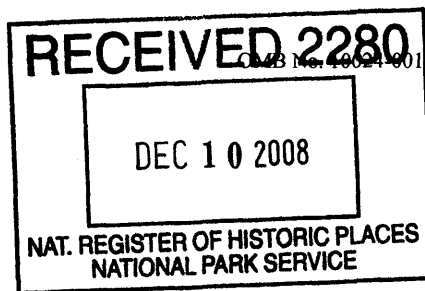


1370



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

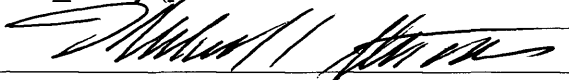
historic name Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 456 Seminary Street N/A not for publication
city or town Lodi N/A vicinity
state Wisconsin code WI county Columbia code 021 zip code 53555

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

 Date 12/5/08

State Historic Preservation Officer - Wisconsin

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 commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House

Columbia

Wisconsin

Name of Property

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:)

Edson H. Beall

1-22-09

per

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as
as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- structure
- site
- object

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

contributing	noncontributing
1	2 buildings
	sites
	structures
	objects
1	2 total

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

N/A

**Number of contributing resources
is previously listed in the National Register**

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)
Queen Anne

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation Stone
walls Weatherboard
roof Asphalt
other Wood

Narrative Description

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

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Name of Property

Columbia
County and State

Wisconsin

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.)

- 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.)

Property is:

- 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 building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1897

Significant Dates

1897

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Lindsay, Frank L.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Name of Property

Columbia
County and State

Wisconsin

9. Major Bibliographic References

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

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

- 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
- Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

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

1 16 294578 4799045
 Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
 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	Timothy F. Heggland/ Consultant for the Lodi Historic Preservation Commission	date	September 20, 2007
organization		telephone	608-795-2650
street & number	6391 Hillsandwood Road	zip code	53560
city or town	Mazomanie	state	WI

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House

Columbia

Wisconsin

Name of Property

County and State

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)

Property Owner

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

name/title	Clarence D. Thistle, Jr.	date	September 20, 2007
organization		telephone	608-592-5427
Street & number	456 Seminary Street	zip code	53555
city or town	Lodi	state	WI

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

Description

The John A. & Martha Robertson house is a large, very fine, and very intact two-and-one-half-story Queen Anne style single family residence built in the city of Lodi for John A. Robertson in 1897.¹ This house sits on a double corner lot that is situated near the top of a hill in one of the principal historic residential neighborhoods of the city and its principal facade faces west onto Seminary St. The house is slightly cruciform in plan, measures approximately 34-feet-wide at its widest point by 52-feet-deep, and its exterior walls rest on a tall, cut stone foundation. These walls are sided in narrow clapboards and they are surmounted by the asphalt shingle-covered combination gable and hip roof that covers the house. All four gable ends of this roof are also sided with clapboards and these gable ends still retain their sometimes elaborate decorative elements. The Robertson house was designed by Frank L. Lindsay, an architect then practicing in Portage, Wisconsin. The house is a very fine example of the larger Queen Anne style residential designs that were favored by members of Wisconsin's upper middle class in the 1890s. Even in a city that is notable for its numerous excellent Queen Anne style houses, the Robertson house stands out, thanks to its size, its setting, its fine design, and its extremely intact and well maintained exterior and interior, all of which make it especially notable today.

The rectilinear double corner lot of the Robertson house is located in a predominantly late nineteenth-early twentieth century residential neighborhood that covers a hill that overlooks Spring Creek, Goeres Park, and the historic downtown portion of the city of Lodi. The front of this parcel faces west onto the north/south-running Seminary Street, while its north side faces onto the east-west-running Chestnut St. Seminary Street is a quiet residential thoroughfare whose south end intersects with Second Street some three blocks to the south while its north end passes through a modern subdivision that begins a block north of the Robertson house before it terminates at a junction with the north-south running STH 113. Chestnut Street, meanwhile, continues west for two more blocks before ending at an intersection with Strangeway Ave., and it also continues east out of the neighborhood and across a bridge that spans the city's railroad tracks until ending at the base of this hill and at its own junction with STH 113. The Robertson house's parcel slopes very gently to the east and it is edged with concrete sidewalks and gutters and it is landscaped with shrubs, mature trees, flower beds, and lawn. Most of the other lots in the surrounding area also contain single family dwellings dating from the 1880s to the 1930s, and most of these dwellings are still single family residences today, although none are as large or as elaborate as the Robertson house.

¹ The 2000 population of Lodi was 2882.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 2

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

Exterior

The John A. and Martha Robertson house was built in 1897 and it is asymmetrical in appearance, cruciform in plan, is two-and-one-half-stories-tall, and its design is an excellent example of the "hipped roof with lower cross gables" subtype of the Queen Anne style identified by Virginia and Lee McAlester.² In this instance the design consists of a hip and gable roofed 31-foot-wide by 52-foot-deep main block that has an 18-foot-wide by 2-foot-deep polygonal-shaped two-story gabled ell on its north-facing side elevation and an 18.5-foot-wide by 3-foot-deep rectilinear plan two-story gabled ell on its south-facing side elevation. The entire house rests on cut stone foundation walls of dressed limestone blocks that have tooled edges and rock-faces, and these walls are crowned by a flared wooden water table and they enclose a full basement story that underlies the entire house. The exterior walls that rest on this foundation are clad in narrow painted clapboards and the first story's wall surfaces are enframed with corner boards, but the second story's are not and this story is also separated from the first by a denticulated belt course, and the base of the second story above it is flared out slightly over it. These walls rise up to a wide encircling frieze board that is located below the overhanging flared and boxed eaves that encircle the house. These eaves have board soffits and the frieze is ornamented with a denticulated molding that is located immediately below the eaves and which encircles the entire circumference of the house. These walls are sheltered by a steeply pitched, asphalt shingle-covered gable and hip roof that covers the attic story of the house and whose ridgeline runs front-to-back on an east-west axis that is parallel with the side elevations of the house.

West-Facing Main Facade

The principal facade of the house faces west onto Seminary Street and this facade is asymmetrical in composition and three-bays-wide. The entire first story of this facade is sheltered by an elaborate, entirely original, full-width, mostly wooden front porch whose floor is of tongue-and-groove boards and whose ceiling is of beaded boards. The shed-roof of this porch has boxed eaves and a frieze board below that is also ornamented with denticulated molding that is placed just below the eaves. Its most notable feature is a deep gablet that projects out from the main body of the porch and shelters the flight of four wooden steps that lead up from the concrete entrance path onto the porch. The gable end of this gablet forms a triangular pediment whose tympanum is ornamented with a wood sunburst pattern, and the gablet's roof is upheld by two of the ten cast iron columns that support the porch roof. These columns rest on paneled plinths that form part of the balustrade that encircles the porch and they have

² McAlester, Virginia & Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Knopf, 1984, p. 263-265.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 3

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

urn-shaped bases and shafts that display spiral fluting.³ The porch is edged by a fine wooden balustrade that is composed of the paneled wood plinths that support the cast iron columns, and the spaces between these plinths are filled with turned balusters that support a beveled hand rail. Located just below and hiding the crawl space underneath the porch from view is an apron composed of grilles made up of narrow, vertically-positioned wooden boards and these grille sections are placed between the cut stone posts that support the porch.

The wall surface of the first story of the façade is divided into two equal-width sections, the wall surface of the one on the left (north) is recessed one foot deeper than that of the one on the right. The center bay of the first story's three bays is placed on the right side of the recessed portion of the wall surface and it contains a simple entrance door surround topped with a cornice, the door itself being of oak with three panels placed below a large opening that is filled with an elaborate pattern whose lights consist of clear, leaded, beveled plate glass. The pattern of these lights is one that recurs in somewhat different forms in other windows on the house, including the window that fills the oblong opening placed in the façade's left-hand bay. This opening is high up on the left-hand side of the recessed portion of the wall surface and it helps light the main staircase inside. The same glass pattern can also be found in the full-width transom placed above the very large, single light picture window that helps light the house's front parlor and which occupies the right-hand bay on this story.

The second story of the west-facing façade is also three-bays-wide but this story's wall surface is continuous and is in the same plane as the recessed portion of the story below. The left-hand bay contains another oblong window opening and it too contains an elaborate beveled art glass-filled window that is identical to the one in the story below and it too lights the staircase inside. The second story opening, however, is also enframed by an elaborate wood window casing that is crowned by a broken pediment, whereas the first story opening is much more simply enframed. The second story is dominated by a centrally positioned two-story octagonal plan turret whose lowest story rests on the roof of the front porch and consists of an open porch that shelters a door on the main façade that occupies the façade's center bay. The second story of this turret is enclosed, it is clad in narrow clapboards, and it has small oculus windows placed on its, north, south, and west-facing sides, and the tower is then crowned by an exaggeratedly tall tent-shaped roof. The right-hand bay of this story consists of a polygonal plan bay window that also rests on the roof of the front porch. The west-facing surface of this bay window contains a single large one-light plate glass window that is surmounted by a two-light transom, and this window provides light to the second story's west bedroom. This bay window is then crowned by an elaborate gable-roofed dormer whose gable end is clad in narrow

³ Local legend has it that these columns were originally made for a building that was part of the 1893 Chicago World's Fair, but no supporting documentation has yet been found.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 4

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

clapboards and which projects out over the polygonal, three-sided face of the dormer itself, whose west-facing surface contains two small square windows.

South-Facing Side Elevation

The 52-foot-long south-facing side elevation of the house is made up of three separate portions, the middle portion being a large 18.5-foot-wide by 3-foot-deep rectilinear plan two-and-one-half-story-tall gable-roofed ell that roughly bisects the elevation. The left-hand (west) portion of this elevation is one-bay wide and its first story has a single opening that contains a pair of one-over-one-light double-hung windows that provide light to the front parlor.⁴ A pair of identical one-over-one-light double hung windows is located in the second story above and a small gable-roofed dormer is positioned on the slope of the main roof above and it contains a pair of small one-over-one-light windows and its gable end forms a triangular pediment whose tympanum is ornamented with a semi-circular wood sunburst pattern.

The two-and-one-half-story gable-roofed ell that forms the middle portion of this elevation is rectilinear in plan and two-feet-deep, and its wall surface is two-bays-wide and is asymmetrical in design. An exterior entrance to the basement is located in the basement story of this ell and the staircase that leads down to it is covered by two side-hinged wooden storm doors. The left-hand bay of the first story of the ell contains a large triple window opening that contains a large one-over-one-light double hung window that is flanked on either side by a narrower window of the same type; this window group provides light for the library. The second story above contains a one-over-one-light double hung window that is identical to the larger of the three windows below and it provides light for a bedroom. The first story's right-hand bay contains a smaller one-over-one-light double hung window whose upper sash is filled with colored art glass and it provides light for a bathroom inside, while the second story above contains a smaller rectilinear window opening placed high up on the wall surface that is also filled with colored art glass, and the wood trim that surrounds it has two wooden fan-like decorative ornaments placed below it. This ell is crowned by a gable-roofed dormer whose face is deeply recessed and has two one-over-one-light windows centered on it that are flanked on either side by triangular spandrels that are clad in wooden ornament that features a sunburst pattern. In addition, an arcade that consists of three wood columns is placed in front of these windows and it is topped by a small triangular gable end of its own whose face is also decorated with a sunburst pattern.

⁴ For brevity's sake, please note that all the house's other window openings are of rectilinear design and contain either movable or fixed wood sash.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 5

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

The right-hand portion of the south-facing elevation is two-bays-wide and its entire first story is sheltered by an open wood porch that still retains its original spindled frieze and whose shallow pitched shed roof is supported by three fluted wood posts, the end two of which are doubled by identical half columns on the main wall opposite. This porch has a wood board floor and ceiling and, while much less elaborate than the front porch described above, it is original and in a highly intact state. The first story sheltered by this porch has a window opening placed to the left that contains a single one-over-one-light double hung window that helps light the kitchen, while to its right is placed a door that opens into the kitchen. The left-hand bay of the second story above contains a second smaller rectilinear window opening placed high up on the wall surface that is also filled with colored art glass, and the wood trim that surrounds it also has two wooden fan-like decorative ornaments placed below it. The right-hand bay contains a one-over-one-light double hung window that provides light to a bedroom. In addition, a small gable-roofed dormer is positioned on the slope of the main roof above and it contains a pair of small one-over-one-light windows and its gable end forms a triangular pediment whose tympanum is ornamented with a semi-circular wood sunburst pattern.

East-Facing Rear Elevation

The 31-foot-wide east-facing rear elevation of the house is asymmetrical in composition and it is divided into two separate portions that step back from left to right. The 16.5-foot-wide rectilinear plan left-hand ell portion has a gable roof and it is two-and-one-half-stories tall and two-bays-wide. Each story of both bays contains a single one-over-one-light double hung window, those on the first story providing light for the kitchen and those on the second story, a bedroom. Crowning this ell is a gable-roofed dormer whose gable end is clad in narrow boards and on whose face is placed a blind oculus window whose encircling trim is ornamented with four keystones.

The east-facing wall surface of the 14.5-foot-wide right-hand portion of this elevation is also two-bays-wide but it is stepped back 8.5-feet from the east-facing wall surface of the left-hand portion. The first story of its left-hand bay is covered by a one-story ell whose nine-foot-wide east-facing wall surface is itself stepped back two feet from the east-facing wall surface of the left-hand portion of this elevation. This wall surface contains just a single small rectilinear window that is placed high up on the wall and the ell itself now contains storage space. The hipped roof of this ell is part of the roof of a one-story-tall hip-roofed veranda that shelters both the first story of the right-hand bay of this portion of the elevation and also encircles the northeast corner of the house. A small open porch is placed on this roof above the one-story ell, and a door in the left-hand bay of the second story of the east-facing wall surface of the right-hand portion of this elevation opens out onto it, and its roof is formed by the overhanging eave of the main roof above. Both stories of the right-hand bay of the right-hand portion

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 6

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

of this elevation contain a single one-over-one-light double hung window, the one in the first story being sheltered by the roof of the veranda.

North-Facing Side Elevation

The north-facing side elevation of the house is also asymmetrical in design but is somewhat more elaborate in design than the south-facing side elevation. The composition of the north elevation also consists of three parts, the center one of which is an 18-foot-wide two-and-one-half-story-tall polygonal plan gabled ell that roughly bisects the elevation.

The 15-foot-wide left-hand (east) portion of this elevation is one-bay-wide and its entire first story is sheltered by a completely intact, one-story-tall, hip-roofed veranda that encircles the northeast corner of the house. The design and materials of the veranda are identical to those used on the front porch that spans the first story of the main façade. Here too, the roof of the veranda is upheld by seven cast iron columns and the veranda's most notable feature is also a deep gablet that projects out from the main body of the veranda and which shelters a flight of six wooden steps that lead up from a concrete entrance path onto the porch and the gablet's roof is upheld by two of the seven cast iron columns that support the veranda's roof.⁵ The veranda's roof covers a centrally positioned door that opens into the dining room. This door is flanked on either side by a single one-over-one-light double hung window that also provide light to the dining room and a pair of these windows is centered on the second story above the door and provide light to a bedroom.

The two-and-one-half story gable roofed ell that forms the middle element of the north elevation has a three-sided polygonal plan and measures 17-feet-wide by 3-feet-deep. Both the first and second stories of the north-facing face of this ell contain a single large plate glass picture window that is surmounted by a leaded, beveled, plate glass transom whose clear lights are placed in the same pattern as the transom that is found on the main façade's first story. The first story of the angled northeast-facing side of the ell contains a door that opens into the rear parlor. This door is sheltered by the roof of the veranda, while the second story above contains a one-over-one-light double hung window that lights a bedroom. Both the first and second stories of the angled northwest-facing side of the ell contain a single one-over-one-light double hung window, the first story one provides light to the rear parlor and the second story one to a bedroom. The ell is surmounted by an arcaded gable end that is identical to the one found on the south-facing elevation.

⁵ The gable end of this gablet forms a triangular pediment whose tympanum is ornamented with a wooden grid pattern.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 7

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

The right-hand portion of the north-facing elevation is one-bay-wide and two-stories-tall, and the first story contains no openings of any kind. The second story, however, contains an oblong window that is placed relatively high up on its wall surface and it is framed with an elaborate wood surround that features a broken pediment above and contains an elaborate leaded, beveled plate glass-filled window filled with clear lights that lights the staircase inside and which is identical to the window just around the corner of the house on second story of the main façade.

Interior

The asymmetrical design of the exterior of the Robertson house is reflected in the plan of its excellent, elaborate, and extremely well-preserved interior. The front (west) third of the first story consists of the stair hall to the right (north) and the front parlor to the left. The middle third is occupied by the second parlor, which is located directly behind the stair hall, and by the library, which is located directly behind the front parlor. The rear third of this story is occupied by the dining room and by the kitchen, which is located to the south side of the dining room, and by a bathroom, the rear stairs, and the basement stairs, which are located behind the library.⁶ The second story has a central hallway off which are located five bedrooms and a bathroom. Some materials are used throughout the house. For instance, all of the floors on the first and second stories are of narrow varnished hardwood boards, all of the walls and ceilings are plastered, and all of the exposed woodwork is varnished, including the doors, windows, door and window casings, and baseboards. Fortunately, all of the original woodwork and decorative features of the interior have survived intact, and the first story is especially notable for the high quality of the woodwork that is found in its principal rooms.

A full basement underlies the entire house and it has stone perimeter walls, a poured concrete floor, and it is divided into a number of smaller rooms by partition walls. Access to the basement is from an internal staircase that is accessed from the kitchen and an exterior staircase that is accessed from the south side of the house.

One enters the house by passing through the oak and beveled plate glass main door, which opens directly into a square plan stair hall that occupies the northeast corner of the first story. This hall measures approximately 14-feet-wide by 11-feet-deep. A pair of six-panel above five-panel oak pocket doors that leads into the second parlor is placed on its east wall directly opposite the entrance door and a second pair is located on the hall's south wall and opens into the front parlor. The staircase itself has an open, double-L-plan and begins with a single landing positioned just to the left of the entrance door,

⁶ The first story of the house has no hallways.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 8

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

underneath which is a very large pull-out paneled drawer that occupies the entire space under the landing. An oblong window filled with leaded and beveled clear glass lights arranged in a decorative pattern is placed just to the left of the entrance door on the west wall and overlooks this landing. This flight of stairs then turns 90° and ascends in an open straight run of steps that follows the north wall of the house up to a second landing. A second oblong window filled with leaded and beveled clear glass lights arranged in a decorative pattern is placed on the north wall above this landing. The stairs then turn 90° once again and ascend via a second straight run of steps to the second story, where a third oblong window that is filled with leaded and beveled clear glass lights arranged in a decorative pattern is placed still higher up on the west wall. The staircase begins with a square, paneled oak starting newel post. The hand rail assembly that connects to it is supported by thin, turned, square-top balusters (there are three per tread), all of which are also varnished, as are the risers and treads. Also of varnished oak are the tall wall stringers that are placed along the base of the wall surface on these runs and these stringers are identical with the varnished oak baseboards that are used throughout the first and second stories. The triangular-shaped spandrels that enclose the spaces under both runs of stairs consist of oak paneling made up of a grid of mostly triangular and oblong-shaped raised field panels. This paneling fills the space below both runs and it is used on the underside of the second run as well.

Another notable feature of the hall is its varnished oak window and door trim, the head trim of which consists of a frieze that has an applied wooden ribbon-like wreath and festoon pattern and which is topped by a thin denticulated cornice. While the precise pattern of the wreath and festoon ornamentation varies with the width of the door or window heads, it is used on all of the doors and windows on the first floor with the exception of those in the kitchen, which feature simple head blocks.

To the left of the stair hall is the front parlor, which occupies the rest of the front portion of the house. The front parlor measures 15-feet wide by 17-feet-deep and its west wall features a large plate glass picture window that has a leaded and beveled clear transom that is filled with leaded and beveled clear glass lights arranged in a decorative pattern placed above it. A pair of one-over-one-light double-hung windows is placed on the south wall of the room and a pair of six-panel above five-panel oak pocket doors that lead into the library is placed on its east wall. Another single four-over-three-panel oak door opens into the second parlor is placed on the room's north wall; the upper portions of the wall surfaces of the room are encircled by a picture rail.⁷ Interestingly, there are no fireplaces in this or any other rooms in the house. Fireplaces are found in many examples of the Queen Anne style but they are

⁷ None of the house's rooms have crown moldings.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 9

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

absent here because the house uses a hot air heating system; the original decorative cast iron floor grates are found throughout the house.

A large door opening centered in the east wall of the entrance hall opens into the 17-foot-deep by 14-foot-wide second parlor. The opening can be closed off, if desired, by the use of a pair of six-panel above five-panel varnished oak pocket doors. A second pair of these doors is placed in the room's south wall and opens into the library, while a third set is placed in its east wall and opens into the dining room. The entire north wall of this room consists of a three-sided, 3-foot-deep bay window that contains an outside door leading onto the house's north porch in its northeast face, a one-over-one-light double hung window in its northwest face, and a large plate glass picture window crowned with a transom filled with leaded and beveled clear glass lights on its west face.

To the right (east) of the second parlor is the 17-foot-wide by 13-foot-deep library, which is accessed from the second parlor through a pair of pocket doors placed in its north wall, and from the front parlor through a pair of pocket doors in its west wall. A picture rail encircles all four of the room's walls, and a large triple window group that consists of a large one-over-one-light double hung window that is flanked on either side by a less wide window is centered on its south wall.

The dining room is accessed by an opening in its west wall that can be closed off by a pair of varnished oak pocket doors. The dining room measures 15-foot-long by 14-foot-wide and its north wall contains two one-over-one-light double hung windows that flank a centered one-light oak entrance door that opens onto the house's north porch. Another one-over-one-light double hung window is placed on the room's east wall and to its right is a four-panel over three-panel oak door that opens into a rear room used for storage. Another identical door is located on the south wall of the room and it opens into the kitchen. To its right is a fine, built-in varnished oak sideboard that has four one-light doors that protect shelving placed above four equal-width drawers that are themselves placed above four equal-width solid paneled wood doors that are located below.

The 13-foot-deep by 15-foot-wide kitchen that makes up the southeast corner of the first story is the most altered room in the house and most of its appliances and cabinetry are modern, although care has been taken to integrate them with the appearance of the rest of the house. Two-over-one-light double hung windows are placed on the kitchen's east wall and another one is placed on its south wall along with a one-light door that opens onto the house's kitchen porch. The west wall of the kitchen features four more doors placed at regular intervals along its width. These are all two-panel over three-panel raised field varnished wood doors; the one on the left (south) opens into a bathroom, the next one opens onto the basement staircase, the third opens onto the rear staircase that serves the second story,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 10

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

and the fourth (north) opens into a closet. All of the kitchen's walls and doors have casings that feature head blocks and the heads themselves lack the decorative touches that are used on the window and door heads found in this story's other rooms.

Both the rear stairs and the main stairs lead up to the second story, which has five bedrooms and a bathroom that open off a center hall, and the position of these rooms corresponds roughly to the position of the principal rooms of the story below. The doors used throughout the second story are of the five-panel type and the wood casing that enframes all the doors and windows of this story is varnished as well. There is a door located in the north side of the center hall that opens onto the staircase that leads up to the attic story.

Outbuildings (NC)

In addition to the house, there is a small rectilinear plan, one-story-tall Front Gable Vernacular Form building located in the southeast corner of the Robertson house's parcel. Originally, the Robertson house was served by a large two-story carriage house that was located on one of the two lots just to the south of the ones that are now associated with the house. These lots were later sold off, along with the carriage house, and the building under discussion was built as a replacement garage during the Robertson family's period of ownership. Later, however, after the house was converted into a nursing home in 1947, the garage was converted into living quarters and although no longer occupied it is still habitable today and in excellent condition. This building has a concrete pad foundation, walls clad in drop siding, and its main façade faces west. This façade now contains a single rectangular door placed to the left that is sheltered by an entrance canopy supported by knee braces, while a single oblong window opening is placed on the wall surface to the right. In addition, both the north and south side elevations have two over-one-light double hung windows placed on them. While constructed during the Robertson family's period of ownership, the building is considered to be non-contributing because it falls outside the construction period of the main house.

The current owners have also built a large modern garage behind (east of) the house that is considered to be a non-contributing resource for the purposes of this nomination.

The present owners of the Robertson house have labored for many years to restore it to its original appearance. Fortunately, the Robertson family continued to occupy the house until 1947, which explains why all the most important features of the house such as the original doors and windows are still intact. These features combine to make the John A. and Martha Robertson house one of Lodi's finest and one of its most complete examples of the Queen Anne style.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 1

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

Significance

The John A. and Martha Robertson house is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for its local significance under National Register (NR) criterion C. More specifically, the Robertson house is being nominated because of its association with the area of Architecture, a theme which is also identified in the State of Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP). Research was undertaken to assess the NRHP potential of the Robertson house utilizing the Queen Anne style subsection of the Architectural Styles study unit of the CRMP.⁸ The results of this research are detailed below and confirm that the Robertson house is locally significant under NR criterion C as a very fine and highly intact example of a large size residence designed in the Queen Anne style. The period of significance corresponds with the year of the home's construction – 1897.

This house was designed by architect Frank L. Lindsay and was completed in 1897 for prominent Lodi resident and businessman John A. Robertson, his wife, Martha Riddle Robertson, and their family. John A. Robertson lived in his home until his death in 1940. His daughter, Ruth Smith, inherited the house and she lived there until 1947, when the house was sold to Ruby Thompson, who operated it as a private nursing home and hospital specializing in obstetrics. The house operated as a nursing home until 1967, and since then has been occupied once again as a private residence. Fortunately, the exterior and the fine interior of the Robertson house have remained in a largely unchanged state throughout its 110-year history. As a result, the present owners are now nearing the end of an extensive restoration program, which has been scrupulous in its adherence to the original design. Consequently, both the interior and exterior of the Robertson house are significant today as fine and highly intact examples of Queen Anne style residential design.

Historic Context

A detailed history of the city and its built resources is also embodied in the City of Lodi Intensive Survey Report, printed in 1999.⁹ Consequently, the historic context that follows deals primarily with the history of the Robertson house itself and with those associated with it.

Today, Lodi is located in Columbia County and has a population of 2093. In 1836, though, when eastern speculators known as the Western Land Co. made the first purchase of land in the Town of Lodi (which encircles today's city of Lodi), all the land within the County was included within the boundaries of the

⁸ Wyatt, Barbara (Ed.) *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin*. Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986, Vol. 2, 2-15 (Architecture).

⁹ Heggland, Timothy F. *City of Lodi Intensive Survey Report*. [Lodi, Wis.]: Lodi Valley Historical Society, [1999].

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 2

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

larger and as yet undivided Portage County and was then without formal governmental organization. The first actual settlers in what is now the Town of Lodi were M. C. and G. M. Bartholomews, brothers who came to the Town from Illinois in 1844-1845. They were followed in 1845 by the Rev. Henry Maynard and his wife and family, by James McCloud, and by several others. In 1846, these first settlers were joined by the 33-year-old Isaac Palmer.¹⁰

Isaac H. Palmer (1809-1889), a native of Binghamton, New York, had arrived in Milwaukee in 1837 with his wife, Anne, with the intent of making his family a home in the open country of Wisconsin. His first efforts in this direction took him to the just created capital "city" of Madison as one of the crew recruited by A. A. Bird to build the first state capitol building. Once there, Palmer quickly built himself a log cabin near the capitol square and then returned to Milwaukee to bring back his wife and their household goods. The Palmer's first child, also named Anne, was born soon thereafter, she being the second settlers' child born in Madison, and the family's new home also served as the community's first school house in 1838. In 1839, Palmer was appointed the first probate judge of Dane County, thereafter being known as Judge Palmer. He also served in the territorial legislature in 1842 and 1843. In 1845, a hunting trip brought Palmer to the headwaters of Spring Creek in nearby Columbia County and to the future site of the city of Lodi. Impressed by the water power potential this site offered, Palmer acquired 40 acres of land bordering Spring Creek in Sec. 27 of the Town of Lodi in 1846 and soon thereafter built himself a log cabin (non-extant) nearby. Palmer, like so many other town founders of that time, settled along a river or stream because it provided both a reliable source of water and the only readily available means of generating power for industrial purposes. This power source was put to good use later in the year when Palmer constructed a saw mill (non-extant) on the river bank. Building such a mill was often the first step in building a community because the lumber that came out of it was usually the only building material available for newly arrived merchants and farmers wishing to build their first permanent structures in the days before the coming of the railroads.¹¹

By 1846, population in the region had grown to a point where it made sense to set Columbia County off from Portage County. Also in 1846, the first schoolhouse (non-extant) was built in the Town and in 1847, Palmer applied to the Federal government for permission to establish a post office in Lodi and to the Territorial Legislature for permission to establish a horse-powered ferry across the Wisconsin River just northwest of the community-to-be. Both were granted and as a result, the new vestigial community was now a recognized place in the government's eyes and had made a place for itself on the shortest route between Madison and Baraboo. In 1848, Wisconsin became a state and Palmer took office as the

¹⁰ Butterfield, Consul W. *The History of Columbia County*. Chicago: The Western Historical Co., 1880, pp. 768-770.

¹¹ Butterfield, Consul W. *Op. Cit.*, pp. 777-778.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 3

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

community's first postmaster on April 17, 1848. On June 25, 1848, Palmer recorded the first plat of the new village, which he named Lodi, and he soon thereafter built the village's first store on the street that he had named Main Street. This store (non-extant) Palmer subsequently leased to the firm of Thomas & Pinney, late of Hanchetteville, Wisconsin, and two lots that Palmer donated to James Eaton at the same time resulted in the opening of a second store built by Eaton on Main Street (non-extant) by the end of the year. More donated lots fronting on Main Street resulted in the construction of Lodi's first hotel (non-extant), which was begun by Freedom Simons late in 1848 and partially completed in January of 1849 and completed later in the year by Samuel Ring. Also begun late in 1848 was the village's first grist mill (non-extant), constructed on Spring Creek by Samuel Ring, and other arrivals in the village was its first blacksmith, Reuben Ring, whose shop opened on Main Street, and Mandras Randall, its first boot and shoemaker. With Palmer and Ring's mills in place, which were among the first in this section of the county, the rich prairie that surrounded Lodi became ever more attractive to settlers wishing to engage in agricultural pursuits. By the beginning of 1849, Lodi had become a natural gathering place for area farmers and was well on its way to becoming the trading center of the surrounding area. Situated as it was around what was becoming an important area crossroads, the evolving commercial core of the village gradually extended north and south along Main Street (which ultimately led to the communities of Madison to the south and Baraboo to the northwest), and it extended east along Portage Street (which ultimately led northeastward to Portage, the county seat), and west along Lodi Street to the Sauk Road (which ultimately led westward to the communities Sauk City and Prairie Du Sac). By 1850, the year in which Palmer built a flouring mill of his own (non-extant) on Spring Creek, farmers were coming from a wide area to have their grain milled in the village and the farms of new arrivals were beginning to dot the surrounding countryside. In 1851, a new frame school building (non-extant) was constructed to replace the original log building and by 1852 a writer could note that the village contained "about thirty dwelling houses, several stores, a tavern, two good flouring mills ... a saw mill and mechanics of all kinds ... three organized churches—Presbyterian, Baptist, and Methodist—an excellent school [and] a temperance organization."¹²

Emboldened and encouraged by the growth of his village, Palmer platted the first and second additions to his original plat in August of 1852. Palmer's First Addition encompassed seven city blocks that line both sides of Mill Street, both sides of Water Street, and the south side of Lodi Street from Main Street west to what would become the right-of-way of the Chicago & NorthWestern RR tracks.¹³ In February of the following year, James M. McCloud, another major Lodi landowner, platted the first of what would

¹² Butterfield, Consul W. *Op. Cit.*, p. 779.

¹³ Columbia County Registrar of Deeds Office, Columbia County Courthouse, Portage, Wisconsin. Water and Mill streets were named because of their proximity to Palmer's mill and its attendant pond and race. Palmer's Second Addition is located just south of his first one and consists of portions of five blocks of land on both sides of Summit Street.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 4

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

eventually be four additions of his own. McCloud's First Addition is located just to the north of Palmer's First Addition (on the north side of Lodi Street) and comprises three blocks bounded by Lodi, Main, Locust, and Prairie streets. All three of these plats were typical of their time in that they overlaid the topography of the land with a relentless grid of streets that respected the existing topography only where it was impossible not to do so.

The eight blocks contained within these three additions now comprise much of the historic core of Lodi, save only the land on the west side of Prairie Street, which remained part of McCloud's personal holdings until the beginning of the 1890s, when he sold them off as unplatted outlots. Another addition to the original plat was also made in 1853 when John Foote platted Foote's Addition (bounded by Chestnut, N. Main, and Locust streets, and what would eventually be the railroad right-of-way).

In 1856, Lodi's first newspaper, *The Lodi Flag*, began its short existence and the following year saw both Methodist (non-extant) and Presbyterian (non-extant) churches being constructed in the village. By the beginning of the Civil War, James M. McCloud had platted his Second Addition in 1858, which is bounded by Prairie, Second and Seminary streets, and his Third Addition in 1859, which is bounded by Church, Seminary, Sauk and Second streets. These, however, would prove to be the last additions to the original village plat until the mid-1890s.

After the Civil War, Lodi continued to increase slowly in size, with additional buildings constructed in the downtown and also a new Baptist Church in 1867 (extant) and a new Union School in 1869 (non-extant). In 1871, the future of the community was assured when the tracks of the Chicago and NorthWestern Railroad arrived in the town. This all-important act guaranteed that Lodi would be able to hold on to its trading advantage in the area and it also created a very modest industrial zone bordering the tracks between Water Street and Locust Street that still exists to this day.¹⁴

With the coming of the railroad, Lodi experienced renewed population growth in the 1870s, the first sign of which was the incorporation of Lodi as a village in 1872. Still, growth remained modest throughout the rest of the nineteenth century, which would seem to indicate that Lodi had by that time almost reached its natural place in the economic order of things as a small but prosperous rural trading center whose economy was and would remain dependent on larger agricultural community that surrounded it. If this dependence placed limits on Lodi's growth and size, though, the village still benefited from the steadily increasing prosperity of the surrounding farms, which was reflected in the increased prosperity of the city's mercantile establishments. Lodi's continuing dependence on the economic well-being of area farms

¹⁴ Butterfield, Consul W. *Op. Cit.*, p. 780.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 5

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

during this period can also be seen by looking at the Sanborn-Perris fire insurance maps of the period, which list the city's industries in their directories.¹⁵ From 1892-1904, every directory lists only roller mills, grain elevators, tobacco warehouses, and wagon shops as the principal industries of the village, all of which were either directly or largely dependent on agriculture for their economic existence.

As a direct result of this prosperity, new commercial, residential, and institutional buildings were built throughout the village in the 1870s, 1880s and 1890s. Especially numerous were the new houses built throughout the village in the 1890s in the newly fashionable Queen Anne style. Most of Lodi's most notable examples were built by the village's merchants close to their places of business on or near Water, Lodi, and Prairie streets, and along Portage Street, in areas that are now included within the boundaries of both the NRHP-listed Lodi Street-Prairie Street Historic District and the NRHP-listed Portage Street Historic District.

By the mid-1890s, however, some potential Lodi homeowners had begun to look outside the established areas immediately adjacent to the village's commercial center for their building sites.¹⁶ Among them was John A. Robertson (1854-1940), who appears to have been in search of a larger parcel for his new house than could be found in the areas that lay immediately adjacent to the downtown. Robertson was the second oldest son of David Robertson, Sr., (1815-1895) who had emigrated to this country from Scotland in 1842, had settled in the Town of Vienna in northwest Dane County, Wisconsin. By hard work he had succeeded in becoming one of the largest landowners in southern Wisconsin and one of its wealthiest citizens by the time of his death in 1895.¹⁷ At his death, he left three sons, the eldest of whom, David Robertson, Jr. (1849-1905), subsequently moved to Lodi in 1900 and was reputedly the village's wealthiest citizen when he died there five years later.¹⁸ John A. Robertson also inherited a substantial sum when his father died, and two years later, he moved to Lodi and began to construct a new house on Seminary Street to house his growing family.

John A. Robertson was born in the town of Vienna, Dane County, Wisconsin. On August 6, 1854. His career has been spent chiefly in farming, for a few years he lived in and helped to develop the new country west of the Mississippi river. For the past fifteen years, his home has been in Lodi.

¹⁵ Fire Insurance Maps of Lodi, Wisconsin. New York: Sanborn-Perris Map Co., 1892, 1898, 1904, 1919, 1930.

¹⁶ No less than five new additions to the original plat were recorded in the 1890s: the Dunlap Addition (1894); the Mills Addition (1895); the Oak Park Addition (1897); and McCloud's Third and Fourth Additions (both in 1897).

¹⁷ *Lodi Valley News*. September 21, 1895, p. 2. Obituary of David Robertson, Sr. Vienna Township is located about seven miles from Lodi.

¹⁸ *Lodi Enterprise*. June 30, 1905, p. 2. Obituary of David Robertson, Jr.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 6

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

His early education was acquired in the district schools, and at Lodi, and all his early associations outside of school were with the farms owned by his father. In the fall of 1887, he went west to Dakota, locating two miles from the Nebraska line, and in the following year preempted land to the extent of one hundred and sixty acres in Nebraska. Soon afterwards he returned to Wisconsin, and on March 20, 1889, married Martha Riddle. He took his young bride out to Nebraska and spent some time in developing his land in what was then a new section of the west. However, he finally returned to Vienna township, in Dane county, and in February 1897, moved to Lodi, which has since been his home. ...

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Robertson are the parents of five children: Frank A., who married Neva Chrislaw and lives at Zephyr Hill, Florida; Samuel N., unmarried and a resident of Lancaster, New Hampshire; Jennie M.; Ruth E.; and Helen M., who died age five months.¹⁹

All four of the Robertson's surviving children were living with their parents in 1897 when Robertson decided to build a new house for his family. The site he chose for this house was on a hillside overlooking the village and his purchase of four lots in Dunlap's Addition, which had just been platted in 1894, gave him ample land on which to build. For an architect he chose Frank L. Lindsay, who is believed to have then been practicing in the Columbia county seat of Portage, and by September 1897, construction was well underway.

John Robertson has a good large square barn already up on his Seminary street property and the cellar walls for his new residence are nearly if not quite completed, and ready for the superstructure, which will be one of the finest in town.²⁰

By the start of the new year, the Robertson family was in residence and their new home was one of the largest and most elaborate houses in the village. By 1900, the former farmer was calling himself a capitalist when he listed his profession in the U.S. Census of that year; he continued to live in his Seminary Street home until his death on June 5, 1940. The house was then inherited by his daughter, Ruth Robertson Smith, who kept it until 1947, when it was purchased by Ruby Thompson, who operated it as a private nursing home and hospital specializing in obstetrics. The house was operated as a nursing home until 1967, and it then became a private residence once again and it continues to be occupied as a single family residence today.

¹⁹ Jones, J. E. (ed.). *A History of Columbia County, Wisconsin*. Chicago and New York: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1914, Vol. 2, p. 626.

²⁰ *The Lodi Valley News*. September 18, 1897, p. 3.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 7

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

Architecture

The John A. and Martha Robertson house is believed to be eligible for listing in the NRHP because it is an excellent representative example of the kind of larger Queen Anne style residences that are often the finest and most elaborate houses built in Wisconsin's smaller cities between 1880 and 1910, and this significance is considerably enhanced by the high degree of integrity which is still present in the fabric of the Robertson house today. The designer of this house was a young Wisconsin architect named Frank L. Lindsay and his design makes good use of the "irregularity of plan and massing" and the "asymmetrical facade" compositions which are hallmarks of the Queen Anne style that are specifically mentioned in the Queen Anne style subsection of the Architectural Styles study unit of the CRMP.²¹

The Robertson house is also a good example of the "hipped roof with lower cross gables subtype" of the Queen Anne style that was identified by Virginia & Lee McAlester in their important work *A Field Guide to American Houses*.²² Such houses were described as follows.

Over half of all Queen Anne houses have a steeply hipped roof with one or more lower cross gables. Most common are two cross gables, one front-facing and one side-facing, both asymmetrically placed on their respective facades. Unlike most hipped roofs, in which the ridge runs parallel to the front facade, Queen Anne hipped ridges sometimes run front to back, parallel to the sides of the house. The roof form of this subtype is among the most distinctive Queen Anne characteristics and occurs in examples ranging from modest cottages to high-style landmarks.²³

The design of the Robertson house also makes use of such typically Queen Anne style elements as variegated exterior surface materials, "wall projections," "steeply pitched roofs," "cutaway bay windows," a "dominant front-facing gable," and a "wrap-around veranda," all of which are also mentioned as specific attributes of the Queen Anne style in the CRMP. In addition, the Robertson house features an uncommon porch roof turret, which is positioned over the main entrance of the house.

²¹ Wyatt, Barbara (Ed.). *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin*. Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, 1986. Vol. 2, 2-15 (Architecture).

²² McAlester, Virginia & Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Knopf, 1984, p. 263-265.

²³ *Ibid*, p. 263.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 8

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

Architect

Fortunately, the identity of the designer of the Robertson house is known although how Robertson came to hear of him is not.

Mr. John Robertson and his architect, Mr. F. L. Lindsay were busily engaged on Wednesday afternoon staking out the grounds for Mr. Robertson's new house, which, if the plans are followed, will be one of the finest houses in Lodi. It will stand on the east side of Seminary Street directly west of the old Clark Babcock place, facing westward and northwest. It is to be pushed forward and completed with all possible dispatch.²⁴

Only a little is known about the life and career of Frank L. Lindsay at the present time. Both of his parents were born in Scotland but were living in Wisconsin when he was born, and it is believed that his birth occurred on April 15, 1865 in Door County, Wisconsin. Nothing is known of his subsequent education, but Lindsay was 30 and living in the village of Poynette, in Columbia County, Wisconsin in 1895, the same year that he married Edna C. Lindsay (1871-?). By 1897, the year that he undertook the design of John Robertson's outstanding Queen Anne style house in Lodi, Lindsay was practicing as an architect, possibly in Poynette or perhaps in Portage, Wisconsin.²⁵ Part of the basis for this belief is that he is also known to have designed the no longer extant Gothic Revival style Second Methodist Church that was located on the corner of DeWitt and E. Pleasant in Portage, also built in 1897.²⁶

By 1900, the Lindsays had moved to Watertown, Wisconsin and the 1900 U.S. Census shows that Lindsay listed his profession as an architect and builder at that time. His stay in Watertown appears to have been successful. As the authors of the Watertown Intensive Survey noted:

Identified as the designer of many of "the city's leading residences," Lindsay practiced in Watertown from at least 1900-1907. (Watertown Times Centennial Issue, 26 June 1954; City Directories, 1900-1907) The only architect listed as practicing in Watertown in the early years of the 20th century, Lindsay's office was originally located at 212 Main Street with his residence at 411 South Washington. Later he moved [his offices] to 107 Main and 107 North First, while moving his residence to 315 Lafayette. (City Directories, 1900-1907) The following [Watertown] buildings have been identified as designed by Lindsay.

²⁴ *The Lodi Valley News*. August 21, 1897, p. 3.

²⁵ *Lodi Valley News*, August 21, 1897, p. 3. Poynette, Portage, and Lodi are all located in Columbia County.

²⁶ McKay, Joyce. *An Intensive Architectural and Historical Survey of the City of Portage, Columbia County, Wisconsin*. Portage: 1993, p. 311. Copies filed with the Division of Historic Preservation, Wisconsin Historical Society in Madison.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 9

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

Beals & Torrey Shoe Co., 100 West Milwaukee, 1904 (Cornerstone) [extant, NRHP].
Moravian Church, 510 Cole Street, 1904. (Watertown Times, 31 October, 1954).
C. E. Sweeny House, Edgerton, WI. (Watertown Times, 31 October, 1954).²⁷

By 1908, however, the Lindsays had relocated to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and while the length of their stay there is not known, it is known that Lindsay designed the Webster Block in that city, which is located at 199 Main and was built in 1908, and that he had his offices in that building. The 1910 U.S. Census shows that the Lindsays were still living in Oshkosh in that year and that Frank Lindsay was still practicing as an architect. The census also shows that by that time he and Edna also had two sons: Alton C. Lindsay, age 9, and Clare F. Lindsay, age 7, both of whom had been born in Wisconsin.

By 1920, the Lindsay family had moved once again, this time to Long Beach, California, and Lindsay, who by then was 53, was still practicing as an architect. Here the story ends, however, and nothing else has been discovered about the rest of his career.

The John A. and Martha Robertson house is thus believed to be locally significant under National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an excellent, highly intact, and representative example of the kind of larger Queen Anne style houses that are an especially important part of Lodi's architectural heritage. Lodi is unusually rich in fine examples of the Queen Anne style but even in this company, the Robertson house stands out as one of the largest and finest. It is also one of Lodi's most characteristic examples of the Queen Anne style. The building has all the typical features of a Queen Anne style house of its time, such as an irregular plan, a mix of siding materials, cutaway bay windows, and multiple elaborate porches. In addition, the house also has a fine, largely original, and quite intact interior that adds considerably to the overall significance of the house.

²⁷ Cartwright, Carol Lohry and Joan Rausch. *Intensive Architectural and Historic Survey of the City of Watertown, Wisconsin*. Watertown: 1983, p. 124.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 1

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 10 Page 1

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 6 & 7, Block 1, Dunlap's Addition, R214-328, R243-291, R270-75 #715838.

Boundary Justification

The original parcel associated with this property included Lots 4-7, but the parcel has been limited to Lots 6-7 since 1940. The two lots that are now associated with the Robertson House consist of the land that surrounds the house itself and its yard. The other two lots contain a house that is said to have been created out of Robertson's original carriage house.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

Section photos Page 1

Items a - d are the same for photos 1 - 8.

Photo 1

- a) Robertson, John A. & Martha, House
- b) Lodi, Columbia County, WI
- c) Timothy F. Heggland, November 2006
- d) Wisconsin Historical Society
- e) Main Facade, View looking E
- f) Photo 1 of 8

Photo 2

- e) North-facing Side Elevation, View looking S
- f) Photo 2 of 8

Photo 3

- e) Porch Detail, North-facing Side Elevation, View looking S
- f) Photo 3 of 8

Photo 4

- e) Rear Elevation, View looking W
- f) Photo 4 of 8

Photo 5

- e) Entrance Hall, View looking NW
- f) Photo 5 of 8

Photo 6

- e) Second Parlor, View looking W
- f) Photo 6 of 8

Photo 7

- e) Dining Room, View looking SE
- f) Photo 7 of 8

Photo 8

- e) Kitchen from Dining Room, View looking S
- f) Photo 8 of 8

FIGURE 1:

Robertson, John A. and Martha, House
456 Seminary Street
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

