

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Wisconsin
COUNTY: St. Croix
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE JUL 18 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Moffat, John S., House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1004 Third Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Hudson

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Third

STATE: **Wisconsin** CODE: **55** COUNTY: **St. Croix** CODE: **109**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

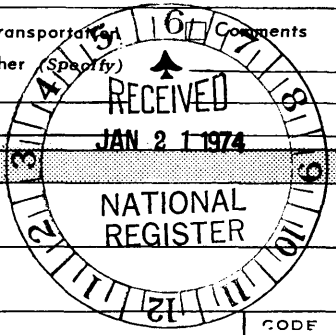
OWNER'S NAME:
St. Croix County Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
1004 Third Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Hudson

STATE:
Wisconsin

CODE: **55**



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
St. Croix County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
911 Fourth Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Hudson

STATE:
Wisconsin

CODE: **55**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Wisconsin Historical Preservation Plan, vol. II: the Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
State Historical Society of Wisconsin

STREET AND NUMBER:
816 State Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Madison

STATE:
Wisconsin

CODE: **55**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Wisconsin**

COUNTY: **St. Croix**

ENTRY NUMBER: **JUL 18 1974**

DATE: **JUL 18 1974**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)
 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

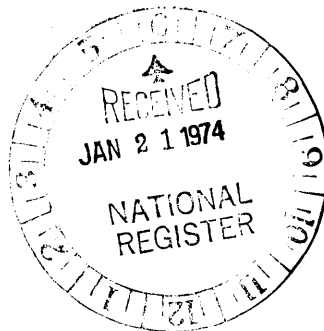
(Check One)
 Altered Unaltered

(Check One)
 Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John S. Moffat house of Hudson, Wisconsin was built in the summer of 1855 using plans which Moffat had brought from New York. It is thought to have been constructed by the Andrews Brothers, a local firm versed in the Greek revival. Originally the two-story house, which is on a slightly raised basement, was of clapboard and had a one-story veranda with a second story railing which surrounded the house. The details, which included hexagonal Doric columns for the veranda, simple flat-arched windows, Doric pilasters at each corner, and a frieze of triglyphs and metopes, indicate the Andrews Brothers' familiarity with the Greek Revival. The windows are arranged with two on each of two opposite sides and one on each of the remaining sides. The interior is 33 feet in diameter and each of the two floors has nine-foot ceilings. An off-center chimney provides fireplaces for the kitchen and living room. One convenience of the house, common to many octagon houses, was a rain water drainage and cistern storage system which remained intact until a recent renovation.

A number of changes have been made on the interior and the exterior. Before 1860 the roof was replaced by one with a lower pitch and with a cupola which is Italianate in style with segmentally-arched windows and a bracketed cornice. The same paired-bracket motif was then added to the cornice of the house also. After 1860 the major change was the addition of a library and a bedroom on the first floor. Also, two porches have been added and the interior floor plan has been altered by the removal of partions. In 1916 the house was stuccoed and the second-story porch railing removed. Despite these changes the house still is in good condition and particularly is enhanced by the fact that some of the original Moffat family furniture and some Civil War artifacts are kept in the house. The house currently serves as a museum for the St. Croix County Historical Society.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

4. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1855

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

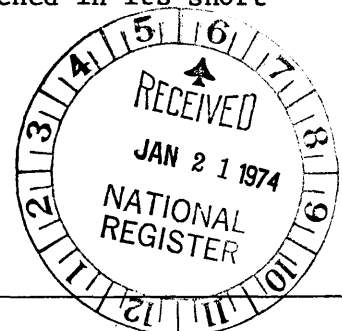
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Moffat house is an example of the popular nineteenth-century fad of octagon houses. The house was constructed in 1855, during the peak popularity of the movement. While not derived directly from any pattern book, the house shares many characteristics with the Greenwood-Orre house of East Templeton, Massachusetts, and the Dr. Hake house of Ilion, New York, which were taken from Orson S. Fowler's popular publication on the octagon mode, A Home for All. Not surprisingly, this was one of the first houses in Hudson which, in the 1850's, was an outpost on the western frontier.

In his book, Fowler suggested that a house should have a raised basement, a flat roof, a multitude of gadgets including water closets, speaking tubes, hot air systems, and hot water coils, and be constructed with concrete walls. His book recommended large rectangular rooms and oddly-shaped triangular storage areas. The Moffat house followed these suggestions in its original plan, using water storage cisterns, a porch for lounging, and a cupola for viewing the countryside. Moffat deviated from the popular type with his pitched roof, only slightly raised basement, and clapboard siding. The house is indicative of the sort of economy, both practical and esthetic, which the popular fad represented.

John S. Moffat arrived in Hudson from New York in 1854 and immediately became active in community affairs. After holding several civic offices and being admitted to the bar, he became a county judge in 1869.

Octagon houses are important to Wisconsin's architectural history as they were extremely popular in the state. Some twenty such structures are known still to exist. Several of these followed Fowler's plan closely, and the Milton house, of Joseph Goodrich, was published in the revised edition of Fowler's book in 1853. The Moffat house is a well-preserved example of the popular, but short-lived architectural mode, and also indicates the distance which the mode reached in its short career.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Blumenson, John J-G.. "A Home for All: The Octagon in American Architecture." Washington, D.C. (Preservation News, July-September, 1973). p. 30-5.
 Fowler, Orson S.. A Home for All. New York (1854).
 Kennedy, Roger. Minnesota Houses: An Architectural and Historical View. Minneapolis (Dillon Press, 1967).
 Miller, Willis H.. This was Hudson. Hudson, Wis. (1955).
 Moffat, R. Burnham. Moffat Genealogies. New York (published by the author, 1958).
 Schmidt, Carl F.. The Octagon Fad. New York (published by the author, 1958).

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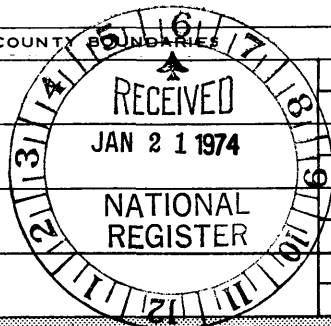
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	N 44	58	51
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	W 92	45	19
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Ellen Threinen, Preservation Planning Assistant
 ORGANIZATION: State Historical Society of Wisconsin DATE: 11-19-73
 STREET AND NUMBER:
816 State Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Madison STATE: Wisconsin CODE: 55

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:
 National State Local
 Name James Morton Smith
 Title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin
 Date January 11, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.
[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Date 7/18/74
 ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date 7.17.74