

United States Department of Interior National Park Service

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## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Brandt House other names/site number Brandt-Quirk House

#### 2. Location

street d	& number	410 South Fo	urth St	reet			N/A	not for p	ublication
city or	town	Watertown					N/A	vicinity	
state	Wisconsin	code	WI	county	Jefferson	code	055	zip code	53094

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  $\underline{X}$  nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  $\underline{X}$  meets \_ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_ nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

VMUM

Signature of certifying official/Title

### State Historic Preservation Officer - Wisconsin

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  $x_meets_does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)$ 

Signature of commenting official/Title

Date

2/15/08

State or Federal agency and bureau

Brandt House		County Jefferson	Wisconsin
Name of Property		County and State	
4. National Park Servi	ce Certification		
I hereby certify that the property is: See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. for the mational Register. See continuation sheet. removed from the National Register. other, (explain:)	Edesan 	Jø. Boell	4-2.08
ouci, (explain.)	Signature of the	Keeper	Date of Action
5. Classification			
Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as as apply) X Private public-local public-State public-Federal Name of related multiple pr	Category of Property (Check only one box) X building(s) district structure site object	1 1 buil site	sted resources ontributing dings s ictures ects il
(Enter "N/A" if property not p listing. N/A		previously listed in the Nati	
6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instru DOMESTIC/multiple dwell		<b>Current Functions</b> (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/single dwelling	)
7. Description			····
Architectural Classificatio (Enter categories from instru		<b>Materials</b> (Enter categories from instructions Foundation stone	)
LATE VICTORIAN/Italiana LATE 19 <sup>TH</sup> & 20 <sup>TH</sup> CENTU	ite RY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival		
		roof asphalt	

other

wood

## **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Name of Property

County Jefferson

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

#### **Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- <u>X</u> B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- \_ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### **Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- \_B removed from its original location.
- \_C a birthplace or grave.
- \_D a cemetery.
- \_ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- \_ F a commemorative property.
- \_G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Industry

**Period of Significance** 

1890-1937

**Significant Dates** 

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Brandt, Edward J.

**Cultural Affiliation** 

<u>N/A</u>\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Unknown

#### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Wisconsin

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Property

County Jefferson

County and State

Wisconsin

#### 9. Major Bibliographic References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- \_ previously listed in the National
- Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic
- landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

#### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	360079	4783312	3				
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing	
2				4				
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing	
					See Con	ntinuation Sh	neet	

#### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepar	ed By				
name/title organization	Carol Lohry Cartwright, Consultant Prepared for the owner			date	August 3, 2007
street & number city or town	W7646 Hackett Rd. Whitewater	state	WI	telephone zip code	262-473-6820 53190

#### Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- \_ Federal Agency
- Local government
- \_ University
  - Other
    - Name of repository:

Brandt House	County Jefferson	Wisconsin
Name of Property	County and State	

#### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### **Continuation Sheets**

Maps	A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
	A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs** Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

<b>Property Own</b>	er				
Complete this item	at the request of SHPO or F	FPO.)			
name/title	James Brandt and Debo	rah Callan Quirk			
organization				date	August 3, 2007
street&number	P. O. Box 741			telephone	920-261-6155
city or town	Tesuque	state	NM	zip code	87574

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 <u>et seq.</u>).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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### DESCRIPTION

The Brandt House is a two-story building with a general gabled ell form and details from both the Italianate and Colonial Revival styles of architecture. The house sits just southeast of the downtown commercial district of Watertown, a small city in southeastern Wisconsin. Watertown is located about 30 miles west of Milwaukee, a large city that is ringed by numerous suburbs. In recent decades, Watertown has become, in part, an outlying suburb for people working in this large urban area. The core of the community is largely historic, but there has been increasing development of new residential subdivisions at the edges of Watertown.

The Brandt House is in the historic core of Watertown in one of the original residential neighborhoods that developed to the south of the city's downtown commercial district. Because of its proximity to the downtown, at the north edge of this historic residential neighborhood, there is a small area of mixed use buildings sitting to the north and east of the house. South and west of the house, the area is primarily residential.

The house sits on a corner lot and the building fills up much of the space. A paved driveway leads up from Fourth Street to the garage addition at the northwest corner of the house. A row of mature shrubs runs along the north side of this driveway and separates it from a wider driveway and modern garage that sits on a separate parcel and is not included in this nomination. Surrounding the house on the east and west elevations are areas of lawn that lead from the house to the sidewalk and terrace. The rear of the house is taken up by a small lawn area intersected with concrete walks. At the rear of the lot is a long, one-story shed of more modern construction. The shed is non-contributing.

The small lawn areas are formally landscaped with mature shrubs and trees. Along with the hedge row that separates the house from the modern garage and driveway, well-maintained shrubs and mature trees, both deciduous and coniferous, are located on the lot. Many of the shrubs are foundation plantings, while the mature trees sit both near the house and in other lawn areas. The topography is flat and the mature trees and shrubs give the house an attractive, landscaped appearance.

### Exterior

The Brandt house has some general features that apply to all elevations. The entire house is constructed of cream bricks, including sections added in the early twentieth century. The original bricks probably came from one of the many brick yards in Watertown, while the bricks of additions either came from older buildings or from yards that were still in business in the twentieth century, as they blend in well with the original walls. Many details date from the 1870s and reflect the house's

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original Italianate style. Other additions and details date from a remodeling that occurred around 1919, a remodeling that enlarged the house and added Colonial Revival-influenced details. These details include an entry pavilion, wrap-around veranda, and additions to the front and rear of the original ell. Since these historic alterations, though, there have been only minor changes to the building.

### The Original House

To understand the complex plan of the Brandt House, a brief description of the original house from a period photograph is helpful. The original house was built in the Italianate style with a large gabled ell form. Both the main block and the ell were two stories in height. The cream brick walls were punctuated with largely symmetrical window openings filled with two-over-two-light, double-hung, sashes decorated with "entablature" window hoods made up of cornices, dentils, and pediment-form friezes. The main entrance was located in the northeast corner of the main block and was covered by a small, one-story Italianate style porch with a hip roof, narrow chamfered posts, and brackets. A similar-styled Italianate style porch covered the ell.

The twentieth century alterations removed the Italianate porches from the main elevation. In front of the main entrance in the main block, a Colonial Revival-influenced entry pavilion and portico were added. Large additions were made to the original ell on both the east and west elevations and a wraparound porch or veranda was added to the northeast corner. Also added was a large two-story bay on the south elevation and several tripartite casement windows with transoms on the east elevation. These additions were tastefully made and reflect the period when Edward Brandt was at his height as an industrialist in the community. The current appearance of the house will be described below.

### East (Main) Elevation

The main elevation consists of the original main block with many of its Italianate features intact, the expanded ell with the twentieth century entry pavilion and portico, the veranda, and the one-car garage addition. On the main block, most of the symmetrical window openings of the original house, as described above, are still extant, including the four-light sashes. In addition, there is an oculus opening filled with a small "rose" style window sitting in the gable peak. Under the gable roof eaves is a molded wooden frieze.

The twentieth century entry pavilion and portico sits in front of the original main entrance at the northeast corner of the main block and extends north across part of the expanded ell. The one-story entry pavilion is constructed of cream bricks and decorated with Colonial details. An eight-panel wooden door sits at the center of the entry pavilion and is flanked by fluted pilasters and leaded glass

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sidelights. Topping both the door and sidelights is a large leaded glass fanlight transom. Filling in the corners above the arched transom are two carved foliated panels. The entrance is flanked with paired fluted pilasters and a plain frieze is attached to the brick walls of the entry pavilion.

The classical portico has a flat roof with overhanging eaves. The roof is supported by an entablature and four fluted columns. Sitting on the roof is a balustrade with square posts supporting a plain baluster. The roof of the portico is covered with wainscoting and a decorative metal light fixture hangs from the center.

As stated above, the main elevation of the north, or original, ell was expanded to the east. This expansion brought the ell wall flush with the main block so that the eave of the expanded ell wall cuts into the main block right under the main block's roof eaves. Openings in this ell date from the remodeling and feature tripartite casement openings topped with rectangular stained glass transoms on both the first and second stories. Plain single-light sashes also punctuate the ell walls.

Projecting from the north wall of the original ell, and set back about half way along the wall, is a twostory ell also added later. This ell is set back from the original ell, and attached to its north wall is the two-story garage ell that is further set back. Decorative features of these ells include cream brick walls that blend in with the original house and low-pitched hip roofs with wide eaves.

The front roof of the garage ell projects from the east wall and creates the roof of a carport. The one car opening into the garage is covered with a garage door surrounded by a wide molding. The garage door is topped with a window band in which two of the openings are glazed. The center opening is filled in with a panel. To the south of the garage door is a small wood-panel and glazed entry door. A large light fixture in the colonial style hangs from the carport roof.

A large veranda connects the expanded original ell with the later-added two-story north ell. A large trellis with a mature vine covers the north side of the veranda and the entry is along the east elevation. The veranda has a relatively flat roof decorated with a very low paneled balustrade and small posts at the corners. Large columns support the veranda roof.

### South Elevation

The south elevation retains some of the details of the original Italianate style house, including a onestory central bay window. To the east of this one-story bay is a two-story octagonal bay added in the early twentieth century remodeling effort. This large bay has a shallow hip roof with wide eaves. Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

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Under the eaves is a paneled frieze topping four openings sitting on paneled bases. The openings are filled with single-light sashes.

A projecting cornice sits over the first story of the bay. Underneath is another paneled frieze sitting above three openings. Two single light openings with stained glass transoms flank a central panel with a stained glass transom above a wooden panel that is clad in a square wood block motif. The same wood block motif covers the paneled base and fills in the two enclosed panels flanking the glazed openings of the bay.

Just to the west of the two-story bay is the cream brick wall and gable roof of the original house. The gable roof has wide overhanging eaves decorated with a wooden frieze. Under the eaves is a small oculus decoration with a small enclosed circle surrounded by a circular molding that features prominent tabs. Under this decoration is a tripartite opening with a central two-over-two-light double-hung sash window flanked by shutters inset into the wall. Over the entire opening is a hoodmolding that resembles those of the smaller windows on the main elevation of the main block. Above the central window and shutters are pediment style friezes topped with pediment style cornices decorated with dentils. Narrow pilasters flank the central window between the shutters.

Underneath this second story window is the original first story Italianate style bay. It has a flat roof with wide overhanging eaves. Under the eaves, the three bay windows are decorated with a wide frieze with oval moldings flanking molded circles. The three windows of the bay are topped with pediment style moldings. The entire opening has a flat wood surround and narrow pilasters decorate each side of the central window. This window has a one-over-six-light sash, while the flanking windows have two-over-two-light sashes. Brackets decorate the base of the bay.

### West (Rear) Elevation

The west, or rear, elevation consists of the back walls and projecting ells of the main block of the original house and the later addition to the original ell. At the south end of the elevation is the rear wall of the original main block. It has a gable roof with wide overhanging eaves decorated with a wooden frieze. An oculus opening identical to the one in the gable of the east elevation of the main block sits in this gable peak. The second story features three symmetrical window openings filled with four-light sashes that are decorated with the same holdmoldings on the main elevation of the main block.

Similar hoodmoldings sit over the three openings on the first story of the main block right below the three openings on the second story. At the southwest corner the opening is an entrance filled in with a

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wood and glazed entry door covered with a wood paneled and glazed storm door topped with a transom. Next to the entrance is a full window filled with a two-over-two-light sash. The third opening was an identical window, but it is almost completely enclosed behind a small ell. Only the top part of the window with its transom and hoodmolding can be seen from the exterior.

There is a small porch projecting from the first story of the west elevation of the main block. It has a flat roof with wide overhanging eaves and a frieze. Supporting the porch are three narrow square wood posts topped with horizontally stepped capitals. The posts sit on bases that are part of a balustrade composed of thin wood posts that are arched under the railing in an arcaded effect. The porch has a set of wood steps, a modern wrought-iron railing (on the south), and a wood deck. The porch apron is filled with two louvered panels.

Two small ells project from the irregular wall of the expanded ell on this elevation. This irregularity can be seen in the first floor plan. The two projecting ells are a one-story frame addition and a one-story brick ell projecting from the west elevation and attached along the north wall of the frame ell.

The frame ell has a flat roof and walls clad with wainscot panels. The south wall of this ell is attached to the north side of the above-mentioned porch and includes an entry door that has three recessed panels and a large single light. A small tripartite rectangular window sits in the west wall of the ell. The brick ell is attached to the north wall of the frame addition, which was probably added to the brick ell at a later date. The brick ell has a gable roof with moderately overhanging eaves decorated with a narrow wooden frieze. An opening in the west wall is filled with a sash window that is decorated with a segmental brick arch.

The irregular west or rear walls of the rest of the west elevation are filled with irregularly sized window openings. There are tall, narrow openings filled with four-light sashes topped with flat lintels as well as various sizes of single-light sashes that are undecorated.

### North Elevation

The north elevation consists of the north walls of the ells described under the east or main elevation, including the ell covered with the veranda and the garage ell. Other than window openings, these walls have no significant decorative elements.

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### Outbuilding

Shed, Non-Contributing

Behind the house is a one-story frame shed. This shed has a low-pitched gable roof and is clad with board and batten siding. A six-over-six-light, double-hung sash sits in the south wall of the shed and there are two plain wooden doors that cover entrances along the east wall. A concrete pad runs between the shed and the west elevation of the house and there is a sidewalk running from the south elevation of the shed toward the street. Because it is a utilitarian building that does not contribute to the significance of the house, it is a non-contributing resource.

### Interior

#### First Floor

Because this house was remodeled and enlarged, as well as having been used as a double house, or duplex, it has a complicated plan. In order to follow the description, a floor plan has been included for the first and second floors. The floor plan includes measurements that will not be repeated in this narrative.

Both sides of the duplex can be reached through the main entrance on the east elevation. Through this entrance there is a foyer or "entry" (on the floor plan). It is a narrow room that is decorated with plaster walls covered with wallpaper and a plaster ceiling. Two built-in wooden benches flank the entry door. The floor is covered with ceramic tile.

Opposite the c.1919 entrance is the original main entrance into the house. It consists of a heavy woodpaneled door with two small square panels, a rectangular panel, and two long and narrow lights filled with etched glass. Above the door is a very slightly arched transom filled with more etched glass. Flat wood trim with raised moldings accents the door and this trim arches over the slightly arched transom.

Behind the original entry door is the original foyer. The foyer has an L-shaped hallway in front of and along a staircase that leads to the second floor. The staircase will be described later. The foyer has plaster walls and a ceiling with some wallpaper covering. A narrow board oak floor with geometric-patterned inlays sits under very wide molded baseboards. A period cast-iron radiator sits in the foyer. Three entrances lead off of the foyer; one to the south into the south part of the duplex, one to the north that leads into the north part of the duplex, and one at the west end that leads into the dining room of the south part of the duplex.

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Directly to the south of the original entrance is a wide opening leading into a parlor (sitting area on the floor plan). Filling the wide opening is a set of French style doors. The current parlor space would have been part of an original parlor that extended back toward the dining room. Today, the space is divided into two rooms or areas and is enlarged via the addition of the two-story octagonal bay.

Original parlor details include wide molded door and window trim, along with a wide molded baseboard. All the trim is painted white, as are the French doors. The later-added bay is shown as the music alcove in the floor plan. Flanking the entry into the bay are two pilasters with Ionic capitals topped with acanthus leaf-decorated brackets. The trim around the three bay window opening is narrower with simpler moldings that date from the c.1919 era. All of this trim is painted white. The stained glass transoms mentioned in the exterior description can be better viewed from the interior. They feature a classical swag and fleur-de-lis motifs.

The walls of the parlor are plastered, as is the ceiling, and there is a narrow picture rail spanning the room. The ceiling is decorated with a finely crafted, large, classically decorated, plaster medallion with a large central rosette surrounded by bead moldings and foliated "spokes." The floor is carpeted, but according to the current owner, the floor in this room is made up of hard pine boards. There are decorative cast iron radiators throughout this area of the house.

Two sets of classical columns and pilasters sitting on paneled bases, all painted white, divides the parlor area from the library alcove and sitting area. These features date from the c.1919 remodeling, as well. The tall fluted columns and pilasters with Ionic capitals sit under heavy wood beams, also painted white. The library alcove sits in the original bay that projects from the south elevation of the main block. It has flat trim with raised moldings that is painted white. The wide baseboards of the room, like the parlor, are also painted white and the floor is carpeted, again over original pine flooring.

Beyond a second set of identical columns and pilasters is the dining room, probably the original dining room of the house. Today it is used as a formal dining room and was used as the dining room in this part of the duplex. In this room the walls are divided by a picture rail, with the area above painted and the lower area covered with wallpaper. The cove ceiling is plastered and the cove is decorated with raised plaster foliage in the classical style. A later-added crystal chandelier hangs from the center of the room.

Along the south wall of the dining room is a fireplace, probably added c.1919. It is decorated in the classical style with a mantle and overmantle that features denticulated cornices, acanthus leaf brackets, a swag carving, and two tall, narrow round columns with Ionic capitals that sit on plain bases. The

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shallow firebox has a brass insert with foliage detail. The tiles around the firebox feature delicate classical swags. Above the mantle shelf is a large mirror that is part of the overmantle. Except for the firebox, the fireplace decoration is painted white.

Also painted white is the wide trim around the windows and entrance along the west wall of the dining room. These openings and trim were part of the original house decoration and all feature raised moldings. The door is similar to the original main entry door and sits next to a tall window. The third window along the wall corresponds to the opening on the exterior that is almost completely covered with the frame ell projecting from the west elevation. From the interior, it can be seen that the window opening has been enclosed with a built-in cabinet, probably some time during the twentieth century. The cabinet is simple in design and features two large glazed doors in a simple wood frame sitting on top of four small rectangular doors. It is painted white. Above the cabinet is the transom that is filled in with stained glass with the fleur-de-lis pattern. Surrounding the stained glass window is the trim from the original window.

Along the north wall and in the northeast corner of the dining room are four openings. In the center of the wall is the door leading to the kitchen for this part of the duplex. At the northeast corner are two doors, one that once opened into the living room of the other side of the duplex, but is sealed off today, and the other that leads into the foyer. The third opening is a small closet. These openings have wide wood trim with raised moldings and both the trim and doors are painted white.

The kitchen to the north of the dining room has cabinets that appear to date from c.1930. The lower part of the kitchen walls are covered with wainscoting, while the upper portion is plastered. The floor is covered with modern vinyl sheeting. Attached to the north end of the kitchen is a quarter bath with similar decoration as the kitchen: wainscot and plaster walls and vinyl flooring. Behind the kitchen, through an exterior door that has similar features to the main entrance and the exterior door in the dining room, is a pantry that has late 19<sup>th</sup> century cabinetry. This room corresponds to the brick ell projecting from the west elevation of the house.

The first floor of the north side of the duplex is reached off of the foyer, as described earlier. The entry door has five raised panels and is surrounded by wood trim with raised moldings. The door and trim are painted white. This entrance leads into the large living room (on the plans) or parlor. Originally, this room was part of the smaller, original north ell of the house, but was enlarged on the east end and almost entirely remodeled. Unlike the parlor on the south end of the house that mixes both original Italianate details with the classical details of the c.1919 remodeling, this room almost totally reflects the remodeling and expansion of this part of the house. The walls are smooth plaster, as is the ceiling, and the floor is covered with narrow maple boards. There is a very high picture rail and along the west

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wall is a classically-decorated fireplace. The fireplace has a large firebox surrounded by a marble mantle. The mantle is made up of three types of marble and is accented with fluted pilasters with capitals and is also decorated with swags.

Just south of the fireplace is a column and pilaster sitting on a large base. It is identical to the same features in the parlor and library in the south part of the duplex. Next to this detail is a wide, two run staircase. The first run and landing is visible from the living room, but the second run is enclosed in the west wall of the parlor behind a 24-light door. The treads of the staircase and the landing are naturally finished, while the rest of the staircase is painted white, as is the multi-light door.

An opening in the north wall of the living room leads into the dining room that was also expanded out from the original ell. Accenting this opening is another fluted column and pilaster identical to the one in the living room. The dining room is decorated in a similar manner to the living room and is used as a slightly less formal dining room today. Its main decorative detail is the c.1919 tripartite window that features three casements topped with a stained glass transom. The window is surrounded with molded wood trim. Like the rest of the house, all trim is painted white.

An entrance to the veranda sits in the north wall of the dining room. It is filled with a wood paneled door with an arched window. Next to this entrance is a larger entrance filled with two French style doors and flanking sidelights. Both of these entrances have wide wood trim with raised moldings. The larger entrance with the French style doors leads into a small library. The library has built-in bookcases topped with cabinets and is currently used as an office. The trim and bookcases in this room are painted white.

A swinging door at the back of the dining room leads into a small hallway. To the left of the hallway is a half bath and to the right is a door covering an enclosed staircase to the second floor. Just ahead is the entry into the kitchen that serves this part of the duplex. This kitchen has a more updated appearance than the kitchen in the south part of the duplex, but its décor suggests the 1950s. There are built-in cabinets, period flooring, an older sink, and ceramic tile backsplashes in this room.

### Second Floor

There are several staircases that lead to the second floor as mentioned in the previous description, but the main staircase sits in the foyer. It is the original Italianate-era staircase that features a balustrade of turned posts under a walnut banister. A heavy turned newel post sits at the bottom of the staircase and sports a brass Art Nouveau style stairway lamp with flowing motifs and a mauve-colored glass shade in the shape of a rosebud. The staircase wall is covered with recessed panels and there is a door that

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leads into a small cloak room with period coat hooks. The stair treads are painted, as is the balustrade except for the banister.

The staircase ends on the second floor with two small balustrades that continue the details of the main balustrade, including a smaller newel post. A curved hall leads to a small hallway in the south end of the floor and a small hallway runs from the staircase. The small hallway to the north ends at a wall that was added to give privacy to the bedrooms of each side of the duplex. On the other side of the wall is a continuation of the hallway. This long hallway was probably the original north-south running second floor hallway. The hallways have walls covered with wallpaper, plaster ceilings, simple molded baseboards, and narrow maple board flooring. Like the first floor, all wood trim and baseboards are painted white. Hanging from the ceiling at the top of the staircase is a period light fixture with a large milk glass bowl hanging from four metal bars.

Two bedrooms sit in the far south end of the second floor, taking up most of the main block of the original house. These bedrooms are reached after going around the curved hallway. At the end of the hallway is a small half bath. The details of the bath are similar to the hallway, including walls covered with wall paper and narrow board maple flooring. This small room was probably added later by enclosing the end of the hallway.

On the east side of the hallway is a large bedroom with attached bath and closet similar to a modern master suite. At the south end of the bedroom is a set of French style doors topped with a transom that lead into the second story of the large octagonal bay. This is a sunroom or sitting area for the bedroom. It has large windows, wood-paneled walls and ceiling, and is carpeted.

The bedroom is decorated with plaster walls with wallpaper, a plaster ceiling, narrow board maple flooring, and plain wide trim around doors and windows. All of the trim, along with the five-panel wood entry door, is painted white. Hanging from the center of the ceiling is a metal chandelier with lamps made up of a bronze-colored glass. The chandelier is marked "Steuben." There is also a period cast-iron radiator in this room.

Attached to the north of this room is a master bathroom with a c.1900 sink and cabinets, but with modern toilet and shower/tub combination. The walls are covered with half ceramic tile and half wallpaper, while the floor is modern vinyl sheeting. A small hallway with walls covered with wall paper leads to a closet to the west of the bathroom.

Opposite this master, or east, bedroom is the west bedroom. It has similar details to the master bedroom with wallpaper covered and plastered walls. It has a small closet in the southwest corner and,

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in the northwest corner, there is a grey marble sink from the early twentieth century. It has period fixtures and a marble backsplash. The floor of this room has exposed wide board flooring that was probably original to the house. And, like the other bedroom, this room also boasts a matching "Steuben" signed chandelier and a similar cast-iron radiator.

Directly across from the top of the main staircase is a small L-shaped sitting room. There is also a door that covers an enclosed staircase that leads down to the living room in the north part of the duplex. The sitting room has similar features as the hallway, including narrow board flooring, simply molded wood trim painted white, and plaster walls and ceiling.

At the end of the L is a four panel wood door that leads into what the owners call the "pass-through room." The sitting and pass-through rooms provide the only second floor access between the two sections of the duplex. The pass-through room is used for storage and there is a large bank of built-in wooden cabinets along one wall. The room also has narrow board maple flooring and simple baseboards. In one section of the room there is a wall with c.1950 plastic tiles and an attached c.1950 sink. All the trim in this room, as well as the built-in cabinets, is painted white.

On the north side of the pass-through room is a hallway that connects to the long central hallway that runs through the north duplex section. The hallway provides access to the northwest end of this floor that includes a bathroom, bedroom, and sitting room. The full bathroom at the west end of the smaller hallway is primarily decorated from the 1950s, with fixtures and ceramic tile from that era. The ceramic tile covers the wall surfaces and there is a modern vinyl floor. A small grey marble sink remains in the bathroom, though, probably from the period when it was originally put in. The sink has period fixtures and a grey marble backsplash.

Just north of the bathroom is a bedroom that is a step lower than the rest of the floor. This was reportedly the maid's bedroom. The bedroom has wood-paneled walls painted white, flat baseboards, and plain trim around doors and windows. The floor is carpeted and there is a cast-iron radiator in the room. The entrances into this room have four panel wood doors and all of the doors and trim are painted white.

Just east of this bedroom is a small hall that leads to another bedroom, shown on the floor plan as the "sitting room." An enclosed staircase is also located in this space. The sitting room has the same details as the bedroom, but it has a narrow board maple floor instead of carpeting. Adjacent to these rooms, directly to the south, is another full bathroom, but it is reached from the central hallway. This bathroom has 1970s era fixtures, ceramic tile, and vinyl flooring.

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Across the central hallway from the pass-through room and the bathroom mentioned above is a set of two bedrooms, one with an attached sitting room. The bedroom in the northeast corner has a fivepanel entry door, plaster walls and ceiling, narrow board maple flooring, a cast-iron radiator, and simple molded trim around the door and a decorative window. The tripartite window with stained glass transom is very similar to the window in the dining room on the first floor of the north side of the duplex. It has three casements topped with a decorative stained glass transom. The door and all the trim are painted white.

The doors and trim of the larger bedroom with the attached sitting room are also painted white. The sitting room has plaster walls and ceiling, a large standard window, and another tripartite casement window with a stained glass transom. There is a narrow board maple floor and cast-iron radiator. A large closet spans the south end of the sitting room.

A large opening leads from the sitting room into the bedroom, which is similarly decorated and includes a small closet. An additional decorative detail is a fireplace with an Eastlake style mantle and overmantle. Like the rest of the trim in the house, the fireplace mantle and overmantle are painted white and include stepped shelves, delicate trim, and a larger mirror flanked by four smaller mirrors. The firebox has a decorative brass insert surrounded by plain tiles. There is raised plaster floral decoration on the chimney box that the fireplace is attached to.

Completing the second floor plan are three small storage rooms that sit over the first floor garage.

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Brandt House Watertown, Jefferson County, Wisconsin

## SIGNIFICANCE<sup>1</sup>

The Brandt House is nominated at the local level to the National Register of Historic Places under criterion B, Association with a Significant Person. In this case, the significant person is Edward J. Brandt, inventor and industrialist who created and developed the largest historic industry in Watertown, the Brandt Automatic Cashier Company, later known as Brandt, Inc. Brandt began his industrial career in 1890, when he also had a successful career as a banker. The date of 1890 begins the period of significance for this property. During his industrial life, he lived in this house, at first with his parents, and later with his daughter and son-in-law. While Edward lived in this house, he was active in his company, only retiring shortly before his death in 1937, which marks the end of the period of significance. Because Edward occupied this house during the entire years he worked as an active industrialist, building a local company into an important industry, this house is the most significant resource related to him in the community.

#### **Historical Background**

Edward J. Brandt's father, Friedrich Brandt, was a German immigrant who was part of a wave of German immigration to Watertown in the mid-nineteenth century that made a significant cultural change to the community. While the first German settler in Watertown reported came in 1837, shortly after the first Yankee settlers, it was the mid to late 1840s when Germans began flooding into the city. A group of German immigrants came to Watertown around 1843, reportedly looking for religious freedom. During 1848 and 1849, a larger group of German immigrants came to Watertown, this time coming for political reasons. Known as 48ers, these Germans were largely refugees from the revolution of 1848 and were, in general, well-educated professionals or skilled artisans in their homeland. In Watertown, few of these immigrants found work commensurate with their training. Many tried farming or small goods manufacturing or commercial enterprises. Some were referred to as "Latin Farmers," due to their advanced education, which at the time included fluency in Latin.<sup>2</sup>

Friedrich Brandt was a 48er who came to the United States in 1849. He was born in Sonneborn, Lippe-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This footnote is related to the significant dates and period of significance listed in Section 8 of the form. The dates are based on information from the current owner, a Brandt descendent and the biography of Edward J. Brandt that will be cited below. The period of significance is the era when Edward J. Brandt began his industrial career to his death when he was still active in his company. Brandt's father and son-in-law are of historical interest and also lived in this house, but it was Edward J. Brandt who invented the Brandt Automatic Cashier, a machine that was a significant advance in cash handling, and who built the Brandt company into the important Watertown industry it remains today.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Charles J. Wallman, *Edward J. Brandt, Inventor*, Watertown, WI: Brandt, Inc., 1985, pp. 8-11.

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Detmold, part of the later state of North Rhine-Westphalia. Although he was not as educated as some 48ers, he soon prospered in the new world. He entered the United States through New Orleans, where he remained for a time. He then went to Indiana where he worked in a lumber mill and a commercial business and was able to acquire property. In 1854, he came to Watertown.<sup>3</sup>

Although Brandt had acquired property in Indiana, he did not enter Watertown as a middle-class resident. He began work in Watertown as a laborer, clearing land in the area. He also worked at a sawmill as a manager, and eventually invested in some city property. He began a "dray" line business, hauling large and heavy items and soil for construction sites. In 1854, he met Wilhelmine Bruck, who had come to Watertown that year. They married and their first child, William, was born in 1855. On July 18, 1859, Edward Julius Brandt was born.<sup>4</sup>

Friedrich Brandt continued his climb up the "Horatio Alger" ladder of success. In 1863, he joined with Daniel Platz in forming a general (grocery) store. Platz and Brandt was a successful business and in 1868, they moved into better quarters in downtown Watertown. In that same year, the family moved into a new house on the corner of Dodge and Second Street near downtown. In 1874, Friedrich Brandt began construction on this house that was reportedly completed over several years.<sup>5</sup>

Edward J. Brandt began life speaking German in this largely German community. He went to the famous "first" kindergarten that was started by Margarethe Schurz, the wife of noted German-American leader Carl Schurz. But, after that, Edward's life straddled both the German ethnic community and the "American" community in Watertown. He started in public grade school where he learned to speak English and while his family attended a German church, Edward sang in the choir at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.<sup>6</sup>

Edward attended Watertown High School between 1873 and 1875 and graduated in the third high school class. He entered Watertown's local Academy, Northwestern University, in 1875 and completed the two-year "commercial" course. Edward's older brother, in the mean time, went into the family business in Watertown. Due to Edward's advanced training in business, he was hired as a bookkeeper at the Bank of Watertown in 1877. In 1883, Brandt was promoted to Teller, then Assistant Cashier. In 1884, he was given the job as Cashier, or manager, of the bank.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 12-14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 14-20.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 22-24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 24-25.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 26-43.

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During his rapid rise in the business world, Edward began courting Thekla Anna Wiggenhorn, the daughter of another businessman who also came to Watertown as a "48er." He and Thekla married in 1883 and moved into this house that Friedrich had built beginning in 1874. Edward and Thekla were active in the German music circles in Watertown and Edward became a member of the most important music group in the community, the Concordia Society. Edward took singing lessons from Max Henry Gaebler of the Concordia Society and later became an officer of the group.<sup>8</sup>

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In Watertown, the large number of Germans resulted in large ethnic German churches of almost every denomination. Of course, the two largest ethnic churches were the German Lutheran and German Catholic churches. Edward was a German Lutheran and Thekla was a German Catholic, but interestingly, they joined the choir at St. Bernard's Catholic Church, the mostly *Irish* church in Watertown. Theology was not behind the Brandt's involvement with St. Bernard's. Thekla was a staunch German Catholic and remained a member of the German St. Henry's Church. Edward was not as tied to his family's church. He had a secular education and sang at the Episcopal Church. Clearly, for Edward, the attraction to St. Bernard's Catholic Church was its music potential.<sup>9</sup>

St. Bernard's was constructed between 1873 and 1876 under the direction of Father William Corby, a Civil War chaplain and hero, and twice president of Notre Dame University. Father Corby had ambitions for his large church, even though most of the parishioners were working-class Irish families. Father Corby hoped to build a church that would become the cathedral church for a new diocese, although that never happened. He had the architect of numerous Catholic churches and cathedrals in New England, Patrick C. Keely, design St. Bernard's and it became one of the grandest churches in Wisconsin by the time it was finished in 1876. More importantly to Edward, it had good acoustics, a fine organ, and a priest willing to give Edward *carte blanche* in directing the choir and the type of music they performed.<sup>10</sup>

In fact, instead of the standard hymns of the Catholic mass, the music of the St. Bernard's Cecilian Choir was from Handel, Bach, Mozart, and other classical composers. A new organ with 1,704 pipes was purchased for St. Bernard's in 1892. This massive organ, atypical for a church in a small community, was a highlight of Edward Brandt's tenure with St. Bernard's choir. At a special concert in December of 1892, both Edward and Thekla performed solo pieces and they had a guest organist from St. Louis.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 35-47.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 45-49.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 49-54.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 53-54.

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Like many businessmen in small towns, Edward Brandt looked for an opportunity to branch out into other business interests beyond the bank. In 1890, he found such an interest in a gas and electric light fixture manufacturer in Watertown. Brandt, along with three other businessmen, reorganized this company into the Western Manufacturing Company, with Brandt as President and general manager and Robert Dent as superintendent. The business was located on South First Street (not extant) and eventually became successful at making gaslight fixtures.<sup>12</sup>

In 1893, Edward Brandt invented a machine that would revolutionize cash handling (at that time a process involving primarily coins) for payrolls and banks. In 1894, he received a patent for his machine. The idea behind the machine was a series of keys from 1 cent through 99 cents. By pressing any of the keys, one would receive the exact change. Brandt also created a machine to handle dollars and gold coins. In an era when payrolls were in small amounts and almost always in cash, this machine created an accurate way to dispense coins. The machine could also make correct change in a retail setting. Brandt received several additional patents for this machine in 1894 and 1895 and the final product was named the "Brandt Automatic Cashier." The basic concepts of this machine would continue to be used in later mechanical versions that would be produced by Brandt's company until 1981. And even later, an electronic version of this machine would be made during the late twentieth century.<sup>13</sup>

How the Brandt Automatic Cashier and the Brandt company made an impact on Watertown will be discussed under the Statement of Significance, but the importance of the machine and its quick success had a profound impact on Edward Brandt. He was already a successful banker, but he would achieve additional success with his company, which over the years expanded into additional product lines and become a large Watertown employer.

In 1885, shortly after Edward and Thekla moved into this house, their daughter and only child, Eugenia was born. Edward, Thekla, and Eugenia would live in this house their entire lives. Eugenia attended St. Henry's Catholic School, then attended junior high school and high school at the Academy of Our Lady in Longwood, Illinois. In 1904 and 1905, Eugenia remained at home, then in 1906, she entered the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She graduated in 1910 with a language and music Bachelor of Arts Degree and a teaching certificate.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 56-58.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 65-68.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 100-101.

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While at Madison, Eugenia met and dated Earl Quirk, a Minnesota native and son of a mill owner. Quirk attended the University of Wisconsin during the same years as Eugenia, graduating with her in 1910 with a commercial Bachelor of Arts degree. Although they were very close in college, after graduation, they spent a few years apart. Eugenia moved back home with her parents in Watertown while Earl went to California where his family had relocated. He worked for the family's real estate and financial business in San Diego. Despite their separation, Earl and Eugenia apparently remained in touch and decided to marry in 1913. Eugenia joined Earl in San Diego as the Quirk firm became more successful. While there, two daughters were born, Catherine and Lillian. In 1917, Earl and Eugenia moved to Los Angeles where Earl operated an office of the family business.<sup>15</sup>

Between 1900 and his death in 1937, Edward continued to participate in the Cecilian Society at St. Bernard's Church and in musical events throughout the country. Thekla was also active in musical groups during this time and the duo made considerable contributions to the musical arts in Watertown as well as the rest of the country. It was at one of these out-of-town musical events in 1918, that Edward and Thekla visited Los Angeles. Edward was a "featured soloist" in a major concert in that city. While visiting with Earl and Eugenia in Los Angeles, he probably discussed Earl's entry in the Brandt company, since in November of 1918, Earl became an officer (secretary). In 1919, Edward's mother died, following the death of Friedrich in 1901. These deaths meant that this house, a duplex, had one side that was not occupied. Certainly, Edward could have built a retirement home and his daughter and son-in-law could have built a large house commensurate with Earl's standing as an officer in a prominent industry. However, the family continued the tradition of duplex living in this house.<sup>16</sup>

When Earl and Eugenia moved into the north section of the house and Edward and Thekla moved into the south section, major renovations took place. The house was both enlarged and remodeled with elaborate Colonial details on the exterior and beautiful classical details on the interior. Both families remained in the house until their deaths. Edward died in 1937, turning over the Brandt company operations to his son-in-law, Earl Quirk. Thekla died in 1944.

Another generation would enter this house during the later twentieth century. E. James Quirk was born in 1921 and attended St. Bernard's School in Watertown and the Watertown High School. His later high school years were completed at Governor Dummer Academy in Massachusetts and he completed his studies in 1940. He entered Notre Dame University, but only attended one year. In 1941 and 1942, he worked at a war job in the engineering department of Bell Aircraft in Buffalo. In

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 101-109.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 114-117.

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1942, James Quirk married Virginia Cossmann. After serving in the Army Air Corps in World War II, Quirk joined the Brandt company, working in all 26 departments as an executive trainee. He worked as a sales representative in Illinois and Iowa, then in personnel. In 1950, Quirk became the Corporate Secretary of the company and in 1951, he became Second Vice President.<sup>17</sup>

Eugenia Brandt Quirk died in 1979, leaving daughters Catherine and Lillian, and son E. James. This house then passed to James Quirk, then to his daughter Catherine Jean Quirk. After she died in 1989 the home was sold. For a time it was operated as the Brandt Quirk Manor Bed and Breakfast. In 2004, James Brandt Quirk, a great-grandson of Edward Brandt, purchased the house, bringing it back into family ownership.<sup>18</sup>

### Statement of Significance

The Brandt house is historically significant as the long-time home of Edward J. Brandt, inventor and one of the most important industrialists of nineteenth and twentieth century Watertown. Throughout Brandt's extraordinary career creating the Brandt Cashier Company, later known as the Brandt Automatic Cashier Company, and later, Brandt, Inc., a manufacturer of coin handling equipment, he lived in this house and it is the most important historic resource associated with him in the city.

The beginnings of the Brandt family and the Brandt Automatic Cashier are noted in the Historical Background section. In this section, the growth of the company will be discussed as context for the significance of Edward J. Brandt as an important industrialist in Watertown.

After inventing and seeking patents for his automatic cashier in the mid-1890s, Brandt continued for two more years to prepare prototypes for manufacturing. At the same time, his Brandt-Dent gaslight fixtures company was growing and in 1897, he had to add to that factory to make room to make his automatic cashiers. By 1898, it was clear that Brandt could no longer keep his bank job and resigned, but remained on the Board of Directors for a number of years. During the turn of the twentieth century years, he manufactured automatic cashiers and continued to acquire patents to expand and improve the machines. He also kept his interest in other inventions, including a perpetual calendar, and continued to be involved in the gaslight factory.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 157-159.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Information from the current owners.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Wallman, pp. 80-90.

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By 1909, the automatic cashier factory was successful enough that Brandt sold his interest in the Brandt-Dent Company and got out of gaslight fixtures manufacturing, probably just in time, as electric fixtures would soon become the standard for interior lighting. With no further business distractions, the Brandt company introduced 16 new models of the Brandt Automatic Cashier between 1909 and 1911. During the same period, he employed 13-26 people in the factory along with several salespeople and office workers.<sup>20</sup>

The 1910s and 1920s would be an era of major expansion for the Brandt Cashier Company. Between 1918 and 1920, the sales force grew from nine to 32 people. By 1920, the factory workforce had grown to 79. During the 1920s, the company expanded in England, creating a branch in London and making machines for British currency. In 1923, the name of the company was officially changed to the Brandt Automatic Cashier Company to better foster brand identity. In 1926, Edward turned over the day-to-day operations of the company to his son-in-law Earl Quirk, but Edward remained in charge, taking the new position of Chairman of the Board. Also in that year, a new office building was constructed on South First Street.<sup>21</sup>

The Great Depression of the 1930s resulted in some economic declines for the company, especially since banks were a large customer base and some failed. But, after the Bank Holiday of 1933, most banks reopened and remained in business, creating at least some demand for Brandt products. In 1931, at the depths of the Depression, Brandt introduced a coin sorter and counter that was a standard of the industry. In 1933, the company began developing money packaging equipment, including coin rolls and bill straps. In 1937, the year Edward died, the company was employing 140 people making a variety of cash handling machines.<sup>22</sup>

Soon after Edward's death, the company was caught up in the crisis of World War II. The company had to close its English office and cease operations there due to the war. When the United States entered the war, the Brandt company ceased coin handling machine production in favor of war work. The skilled workers at Brandt spent much of the war years doing experimental and tool work for other companies that manufactured war materiél. After the war, there was a significant backlog of demand for Brandt products and the company rapidly started to produce their pre-war products.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 90-97.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 118-134.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 139-143.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 151-152.

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The post-World War II economic boom in the 1950s resulted in major expansion at Brandt. In 1953, the company purchased an old milk condensary to make their cash handling machines. Other products continued to be made at their old location. The convenience of having the production line for all products on one level resulted in a new factory building in 1958, this one located on South 12<sup>th</sup> Street. In 1960, Earl Quirk died and his son, James, took over the leadership of the company. By this time, Brandt was a leading manufacturer in Watertown with a large payroll. In the late 1960s, the company expanded the new factory and built a new office. During the 1970s the company acquired new product lines as well as creating new cash handling machinery and due to the expansion into many different product lines, the company was renamed Brandt, Inc. In 1979, a 26,000 square foot addition was added to the factory. Leadership changed again when Jim Quirk became Chairman of the Board and a non-family member, Larry Johnson, became President and CEO of the company in the early 1980s.<sup>24</sup>

The 1980s and 1990s have been difficult years for American manufacturing as many companies have been purchased or closed due to foreign competition. In 1995, the De La Rue Corporation of England purchased Brandt, Inc. This company began in 1813 as a print shop and through the years it grew as a currency printer for many countries throughout the globe. When the company introduced the first Automatic Teller Machine in London in 1967, they entered the world of cash handling equipment. The company became a major manufacturer of ATMs, which it remains today. The company continued to expand into security printing and security products, banknote paper and printing, and cash handling systems. Their interest in cash handling systems was the catalyst to their acquisition of Brandt. Today, Brandt still makes cashing handling machines and systems for the parent company.<sup>25</sup>

Edward Brandt's invention of a cash handling machine was revolutionary in the mechanization of cash handling and payroll distribution. His company, under his direction, grew from a small business employing only a few people to a large company providing the community 140 jobs, even during the Great Depression. Brandt's management skills, continuous product development, and foresight to groom his son-in-law into a high quality manager, laid the foundation for a company that became one of the largest and most important industries in Watertown during the twentieth century. It was while he was inventing, managing, and developing his company that he lived in this house and this building is the most important resource associated with him.

The office building that was constructed in 1926 was where Brandt had his business location at that time, and he had offices in the other sites where his company was located. But, it is this house that can

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 155-167.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> De La Rue Corporation web site, <u>www.delarue.com/DLR\_Content/CDA/Pages/AboutUs/companyhistory</u>.

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be associated with him throughout his industrial career; from 1890, when Brandt first got into the manufacturing business, creating a successful gaslight fixture company, to the turn of the twentieth century, when his automatic cashier was taking off, to the 1910s and 1920s, when the company grew to become a major employer in town. Even when he was "retired" in the later 1930s, Edward Brandt remained in charge as Chairman of the Board and worked in company offices on a steady basis. This house is the only resource that represents Brandt's entire career as an industrialist.

According to the intensive architectural and historical survey of Watertown completed in 1987, the Brandt company was one of the larger industries that developed around the turn of the twentieth century in Watertown and continuing well into the twentieth century. Prior to this time, Watertown developed typical pioneer and nineteenth century industries, such as grist milling and sawmilling. Also developed in the nineteenth century were an iron foundry, a woolen mill, and a brewery. The later industries were larger and created a significant industrial base for the city.<sup>26</sup>

Along with Edward Brandt's automatic cashier factory, the Otto Biefeld Machine Company, a large machine shop and manufacturer; the G. B. Lewis Company, a maker of specialty beekeeping products; and the Blaesius Brothers' Watertown Table Slide Company created a relatively modern industrial foundation for Watertown. In the early twentieth century, these companies would be joined by the Beals and Torrey Shoe Company, the Perfection Table Slide Company, and the Watertown Canning Company as important industrial employers.<sup>27</sup>

All except for the Brandt company are no longer in operation today as manufacturing of their products became more profitable elsewhere or obsolete. But, not only did the Brandt company remain in operation during the entire twentieth century, it also remains an important employer today, even though it is not locally owned. Cash handling equipment is a necessary product even in today's increasingly paperless and currency-less society. Retail businesses and banks still rely on cash handling systems and these systems have only gotten more sophisticated. Edward Brandt, by creating an outstanding and innovative product and by managing the manufacturing of that product in a high quality manner, left Watertown a successful business that still provides employment today. As such, he is one of the most, if not the most, significant industrialist during the historic era of the city.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Carol Lohry Cartwright and Joan Rausch, *Intensive Survey Report Architectural and Historical Survey Report*, Watertown and LaCrosse: Architectural Researches, Inc., 1987, p. 11-12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 12-13.

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The Brandt House is historically significant for its association with the entire industrial career of Edward J. Brandt. Other family members who have lived in the house have some historical interest, including the self-made commercial businessman Friedrich Brandt, and Earl Quirk, who took over the Brandt company from Edward and managed its success in the post-World War II era. But, it was Edward J. Brandt who was the most significant of the house's occupants. He created the foundation for the Brandt company and developed it with good management and innovation during its formative years. The entire Brandt family was notable in Watertown, but it was Edward J. Brandt who became the historically significant industrialist who contributed the most to the overall economic growth and development of twentieth century Watertown.

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# United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

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### **Bibliography**

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### **Boundary Description**

The boundary description for this property is as follows: Original Plat, east side, Block 24, Part of Lots 1 and 2, being a rectangular parcel that measures 108 feet along South Fourth Street (east boundary line), 100 feet along Spring Street (south boundary line), 108 feet along the lot line behind the house (west boundary line), and 100 feet along a line between the garage addition attached to the house and the modern garage (north boundary).

#### **Boundary Justification**

This boundary surrounds the historic house and its original site and has been the house's historic location since it was first constructed. It does not draw out the non-contributing shed due to its proximity to the house, but does draw out the modern garage to the north of the house.

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Brandt House Watertown, Jefferson County, Wisconsin

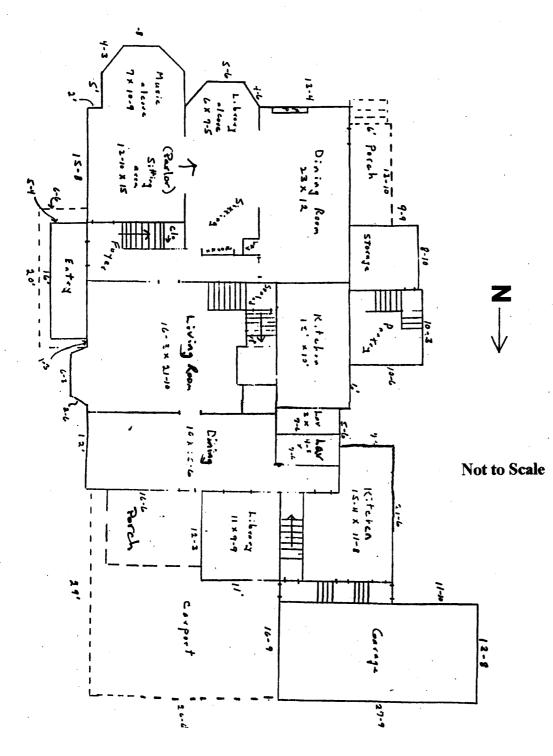
### Brandt House, Watertown, Jefferson County, Wisconsin. Photos by Carol Lohry Cartwright, July 2006. Negatives on file in the Division of Historic Preservation, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin.

#### Views:

- 1 of 19: Main or east elevation, from the east.
- 2 of 19: Main elevation showing garage addition, from the east.
- 3 of 19: North elevation, from the north.
- 4 of 19: South elevation, showing bays, from the south.
- 5 of 19: West elevation, main block, from the southwest.
- 6 of 19: Interior, first floor, foyer.
- 7 of 19: Interior, first floor, south section sitting room.
- 8 of 19: Interior, first floor, south section music alcove.
- 9 of 19: Interior, first floor, looking into dining room from library, south section.
- 10 of 19: Interior, first floor, dining room looking at fireplace.
- 11 of 19: Interior, first floor, living roof, north section.
- 12 of 19: Interior, first floor, west end of dining room, north section.
- 13 of 19: Interior, second floor, hallway in main block.
- 14 of 19: Interior, second floor, hallway in main block showing entry into east bedroom and bath.
- 15 of 19: Interior, second floor, main block, east bedroom looking into sunroom.
- 16 of 19: Interior, second floor, main block, west bedroom.
- 17 of 19: Interior, second floor, north section, bedroom.
- 18 of 19: Interior, second floor, north section, sitting room of bedroom suite.
- 19 of 19: Interior, second floor, bedroom fireplace.

## BRANDT HOUSE 410 South Fourth Street, Watertown, Jefferson County, WI

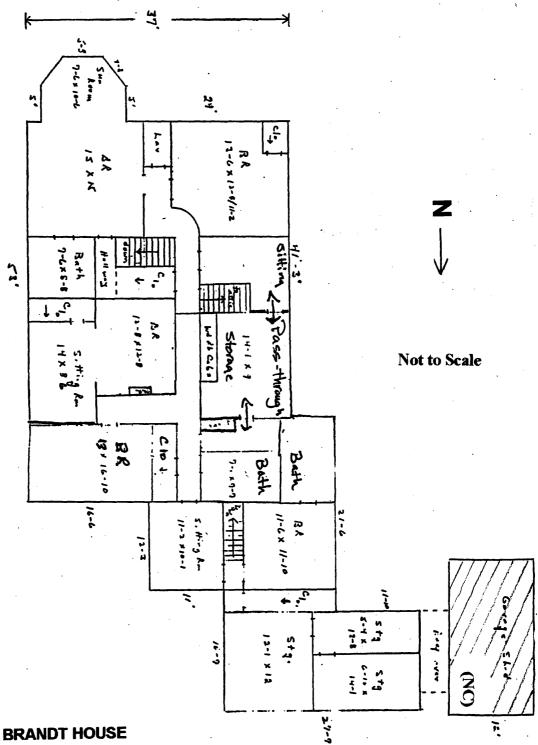
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



## FIGURE 1: BRANDT HOUSE

## **BRANDT HOUSE** 410 South Fourth Street, Watertown, Jefferson County, WI

SECOND FLOOR PLAN



**FIGURE 2: BRANDT HOUSE**