

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 9 1976
DATE ENTERED APR 11 1977

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

German-English Academy

AND/OR COMMON

B Building, Milwaukee School of Engineering

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1020 North Broadway

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Milwaukee

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

5th

STATE

Wisconsin 53201

CODE

55

COUNTY

Milwaukee

CODE

079

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

___ DISTRICT

___ PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

___ AGRICULTURE

___ MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

___ UNOCCUPIED

___ COMMERCIAL

___ PARK

___ STRUCTURE

___ BOTH

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

___ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ RELIGIOUS

___ OBJECT

___ IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

___ GOVERNMENT

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ NO

___ MILITARY

___ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Milwaukee School of Engineering

STREET & NUMBER

1025 North Milwaukee Street

CITY, TOWN

Milwaukee

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Wisconsin 53201

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Milwaukee County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

901 North 9th Street

CITY, TOWN

Milwaukee

STATE

Wisconsin 53233

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Wisconsin's Historic Preservation Plan, Volume II: The Inventory

DATE

1976

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

CITY, TOWN

Madison

STATE

Wisconsin 53706

7 DESCRIPTION

2

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The German-English Academy is a large (79'8" x 136'4"), 3 1/2 story Late Picturesque building of wood frame construction with cream brick veneer. Stone and terra cotta ornament of matching cream color enriches the facade. The building stands on an elevated basement of rusticated cream-colored limestone. It is composed of two hipped-roof masses, one for classrooms and one for the Turners' gymnasium. The two structures are connected by a narrow, recessed link of plain design.

The gymnasium wing features two arcades of three two-story-high, round-arched windows. On the side (north) facade the arcade is surrounded by plain brick, but the front (west) arcade is decorated with clusters of tiny supporting columns under foliate capitals, and elaborate floral spandrels and a cornice. On the third floor a floral scroll stringcourse supports two bands of sash windows flanking a stone name plaque. The cornice frieze consists of panels of more floral ornament. Tall decorative chimneys and a large hip-roofed dormer with five round-arched windows crown the composition.

The classroom wing features a projecting pavilion of Neo-Gothic design. Corner brick piers and a frieze of tiny arcades support a slightly projecting third story. Stone corner turrets rise above the piers and frame a parapet gable which features a diaper-patterned design around an arcade of three round-arched windows. Below these windows is another stone name plaque. The stringcourses and friezes of the gymnasium wing are repeated on the classroom wing. Bands of sash windows fill the remaining wall area.

Whereas the exterior is largely unaltered, the interior has twice undergone extensive alterations, once when the building was converted into a furniture store in 1930 and once more in 1933 when it was converted back into a school.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
___PREHISTORIC	___ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	___COMMUNITY PLANNING	___LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	___RELIGION
___1400-1499	___ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	___CONSERVATION	___LAW	___SCIENCE
___1500-1599	___AGRICULTURE	___ECONOMICS	___LITERATURE	___SCULPTURE
___1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	XEDUCATION	___MILITARY	___SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
___1700-1799	___ART	___ENGINEERING	___MUSIC	___THEATER
X1800-1899	___COMMERCE	___EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	___PHILOSOPHY	___TRANSPORTATION
X1900-	___COMMUNICATIONS	___INDUSTRY	___POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	XOTHER (SPECIFY) Ethnic history
		___INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1890-91; 1927; 1930; 1933 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Crane and Barkhausen

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The architectural firm of Charles D. Crane and Carl C. Barkhausen designed many public buildings, private residences and churches in Milwaukee from about 1890 to 1902. Barkhausen attended the German-English Academy as a child and received his architectural training in Germany.¹ Zimmerman calls the style of similar buildings by the firm "German New Renaissance,"² a term which is most likely appropriate for the German-English Academy too.

At mid-nineteenth century, a group of Milwaukee's German-American citizens, dissatisfied with the offerings of the public schools, formed their own educational association, the Milwaukee Schulverein (1851). Good citizens of their newly adopted country, yet concerned about preserving their German heritage, Milwaukee's "Forty-eighters," exiles of the German revolution, "were among the prime movers in the organization of the...Schulverein," which was "designed to provide instruction in German and a kind of education not then available in either the public or private American schools or in the German Catholic parochial schools."³ The Schulverein "founded the German-English Academy shortly thereafter and secured another exile of the revolution, Peter Engelmann, as teacher...The pupils met at first at Engelmann's home; but enrollment soon made necessary a special building."⁴

"...the German-English Academy served as a pace setter for education in Milwaukee from its beginning in 1851..." as Engelmann "introduced such innovations in a Milwaukee school as singing, drawing, gymnasium and domestic science classes. The school also offered the first kindergarten in Milwaukee [1873]."⁵ "Some of its methods were ultimately adopted in the city system. It was not long before German was taught in the public schools of the German wards; and in 1867 the school board made German a part of the course of instruction in the city system."⁶ Also, "by 1881, kindergarten education was provided in the city schools..."⁷

Although the city's adoption of kindergartens, courses in the German language, and other ideas from the German-English Academy tended to level off the Academy's enrollment, which had peaked as early as 1865, the school's success continued and the need for more space and better facilities grew. In 1891 the Academy was provided with one of the best school edifices in the city by Mrs. Elizabeth Pfister and her daughter, Mrs. Louisa Vogel, in memory of Guido Pfister.⁸ With the Milwaukee Turner Society they made an agreement whereby the Turners would provide the money for half the building, provided that it house "the most up-to-date, fully equipped and fully approved gym(nasium) of its day."⁹ [This accounts for the stylistic differences between the southern (academy) wing and the northern (gymnasium) wing of the building which are noted in the description.] The building indeed included modern improvements to insure a thorough and broad education for both the body and mind.¹⁰ The school offered courses in both German and English, manual arts for boys, domestic science for girls, and physical education for both, in keeping with established Turner principles. It had a natural science museum and a physics and chemistry laboratory.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Gregory, John G., History of Milwaukee (Milwaukee, 1931)
 Letter, Carolyn K. Stephens to Milwaukee Landmarks Commission, November 2, 1972
 "Remember When the German-English Academy Was On Broadway?" The Milwaukee Journal,
 March 10, 1965
 Stearns, J. W., ed., The Columbian History of Education in Wisconsin, (Milwaukee, 1893)
 Still, Bayrd, Milwaukee: The History of a City, (Madison, 1965), 121-125, passim.
 Zimmerman, H. Russell, The Heritage Guidebook: Landmarks and Historical Sites in South-
eastern Wisconsin, (Milwaukee, 1976)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.3
 UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>16</u>	<u>426030</u>	<u>4765900</u>	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Donald N. Anderson, Historian & Registrar, Historic Preservation Division
 ORGANIZATION
State Historical Society of Wisconsin DATE
28 September 1976
 STREET & NUMBER
816 State Street TELEPHONE
608/262-0746
 CITY OR TOWN
Madison STATE
Wisconsin 53706

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE
Richard A. Murray
 TITLE Acting Director DATE 10/29/76
State Historical Society of Wisconsin

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

CHIEF [Signature] DATE 4/11/77
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST [Signature] DATE 3/25/77
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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"The Academy-trained teachers became the backbone of the public school system...In 1900, the Superintendent of Schools credited 'Engelmann's School' with being the model for the public school system. By 1900, the German-English Academy had been saluted with gold medals at the great Chicago World's Fair, the Saint Louis Exposition and the Paris Exposition. In the age of the Darwinian Revolution, the G-E.A. pioneered 'free-thinking values' in education..." and... "saw its families through the hard World War I years when they made the painful decision to change their name, in spite of their proud German heritage, to Milwaukee University School."^{11,12}

In 1927 the Milwaukee University School vacated the building on North Broadway and moved to another part of the city. The Academy building remained vacant until 1930, when it was converted to use as a furniture sales store. In 1933, the Milwaukee School of Engineering acquired the building, reconverted it to school use, and has occupied it continuously since that time.

The German-English Academy Building was designated an official Milwaukee Landmark in 1973.

1. Gregory, History of Milwaukee, IV, 579
2. Zimmerman, The Heritage Guidebook, 87
3. Still, Milwaukee: The History of a City, 121-122
4. Ibid.
5. The Milwaukee Journal, March 10, 1965
6. Still, op. cit., 122
7. Still, op. cit., 414
8. Stearns, The Columbian History of Education in Wisconsin, 317
9. Stephens to Milwaukee Landmarks Commission
10. Stearns, ibid.
11. Stephens to Milwaukee Landmarks Commission
12. Still, p. 461, states that because of anti-German sentiment during World War I, the school gave up its name for the war's duration and became known as the Milwaukee Academy. Very soon, however, it adopted the permanent new name of Milwaukee University School.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Katherine E. Hundt, Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Division

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

September 24, 1976

816 State Street

608/262-2960

Madison

Wisconsin 53706