landmarks as a City of Fond du Lac designated historic site under Criteria C of the Section D of the Historical Preservation Ordinance. This Craftsman style home “embodies the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen, inherently valuable for study of a period style, method of construction, or of indigenous materials or craftsmanship.”

Prepared by: Jeanne Klebar  
Historic Preservation Commission  
February 4, 1999

Reference Sources:

- City of Fond du Lac—Intensive Survey Report Architectural and Historic Resource Survey, Carol Lhory Cartwright, Principle Investigator, Prepared for the City of Fond du Lac, WI, 1992
- Historic Preservation Ordinance, Exhibit A-Section 11.16



## 16-18 NORTH MAIN STREET



Located in the proposed North Main Street Historic District, these two buildings, although they have distinct styles and histories, are combined for the purpose of this report due to their present, single ownership by Steve Awve and their recent combined use as the Chinatown Kitchen restaurant.

16 North Main Street, a two-story structure, is the more distinctive of the two structures featuring an unusual glazed, white terra cotta façade with ornamental, rounded bracketing above the three upper-level windows. Together with decorative columns, these features are considered “classical” elements often found in Beaux Arts style structures. The earliest identified occupant was James C.



Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin

Crowley, a grocer in 1865. Later years found use by a pawnbroker, clothing stores including J.T. Harrington men’s furnishings business. The 1920s included another grocery business, O’Brien Brothers.

18 North Main Street is a two-story commercial vernacular style structure constructed of bricks which have been painted. It has a simple cornice of unusual brick corbelling. The three upper, round arched windows are decorated with raised, segmental arches. The earliest occupants of record include the Jacob Flatten grocery in 1869 and, soon

after (1879), a hardware store run by H.H. Hochrein. Around the turn of the century, a saloon operated by Peter Weber was the predominate use, followed by a lengthy occupancy (1917-1930) by Jennie Campbell’s milliner’s shop.

16-18 North Main Street is eligible for designation as a local historic site, based on its contributing importance to the commercial history of Fond du Lac, as noted in Section 11.16 D. 1(a) of the City’s Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Prepared by: William Weinshrott and John Angeli  
Historic Preservation Commission  
April 9, 1999



## GERMAN AMERICAN SAVINGS BANK 28 NORTH MAIN STREET



28 North Main Street was built circa 1873 as the German American Savings Bank. This commercial building is made of brick and stone with an Italianate style façade. This two-story structure has recently had the façade restored with reproduction cornice trim, corbels, and linten trim, reproduced from old photos showing the original trim. Façade stonework has also been restored.

Early documents at the Fond du Lac Public Library describe the building as made of brick and a brown stone front with ornamentation. The vaults were described as “massive” which would explain the substantial stone foundation.

The rear of the building is a red brick, commercial vernacular (plain) style with a one-story addition added in the 1960s. This property is within the North Main Historic District. The original building used the address of 390 Main Street.

The bank was originally chartered in 1865 by Rudolph Ebert and John C. Perry as a private bank. As business increased, it was incorporated in September, 1873 as a savings bank. In 1873, the bank building was built and organized as a private savings bank catering to Fond du Lac’s German speaking population. The bank was capitalized in 1873 with \$25,000. Bank President, Rudolph Ebert, had the building at 28 North Main Street built for the newly organized bank.



Prominent Fond du Lac investors of the time included Mr. Ebert, Frederick Rueping, Louis Muentner, J.C. Perry, Alexander McDonald, and Franz Lauenstein. Some of these gentlemen were also on the Board of Directors.

Bank President Rudolph Ebert, built a fine home at 199 East Division Street, Fond du Lac (locally known as the Pink Lady). Mr. Ebert was born in 1829 and came to America, to Fond du Lac

County, in the fall of 1848. He was elected Register of Deeds in November, 1852. He served six terms as the City Treasurer of Fond du Lac and was a member of the Board of Education.

The bank did general bank business, bought and sold foreign exchange, and had the agency for three ocean steam ships. The bank was built near the Serwe House (since demolished).

Recommended for approval based on Section 11.16 D. 1b and c of the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance for its association with historic personages and architectural styles.

Prepared by: Sam Meyer  
Historic Preservation Commission  
November 5, 2008





## 30 NORTH MAIN STREET



Located in the proposed North Main Street Historic District, 30 North Main Street has a long and varied history of uses. The earliest readily available reference to the property is found in Holland's Fond du Lac City Directory for 1874-75 listing its use as the German American Savings Bank. At the turn of the century, a cigar manufacturing business owned by the Justen Brothers operated at the site and on the property immediately to the south (28 North Main Street). A saloon was added to the



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

business, about 1910, clothing stores operated during the 1920s and early 30s, followed by the long operated Badger Paint Store starting in 1934 and continuing into the early 1960s.

The two-story commercial vernacular structure consists of a storefront on the first floor and a second story currently covered with aluminum siding. The present owner, Joseph Miller, plans to remove the siding and restore the upper brick façade which includes the following features: a corbelled brick cornice with rusticated stone lintels and cast stone sills. On the storefront level, the decorative cast iron columns are particularly noteworthy.

30 North Main Street is eligible for designation as a local historic site based on its contributing importance to the commercial history of Fond du Lac as noted in Section 11.16 D (a).

Prepared by: William Weinshrott and John Angeli  
Historic Preservation Commission  
August 24, 1999



## THE JOHN REINIG BUILDING 42 NORTH MAIN STREET



The commercial retail buildings located at 32-46 and 50-54 North Main Street were built by John Reinig, local hardware store owner, beginning in 1901 and are known as the Reinig Block. Located at what was then the northern edge of downtown, this was the largest commercial building built in Fond du Lac.

The first building, 32-46 North Main Street, built in 1901, was significant to Fond du Lac's early twentieth century commerce because of the commercial success of its tenants. The seven storefront buildings included retail tenants such as the Kremer Brothers furniture store, a large dry goods store, a plumbing shop, an electrical shop, a grocery store and fruit store (Cartwright, 1992). The commercial success of this building led Reinig to



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

construct an identical three storefront building just to the north, at 50-54 North Main, in 1910. The most significant tenant of this building is Leath Furniture Store, which opened its Fond du Lac store at this location in 1925. The store occupied the entire building and became an early downtown anchor. It continues to operate from this same location today.

The large, red brick buildings are excellent examples of the commercial vernacular form that represent the architectural transition from the popular nineteenth century forms of Italianate and Queen Anne. The relatively plain building adorned with a simple, metal pressed cornice of dentils and brackets, segmented arched windows, and large storefront windows is less decorative than previous period buildings (Cartwright, 1992). This minimal decoration, combined with the massive form and proportioning of the building represent the classical nature inherent in the commercial vernacular style.

For these reasons, and because the buildings are presently located within the Fond du Lac North Main Street Historic District, I recommend the building at 42 North Main Street be designated a local historic property under the Historic Preservation Ordinance per Section 11.16D1a and c.

Prepared by: Shawn H. Kelly  
Historic Preservation Commission  
January 16, 2006

Reference Source:

- Cartwright, C.L. (1992). *City of Fond du Lac Intensive Survey Report, Architectural and Historical Resources Survey*. Fond du Lac: City of Fond du Lac, pp. 46, 652, sec. 8 pp. 7, sec. 8 pp. 14



## REINIG BLOCK 48-50-52 NORTH MAIN STREET



The buildings at this address form a part of the Reinig Block, which was built in 1900. This is a large, rectangular commercial block constructed of red bricks in the commercial vernacular style of architecture. A simple, pressed metal cornice with dentils and classically detailed brackets sit on top a row of brick corbelling across the entire building. The windows of the upper floors are single-light, double-hung sashes, decorated with segmental arches. The roof is flat. The openings of 48-54 Main Street are entirely closed up, but the outlines of the openings are still evident. Many of the storefronts on this block have some of their historic appearance intact. Those storefronts have multi-light transoms, most of which are enclosed. They have large show windows and recessed glass and wood



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

entrances. The part of the building at 48 North Main Street is only two stories in height and has a slightly different cornice. The window decoration is also different. Sanborn-Perris maps indicate that the lot this building is constructed on was vacant or nearly vacant before 1900. It is considered probable that Reinig used this building or had it moved to this site in the construction of the new block.

Due to the size of the building, it has housed many different retail businesses over the years, including liquor stores, grocery stores, millinery shops, hardware stores, and a dry goods store. One of the longest tenants of the building was the Kremer Brothers furniture store, which was purchased by the Leath Furniture Store chain, which is still in business today.

Due to the fact that the building is a fine example of the commercial vernacular style, its general high level of integrity, and its size, it is significant and potentially individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for architecture. The building also contributes to the overall architectural significance of the North Main Street Historic District.

Prepared by: Kathryn Kugler  
Historic Preservation Commission  
October 12, 2000

Reference Source:

- City of Fond du Lac Intensive City Report, Architectural and Historical Resources Survey, Carol Lohrey Cartwright, 1992



## 17-21 SOUTH MAIN STREET



The building located at the 17-21 South Main Street address is an Italianate style commercial building, housing Ambrosia Café and Catering at the 19 South Main Street address, and a vacant storefront at 17 South Main Street.

This building is described in the Architectural and Historical Resources Survey, produced in October 1992 by Carol Cartwright for the City of Fond du Lac, to be “a good example of Italianate Commercial architecture, potentially eligible for the National Register. The commercial block at 17-21 South Main Street (1-34, proposed North Main Street Historic District) built in 1876, is elaborately decorated with a bracketed, pressed-metal cornice. The windows feature heavy, rounded stone arches and label moldings, typical of the Italianate commercial style. Not only are the details of the building extant, the historic openings have not been partially closed like many other commercial buildings in the city. Two nineteenth century storefronts with few alterations add to the significance of this outstanding commercial building.” (pg. 41-42)



Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin

It is further suggested in the same survey that there are “three potentially eligible commercial buildings along Main Street that housed a variety of retail businesses throughout their history, and their significance as commercial buildings lies largely in their size, prominence, and intact historic appearance. These buildings include the best and most historically intact nineteenth century commercial building at 17-21 South Main Street.” (pg. 62)

Finally, the building located at 17-21 South Main Street offers a major contribution to a Historic District. It is suggested in the Architectural and Historic Resources Survey that “the North Main Street Historic District is potentially eligible for the National Register under criteria A and C. It is potentially eligible under criteria A for its significance in the commercial history of Fond du Lac. It is potentially eligible under criteria C for its concentration of good examples of historic commercial



architecture. This district developed between 1860 and 1940 as a part of the large Fond du Lac downtown which stretches along Main Street.”.... “This district is significant for the architecture for the fine examples of popular nineteenth and early twentieth century styles on several individual buildings. They include the Italianate block at 17-21 South Main Street. This commercial block is elaborate and intact. It well represents the way many buildings in the nineteenth century downtowns looked, as the Italianate commercial style was the most popular style of the era.” (Section 8-Significance)

The 17-21 South Main Street building is eligible for inclusion to the list of local landmarks as a City of Fond du Lac designated historic site under criteria A and C of Section D of the Historic Preservation Ordinances. It truly “exemplifies and reflects the broad cultural, political, economic, or social history of the nation, state of community” and it “embodies the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period, style, method of construction, or of indigenous materials or craftsmanship.” In addition, this exceptional building would be a strong addition to a potential historic district.

Prepared by: Jeanne Klebar  
Historic Preservation Commission  
February 10, 1998

Reference Source:

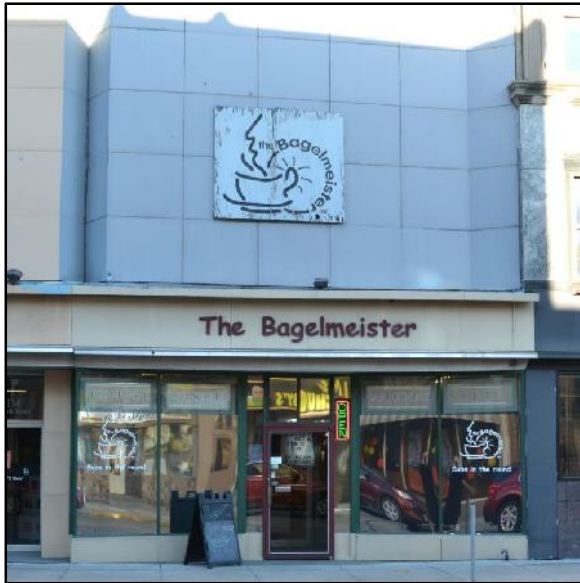
- City of Fond du Lac—Intensive Survey Report  
Architectural and Historic Resource Survey  
Carol Lohry Cartwright, Principal Investigator, 1991-1992  
Prepared for the City of Fond du Lac, WI October, 1992



## 110 SOUTH MAIN STREET



Located in the South Main Street Historic District, the subject property was built in approximately 1868 as part of the original development of Main Street as Fond du Lac's commercial center. Records from the era indicate John Cole, a dentist, as an early, if not the original, occupant. Later changes in the late nineteenth century included various retail businesses on the street level with



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

medical/dental offices on the second floor. Most notably, these included a hardware store operated by George Dana around the turn of the century. The 1920s witnessed a milliner's shop on the second floor and an art needle workshop on the lower level.

Originally, the two-story property was built with elements of the Italianate style, popular in Wisconsin from 1850-1880. The most notable architectural features include elongated, arch-topped windows with decorative bracketing/cornice detailing set in a predominately flat, brick upper façade.

Currently, these features are hidden by enameled steel panels attached to the upper façade. However, the current owner, Michael Damm, owner-operator of the Bagelmeister restaurant/bakery has plans to remove the panels and restore the features described above.

110 South Main Street is eligible for designation as a local historic site based on its contributing importance to the commercial history of Fond du Lac as noted in Section 11.16 D.1 (a) of the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Prepared by: William Weinshrott and John Angeli  
Historic Preservation Commission  
April 7, 1999



## DOWNTOWN HISTORICAL DISTRICT



24 NORTH MAIN STREET



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*



## THE MARTIN HOUSE 745 MARTIN ROAD



The oldest known house still standing in the City of Fond du Lac is the John H. Martin House, located at 695 Martin Road. Martin, a farmer and stock buyer, came to Fond du Lac in 1846 and platted his farm under the name of Martin Oaks. Some of the huge oaks are yet to be seen on the property.

The house, built in the Greek Revival style, was constructed between 1848 and 1852. The addition of an ell to the south and the porch, which runs the entire length of the front (west) and north sides, are probably later additions. There has been extensive remodeling of the interior.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

Sometimes called the National Style, Greek Revival was the most popular style of American domestic architecture from about 1830 to 1850. It moved from the New England states, through the Old Northwest Territory, to the New Northwest Territory of Oregon and Washington. Washington has a high concentration of Greek Revival structures, a consequence of the time of settlement and the New England and New York residents who chose to move there.

The Greek Revival style persisted in the Northwest and Midwest until well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Many of the later buildings can be recognized by the vernacular simplifications of the corner columns which are square. The long porches, or verandas, also persisted.

Prepared by: Herman Bender  
Historic Preservation Commission  
May 16, 1990  
Meets Criteria A, B, and C



## THE WILLIAM AND ANNE McDERMOTT HOUSE 109 SOUTH PARK AVENUE



Rising from a coursed stone foundation, this two-and-one-half-story, transitional Queen Anne-Colonial Revival-style house is largely sheathed with clapboard, however, gabled peaks are covered with wooden shingles. The house is anchored by a three-story tower with a conical cap at its northwest corner; the first-floor windows feature an upper pane of leaded glass, while the uppermost level also includes decorative, diamond-shaped wooden trim. A large open porch wraps around the home's northeast corner and features simple wooden columns and a replacement metal railing; a porte cochere extends even further to the east. A second smaller porch, also with wooden column supports and replacement railings, is located along South Park Avenue.

Both the west and north gabled ends feature slightly flared eaves under which are modillion-like brackets. A Palladian-inspired window rests within the north-facing gable and also retains original diamond-shaped wooden trim. Based on a circa-1904 photo of the home, exterior alterations appear to be limited to the replacement of the original wooden railings and balustrades with the existing metal examples.

William McDermott purchased the east portion of the subject parcel in the late 1870s and built a house thereon. During 1899, he built the subject house and had the earlier house either demolished or moved. McDermott was born in Ireland in 1846 and immigrated to the United States with his family that same year. After residing first in Washington County, Wisconsin, the family then moved to the town of Byron, Fond du Lac County, in 1855. In 1867, McDermott moved to Fond du Lac and worked in the insurance business of L.M. Wyatt. Five years later, he started his own insurance, loan, and real estate firm, and by 1880, he is noted to have had fourteen such companies. In 1868, McDermott married Anne Duffie, and they had two children: James and George. William died in 1922; as of 1924, the



house is identified as vacant. By no later than 1928, the house is under the ownership of Edwin Galloway, the vice-president of Galloway-West Dairy Products. The property now serves as the Dobranoc Inn, a bed and breakfast.

No information was found to suggest eligibility under Criterion A: History. Regarding Criterion C: Architecture, the house is a very good and intact example of the transition between the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles. Although other such examples exist within the National Register-listed, East Division Street-Sheboygan Street Residential Historical District, the subject house compares favorably and is also recommended as potentially eligible. Finally, the home's original owner, William McDermott, was a notable local figure in real estate and further research regarding his accomplishments could offer additional potential eligibility under Criterion B: Significant Persons.





## THE MCGALLOWAY HOUSE 214 EAST DIVISION STREET



Constructed in 1931, the John and Mary McGalloway house is an outstanding example of Georgian Revival architecture and is associated with persons having a significant impact on local and state history.

John McGalloway was an attorney, and the couple lived in the home between 1932 and 1942. John Sr. had his law office in the Commercial National Bank Building in Fond du Lac. He graduated from the University of Chicago in 1915 with a PhD and JD. Mr. McGalloway served as a judge and from 1948-49 was President of the Wisconsin State Bar. In 1972, he was presented with a plaque for his 22 years of service on the Wisconsin State Board of Bar Commissioners. He was also listed on the Fond du Lac Knights of Columbus honor roll.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

The current building is a charming two-story Georgian Revival house with stucco exterior, corner quoins, a roof with returned eaves, and a frieze decorated with modillions. Several arched dormers project from the roof. The windows are six-over-six-light double-hung sashes decorated with pediment lintels and shutters. The main entrance is decorated by sidelights and an elliptically arched transom. Wooden pilasters and a thin wooden surround also decorate the entrance. A one-story sun room projects from the east wall. This house is an outstanding example of the Georgian Revival style, one of the best of its type in the City of Fond du Lac. The home is listed in the 1992 Intensive Survey Report prepared by Carol Cartwright as one of several outstanding properties in the proposed East Division Street Historic District.

Recommended for designation based on criteria 1(b) and (c) of Section 11.16 of the City's Historic Preservation Commission.

Prepared by: Sam Meyer  
Historic Preservation Commission  
July 8, 2008



## MERRILLE INSTITUTE 29 SOUTH MILITARY ROAD



Miss Matilda Merrille, a graduate of Syracuse University, came to Fond du Lac to teach in the high school when it was opened in 1859. From there, she went to Madison where she was the second woman to serve on the faculty of the University of Wisconsin. She returned to Fond du Lac in 1866 and opened a school of her own for the education of young ladies. In 1868, she went a step further and had a three-story building constructed at the corner of Union and Cherry—now Military Road and Harrison Place.

The new structure had accommodations for ninety scholars. The curriculum was the same as that offered by the local high school, with the addition of French and music. The institute was chartered by the state and was an unusually successful young ladies' seminary not depending for its support "upon furnishing food, lodgings, and courting rooms for young ladies. It occupied a large plat of ground in a pleasant portion of the city near to the depots and post office and was pronounced one of the most wholesome schools for young ladies to be found anywhere."<sup>1</sup>



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

The building stands today only slightly changed in its outward appearance, though it is now an apartment house. In 1973, the City designated it as one of its historical landmarks.

Prepared by: Robert Oberbeck  
Historic Preservation Commission  
May 16, 1990  
Meets Criteria A

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<sup>1</sup> The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place Names, Ruth Shaw Worthing, Copyright 1976



## THE OCTAGON HOUSE 276 LINDEN STREET



The structure, located at 276 Linden Street, is popularly known as the Octagon House. Originally, a private residence (and still owned privately), it was designed by Orson Fowler, architect, and built about 1856 by Issac Brown, a local builder and at one time, mayor of Fond du Lac. Original construction cost was about \$1,700,000. It was occupied by several different parties in various states of repair until the early 1970s. There is a claim through various investigations that the house was a station on the Underground Railroad.

It is octagonal in planform, 36' in diameter (total approximately 2,000 square feet), consisting of two-stories. The walls are of solid, poured concrete-like grout. (This same technique was used in the Milton House in Milton, Wisconsin. That structure, designed by the same Orson Fowler, is hexagonal.) The walls are 24" thick at the foundation, diminishing to 9-1/2" at the roof. The exterior of the main house was covered with lath and stucco about 25 years after completion. There is an area of the kitchen porch that is still the exposed, original grout. The house contains twelve rooms in their original layout, including four bedrooms, two kitchens, two bathrooms (yes, indoor plumbing in 1856), parlors, hiding spaces, and passageways.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

Ms. Marlene Hansen purchased the structure in 1975 when it was in danger of demolition for a state office building. She has since furnished it with period pieces and provides tours.

The building was placed on the National Historic Register in 1972.

*Photo Credit: Joellyn Dahlin*

Prepared by: Howard Floetner  
Historic Preservation Commission  
May 16, 1990  
Meets Criteria B and C

Reference Sources:

- History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place Names by Ruth Shaw Worthing
- Interview with Ms. Marlene Hansen, May 9, 1990

*"It was the home of the builder's son, Edwin A. Brown, until he entered the Civil War and where he was  
killed during the War of Antienname. The local GAR post was  
named in his honor. His widow, Ruth, was the daughter of Edward Pier, Fond du Lac's first settler."*

*--The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names, pages 73-74*

*By Ruth Shaw Worthing*



## THE RUEPING-BRENNER HOUSE 134 EAST DIVISION STREET



This two-story Italianate house has a later added gable roof. There are wide overhanging eaves supported by paired brackets attached to a frieze. Windows are tall and narrow, especially on the first story, and accented with thin surrounds. There are decorative bays projecting from the east façade. The main entrance has been remodeled in the colonial style with a shallow frontispiece of pilasters, transom, and arched pediment. This house is significant and potentially individually eligible for the National Register as a good and relatively intact example of the Italianate style. While some alterations have been made to the building, they have not been so significant as to detract from the fine features of the house such as the tall windows, bracketed frieze, and decorative bays—all elements of the Italianate style. An alteration removing a portion of the original porch took place after 1927 according to an undated photo of the original porch and its footprint in place on the 1927 Sanborn-Parris map.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

The house was built in 1865 by John Reinig, local hardware store owner. He also built the Reinig Block, a seven storefront building, located at what was then the northern edge of downtown. He then constructed an identical three storefront building just to the north.

The house was later purchased by George W. Lusk, who was president of the Merryman & Company Lumber Mill. Lumbering was the most successful industry in Fond du Lac during the mid-nineteenth century. It was the Lusk residence for 11 years. He was twice Mayor of Fond du Lac, in 1875 and 1876, while living in the house. Lusk then moved to what was 79 West Division Street, a residence no longer in existence.

In 1884, it became the house of Frederick and Margaret Rueping (not to be confused with Frederick and Lena Rueping who lived at 110 East Division). Both served as President of Fred Rueping Leather Company at different times. The home remained under Rueping ownership until 1933.

Arno and Irene Brenner purchased the home in 1933 and Irene remained in the home until 1997, when it was inherited by their granddaughter. Prior to the Brenner's ownership at 134 East Division, they lived

at 209 East Division (listed as the William E. Cole House). In an undated note, a written comment of Arno Brenner regarding the house was “Rueping changed the roof to make room for a clothesline.” Brenner worked for the Commercial National Bank.

This is a revised report of the residents of 134 East Division Street. It has been designated as architecturally significant in a previous Historic Preservation Commission hearing.

Recommended for designation as a local historic site based on items 11.16D.1(b) and (c) of the City’s Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Prepared by: Lisa Pauly, Commissioner  
Historic Preservation Commission  
November 11, 2009





## PIER CEMETERY 132 OLD PIONEER ROAD (COUNTY VV)



Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin

Located in Section 22 on a small family plot, the Pier Cemetery contains the natural remains of the first pioneer settlers of Fond du Lac, starting with the passing of Fanna (Kendall) Pier, wife of Col. Colwert Pier in 1838. It is also the burial grounds for Col. Pier, the first permanent white settler who helped build the Fond du Lac House in 1836.

This small cemetery also contains the remains of Kate (Hamilton) Pier who came to Wisconsin at the age of 8. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1888, becoming the second female lawyer in Wisconsin, and the first to serve as a Circuit Court Commissioner.

Recommended for approval based on Section 11.16D “1b” of the City’s Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Prepared by: William Weinshrott  
Historic Preservation Commission  
June 16, 2008

*“Fond du Lac village began when the Pier brothers came in 1836 to run the Fond du Lac House for the land company...two Pier brothers were offered land of their own if they would keep the house open for available purchasers.”*

*--The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names, page 35*

*By Ruth Shaw Worthing*



## THE PIERRON HOUSE 158 SHEBOYGAN STREET



*Photo Submitted by: Fond du Lac Historical Society*

This two-story, second empire style house is constructed of cream colored brick. There is a good possibility—because of color, construction, and age—that these bricks were made in Fond du Lac. The house has a tall mansard roof that is undecorated. The upper front windows of the house are sash windows, decorated with lintels. The two windows on the lower front are segmentally arched. The main entrance has an undecorated overhang with thin square posts and brackets.

The house was constructed in 1875 for John Pierron, a factory manager, between 1876 and 1893. It was the home of Clark S. Matteson, a retired attorney, during the same period. There is no indication that the occupants of this house are historically significant, and this house is not potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for its historical or cultural significance. This house, however, is a good local example of a simple variation of the second empire style, of which Fond du Lac has relatively few examples. Although it is not potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for its architecture, it does contribute to the overall architectural significance of the proposed Sheboygan Street Historic District.

Recommended for approval based on Section 11.16D “1C” of the City’s Historic Preservation Ordinance.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

Prepared by: Peter Sorensen  
Historic Preservation Commission  
July 11, 2008



## THE POSTILION 220 OLD PIONEER ROAD



This two-story Italianate house (main house) was built circa 1847. As you enter this estate, you pass two large, original, stone gateposts on each side of the driveway. Original metal rings were installed on the driveway side of each stone gatepost to either aid in closing access or to tie horses in the early years.

The main house features a low-pitched, hip roof with wide overhanging eaves. Windows are tall and narrow with two over two-light double hung sashes. They are decorated with fine architrave moldings. Large, single-frame wood storm windows cover the original interior windows. The original storm windows are two window panes over four window panes. The main entrance is a double door with solid, carved fruit decorative features and a simple arched overhang. There is a window transom over the front double doors. The house has many original windows and clapboard wood siding.

Early photos show that the simple overhang replaced an original front porch on the north façade of the home. The one-story front porch ran the full length of the front of the home, and the roof was supported by four decorative posts. A five-step stair allowed access to the front porch. Wood lattice enclosed the space between the ground and the porch. The roof of the one-story porch had a short rail and spindle feature along the top.

Original decorative corbels hung under the eaves. These corbels were similar in design to the two existing corbels that support the simple overhang above the front double doors. The corbels under the eaves, the front porch, and a decorative rail and spindle feature on the roof of the home have all been removed.

Marjorie (Schaeffer) Kinas lived in the home the first eighteen years of her life before moving to a house next door. Early photos and an oral history by Mrs. Kinas indicate there was an addition on the south side of the home that once had a kitchen and other living space. This addition has since been removed.

The property once had a chicken coop located near the current garage and a barn/milk house that was located where the two-story guest house now stands. The park-like setting is 2.414 acres with

large burr oak trees surrounding the main home. A small, one-story, chalet-style home was built circa 1979. The 1,143 square foot house has cedar siding, French and Dutch doors, and a blue, standing seam metal roof. The last building on this estate is a two-car garage with wood clapboard siding, wood



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

doors, and wood shingles and was built in the early 1900s.

Upon examination of various documents, it was determined that Dr. Mason C. Darling never lived in the main house, as many have thought. Early records indicate Dr. Darling bought the land from Jesse H. Leavenworth in 1840 for \$150. In 1847, Dr. Darling sold the property to his son, Keyes Darling, for \$500. Keyes sold the property to Ann M. Bowman of Monroe County, New York in 1850 for \$1,500.

Ann Bowman later became Ann Darling (Keyes' wife), and she sold the property to Edwin Galloway in 1885 for \$8,500. It is believed the main house was built sometime after 1847.

In 1949, Walter J. Schaefer (Marjorie Kinas' father) sold a portion of this 5.617 acre property (the home and 2.88 acres) to John H. and Liane Kuony (Madame Kuony). A 1980 magazine article on Liane Kuony titled "The Legendary Madame Kuony" (1) described Madame Kuony as a grande dame of genteel dining. Madame Kuony occupied the house from 1949 until her death in 2005. Madame Kuony had a professional chef's kitchen and walk-in cooler/freezer installed in the main house. Locally, the home and grounds are known as "The Postilion".

The well-traveled and famous Madame Kuony operated the Postilion School of Culinary Art and Interior Design for many years from the main house. Madame Kuony's Postilion was patronized by lovers of haute cuisine and leisure dining from coast to coast. Many chefs studied under Madame and her personality was described as "formidable, stern...opinionated, awesome...compassionate, gracious, charming, sensitive—a magnificent artist" (2). Madame Kuony's remains were scattered on the grounds of the estate.

This report was prepared with data from (but not limited to) the Fond du Lac Public Library, Fond du Lac County Abstract/Deed/Tax Rolls, an oral history by Gerald and Marjorie (Schaefer) Kinas, Sally Albertz (President, Fond du Lac Historical Society), Fond du Lac Reporter and the Wisconsin Historical Society.

(1) Milwaukee Magazine. June, 1980.

(2) Milwaukee Magazine. June, 1980

Recommended for approval based on Sections 11.16D.1 (b) and (c) of the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Prepared by: Sam Meyer  
Historic Preservation Commission  
August 31, 2009





## RETLAW THEATER 23 SOUTH MAIN STREET



*Photo Submitted by: Fond du Lac Historical Society*

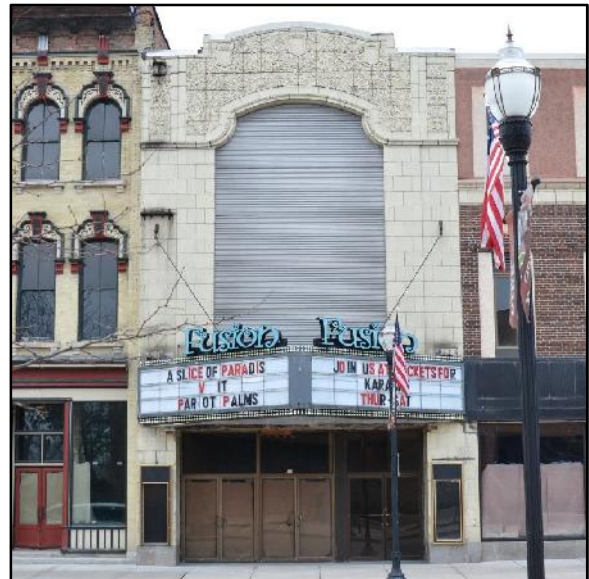
The Retlaw Theater is located at 23 South Main Street. The exterior architecture of the theater represents the classical influences of the early twentieth century. The face of the building is covered with terra cotta tiles that are elaborately carved with foliated scrolls at the cornice level. Unfortunately, the original large central opening to the building has been modified to be enclosed.

Immel Construction Company constructed the Retlaw Theater in the years 1924 to 1925. The theater opened on December 26, 1925. Christ

Schroeder and Sons Investment Company owned the Retlaw Theater and the Hotel Retlaw (now the Ramada Plaza Hotel).

The Retlaw Theater was unique in that it housed the largest one-floor theater in Wisconsin at the time, as well as a roof garden that was the only one of its kind in the state, outside of Milwaukee. The original interior was spacious, offering seats for 1,100 patrons. The ornate ceiling and walls are in original condition, having only been covered with a preservative. The theater has a 48-foot stage and orchestra pit with ornate columns.

The Retlaw Theater is eligible for inclusion to the list of designated historic buildings by the



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*



City of Fond du Lac per the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Section D, criteria “A” because it exemplifies broad cultural or social history of the community and criteria “C” because it embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style (commercial) inherent to a period of history.

Prepared by: William Turner  
Historic Preservation Commission  
March 6, 1988

Reference Sources:

- City of Fond du Lac—Intensive Survey Report, Architectural and Historical Resources Survey, Carol Lohry Cartwright, Principal Investigator, 1991-1992
- The Reporter, Sunday, April 27, 1997 Edition
- Theater Historical Society of America (photos)

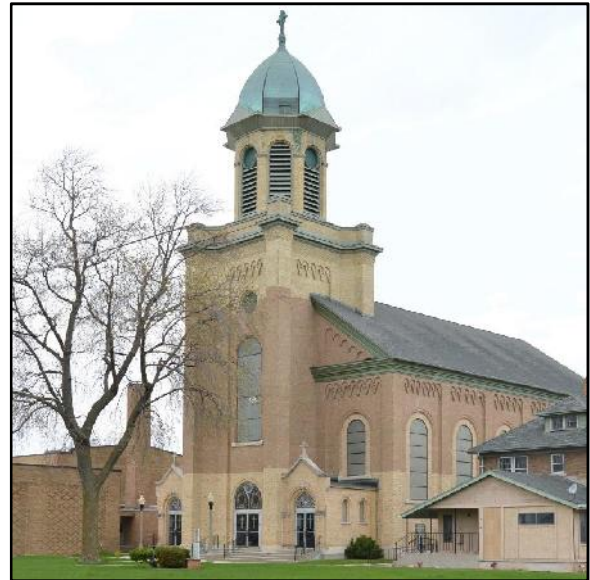


## ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH 37 EAST FOLLETT STREET



The formal organization of St. Patrick's Parish took place in 1855, and shortly thereafter, the building of a church began. The land for the new church was donated by John B. Macy. The foundation of the new church was dug by hand by members of the congregation and construction of the church was slow and tedious. In 1856, the entire east wall of the church collapsed, due to high winds and had to be redone. Construction was also slow because of costs.

"The financial difficulties of the time may explain why, during the recent sandblasting of the church, different colored bricks were uncovered. It is probable that the builders had to rely on different sources of materials according to their limited means, and that the brickyards of Sheboygan and Milwaukee were the suppliers of the materials."<sup>1</sup>



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

The walls of the church rest on stone slabs in concrete and the roof and ceiling are entirely supported by the outer walls. There are no inside pillars. The structure is a combination of Gothic, Romanesque, and Byzantine architecture. The wainscoting along the sides of the interior shows the German influence. The front altar is Gothic, and the cross above the tabernacle is Celtic. St. Patrick's was designed for the possibility that it might serve as a cathedral in the case that the Archdiocese might eventually be divided. In 1862, St. Patrick's was consecrated by Archbishop Henni. In 1911, the original tower was replaced by the one that stands today, and the two side entrances were added.

Prepared by: Tom Kitchen  
Historic Preservation Commission  
April 18, 1990  
Meets Criteria A and C

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<sup>1</sup> St. Patrick's Parish: A History, 1976

*"[The church] was organized on St. Patrick's Day in 1854 by the St. Patrick's Temperance Society. Within a year the membership grew from fifteen to two hundred and fifty 'and no one broke the pledge'.... The architect was William Heathcote who built many churches, but this was his last. The large bronze bell, installed and rung for the first time in 1884, was named Brian Boru for the Irish hero. A school building was added in 1938."*

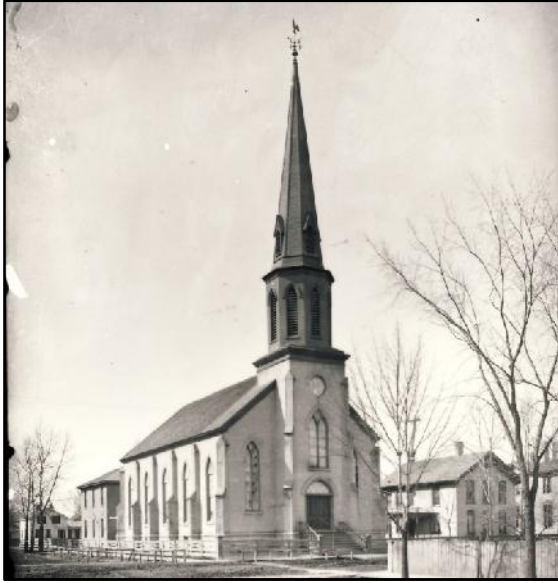
*--The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names, page 90*

*By Ruth Shaw Worthing*



## ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

54 EAST FIRST STREET



*Photo Submitted by: Fond du Lac Historical Society*

St. Peter's congregation was organized on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1858. In March of 1860, a church and property were purchased at the southeast corner of Marr and Second Streets. Additional property on the corner of First and Marr Streets was purchased in early 1869. Building of a new church was begun immediately and completed and dedicated on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 1869. The cost of construction of the church amounted to \$4,969.

Improvements added to the frame church in 1873 included brick veneering and the steeple. These had been left out in 1869 due to the high cost. An additional \$4,000 was spent for the veneer and steeple.

Over the period of about ten years, the oil lamps were replaced with gas and new pews were installed. In 1894, the Young People presented a gift of three church bells and the tower clock.

Major remodeling of the church was done in 1908. This included ceiling work, electrification, and new windows. Three months later, the spire was burned down during the great fire; the interior was also ruined. A new, shorter spire was built and the interior repaired and redecorated. Rededication was held in January, 1909. There have been no major exterior renovations or projects since then, except for the stainless steel cross which was placed atop the spire in 1957.

Prepared by: Herman Bender

Historic Preservation Commission  
April 18, 1990  
Meets Criteria A and C



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*



## THE STANCHFIELD RESIDENCE 506 EAST PIONEER ROAD



The Stanchfield Residence, located at 506 East Pioneer Road in Fond du Lac, is an example of Italianate form coming from the Tuscany, Italy area where stone was used, but the Midwesterners used wood when copying it. The roofs are hipped with wide cornices, supported by bracketing. There are elaborate windows and door moldings and flat-roofed porches.

The residence was first purchased by Dr. James Schuster and his wife, Joanne, in 1973 for \$35,000, and they also purchased the four acres around it. They used some of the surviving members of the Stanchfield family for information in restoring it.

The home was originally built by George King Stanchfield and became the residence of his son, Samuel, who became a major community figure after being elected a State Senator and serving 22



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

years as a County Supervisor. The 500-acre spread was called “The Maples”, although few of the trees survive today. The house once had 33 rooms. It took the Schusters five years to restore the dwelling. They were determined to maintain the authenticity. They used the Orlandini Studios of Milwaukee (who restored the Pabst Theater) and W.A. Getzel Woodwork Co., Milwaukee, to reproduce the woodwork.

Some modern changes were made: the old pine flooring was covered with tongue-and-groove hard wood in some areas and wall to wall carpeting was installed in others. Two additions were added on, but great care was taken to incorporate them into the home’s style. The dining room and other parts of the home were furnished with pieces reflecting the age in which it was built.

\*Dr. Schuster was very cooperative in assisting with the above article and supplied a copy of the Milwaukee Journal, Home Section of April 5, 1981, which carried the home as its centerpiece. He is very interested in the denoting of the residence as a historic landmark, because he plans another addition and would not want to be impeded in that endeavor. I explained that he would get a chance for input and to submit any such additional plans to the Commission.

This Councilman believes that the residence qualifies as a residence of a historic personage, representative of the community, and it also embodies the specificity of an architectural type.

Prepared by: Councilman John Dobyns  
Member of the Historic Preservation Commission  
Report Adopted May 16, 1990  
Meets Criteria A, B, and C

*"Many of Fond du Lac's prosperous landowners, the Galloways, Newtons, Stanchfields and Darlings, among others lived on [Pioneer Road] during the 1950's and 60's. They were proud of their homes, lavish in their hospitality, and enjoyed a life seldom found on a frontier."*

*--The History of Fond du Lac County as Told by its Place-Names, page 77*

*By Ruth Shaw Worthing*



## STATESON HOUSE 19 WOODS PLACE



This two-story house, located at 19 Woods Place, is a lovely part of the neighborhood and boasts some interesting architectural details.

Similar to the Gerhard House (272 East Division Street), the house features a stucco exterior. The Stateson House, built circa 1920, is pink stucco, making it unique. The color palette is reminiscent of the art deco influence of the time.

The house's entrance has an American Craftsman/Arts and Crafts feel, created by the rectangular side and transom windows surrounding the door. Rather unique is the smoothly carved roofline over the entryway. This same curve is repeated in the dormer windows. This curvature is somewhat reminiscent to colonial revival.

In contrast to the rectangular windows around the entryway, the south facing of the house features a small Palladian window which is a common architectural element of a Classical or Georgian style.

Based on the various styles, the house is probably best classified as Eclectic Style.

There is not a lot known about the house from an important historical perspective. However, the owners of the house have shown interest in gaining local status from the HPC. In addition, the house is adjacent to many of the homes in the proposed Sheboygan Street district, even though it is not individually noted in the Cartwright report.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*



Using the Gerhard House as precedent, taking into account the excellent condition of the property, as well as the unique style, I recommend that this house be designated as a historic property based on Section 11.16. D.1.c for its architectural significance.

Prepared by: Mary Mullen  
Historic Preservation Commission  
October 10, 2008



## THE STEP NOSKI HOUSE 25 HAZOTTE COURT



The Stepnoski House was the home of noted Fond du Lac architect, Sylvester Stepnoski (1910-1988). His local works included several local schools including St. Peter's School, St. Joseph's School, and St. Mary's School along with the Moose Lodge, now known as the City Center Building and the Public Library.

His unique 3,500 square foot home at 25 Hazotte Court was built in 1958 to commercial standards with 200 amps of electricity, metal-clad wiring, commercial standard plumbing, and Corbin



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

door knobs and locks. The exterior is red brick with the exception of wood on part of the second floor.

The design is L-shaped with flying gables on the street side and on the garage. The layout of the house creates a private courtyard and a patio garden, kept watered through an open skylight.

The interior features include Philippine mahogany built-ins, hardwood floors, louvered doors, pocket doors, accordion doors, exceptional storage features, and two fireplaces—one of which is made of Carrara marble. Subsequent owners have retained the original dimmer switches, the architect's pencil sharpeners, and a complete set of architectural plans for the house.

Recommended for approval based on Section 11.16 D 1, b, c, and d of the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Prepared by: William Weinshrott  
Historic Preservation Commission  
June 16, 2008



## STREET CAR WAITING STATION LAKESIDE PARK 250 NORTH MAIN STREET



The Street Car Waiting Station, which now sits on the corner of North Main Street and Frazier Drive in Lakeside Park, was restored in 1988-1989 as a project of the City of Fond du Lac Advisory Board, with City Council approval.

Research has failed to determine the architect for the building. However, we have been told that it is the last Street Car Waiting Station of its kind in the State of Wisconsin, and possibly in the nation.

**1899:** The City granted to the Fond du Lac Street Railway and Light Company a strip of land 50 x 200 feet west of the park to erect a pavilion (Street Car Waiting Station). (Daily Reporter, May 5, 1899)

**1900:** The Street Car Waiting Station was built, in what was then a marsh, where the current restrooms, west of North Main Street, now stand. The enclosed station then faced north.

**1909:** The Waiting Station was moved north to within 50 feet of the lake, because the tracks through the marsh which made the loop of Arndt Street and Doty Street were removed. The tracks then were laid straight out north in Lakeside Park.

**1923:** The Waiting Station was moved about 150 feet south to approximately where it stands now.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

**1931:** The Waiting Station ceased to be used for street cars. When bus transportation began, the bus did go to Lakeside Park and stopped at the Street Car Waiting Station.

**1936 – 1937 – 1938:** The Waiting Station was moved back to its former location near the lake. This was a temporary location to keep it safe while the marsh (which is now the children's playground) was filled in.

Prepared by: Letitia Notbohm, Chairman  
Committee for Restoration  
Advisory Park Board  
March 27, 1990  
Meets Criteria A

Prepared for: Howard Floeter  
Historic Preservation Commission



## THE TALLMADGE HOUSE 225 SHEBOYGAN STREET



*Photo Submitted by: Fond du Lac Historical Society*

family of Nathaniel P. Tallmadge, one of the early territorial governors of Wisconsin. Now commonly referred to as the Nancy Tallmadge House, it has been the subject of surveys undertaken to verify the possibility of designating it a historical site. The main entrance is decorated with an elliptically arched transom, sidelights, and a frontispiece of a gable supported by pilasters. An oculus window decorates the gabled peak.

NOTE: Taken from the Intensive Survey performed by Lempinen/Cartwright

The house, located at 225 Sheboygan Street, is a representative example of Italianate architecture. This style of architecture was popular during the period of 1856-1880. This example is rectangular and features supporting bracketing beneath wide eaves. The tall, narrow windows with arched and molded crowns typify this style of architecture. Although the exact date of construction is not known, we can state definitively that it was constructed between 1860 and 1867. The house was occupied by the daughter and







## THE TAYLOR HOUSE 89 MARY'S AVENUE



*Photo Submitted by: Fond du Lac Historical Society*

An ell containing eight rooms was removed in 1928 and a square addition was added later. Because of these changes, the house now faces Mary's Avenue, looking west. The property used to be known as Forest Home, and at one time, was a show place surrounded by many flowering plants. The interior has experienced numerous changes.

Many Fond du Lac city names can be attributed to the Taylor family. Taylor Park, across the street from the old Taylor home, is the most obvious. Forest Avenue may have been derived from the Forest Home name. Both Emma Street and Mary's Avenue were named after Jared Taylor's two daughters. His son, Azeo, sold the thirteen and a half acre parcel of land which became Taylor Park in 1903.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

Prepared by: Herman Bender  
Historic Preservation Commission  
May 16, 1990  
Meets Criteria A and B



## THE TAYLOR PARK INDIAN MOUNDS SOUTH HICKORY AND EMMA STREET

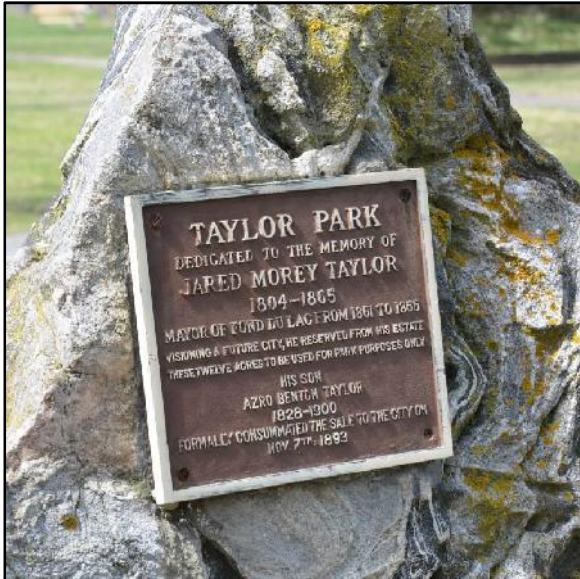


Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin

The oldest man-made structures in the City of Fond du Lac are the Taylor Park Indian Mounds, located in the northwest area of the park near the tennis courts. These mounds are listed in the Wisconsin Archeological Codification File as the Taylor Park Mounds (47-FD-260).

The mounds have been investigated at least three times in the past, with the most recent investigation led by Dr. Victoria Dirst and assisted by Herman Bender in November, 1985. In a letter received by the City Manager on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 1985, Dr. Dirst once again confirmed the prehistoric native origin of the mounds.

The group consists of three separate mounds, each constructed of topsoil fashioned into a conical shape. They measure approximately 32.8, 39.5, and 42.3 feet in diameter. The depth of topsoil to base from center ranges from 28-33 inches. The mounds are nearly all symmetrical in shape.

Mounds of this type were once very common in Wisconsin but rapidly disappeared due to settlement and agricultural activity. They were generally built in open prairie areas, an indication of the original vegetation before settlement. The Taylor Park Mounds group was constructed, for purposes not yet understood, in late Woodland times, approximately 800-1,000 years ago.

Recently, Robert Hruska, the retired staff archaeologist for the Oshkosh Public Museum, remarked that a slide photo of a late Woodland pipe may have a Taylor Park Mound history. The pipe was rumored to have been one of several artifacts removed from one of the mounds by a private individual in the 1920s, a time when Native American burials were not protected by law.

Prepared by: Herman Bender  
Member of the Historic Preservation Commission  
Report Adopted March 27, 1990  
Meets Criteria A and C

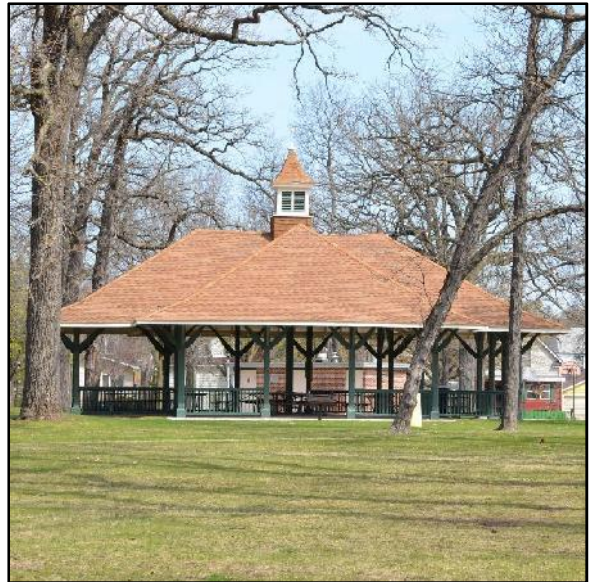




## THE TAYLOR PARK PAVILION SOUTH HICKORY AND EMMA STREET



The Taylor Park Pavilion is located in Taylor Park, one of the two original City of Fond du Lac municipal parks. Both parks were created at about the end of the nineteenth century. Improvements in both parks included almost identical pavilions or shelters, the one in Taylor Park being the only remaining or surviving example. The Taylor Park pavilion dates from the first decade of twentieth century, making it approximately 100 years old. The pavilions were originally square-cross in shape with gabled roofs and a central cupola. They were open to the weather with exposed uprights, railings, and an angled roof supports—features consistent with the late Victorian style. Photographs showing the original, unaltered structures in both parks (for the purpose of restoration) are readily available in a number of books.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

The Taylor Park Pavilion is eligible for inclusion to the list of designated historic landmarks by the City of Fond du Lac per the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Section D, criteria a, because it exemplifies broad cultural or social history of a community, and criteria c because it embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style inherent to a period of history.

Prepared by: Herman Bender  
Member of the Historic Preservation Commission  
January 14, 1998



## THE WAGNER HOUSE 236 NORTH PARK AVENUE



The single family residence at 236 North Park Avenue was built in about 1925 on a lot purchased by Joseph Wagner from Michael Wettstein in 1919. The bungalow style house was built from drawings that were bought from a Sears and Roebuck catalog, a fairly common practice in that period. We estimate there are only seven good examples of the bungalow style left in Fond du Lac. Joseph Wagner owned this house from 1925 but apparently used it as a rental property since he resided at 180 Marquette and operated a jewelry store on Main Street.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

The term “bungalow” is derived from the East Asian word “bangla” which in Bengal refers to a low house with porches surrounding it. In the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the British were building temporary rest houses called “dark bungalows” along main roads in India, and the first American bungalows had a vague Hindu look to them. From their inception in America, bungalows were thought of as small, modest dwellings with simple horizontal lines, wide projecting roofs, one or two large porches, and plain woodwork. They were usually built with ordinary wood siding, either horizontal or vertical, but sometimes had a stucco, or more rarely, a stone, log, or brick veneer. The property at 236 North Park Avenue typifies the bungalow style with a massive chimney, fireplace, and a living room carried across the front of the house. A second story was provided, but it was subdued visually to give the house a one-story look. Protruding brackets frequently were utilized as decorative features. The Wagner House contains most of the features associated with the bungalow style.

Prepared by: William J. Weinshrott, Chairman  
Historic Preservation Commission  
October 3, 2000

Reference Sources:

- Architectural & Historical Resource Survey by Carol Lohry Cartwright
- Sears & Roebuck Catalog Research, 1920
- Self-inspection of house for comparison, William Weinshrott

*“Although the property was purchased by Joseph and Ida Wagner in 1919, the house was not built until some point between 1921 and 1924. Based on its appearance, it is believed to be the product of Sears Roebuck & Company or another home selling company of that era. Indeed the house resembles that of ‘The Bedford’, a design of the Sears Roebuck & Company; however, it is not an identical match and no other identical match has been found to date.”*

*--Excerpt from the Wisconsin Historical Society Website: [wisconsinhistory.org](http://wisconsinhistory.org)*



## THE WALLACE OCTAGON HOUSE 171 FOREST AVENUE



The Wallace Octagon House is a two-story partial octagon house with Italianate architectural style details. It was built between 1856 and 1860. The house features a hip roof and frieze with dentils. It has wide eaves with paired brackets. A square tower projects from the main entrance. The windows are generally average sized sashes. The house is in good condition and covered with recent vinyl siding. It also features a turn of the century veranda with round post and a plain balustrade. The house has “added wings which destroy the customary simple lines of octagon architecture popular in the middle of the nineteenth century.”<sup>1</sup> The house is currently in private ownership and has been used for years as a four-unit apartment building.

The house has been known as the Wallace Octagon House and was probably occupied by Norman B. and Mary J. Wallace. The Wallaces were jewelers who had a shop at 484 Main Street. In 1865-66, they resided at 54 Forest Avenue. As the street numbering system was revised in 1904, the present address is 171 Forest Avenue. The Wallaces are listed in the 1865-66 Fond du Lac City Directory. The house has also been associated with Casper and Leo Jagdfeld and Charles McCullough.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

The house is architecturally significant and is potentially individually eligible for the National Register. The unusual nature of the plan with the octagon and Italianate details makes the house of special interest to the City.

“The use of the octagonal plan in building was popularized through the writings and lectures of noted phrenologist Orson Squire Fowler during the mid-nineteenth century. Fowler, who had an abiding interest in architecture, advocated the octagon as the most beautiful and functional of building

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<sup>1</sup> The History of Fond du Lac County, as Told by its Place Names, Ruth Shaw Worthing, 1976

forms because it so closely mirrored the spherical shapes of nature. He theorized that an eight-sided house would be cheaper to build because its exterior walls would enclose more space than a rectangle, and it would be easier to heat in the winter and (with a cupola on top) easier to vent in the summer.”<sup>2</sup>

The style was popular from 1845-1860. “The greatest number of surviving Octagons may be found in New York, Massachusetts, and Wisconsin.” <sup>2</sup>

Prepared by: Kathryn Kugler  
Historic Preservation Commission  
October 11, 2000

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<sup>2</sup> City of Fond du Lac Intensive Survey Report, Architectural and Historical Resources Survey, pp 2-7, Carol Lohry Cartwright, 1992



## CITY WATER WORKS BUILDING 40 WEST REES STREET



The City Water Works Building was constructed in 1885 by a private company who developed the early water works in Fond du Lac. The company's original name was the Fond du Lac Water Company, and the owners were T.F. Flagger, H.H. Flagger, G.A. Gaskill, and P.H. Linnenn. The first superintendent was Frank Barnes. After the turn of the century, the City purchased the company and incorporated it into the City as the Water Utility, to which this building is used today.

The building is one and a half stories in height and has a steeply pitched intersecting gable roof. The brick exterior is decorated at the cornice level with brick corbelling. Round arched, tripartite windows punctuate the gable ends. Other openings are round arches that are almost entirely enclosed. Even though the openings have been enclosed, they are still evident and could be restored. The building, in continuous use since its construction, is in reasonably well-maintained condition and maintains much of its original architectural integrity.

The City Water Works could be designated as a local historical site based on criteria 1c found in Section 11.16D of the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance. Criteria 1c states that a historic designation may be placed on any structures which "embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period, style, method of construction, or



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

of indigenous materials or craftsmanship." The City Water Works is one of few examples of a late 19<sup>th</sup> century utility buildings that has not been razed, replaced, or significantly converted to another use. It is a good example of how the Romanesque Revival style was used on a simple utilitarian building. The Water Works is also the oldest standing government structure in the City of Fond du Lac and one of



the few public buildings still in existence from this period. The surrounding area around the building would also benefit from its designation as a historic site.

For these reasons, I recommend the City Water Works on 40 West Rees Street be designated a local historic property under the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Prepared by: Ronald S. Langacker  
Member of the Historic Preservation Commission  
October 10, 2003



## WEST HOUSE 286 EAST DIVISION STREET



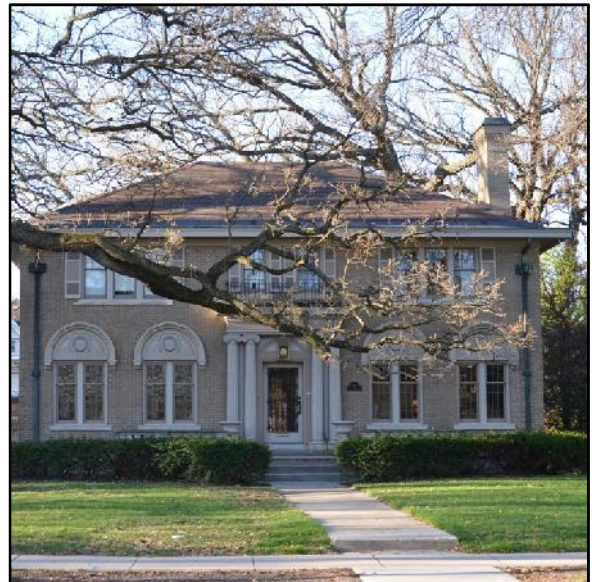
This two-story Mediterranean Revival style house is constructed of brick and features a hipped roof. The main entrance sits under a round arch reveal and is accented with a heavy stone frontspiece featuring a fine entablature with a balconet and four plain columns with Ionic capitals. A small piazza with a classical stone balustrade adds elegance and formality to the main entrance. Large stone reveals over the first floor and six-over-twelve light double-hung windows decorate the front of the façade.

The house was built in 1925 by Maurice and Amanda West and was their home until 1942. Maurice West was an executive of the Galloway-West Company, a dairy products processing company that was one of Fond du Lac's most important and successful businesses in the early twentieth century.

This well preserved house is a good example of the Mediterranean Revival style and is potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The home is distinctive to the East Division Street area of Fond du Lac, and it is recommended that it be designated as a local historic site in Fond du Lac under the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Recommended for approval based on Section 11.16 D "1b" and "c" of the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Prepared by: Shawn Kelly  
Historic Preservation Commission  
June 16, 2008



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

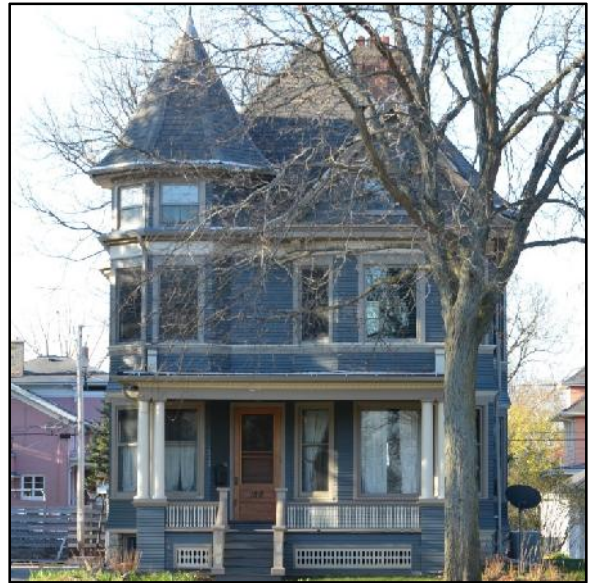


## WILD HOUSE 180 EAST DIVISION STREET



Constructed in 1896 for Benjamin Wild Jr., this house is an outstanding example of the Queen Anne style of architecture, characterized by the variety of surface textures, roofs, and wall projections. The steep roofs with the front facing gable, as well as the round turret, all are classic Queen Anne. Although the front veranda does not wrap around the house as with many Queen Anne's, it is still part of the style's characteristics.

The Wild house is also associated with persons having a significant impact on local history. The Wild Family established one of the first bakeries in Fond du Lac. Their first storefront was opened in 1860 at the corner of First and Main Streets under the name Excelsior Bakery. In 1867, the original store became too small, and a new building was constructed on First Street, just east of Marr. Benjamin Wild Sr. is credited with sinking the first deep well in the City, so that the water level for the bakery would not be compromised by surface run-off. The bakery business continued to expand, and the Wild family advertised it as the largest bakery in the state. In 1883, the buildings were partially destroyed by fire, but the building was rebuilt and expanded. In 1896, the bakery became the American Biscuit Company, but by 1906, it was known as the Boex Holman Factory, a candy manufacturer. The company then was renamed "The Bonita" after Bonita Boex, wife of the owner, and became nationally known in the 1920s for its candy bars. The location is now a city parking lot.



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

The residence is included in the East Division Street Historic District, listed in the Cartwright Report, pages 122-126, as an area of many examples of fine architecture. The residence is well-maintained and helps to contribute to the overall architecture of the residential neighborhood.

Recommended for approval based on criteria (b) and (c) of 11.16 D.1 of the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Prepared by: Tracy Reinhardt  
Historic Preservation Commission  
April 8, 2009

*“Benjamin Wild was a partner in the O’Brien Dry Goods store, one of the largest dry good businesses in downtown Fond du Lac. City Directories indicate that after Mabel Wild’s brief residency in the house it became the Fond du Lac Women’s Club House.”*

*--Excerpt from the Wisconsin Historical Society Website: [wisconsinhistory.org](http://wisconsinhistory.org)*



## THE WILLIAMS HOUSE 204 SHEBOYGAN STREET



204 Sheboygan Street was built in 1867 in the Carpenter Gothic style of architecture. Carpenter Gothic was popular in the United States in the mid-1800s. It is said that this style was popular, because it could be used to make homes accessible to all classes. The degree of ornamentation might be based on how wealthy the original builder of the home was.

This home has original wooden clapboard siding with many of its original wooden windows. The one and a half story residential structure has arch top windows on the second story and the original brick chimney. The home sits on its original stone foundation.

The title work indicates the land the home sits on was originally deeded by the United States of America to the Chief (no name listed) of the Winnebago Indians in the Treaty of 1831. The Winnebago Chief subdivided the land “to such an extent that title of the whole of said Section became so involved that a suit...commenced to straighten out the title...said Section was sold by the Sheriff of Fond du Lac County under order of said Court of Chancery....”



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*

Pierre Paquette received the land by the United States of America (along with other tracts) under the Winnebago Treaty of September 15, 1832. He acted as interpreter at council meetings of the Indians with the United States, and in 1832, following the Black Hawk War, negotiated the treaty at Rock Island, Illinois for the Winnebago Indians. The tribe had no money to pay for his services, so the Winnebagos had a clause inserted in the 1832 treaty by which Pierre and his children would receive five sections of land from that the tribe was ceding. This home sits on one of those sections.

Paquette worked for the American Fur Company. He was an interpreter for the army, Indians, traders, Catholic missionary Father Mazzuchelli, and political leaders of the state.

No information could be found on the first owners of the home at 204 Sheboygan Street (Charles and Sarah Williams). History of subsequent owners was unremarkable.

Recommended for approval based on Section 11.16D “1c” of the City’s Historic Preservation Ordinance due to its architectural significance.

Prepared by: Sam Meyer  
Historic Preservation Commission  
December 19, 2008





## WOOLWORTH BUILDING 74 SOUTH MAIN STREET



The building located at the 74 South Main Street address is a large commercial vernacular building of red brick, adjacent to an adjoining cream colored brick building to the immediate south. Both buildings, acting as one unit, are three stories in height with simple concrete and terra cotta cornices and window ledge details. The adjoining buildings probably date from the late nineteenth century. The property is known locally as the Woolworth Building, as it housed the Woolworth dime store for decades.

The building is eligible for inclusion to the list of local landmarks as a City of Fond du Lac designated historic site under criteria “A” of Section D of the Historic Preservation Ordinance in that it does “exemplify or reflect the broad cultural, political, economic or social history of the nation, state or community....” It is also a contributing building in a National Register Historic District.



Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin

Prepared by: Herman Bender  
Historic Preservation Commission  
January 14, 1998

*“This building was probably constructed for the store operated by J.C. Whittelsey and John Sharpe who began their business in 1861. By 1880, Whittelsey began operating a dry goods business alone at this location. He operated here until 1907. The building was then combined with its neighbor to the south to make up the large Woolworth’s Dime Store.”*

*—Excerpt from the Wisconsin Historical Society Website: [wisconsinhistory.org](http://wisconsinhistory.org)*



## LINDEN STREET HISTORICAL DISTRICT



253 LINDEN STREET

261 LINDEN STREET

271 LINDEN STREET

274 LINDEN STREET

277 LINDEN STREET

281 LINDEN STREET

284 LINDEN STREET

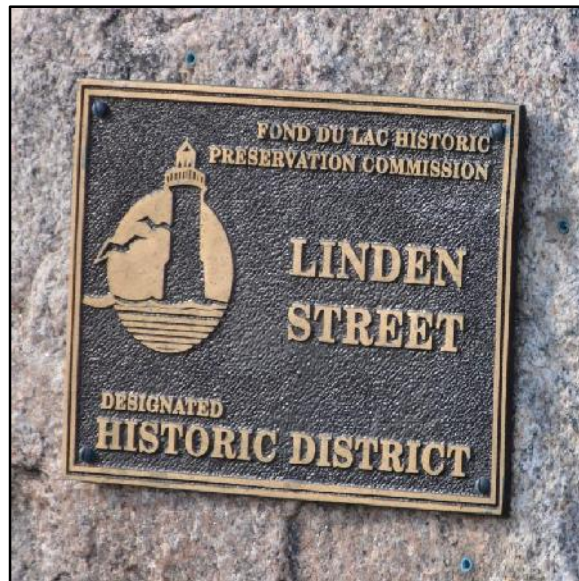
285 LINDEN STREET

288 - 290 LINDEN STREET

296 - 298 LINDEN STREET

300 LINDEN STREET

304 LINDEN STREET



*Photo by: Joellyn Dahlin*