

INVENTORY FORM FOR NOMINATED PROPERTIES

Name of property: William Riggert House (Reedsburg MAH) Owner: Jim Meza
Address: 547 South Park Street Owner's address: 619 Myrtle Street
City: Reedsburg County: Sauk Reedsburg, Wisconsin 53959

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- 160 NRHP Certification (date)
 Listed in NRHP (LI)
 Determined eligible in DOE process (DD)
 Determined eligible in nomination process (DN)
 Additional documentation added to nomination (AD)
 Boundary increased (BI)
 Boundary Decreased (BD)
 Delisted (DL)

170 Thematic or Multiple Resource Nomination Name (code)
Multiple Resources of Reedsburg

180 NRHP List Name William Riggert House

- 190 Level of Significance
 national (NA)
 state (ST)
 local (LO)

- 200 District Classification
 pivotal (P)
 contributing (C)
 non-contributing (NC)

- 210 Applicable Criteria
 event (A)
 person (B)
 architectue/engineering (C)
 information potential (D)

- 215 Criteria Considerations
 religious property (A)
 moved property (B)
 birthplace or grave (C)
 cemetery (D)
 reconstructed property (E)
 commemorative property (F)
 less than 50 years old (G)

220 Area of Significance (code)
Architecture

230 Period of Significance
1892 (Date of construction: Source A)

340 Review Board Date 10/19/84

70 USGS Quad Map
Reedsburg West Quadrangle

80 UTM Coordinates (Format: 99-999999-9999999)
15-741940-4823420

85 Listed Acreage Less than one

60 Verbal Boundary Description City of Reedsburg,
Young, Perry and Stewart's Addition, Lot 9,
Block 3 and Vac. Por. River Street.

Description

Designed by Willard W. Rork in 1892, the William Riggert house is a 2½ story clapboard sided Queen Anne house with a steeply pitched hip and gable roof. A wide molded frieze surrounds most of the house. The front (west) gable has a circle and bar design bargeboard and gable returns with ornamental woodwork. A square window with sawn scrolled woodwork above the sill is placed below the bargeboard and over a pent roof with imbricated wood shingles. A paired window with 9/1 panes is immediately below this. Some of the windows have red and blue colored glass panes. The first story has a box bay window with small ornamental brackets along the cornice. A second story porch with a hip roof projects from the south corner of the front facade and features two columns with scroll brackets and a turned wood balustrade. Below this a wrap around porch, with hip roof and gabled entry, extends to the south side of the house. It is supported by turned columns with scroll brackets. The balustrade also has a turned wood railing with a different pattern than that on the second story porch.

A gable roofed ell projects from the south facade and is ornamental with similar bargeboard and gable return ornamentation as the front gable. The east or rear part of the house has a small one story extension with a pedimented gable on the roof.

A two story bay window on the north facade features a gablet in front of a pyramidal shaped roof. A heavy cornice head surmounts paired 9/1 windows and sawn woodwork is applied below the window sill. A similar paired window is on the first story of the bay window.

Although the interior of the house has been considerably altered, some of the original hardwood finish remains, including original door and window frames with corner blocks, baseboards, and the stairway. An interesting polygonal room is found on the north side where the bay window projects. The house has been used as a two family home for a number of years and is now unoccupied. Extensive water damage during the winter of 1982-1983 necessitated new floors and removing water soaked plaster and lath. The damage extended to the basement where the floor buckled.

See other side of sheet

Architectural/Engineering Statement of Significance

The William Riggert house is among the most significant and best preserved examples of the Queen Anne style in Reedsburg. It was built at the end of South Park Street in 1892 in a neighborhood that developed rapidly between 1889-1892. Formally known as the Young, Perry, and Stewart Addition, the area was nicknamed New Oklahoma when first developed because of its rapid growth.

When viewed in the context of other Queen Anne houses built in the late 19th century in Reedsburg, the Riggert house compares favorably in design and integrity. It lacks the characteristic tower of other nominated Queen Anne houses, such as the William Stolte, Jr. house at 432 South Walnut Street and 325 Third Street in the Park Street Historic District, but is distinguished by a more delicate style of ornamental woodwork. The double porch, bays, and intricate gable woodwork complement the overall well proportioned lines of the Riggert house. See other side of sheet

690 Bibliographic References (Sources)

- A - "Reedsburg Free Press", May 19, 1892.
- B - Plat Book, 1948, City of Reedsburg.
- C - "Reedsburg Free Press", March 28, 1889.
- D - Krug, Merton E., History of Reedsburg and the Upper Baraboo Valley (Madison, Democrat Printing Company, 1929)
- E - "Reedsburg Free Press", July 31, 1913.

700 Study Units (code)

350 Demolished

_____yes _____no

360 Date Demolished

Historical Background

William Riggert was born in Hanover, Germany in 1852 and came to the U.S. and Reedsburg in 1873. He was a clerk for William Stolte, Sr. for two years and then moved to Minnesota for five years. He returned to Reedsburg and opened a dry goods and grocery store around 1880 (C). In 1894 he sold his business and became associated with the Citizens Bank (now gone), first as a cashier and in 1920-1921 as president. He was a founder and president of the State Bank of Loganville and served on the Board of Trustees of the Sauk County Poor Farm and the Reedsburg Library Board. During the nineteenth century, Riggert served as village President, a member of the first Reedsburg City Council. He died at home in 1923 (D).

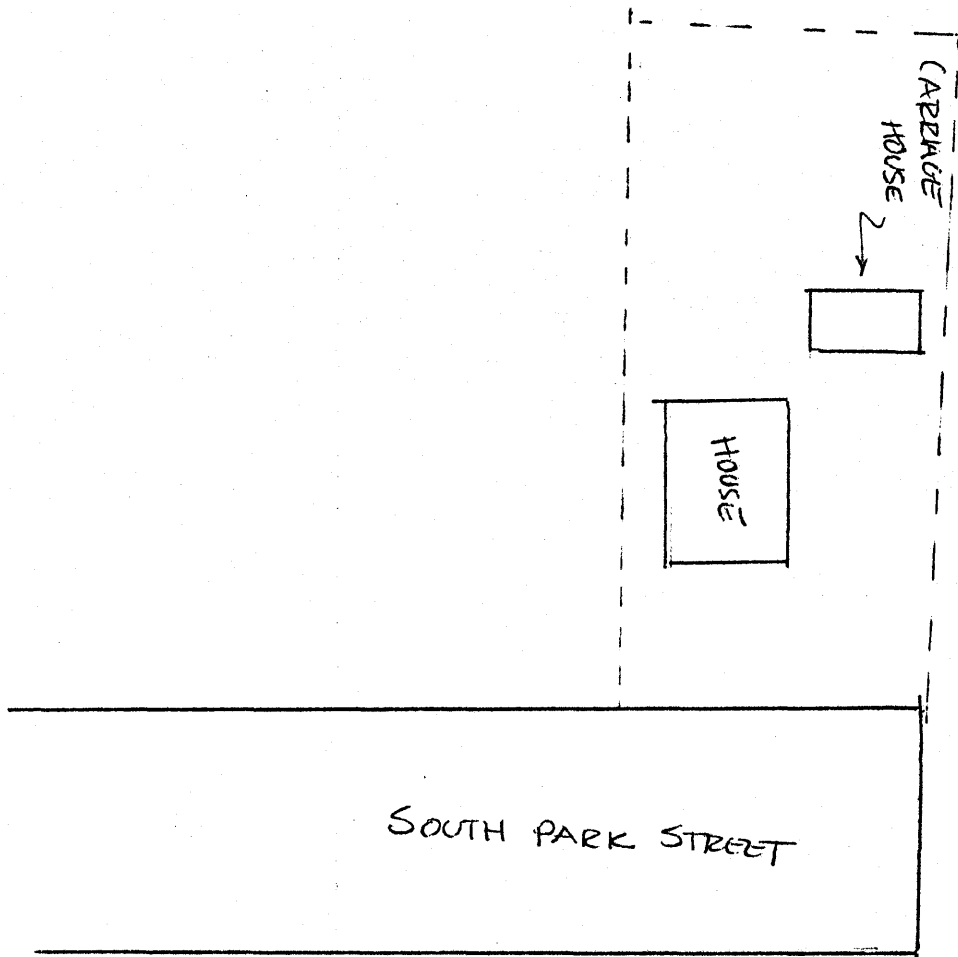
Historical Statement of Significance

Additional Description con't:

Southeast of the home is a two story frame rectangular carriage house with a gable roof that has maintained much of its integrity. The south and east edges of the property are bordered by trees but other landscaping is minimal. The house sits on the southeast end of a dead end street near the Baraboo River. Although the interior has been altered, the exterior of this residence has maintained a high degree of integrity.

Architectural/Engineering Statement of Significance con't:

The house was designed by local architect and carpenter, Willard W. Rork. He was born in Racine, Wisconsin in 1845 and moved into Reedsburg with his parents in 1848. Willard Rork was taught the "art of framer and millwright" by his father, J. H. Rork, and they worked together for many years. Willard eventually established his own business and for thirty-five years had commissions in Wisconsin and other states. He studied architecture in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Rork died in 1913 (E).



WILLIAM RIGGERT HOUSE
547 SOUTH PARK STREET

N ←

--- BOUNDARY OF
NOMINATED PROPERTY