

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received JUN 2 1987

date entered JUL 2 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic HANS GRAM HOUSE

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number 345 East Wisconsin Avenue _____ not for publication

city, town Neenah _____ vicinity of

state Wisconsin code 55 county Winnebago code 139

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Victor and Juliana Turoski

street & number 345 East Wisconsin Avenue

city, town Neenah _____ vicinity of state Wisconsin 54956

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Winnebago County Courthouse

city, town Oshkosh _____ state Wisconsin 54901

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places
title Neenah Intensive Survey has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes no
1986
date 1982 _____ federal state _____ county local

depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin

city, town Madison _____ state Wisconsin 53706

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Hans Gram House is located two blocks east of the central business district on the western edge of Neenah's mansion district. Situated on the southwest corner of East Wisconsin Avenue and Elm Street, the building is a two-story wood-frame residence with Queen Anne and Italianate references. The plan configuration is rectangular with projecting pavilions and a rear wing. The roof is low-pitched and its form is combination hip and gable. The foundations are rock-faced ashlar limestone, the siding is clapboard, and the shingles are hexagonal asbestos. The windows are double-hung, single-paned sash; accompanying shutters are not functional but are believed to have replaced functioning originals. The gable end shingles are imbricated, the soffit is enriched by incised brackets, and the peaked window headers are incised with a star motif. The front stoop and side porches have turned supports with spindled balustrades and grilles. The porch roofs, while only having one slope, suggest the Mansard form. A large integral porch on the second floor encompasses the projecting pavilion on the east facade.

The modest interior follows a side hall plan with kitchen and pantry in the rear wing. French doors have replaced paneled doors between the front and back parlors, and the kitchen has been remodeled at various times.

The garage located near the southwest corner of the property is from the early 20th century and is a non-contributing building.

The nomination includes: ONE Contributing Building ONE Noncontributing Building.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1887¹ Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Hans Gram House is of local architectural significance as a fine example of the late Victorian Italianate period of construction.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Hans Gram operated a dry goods store in the Russell House Hotel with P. H. Miller.² His home on Wisconsin Avenue was built in 1887 and occupied by his children until the 1960's. The Grams were part of the Scandinavian community, which by 1885 accounted for nearly half of Neenah's immigrant population.³

ARCHITECTURE

The Hans Gram House is of local architectural significance as a fine example of late Victorian Italianate architecture period of construction. The era in which it was built was one of great local prosperity, notable for the construction of the fine mansions located in the immediate neighborhood. The Gram house is significantly smaller and less pretentious than its neighbors, yet it is distinguished by such Queen Anne features as the delicate spindlework and imbricated gable shingles. The Gram house is further enriched by the suggested mansard porch roofs, brackets, and incised window headers from the Italianate mode. The handsome result of this combination compares favorably with the fine residences of Neenah's 19th century industrialists.

Other local examples of late Victorian Italianate period of construction can be found at 419 Church Street, 120 E. Franklin Street, and 105 N. Park Avenue. Another example at 112 E. Columbian Avenue was recently demolished. Common features are a central gable, incised headers, low-pitched roofs, high foundations and a side hall plan. All but one is of frame construction. The frame examples were resided with shingles in the 20th century, while a large cast concrete verandah was attached to the brick house at 120 E. Franklin. All appear to have lost ornamental features which distinguish the Hans Gram House.

¹1887 City of Neenah Tax Roll, p. 1.

²Cunningham, G. A. History of Neenah, p. 240.

³Glaab and Larsen. Factories in the Valley, p. 202.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Cunningham, G. A. History of Neenah. Gazette Printing Establishment, 1878. Neenah, WI

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .25 acres

Quadrangle name Neenah, WI

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

A

1	6
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3	8	3	6	7	0
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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots One (1), Two (2), and Three(3) of Block "B" in the Plat of Winnebago Rapids, except for the southerly Ten (10 feet of said lots.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Peter J. Adams

organization Peter James Adams & Associates date 4/30/1986

street & number Post Office Box 341 telephone 414/722-8963

city or town Neenah state Wisconsin 54956

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

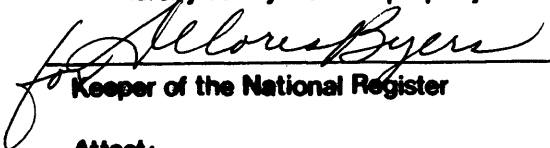
title date 5/26/87

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

~~Entered in the~~
National Register

date 7-2-87


Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration