

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 15 1975
DATE ENTERED	SEP 11 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Dahl, Martin K., House

AND/OR COMMON
Laird, James C., House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
314 Beaver Dam Street

CITY, TOWN
Waupun

STATE
Wisconsin

VICINITY OF
2nd

COUNTY
Dodge

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
2nd

CODE
55

CODE
027

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
James C. Laird

STREET & NUMBER
314 Beaver Dam Street

CITY, TOWN
Waupun

STATE
Wisconsin

VICINITY OF
53963

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Dodge County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Juneau

STATE
Wisconsin

53039

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Wisconsin Survey of Historic Buildings and Sites

DATE
1974

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
State Historical Society of Wisconsin

CITY, TOWN
Madison

STATE
Wisconsin

53706

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Martin K. Dahl House, built in 1879, is an excellent example of the late Second Empire style. Typical of the Second Empire, is the use of the mansard roof. The building consists of a three-story main section with a two-story wing; both sections of the house have mansard roofs with dormer windows. Here the roofline is quite sculptural, but void of curbing devices. It is of frame construction with Milwaukee pressed brick veneer and has a limestone foundation wall. The windows and doors are trimmed with ornamented Joliet cut stone. The cut stone segmental, arched lintels of the first and second floors show an Italianate influence, while the pointed, arched lintels of the third floor show a Gothic Revival influence. Another Italian feature is in the use of bracketed overhangs, adding a sculptural quality to the roofline. The main facade of the building has a two-story bay window between the porches for the main and wing entrances; the original iron cresting remains on the roofs of these porches and bay window. The wood bargeboard and trim on the porches and windows has been painted to bring out its decorative characteristics. The Dahl House is in excellent condition, retaining its original colors and appearance.

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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Association with locally significant personage
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1879 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Newell Whiting

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to the 1974 Survey of Waupun by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, the Dahl House is an outstanding example, in Waupun, of the late picturesque eclectic style residence. It is the first "mansion" built in Waupun. The post-Civil War period witnessed an experimentation with many stylistic trends, for instance, the Renaissance, Gothic and Romanesque, including the contemporary French Second Empire style. The Dahl House shows how forms were borrowed, and how they became modified in a uniquely American manner. It seems logical the way in which we utilize the word eclectic, for it provides the guide for understanding this complex synthesis of forms. In the United States the Second Empire mode flourished during the presidency of Ulysses S. Grant (1868-75). It originated with the architect James Renwick, Jr.; but it was Alfred B. Mullett who spread the "French taste" from Washington to the Middle West, to California.

Martin K. Dahl was born in Norway where he learned the blacksmith and locksmith trades. At 25 he emigrated to the United States, came to Milwaukee and then went to Racine where he worked for a short time before leaving for Waupun. Nearly penniless when he arrived there, he worked in a blacksmith shop, eventually became its owner and a prominent and important personage in the community. He was President of the Village Board two years, an Alderman four or five years, Treasurer of School District eleven years and Clerk of School District four years. He increased his fortune by investing in farmlands in Minnesota and Dakota. He is also remembered locally for having made all of the locks for the state penitentiary in 1854.

Architecturally, the Dahl House is an outstanding example of the late Second Empire style. It reflects the builder's, Newell Whiting's, individualistic approach to historical forms: it shows more freedom and experimentation with the forms from the past. The owner of the building, Martin K. Dahl, was a significant manufacturer and businessman of the latter part of the nineteenth century.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Dahl, Martin K., House

McKenna. Rosalie Thorne. "James Renwick, Jr., and the Second Empire Style in the United States," Magazine of Art, Vol. 44 (March, 1951), pp. 97-101.

Waupun Times, April 29, 1879 (P. 3, col. 4, item 9).

_____, July 1, 1879 (P. 3, col. 2, item 9).

_____, August 6, 1879.

_____, August 19, 1879.

_____, October 14, 1879.

Waupun Leader, March 21, 1879.

Waupun Times, March 5, 1895.

Wodehouse, Lawrence. "Alfred B. Mullett and His French Style Government Buildings," Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Vol. XXXI (March, 1972), pp. 22-37.