

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

I. Name of Building or Site

(1) Common  
Monona Golf Course Clubhouse

(2) Historic (if applicable)  
Nathaniel W. Dean House

II. Location

(1) Street Address  
4718 Monona Drive

(2) Ward (available @ City Clerk)  
22

III. Classification

(1) Type of Property (building, monument, park, etc.)  
Building, former single family residence

(2) Zoning District  
Conservancy

(3) Present Use  
Golf Course Clubhouse

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

(1) Name(s)  
City of Madison

(2) Street Address  
4718 Monona Drive

(3) Telephone Number

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

(1) Parcel Number

(2) Legal Description NW corner of SW  
Quarter of Sec.16 Blooming Grove Township  
Seven (7) North, Range Ten (10) East of the  
Fourth Principal Meridian of Dane County, Wis.

VI. Condition of Property

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

(2) Altered or Unaltered?  
Altered - Front Porch Removed, Back and  
Side Porches Added

(3) Moved or Original Site?  
Original site

(4) Wall Construction  
Interior lath and plaster over 2 x 6 studding and brick exterior

(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 Nathaniel W. Deán house is a late 1850's two-story, flat-roofed, brick farm house. The Greek Revival wooden cornice work and dentils are in very good condition.

The straight brick walls of this almost square house among the walnut, elm and conifer trees give a feeling of solidity and durability unlike that of the wooden ranch homes in the area.

The brick surfaces of the walls are quite as true as the day they were built, except for the brick around the lintel over the front door, and the brick over one lintel on the north side, both of which could be repaired.

The high, narrow casings (which show no evidence of dry-rot) contain, in most cases, the original window panes, made with ripply, imperfect glass.

The exterior walls are two layers of studs with sheathing with the brick fastened to the outer layer. The inner of these exterior walls is of full 2 x 6 studding at 16" c/c. The outer layer has the brick veneer attached and anchored to it.

The temperature extremes (because of the lack of winter heating the past few decades) have caused the interior plaster and ceilings to be in bad shape, but the trim around the doors and windows is in excellent condition.

The focal point of the house is its winding wooden staircase, leading from the front entrance to the second floor. The original, curving balustrade has been replaced with a temporary, unfinished railing.

The front door is no longer in use and partially covered with bushes.

The first floor presently serves as the clubhouse for the Monona Golf course. This change has necessitated putting in a concrete floor, showers, toilet facilities and pro shop. This also caused removal of the rear stairs to the 2nd floor.

The back and side porches also were added to facilitate golf course use. The front porch no longer exists, but flashing under the second floor windows verifies its one-time existence.

The windows above the rear porch are boarded up and the ceiling of the rear porch leaks.

The condition of the basement walls and supporting brick piers is sound. Additional supporting beams and posts have been added to facilitate the clubhouse changes previously noted.

Some of these posts need attention because of moisture in the basement, which probably can be corrected by proper down-spouting.

A series of pictures and two letters, referring to the present physical condition of the house, are attached as appendices. One letter is from architect-engineer Carl H. Gausewitz to Paul Romano, city of Madison building inspector. The other is from Willard W. Warzyn of Warzyn Engineering and Service Company/consulting Engineers.

Note: Also see City of Madison Inter-Departmental Correspondence

To: Forrest Bradley, Parks Supt. From: R.W. Friess, Building Inspections Supt. Subject: An inspection of the Monona Golf Club House made

by Paul Romano Building Inspector on June 23, 1972.(not attached)

City of Madison Landmarks Commission  
LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (3)

VII. Significance

(1) Original Owner Nathaniel W. Dean	(2) Original Use Farm House
(3) Architect or Builder	(4) Architectural Style Greek Revival
(5) Date of Construction Judged to be late 1850's	(6) Indigenous Materials Used Brick, plank floors, wood trim
(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.	
2.	
3.	See Separate Sheet
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	

IX. Form Prepared By:

(1) Name and Title Robert A. Bean President, Marjorie Elliott Vice President, Georgia Schara, and Pat Keefe, directors of the Historic Blooming Grove Historical Society, Inc.	
(2) Organization Represented (if any) Historic Blooming Grove Historical Society, Inc.	
(3) Address President's address: 404 Tompkins Dr., Madison 53716	(4) Telephone Number President's phone number 222-5783
(5) Date Nomination Form Was Prepared August 11, 1972	

City of Madison Landmarks Commission  
LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (4)

VII.(7) Significance of Nominated Property and Conformance to Designation Criteria:

The Nathaniel W. Dean house is the only one of the more than 100-year-old farm residences left in the Monona and Southeast Madison area. Its significance is in its geographical position at the cross roads of governmental, social and commercial activity in the community of historic Blooming Grove.

Dean was a prominent realtor and merchant of early Madison. He came to the area in 1842 and operated a dry goods store until 1857. Meanwhile he is known to have bought land in Blooming Grove as early as 1846. After 1857, Dean concentrated on his real estate interests, which amounted to more than 500 acres in the township alone. This included University of Wisconsin land in section 16, on which he built this farm house. By 1880, his farm was one of the three big dairy farms in the township.

He contributed the land across the corner for the Blooming Grove town hall, which was erected in 1871. He also contributed land for the Commonwealth Cemetery (presently known in 1972 as the Blooming Grove Cemetery) in the Southeast corner of the Southwest quarter of Section 16 of the township.

Nathaniel Dean truly symbolized Blooming Grove's close economic and social ties with the city that bordered on it, and which was later to invade it. He was the largest stockholder in the Park Hotel, and builder of business blocks in the early years of the capital city. Dean also was a Regent of the University of Wisconsin, becoming its treasurer in 1858, and a state assemblyman from Dane County. Thus Dean was a prominent link between frontier farming and urban development.

The Dean house symbolizes this link and ties together agrarian activity and urban enterprising. The house could become a focus for the study of local history. Possibly Dean and others of rural Blooming Grove didn't compare to Doty and LaFollette, but the contributions of many ordinary people contributed to the community Madison is today. Dean was a leader among those early pioneers whose admirable efforts built Dane County.

Nathaniel W. Dean House

Landmark Nomination

VIII. List of Bibliographical References Used

1. Conzen, Michael P. Frontier Farming In An Urban Shadow The Influence of Madison's Proximity on the Agricultural Development of Blooming Grove, Wisconsin, the State Historical Society of Wisconsin for the Department of History, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis. 1971, Worzalla Publishing Co. Stevens Point, Wisconsin p. 50-51
2. History of Dane County, Chicago, Western Historical Co., 1880, pages 557-558 and page 929
3. Baas, Alexius, The Capital Times column All Around the Town - "Old Dean Home Is Golf Club Now - Early Grove History" October 3, 1953 page 18.
4. The Community Herald 3 issues June 29, 1972, July 20, 1972 and August 3, 1972. page 1 (and Diggin's from the past by Georgia Schara and Patrick Keefe a regular column by members of the Historic Blooming Grove Historical Society p. 4 of the June 29, 1972 issue.)
5. Warzyn, Willard W. Letter July 25, 1972 and preliminary inspection of Dean House July 23, 1972 to Marjorie Elliott for the Historic Blooming Grove Historical Society, Inc.
6. Gausewitz, Carl H. Letter to Mr. Paul Romano, City of Madison Building Inspector August 4, 1972
7. Friess, R.W. Building Inspector Supt. Inter-Departmental Correspondence To Forrest Bradley Parks Supt. "An Inspection of the Monona Golf Course Club House made by Paul Romano Building Inspector, City of Madison, June 23, 1972 .