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OMB No. 10024-0018

NPS Form 10-900 (January 1992) Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of Interior National Park Service

1. Name of Property

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.

historic name	Eau Claire Pa	ırk Coı	mpany Ac	dition Histor	ic District					
other names/site num										
2. Location										
street & number	Roosevelt, Mo	Kinle	y and Gar	field between	Park Avenu	ue and St	ate	N/A	not for	publication
city or town	Eau Claire							N/A	vicinity	
state Wisconsin	code	WI	county	Eau Claire		. (code	035	zip code	54701
3. State/Federal A	gency Certi	ficati	ion			*				
X meets _ does not mee statewide X locally. (See continuation official/Title	on shee	et for addi	tional comme	•	7	21 Date	04/	ignificant_	nationally
State or Federal agency	and bureau	-		 						
In my opinion, the prope (_ See continuation sheet				National Regis	ter criteria.					
Signature of commenting	ng official/Title	:		100	- 10, 20, 2		Date	***************************************		
State or Federal agency	and bureau									

Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District Eau Claire Wisconsin Name of Property County and State 4. National Park Service Certification I hereby certify that the property is: Mentered 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 5. Classification Ownership of Property **Category of Property** Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources (check as many boxes as (Check only one box) in the count) as apply) building(s) Private contributing noncontributing Public-local district 38 buildings Public-State structure sites Public-Federal site structures object objects 38 **TOTAL** Name of related multiple property listing: Number of contributing resources (Enter "N/A" if property not part of a multiple property is previously listed in the National Register listing. N/A 6. Function or Use **Historic Functions Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions) (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC/single dwelling DOMESTIC/single dwelling 7. Description

Architectural Classification	Materials	
(Enter categories from instructions)	(Enter categories from instructions)	
	Foundation BRICK	
Late 19 th and 20 th Century Revivals	Walls WEATHERBOARD	
Modern Movement	STUCCO	
	roof ASPHALT	
	Other WOOD	

Narrative Description

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

County and State

8. Statement of Significance Applicable National Register Criteria Areas of Significance (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria (Enter categories from instructions) qualifying the property for the National Register listing.) ARCHITECTURE __ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. Period of Significance X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction 1907-1952 or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. **Significant Dates** D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. N/A Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.) Significant Person Property is: (Complete if Criterion B is marked) A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. B removed from its original location. __ C a birthplace or grave. **Cultural Affiliation** __ D a cemetery. N/A E a reconstructed building, object, or structure. _ F a commemorative property. Architect/Builder __ G less than 50 years of age or achieved Bayer, Aloysius significance within the past 50 years. Nelson, Howard

Playter, Steve

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Eau Claire

Wisconsin

Name of Property

County and State

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.	Geogra	phical Data						
Acre	age of Pr	roperty 12.7 acres	1					
UTN	1 Referen	nces (Place addition	onal UTM references on a co	ontinuation sh	neet.)			
1	15	618 870	4961 525	3	15	619 010	4961 140	
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing	•
2	15	619 020	4961 490	4	15	618 800	4961 230	
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone See Cor	Easting ntinuation Sh	Northing neet	

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 organization street & number Joanne Raetz Stuttgen and Eric J. Wheeler

City of Eau Claire 203 S. Farwell

date telephone

July 2003 (715) 839-4914

Eau Claire city or town

state

WI

zip code

54701

Eau Claire

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	various	·		
organization			date	7/29/03
street&number	Various		telephone	(715) 839-4914
city or town	Eau Claire	state WI	zip code	54701

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District is a residential neighborhood located in the southwest corner of the Third Ward, a political division of the City of Eau Claire approximately three-fourths of a mile south of the central business district. Comprising roughly two and one-half city blocks, the Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District is bounded on the north by Garfield Avenue, on the east by State Street, on the south by Little Niagara Creek and on the west by Park Avenue. It is comprised of 39 historic properties ranging in age from 1907 to 1952, the period of significance. Thirty-eight properties are contributing. One is non-contributing. Many of the garages in this district are attached to the houses. Those that are freestanding are not included in the building count.

Like the Third Ward Historic District east of State Street, the Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District is characterized by rectangular and odd-shaped lots framed by tree-lined streets. The district is located on the east bank of the Chippewa River and along the southeast boundary of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire campus. It is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. Architecturally, the district contains an impressive collection of houses from the first half of the twentieth-century houses representing a nearly decade-by-decade shift in popular styles from Colonial Revival through Art Moderne to ranch. Historically, these houses are associated with Eau Claire's professional, commercial and industrial leaders. The area as a whole represents Eau Claire's position as a modern city, home to a state university and diverse specialized manufacture.

What follows is a chronological overview essay on architectural styles into which is incorporated brief descriptions of featured resources considered to be the district's most typical and most significant properties. Emphasis has been placed on the great variety of interpretations within a given style. The Statement of Significance in Section 8 details the full history of each featured property. This includes, where applicable, initial construction and use; changing ownership and use; and expansion and reduction of lot size. In addition, the Statement of Significance includes an overview essay detailing the overall development of the Eau Claire Park Company Addition from 1902, the date of annexation to the city, through the early twentieth-century years of modern infrastructure and amenities—sanitary sewers, paved streets and sidewalks--through the mid-1950s. Throughout this essay, and adding a real-life dimension to it, are threaded the memories of Natalie Ayres Danielson, who has lived in the Third Ward for nearly 80 years.

In the following Architectural Description and Statement of Significance, featured properties are in bold face type. Resources are named after the first owner(s) or subsequent owners of long-term tenancy. Codes in parentheses refer to the section letter (C) and resource number and correspond to the map of the Eau Claire Park Company Addition. Resources featured in a photograph are underlined, with the photograph number in brackets.

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Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

COLONIAL REVIVAL

Recalling the period of America's initial settlement by Anglo-Europeans, Colonial Revival was a dominant style for domestic buildings during the first half of the twentieth-century. The term refers not to a single style but rather an eclectic variety of proto- and subtypes with Georgian, Adam, Dutch, and Post-medieval English influences.

The Eau Claire Park Company Addition was developed through the 1920s and 1930s during the height of the Colonial Revival style. Thus, it was a popular choice for the district's wealthy and moderate-income residents. Repeated again and again were Georgian prototypes in the form of a two-story rectangular side gabled mass, two rooms wide and two rooms deep, with end chimneys, a centrally placed ornamented entry, and symmetrically placed multi–paned windows.

The district's most outstanding, albeit rather eclectic, example of the Georgian Revival subtype of the Colonial Revival style is the James and Katherine Wickham House (C-26) [4] built 1924-1926 at 1705 Park. This massive two and one-half-story stucco Georgian Revival style residence features three segmented pedimented dormers and a semi-circular Doric portico. The classically ornamented, perfectly balanced façade is flanked by two large offset porches that fulfill the three-part Palladian plan. The multiple arches in the open porch on the north and the blind arches over the tall narrow first floor windows suggest a Spanish Revival influence. The blind arch with tile inset motif is repeated in the dormer pediments and over the doors on the two-car attached garage.

Two more modest and typical examples of the Georgian Revival subtype are the 1925 Fleming-Duax House (C-8) at 207 Garfield and the Baird-Norsetdt House (C-7) at 211 Garfield. The former has a symmetrical two-story brick façade with cornice dentils, three hipped roofed dormers and a central pedimented open portico. The latter house is side-gabled and flanked by twin chimneys. It displays a well-balanced façade and a central entrance accented with cut Bedford limestone insets over the door.

Two notable homes in the district were built in a different period Colonial Revival subtype. The gambrel-sided <u>Dutch Colonial</u> style is represented by the c1922 **DeYo-Kennedy House (C-18)** at 1710 State and the **Bostwick-Oien House (C-3)**, built about 1921, at 231 Garfield. Both are large gambrel-sided houses with nearly full-width shed roof dormers.

TUDOR REVIVAL

Loosely based on Medieval English building traditions, the Tudor Revival style is well represented by the massive two-story **Falstad-Carr House (C-38) [6]** at 223 Roosevelt, built about 1938. It features a wall surface and frontal chimney of Lannon stone and a front facing gable filled with stucco and

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	Contributing to the Tudor presentation is half-timbering above an of upper floor windows and the doors of the attached double car
garage.	

Less pretentious interpretations of the style became popular among Americans of average means—including residents of the Eau Claire Park Company Addition--between the two World Wars. Two fine examples are the 1928 Herman D. and Frieda White House (C-10) at 212 McKinley and the Grinsell House (C-19) [3] at 233 McKinley, also built in 1928. The steeply pitched roof of the Herman White House, along with its sweeping steeply pitched front gables, arched entry, six-over-one windows and stucco façade are typical of this style. In the Grinsell House, the recessed dormer, half-timbered gable end, semi-hexagonal second story bay window and clipped gable distinguish the style.

ECLECTIC REVIVAL STYLES

The 1940 <u>L. E. and Edith Phillips House (C-9) [2]</u> at 1615 Park Avenue is the finest example of the <u>French Provincial</u> style in the City of Eau Claire. This high-style two and one-half-story stucco home has a steeply pitched hipped slate roof with through-the-cornice windows and upper story overhang typical of the style. Another distinctive feature of this home is the arched, recessed entry with ornate diamond paned oriel window overhead. The attached two-car garage is architecturally consistent with the house.

The <u>Spanish Revival</u> style is represented by the **Hattie Hoeppner House (C-1)** at 1604 State, built by Hoeppner-Bartlett Construction Company in the early 1930s. The single story rectilinear plan house features a roof of barrel tile with minimal eaves, smooth stucco walls, and arched entry door with decorative iron grilles.

PRAIRIE, CRAFTSMAN AND AMERICAN FOURSQUARE

The Prairie, Craftsman and American Foursquare styles grew out of the English Arts and Crafts movement, which held that purposeful, skilled hand manufacture was the means of overcoming the dehumanizing effects of industrialization. Central to the movement—as much social philosophy as artistic expression—was an embracing of natural materials, a stripping of extraneous ornamentation, and truthfulness and purity of structure.

One of the few indigenous American architectural styles, the <u>Prairie</u> style developed in the Chicago studios of Louis B. Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright. It evolved, or was reduced, to the boxlike American Foursquare, its most common vernacular form, which quickly spread across the country through pattern books and popular magazines.

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While three landmark examples designed by the Minneapolis architectural firm of Purcell, Elmslie and Feick exist elsewhere in Eau Claire, there are no pure examples of the Prairie style in the Eau Claire Park Company Addition. However, the style's characteristic cubic mass, wide overhanging eaves and bands of windows are found on numerous homes in the district, especially those identified as the American Foursquare subtype. Craftsman stylistic elements are also successfully used to create houses of blended period interest.

Notable examples are the <u>Craftsman</u>-influenced <u>Arnold-Forcier House (C-6) [1]</u> at 213 Garfield, built in 1925. The brick-clad American Foursquare box with pyramidal roof features an asymmetrically placed covered porch, six-over-one double hung windows, and a front dormer braced with distinctive Craftsman brackets. Nearby at 233 Garfield, the c1924 **Smith-Ross House (C-2)** ornaments the familiar massing with <u>Craftsman</u> braces under the eaves of the enclosed porch and <u>Prairie</u>-influenced pebble dash on the second story.

On Garfield are found two other striking examples of the American Foursquare. The **Awsumb-Hisrich House (C-4)** at 227 Garfield is a large cubic box whose pedimented central dormer, corner pilasters and Doric porch column display a Colonial Revival classical influence. At 223 Garfield, the **Nelson House (C-5)** is an eclectic blend of Prairie and Tudor influences, with massing and wide overhanging eaves of the former and projecting enclosed entrance with roof parapets and window grilles of the latter.

BUNGALOW

The prototype of the omnipresent American box bungalow is the massive shingled bungalow designed by Greene and Greene in southern California between 1903 and 1909. Scaled down to modest size, means and materials by countless pattern book architects and designers, the bungalow quickly became the house type of choice among America's middle class.

More a house type than a style, the popular bungalow has a relatively consistent form and massing, which is creatively altered with a variety of decorative stylistic features.¹ The Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District contains two Craftsman style bungalows, 1614 State (C-15) and 236 McKinley (C-27). The small gable front house at 1614 State features prominent exposed purlins and a battered brick fireplace chimney.

ART MODERNE/ INTERNATIONAL STYLE

A pared down version of Art Deco, the Art Moderne style originated in 1922 with Eliel Saarinen's much-publicized second-place design for the Chicago *Tribune* building. By 1930, the popular architectural fashion had both influenced and been influenced by contemporary industrial design, out

¹ See Robert Schweitzer, Bungalow Colors: Exteriors (Salt Lake City: Gibbs Smith, 2002), 44.

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of which came streamlined steams	hips, airplanes, automobiles and kitchen appliances. Hallmarks of
the architectural style include smoo	oth stucco wall surfaces, ledges or coping at the roofline, an
asymmetrical façade, curved corne	rs, and incised grooves or lines in the walls that emphasize
horizontality.	

The concurrent International Style features flat roofs, windows set flush with the wall (often placed at corners), and smooth unornamented surfaces.

In the Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District, two remarkable examples from this period are located within the same block. Both exhibit many of the distinguishing characteristics of the Art Moderne listed above, together with elements of the International Style.

The two-story <u>Linton-Larson House (C-40) [5]</u> at 215 Roosevelt, built in 1936, features a two-bay attached garage, casement windows and a covered offset entrance.

The **Hibbard House** (C-36) at 1814 State, also built in 1936, is minimally decorated with horizontal scored lines on the second level. It consists of the original cubic mass with central entrance and attached one-car garage, and a 1951 two-story addition on the south. The original house was designed by the Eau Claire architectural firm of Aloysius Bayer and Howard Nelson. Bayer was a former apprentice to Eau Claire architect Edward J. Hancock, The 1955 addition was designed by Eau Claire architect Steven Playter.

A third Art Moderne house was once located at 133 Roosevelt, just east of the Linton-Larson House, and owned for many years by Charles A. Hornback, a professor at UW Eau Claire. Likely built in 1936 at the same time as the two previously discussed houses in the neighborhood, this third house was torn down in 1973.

INVENTORY

The following inventory lists every resource in the Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District numerically by street. Street names appear in alphabetical order. The Inventory includes property code designation, street address, historic name (upper case) or current owner (lower case), date of construction, architectural style and whether the property is contributing (C) or non-contributing (NC) to the district. Boldfaced properties are featured in the Architectural Description and Statement of Significance. Underlined resources are depicted in photographs. Numbers in brackets refer to photograph number.

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Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

EAU CLAIRE PARK COMPANY ADDITION HISTORIC DISTRICT

Code	Address	Name	Date	Style	Status
C-8	207 Garfield	FLEMING-DUAX	$1925^{2 \text{ AB}}$	Colonial Rev	C .
C-7	211 Garfield	BAIRD-NORSTEDT	1922 AB	Colonial Rev	C
C-6	213 Garfield	ARNOLD-FORCIER [1]	1924 ^{AB}	Craftsman	C
C-5	223 Garfield	NELSON	1931 AB	Am Four Sq	C
C-4	227 Garfield	AWSUMB-HISRICH	1911 ^{AB}	Am Four Sq	C
C-3	231 Garfield	BOSTWICK-OIEN	1922 ^{A B}	Dutch Col	C
C-2	233 Garfield	SMITH-ROSS	c1924 ^{3 B}	Prairie/Crafts	C
C-25	211 McKinley	Chambers	1924 ^A	Col Rev	С
C-10	212 McKinley	H/F WHITE	1929 ^{AB}	Tudor Rev	Č ·
C-24	215 McKinley	Reece	1931 ^A	Dutch Col	Č
C-11	218 McKinley	Sisco	1938 ^A	Col Rev	Č
C-23	219 McKinley	Romanin	1928 ^A	Col Rev	Č
C-12	222 McKinley	Schneider	1948 ^A	Cape Cod	C
C-22	225 McKinley	Milne	1922 ^A	Am Four Sq	Ċ
C-21	227 McKinley	O'Brien	1931 ^A	Tudor Rev	C
C-20	229 McKinley	Schneider	1919 ^A	Am Four Sq	C
C-13	232 McKinley	Schumacher	1928 ^A	Col Rev	C C
C-19	233 McKinley	GRINSELL [3]	1926 ^{AB}	Tudor Rev	C
C-14	236 McKinley	Parroni	1926 ^A	Bungalow	C
C-9	1615 Park	L.E. PHILLIPS [2]	1940 ^{A B}	French Prov	С
C-26	1705 Park	J/K WICKHAM [4]	1925-26 ^{4 B}	Colonial Rev	C
C-27	1705 Park	Sykes	1950 A	Ranch	C
C-21	1/151 aik	J Res	1750	Ranon	C
C-28	210 Roosevelt	BURMEISTER-BAIRD	1921 ^{AB}	Am Four Sq	С
C-29	212 Roosevelt	Vinopal	1931 ^A	Col Rev	C .
		•			

² Dates of construction were determined using the city tax assessment records (A) and research using city directories, deed records, oral histories, maps and other similar data (B).

³ Research indicates a c1924 date of construction. However, the assessment records indicate a date of 1916.

⁴ It is believed that the 1921 date of construction in the assessment records is incorrect. Hon James Wickham did not purchase the undeveloped property until February 1924.

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C-40	215 Roosevelt	LINTON-LARSON [5]	1936 ^{5 B}	Art Moderne	С
C-39	219 Roosevelt	Hokkanen	1933 ^A	Colonial Rev	C
C-30	220 Roosevelt	Phillips	1950 ^A	Ranch	C
C-38	223 Roosevelt	FALSTAD-CARR [6]	1938 ^{6 B}	Tudor Rev	С
C-32	234 Roosevelt	Jurmain	1945 ^A	Colonial Rev	C
C-37	235 Roosevelt	McAfee	1939 ^A	Colonial Rev	C
C-33	240 Roosevelt	St Germaine	1942 ^A	Colonial Rev	NC
C-1	1604 State	HATTIE HOEPPNER	c1932 AB	Spanish Rev	C
C-15	1614 State	McHugh	1920 ^A	Bungalow	C .
C-16	1616 State	Stokes	1907 ^A	Dutch Col	C
C-17	1704 State	Minkus	1922 ^A	Am Four Sq	С
C-18	1710 State	DEYO/KENNEDY	1922-23 ^{AB}	Dutch Col	C
C-34	1716 State	Klaas	1952 ^A	Ranch	C .
C-35	1806 State	Rundall	1952 ^A	Ranch	C
C-36	1814 State	HIBBARD	1936 ^{AB}	Art Moderne	C

⁵ The tax assessment records indicate the date of construction to be 1935. The house's current owner believes it was built in 1936.

⁶ According to the assessment records, this house was built in 1935. This appears to be incorrect, with research substantiating a date of 1938.

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Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District is eligible for the National Register for architecture at the local level.

The original village of Eau Claire was platted in 1856. This area comprised what became the central business district as well as the mill areas near Half Moon Lake, on the city's west side. By 1872, the date of incorporation, Eau Claire had a population of nearly 6,000. Much of the land surrounding the original village was owned by Eau Claire Lumber Company, whose additions to the city comprise a majority of the Third Ward.

The Eau Claire Lumber Company was an outgrowth of the partnership between lumber barons Joseph Thorp and Nelson Chapman. Organized in 1866, the Company grew to become one of the largest lumber producers in the Chippewa River Valley. In 1887, the firm, whose large mill was located on the Eau Claire River, was purchased by the Mississippi River Logging Company, a lumber concern established in 1870 by Frederick Weyerhauser and other prominent Mississippi River lumbermen.⁷

John S. Owen, who had diverse lumber holdings, was both colleague and competitor with Thorp and Chapman. Born in Charleston, MI, Owens married Cora Rust, the daughter of Aloney Rust, a Michigan lumber baron. In 1873, he and his wife moved to Eau Claire, a city located in an area where the Rust family owned approximately 37,000 acres. Initially, Owen was employed as a clerk and timber scout by lumberman Henry C. Putnam. With this introduction to the pinelands and his connection to the Rust family, Owen launched a career in the lumber industry that included major investments in a number of regional lumber companies: the John S. Owen Company, the Rust Owen Lumber Company, the Westville Lumber Company, the West Eau Claire Lumber Company and the West Superior Lumber Company.

Added to Owen's lumber holdings were several other business interests, including the Chippewa Valley Railway, Light and Power Company; the Union National Bank; and the Eau Claire Park Company, a real estate business that was associated with the Eau Claire Driving and Athletic Park in the southern part of the Third Ward east of State Street. Established in 1902 on 20 acres purchased from Henry C. Putnam, the Eau Claire Driving and Athletic Park was funded by the purchase of land in the lower Third Ward that was divided into building lots and sold. Thus, the Eau Claire Park Company Addition, annexed to the City of Eau Claire in 1903, came into being. Wide scale residential development did not occur until after 1914, when the horse track was eliminated, the athletic fields

⁷ Mary Taylor, "Third Ward Historic District" in *Intensive Survey of the City of Eau Claire*, Wisconsin, 1983.

⁸ Mary Taylor, "John S. Owen House, 904 Porter Avenue" in Intensive Survey of the City of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, 1983.

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moved to the southeast corner of Farwell and Garfield and the vacated land, along with the lots west of State Street, were sold.⁹

By 1914, due to the depletion of the northern Wisconsin forests, the lumbering industry had abandoned Eau Claire for timberlands in the western United States. Eau Claire successfully made the transition from natural resources-based industry to one of specialty service and manufacture. Service companies included the Eau Claire Light and Power Company, which in 1890 built its own power plant at the confluence of the Eau Claire and Chippewa rivers and began supplying electricity to public and private buildings. Specialty manufacturing concerns that also had a significant impact on residential dwellings and daily life included the Wisconsin Refrigerator Company, noted for its production of the "Wisconsin Peerless" refrigerator.¹⁰

As in other communities across the country, local residential architecture kept pace with the changing economic base and technologies that made life a bit easier. Houses became more streamlined, with uninterrupted planes replacing the craggy, asymmetrical lines of the Victorian styles. Ironically, in their eagerness to embrace the new, Americans designed, built and bought homes that betokened historical antecedents. In the Eau Claire Park Company Addition, houses were built in the period's popular historical revival styles such as Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival. Consistently, it was the members of the new elite—attorneys, bank and company presidents—who settled in the new addition and built homes such as these.

The earliest house in the Eau Claire Park Company Addition is a house with Queen Anne and Dutch Colonial details at 1616 State Street (C-16). City assessment records indicate it was constructed in

⁹ The athletic fields were abandoned in 1926, and the land divided into lots by John S. Owen. With this last development, the Third Ward residential area extended south to Putnam Drive and east to Putnam Park. See "Discussing Park Sites", *Eau Claire Leader* 26 November 1901, 4; "Opens Today", *Eau Claire Leader* 2 September 1902, 8; "The Park Opens", *Eau Claire Leader* 3 September 1902, 5; "Park Addition to be Platted", *Eau Claire Leader* 29 November 1914, 3; "On Improvement to Driving Park", *Eau Claire Leader* 31 December 1914, 5; and "Driving Park Grand Stand Is Torn Down", *Eau Claire Leader*, 3 December 1926, 11.

¹⁰ In the closing decades of the nineteenth-century and the first half of the twentieth-century, Eau Claire rose to prominence in the manufacture of many specialized goods. Among the more significant companies of were Phoenix Manufacturing and McDonough Manufacturing, which produced machinery used in the lumbering industry; the Linderman Box and Veneer Company, which turned sawmill waste into veneers and containers; Eau Claire Box and Crating Company; Gillette Safety Tire Company; and Phoenix Manufacturing Company, which produced logging machinery, including the first centipede tractor used in road building; and Northwestern Steel and Iron Works, which began manufacturing concrete machinery before focusing on pressure cookers and other small household appliances. Northwestern Steel and Ironworks evolved into National Pressure Cooker Company, which in turn became National Presto Industries. See Taylor, 15-16, 20. See also Lois Barland, *Sawdust City* (Stevens Point, WI: Worzalla Publishing Co., 1960): 118-119 and Lois Barland, *The Rivers Flow On* (Stevens Point, WI: Worzalla Publishing Co., 1965): 280-306.

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1907. It also predates the majority of its neighbors by nearly 20 years, as the majority of houses in the Eau Claire Park Company Addition were built in the mid-to-late 1920s and later, despite the fact that the area had been platted in 1914. It was with the founding, in 1916, of the Wisconsin State Normal School on the east bank of the Chippewa River south of Garfield that the development of the Park Company Addition escalated.

The architectural styles in the Eau Claire Park Company Addition correspond to its period of development, with Colonial Revival, American Foursquare, bungalow, and Tudor styles among the most prevalent types. Fine examples of houses built in the 1920s include the <u>James Wickham House</u> (C-26) [4] at 1705 Park Avenue, a Colonial Revival with classical and Spanish decorative elements; the Smith-Ross House (C-2), a Craftsman and Prairie-influenced American Foursquare, at 233 Garfield; the Dutch Colonial DeYo-Kennedy House (C-18) at 1710 State; the Colonial Revival Burmeister-Baird House (C-7) at 211 Garfield and a scattering of Tudor Revivals, including the <u>Falstad-Carr House (C-38) [6]</u> at 233 Roosevelt.

The 1930s brought more of the same—plus, a few one-of-a-kind surprises. The Hattie Hoeppner House (C-1) at 1605 State Street, an example of Spanish Revival style built 1931-1932, marked the opening of the decade. Highlighting the middle were three Art Moderne style inspired houses, the Hibbard House (C-36) at 1814 State Street, the <u>Linton-Larson House (C-40) [5]</u> at 215 Roosevelt and a third at 133 Roosevelt, demolished by the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in 1973. Closing out the decade with a French Provincial flourish was the <u>L. E. and Edith Phillips House (C-9) [2]</u>, built in 1940 at 1615 Park.

Having reached its almost full development by 1940 (four ranch houses were added in the early 1950s), the Eau Claire Park Company Addition, and the Third Ward of which it is a part, settled into a period of relative stability. Its residents, however, were far from stationary. A core of families provided stability to the neighborhood, but the presence of the nearby state college—at first a teacher's college confined to a single building and now a full campus with buildings of departmentalized use—led to a regular influx and outflow of residents, especially university faculty, staff and students.

The Tudor Revival Falstad-Carr House (C-40) [6] at 233 McKinley is a good example of this transition. Built about 1926-1927, it was owner-occupied for less than six years before entering a nearly 40-year period in which it was maintained as a rental property. Since being returned to owner-occupancy in 1974, its various owners—most University professors--have come and gone quickly, rarely staying longer than five years. Other houses in the Eau Claire Park Company Addition have

¹¹ Mildred Larson, telephone interview with Eric J. Wheeler, 15 May 2003, and review of Eau Claire city directories 1935-1974.

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similar histories, their short-term owners and/or occupants being University hires who left for positions at other universities or stayed and bought more desirable homes of their own.

Unlike the area of the Third Ward east of State Street, the Eau Claire Park Company Addition has remained relatively free of student rentals. This has contributed to its relatively high degree of historic integrity. Most houses in the district are in excellent condition, kept and maintained by conscientious owners-occupants. National Register designation of the Eau Claire Park Company Addition will encourage property owners and residents to maintain their homes and pass on the traditions of the neighborhood, even as the University continues to attract new people to the area.

Approaching 90 years of age, the Eau Claire Park Company Addition, as well as the Third Ward of which it is a part, continues to change and evolve, just as it has since the period of initial development. Natalie Ayres Danielson has lived all of her nearly 80 years in the Third Word, first on Garfield and since 1935 on Roosevelt. She remembers as a child tramping the farmland that made up the southern part of the Third Ward. By the 1930s, the streets and sidewalks were paved with concrete, and people maintained their large lawns with rotary push mowers. Many kept a large garden in rear or side yards. Both urban and rural in tone, the Third Ward was a well-defined neighborhood where people lived, plaved and raised families.

Natalie grew up a little too late to remember the Eau Claire Driving and Athletic Park, but she does remember the circuses and carnivals that set up their large tents at the east end of Garfield. The circus had long been a tradition in the Third Ward. As early as 1886, P. T. Barnum's performed for thousands of visitors in the Third Ward¹⁴, and in 1901, Wallace Bros. Circus entertained at the Eau Claire Gun Park, a wooded area at the east end of Summit just west of Little Niagara Creek, seemingly also known as Putnam Park. Lightning killed a trick elephant, which was buried near the intersection of Garfield and Roosevelt. A year later, contractors grading the area dug up the un-decomposed remains and reburied them elsewhere in the city.¹⁵

While some neighborhood children attended the massive Romanesque-style Third Ward School (also known as Bartlett School) at the corner of Earl and Farwell, Natalie and her friends attended the University Campus School in the basement of the State Normal School, now Schofield Hall, the administrative building of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. The neighborhood children were

¹² Personal interview with Joanne Raetz Stuttgen, 10 February 2003.

¹³ A c1930 aerial photograph of the south part of the Third Ward—the area developed after the closing of the Eau Claire Driving and Athletic Park—shows spacious lawn with huge gardens and new houses under construction.

¹⁴ Advertisment for P. T. Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth, Eau Claire Free Press, 26 August 1886, 2.

¹⁵ Lois Barland, The Rivers Flow On. (Stevens Point, WI: Worzalla Publishing Co., 1965): 347.

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taught by instructors and students in training to be schoolteachers. Natalie walked to elementary school. A few years later, she was fortunate to catch a ride with a friend's father to Eau Claire High School, which overlooked the downtown business district from Doty Street, as he made his morning excursion to his place of business.

By the time Natalie attended high school, the most common form of transportation around Eau Claire was either by foot or by car. The electric railway, which made its debut cross-town run in 1889, was, when built, only the fourth such railway in the nation. The streetcar line ran south from downtown to the Third Ward along Barstow, and then turned east on Summit where it terminated at Putnam Park. The electric railway was discontinued in Eau Claire in 1932. 17

For trips outside the city, Natalie and her family relied on three rail lines that connected Eau Claire with Minneapolis-St. Paul, Milwaukee, Chicago and beyond. The first train reached the city in August 1870 to great fanfare. By 1884, the original Western Wisconsin line (which would evolve into the Omaha Line) had been joined by the Wisconsin Central (eventually the Soo Line) and the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul (later the Milwaukee Line). In 1888, Eau Claire boasted 75 daily trains transporting everything from industrial products and store goods to passengers. Consolidation of service began as early as 1900, escalated through the 1920s and came to a peak in the 1940s, when connections to the smaller towns surrounding Eau Claire virtually came to an end. Claire

A trip to Minneapolis-St. Paul or Chicago was not uncommon, yet Natalie stresses that everything her family and neighbors needed could be purchased in downtown Eau Claire. Groceries, shoes, furniture, clothing, fabric—all was available in the central business district, either from specialty shops, department stores or the large Farmer's Cooperative Store, which stocked a wide variety of merchandise. In the downtown could also be found all variety of professionals: lawyers, physicians, insurance agents, accountants and many others.

Chances are that Natalie, as a young girl preoccupied with school, friends and daily activities, paid little attention to the everyday mechanics of the house and neighborhood in which she lived. She turned on the tap and water ran out; pressed a button and lights came on; flushed the toilet and waste was carried away. By the 1930s, most houses in the Third Ward were wired with electricity and

¹⁶ Jane Hieb, Eau Claire, Heartland of the Chippewa Valley: An Illustrated History. (Northridge, CA: Windsor Publications, 1988): 110.

¹⁷ Eau Claire Leader, 10 April 1932.

¹⁸ Eau Claire Free Press, 7 July 1884.

¹⁹ http://www.rootsweb.com/~wieaucla/railroads.htm

²⁰ Eau Claire Free Press, 28 June 1888.

²¹ http://www.rootsweb.com/~wieaucla/railroads.htm

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telephone service and plumbed for water and waste disposal. Others, however, especially among the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century houses on the north side, did not have such amenities. A 1932 sanitation survey of Eau Claire prepared by Kempton L. German noted, for example, that two houses on S. Farwell had recently been condemned on account of the dry privies still in use.²²

Illuminated lights were first introduced to Eau Claire in 1877, when the Eau Claire Dells Gas Light and Coke Company produced coal and water gas at their plant on the west bank of the Chippewa River in the area now known as Owen Park. By 1888, gas lighting had been replaced by electric lights; the city had 36 public lights and 36 private lights in operation. Small companies came and went, all replaced by 1923 by Northern States Power, which had five hydroelectric plants on the Chippewa River. Like others throughout Eau Claire, residents of the Eau Claire Park Company Addition and the Third Ward of which it was a part, enjoyed electric lights, stoves, machines and other conveniences, including the public electric railway.²³

Water flowed into the houses of the Third Ward from the city wells north of the city, supplemented in 1915 with the construction of a three million gallon reservoir on Mt. Tom. Between 1929-1951, the city water supply was repeatedly contaminated with mineral deposits in pipes and algae in the reservoirs. At times it became so bad that Third Ward residents turned to using their own wells, about half of which were found to be unsafe. New wells, pumping stations and purification plants were constructed, and by 1953, the city water department had overcome many of its persistent troubles.²⁴

While Third Ward residents burned their household waste in back yard ash cans or hired someone to pick it up and haul it to the dump, their sewage entered into the city trunk lines and was carried a distance of about five blocks before being discharged into the Chippewa River. The Third Ward discharge points were located at the ends of Gilbert, Marston and Newton. The first trunk line in the Third Ward was laid in 1909. Prior to this, residents utilized dry privies in their rear yards, as clearly shown in an 1891 bird's eye view sketch map of the city.

With raw sewage being discharged directly into the river, Natalie and the other children of the Third Ward and throughout the city were admonished to play and swim in the river only above the outlets. The contamination of the rivers was remedied with the construction beginning in 1939 of the city's first waste disposal and pumping station. Other improvements continued through the 1940s using

²² Kempton L. German. Sanitary Survey of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, 1932. Unpublished bound copy in the Chippewa Valley Museum collection.

²³ Hieb, 110.

²⁴ Barland, 247-248.

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WPA funds. By the 1950s, Eau Claire had a modern, effective treatment plant and system of sewage disposal. 25

In 2003, nearly 90 years after its initial development, the Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District has adapted to the changing times, technology and uses that have forged a vital, viable city. Natalie Ayres Danielson has grown up but has not left the neighborhood in which she was raised, and in which she raised her own children. Still a convenient, quiet and beautiful place to live, the Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District retains its historical integrity in terms of area, spatial arrangement, historic resources and use.

FEATURED RESOURCES

Individual house histories were researched using Eau Claire city directories; maps and other pictorial depictions; deeds; obituaries; oral interviews; and other sources.

C-1 Hattie Hoeppner House • 1604 State (C) This little Spanish Revival style house was built by Hoeppner-Bartlett Construction Company about 1932 for Hattie Hoeppner, the daughter of company co-founder, Frederick Hoeppner. At the time, Hattie (birth name Hedwig) was secretary-treasurer of Hoeppner-Bartlett.

In 1946, Hattie moved into an apartment and transferred her house to her nephew, Frederick John (John F.) Hoeppner and his wife, Maurine. John F. was then vice president of Hoeppner-Bartlett. In 1955, the Hoeppners sold the house to Eugene and Marion McNamara.

A bookkeeper with Eau Claire Citizens Loan Company, Eugene McNamara died in 1966. Marion was an assistant professor at Wisconsin State University, now University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. She died in 1992.

The house has been owned since 2002 by Jennifer Drysdale.

C-2 Smith-Ross House • 233 Garfield (C) This American Foursquare with Craftsman and Prairie influence was built for George and Alice Smith between 1923-1926. The first year they are recorded as residents in the city directory is 1926. In April 1926, they sold the house to A. D. Smith of Gilmanton, WI, and George M. Smith of Connecticut. What relationship there may have been between all of the Smiths is unknown. George W. and Alice Smith moved out of the house about 1931. It was owned as a rental property by A. D. Smith and his wife, Chloe, and then by their heirs

²⁵ German, no page.

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until 1976 when it was sold to Art and Shatapourn Gulig. The Guligs sold the house to Jeffrey Rose, its current owner in 1990.

C-3 Bostwick-Oien House • 231 Garfield (C) Burton H. and Elizabeth Bostwick purchased this lot from the Eau Claire Park Company in 1920. The house, a modest Dutch Colonial, was built in 1922. The Bostwicks were occupying the house in 1923, the first year they appear at this address in the city directory. Born at Champlaign, New York, Burton Bostwick came to Eau Claire in 1884. He managed the Grand Opera House for 16 years, was a desk clerk at the Eau Claire Hotel for several years, and then worked for the U. S. Rubber Company from 1925 until his retirement in 1945. He died at age 81 in 1960. His wife, Elizabeth, died a year earlier.

Following the death of Burton Bostwick, the house was sold in April 1961 to Edwin and Opal Oien. Opal Oien was employed at the Union National Bank. She died in 1998.²⁷ George Oien, the grandson of Edwin and Opal, and his wife, Catherine, are the current owners of the house. The Oien family has owned it for more than 40 years.

C-4 227 Garfield (C) Sigvart and Amborlene Awsumb had this house built as their own residence in 1911, according to the city assessment records. The city directories indicate that the address was 215 Garfield prior to 1933. Both of the Awsumbs died about 1935, with Amborlene surviving Awsumb, a former cutter in a tailor shop. In April 1935, Amborlene's heirs deeded the property to Lovina R. York, a widow who dealt in real estate.

In 1945, Lovina R. York sold the house to Rev. Fred and Beatrice Jordan, who remained both owners and occupants until 1967. Fred was a minister at Lake Street Methodist Church. He died in 1961.²⁸ Beatrice died a year earlier.

From 1967-1975, the house was owned and occupied by Leland and Althea Kearney. Since 1976, it has been home to Joseph and Melva Hisrich.

C-5 Nelson House • 223 Garfield (C) James and Ceal Converse had this house built about 1930-1931. At the time, James Converse was manager of Stacy Fruit Company. In 1937, they sold the house to Alfred "Alf" and Elizabeth "Bessie" Nelson. Alf was chief clerk for the Chicago-St. Paul-Minneapolis and Omaha Railway. He died about 1964. Bessie owned the house until selling it to Lowell Jevens in 1971. Since then, the house has had many different, relatively short-term owners. The current owner, since 1997, is Wilbur T. Denson.

²⁶ Obituary of Burton J. Bostwick, Eau Claire Daily Telegram, 19 December 1960, 2.

²⁷ Obituary of Opal Oien, Eau Claire Leader Telegram, 30 November 1998, 4A.

²⁸ Obituary of Rev. Fred Jordan, *Daily Telegram* 18 September 1961, 2.

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C-6 Arnold-Aitken-Forcier House • 213 Garfield (C) This Craftsman-influenced American Foursquare house was built in 1924, apparently as a rental property owned by Rollin Holtan and/or Walter Risberg, who bought one of the two lots on which it is situated at tax sale in June 1924. They paid \$31.33. From 1926 to about 1942, the house was occupied by E. Albert and Ruth M. Arnold. Albert was president and general manager of Northwest Overland Company. Ruth was active in local women's clubs, especially the Eau Claire Business and Professional Women's Club.

Between 1929-1952, the Arnolds had many different landlords, the house being bought and sold frequently throughout the years. In September 1952, a second lot was added to the property, which was purchased by Drs. Herbert and Katherine Aitken that October.

Herbert Aitken was a native of Montana and a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Medical School. His professional practices included general practice of medicine in Montana, New Jersey and Madison, WI. He practiced radiology at Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire from 1952-1978. Dr. Aitken was also chief of staff at Sacred Heart Hospital. A World War II veteran, Dr. Aitken was an avid stamp and gun collector, and a gunsmith. He competed in long-range rifle shooting. He died in 1994.²⁹

A native of Florida, Katherine Aitken was a graduate of the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. She was in private practice in New Jersey on the staff of University Hospitals in Madison, WI. She was medical consultant and staff physician at Northern Wisconsin Center for the Developmentally Disabled in Chippewa Falls for many years. Dr. Aitken died in 1996.³⁰

The Aitkens sold the house in 1965. The current owners, Roger and Susan Forcier, acquired the house in 1966. Susan's mother, Corinne Duax, resides two houses away at 207 Garfield, the Duax family home (see C-8).

C-7 Baird-Norstedt House • 211 Garfield (C) This brick Colonial Revival style house was built for Dr. Joseph C. and Amalia Baird in 1922-1923. Dr. Baird was a physician and radiologist who died in 1942. His wife, Amalia, was a nurse who came to Eau Claire in 1909 as administrator and superintendent of nursing at Luther Hospital. She held both positions for 13 years. Following her husband's death, she resumed her nursing career. Ill health forced her to retire in 1950. Amalia died in 1951.³¹

Between 1951-1976, the house had many different owners. Since 1976, the house has been owned by Daniel and Laurie Norstedt.

²⁹ Obituary of Dr. Herbert M. Aitken, Eau Claire Leader Telegram, 7 October 1994, 2B.

³⁰ Obituary of Dr. Katherine Stewart Aitken, Eau Claire Leader Telegram, 3 May 1996, 2B.

³¹ Obituary of Amalia C. Baird, Eau Claire Daily Telegram, 31 March 1951, 2. Note that the house at 210 Roosevelt (see C-28) was owned and occupied from 1975 to the present by Harold and Josefina Baird. There is no relation between the two families. Josefina Baird, telephone interview with Joanne Raetz Stuttgen, 25 February 2002.

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C-8 Fleming-Duax House • 207 Garfield (C) This house is situated on one full lot and one partial lot. Thomas Fleming bought Lot 10 in 1919. His wife, Margaret, bought Lot 9 in 1924. The house is likely to have been built in 1925, as the city directory records the Flemings as residing at this address in 1926. Thomas Fleming was an undertaker with Fleming and Son.

In May 1945, Margaret, a widow, sold 10 feet off the east side of Lot 9 to her neighbors, Josef and Amalia Baird at 211 Garfield (see C-7 above). That September, she sold the house—now on one full lot and one partial lot—to Leo and Corinne Duax.

Leo Duax died in 1974. He was born in 1902 in rural Chippewa Falls and attended the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. From 1923-1932, he worked for Wilhelm Oil Company of St. Paul, serving as district sales manager until he left the company to join Equitable Life Insurance Society of the United States. In 1954, he was honored as top agent of the year and in 1967 was named one of the top 10 agents in the history of Equitable.

He is survived by his wife, Corinne. She is the current owner of the house. The Duaxes' daughter, Susan Forcier, lives two houses away at 213 Garfield (see C-6).

C-9 <u>L. E. and Edith Phillips House • 1615 Park Avenue [2] (C)</u> The most outstanding example of French Provincial architecture in Eau Claire, this house, situated on two lots, was built for L. E. and Edith Phillips in 1940. The Phillipses have been its only occupants.

Lewis E. Phillips was born in Kaunas, Lithuania, in 1899. The family came to America in 1901 and settled in Manitowoc. In 1918, Phillips came to Eau Claire and established Ed Phillips and Sons, a distributorship of newspapers, magazines, tobacco products, candies and liquor. While serving as president, L. E. became president of National Presto Industries in 1942. He held the position until 1960, when he became chairman of the board.

A noted philanthropist, he founded L. E. Phillips Charities, Inc., in 1941. His charitable organization financed many health and educational organizations in the community, and a number of buildings, including the public library and the senior citizens' center, bear his name.³²

Phillips died in 1978. His wife, Edith, survives him. The house has been gifted to the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Foundation, Inc., with Edith Phillips retaining life estate.

C-10 Herman D. and Frieda White House • 212 McKinley (C) This vernacular house with Tudor influences was built in 1929 for Dr. A. Waldemar Thompson, a dentist, and his wife, Anna Remol Thompson. They lived here about ten years before selling to Wilbur and Lucile Malkson. Two years later, the Malksons sold the house to Herman D. and Frieda White, owners and occupants of the longest tenure.

³² Obituary of L. E. Phillips, *Eau Claire Leader Telegram*, 11 December 1978, 1A. See also "It Seems to Me—Lewis E. Phillips 'a friend to many", *Eau Claire Leader Telegram*, 15 December 1978, 6A.

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A noted Eau Claire civic leader, business figure and sportsman, Herman D. White was co-owner with his brother Henry of White Machine Works. He came to Eau Claire from Necedah in 1921 to take over the company established by his uncle. He remained with White Machine Works until it was sold in 1966. Herman White served as city council president and was a member of the Luther Hospital Board, the Eau Claire Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club. An avid baseball fan, Herman was instrumental in creating the Northern League, of which he served as president. He also served on the executive committee for American minor league baseball and as president of the Wisconsin State Leagues. He died in 1976. 33

Herman's wife, Frieda, died in 1989. Following her death, the house was sold. It has been owned since 1998 by Richard Moore and Sara Anderson.

C-18 1710 State • DeYo-Kennedy House (C) Lewise MacGavock DeYo acquired this lot from the Eau Claire Park Company in 1922. Her husband, Paul, was the son of Bert DeYo, an attorney who served as secretary of the Eau Claire Park Company. The house may have already been built, or at the least was built that year, as the 1923 city directory records the DeYos in residence. The address at that time and until about 1955 was 1810 State.

Paul DeYo, whom the 1923 city directory identifies as a clerk at Steven and Jarvis Lumber Company (in 1931 he is a "salesman"), died about 1932. Lewise DeYo remained in the house until about 1936, when she moved to Los Angeles to live near her daughter, Louise D. Bailey. Following her mother's death in January 1943, Louise sold the Eau Claire house to William and Tilla Schwahn. It was maintained as a rental property from the time Lewise departed for Los Angeles until May 1946, when it was sold to Dr. Richard L. and Margaret D. Kennedy.

Dr. Richard L. Kennedy received his medical degree from the University of Chicago in 1934. He served overseas as a Major in the Army during World War II. He began working at Midelfort Clinic in 1946, retiring in 1976. His area of specialty was urology. Dr. Kennedy died in 1989.³⁴ His wife, Margaret Dodson Kennedy, died in 1997.

Margaret Kennedy sold the house in June 1992. Since October 1992 it has been owned by David and M. Kimberly Woodby.

C-19 Grinsell House • 233 McKinley [3] (C) George S. and Kathryn Linton Grinsell appear to be the original owners of this house built about 1926. A collector for Eau Claire Citizens Loan and Investment Company, George deeded the property to Kathryn in 1931 as part of a divorce settlement. Kathryn moved out of the house and maintained it as a rental property until her death in 1935. Her heir and son, Donn, continued to rent the house until he sold it in 1974 to John and Katherine Buchholz. John Bucholz was an assistant professor at the University. Nine years later, in 1983, the

³³ Obituary of Herman D. White, Eau Claire Leader Telegram, 30 October 1976, 3A.

³⁴ Obituary of Dr. Richard L. Kennedy, Eau Claire Leader Telegram, 10 October 1989, 6A.

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Buchholzes sold the house to Victor and Bernice Mason, whose son, it seems, lived there while attending college. In 1987, the Masons sold the house to Sally Webb, its current owner.

C-21 227 McKinley (C) This house appears to have been constructed in 1927 by the H. H. Kleiner Company, contractors and dealers in building supplies. The company entered into a contract purchase agreement for the lot with the Eau Claire Park Company in May 1922. In April 1927, the property was transferred to James and Ceal Converse, who agreed to assume Kleiner's mortgage of \$4,000. James was manager of the Stacy Fruit Company, wholesalers of fruit and other produce. The Converses lived in the house for only about two years before selling to Sofus and Edyth May Day, who five years later, in 1934, sold it to Christian Bertelson, a CPA, and his wife Mabel.

This house has seen a succession of owners come and go throughout its history. Those with the longest term of occupancy were the Bertelsons (1935-1947); Chester and Adeline Deutch, owners of Deutch Furs (1957-1972); and Charles and Kathryn Anger (1987-1999). The current owners are Jerome and Mary O'Brien. The O'Briens do not occupy the house.

C-26 James and Katherine Wickham House • 1705 Park Avenue [4] (C) This fine Colonial Revival house with classical and Spanish influences was built between 1925-1926 for Hon. James Wickham and his third wife, Katherine, who were married on 1 October 1923. They appear as residents for the first time in the 1926 city directory.

James Wickham served 32 years as the first Judge of the 19th Judicial Court, created in 1909. He was re-elected five successive times, the last being 1939. A protracted illness, which eventually led to his death in 1944, caused him to resign from his last term four years before it expired.

A native of Richland County, Wisconsin, James Wickham came to Eau Claire in 1888. He engaged in a diversified law practice and served as Eau Claire city attorney and as counsel to a number of corporations, including the Eau Claire Dells Improvement Company and the Dells Paper and Pulp Company. He frequently appeared in the U. S. district courts, court of appeals, the state supreme courts of Minnesota and Illinois and in the U. S. Supreme Court.

As a jurist, Wickham presided at a number of famous cases, including former Gov. Philip F. LaFollette's suit against Gov. Walter Kohler. LaFollette attempted to oust Kohler from the governorship by charging Kohler with violation of the corrupt practices act by alleged unlawful expenditure of money.

Hon. James Wickham died 18 January 1944.³⁵ Katherine survived him by ten years, passing away on 27 May 1954.

The house then became home to Daniel and Nancy Frawley, who, in 1957, deeded it to Lutheran Student Center of Eau Claire. For the next 14 years, the Wickham House was used as a social and religious center for Lutheran students attending Wisconsin State University, now the

³⁵ Obituary of Hon. James Wickham, Eau Claire Daily Telegram, 19 January 1944, 1-2.

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University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. With the opening of a new ecumenical religious center in 1971, the Wickham House was sold, once again becoming a family residence. Current owners Richard and Diane Weld purchased the house in 1981.

C-28 Burmeister-Baird House • 210 Roosevelt (C) This pyramidal-roofed American Foursquare style house appears to have been built in 1921 for Alfred and Bessie Zager. Alfred worked in real estate. Sadly, in 1928, they lost the house to foreclosure. It sold at sheriff's sale for \$5,669.50 on 20 November 1928. The new owner was Sidney J. Baker, who maintained the house as a rental property for seven years before selling it in 1935 to Maurice and Emily Stern. The Sterns also rented out the house. Among the tenants during this period of rental was Edward Buri, owner of Buri's Sunlit Bakery.

With the house's purchase in 1943 by Jack and Elinor Pavelski, it ceased to be a rental. The Pavelskis had lived in the house as renters for about three or four years, but six months after they purchased it, they sold it and moved out. The new owners were Adrian and Viola Burmeister. They lived here from 1943-1975.

Adrian Burmeister held a bachelor of science in teaching and two master's degrees—one in education and one in guidance and counseling. He came to Eau Claire from Stillwater, MN, in 1942. He was the Eau Claire High School industrial education teacher for 29 years. In addition, from 1958 until his retirement in 1973, he was the guidance counselor at Eau Claire Memorial High School. Adrian died in 1995. Viola died in 1977.³⁶

The Burmeisters sold the house in 1975 to Harold and Josefina Baird, who lived there for 25 years. Harold began his career in insurance in Chicago in 1935 when he became an agent for Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company. A World War II veteran, Baird ascended the company's ranks to executive assistant. He retired from Northwestern in 1974.

He and Josefina moved from Milwaukee to Eau Claire in 1974, where Harold began his second career teaching insurance, personal finance, management, policy formation and administration courses at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire School of Business. He died in 2000.

Josefina survives him. Though she has vacated the house for an apartment, she remains its current owner. ³⁷

C-36 Hibbard House • 1814 State (C) One of two existing Art Moderne style houses in the Eau Claire Park Company Addition, this house was built for Darrell O. and Allie Hibbard in 1936. The original house was designed by the Eau Claire architectural firm of Aloysius Bayer, a former

³⁶ Obituary of Adrian Burmeister, Eau Claire Leader Telegram, 23 February 1995, 2B.

³⁷ Obituary of Harold Baird, Eau Claire Leader Telegram, 28 June 2000, 2B. Note that the house at 211 Garfield (see C-7) was owned and occupied from 1922-1951 by Dr. Joseph C. and/or Amalia Baird. There is no relation between the two families. Josefina Baird, telephone interview with Joanne Raetz Stuttgen, 25 February 2002.

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Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

apprentice to Eau Claire architect Edward J. Hancock, and Howard Nelson. A sympathetic 1951 addition on the south side was designed by Eau Claire architect Steven Playter.³⁸

The lot was acquired by Sarah Morris Hibbard, Darrell's mother, from Ralph W. and Elinor Owen in 1935. Sarah owned the property until transferring it to Darrell and Allie in 1947.

Darrell Hibbard was born in Indianapolis, IN, in 1913. He came to Eau Claire in 1938 after earning his law degree from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1936. A member of the firm Crocker, Hibbard and Gregg, Darrell Hibbard died in 1976.³⁹

Allie Hibbard resided in the house until her death in 1990. Since that time, the house has been owned and occupied by the Hibbards' son, John D. Hibbard, also an attorney.

<u>C-38 Falstad-Carr House • 223 Roosevelt [6] (C)</u> The home of Donald Mash, Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, since 1998, this 10-room Tudor style house was built in 1937-1938 for Dr. Clarence H. and Rose Falstad.

Dr. Falstad was born in Eau Claire of Norwegian immigrant parents. He was graduated from the University of Wisconsin as a pharmacist, and then completed his doctor of medicine degree from Harvard University in 1922. In 1930, he returned to Eau Claire to practice medicine as a member of the Midelfart Clinic. Three years later he began his own practice in gynecology and obstetrics. He served on the medical staffs of Sacred Heart and Luther Hospitals. Dr. Falstad died in 1965. 40

Nine years earlier, in 1954, the Falstads sold their home to Francis and Miriam Carr. Francis was vice president of the Eau Claire-based L. G. Arnold Company, a design engineering and construction firm. The Farrs resided here until 1985, when they sold to John and Janet Davenport, who in 1995 sold to Jeanne M. Symiczek. The current owner is Donald Mash.

<u>C-40 Linton-Larson House • 215 Roosevelt [5] (C)</u> One of two existing Art Moderne style houses in the Eau Claire Park Company Addition, this house was built for James R. "Jack" and Eva Linton in 1936. 41 Jack was vice president of Eau Claire Citizens Loan Company. He died in September 1980. In January 1981, Doris sold the house to Brian F. and Mildred Larson, its current owners. Brian is an architect with Ayres Associates, Mildred was formerly the assistant director of the Eau Claire Public Library.

³⁸ John D. Hibbard, telephone interview with Eric J. Wheeler, 4 April 2003.

³⁹ Obituary of Darrell O. Hibbard, Eau Claire Leader Telegram, 26 July 1976, 5A.

⁴⁰ Obituary of Dr. Clarence H. Falstad, Eau Claire Leader, 15 July 1965, 2A.

⁴¹ Brian F. Larson, telephone interview with Eric J. Wheeler, 22 April 2003.

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Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS

Very few of the residences in the Eau Claire Park Company Addition historic district are known to have been architect designed. Most of the homes were built by local contractor/builders from plans designed by them or from plans obtained from other sources. The following are a few of the architects and builder/contractors known to have built homes in the district.

Bayer and Nelson

The Bayer and Nelson architectural firm designed the main rectangular block of the **Hibbard House** (C-36) at 1814 State Street. This Art Moderne style home was built in 1936 and enlarged in 1955 with an addition designed by Stephen Playter of the Eau Claire firm of Larson and Playter. Aloysius Bayer (1893-1936) was first employed by Edward J Hancock, an architect responsible for several important buildings in Eau Claire (see Third Ward Addition NRHP nomination.) Bayer is credited with drawing the plans for many schools in northwest Wisconsin as well as the senior high school and Masonic Temple in Eau Claire. Howard Nelson initially worked as a draftsman for Bayer, but in 1937 he is listed in the city directory as an architect sharing Bayer's office.

Hoeppner and Bartlett

Frederick Hoeppner and William Bartlett formed a construction company in 1896 that has remained in business in Eau Claire for over 100 years. A number of important public buildings were built by this company in the first third of the 20th century, including the Eau Claire City Hall and former Eau Claire Public Library. This company also built the Spanish Revival Style **Hattie Hoeppner House (C-1)** in the early 1930s.

Conclusion

Comprised of 38 contributing historic properties ranging in age from 1907 to 1952, the Eau Claire Park Company Addition is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. Architecturally, the district is locally significant as an impressive collection of early twentieth-century houses ranging in style from Colonial Revival to Art Moderne and the 1950s Ranch style house. Historically, these houses are associated with Eau Claire's professional, commercial and industrial leaders. The area as a whole represents Eau Claire's position as a modern city, home to a state university and diverse specialized manufacture. For these reasons, the City of Eau Claire desires to have the District added to the National Register of Historic Places.

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Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Wisconsin

PRESERVATION ACTIVITY

An awareness of the architectural and historic significance of the city's built environment has existed for some time in the City of Eau Claire. In 1974 the city council adopted a historic preservation ordinance and the city Landmarks Commission was established in the same year. In 1982 an intensive survey of the city's buildings was made resulting in the adoption of a preservation plan and the listing of 26 individual properties and three districts on the National and State Register of Historic Places. In 1984 the Third Ward Historic Preservation plan was adopted. The City of Eau Claire achieved Certified Local Government status in 1986 and an attractive and informative 50 page illustrated guide to Eau Claire City Landmarks was published. This guide was updated and reprinted in 2003. Local preservation activists organized the Eau Claire Historic Preservation Foundation in 1986 after the loss of a major local historic landmark. The Foundation has been active in the City of Eau Claire for nearly two decades by sponsoring walking tours, historic home tours and other historic preservation activities.

ARCHEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

The extent of any archeological remains in the district is conjectural at this time. No information about the possible prehistoric remains in this area was found in the course of the research and it seems likely that any remains of pre-European cultures that might once have been located within the district have since been greatly disturbed by subsequent building activity. The district may well contain remains dating from the early settlement period, however, since a number of non-extant buildings are known to have been located within the district.

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1880 Milwaukee: Wm. Hogg.

1882 Milwaukee: A G. Wright.

1884-1896 St. Paul, MN: R. L. Polk Co. and A. C. Danser.

1897-1904 Eau Claire: Eau Claire Book and Stationery Co.

1905-2002 Milwaukee: A. G. Wright.

MAPS AND OTHER HISTORIC PICTORIAL DEPICTIONS OF EAU CLAIRE

Aerial photograph of Garfield, McKinley and Roosevelt Street, c1929-1930. Chippewa Valley Museum collection.

1871-1872 partial map of Eau Claire. L. E. Phillips Public Library and Chippewa Valley Museum collections.

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1876 map of Eau Claire, Wis. Milwaukee: Phoenix Map Co. Chippewa Valley Museum collection.

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1889 map of Eau Claire, Wis. On reverse of letterhead for City of Eau Claire Health and Poor Department, B. S. Bostwick, Commissioner. Chippewa Valley Museum collection.

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[Post 1926] map of Eau Claire showing ward boundaries. Chippewa Valley Museum collection.

c1940 map of Eau Claire from tourism/promotional brochure, c1940. Chippewa Valley Museum collection.

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"Discussing Park Sites." Eau Claire Leader, 26 November 1901, 4.

"Driving Park Grand Stand is Torn Down." Eau Claire Leader, 3 December 1926, 11.

"It Seems to Me—Lewis E. Phillips 'a friend to many." Eau Claire Leader Telegram, 15 December 1978, 6A.

"On Improvement to Driving Park." Eau Claire Leader, 31 December 1914.

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"Opens Today." Eau Claire Leader, 2 September 1902, 8.

"The Park Opens." Eau Claire Leader, 3 September 1902, 5.

"Park Addition to Be Platted." Eau Claire Leader, 29 November 1914.

INTERVIEWS

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Hibbard, John D. (C-36, 1814 State) Telephone interview with Eric Wheeler, 4 April 2003 and 22 April, 2003.

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BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the southwest corner of the intersection of Garfield and State, proceed west along south side of Garfield to Park Avenue; thence south along east side of Park Avenue, crossing McKinley and Roosevelt and continuing along an axis with the west boundary of the property at 215 Roosevelt to the south boundary of said property; thence east along an axis of the south boundary of the properties at 215 and 219 Roosevelt to Little Niagara Creek; thence southeast along the north bank of Little Niagara Creek to State Street; thence north along west side of State Street, crossing Roosevelt and McKinley to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

This is the current and historic boundary of the Eau Claire Park Company Addition.

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PHOTOGRAPH DESCRIPTIONS

Items a) through c) are the same for photos 1-6

- a) Eau Claire Park Company Addition Historic District
- b) Eau Claire, Eau Claire, Wisconsin
- c) Eric Wheeler, April 23, 2003
- d) Wisconsin Historical Society
- e) Façade of house from the street

Photo 1 of 6	C- 6 Arnold-Forcier House • 213 Garfield
Photo 2 of 6	C-9 L. E. and Edith Phillips House • 1615 Park
Photo 3 of 6	C-19 Grinsell House • 233 McKinley
Photo 4 of 6	C-26 James and Katherine Wickham House • 1705 Park
Photo 5 of 6	C-40 Linton-Larson House • 215 Roosevelt
Photo 6 of 6	C-38 Falstad-Carr House • 223 Roosevelt

End

