

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Wisconsin
COUNTY: Dane
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE DEC 16 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Ely, Richard, T., House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
205 N. Prospect Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Madison

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Second

STATE: **Wisconsin** CODE: **55** COUNTY: **Dane** CODE: **025**

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 <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Barash, Dr. Harvey L.

STREET AND NUMBER:
205 N. Prospect Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Madison

STATE:
Wisconsin

CODE:
55

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Register of Deeds, City-County Building

STREET AND NUMBER:
210 Monona Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Madison

STATE:
Wisconsin

CODE:
55

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Wisconsin's Historic Preservation Plan, Volume II, The Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: **1973** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
State Historical Society of Wisconsin

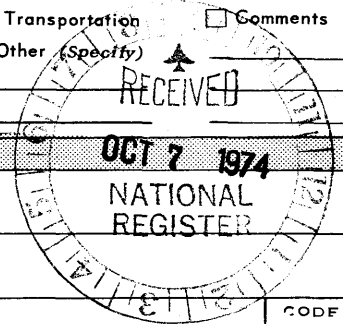
STREET AND NUMBER:
816 State Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Madison

STATE:
Wisconsin

CODE:
55

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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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 type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Richard T. Ely house is a two-and-one-half story frame house. It is a straight-forward and faithful example of the Neo-Colonial mode of the Georgian Revival. Its main facade is strictly symmetrical, and its plan is rectangular. It has a hipped roof with eaves decorated as a classical cornice. The roof is topped with a flat deck. Chimneys are placed at either side of the roof so as to contribute to the overall symmetry though they are not strictly symmetrical. The central part of the facade projects slightly and is crowned with a pediment over supporting Ionic pilasters. A central one-story Ionic portico with railing above projects from this central part of the facade to cover the main entry. The doorway has an elliptical fanlight and ordinary sidelights. All the windows are double-hung sash of which three on the main facade, two flanking the entry on the first floor, and one on center above the entry on the second floor, have broken pediments. Dormer windows project from the roof hips.

The Richard T. Ely house, because it so faithfully incorporates the Georgian Revival design formula, is possibly the best example of this style in Madison. This is most likely due to the fact that its architect was a relatively sophisticated Chicago eclectic designer, Charles Summer Frost.



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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) **1896**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | Association with a |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | historically significant person. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input 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 Richard T. Ely house is significant both because it is perhaps Madison's best example of the Georgian Revival and because of its historical associations. The client for the house, Richard T. Ely, was one of Wisconsin's foremost economics scholars. He was born in 1854 and received his PhD in 1879 from the University of Heidelberg, Germany, where the study of economic theory was far in advance of that in America during Ely's time. In the early 1890's, the University of Wisconsin raided the faculties of some Eastern universities, primarily Johns Hopkins. From thence came Richard T. Ely to Wisconsin in 1892, induced by a large salary upon the recommendation of Ely's former student, Frederick Jackson Turner, a nationally-renowned historian. Ely was a progressive economist, for the American temperament, and was considered by some in Wisconsin a radical--even a dangerous radical. His discussions of Marxian socialism, which had hitherto had very little academic recognition, and his strictures upon corporate abuses made him very controversial. In 1894 a committee of investigation was appointed after Ely became involved in a labor disturbance. There was a formal trial which was a debacle for the accusers and a complete vindication of Ely and his teaching practices. A plaque just inside the entrance to Bascom Hall (one of the University's oldest buildings and the heart of the recently-proposed Bascom Hill Historic District) bears the declaration of academic freedom which accompanied the committee's findings and the exoneration of Dr. Ely:

Whatsoever may be the limitations which trammel inquiry elsewhere, we believe the great state university of Wisconsin should ever encourage that continued and fearless sifting and winnowing by which alone truth can be found!

Naturally, Ely was also progressive politically, and was a staunch supporter of Robert M. LaFollette. They, however, had a falling-out over the American entry into World War I, as did almost all of LaFollette's former university supporters.

In his Autobiography, Ely even saw fit to comment on architectural design and the University of Wisconsin campus: " They [the architects] constructed buildings with no regard for the natural surroundings. It seemed as if the architects were only interested in showing off all they knew about the architecture of ancient Greece and Rome." This condemnation

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ely, Richard T. Ground Under Our Feet: An Autobiography (New York: 1938).
 Blueprints for the original house in the possession of the owner.
 Pyre, James F.A. Wisconsin. (New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 1920).
 Withey, Henry F. and Elsie R. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (deceased). (Los Angeles: Hennessey and Ingalls, 1970).

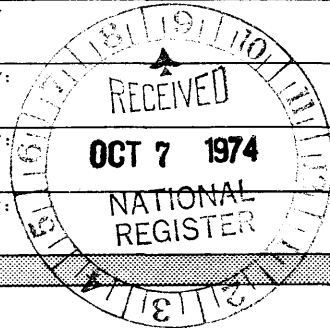
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	U.T.M. Zone 16: 303,280 E. 4,771,380 N.	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minute Seconds ° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
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: Jeff Dean, State Preservation Planner

ORGANIZATION: State Historical Society of Wisconsin DATE: August 21, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: 816 State Street

CITY OR TOWN: Madison STATE: Wisconsin CODE: 55

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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
 James Morton Smith
 Title _____

Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin
 Date Oct. 1, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 12/16/74

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date Dec. 12, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Wisconsin	
COUNTY	
Dane	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	DEC 16 1974

(Number all entries)
8)

ELY, RICHARD T., HOUSE

of contemporary eclectic architecture by Ely did not extend to the copying of Georgian Colonial styles, for this is precisely what was done at his own residence.

The well-known Chicago architect, Charles Sumner Frost, was a graduate of the M.I.T. architectural program who moved to Chicago in 1882. In the 1890's he designed several University of Chicago buildings, and he was primarily known as the architect of major Chicago structures, such as office buildings, hospitals and railroad stations. He first came to Madison when commissioned to design the Law Building on Bascom Hill for the University of Wisconsin, which was built in 1893, and has since been demolished. Apparently, Dr. Ely and architect Frost made their acquaintance at that time, for it was only three years later that Ely's house was built.

