

Record-No. _____

AUG 16 1988

INVENTORY FORM FOR NOMINATED PROPERTIES

NATIONAL REGISTER

Name of Property: Cyrus Davis Farmhouse

Owner: Friederick E. Gottlieb Date: 4/24/88

Address: W204 N7776 Lannon Road

Owner's address: W204 N7776 Lannon Road
Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051

City: Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051

County: Waukesha

*160 NRHP Certification

(a) _____ (b) _____

(c) _____ (d) _____

165 NRHP Certification Date

(a) _____ (b) _____

(c) _____ (d) _____

*170 Thematic or Multiple Resource Nomination Name

Multiple Resources of Menomonee Falls

180 NRHP List Name Cyrus Davis Farmhouse

*200 Level of Significance Local

*190 District Classification _____

*210 Applicable Criteria Architecture (C)

*215 Criteria Considerations _____

*220 Area of Significance

Architecture

230 Period of Significance Architecture: 1855

60 Verbal Boundary Description Pt W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 17 T8N

R20E Com. SW Corner North 3329.77 ft. The

bgn north 740 feet East 300 feet South 740

feet West 300 feet to bgn 10.10 acres also

R100/762

70 USGS Quad Map Sussex, Wisconsin

80 UTM Coordinates (Format: 99/999999/9999999)

C. 16/405420/4778800

E. 16/405650/4778900

F. 16/405650/4778685

85 Listed Acreage 10.10 acres

340 Review Board Date _____

Nomination includes:

- ONE Building. (contributing)
- ONE Building. (non-contributing)
- (modern garage)

*use code tables for response

INTENSIVE SURVEY FORM

Record No. _____ Property Name: Cyrus Davis Farmhouse

LOCATION

* 10 County Waukesha
 20 City or Village Menomonee Falls
 30 Civil Town _____
 35 Unincorp. Community _____
 40 Location W204 N7776 Lannon Road
 Town-Range-Section (Format: 9999W-99)
 50 _____
 55 Quarter Sections (Format: NW-NW) _____
 60 Verbal Boundary Description Part of W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$,
 Section 17, Town 8 North, Range 20 East.
 60 Commencing SW corner north 3324.77 feet.
 The beginning north 740 feet, east 300
 60 feet, south 740 feet, west 300 feet to
 BGN 10.10 acres. Also R 100/762.
 60 _____

PROGRAM REVIEW

250 Tax No. _____ Compliance No. _____
 * 270 A or D Grant _____
 275 Covenant/Easement Dates _____
 * 320 Ownership Private
 * 330 Lead Agency _____
 335 Local Agency _____

SURVEY

90 Photo Codes WK95-17 ; WK108-2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,
 10,11,12,13,14; WK110-23
 100 Survey Map Engineer's Map of Menomonee Falls
 110 Map Code 95-17
 120 Reconnaissance Surveyor Leonard Garfield
 130 Reconnaissance Survey Date 1979
 * 140 Intensive Survey Name Menomonee Falls Intensive
 Survey
 150 Intensive Surveyor Rausch/Kilsdonk (Johnson '84)
 152 Surveyor Affiliation Architectural Researches,
 155 Intensive Survey FY 1985
 * 235 Survey Eval. Eligible
 * 237 Survey District Classification _____
 * 240 Survey Level of Significance Local
 * 243 Survey Evaluation Criteria Architecture/
 245 Proposed District _____
 280 NHL Date _____
 290 HABS No. _____ 300 HAER No. _____
 * 305 Local Designation (date) _____
 320 Local District _____
 315 Associated Archeological Site(s) _____
 315 _____



Number
Street

* use code tables for response

Record No. _____

Address W204 N7776 Lannon Road

ARCHITECTURE

450 Construction Date [source] 1855^B

460 Date(s) of Alterations/Additions [source] 1965-1966: Rear addition^{D E}

460 1968: Front porch

480 Builder [source] unknown

* 490 Designer Type (a) -

490 (b) _____ (c) _____

500 Designer Name [source] (a) unknown

500 (b) _____ (c) _____

* 510 Style or Form Greek Revival

510 _____

* 520 Building, Structure, Object or Site Type

520 House - Building

* 530 Wall Material Limestone Wood

* 532 Trim Material Wood Stone

* 535 Foundation Material Stone

* 537 Roof Material Wood Shingles

* 540 Interior Visited Yes

* 550 Structural System [source] -

* 560 Plan Configuration I-Plan with addition

* 570 Number of Stories Two (ell-one)

* 580 Roof Shape Gable

590 Additional Description _____

590 See last page

590 _____

590 _____

* 620 Condition Excellent

* 650 Related Buildings Garage (WK108-3)

Outbuilding (WK108-2)

650 Edgar Davis House, W204 N7818 Lannon Road

650 _____

HISTORY

430 Current Name Friederick Gottlieb House

435 Current Function House

440 Historic Names [source] Cyrus Davis Farmhouse^A

440 _____

440 _____

660 Assoc. Individuals [source] (a) Cyrus Davis 1 3

660 (b) Charles Davis 3

665 Dates Assoc. [source] (a) 1853 to 1855-94 2 4 5

665 (b) 1910-1925 2 3 6

670 Assoc. Events [source] (a) -

670 _____

670 (b) _____

670 _____

675 Dates of Events [source] (a) -

675 (b) _____

680 Historic Functions [source] (a) Residence 2 3

680 (b) _____

685 Dates of Functions [source] (a) 1853 to 1856-

685 Present 2 3

* 687 Cultural Affiliation _____

688 Cultural Subgroup _____

*use code tables for response

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Cyrus Davis received a land grant for the west $\frac{1}{2}$, northwest $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17, in 1847. During the 1850's, Davis also added the west $\frac{1}{2}$ of the southwest $\frac{1}{4}$ and another 40 acre tract, giving a total of 200 acres. In 1853, he mortgaged his property, perhaps to build the limestone block Greek Revival residence. The 1905 obituary of Lucy Davis noted its erection, and taxes on the property rose considerably by 1857. In 1855, it reputedly replaced a log cabin residence.^{2.4.} Cyrus Davis also built a limestone residence for his son, Edgar, on 3.1 acres north of his own dwelling (see Edgar Davis House, W204 N7818 Lannon Road). Lucy Davis inherited the 80-acre tract containing the residence at Davis' death in 1894. Noble Davis worked the farm. After her death in 1905, the property was transferred to Noble Davis, and Charles Davis gained title to the property after his brother's death in 1910. He sold it in 1925. Sometime during this period, part of the house was used as a school.^{13.14.} Frederick Gottlieb, the present owner, purchased the residence, now on 5.1 acres, in 1945.^{2.3.6.}

Cyrus Davis migrated from New York, arriving in Menomonee Township about 1844.^{2.6.} Davis remained a farmer until his death in 1894, and invested in the limestone industry. Like other farmers in the county, Davis participated in wheat farming. Wheat remained a leading cash crop in Waukesha County from settlement until the 1870's.^{7.} By 1850, Davis had improved 70 acres, producing 200 bushels of wheat. On 120 acres, he raised 600 bushels of wheat in 1860. But by 1860, Davis had already begun to expand his crops and livestock, producing 200 pounds of wool and 300 pounds of butter, as well as feed crops. By 1880, his wheat dropped to 200 bushels on the same acreage, while his wool production rose to 400 pounds.^{8.} Such an adjustment reflects the growing loss of profit from wheat farming from soil exhaustion and disease and shift to wool and feed production and dairying in Waukesha County in the 1870's. Farmers preserved and marketed their milk by converting it to butter until the 1890's, when central creameries ended home butter production.^{7.9.}

(Continued on next page)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND - (Continued)

Davis also invested in the Waukesha Stone Company with C. C. Ernest and D. C. Barnes by 1858. The company was established in 1856. Limestone quarrying and burning for construction and agricultural use remained a primary mineral industry in Wisconsin and Waukesha County in the second half of the 19th and into the 20th century. By 1860, the company employed 25 men, and quarried lime and stone valued at \$12,000 and 900 pieces of window and door lintels valued at \$900.^{10.11.} The stone utilized to build Davis' farmhouse reputedly came from his own property, rather than quarries operated by the company.^{2.12.} Hadfield and Wilkins purchased the company in 1871.^{11.}

Cyrus Davis' sons, Charles and James, operated a commercial limestone quarry on the Davis property, the west $\frac{1}{2}$, southwest $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 17, from 1890 to about 1930. Edgar Davis joined the Davis Brothers Stone Company in 1897. The company produced building materials, rather than mortar.^{11.14.15.12.2}

DESCRIPTION

Built in the center of the area destined to become noted as the source for "Lannon Limestone", the L-shaped Davis Farmhouse, constructed with thick walls of limestone quarried nearby, is sited facing Lannon Road. Characterized by low gable roofs, the Davis Farmhouse features raised mortar joints, cornice trim decorated with classical dentils, cornice returns in the gable ends, stone window and door lintels and sills, and six-over-six lights. Short windows with eight lights are used to illuminate the upper story on the south side of the house. An open shed roofed front porch supported by square posts placed in the angle of the house in 1968 has entrance doors into the ell and into the main block. An open shed roofed rear porch on the ell and an exterior basement entrance characterize the rear elevation, which exhibits rough stone construction in contrast to the finished stone appearance of the remaining elevations. After removing an old frame rear addition, a frame wing constructed with a high stone foundation consisting of a bedroom and laundry room was added to the rear of the house in 1965-1966.^{E.}

Gutted by fire in 1938, the living room and den located in the two-story main block has new interior woodwork and floors. Saved from the fire because of the solid stone wall between the ell and the main block, the dining room is the only room containing original woodwork. The second floor formerly comprised of two bedrooms and a bath also was gutted by the 1938 fire and has not been rehabilitated for living space. The kitchen facility, located in the north end of the ell, was remodeled into one large space when the new rear wing was added in 1965-1966.^{C.E.}

The gable roofed frame combination garage and stable covered with vertical board and batten siding was built c. 1965. Another outbuilding, constructed of concrete block and covered with a shingled gable roof, is located at the rear of the property. In 1974, 5 acres of property at the rear and on the east side was added to

(Continued on next page)
700 STUDY UNITS (CODE)

ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING SIGNIFICANCE

The Cyrus Davis Farmhouse is significant under Criterion C as a good example of a mid-19th century Greek Revival style farmhouse and of early stone construction as well. Built of local limestone constructed with raised mortar joints, the Davis Farmhouse is a simple interpretation of the Greek Revival style exhibiting the basic features of the style, including the low gabled form, cornice trim and returns, six-over-six lights and stone lintels and sills. The Davis Farmhouse is one of five well-preserved examples of mid-19th century Greek Revival farmhouses identified in the Menomonee Falls survey. (See also Johann Zimmer House, W156 N9340 Pilgrim Road; N. Friedrich House, N96 W15009 County Line Road; Thomas Camp House, W204 N8151 Lannon Road; Miller-Davidson House, N96 W15791 County Line Road.)

The Davis Homestead (5.10 acres) was divided from the original land grand of 80 acres in 1942 and sold separately in 1943.^{A.F.G.}

690 BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCESArchitectural References

- A. Deed Record, 12:494 and 88:193 (Waukesha, Wisconsin: Register of Deeds Office, Waukesha County Court House).
- B. Portraits and Biographical Record of Waukesha County, Wisconsin (Chicago: Excelsior Publishing Company, 1894) 337-339.
- C. "Pioneer Mansion Now a Model Home," Milwaukee (Wisconsin) Journal, 21 March 1929.
- D. Milwaukee (Wisconsin) Journal, 3 August 1968.
- E. Frederick and Florence Gottlieb interview with Joan Rausch, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, 15 April 1986.
- F. Abstract of Title (Waukesha, Wisconsin: Woesner Abstract and Title Company) in possession of owner, Frederick Gottlieb.

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DESCRIPTION - (Continued)

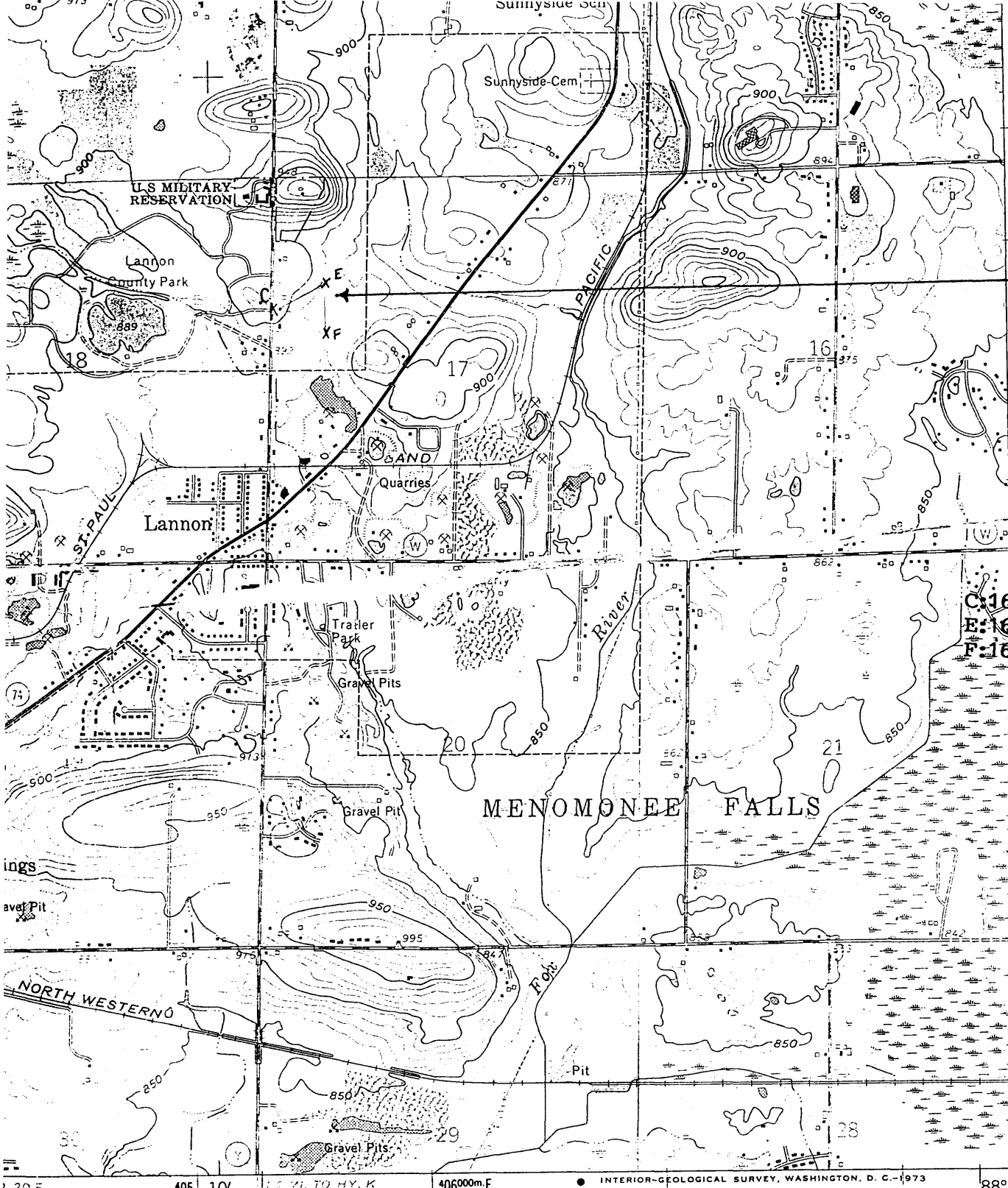
the 5.10 acres of land originally purchased by the Gottliebs in 1943.^E No farm out-buildings remain on the site.

690 BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES - (Continued)

- G. Deed Record, 339:329.
- H. Town of Menomonee, Waukesha County Atlas (1859).
- I. Town of Menomonee, Plat Book of Waukesha County, Wisconsin (C. M. Foote and Company, 1891).

Historical References

- 1. Walling, 1859.
- 2. Waukesha Freeman, 1905 (7/13).
- 3. Waukesha County (Abstract of Title).
- 4. Milwaukee Journal, 1929 (3/21).
- 5. Sunnyside Cemetery marker.
- 6. Waukesha Freeman, 1894 (8/2).
- 7. Perkins, 1984: 180-82, 190-95.
- 8. United States, Department of Interior, Census Office (Agricultural Schedules), 1850; 1860; 1870; and 1880.
- 9. Nesbit, 1973: 286-94.
- 10. Radmer, 1980: 29.
- 11. Loerke, 1978: 20, 12, 21-25.
- 12. Excelsior Publishing Company, 1894: 337-38, 410-11.
- 13. Ogle, 1914.
- 14. Foote, 1891.
- 15. Waukesha County (Tax Assessor's Records), 1930.
- 16. Milwaukee Sentinel, 1968 (8/3).

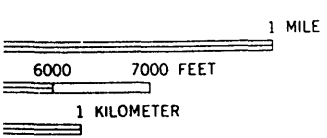


Cyrus Davis Farmhouse

UTM REFERENCE
 C: 16/405420/477880
 E: 16/405650/477890
 F: 16/405650/477860

Menomonee Falls map Waukesha County WI

MENOMONEE FALLS



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty —————
- Medium-duty - - - - -
- Light-duty (dotted line)
- Unimproved dirt - - - - - (dashed line)
- U. S. Route (circle with 'S')
- State Route (circle with 'S')

SUSSEX, WIS.

NW/4 WAUKESHA 15' QUADRANGLE
 N 4307.5—W 8807.5/7.5

FEB 27 1989

1959
 PHOTOREVISED 1971
 AMS 3370 II NW—SERIES V861

STANDARDS
 D. C. 20242
 MADISON, WISCONSIN 53706
 AVAILABLE ON REQUEST