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United States Department of Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

OCT 01 1993

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 Haight, Nicholas, Farmstead

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 4926 Lacy Road N/A not for publication

city or town Fitchburg N/A vicinity

state Wisconsin code WI county Dane code 025 zip code 53711

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jeffrey M. Dan 9/14/93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Officer-WI
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 certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

Haight, Nicholas, Farmstead Fitchburg, Dane County, WI
Name of Property County and State

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:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Delmar Byer 4/25/83 entered in the National Register

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)
 private
 public-local
 public-state
 public-federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)
 building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include listed resources within the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

None

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling
Agriculture/Subsistence/storage
Agriculture/Subsistence/agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling
Vacant/Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
Greek Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
foundation Limestone
walls Weatherboard

roof ASPHALT
other WOOD

Narrative Description

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

Haight, Nicholas Farmstead
Name of Property

Fitchburg,
Dane County, Wisconsin
County and State

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.)

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from
instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

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.

Period of Significance

c.1854-c.1900(1)

Significant Dates

1854-55 (1)

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is
marked above)

N/A

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

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 achieved
significance within the past 50 years.

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

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

Haight, Nicholas Farmstead
Name of Property

Fitchburg,
Dane County, Wisconsin
County and State

Previous Documentation on File (NPS):
 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 5.5

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

1	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	3	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>
	Zone	Easting		Northing		Zone	Easting			Zone	Easting		Northing				
2	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	4	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>
	Zone	Easting		Northing		Zone	Easting			Zone	Easting		Northing				
																	<u>x</u> 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 Joyce McKay, Cultural Resources Consultant
organization private consultant date 3/31/93
street & number P.O. Box 258 telephone 608-424-6315
city or town Belleville state WI zip code 53508

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)

Haight, Nicholas Farmstead
Name of Property

Fitchburg,
Dane County, Wisconsin
County and State

Property Owner

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

name Michael Croft and Sonjia J. Short
street & number 6 Wilton Court telephone 608-249-9831
city or town Madison state Wisconsin zip code 53704

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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Haight, Nicholas Farmstead
Fitchburg, Dane Co., WI

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7. Description

The Nicholas Haight Farmstead sits back from the northwest corner of CTH MM and Lacy Road in the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 12 and the immediately adjacent 30 acres in section 11 both in T6N R9E in the City of Fitchburg, Dane County. Swan Creek and a dense line of trees separate the farmstead from the road intersection and the adjacent metal building occupied by the Lakeland Sports Center. The main drive approaches the farmstead from Lacy Road and runs between the farmstead and the house. The portion of the drive between CTH MM and the house is being closed. The dwelling which faces east to CTH MM and the farmstead to the west or behind the house sit on a small rise. The surrounding topography is gently rolling landscape with small patches of wetlands. The farmstead is immediately surrounded by a lawn. Except on the east side, a ring of deciduous trees circles the buildings. The property includes five contributing resources: a dwelling; smokehouse; barn; corn crib; and granary. Located at the northwest end of the farmstead, the combination garage and storage building, in addition to the silo, (the single structure); constitute the only noncontributing resources. The district represents a farmstead which once belonged to a 150 to 190 acre farm.

The first section of the Haight dwelling, the two story section to the northeast, was erected ca. 1854-1855 (Ligowski 1861; Dane County Title Company 1972; Dane, County of 1851- [1854-55]). There are four, later major building episodes evident in the house, the first and second of which may have been completed prior to 1880 (Butterfield 1880: 1255). With all its additions, the house has attained a U-shape configuration. The rear or northwest wing to the first section (see #1 on the district map) stands on a foundation similar to northeast section and appears to be the first addition. The southeast wing, the current living room and bedroom which is attached to the south elevation of the original house, appears to be the second addition (#2). It stands on a brick foundation. Suggesting its construction during the erection of the second addition, the roof of the front porch extends from the roof of the second addition and crosses the original house at an unusually steep pitch. The southwest section or third addition (#3) which includes the current dining room, occurs along the rear elevation of the second addition. The fourth addition (#4), once an attached summer kitchen, was enclosed as a kitchen within the last thirty years. Pierced by 6/6, double hung windows, all additions pre-date 1900. The dwelling thus began as a vernacular, front-gabled, rectangular form common to Greek Revival dwellings. Limited Greek Revival detailing common to the 1830 to 1860 period include regular massing, cornice returns, shouldered architrave trim around the front entrance, and wide frieze boards. However, the building lacks the low, heavy proportions

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and bold moldings characteristic of this style (McAlester 1990: 180-82; Rifkind 1980: 38; Godfrey 1986: sec. 2; Garfield and Wyatt 1986: 3). The front porch is supported by chamfered posts with bases and capitals common to Italianate detailing.

The original, two story and cellar, 18 by 24 foot, timber frame, weatherboard dwelling stands on a random rubble, limestone foundation. It is covered with an asphalt, gable roof whose gable faces forward above the main entrance. Rising from the basement, the brick chimney pierces the roof south of the ridge and appears to be at least partly replaced. The double hung windows contain 6/6 lights. Windows are symmetrically placed along their walls. The main entrance with paneled door and shouldered, architrave trim occurs along the north side of the facade. Two windows are symmetrically placed to its south. There are cornice returns at the front-facing gable and frieze boards along the side elevations with narrow, three light windows placed beneath them. The lean-to roof of the porch extends from the second addition and is supported by chamfered posts with bases and capitals. A short, wood porch rail extends north from the second addition.

The first addition at the northwest corner of the dwelling is a 22 by 14.5 foot, one story, frame section covered with weatherboard and standing on a random rubble, limestone foundation. This section lacks a cellar. Given the likely period of the addition in the 1870s or 1880s, the building probably rests on a timber frame or one transitional to a balloon frame (Perrin 1962: 42). However, this portion of the building was not visible to inspection. The direction of the ridge of the asphalt, gable roof parallels the first section. The area below the eaves is finished with a frieze board. The two double hung windows contain 6/6 lights. An outside door centered along the north side is closed with clapboards. A brick, hanging chimney occurs at the west gable end.

The second addition at the southeast corner of the house is a 20 by 26 foot, one story, frame section sided with weatherboard. It rests on heavy timber sills placed on a partially exposed, cream brick foundation laid in a running bond. The foundation surrounds a cellar. Although the dwelling is probably supported by a timber frame or a modified timber frame, the remainder of the framing was not visible to inspection. The ridge of its asphalt, gable roof is placed at right angles to the first section of the house. The front elevation extends five feet east of the facade of the first portion of the house, the width of the front porch. The double hung windows contain 6/6 light. A brick chimney extends from the basement through the ridge of the roof.

The third, one story addition extends from the south portion of the west wall

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of the second addition. The frame and weatherboard addition encloses a single room and rests on a random rubble, limestone foundation. This section lacks a cellar. Its asphalt, gable roof joins at right angles to the roof of the second addition. A rectangular bay extends from the south wall. This section also contains 6/6 light, double hung windows. A brick, hanging chimney is placed on the ridge between the third and fourth addition. The one story, frame and weatherboard fourth addition occurs along the rear or west elevation of the third addition. It rests on a random rubble, limestone foundation and also lacks a cellar. The ridge of its asphalt, gable roof parallels the roof of the ridge of the third addition. Family tradition indicates that this section was originally constructed as a summer kitchen and later converted to a kitchen (Robert and Jim Haight 1992). Although its south window has been recently altered to a two light window, the west window stills contains the 6/6 light, double hung sashes. A frame and clapboard, asphalt, gable roof entryway which rests on a concrete slab was added to the north door.

Room function has no doubt altered significantly as each section was added. Identification of room function primarily applies to the dwelling in its current configuration and is based on discussions with Robert and Jim Haight and physical inspection.

A cellar occurs under the original section and the second, southeast addition. Inspection of the north cellar revealed timber joists and studs, the remains of lath and plaster walls and ceiling, whitewash along the walls, a stove hole, and a rough mantle. A 6/6 light, double hung window and an outside entry occur along its south wall, now between the two cellars. These remains suggest use as living space in the distant past, perhaps as a kitchen or summer kitchen to which the door gave easy access. The south cellar includes a fruit cellar and is also lit by three 6/6 light, double hung windows.

Although now and at least into the 1940s, the front room of the original, northeast section serves as a bedroom, tradition and position indicate its function as a parlor in the distant past. The rear, northwest room functions as a bedroom while the southwest room serves as a hall with corner closet and closets under the stairs. The enclosed stairs rise from the northeast corner of the hall and lead to an east-west hall. A plain rail runs along the north side of the stairs. The second floor contains a front and a rear bedroom. The first, northwest addition contains two bedrooms. The second addition to the southeast includes a large parlor and bedroom to the south. A bathroom was taken from this bedroom in 1934. The third and fourth additions in the southwest part of the house contain the dining room to the east and kitchen to

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the west. Except for the parlor, the wood window and door trim and baseboards are plain in the original section and first addition to the rear as well as in the third addition. Trim in the former parlor is molded and matches that of the second, southeast addition. The trim in the fourth, kitchen addition has been recently installed during its remodeling. Walls are wallpapered, floors are wood except for the linoleum floors in the kitchen and dining room, and ceilings are plastered. Doors particularly in the original section except for the parlor and in the first addition are batten with thumbnail latches. Most of the remaining doors display four panels, many with plain and marbled ceramic door handles. The dining room in the third addition is finished with vertical paneling which rises to a low chairrail. The corner closets in the hall of the original section are closed with vertical paneling.

The farmstead includes a smokehouse to the south of the house and a building cluster containing the large barn, silo, granary, corn crib, and garage/storage building to the rear or west of the house. Resting on a random rubble, limestone footing, the balloon frame and vertical board smoke house (Robert and Jim Haight 1992) is covered with a wood shingle, gable roof. The door occurs in the north side. The shape and size strongly suggest that this building may have been a former privy.

The crib barn rests on a random rubble, limestone footing. A braced timber frame with pegged, squared half notching (Jordan 1985: 94) supplemented with iron spikes supports the building. The framing is covered with vertical board siding along the facade, board and batten siding along the other elevations, and a long, sloping, wood shingle, gable roof. A lean-to roof covers the early, single level timber frame addition across the rear or west elevation. Placed in the east gable end, a side-hinged, double door covers the main entrance. Fixed windows occur along the side elevations. A hay track spans the ridge of the barn and is protected by a hanging gable closed by a bottom hinged, board door at both ends. The interior is divided north-south into three sections: a central drive through and machine storage area and stalls for dairy cattle and calves along the north side and for horses along on the south side. Hay storage occurs above the stalls, and the center is open. The barn has a dirt floor. With its four main frame supporting members dividing the barn into three north-south areas, the building may be classified as a transverse crib barn (Jordan 1985: 32). It was probably erected and perhaps received its rear addition sometime before 1880 (Butterfield 1880: 1255). An addition was built to enclose the rear track entrance in the west gable of the barn in the recent past. A vertical concrete block, cylindrical silo reinforced with steel rods and covered with a conical, steel roof stands immediately to the northeast of the barn. This construction

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type developed shortly after the turn of the century (Garfield 1986: sec. 5 and 8; Robert and Jim Haight 1992). The silo has been standing since the late 1930s (Robert and Jim Haight 1992).

The one and a half story granary standing to the northeast of the barn is supported by a timber frame very similar to the barn's. It rests on rubble, limestone piers and is covered with vertical board siding and a wood shingle, gable roof. The building is entered through a single, side hinged, batten door placed in the center of the long, south side of the building. The first floor contains bins for grain storage to the west of the central walkway and is now open to the east with a work bench presumably for the repair of small machinery along the east wall. Stairs to the second floor occur in the southwest corner. This floor contains bins for grain storage on either side of a narrow, east-west central aisle. A small, batten door under the gable in the west end of the second floor admits the grain (Gilbert and Wyatt 1986: sec. 5).

A more recent, nineteenth century corn crib stands to the west of the granary. Assembled with cut nails, the balloon frame stands on a rubble, limestone footing and supports walls of horizontal lath splayed in an outward direction. A wood shingle, gable roof covers the building. The double, side-hinged, batten doors open under the south gable into a central drive through leading to doors at the north elevation. Bins are placed on either side of the aisle (Gilbert and Wyatt 1986: sec. 5). Although relatively unchanged, the corn crib is heavily damaged.

The long, combination garage and storage building at the north end of the farmstead represents the rebuilding of a collapsed shed. It is a frame building with vinyl siding standing on a concrete slab. An asphalt, gable roof covers the building. Three overhead doors open the east end of the south facade.

The farmstead gained most of its buildings in the nineteenth century. Major alterations to the dwelling beyond the four nineteenth century additions are few. Post-1940 alterations include the closing of the summer kitchen, the alteration of its south window, the 1950s addition of the kitchen entryway, interior cabinet remodeling in the kitchen, and the building of the bathroom in the second addition in the early 1950s. The smokehouse probably represents a converted privy, a change beyond the memory of the Haight brothers. Although interior facilities are removed, the building has undergone no visible exterior alterations. The crib barn probably gained its rear, shed roof extension in the nineteenth century and the rear gable enclosure in the late 1930s. The silo, corn crib, and granary are relatively unchanged. However, the second concrete silo which stood between the remaining silo and the barn is

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removed. Of recent construction, the garage and storage area represents the only noncontributing resource in the district. Several buildings and structures are removed. Once standing southwest of the dwelling, a well house with wind mill and adjacent chicken house were dismantled in the late 1940s. A frame piggery was removed from the extant foundation located west of the corn crib. A privy once stood northwest of the house. A second, two story, frame dwelling with random rubble foundation once stood northeast of the house. Its foundation is still visible. Although the date of its construction is unknown, it was constructed considerably later than the current dwelling. A horizontal board fence once ran north-south to the east of the house and curved around south of the south elevation. A horse coral stood south of the barn. A sheep pasture was fenced off to the northeast of the dwelling. The existence of their shed which likely stood near the fenced area is not recalled. Finally, the metal building standing outside the district close to the intersection of Lacy Road and CTH MM replaced an earlier dwelling. It was erected between 1873 and 1890 and stood until after 1947 to 1958 (Warner and Harrison 1873; Foote 1890; Marathon Map Company 1947; Drury c. 1958: 437; Robert and Jim Haight 1992). Family tradition identifies this building as the wing attached to the rear of the original dwelling. However, the building's removal dated after 1947 through the comparison of maps does not corroborate oral tradition. Despite these modifications, the remaining farmstead buildings stand comparatively unchanged from the turn of the century.

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8. Significance

The Nicholas Haight Farmstead gains significance under criterion C in the area of architecture. The dwelling represents an early, gabled ell, vernacular house type with limited Greek Revival detailing. It is an intact, early example of its building type. The district possesses significance for the building date of the house and its additions, 1854 to c.1900 (Dane, County of 1851- [1854-55]; Dane County Title Company 1972; Ligowski 1861). This example retains integrity equal to or greater than other examples of its type, its period, and construction material in the City of Fitchburg.

Historical Background

The Haight farmstead was established during an active period of settlement in the Town of Fitchburg which occupies all of township 6 east, range 9 north. The General Land Office surveys reached completion in the township in 1833 and land opened for settlement in 1835. Ten years after the creation of Dane County in 1836, the township was organized with several other townships as the Town of Rome. Although known as Greenfield until 1853, the town reached its current size in 1847 (Berry ca. 1898; Butterfield 1880: 373, 377; Fitchburg Bicentennial Committee 1976: 1).

At the time of survey, oak openings with small patches of dispersed prairies, then considered desirable agricultural land, occupied much of the town (Brown 1986: sec. 2). Settlement in the Town of Fitchburg began as early as 1837 but significant settlement did not occur until well into the next decade. Because of distant markets and poor transportation facilities, settlement began only slowly in the southern interior counties of Wisconsin which had little access to navigable rivers. In the 1840s, the pineries, military installations, and newly arrived settlers absorbed most of the county's products. Access to markets in Milwaukee, Madison, and Janesville was provided by barely passable territorial roads such as the Madison to Janesville Road, now CTH MM in section 12 of Fitchburg, and the Milwaukee to Madison Road established in 1839. Additionally, land speculators began purchasing large amounts of land in Dane County in the 1830s and 1840s. They delayed land sales to individuals intending to farm the land until land values rose. Speculators advertised productive and well-watered farm lands with access to markets for sale in Dane County as late as the mid-1850s. Early settlers in the Town of Fitchburg emigrated primarily from New York, New England, and Ohio. Foreign born residents from, for example, England, Ireland and Germany later settled among the predominately Yankee population

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(Wm. J. Park & Co. 1877: 448-49, 453, 456-57; Gregory 1932: 746, 1031, 1078; Butterfield 1880: 394, 403, 476, 868-69; Hibbard 1905: 109, 121; Fitchburg Bicentennial Committee 1976: 4, 10, 18; Berry ca. 1898; Atwood 1852; 1853; U.S. Bureau of the Census 1860, 1870, 1880 [population]).

By 1844, flour milling was available to Fitchburg at Badger Mills in Verona at a distance of seven miles from section 12 and other services were accessible in Madison at a distance of ten miles. Early, unplatted trade centers in Fitchburg including Stoner's Prairie in section 20 and Lake View in section 24 and Oak Hall or Fitchburg in section 33 developed along major north-south roads in the town by 1855 and 1861 respectively. The Haight farmstead was served by Lake View established by 1848 one and a half miles to the south and a small mill extant by 1861 in section 3 about three and a half miles to the northwest. Lake View developed on the stage route between Madison and Janesville. It included an inn and mercantile store by the late 1840s and a second store, several craft services, and a saw and grist mill by 1860. Thus, essential services were available, if not well developed, by the late 1840s adjacent to section 12 in Fitchburg and the establishment of the Haight farmstead by 1854-55 (Butterfield 1880: 869; Greeley 1855; Ligowski 1861; Fitchburg Bicentennial Committee 1976: 7, 68-70; U.S. Bureau of the Census 1860; Anonymous 1835-40; Drury 1958: 425; Berry ca. 1898).

By 1850, Dane County's farm production outgrew its home markets. Farmers required markets outside the state to absorb their goods. The spread of the railroad system in the late 1850s to the 1880s eased transportation problems to more distant markets. As the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad approached Dane County and created accessible markets for Dane County's goods by 1853, its population rose rapidly. The railroad reached Madison in 1856. The east section of the Town of Fitchburg was served by the Chicago and Northwestern line in 1864. It ran between Beloit and Madison with a station at Syene in section 11 adjacent to the Haight farmstead. Available services at Syene Station in addition to the depot eventually included a creamery, stockyard, blacksmith, grocery, school, and church. A church and school stood across CTH MM from the Haight farmstead by 1890. These services remained viable until automobile transportation disrupted these patterns beginning in the 1920s (Butterfield 1880: 608, 611, 422, 869; Hibbard 1905: 115, 140; Fitchburg Bicentennial Committee 1976: 89; Foote 1890; Berry ca. 1898; Wm. Park & Co. 1877: 456; Gregory 1932: 986-87, 1079).

A land speculator, John Catlin purchased the southwest quarter of section 12, the later location of the Haight farmstead, as well as considerable additional properties in the area as a non-resident owner in 1842. Catlin was an early

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settler at the townsite of Madison who assisted in its platting. He was later active in public service and state politics as Madison's postmaster in 1838, district attorney of Dane County, and a county judge. In 1851, Catlin became president of the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad. In 1852, he sold his undeveloped southwest quarter section in section 12 to Edwin Spooner, an emigrant from Massachusetts. Spooner improved at least 55 acres of the 160 acre property as farmland by 1860. He constructed the original section of the Haight dwelling at its location northwest of Swan Creek in 1854-1855. By 1860, residents in the household included Spooner, his wife, two children, a servant, and a day laborer. The household was tied to the Lake View Post Office (Dane County Title Company 1972; U.S. Bureau of the Census 1860 [population and agricultural]; Ligowski 1861; Dane, County of 1851- [1852-53, 1854-55]; Gregory 1932: 734; Butterfield 1880: 520).

Nicholas Haight purchased the 160 acres from Edwin Spooner in 1867. In 1882, He increased his land holdings to 190 acres with the purchase of a 30 acre strip in adjacent section 11. Born in Bedford, Westchester County, New York in 1818, Haight was primarily employed as a harness-maker and school teacher in New York and Connecticut. In 1857, he migrated west and established a farm in section 31 in the Town of Blooming Grove, Wisconsin. Haight then purchased the Spooner property in the Town of Fitchburg which then included the original two story section of the current dwelling. Haight added to the dwelling and erected and later added to his barn by 1880. His family included Catherine Williamson of Bedford, New York whom he married in 1846; James C., William Joseph, and Sarah M. born in Connecticut and New York; and Thomas W., Mary J., and Lizzie M. born in Wisconsin. In both 1870 and 1880, the family included a farm hand. By 1880, James C. had established his own household which eventually included himself, his wife Christine, and his sons William, Benjamin, and Nicholas. By 1892, Nicholas divided his land between himself and James C., giving his son the southwest forty acres which contained the farmstead with its two and eventually three dwellings. One stood at the corner of Lacy Road and CTH MM by 1873 to 1890, and the other was placed north of the first dwelling. Although there is minimal supporting evidence, it appears logical that at least James C. and William J. Haight in the next generation lived in these additional houses on the property between the time that they established a household separate from their parents and inherited the farm (Robert and Jim Haight 1992; Foote 1890; Gay 1899; Keachie 1904; Cantwell Printing Company 1911; Dane County Atlas Company 1926; Thrift Press 1931; Biographical Review Publishing Company 1893: 344-46; Butterfield 1880: 1254-55).

At his father's death in 1909, James C. received the remainder of the Haight property with the exception of the life estate of 40 acres in the northwest

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quarter of the southwest quarter of section 12 given to Nicholas's disabled son William J. Haight. This portion reverted to the family at William's death in 1924. About 1914, James C. sold the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter thus reducing the property to 150 acres. James C. died in 1928. The land descended to his wife, Christina, and two of his three sons, Nicholas and William Joseph or Joe, who probably continued to live on the farmstead. At Christina's death in 1943, the property descended to Nicholas and William Joseph Haight. In 1943, Nicholas sold his share to William Joseph who then farmed the Haight property until his death in 1972. Rachel Haight, his wife, then inherited the property, and the farmland was rented. Rachel Haight, long Justice of the Peace for the Town of Fitchburg, received the century farm award in 1973. In 1972, the Haight farm included approximately 150 acres in the southeast quarter and west half of section 12 and in the adjoining east portion of section 11 with the exception of three small parcels along Lacy Road (Dane County Title Company 1972; Dane, County of 1851- [1866, 1868]; Butterfield 1880: 1254-55; Fitchburg Bicentennial Committee 1976: 35, 190; U.S. Bureau of the Census 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920 [population to 1920 and agricultural to 1880]; Harrison and Warner 1873; Foote 1890; Keachie 1904; Gay 1899; Cantwell Printing Company 1911; Kenyon Company 1914; Dane County Atlas Company 1926; Thrift Press 1931; North Star Publishing Company 1936: 17; Robert and Jim Haight 1992).

Both Edwin Spooner and Nicholas Haight and his descendants operated a farm on the property. As early as the 1840s, settlers sought to establish commercial agriculture on easily cultivated and comparatively rich lands along the prairie timber borders such as those lands covering much of the south and east portions of the Town of Fitchburg. Some of the lands in the Town of Fitchburg remained undeveloped until the late 1840s or 1850s because of their purchase by speculators such as Catlin and their distance from large markets until the mid-1850s. Farmers planted a single cash wheat crop soon after arrival. Wheat was a favored early crop since it could be planted relatively quickly at little expense to the farmer. Wheat was also less perishable and less bulky to transport than many agricultural products and enjoyed high demand and high prices. The arrival of the railroad in the 1850s facilitated marketing and stimulated production to high levels. Farmers raised sufficient quantities of feed crops and livestock including cattle used both for milking and meat and swine for their own subsistence and occasional trade at local mercantile establishments. Without adequate access to developed markets prior to 1870, livestock was haphazardly bred and raised with little benefit of shelter. Wheat production rose quickly after 1853 and remained generally high through the Civil War. However, soil fertility and production levels began to decline as early as the late 1850s in Dane County. By the late 1860s, disease and pests attacked the

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wheat crop. Competition from states further west reduced price levels. Thus, after peaking in 1870, the production of wheat in Dane County rapidly declined through that decade.

By 1860, Edwin Spooner realized a relatively large income in comparison to his neighbors from the fifty-five acres of his improved farmland. He raised a limited number of livestock including horses, several cows, oxen, and cattle and produced a comparatively small quantity of butter. In addition to an average amount of wheat, he also raised relatively high quantities of feed crops including corn, oats, and hay, perhaps for the nearby growing urban area to the north. Milling services became available in section 3 of Fitchburg, at Lake View, and at Verona late in the 1840s to 1860 (Brown 1986: sec. 2; Garfield 1986: section 8; Shafer 1922: 81-92; Hibbard 1905: 121-34; Fitchburg Bicentennial Committee 1976: 29, 119; Berry ca. 1898; Wm. Park & Co. 1877: 451; U.S. Bureau of the Census 1860 [agriculture]).

In the 1870s to 1880s, Dane County agriculture generally became more diversified by gradually shifting toward a feed crop and livestock emphasis. By the 1860s, farmers increased their sheep herds to meet not only their own needs but the demands of the Civil War. Entrance into market sheep production proved more affordable than initiating other livestock production, and the wool products were non-perishable and relatively easily transported. Although sheep were kept as a sideline to 1900, this production declined by the mid-1880s as dairying became more profitable. After 1870, farmers began to improve their livestock, and they raised larger numbers of cattle for either milking or beef rather than the dual purpose type. Dane County became a leading county in cattle production by 1880 and raised increasing numbers of horses and swine. The rising feed crop acreage particularly included corn and oats in southern Wisconsin in the 1870s, and farmers also raised cash crops such as tobacco and hops beginning in the 1860s. But, the raising of livestock in any numbers required a sizable investment in the animals and buildings at a time when income was low. Thus, these shifts occurred gradually (Shafer 1932: 99-126; Hibbard 1905: 145-58; Garfield 1986: sec. 8; Brown 1986: sec. 2; Fitchburg Bicentennial Committee 1976: 87, 119; Butterfield 1880: 476; Gregory 1932: 978-79).

Nicholas Haight had improved 100 of his 160 acres by 1870. By that year, he earned an above average income in comparison to adjacent land owners. He shifted to a greater emphasis on livestock including horses, dairy cattle, swine, and particularly sheep. However, his butter production appears relatively low, and wheat production remained high as were the feed crops including corn and oats. The Haight farm had begun to shift to a more diversified agriculture as compared

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with its production in 1860 (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1860; 1870
[agriculture]).

By the 1890s, farming centered around dairying in Dane County. Farms participating more than casually in milk production supported herds of 15 to 20 or 30 cows. Critical to increasing dairy production was the growth of markets in butter and cheese, and the rapid transportation of perishable products to markets. But, the growth of dairying first required the alteration of farming routines to allow milk delivery to factories on a regular basis. Additionally, rather than allowing cows to become dry during the winter months when feed was scarce and costly, farmers were encouraged to continue feeding to allow the operation of cheese factories and creameries on a year-around basis. The increasing use of ensilage as winter feed after the turn of the century enabled this change in farm routine. Cheese factories began to appear in Dane County in the 1870s. The construction of creameries proliferated as the markets for Wisconsin cheese increased in the late 1880s. Eventually one or more cheese factories or creameries occurred in almost every town, often every three to five miles. The rolling landscape of east Dane County allowed farmers in Fitchburg and adjacent areas to practice a mixed agriculture based on corn and swine production as well as dairy cattle. Thus, creameries such as the one at Syene generally dominated dairy production in this area by the 1890s. Dane County became a leading county in butter production by the late nineteenth century. For those farmers close to urban areas such as Madison, the marketing of liquid milk also became possible as health standards for milk production and transportation improved in the first several decades of the twentieth century (Brown 1986: secs. 9-11; Gregory 1932: 980-83; Garfield 1986: sec. 8; Hibbard 1905: 176-82; Schafer 1922: 149-67; Fitchburg Bicentennial Committee 1976: 120).

Although still in transition, many farmers in Dane County had significantly increased their dairy herds by the 1880s. In 1880, Nicholas Haight maintained 110 acres in crop land and 40 in pastures. He generally invested a greater amount in livestock and farm buildings than the adjacent farmers. While Haight raised an average number of dairy cattle, the value of milk sold for butter, cheese, or direct consumption was considerably greater than his neighbors. He also produced 500 pounds of butter and small amounts of cheese on his farm. Haight raised sheep and a comparatively large number of swine and poultry. His feed crops included relatively high quantities of corn and oats, and he raised a limited amount of wheat. Thus, Haight had moved away from wheat agriculture and maintained diversified farm production in which dairying represented a significant component. Prior to 1880, he had raised and added to a large livestock and hay barn, one visible representation of this agriculture which remains on the property.

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Area of Significance: Architecture

The Nicholas Haight Farmstead gains significance under criterion C in the area of architecture. Its dwelling represents a gabled ell, a common house form in Wisconsin in the second half of the nineteenth century. It displays limited Greek Revival detailing (Godfrey 1986: sec 2; Garfield and Wyatt 1986: 3; Rifkind 1980: 38; McAlester 1990: 178-80). The dwelling began in 1854 to 1855 (Dane County Title Company 1972; Dane, County of 1851- [1854-55]; Ligowski 1861) as a vernacular front gabled type and probably acquired its rear and side wing at a relatively early date, perhaps in the pre-1880 remodeling by Nicholas Haight (Butterfield 1880: 1255). Its two rear southwest wings, the third and fourth additions, with their 6/6 light, double hung windows very likely date prior to 1900. The large timber sills and timber joist under the original section strongly indicate a timber frame. The timber sills under the second, southeast addition also suggest a similar framing. The Greek Revival detailing is only suggestive of the style and limited to the returned eaves, the relatively wide frieze boards, the shouldered architrave trim around the main entrance, and regular composition and fenestration. However, the house does not convey the low, squat proportions nor does the roof achieve the low pitch of the Greek Revival style. As a vernacular form, it lacks other common high style elements of the Greek Revival: the sidelights, overlight, and allusions to the Grecian orders through pilasters or columns along the door or corners, an entablature or pediment above the main entrance or the heavy moldings along the roof line. The chamfered posts with capitals and bases along the front porch resembles Italianate detailing. Significant interior features include the thumb nail latches and batten and paneled doors. The basement beneath the original section retains possible evidence of its use as living space, perhaps a kitchen, including patches of plaster and whitewash on walls and ceiling and a stove hole with an adjacent rough mantle-like structure.

The period of significance begins with the approximate date of construction, 1854-1855 (Dane, County of 1851 [1854-55]; Dane County Title Company 1972; Ligowski 1861) and extends to c. 1900 when the house achieved its present form. Although the number of window lights indicate a pre-1900 date for the construction of the four additions and the northwest and southeast additions may date prior to 1880 (Butterfield 1880: 1255), substantiated and more specific dates of construction for the additions were not available.

Architectural Integrity

Significantly, this early vernacular dwelling has undergone little interior and

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exterior alteration with the exception of its periodic growth in the nineteenth century. Changes occurred primarily in the last or fourth addition. Its complete enclosure enabled the alteration of its function from a summer kitchen to a kitchen. Other changes in the fourth addition included the building of the entryway, alteration of one window, and recent replacement of kitchen cabinets.

All but one resource within the remainder of the farmstead counts as a contributing building or structure in the district. The crib barn with pegged and spiked timber frame; board and batten and vertical board siding; wood shingle roofing; and its dirt floor maintains much of its original 1880 configuration. Its original plan includes the central drive-through and cow and calf and horse stalls on either side with hay storage above the stalls. The rear lean-to is probably a pre-1880 addition. The enclosure around the west gable constitutes the only identified post-1942 addition (Garfield 1986: secs. 8; Gilbert and Wyatt 1986: sec. 5). The granary is also composed of its original building materials and retains its original plan: the pegged and spiked timber frame, the vertical board siding, wood shingle roofing, stone piers, and interior configuration with north-south aisle and bins to the west on the first level and east-west aisle with bins on both the north and south on the second level. Alterations in the more distant past may include the replacement of bins on the first floor with a work shop area. Somewhat later than the first two buildings but assembled with cut nails, the corn crib assumes a classical shape as well. Its central drive-through area is flanked by storage bins on either side. The balloon frame wall covered with horizontal lath splays slightly outward and its front facing gable roof is covered with wood shingles. Erected in the twentieth century but prior to 1942 (Robert and Jim Haight 1992), the cylindrical silo is constructed with vertically oriented concrete block fixed with steel bands and covered with a conical roof (Garfield 1986: sec. 5; Gilbert and Wyatt 1986: sec. 5). Although the interior was modified to a smoke house, the balloon frame and clapboard privy remains unchanged on the exterior. The vinyl sided garage and storage shed with overhead doors constitutes the single non-contributing resource within the farmstead.

The Haight farmstead achieves significance at the local level. Although only a small number of intact local examples remain, the gabled ell was a common vernacular dwelling form in Wisconsin in the second half of the nineteenth century (Garfield and Wyatt 1986: 5). Additional examples exist in the Town of Fitchburg. Examination of Greek Revival style dwellings inventoried by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin in the Town of Fitchburg located six examples. They all displayed a limited number of Greek Revival details. Four were gabled ells, and two were side-gabled. All but one was frame.

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The single red brick gabled-ell at 1749 CTH D known as the P.M. Pritchard House (DA 1/4) displays cornice returns, a wide frieze board which incorporated the tops of the second floor windows, and heavy stone lintels. Although maintaining relatively high integrity, its porch dates to a later period, and it now stands on a concrete foundation. The frame and clapboard, gabled ell at 5988 Adams (DA 1/6) displays a pediment, overlight, and sidelights surrounding the main entrance, 6/6 light windows, and small windows incorporated into the frieze. However, the wing portion of its facade is obscured by an enclosed porch. The two story gabled ell at 2387 Seminole Highway (DA 22/24) displays an overlight and sidelights around the entrance, an entry porch supported by columns, and cornice returns along the ell. The building is covered with aluminum siding, and its ell is obscured by an enclosed porch. The gabled-ell on CTH D near Adams Road (DA 1/3) is now vacant. It is elaborated with cornice returns and molded frieze board as well as a somewhat later porch with chamfered porch posts, brackets, and spindle frieze. This example is sided with vinyl. The final dwellings at 2313 CTH MM (DA 1/8) and 2263 CTH D (DA 1/2) are side-gabled examples carrying Greek Revival detailing. The first is elaborated with sidelights and a closed overlight in a molded frame and cornice returns at the side gable. The second displays sidelights and an overlight surrounded by pilasters and an entablature, an entablature with altered attic story windows, and pilasters along the corners of the building. Gothic Revival details include a drip mold detail around single windows along the facade. However, the example at 2313 CTH MM is resided, and all but one window along the facade of the example at 2263 CTH D are altered.

The comparative examination in the Town of Fitchburg first confirmed that the Haight dwelling represents an early vernacular type which attained at least some popularity in the area. And, although the Haight dwelling displays a limited number of Greek Revival details in comparison to the several of the selected examples, its physical integrity is generally greater than those currently existing in the inventory.

The Nicholas Haight Farmstead thus gains significance under criterion C in the area of architecture at the local level as a representation of an early vernacular gabled ell type with limited Greek Revival detailing. Its significance in part derives from its generally high integrity of location, setting, design, material, workmanship, feeling, and association for a property established in the 1850s. The farmstead retains its original location at the corner of CTH MM and Lacy Road. One later dwelling standing north of the house, a second house constructed adjacent to the intersection between 1873 and 1890, a well house, chicken coop, piggery, likely a sheep shed, and fencing are removed from the setting. However, the core of the farmstead remains and these buildings

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have undergone little change except for the rebuilding of the garage/storage shed. Additionally, because of the properties separation by surrounding woods, new construction in the area is not immediately visible from the farmstead. Thus, integrity of setting remains reasonably intact. On the exterior, the dwelling's integrity of design in its elaboration and spatial qualities remains virtually unchanged except for the periodic addition of wings in the nineteenth century, the closing of a door in the second addition, and the alteration of one window and addition of an entrance in the fourth addition. Similarly, the interior remains remarkably intact except for the remodeling of the kitchen, the construction of a bathroom in the second addition, and the remodeling of the parlor's trim probably during the addition of the second wing. Likewise, the original materials, the cladding in wood and the foundations as well as the interior trim and finishing materials and the simple manner in which the building was constructed, its workmanship, generally remain unchanged. Because the dwelling continued to be associated with many of its main outbuildings and it is set back from the road and somewhat isolated by the growth of trees around the property, the district continues to maintain its associations with and to convey the feeling of a rural farm setting in an area becoming increasingly more urban.

(1) Dane, County of 1851- [1854-55]; Dane County Title Company 1972;
Ligowski 1861.

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10. Geographical Data

UTM References:

- A. 16-306050-4763700
- B. 16-306240-4763700
- C. 16-306240-4763600
- D. 16-306130-4763610
- E. 16-306130-4763510
- F. 16-306050-4763510

Verbal Boundary Description

For district boundaries, see both district map and USGS Madison West quadrangle. The district boundaries follow a combination of the current property lines to the south and east and arbitrary lines to the north and west.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the dwelling, its associated farmstead, entrance drive, and immediately associated landscaping features, the trees that surround and somewhat isolate the farmstead from expanding urban development. The boundary follows the current property boundaries along its south side and east sides except for a narrow strip of land to CTH MM. The north and west boundaries are drawn to include the farm buildings and a small portion of the associated wood lot to the north and west.

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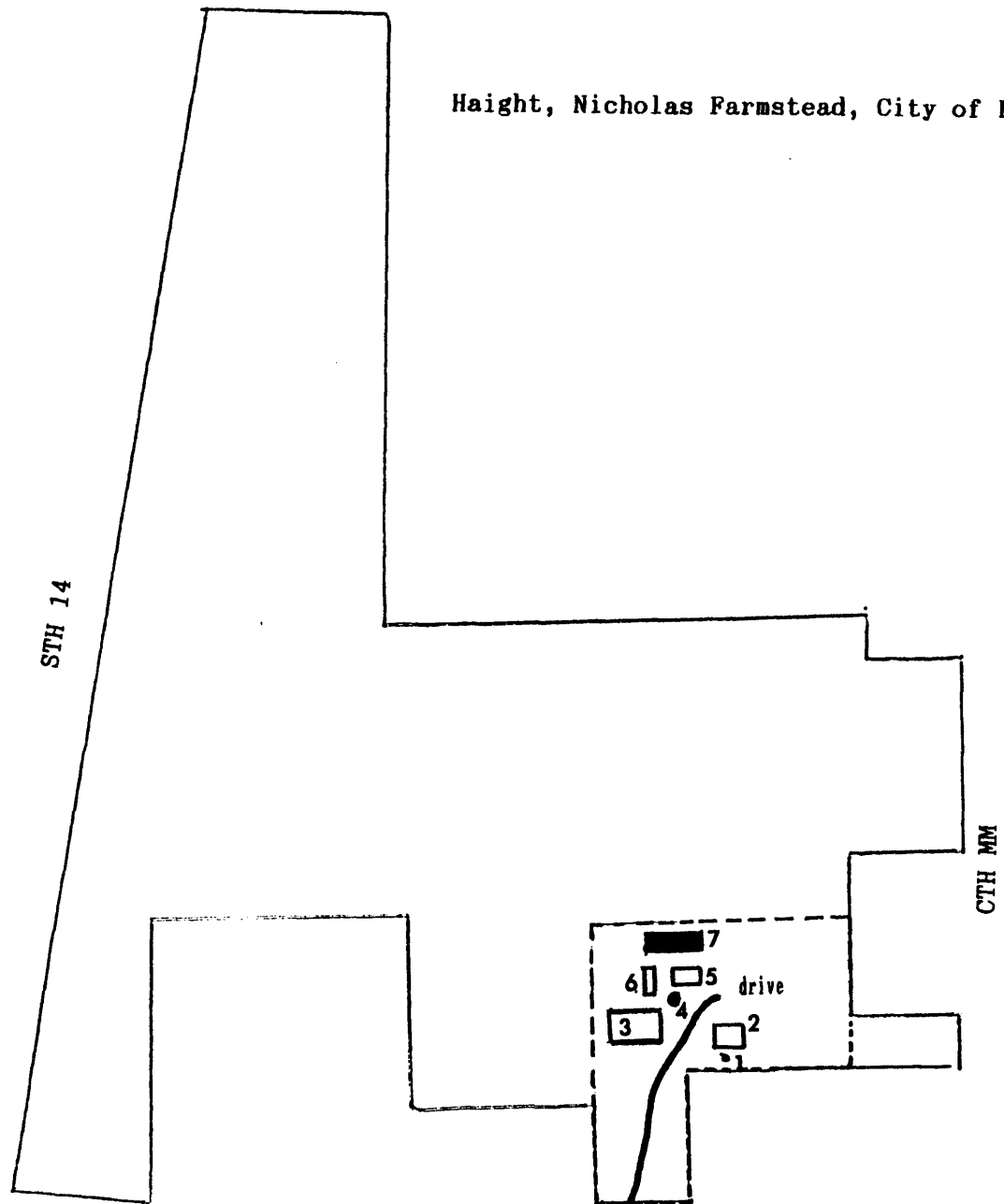
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Photographic Documentation

Name: Haight, Nicholas Farmstead
Location: Fitchburg, Dane County, Wisconsin
Photographer's Name: Joyce McKay
Date: March, 1992
Location of Negative: State Historical Society of Wisconsin
Identification:

1. North elevation and east facade of the dwelling facing southwest.
2. South elevation of the dwelling facing northeast.
3. Rear or west elevation of the dwelling facing east.
4. North elevation of the dwelling facing south, southwest.
5. North and west elevations of the smokehouse or privy facing south.
6. East facade of the barn, the south elevation of the silo and the west end of the granary facing northwest.
7. The south facade and west elevation of the granary facing northwest.
8. The south facade and west elevation of the corn crib facing northwest.
9. The south facade of the garage and storage building facing northwest.

Haight, Nicholas Farmstead, City of Fitchburg, Dane Co., WI



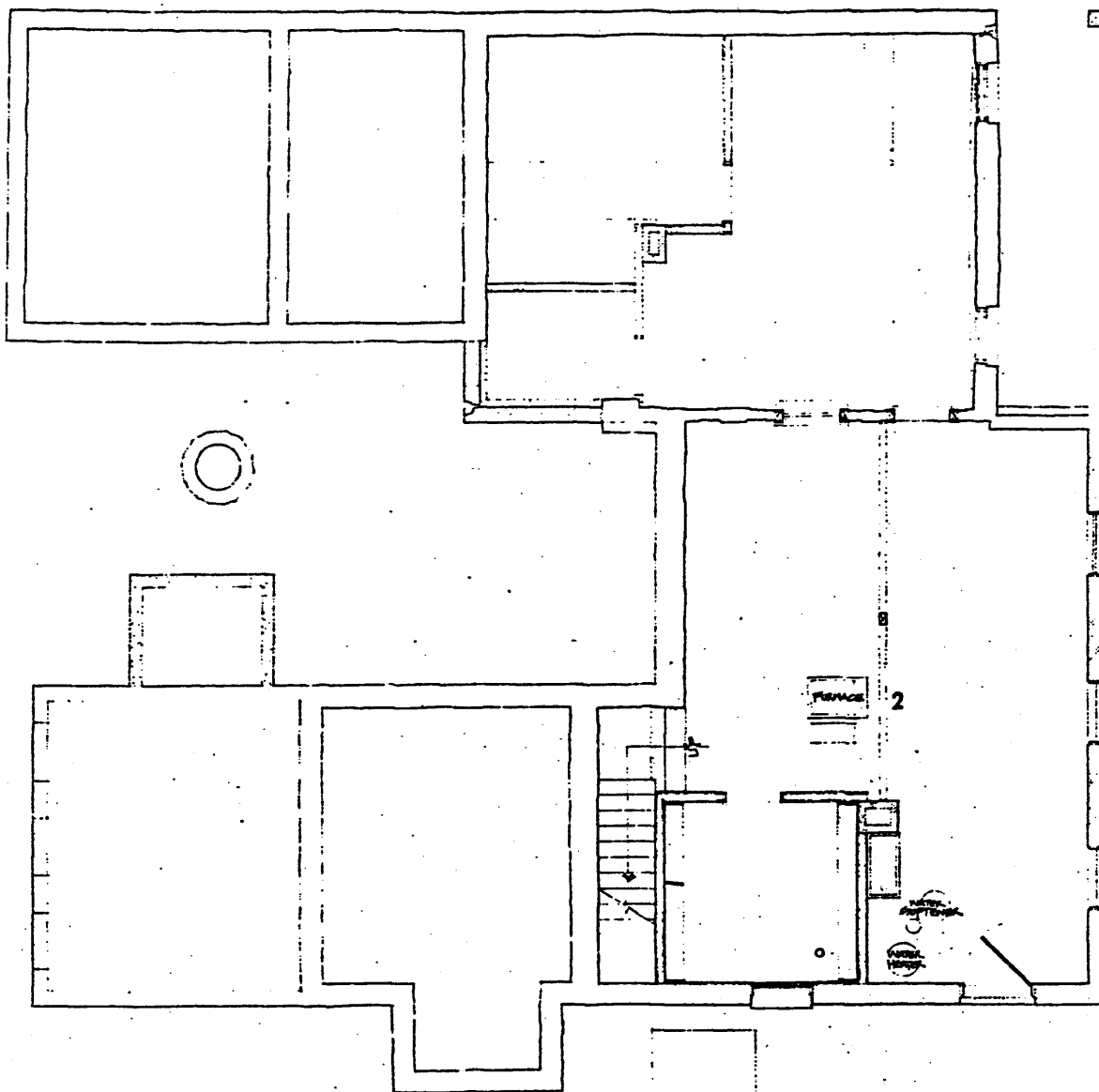
- Key:
- district boundaries
 - property boundaries
 - 1. smokehouse C.
 - 2. dwelling C.
 - 3. barn C.
 - 4. silo NC.
 - 5. granary C.
 - 6. corn crib C.
 - 7. garage/storage bldg. NC.

Note: Property boundaries are to scale but buildings are not.

Lacy Road

- Contributing
- Noncontributing

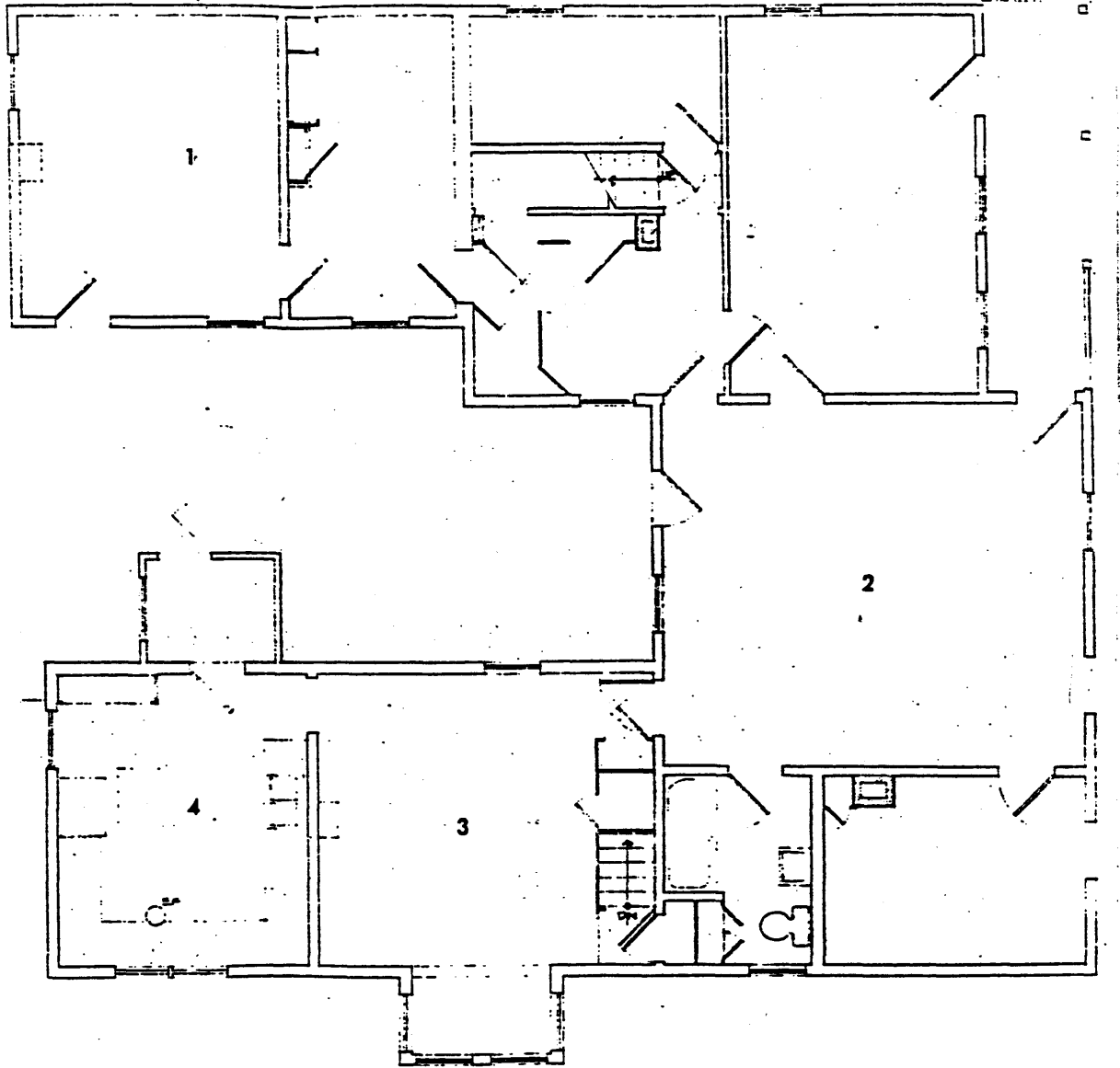
400'



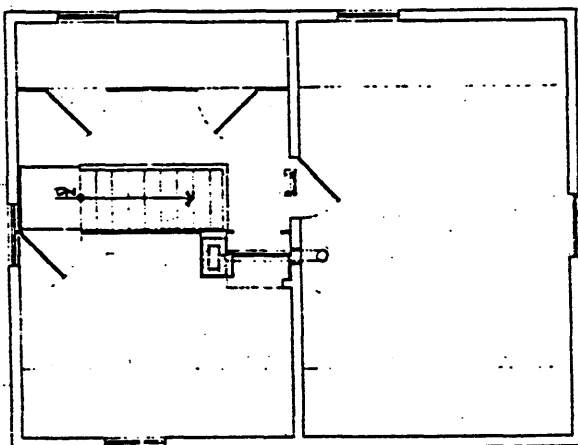
CELLAR AND FOUNDATION PLAN

Numbers refer to sequence of building additions

Scale 1/8" = 1'



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

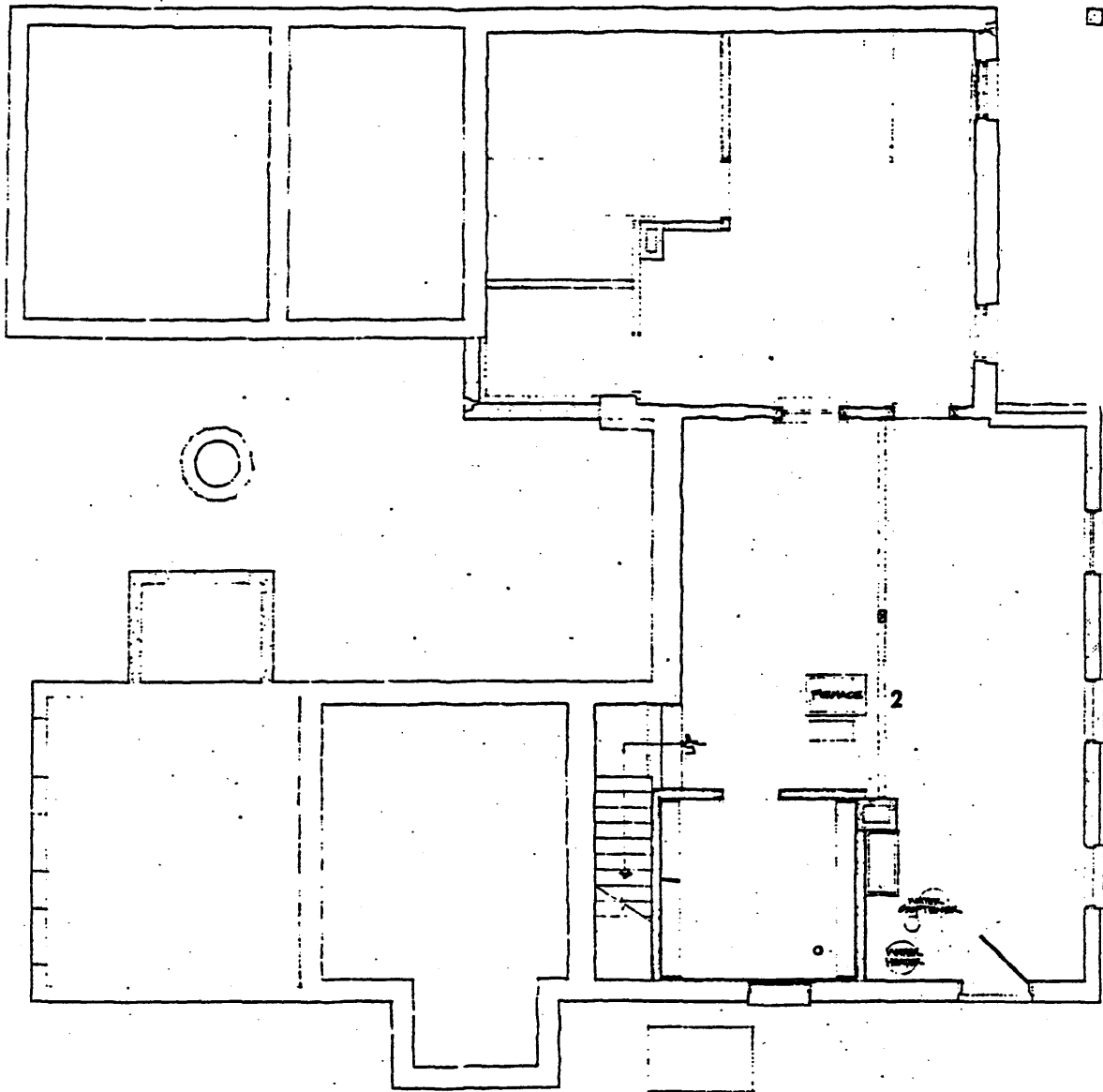


SECOND FLOOR

Numbers refer to sequence of building additions.

Scale: 1/8" = 1'





CELLAR AND FOUNDATION PLAN

Numbers refer to sequence of building additions

Scale 1/8" = 1'