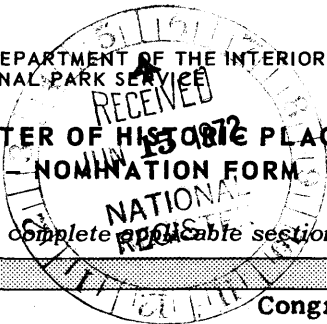


5/1/73

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)



STATE: Wisconsin	
COUNTY: Milwaukee	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 23 1973

1. NAME

COMMON: North Point Water Tower	Congressmen to be notified: Senator William Proxmire Senator Gaylord A. Nelson Rep. Henry S. Reuss (5th Cong. Dist.)
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: E. North Avenue between N. Lake Drive and N. Terrace Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Milwaukee			
STATE: Wisconsin	CODE: 55	COUNTY: Milwaukee	CODE: 079

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Ornamental</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Milwaukee Water Works, City of Milwaukee		
STREET AND NUMBER: 841 North Broadway		
CITY OR TOWN: Milwaukee	STATE: Wisconsin	CODE: 55

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Milwaukee County Courthouse		
STREET AND NUMBER: 901 North Ninth Street		
CITY OR TOWN: Milwaukee	STATE: Wisconsin	CODE: 55

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey		
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: District of Columbia	CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Wisconsin	FOR NPS USE ONLY
COUNTY: Milwaukee	
ENTRY NUMBER: FEB 23 1973	DATE
DATE	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

In 1872-75 the Milwaukee Water Works erected a set of structures consisting of the Engine House, a pumping station located on the shore of Lake Michigan north and east of downtown Milwaukee; the Reservoir, situated approximately one mile west of the station in what is now Kilbourn Park; the North Street Bridge, which carried the water main joining station and reservoir across the Milwaukee River; and the North Point Water Tower, located on the bluff above the Engine House. The tower was built to house an iron standpipe that served to relieve city water mains of pulsations from the pumping engines. This portion of the Water Works complex was put in operation in September 1874. Engineering advances soon rendered the standpipe obsolete, but both the pipe and enclosing tower were left standing and over the years have been carefully preserved and maintained.

The Water Tower is a Victorian Gothic design executed in cream-colored local limestone, its rock-faced walls backed with Milwaukee brick and trimmed with dressed limestone. Door and window frames are wood; roof and spire are galvanized iron.

The exterior is composed in three stages: the buttressed base, square in plan, measuring some 24 feet by 24 feet by 65 feet high; the slightly tapering cylindrical shaft of the tower; and the observation platform area at the top, with gabled roofs, finials, and a weather-vane crowned octagonal spire. The structure's overall height is stated to be in excess of 175 feet.

A Gothic-arched doorway in the east elevation is the only entrance and gives access to a cylindrical compartment some 14 feet in diameter and 135 feet high. This space, in turn, contains the iron standpipe, which measures 4 feet in diameter and, above grade, 120 feet in height. An iron staircase circles the pipe and continues beyond it to the observation deck some 135 feet above grade.

Excepting minor modifications to the iron staircase made during the early 1880's, the fabric survives as it was built in 1873-74. In recent years it has been restored and refurbished by the Milwaukee Water Works.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1873-74

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 checked="" 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 | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Standing high on a bluff overlooking Lake Michigan, the lofty North Point Water Tower has been a prominent feature of Milwaukee's skyline for almost 100 years. As indicated, it was part of the complex erected for the Milwaukee Water Works during the 1870's, its contemporaries including a pumping station, a bridge, and a reservoir. Of the set only the Water Tower and Kilbourn Park Reservoir have survived. Though it has long since ceased to serve its original function, the Water Tower has been preserved intact and has been carefully kept up. Often praised for its beauty, the structure is a notable local example of the Victorian Gothic style, fanciful and charming.

In recognition of its historical and architectural importance, the tower was selected as a Milwaukee Landmark in 1968 and during the next year was designated as a landmark of the American Water Works Association. In 1969, too, the tower was documented in data pages, photographs, and measured drawings for the archives of the Historic American Buildings Survey.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Perrin, Richard W. E., The Architecture of Wisconsin, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, 1967, 81
 Perrin, Richard W. E., Milwaukee Landmarks, Milwaukee, 1968, 47-48
 Wietczykowski, Mary Ellen, "Historic American Buildings Survey, Milwaukee Project 1969," Wisconsin Architect, 41(1):14-21, January 1970

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		N 43 03 35	W 87 52 47	
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than 1**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mary Ellen Wietczykowski, Chairman

ORGANIZATION: **Milwaukee Landmarks Commission** DATE: **9 May 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
210 West Michigan Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Milwaukee** STATE: **Wisconsin** CODE: **55**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>James Morton Smith</u> James Morton Smith</p> <p>Title <u>Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin</u></p> <p>Date <u>JUN 9 1972</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Robert M. Utley</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>2/23/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>2/22/73</u></p>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Wisconsin	
COUNTY	
Milwaukee	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 23 1973

(Number all entries)

NORTH POINT WATER TOWER

6. Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Buildings and Sites (State)

1971

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

816 State Street

Madison

Wisconsin

Code: 55

11. Donald N. Anderson, Assistant Director, Historic Sites & Markers Division

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

March 1, 1972

816 State Street

Madison

Wisconsin

Code: 55

