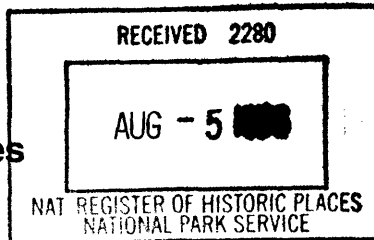


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



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 Van Orden, Jacob, House
other names/site number Sauk County Historical Museum

2. Location

street & number 531 Fourth Avenue N/A not for publication
city or town Baraboo N/A vicinity
state Wisconsin code WI county Sauk code 111 zip code 53913

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] Date 7/31/96
Signature of certifying official/Title
State Historic Preservation Officer-WI
State of 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 certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

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.
 - removed from the National Register.
 - other, (explain): _____

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 9-6-96
Elson A. Beall

Entered in the
National Register

Van Orden, Jacob, House

Name of Property

Baraboo, WI

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic / Single Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture/ Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Tudor Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls brick

stucco

roof asphalt

other wood

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for 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.
X 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

1903

Significant Dates

1903 (1)

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Ferry and Clas, Architects (2)

Isenberg Brothers, Builders

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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:

Sauk County Historical Society

Van Orden, Jacob, House
Name of Property

Baraboo, WI
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	6	2	7	7	4	2	0	4	8	1	6	5	8	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

3

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 Daina Penkiunas and Nijole Etwiler

organization _____ date June 17, 1995

street & number 214 Acewood Blvd. telephone (608) 243-8144

city or town Madison state WI zip code 53714

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 Sauk County Historical Society

street & number 531 4th Avenue telephone (608) 356-1001

city or town Baraboo state WI zip code 53913

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.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Van Orden, Jacob, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

Section number 7 Page 1

Description

The Jacob Van Orden House is located on a tree lined residential street in Baraboo, Wisconsin. The Isenberg Brothers of Baraboo constructed the house in 1903 from the plans of the noted Milwaukee architectural firm of Ferry and Clas. The 14 room, three story residence is built in an English Tudor style of red brick and stucco with half-timbering details. The roof is noted for its eight gables. Each gable is trimmed with barge boards and pendants; exposed rafters support the wide eaves of the roof. Since its completion the house has had only two occupants -- the Van Orden family and, since 1939, the Sauk County Historical Museum.

The front elevation masks the true size of the residence. The house is placed with its shorter dimension parallel to the street. The front elevation likewise only displays two levels of windows (those of the main and the bedroom floor). The windows lighting the third floor spaces are located on the side and rear elevations.

The front elevation is a masterful balance of horizontal and vertical elements. The main floor is visually connected with the elevated basement through the use of a Flemish bond brick wall. The upper portion of the facade is stuccoed or of stucco and half-timbering. The right third of the ground floor elevation is defined by a large bay window. The window treatment is typical of the fenestration of the house -- plate glass below with mullioned panes above. Located at the left two-thirds of the facade, a single level entry porch introduces a strong horizontal element to the design. The brick base of the porch rises approximately one-third height with simple Tuscan piers above. The piers support an entablature of a large blank frieze with dentils above. This is capped by a small cornice which joins with an elevation dividing molding that wraps around the building. The porch also steps out slightly from the plane of the elevation, masking the set back of the wall. Originally, the house had a balustrade above the porch, creating a balcony for the bedrooms of the second story. The turned balusters were removed sometime after the house was acquired by the Historical Society.

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National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Van Orden, Jacob, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, WisconsinSection number 7 Page 2

Two large gables provide strong vertical elements on the front elevation. The larger of the two gables is located to the right. It also receives a more decorative treatment. This gable is half-timbered and has a bay window located directly above the main floor window. The second floor window is more decorative. The central bay has an arched top with a carved molding running above the two side plate glass panels. There is a carved keystone at the top of the arch. Together this gives the impression of a Palladian window, although the mullioned panes are present above the molding at the side windows. The second gable is located over the left side of the porch and has a bank of three windows of the standard treatment. Both gables are faced with a large bargeboard with a dropped pendant at the center. Between the gables is a pair of nine light windows.

The secondary elevation is located on the right side, or to the west. This facade faced Jacob Van Orden's mother's house, built next door (extant). Originally the two houses shared the lot with a common driveway and carriage house (extant) between them. With the subdivision of the lots on the sale of the Jacob Van Orden house to the Sauk County Historical Society, the secondary buildings passed to the adjoining property.

The west elevation is defined by three gables, progressively larger from right to left. The gables separate functions and incongruous window placements. The right gable vertically joins the windows of the secondary staircase. Because the windows are located at the landings, they do not fall in the horizontal line of the main fenestration. The central gable joins rooms which step out from the plane of the wall.

The left and largest gable marks the secondary entrance and the windows of the main staircase. The side entrance is located approximately at grade, three feet below the main floor. To each side of the door is an inset panel and a twelve paned window. The windows light the reception room on the left and a lavatory on the right. A marquee awning is suspended by chains above the entrance. The central portion of the gable is divided by half-timbering into a rectilinear grid, seven units wide and three units high. The horizontal members correspond to the floor lines, masking the drop of elevation of the side door. The vertical units have two slimmer panels at the sides. Of the five central panels, the

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3Van Orden, Jacob, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

three to the right contain the windows lighting the landing of the main staircase. The vertical half-timbering continues above a bracketed pediment like molding and has three twelve-paned windows in the three central panels. The house as built differs slightly from the architects' drawings; the two panels by the door and the pedimented section were intended to be carved. Instead they were left plain.

The east elevation also joins wall planes with gables, but without the visual complexity of the west elevation. A smaller side porch off the dining room mirrors the side view of the front porch. The chimney stacks are the most prominent on this elevation. In plan the brick outer walls of the flues have triangular protrusions. At the top, the stacks flair outward for four courses and have a stone cap.

The rear elevation is utilitarian in nature. The exposed rafters of the eaves terminate abruptly on the kitchen facade. The east and rear elevation lack half-timbering, using only brick and stucco.

On the interior, the rooms of the first story revolve around the main hall. As noted above, the main entrance is through a porch on the front elevation. A small vestibule with a tile floor and two sets of paired glass doors leads to the hall. The hall contains the main staircase. It is lit by three large windows on the staircase landing. Turned balusters support the handrail and tall newel posts with spheres on top are placed at the turnings. The upper face of the bottom newel post is decorated with carved Elizabethan strap-work.

The staircase divides the hall into two sections. The front portion, containing the stairs, is rectangular in plan and has a high wood beamed ceiling. The back section is irregular in plan and has a dropped ceiling. Behind the stairs and two steps down is the side entrance and the toilet room. The lavatory contains a large closet along its back wall.

To the left of the hall is the living room. The room is separated from the hall by narrow Chinoiserie panels on either side of the curtained entrance. The floor is of cherry and a small plaster garland circles the ceiling. Measuring 22'2" x 18'2", the room has a red tiled fireplace flanked by windows at the far wall. The fireplace has a gas valve, as do all the fireplaces in the house, and a wood mantel. Along the left

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Van Orden, Jacob, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

wall is a large window seat; along the right is a door leading to the side porch and pocket doors leading to the dining room. The face of the doors repeats the wood of the room -- cherry in the living room, oak in the dining room.

The dining room measures 19'2" x 16'2" and has a beamed ceiling and oak panelling to 2/3 height. A fireplace is located on the wall opposite, and directly in line with, the opening from the living room. The fireplace is faced with small green tiles and has a wood mantel. Above is a built-in cabinet with glass doors. The west wall is polygonal. At the center is a wall with a niche. The niche is currently hidden by a full height display case. A door located at an angle leads to the hall; it is mirrored by a door to the china closet. The walls of this small room are lined with glass door cabinets. The closet connects the dining room to the kitchen.

At the front of the house is the reception room. Separated from the hall by a curtained entry, the woodwork here is of bird's eye maple. The room has a tray ceiling. An elaborate plaster cornice makes the transition from wall plane to ceiling. The design is of elongated ovals joined by rosettes, with palmettes between the ovals. The ceiling is further decorated with molding and boss like rosettes. The room has a variety of windows. A typical plate glass window with three lights above looks onto the entry porch. The wall of the front elevation contains a bay window, separated from the room by a segmental arch. The west wall contains a low window; this is one of the two windows flanking the side entrance. This wall also has a built-in large framed mirror.

Jacob Van Orden's study is located at the end of the entry hall. The room is floored and panelled in oak with a plaster ceiling. Glass front bookcases line three walls of the room. The fourth wall is a bank of windows. A closet is located between this room and the main staircase.

Between the study and the dining room is the service corridor. On the right (past the wall of the study) is the secondary staircase. This leads down to the basement and up to the second floor bedrooms and third floor ballroom. At the end of the hall is the door to the kitchen. Along the kitchen's right wall is a pantry and stairs to a service entrance and

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Van Orden, Jacob, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

the basement. Between the two is an ice box with openings to each side. The kitchen is utilitarian in character; only the original sink and drainboard remain.

The second story contains five bedrooms, a linen room and two bathrooms. The plan is noteworthy for its abundance of closets, both in the bedrooms and in the hallway. The four larger bedrooms are located over the four principal rooms of the main floor. The master bedroom (over the living room) has a fireplace and a private bathroom. This bathroom has been dismantled for use as a storage room. The bedroom also has a door to the roof of the side porch. The front bedroom has a built-in washstand and a door to the roof of the entry porch. The bedroom over the dining room likewise has a sink built into a cupboard and a fireplace.

The fifth bedroom, secondary staircase, and bathroom are located over the service portion of the main floor. The fifth bedroom, used as a maid's room, retains its original stenciling. The bathroom and linen room with shelves and cabinets are also intact. All of the rooms upstairs have five panel doors.

Following the back stair up one more flight, one reaches the ballroom (or billiard hall, as named on the plan). The third floor is essentially a single space with two nooks, with large storerooms located under the front and rear eaves. At the east end of the ballroom is a true inglenook with a fireplace and benches. The mantel above the fireplace bears the inscription 1880 and is thought to have been brought by the family from their home in New York. The ceiling of the ballroom retains its original stenciling and lighting fixtures. Unfortunately, the ceiling has suffered from repeated water damage.

The basement originally contained the workings of the house: laundry, vegetable cellar, store room, boiler room, coal room, and a bathroom. The spaces have been somewhat reconfigured for use as storage, exhibit and archival areas. The date of the house's construction (1903) is inscribed on an interior basement wall, at the foot of the stairs.

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Van Orden, Jacob, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

Footnotes for Section 8 cover sheet

(1) Baraboo Republic, 8 October 1902. In addition, the date of construction, 1903, is inscribed on an interior basement wall at the base of the stairs.

(2) Undated original blueprints. Sauk County Historical Society.

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Continuation SheetVan Orden, Jacob, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, WisconsinSection number 8 Page 7Significance

The Jacob Van Orden House is significant for its architecture, both as a local example of the Tudor Revival style and as a residential work of the Milwaukee architectural firm of Ferry and Clas. Built in 1903, the house served as the home of one of Baraboo's most prominent citizens, banker Jacob Van Orden, until his death in 1927.

Historical Background

Baraboo, Wisconsin, like many of its neighbors, began around 1838 as a milltown on a river. With the influx of European immigrants in the 1840s and 1850s, the capture of the county seat in 1852, the coming of the railroad in 1871, it grew into the manufacturing and retail center of the county and adjacent areas.

The wealth of the city caused a building boom that began with the construction of a new downtown area around the courthouse in the 1880s and continued into the 20th century. In this atmosphere, the Ringling Brothers began their circus empire and, although their enterprise and fame spread across the continent, they continued to use Baraboo as their headquarters until 1918. Baraboo was renowned as an entertainment center, and boasted, besides its many circuses, two opera houses and an elegant theater. Baraboo's citizens also built fine homes during this period of growth. Examples include Charles Ringling's Georgian Revival mansion at 201 Eighth Street built in 1901, the 1900 Queen Anne style Martin Foley House at 426 Second Street, and and Al and Lou Ringling's 1905 Richardsonian Romanesque brownstone at 623 Broadway. These houses, along with the Van Orden house, were constructed by local builders George and Carl Isenberg.

Jacob Van Orden occupied the house at the peak of his career, while serving as the president of the Bank of Baraboo. The Van Ordens also owned the previous house on the lot. In 1879 builder Thomas Thompson constructed a two story frame dwelling and a barn for the Van Ordens.(3) In 1902 Jacob Van Orden sold the house to Otto Schadde who moved the building to the

(3) Baraboo Republic, 7 January 1880.

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Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

corner of Wheeler and Fifth streets on the east side of town.(4) (The house is still extant in a somewhat altered form.) On October 4th 1902 Alfred Clas arrived to stake out the new residence. The architect expected the foundation to be completed that fall and the building put up the following spring.(5) By early 1905 the house was fully completed and used for entertaining. The Baraboo Republic reported that the Van Ordens celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary with dinner and "dancing in the spacious hall on the third floor."(6)

Jacob Van Orden

Jacob Van Orden was born on August 13th, 1856, in Neosho, Dodge County, Wisconsin. He was the only child of Lucas and Jane Van Orden. Lucas Van Orden, a native of New York state, had settled in Wisconsin in 1849. He erected a flour mill in Neosho and became register of deeds for Dodge County. His son, Jacob Van Orden, was educated in district schools and Ripon College. In 1874, at the age of 18, Jacob Van Orden arrived in Baraboo and began working at the Bank of Baraboo (then the First National Bank) as a clerk. He moved up in the bank, becoming a cashier in 1880 and eventually assuming its presidency in 1915. After a lingering illness Jacob Van Orden died on November 5, 1927.

In addition to his position as bank president, his obituary and testimonial recalled his public spirit, noting that Van Orden was a thirty-second degree Mason and an officer of the Baraboo Trinity Episcopal Church. Van Orden also had served on the first board of aldermen when Baraboo became a city in 1882 and as its mayor from 1887 to 1888. For 27 years he had been a member of the Baraboo Board of Education. He was also an active charter member of the Sauk County Historical Society, serving on its Man Mound Committee. The group fought successfully to preserve Man Mound, one of the few remaining mounds in human form in the state.

(4) Baraboo Republic, 21 May 1902.

(5) Baraboo Republic, 8 October 1902.

(6) Baraboo Republic, 18 January 1905.

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Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

As a private citizen, he bought one of the first street lamps for a downtown corner, thus setting an example that led others to make similar donations. Van Orden is also responsible for the Ringlings' purchase of the Barnum and Bailey Circus. When New York banks felt that \$50,000 was not a justified loan, Jacob Van Orden personally secured them a loan.(7)

On January 11, 1880 Jacob Van Orden married Mattie E. Atwood in Waupun, Wisconsin. Together they had two children, Lucas Van Orden and Mary Louise Van Orden French. Lucas Van Orden inherited the house on his father's death. The house remained in the family until 1938 when, after Lucas' death, it was sold for \$9,000 to the Sauk County Historical Society. In 1939 it became the new home of the Sauk County Historical Museum.

Architecture

Completed in 1903 at a cost of \$35,000, the Jacob Van Orden house reflects the social position of the Van Orden family. With fourteen rooms, four bathrooms and a ballroom, the house provided ample room for entertaining. The choice of the English Tudor style reflects an architectural taste popular throughout the country at the time for large residences. In a city rich in architectural styles, the Van Orden house is the sole example of the English Tudor style.

The English Tudor style reached its peak at the beginning of the century, although it was used widely throughout the country until the 1930s. The style is characterized by the use of half-timbering, massive ornamental chimneys, and gabled roof lines. The Van Orden house incorporates these features and uses them to add visual interest to the facade and to demarcate changes in the interior plan.

Its architectural significance owes much to the work of the firm of Ferry and Clas of Milwaukee, who also designed the 1906 Sauk County Courthouse. In addition, Alfred Clas designed at least two other houses in Baraboo, the Queen Anne style 1884 Henry Ochsner House at 903 Park Street and the 1891 Colonial Revival August Reinking House at 1104 Ash Street.(8)

(7) Letter from Florence Van Orden to Clark Wilkinson. July 28, 1982. Sauk County Historical Society Collection.

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Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

(Both extant). The Isenbergs' meticulous work was seen in many of the Ringling and other large homes in Baraboo. They were thought of so highly by Charles Ringling that he took them to Florida to work on his Sarasota palazzo.

George Ferry (1851-1918) was born and educated in Springfield, Massachusetts. He received his architectural training at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, graduating in 1872. Alfred Clas (1860-1942) was born in Sauk City, Wisconsin, and educated in Milwaukee. He apprenticed with pioneer Milwaukee architect James Douglas. In 1890, the two men opened the architectural firm of Ferry and Clas. In 1913 Ferry left the firm, and it reorganized as Clas, Shepard and Clas.

At the turn of the century, Ferry and Clas were noted throughout the Midwest primarily for their grand, classical buildings. Among their works are the Milwaukee Public Library and Museum (1899), the Library of the State Historical Society in Madison (1900), and the Jackson Public Library in Jackson, Michigan (1906). Their residential work was a bit more eclectic. The most noted example is the Frederick Pabst mansion in Milwaukee, built in 1892 in the Flemish Renaissance style. As in the above examples, the Van Orden house displays elements of careful and studied planning characteristic of the firm's work. (The careful balance of horizontals and verticals on the front facade and the use of gables on the west facade to separate functions and to mask shifts in window elevations are discussed in the description.) The house is also significant in that it has had few alterations since its construction. With the exception of the removal of the balcony balustrade and changes to the basement, the house remains as the Van Ordens left it in 1938.

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Continuation Sheet

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Van Orden, Jacob, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

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Van Orden, Jacob, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin

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Verbal Boundary Description

Lot 5 and east half of Lot 6, Block 5, Moore and Drowns additions to the City of Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property consists of the parcel acquired in 1938 by the Sauk County Historical Society. It is a portion of the parcel historically associated with the property.

Photographic Documentation

The following documentation applies to all photographs:

Van Orden, Jacob, House
Baraboo, Sauk County, Wisconsin
Photo by Nijole Etwiler, August 1990
Negative at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Photo 1 of 13	Exterior, looking south
Photo 2 of 13	Exterior, looking west
Photo 3 of 13	Exterior, looking southeast
Photo 4 of 13	Exterior, looking east
Photo 5 of 13	Exterior, looking north
Photo 6 of 13,	Exterior, looking south
Photo 7 of 13	Exterior, looking south
Photo 8 of 13	Exterior, looking southeast
Photo 9 of 13	Exterior, looking southeast
Photo 10 of 13	Interior: stairs
Photo 11 of 13	Interior: stairs and family photos
Photo 12 of 13	Interior, dining room: woodwork and tapestry
Photo 13 of 13	Interior, reception room: molding