



Sandstone and Buffalo Robes

Madison's historic buildings

Second Edition

THE CITY OF MADISON LANDMARKS COMMISSION

On June 24, 1970, the City of Madison Common Council adopted Section 33.01 of the Madison General Ordinances creating the City of Madison Landmarks Commission. The creation of the Commission was the direct result of efforts by many individuals and groups. Public attention was focused on landmark buildings by the unfortunate demolition of Mapleside (an historic residence on Madison's west side), the publication of "Sandstone and Buffalo Robes, A Walking Tour Guide to Madison's Historic Downtown Buildings" and Taychopera, a citizen's organization interested in historic buildings.

The Landmarks Commission is composed of seven persons including one alderman, one architect, one real estate broker, one historian and three citizens. The commission may designate buildings or sites which:

1. Exemplify or reflect the broad cultural, political, economic or social history of the nation, state or community; or,
2. Are identified with historic personages or with important events in national, state or local history; or,
3. Embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen inherently valuable for a study of a period, style, method of construction, indigenous materials or craftsmanship; or,
4. Are representative of the notable work of a master builder, designer or architect whose individual genius influenced his age."

Designation of a building or site as a landmark means that all alterations or remodeling to the exterior of the building must be approved by the Landmarks Commission. No designated landmark may be demolished without written approval of the commission. The ordinance provides a 12 month period for negotiation between the owner and the commission to attempt to preserve the building. If preservation cannot be accomplished in that 12 month period, the demolition permit may be issued without the commission's approval.

The Landmarks Commission may designate a building or site only after receiving a nomination form containing all available information about the building or site, notifying the owner of the property as well as adjacent owners, and holding a public hearing for all interested parties. The ordinance allows designations to be made for a six month period followed by an eighteen-month period in which no designations may be made. The second six-month designation period commences in October, 1973.

The Landmarks Commission has a very valuable asset in its citizens advisory committee. This committee enables the commission to broaden its scope and investigate such areas as historic districts, creation of a city historical society, preservation of historic building materials, historic planning and state legislation, in addition to its primary task of nomination and designation of historic buildings and sites.

The buildings given special recognition in this booklet have been designated as City of Madison Landmarks. In addition, buildings which are on the National Register of Historic Places or which are of particular significance locally have been included. The walking tour includes many of these buildings as well as other old buildings, sites and areas of general interest. The Landmarks Commission invites you to investigate Madison's history and requests your assistance and support in the ongoing task of preserving this heritage.

Many of the buildings included in this booklet are private residences. In viewing them, please respect the rights of the owners and occupants.

THE BIRTH OF A CITY

Madison was created out of whole cloth — or perhaps it would be better to say a swampy wilderness — during the first Wisconsin ter-

ritorial legislative session in 1836. Largely due to the not entirely selfless efforts of James Duane Doty, a federal judge who later became governor, the isthmus was selected as the new state's capital.

Judge Doty first saw the isthmus in May, 1829, when he and two others were the first white men to travel overland from Green Bay to Prairie du Chien. He recognized potential profit in the "Four Lakes Region," as it was then called, and with Governor Stevens T. Mason of Michigan he bought 1,200 acres of isthmus land for \$1,500.

Madison was one of several prospective cities offered to the 1836 legislature for selection as the future capital. Besides Madison, there was Fond du Lac, Belmont and Cassville, as well as many other towns offered with less success. But none could match Judge Doty or his Four Lakes Region. It is said that as he extolled the virtues of his pet site to that first legislature, Judge Doty passed out buffalo robes and 23 titles to choice corner lots in his "paper town" as an added inducement.

Duly chosen the future capitol, the isthmus was first settled by a white family in April, 1837, when Eben and Rosaline Peck built three interconnected log cabins in the middle of what is now South Butler Street. Today, a plaque hangs on the rear of the Capitol Hotel in the 100 block of South Butler Street to commemorate that first homesite. Actually, John Catlin had put up a log house on the site of Manchester's before the Pecks, but the Catlin homestead was destroyed by fire before it could be occupied, and the Peck house was the first to be lived in. The Peck's Inn housed 36 construction workers who arrived in June, 1837, to begin building the first Capitol in Madison.

In 1846 Madison, with a population of 626, became an incorporated village. When, in 1848, Wisconsin became the thirtieth state, the Capital City was selected as the site for a new state university, now the University of Wisconsin. The first university building, now called North Hall, was built on Bascom Hill two years later, and still stands today.

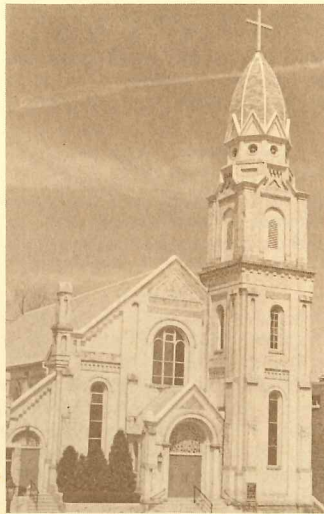
Tremendous growth followed Wisconsin's statehood, and Madison became a full-fledged city in 1856 when it had a population of 6,864. Many of the old homes included in this walking-tour guide were built about the time Madison became a city. The area north of the Square, in the vicinity of Langdon and East Gilman Streets, was THE prestige residential area, as evidenced by the elegant character of many of these houses. This area was often referred to as "Yankee Hill" or "Big Bug Hill" and, though it was not one of the first settled areas, it did house many of the city's elite from the fields of business, politics and education.

Many of these fine old buildings were built with local buff sandstone, giving the several national architectural styles represented a uniquely local flavor. This stone was quarried from what is now Hoyt Park, and from the bluffs of Shorewood, now residential areas.

Though most of the buildings on the walking tour and most of the dedicated landmarks were built from 1850 to 1880, several are works of the Prairie School architects of the early twentieth century. This newer style emerged from the Chicago School of Architecture and spread throughout the Midwest. Some examples are: Claude and Starck — The Lincoln School (Madison Art Center) and the City of Madison Parks Department offices; Louis Sullivan and George Elmslie — The Bradley House; and Frank Lloyd Wright — The Gilmore House. In addition to these, there are others throughout the city.

It is with respect for the City's important heritage and in recognition of the need for appreciation and preservation of Madison's remaining historic buildings and sites, that the Madison Landmarks Commission and the City Planning Department have published this guide.

On the following pages are pictures and brief descriptions of each designated Landmark. Several other highly significant buildings are also included.



DESIGNATED LANDMARK BUILDINGS

Staines Residence

321 S. Hamilton Street

This sandstone home was built in 1855-56. The architecture is Italianate interpreted in the fine stonework for which southwestern Wisconsin is known. The lower story is half above ground and originally housed the kitchen and dining room while the living rooms were on the main floor. Originally a large porch graced the lake side of the building. The hand made original woodwork remains intact on the interior of the building. The lot on which the building stands was shuffled among the early legislators as payola. Some former owners include Lydia Roundtree, Delaplaine and Burdick (early surveyors), the Staines family who built the house, W. D. Tenney, Thomas Regan and V.S. Bond who restored the interior of the home between 1924 and 1957. This building was designated a Landmark on April 17, 1972.

St. Patrick's Church

404 E. Main Street

St. Patrick's parish is the third oldest Catholic parish in Madison having been created to accommodate the large numbers of persons being served by St. Raphael's, Madison's original Catholic congregation. The building, designed by John Nader, was completed in 1889. The original interior was designed by Odin Oyer, a Norwegian artist from La Crosse. The exterior is white brick with stone cuttings over a stone foundation. The spire extends heavenward for 100 feet. The original building was widened in 1903 and renovated in 1957.

Since its dedication on St. Patrick's Day in 1889, the church has had a strong association with the Irish populace of Madison. In its 83 year history, the parish has had only three pastors; Father Knox, Father Grace, and currently Monsignor Dougherty. This building was designated a Landmark on March 6, 1972.

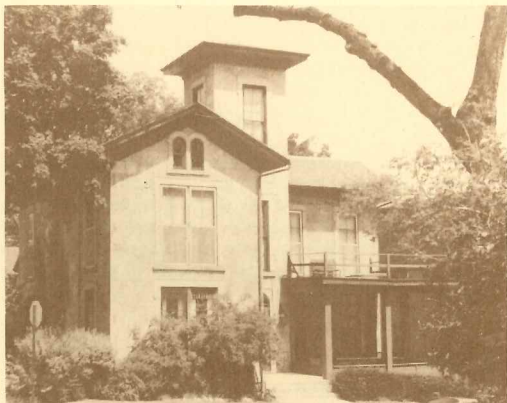
William T. Leitch Residence

752 E. Gorham Street

This house, constructed between 1854 and 1857, is one of the fine examples of American Gothic Revival architecture in Madison. The house may have been designed by August Kutzbock and was built by Napoleon Bonaparte Van Slyke. The buff colored sandstone was quarried in Westport, barged across Lake Mondota, and cut on the building site. There are many unusual features incorporated on the interior of the house; there are nine fireplaces, four of which are marble; a black walnut newell post; wrought iron railings; tudor style windows and doors and a glass-enclosed cupola reached by a winding stairway.

The home has been occupied by several prominent Madison families. William T. Leitch, originally from Dover, England, came to Madison in 1858. He served as Mayor of Madison for three terms commencing in 1862. In addition, Mr. Leitch served as School Board President, City Assessor and was active in many private social and church organizations. Mr. Moses R. Doyon occupied the house from 1881 to 1902. The family was very active in Madison affairs, Mr. Doyon serving as a member of the School Board, as alderman and as mayor. The third owner was Nils P. Haugen who was Wisconsin State Tax Commissioner, a member of the State Assembly and a United States Congressman. The fourth owner was Professor Emeritus Asher Hobson who is a noted agricultural economist, co-op movement authority, and chairman of the U.W. Agricultural Economics Department. The present owner is Mr. Gordon Harman.

Due to the consideration of the families who have occupied the house, the house is today an exceptional example of Madison's historic heritage. This building was designated a Landmark on April 17, 1972.



Timothy Brown Residence 116 E. Gorham Street

The Timothy Brown House was built in 1864-65, and is an example of the Italianate style.

Timothy Brown came to Madison in 1855 at the request of Napoleon Bonaparte Van Slyke. At the time the house was built, Mr. Brown was in the process of founding the First National Bank of Madison. By 1870 he owned a large portion of the Madison Gas Company and had major holdings in other Madison businesses.

Other prominent persons have also resided at 116 E. Gorham Street. Among them were Charles V. Bardeen, a Justice of the State Supreme Court, Robert G. Siebecker who was Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court, and Timothy Brown, a grandson of the builder and also a Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. This building was designated a Landmark on March 6, 1972.

Elisha W. Keyes Residence 102 E. Gorham Street

This building, constructed in 1853-54 by Lansing W. Hoyt, is Italianate in style. While the architecture may not be of great significance, the social life of the building is.

This was the home of "Boss" Keyes who was a very influential force in politics at the turn of the century. As "Boss" he dictated Republican Party policy throughout the state. Keyes was postmaster for Madison from 1861 to 1881 having received his appointment from President Lincoln. He was elected Madison's first Republican mayor in 1865 and was elected again in 1886; University of Wisconsin regent 1877-1889; assemblyman from Wisconsin in 1882; and municipal judge from 1889-1893. This house hosted many political conferences and social events. This building was designated a Landmark on January 31, 1972.

The Bashford Residence 423 N. Pinckney Street

This fine sandstone house, built in 1857, is an example of the Italian villa style of architecture. The house was built by N.B. Van Slyke, possibly from plans drawn up by Kutzbock and Donnel. Its square, hipped-roof, three story tower is unique among old Madison homes.

It was first occupied by H.K. Lawrence, a banker friend of Van Slyke. Wisconsin's first German-born governor, Edward Salmon, resided in the house from 1862 to 1864. He became very unpopular when he acted to draft men to serve in the Union Army during the Civil War, touching off a riot in Port Washington. Federal troops were called to quell the disturbance, arresting 80 men who were brought to Camp Randall.

The house is so named because Robert M. Bashford, a prominent public figure, resided there. He served as city attorney and mayor of Madison. Later he became a state senator and served on the supreme court. This building was designated a Landmark on January 31, 1972, and is also on the National Register of Historic Places.

Old Governor's Mansion 130 E. Gilman Street

Of all the historic homes and landmarks in Madison, this building is considered highly significant not only for Madison, but also for the entire State of Wisconsin. Once the executive residence of 17 governors of the State of Wisconsin (from 1885 to 1950), it was among the first homes built in the Gilman-Pinckney Street area. The house is designed in the Italianate mode and constructed of locally quarried sandstone.

The original owner of the home was Julius T. White, a Madison businessman who had the house built for him in 1855. In 1857, he sold the property to George T. Delaplaine, secretary to Governors Farwell and Dewey, and also a real estate developer.

In 1868, a millionaire lumber baron, J.G. Thorp bought the house because his wife thought it to be the finest in Madison. Their



twenty-year-old daughter, Sarah, married the sixty-year-old Norwegian violinist Ole Bull in 1870 and their wedding in the house was the most lavish festivity Madison had ever seen. In 1883, Governor Jeremiah Rusk purchased the house for \$15,000 and in 1885, the State bought it for a sum "not to exceed \$20,000."

After World War II, the house was no longer serving the needs of the state as an executive residence and it was sold to the University of Wisconsin to be used as a home for the Knapp graduate students.

For a short while in 1966, Governor Warren P. Knowles lived here while the executive residence in Maple Bluff was remodeled. This building was designated a Landmark on January 17, 1972.

Kendall Residence

104 E. Gilman Street

The Kendall House, a two-and-one-half story, twelve room Italianate house was built by J.E. Kendall in 1855. The house was built without the French mansard roof which probably was added between 1872 and 1877. Originally there was a carriage house and stable behind the house when the entire property extended down to the lake.

As recently as 1931 there was a frame front porch across the width of the house with columns; quoins are at the corners of the house but they are disguised today. Brackets are seen at the original roof line. The roof windows are pedimented dormers. The house is balanced by a bay window on the left and a porch on the right. This porch was enlarged between 1892 and 1898.

A century ago, this house was considered a showplace, with its large rooms, lovely garden, view of the lake, fireplaces, floor and ceiling moldings, brass hardware and thorough elegance. Although it has been changed and altered, there are still remaining remnants of a once beautiful house. This building was designated a Landmark on January 31, 1972.

The Keenan Residence

28 E. Gilman Street

This home was built in 1858. The walls are Milwaukee pressed brick three feet thick. The original building was Romanesque Revival in style. The French mansard roof was added in 1870 apparently to update the architectural style of the building.

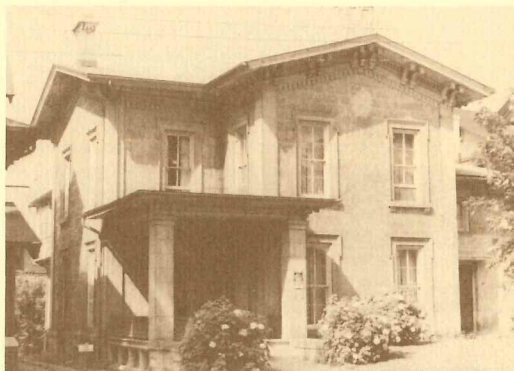
Although N.B. Van Slyke, an early banker and prominent citizen, originally had the building built for his own residence, he never occupied it due to his wife's death. The first person to reside in the house was James Robbins who operated a flour mill on the Yahara River. Other owners include Colonel John Knight, who was a life long friend and associate of Senator William Vilas; Magnus Swenson and in 1900 Dr. Keenan for whom the house is named. Dr. Keenan resided in the house until 1916 at which time the building was converted to apartment uses. This building was designated a Landmark on June 15, 1971.

Pierce Residence

424 N. Pinckney Street

This is the best Romanesque Revival house in Madison, and it is truly representative of a by-gone era. Built in 1857 of Prairie du Chien sandstone, it has many features reminiscent of Wisconsin's third capitol building which was destroyed by fire in 1904. The statuary niches outlined in gold leaf, the flowers painted on the wall, and the rosette medallions on the ceilings are all replicas of what was in the capitol building. There is a magnificent hand carved spiral staircase leading from the basement to the cupola.

The house was built for Alexander A. McDonnell and designed by Madison architects August Kutzbock and Samuel H. Donnel. Kutzbock and Donnel also designed the "Gates of Heaven Synagogue" in the same Romanesque Revival style. However, the Pierce House represents a more elaborate design in this style while the synagogue is a typical expression of the main style. McDonnell, contractor for the third capitol, brought in Italian stone cutters to make the beautiful stone carvings.



For a time during the 1880's Orasmus Cole, Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court lived there as well as Governor Lucius Fairchild's sister and her husband, the Frederick Conovers. The house was the scene of many elegant parties and receptions.

Since the early 1900's, the Pierce House has been used either as a boarding house or, as in the past thirty years, an apartment house. This building was designated a Landmark on May 18, 1971, and is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

William Beecroft Residence 514 N. Carroll Street

The William Beecroft house is an example of Prairie School architecture by architects Louis W. Claude and Edward F. Starck. The Prairie influence stems from the office of Louis Sullivan where Claude had worked with Frank Lloyd Wright and George Grant Elmslie. Some typical prairie characteristics may be seen in the raked horizontal joints, the horizontal emphasis of the eaves and the use of leaded glass casement windows grouped in a manner that creates a linear form.

The house, built in 1911, was first occupied by William Beecroft who resided there until 1923. Since 1962, the building has served as an annex to a sorority house. This house was designated a Landmark on January 17, 1972.

The Van Slyke Residence 510 N. Carroll Street

The Van Slyke house is Italianate in style. Constructed about 1863 for Napoleon Bonaparte Van Slyke, the house has been traditionally credited to the architectural firm of S.H. Donnel and August Kutzbock. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of the building is the stone work. This method of alternating large and small stones was perfected by area German-Swiss stone masons. This technique can be found only in stone buildings constructed in south central Wisconsin.

Van Slyke was a successful businessman who founded the Dane County Bank and later participated in organizing the First National Bank of Madison. Van Slyke was also active in the community participating in the erection of City Hall, the selection of Forest Hill Cemetery and the purchase of the city's first fire engine. Further, he was one of the original regents of the University of Wisconsin and a member of the first city council. This building was designated a Landmark on January 31, 1972.

Mears Residence 420 N. Carroll Street

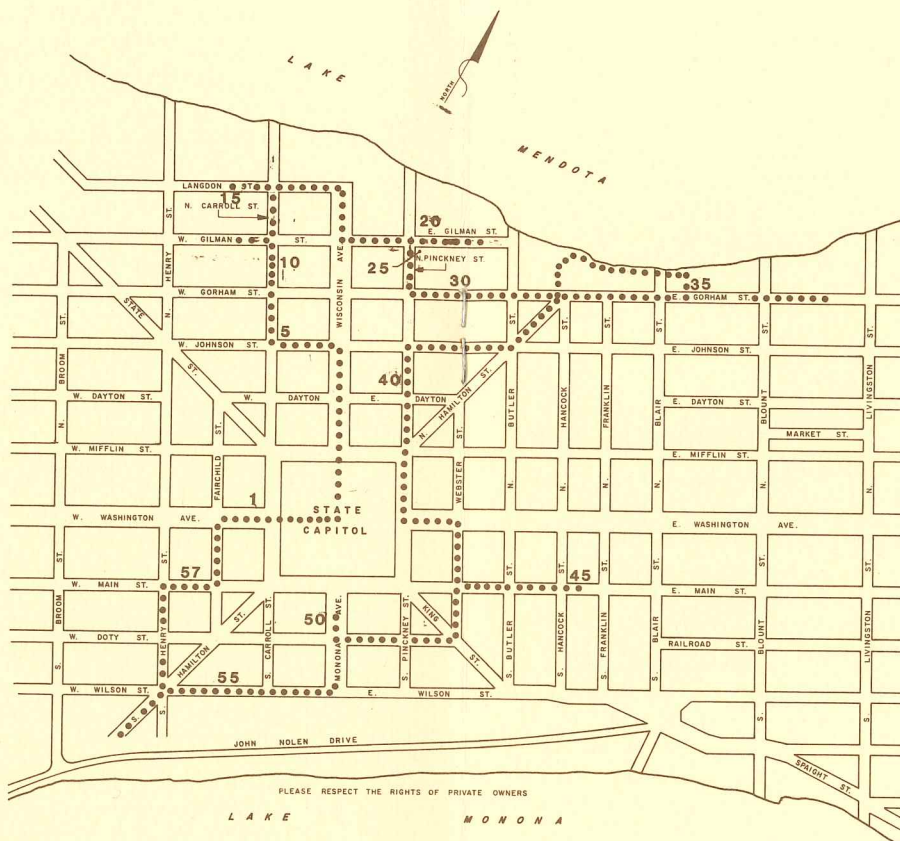
The Mears house on the corner of Gilman and Carroll Streets is a square house in the Italianate style. It was built for James R. Mears, realtor and merchant, in 1871. An outstanding feature of the house is the fine portico on the Carroll Street entrance. Four columns support the small flat porch roof topped by a wrought iron fence. It is interesting to note that the windows are set on stone sills and the shutters are very attractive.

The University Women's Club bought the house in 1923, and later it was owned by Professor Frederick W. Kehl, dance teacher to generations of Madisonians. This building was designated a Landmark on March 6, 1972.

Breese Stevens Residence 401 N. Carroll Street

Built in 1877, the Breese Stevens house is a large Italianate residence. There are several bay windows to note along with the meandering front porch. Of all the mansions in the Yankee Hill district, this one still has its original carriage house which lends a 19th century flavor to the grounds. There is a turntable on the floor to reverse the direction of the vehicle after it has been drawn inside.

Breese Stevens was an important figure in Madison's history and at one time served as mayor (1884), curator of the State Historical Society, vestryman of the Grace Episcopal Church, and a member



WALKING TOUR

1. Grace Episcopal Church
2. State Capitol
3. First Methodist Church
4. 315 N. Carroll Street
5. Breese Stevens Residence — 401 N. Carroll Street
6. Mears Residence — 420 N. Carroll Street
7. 423 N. Carroll Street
8. 110 W. Gilman Street
9. 114 W. Gilman Street
10. 511 N. Carroll Street
11. Van Slyke Residence — 510 N. Carroll Street
12. 515 N. Carroll Street
13. Beecroft Residence — 514 N. Carroll Street
14. 523 N. Carroll Street
15. Suhr Residence — 121 Langdon Street
16. 104 Langdon Street
17. Jones Residence — 512 Wisconsin Avenue
18. 424 Wisconsin Avenue
19. Keenan Residence — 28 E. Gilman Street
20. Kendall Residence — 104 E. Gilman Street
21. 133 E. Gilman Street
22. Old Executive Mansion — 130 E. Gilman Street
23. 121 E. Gilman Street
24. 115 E. Gilman Street
25. Pierce Residence — 424 N. Pinckney Street
26. Bashford Residence — 423 N. Pinckney Street
27. 406 N. Pinckney Street
28. Keyes Residence — 102 E. Gorham Street
29. Historic Park
30. Timothy Brown Residence — 116 E. Gorham & Carriage House
31. 137 E. Gorham Street
32. Frank Brown Residence — 134-136 E. Gorham Street
33. Gates of Heaven Synagogue
34. City of Madison Boat House
35. City of Madison Parks Department
36. City of Madison Art Center
37. 152 E. Johnson Street
38. 30 E. Johnson Street
39. 222 N. Pinckney Street
40. Strelow Residence — 218 N. Pinckney Street
41. 215 N. Pinckney Street
42. 204 N. Pinckney Street
43. Old Park Savings Bank
44. G.E.F. I
45. St. Patricks Church
46. Rosaline Peck Park
47. 112 E. Doty Street
48. 120 E. Doty Street
49. 120-28 S. Pinckney Street — Hooley Opera House
50. G.A.R. Hall
51. Federal Building
52. City-County Building
53. Olin Terrace
54. 124 W. Wilson Street
55. 134 W. Wilson Street
56. Staines Residence — 321 S. Hamilton Street
57. St. Raphaels Cathedral



of the Reform Club of New York and Milwaukee. He also served as a regent for the University of Wisconsin.

At the present time the house is a mens rooming house and contains the offices of a local architect. This building was designated a Landmark on March 6, 1972.

Alexander Smith Residence 5301 Milwaukee Street

Built of sand limestone and cap limestone from a nearby quarry, this home is an example of early Greek Revival architecture. The building, constructed in 1848, was originally a farmhouse although it did serve as a way station for persons traveling between Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien.

The stonework was done by Cornish craftsmen migrating from the lead region near Mineral Point. The availability of stratified quarry stone for intermediate wall construction coupled with that of larger cap stone for corner quoins and chimney exteriors, as well as dressed stone for lintels and sills made for a distinctive appearance. This combination invariably resulted in the most distinctive indigenous architecture to be found in the area. This house was designated a Landmark on November 2, 1972.

Harold C. Bradley Residence 106 N. Prospect Ave.

Designed in 1909 by Louis Sullivan and George Elmslie, the Bradley House is representative of the Prairie School of architecture. A massive T-shaped house where cost was a secondary consideration, it was originally built for the Harold C. Bradley family. One of the outstanding features of this historic Madison Landmark is the two cantilevered porches, one on the East and the other on the West side of the house.

George G. Elmslie, an architect who worked for Louis Sullivan along with Frank Lloyd Wright, designed the furniture, rugs, drapes and all of the fixtures. Elmslie was also probably responsible for at least some of the building design.

After the Bradley family moved from the house, it became the Sigma Phi fraternity house. It is currently under restoration due to fire damage early in 1972. This building was designated as Madison's first Landmark on May 18, 1971, and is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Eugene A. Gilmore Residence 120 Ely Place

The E. A. Gilmore house was built in 1908. Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, it is a fine example of the Prairie School of architecture. This style was a bold and adventuresome departure from the conventional architecture of the day, and represented a rejection of earlier forms.

This home illustrates two unique facets of the Prairie School. The house has a strong feeling of horizontal line suggested by the roof overhangs, horizontal trim, windows grouped together in horizontal bands and extended walls. The house is very sympathetic to its site having been designed to blend in with its surroundings.

The house was built for Professor Gilmore and he resided there until 1922, when the house was occupied by the Phi Chi Medical Fraternity. At present, the home is a single-family residence. This building was designated a Landmark on January 17, 1972, and is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Immediately across Ely Place from the Gilmore residence, you may view the Buell residence designed in the shingle style which is an architecturally related forebearer of the Prairie School.

James Bowen Residence 302 S. Mills Street

The James Bowen house, built in 1855-56, is another of Madison's old stone houses. The house was constructed of buff colored sandstone quarried from a site located near the present location of



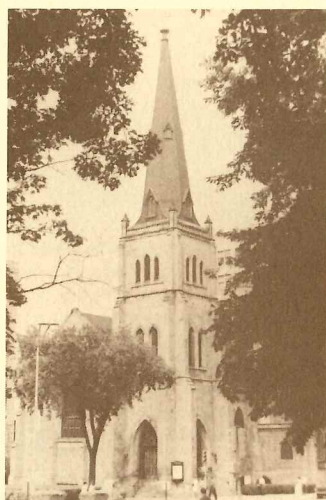
Madison General Hospital. Built in the Italianate style, the building was originally a farmhouse and was used as such by its builder Seth VanBergen from 1856 to 1859, when it was purchased by Dr. James Bowen, a prominent Madisonian. Bowen occupied the house until his death in 1881. Wayne Ramsay inherited the house from Dr. Bowen and during his stewardship, the house became a showplace and the scene of many lavish social affairs. This building was designated a Landmark on April 17, 1972.

The Old Spring Tavern

3706 Nakoma Road

The Old Spring Tavern, or Gorham's Hotel, was built in 1854 by Charles E. Morgan. The architectural style is Greek Revival although this is somewhat disguised from the Nakoma Road side in that a Chippendale porch was added at a later date. The brick used was manufactured on the site with clay taken from the hill behind the tavern. The site takes on dual significance in that Dr. Allen D. Dickson, a later owner, employed Frank Lloyd Wright and his stone mason to design and construct the wall along Nakoma Road.

The inn was constructed as a stopping place between the lead mining region of southwestern Wisconsin and the new territorial capital at Madison. It is claimed that at least three presidents stopped here in their travels. Additionally, governors and legislators drove out for oyster suppers and soldiers from Camp Randall attended dances there. This building was designated a Landmark on March 20, 1972.



OTHER SIGNIFICANT LANDMARKS

Grace Episcopal Church

6 N. Carroll Street

Madison's oldest Christian congregation built the only remaining church on the Square between 1855 and 1858, and added the steeple to its eastern corner in 1870. At one time four churches stood around the Capitol grounds.

Grace Episcopal is a fine English Gothic Revival building, reflecting the Anglican heritage of the Episcopal Church. It was designed and built by James Douglas of Milwaukee, who also built Milwaukee's St. John's Cathedral, and the Bishop White Hall which is on the grounds of Nashotah House, an Episcopal theological seminary near Nashotah. Douglas' experience in building St. John's (which was designed by a Philadelphia architect) is apparent in Grace Episcopal Church, which strongly resembles the Milwaukee cathedral in many details.

This congregation's first chapel was located behind the present church next to the rectory on West Washington Avenue.

St. Raphael's Cathedral

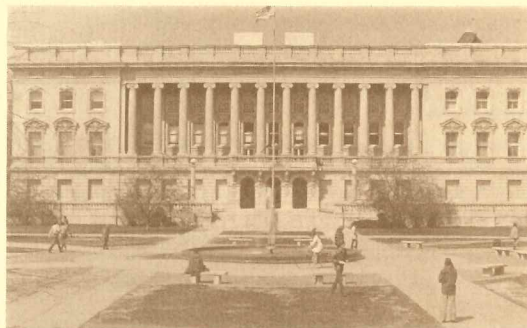
222 W. Main Street

One of the oldest buildings in the city, St. Raphael's is a robust Romanesque Revival church built with Madison sandstone. The cornerstone was laid in 1854 and the dedication was held in 1862. The steeple was designed by Chicago architect Colonel L. V. Shipman, who formerly practiced architecture in Madison, and was added in 1881.

Madison's Catholic community held its first mass in what was then the territorial Capital on August 15, 1842. Later, a wooden church was built on this Main Street site donated by Governor Doty. A brick addition to the frame building doubled its size in 1850. Father Francis Etchmann, the second pastor of St. Raphael's, secured the money for a major building during a statewide fund-raising tour in 1853, and construction of the church began the next year.

"St. Ray's" became a full-fledged cathedral in 1945, and a major reconstruction in 1955 has assured the preservation of this venerable Madison Landmark.





Wisconsin State Capitol

Capitol Square

Designed by the famous eclectic architect George B. Post, winner of a design competition, this is the third Capitol building in Madison and is the state's fifth. The architectural style is Neo Classical Revival and is similar to the style of the State Historical Society.

The first Capitol was in Belmont, Wisconsin, and housed the 46-day legislative session in 1836 during which Madison was selected as the capital. The next was a rented building in Burlington, Iowa, then within the Wisconsin Territory. Madison's first Capitol was built between 1837 and 1848 of Maple Bluff stone. Its second, with a dome similar to today's, was finished in 1857, but was destroyed-royed by fire in 1904. The present Capitol was constructed from 1906 to 1917 at a cost of \$7,200,000.

The gold-leaved "Miss Forward" atop the dome was sculpted by Daniel Chester French on the cliffs above New York's Hudson River. He could gain the same visual perspective from the river that we have today from the Square. The Capitol is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Tours of the Capitol are given regularly. Inquire within.

North Hall

U.W. Campus

The first building erected by the University of Wisconsin was North Hall, opened as North Dormitory for men on September 17, 1851. It was built of Madison sandstone at a cost of \$19,000. The first three floors housed from 50 to 65 students; the fourth floor was divided into six public rooms for lectures, recitations and study.

The building was first heated by two hot-air furnaces. As an economy measure during the war (1865) stoves were placed in each room, and students were required to provide their own fuel — usually a tree from Bascom Woods. A mess was set up in the dormitory for those who wanted to get board at actual cost, about eighty cents a week. Sanitary conveniences were primitive: the boys had to haul their own water from a nearby well.

Many prominent persons occupied North Hall. Among these, the most prominent was John Muir, a nationally noted naturalist, who resided there from 1861 to 1863.

In ensuing years, the building was converted to office and classroom use. The 115th Anniversary of the building in 1966 was noted by its placement on the National Register of Historic Places and the placement of a plaque designating it as a National Historic Landmark.

State Historical Society

816 State Street

The original building, designed by the Milwaukee architects Ferry and Clas, was erected from 1896 to 1900. The State Historical Society is one of the state's outstanding examples of the resurgence of classicism which followed the Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago. The architectural style is Neo Classical Revival. The building stone used in the original building and subsequent additions was taken from a limestone quarry in Bedford, Indiana.

The interior is characterized by mosaic tile floors, marble staircases and columns, some of which are fluted, some round, some square, some free and some engaged. A variety of door openings may be found. Ceilings of main hallways and stairways are paneled and ornamented with rosettes, and are corniced. Supporting columns or pilasters are principally Ionic. At the stairway landings, ceiling entablatures are borne on modillions, partially exemplifying the Palladian or Roman influence in the building's ornamentation.

"Dedicated in 1900, rededicated in 1955, this building has long been a mecca for the student of American and Wisconsin history and a center for the greater public, appreciation of the basic dynamics of the American experiment".¹ This building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on February 23, 1972.

¹ This quote is taken from the text of the official Wisconsin Historical Marker erected in 1955.



Old Park Savings Bank

1 N. Pinckney Street

This is all that remains of the original local sandstone building erected on the site of Madison's first hotel, the American House.

The Wisconsin territorial legislature met in the old American House until the first Madison Capitol was finished. When the wooden, two-story hotel burned down in 1868, the sandstone building, three times wider than the portion that remains, was built in 1871. The Park Savings Bank occupied the corner quarters that stand today.

The First National Bank bought the building in 1881 and remained in it for over 40 years. Then, in 1922, the German-American Bank, now known as the American Exchange Bank bought the building. The northwestern two-thirds of the original building were razed after World War II, but the remaining portion was recently restored by the bank.

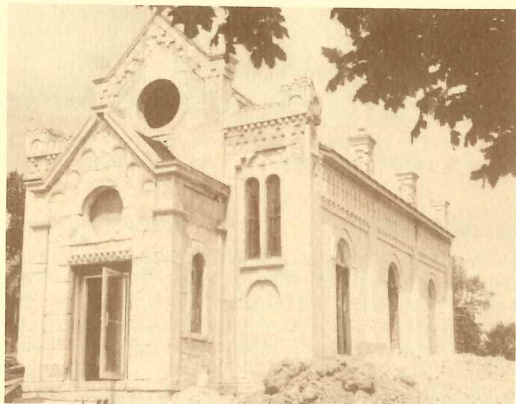
The Gates of Heaven Synagogue

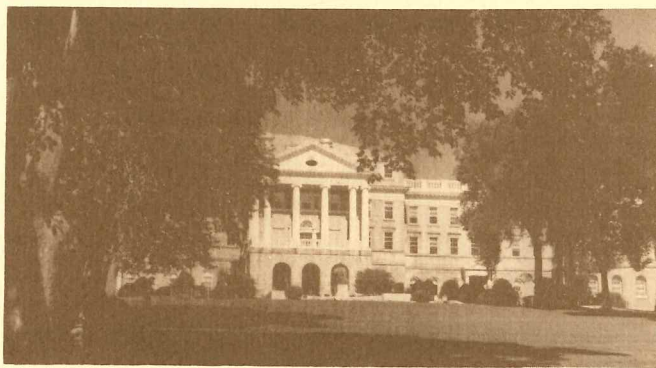
302 E. Gorham Street

Built in 1863, this building was designed by August Kutzbock in the Romanesque Revival style. This small sandstone and brick building, built as the first synagogue in Madison, has had a checkered past.

The Gates of Heaven Synagogue was used as a synagogue for only sixteen years. It has been a Unitarian Church, the Women's Christian Temperance Union, the First Church of Christ Scientist, the English Lutheran Church, a funeral home, a tearoom, depository for U.S. Government documents during World War II, the Church of Christ and finally as a dental office. In 1971, it again changed uses.

In 1971, the synagogue was placed on the National Register of Historic Places as the oldest synagogue in the Midwest and the third oldest surviving synagogue in the United States. At that time, under threat of demolition, a federal grant was obtained, a group of private citizens organized (The Gates of Heaven Inc.), and the building moved from its original location at 214 West Washington Avenue to its present location in James Madison Park.





Bascom Hall, University of Wisconsin campus

Historic University Buildings

In 1850, two years after Madison was chosen the site for a future state university, College Hill, at the foot of State Street was bought for the campus of the University of Wisconsin.

The first building, **North Hall**, was finished in 1851. A simple, native sandstone building, it housed classrooms, living quarters for faculty and students, and a dining hall. **South Hall** was built across the hill in 1855 and served for years as a faculty dormitory.

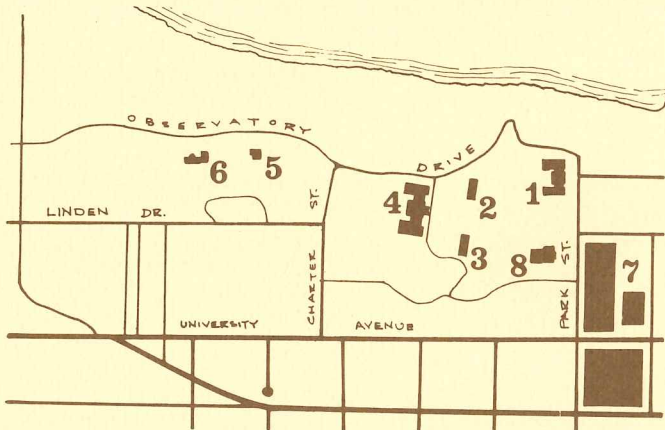
In 1857 **Bascom Hall** was perched atop the hill, and it has been the University's symbolic landmark for well over a century. A Classic Revival building, it was remodeled in 1895 when a round portico on the east facade was replaced by a rectangular portico. A dome once stood on top of Bascom Hall, but was removed after a fire in 1916. The noted statue of Abraham Lincoln, east of the building, was sculpted by Adolph Weinman in 1909.

Since 1850, over 100 buildings have been erected on campus. The most imaginative and distinctive contemporary buildings are the **South Lower Campus** and **Elvehjem Art Center** structures, both designed by Chicago architect Harry Weese.

A walk through the campus will show that the University is not only preserving historic buildings, but it is commissioning some of the best modern architecture in the area today.

A list of historic University buildings should include:

1. Science Hall	North Park Street	1887
2. North Hall	Bascom Hill	1851
3. South Hall	Bascom Hill	1855
4. Bascom Hall	Bascom Hill	1857
5. Washburn House	Observatory Drive	1870's
6. Observatory	Observatory Drive	1878
7. Elvehjem Art Center & Humanities Building	North Park Street	1967-69
8. Music Building	Bascom Hill	1879



CONCLUSION

You have experienced a small part of Madison's historic heritage. The tour you have taken and the buildings shown and listed are not all inclusive. The Landmarks Commission and other groups are constantly working to research, study and, where possible, preserve, Madison's past. Many other buildings and sites need to be considered. However, the designation of buildings and sites remains as one facet of the historic preservation effort. Efforts must continue in areas related to preservation such as salvage of historic building materials, legislation, and planning. The Landmarks Commission must necessarily rely on volunteers to aid in the effort. Much of what has been done, the results of which you have seen, has been accomplished by volunteers. It is to them that the Landmarks Commission dedicates this booklet.

SANDSTONE AND BUFFALO ROBES

a walking-tour guide
to Madison's Historic Downtown Buildings and Sites
second edition
July 1973

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Published by

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Guided tours, speakers and other programs are available; please contact the Secretary of the Landmarks Commission.

The printing of this booklet has been paid for by the Greater Madison Convention and Visitors Bureau, Inc., P.O. Box 3353, Madison, Wisconsin, 53704 (608) 255-0701.

Printed by Cantwell Printing Co.

