United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Harden and Arts 1 (98) Hostolicat

ĐĐ,

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic	Abbot Row			•
and/or common	Edwin H. Abbot Ap	partments		
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	1019-1043 E ast Og	gden Ave nue		not for publication
city, town	Milwaukee	N <u>/A</u> _ vicinity of	-congressional district	
state	Wisconsin code	\$53 county	Milwaukee	code 079
3. Clas	sification			
Category district _X building(s) structure site object	Ownership public _X_ private both Public Acquisition in process being considered X_N/A	Status _X_ occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted _X_ yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educationai entertainment government industrial military	museum park X private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Proper	tv		
name street & number	Abbot Row Corpora 1019-1043 East Og			
city, town	Milwaukee	N/A vicinity of	state	Wisconsin
	ation of Lega	I Descripti	on	
·		waukee County Cour		
street & number	901	North 9th Street		
city, town	Mil	waukee	state	Wisconsin
6. Rep	resentation i	n Existing	Surveys	
	nsin Inventory of ric Places	has this pro	operty been determined eli	gible? <u>X</u> yes no
date 1981	······································		federal <u>X</u> stat	e county local
depository for su	rvey records The Sta	ate Historical Soc	iety of Wisconsin	
city, town	Madison	ı	state	Wisconsin

Description



Check one _X_ original site moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Abbot Row is a two-and-one-half-story, brick-veneered building comprising ten residences built in the Queen Anne style. It measures approximately 210 feet wide (east-west) and 62 feet deep. It is located on the street-front half of the parcel with a common yard or park at the rear.

The facade of the row has five single-story porches, each serving two homes, windows of diverse sizes and shapes, and numerous shingle-sided gabled roofs and dormers. The overall appearance of the facade is one of symmetry with a tall central gable, featuring a third-story oriel window, flanked by mirror image facades. However, upon closer inspection it is noted that beyond the middle pair of houses no two facades are identical in their fenestration, brickwork, and trim details. The rear or south facade is strikingly different in appearance with its five gabled two-and-one-half-story wings. As in front, five porches serve the rear entrances. Excepting the replacement of two thirdstory windows on the street side of the row and a couple windows on the rear facade, there have been no structural alterations to the building. The cream brick exterior, however, is now painted gray with black and white trim. Recently, combination storm and screen doors for the front entrances were built, having been patterned after the original ones.

The interior of each of the dwellings, with the exception of 1025 Ogden, has been altered with the repositioning or removal of interior walls and features. This one residence, however, remains largely intact except for finishes. Its floor plan is typical of others in the row. The front entrance hall on the east or left-hand side of the facade of the dwelling has an open staircase adjoining the inside wall abutting the living room. The hall follows the common sidewall past a second stair, originally for servants, and on to the kitchen in the rear of the wing. The front entry hall opens twice into the living room which has the appearance of two parlors joined by the removal of a separating wall. What may have been the second parlor features a wood fireplace mantel. Now painted, the mantel is ornamented with cove moldings, turnings, and incised patterns. A wide doorway opens from the living room into a dining room which overlooks the rear garden. From the dining room, entry is gained to the kitchen through the butler's pantry, which is outfitted with a copper sink. On the second floor are three spacious bedrooms and a bath. From the landing at the top of the stairs another stairway leads to the less roomy third floor, once the servants' quarters.

The unusual landscape arrangement of the lot accomodates both private and common spaces. Ten private, landscaped patios and gardens adjacent to the rear of the residences are bounded by fences and a drive which continues around both sides of the building to intersect with Ogden Avenue. South of the drive the common yard or park, as it is called, occupies the southern third of the parcel on which the row stands. Its extensive lawn is surrounded by a border of trees, shrubs, and a fence. An unusual feature in the western third of the park is the flat-topped square terrace rising three feet above the rest of the park. A summer house, demolished in 1927, once stood there-perhaps a remnant of the period when Bielfeld's Beer Garden occupied the site.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications	Check and justify below Community planning Conservation C	Iiterature I military I music	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1889 Construction ¹	Builder/Architect How Geo	land Russel, archite . B. and Peter E. Po	ct sson, builders ²

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Abbot Row is significant for its architecture.

Architecture

Abbot Row is significant as an excellent example of a Queen Anne style rowhouse in Milwaukee. Among other rowhouses which remain in Milwaukee, only three can compare with Abbot Row in the excellence of design, two of which exhibit elements of the Richardsonian Romanesque style: these two are the five-unit row (1890-91) at 1527-43 N. Cass Street and Graham Row (1887) at 1501-07 N. Marshall Street.³ The third at 1620-28 N. Farwell is a fine example of an asymmetrical Queen Anne style design for six brick dwellings. This row bears some resemblance to Abbot Row in plan and in details but is somewhat deteriorated.

Only a few other rowhouses are found in Milwaukee, but none features as high a quality of design and landscaping as Abbot Row: 380-96 E. Becher (1894), 10 units; 1718-20 E. Lafayette (1894), six units; 1000-14 E. Lyon Street (1897), six units; Charles P. Burnham Row (c.1885) at 1008-18 W. Pierce Street, 10 units; 701-05 E. Pleasant Street (1889), three units; 1850 N. Water Street (1890), three units; and 1223-39 S. 8th Street (1894), five units. Of these, none has the appearance, as does Abbot Row, of a building executed with a singular symmetry rather than an extended row with repeating facade design elements. And of these, none has the picturesque qualities of the Abbot in its massing, roof lines, gables, windows, and details.

Rowhouse design in Milwaukee represented a break from the design of the rowhouses built earlier in the century, particularly in eastern industrial cities where each dwelling was identifiably separate though identical to its counterpart in the row. The only remaining examples in Milwaukee of this kind of rowhouse are the Abel Decker Residences at 408-10 S. Third Street. In contrast, all the other rowhouses in Milwaukee have a unified appearance without exterior divisions between units. This was perhaps due to their being built under single ownership for apartments.

Historical Background

Abbot Row was built in 1889 by Wisconsin Central R.R. Co. vice-president Edwin Hale Abbot. He built it on the land he bought in 1884 which had served as Bielfeld's Beer Garden from the late 1850s until 1883.4 Reportedly he bought the old establishment which was adjacent to his own home on Knapp Street in order to silence the nightly revelry.⁵

In developing the row, Abbot commissioned prominent architect Howland Russel with whose work he was familiar. Five years earlier, Russel and Abbot had both served as officers

9. Major Bibliographical References

(See continuation sheet - page 2)

, **1** ,

ilwaukee 0 417 616 31010 Northing 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	P F H 227' east-west by x 18 in the E½ of orlapping state or court county county date	code. code
Northing	Zone E Zone E D L F L H L 227' east-west by x 18 in the E½ of priapping state or count county county date	180' north-south, occupying the SW ¹ / ₂ Sec. 21-7-22, Milwaukee. nty boundaries code
sures approximately East 7.57' of Block intles for properties ove code code repared By Tipler ervation Services	F L L F L L H L L 227' east-west by x 18 in the E ¹ / ₂ of briapping state or cour county county county	the SW ¹ / ₄ Sec. 21-7-22, Milwaukee. nty boundaries code code
sures approximately East 7.57' of Block intles for properties ove code code repared By Tipler ervation Services	227' east-west by & 18 in the E½ of priapping state or cour county county date	the SW ¹ / ₄ Sec. 21-7-22, Milwaukee. nty boundaries code code
East 7.57' of Block inties for properties ove code code Prepared By Tipler Ervation Services	k 18 in the E ¹ / ₂ of orlapping state or cour county county date	the SW ¹ / ₂ Sec. 21-7-22, Milwaukee. nty boundaries code code
code code Prepared By Tipler ervation Services	county county date	code
Tipler ervation Services	date	
Tipler ervation Services	date	
	- telep	phone (608) 257-2318
son	state	Wiggenein 53703
		fficer Certification
·····	_X_ local	
is property for inclusion in	the National Register an the National Park Servic	nd certify that it has been evaluated
n Officer signature	. Vielan	d Menney
te Historical Socie	ty of Wisconsin	date 1/24 (83
		3/2/65
	e of this property within th nal state distoric Preservation Office his property for inclusion in and procedures set forth by on Officer signature	Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic his property for inclusion in the National Register ar and procedures set forth by the National Park Service

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Abbot Row, Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co., WI

Continuation sheet

Item number 8



of the Associated Charities, a service organization whose membership included Milwaukee's elite. 6

Howland Russel's architectural career in Milwaukee, which spanned the period 1880 to 1916, included primarily residential commissions. One residence he designed in the Queen Anne style, though with more restraint than he exercised in Abbot Row, is the Hathaway-Brumder House (1887) at 2105 East Lafayette Place, built by the Posson brothers who later built Abbot Row.⁸ Russel is perhaps better known for his later commissions including the Edward Diedrichs House at 1241 N. Franklin Place, remodeled by Russel in 1895 in the Neo-Classical style, and the Hawley-Bloodgood residences (1896) in the Chateauesque style next door at 1249 Franklin Place and 1139 Knapp Street.⁹

(See Footnotes on continuation sheet, page 2)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Abbot Row, Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co., WI Continuation sheet

Item number 8 and 9

```
Page
```

EXC. 10731/64

2

Footnotes to Item 8, Significance

- Evening Wisconsin, March 23, 1889, p. 2. Milwaukee Sentinel, March 23, 1889, p. 3.
- Building permits and other records, 1889-1975, General Office, Department of Building Inspection and Safety Engineering, 1010 Municipal Building, 841 North Broadway, Milwaukee.
- 3. Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places, State Historical Society of Wisconsin.
- 4. Milwaukee Sentinel, May 3, 1884, p. 3.
- 5. Exclusively Yours, January 1961, p. 5.
- 6. Milwaukee Sentinel, November 25, 1884, p. 3.
- 7. City Directories.
- 8. McArthur, Shirley du Fresne, North Point Historic Districts Milwaukee, North Point Historical Society, Milwaukee, 1981.
- 9. Zimmerman, H. Russell, <u>The Heritage Guidebook, Landmarks and Historical</u> <u>Sites in Southeastern Wisconsin</u>, Heritage Banks Inland Heritage Corporation, Milwaukee, 1976.

Item 9. Major Bibliographical References

- 1. Milwaukee Landmarks Commission Landmark Inventory-Nomination Form, June 1979.
- Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Historic Site Eligibility Study; Section I - Historic Site Case Report; Lake and Park Freeway; Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1977, pp. 55-63.
- 3. Zimmerman, H. Russell, <u>The Heritage Guidebook</u>, <u>Landmarks and Historical Sites</u> <u>in Southeastern Wisconsin</u>, <u>Heritage Banks Inland Heritage Corporation</u>, <u>Milwaukee</u>, 1976.