

City of Madison Landmarks Commission  
 LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (1)

**I. Name of Building or Site**

(1) Common

Municipal Stadium  
 Municipal Stadium

(2) Historic (if applicable)

Breese Stevens Field  
 Breese Stevens Field

**II. Location**

(1) Street Address

917 E. Mifflin Street

(2) Ward (available @ City Clerk)

**III. Classification**

(1) Type of Property (building, monument, park, etc.)

Park

(2) Zoning District

(3) Present Use

Soccer Field

**IV. Current Owner of Property (available at City Assessor's office)**

(1) Name(s)

City of Madison Parks

(2) Street Address

210 Monona Ave. Madison, 53700

(3) Telephone Number

**V. Legal Description (available at City Assessor's office)**

(1) Parcel Number

(2) Legal Description

SW 1/2 lot; Blk 160; Orig. Plots

**VI. Condition of Property**

(1) Physical Condition (excellent, good, fair, deteriorated, ruins)

Good

(2) Altered or Unaltered?

Unaltered  
 Unaltered

(3) Moved or Original Site?

Original Site

(4) Wall Construction

Stone

(5) On a separate sheet of paper, describe the present and original physical construction and appearance (limit 500 words).

City of Madison Landmarks Commission  
LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (2)

VI.(5) Describe Present and Original Physical Construction and Appearance:

The Breese Stevens Field Building still stands apart from the homes and buildings around but does not yet totally stand out from all others. It carries its own uniqueness. The shape is basically rectangular with a few cut edges. The wall at the grandstand area is tall and at the other end is about half as its height. There isn't much of a roof for most of it. It is mostly open. You do have a simple shed roof over the seating on part of the grandstand area. The opening of the doors and windows are very distinctive for its arched shape. With a Terra Cotta work as an edging. Windows that are boarded up have a distinctive look about them. There is not a lot of projection other than a square like pilaster every so many feet. The stone used has a unique color and texture to it also. The stone design around the windows and doors and the foundation contribute to its character of history. The lights and the vines that grow along the wall adds the setting of age to the structure and its uniqueness. From the inside the attempts of repair by painting has been an attempt in preserving the stone has begun to chip away from the use of soccer. The character has then been taken away little by little. The building is still slowly deteriorating and needs attention.

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LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (3)

VII. Significance

(1) Original Owner Sidney Breese	(2) Original Use Municipal Stadium
(3) Architect or Builder Claude and Stark / CWA	(4) Architectural Style Terra Cotta work (element)
(5) Date of Construction 1925	(6) Indigenous Materials Used Quarry Stone (Hoyt Park)

(7) On a separate sheet of paper, describe the significance of the nominated property and its conformance to the designation criteria of the Landmarks Commission Ordinance (33.01), limit of 500 words.

VIII. List of Bibliographical References Used

1. "Madison, Past and Present", Wisconsin State Journal; 977.58 W75.
2. "Intensive Survey Form", Historic Preservation Division.
3. "City of Madison Inter Departmental Correspondence"
4. "A Part of History will die when Breese Stevens falls", State Journal June 9, 1981; Section 2.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

IX. Form Prepared By: Tina Killian

(1) Name and Title Breese Stevens Field

(2) Organization Represented (if any)  
none

MATC - HISTORIC PRES. CLASS

(3) Address  
219 Church St, Brooklyn, WI

(4) Telephone Number  
455-3523

(5) Date Nomination Form Was Prepared  
Oct. 16, 1990

Breese Stevens Field should be designated as a Historic Landmark. The reason is that it is a part of Madisons past and can continue to be a present memory. Breese Stevens Field was used for many different sports. That may be the reason way it was also reffered as a municipal stadium. The land was originally owned by a man named Sidney Breese. In the 1850's Breese Stevens, the nephew of Sidney Breese came into possession of the land that belonged to Sidney Breese. In 1923 the City then purchased the land and in 1925 they built the stone grandstand. The construction of the grandstand was done by the CWA (Civial Works Admidistration). The ~~brick~~<sup>stone</sup> itself has a significance of its own right. This stone originally came from the quarry which is now known as Hoyt Park.

The Press Box which is still standing today was constructed in 1939.

Up until the 1960's Breese Stevens Field was known as to be the first field <sup>in madison</sup> to have lights.

Football and Track events and Baseball, all used to be played there with many other sports and teams. Currently with soccer being played there the field still stands.

This field will continually need maintenance in order not to destroy the past to which this stadium holds.

There is no reason to modify it but just to restore it to its past. There would be no way to duplicate the grandstand . The reason for this is for its unique architecture which hold true in the terra cotta work that is displayed on the windows and doors.

In reality this building holds too many memories for madison. When walking the steps of the grandstand you can actually sence a part of its past to which holds the peoples spirits of Madison.