



United States Department of Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

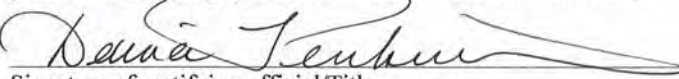
historic name Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
other names/site number

2. Location

street & number	203 South Wacouta Avenue	N/A	not for publication
city or town	Prairie du Chien	N/A	vicinity
state Wisconsin	code WI	county Crawford	code 023
			zip code 53821

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)


Signature of certifying official/Title

6/19/2019
Date

State Historic Preservation Office - Wisconsin
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House

Crawford

Wisconsin

Name of Property

County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☒ entered in the National Register.☐ See continuation sheet.☐ determined eligible for the National Register.☐ See continuation sheet.☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.☐ See continuation sheet.☐ removed from the National Register.☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification**Ownership of Property**
(check as many boxes as
as apply)☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal**Category of Property**
(Check only one box)☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object**Number of Resources within Property**
(Do not include previously listed resources
in the count)

contributing	noncontributing
1	buildings
	sites
	structures
	objects
1	total

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

N/A

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

0

6. Function or Use**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation STONE

walls BRICK

roof Shingles

other

Narrative Description

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

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Name of Property

Crawford
County and State

Wisconsin

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1881

Significant Dates

1881

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Name of Property

Crawford
County and State

Wisconsin

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

Criteria Considerations

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

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Architecture

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1881

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(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Name of Property

Crawford
County and State

Wisconsin

9. Major Bibliographic References

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

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

X State Historic Preservation Office

- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

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

1 15 651015 4767810
 Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

☐ See Continuation Sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth L. Miller, Historic Preservation Consultant
organization
street & number 4033 Tokay Blvd
city or town Madison state WI

date 07/15/2018
telephone 608-354-5016
zip code 53711

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House

Crawford

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	Virginia Antoine, Margaret Antoine, Marianne Carolan	date	07/15/2018
organization		telephone	414-352-1674
street & number	9344 North Regent Road	zip code	53217
city or town	Milwaukee	state	WI

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

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

INTRODUCTION

The Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina (Lockart) Fay House stands at 203 South Wacouta Avenue in the city of Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin. Completed in 1881,¹ it is a two-story, frame Italianate residence finished with cream brick and trimmed with stone (photo 1). The house is composed of a hip-with-deck roofed main block with a gabled projecting pavilion on three facades. The residence rests on a coursed ashlar basement and possesses a one and one-half story, brick-veneered, gabled rear wing (photo 2). It was erected in 1881.² The wing sits on a brick foundation. All the roofs are clad with cedar shingles, installed in 2000.³

DESCRIPTION

The Fay House is located on the southwest corner of South Wacouta Avenue and East Wisconsin Street, just south of Prairie du Chien's central business district (figure 1). A sidewalk runs alongside the property on both streets, and an alley runs behind (to the west) of the house. Single-family residences dating from the late nineteenth to the mid-twentieth centuries are found south, east, and west of the house. Residential and institutional buildings are interspersed to the north, as the area transitions to the traditional downtown along Blackhawk Avenue.

The house exhibits a rectangular footprint, measuring about 35 feet (north-south) by 50 feet (east-west); the wing measures approximately 15 feet (north-south) by 25 feet (east-west). The house features a decorative brick molding and stone belt course that wraps around the house above the first story, forming a continuous sill for the second-story windows (photo 1). Beaded cornice boards and heavy scroll-sawn brackets with incised floral motifs embellish the roofline. Segmental-arched openings with brick-and-stone lintels and stone sills are found on all elevations. Most of the windows are segmental-arched, 1/1 sash; all the windows (except some storm windows) are original. The wing is much simpler in appearance. It displays segmental-arched openings with brick arches and stone sills. The original, segmental-arched 4/4 sash have been retained. A beaded cornice board embellishes the wing. The Fay House faces east, toward South Wacouta Avenue.

The east-facing (front) façade is asymmetrical. The projecting enclosed entry is enriched with a decorative brick molding and projects slightly beneath the flat-roofed front porch. A pair of Doric columns, surmounted by scroll-sawn frieze and brackets incised with floral and sunburst motifs,

¹ City of Prairie du Chien Assessor's Office, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, Tax Rolls, 1880-1888; and *Courier*, September 20, 1881, 3.

² Wing is described in *Union*, October 14, 1881, 3. However, details suggest that it was built after the brick veneer was installed on the main block: there is a joint between the wing and the main block on the south façade; the roofline of the wing covers part of a second-story window on the north façade; and the entrance into the wing from the main block is through a closet.

³ Marianne Carolan, co-owner, personal communication, June 19, 2018.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 2

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

support the roof. The entrance consists of a pair of tall, segmental-arched, gumwood doors, with incised decorations and panes of frosted glass exhibiting a floral motif (photo 3). A pair of segmental-arched, wooden screen doors protects them. Originally, a short wooden staircase with paneled, closed wooden rails rose to the porch, which had wooden flooring and a wooden balustrade and skirt with cutout floral motif (figures 2 and 3). These elements were removed ca. 1960. The porch is further embellished with a frieze of cut-out quatrefoils (photo 1). One window is located south of the porch; another above the porch. A decorative brick molding extends across the front façade at the second story. North of the porch a polygonal bay window is set at the base of the projecting pavilion. A window lights each face of the bay. Heavy scrolled brackets and cornice boards with cutout floral motifs adorn the bay. Two windows can be seen above the bay. The gable features a pointed-arched opening fitted with three small windows; the outer two are fixed. Ornamental brickwork is found beneath the windows. Wrought iron cresting embellished the roof of the porch and the bay until about 2000; a wrought iron balustrade on the hip-with-deck roof was removed ca. 1960.⁴ The cresting and the balustrade have been saved and will be restored and replaced.

The north-facing façade overlooks East Wisconsin Street and displays a centrally-placed, polygonal projecting pavilion (photo 4). A window appears on each face of the projecting pavilion. A pointed-arched opening in the gable end holds three small windows, matching the configuration on the front façade. A broad exterior chimney rises east of the projecting pavilion. It is embellished with decorative brickwork and stone accents. Above the roofline, the chimney was rebuilt ca. 1960; previously this part of the chimney displayed patterned brickwork (figure 4). A window can be seen at each of the first and second floors west of the projecting pavilion. The north-facing façade of the wing exhibits an irregular fenestration pattern with three windows at the first story and two at the second (photo 2).

The south-facing façade is similar to the north-facing façade, featuring a centrally-placed projecting pavilion with evenly-spaced windows at each story, a pointed-arched opening with three small windows in the gable end, and a decorative brick molding extending across the façade at and between the first and second stories (photo 5). East of the projecting pavilion, a small, pointed-arched opening can be seen at the first floor. A tall window is set between the first and second floors, marking the location of an interior staircase. West of the projecting pavilion, a one-story, flat-roofed, screened porch on a concrete foundation can be seen; it dates to 1965 (photo 6).⁵ A door in the south wall of the house opens onto the porch. A second door accesses the porch from the west wall. Originally, a small portico sheltered this door.⁶ It had been removed by 1956.⁷ A window appears above the porch. The wing displays a door at the east end, and two, irregularly-spaced windows at each story (photo 7).

⁴ Dates of alterations from Mary Antoine, "Fay House," National Register Questionnaire, 2014, Fay House Site File, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin.

⁵ Carolan.

⁶ *Map of Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin*, (Pelham, New York: Sanborn Publishing Company), 1912.

⁷ Carolan.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 3

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

The west-facing (rear) façade looks toward the alley. The wing dominates this façade (photo 8). It exhibits a paneled wooden door with narrow sidelights in a segmental-arched opening, accented with a gabled overdoor on brackets with knee braces. The overdoor appears to date to ca. 1920. Above, a window lights the upper story. Behind the wing, the house displays an off-center gable, with a window at each of the first and second stories, and two polygonal-shaped, 1/1 windows in the gable end. These windows frame an interior brick chimney. The chimney top was rebuilt ca. 1960; the original top exhibited decorative brickwork.⁸

Interior

The first floor plan consists of the original dining room (southwest), the front parlor (northeast), the sitting room (north central, now the dining room), and the kitchen (northwest) (figure 5). The front doors open into a large vestibule (photo 9). A wooden, staircase in quarter-turn configuration rises along the south wall of the vestibule. A straight wooden staircase (servants' stair) is set between the kitchen and the sitting room. Beneath the servants' stair, a straight wooden staircase descends to the basement. South of the kitchen, the former butler's pantry was remodeled into a bathroom and tiny utility room (with washer and dryer) ca. 1957.⁹ The kitchen was remodeled the same year; it retains simple pine vertical board wainscoting and plain wooden window and door surrounds. The first floor features abundant woodwork, all of it gumwood (except in the kitchen and former butler's pantry).¹⁰ The window and door surrounds in the vestibule, parlor, sitting and dining rooms possess ornate floral incised head blocks, small quatrefoils, compound moldings and guttae, as well as a shaped cornice incised with stylized leaves and topped with an acanthus leaf (photo 10, sitting room looking into front parlor; photo 11, front parlor looking into sitting room; photo 12, sitting room looking into dining room; and photo 13, dining room looking into vestibule). Double pocket doors separate the vestibule from the front parlor, the front parlor from the sitting room; double swinging doors close the sitting room from the dining room. The principal staircase exhibits a chamfered newel post with a square base, fluting, compound moldings, incised blocks with floral motifs, and a large knob with acanthus leaves (photo 14). The landing newel posts are similar, but simpler. The turned balusters are slender, and the wooden stringer is embellished with carved quatrefoils. The staircase is partially supported by a narrow wooden post with an incised capital (photo 15). Two ornate pendants also appear. The vestibule, principal staircase, and dining room closet display wainscoting with a compound chair rail. A fireplace is found in the front parlor (photo 16), and in the master bedroom on the second floor (figure 6). The mantelpieces are of black slate, with marbleizing, and inlaid with silver in simple geometric and floral designs. The front parlor fireplace is surmounted by an elaborate overmantel with a large mirror and a deep cornice. The overmantel was likely gilded originally, but has been painted.

⁸ Carolan; and stereopticon photo.

⁹ Carolan.

¹⁰ *Union*, August 26, 1881, 3; and *Union*, October 14, 1881.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 4

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

There was a fireplace in the sitting room; it was removed prior to 1950.¹¹ A gesso picture rail embellishes the parlor, sitting room, and three bedrooms. A plaster medallion enriches the ceiling in the vestibule, parlor, sitting and dining rooms, and three of the bedrooms. Many original light fixtures, dating to ca. 1894, also remain.¹² The height of the first floor ceiling is 11 feet.

The second floor plan is composed of a central hall, with a master bedroom (northeast), a medium-sized bedroom on either side of the hall, a small bedroom (northwest), and a bathroom (southwest) (figure 7). Toward the west end of the hall, an archway with scrolled brackets appears. This may have been designed to delineate the servants' area; the servants' staircase, small bedroom and bathroom lie beyond it. The master bedroom includes an alcove, beneath a broad arch with scrolled, foliated brackets, which served as a sitting room. Second floor woodwork is pine, and the door and window surrounds are plain.

Folding, louvered wooden blinds accent each window (figure 8, blinds in front parlor polygonal bay window). All the interior woodwork retains its original, oiled finish (except in the kitchen and bathrooms). Other finishes include plaster and wallpapered walls and ceilings, and carpeting on the floor. There is wooden plank flooring beneath the floor coverings; the house was designed for carpeting. One original Wilton carpet remains in place, in the north bedroom.

The plan of the wing consists of two rooms on the first floor, and a wooden, quarter-turn-with-winders staircase (northwest) (figure 5). There are two bedrooms and a bathroom on the second floor (figure 7). A wash room (laundry), and wood and coal storage occupied the first floor rooms, and servants quarters were on the second floor.¹³ A door in a closet in the west wall of the house opens into the wing.

ALTERATIONS

Exterior alterations are limited to the loss of the wooden flooring and rails on the front porch (ca. 1960), the construction of the rear porch (1965), the removal of iron cresting on the front façade polygonal bay window and porch (ca. 2000) and the roof deck (ca. 1960), and the rebuilding of the chimney tops above the roofline in a simpler form (ca. 1960). These changes are small, reversible, and not structural, minimizing their impact. The front porch rails were photographed before removal, and could be reconstructed. The iron cresting has been preserved and will be restored and replaced. The rear porch cannot be seen from either street façade, or from the alley, reducing its impact. The chimney tops are a minor change that does not impair the architectural character of the house.

¹¹ Antoine.

¹² When Prairie du Chien obtained electricity. Antoine.

¹³ *Union*, October 14, 1881, 3.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 5

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

Although the rear addition does not appear to be original to the design of the house, it was erected in 1881,¹⁴ and therefore does not represent an alteration.

On the interior, the principal alteration is the remodeling of the kitchen and butler's pantry (ca. 1957) to create a modern kitchen, bathroom, and utility room. These changes are confined to private, functional spaces, and have allowed the house to continue to serve its residents into the twenty-first century. In contrast, the grander, public spaces, including the vestibule, parlor, sitting and dining rooms are intact (except for the fireplace in the sitting room), as are the second floor spaces. Abundant ornate woodwork and other decorative features have been maintained. Overall, the Fay House retains a high degree of integrity to its period of significance, 1881.

¹⁴ Wing is described in *Union*, October 14, 1881, 3.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 1

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

Insert Statement of Significance

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina (Lockart) Fay House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under *Criterion C* at the local level. It is an excellent and intact example of Italianate residential design; its ornate interior woodwork is particularly fine and shows the influence of the Queen Anne style. The period of significance coincides with the date of construction of the house and its rear wing, 1881. The Fay House retains a high degree of integrity.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CITY OF PRAIRIE DU CHIEN

‘Prairie du Chien’ was the French name for the nine-mile long prairie just north of where the Wisconsin River flows into the Mississippi. The name, “Prairie of the Dog,” is believed to derive from a Meskwaki (also known as Fox) leader or family by that name that lived on the prairie in the mid-eighteenth century. The site had been a neutral gathering place for the Indian nations in the region for many centuries before Europeans and Euro-Americans arrived in the seventeenth century. French fur traders traveling the Fox-Wisconsin Rivers to the Mississippi in the late-seventeenth and eighteenth centuries found the prairie to be a logical and convenient spot to rendezvous and trade with the Indians. Fox, Sauk, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, Dakota, Ojibwe, and Potawatomi people all came to Prairie du Chien to trade for several weeks every spring beginning in the 1730s.¹⁵

Native people (probably the Fox) had established a permanent village at Prairie du Chien by 1766.¹⁶ Conflicts between the French and the Fox, and the French and the British, prevented Euro-American settlement at Prairie du Chien until the 1770s. French and French-Indian fur traders and their families, mostly from the settlements to the south at Kaskaskia and Cahokia, on the Mississippi River, in *Pays des Illinois* (Illinois Country) were the first Euro-Americans to make Prairie du Chien their home. In the 1780s, French-Canadians, and a few British-Canadians, began settling at Prairie du Chien as well. These newcomers selected sites for their houses, for trading posts, and for farming. In 1781, the British officially bought the land at Prairie du Chien from the Fox. Most of the land had been subdivided by 1800, using a system of land partitioning employed in New France. The configuration at Prairie du Chien, in which land owners had a lot in a village, and a farming lot outside the village, was also characteristic of French settlements in Illinois Country.¹⁷

¹⁵ Mary Elise Antoine and Lucy Eldersveld Murphy, eds, *Frenchtown Chronicles of Prairie du Chien: History and Folklore from Wisconsin's Frontier*, (Madison, WI: Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 2016), xiii; Wyatt, I:4-1 through 4-8; and Robert C. Nesbit, *Wisconsin: A History*, (Madison, WI: The University of Wisconsin Press, 1973), 43-44.

¹⁶ D.S. Durrie, “Captain Jonathon Carver and ‘Carver’s Grant’,” *Wisconsin Historical Collections*, VI (1872), 226.

¹⁷ Zeitlin, 4; and Allen G. Noble, *Wood, Brick, and Stone: The North American Settlement Landscape*, (Amherst, MA: The University of Massachusetts Press, 1984) 2:88.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 2

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

In 1814, the U.S. constructed Fort Shelby at Prairie du Chien to forestall British attempts to recruit western tribes to the British side during the War of 1812. Soon thereafter, the British captured the installation, with the assistance of local residents, and renamed it Fort McKay. The British burned the fort in 1815, and then withdrew from the Northwest Territory.¹⁸ When the United States gained control of the area in 1815, about 600 people lived in Prairie du Chien, and most families were headed by French-Canadians involved in the fur trade. In June 1816, American troops arrived in Prairie du Chien. The first Fort Crawford, a structure of earth and timber, was constructed on top of the Indian mound on which Villa Louis (the Dousman estate, NRHP, NHL) now sits. Fort Crawford was named in honor of then U.S. Secretary of War, William Crawford. However, severe flooding in the 1820s caused the fort's evacuation in 1826, and its abandonment in 1828. The second Fort Crawford (Fort Crawford Hospital, extant) was constructed on a site on the mainland in 1829-32.¹⁹

In 1821, Prairie du Chien was incorporated as the *Borough of Prairie des Chiens*, in Michigan Territory, which had been established in 1818. Prairie du Chien was one of only two municipalities in what would become Wisconsin. Green Bay was the other. The Borough was a short-lived form of government, ending in 1825.²⁰

The fur trade declined in the late 1820s, prompting some French-Canadians in Prairie du Chien to follow the trade northwest, while others became farmers or found other work, such as loading and unloading cargo on the steamboats that regularly stopped at Prairie du Chien beginning in 1823. The American Fur Company would maintain an office in Prairie du Chien until declaring bankruptcy in 1842.²¹

In a series of treaties between 1825 and 1830, the Ho-Chunk, Sauk and Fox, Menominee, Iowa, Chippewa, Ottawa, and Potawatomi nations were forced to cede land in southwestern Wisconsin to the U.S. government. This opened the region to Euro-Americans, who had been illegally encroaching on Indian land, and had been clamoring for the removal of the Indians, so they could have unfettered access to the rich lead deposits in the region. Beginning in the late 1820s, growing numbers of English speakers, Yankees from New England and New York, settled in Prairie du Chien. This trend accelerated after the end of the Black Hawk War in 1832. In that conflict, the Sauk tribal leader tried to re-establish the Sauk and Fox nation in their Rock River Valley homeland, and was chased by

¹⁸ Wyatt, I:3-1 through 3-3; Nesbit, 39-43, and 63-70; and Mary Elise Antoine, *Prairie du Chien*, (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2011), 14.

¹⁹ Scanlan, 185-195; Antoine, *Prairie du Chien*, 15; and Nesbit, 81-82.

²⁰ Scanlan, 190-192; and C.W. Butterfield, *The History of Crawford and Richland Counties, Wisconsin*, (Springfield, IL: Union Publishing Company, 1884), I:635.

²¹ Antoine, *Prairie du Chien*, 15.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 3

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

American troops for four months. Black Hawk saw most of his people massacred at the Bad Axe River, where they tried to cross the Mississippi.²²

Many of the Euro-American newcomers to Prairie du Chien built their homes and businesses on the mainland, south of the second Fort Crawford, in the area called Lower Town (the area north of Fort Crawford was known as Upper Town). The inauguration of ferry service crossing the Mississippi River from a landing in Lower Town helped stimulate development in that area. By 1836, the year that Wisconsin Territory was organized, Yankees outnumbered the French speakers in Prairie du Chien.²³

Prairie du Chien experienced an economic downturn in the 1840s, as the fur trade moved on and the Fort Crawford garrison was reduced.²⁴ Fort Crawford would close in 1856. In the early 1850s, the economy in Prairie du Chien began to improve in anticipation that the community would be selected as the terminus for a railroad line extending from Milwaukee to the Mississippi River. Over 300 new buildings were erected in Prairie du Chien between 1852 and the arrival of the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railway in 1857. Wilhelmina (Lockart) Fay was born in Prairie du Chien in 1848; Benjamin F. Fay settled in the community in 1853.²⁵

The railroad depot and freight facilities were initially located in Lower Town. Freight terminated at Prairie du Chien, and then was shipped on the Mississippi River, or ferried across it. Prairie du Chien had become the junction of a rail-steamboat transportation system, launching a period of growth that would last 20 years. The train brought Irish, German, and Bohemian immigrants to Prairie du Chien to work in new businesses, including sawmills, lime kilns, brickyards, breweries, and a steam-powered flour mill.²⁶

During the Civil War, Prairie du Chien boomed. As many as 100 carloads of wheat passed through daily en route to Milwaukee. In 1864, the Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien Railroad (a successor to the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railway) expanded its facilities. The company constructed a second depot, for freight and passengers, and platforms for trains, steamboats, and ferries, as well as the sprawling Railway House (extant, renamed Dousman House Hotel ca. 1885).²⁷ After the Civil War, railroad and steamboat shipping remained leading enterprises in Prairie du Chien. The grain elevator could load up to 275 railcars a day. The original depot in Lower Town was enlarged, and a car works was

²² Nesbit, 109-116.

²³ Antoine, *Prairie du Chien*, 15.

²⁴ Nesbit, 212-213; and Edgar Oerichbauer, *Prairie du Chien: A Historical Study*, (Madison, WI: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1976), 99-100.

²⁵ Butterfield, 638-39; and Antoine, *Prairie du Chien*, 25.

²⁶ Scanlan, 209; Zeitlin, 6; and Antoine, *Prairie du Chien*, 25.

²⁷ Zeitlin, 7; Antoine, *Prairie du Chien*, 35-36; Nesbit, 190-194; and Butterfield, 477.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 4

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

constructed. In 1874, John Lawler opened the pile pontoon bridge, an engineering marvel that allowed rail cars to cross the Mississippi, reducing the need for stevedores. The Milwaukee Road (successor to the Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien Railroad) would continue to extend its rail network westward during the 1870s and the 1880s, shipping wheat east through Prairie du Chien. Benjamin Fay (1822-1920) built considerable wealth buying and shipping grain and livestock between 1857 and 1871.²⁸

Prairie du Chien incorporated as a city in 1872, with a population of about 2,700. Benjamin Fay, who had served in the Wisconsin Assembly in 1869 and advocated for the city charter, was elected the first mayor, and re-elected in 1873 and 1874. By this time, the new depot and the facilities for shipping and transportation had changed the Mississippi waterfront into an industrial and commercial center. Prairie du Chien's principal business district had developed in Upper Town, along what is now Blackhawk Avenue (just north of the Fay House). Most of the churches, the post office, and the Crawford County Courthouse were located in Upper Town, as well. Church Street (now Beaumont Road) was extended south, to connect Upper and Lower towns, destroying parts of the second Fort Crawford.²⁹

Other enterprises that added to the growth of Prairie du Chien in the 1870s included a lath and shingle mill; the Harris and Benson Company (1870), producing plows and cultivators; and the Prairie du Chien Artesian Well Company, which began pumping in 1876 on its site just north of the Fay House. Benjamin Fay sat on the board of directors. The first fire-fighting companies were also established during the 1870s. Two private schools opened, and the Prairie du Chien public school district was organized. During the mid-1870s, Benjamin Fay became a land agent, buying and selling lots, especially in Lower Town. Fay would continue dealing in real estate until at least 1900.³⁰

In 1880, Prairie du Chien counted 2,777 residents. The arrival of second railroad in 1885, the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railway (now part of BNSF Railway), briefly boosted the economy, but this north-south line contributed to a decline in steamboat shipping, and the population of Prairie du Chien dropped after reaching 3,326 in 1885. Clamming became an important part of the local fishing industry during the 1880s. A factory that made buttons out of discarded clamshells was established in Prairie du Chien in 1899. The factory employed 30 hands at its peak, closing in 1909 when the mollusks had become scarce. Another factory that started during this time was the Prairie du Chien Woolen Mills, where wool was spun, dyed, and woven into cloth and blankets. The mills employed

28 Zeitlin, 8; Antoine, *Prairie du Chien*, 57; and Butterfield, 544.

29 A. Ruger, *Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin, 1870*, (Chicago Lithog. Co.), 1870; and Antoine, *Prairie du Chien*, 47.

30 Antoine, *Prairie du Chien*, 45; and Butterfield, 640-652; and U.S., Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900*. <http://www.ancestry.com>, (retrieved July 1, 2018).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 5

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

135 people at its peak. By 1935, the company had gone out of business, its plant purchased by Burgess Cellulose, which produced insulation and sponges.³¹

Prairie du Chien grew very slowly through the twentieth century, developing as a regional service center. The erection of the first automobile bridge (not extant) across the Mississippi at Prairie du Chien in 1932 signaled the end of transshipment as a factor in the local economy. Truck transport soon outpaced rail shipments, even as the bridge and the expanding road system increased the commercial importance of the city in the region. In 1940, the population of Prairie du Chien numbered 4,622.³²

Since World War II, Prairie du Chien has maintained its role as a regional service center. Major employers include county and local government, and 3M. Originally called Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing, 3M acquired the Burgess Cellulose plant in 1965, and manufactured synthetic sponges in Prairie du Chien until 2001. In 2018, the firm's second Prairie du Chien plant continues to make a variety of cleaning, automotive, commercial, and construction products. Cabela's sells outdoor recreational equipment and represents another important employment sector in Prairie du Chien: tourism. The natural beauty of the city's location on the Mississippi River and nearby Wyalusing State Park attract many visitors. The Euro-American history of Prairie du Chien draws tourists as well. The Fort Crawford Museum is housed in the second Fort Crawford's hospital. In 1921, the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) purchased the property on which the remnants of the hospital, the last surviving portion of the second Fort Crawford, were located. In 1933, the city of Prairie du Chien received a grant from the federal Civil Works Administration to restore the hospital. In 1996, the Prairie du Chien Historical Society formed to take charge of the property, and operate it as a museum. The Dousman family gave Villa Louis to the city in 1935. The large estate features the elegant Italianate mansion designed for Louis Dousman, son of Hercules Dousman and Jane (Fisher) Dousman in 1870 by the distinguished Milwaukee architect, Edward Townsend Mix. Villa Louis was transferred to the State Historical Society of Wisconsin in 1950, and opened as a historic site in 1952. Since 1975, French fur trade history has been celebrated at the annual Rendezvous, held in Main Village on Father's Day weekend, in June. In 2010, the population of Prairie du Chien stood at 5,911.³³

³¹ Antoine, *Prairie du Chien*, 72-73; and Zeitlin, 11-13.

³² Antoine, *Prairie du Chien*, 101; and Zeitlin, 14.

³³ Antoine, *Prairie du Chien*, 72-73; "History of Villa Louis," <http://villalouis.wisconsinhistory.org/About/History.aspx>, (retrieved 11 April 2017); "History: Fort Crawford D.A.R.," <http://www.fortcrawfordmuseum.com/history/fort-crawford-dar>, (retrieved April 11, 2017); "History: Fort Crawford Museum," <http://www.fortcrawfordmuseum.com/history/fort-crawford-museum>, (retrieved 11 April 2017); and "Welcome to 3M Prairie du Chien," <http://www.3m.com>, (retrieved April 12, 2017).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 6

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

SIGNIFICANCE: ARCHITECTURE

The Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina Fay House is a fine and intact example of an Italianate style residence. The Italianate style was primarily built in Wisconsin between 1855 and 1885. Italianate houses were generally two stories, rectangular or ell-shaped in plan, with low-pitched hip or gable roofs. Brackets typically are located beneath the wide eaves. The windows are tall and narrow, often segmental- or round-arched, may be paired, and may have hood moldings.³⁴ Italianate masonry houses expressed the confidence and prosperity of the well-to-do. The Fay House illustrates this and exemplifies the Italianate style, incorporating the basic characteristics of the mode, as well as elements more common to high style examples, such as the polygonal bay window and the polygonal projecting pavilion. The house possesses an elegant exterior and ornamentation that represents the transition from Italianate to Queen Anne. Italianate components on the porch such as the Doric columns, frieze with quatrefoils, and scrolled brackets are combined with incised stylized floral motifs and sunbursts drawn from the Queen Anne mode. Decorative brickwork moldings and patterning on the main block also show the influence of Queen Anne (as did the patterned chimney tops). The abundant interior woodwork integrates the classical and the picturesque of the two styles as well, in a way that is similar to that seen in pattern books such as *Bicknell's Victorian Buildings*, published in 1878.³⁵ This is most notable in the public spaces: the vestibule; the parlor; the sitting room; and the dining room. The head blocks on the first floor window and door surrounds blend quatrefoils, classical moldings, and guttae, with incised blocks in floral motifs, and the shaped cornice is incised with stylized leaves, yet capped with a classical acanthus leaf. The principal staircase exhibits turned balusters that would not be out of place in an Italianate design, while the chamfered newel post with its square base, fluting, compound moldings, incised blocks with floral motifs, and large knob with acanthus leaves is Queen Anne, and is nearly identical to several examples that appear in *Palliser's American Cottage Homes* (1878).³⁶ Linneas Hoskins (of Bloomington, Grant County) and James McCabe (of Prairie du Chien) carved the woodwork.³⁷ They may have used pattern books to create the designs that embellish the Fay House. According to the 1880 federal census, Hoskins was a cabinetmaker, and McCabe was a carpenter.³⁸ The woodwork has never been refinished. The architect of the Fay House, if there was one, has not been identified.

³⁴ Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1985), pp. 210-214; and Wyatt, II:2-6.

³⁵ A.J. Bicknell & Co., *Bicknell's Victorian Buildings*, 1878, reprint, (New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1979), no page numbers. Plate 14, and supplementary plate 2.

³⁶ *The Palliser's Late Victorian Architecture, a facsimile of George and Charles Palliser's Model Homes and American Cottage Homes*, 1878, reprint, (Watkins Glen, New York: The American Life Foundation, 1978), no page numbers. Stairs, newels, rails and balusters.

³⁷ *Union*, October 14, 1881, 3.

³⁸ U.S., Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Tenth Census of the United States, 1880*, <http://www.ancestry.com>, (retrieved July 1, 2018).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 7

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

There are only two other Italianate residences identified in the WHPD in Prairie du Chien: Villa Louis (1870, NRHP, NHL); and the Mason House at 506 South Wacouta Avenue (AHI #3942). The Wisconsin Historical Society regards Villa Louis as one of the best examples of Italianate design in the state. Villa Louis is larger, has a high style exterior with segmental-arched openings, paired scrolled brackets, and a wrap-around veranda with incised and cutout decorations. It was designed by a master architect (Edward Townsend Mix of Milwaukee), and its interior spaces are grander than those of the Fay House. However, the Fay House is still a fine example of Italianate design, and the elaborate wooden ornamentation and interior woodwork outshine the simpler wainscoting and classical moldings at Villa Louis. The Mason House is a boxy, two-story, flat-roofed, brick-veneered residence believed to have been erected ca. 1865-ca. 1871.³⁹ It is a good example of Italianate design, and features segmental-arched openings, a polygonal bay window on the front and side facades, and brickwork quoins. However, prior to 1976, it had a mansard roof;⁴⁰ its removal is a major alteration. The front porch postdates 1976, and the windows have been replaced. A third house displays the influence of the Italianate style and is located at 1116 South Wacouta Avenue. It is a two-story, square, brick residence with a low-pitched hipped roof. The house exhibits a three-bay front façade, a broad, off-center entrance with sidelight, 1/1 replacement windows with plain stone lintels and sills, and a hip-roofed cupola. The form and entrance appear drawn from the Greek Revival mode, suggesting a ca. 1865 construction date. The Fay House is as good or better an example of the Italianate style than either the Mason House or the residence at 1116 South Wacouta Avenue, and has better maintained its historic appearance. The Fay House retains a high degree of integrity.

Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina (Lockart) Fay and the History of the Fay House

Benjamin Franklin Fay (figure 10, 1822-1920) was born in Chittenango, New York and attended private school in Utica, New York. By November 1844, Fay had migrated to Milwaukee, moving to Watertown in 1846, where he opened a general store. In 1848, Fay was a partner in the construction of a flour mill, which he then operated until 1852. In 1849, Fay was appointed postmaster of Watertown. Fay was an entrepreneur, quick to take advantage of new opportunities, investing in business and transportation initiatives. Fay served as a commissioner in the Watertown, Hubbleville and Waterloo Plank Road Company, incorporated in 1851. In 1852, the Milwaukee and Watertown Railroad was chartered, and Fay purchased stock in the railroad and briefly acted as secretary of the company.⁴¹

In 1853, Fay married Martha Greene (1832-1863), and the couple moved to Prairie du Chien. Fay established a general store. When the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad arrived in Prairie du Chien

³⁹ Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory, AHI #3942, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin, <http://www.wisahrd.org/index>, (retrieved July 3, 2018).

⁴⁰ The Antoinettes remember the house with a mansard roof.

⁴¹ *U.S., Appointments of U.S. Postmasters, 1832-1971*, [database on-line] Provo, Utah, ancestry.com, <http://www.ancestry.com>, (retrieved June 30, 2018); and Antoine, "Fay House."

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 8

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

in 1857, Fay closed his store and began purchasing and shipping livestock and grain, in Prairie du Chien, and about six miles southeast in Bridgeport, on the north bank of the Wisconsin River. A bridge had been built across the river in 1857, giving the community its name. This allowed Grant County farmers on the south side of the river to bring their products across the river for sale and shipment on the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad. Fay was an investor and secretary in the company that was chartered to sell stock to raise funds to erect the bridge. He constructed a warehouse at Bridgeport in 1857, and a grain elevator there in 1863. Fay continued as a livestock and grain dealer until 1871. That year, he established the Wauzeka Manufacturing Company, in Wauzeka, about 17 miles east of Prairie du Chien. Fay served as president and treasurer of the company, which produced barrel staves and other items for coopers.⁴²

During the 1860s, Fay had begun acquiring land in Lower Town at the south end of the community. By 1874, he had amassed extensive holdings there, and launched a new career as a land agent, which he would continue until at least 1900. Fay was also civic-minded, representing Crawford County in the Wisconsin Assembly in 1869. He actively supported securing a city charter for Prairie du Chien, granted in April 1872. Fay was elected the first mayor of the city, and re-elected in 1873 and 1874.⁴³

Fay married Wilhelmina S. (Lockart) Powell (1848-1920), a widow, in 1875. Willia, or Willy, was born in Prairie du Chien and attended the Rockford Female Seminary in Rockford, Illinois. She was the daughter of Edward P. Lockart (1816-1892) and Esther (Dandley) Lockart (1819-1897), who had settled in Prairie du Chien in 1841. Edward Lockart served as deputy sheriff and then sheriff of Crawford County from 1843 through 1846, with a jurisdiction that extended to Lake Superior. In 1848-49, Lockart acted as sergeant-at-arms of the Wisconsin Senate in the last territorial legislature, as well as the first state legislature. Lockart opened a sawmill on the Chippewa River near Chippewa Falls in 1852, rafting the wood to Prairie du Chien, where he established a lumberyard on Church Street (now Beaumont Road), just north of the site of the Fay House, in 1854. Lockart would continue

⁴² Findagrave, <https://www.findagrave.com>, (retrieved July 3, 2018); and John G. Gregory, ed., *Southwestern Wisconsin: A History of Old Crawford County*, (Chicago: J.S. Clarke, 1932), I:310-311, and 388; U.S., Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Eighth Census of the United States, 1860*, <http://www.ancestry.com>, (retrieved July 2, 2018); and U.S., Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Ninth Census of the United States, 1870*, <http://www.ancestry.com>, (retrieved July 2, 2018).

⁴³ City of Prairie du Chien Assessor's Office, Tax Roll, 1874; U.S., Bureau of Land Management, *Wisconsin, Homestead and Cash Entry Patents, Pre-1908*, [database on-line], (Provo, Utah: ancestry.com, 1997), May 1, 1861, <http://www.ancestry.com>, (retrieved July 3, 2018); *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1882*, (Milwaukee: Hogg & Wright Co., 1882), 408; *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1895-96*, (Chicago: R.L. Polk & Co., 1895), 869; U.S., Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900*, <http://www.ancestry.com>, (retrieved July 2, 2018); Gregory, I:233; and Butterfield, 644.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 9

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

to own the lumberyard as late as 1884, and likely provided the lumber used in the construction of the Fay House.⁴⁴

Willia Lockart married Delos E. Powell (1840-1870) in 1869, and they lived in Milwaukee, where they operated a hotel. Delos Powell died and was buried in Prairie du Chien. Willia Powell resided in Prairie du Chien after her first husband's death.⁴⁵

In 1872, Willia purchased lots 7, 8, 9, and 10 in Block 91 of the Union Plat from Hercules L. and Jane F. Dousman, for \$600. Located at the southwest corner of East Wisconsin and South Minnesota (now South Wacouta Avenue) streets, the Fay House would be built on the latter three lots. Ownership of the property would remain in Willia's name throughout the Fays' tenure in the house.⁴⁶

In 1879, Fay acquired lots 11, 12, and 13 in Block 91, Union Plat, west across the alley from Willia's property, and overlooking Church Street (Beaumont Road). Fay erected a barn on his lots, and piped water into the barn from the Prairie du Chien Artesian Well Company, just north of Wisconsin Street opposite his property. Fay sat on the board of directors.⁴⁷

Construction on the Fay house began in August 1880 and was completed in September 1881; the wing was completed in October 1881.⁴⁸ The local newspaper reported on the progress as the house went up, noting that the structure was frame, veneered with Milwaukee (cream) brick, and that the interior would be "...lathed and plastered and wainscoted with the richest of fine-grained wood, oiled."⁴⁹ It seems reasonable to presume that the wood came from Lockart's lumberyard, less than a block from the Fay House. Linneas Hoskins (a cabinetmaker) and James McCabe (a carpenter) of Prairie du Chien carved the woodwork.⁵⁰ The newspaper later noted that the front doors and window casings were of gumwood, and that the fireplaces featured, "...silver-plated ranges and marbelized [sic] slate mantels..."⁵¹ Water may have been piped in from the artesian well across Wisconsin street, to the sinks in the butler's pantry and kitchen, and perhaps to the second floor bathroom. The house was equipped with forced air heat, and cisterns. The rear wing held a washroom (for laundry) and wood

⁴⁴ Butterfield, 644 and 673-74; Findagrave, <https://www.findagrave.com>, (retrieved July 3, 2018); Antoine, "Fay House"; and *Map of Prairie du Chien, Wis.*, (Pelham, New York: Sanborn Publishing Company, 1884).

⁴⁵ U.S., Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Ninth Census of the United States, 1870*, <http://www.ancestry.com>, (retrieved July 2, 2018); and Findagrave, <https://www.findagrave.com>, (retrieved July 3, 2018).

⁴⁶ Crawford County Deeds, 31:571, April 20, 1872; and Crawford County Deeds, 86: 570, May 1, 1911.

⁴⁷ Crawford County Deeds; Butterfield, 659; and Gregory, I:276.

⁴⁸ *The Courier*, August 24, 1880, 3; *The Courier*, September 20, 1881, 3; and *Union*, October 14, 1881, 3.

⁴⁹ *Union*, May 20, 1881, 3.

⁵⁰ U.S., Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Tenth Census of the United States, 1880*, <http://www.ancestry.com>, (retrieved July 2, 2018); and *Union*, October 14, 1881, 3.

⁵¹ *Union*, August 26, 1881, 3.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 10

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

and coal storage on the first floor, and sleeping quarters for servants on second floor. The newspaper concluded that, when completed, the Fay House "...will be the handsomest and warmest in our city."⁵²

The Fays left Prairie du Chien after selling the home in 1911. They were living in Winnetka, Illinois when Benjamin Fay passed away on February 20, 1920. Willia Fay died December 11, 1920, in Evanston, Illinois.⁵³

The second owners of the Fay House were John Scott Earll and Ona (Bennett) Earll, who bought the property from Willia in May 1911, paying \$5,000. The Earlls sold lots 8, 9, and 10, which included the house, to Clark and Wava Abrams for \$12,000 in June 1948. The Earlls retained lot 7, selling it to Laura Behling in December 1953 for \$2,000. The Abrams operated the property as a rooming house, and then sold it to F.J. and Mary J. Antoine in November 1956.⁵⁴ The Antoinettes returned the Fay House to single family use. The property remains in the Antoine family.

CONCLUSION

The Fay House is eligible for the NRHP under *Criterion C* at the local level. It is an excellent and intact example of Italianate residential design; its ornate, Queen Anne-influenced ornamentation and interior woodwork are particularly fine. The period of significance coincides with the date of construction of the house and its rear addition, 1881. The Fay House retains a high degree of integrity.

⁵² *Union*, May 20, 1881, 3.

⁵³ *Cook County, Illinois, Deaths Index, 1878-1922* [database on-line], (Provo, Utah: Ancestry.com, 2011), <http://www.ancestry.com>, (retrieved July 2, 2018); and Findagrave, <https://www.findagrave.com>, (retrieved July 3, 2018).

⁵⁴ Crawford County Deeds, 86:570, May 1, 1911; Crawford County Deeds, 183:611, June 21, 1948; Crawford County Deeds, 189:482, December 23, 1953; and Crawford County Deeds, November 19, 1956, 204:215.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 1

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 2

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 3

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

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___End of References

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 10 Page 1

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina Fay House is located in the city of Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin, on Lots 8-10, Block 91, Union Plat. The legal and historic boundary follows the back line of the sidewalk along South Wacouta Avenue a distance of 100 feet, and the back line of the sidewalk along East Wisconsin Street 130 feet. The boundary encloses a rectangular parcel of less than one acre.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary of the Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina Fay House encloses all those resources historically associated with the property. It coincides with the legal boundary.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section photos Page 1

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

Name of Property: Benjamin and Wilhelmina Fay House
City: Prairie du Chien
County: Crawford County
State: Wisconsin
Name of Photographer: Elizabeth L. Miller
Date of Photos: June 2018
Location of Original Data Files: Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0001
East (front) façades, camera facing west

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0002
East (front) and north façades, camera facing southeast

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0003
Front doors, camera facing west

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0004
North and east (front) and façades, camera facing south-southwest

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0005
South façade, camera facing northwest

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0006
South façade, camera facing northeast

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0007
South façade, camera facing north-northeast

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0008
West (rear) façade, camera facing northeast

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0009
Vestibule, looking toward the front doors, camera facing east

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0010
Looking from the sitting room into the front parlor, camera facing southeast

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0011
Looking from the front parlor into the sitting room, camera facing west

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0012
Sitting room looking into the dining room, camera facing south

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section **photos** Page 2

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0013
Dining room looking into vestibule, camera facing east-southeast

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0014
Newel post, main staircase, camera facing southerly

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0015
Main staircase, camera facing west

WI_CrawfordCounty_BenjaminandWilhelminaFayHouse_0016
Fireplace, front parlor, camera facing north

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section **figures** Page 1

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Fay House, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, USGS with UTM Reference

Figure 2. Original Front Porch, ca. 1960. Photo from Antoine Family, Fay House Site File

Figure 3. Original Front Porch Balustrade, ca. 1960. Photo from Antoine Family, Fay House Site File

Figure 4. Drawing of Fay House ca. 1885. From Antoine Family, Fay House Site File

Figure 5. Fay House, First Floor Plan with Photo Key

Figure 6. Master Bedroom Fireplace. Photo by Mary Antoine, 2014, Fay House Site File

Figure 7. Fay House, Second Floor Plan

Figure 8. Wooden Blinds in Polygonal Bay Window, Front Parlor. Photo by Mary Antoine, 2014, Fay House Site File

Figure 9. Fay House Site Plan with Photo Key

Figure 10. Benjamin F. Fay, ca. 1872. Source: City of Prairie du Chien

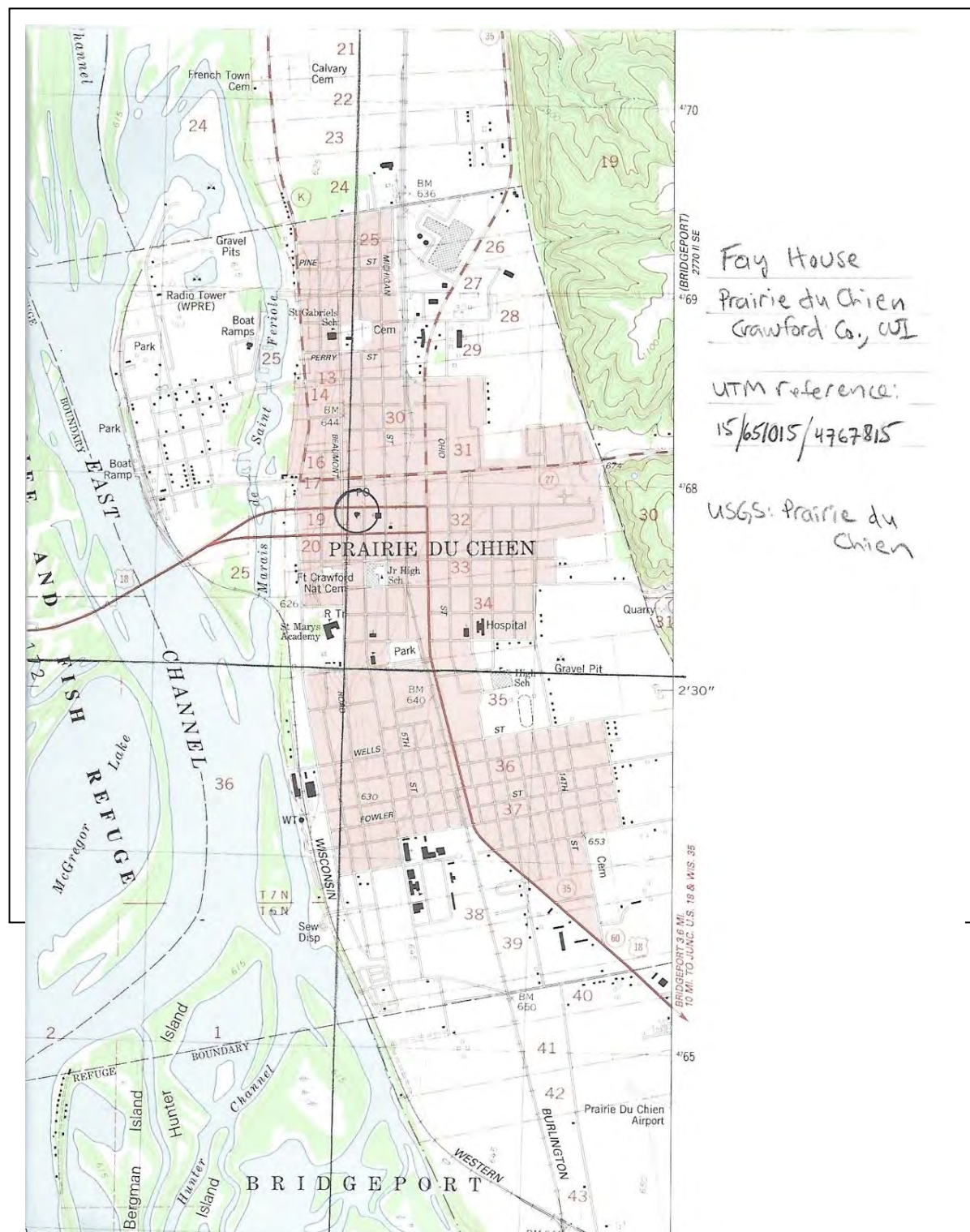
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section figures Page 2

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

Figure 1. Fay House, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, USGS with UTM Reference



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section figures Page 3

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

Figure 2. Original Front Porch, ca. 1960. Photo from Antoine Family, Fay House Site File.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section figures Page 4

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

Figure 3. Original Front Porch Balustrade, ca. 1960. Photo from Antoine Family, Fay House Site File.



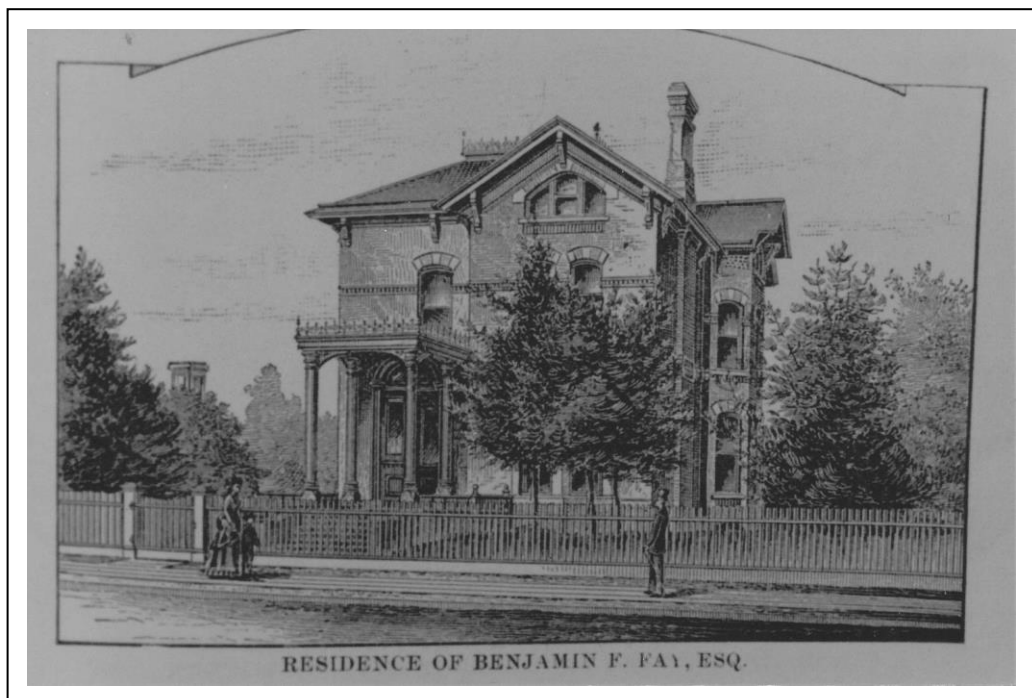
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section figures Page 5

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

Figure 4. Drawing of Fay House ca. 1885. From Antoine Family, Fay House Site File.



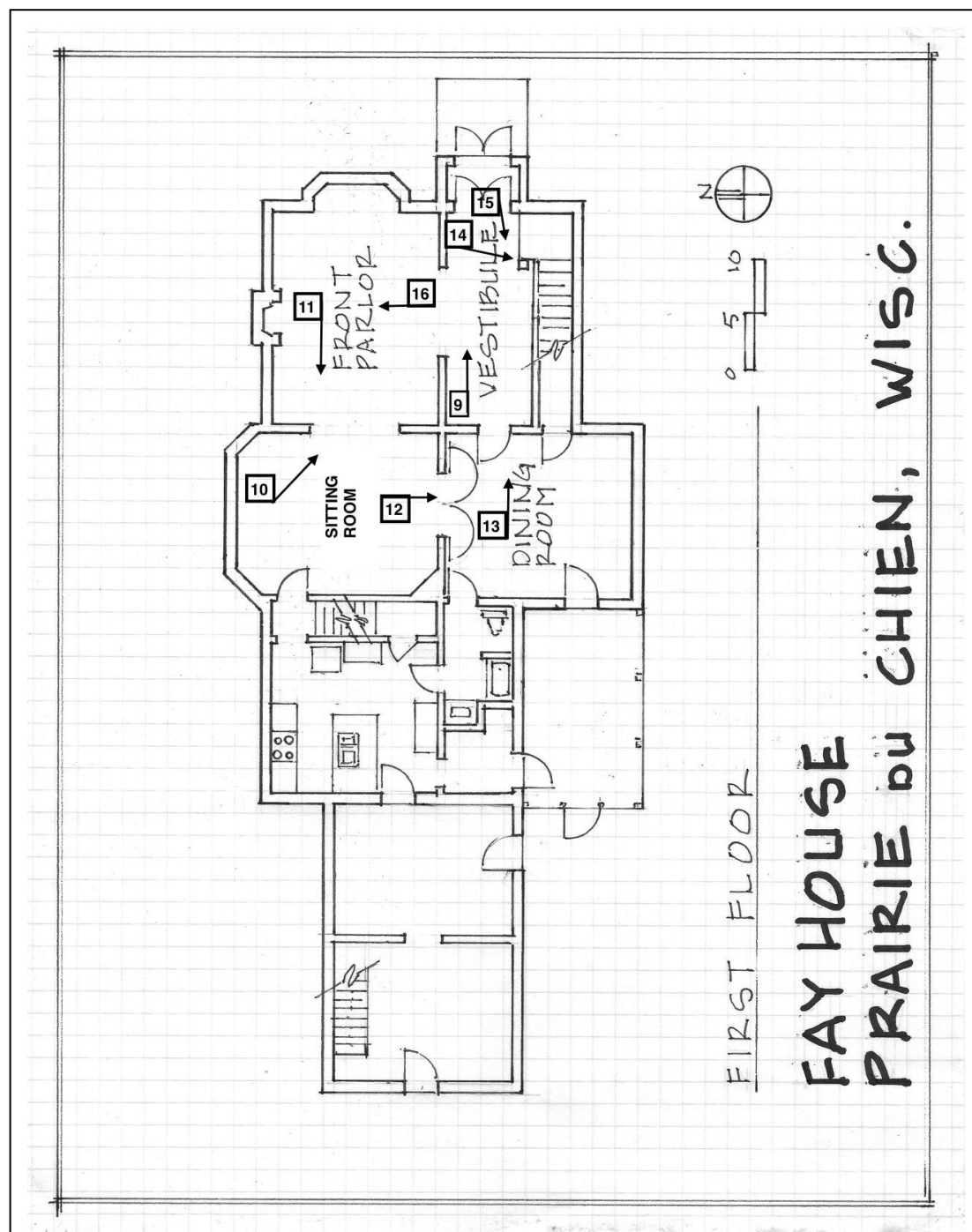
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section figures Page 6

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

Figure 5. Fay House, First Floor Plan with Photo Key.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section figures Page 7

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

Figure 6. Master Bedroom Fireplace. Photo by Mary Antoine, 2014, Fay House Site File.



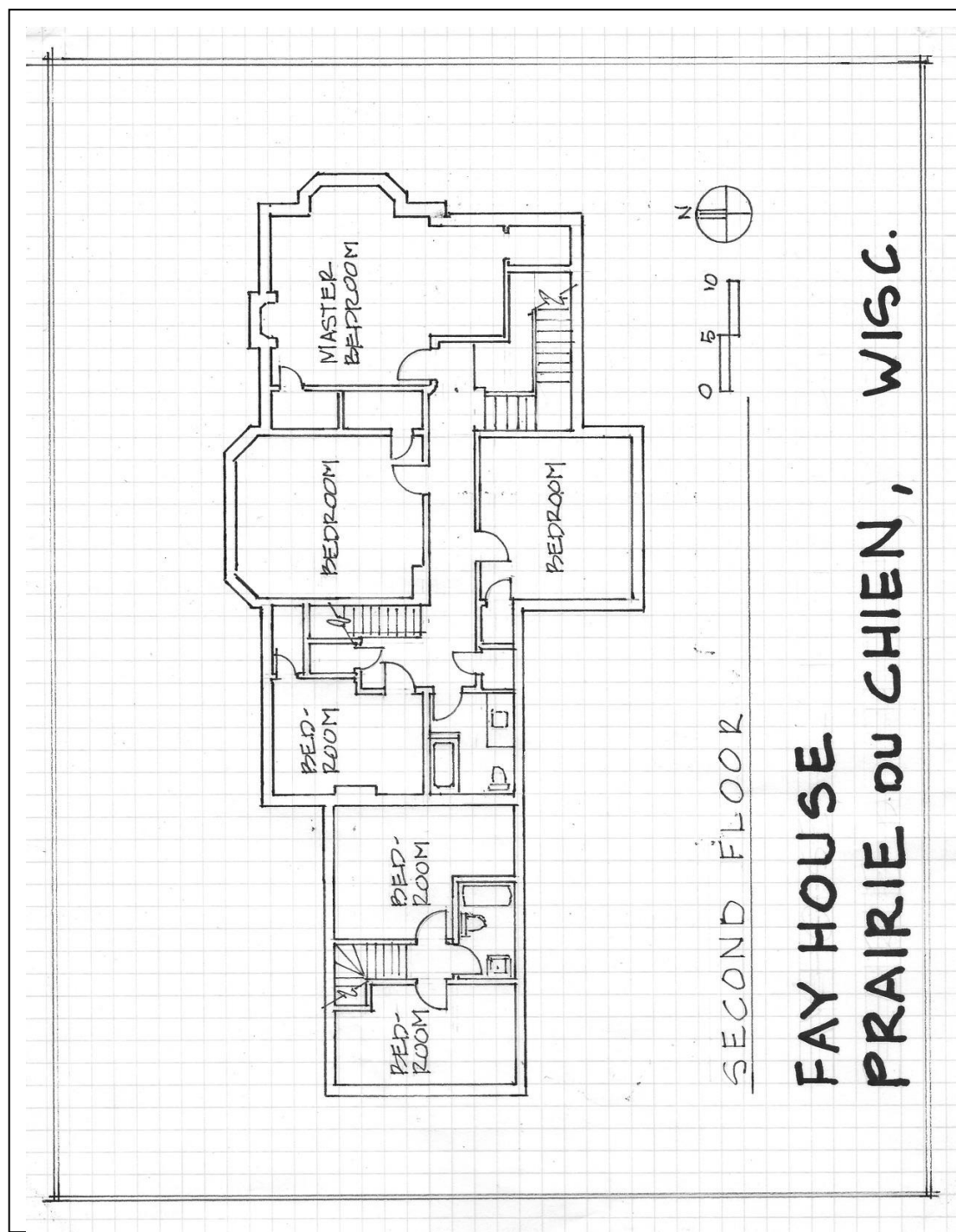
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section figures Page 8

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

Figure 7. Fay House, Second Floor Plan.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section figures Page 9

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

Figure 8. Wooden Blinds in Polygonal Bay Window, Front Parlor. Photo by Mary Antoine, 2014, Fay House Site File.



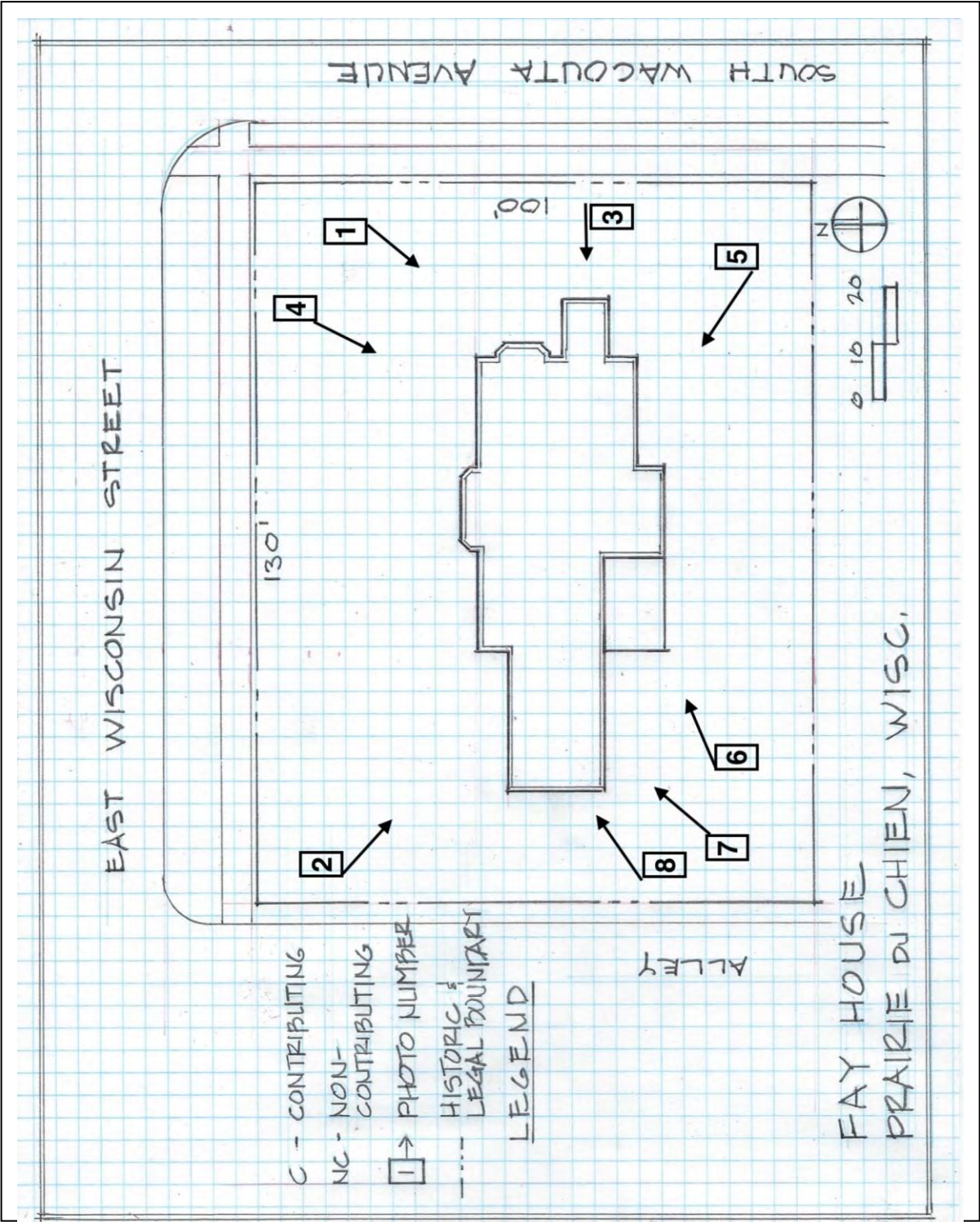
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section figures Page 10

Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

Figure 9. Fay House Site Plan with Photo Key.



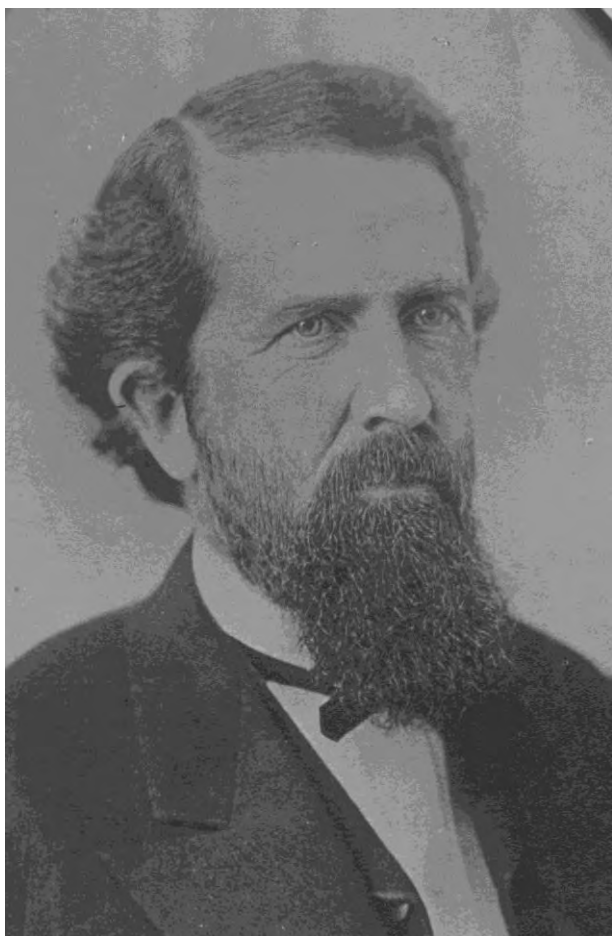
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section figures Page 11

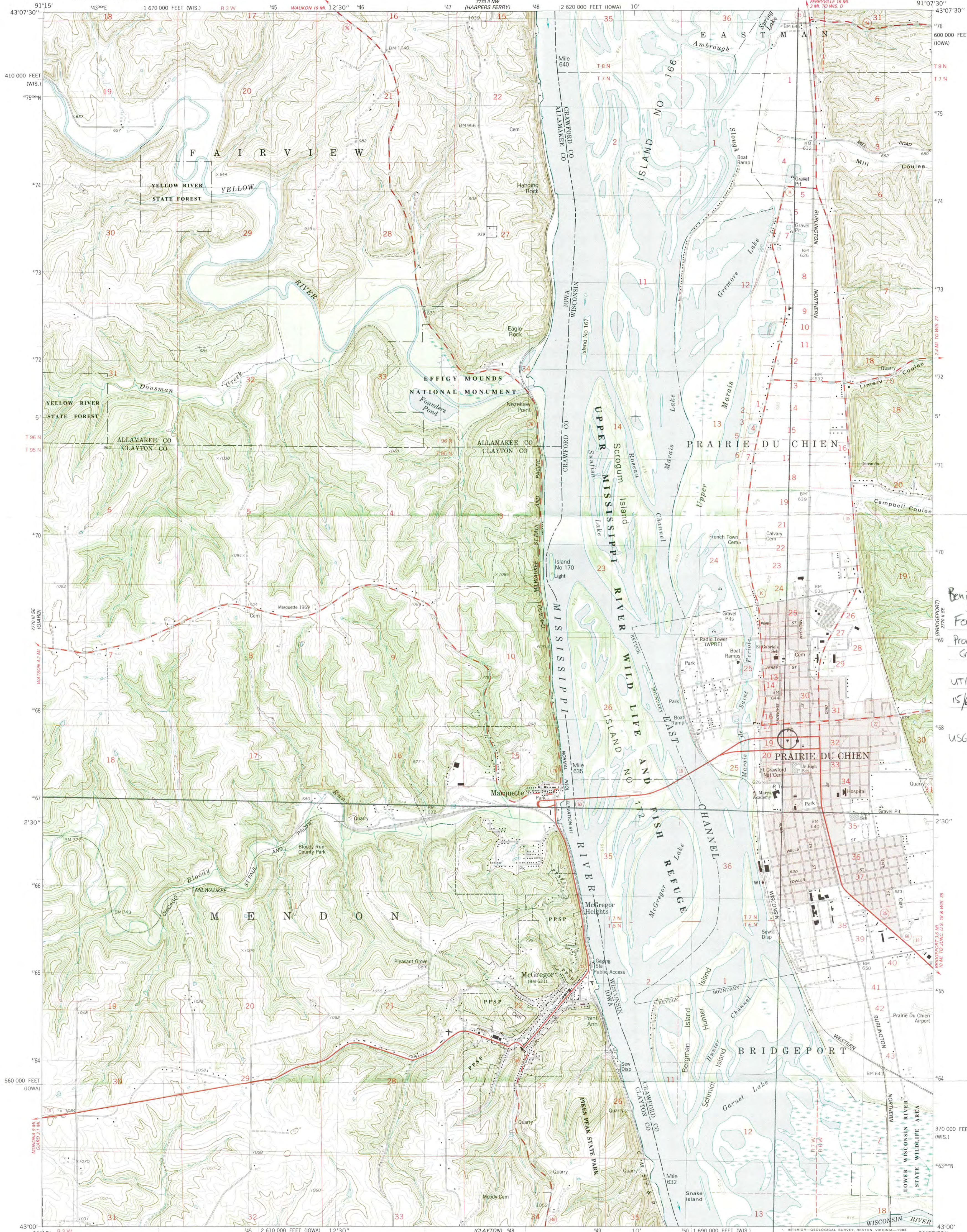
Fay, Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina, House
Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin

Figure 10. Benjamin F. Fay, ca. 1872. Source: City of Prairie du Chien.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN QUADRANGLE
IOWA-WISCONSIN
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Benjamin F. and Wilhelm
Fay House
Prairie du Chien
Crawford Co., WI
UTM Reference:
15/651015/4767810
USGS: Prairie du
Chien

Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
in cooperation with the Wisconsin Division of Highways
and Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1965 and planimetric surveys 1967
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1960-61
Field checked 1981. Map edited 1983
Projection: Iowa coordinate system, north zone
(Lambert conformal conic)
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Iowa coordinate system
north zone and Wisconsin coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 5 meters north and
12 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

SCALE 1:24 000
1 000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 0 1 KILOMETER
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240
AND WISCONSIN GEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY, MADISON, WISCONSIN 53706
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route
PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, IOWA-WIS.
SW/4 PRAIRIE DU CHIEN 15' QUADRANGLE
N4300-W9107.5/7.5
1983
DMA 7770 II SW-SERIES V876



































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 6/24/2019 Date of Pending List: 7/19/2019 Date of 16th Day: 8/5/2019 Date of 45th Day: 8/8/2019 Date of Weekly List: 8/9/2019

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal	<input type="checkbox"/> PDIL	<input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue
<input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Photo
<input type="checkbox"/> Waiver	<input type="checkbox"/> National	<input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary
<input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission	<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Period
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> TCP	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years
	<input type="checkbox"/> CLG	

☒ Accept ☐ Return ☐ Reject 8/6/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary
Comments:

Recommendation/
Criteria

Reviewer Barbara Wyatt Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2252 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

RON KIND
THIRD DISTRICT, WISCONSIN
SENIOR WHIP
WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

LA CROSSE OFFICE
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LA CROSSE, WI 54601
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WEBSITE: kind.house.gov



April 22nd, 2019

Wisconsin Historic Preservation Review Board
c/o Peggy Veregin
Wisconsin Historical Society
816 State Street
Madison, WI 53706

Dear Ms. Veregin:

I am writing in support of several nominations before the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Review Board: New Hope Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Town of New Hope (Portage County); St. Lucas Evangelical German Lutheran Church in the Town of Glendale (Monroe County); Benjamin and Wilhelmina Fay House in Prairie du Chien (Crawford County); the Otto and Ida Loeffler House in La Crosse (La Crosse County) and the Nels and Nellie Johnson House in Wisconsin Rapids (Wood County). These five nominations reflect the rich heritage of their area and with this designation can be accessible for future generations.

As the U.S. Representative for Wisconsin's 3rd Congressional District, I have an interest in supporting projects that preserve the architectural as well as cultural history of the area. Given its merit and potential benefits, I encourage the Review Board to give full consideration to these nominations. Please don't hesitate to contact my office if I can provide further assistance with this request.

Sincerely,

Ron Kind
Member of Congress

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131 SOUTH BARSTOW STREET, SUITE 305
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WISCONSIN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



TO: Keeper
National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Peggy Veregin
National Register Coordinator

SUBJECT: National Register Nomination

The following materials are submitted on this Nineteenth day of June 2019, for the nomination of the Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina Fay House to the National Register of Historic Places:

_____ 1	Original National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form
_____ 1	CD with NRHP Nomination form PDF
_____	Multiple Property Nomination form
_____ 16	Photograph(s)
_____ 1	CD with image files
_____ 1	Map(s)
_____ 10	Sketch map(s)/figures(s)/exhibit(s)
_____ 1	Piece(s) of correspondence
_____	Other:

COMMENTS:

_____	Please ensure that this nomination is reviewed
_____	This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
_____	The enclosed owner objection(s) do or do not constitute a majority of property owners
_____	Other: