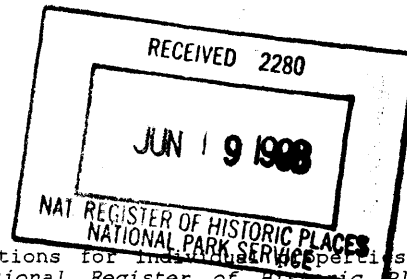


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United States Department of Interior
National Park Service

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 Fritz, John, Farmstead

other names/site number Frees, John, Farmstead

2. Location

street & number 642 Fritz Road N/A not for publication

city or town Town of Montrose N/A vicinity

state Wisconsin code WI county Dane code 025 zip code 53508

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 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.)

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official/Title
Deputy Historic Preservation Officer-WI

6/12/98
Date

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

Fritz, John, Farmstead
Name of Property

Dane County, Wisconsin
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

Edson H. Beall 7-15-98

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include listed resources within the count)	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	3	3
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-state	<input type="checkbox"/> site		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		
		3	3
			Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/
agricultural outbuilding
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/
storage

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
VACANT / not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
MID-NINETEENTH CENTURY

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
foundation Sandstone (1)
walls Sandstone
roof ASPHALT
other STONE
WOOD

Narrative Description

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

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Property Description

The John Fritz Farmstead is located in the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 19, township 5 north, range 8 east in the Town of Montrose, Dane County, Wisconsin. The property is situated about .75 miles northwest of the former community of Montrose, and it historically functioned as part of the larger rural community adjacent to Montrose. Additional local trade centers included Belleville, 4.25 miles to the southeast and Paoli, seven miles to the northeast. The farmstead lies along the edge of the driftless region which reaches east into the Town of Montrose to a line between Verona and Brooklyn west of the Sugar River. Broad, rounded ridge tops with short, relatively steep sides characterize the landscape (Glocker and Patzer 1978: 189-90). Agricultural fields and tall grasses covering low-lying areas surround the farmstead. Adjacent farmsteads are visible to the north and south along Fritz Road, and agricultural fields surround much of the property. The Fritz Farmstead sits east of and well removed from Fritz Road. A lawn surrounds the immediate location of the farmstead buildings. The property's boundary is defined by the edge of the farmstead.

Recorded in the Wisconsin Site Inventory (Wisconsin Division of Historic Preservation n.d. [DA22/27]), the property includes three contributing and three noncontributing building. Five of the buildings are arranged around a hollow square, the dwelling (C) to the west, the corn crib (NC) and piggery (NC) along the north side, the basement barn (C) to the east, and the granary (C) at the southeast corner. The dwelling faces west toward the road. The barn and granary face west and corn crib and piggery are oriented to the south. All of these outbuildings face inward toward the farmyard. The modern, metal storage building (NC) is located near the property's south boundary. The gravel drive travels due east from the road and just south of the dwelling to a turn-around, which circles the granary and leads to the west elevation of the barn. Except for the dwelling, the farmstead buildings are no longer used for their original purpose. They primarily function as storage areas. All but the granary stand in good condition, following their rehabilitation principally between 1991 and 1995. Repair of the granary will occur in the summer of 1997 (Fritz 1997). The rehabilitation maintains the historic character of the buildings while making them functional for current needs.

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Dwelling

Construction of the first or north wing of the dwelling occurred in ca. 1868 (abstract of title; Elder 1934; Dane County Treasurer 1854-1870 [1868]; Harrison and Warner 1873). The building of the second wing occurred in two stages. The first floor appears to have been erected within approximately a decade of the first section, and the second was completed by the early 1890s (Fritz n.d. [19th century photographs]).

The vernacular building conforms to an early form of the gabled ell, the upright and wing dwelling type. The gable of the upright section or the north wing, the first section of the two story house, is perpendicular to the road.

The south wing intersects it to form an approximately T-shaped dwelling. The north wing measures 29 feet east-west and 23 feet north-south while the south wing is 19 feet east-west by 32 feet north-south. Asphalt shingles cover the intersecting gable roof.

Both masonry wings of the dwelling are composed of sandstone, probably derived from one of the small quarries located on the adjacent farms (Pauli 1997; Buckley 1898: 253). The color of the dwelling's sandstone parallels the local outcroppings which have a brownish-red to dusky red color (Glocker and Patzer 1978: 11-12, 26-27; Glocker 1974: 109; Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey 1981 [map]; Mudrey, Brown, and Greenberg 1982).

The random rubble foundation wall supporting the north wing surrounds a cellar. The first floor joists are keyed into this wall and a second wall which divides the basement. The south half of the cellar floor is unfinished, and the north half is covered with concrete. The walls of the south wing sit directly on the ground without foundation or footing (Fritz 1997). The steps between the sitting room and the current kitchen accommodate the slope of the ground which rises to the south.

Roughly coursed ashlar sandstone forms the front elevation of the north wing. Although the west elevation of the south wing appears more finished, the other walls are composed of roughly coursed rubble and roughly dressed sandstone. Ashlar stone quoins stabilize building corners. An ashlar stone watertable defines the base of the west and north elevations of the north wing. At all but the main entrance, the windows and entrances are set off with ashlar stone lintels and sills.

Along the front elevation of the north wing, the reddish mortar is tooled to form a raised bead between each stone. Such treatment is also known as ribbon pointing. Along the front elevation of the south wing, a double line is inscribed between each stone which along some joints was raised to resemble the beaded joint. The mortar joints along the other elevations are flush. Continuous horizontal joints are finished with an inscribed line to simulate a wall composed of ashlar stone. There appears to be little variation in the manner of construction of the upper and lower walls of the south wing which

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photographs indicate were constructed in two phases (Fritz n.d.).

The main entrance is centered between two windows along the west elevation of the north wing. Additional entrances are placed along the south wing. One is centered between two windows at the north end of the west elevation, and the other is located at the south end of the east elevation. The doors are recently replaced. The double hung windows contain six-over-six lights in the north wing and two-over-two lights in the south wing. A double hung, nine-over-nine light window located in the south opening of the second floor in east elevation of the north wing represents the conversion of a window to a door and its return to a window. The door communicated with a frame porch, constructed in the 1950s and now removed. Twelve lights close the former entrance at the north end of the east elevation of the south wing. Semi-circular windows occur in the west gable of the north wing and the south gable of the south wing. The first contains four lights, and the second is closed with louvers.

Openings are generally symmetrically placed along their walls, and second floor windows occur above first floor windows in the north wing. Three openings pierce each floor along the west or front elevation of the north wing. Two windows on each floor of the north and east elevations of that wing are equally positioned from the corners of the building. The south elevation of the north wing also includes a single window place one above the other at the east end. Along the south wing, window placement is less regular. Although spaced at a similar interval, the three windows along the second floor of the west elevation are not centered along the wall but shifted towards the north. Separated by an entrance which lacks a corresponding opening above, the two windows of the first floor occur under the north two windows of the second floor. A pantry once existed along the wall below the location of the south, second floor window. The south wall has a single window near the west side which once illuminated the pantry. The piercing of the rear, east wall includes a window and door along the first floor at the south side without corresponding openings above. At the north side of that elevation, the two windows on each floor are aligned. A door, converted to a window, is centered between the two first floor windows. The current opening for the brick chimney occurs in the north wing near the juncture of the two wings. It rises along the west side of the north-south dividing wall near its south end.

The limited decorative treatment of the building is reminiscent of Greek Revival symmetry and detailing. The north wing, the first portion of the building, presents its gable to the road. This more formal elevation is completed in ashlar rather than roughly coursed, rubble stone. This elevation, like the others of the north wing, is symmetrically composed with the door centered between the two adjacent windows rather than placed to one side, a common placement in the Greek Revival style. The second floor windows and a semi-circular window with a round arch and a stone lintel in the attic are aligned with the first floor openings. Like the other elevations of the building, openings are treated with ashlar stone lintels and sills. The main entrance is completed with a pedimented lintel and three light overlight. The three faces of the exterior wood door surround are paneled. The ashlar stone

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watertable is carried along the north and west elevations of the wing. A comparatively narrow molding board defines the top portion of the walls in both wings. The current louvered, wood shutters along the west and north elevations of the north wing were removed from a demolished building in Portage and sized to fit their current location. They replace shutters maintained at their current locations since the 1890s (Fritz n.d. [photograph]). Erected during the 1991-1994 rehabilitation of the dwelling, a porch with concrete floor, ceiling finished with car siding, and asphalt shingle, hip roof supported by wood, chamfered posts replaces the earlier enclosed porch.

The floor plan of the first floor of the north wing parallels the second floor relatively closely. A north-south wall divides the single west rooms from the two east rooms. Enclosed, straight-flight stairs rise along the east side of the center wall. The first floor west room serves as the living room, originally the parlor.² The two rear rooms, now a bathroom and bedroom, formerly functioned as a bedroom and master bedroom respectively. An eight light transom over the entrance to the bathroom lights the small stair hall. Currently the master bedroom, the west room of the second floor served in the late nineteen and early twentieth century as a boys' dormitory and perhaps briefly as a school room for tutoring John Fritz's children. The two rear rooms functioned as bedrooms. The second floors of the two wings are not connected.

An informal living room, formerly a combination sitting room and dining room, occupies the north half of the first floor of the south wing. Access to the cellar under the north wing is gained through a door in the north wall. The door to the enclosed, straight-flight stairs to the wing's second floor is placed along the east wall in the southeast corner. A simple balustrade surrounds the stairway opening to second floor. The south half of the first floor of this wing includes a kitchen and large closet in the northwest corner which is entered from the room to the north. Originally functioning as the pantry in which food was also prepared, the closet formerly extended to the south wall. Food was then cooked at the stove, which stood east of the pantry's north entrance in the sitting room. The east half of the current kitchen, called the back porch, probably served as a work room and rear hall for entry from the fields and the storage of work cloths. The second floor now contains two bedrooms and a bathroom. Originally, an east-west wall divided a narrow room in the north portion of this floor from a small, adjacent room in the northwest corner of the remaining area of the floor. In the past, this story functioned as a storage area and room for hired hands.

Except for the living room, whose walls are plastered with lime plaster

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containing hair used as a binder, interior walls are finished with dry wall with several exceptions. The master bedroom and the wall below the chair rail in the sitting room and kitchen are recently paneled. Some of the ceilings and most of the floors of both wings are finished with plaster and red pine respectively. Window, door, and baseboard trim are composed of white pine. The high baseboards throughout the house are plain. Window and door trim in the north wing is detailed with a beaded molding along the exterior edge. The sides of the deep window casings in the living room and the door casing between the living room and south wing are paneled. The trim in the south wing is finished with back band trim on the both floors. Wood trim in the living room also includes an added chair rail. Most of the interior doors are composed of four panels, and the remainder are constructed of vertical boards.

The final form of the dwelling was achieved by the early 1890s after the addition of the second story along the south wing (Fritz n.d.). Two twentieth century additions were removed: a two story, frame porch along the east wall of the north wing, and an enclosed porch along the west elevation of the south wing. The 1930s (Fritz 1997) rear porch was removed in the late 1980s. The current front porch, the fourth porch to occupy this position, replaced an enclosed porch during the 1991-94 dwelling rehabilitation. Sheltering the location of the windows and door when the south wing was a single story, the first porch was supported by simple round posts with molded capitals and covered with a lean-too roof. The second porch was perhaps added after the construction of the second story. Spanning the full length of the wing, its lean-too roof was supported by turned posts elaborated with lacy brackets. The enclosed wood porch, the third porch, sheltered the area around the entrance. The fourth and current porch with its chamfered posts was intended to maintain the simple character of the mid-nineteenth century dwelling.

Additional exterior alterations during the 1991-1994 rehabilitation of the dwelling include repointing of the stone, replicating the nineteenth century mortar mix and mortar joints. A concrete wall was poured below ground level and just inside the wall of the south wing to prevent the wall from shifting.

The louvered shutters were installed along the west and north elevations of the north wing. Similar shutters were placed along these elevations in the late nineteenth century (Fritz n.d.). The south opening along the second floor, east wall of the north wing underwent two alterations. Originally a window, it became a door with the addition of the rear porch. After the removal of the porch in the 1980s, the opening became a nine-over-nine window.

Twelve lights close a former door opening along the east wall of the south wing. Removed at an unknown date, the two original brick chimneys served heating stoves and a cook stove. The hanging chimney which rose along the west side of the north-south wall in the north wing and pierced the gable stood to the north of the current chimney. Serving the cook stove, the second chimney rose along the north side of the north-south wall in the south wing adjacent to the door to the pantry, currently the closet. The exterior doors are also replacements.

Rehabilitation of the interior also occurred between 1991 and 1994. The location of some of the interior walls was altered. The south portion of the north-south pantry walls was removed to extend the kitchen across the south

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end of the south wing. The built-in pantry cupboards had been removed in the 1950s. The second floor space in the south wing was converted to two bedrooms, a bathroom, and hall. In the north wing, the north portion of the north-south dividing wall between the east two rooms of the first floor was shifted to the south to accommodate bathroom fixtures in the northeast room. Dry wall replaced the deteriorating plaster walls in all rooms except in the living room. Wood paneling was added to the height of the chair rail in the south wing sitting room and kitchen and covers the walls in the master bedroom in the north wing. The ceiling in the current master bedroom and study in the north wing and both floors of the south wing were replaced with dry wall. Originally supported by wood sleepers placed on the earth, the Douglas fir floor was replaced along the first floor of the south wing. Although their position was shifted to close new spaces created by wall additions, the four panel, interior doors are original to the house. Of a similar age, the vertical board doors and door frames used in the second floor of the south wing came from a demolished dwelling in Pardeeville. Some deteriorated trim was replaced.

The 1980s and 1991-94 rehabilitations removed incompatible twentieth century additions to the house, replaced areas of deterioration, and resulted in interior modifications which are generally sympathetic to the appearance of the original building.

Farmstead Buildings

Arranged around a square farmyard, standing outbuildings include the basement barn with attached silo, milk house, and bull shed; granary; corn crib; piggery; and metal shed. The metal shed is noncontributing. The corn crib and piggery are also considered noncontributing because of the uncertainty of their construction date and whether they meet the 50 year requirement. The barn has two recent non-contributing additions and an attached contributing silo built in the 1920s. Standing along the east edge of the farmyard near the northeast corner, the basement barn was erected by the late nineteenth century (Fritz n.d. [photographs]). Basement barns used for dairying were erected in Wisconsin by the mid-1870s (Noble and Wilhelm 1995: 57; Jilbert and Wyatt 1986: 5/2). Butterfield (1880: 1086) describes a basement barn 56 feet long by 36 feet wide at the Fritz farmstead. The existing, heavy timber frame, rectangular basement barn measures 76.6' by 36'. As noted below, the north bay which measures 22 feet long may have been added to the south section which is 54' long. The other barn which once stood on the property does not appear to be a basement barn (Fritz n.d.). Therefore, the south end of the current barn may date prior to 1880.

The four bay barn stands on a random rubble, stone foundation. The earthen ramp to the upper floor of the barn leads into the center of the south three bays along the west elevation. Entrances going directly into the basement are placed in the center of the north and south end walls. Although no evidence of an addition corresponding with the north bay appears along the stone foundation, alteration of the foundation by the addition of large glass block windows along the east wall and breaks in the wall to the silos along the west

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wall may easily have obscured such an alteration. The basement contains a center aisle with stalls along the east side and stalls and calf pens along the west side. The floor is concrete.

The plates connecting the exterior posts of the timber framing carry vertical board siding. Along the north and south elevations, the upper horizontal row of siding extends well below the gable. Asphalt shingles cover the gable roof. A set of hinges marks one of the vertical vents along the south elevation. Sliding doors close the upper entrance and the south and north entrances into the basement. Along the west basement wall, the entrance to a former silo is closed with boards and a second opening to the south leads into the existing silo. Small square windows occur on either side of the basement doors. Four sets of glass block windows were added to the east foundation wall.

The variation in timbers between the north bay and the south three bays indicates that the 22' long north bay was built at a different time than the remainder of the barn. Joists under the north bay are rounded timbers which retain some of their bark. Timbers under the remainder of the barn were cut with a circular saw. Except for the removal of several timber members, the south four bents are constructed in a similar manner which differs from the bent along the north wall. If the south three bays had been added to the north bay, the north two rather than the just the north bent would vary from the south bents. The four south bents are composed of four timber posts originally joined to each other by horizontal girts placed at two levels. Bracing connects the posts to the top girts. Two purlin posts which support major purlins of the roof structure rest on the tie beam. Except for the bent along the south wall, the collar beams between them have been removed to provide space for the hay fork. Its track is still extant. Hay forks were initially introduced at the end of the 1860s (Noble and Wilhelm 1995: 87-88).

Variation in size, type of wood, and evidence of earlier connections suggests that the north bent is composed of timbers taken from an earlier building. The two center posts are spliced together and rise from the sill to the purlins of the roof rafters. They are connected with five girts. Four girts placed at varying horizontal positions connect the two center posts to the two corner posts. Bracing of these members is somewhat irregular. Mortise and tenon joints were used to connect most of the structural members in the barn.

The bent system of the Fritz barn resembles what Witmer (1983: 61-62, 65, 70-72; also Noble and Wilhelm 1995: 48-50, 106, 148-49) identifies as the Yankee barn and the later raised barn. In southern and eastern Wisconsin, this three bay barn form without a basement initially served as a barn to store and thresh wheat and other grains. To become the raised or basement barn, this form gained a basement beginning in the mid-1870s and 1880s. It functioned as the dominant dairy barn as agriculture shifted away from its emphasis on wheat agriculture and toward a dairy and grain agriculture. Typical of this barn type, the bents of the Fritz barn possess four posts; the tie beam is dropped below the plate; short, diagonal bracing occurs between perpendicular framing members; and a collar beam once spanned between the purlin posts. The collar beam was removed in favor of the hay fork, and an additional horizontal

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framing member joins the purlin post to the exterior post. In most barns of the period, the purlin posts angled downward toward the tie beam rather than being parallel to it. Also, the typical barn of the period included one girt between sill and tie beam or plate. The Fritz barn has two. The Fritz barn parallels the basement barn of the Upper Midwest in other ways: the entrance to the basement stall area is in end walls; the earthen ramp to the upper level is along the side elevation; the storage of hay and grains occurs in the upper level; and it has a three to five bay length with a loading floor (Noble and Cleek 1995: 77-85).

Despite the use of rounded joists at the north end, examination of the timber used in the north bent indicates that the north bay may have been added sometime after the construction of the other three bays. The first photograph taken shortly after the mid-1890s shows the building as a four bay barn with its first silo attached to the north bay. The barn underwent renovation in the fall of 1995. Severely deteriorated, the upper level floor in the north bay of the barn and the roofing, sheathing, and some of the rafters and other framing members of the entire barn were replaced. Several of the lower girts between the center two posts of the interior bents are removed. Some of the members were replaced with dimension lumber.

Three additions were made to the barn: the silo, milk house, and bull pen. The milk house and bull pen are recent additions. Openings in the basement walls connect all three additions with the barn. The silo stands north of the earthen ramp to the upper level of the barn along the west elevation. The continuously poured concrete silo capped with a low dome, concrete roof was introduced in the 1920s. A series of metal rungs leads to the top of the silo along the west side. An enclosed chute for moving the feed is located along its east side, the side facing the barn. A sheltered area between the silo and barn leads to the opening in the barn's masonry wall (Noble and Wilhelm 1995: 107; Noble and Cleek 1995: 161; Noble 1984: 77; Brown 1986: 5-9; Noble 1980: 142). The rubble stone and concrete foundation of an earlier silo stands to its north and just to the east of a corresponding entrance into the barn's lower level. Photographs (Fritz n.d.) show a wood stave silo in this position. In this type, vertical wood members finished with tongue and groove edges were inserted either into a narrow trough placed in the concrete foundation or placed along the outside of the masonry foundation. Iron bands held the boards in place. Such silos were developed by 1894 (Noble 1984: 74; Noble 1980: 142).

Often required by state law, separate milk houses utilized for washing equipment and storing milk became common after 1945. To inhibit bacterial growth, milk needed to be maintained at 50 degrees or lower (Wilhelm and Noble 1995: 109; Noble and Cleek 1995: 140). Extant by 1957 (Drury 1957: 540), the Fritz milk house is attached to the west elevation at the southwest corner. The single story building stands on a poured concrete foundation. The floor is concrete. Its balloon frame supports asbestos siding. The front-facing gable roof is covered with metal and supports a metal ventilator. Two windows open the south elevation. The entrance and a single window occur at the south side of the west elevation, and a door leads into the barn from the east elevation. The machinery is removed from the building. Also erected prior to

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1957 (Drury 1957: 540), a concrete block bull pen stands along the east elevation at the southeast corner of the building. Asphalt shingles cover the shed roof. The floor is concrete. A glass block window is placed along the east elevation.

The 20.5 foot by 27 foot, rectangular granary stands southwest of the barn at the southeast corner of the farmstead. Although granaries are generally associated with wheat agriculture, the Fritz granary appears to have been built in the 1890s or in the early twentieth century. The building does not appear in late nineteenth century photographs of the farmstead (Fritz n.d.; Jilbert and Wyatt 1986: 5/5). The use of limited amounts of dimension lumber in the building supports this date estimate (Noble and Wilhelm 1995: 147-48; Noble 1984: 43). Now vacant, it once contained a loft and the main storage area for such grains as wheat, barley, and oats (Noble and Cleek 1985: 154).

The timber sills of the outbuilding sit on stone pilings and on wood posts along the north elevation. The exterior cladding is board and batten siding, and corrugated steel covers the gable roof. The interior is divided into three bays. Except for the dimension lumber used in rafters and joists supporting the loft, its frame is composed of large, sawn timber members. The end bents include two corner posts connected by a single girt and plate. Two east-west rows of five posts provide support on either side of the center bay. The rafter roof is secured with collar beams. A six light window opens the gable along the north elevation, and a window opening occurs along the south side elevation. A sliding door provides access to west elevation, the side facing the farmyard. The stile of a single, side-hinged door remains on its hinges along the east elevation. While the north bay is open, the south bay is separated into two sections by a low, center wall. The building appears as if it sheltered some small animals after it served as a granary. The storage bins usually found in granaries are no longer evident (Noble 1984: 104). Stairs ascend to the loft from a point near and north of the east entrance.

The granary has suffered considerable deterioration. A deteriorated section of the siding adjacent to the east entrance has been removed. The stone pilings are collapsing, and the sills are deteriorated. Both problems are displacing the frame.

The corn crib stands east of the dwelling in the northwest corner of the farmyard. It is oriented in a north-south direction, and its main entrance faces south. Because of its height, which required loading by a cup elevator, the corn crib was erected during the twentieth century prior to the late 1940s (Noble and Wilhelm 1995: 172-73; Noble 1984: 106-107; Fritz 1997). The central drive through now serves as a garage, and the bins store small machinery or are empty.

The 22.25 foot by 40 foot, rectangular corn crib is composed of two cribs divided by a central aisle and sheltered by a single roof. The outbuilding rests on a concrete foundation and slab. Narrow slats compose its east and west side walls and its end walls except for the vertical board, sliding door along the west side of the south elevation. Horizontal siding finishes the gables. Corrugated metal with a metal ridge roll covers the gable roof.

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Three hatches with metal coverings aligned horizontally midway between the ridge and eaves along each side of the roof gave access into the bins. Two wood cupolas with steel, gable roofs and openings closed with hinged doors are located along the ridge. The hatches were probably first utilized to load corn into the bins. Cupolas were often added later to permit the use of inside conveyor elevators. They allowed the placement of the elevator sufficiently high to direct the corn to any part of the building, and provided ventilation (Noble 1984: 107). The central drive for machinery storage separates the narrow bins along both side elevations. Their interior walls are also composed of the horizontal slats, which rise to the top of the wall. An overhead door closes the south elevation of the center aisle, and two vertical board sliding doors cover the north elevation. A side-hinged door composed of horizontal slats is placed in the center of the east side elevation.

By the 1990s, the corncrib leaned 15 degrees from vertical to the east. In the mid-1990s, the building was returned to its original position and supported with additional framing along the interior. Alterations to the building also include the opening placed along the east side of the south elevation and the addition of the doors along the south and north elevations.

Also erected before the end of the 1940s (Fritz 1997), the piggery sits directly east of the corn crib along the north side of the farmyard. The concrete slab which extends out along the south and west elevations of the buildings provided a feeding yard for the pigs. Except for its connection with the building at the west end, the fence is now gone. The 16.5 foot by 40 foot building now serves as a woodworking shop. Placed on a poured concrete slab, the balloon frame is covered with drop siding. The shed roof is protected by corrugated steel. A row of six windows with fixed, single lights open the south side, which faces into the farmyard. Four small openings along the same elevation gain the pigs access to the yard. A glass and panel door closes the east and west elevations. Except for a low, north-south wall placed near the east end, the interior is no longer divided into pens but open and remains unfinished. A linear break in the siding suggests that the south quarter of the building covered by the south side of the roof may have been added at an unknown date.

A green metal storage shed or Wick Building, which measures 40 feet by 120 feet, is placed south of the drive along the south side of the farmyard. Sliding doors open the east and west elevations. The gentle rise of the land to the south was flattened to receive the building.

Today, the farmstead includes six buildings. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the farmstead contained a considerably larger number of buildings. By the end of the nineteenth century, the farmstead included two sheds, a barn, stable, and a windmill in addition to the extant barn (see enclosed sketch of farmstead). The granary does not appear in these early photographs and was probably moved onto its current site. The earlier of the two silos appears by the second decade of the twentieth century. By the 1950s, the farmstead had lost the south barn, the stable, two sheds, the windmill, and the first silo.

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It gained a chicken house and a granary or corn crib
Sometime after 1965, the chicken house and granary or corn crib, now
marked with a concrete slab, were removed (Fritz n.d.; Drury 1957: 540).
Thus, the number of buildings within the farmstead has been considerably
reduced. Although all but one of the remaining agricultural buildings retain
their general historic appearance, the farmstead no longer contains the
proliferation of outbuildings extant in the early twentieth century.

With the exception of the Wick Building, the exteriors of the remaining
outbuildings retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic setting
of the property. The corn crib has gained its doors and east entrance, the
piggery has lost its fence, the basement barn has gained two small additions
and glass block windows, and the granary has undergone little change except
those attributable to deterioration. By the removal of the enclosed front and
rear porches, the exterior of the dwelling has changed little since the late
nineteenth century. While the current porch does not reproduce the two
nineteenth century porches, its simple elements blend with the dwelling type.
Additionally, many interior details remain or have been replaced in an
appropriate form. Even the kitchen and second floor of the wing, which have
undergone the most alteration to facilitate current needs, retain the historic
trim along the outside walls. Although the property is now used as a
residence rather than a farmstead, its physical setting of adjacent fields and
nearby farmsteads is compatible with its historic function.

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(1) In southwest Montrose, considerable variation exists within both the Prairie du Chien dolomite and the Cambrian sandstone strata. The dolomite contains deposits of sandstone, and the sandstone includes deposits of dolomite. Although the stone composing the Fritz dwelling may have come from either strata, the stone is here identified as Cambrian sandstone primarily because of the large grain size. Although termed sandstone in the text, it might also be denoted as a limey sandstone (Mudrey, Brown, and Greenberg 1982).

(2) The early twentieth century functions of these rooms were identified to current owners, Gary and Mary Fritz, by Pearl Johnson. Born in 1901, she was the daughter of Marcus and Laurie E. Fritz. Son of John Fritz, Marcus Fritz purchased and operated the Fritz farm some years prior to the death of John Fritz in 1906 (Johnson, Hansen, and Erdahl 1994).

Fritz, John, Farmstead

Dane County, Wisconsin

Name of Property

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.

Period of Significance

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.

ca. 1868 (3)

Significant Dates

N/A

D Property has yielded, or is likely to
yield, information important in
prehistory or history.

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.

Cultural Affiliation

B removed from its original location.

N/A

C a birthplace or grave.

D a cemetery.

Architect/Builder

E a reconstructed building, object, or
structure.

N/A

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age achieved
significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographic References

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

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Statement of Significance

The John Fritz Farmstead is significant under Criteria C for architecture as a fine example of vernacular stone construction in southwestern Dane County, Wisconsin. Built of local sandstone, the house displays various building techniques, including rubble construction and coursed ashlar. The mortar on the front elevation is tooled to create a raised bead, an elaborated finishing technique usually found on buildings of a grander scale. The dwelling is one of thirteen identified examples of local sandstone and limestone construction in the Town of Montrose in Dane County and Town of Exeter in Green County. While certainly not a dominant building material in the area, its frequency relative to other areas appears high. In these two towns, this dwelling material was utilized by different ethnic groups in three different house types. In this area, stone represents a permanent building material which is relatively available in small, noncommercial quarries near the building sites.

The house is built in the gabled ell form. Characteristic of early examples of this house form, the dwelling has doors in both the upright or front gabled portion and the ell or wing. Its limited classical detailing includes the pedimented lintel above the main entrance, symmetrical fenestration, and paneling along the wood jamb of the main entrance. Although constructed under the direction of a Bavarian immigrant by contractors who are tentatively identified as William and Henry Oakey of Madison (Elder 1934), an English mason and stone cutter, the dwelling follows building forms common to the period and locale. Although many of the outbuildings are removed from the farmstead, the dwelling continues to retain its rural setting. The Fritz dwelling achieves significance in ca. 1868, its building date (abstract of title; Elder 1934; Dane County Treasurer 1854-1870; Harrison and Warner 1873).

The extant older farm buildings help create an appropriate setting for the house and increase our understanding of the farmstead.

Historical Background

John Fritz was born to George Peter Frees (Fritz), identified in his marriage record as a "worker" and Anna Elizabeth Magercourth on November 26, 1826, in Kindenheim, Bavaria. Kindenheim was originally located in the principality of Pfalz or the Palatinate which is northwest of Bavaria along the left bank of the Rhine. It became attached to Bavaria in 1777.

Prior to the nineteenth century, the limited number of German immigrants who came to the United States, particularly to New York and Pennsylvania, arrived from the Rhine region including the principalities of Palatinate, Baden, Wurtenburg, and Swabia. By the early nineteenth century, immigration to the United States from the German states initially came from the southwest including the Palatinate and Bavaria, Prussia, Nassau, Hesse, Rhineland, Baden, and Wurtenburg. Immigration rose steadily at the end of the Napoleonic Wars. The general social unrest and economic instability resulting from the devastation of the early nineteenth century wars intensified by the 1830s and resulted in the 1848 revolution. Between 1820 and 1830, the 24,726 immigrants from the German states composed 23.2% of the total immigrant population in the United States. Between 1845 and 1855 as emigration from southwest Germany intensified, 939,149 German immigrants entered the United States.

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Political and economic reasons for the departure of immigrants from the southwest German states often merged. Peasant farmers and craftsmen composed many of the early emigrants. Both sought to improve their economic situation and escape high taxes. By the 1830s when the German states were undergoing the slow shift to a cash economy, crop overproduction reduced the meager income secured from the sale of limited surpluses. The introduction of English factory goods threatened the security of the full and part-time craftsmen. A significant number of the peasantry maintained their family by supplementing their income with home production of goods. In the United States, peasant farmers sought to establish a farm on their own land, and craftsmen sought to purchase their own shop free from debt. Both sought freedom from the constraints of the rigid class system of the authoritarian German states. In southwest Germany, inheritance laws aggravated economic problems. Many of the German states had experienced population increases prior to and after the Napoleonic Wars as food resources expanded and diseases such as the plague were controlled. However, the population declined and stabilized and the economy remained undeveloped in Bavaria and adjacent states through the early nineteenth century. The division of feudal estates had barely begun. These early immigrants formed their often over-optimistic visions of opportunities in the United States from personal letters, circulars describing life in America, and by the 1840s guides written by German travelers which circulated in Germany (Haller 1993: 202; Levi 1898: 369-70, 379; Burnett and Luebbering 1996: 4-5, 10; Adams 1990: 4, 6-7, 12-13; Zeitlan 1977: 4; Legreid 1986: 2/1-2; Lee 1977: 9-10, 12, 253; Noble 1992: 6-8; Wilhelm 1992: 60-61; Billigmeier 1974: 15-16; Rippley 1976: 15, 23, 40, 44).

John Fritz immigrated with his family to New York State in 1836. By the 1820s, New York served as a main point of entry for immigrants from the German states. By the 1840s, the unsettled Wisconsin territory became one focus of German settlement. In ca. 1848-49, the Fritz family settled in Wisconsin, probably entering the state at Milwaukee. From New York, one common route of travel went up the Hudson, along the Erie Canal, and through the Great Lakes to Cleveland, Chicago, and Milwaukee, locations of heavy German settlement. Rail service between these points was not introduced until the late 1850s after the Fritz family reached Wisconsin (Adams 1990: 7-10, 12-13; Legreid 1986: 2/2, 2/5-6; Wilhelm 1992: 64; Rippley 1976: 43-44; Kuyper 1980: iii, 16-17, 23).

In 1849, John Fritz moved from New York State to the Town of Primrose, which is located just west of the Town of Montrose along the east edge of the driftless region in the southwest corner of Dane County. Fritz erected a log dwelling and stable and additional outbuildings in the east half of the southeast quarter of section 14 of Primrose (Ligowski 1861). His parents and a brother settled on a nearby farm in the Town of Montrose. John Fritz purchased the first portion of his farm in the southwest quarter of section 19 in the Town of Montrose in 1850. A log dwelling, whose site occurs immediately east of the current house, was on the property at the time of purchase. Although he did not sell his property in the Town of Primrose until 1860, the 1855 state census listed his place of residence as the Town of Montrose, presumably the current property. Fritz initially purchased 200

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acres adjacent to the current building site (Butterfield 1880: 1086). By 1861, he had acquired 240 acres in association with his farm. In 1868 when he began the construction of his dwelling, he owned approximately 295 acres in and adjacent to section 19. The size of the farm remained the same through 1890 (Johnson, Hansen, and Erdahl 1994; Keyes 1906: 370; Zumbrunnen 1990: 143, 150; Fritz n.d.; Ligowski 1861; abstract of title; Wisconsin, State of 1855; Dane County Treasurer 1854-70 [1868]; C.M. Foote 1890; Harrison and Warner 1873; Haller 1993: 204).

In rural areas, German immigrants settled both as single families and in small concentrations, often by place of origin. By the late 1840s, northwest Dane County and portions of Sauk County included settlements composed of those from the southwest German states. Those from Bavaria and the Palatinate concentrated in the towns of Roxbury and Cross Plains and in the City of Madison. By the 1860s, a small concentration of settlers from southern Germany also located at Paoli seven miles north of Fritz's farm. Many of these settlements were associated with the Catholic Church. The establishment of the Catholic diocese in 1844 by a German-speaking bishop, Right Rev. John Martin Henni, supported fledgling parishes and attracted German Catholics to Wisconsin communities. German immigrants in nearby northwest Green County originated from Switzerland and areas of southwest Germany bordering Switzerland (Remy n.d.; Zeitlan 1977: 7, 14-15; Hibbard 1904: 89-90; Billigmeier 1974: 48-52, 60-61; Schafer 1922: 53; Keyes 1906: 369; Taylor 1945: 277, 282-285; Levi 1898: 369-70, 382).

John Fritz and his family settled between these two areas in southwest Dane County. While German immigrants did settle adjacent to one another according to their place of origin, it was not uncommon for them to become dispersed among other groups. The southwest portion of Dane County attracted settlers of mixed origins. The Town of Primrose, the location of John Fritz's first farmstead, included a community of Norwegian immigrants and, after 1860, Swiss and Irish settlers. Besides the extended Fritz family, those in adjacent Montrose had immigrated from the Northeast and North Carolina, England, Ireland, and Sweden (Zumbrunnen 1990: 30-31, 108; Belleville Public Library n.d.; U.S. Bureau of the Census 1850-1920 [population] 1860; 1870; 1880; Levi 1898: 367-68; Adams 1990: 9; Billigmeier 1974: 52; Zeitlan 1977: 12).

John Fritz married four times and became the father of fourteen children. He married Julia Colby, a Norwegian immigrant, sometime prior to 1853, the date of her death. By 1854, he had married Betsey Elefson. The Elefsons were also Norwegian. In 1860, the household contained a total of seven individuals, John and Betsey Fritz and their five children. After his divorce from Betsey, he married her sister, Margaret Elefson. By 1870 and 1880, John and Margaret Fritz's household included two adults and seven and six children respectively. At Margaret's death in 1886, John married Thursa Rice Lawrence from New York State. By 1900, occupants of the dwelling were reduced to John and Thursa Fritz and a nephew and niece, Lyman and Edna Lawrence, ages ten and seventeen respectively. By 1899, John Fritz had sold 40 acres of his land west of Fritz Road to his son Peter Fritz, reducing his farm to approximately 240 acres. The farm contained 200 acres by 1904. In 1906, John and Thursa Fritz moved to Belleville. Thursa Fritz died in November 1906, shortly after John's death on

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October 6, 1906.

Sometime before 1906, the farm was sold to Marcus Fritz, son of John and Margaret, born in May 1858. By 1910, the household included Marcus, his second wife Laura, and seven children. Six children lived in the household in 1920. Prior to acquiring John Fritz's farm, Marcus operated his own holding of 120 acres to the north. During his ownership of the family farm, Marcus expanded the Fritz farm to 393 acres by 1914. At Marcus Fritz's death in 1925, his second wife, Laura Lewis Fritz, owned the farm until her death in 1948. Their son, Stanley Emerson Fritz, operated the farm in the late 1920s and 1930s, and Clarence Robert Fritz, his brother, ran it in the 1940s. During the 1930s and 1940s, the brothers operated a 200 acre farm. Clarence gained the property after Laura Fritz's death and owned it until its sale to James Lampman in 1974. By mid-1980s, Richard and Carlin Bechen owned the farmstead and six adjoining acres. In 1990, Gary and Mary Fritz purchased the farmstead, and in 1993 they bought 294 adjoining acres from Lampman. Thus, the Fritzes own much of 300 acres included in John Fritz's and his son Peter's farm to the west. Besides John Fritz's parents, other members of his extended family settled in the immediate vicinity of the farmstead during the nineteenth century. These family members included Philip and Frederick Fritz, his brothers; his sons, Edward, Peter, and Marcus Fritz; and the sons of Marcus Fritz, Orville, Earl, and Myron Fritz (Johnson, Hansen, and Erdahl 1994; Fritz n.d. [death certificate of John Fritz]; Fritz 1997; U.S. Bureau of the Census 1850-1920 [population] 1860; 1870; 1880; 1900; 1910; 1920; Gay 1899; Keachie 1904; Kenyon 1914; Belleville Recorder 1906 [10/6: 1]).

Those Germans who settled outside the small German immigrant communities in areas already settled by Americans and other immigrant groups tended to adjust their social orientation and material culture in the direction of the prevailing group. Aspects of their traditional culture, that is their idea system, might alter more slowly (Barnett and Luebbering 1996: 2, 58). John Fritz's assimilation into the community at Montrose, the type of farm he established, and the building forms which remain from the nineteenth century support this generalization.

Many aspects of Bavarian traditional economy and social organization contrasted with what these immigrants found in south central Wisconsin. The mainstay of the state's economy, Bavarian agriculture operated primarily at subsistence level rather than within a market economy. The occasional sale of surpluses, particularly dairy products, provided a meager cash income. Farming extensively with inadequate attention to soil fertility, peasants primarily raised grains including wheat, rye, barley, and oats, and small numbers of livestock including dairy cattle, sheep, hogs, and goats. Field closure had formed fields of insufficient size to maintain the three crop method of rotation. The agricultural reforms of the period resulted in improvements in production, such as stall feeding, the introduction of potato cultivation, and land reclamation. These had little impact on Bavarian agriculture until the mid-nineteenth century. Unlike the situation in many other German states, survival remained a primary focus even after the 1830s. As a consequence, population actually declined and slowly stabilized in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century Bavaria.

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Although undergoing modification by the early nineteenth century, a rigid class structure continued to order society. In 1808, the Bavarian constitution eliminated serfdom under the Hoffuse system of land tenure. Although the law permitted the peasant to end feudal obligations by land purchase, he rarely had sufficient funds to invest in land. A small commercial and aristocratic elite continued to hold the land. In 1826, the government also dissolved manorial dues and fixed rents at what it considered to be an equitable level. In the early nineteenth century, then, Bavarian society was gradually shifting from a tenure based on feudal obligations to one based on the rent of small, individual holdings operated by the peasantry. However, compulsory labor and a number of feudal dues remained until 1848. In addition to the land rent system which was unproportionate to the size of the holding, the government levied a direct tax by the beginning of the nineteenth century. Through this evolving tenure system, the tenant farmer gained some control over the working of the land and his income. By the mid-nineteenth century, land redistribution did benefit those with holdings which had been insufficient to support their families. The peasantry also included a class of landless agricultural laborers who assisted the peasant owner of the property work the land. This may have been the position of George Peter Fritz who was listed a "worker."

Prior to the twentieth century, interests of the peasant received little representation in state's government. The *Gemeinda* provided the traditional community forum for local issues. Members were those who owned arable lands. This entity represented the interests of the peasantry. By the early nineteenth century, its role included the protection of the community from fire, maintenance of roads, provision of army supplies, taxation, the definition of boundaries, recording changes in land tenancy, minor legal matters, education, poor relief, health matters, and similar policies affecting the local community. Although the body had the power to implement a local tax for community improvements, this avenue was rarely pursued. As a consequence, those areas under local jurisdiction such as the educational system often suffered. Without an adequate educational system, the influence of new ideas such as agricultural reforms remained limited.

The family played a central role in Bavarian society. Although guests, day laborers, and servants were viewed as part of the family, the extended family was not common. The nuclear unit included four to six individuals. It served as the means of social control and the basic economic unit. The extensive family obligations required the provision of dowry, care in sickness, and care of aged parents. Usually living within a small geographic area, family ties were maintained through communal celebrations. Although one child could inherit the family holding, all children were entitled to an equal share of the holding. Such division eventually often reduced the size of the holding to a point at which it no longer provided adequate support.

Represented by its very elaborate Rococo style church in the late eighteenth century parish, the Catholic Church played a major economic and social role in Bavarian local community. At the end of the eighteenth century, it owned extensive tracts of lands in Bavaria, and 50.5% of the peasantry were tenants

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on its lands. By the early nineteenth century, the state was attempting to subordinate the power of the church to its influence. To achieve the secularization of society, the state destroyed the old monastic communities and many of the elaborate churches which represented the power of the church.

In place of the Rococo Church, it prescribed a simple classical design. The state also reduced the number of religious holidays which had limited the accomplishment of work. Without the concept of scarce time and hard work in relation to level of production and a belief that abundant crops were controlled by a higher order, the peasant resisted the efforts to undermine the church's power. Although the Catholic Church remained the primary religion, the Reformed Church had begun to gain a following in the early nineteenth century in southwest Germany.

The efforts to alter the position of the church which had dominated village life, the alteration of land tenure to a rent system which often exceeded the income from the land, the addition of state taxes, the lingering of some feudal obligations, the severe inflation of the 1830s, and the existence of considerable poverty were forces which disrupted the social order prior to 1848. They led the peasantry to seek improvement of their situation outside the traditional means through emigration (Levi 1898: 368; Harries 1983: 176, 197-98, 200-203; Holmes 1991: 20, 22, 33-38, 41-44; Adams 1990: 7; Zeitlan 1977: 4; Billigmeier 1974: 16; Kuyper 1980: 9-10; Lee 1977: 2, 8, 10, 17, 50, 110, 113, 115-21, 125-29, 141, 146, 206-08, 177-81, 254-56, 265-66, 273-281, 292-93, 299, 303, 318-19, 339, 359, 375-76, 380).

The rural Montrose community in which Fritz settled for most of his adult life varied significantly from the peasant society which his family left in 1836. Since Montrose was already in the process of settlement, it considerably shaped the way in which he related to his neighbors. Settlement initially occurred within the boundaries of the Town of Montrose in 1840. The town was created in 1847. By the 1850s, much of its lands were occupied by farms. When Fritz established his farm by 1855 in the rural community, it centered around the Montrose Methodist Church and adjacent school along Montrose Road in section 20. By ca. 1878, the Jimtown or Montrose Store with the Montrose Post Office was standing at the intersection of Fritz and Montrose Road in section 30. This small hamlet also contained a blacksmith shop perhaps established as early as 1850 and a Knight's Templar lodge hall. Cheese factories were probably erected in the west portion of the Town of Montrose by the 1880s. These social, religious, and business institutions and adjacent relatives along Fritz Road provided the immediate context for Fritz's social interaction.

John Fritz likely traded both in Paoli and Belleville. Paoli and the community adjacent to St. Raphael Church 2.5 miles west of Paoli were primarily a southern German Catholic settlement established by 1849. Here, as is often the case in German immigrant communities, a significant number of immigrants settled among native-born Americans (Roberts 1986: 266). The community attracted a mercantile store by 1851. Its primary business centered around its grist mill built in 1856 and replaced by a stone flour mill erected in 1866. Several mercantile stores and craftsmen and a cheese factory also composed the enterprises within the community by the late 1870s. Belleville

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was platted in 1851 and attracted businesses and crafts in the late 1840s. It was served by a flour mill initially established ca. 1849, including a woolen mill on its upper floor for a short period about 1870, livestock dealers, and a cheese factory by 1877. Also including a mercantile store and craft shop by 1847-1848, the community came to offer a larger number and variety of businesses and crafts than Paoli by the 1870s. In 1888, Belleville attracted the Chicago, Madison and Northern Railroad, a branch line of the Illinois Central which connected Freeport to Madison. Prior to that date, the closest rail head and outlet for grain was Janesville and then Madison which were connected to Milwaukee by the Milwaukee and Mississippi by 1852 and 1854 respectively. By 1864, grain was hauled to the railroad at Oregon (Keyes 1906: 368; Belleville Public Library n.d. [reminiscence by Eliza Elder and Dolphus S. Smith]; Park, Wm. J. & Co. 1877: 474, 480-87; Gregory 1932: 793-94, 1081-82; Butterfield 1880: 608, 865, 867-68; Belleville Senior Citizens 1976: 116, 120, 179; Emery 1898 [Town of Primrose]; McKay 1990: 12, 14, 16, 18, 26, 38; Park, Wm. J. & Co. 1877: 486).

In the Town of Montrose, Fritz became a prosperous farmer (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1850-1920 [agriculture] 1860; 1870; 1880). He achieved the German immigrant's goal, to own land in their adopted country (Noble and Wilhelm 1995: 64). His farm, which grew from 200 to 295 acres between 1850 and 1890, was considerably larger than the average farm size of 92 and 120 acres in Dane County (Hibbard 1904: 186; U.S. Bureau of the Census 1850-1920 [agriculture] 1860; 1870; 1880; Ligowski 1861; Harrison and Warner 1873; Foote and Henion 1890). Like peasants of southern Germany and many early German immigrants to Wisconsin, Fritz erected numerous, often substantial, outbuildings as he developed his farmstead (Schroeder 1986: 29; Bowers 1989 :6-7; Taylor 1945: 286). However, the standing outbuildings on the Fritz farm, like many of the dairy barns erected by German immigrants in late nineteenth century Wisconsin, resembled those erected across south and southeast Wisconsin (Apps 1995: 26).

In the 1850s, John Fritz engaged in cash wheat agriculture. In addition, he raised small numbers of milk cows and cattle and, relative to his neighbors, maintained a comparatively large number of swine. He also grew a large wheat and oat crop by comparison to adjacent farmers as well as hay and potatoes. Like his neighbors, he produced butter but not cheese on his farm (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1850-1920 [agriculture] 1860). From settlement into the 1870s, most Dane County farmers, including its German and Norwegian settlers, engaged in commercial wheat agriculture. It required limited investment, produced an abundant yield when planted on virgin soil, survived the long trip to market, and provided the rapid, cash return needed to purchase and improve recently settled lands. While wheat was the major crop, other farm products in Dane County included corn, oats, barley, and rye and livestock, such as small numbers of cattle, pigs, sheep, and poultry (Taylor 1945: 432; Brown 1986: 2/1-2; Hibbard 1904: 121-24; Emery 1898 [Primrose]). Most of the crops and animals Fritz raised were familiar products of a Bavarian grain and livestock economy. However, the size of his farm and his commercial approach to agriculture contrasted with the small Bavarian farm which was operated primarily on a subsistence basis.

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As the wheat crop diminished because of declining soil fertility, wheat rust, cinch bug infestation, and competition with western producers, Dane County farmers diversified their agriculture in the 1870s. This shift often resulted in modest increases in livestock, initially sheep and cattle but also dairy cattle and swine. It placed a greater emphasis on feed crops consumed by livestock, such as oats, corn, and hay. Since the transition required considerable shift in the farming routine, it occurred over a long period of time. By 1870, John Fritz had also started to diversify his agriculture. In particular, he raised horses, cattle, swine, and a sizable flock of sheep and had a total of six dairy cattle, a number somewhat greater than adjacent farmers. Fritz continued to expand his wheat and oat crop well beyond the capacity of most local farmers and also grew corn, hay, a seed crop, potatoes, and orchard products and produced farm butter and honey (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1850-1920 [agriculture] 1870).

By the 1880s, farmers in southwest Dane County began to emphasize dairy cattle with small numbers of other livestock, such as swine, sheep, and chickens and grew feed crops with limited amounts of corn. By this period, Fritz had developed a comparatively large dairy operation which depended on 15 milk cows and produced 1500 pounds of butter on the farm. But, he also continued to raise a relatively large number of horses, cattle, and sheep and a modest number of poultry but no swine. Fritz's wheat crop dropped significantly while he raised much larger amounts of corn and oats in comparison to his own crops in 1870 and relative to the crops of adjacent farmers in 1880. He also grew rye, potatoes, and apples (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1850-1920 [agriculture] 1880; Fritz n.d.). Then, by 1880, Fritz had become a prosperous farmer running a diversified operation.

In the 1880s and early 1890s, increased dairy farming required the establishment of a dependable, extra-local market for milk products as well as a steady supply of milk. The development and growth of urban areas increased demand for dairy products in the 1860s. The construction of the railroad allowed the efficient transportation of perishable products. To improve the quality of cheese as well as of butter, production moved from the farm to the factory in Wisconsin beginning in the late 1860s. Cheese production was introduced comparatively early among the Swiss in adjacent Green County. Farmers in the sandy driftless area west of the Sugar River in the Town of Montrose produced milk primarily for farm butter production through 1880 (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1850-1920 [agriculture] 1880). The C.C. Pease cheese factory opened in the town between 1873 and 1877. During the 1880s, farmers shifted to production for cheese factories. The acceptance of silage as a winter feed at the turn of the century permitted the farmer to milk dairy cattle through the year. Although Wisconsin cheese making declined in the late 1880s and early 1890s because of declining quality, the west Montrose factories continued to operate through this period into the twentieth century. By 1890, John Fritz established a cheese factory along the west side of Fritz Road nearly opposite Fritz's stone dwelling. By 1899, Peter Fritz owned the property and operated the factory. It served local farmers as well as the large Fritz dairy farm. In the second decade of the twentieth century, farmers increasingly turned to fluid milk production. The cheese factory closed in the late 1920s. The building was converted to a dwelling and

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remained standing until the late 1940s (Foote, C.M. & Co. 1890; Gay 1899; Brown 1986: 2/2; Garfield 1986: 5/1-2, 9/1, 10/1-2, 11/1, 3; Apps 1995: 35-38; Fritz 1997; Hibbard 1904: 128-33, 146-47, 178; Park, Wm. J. & Co. 1877: 479-80; Belleville Senior Citizens 1976: 208; Butterfield 1880: 1089; McKay 1990: 17).

Owner of a cheese factory which served the neighborhood (Fritz 1997), John Fritz and later his sons interacted with the rural community of Montrose which was composed of settlers of diverse backgrounds. The German Catholic St. Raphael Church located west of Paoli was formally organized in 1869 but extant as a congregation in the 1850s. Rather than join this church, John Fritz and his family chose to attend the Montrose Methodist Church with his neighbors. Additionally, three of his wives were Norwegian Methodists. The church was founded in ca. 1853. Fritz served on the committee which guided the building of the Montrose church, provided financial support for its construction in 1868, and served as a steward of the church for fifteen years. The Fritz family continued to attend the church through much of their lives (Elder 1934).

First erected in 1854 and replaced ca. 1873 as a stone building, the Montrose School stands adjacent to the church. The school was also the site of community activities. Fritz's children may have attended the neighborhood school except for five years. Family tradition indicates that Fritz hired a teacher and used the front, second floor room in his stone dwelling as a school room. According to this tradition, Fritz sought to improve his children's education by moving the family to Madison in the mid-1880s.

Thus, the Fritz family interacted with the broader community, particularly through the church and business operations. They were also members of their extended family who lived on nearby farms. Such clustering among German immigrants by extended family was relatively common in Wisconsin rural communities (Kuyper 1980: 57). At least in the late 1920s and the 1930s, and probably considerably earlier, the Fritz families visited among themselves. In the John Fritz house, they gathered for music and dancing in the parlor (Fritz n.d. [Belleville Recorder 8/1933: obituary of Peter Fritz]; Fritz 1997; Belleville Senior Citizens 1976: 151; Remy n.d. [History of St. William's [St. Raphael] Parish]; Belleville Library n.d. [reminiscences of Eliza Elder and Dolphus Smith]; Butterfield 1880: 867, 1062).

Many factors affected the manner in which the German immigrant family interacted with the broader community and the ways in which that family socially and culturally assimilated with it. The circumstances of immigrant's previous social and culture context, emigration, settlement, and community development inhibit the formulation of general statements about the assimilation process. The Fritz family left a nation with a rigid class structure and an underdeveloped, subsistence-based agricultural and craft-based economy. Depression caused by severe inflation, little opportunity for education, the changing status of the Catholic Church, and devastation in the Palatinate and other portions of southwest Germany during the Napoleonic Wars created an unstable society, the negative context for departure. By the mid-1830s, communication had advanced sufficiently for peasant groups to learn of

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abundant, comparatively low-cost lands; a relatively strong economy; the possibility of economic improvement in a less rigid social structure; and the possibility of greater control over his existence (Noble 1992: 403-04; Adams 1990: 6; Moltmann 1995: xviii-xix).

By the time Fritz moved to Montrose between 1850 and 1855, he had spent twelve to thirteen years in New York State and the Town of Primrose. The southern German community at Paoli was established and lands were still available for settlement across the Town of Montrose. While German immigrants did form their own ethnic communities, for example in and adjacent to Paoli, others such as the Fritz family chose to settle among other ethnic groups and native-born Americans (Noble 1992: 399-400; Adams 1990: 37; Wilhelm 1992: 77-78). Noble concludes that a settlement of a few families such as the case along Fritz Road rarely retained their ethnic identity and are not recognized as an essentially different ethnic group by members outside of that group (1992: 401). The pattern of land ownership was set by the land survey system, and town government was established (see Schroeder 1986: 25). Operating within the existing system, Fritz realized the immigrant's desire to own and accumulate land, more land than the average holding between 1855 and the 1890s (see Adams 1990: 40-41). He was familiar with a grain and livestock economy from his own cultural background. It is clear from the 1860 agricultural census that Fritz had already made the transition from subsistence to commercial agriculture. In the 1870s and 1880s, he had the means to shift to dairy farming. With his son Peter, John had made a considerable investment in a cheese factory. He dealt with his neighbors at the cheese factory and perhaps in work exchange.

Like most rural communities, Montrose interacted through the local church and school. John Fritz and his family were active members of the Methodist Church rather than attending the Catholic Church about six to seven miles distant. He married a Norwegian and later an American woman rather than those associated with his German cultural background. The Fritz family tradition indicates that John Fritz did not want German spoken in his household (Fritz 1997). Selling much of the original farm to Marcus before his death, he kept the original farm together rather than permitting its subdivision among his many children. Fritz maintained close ties with his family along Fritz Road. In some instances, at least, they worked together. They visited back and forth in what appears to have been the traditional German and presumably Bavarian manner (Kuyper 1980: 70-71). Hence, the Fritz family assimilated rapidly within the social network of the community. Although they did not merely cast aside their former lifeways (Moltmann 1995: xviii), their cultural adjustments underwent considerable change as they adjust to new social and cultural circumstances (Noble 1992: 405). Except for interaction within his own family, Fritz appears to have set aside large portions of his cultural heritage in an attempt to simply function and succeed within his immediate circumstances (Kuyper 1980: 37-38).

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Architectural Background

The John Fritz house is an example of an early gabled ell or upright and wing form displaying limited reference to classical detailing. Fritz erected his dwelling ca. 1868 toward the end of the period when the influence of the Greek Revival design generally ended in the vernacular tradition which occurred by about 1870. The interior divisions of the upright portion and its wing generally parallel those common to the house form in the Upper Midwest and New York State. Thus, it is a representative example of this house form. The dwelling's construction exhibits the use of local stone used sparingly by property owners in the towns of Montrose and Exeter in the mid-nineteenth century. Although few sources provide data on this point, it appears that Bavarian vernacular building traditions were quite different from those exhibited in the dwelling. Although some elements may be attributable to Fritz's Bavarian background, overall these cultural ideas appear to have had little effect on the dwelling form.

The gabled ell became a common form in Wisconsin and the Upper Midwest after 1860. Although as often constructed as a single unit, the form also began as a front or side gabled building and later gained its wing. The dwelling form then assumed either a T-form or an ell or cruciform plan. From the front elevation, it appears as two rectilinear, gable roof wings placed perpendicular to each other. Gabled ells range between one and two and a half stories in height. The ell is often shorter than the front gabled portion. A porch occurs at the intersection of the two wings, spanning the length of the wing. This element provided a transition from the exterior to the interior living space, from public to private. The porch became an important location for decorative detailing. In Wisconsin, the main entrance to the gabled ell is usually from the porch into the ell rather than into the front gabled section. Early examples of the gable ell exhibited limited detailing associated with the Greek Revival or Italianate styles (Garfield and Wyatt 1986: 3/5-6; Godfrey 1986: 2/3; Perrin 1962: 72; Peterson 1994: 96).

When the gable end of the front gabled section, the portion of the perpendicular to the road, contains the main entrance, then the form is classified as an upright and wing. Additionally, the ell of the upright and wing tends to be relatively narrow. The upright and wing with varying quantities of Greek Revival detailing is relatively common in western New England, Upstate New York, and Ohio and also occurs in Illinois and Wisconsin (Hamlin 1944: 145, 283-84, 305, 311; Glassie 1968: 129, 132; Garfield and Wyatt 1986: 3/5-6; Jennings and Gottfried 1993: 277; Wright 1981: 88). McAllester dates the upright and wing form to the 1840s and 1850s and into 1870 in rural areas, a period after the more formal Greek Revival had lost popularity (1990: 92, 180).

The Fritz dwelling displays the characteristics of the upright and wing found in the Upper Midwest and common to portions of the northeast. Its two story, narrow ell meets at right angles to the two story front gabled portion to form a T-shaped dwelling. Both wings are covered with gable roofs. Entrances occur in the center of the upright portion and the narrow ell. Several

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details are reminiscent of the Greek Revival, including its regular fenestration, overlight at the front entrance, and wood paneling along the sides of this entrance and the windows and one doorway along the parlor of the north wing. The porch erected after the second story addition to the wing displayed chamfered posts and small brackets and was covered with a shed roof, features common to the Italianate style. The current porch replaces an enclosed porch at that location. More compatible to the earlier porch, it has a hip roof and squarish posts with defined bases.

The floor plan of the Fritz house follows a relatively common vernacular interior spatial arrangement. Peterson traces the development of the balloon frame gabled ell in the Midwest to the earlier upright and wing form introduced by Yankees from the northeast at settlement. The creation of the balloon frame did not generate entirely new forms. Many of the house types built in balloon frame developed from traditional forms built in heavy timber frame, stone, or brick. In 1850, A.J. Downing illustrated this earlier form in The Architecture of Country Houses and farm journals published in the 1860s and 1870s carried plans for the gabled ell. Peterson describes the upright and wing or gabled ell in his house types 3 and 4. In the two story gabled ell dating to the 1860s and later, common spatial arrangements placed the parlor in the front portion of the upright section. Most commonly, a dining room occurred at the rear and usually the kitchen and pantry were placed in the wing. In these gabled ells, the wing joined the upright portion so that the rear of the ell communicated directly with the rear of the upright portion, the dining room. This connection never occurred in the Fritz house. Small workrooms or bedrooms were located at the end of the wing. Stairs were frequently placed between the front and rear rooms in the upright wing. Bedrooms occupied the second floor (Peterson 1992: 27, 30, 38, 60-64, 96-101, 109-114, 129).

After the settlement period, as the housing reform movement reached the Midwest, rooms became more functionally distinct as houses grew larger. Plans in Downing and in the farm journals incorporated some of these new interior spaces into the upright and wing form. The parlor remained the space for formal family gatherings and interaction with those outside the family. Such gatherings included quilting bees, visiting, celebrations, and occasions which paralleled the German immigrant's musical gatherings. The dwelling gained a second formal room as the dining room became segregated from the kitchen. The dining room might also double as the less formal gathering area or sitting room. The kitchen wing contained the kitchen and the back entry which served as a kitchen workshop, place for fuel storage, and laundry room. In addition to the master bedroom, at least two additional bedrooms were defined for like-sex children (Peterson 1994: 30, 38, 60; Wright 1981: 76-77, 80; Clark 1988: 540, 542-43).

Division of space inside the Fritz dwelling generally appears to parallel these trends in house design. Early twentieth century room functions were documented by conversations between Pearl Johnson and the current property owners (Fritz 1997). As noted, the front room of the upright section was the parlor, the room for extended family gatherings. Perhaps because of the lack of communication between the two wings, the rear of the upright section did

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not serve as the dining room but as a master bedroom and a second bedroom, perhaps a sick room. The stairs to this wing of the dwelling ascended behind the parlor. The second floor included a boy's dormitory across the front and two bedrooms for girls at the rear.

The ell of the Fritz house included the multi-functional sitting room/dining room to the north, a pantry in the southwest corner, and a back hall/work room in the southeast corner. As described, the work room was primarily a place to deposit dirty work cloths and perhaps space for other domestic duties. The pantry not only stored food stuffs, but also provided a place for preliminary food preparation. The cook stove/heating stove sat outside the pantry door in the sitting room/dining room. There was no separate kitchen space at least in the twentieth century. In the gabled ell, the dining room was occasionally combined with the sitting room, but the kitchen was a separate room. The second floor of the ell contained storage space for food stuffs and other objects and rooms for hired hands. The use of loft areas for storage was a common use of dwelling space in some German cultures (Marshall 1984: 22-23). The stairs to the area connected directly to the sitting room/dining room. Hence, with the exception of the kitchen space and rear of the upright section, the general shape, plan, and room function of the Fritz house parallels the upright and wing dwelling form common to the period after settlement in the Upper Midwest.

German house forms varied widely by region. Few studies provide a clear description of the Bavarian house form or forms common at the turn of the nineteenth century. By the sixteen through the eighteenth century, peasant dwellings in Bavaria and adjacent regions to the west were primarily timber frame, often an open frame filled with other materials such as straw and clay, brick, or stone and covered with parging. Stone dwellings indicated owners of considerable social status in German culture. By the eighteenth century, dwelling forms in southwestern rural Germany were normally constructed separately from the farm buildings. The numerous outbuildings which served distinct functions were placed within a hollow, rectilinear enclosure. The dwelling frequently contained two first floor rooms, the *Kuche* or location of food preparation and the *Stube* or the stove room. By the eighteenth century, it became the room behind the bake oven, the warm and smokeless room of the house where the family gathered and valued possessions were displayed. By this period, the master bedroom was placed as a third room on the first floor or along the Rhine on the second floor with an additional bedroom. Storage rooms were added near the kitchen and/or in the upper floor and attic. On the exterior, the typical multi-story dwelling had a front facing, overhanging gable placed over exterior galleries. The decorative wood detailing was often quite ornate. They were constructed by craftsmen belonging to a strong, local craft tradition probably with little assistance from their owner. These complex forms may have prevented their use as a model in the United States.

It appears that Fritz disregarded traditional southwest German forms and its division of room functions in favor of what he had observed locally and perhaps in New York. However, the unclear definition of kitchen space appears to be a unique adaptation. The need to assimilate into the local community commonly resulted in the setting aside of traditional immigrant building forms

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(Van Ravenswaay 1977: 3; Zeitlan 1977: 27, 28; Moltmann 1995: xxx; Witmer 1983: 69; Hansen 1969: 156-59; Phelps 1982: 207, 244, 274; Perrin 1961: 199; Buschan ca. 1925: 176; Marshall and Goodrich 1986: 15; Jordan 1985: 98-99; Wilhelm 1992: 65-66, 77; Lee 1977: 163-69; Weaver 1986: 243, 248, 250-61). The placement of the outbuildings in the farmyard, part of the dwelling's setting, currently reflects a hollow square or courtyard form, a typical German pattern. The courtyard farmstead form with house and barn defining two sides and small outbuildings forming the other two became a typical pattern for the midwestern farmyard (Zeitlan 1977: 28; Witmer 1983: 29; Noble and Wilhelm 1995: 9-10). This same arrangement of the Fritz farmstead was achieved through the addition of post-1900 outbuildings, particularly the piggery and corn crib. The outbuildings identified with John Fritz's occupation of the farm prior to 1906 tended to cluster along the rear or east line of the farmyard.

Stone Construction

John Fritz constructed his dwelling in sandstone, a locally available building material used by individuals of varied origins in the towns of Montrose and Exeter as early as the 1840s through the 1860s. Fritz erected the north wing of his dwelling while a member of the building committee which oversaw the building of the Montrose Church. A comparison of the stonework of the north wing of his dwelling and of the church and their similar date of construction suggest that they may have been constructed by the same mason. The building committee of three members, one of whom was Fritz, was formed in May 1867. John Fritz became its chairman in January 1868. In the summer of 1867, stone for the building of the church was quarried at the Morehead Quarry located west of the William Crocker farm in the south half of the southwest quarter of section 30 of the Town of Montrose (Elder 1934 [citations from committee's minutes]).

During the nineteenth century, commercial sandstone quarries do not appear to have existed closer to Montrose than Madison, Argyle, and Darlington (Buckley 1898: 247-49, 251). Because of transportation problems, most builders of modestly scaled buildings relied on locally available stones (McKee 1973: 9, 13; Buckley 1898: 253). In southwest Dane County and adjacent Green County, St. Peters sandstone formation outcrops below the dolomite of the Sinnipee Group which caps the tops of the ridges. In his 1898 treatise on building stone, Buckley noted that the sandstone formation outcropped frequently in the area, providing a ready supply of inexpensive building material. The quarrying and rough dressing of local supplies was then less costly than securing brick. For these reasons, it was often used in the "early days" for local construction (Buckley 1898: 253). The color of the Fritz dwelling's sandstone parallels the local outcroppings which have a brownish-red to dusky red color. If the stone for Fritz's dwelling was not taken from the Morehead quarry, it likely came from one of several small quarries in the area (Glocker and Patzer 1978: 11-12, 26-27; Glocker 1974: 109; Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey 1981 [map]; Pauli 1997; Buckley 1898: 249, 253). Fritz and a fellow committee member, Richard Sharman, hauled the pine lumber purchased in Oshkosh for the church and the Fritz house from Oregon in December, 1867 (Elder 1934 [citations from committee's minutes]).

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The dwelling includes ashlar, rubble, and roughly dressed sandstone. Rubble stone is irregularly shaped stone taken directly from the quarry or other sources. Roughly finished stone is roughly squared with an instrument such as a tooth chisel to sit in horizontal courses. Its face may be roughly dressed (Van Ravenswaay 1977: 181; McKee 1973: 22). Usually, sandstone was roughly dressed at the quarry to reduce the load transported to the building site. The margins and surface of sandstone were roughly squared and finished with pitching and tooth chisels. Points with pyramidal tips and narrow chisels were used to dress sandstone. Parallel, continuous grooves generally extending diagonally across the stone but also in vertical and horizontal directions was known as broaching. The use of noncontinuous grooves is known as rough or fine pointing depending on whether they are 1 inch or .5 inches apart (McKee 1973: 17, 20-25).

The roughly coursed, ashlar sandstone along the west elevation of the north wing of the Fritz dwelling exhibits both broaching and pointing. The lintels and watertable tend to be finished by fine pointing and the remainder is generally broached. The sandstone along the other elevations of the north wing is roughly coursed, roughly finished and rubble stone. Built at a later date, the south wing is composed of roughly coursed rubble and roughly dressed sandstone. Along this wing, some of the stone along the west elevation, the quoins, lintels, and sills also exhibit limited dressing by use of a point. The reddish mortar along the front elevation of the wing is finished to form a raised bead between each stone. Along the other elevations of both wings the mortar is generally troweled flush. A single inscribed line defines horizontal courses although not vertical joints. This technique was usually employed with vertical lines to simulate ashlar. Along the west elevation of the south wing, a double rather than single inscribed line occasionally forms a wide, raised bead. During the recent repointing of the stone, the mortar joints were finished to resemble the existing joints.

The stonework and bonding along the Montrose Church is similar to the stonework and bonding along north wing of the Fritz dwelling. The sandstone church stands northeast of the intersection of Montrose and Feller Road in the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 29, township 5 north, range 8 east, less than 1.5 miles from the Fritz Farmstead (architectural inventory DA22/24, 1980). The Montrose Church is a front gabled, rectangular building with limited detailing including semi-circular window in the gable, overlight above the centered double door, and long, double hung windows along the side elevations. It is now used as a summer residence. The front elevations of the north wing of the Fritz house and the church exhibit the use of roughly coursed ashlar finished by pointing and broaching along the front elevation. The quoins, lintels, and sills of the church are also finished by fine pointing. The side and rear elevations of the two buildings are roughly coursed, roughly dressed and rubble stone, a form of stone construction not uncommon to Dane County (Godfrey 1986: 4/7; Perrin 1962: 79-84). Like the dwelling, the mortar along the front elevation of the church is finished with a raised bead between each stone. The absence of inscribing along the other elevations of the church's flush mortar joints may result from repointing. The watertable along the west and north elevations of the dwellings was not

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used along the church. While the stonework along the two buildings appears relatively similar, relatively common techniques were employed. Thus, the attribution of the masonry work along the Fritz house to the Harry and William Oakey is as much a coincidence in the building periods and the involvement of John Fritz in both buildings as it is similarity of stonework.

The building committee of the Montrose Church hired Elam Elder as the carpenter and contractor to build their church (Elder 1934). Listed as a farmer in the census of that period (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1850-1920 [population] 1850; 1860; 1870), he evidently worked as a part-time craftsman. Elder lived adjacent to Fritz, just north of the Montrose Church and adjacent to its cemetery in the south half of the southwest quarter of section 20 and the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 19 (Ligowski 1961; Gay 1899). He immigrated from North Carolina to southwest Wisconsin in 1833 and settled in the Town of Montrose ca. 1840 (Remy n.d. [reminiscences of Eliza Elder and Dolphus Smith]). Elder hired the masons, William and Harry Oakey of Madison, who completed the church in the summer of 1868 (Elder 1934). They may have erected the north wing of Fritz's dwelling.

In nineteenth century urban America, the different types of stone masons were distinguished by task. The quarrier extracted and roughly shaped the blocks. Rough masons dressed the blocks and cut square moldings. Free masons completed stone carvings and formed more intricate shapes and moldings. The layers and setters with laborers to assist them placed the stone into the building. The master mason directed the completion of the building, checking the accuracy of the work and rendering the drawings for building layout and details. In rural areas, one or several masons assumed these different functions. In these situations, one stone mason assisted by semi-skilled and unskilled labor directed the construction (McKee 1973: 12).

William and Harry Oakey are listed in the 1870 census for the City of Madison and in Madison's business directories. Both from England, William Oakey, age 45, is listed as a stone cutter, and Harry Oakey, age 40, is identified as a stone and brick mason in 1870. They are not listed in the 1880 census (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1870-80 [population] 1870; 1880). The 1866 Madison directory lists Harry Oakey of University Avenue as a mason and William Oakey of Johnson Street as a stone cutter. By 1868, the directory identifies Harry Oakey as a builder but does not indicate an occupation for William Oakey. Through the 1870s to 1880, Harry and William are generally listed as mason or builder and stone cutter or mason respectively (Suckow 1866: 123; Bailey, A. 1868: 79; Brainerd 1870: 88; 1872: 84; Pryor & Co. 1875: 77; 1877: 69; Morrissey and Bunn 1880: 124). Since a local quarry was probably used in Montrose, it appears that William Oakey may have roughly shaped the blocks and served as the rough mason. Harry Oakey may have functioned as the master mason at the Montrose Church and perhaps the Fritz dwelling.

Then, the Fritz dwelling gains local significance as an example of a local form of masonry construction and as a representation of the upright and wing dwelling type. The dwelling and its setting appear to reflect elements common to the regional building traditions rather than the owner's place of origin.

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Significance: Architecture

Rural Dane and Sauk counties are noted for their mid-nineteenth century limestone and sandstone dwellings. These examples display walls ranging from rubble stone and roughly dressed stone to coursed ashlar (Godfrey 1986: 4/7; Perrin 1962: 79-84). In his 1993 nomination of the 1878 Frederick Schumann house in the Town of Berry, Dane County, Heggland notes the distinctive use of stone building material practiced between 1850 and 1885 in northwest Dane County and the adjacent southeast corner of Sauk county. The Schumann dwelling displays a mix of rubble and rough ashlar, roughly coursed limestone taken from a small, local quarry. Raised or beaded mortar joints applied after the construction of the wall were used to simulate ashlar stone. Portions of the Fritz dwelling and the front elevation of the Montrose Church exhibit this form of stone construction. However, Heggland found that the use of more expensive dressed ashlar as found along the Fritz dwelling was not common in rural areas of these two counties (Heggland 1993: 7/0, 8/9-10).

(The Schumann Farmstead is located at 8313 State Highway 19 in the Town of Berry, Dane County and was entered onto the National Register in December, 1993. Schumann immigrated to Springfield Corners, Dane County, a primarily German Lutheran settlement, from the province of Saxony in 1850.)

Locally in the west portion of the Town of Montrose and in the Town of Exeter, the existence of twelve limestone and sandstone dwellings was identified in addition to the Fritz dwelling. This area is located in and near the edge of the driftless area where stone deposits are accessible. Stone was also used in the construction of nonresidential buildings in the Town of Montrose including Montrose Church and the nearby Montrose School in the north half of section 29, township 5 north, range 8 east, and for the Paoli Flour Mill in the southeast corner of section 3 in Paoli.

Erected between the 1840s and the 1870s, the twelve stone buildings represent three different vernacular forms and styles: the Italianate, side gabled, and gabled ell. They were constructed using many different forms of stonework and were erected by owners of diverse backgrounds. The locally available sandstone and limestone building materials compose the single unifying element. More than half of these buildings have undergone significant modification: two of the twelve stone buildings are demolished, three are severely deteriorated, and two are sided.

Two of the stone dwellings represent the Italianate style: the Pliney Clark and Boning dwellings. The Pliney Clark/Lester Palmer dwelling (1299 CTH PB; southwest quarter, northeast quarter, section 10, township 5 north, range 8 east, Montrose) is a squarish, two story dwelling covered with a truncated hip roof. The front or east elevation is composed of roughly coursed, ashlar limestone while the other elevations include roughly dressed limestone. Emphasized by ashlar lintels and sills, its fenestration is symmetrically organized. Centered doors in both floors of the facade are flanked by two

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windows. The fenestration reflects its original central, stairhall plan with two rooms on either side of the hall. Detailing includes the wide frieze with double brackets, sidelights and overlight surrounding the main entrance, full length front windows, and interior pedimented openings in formal rooms. Alterations include the two story porch across the front, small, frame side addition, and some alteration of the interior plan. The dwelling was erected ca. 1853 while the property was owned by Pliney Clark of Andover, Vermont (Belleville Senior Citizens 1986: 208; McKay 1988; Wisconsin Division Historic Preservation n.d. [DA 22/15 1980]).

The Henry Boning House/John Zimmerman dwelling (1227 STH 69; northwest quarter, southwest quarter, section 11, township 5 north, range 8 east, Montrose) is a two story, squarish dwelling finished with a hip roof. Coursed ashlar sandstone forms its walls. Its fenestration is symmetrical. Along the facade, the central door is flanked by a single window, and the three second floor windows are placed directly above them. Detailing includes the overlight and sidelights surrounding the main entrance and the entry porch with its small brackets and chamfered posts. The Boning house also exhibits a central stair hall plan with two rooms along either side. The two stone chimneys on either side of the roof vent four fireplaces in each of the interior, first floor rooms. Although several interior walls are relocated, a portion of the original interior trim remains. Henry Boning from Oldenburg, Germany hired two stone masons, Peter and James Clark, to construct the dwelling in ca. 1867. The rear, brick kitchen addition was constructed in 1884 (Schafer 1922: 186-87; Keyes 1906: 369; McKay 1988; Ligowski 1861; Harrison and Warner 1873; Belleville Public Library n.d. [photograph]); Wisconsin Division of Historic Preservation n.d. [1/8 1977]).

Five local stone dwellings are side gabled forms: the Grillot, A. Ross, Lysaght, Oliver, and John A. Ross dwellings. Of these five, one is demolished, one stands in ruins, another is significantly deteriorated, and a fourth is covered with recent siding.

Associated with the French settlement in east Montrose, H. Grillot erected a one and a half story, stone side gabled house sometime between 1873 and 1890 (southwest quarter, northwest quarter of section 13, township 5 north, range 8 east, Montrose). This dwelling was recorded in the Wisconsin Site Inventory in 1977 and no longer stands (Wisconsin Division of Historic Preservation n.d. [DA0/26, 1977]; Harrison and Warner 1873; Foote, C.M. 1890). A. Ross probably erected the small, one and a half, limestone, side gabled dwelling which stands in a wooded area along the Town of Exeter segment of the Ice Age Trail (Anna Ace: southeast quarter, northeast quarter of section 17, township 4 north, range 8 east, Exeter). Its walls are composed of roughly dressed, roughly coursed stone whose mortar was tooled to form a raised bead. Along one elevation, flush mortar joints are inscribed so that the construction simulates ashlar. Fenestration was symmetrically arranged, probably with the main entrance placed to the side of the south elevation. Erected by 1861 (Eighmy 1861), the four walls of the dwelling now stand in ruins.

Identified as a wealthy stock farmer raising swine, horses, cattle and particularly sheep, William Lysaght eventually purchased 1200 acres in the

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Town of Exeter (Jay Christen, N9474 Christen Road; southwest, northwest of section 5, township 4 north, range 8 east, Exeter). An Irish immigrant, Lysaght settled in Exeter ca. 1850 and moved to Monroe in 1883. In the 1850s, he erected a small, one and a half story, side gabled dwelling. The walls are composed of roughly course, rubble stone, probably the local sandstone. The symmetrical front fenestration is composed of two doors separated by two windows on the first floor and two half windows placed just under the eaves in the half story. Window and door lintels are ashlar stone (Wisconsin Division of Historic Preservation n.d. [GR11/34 1976]; Belleville Recorder 1938 [3/24: 1/1-3]; Monroe Sentinel 1903 [3/4-obituary]; Park, Wm. J. & Co. 1877: 479; Eighmy 1861). Vacant for many years, this dwelling is severely deteriorated.

The Robert Oliver/Gary L. Nolden house (733 Fritz Road; southwest quarter, northwest quarter, section 19, township 5 north, range 8 east, Montrose) was constructed as a one and a half story, random rubble stone, side-gabled dwelling. Because siding now covers its walls, it is unclear whether the dwelling was originally constructed as a true saltbox or whether its long, rear roof resulted from an addition across the rear (see Heggland 1993: 8/3, 8/6-9). Its deeply set windows and centered door are symmetrically disposed across the front, east elevation. An Irish immigrant, Robert Oliver constructed the dwelling prior to 1861, perhaps as early as the 1840s (Wisconsin Division of Historic Preservation n.d. [DA22/28 1980]; Belleville Public Library n.d. [reminiscences of Eliza Elder and Dolphus Smith]; Ligowski 1861).

The John A. Ross/Alberta Wild house (247 CTH PB; northwest quarter, northwest quarter of section 33, township 5 north, range 8 east, Montrose) is a two story, side-gabled, sandstone dwelling with a one story side wing. Roughly coursed, ashlar sandstone composes its facade, and other elevations are built of rubble and roughly squared stones. Its symmetrical fenestration includes five openings along both floors of the facade. The centered main entrance includes an overlight. A simple, wood, open entry porch has been added to the facade. From New York, Ross settled in the Town of Montrose in the late 1840s. Present by 1861, the dwelling was probably erected in the 1850s (Keyes 1906: 371; Ligowski 1861; Wisconsin Division of Historic Preservation n.d. [DA22/23 1980]). Except for the front porch, the dwelling appears to have undergone little exterior modification.

Finally, five stone dwellings represent gabled ell forms: the McGee, Leonard Ross, Hosley, Peter Clark, and Elder houses. One of the four is demolished, a second has lost considerable integrity, and another has been covered with recent siding.

The Peter Clark/Donald Schaller house (southeast quarter, northeast quarter, section 4, township 5 north, range 8 east, Montrose) was demolished within the last ten years. A mason, Peter Clark presumably constructed the building himself. Erected prior to 1861, the dwelling was a two story, ashlar stone, gabled ell dwelling with limited Greek Revival detailing. A symmetrical fenestration opened the facade. The main entrance occurred near the west side elevation. The gables were returned, brackets elaborated the wide frieze board, and side lights and an overlight surrounded the door. From Scotland,

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Clark settled in Montrose in the 1850s (McKay 1988; Keyes 1906: 369; Ligowski 1861; Wisconsin Division of Historic Preservation n.d. [DA22/18 1980]).

The George McGee House and Store (James Haddinger: southwest corner of section 25, township 4 north, range 8 east, Exeter) was erected near the community of Exeter prior to 1849. The west portion of the building, the upright section, included the store, post office, and dance hall while the east section, the ell, served as the residence. A garage replaced the substantial one and a half story ell. The gable roof of the upright section was extended to cover the stone shed added to the west elevation of the building. Roughly coursed and dressed limestone composed the front elevation of two story upright section. The centered door is flanked by a window on either side. Vacant or used for storage since the mid-1960s, its integrity has been compromised by the removal of the stone ell and the additional of two wings. From Ireland, McGee came to Green County in 1837 (architectural inventory GR2/5, 6; Belleville Public Library n.d. [reminiscences by Harold Cate and Dwayne Marty, 1977]; Eighthmy 1861; Belleville Senior Citizens 1986: 132).

The Elam Elder/Edward O'Connor House (610 Feller Road; southeast quarter, southwest quarter, section 20, township 5 north, range 8 east, Montrose) was erected between 1861 and 1873. The stone upright wing is flanked by two frame ells. All three sections are covered with recent siding. Elder was the carpenter-contractor who oversaw the construction of the Montrose Church. He came from North Carolina ca. 1840 (Belleville Public Library n.d. [reminiscences of Eliza Elder and Dolphus Smith]; Elder 1934; Harrison and Warner 1873; Ligowski 1861).

The Leonard Ross/Gary Danielson house (2730 Tower Road; southwest quarter, southeast quarter, section 8, township 4 north, range 8 east, Exeter) is a gabled ell whose upright wing reaches two stories and whose ell is one story. Parget covers the stonework. Three openings are symmetrically placed across both the first and second floor of the facade, and the main entrance detailed with an overlight is located along the east side. The outline of the roof of the enclosed front entry porch which is now removed from the facade remains visible. The integrity of the dwelling is also compromised by the addition of an enclosed porch across the front elevation of the ell. Leonard Ross moved to the Town of Exeter in 1840 where he purchased about 900 acres by 1884. The dwelling was probably erected by 1861 (Wisconsin Division of Historic Preservation n.d. [GR11/33 1979]; History of Green County 1884: 851-52; Eighthmy 1861).

The Balthazar Hosley/Noah J. Kramer house (southwest quarter, northwest quarter of section 20, township 4 north, range 8 east, Exeter) is a large, gabled ell dwelling with a two story upright and a one and a half story ell. Parget covers the masonry wall. Although the walls are probably stone, this identification is not confirmed. At least a portion of the dwelling was probably erected between 1861 and 1873 (Eighthmy 1861; Harrison and Warner 1873; Wisconsin Division of Historic Preservation n.d. [GR5/13 1980]).

A substantial percentage of the twelve identified 1840s to 1870s or 1880s stone dwellings in the study area are either demolished or have lost physical

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integrity through the construction of additions or placement of recent siding. These dwellings include the McGee, Peter Clark, Elder, and Leonard Ross houses which represent the gabled ell dwelling type and the Oliver, Lysaght, A. Ross, and Grillot houses which compose examples of the side gabled dwelling type. Although perhaps still retaining considerable integrity, the Pliny Clark dwelling has lost integrity through the construction of the front porch and side addition. The materials beneath the parget along the Hosley house are not identified. The three remaining dwellings which appear to be potentially eligible for the National Register, the Boning, John A. Ross, and Fritz dwellings, represent each of the three identified style and types, the Italianate, side gabled, and gable ell or upright and wing respectively. And, of the five stone, gabled ell dwellings recorded by the Wisconsin Site Inventory, the Fritz house retains the greatest exterior integrity.

Conclusion

The John Fritz Farmstead is significant for its method of construction. The house is an intact example of nineteenth century, vernacular stone construction in Dane County, Wisconsin. Examination of the Wisconsin architecture inventory and interviews with local residents indicates that in the towns of Montrose and Exeter one of the characteristic materials of early, substantial dwellings was sandstone and limestone. Investigation of these twelve dwellings found that a small number of these examples retain their physical integrity. The stonework of John Fritz Farmstead is in good condition and clearly displays the methods of stonework prevalent in the region at the time.

The John Fritz Farmstead is also significant as an intact and early example of the gabled ell or upright and wing type displaying limited classical detailing. Its ell form was achieved through the addition of the side wing in two stages in the late nineteenth century. During rehabilitation of the dwelling between 1991 and 1994, the Fritzes strove to maintain the building's nineteenth century appearance. The replacement of the 1950s enclosed porch with an open porch and the removal of the 1930s frame rear porch has enhanced the integrity of the dwelling. Additional exterior alterations are limited to several window and door replacements at their original locations. Some of the current windows along the rear represent former door locations and are therefore longer than the original opening. The interior retains much of its original room configuration with modifications occurring primarily between the sitting room and kitchen on the first floor of the ell and in the originally open area of the ell's second floor. Although most of the wall surfaces were replaced with dry wall or in some cases paneling, the original wood trim and many of the interior doors were retained.

The use of stone as a building material and the form of the house were not related to the origin of the owner. Indeed, John Fritz chose not to settle in a German community. He became active in Montrose, a community of mixed origins; readily adapted to the local farm economy and became a substantial farmer. The choice of stone was due to the availability of the material in local outcroppings. John Fritz built a dwelling characteristic of the Upper

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Midwest with little if any reference to his Bavarian heritage. The extant older farm buildings help to create an appropriate setting for the house and increase our understanding of the role that the residence played in the farmstead.

Potential for Archaeological Remains

Lands within and adjacent to the property have not undergone archaeological survey. However, historical archaeological remains associated with the two barns, additional small outbuildings, and the initial log dwelling located immediately east of the current dwelling may well remain within the property boundaries. Although none are known for this property, early reports recorded by Charles Brown recorded a substantial number of prehistoric sites along the Sugar River and its tributaries (Wisconsin archaeological inventory).

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(3) References to dwelling's date: abstract of title; Elder 1934; Dane County Treasurer 1854-1870 [1868]; Harrison and Warner 1873.

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1990 History of the Township of Primrose. Author, DeForest, Wisconsin.

Fritz, John, Farmstead
Name of Property

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 2.75 acres

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

1	<u>1/6</u>	<u>2/8/8/0/1/0</u>	<u>4/7/5/1/6/7/0</u>	3	<u>/</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>/</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>	4	<u>/</u>	<u>/ / / / /</u>	<u>/ / / / / /</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		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 Joyce McKay, Cultural Resources Consultant
organization private consultant date 4/1/97
street & number P.O. Box 258, 21 Fourth St. 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)

NPS Form 10-900-a
(Rev. 8-86)
Wisconsin Word Processing Format
(Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Fritz, John Farmstead
Town of Montrose, Dane Co., WI

Section 10 Page 1

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary encloses the farmstead. The north boundary follows an east-west, line located 46 feet north of the northeast corner of the basement barn. Fritz Road and the east line of the Fritz property (Talarczyk 1993) establish its west and east ends. The east portion of this north line follows a former fence line at the north edge of the farmstead. From the northeast corner at the intersection with the east property line, the boundary travels south along this east line to the 900 foot contour line. It turns west to follow the contour line to Fritz Road. The boundary then turns north and follows the east edge of the road to the north boundary line.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encloses the farmstead which includes the dwelling and its associated buildings.

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Fritz, John Farmstead
Town of Montrose, Dane Co., WI

Section Photo Page 1

Photographic Documentation

Property: Fritz, John Farmstead
Location: Town of Montrose, Dane County, Wisconsin
Photographer: Joyce McKay
Date: December, 1996 and February, 1997
Negative Location: State Historical Society of Wisconsin
Photographic Description:

1. View of the farmstead including the dwelling, corn crib, and piggery to the north or left, basement barn to the east, and granary to the south or right, facing northeast.
2. View of the front or west elevation of the dwelling facing east.
3. View of the main entrance along the west elevation facing east.
4. View of the south and east elevations of the dwelling facing northwest.
5. View of the north and east elevations of the north wing of the dwelling facing southwest.
6. Interior view of the northwest corner of the living room facing northwest.
7. Interior view of the west wall of the sitting room facing southwest.
8. View of the south and west elevations of the barn facing northeast.
9. View of the east and north elevations of the barn and the east end of the piggery to the right facing southeast.
10. View of the north and west elevations of the granary facing southeast.
11. View of the west and south elevations of the corn crib, the south elevation of the piggery, and the northwest corner of the barn facing northeast.
12. View of the east and south elevations of the piggery and a portion of the east elevation of the corn crib facing northwest.
13. View of the south and west elevations of the Wick Building facing northeast.

Fritz, John Farmstead
Name of Property

Dane County, Wisconsin
County and State

Property Owner

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

name Gary and Mary Fritz
street & number 642 Fritz Road telephone 608-424-6077
city or town Belleville state Wisconsin zip code 53508

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.

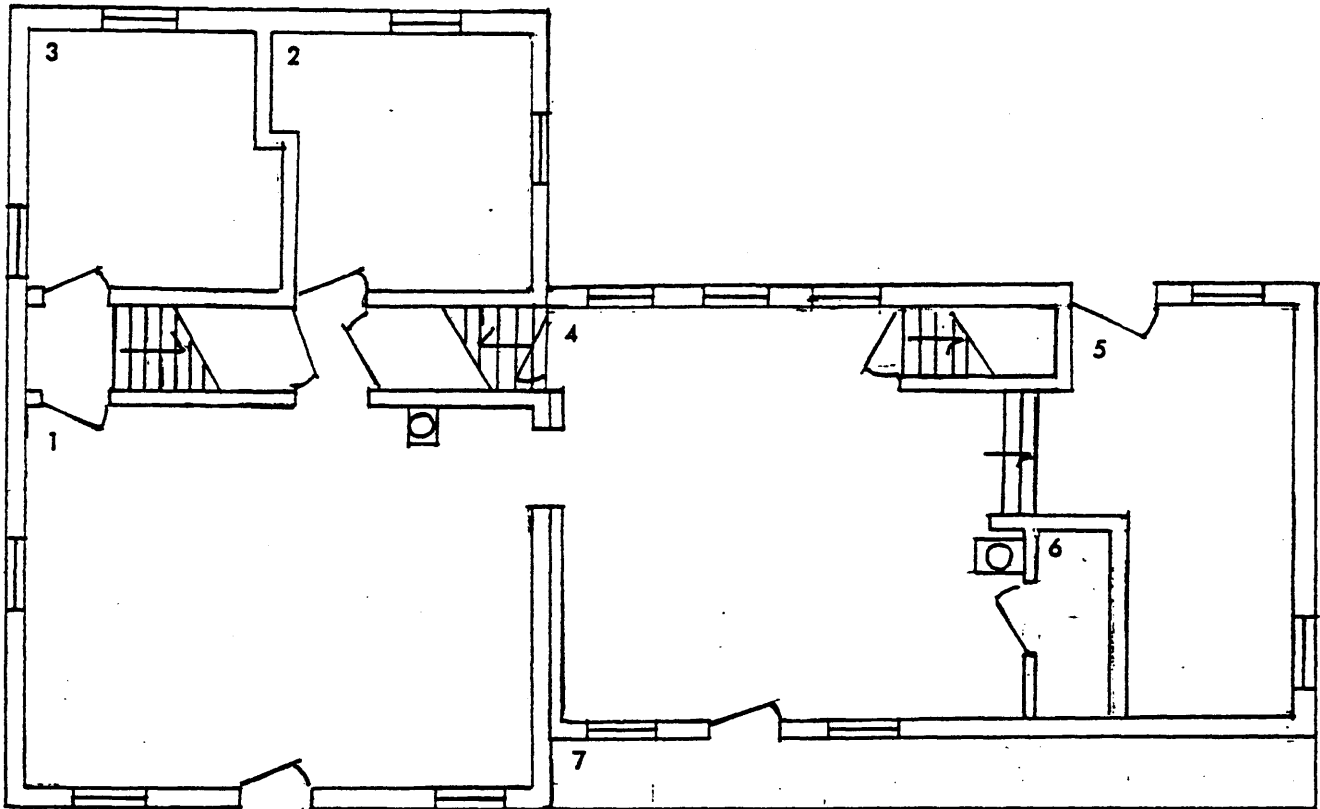
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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Fritz, John Farmstead
Town of Montrose, Dane Co., WI

Section Map Page 1



Approximate Scale: 1/8" = 1'

Fritz Dwelling: First Floor

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Living Room (Parlor) | 4. Family Room (Sitting Room/Dining Room/Cooking) |
| 2. Master Bedroom (Bedroom) | 5. Kitchen (Portion of Pantry/Entry Area/Work Rm.) |
| 3. Bathroom (Bedroom) | 6. Closet (Portion of Pantry) |
| | 7. Porch |

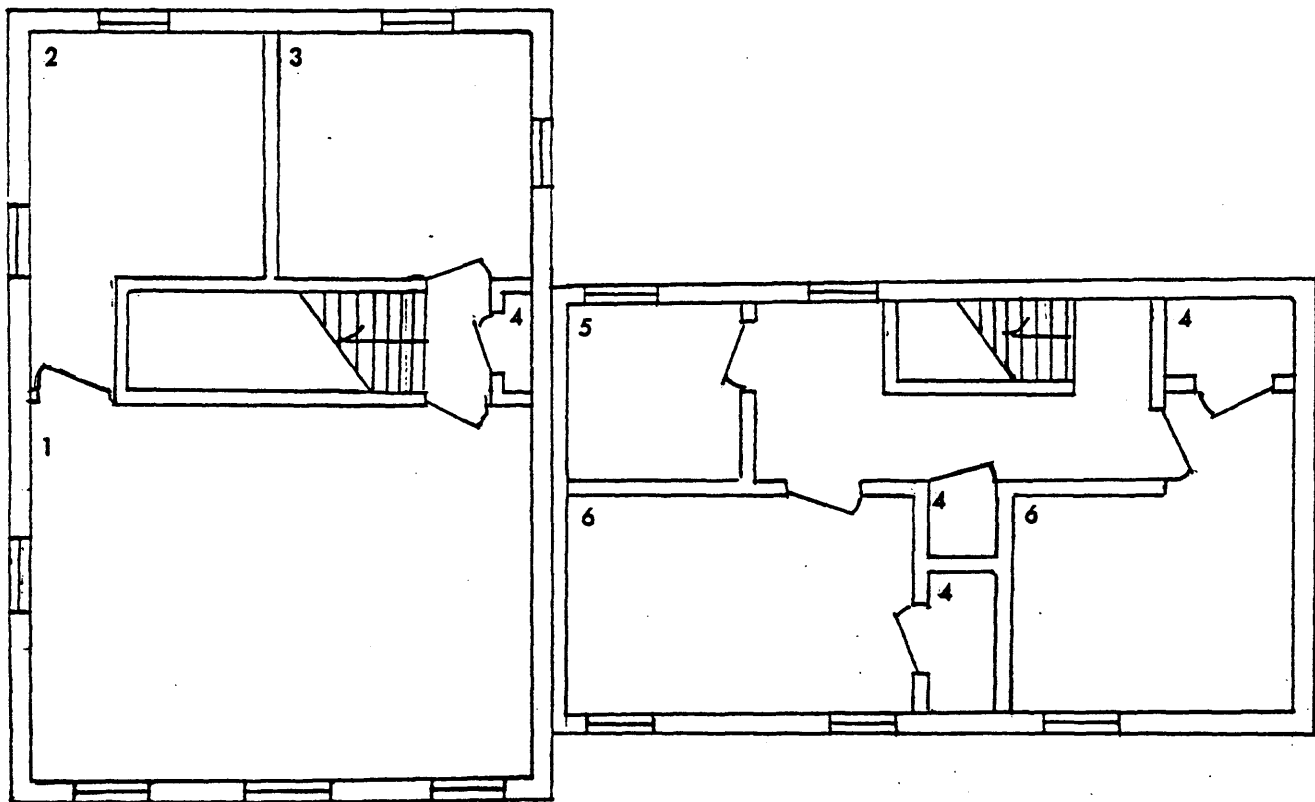
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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Fritz, John Farmstead
Town of Montrose, Dane Co., WI

Section Map Page 2



Approximate Scale: 1/8" = 1'

Fritz Dwelling: Second Floor

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. Master Bedroom (Boys' Rm.) | 4. closet (Part of Open Storage) |
| 2. Bathroom (Girls' Room) | 5. Bathroom Area and Sleeping Quarter for |
| 3. Office (Girls' Room) | 6. Bedroom Farm Laborers: Two Rooms) |

United States Department of the Interior
 National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
 Continuation Sheet

Fritz, John Farmstead
 Town of Montrose, Dane Co., WI

Section Map Page 3

Sketch of the Fritz Farmstead

Key:

- No Scale
- Standing Bldgs.
- Contributing
 - Noncontributing

1. Dwelling, ca. 1868
2. Corn Crib (NC)
3. Piggery (NC)
4. Granary
5. Metal Shed (NC)
6. Basement Barn
 - 6a. Concrete Silo
 - 6b. Milk House (NC)
 - 6c. Bull Pen (NC)

