

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
other names/site number

2. Location

street & number	213 Lynn Street	N/A	not for publication
city or town	Baraboo	N/A	vicinity
state Wisconsin	code WI	county Sauk	code 111
			zip code 53913

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jim Deagan Signature of certifying official/Title
Date 2/1/17

State Historic Preservation Office - Wisconsin
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
 entered in the National Register.
 ___ See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register.
 ___ See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 ___ See continuation sheet.
 removed from the National Register.
 ___ other, (explain):

Edson H. Beall _____ *3.20.17*

lor
 Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	1	0 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	0	0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0 objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	0	0 objects
		1	0 Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
 (Enter "N/A" if property not part of a multiple property listing.)
 _____ N/A _____

Number of contributing resources
 previously listed in the National Register
 _____ 0 _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/single dwelling	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Work in progress
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) Late 19 th and Early 20 th Century American Movements / Craftsman	Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundation stone walls brick
_____	_____
_____	roof asbestos
_____	other

Narrative Description
 (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1909

Significant Dates

1909

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Name of Property

County and State

9. Major Bibliographic References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency

Federal Agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property _____ less than one acre _____

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 16 278206 4816153
 Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

See Continuation Sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patricia Lacey

organization

street & number W5055 US HWY 10

city or town Neillsville

state WI

date 7-22-2016

telephone 715-743-4799

zip code 54456

Name of Property

County and State

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name/title	John Konopacki	date	7-22-2016
organization		telephone	608-576-0464
street & number	W11057 Pigtail Alley	zip code	53901
city or town	Portage	state	WI

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Section 7 Page 1

Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

Introduction

The Charles and Anna Ruhland House is located at 213 Lynn Street in the City of Baraboo, Wisconsin. Baraboo is situated in the center of the eastern portion of Sauk County along the picturesque Baraboo River. This section of Baraboo was part of the original 1848 George Brown plat of the Village of Baraboo. Both Charles Ruhland and his father George Ruhland (223 Lynn) located their homes just to the west of their Ruhland Brewing Company (235 Lynn), which George Ruhland founded in 1867.

The Ruhland house faces south toward Lynn Street in the middle of the Baraboo city block defined by Vine Street, Walnut Street and the Baraboo River. Due to the planned redevelopment of this area, many of the buildings located within the western portion of this block have been demolished. The Ruhland house remains due to the efforts of the *Friends of Historic Ruhland House*, and the Sauk County Historical Society who worked with the City of Baraboo to save the building from demolition.

The house is in close proximity to the public sidewalk. Large pine trees separate the Charles and Anna Ruhland house from his father George Ruhland's 1880 two-story, Cream City brick Italianate house. Directly across the street from the Ruhland house is the massive, two-story, red brick Romanesque Revival historic Chicago & NorthWestern railroad depot.

Exterior

Primary (South) Facade

Built in 1909, the Charles and Anna Ruhland House is of the Craftsman style of architecture. The overall massing of the house is 48' in depth by 41' in width. Restrained in nature, the two-and-one-half story house is clad entirely in russet-red brick which is laid in a running bond pattern. The mortar between the bricks is black. The house has a hipped roof, which transitions to a rear facing gable at the back of the house; the house also has multiple gabled roof dormers.

The house rests on a rubble stone foundation which projects approximately thirty-four inches above grade. The projecting portion of the basement is clad with the same brick as the house and is interrupted by eleven windows and one entry door.

The main facade faces south and is symmetrically executed. The ten foot deep, full-width porch enhances the horizontal orientation to Lynn Street. The hipped roof of the porch is supported by pairs of weighty, squared, wood posts which are anchored to a wooden cap which rests upon wide brick

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piers. Where the upright wood post frames a porch opening, the side of the wood post which faces the opening has had the additional application of a board (smaller than the post) and a bracket at the top.

A balustrade comprised of turned balusters extends between the brick porch piers, leaving an opening for a centered stairway having four wood stairs to rise to the wood floor of the porch. The main stair is flanked on either side by short brick piers which are capped with limestone. The porch skirt has been bricked in the same fashion as the rest of the house, leaving small rectangular openings for air circulation.

The porch has a single, centered, door which is flanked on either side by tall rectangular sidelights. The main entry window and door unit rests on a limestone sill. Each side window has wood muntins dividing the window into ten lights. A raised panel of wood is located under each sidelight. The door has a single light which encompasses two-thirds of the surface of the door.

Centered on the main wall of the house, both to the east and west of the door, is a large single hung window. Wood muntins divide the upper light into fourteen lights. The lower two-thirds of the window is a single large light. The lower portion of these large windows can be opened to the height of the upper section.

The fenestration of the second floor has three pairs of identical double-hung windows. Wood muntins divide the upper light of each window into six lights. Although not placed directly adjacent to one another, the windows of the two-window groups are in closer proximity to one another than the space that separates the groups from each other on the wall of the house. Each window rests on a limestone sill and has a slightly arched header row of brick above each window.

Typical of the Craftsman style, both the porch roof and the main roof have exposed rafter tails along the horizontal edges of each roof plane. The exposed rafter tails reach to the end of the overhanging eaves.

Two large, gabled, roof dormers are centered on the roof south-facing elevation. These dormers provided light into the attic. The sides of the gabled roof dormers are clad with synthetic siding. A three-over-three, double-hung window is centered within each dormer. A wide raking cornice and undecorated bargeboards follow the sloping sides of the gable ends of each dormer extending past the horizontal line of each dormer roof. This cornice and bargeboard configuration gives weight to the roofs of the dormers.

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Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

West-facing Side

The west-facing wall of the house projects sixteen inches from the main body of the house at a point twenty-six feet six inches from the south edge of the porch. A wall dormer, which is almost centered on the hipped roof of the west facing elevation at the point where the main body of the house begins its projection, suggests the appearance of a two-and-one-half story cross gable. This allusion is enhanced by the use of brick on all of the dormer walls. A six-over-one, double-hung window is centered on the west-facing wall of the dormer. A wide, raking cornice and undecorated bargeboards follows the sloping sides of the gable end extending past the horizontal roofline.

The main body of the house which is south of the sixteen inch projection, has two windows at the first floor, each have a three-part sash. There is an upper window of three-over-three divided lights, and below is a one-over-one, double-hung sash. These two-part windows light the dining room.

One, double-hung window is located directly south of the projection on the second floor. The fenestration of the portion of the house which projects sixteen inches from the main body of the house has three, double-hung windows located on the first floor and one double-hung window located on the second floor and centered under the window of the wall dormer. All of the windows are six-over-one, double-hung sash.

Each window rests on a limestone sill. A slightly arched header row of brick is located above each window. The edge of the second floor roof line has exposed rafter tails that reach to the end of the overhanging eave. A large brick chimney pierces the plane of the roof on the main body of the house to the north of the projection.

North (Rear) Facade

The rear of the house faces north and has a two-and-one-half story cross-gable which projects four feet five inches from the main body of the house. The cross-gable, which is located on the west portion of the façade, is twenty-seven feet in width at ground level and eighteen feet in width at the second floor. The difference in width is due to an exterior, open porch at the second floor.

The two-and-one-half story cross-gable has a subterranean stairway which descends to the west from the rear ground level entry door. Concrete stairs descend to the basement. A rear, ground level, single-light door, which is located at the northeast corner of the two-and-one-half story cross-gable, has a narrow double-hung window located east of the door. This door and window unit provides light and entry to an interior lower hall. The lower hall has a stairway that leads to the basement and a stairway that leads to the first floor. Above the ground level entry and below the floor of the second-floor porch is a deep eave.

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Centered on the first floor of the two-and-one-half story cross-gable are two evenly spaced double-hung windows. The second floor of the two-and-one-half story, cross-gable supports a pair of double-hung windows on the west portion and a smaller bathroom window on the east portion. An open porch rests above the first-floor entrance. The edge of the porch supports a simple balustrade comprised of rectangular balusters. The window of the porch door, the window above the porch door and the double-hung window located directly north of the porch door, all have clear glass which is divided by lead into an Arts and Crafts inspired pattern. These windows light the interior main staircase. A wide raking cornice and undecorated bargeboards follow the sloping sides of the gable extending past the roof line.

The remaining fifteen feet, five inches of the main body of the house, that is east of the two-and-one-half story cross-gable, contains one double-hung window on the first floor. This window allows light into the library/study. The two part window unit has a fixed upper window (having six lights) over a one-over-one, double-hung window. One double hung window is located on the second floor. A shed-roof dormer rests on the hipped roof of the east portion of the rear north-facing elevation. This dormer provides light into the attic. Two six-over-one, double-hung windows are located on the north wall of the shed-roof dormer. The side walls of the shed-roof dormer are shingled. All but the windows of the shed-roof dormer rest on limestone sills. A slightly arched header row of bricks is located above each window. The edge of the second floor roof line has exposed rafter tails that reach the end of the overhanging eave.

East-facing Side

The east-facing side of the house has a massive stepped-back chimney which is located seven feet from the southeast corner of the house. The three reducing steps of the chimney are capped by sloping limestone coping. The limestone coping sheds water away from the chimney. Once reaching its narrowest proportions, the chimney pierces the east-facing hipped roof.

The first floor has one, double-hung, window located to the south of the chimney and three, evenly spaced, double-hung windows located to the north of the chimney. These windows light the living room and library/study. Each two part window unit has a fixed upper window having six lights, over a lower one-over-one, double-hung window.

The second floor has two, evenly spaced, six-over-one, double-hung windows located to the north of the chimney. A slightly arched header row of brick is located above each window. The edge of the second floor roof line has exposed rafter tails that reach the end of the overhanging eave.

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Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

The entire exterior surface of the house from ground level to roof lines, as well as the walls of the west-facing roofline dormer, is clad with russet red bricks set into black mortar. The roof is covered with triangular asbestos tiles. All of the roof ridges are clad with copper roof ridge cresting. The highest main roof ridge also supports two copper finials. All of the windows and exterior doors are original to the house. The door trim, window trim, porch floors, porch balustrades, and porch posts are painted a reddish-brown.

Interior

The interior of the Charles and Anna Ruhland House has been handsomely detailed and retains a high degree of integrity. The original floor plan is intact on all levels of the house. All of the original doors, windows, built-ins, floors, stairs and trim remain and retain their original finishes. All of the windows and doors retain their original hardware. The plaster walls remain intact and appear to be only painted, never wallpapered. Fifteen original brass light fixtures were removed by the Sauk County Historical Society to prevent them from being vandalized and will be returned and re-installed in the house.

First Floor

The house is entered through the south-facing, centered main entry. The door opens into a vestibule, having a door and sidelights, which enters the hallway. The door and side lights of the vestibule match those at the main entrance. The extensive use of glass on both walls of the vestibule allows natural light to flood the lower main hall. The floor of the vestibule is tiled with small square tiles laid in a linear Arts and Crafts pattern.

The living room, dining room, library/study, rear entrance and formal main staircase is accessed from the main hall. A centered formal staircase with turned balusters, directly across from the main entry, rises to a landing turns and continues to the second floor. A simple, unadorned square newel rests on the wider lowest curved tread. Identical newels and balustrade enclose the staircase opening on the second floor.

To the right, or east, of the main staircase is the living room which is entered through a large opening that can be closed with pocket doors. A large projecting fireplace mantel and chimney breast is centered on the east wall. The large fireplace is the focal point of the room. The mantel is comprised of wood. A horizontal mantel board rests on small restrained brackets. Inset into the slip of the fire box surround are square-russet colored Arts and Crafts fired tiles. These tiles also form the hearth of the fireplace. The library/study is accessed through a large opening located on the north wall of the living room which can be closed with pocket doors.

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To the left, or west, of the main staircase is the dining room which is entered through a large opening which can be closed with pocket doors. The walls of the dining room exhibit stylized wainscoting. The wainscoting is created with upright wood stiles which divide the plaster walls into panels. A plate rail rests atop the stiles enclosing the panels.¹ The ceiling is heavily beamed, creating deeply coffered panels.

A swinging door located on the north wall of the dining room accesses the hallway which leads to the kitchen. The hallway has built-in cupboards located on either side of the hall.² The kitchen has a built-in shelving unit on the north wall in the northwest corner. A winding staircase to the second floor is accessed a door located in the southeast corner of the kitchen.

A door located on the east wall of the kitchen and a door located at the rear of the main hall access the rear entry hall. The rear entry hall houses a stairway to the lower entry door and a stairway to the basement. An original sink is located on the east wall of the upper portion of the rear hall lending the use of this area as a mud room.

The entire first floor is finished with wide baseboards, five paneled doors and simple, wide, door and window moldings. Wide ceiling cornice moldings are present in all areas except the kitchen and rear entry hall. All wood surfaces retain their original finishes. Hardwood floors are found throughout the entire first floor and main staircase.

Second Floor

The second floor hall surrounds the opening of the formal staircase. A balustrade, identical to the rising balustrade, surrounds the staircase opening. The leaded glass windows located on the landing of the formal staircase (which also provides access to the upper rear open porch) fill the upper hall with natural light. Five bedrooms and one bathroom open on to the upper hall. A door located on the north wall of the upper hall accesses the hall that encloses the stairway and leads down to the kitchen and the stairway that leads up to the attic.

The second floor retains the same five panel doors, wide baseboard, hard wood floors, and simple window and door moldings as on the first floor. The second floor ceiling cornices are much more restrained than those on the first floor. All wood surfaces retain their original finishes.

The attic is unfinished except for a single room which has been built under the rear, north-facing shed-roof dormer. This room was more than likely used as servants quarters as the Ruhlands had seven

¹ Gustav Stickley, *More Craftsman Homes*, (The Craftsman Publishing Co., New York, 1912), page 39

² Gustav Stickley, *More Craftsman Homes*, (The Craftsman Publishing Co., New York, 1912) page 43

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Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

children and would have needed all of the second floor bedroom space. The 1910 census listed Ethel Luzzo as a live-in servant.

Alterations

There have been no exterior or interior alterations except for the kitchen and bathroom modifications and the addition of synthetic siding to the front dormers.

Integrity

The Charles and Anna Ruhland House retains a tremendous amount of integrity. Other than kitchen and bathroom modifications the entire house is original to its 1909 construction. The quality of materials that were used on both the building's exterior and interior certainly has added to the buildings longevity, especially since the house has been unoccupied for several years.

At the present time the house is greatly in need of attention. The foundation is beginning to crumble in the northeast corner and a leaky roof is beginning to cause interior damage. The Charles and Anna Ruhland House is located in the Ringling Riverfront Redevelopment Area which encompassed much of the property found on the Original Baraboo Village Plat, either directly south or directly north of the Baraboo River. The Ringling Riverfront Redevelopment Area plan was adopted in August of 2006 and provides a vision of riverfront design which is to include entertainment, commercial, residential and civic uses.

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Section 8 Page 1

Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

Introduction

The Charles and Anna Ruhland House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for local architectural significance under Criterion C as a fine example of the Craftsman style. The Craftsman architectural style (1905-1930) evolved from the Arts and Crafts Movement (1862-1914) characterized in part by restrained decorative treatments. It offered an interior organization with an open floor plan, abundance of natural light, naturally finished woodwork and numerous built-ins.

Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin Volume 2 states that normally the American Craftsman is two-and-one-half stories in height displaying a broad gable or hipped roof. Wide unenclosed eaves exhibit the ends of roof rafters. Most often, one or two front roof dormers are present. Often the Craftsman house displays simplified Queen Anne sashes. The American Craftsman is distinguishable by the quality of construction and restrained handsome exterior and interior details.³

The Craftsman Movement was embraced by many who relished a simpler life which offered more free time. William L. Price describes the ideal Democratic house in Gustav Stickley's *More Craftsman Homes* as; "And when the Democrat has built his house, when free men have housed themselves to meet their present need and have no fear that the need of tomorrow shall cry at their doors unmet, - then shall men and women and little children out of the fullness of their lives, out of the free gift of their surplus hours, build for each and for all, such parks and pleasure places. And the men and women and children shall find playtime to use them; find time and powers out of their work to write plays and play them, to write poems and sing them, to carve, to paint, to teach, to prophesy new philosophies and new sciences; to make, to give, to live."⁴

Summary of Significance

The Charles and Anna Ruhland House is an excellent example of the Craftsman style of architecture popularized by Gustav Stickley. Although the form of this house is more vertical than is typical, the low, broad, proportions of the full-width, one-story front porch, the horizontality porch balustrade and porch skirting, as well as of the paired windows located above the porch on the second floor of the primary facade serve to reinforce the horizontal emphasis of the style. Restrained in its execution, the essential components of the Craftsman style are interpreted in the Ruhland House through the expression of horizontal lines which diminish the upward two-and-one-half story nature of the building, the un-boxed eaves which contain exposed rafter tails, the gabled and shed roof dormers that

³ Barbara Wyatt, ed. *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin Volume 2 A Manual for Historic Properties*, (Historic Preservation Division State Historical Society of Wisconsin, June 1986), page2-24

⁴ Gustav Stickley, *More Craftsman Homes*, (The Craftsman Publishing Co., New York, 1912) page 9

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exhibit wide undecorated bargeboards, the wood window divisions in the upper lights of the double-hung-windows, and the leaded art glass windows located on the landing of the main staircase.

The philosophy of the Craftsman style is also represented in the interior of the home through an open floor plan, abundance of natural light throughout the house, and simple but handsome wood finishes.

The house is relatively unaltered since its construction, which reinforces the philosophy and organizational principals of Gustav Stickley's Craftsman Movement. The movement was dedicated to the improvement of hearth, home, family and society through art. Stickley brought his aesthetic and philosophical ideals to the general public through his magazine *The Craftsman*, which was published from 1901 to 1916. The ideals of simplicity of form are demonstrated in the Charles and Anna Ruhland house through its restraint in ornamentation and the use of quality materials.

City of Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

The area of the Baraboo Rapids, which would become the City of Baraboo, received its first settlers in 1839. Wallace Rowan and Abram Wood built a saw mill on the ox-bow of the Baraboo River.⁵ The Baraboo River is one of the largest tributaries of the Wisconsin River. The two mile stretch of rapids in the vicinity of Baraboo drops 36.5 feet, providing for excellent water powered manufacturing. Over time, the water power produced by the Baraboo River contributed to the growth of Baraboo by attracting several mills and manufacturers.⁶

On January 11, 1840, Sauk County was created with land removed from Crawford County. For judicial purposes, Sauk remain attached to Dane County until January 10th of 1844 when an election was held to fill Sauk County offices. On May 10, 1844 the final boundaries for the Sauk County were voted into law. Baraboo was selected as the County Seat on April 7, 1846. A two-story frame Greek Revival style court house was built in 1847-1848 as well as a small jail.⁷ The 1847 court house burned on July 4, 1857 and was replaced with a brick court house.⁸ It too burned in December of 1904 and was replaced with the current court house.⁹

⁵ *History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, (Western Historical Company, Chicago, 1880), pages 491-554

⁶ Marla Miller, *Baraboo Intensive Survey*, (Historic Preservation Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society, 1989) pages 7-90

⁷ *Illustrated Atlas of Wisconsin 1878*, (Synder, Van Vecten & Co., Milwaukee, 1878),
www.formycousins.com/1878/1878atlas-Sauk.html

⁸ Marla Miller, *Baraboo Intensive Survey*, (Historic Preservation Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society, 1989). Pages 7-90

⁹ Marla Miller, *Baraboo Intensive Survey*, (Historic Preservation Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society, 1989), pages 7-90

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Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

In 1846, Prescott Brigham purchased a quarter section of land north of the Baraboo River on which he platted the village. Brigham named the village Adams in April of 1847. George Brown also purchased land, with his holdings being located south of the Baraboo River. He too had a village platted in 1847, but he called his village Baraboo. On January 14, 1849, the Board of County Commissioners stepped in and ordered that both the Brigham and the Brown villages be known as Brooklyn. Each village stubbornly continued to remain separate until a village charter was obtained in May of 1866. This charter united both villages under the name Baraboo.¹⁰

During the year 1851, seventy-five new buildings were erected. The water power of the Baraboo River had attracted four saw mills, four lath mills, two flour mills, a tannery, and a foundry. Village officials were expecting a plank road to soon be built to the Wisconsin River and they were watching for the arrival of the railroad.¹¹ By 1856, the population of Baraboo had reached 2,000.

By 1862, the village supported a bank, three boot and shoe stores, a bakery and confectionary shop, six blacksmiths, two cabinet warerooms, three coopers, five dry goods stores, two drug stores, two dentists, two flour mills, three grocery stores, a gunsmith, two hardware stores, four hotels, a harness shop, hub factory, jeweler, millinery shop, bookstore, music store, two meat markets, a corn grinding mill, pump factory, three saw mills, sash and blind factory, two tailors, three wagon makers, a woolen factory, the Baraboo Collegiate Institute, and the Baraboo Female Seminary.¹²

Over time, four dams were built on the Baraboo River in order to harness the energy that it produced. The Island Woolen Mill, which was located on the upper ox-bow in 1874, produced 7,000 yards of cashmere and flannel fabric per month. The Baraboo Manufacturing Company converted 1,000,000 square feet of raw lumber per year into bedsteads, tables, and chairs.¹³

As with many newly developing Wisconsin communities, the vast forests did not last nearly as long as people thought that they would. The cleared forests gave way to fertile lands where large diverse farms emerged that produced short horn cattle for meat, dairy farms that produced milk, cheese and butter, and grain farms that produced crops of wheat, corn and oats.¹⁴

¹⁰ *History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, (Western Historical Company, Chicago, 1880), pages 491-554

¹¹ *Sauk County Standard*, Baraboo, WI," The Growth of Baraboo" c1851, wisconsinhistory.org

¹² *History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, (Western Historical Company, Chicago, 1880), pages 491-554

¹³ Marla Miller, *Baraboo Intensive Survey*, (Historic Preservation Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society, 1989), pages 7-90

¹⁴ Henry Ellsworth Cole, *A Standard History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, (Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, 1918), pages 423-468

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On September 12, 1871 the Village of Baraboo celebrated the arrival of the Chicago & NorthWestern Railroad with the booming of cannons, cheering crowds, and an al fresco dinner.¹⁵ Baraboo became the central distribution point for the Madison division. The C & NW built workshops and a twenty-five stall roundhouse. Locally the C & NW employed 100 men, but many of their telegraph operators, clerks, conductors, brakemen, conductors, firemen, and engineers also made Baraboo their home.¹⁶ C. W. Butterfield estimated that in 1880 the railroad added \$200,000 to the economy of Baraboo. The presence of the railroad contributed exponentially to the growth of Baraboo. The railroad also contributed to Baraboo's growth as a tourist destination, bringing vacationers to Devil's Lake, located three miles south of Baraboo. Many needed overnight lodging, which spurred the growth of the hotel industry in Baraboo.¹⁷

With the arrival of the railroad, Baraboo began to experience its first major building boom. Substantial brick buildings began to replace the one and two-story frame buildings constructed from the 1840s to the 1860s in Baraboo's commercial areas. Access to the railroad encouraged additional manufacturing facilities to establish factories in Baraboo. Railroad transportation decreased the cost of moving their products. The 1876 Wisconsin Business Directory listed almost ninety commercial establishments that were located in Baraboo. Due to the concern of catastrophic fires in the community, the local business leaders agreed to build only masonry structures from 1879 forward. The population of Baraboo grew from 2,930 in 1870 to 4,594 in 1880 which reflected the impact the railroad had on the community.¹⁸

The City of Baraboo was incorporated on February 25, 1882. Concerned about a clean water supply and the ability to extinguish a fire should one erupt, precipitated a private organization to issue bonds in the amount of \$100,000 for the construction of a waterworks. Water was obtained from a set of springs located a mile northeast of the city. A half-mile race provided the power to a pumping station which pumped water into a 150,000 gallon standpipe on a hill at the end of Birch Street. This location was 140 feet above Main Street. Ninety-eight fire hydrants were placed in the developed areas of the city.¹⁹

Also in the early 1880s, five local brothers Al, Charles, John, Otto, and Alfred Ringling embarked on a traveling entertainment business which would be headquartered in Baraboo for the next thirty-seven

¹⁵ *Baraboo Daily News*, "First Railway Train Entered Baraboo Just Fifty Years Ago Monday", September 10, 1921

¹⁶ *History of Sauk County*, (Western Historical Co., Chicago, 1880), pages 491-554

¹⁷ Marla Miller, *Baraboo Intensive Survey*, (Historic Preservation Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society, 1989), pages 7-90

¹⁸ *Downtown Baraboo Historic District National Register Nomination*, (Legacy Architecture, Sheboygan, Wisconsin, May 2, 2014), Section 8 page 3

¹⁹ Henry Ellsworth Cole, *A Standard History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, (Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, 1918) pages 432-468

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years. They began on November 27, 1882 as the Ringling Classic Comic Concert Company which traveled throughout Wisconsin and Iowa giving performances that included juggling, music and comedy. The Ringling brothers would grow this small traveling company into the empire known as the Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus which would open its 1908 season in Madison Garden, New York.

Due to the large number of performers and roustabouts required to move, set up, and maintain a circus, the Ringling companies employed hundreds of people, thereby having a tremendous impact on the City of Baraboo. Not only did Ringling provide employment within his traveling circus but many additional local seamstresses, carpenters, painters, and blacksmiths were hired to produce costumes and sets.²⁰

A newspaper article related the impact that the Ringling Brothers Circus made on the community, "Among Baraboo's many industries that contribute to her wealth, none play so vast and varied a part as the circus. Everything used about their great establishment is made in Baraboo and consequently brings many dollars to our people. The army of people needed to take care of the great menagerie of wild animals, the skilled performers, agents and families all spend their dollars here. There is scarcely a farmer in a radius of many miles who does not have something to sell to the Ringling Brothers; hay, grain, vegetable, meat for the animals and blooded horses. There is not but a merchant who profits by the circus. Some of their bills run up to thousands. Carriage makers, blacksmiths and other mechanics have much work to do for the company. During the winter full 30 seamstresses are employed in the rich and costly silk and velvet costumes."²¹

The Ringlings were insistent on employing people of good character. They would not tolerate dishonesty, thieves or fakers. They forbid their employees from the use of profanity or intoxicants thus earning the name "Sunday-school show".²²

Prior to his death in 1916, Al Ringling built a \$100,000 theater in Baraboo which opened on November 17, 1915. The theatre was designed by Chicago architects Rapp and Rapp. After Al Ringling's death his widow gifted the theater to the City of Baraboo.²³ The Ringling Brothers departed Baraboo in 1918 dealing a tremendous financial blow to the economy of Baraboo. Today the

²⁰ Henry Ellsworth Cole, *A Standard History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, (Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, 1918), pages 423-468, 635-638

²¹ Marla Miller, *Baraboo Intensive Survey*, (Historic Preservation Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society, 1989), pages 7-90

²² Henry Ellsworth Cole, *A Standard History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, (Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, 1918), pages 423-468, 635-638

²³ Henry Ellsworth Cole, *A Standard History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, (Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, 1918), pages 423-468, 635-638

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former Ringling Circus grounds in Baraboo houses the Circus World Museum which is owned by the Wisconsin Historical Society and is operated by the Circus World Museum Foundation. One of the most popular exhibits is the museum's collection of fifty antique circus wagons housed in the W. W. Deppe Wagon Pavilion.

The first Baraboo electric plant was installed in the Hoyt flour mill in 1887. The Baraboo Gas Works operated jointly with the already existing electric plant. An additional dam was added on the Baraboo River in 1890. The now combined Baraboo Gas and Electric Company installed a 425 horsepower hydroelectric dynamo and the Baraboo Light, Heat and Power Company installed a 300 horsepower hydroelectric dynamo in 1894 so that both companies could expand into incandescent lighting. The first local telephone company was organized in 1895 and serviced about 500 subscribers.²⁴

A Public Library Association was founded on September 27, 1897 and a Carnegie Library was built in 1902. Three local banks with assets totaling over two million dollars helped to guide the growth of the city.²⁵ Baraboo prided itself on its self-sufficiency with the editors of the Baraboo Republic newspaper commenting on that self-sufficiency "Flour for bread and cloth for clothes are made at home."²⁶

At the beginning of the twentieth century, Baraboo, Devil's Lake and the nearby Wisconsin Dells area became a destination for tourists. The automobile was having a great social and economic impact in the United States. It began replacing the railroad as the means of traveling to picturesque tourist areas. As people increased their automobile travel, the concept of an annual family vacation became a tradition. Another significant reason for the explosion of automobile ownership was the expanding network of improved roads. In 1918, the State of Wisconsin authorized the building of a 5,000 mile system of state trunk highways. Additional miles of highways were added in 1919. By 1920, the improved highway system that served the entire State of Wisconsin became more defined.²⁷

²⁴ Marla Miller, *Baraboo Intensive Survey*, (Historic Preservation Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society, 1989), pages 7-90

²⁵ Henry Ellsworth Cole, *A Standard History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, (Lewis Publishing Company, Chicago, 1918), pages 423-468, 635-638

²⁶ Marla Miller, *Baraboo Intensive Survey*, (Historic Preservation Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society, 1989), pages 7-90

²⁷ *Historic Resorts of Vilas County*, (Heritage Research Ltd, For Wisconsin Historical Society, August 31, 2004), pages 12-14, 27-28

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Baraboo Breweries

The 1880 *History of Sauk County* reports that there was a very early un-named brewery located on the north side of the Baraboo River, but it burned down.²⁸ The next earliest brewery was founded by George Ruhland in 1867. Ruhland built his brewery on the site of the old Baraboo House hotel.²⁹ The brewery was known as the Baraboo Brewery³⁰ from 1867 until just prior to George Ruhland's death (1903) when the Ruhland Brewing Company was incorporated in 1902.³¹ Although George Ruhland was trained in the beer brewing process, Otto Lieder was the brew master for the Baraboo Brewery for twenty-one years. Lieder remained the brew master until 1903 when he purchased his own brewery.³² The Baraboo Brewery was in the 200 block of Linn Street (now known as Lynn) and was located at the corner of Linn and Vine streets. By 1880, the Baraboo Brewing Company produced 500 barrels each year. The brewery incorporated in 1902 and the name was changed to the Ruhland Brewery.³³

A c1902 post card advertising the Ruhland Brewing Company stated that Ruhland beer was "A Perfect Beer, Brewed Right at Home. Ruhland Beer is ABSOLUTELY PURE. Only pure culture yeast is used. Stored in glass-enameled steel tanks. Made of the finest hops and malt in the market. Always well aged. Only \$2 a case (2 dozen quarts, 3 dozen pints). \$1.50 deposit on out of town orders till case and bottles are returned."³⁴

George Bender built the Baraboo City Brewery in 1869 and operated it until his death on April 1, 1874.³⁵ Bender's widow Anna continued to operate the brewery until 1880 when she began a partnership with Ferdinand Effinger. This partnership continued operation under the name Baraboo City Brewery. By 1885, Effinger had purchased the brewery and in 1911 the name was changed to the F. Effinger Brewing Company. Up until the turn of the century, the brewery averaged about 500 barrels of beer a year. When it re-opened after Prohibition production was greatly expanded and the brewery produced 9,000 barrels of Effinger's Brite and Badger Brew bottled beer a year.³⁶

Most early brewers only produced small amounts of beer due to the problem of spoilage. The brewer would brew a small batch of beer which would be quickly purchased by their local patrons. The

²⁸ *History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, (Western Historical Co., Chicago, 1880), page 511

²⁹ Marla Miller, *Baraboo Intensive Survey*, (Historic Preservation Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society, 1989), pages 7-90

³⁰ *Bensel's Sauk County Directory*, 1890, page 72, *Belknap Sauk County Directory 1898-1899*, page 55

³¹ Wayne L. Kroll, *Badger Breweries Past & Present*, (Published in Jefferson, Wisconsin, 1976), page 15

³² <http://brewerypottery.com/brewery-history.html>, Mineral Spring Brewery History

³³ Wayne L. Kroll, *Badger Breweries Past & Present*, (Published in Jefferson, Wisconsin, 1976), page 15

³⁴ <http://www.worthpoint.com/worthpedia/ruhland-beer-baraboo-wisconsin-pre-pro-rare>, posting for online postcard sale.

³⁵ *History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, (Western Historical Co., Chicago, 1880), pages 683-687

³⁶ Wayne L. Kroll, *Badger Breweries Past & Present*, (Published in Jefferson, Wisconsin, 1976), page 15

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patrons promptly took their keg home and lowered into their wells. Here the cool water would keep the beer fresher for a longer period of time. Prior to pasteurization, breweries produced a very limited amount of bottled beer.

In 1873, Louis Pasteur obtained the United States Patent #135,245 known as "Improvement in Brewing Beer and Ale Pasteurization".³⁷ When pasteurization was introduced to the brewing industry, bottled beer became much more prevalent. The January 1, 1886 issue of the *New York Times* describes the impact beer pasteurization had made on the brewing industry; "Pasteur has taught the brewers to bottle beer when fermentation is approximately complete, and then expose the bottles for a short time to a temperature ranging between 122° and 131° Fahrenheit. By this management all extraneous germs are killed and the beer remains sound for long periods of time."³⁸

Hops became an important crop in Sauk County in the early 1860s. Jesse Codington ordered hop roots from C. D. Palmer in Waterville, New York. The roots were shipped first by boat and then overland by wagon. They arrived in an unhealthy state; however, Codington did manage to plant one acre of hops from the damaged roots. The first hop crop was sold for 30 cents a pound and the rush was on. Codington graciously supplied roots to his neighbors and others in Sauk County. During 1865, Sauk County growers devoted 2,548 acres to hops. They harvested a hop crop worth between \$800 and \$1,000 per acre. The total Sauk County hops crop for that year sold for \$2,000,000 with Codington's crop alone selling for \$8,000. By 1870, eastern growers were producing large crop of hops and the prices of hops dropped to 10 cents a pound. This drastic drop in price caused the Sauk County hops craze to come to an end.³⁹

George and Charles Ruhland

George Ruhland (b. 6-7-1843, d. 6-8-1903) was born in Bavaria Bayern Germany⁴⁰ to parents Thomas (b. 8-23-1808, d.8-20-1891) and Margaretha (Gilsh) (b. 1814, d. 1898). In 1846, George along with his parents and his sisters Catherine (b. c1836) and Barbara (b. c1838) immigrated to America.⁴¹ Thomas Ruhland purchased 120 acres of land in Farmington, Washington County, Wisconsin.⁴² The creation of Ozaukee County in 1853 would change their location status to Fredonia, Ozaukee County, Wisconsin. Thomas farmed the land and together Thomas and Margaretha produced six more children

³⁷ *Why is Pasteurizing Beer Important*, <http://beer.about.com/od/glossary/g/Pasteurization.htm>.

³⁸ *New York Times*, "The Pasteurization of Beer" January 1, 1886,

³⁹ Henry Ellsworth Cole, *A Standard History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, (Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, 1918), pages 56-58

⁴⁰ Written Remembrances by George Ruhland's daughter Julia, date unknown, on file at the Sauk County Historical Society, Baraboo, WI.

⁴¹ Ancestry.com, Thomas Ruhland

⁴² Ancestry.com, Wisconsin Homestead and Cash Entry Patents, Pre-1908, 1850 United States Federal Census

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Adam (b.6-14-1848, d. 1900) Thomas (b. c1849), Johann (b. c1852), twins Joseph and Theresia (b. c1854) and Maria (b. c1856).

At the close of the Civil War George began working in various breweries and learned the art of brewing beer. For a while he took a position at the brewing company of Phillip Best (Pabst Brewing Company) in Milwaukee. From there he went to work for Conrad Seipp who owned the Seipp Brewing Company in Chicago. Upon his departure, Mr. Seipp presented George Ruhland with a silver watch, which he carried with him until a few years prior to his death.⁴³ In 1866, George Ruhland arrived in Baraboo⁴⁴ and in 1867 established a small brewery, known as the Baraboo Brewery, on the south side of the Baraboo River in Baraboo, Wisconsin.

On April 7, 1867 George married Catharina Leute (b. 4-6-1843 Germany, d. 10-7-1930) in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Catharina had arrived in America in November of 1866. To this union were produced seven children Mary (b. 1-17-1868, d. 1-20-1917), George I (b.4-15-1869, d. 6-27, 1871), Charles (b. 1-29-1871, d. 7-17-1951), George II (b. 2-25-1873, d. 8-5-1881), Ida (b. 1-18-1875, d. 12-1964), Julia (b. 7-25-1877, d. 2-20-1958), and Agnes (b. 6-27-1880, d. 9-5-1881).⁴⁵

George Ruhland expanded his brewery in 1868 and 1870. On October 15, 1882 fire completely destroyed the frame building. By 1885, a new brick brewery was completed and George was back to brewing his lager beer. In October of 1889, George Ruhland finished the construction of his new two-story brick home, which he located just to the west of his brewery.⁴⁶

By 1890, while Charles Ruhland was still in his late teens, he became actively involved with both his father's brewery and Palace Grocery store.⁴⁷ Charles married Anna Isabelle Junk (b. c1878, d. c1967) on December 21, 1899. Together they produced seven children Lester (b. c1901), Bonita (b. c1903), Helen (b. c1904, d. c1960), Hazel (b. c1904), Grace (b. c1911), Gertrude (b. c1913) and Margaret (b. c1915).⁴⁸

The Baraboo Brewery remained as the name of the family business until 1902 when George Ruhland was in poor health and the brewery was incorporated under the name Ruhland Brewing Company. When George Ruhland passed away in June of 1903, he left an estate of real estate and personal

⁴³ Written Remembrances by George Ruhland's daughter Julia, date unknown, on file at the Sauk County Historical Society Baraboo, Wisconsin

⁴⁴ *The History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, (Western Historical Co., Chicago, 1880), page 511

⁴⁵ Ancestry.com, George H. Ruhland

⁴⁶ Joe Ward, *Baraboo 1850-2010 Chronology of the Growth of the Commercial & Retail Districts, Vol. III*, (Self-published 2010), pages 1-5

⁴⁷ *Bensel's Sauk County Directory*, 1890, page 72

⁴⁸ Ancestry.com 1920 United States Federal Census

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property valued at \$34,890. Charles was given the brewery, brewery property and all the contents within the brewery. Charles Ruhland's portion of George Ruhland's estate was valued at \$11,759.60 in 1903.⁴⁹

In July of 1909 preparations were made to begin building a new \$6,000 two-and-one-half story brick home for Charles Ruhland on property that was located just to the west of his father's home. The Isenberg Brothers Building Company removed the old house located on the property and set it to the side before beginning construction. The Charles Ruhland family lived in this house until the completion of their new home.⁵⁰

The Isenberg Brothers Building Company was the most prominent building company located in Baraboo, Wisconsin. They are credited with the construction of the Al Ringling Mansion (\$35,000 NR), George Gollmar House (\$5,500), Alf T. Ringling House (\$6,500), Charles Ringling House (\$9,000 NR), Jacob Van Orden House (\$10,000 NR), and the William Hatch House (\$5,500). In contrast, most homes that were constructed in Baraboo were built for a cost of between \$1,000 and \$3,000.⁵¹

In August, Charles Ruhland and George Isenberg traveled to Fond du Lac and Milwaukee where they shopped for brick and other building materials.⁵² Construction continued over the summer and by September the bricklayers were applying the russet red brick which were set in black mortar.⁵³ A flurry of work ensued before the Christmas of 1909, as the Ruhlands were still living in the drafty old house sitting aside the new home.⁵⁴ It was not until April of 1910 that Mrs. Ruhland hosted her first dinner party in her new home.⁵⁵

In 1918, the Ringling Brothers Circus dealt a tremendous blow to the City of Baraboo when they moved their winter headquarters to Bridgeport, Connecticut.⁵⁶ Charles Ruhland was struggling financially in March of 1918 when United States Marshal, Will Touton, served papers on the Ruhland Brewing Company. Touton asked Charles Ruhland to show cause as to why the brewery should not declare bankruptcy. Their bills were not being paid. Some said that Charles Ruhland had lost large sums of money in western investments. The dry movement and the war also contributed to Charles

⁴⁹ Wisconsin Wills and Probate Records, 1800-1987, Will for George Ruhland

⁵⁰ *The Baraboo Daily Republic*, July 20, 1909

⁵¹ *Sauk County Democrat*, "The Annual Building List", A resume of the city's growth.

⁵² *Sauk County Democrat*, August 12, 1909

⁵³ *The Baraboo Daily Republic*, September 1909

⁵⁴ *The Baraboo News*, December 23, 1909

⁵⁵ *The Baraboo Daily Republic*, April 8, 1910

⁵⁶ Andrea Bruce, *The Ringling Brothers From Baraboo to Barnum, Bailey and Bridgeport*, History 489, University of Wisconsin Eau Claire, date unknown, pages 1-52

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Ruhland's financial struggles. In April of 1918, the Ruhland Brewing Company declared bankruptcy and the brewery property was sold. By 1929, outlying portions of the brewery were demolished.⁵⁷ As the years passed, various businesses located in the remaining brewery building. Some of these businesses were: a wholesale grocery, a refrigerator manufacturing, an auto wrecking company, an automobile paint shop, a produce business, and a poultry operation.⁵⁸ Over time the second story of the brewery was removed and the lower story was remodeled.

By 1930, Charles was employed by the railroad as a car clerk. He remained in this position for several years.⁵⁹ Charles may have experienced additional stress to his finances after a February 1931 raid on several locations in Baraboo by federal prohibition officers, including the home of Charles Ruhland. Fines, legal fees and court costs may have struck another financial blow to the Ruhland family.⁶⁰

The Charles Ruhland family remained in their home until at least 1938.⁶¹ By 1940 the United States Federal Census showed them living at 231 Walnut Street in Baraboo, Wisconsin.⁶² In the late 1930s, Paul Hugo Miller, a former Ruhland Brewery employee, purchased the home from the Ruhland family and converted it into a boarding house.⁶³ As part of the of the Ringling Riverfront Redevelopment project, the City of Baraboo purchased the home from Tom and Irene Platt in 2009. The Sauk County Historical Society interceded in 2013, and worked with the City of Baraboo to prevent demolition of the home. The Sauk County Historical Society purchased the home from the City of Baraboo for \$1, entering into an agreement to find a qualified party to save and restore the historic home.

Charles Ruhland passed away on July 17, 1951 and is buried in the Walnut Hill Cemetery in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Anna Ruhland passed away on August 2, 1967 in Madison, Wisconsin. She is also buried in the Walnut Hill Cemetery in Baraboo, Wisconsin.

⁵⁷ *The Baraboo Republic*, March 29, 1929

⁵⁸ Joe Ward, *Baraboo 1850-2010 Chronology of the Growth of the Commercial & Retail Districts Vol. III*, pages 1-5

⁵⁹ Ancestry.com, 1930 and 1940 United States Census

⁶⁰ *Sheboygan Press*, "Five Places at Sauk City and Baraboo Raided", February 13, 1931

⁶¹ 1938 Baraboo Directory, on file at the Sauk County Historical Society

⁶² Ancestry.com, 1930 and 1940 United States Census

⁶³ Correspondence from Star Miller Muscoda, Wisconsin dated 7-9 and 7-23-2013 to the Baraboo City Council

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Architecture – Craftsman Style

The Arts and Crafts Movement developed in England during the last half of the nineteenth century. It arose as a rebellion against the excessiveness of the Victorian Age. In Europe it was mainly influenced by reformer and designer William Morris, who believed that industrialization dehumanized man by forcing him to create inferior products. In the great minds of the promoters of the Arts and Crafts Movement the notion of good design was linked to the notion of a good society. A good society was one where the worker was not brutalized by the conditions within the industrialized factory. Rather, he could work in an environment where he could take pride in his skills and talents and create items of beauty which exhibited fine workmanship.⁶⁴

The Arts and Crafts Movement made its way to America in the 1870s. In 1895, an Arts and Crafts society, The Chalk and Chisel Club, was founded in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Magazines such as *House Beautiful* began publishing articles on the works of Frank Lloyd Wright, Greene & Greene, and the growing number of other artisans who were adopting the Arts and Crafts philosophy.⁶⁵

Gustav Stickley was a firm believer in the movement's ideals. Stickley was born on March 9, 1858 in Osceola, Wisconsin, one of eleven children of German immigrants Leopold and Barbara Stoeckel (German spelling). Stickley worked on the family farm and attended school. His education ended while he was only in the sixth grade due to the separation of his parents in 1869. Stickley then began to train as a stone mason and by the age of 12 he was supporting his large family. In 1875 Stickley moved to Brandt, Pennsylvania with his mother and remaining siblings and began working in his uncle's chair factory. In 1883 Gustav Stickley, along with his brothers Albert and Charles, formed the Stickley Brothers Company in Susquehanna, Pennsylvania producing furniture. By 1898 his brothers had left the business and Gustav Stickley now had his own furniture business called The Gustav Stickley Company which was located in Syracuse, New York.⁶⁶

Stickley's Craftsman Movement mirrored the ideals of honesty, simplicity and harmony found in the Arts and Crafts Movement. In 1901, Gustav Stickley began to publish *The Craftsman* magazine. In the foreword of the first issue, Stickley defined the Craftsman Movement's objectives: "The United Crafts endeavor to promote and to extend the principals established by Morris, in both the artistic and socialistic sense. The United Crafts will labor to produce in their workshops only those articles which

⁶⁴ *The Arts and Crafts Movement in America*, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, http://www.metmuseum.org/TOAH/hd/acam/hd_acam.htm, pages 1-6

⁶⁵ *Arts and Crafts History: America 1875-1895*, A Guide to the History, Aesthetics, and Architecture of the Arts and Crafts Style, <http://www.craftsmanperspective.com/history/america2html>, pages 1,2

⁶⁶ *Gustav Stickley*, The Stickley Museum at Craftsman Farms, <http://stickleymuseum.org/craftsman-farms/gustav-stickley.html>.

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shall justify their own creations; which shall serve some actual and important end in the household, either by adding to the ease and convenience of life; or yet by furthering the equally important object of providing agreeable, restful and invigorating effects of form and color, upon which the eye shall habitually fall, as the problems of daily existence present themselves for solution.”⁶⁷

Gustav Stickley went on to publish several design books on Craftsman homes. In the foreword of his book published in 1912, Stickley defines the Craftsman building; “The Craftsman type of building is largely the result not of elaboration, but of elimination. The more I design, the more sure I am that elimination is the secret of beauty in architecture. By this I do not mean that I want to think scantily and work meagerly. Rather, I feel that one should plan richly and fully, and then begin to prune, to weed, to shear away everything that seems superfluous and superficial. Practically, every house I build I find, both in structural outline and in the planning and the adjustment of the interior space, that I am simplifying, that I am doing away with something that was not needed; that I am using my spaces to better advantage. All of this means the expenditure of less money and the gain of more comfort and beauty.”⁶⁸

Other contributors to *The Craftsman* also expressed their philosophy on the simplified nature of Craftsman architecture. *The Craftsman* editor Irene Sargent stated: “Everything entering into the composition of a dwelling is admitted because it plays a constructive part, while all superfluous or applied ornamentation is excluded from the work. The exterior plainly indicates the character of the interior, which is the first artistic essential of all buildings, from the simplest to the most elaborate and important.”⁶⁹

Samuel Howe wrote in his article on simplicity in the November 1902 issue, “Ornament is the wine of architecture. Through it runs the personality of the artist and into it is condensed his genius. But it unduly charms and allures. It is to be resisted by the weak and to be used by him alone who can master it. True ornament cannot be applied. It rises from within the thing to be decorated. Ornament should be felt rather than seen, and the moment that it becomes obtrusive, it is false and superfluous. Ornament and construction must not war against each other, for in their conflict the structure perishes in the artistic sense.”⁷⁰

⁶⁷ *The Craftsman*, Vol. 1, No. 1 October 1901, Foreword pages i, ii, <http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/cgi-bin/DLDecArts/DLDecArts-idx?type=article&did=DLDecArts.hdv01n01.i0004&ed=DLDecArts.hdv01n01&isize=M>,

⁶⁸ Gustav Stickley, *More Craftsman Homes*, (The Craftsman Publishing Co., New York, 1912), page 1

⁶⁹ *The Craftsman*, Vol. II, No. 5, August 1902, page 242

⁷⁰ *The Craftsman*, Vol. III, No. 2, November 1902, pages 85-92

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Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

Conclusion: Criteria C – Architecture

The Charles and Anna Ruhland House is eligible under Criterion C for its architectural significance. It is an excellent local example of the early-twentieth century Craftsman style of architecture as described in Gustav Stickley's *Craftsman Magazine*, published from 1901 to 1916. The Craftsman style was prevalent in house design from 1905 until the 1920s.

Although the architect for the Charles and Anna Ruhland House was never identified through the extensive research done by the Sauk County Historical Society, Paul Wolter, the Executive Director of the Sauk County Historical Society, believes that the Charles and Anna Ruhland House was designed by the architectural firm of Ferry & Clas of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Alfred Clas was born in Sauk City and maintained a relationship with his home county throughout his life. Located in Baraboo, are several of Ferry & Clas' works including the August Reinking house (1891), the Charles Ringling house (NR, 1900), the Jacob Van Orden house (NR, 1903), the Sauk County Courthouse (NR 1905), and Bank of Baraboo (1904, 1924 remodels).

“The Ruhland house shares one similarity with all four known Clas designed houses in Baraboo, namely the use of a main entry vestibule. Additionally, the use of a central hall flanked by the dining room and living room is very similar to the design of the Ringling house. The unique double hung window units located in the living room and dining room of the Ruhland house are identical to those found at the Van Orden house and other Ferry & Clas designed homes. The meeting rails of the two sashes are hidden behind a lateral piece of casing. The casing bisects the window opening and gives the appearance that the two sashes are fixed but the bottom sash can be opened and slides up behind the lateral casing. In addition, the use of heavy verge boards at the gable and dormer ends is highly reminiscent of the Van Orden house and the Olin house in Madison which was designed by Ferry & Clas.” It is hoped that future research will confirm this assumption.

The idealists of the Craftsman Movement believed that if you could not design or build your own home you should at least participate in the some part of the process, so that the completed house would be of *you*. In 1895, Fletcher Lummis wrote in his journal after completing his home in New Mexico that “A man's home should be part of himself...It should be good architecture, of honest construction, comfortable, convenient, fire proof, burglar proof, time proof; a possession not a task master. Something of the owner's individuality should inform it. Some activity of his head, heart and hands should make it really his.” Fletcher Lummis' hypothesis that the property owner should have his tastes interpreted in his own home is demonstrated by Charles Ruhland abandoning the ideals of his father's Victorian home, which is situated next door. Charles Ruhland chose a modern Craftsman style home to reflect who he was as an individual.

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Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

The Charles and Anna Ruhland House is honest in its construction, having simple lines and exemplifies the Craftsman philosophy of architectural design by its emphasis on horizontality, square massing, centered entry and abundant use of windows to infuse the interior with natural light and provide appealing views of the outside. Its massive presence is unencumbered by excess ornamentation.

The horizontal nature of the house is executed through the full width one-story hipped roof porch, porch balustrade and brick skirting with repetitive rectangular ventilation openings. The second floor of the main façade has a fenestration of three pairs of double-hung windows offering another horizontal linear line. The un-boxed eaves of the roof and porch exhibit the rafter ends which is synonymous with the Craftsman style. The practice of restraint in architectural ornamentation is executed in the wide undecorated bargeboards of the cross gables and roof dormer gable ends and the large square columns which appear in pairs and triples supporting the roof of the main entry porch.

The philosophy of the Craftsman style is also represented in the interior of the home. The open floor plan is executed through the use of large central halls on both the first and second floor elevations. These large halls surround the open, formal staircase.

The first floor elevation has generous openings between rooms. An abundance of large windows, the glass vestibule and the art glass windows located on the landing of the formal staircase provided an abundance of natural light into the interior of the home.

Simple but handsome wood surfaces are found throughout the interior of the home. This is especially true in the dining room's stylized wainscoting and beamed ceiling. The massive Craftsman style fireplace provides a focal point for the home. Stickley wrote: "Having a living room, the "great room" of the house that corresponds to the old "great hall" of ancient dwellings. This space is the opportunity for people to come together, to sit around the fireplace, for there must always be an open fire."⁷¹

Local Preservation Activities

Although this nomination achieves its significance through its architectural design, mention has to be made of the steadfast efforts of the Sauk County Historical Society and citizens of Baraboo who formed the *Friends of Historic Ruhland House*. This group created a Facebook page that contained information about the house and encouraged visitors to sign their on-line petition. The *Friends of*

⁷¹ Gustav Stickley, *More Craftsman Homes*, (The Craftsman Publishing Co., New York, 1912), page 2

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Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

Historic Ruhland House held meetings, hosted open houses at the Ruhland House so that the public could tour the home and attended several City of Baraboo's Common Council meetings.

Through these efforts the City of Baraboo agreed to sell the Charles and Anna Ruhland House to the Sauk County Historical Society for one dollar. The Sauk County Historical Society then undertook the task of finding a buyer who would not only repair the house but would restore the building properly utilizing the residential tax credits while following the Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation. Such a buyer was found in John Konopacki. This entire process was truly a community effort.

The Charles and Anna Ruhland House continues to convey the property's history and character. The building retains excellent integrity both on the interior and exterior and is one of the best examples of the style in Baraboo.

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Section 9 Page 1

Ruhland, Charles and Anna House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

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Ruhland, Charles and Anna House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

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Ruhland, Charles and Anna House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

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Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

Verbal Boundary Description:

NE-NE, Sect.2, T11N, R6E, CITY OF BARABOO ORIG PLAT PRT LOT 4 BLK 7 = CSM6203
LOT 1 0.15A (FMLY PRT CSM #5911) (PRT FRAC NE NE 2-11-6)

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries enclose all the land that has historically been associated with the Charles and Anna Ruhland House.

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Section photos Page 1

Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

Name of Property:	Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
City or Vicinity:	Baraboo
State:	Wisconsin
Name of Photographer:	Patricia Lacey
Date of Photograph:	July 2016
Location of Original Digital Files:	State Historic Preservation Office, Madison, WI
Number of Photographs:	18

Photo 1
Main South-facing facade
Camera facing northeast

Photo 2
Double-hung window, main entrance
Camera facing north

Photo 3
West-facing facade
Camera facing east

Photo 4
Rear, north-facing facade
Camera facing southeast

Photo 5
Rear entry, second floor porch, attic shed dormer
Camera facing south

Photo 6
Stepped chimney, facing east
Camera facing east

Photo 7
East-facing facade
Camera facing west

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Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

Section photos Page 2

Photo 8
Main entry vestibule
Camera facing south

Photo 9
Formal staircase
Camera facing northwest

Photo 10
Formal staircase second floor opening
Camera facing southwest

Photo 11
Formal staircase landing
Camera facing north

Photo 12
Pocket doors living room
Camera facing west

Photo 13
Living Room
Camera facing east

Photo 14
Dining Room
Camera facing southwest

Photo 15
Built-ins on east wall of passageway to kitchen
Camera facing southeast

Photo 16
Built-ins on west wall of passageway to kitchen
Camera facing southwest

Photo 17
Rear entrance
Camera facing north

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Section photos Page 3

Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

Photo 18
Attic room
Camera facing east

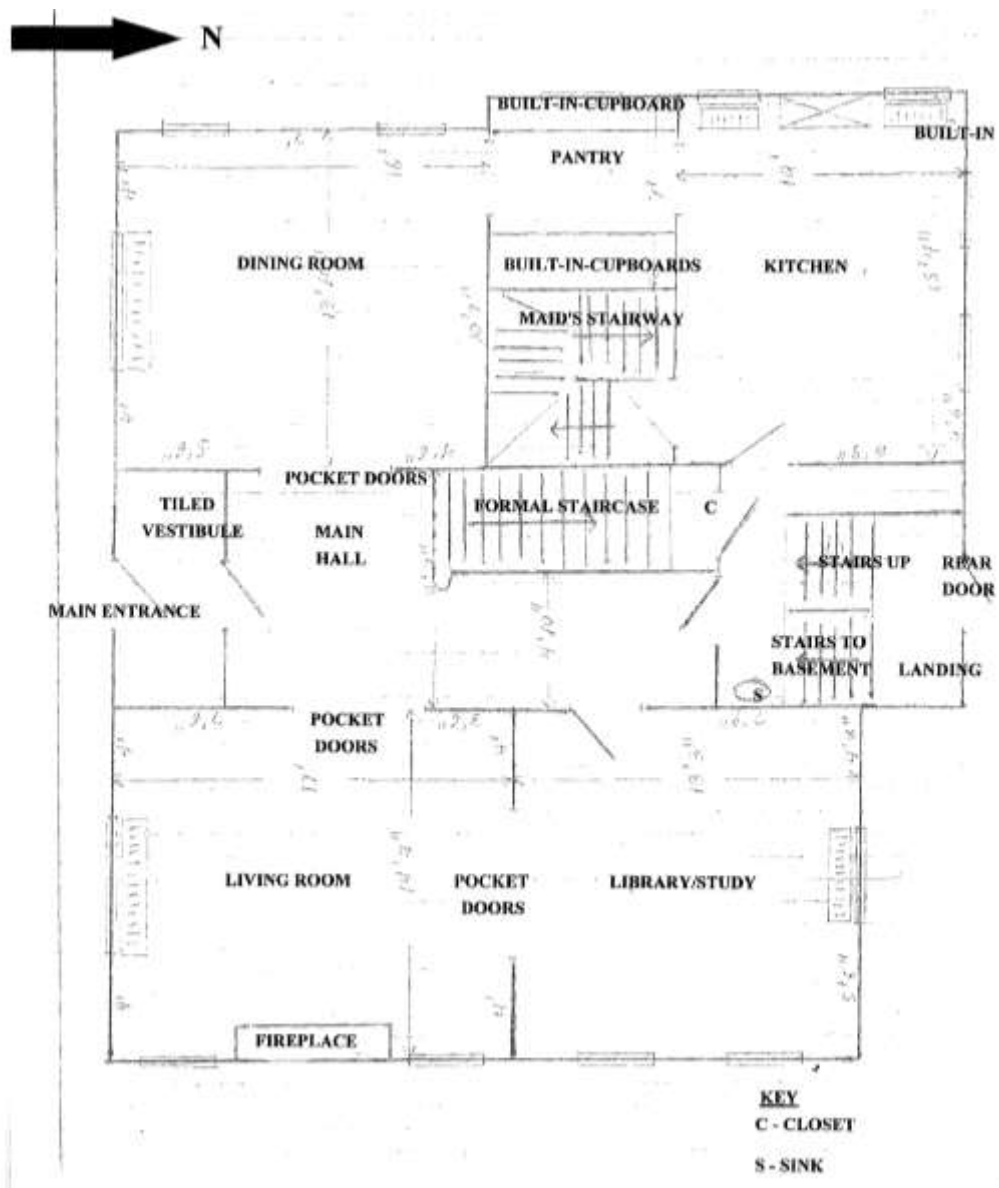
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Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
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Section figures Page 1

Figure 1: first floor plan, not to scale



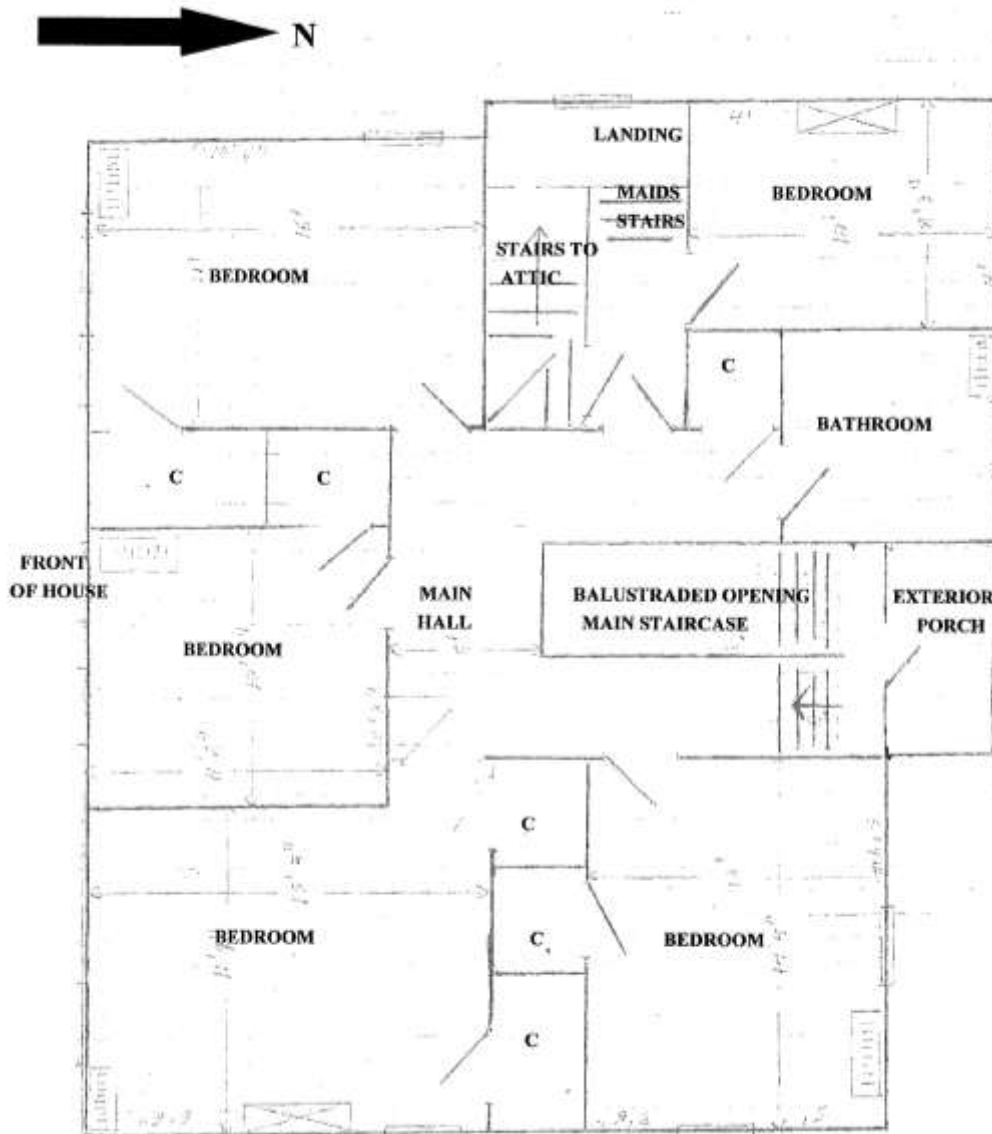
**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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Continuation Sheet**

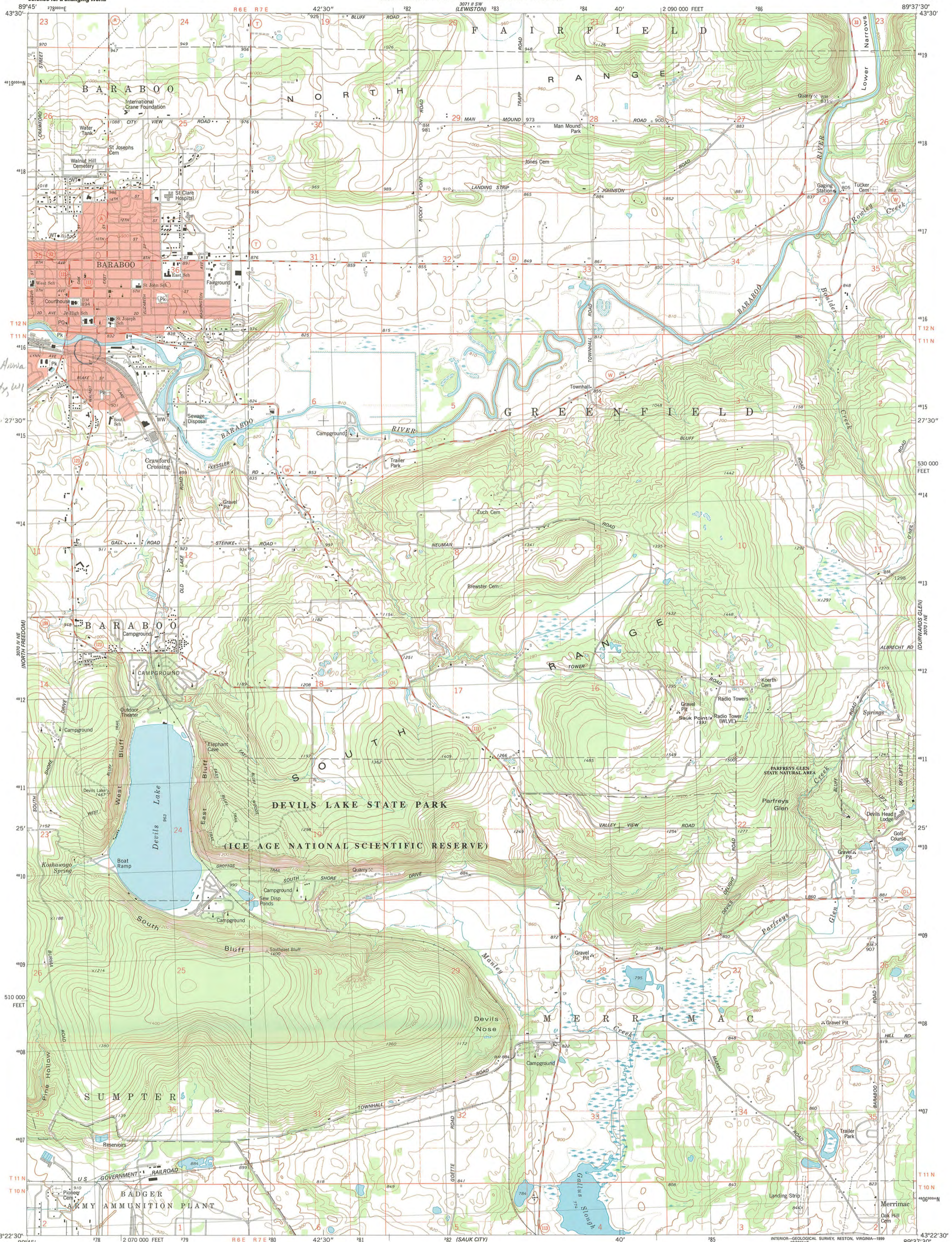
Ruhland, Charles and Anna, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, WI

Section figures Page 2

Figure 2: second floor plan, not to scale



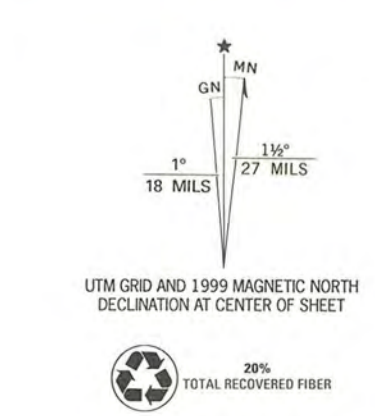
___End Figures



Richard, Charles and Alma
Flouse
Baraboo, Sauk County, WI
162 278306
4816153

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Derived from imagery taken 1974 and other sources. Photoinspected using imagery taken 1994; no major culture or drainage changes observed. PLSS and survey control current as of 1975

Boundaries, other than corporate, revised 1999
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and 10 000-foot ticks: Wisconsin coordinate system, south zone (transverse Mercator)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 16
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map



SCALE 1:24 000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 10-FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
TO CONVERT FROM FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225
AND WISCONSIN GEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY, MADISON, WISCONSIN 53706
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route

BARABOO, WIS.
1994
NIMA 3070 1 NW—SERIES V861







































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: Date of Pending List: Date of 16th Day: Date of 45th Day: Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Edson Beall Discipline Historian

Telephone _____ Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



WISCONSIN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



TO: Keeper
National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Peggy Veregin
National Register Coordinator

SUBJECT: National Register Nomination

The following materials are submitted on this Third day of February 2017, for the nomination of the Charles and Anna Ruhland House to the National Register of Historic Places:

1 Original National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form
1 CD with NRHP Nomination form PDF
 Multiple Property Nomination form
18 Photograph(s)
1 CD with image files
1 Map(s)
3 Sketch map(s)/figures(s)/exhibit(s)
 Piece(s) of correspondence
 Other:

COMMENTS:

 Please ensure that this nomination is reviewed
 This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
 The enclosed owner objection(s) do or do not constitute a majority of property
 owners
 Other: