

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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

For NPS use only
received MAY 18 1982
date entered

1. Name

historic John Reichert Farmhouse
and/or common Wheary House

2. Location

street & number 14053 N. Wauwatosa Road not for publication
city, town Mequon vicinity of _____ congressional district _____
state WI code 55 county Ozaukee code 089

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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<u>NA</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Frediric W. Wheary
street & number 14053 N. Wauwatosa Road
city, town Mequon vicinity of _____ state Wisconsin 53092

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Ozaukee County Courthouse
street & number 109 W. Main Street
city, town Port Washington state Wisconsin 53-74

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1976 federal state county local
depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin
city, town Madison state Wisconsin 53706

7. Description

<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
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The former John Reichert farmhouse is a two-story, cross-plan frame building with small decorative porches in its northeast and northwest angles. Gable ends facing east and north are filled with decorative struts and wood cut-work, crowning trompe l'oeil bay windows below. A gravel drive along the north side of the house also serves the frame "carriage house" (garage and loft) several yards from the northwest corner of the house. Situated among tilled fields in the outskirts of the city of Mequon, the recently-restored house appears today as it might have when newly-constructed nearly a century ago.

A coursed, rusticated-stone foundation supports the building, and recently-replaced wood shingles cover the cross-gable roof. Windows, generally a pair per story on each face of the gable arms, are symmetrically-disposed; delicate denticulated entablatures or profiled moldings cover the double-hung sash. Imbricated shingles above and below paired windows on the east and north gable ends suggest bays, trimmed with flat wood "brackets," saw-tooth moldings, and circular medallions. The small front and rear porches are composed of saw-tooth and finial-trimmed pierced valences supported by thin capital-trimmed posts. Iron cresting trims the half-deck of the front porch roof, and a simple balustrade guards the north side. The simpler rear porch is open. Both have flat, baluster-pattern wood skirts. The single four-panel wood doors are trimmed with a center saw-cut molding, and framed by flat "bracketed" moldings. A single diamond-shaped window (bordered with small Queen Anne panes) appears in the closed bay (inside vestibule) of the front porch; and a single oculus lights the interior stair from the west side of the south gable end. Interior chimneys rise from the ridge of the west (rear) and east (front) arms of the building. A one-story shed-roof addition is included in the southwest angle.

The interior decoration is modest; a beveled-glass transom over the paneled door in the vestibule and stencilled baseboard along the enclosed stair are the sole elegant notes. The original simple door and window moldings and wood floors (maple on the first story, pine plank on the second) are intact. Remodeling has been restricted to the kitchen, and conversion of one small bedroom (of the four on the second floor) to a master bath.

Constructed in 1980, a compatible carriage house (garage and storage loft) is located several yards northwest of the house. Likewise covered with clapboards and a wood shingle roof, the one-and-one-half-story structure is fitted with the same double-hung windows with denticulated entablatures that appear on the house. Frames over the garage door on the south side and loft door on the east side are mitered. A pair of gables rise from the south slope of the gable roof, and a small louvred cross-gable cupola with weather vane marks the ridge. The one-story shed-roof extension to the rear (north) is lighted by a diamond-shaped window on the east side. Although the building visually enhances the site, its recent construction prevents technical inclusion in the nomination.

Of the original outbuildings associated with the house, only a small shed to the north remains; it and the surrounding eighty acres of the original farm now belong to other owners. (A barn once located on the property was demolished in the 1970s.)

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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1885 - 86¹ **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Preserved into the twentieth century with full integrity and recently restored to excellent condition, the John Reichert Farmhouse, a frame stick style design, is the Mequon area's best representative of its period of construction. Although the decoration of the two-story house is restrained and abbreviated, the effect is more elaborate than that of the typical Queen Anne farmhouse of the period. A compatible "carriage house" (garage) to the rear strengthens the visual and period quality of the site, although its recent date of construction (1980) prevents its technical inclusion in the nomination.

The building, presumably the second on the site,² dates to the ownership of John Reichert. Various owners of the previous building and property, and of the house itself, were among the earliest or³ well-known settlers of the area. Jesse Hubbard, who owned the property in the 1840s,³ was described as "...an early settler in Mequon,"⁴ and "...prominent in county affairs during the early days...;"⁵ subsequent owners the Corcorans were listed among the "early Irish families in the Town...;"⁶ and later owner Joseph Reichert (late 1880s-1890s) was elected Superintendent of Schools during his residency in the house.

The house was designated as a Mequon Landmark in 1981.

¹ Inspection of tax records for the property from 1879 through the 1890s suggest that the house was constructed previous to the only conspicuous rise in valuation during the period.

² Early plat maps of the area show the appearance of the building on the site sometime between 1867 and 1873; the property deed first specifically mentions a building on the eighty-acre parcel in 1879. Visual inspection of the present building strongly suggests that the construction is consistent, and not the result of extensive alteration of an earlier building.

³ Property deed, in possession of current owner.

⁴ Western Publishing Company, History of Washington and Ozaukee Counties, Wisconsin, 1881, p. 545.

⁵ Walter D. Corrigan Sr., History of the Town of Mequon, Brought Down to About 1870, published by Mequon Club, pp. 9, 11, 12.

⁶ Ozaukee County Historical Society, Early Ozaukee County Historical Sketches, 1967 p. 42.

⁷ Cedarburg Weekly News, November 3, 1886.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Corrigan, Walter D. Sr., History of the Town of Mequon, Cedarburg News Print, ____.

Ozaukee Co. Historical Society, Early Ozaukee County Sketches, 1967.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approx. 1

Quadrangle name Five Corners

Quadrangle scale 124,000

UMT References

A

1	6	4	1	8	5	2	0	4	7	9	1	4	6	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By (cont.)

name/title Diane H. Filipowicz/Architectural Historian

organization State Historical Society of Wisconsin date December, 1981

street & number 816 State Street telephone (608) 244-8087

city or town Madison state Wisconsin 53706

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 Richard Kewey

title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin date 6/14/82

For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Delores Byers</u>	Entered in the National Register date <u>7/1/82</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

JOHN REICHERT FARMHOUSE, Mequon, Ozaukee Co., Wisc.

Continuation sheet

Item number 6.

Page 1.

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS:

H. Russell Zimmermann, The Heritage Guidebook, Inland Heritage Corporation, Milwaukee
date: 1976 regional (SE Wisc.)

N/A

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service****National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

JOHN REICHERT FARMHOUSE, Mequon, Ozaukee Co., Wisconsin

Continuation sheet

Item number 10.11

Page 1

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description: The nominated property shall consist of a rectangle 218 feet north-south by 200 feet east-west, whose southeast corner is located 218 feet north of the southeast corner of the SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 4, Township 9 North, Range 21 East in the City of Mequon, Ozaukee County Wisconsin, and whose east boundary shall correspond with the east line of said section.

11. FORM PREPARED BY (cont.)

Research Assistance by: Mr. Frederic Wheary
14053 N. Wauwatosa Road
Mequon, Wisconsin 53092

January, 1981