NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of Interior
National Park Service

1124

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 Madison Gas & Electric Company Powerhouse
other names Madison Gas & Electric Company Power Plant-Blount Station

2. Location

street & number 100 South Blount Street N/A not for publication
city or town Madison N/A vicinity
state Wisconsin code WI county Dane code 025 zip code 53703

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 x meets __ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant __ nationally __ statewide x locally. (__ See continuation for additional comments.)

Alicia L. Cousin — August 22, 2002
Signature of certifying official/Title — 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 or Federal agency and bureau

Madison Gas & Electric Co. Powerhouse — 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

Daniel J. Vivian 12/6/02

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)
x private	x building(s)
__ public-local	__ district
__ public-state	__ site
__ public-federal	__ structure
	__ object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include listed resources within the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	2	buildings
0	0	sites
2	1	structures
0	0	objects
3	3	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/ EXTRACTION: energy facility	INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION: energy facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
Classical Revival	foundation CONCRETE
	walls BRICK
	roof ASPHALT
	other METAL

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on continuation sheet(s).)

Madison Gas & Electric Co. Powerhouse — 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.)

_X_ 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.

___ 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.

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

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

___ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

___ B removed from its original location.

___ C a birthplace or grave.

___ D a cemetery.

___ E a reconstructed resource.

___ F a commemorative property.

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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)
Industry

Period of Significance
1902-52

Significant Dates
1902
1915
1923
1938
1949

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Claude and Starck
Mead and Seastone

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

9. Major Bibliographic References
(Cite the sources used in preparing this form on continuation sheet(s).)

Madison Gas & Electric Co. Powerhouse — 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:
__X__ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State Agency
___ Federal Agency
___ Local government
___ University
__x__ Other
Name of repository:
Madison Gas & Electric Company

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 4.0 acres

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	1/6	3/0/6/6/7/0	4/7/7/2/0/7/0
2	/	/ / / / /	/ / / / / /

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 Elizabeth L. Miller, Historic Preservation Consultant
organization for City of Madison (K. Rankin) date 5-9-2001
street & number 215 Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard telephone 608-266-6552
city or town Madison state WI zip code 53710

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)

Madison Gas & Electric Co. Powerhouse | Dane County, Wisconsin
Name of Property | County and State

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

name Madison Gas & Electric Co. (Jim Montgomery, Facilities Mgr)
street & number P.O. Box 1231 telephone 608-252-7349
city or town Madison state Wisconsin zip code 53701

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.

INTRODUCTION

The Madison Gas & Electric Company Powerhouse is a sprawling complex made up of contributing sections built in 1902, 1915, 1923, 1928, 1938 and 1949, and non-contributing sections dating to c. 1955, 1959 and 1988 (see enclosed site plan).[1] The 1902 and 1915 sections comprise the front of the building and are Neo-Classical Revival in style. The rest of the building is astylistic utilitarian. The contributing sections are steel-reinforced concrete finished with brick. The non-contributing sections have been sided with corrugated metal. There are two contributing structures on the property: the Northwest Wall and Wet Well (c. 1915/c. 1938). Two non-contributing buildings and one non-contributing structure on the site are the Pressure House (c. 1909), the PDF Building (c. 1988), and the South Wall (2000).[2] There are several transformers, chain-link fencing and various non-historic metal sheds in the coal and ash storage yard that are temporary in nature and not substantial enough to count.

DESCRIPTION

The Madison Gas & Electric Company Powerhouse (hereafter, Powerhouse) occupies the block bounded by Railroad, South Blount, East Main, and South Livingston streets. It should be noted that South Blount Street does not truly run north-south, nor does East Main Street run east-west. However, for ease of description, the resources on the property will be described as though the streets

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[1] Dates of construction from *Map of Madison*, (Pelham, New York: Sanborn Publishing Company, 1942 pasted over through 1955); Building Permits, on file, Madison Department of Planning and Development; *Madison Past and Present*, (Madison: Wisconsin State Journal, 1902), pp. 191 and 196; and James F. Montgomery, P.E., Senior Director - Facilities Management, Madison Gas & Electric Company, Interview, 23 March 2001.

[2] Dates of construction from *Map of Madison*, (Pelham, New York: Sanborn Publishing Company, 1908); Montgomery, Interview 30 April 2001; and Robert Patton, Madison Gas & Electric Company, Interview, 23 March 2001.

do run north-south and east-west.

The footprint of the Powerhouse measures approximately 150 feet (north-south) along South Blount Street and about 470 feet along the sides. The Northwest Wall encloses part of the transformer yard north of the Powerhouse. A chain-link fence attaches to the east end of this wall and runs east to the west wall of the Pressure House, completing the enclosure of the transformer yard along East Main Street. The Pressure House stands at the northwest corner of the property, at East Main and South Livingston Streets. South of the Pressure House, the PDF Building appears. There is a small parking lot between these buildings. The South Wall wraps around the coal and ash storage yard at the south end of the property, beginning and ending at the Powerhouse.

Powerhouse (Contributing)

The Powerhouse faces South Blount Street (see photo 1). The earliest sections of the complex are located at the front end of the building. The front (west-facing) façade is composed of the 28-foot high north section and the 56-foot high south section. Although these two sections are contiguous and have communicating doors, their functions are distinct. The north section is the generator house and the south section is the boiler house. As additions were built onto the rear (east) of the Powerhouse, this spatial distinction was maintained. That is, additions that would contain generators were erected on the north side and additions for boilers were constructed on the south side of the complex. Today, the north section houses Generators 1 though 7 (number 2 has been removed) while the south section contains Boilers 1 though 9.

The front façade of the Powerhouse presents a unified appearance that dates from 1915. That year, the original section of the generator house was remodeled and the boiler house was built, following plans prepared by the distinguished Madison engineering

firm of (Daniel H.) Mead and (Charles) Seastone. Madison architects (Louis W.) Claude and (Edward F.) Starck designed the original section of the generator house. Claude and Starck's design was erected in two sections. The west (front) 60 feet was apparently built early in 1902, and a 60-foot rear addition was constructed in late 1902.[3] The original generator house held the first gas-powered central station electric plant in the United States.[4] Madison Gas & Electric's use of gas-powered generators was experimental and was discontinued when the generator house was remodeled in 1915.

The 1902 generator house was finished with red brick and rested on a concrete basement veneered with rock-faced stone. Neo-Classical Revival in style, the 1902 generator house presented the appearance of an institutional building. Tall, brick, Ionic pilasters divided the front façade into three bays and the front-gabled roof exhibited a closed pediment (see attached photocopy of an historical photograph). The centrally-placed entrance was set in a stone surround with simple classical moldings. Above, multipane double-hung sash windows with wire glass appeared, surmounted by a round-arched transom. Brick quoining edged the entrance and the window. On either side of the entrance, brick quoining surrounded a column of multipane double-hung sash windows, each column terminating in a round-arched transom. The generator house was further enriched with a broad entablature ornamented with simple, classical moldings and a denticulated cornice. Within the pediment were a raking denticulated cornice and a lunette.

Mead and Seastone's 1915 remodeling converted the generator house so that it could hold two steam-powered electric generators.

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[3] *Map of Madison*, (Pelham, New York: Sanborn Publishing Company, 1902 and 1908); *Wisconsin State Journal*, January 3, 1903; and *Madison Past and Present*, (Madison: Wisconsin State Journal, 1902), pp. 191 and 196.
[4] *Madison Past and Present*, p. 191.

Their plans also called for the construction of the boiler house to accommodate three boilers to provide steam power to the generators. Although the current appearance of the front facade of the Powerhouse dates from Mead & Seastone's 1915 plans, their design incorporated many of the details of the Claude and Starck's 1902 design.

The front façade of the Powerhouse displays Neo-Classical Revival styling, but a deep parapet gives the structure the appearance of a two-story, brick industrial building. As on the 1902 generator house, tall brick pilasters divide the façade. The generator house (north section) is three bays wide and the boiler house (south section) is three bays wide. The pilasters feature Ionic capitals ornamented with an egg-and-dart molding, much as appeared on the 1902 generator house. Above, there is an entablature decorated with classical moldings, stone belt courses, denticulated and projecting cornices. Instead of the closed pediment of the 1902 generator house, the entablature is surmounted by a parapet enriched with brick panels and stone volute buttresses. Two openings in the parapet in the boiler house facade have been filled with brick, and the boiler house parapet rises above the parapet of the generator house. The parapets terminate in shaped caps with stone copings. Behind the parapets, the generator and boiler houses have monitor roofs.

On the front façade between the pilasters, multipane industrial sash appear, arranged in columns of three, united within a quoined brick surround. The uppermost window in each column is surmounted by a round-arched, multipane transom. Stone sills are inserted within the brick surround. This configuration matches that of the 1902 generator house, except that the current windows are metal, multipane industrial sash with wire glass, brick panels are included in each column of windows, and the round-arched transom is Neo-Classical Revival (that is, with curvilinear panes) rather than Craftsman (with vertical panes). There is an entrance into each of the generator and boiler houses on this façade. The

entrances are identical and consist of a heavy metal door in a stone surround, enriched with a classical cornice, very similar in appearance to the entrance of the 1902 generator house.

The ornamentation on the front façade turns the corner onto the north- and south-facing facades. On the north-facing façade, these details also appear on the 1928 addition (which faces north, see photo 2). The north-facing façade is otherwise much plainer than the front façade. The 1902/1915 generator house shows a round-arched Craftsman-style transom that dates from the 1902 window configuration. Brick panels decorate the parapet on this façade of the 1902/1915 generator house. The 1928 generator house addition displays a group of multipane industrial sash windows with round-arched, multipane transoms in a continuous surround of brick quoining. A metal garage door appears at the base of the grouped windows and is not original to the addition. A metal door recessed in a flat-arched opening west of the garage door likely is original to the addition. The remainder of the north-facing façade consists of the two-story office addition dating from 1988, and the 100-foot high c. 1955 and 1959 generator house additions (see photo 2). All of these additions are flat-roofed and finished with corrugated metal siding. Metal windows appear at the first and second stories in part of the 1988 addition. No openings can be seen on the c. 1955 or 1959 additions. The 1959 addition was appended to the c. 1955 addition. Both of these additions include generators and boilers. Above the 1988 addition, a portion of the exterior wall of the 1938 addition is visible. The 1938 addition is finished with brick and displays brick pilasters with stone caps. It contributes to the significance of the Powerhouse because its interior is intact and the exterior is as visible as it ever was, as it was previously hidden by the 1924 gas plant, which the 1988 office addition replaced.

Much of the south-facing façade is hidden by the South Wall (erected 2000) and the equipment in the coal and ash storage yard. The 56-foot high 1915 boiler house is enriched with brick panels,

but shows no openings. Just east of the 1915 section is the 34-foot high boiler house addition, constructed in 1938 and contributing to the significance of the powerhouse. Its appearance matches the 1938 generator house addition, with its brick exterior articulated with stone-capped brick pilasters. Each of the additions' two bays exhibits three stories of grouped, multipane industrial sash windows. A flat roof is hidden behind the simple parapet. East of this is the contributing 1949 boiler house addition, also finished with brick and displaying stone-capped brick pilasters and a parapeted, flat roof. Grouped, multipane industrial sash windows appear near the top of wall in this section. The c. 1955 boiler house addition, which is 100 feet tall, is attached to the east end of the 1949 addition. The c. 1955 and 1959 additions were covered with corrugated metal in 1988. Three-pane metal windows appear near the top of the c. 1955 and 1959 additions. A tile coal silo, a metal ash tower and other hoisting equipment is attached to the c. 1955 addition and stand in the coal and ash storage yard.

The 1959 generator house and boiler house additions comprise the east-facing façade. These sections are 100 feet tall, flat-roofed and clad with corrugated metal since 1988. Although no openings can be seen, the Powerhouse's four, monumental, concrete chimneys are especially visible when viewing this façade. The westernmost chimney was erected in 1923, while the other three were constructed as part of the 1949, c. 1955 and 1959 boiler house additions.

On the interior, each of the contributing sections of the Powerhouse shows an open plan with brick walls, steel trusses, and concrete floors and ceilings, all left exposed (see photo 6). A crane rail with a hook hoist travels each of the 1915, 1928 and 1938 sections of the generator house (see photo 5, showing crane rail in 1915 generator house). Also called a crane girder, this mechanism is used to raise the turbines for maintenance. Generator 1 is still operating and may date to 1915. Although

Generator 2 has been removed, Generators 3 (1928 addition), 4 and 5 (1938 addition) are still in operation. The basement is constructed of exposed, poured concrete. It houses turbines and other equipment that assist in the operation of the generators and boilers.

Northwest Wall (Contributing) / Wet Well (Contributing)

The Northwest Wall/Wet Well combines the c. 1915 circular brick Wet Well, a discharge well at the northwest corner of the property, with the Northwest Wall, a c. 1938 brick structure that encloses the transformer yard (see photo 2). The Northwest Wall is ten feet high, about 100 feet long on South Blount Street and 150 feet long on East Main Street. Brick pilasters with stepped, Art Deco-influenced caps articulate the wall along both streets. The south end of the wall abuts the original section of the Powerhouse. A metal door into the transformer yard appears toward the north end of the wall on South Blount Street. A chain-link gate near the east end of the wall on East Main Street also accesses the transformer yard. Originally, the Northwest Wall joined at a 90-degree angle at South Blount and East Main streets. In 1988, the corner was removed, revealing the Wet Well and making the well's curving wall the corner of the Northwest Wall. The Wet Well displays raised metal letters reading: "MG&E, Madison Gas & Electric Company, Blount Station."

Pressure House (Non-contributing)

The Pressure House was built in two sections. The two-story east (front) section was erected c. 1909.[5] It is believed to have been a stable, although no evidence to support this was found (apart from the building's appearance). The east section is of brick construction, reinforced with an exterior concrete frame, and displays a flat roof and an astylistic utilitarian appearance.

[5] Map of Madison, (Pelham, New York: Sanborn Publishing Company, 1908).

Two-over-two windows and a pair of wood, hayloft doors on the South Livingston Street (front) façade of the Pressure House appear to have been a part of the Pressure House's original configuration. Most of the openings have been boarded or filled. The west (rear) section is a one-story, flat-roofed, addition finished with corrugated metal and erected in 1995. This section replaced a 1926 addition and conformed to the footprint of the earlier addition. Although the original section of the Pressure House is more than 50 years old, it is quite altered. Therefore, it is a non-contributing element on the Powerhouse property. The location of the Pressure House at the east end (rear) of the site and its small size minimize its impact on the Powerhouse.

PDF Building (Non-contributing)

The astylistic utilitarian PDF Building is one-story high and was constructed c. 1988. It is flat-roofed, rests on a raised, poured concrete foundation, and is finished with corrugated metal. The PDF Building is sited very close to the back of the Powerhouse Building, but is not attached to it. A tall, metal garage door opens onto South Livingston Street. The PDF Building is a non-contributing element on the Powerhouse property. The location of the PDF Building at the east end (rear) of the site minimizes its impact on the historic sections of the Powerhouse.

South Wall (Non-contributing)

The South Wall encloses the coal and ash storage yard at the south end of the Powerhouse property (see Photo 4). Erected in 2000, this wall is constructed of concrete and is about 20 feet tall. It is about 50 feet long on South Blount and South Livingston streets, and runs the full length of the property, some 594 feet, along Railroad Street (vacated). Prominent pilasters with classical caps frame horizontally-placed panels of brick veneer. The brick matches the color of the brick on the Powerhouse. These details render the South Wall visually compatible with the

Powerhouse, even though the South Wall is a non-contributing resource on the property.

ALTERATIONS

The Madison Gas and Electric Company Powerhouse continues in use as a power generating station for the City of Madison. As the power needs of the city increased, the plant expanded to fill these needs. As a result, the exterior of the original Powerhouse has been altered by the construction of several additions. The 1928, 1938 and 1949 additions contribute to the significance of the Powerhouse, both because they were erected during the historic period and because they are compatible with the 1902/1915 generator house and 1915 boiler house in scale, materials, ornamental details, and function. A few openings have been altered in the 1915 boiler house and in the 1928 generator house addition. The non-contributing additions, erected in c. 1955, 1959 and 1988, have been appended to the rear of the earliest sections, reducing their impact. Because the later additions are located well to the back of the parcel, they are largely blocked from pedestrian view by the walls that enclose the property. They are also visually distinguishable as later appendages to the historic portion of the building. Most importantly, the main, street view of the Powerhouse retains its historic appearance and portrays the historic period of the property. Overall, the exterior integrity of the Powerhouse is very good. The interior of the Powerhouse retains excellent integrity. The non-contributing resources on the site have a minimal effect on the historic character of the Powerhouse due to their location at the rear of the property and their relatively small size (Pressure House and PDF Building) or due to compatibility of design elements (South Wall).

RESOURCES

Name	Construction Date(s)	Classification
Powerhouse	1902, 1915, 1923, 1928, 1938, 1949, c. 1955, 1959, 1988	Contributing
Northwest Wall	c. 1938	Contributing
Wet Well	c. 1915	Contributing
Pressure House	c. 1909, 1995	Non-contributing
PDF Building	c. 1988	Non-contributing
South Wall	2000	Non-contributing

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: SUMMARY

The Madison Gas & Electric Company Powerhouse (Powerhouse) is locally significant under Criterion A in industry, for its association with Madison's leading energy utility. The history of the Madison Gas & Electric Company reflects developments in the energy industry that took place in the United States during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, when technological advances brought electricity to communities across the nation. The Madison Gas & Electric Company was especially innovative, operating the first gas-powered central station plant in the United States, adopting progressive management strategies, such as employee profit-sharing, and sponsoring the Madison Cooking School to promote cooking with gas. To further promote its products, the Madison Gas & Electric Company sold gas and electrical appliances and home entertainment equipment until 1975. The company published tips on the use of gas and electricity for its customers in the magazine, *Today's Home*, during the 1930s, and continues to provide customer assistance through brochures and newsletters, as well as other outreach efforts. The period of significance for the Powerhouse begins with the date of construction of the earliest section of the Powerhouse, 1902, and continues through the 50-year cut-off date, 1952. The Powerhouse retains very good integrity.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The original plat for the Village of Madison was surveyed for James Duane Doty in 1836. Doty named the village in honor of the fourth president of the United States. Madison grew slowly during its first decade. It was incorporated as a village in 1846 with a population of 626. In 1848, Wisconsin became the 30th state and Madison was named the capital. The same year, the University of Wisconsin was founded. Tremendous growth followed, not only in government and at the university, but in the population in general. When Madison was chartered as a city in 1856, its

population was 6,864. By that time, the city's character as a center for government and as a college town was well established. Growth stalled during the Civil War, but boomed during the 1870s as excellent train service help the city to become a regional commercial center. In the 1880s and 1890s, Madison added another dimension, becoming a manufacturing center. At first, agricultural implements and machine tools were produced by such companies as Fuller and Johnson. In the early twentieth century, the French Battery Company (later known as Ray-o-Vac) and Oscar Mayer were established. The development of a vigorous manufacturing sector and the quadrupling of the student body at the University of Wisconsin between 1900 and 1925 were major factors spurring Madison's growth from the seventh largest city in the state in 1910 to the third largest by 1930.[6]

Today Madison remains a government and university town with thriving commercial and manufacturing enterprises. Detailed information on the history of Madison can be found in David V. Mollenhoff's excellent book, *Madison: A History of the Formative Years*, and in the 1994 report, "Intensive Survey of the Historic Resources of Madison," produced by the city's Department of Planning and Development.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: INDUSTRY

The Madison Gas & Electric Company Powerhouse is significant under Criterion A in industry, for its association with Madison's leading energy utility.

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[6] David V. Mollenhoff, *Madison: A History of the Formative Years*, (Dubuque: Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company, 1982), excerpted from entire book; and Robert C. Nesbit, *Wisconsin: A History*, (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1973), p. 549.

The Development of Electric Utilities in the United States

Techniques for generating electricity were developed during the late nineteenth century. Electricity was first employed to provide lighting. In the United States, the first commercial use of electric lighting was at the Wanamaker Department Store in Philadelphia in 1878. In 1879, the first electric street-lighting company in the world was established in San Francisco. In 1882, Wisconsin's first examples of electric lighting were installed, one in the Wisconsin Central Railroad shops at Stevens Point and the other along a street in downtown Fond du Lac. Both were powered by steam.[7]

Hydroelectric power, which used a dam and water-powered turbines to create electricity, was developed as an alternate to the steam-powered method. The first commercial hydroelectric power plant in the United States was installed by Thomas Edison's company at the Appleton Paper and Pulp Company in Appleton in 1882. That system used direct current (DC) dynamos, powered by the Fox River, and lighted the plant on site. A wire transmitted electricity one mile to the company president's house. However, DC current lost power as it was carried along the line and as it was divided among users. This limited the usefulness of electricity, because it meant that users had to be close to the power plant and each needed their own electric line.[8]

By the 1890s, refinements in the transmission of electricity, notably the adoption of alternating current (AC) as standard and the invention of the polyphase induction motor, had made it

[7] Forrest McDonald, *Let There Be Light: The Electric Utility Industry in Wisconsin, 1881-1955*, (Madison: The American History Research Center, 1957), pp. 10-11.
[8] Ibid., p. 26.

possible to transmit electricity over long distances without its power diminishing.[9]

During the 1890s, electric utility companies were organized all over the state. Typically, local investors would form a company to serve their town. The company would open a small "central station" plant, which provided electricity to more than one building at a time. Often, the company began by using excess electricity generated by the local sawmill or factory, and would serve customers for a few hours each day. Most companies were successful initially, quickly outgrowing their original quarters and erecting a free-standing plant.

By 1904, Wisconsin had 140 central station power plants. According to historian Forrest McDonald, 30 of these plants were hydroelectric-powered, and the others were steam-powered.[10] This is not quite true, as the Madison Gas & Electric Company operated gas-powered generators from 1902 until 1915.[11] As technology advanced, it became necessary to invest increasingly larger amounts of capital into equipment and plants. This sparked mergers and consolidations among power companies, a trend that continued through the 1920s.[12] Today, Wisconsin has a relatively small number of power companies, each serving a large area and/or large numbers of customers.

History and Significance of the Madison Gas & Electric Company

The Madison Gas & Electric Company descends, in part, from the Madison City Gas Light and Coke Company. This enterprise was the first gas company in Madison and the second in the state. Organized in 1855 to provide gas lighting to the city, the Madison

[9] Ibid., p. 26.
[10] Ibid., p. 98.
[11] *Madison City Directory*, (Madison: G.R. Angell & Co., 1914 and 1916).
[12] McDonald, p. 99.

City Gas Light and Coke Company had a plant on Block 131, the site that is the subject of this nomination.

The Madison City Gas Light and Coke Company began operating gaslights on some streets and in a few homes in July 1855. Soon, gaslights had been installed along most streets and in most residences in the city, although oil lamps continued to light some Madison streets and kerosene lamps were used in humbler homes into the 1890s. In 1879, Thomas Edison created the incandescent light bulb. The same year, large electrical generators became commercially available. As a result of these developments, electric lighting would soon become a practical alternative to gaslight.[13]

The first demonstration of electric lighting in Madison took place on December 5, 1883 and used arc lights, rather than incandescent bulbs. The arc light generated light when the electric current jumped a small gap between conductors. Reflectors and lenses could be used to focus the arc light, washing a large area with light. To demonstrate the arc lights, the Van Depoele Electrical Company, of Chicago, set up six lamps along one side of the Capitol Square. The lamps were hooked up to a portable generator, in turn attached to a steam engine at a nearby laundry. The street was bathed in bright light, prompting the Common Council to appoint a citizen committee to investigate installing electric lights in Madison. However, Breese Stevens became mayor in April 1884. Stevens was, by coincidence, director of the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company, and did not reappoint the committee. As the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company had reduced the price of gas from $3.00 per cubic foot to $2.50 per cubic foot following the Van Depoele demonstration, effectively making arc lights seem unjustifiably expensive, the idea was dropped, at least temporarily.[14]

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[13] Mollehoff, p. 212.
[14] Ibid., p. 213.

In April 1888, the newly-formed Madison Electric Light Company approached the Common Council, requesting a franchise to provide electric street lighting for the city. The franchise was granted, AC arc lights were installed on several Madison streets, and on 10 June 1888, the lights were turned on for the first time. The Madison Electric Light Company showed foresight in choosing the AC system; Madison was the third city in the state to choose AC, which would become the industry standard by 1892. The Madison Electric Light Company's first dynamo was located in the Hausmann Brewery on State Street (demolished).[15]

Seeing the Madison Electric Light Company as a serious threat to its market dominance, the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company responded with a series of actions to eliminate its rival. In May 1888, the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company asked the Common Council for a franchise so that it, too, could produce electricity. Napoleon Bonaparte Van Slyke, speaking on behalf of the gas company, argued that electrical companies should have competition. The Madison Electric Light Company, in response, contended that Madison could not support two electrical companies and that if there were two companies, the Madison Electric Light Company would be driven out of business because the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company possessed much greater financial resources. The Common Council denied the request of the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company.[16]

In June 1888, Madison Gas Light and Coke Company tried another tactic, reducing the price of gas from $2.50 per cubic foot to $1.00 per cubic foot. This effort gained the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company very little ground and by 1890, the Common

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[15] Ibid; and Katherine H. Rankin, *Intensive Survey of the Historic Resources of Madison*, prepared for the Madison Department of Planning and Development and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1994, no page numbers.
[16] Mollenhoff, p. 213.

Council had further damaged their profitability and market share by drastically reducing the number of gas lights on the streets of Madison, replacing them with arc lights. The Madison Electric Light Company prospered, erecting a new plant at 631 Williamson Street in 1889 (demolished).[17]

Undaunted, Madison Gas Light and Coke Company officials decided to try entering the electricity-generating business by providing power for electric streetcars. In other cities, pairing streetcar operation (which mostly took place during the day) with street lighting (a night-time endeavor) was proving very profitable, as companies could sell electricity around the clock. The officials of the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company apparently thought that once they had the contract to provide power to the streetcars, they could capture the electric street lighting contract as well. To this end, the leading stockholders of the company organized the Four Lakes Light and Power Company, taking care not to reveal the identities of the officials of the new company. [18]

The Four Lakes Light and Power Company appealed to the Common Council for an electric utility franchise. Suspicious, the Common Council rejected the request. Then, on 25 August 1892, the Four Lakes Light and Power Company bought the Madison Electric Light Company, and the Common Council had to grant the franchise to the Four Lakes Light and Power Company. On 3 September 1892, the fact that the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company controlled the Four Lakes Company became public knowledge when an article in the Wisconsin State Journal revealed that Napoleon Bonaparte Van Slyke, still a director of the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company, was the president of the Four Lakes Power and Light Company. Officials of the latter company denied that the Madison Gas and Coke Company controlled the electric company. Outraged, the Common Council granted another electrical franchise to a new

[17] Mollenhoff, p. 213; and Rankin, no page numbers.
[18] Ibid.

enterprise, the Capital City Electric Company, formed by local men unconnected to the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company. Even though the new company had no equipment and no plant, the Common Council awarded them the City's annual street lighting contract. But the Capital City Electric Company was unable to build its plant and failed, leaving the Four Lakes Light and Power Company the only electric company in Madison.[19]

The public, long disgruntled by the monopolistic practices of the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company, extended its antipathy to the Four Lakes Light and Power Company. Complaints about the dimness of the streetlights and the increasing cost of electricity spurred the Common Council to appoint a committee to look into building a municipal plant. This effort was in the planning stages when a New York utility syndicate headed by Emerson McMillin bought the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company, the Madison City Gas Light & Coke Company (a newly-organized concern) and the Four Lakes Light and Power Company in April 1896. This consolidation created the Madison Gas & Electric Company. At the time, McMillin owned eighteen plants around the country including the Milwaukee Gas Company. Unlike some syndicate owners, McMillin utilized progressive management practices, including shorter work hours and higher wages than was standard in the industry and offering profit sharing to all his employees. McMillin was the president of the company and he brought in as general manager, Henry L. Doherty, an experienced utility executive. Napoleon Bonaparte Van Slyke, known locally for his ties to the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company and the Four Lakes Light and Power Company, was made vice-president of the new company.[20]

As this consolidation was taking place, Madisonians were re-thinking the wisdom of floating bonds to build a City-owned plant, which it was estimated would cost $24,000. The City was

[19] Ibid., p. 214.
[20] Ibid.

already very close to its maximum legal debt limit and as yet had no provisions for repaying $152,000 in bonds that would come due in 1904. In addition, Madison lacked a sewage treatment system and most of the city's decision-makers agreed that such a system should take precedence over any other infrastructure improvement. When the canny Doherty offered the City a very low rate, the Common Council accepted, ending efforts to build a municipal electric plant.[21]

Henry L. Doherty was general manager of Madison Gas & Electric until 1899, when the American Light and Traction Company (a part of the McMillin syndicate) acquired Madison Gas and Electric. Under the new parent company, Doherty served as president until 1909, and John Corscot was general manager. During Doherty's tenure, the company rapidly expanded and improved the city's utility system, especially gas lines, supporting this effort with a very successful campaign to promote the use of gas for cooking and heating. The gas stove and the gas heater had become affordable and widely available. Unlike their wood and coal counterparts, gas appliances could be quickly and conveniently lighted, were instantly the appropriate temperature, were easily controlled and did not require purchasing, storing and carrying of wood or coal, or the cleanup of ashes and soot. The Madison Gas & Electric Company sold gas appliances, offering gas stoves on an installment payment plan at $13.00 dollars a month in newspaper ads that appeared almost every day in the late 1890s. The company also financed the Madison Cooking School, teaching women the culinary arts, using gas appliances. By 1902, gas lines had been extended to most of the residential areas in the city and more than half the homes in Madison were equipped with gas appliances.[22]

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[21] Ibid., p. 215.
[22] Ibid.; and *Madison Past and Present*, pp. 189-191.

Doherty also oversaw the construction of several new buildings on the Powerhouse site. Although it is unclear what exactly was on the site when the Madison Gas & Electric Company was formed in 1896, by the end of 1902, there were several buildings on the property. A sprawling gas plant (demolished 1925), made up of several narrow stone and brick sections (at least some of which probably predated 1896), stretched about 200 feet north-south across the property. The front faced East Main Street. The rear 100 feet of the plant was erected in 1902. A large, frame, coal shed was attached to the east façade of the gas plant. A small, two-story, brick office and storage building (demolished 1925) faced East Main Street just west of the gas plant. Two large, round masonry gas tanks stood south and west of the office building. One was constructed in 1902, the other prior to 1902 (both removed in the 1920s). Frame storage sheds (demolished) appeared at the south end of the property, adjacent to the railroad tracks, about 100 feet east of South Blount Street. The original section of the current generator house was erected in two parts during 1902.[23] The company's main offices were located in a building at 120-126 East Main Street (demolished) from about 1898 until 1922. The Madison Gas & Electric Company also continued to operate the 1889 Madison Electric Light Company plant at 631 Williamson Street until 1915.[24] By 1908, a one-story, brick storage battery building (demolished) had been erected just north of the generator house and additional frame coal sheds (demolished) had appeared at the south end of the property, adjacent to the railroad tracks.[25]

During the early twentieth century, the Madison Gas & Electric Company's monopolistic practices were scrutinized and attacked by August Roden, then editor of Madison's daily newspaper, the

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[23] *Madison Past and Present*, p. 191; and *Map of Madison*, (Pelham, New York: Sanborn Publishing Company, 1902).
[24] Rankin, no page numbers.
[25] *Map of Madison*, (Pelham, New York: Sanborn Publishing Company, 1908).

Wisconsin State Journal. Roden was a Progressive Republican reformer, determined to expose corruption and injustice. Public complaints about the poor quality of gas and electricity, begun during the time of the Madison Gas Light and Coke Company and the Four Lakes Light and Power Company, had continued unabated since the formation of the Madison Gas and Electric Company. In 1903, the Common Council asked the Madison Gas and Electric Company for data so that the Common Council could evaluate whether the company's rates were fair. The Madison Gas and Electric Company refused the request and the Common Council initiated a court battle that would last three years.[26] The *Wisconsin State Journal* entered into the fray, reporting in 1904 that Madison Gas and Electric charged 25 percent more for its gas than any other company in the state and 21 percent more than the U. S. average.[27] The case reached the Wisconsin Supreme Court, where the city lost on procedural grounds.

In 1906, the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin hired a professor to test the quality of the gas that the Madison Gas & Electric Company provided in several different locations on campus. The *Wisconsin State Journal* trumpeted the professor's results, which showed that 20 percent of the gas was nitrogen, an inert element that did not provide light or heat, but which certainly registered on the gas meters. Roden labeled the presence of nitrogen gas as "fraudulent."[28] The public outcry was such that Governor James O. Davidson, a Progressive Republican, initiated a study to determine whether Madison Gas and Electric's rates were based on actual production costs and a fair return on their investment. Davidson wanted to show that state regulation of gas and electric companies was needed. In late February 1907, Davidson's study confirmed what Madisonians had long suspected,

[26] Mollenhoff, p. 298.
[27] *Wisconsin State Journal*, 16 August 1904.
[28] *Wisconsin State Journal*, 15 February 1907.

the Madison Gas and Electric Company's rates had no basis in actual costs, but reflected what the market could bear.[29]

Beginning in March 1907, August Roden carried on a crusade against the Madison Gas and Electric Company through the pages of the *Wisconsin State Journal*. He opened this crusade with the claim that the Madison Gas and Electric Company was overcharging its customers $47,000 each year while providing customers with gas that fell below the state's minimum standards.[30] For the next several months, Roden published an article nearly every day, expanding on these charges and making new ones. He described stock-watering schemes, expensive experiments with untried technology and a previously unpublicized offer, made to dissuade the City from taking over the company, to reduce the price of gas by 53 percent. By name, Roden charged the local men who served on the board of directors of the Madison Gas and Electric Company with complicity in the schemes of the McMillin syndicate and the American Light and Traction Company, prompting two Madison directors to resign.[31] The Madison Gas and Electric Company did not respond to any of Roden's charges.

In his thesis, "A Case Study of Newspaper Muckraking: The Wisconsin State Journal's Crusade for Better and Lower Gas Rates," Gene Hanson suggests that Roden's masterful crusade against the Madison Gas and Electric Company at a time when the state legislature was in session likely resulted in the adoption of a new public utilities regulation law in July 1907.[32]

Although there was a public utilities regulation law on the books at the time, it was weak and lacked a workable procedure for

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[29] *Wisconsin State Journal*, 27 February 1907; and Mollenhoff, p. 298.
[30] *Wisconsin State Journal*, 16 March 1907.
[31] Mollenhoff, p. 298.
[32] Gene Hanson, "A Case Study of Newspaper Muckraking: The Wisconsin State Journal's Crusade for Better and Lower Gas Rates," (Master's thesis, University of Wisconsin - Madison, 1966), p. 45.

calculating fair gas rates. Several Progressive state legislators enlisted John Commons, a professor at the University of Wisconsin, to draft the new public utilities regulation law. This law gave the Wisconsin Railroad Commission (forerunner of the Wisconsin Public Service Commission) the power to regulate gas and electric utilities, including setting rates. As soon as this legislation passed, the *Wisconsin State Journal* retained Madison attorney, Emerson Ela, to file a formal complaint against the Madison Gas and Electric Company with the Railroad Commission. This was the first complaint involving a gas or electric utility that was lodged before the Railroad Commission. The case received national attention because it sought to determine how utility rates could be calculated fairly, a question on the minds of reformers and politicians across the nation. The Railroad Commission spent three years gathering information and wrestling with the question before rendering a decision in March 1910, reducing the Madison Gas and Electric Company's rates for gas and electricity by nearly 10 percent.[33] By the time the decision was handed down, Henry Doherty and John Corscot had left the company. Alanson Lathrop was president and Frank Cross served as general manager.

Despite this blow to the company's profits, the Madison Gas and Electric Company prospered, employing 119 people in 1912, all of them paid in cash.[34] In 1915, the company undertook a major building campaign, remodeling the 1902 generator house to accommodate steam-powered turbines (abandoning the company's experiment with gas-powered generators) and erecting the adjacent boiler house at a cost of $150,000.[35] Together these two form the earliest sections of the existing Powerhouse that is the subject of this nomination. At the same time, the 1889 plant at 631

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[33] *Wisconsin State Journal*, 8 March 1910.
[34] "MG&E History at a Glance, 100 Years of Service," Brochure produced by the Madison Gas and Electric Company, 1996, p. 2.
[35] Building permit, Madison Department of Planning and Development.

Williamson Street closed and those operations brought to the Powerhouse site.

The plans for the remodeling of the generator house and the construction of the boiler house were prepared by the Madison engineering firm of (Daniel H.) Mead and (Charles) Seastone. Mead (1862-1948) was a graduate of Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. In 1900, he had opened an engineering office in Chicago. He relocated to Madison in 1904 to accept a professorship in engineering at the University of Wisconsin. Mead continued to operate his consulting firm in Chicago until 1907. That year, he moved the consulting firm to Madison and engaged Charles Seastone, a professor of sanitary engineering at Purdue University, to take up the post of chief engineer and manager of the business. In 1913, Mead made Seastone his partner in the consulting firm; their association would last for twenty years. Mead taught at the University of Wisconsin until 1932 while maintaining an active practice. Mead and Seastone designed a variety of engineering facilities but are probably best known for their hydroelectric facilities. During the late 1920s, Mead also served as a consultant to the federal government in the design of the Hoover Dam. The successor firm, Mead & Hunt, is still in operation and is one of the largest engineering companies in the U.S.[36]

The Madison Gas and Electric Company continued to expand its service area during the late 1910s and the early 1920s. In 1917, John St. John became general manager under Alanson Lathrop. In 1922, the company inaugurated a new building campaign with the erection of an elegant stone-veneered office building (demolished) at 100 North Fairchild Street. Designed by prominent Madison architect Frank Riley, the Madison Gas and Electric Company office building represented an outstanding example of the

[36] Mead & Hunt website, www.meadhunt.com.

Renaissance Revival style.[37] It would be the company's headquarters until 1983. In 1923, Mead and Seastone designed a small addition to the boiler house, which included a monumental chimney (see attached plan). In 1924, Madison architects (James R.) Law and (Edward J.) Law prepared plans for three brick and concrete buildings for Madison Gas and Electric. The first was a water gas building (demolished) erected just east of the Powerhouse. The second was a liquid purification building, a two-story structure located at 713 East Main Street (demolished), on part of the site on which the old gas plant had stood. The third was the works utility building (extant) on the southwest corner of South Blount and East Main Streets. A one-story, brick and steel addition to the Pressure House was built in 1926 to the designs of (James R.) Law, (Edward J.) Law and (Ellis) Potter.[38] The generator house was expanded in 1928.[39] That year, R. B. Brown was named president. John St. John continued as general manager.[40]

In the 1920s, the Madison Gas and Electric Company had added electrical appliances to their product line. The company's products were promoted through the company's magazine, *Today's Home*, sent to customers and featuring household tips and recipes. The company expanded its promotion of electrical appliances into rural areas during the 1930s by sending saleswomen in the "Demonstration Car" into the countryside to demonstrate the appliances.[41] In 1938, the steadily increasing number of customers necessitated an addition to the generator house (to accommodate generators 4 and 5) and to the boiler house (for boiler 4).[42] In 1939, John St. John became president and general

[37] Building permit.
[38] Building permits.
[39] *Map of Madison*, (Pelham, New York: Sanborn Publishing Company, 1908 pasted over through 1939).
[40] "MG&E History at a Glance: 100 Years of Service," p. 8.
[41] "MG&E History at a Glance: 100 Years of Service," p. 4.
[42] *Map of Madison*, (Pelham, New York: Sanborn Publishing Company, 1908 pasted

manager or the Madison Gas and Electric Company. At that time the company had 270 employees and a payroll of $470,000 a year, making it one of Madison's largest industries. The Madison Gas and Electric Company served 18,262 gas customers and 23,978 electric consumers that year in Madison and neighboring rural areas.[43]

In 1944, the American Light and Traction Company sold the Madison Gas and Electric Company to employees of Madison Gas and Electric and local investors, making the company publicly-owned. John St. John continued as president and general manager, a post he would hold until 1958. An addition to the boiler house to hold Boilers 5 and 6, and a pipeline to carry natural gas from Michigan, were constructed in 1949. Around the same time, the 1924 liquid purification building at 713 East Main Street was demolished and a small, one-story office erected. In 1950, the number of gas customers exceeded 18,000.[44]

During the 1950s, the generator house and the boiler house were expanded twice, c. 1955 and in 1959. The Summit Peaking Plant was erected in 1957, as the Powerhouse that is the subject of this nomination could no longer provide sufficient power to all the customers of the Madison Gas and Electric Company. By 1959, the company's service area totaled 195 square miles, with 42,393 electric consumers and 26,711 gas consumers. In the 1960s, service was expanded to other municipalities in Dane County, including Waunakee, Cross Plains, Black Earth, Mazomanie, Mount Horeb, Verona, DeForest and Windsor. By 1966, the number of gas customers had risen to 37,357 and the company began construction of the Kewaunee Nuclear Plant (completed in 1974).[45]

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through 1939).
[43] Rankin, no page numbers.
[44] "MG&E History at a Glance: 100 Years of Service," p. 4 and 5.
[45] Ibid., pp. 5 and 6.

The Madison Gas and Electric Company built a new office building on South Blair Street in 1983. In 1988, the office addition to the Powerhouse was completed. The company continued to expand its service area, extending to include Iowa, Vernon, Crawford and Monroe counties by the mid-1990s. Today, the Madison Gas and Electric Company generates and transmits electricity to 125,000 customers in a 250-square mile area and distributes natural gas to 112,000 customers in seven counties. The company provides customer assistance through brochures, a monthly newsletter, a speaker's bureau, and at the Innovation Center (opened in 1990), as well as offering economic assistance to low-income families in paying their utility bills. The Powerhouse that is the subject of this nomination has been maintained in an excellent state of preservation and in working condition. It continues to provide one-quarter of the electricity that Madison Gas and Electric's customers use.[46]

CONCLUSION

The Madison Gas & Electric Company Powerhouse is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A, in industry, for its association with Madison's leading energy utility. The history of the Madison Gas & Electric Company reflects developments in the energy industry that took place in the United States during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, when technological advances brought electricity to communities across the nation. The Madison Gas & Electric Company was especially innovative, operating the first gas-powered central station plant in the United States, adopting progressive management strategies, such as employee profit-sharing, and sponsoring the Madison Cooking School to promote cooking with gas. The Madison Gas & Electric Company expanded its service area and its service to customers

[46] Ibid.

throughout the twentieth century. The Madison Gas & Electric Company Powerhouse symbolizes the company's 105-year history.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Madison Gas & Electric Company Powerhouse property encompasses all of Block 131, Original Plat of Madison, and the northeast one-half of vacated Railroad Street alongside Block 131, in the City of Madison, Dane County, Wisconsin. The parcel measures 297 feet on South Blount and South Livingston Streets, and 594 feet on East Main and Railroad Streets, for a total of about 4.0 acres.

VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the Madison Gas & Electric Company Powerhouse coincide with the legal boundaries of the parcel on which it sits and include all those resources historically associated with the Madison Gas & Electric Company.

Photo 1 of 6
Madison Gas & Electric Company Powerhouse
Madison, Dane County, WI
Photo by Elizabeth L. Miller, March 2001
Negative on file at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin
View of the west-facing (front) façade of the 1902/1915 original sections, looking northeast.

Photo 2 of 6
View of the Powerhouse property showing the Northwest Wall, looking southeast.

Photo 3 of 6
View of Powerhouse and its subsequent additions, looking northeast.

Photo 4 of 6
View of south wall, looking northeast.

Photo 5 of 6
View of Generator 1 on the interior.

Photo 6 of 6
General view of the interior of the Powerhouse.

100 S BLOUNT ST (AKA 717 E MAIN ST)

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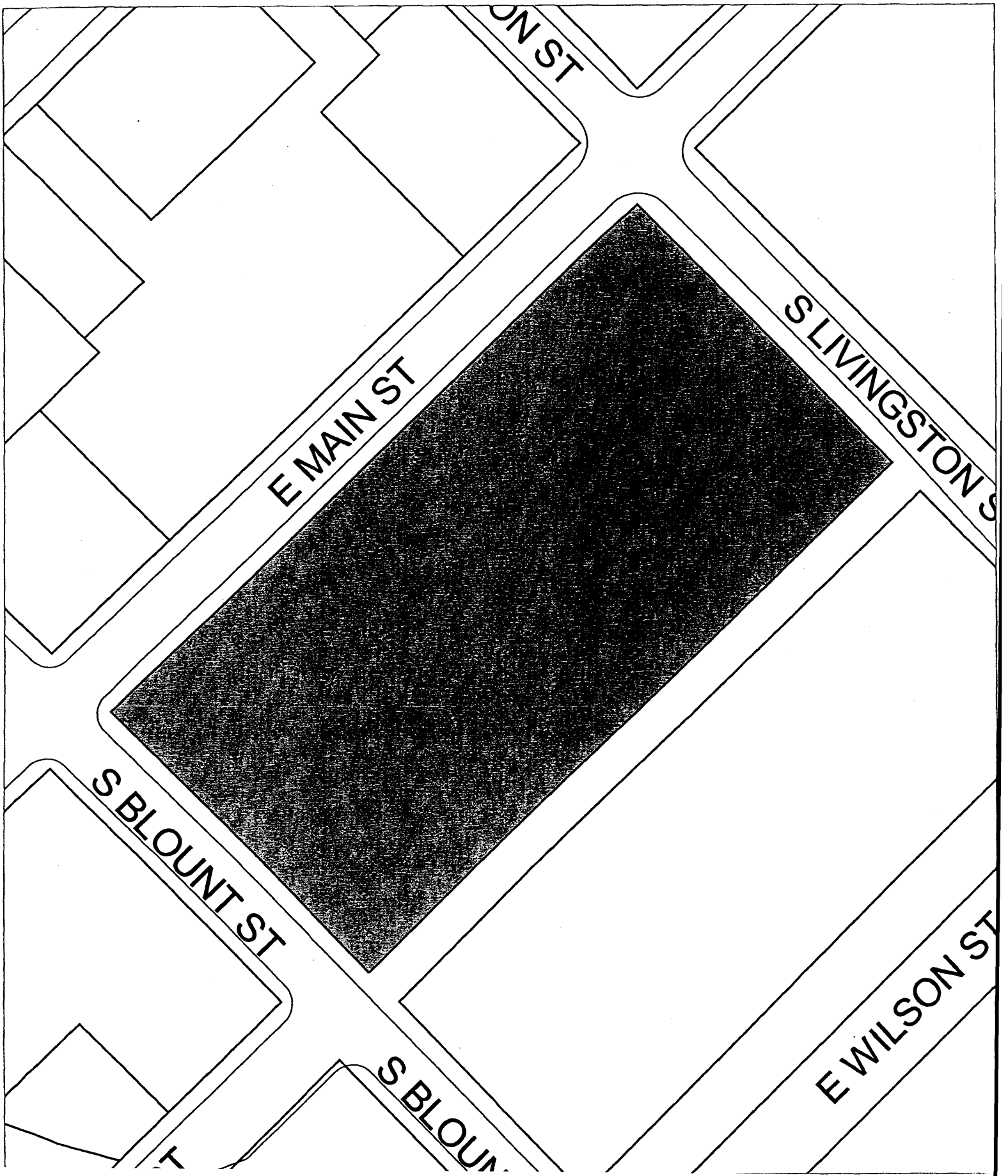
Madison Gas and Electric Powerhouse
Madison, Dane Co., Wisconsin

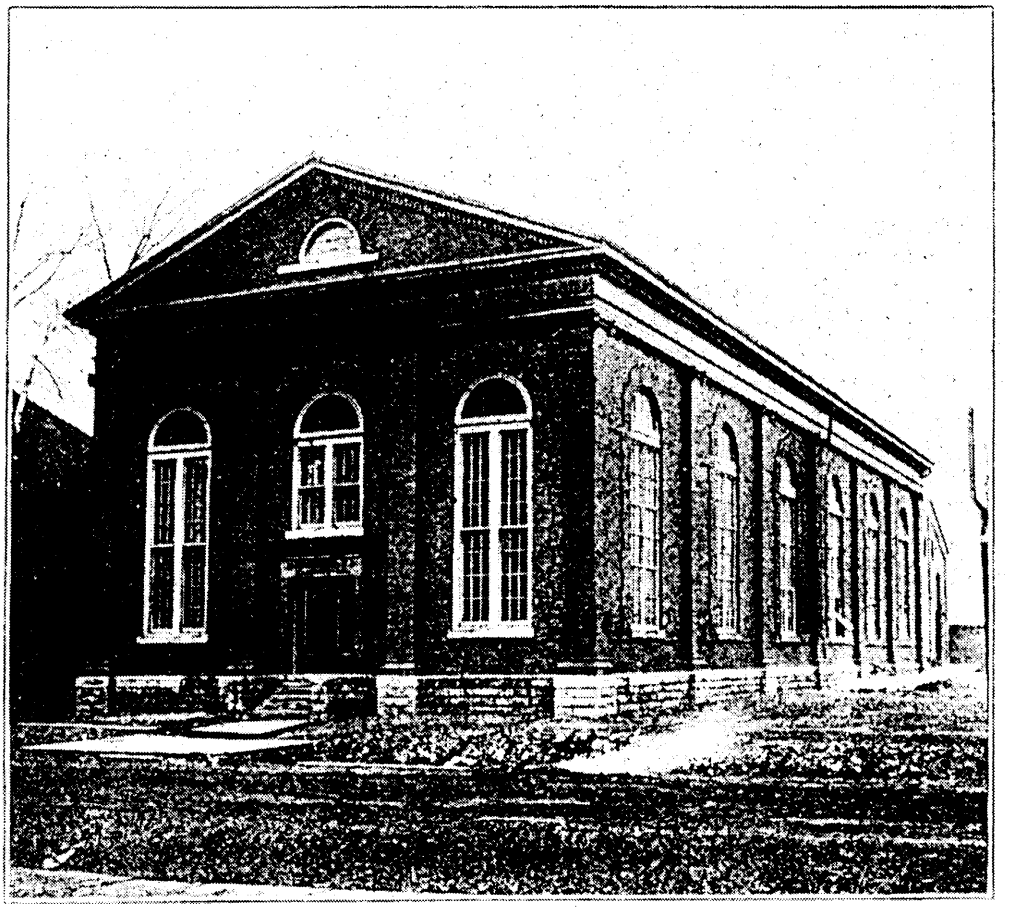
100 0 100 Feet



Madison Gas & Electric Powerhouse in 1902
(Generator House Section)
Source: Madison Past and Present (Madison: Wisconsin State Journal, 1902)

ATTACHMENT 1

Madison Gas and Electric Powerhouse
Madison, Dane Co., Wisconsin



NEW POWER HOUSE, WHERE THEY "USE GAS FOR FUEL."

Madison Gas and Electric Powerhouse
Madison, Dane Co., Wisconsin