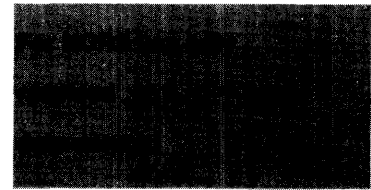


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

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



1. Name

historic Beardsley, Elam, Farmhouse

and/or common Kelley Farmhouse

2. Location

street & number 5601 Northwest Highway ^{Hwy.} _____ not for publication

city, town Waterford ^{Wis.} _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district First

state Wisconsin code 55 county Racine code 101

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property (continued)

name Helen Kelley

street & number 723 Wisconsin Avenue

city, town Beloit _____ vicinity of _____ state Wisconsin 53511

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Racine County Courthouse

street & number 730 Wisconsin Avenue

city, town Racine _____ state Wisconsin 53403

6. Representation in Existing Surveys (continued)

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

date 1975, 1978 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin

city, town Madison _____ state Wisconsin 53706

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Kelley Farmhouse stands on a low rise over rolling farmlands five miles northwest of the town of Waterford in rural Racine County, Wisconsin. The house itself is set at an oblique angle to County Highway 83 to the south and west; an unpaved circular drive skirts the house and outbuildings to the north. The stone barn, concrete silo, and frame carriage barn, granary, and shed are in ruins, and are not included in the nomination; their existence does testify to the plan of the original farmstead. The pastoral quality of the area is protected through designation as game preserve and wetland where the land is not tilled.

As originally constructed, the former Beardsley house was an L-shaped, two-story building with low hip roofs; a small, one-story frame addition was added to the rear (north) side at the turn-of-the-century. The walls are of opus mixtum construction: various-sized cobblestones and split-faced fieldstone, held by raised mortar joints and trimmed with cut-stone quoins and voussoirs. Wood cornices, paired scrolled brackets, and a wide fascia underline the asbestos-covered hip roofs. A one-story open porch of paired thin posts and jigsaw-cut valences fills the angle of the L-shaped plan on the front (south) side of the house, serving two doors to the sides of the juncture of the walls. Two windows, evenly spaced, are set into each story of the west half of the front facade, while two on each story of the east half are off-set to the east. Other windows occur randomly on other sides of the building. All windows in the original house are held by simple wood frames, and are composed of six-over-six double-hung sash; those in the rear addition are two-over-one sash. A fieldstone bulkhead with plank doors is set into the low fieldstone foundation on the east side of the house. Three chimneys, all rebuilt, rise from the center ridges of the three roofs: one of concrete block from each of the two hip roofs, and the third of white brick from the gable roof of the addition.

The parlor, and a large bedroom with closet and closed stair fill the west half of the first story plan; the original large kitchen (now dining room), pantry and basement stair, and a smaller bedroom adjoin to the east. Five bedrooms and the near-center stairhall occupy the second floor. The current kitchen, a bath, an enclosed porch, and garage are located in the frame addition. Although no significant alterations have been made on the interior (original plaster-and-lath ceilings, plaster walls, and wood floors are intact) there is little of interest aside from the shouldered wood door frames.

In recent years, some deteriorated wood elements have been replicated and minor repairs have been made.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates ca. 1855-60¹

Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Kelley Farmhouse is representative of both Italianate design and a type of cobblestone construction in Wisconsin. Contrary to the general rule that cobblestone buildings in the state were built in the Greek Revival style,² this opus mixtum³ house of cobblestone and split-face fieldstone is of the later Italianate style, with hip roof and wide bracketed eaves. In form, the L-shaped house resembles several late-Italianate brick farmhouses in rural Racine County with more elaborate window caps and late-Victorian-era detail. The texture of the variegated walls, the lacy wood porch, and the pastoral setting make the Kelley house a visual landmark on Highway 83.

Elam Beardsley (1806-1877), the original owner of the Kelley Farmhouse, was one of the first settlers of Racine County.⁴ In 1843, some eight years after his arrival, he purchased the land upon which the house was to be constructed. Before his death in 1877, his farm had grown to four hundred acres. For a time, Kelley served on the Board of Supervisors of Racine County. Ownership of the property passed from his widow Elizabeth C. S. Beardsley to her daughter Francis Beardsley Kelley in 1902, and then to the Kelley children (the current owners) in 1911.

¹ A date of construction is not recorded in documents, histories, or personal papers. Wide fluctuations in assessed land/personal property values from 1840s-1860s cannot account for building construction in a specific year, although in general significantly higher taxes were paid by the owner in the late 1850s and early 1860s when the acreage remained stable. Former owner Francis Beardsley Kelley reportedly recounted details of the construction of the house during their childhood in the 1850s and 1860s, to the present elderly owners of the house.

² Richard W. E. Perrin, The Architecture of Wisconsin, 1967, p. 55.

³ Perrin, p. 52.

⁴ Commemorative Biographical Record of Prominent and Representative Men of Racine and Kenosha Counties, J. H. Beers & Co., Chicago, 1906, pp. 207-08.

ITEM NOT VERIFIED
ALREADY NOT VERIFIED

9. Major Bibliographical References

Perrin, Richard W. E., The Architecture of Wisconsin, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1967.

Tax Receipts of Elam Beardsley (copies on file in Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin).

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one (0.08)

Quadrangle name Mukwonago, Wis.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	6	3	9	6	7	4	0	4	7	3	8	1	8	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property shall consist of a plot sixty feet square centered on the center of the farmhouse, said property being in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 21, T-4-N, R-19-E, Civil Town of Waterford, Racine County, Wisconsin.

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By (continued)

name/title Diane H. Filipowicz, Architectural Historian

organization State Historical Society of Wisconsin date November, 1980

street & number 816 State Street telephone 608/262-2970

city or town Madison state Wisconsin 53706

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Richard Hursey

title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

date 5/6/81

For HCRS use only

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

date 3/1/82

for Melissa Byers
Keeper of the National Register

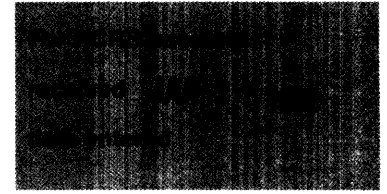
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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



Continuation sheet

Item number 4, 6

Page 1

4. Owner of Property (continued)

John L. Griffith
205 Warwick Road
Kenilworth, Illinois 60043

Clara Kelly Estate
c/o Mr. Bruce Kelley
3635 Woodland Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

6. Representation in Existing Surveys (continued)

The Octagon House and the Cobblestone Building in Wisconsin, Virginia A. Palmer
1978 State

University of Wisconsin-Extension
Madison

Wisconsin 53706

The Heritage Guidebook, H. Russell Zimmermann
1976

Inland Heritage Corporation
Milwaukee

Regional (SE Wis.)

Wisconsin

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number 11

Page 1

Form Prepared By (continued)

Research Assisted by:

Bruce Kelley
3635 Woodland Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

June, 1980
515/243-4191