

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	APR 12 1978
DATE ENTERED	SEP 13 1978

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 7

Significance:

Besides its significance for grout construction, the Alexander-Sunnyview Warehouse is important as one of the three existing buildings, all grout, which were constructed for the storage of wheat. Wheat was the big cash crop at the time the warehouses were built, and Wisconsin then was one of the leading wheat producers, though after the Civil War production moved west of the Mississippi. It is interesting that the building still has an agricultural function as an apple warehouse and that its second floor still has the pulley wheel, now unused, from the days of wheat storage.

(Douglas and Hartung, Op. cit. p. 11, pp. 126-27; Bicentennial History of Milton, p. 61; Interview with W. F. Davidson and Carl Thostenson, employee, 1977.)

Owner: Wayne Davidson and Charlotte D. Skelly
321 Chicago Street
Milton, Wisconsin 53563 ✓

Peter McEwan Warehouse
711 East High Street
Outlot 131, less than one acre
UTM: 16/341390/4737180

Description:

The McEwan Warehouse site was platted in 1843 by early settler Peter McEwan and purchased in 1858 by Valerius Anderson. The site was mapped in 1858 as a "storehouse" just west of McEwan's house. Presumably this mid-19th-century two-story grout building with a returned cornice was built as a grain storehouse by or for Peter McEwan and remodeled as a house by or for the Anderson family, which retained ownership of the house until 1902. The present owner reports early-20th-century accounts that the upper story had once been used as a granary.

Peter McEwan's brothers, born like him in Scotland, were both carpenters, active in Milton, and could have had a hand in the construction of the building. William also engaged in the mercantile business with Peter until 1856 and then went into farming.

The smooth whitewashed grout is 1-1/2 feet thick at the limestone foundations. The main block of the house is 21' x 40', with later additions. Two sash windows appear across the second story front below a returned cornice.

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PAGE 8

The gable above is frame. Wooden gables also appear on the other two grout wheat warehouses, and on the now-razed Allen-Shumway house at the southwest corner of Parkview and Madison Avenue, but they are not characteristic of the four other grout houses remaining in Milton.

In 1902 the house reverted briefly to a McEwan; from 1906-1945 it belonged to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Story, who willed it to the present owner, Mrs. Elwyn Johnson, and her husband. The Storys added the front porch, but, according to Mrs. Johnson, the porthole window inserted near the front of the west side, first story, dates from the 19th century, as does the frame horse barn to the rear. The Johnsons enclosed the front porch, added a one-story wing on the back or south side, and remodeled the interior as two apartments, upstairs and down.

Unfortunately, wooden mouldings and window frames of the front parlor were removed when the downstairs was "modernized" by the present occupant, the owner's daughter, who since then became aware of the historic value of this building.

Significance:

The significance of 711 East High is primarily on architectural grounds, for its grout construction. It is interesting as a building which has served multiple functions. Built evidently as a grain storehouse, it has long been an example of adaptive use as a residence, though the second story may have been used to store grain as late as the turn of the century.

(1858 Rock County map; Douglas and Hartung, Rock County Historic Sites and Buildings, pp. 126-27; Bicentennial History of Milton, pp. 4, 60; interview with Mrs. Elwyn Johnson, Sept. 1977.)

Owner: Mrs. Elwyn Johnson
415 South Parkview Drive ✓
Milton, Wisconsin 53563

Goodrich - Buten House
528 East Madison Avenue
Outlot 295, less than one acre
UTM: 16/341350/4737690

Description:

The Goodrich-Buten house, built, according to Milton tax rolls, in 1850, is a one-and-one-half-story whitewashed grout house with a full-sized double-hung sash