

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received **DEC 31 1987**  
date entered **JAN 28 1988**

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

**1. Name**

historic CLARENCE PECK RESIDENCE

and or common Dr. Hosea Townsend House; Madame Peck Residence; The Old White House

**2. Location**

street & number 430 North Lake Road & 434 N. Lake Road N/A not for publication

city, town Oconomowoc N/A vicinity of

state Wisconsin code WI county Waukesha code 133

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Harry F. & Betty P. Hancock Jefford's Investment Corp.

street & number 430 North Lake Road & 18200 West Bluemound Road, Brookfield, WI

city, town Oconomowoc \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state Wisconsin

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds / Waukesha County Courthouse

street & number 515 Moreland Blvd.

city, town Waukesha state WI

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1976, updated 1978, 1980  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin

city, town Madison state WI 53706

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

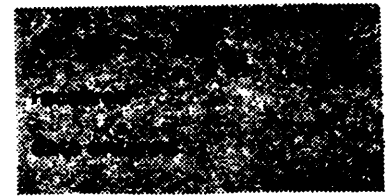
The history of the Clarence Peck house begins in the village of Oconomowoc in 1846. The house is rich in historic and architectural detail. The property at 430 North Lake Road in the city of Oconomowoc is in the "NW 1/4 SW 1/4 NW 1/4 of Section 33, Town 8 north, Range 17 East, Waukesha County, Wisconsin." It is located on an isthmus, a stretch of land bordered to the west by Lac LaBelle and to the east by Fowler Lake. The house is on the west side of the street that in the early days of its history was called Main Street and served as the residential boulevard to many of the village's influential residents. The nominated property consists of two now independent elements which were originally connected into a single rambling residence. The property's lot slopes down to Lac LaBelle on the west, upon which is located a small wood-framed gazebo. The east frontage is limited to a small landscaped strip adjacent to the public sidewalk.

The southern-most "element", a two story house with a south wing, faces east. It is set back approximately 15' from the eastern lot line, and extends west some 70'. The house represents two distinct styles of architecture that date it relative to periods in the history of American architecture. The first is the Greek Revival style of the 1840s, while the second is the Classical Revival style that gained impetus after the 1893 Columbian Exhibition in Chicago. The two story main house is a 33' by 21' cubelike structure, with a pedimented gable to the front. The overall shape of the house and the location of the gable are typical of the Greek Revival style. However, the facade lacks the symmetry of a Greek design, and the monumental brackets that trim the cornice and gable are elements of the Classical Revival style. A small enclosed porch is attached to the rear of the house.

A 22' long two-story wing, with a porch, is attached to the south side of the main house. It is set back 23' from the main house and extends back 11' to align with the rear of the main house. A portion of the second story projects over the porch and the roofline is marked by a large gabled dormer. All that is evident of a Greek Revival design are the graceful proportions and the simplicity of detail of the front door moldings. Bay windows project to the south on the first story. They can be associated with the Classical Revival period of the 1890s, although the pane arrangement shows a definite Queen Anne influence.

An extension to the rear of the south wing extends west approximately 34' and is surrounded on three sides by an enclosed porch. This portion of the house is designed in the Classical Revival style. It features a modified mansard roof with a cornice trimmed with heavy wooden brackets that resemble the roof trim on the main house. Large pier-like structures are attached to the lower section of the west exposure and fluted Ionic columns that were external supports to the porch roof are now partially encapsulated by walls that enclosed the porch sometime after 1906.<sup>1</sup> Window fenestration consists of regularly spaced wood sash (8 panes) on the upper level and irregular openings below. These Classical Revival additions to the house are the work of Milwaukee architects, Ferry and Clas.<sup>2</sup>

The nomination includes: Two Contributing Buildings

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The main house rests on brace frame construction, which dates the house anywhere from the late 1830s of Oconomowoc's earliest buildings up to 1870, but in view of the Greek Revival design, construction can be narrowed to an 1840-1850 time range. The original foundations of the main structure are stone, while those of the addition are brick. A section of the northern wall is of concrete. Except for the front, street-facing elevations of this "element", which are clad in modern materials, the siding is wood clapboard.

In 1846, Martin Townsend began construction of this 2-story house with a south wing. It was considered the first "up-to-date, real out and out frame house in Oconomowoc."<sup>3</sup> "It was a small house--an upright part of two-stories, and a wing, one story, 20' in length. Piazza in front of wing; there will be a parlour, dining room, kitchen, hall, two sleeping rooms and Hosea's room below and a chamber room in proportion."<sup>3a</sup> Dr. Townsend and family moved in around the 17th of February 1847, although the house was not yet completed. It remained unpainted until May, when blacksmith, Jedediah Wood charged the doctor \$15.75 for painting the house.<sup>4</sup> The second story front bedroom of the main house today still has knotty pine floor and window hardware dating to the mid 19th century, including tenon and pinned trim, undetailed 4" molding and wavy glass panes. The second story front window of the south wing has similar wavy glass. The floors are pine also in the upstairs of the south wing and show a clear change beyond 20 feet where the house was enlarged in 1894.

In 1850, Dr. William Warner purchased the house and in 1859, he also purchased the lots to the north (56 and 55). He then attached a building with a piazza to the north of the main house. He enclosed the porch to use it as a passageway between the main house and the new wing, which he used as an office. In 1866, the Rev. Ezra Jones, rector of Zion Church down the street, purchased the property and operated a school for boys in the house. He added another story to the north wing for a dormitory retaining the Greek Revival forms of the main building. Jones sold the house in 1869 to another physician, Dr. Orlando Wight. In 1872, Dr. Wight moved to Milwaukee, and no changes were made in the house until the fall of 1872, when Mrs. Mary K. Peck purchased the home for her summer residence.

Mrs. Peck, who had rented the house the previous summer, quickly made some changes in the main house. "She threw the hall and the parlors into one large room and built in it a fine chimney with a large fireplace giving the room the appearance of an old manorial drawing room"<sup>5</sup> (in the rear of the south wing, there is a fire place now which matches this description). In 1887, Mrs. Peck turned the house over to her son Clarence, and in 1893, he began extensive changes to it. On February 18th, 1893 he met with architect George Ferry of Milwaukee and Oliver Hanson, the contractor. "The result of their visit will be extensive changes in their summer home on LaBelle Lake. It is expected that the old residence will be preserved, but great improvements will be made. As soon as plans are completed, the work will be commenced."<sup>6</sup> On the north wing, Peck added ten colossal Ionic columns (reportedly from the Columbian Exhibition in Chicago), six to the north exposure and four to the northeast facade. A large bracketed cornice was attached to the roof, and a pedimented gable was added to the roof on the street side of the house. Centered in the gable is an oval window with spiked keystones. Directly adjacent to the main house, he added three columns

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that supported a second-story porch and a bay window. The bracketed trim of the north wing roof was carried to the gable and cornice of the main house. At this same time he also built the addition to the rear of the south wing that consisted of a large room and a porch that surrounded it on three sides. The interior and exterior of the addition were detailed with monumental Classical ornament. Now the dining room it is a large room with 10' ceilings. The entire room is trimmed in monumental Classical motifs in pine; pilaster trim 8" wide with molding along the ceiling 2'4" wide. The mantle is 6'7" long, 4'6" high and 9" deep. He also enlarged the front portion of the south wing. He put in an inner core of bathrooms, put the kitchen in the basement with a dumbwaiter and butlers pantry on the first floor, with a back stairway for the help behind the old south wing.<sup>7</sup> Remains of an old pine staircase, corresponding to trim in dining room, once descended by a gentle slope to the main house in the front. There are thick moldings of the 1900s vintage in the upstairs halls. He built a large rear bedroom overlooking the lake with a bay window projecting west, and an adjoining large bathroom with Queen Anne window. These rooms are still in the main house which is now called the town house.

In 1923, Philip Peck, son of the deceased Clarence Peck, sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. John Charles Stevens. The address at that time was 426 North Main Street. In December 1926, they sold lot 57 containing the original southern "element" to Miss Annie Pierce. In 1927, an approximately ten-foot section was removed between the two houses elements, reverting the house on lot 57 to its pre-1859 condition. Mr. and Mrs. Stevens lived in the north section which became 434 North Lake Road, and Miss Pierce lived in the much larger portion containing the old Townsend house and its Peck expansion--430 North Lake Road. When a new wall was put up in 1927 in the main old house on the north side, a fire place was added. In 1950, Miss Pierce sold the house to Sander and Alma Hoyum. They turned the main house into a townhouse, and built a basement apartment in the south wing where the old kitchen and maids quarters had been. The old dumbwaiter remains. In order to accommodate the rental arrangement, passageways between the houses on both stories were closed off, concealing remnants of the gracious old stairway that went from the dining room to the parlor. It is also likely that the Hoyums turned the back porch of the old main house into the current kitchen for the town house. The Hoyums made changes to the facade as well. A photo taken between 1903 and 1927 shows the facade of the main house. At that time there were three windows, set close together on the first story. On the second story there were also three windows, six-over-six paned sash, two aligned with the windows below and one over the door. They replaced the first floor windows with three 2-paned ones, and set two windows equal distance apart on the second floor. In 1979, Mr. and Mrs. Harry F. Hancock bought the house and remodeled the southwing. They took out five oak step--over 5' wide--remains of the old pine panelled stairway, to build a bathroom, and a small sitting room. They remodelled the kitchen and made two rooms out of one large bedroom upstairs, and remodelled the bathroom up there as well.

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An ornately framed gazebo, 17' x 12', quaintly sits 15 feet above the waterline, overlooking the lake to the west of the main house. The 204' square feet of deck area affords ample sitting room for 15-20 people. The 19th century gazebo is built with heavy timber beams resting on concrete piers deeply embedded into the steep slope fronting the property along the shore. Ornately attired with decorative railings and post brackets, the gazebo also has an open frame roof system exposing its curved rafters which form its peaked hip roof joined at the decorative finial.

1. The Townsend House 1846-1984  
An Architectural History Uncovered by Mary E. Donahue
  2. Wisconsin Free Press, Oconomowoc, Feb. 18, 1893.
  3. Mary Draper Faville, "Oconomowoc's Yesterday," page 5, Oconomowoc Library.
  - 3a Rachel Townsend letter dated 1/19/1847.
  4. Memoirs of Waukesha County--Page 242.
  5. Grace Jones, "the Old White House" manuscript, Page 8.
  6. Wisconsin Free Press, Oconomowoc, Feb. 18, 1893.
  7. Jean Johnson's notes--conversations with Mrs. John C. Stevens.
- 1830D

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** Period of significance **Builder/Architect** Ferry, George B. (1893 additions/alterations)

1872-1923

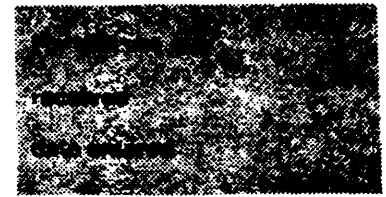
**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Townsend/Peck House, one of Oconomowoc's many examples of affluent residential design, is being nominated to the National Register for its local architectural significance as a fine example of late 19th century Classical Revival design and historically for its associations with the wealthy Peck family of Chicago, whose influence in the local community gave rise to much of Oconomowoc's development as a significant summer resort area.

In a community known for its sizable representation of late 19th and early 20th century architecture, the Clarence Peck House stands out as a unique example of the emergence of the Classical Revival idiom in residential design. The once rambling structure, now divided into two separate units occupies a conspicuous place along one of the city's most prominent residential streets. Its rich stylistic forms, applied over an older Greek Revival structure find little comparison in the city and mark the building as Oconomowoc's best extant example of high-style Classical revival design in a residential form.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION WITH SIGNIFICANT PERSONS / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The history of the Peck Residence begins back in the 1840s when the small village of Oconomowoc was still an isolated commercial center serving the neighboring farm areas. The original southern portion of the structure, historically referred to as the "Townsend House", was locally recognized as the first "up to date real out and out frame house"<sup>1</sup> erected in the community. Built by Dr. Hosea Townsend in 1846, the small gabled-ell structure was used by Townsend as his local office beginning in 1847. Townsend was the community's first resident physician and the first of a long line of medical practitioners to utilize the Main Street property.<sup>2</sup> Dr. William Warner purchased the home in 1850, and continued to use part of it as his office also until he enlisted in the Union Army in 1862, and was appointed assistant surgeon in the Third Wisconsin Calvary. In 1859 Warner built the first major addition to the building, the northern wing, to be used as his new office. Following 1862 the house became rental property for several years until the Rev. Ezra Jones, who became rector of Zion Episcopal Church and the Seminary for Young Ladies, purchased it in 1866. Jones established a school for boys in the house and added a second story to the northern wing for use as a dormitory. Another physician, Dr. Orlando Wight, purchased the property in 1869 and attempted to set up a sanitarium in the house. This plan did not materialize, although he did use part of the house for an office.<sup>3</sup> In 1871, Dr. Wight moved to Milwaukee where he became the Health Commissioner in 1879.<sup>4</sup>

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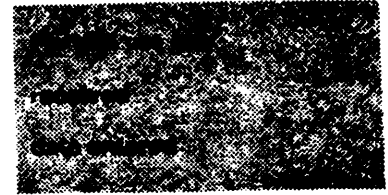
During its earliest years the "Townsend House"/ Peck Residence played a unique role in the physical and emotional life of early Oconomowoc. Housing the community's first physician, subsequent doctor's offices, and even a boys school, the property was well known to early residents of the small village. While these early years of the property's history (c. 1847-1872) reveal the significant evolution of the house as a residence for many prominent citizens in the city, their relatively short periods of occupancy balanced with the subsequent physical changes to the building would appear

to limit their National Register importance. The true significance of the property would appear to rest with the occupancy of Mrs. P.F. Peck, her son Clarence and their family. It was under the occupancy of the Peck family (1872-1923) that the home appears to have taken on the Classical Revival form now generally visible in the structure. The Peck family's influence in the Oconomowoc community, their development of the area as an affluent summer resort area, is extremely significant to the history and growth of the city.

When Mrs. Philip F. W. Peck of Chicago, rented the property for the summer of 1872 and subsequently bought it in the fall of that year, she opened up a whole new era for the "Old White House", as it had come to be known, and for Oconomowoc. The house quickly became the social center of the community and Madame Peck's efforts provided great impetus for the early development of Oconomowoc as a resort area.

As the widow of Chicago millionaire Philip Peck who had perished in the great fire of 1871, Mary K. Peck sought to escape the summer heat and smell of a rebuilding Chicago. Seeking an escape that would provide both natural beauty and a relaxed atmosphere, Mrs. Peck was brought to Oconomowoc and the Lac LaBelle area by her son Clarence who had recently purchased an interest in the local Draper Hall hotel which he would turn into an exclusive resort. Taken by the natural beauty of the area and the small, quiet village that was then Oconomowoc, Mrs. Peck quickly purchased (in 1872) the prominent "Townsend House" located astride the isthmus between Lac LaBelle and Fowler Lake. Here Madame Peck, her four sons and their families shared the house and its idyllic setting for numerous summer seasons.

During the almost 30 years that Mrs. Peck came to Oconomowoc for the summer seasons she was called the city's greatest booster.<sup>5</sup> In Chicago she was known as the "Queen of the horsey set", and reportedly would ship her prized thoroughbreds to Oconomowoc for each summer season.<sup>5</sup> The matron of an highly affluent and influential family she wielded great power and influence in the social circles of 19th century Chicago society. Actively enticing friends, acquaintances and social contacts with tales of natural beauty and assurances of correct social attitude, she convinced many families to summer and eventually build in Oconomowoc. The power of Chicago's elite to influence the settlement or extended development of a particular area based solely on social reasons cannot be underestimated in this Gilded age of Michigan and Prairie Avenues and Newport.<sup>6</sup> By the turn of the century Oconomowoc and Lake Geneva (in Wisconsin) were both vying for the title of "Newport of the West", as the monied families of Chicago, St. Louis and Milwaukee battled for recognition as having built the most luxurious or extravagant of "summer cottages" in the lake areas of southern Wisconsin. Madame Peck and her four sons, along with Chicago distillery lords George and Henry Shufeldt (whose houses no longer stand), however, are credited with being the first outsiders to recognize the potential of the area and serve as the catalyst

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for subsequent monied investment in the area. In addition to other significant investments altogether the Peck family maintained five large summer homes in Oconomowoc.<sup>7</sup>

In 1887 Mary Peck turned over the house at 430 North Lake Road to her son Clarence who moved in in 1889. An attorney and heir to the family fortune Clarence had also been part owner of a sizable woodenware factory in Chicago. When the plant was destroyed in the 1871 fire he turned towards new investments and purchased with partner Tom Marston the local Draper Hall hotel in Oconomowoc. Capitalizing on the natural springs of the region and the as of yet undiscovered beauty of the area the team turned the small local hotel into an exclusive resort. Like his mother, Clarence was strongly involved with the early development and promotion of the area. The hotel served as the first informal home to many of the earliest "visitors" to the community many of whom would subsequently decide to build personal homes in the area. Among the noteworthy crowd said to have stayed at the resort hotel included Marshall Field, George Pullman and President Grant. (Draper Hall was demolished in 1967.)<sup>8</sup>

It was under Clarence Peck's ownership that the house on Lake Road realized its last major renovations and took on its current Classical Revival appearance. Between 1889 and his death in 1916 Clarence added the dominating north portico, the western porch and dining room extension to the south wing, the fine neoclassical details at the roofline and numerous interior alterations. His son Philip sold the property in 1923 ending the family's ties to this property which had signaled their continued commitment and enthusiastic support for Oconomowoc and its future.

(for additional background see historical sketch at end of section)

#### ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The small resort community of Oconomowoc during the late 19th and early 20th centuries was the site of a considerable burst of architectural excitement. Coinciding with the growth of the area as a premiere summer vacation region for the wealthy, the turn of the century resulted in the erection of elaborate, imposing structures of Queen Anne, Chateausque, Victorian Gothic and Italianate, and Classical design. These "playhouses" for the affluent industrialists, businessmen and entrepreneurs of Chicago, St. Louis and Milwaukee provided Oconomowoc with a much different visual appearance than it had earlier in the century.

Stylish residences such as the Stick Style home of Walter L. Peck built in 1882 by Cass Chapman and the 1879, Victorian Gothic Schuttler Home designed by Charles Gombert, both of which are currently listed on the NRHP, are testament to the architectural sophistication of the little lakeside community and its building patrons. By far not the only other imposingly scaled or detailed design remaining in the city, the Clarence Peck House is however representative of this perceived intent by local residents to visually present to the world their affluent status and worldly sophistication. The colossal Ionic portico on the north wing and the elaborate classical details of the pedimented gables, enclosed porches and bracketed cornice areas are handsome and dramatic examples of Classical revival detailing. Within



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Oconomowoc no other examples of Classical Revival residential design are known. A few structures maintain aspects of neoclassic traditions such as porch columns, window trim and minor detailing, but none possesses the full extravagance of the Peck House at 430 North Lake Road. Comparable structures identified in the Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places in Oconomowoc include the house at 327 Lac LaBelle Drive which features a gable treatment similar to the Peck House but is of a smaller scale; 606 Wisconsin Ave, 508 Silver Lake Street and 360? South Street all of which feature classical forms but are in truth Queen Anne style buildings; and 307 Lake Road whose actual form seems to lie more with the Colonial or Georgian Revival.

Representing not only a fine example of a style of architecture, but also of a unique era of development within the local community, the Clarence Peck residence is a fine addition to Oconomowoc's rich historical picture.

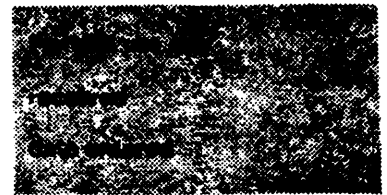
HISTORICAL SKETCH - BIOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND

Madame Peck was a woman held in the highest esteem in Chicago society, arriving there when it was a village of 1000 people. Philip Peck was a pioneer among pioneers arriving in 1830 and he immediately began purchasing real estate. In 1831, he built the first frame house outside Fort Dearborn. The Pecks were married in 1833, and in 1836, built the first brick home in Chicago on the corner of Clark and Jackson.<sup>9</sup> Although he was a merchant and made a good living at it, it was the ownership of what was to become prime downtown real estate, that became the basis for his family's fortune. Upon his death in the Chicago fire of 1871, Peck's four sons inherited properties then valued at \$10,000,000. The youngest son, Ferdinand, became the most important member of the family. He was called "Chicago's most prominent public citizen" when he died in 1927. He is credited with founding the Auditorium Association, hiring Adler and Sullivan to design the world class landmark and with bringing two presidents of the United States to Chicago in connection with the project. He was appointed Commissioner General of the U.S. to the Paris World Exposition and in 1893 was treasurer of the Chicago Columbian Exposition.<sup>10</sup> In 1878, he organized a Couples Yacht Club in Oconomowoc, limiting membership to 75 from Chicago and 25 from St. Louis and Milwaukee. The club constructed a floating club house which was anchored in LaBelle Lake off the shore of the Clarence Peck property.<sup>11</sup> On the top of the boathouse was a judges stand which remains today on the lakeshore at 434 North Lake Road.

Ferdinand Peck built a large Swiss chalet style home (not-extant) adjacent to his brother, Clarence's home at 430 North Lake Road. Many galas on the adjoining lakeside properties are recorded. President McKinley, who was unable to attend Ferdinand's daughter Buda's wedding reception there, sent "sincere congratulations and always my best wishes."<sup>12</sup> Unfortunately, the Ferdinand Peck home was torn down to make way for a modern home.

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Clarence Ives Peck was the oldest of the four brothers, born in Chicago in 1841 and called it's "oldest native citizen" when he died in 1916. He had a partner in a woodenware business (making clothespins, wooden barrels, shingles etc.) in Chicago, which burned down in the great fire. After this he started coming to Oconomowoc in the summer while continuing to help manage the large Chicago real estate holdings of the family. He bought stock in the Draper Hall Resort in Oconomowoc and in 1894, bought enough colossal Ionic columns (from the dismantling of the Columbian Exposition) to enhance the old hotel, as well as his home. His interest in this resort, helped considerably in the early economic development of early Oconomowoc, providing many jobs in the community and establishing the area as a premiere resort region attracting people from all over the world. Unfortunately, the old Draper Hall hotel at 333 North Lake Road, has also been torn down and is now replaced with a modern condominium. Clarence Peck attended Yale University, and was an attorney. In 1886, he married Mary Field, whose father Spafford Field, donated 160 acres of land for Beloit College. Clarence and Mary Peck had three children--Philip F.W. Peck, Winfield and Mary Peck Judson. Clarence purchased the "Old White House" from his mother in 1887 and she moved to a large home across the street at 503 North Lake Road. During the many years that Clarence and Mary Peck lived in Oconomowoc, they entertained many prominent people--George Pullman of railroad fame, and Eugene Field, the poet, among them. Clarence died in Oconomowoc in 1916.<sup>13</sup>

While Ferdinand Peck's home is no longer standing, Clarence's brothers Walter and Harold did produce residences which have withstood the test of time and are still standing within the community also.

1. Draper, Mary Faville, "Oconomowoc's Yesterday," page 5
2. History of Early Waukesha County, page 720
3. Jones, Grace. "The Old White House--" manuscript, page 7
4. Well, "This is Milwaukee" page 261
5. Johnson, J.L. When Midwest Millionaires Lived Like Kings. pages 21-29.
6. Meeker, Arthur., Prairie Avenue, 1949.
7. Yenowine's News, Vol. XXI no 534, Milwaukee, June 19, 1895.
8. Johnson p. 28-29  
Jones p. 9-12
9. Jones manuscript, page 9
10. Chicago Tribune, 1927
11. Chamber of Commerce Booklet of Early Oconomowoc, Oconomowoc Public Library
12. Wisconsin Free Press, September 4, 1897
13. Johnson pages 22-29

\* The period of significance corresponds to the period of occupancy of the house by the Peck family (1872-1923), whose influence in the Oconomowoc community, their development of the area as an affluent summer resort area, is extremely significant to the history and growth of the city.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Donahue, Mary E., The Townsend House 1846-1984 AN Architectural History Uncovered., available at the Oconomowoc Historical Society.

Jones, Grace., "The Old White House", manuscript available at the Oconomowoc Public Library.

Johnson, Jean Lindsey., When Midwest Millionaires Lived Like Kings./ Milwaukee, 1981.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Oconomowoc East

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	6	3	7	17	9	6	1	0	4	7	7	4	5	7	1	0
Zone			Easting					Northing								

B 

Zone			Easting					Northing								

C 

Zone			Easting					Northing								

D 

Zone			Easting					Northing								

E 

Zone			Easting					Northing								

F 

Zone			Easting					Northing								

G 

Zone			Easting					Northing								

H 

Zone			Easting					Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 55, 56, 57; Original Plat Oconomowoc (430 N. Lake a.k.a. Lot 222) Part of Section 33 Town 8North Range 17 East, Waukesha County, WI

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Betty Pflittner Hancock

organization -

date January 1987

street & number 430 N. Lake Road

telephone 414/ 567-4201

city or town Oconomowoc

state Wisconsin

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title

date DEC. 18, 1987

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

  
Keeper of the National Register

date 1-28-88

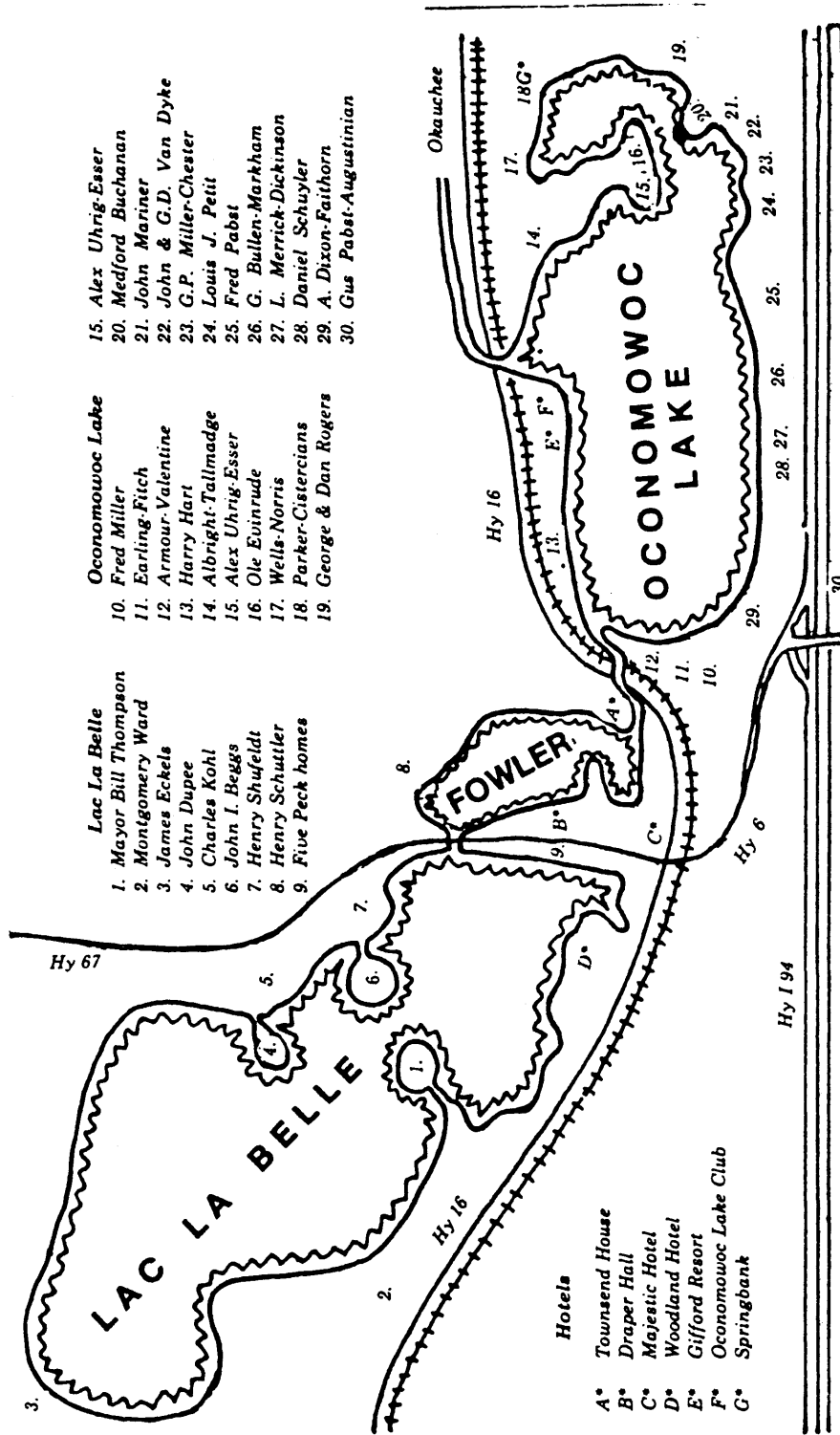
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

HISTORIC OCONOMOWOC RESORT AREA

c. 1900



- Lac La Belle**
1. Mayor Bill Thompson
  2. Montgomery Ward
  3. James Echels
  4. John Dupee
  5. Charles Kohl
  6. John I. Beggs
  7. Henry Shufeldt
  8. Henry Schuttler
  9. Five Peck homes

- Oconomowoc Lake**
10. Fred Miller
  11. Earling-Fitch
  12. Armour-Valentine
  13. Harry Hart
  14. Albright-Tallmadge
  15. Alex Uhrig-Esser
  16. Ole Evinrude
  17. Wells-Norris
  18. Parker-Cistercians
  19. George & Dan Rogers

15. Alex Uhrig-Esser
20. Medford Buchanan
21. John Mariner
22. John & G.D. Van Dyke
23. G.P. Miller-Chester
24. Louis J. Petit
25. Fred Pabst
26. G. Bullen-Markham
27. L. Merrick-Dickinson
28. Daniel Schuyler
29. A. Dixon-Faithorn
30. Gus Pabst-Augustinian

**Hotels**

- A\* Townsend House
- B\* Draper Hall
- C\* Majestic Hotel
- D\* Woodland Hotel
- E\* Gifford Resort
- F\* Oconomowoc Lake Club
- G\* Springbank