

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Thematic Resources of the Cooksville Area

CONTINUATION SHEET

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<u>Property</u>	<u>Owner Name & Mailing Address</u>
39 <u>Savage House</u> Cooksville vicinity (Dane County)	Mrs. Earl Anderson Route 1 Evansville, WI 53536
40 <u>Leedle Mill Site & Truss Bridge</u> Cooksville vicinity	Town of Union Wayne Disch, Chairman Croft Road Evansville, WI 53536
41 <u>Cooksville Cheese Factory</u> Cooksville vicinity	Dr. Adolf & Allison Lunde U 188, Leedle Mill Road Route 3 Stoughton, WI 53589
42 <u>John T. Dow House</u> Cooksville vicinity	Norman & Laura Jean Hatlen Route 1 Evansville, WI 53536
43 <u>Cooper-Gillies House</u> Cooksville vicinity	Norman & Laura Jean Hatlen Route 1 Evansville, WI 53536
44 <u>Miller House</u> Cooksville vicinity	James D. & Thomas N. Hatlen Route 1 Evansville, WI 53536
45 <u>Miller House</u> Cooksville vicinity	Carl Liedholm Route 1 Evansville, WI 53536
46 <u>Champney Brickyard & House Site</u> Cooksville Historic District	Sidney Anderson Route 1 Evansville, WI 53536
47 <u>Joseph K. P. Porter Farmstead</u> Cooksville vicinity	Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Tait Route 1 Evansville, WI 53536
48 <u>Harrison Stebbins House ("Windermere")</u> Cooksville vicinity	Earl & Lavon Keehn Route 1 Evansville, WI 53536
49 <u>Richardson Grout House</u> Cooksville vicinity	Harold Porter 6641 Gettysburg Drive Madison, WI 535705

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

Historical Resources of Cooksville - Partial Listing

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

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44. Miller house ca. 1845
 SW NE S. 7, Town of Porter UTM Reference: (m) 16/316880/4743920
 Owner: Carl Liedholm, R 1 Ev (Less than 1 acre)

This well-preserved vermilion brick house, built ca. 1845, is significant on architectural grounds for its fine quality as typifying a style or type of construction. It was cited by Perrin (Historic Wisconsin Buildings, p. 55) as one of two "very typical examples" of "expressions in brick building following the more conventional Greek Revival lines," with "wood cornices with typically Greek moldings." Notable also are an elliptical fanlight in the attic, a front door with lights, an arched entrance to the root cellar on the south wing of the house. A frame addition to the 1-1/2 story brick wing harmonizes with the rest of the house. The interior was well restored with relatively little alteration.

The house was probably built by Chambers and Lovejoy; the floor plan of its main block is identical to those of the Lovejoy-Duncan, Collins, and Dow houses (Nos. 1, 24 and 42). It was associated with two unrelated Miller families. Lovejoy sold it to James Pratt Miller in 1856; then Charles Miller, a Pennsylvania-born farmer who moved to Wisconsin in 1844, bought it in 1867. It remained in the latter Miller family until 1947.

(Rock County, 1879, p. 871; Perrin, Historic Wisconsin Buildings, 1962, p. 55, illus.; RCHSB, pp. 138-39; Raney notes.)

46. J.K.P. Porter farmstead
 Farmhouse: NWSW S. 5, Porter 1847 ff UTM Reference: (t) 16/318050/4744790
 Granary: " " 1870's (About 14 acres)
 Lyell Porter house (W) NE SW 5 ca. 1935
 John Porter house (E) " " ca. 1860, moved 1920's
 Owner: Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Tait, R 1 Ev

The Joseph K. P. Porter farmstead is of primary historic importance not only to Cooksville but also to the Town of Porter, for its association for over 120 years (1847-1968)

with the founding family of the area. J.K.P. Porter (1819-1907), from Charlton, Mass., acted as agent for his uncle, Dr. John Porter, who acquired the east half of Section 6, including the Waucoma land, and the west half of Section 5 from famed United State Senator Daniel Webster in 1842. Joseph came with his bride, Ann Eliza Bacon Porter (1821-1890), to manage the property. He built the core of the house in 1847. By mid-1860's, it was a two-story four-bay frame Greek Revival house with returned cornices and a 1½ story wing to its rear. It was then similar in proportion to the brick Cooper-Gillies house in Union. As the children married, wings were added so that the families could return to visit in the summer. These wings were also two-storied and gabled with returned cornices, to match the rest of the house. One wing houses a stairhall which was added on the south front side, and is centered in front of the original house. Floors are oak, sawed in the sawmill which was located on the farm. This sawmill had furnished lumber for other Waucoma houses after the Cooksville mill was completely converted to a flouring mill. The big farmhouse eventually became a tenant house. The tenants included some of the Norwegians who had moved to the area to work on the farms in the late 19th century, when tobacco was added to the dairy and forage production of the region.

In the 1920's, one of the two-storied wings, now with simple gables, was moved about 1/8th of a mile northeast along the Badfish Creek by John B. Porter, who was then in ill health, to become the family home. The doorway was centered on the long side of the house. It was embellished with a flat, decorated Eclectic Georgian Revival lintel and engaged pilasters. The first story windows were remodeled into pairs on either side of the door, and a porch was added on the left rear, overlooking the creek. This building is contributory on historic grounds only, as part of the long occupation of the site by the family.

About 1935 Lyell Porter, among the last of the descendents to own the farm, constructed a compatible two-story frame house just west of the moved one. It also overlooks the creek. Fitzhugh Scott of Milwaukee contributed to the design of this Eclectic Revival house. There is a nice broken-pedimented entrance, a six-over-six paned window on either side of the door, and three square three-over-three paned windows on the second story. The facade is better proportioned than its mate. There is also a small cornice return on the sides. Similar in scale and material to its companion and directly associated with the family, it is also contributory to the nomination.

A rustic two-story horse barn of about 1870 was converted to a granary about 1920. It sits on a concrete slab ca. 75 feet north of the big farmhouse, and is topped with a gabled cupola. It was converted to an antique shop in the 1970's but is now vacant. It is contributory as the only one of the numerous farmbuildings which were once in existence on the site.

The sawmill on the farm has left too few traces to be part of the nomination. Some of its record books, however, are extant. The earthworks were visible not far from the two houses as late as the 1940's.

The metallic buildings which were added in the 1970's to the west of the farmhouse and granary are incompatible to the nomination.

(Rock County, 1879, p. 871; L.R. Porter, Choice Seed in the Wilderness, 1964; Edgerton Reporter, May 1965; Milwaukee Journal, July 2, 1967; Raney notes.)

47. Harrison Stebbins house ("Windermere") 1850 Acreage: less than 1 acre
 SE NE S. 8, Porter UTM Reference: (n) 16/318910/4743730 (KOC - corrections
 Owner: Earl and Lavon Keehn, R 1 Ev rec'd 9/16/80)

One of the finest 19th century residences in Rock County, this "large and commodious" 2½ story limestone house was praised soon after it was erected in 1850 as "one of the most desirable situations in the county" (Ag. 1856, p. 116). Its primary significance is architectural, as embodying with exceptional quality the distinctive characteristics of a period and type of construction, limestone Greek Revival with Federal characteristics.