

INVENTORY FORM FOR NOMINATED PROPERTIES

Name of Property: Burr Oak Tavern
Address: 315-317 East Capitol Drive
City: Hartland

Owner: Jerry and Jean Natrop Date: 5/1985
Owner's address: 315-317 East Capitol Drive
County: waukesha (133)

*160 NRHP Certification

(a) _____ (b) _____
(c) _____ (d) _____

165 NRHP Certification Date

(a) _____ (b) _____
(c) _____ (d) _____

*170 Thematic or Multiple Resource Nomination Name

Historic Resources of Hartland

180 NRHP List Name Burr Oaks Tavern

*200 Level of Significance local

*190 District Classification _____

*210 Applicable Criteria Architecture/Engineering (c)
Association with a significant person (b)
History of a community (a)

*215 Criteria Considerations

*220 Area of Significance

Architecture Health/Medicine
_____ Commerce

230 Period of Significance c. 1853-1885
1887-1937

60 Verbal Boundary Description Part of the NW 1/4,
Section 2, township 7 North, Range 18 East,
village of Hartland, Wisconsin. North 90'
of Lots 1 and 2, Block 2, D.K. Warren's
Addition, West of Hornburg Property and
North of Pynn Land.

70 USGS Quad Map Hartland

80 UTM Coordinates (Format: 99/999999/9999999)
16/390760/4773090

85 Listed Acreage less than one

340 Review Board Date _____

The property consists of 1 (one) contributing building

*use code tables for response

INTENSIVE SURVEY FORM

NOV

Record No. _____ Property Name: Burr Oak Tavern Address: 315-317 E. Capitol

LOCATION

PROGRAM REVIEW

10 County Waukesha

250 Tax No. _____ 260 Compliance No. _____

20 City or Village Hartland

270 A or D Grant _____

30 Civil Town _____

275 Covenant/Easement Dates _____

35 Unincorp. Community _____

*320 Ownership Private

40 Location 315-317 East Capitol Drive

*330 ~~Lead Agency~~ Wisconsin Historic Preservation Division

Town-Range-Section (Format: 9999W-99)

335 Local Agency SEWRPC

50 T7N R18E Section 02

SURVEY

55 Quarter Sections (Format: NW-NW) NW¹/₄

90 Photo Codes 110-0, 49-6

60 Verbal Boundary Description _____

100 Survey Map Hartland Intensive Survey

60 North 90' of lots 1 and 2 Block 2,

110 Map Code 110-0

60 D.K. Warren's Addition, west of

120 Reconnaissance Survey Date Schockley

60 Hornburg Property and north of Pyn Land.

130 Reconnaissance Surveyor 1979

*140 Intensive Survey Name Hartland Intensive Survey

150 Intensive Surveyor Miller/Vogel

152 Surveyor Affiliation _____

155 Intensive Survey FY 1985

*235 Survey Eval. determined eligible

*237 Survey District Classification contributing

*240 Survey Level of Significance local

*243 Survey Evaluation Criteria _____

245 ~~Preparation Date~~ _____

230 NHL Date _____

290 HABS No. _____ 300 HAER No. _____

*305 Local Landmark (date) _____

310 Local District _____

315 Associated Archeological Site(s) _____

315 _____

dry mount
photograph
here

*use code tables for response

Record No. _____

Address 315-317 East Capitol Drive

ARCHITECTURE

- 450 Construction Date [source] 1853-1855
(County deeds) Vol. 18, p. 73)
- 460 Date(s) of Alterations/Additions [source] _____
- 460 _____
- 480 Builder [source] _____
- * 490 Designer Type (a) _____
- 490 (b) _____ (c) _____
- 500 Designer Name [source] (a) _____
- 500 (b) _____ (c) _____
- * 510 Style or Form Greek Revival
- 510 _____
- * 520 Building, Structure, Object or Site Type
- 520 Residence/tavern
- * 530 Wall Material clapboard
- * 532 Trim Material wood
- * 535 Foundation Material stone-unspecified
- * 537 Roof Material asphalt shingles
- * 540 Interior Visited y
- * 550 Structural System [source] _____
- * 560 Plan Configuration T-shaped
- * 570 Number of Stories 2½
- * 580 Roof Shape Gable
- 590 Additional Description _____
- 590 Modern protico to front.
- 590 Attic freize windows on facade.
- 590 _____
- * 620 Condition good

- * 650 Related Buildings _____
- 650 _____
- 650 _____

HISTORY

- 430 Current Name Residence
- 435 Current Function Residence
- 440 Historic Names [source] Burr Oak House
- 440 _____
- 440 _____
- 660 Assoc. Individuals [source] (a) Dr. H. Nixon
- 660 (b) Patrick Kelly
- 665 Dates Assoc. [source] (a) 1887-1937
- 665 (b) 1850s
- 670 Assoc. Events [source] (a) _____
- 670 _____
- 670 (b) _____
- 670 _____
- 675 Dates of Events [source] (a) _____
- 675 (b) _____
- 680 Historic Functions [source] (a) Inn/tavern
- 680 (b) Emergency Hospital
- 685 Dates of Functions [source] (a) 1850-1900s
- 685 (b) 1937
- * 687 Cultural Affiliation _____
- 688 Cultural Subgroup _____

*use code tables for response

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Burr Oak House was built in response to the commerce anticipated from the Watertown Plank Road, the village's first improved transportationway. The land under the hotel was sold to Patrick Kelley by Dewey K. Warren in December, 1852 for \$50.00. Kelley sold the property in 1856 for \$2,500; a price that no doubt reflected the existence of the hotel. It subsequently passed to G.W. Nourse and D.S. Goodwin. Andrew Akin purchased it from Goodwin for \$2,500 in 1885. Various gazetteers identified Nourse and Goodwin as hotel proprietors, Akin, however, was identified as a restaurant owner. He sold the building in 1895. (A,B)

Dr. H.G.B. Nixon established his first Hartland office in the west half of the hotel in 1887, immediately after his graduation from medical school. In addition to providing Hartland with medical service for over fifty years, Nixon was very involved in community and business activities. He succeeded Harry Goodwin as president of the Bank of Hartland, for instance. Perhaps the pinnacle of the health care quality he gave to Hartland was reached in 1937 when he opened an emergency hospital in the old hotel. It was equipped with a waiting room, offices, an operating room and an x-ray room. Nixon died of a heart attack in 1939. Dr. and Mrs.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Burr Oaks Tavern is locally significant under criterion A for its role in the area of Health/Medicine during the period of 1887 to 1937. In 1887, Dr. H.G.B. Nixon opened a medical office in the Burr Oaks Tavern. As the primary local resource representing the historical evolution of health care in Hartland, the Burr Oaks Tavern played an important historical role in the improvement of local health care which climaxed in the opening of an emergency hospital in the building in 1937. The Burr Oaks Tavern represents the general historical trend towards the professionalization of the health care system.

The tavern is also locally significant under criterion B for its association with Dr. Nixon, a prominent physician in the village. The first local physicians, Drs. Benjamin and McLaren stayed in the community only a short period of time before moving on and had little permanent impact on local health care. Other physicians, Overgaugh and Farley were associated with Nixon as assistant and partner respectively, but Nixon was clearly the most prominent local physician. Nixon practised locally for over 50 years and was largely responsible for the professionalization of the health care services of Hartland. His most important individual contribution to local health care came in 1937 when he established the first community emergency hospital in the Burr Oaks Tavern.

The Burr Oaks Tavern is locally significant in the area of commerce for its role as a commercial hotel in the period c.1853-1885. At the time the hotel opened in c.1853, there were only 3 commercial enterprises in the village. The tavern was built in response to commerce anticipated from the completion of the Watertown Plank Road. The only other hotel of this period, the Otis House was built around the same time to serve the same function, but is no longer extant. The Burr Oaks Tavern is the sole extant resource representing the early commercial development of Hartland.

Record: _____

Address: 315 - 317 East Capitol Drive

DESCRIPTION

The Burr Oak Tavern is located at 315-317 East Capitol Drive in the Village of Hartland. Built as an inn for Patrick Kelley in 1853-1855, the two-story gabled frame structure is an example of the early Greek Revival style. The symmetrical main facade features multi-paned sash and frieze windows, and a two-story Doric portico sheltering the main entrance - a heavy architrave uniting two doors. Burr Oak Tavern is T-shaped in plan and has a stone foundation. A one-story non-contributing enclosed porch dating from the early twentieth century appears on each of the east and west facades. On the rear the gabled roof forms a catslide down to a one-story frame hipped roof rear section. The interior has been remodeled extensively to convert the former tavern into a duplex.

ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING SIGNIFICANCE

The Burr Oak Tavern is architecturally significant as an excellent example of the Greek Revival style. The Tavern is one of four surviving Greek Revival structures in Hartland. The other three, the Stephen Warren House (235 East Capitol Drive), 137 North Avenue, and 526 West Capitol Drive, are all vernacular Greek Revival residences, only the first of which is being nominated as it is the only one retaining any degree of integrity. The Burr Oak Tavern is a fine highstyle example of a Greek Revival commercial residence and retains excellent exterior integrity, uncompromised by the small scale twentieth century porches on the sides of the structure.

690 BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

County of Waukesha Deeds, Vol. II, p. 540 and Vol. 18, p. 73.

Waukesha County. Deeds and Records. Waukesha, Wisconsin. (A)

Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory.

R. L. Polk and Company, 1888. (B)

Record No., _____

Address: 315-317 East Capitol Drive

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Nixon left the village a significant legacy, the land that was developed and came to be known as Nixon Park. (C)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE