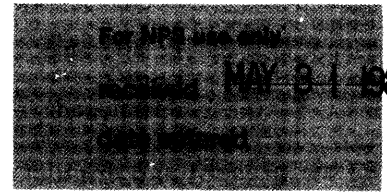


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Dr. H.H. Chase and Henry G. Wohlhuter Bungalows

and/or common Voight and Drew Houses

2. Location

street & number 221 and 223 South 11th Street not for publication

city, town La Crosse vicinity of ~~Congressional District~~

state Wisconsin code 55 county La Crosse code 063

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<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

name 221: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Voight (continued)

street & number 221 South 11th Street

city, town La Crosse vicinity of _____ state Wisconsin

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. La Crosse County Courthouse

street & number _____

city, town La Crosse state Wisconsin 54601

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1977 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 type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Chase and Wohlhuter Bungalows are a pair of small, one-story lap board and rough stucco Prairie School residences, located on adjoining lots. Each roughly rectangular building of 56 x 30 feet has a five-sided living porch extending to the front (west), overhung five feet by a low hipped roof. Windows in the formal rooms in the front end of each house are leaded-glass casements, and generally occur in groups of two to five; single windows in the kitchen, bath, and bedrooms to the rear (east) are composed of double-hung sash. Originally open, the living porch of the Wohlhuter House (the south building), framed by rectangular piers, has been enclosed with plate glass, while the Chase porch retains its original Prairie casements. A single driveway between the buildings serves both one-car lap board and stucco garages to the rear; the garages are considered to contribute to the nomination.

Each building's principle entrance is a single glazed door (with Prairie-style muntins) near the center of their near elevations, and each has a secondary entrance from the porch to the rear. (Both porches were constructed to accommodate removable screens, but both porches are now glass-enclosed.) Each house has a three-sided bay projection in the dining room on the far side. Wood courses define the rough-stucco upper wall surface and windows. Composition shingles now cover both roofs, replacing the original four triple courses of wood shingles. Wide chimneys rise through the overhang of the roof on the south side of each house. Each building has a low concrete foundation. Matched to the bungalows, the garages to the rear are lap board to the window line and rough stucco above. Two hoppers are centered below the soffit on each side wall, and paneled wood doors are centered in the near sides. Each has a composition-shingled hipped roof.

The interior plans are near mirror images, with living rooms and porches at the front (west) and halls dividing two bedrooms on the near side from the kitchen and dining room on the far side. Unlike that in the Wohlhuter house, the Chase house living room is covered by a hipped plaster ceiling with wide, dark cyprus moldings and thinner cyprus strips; at the south end, the painted brick fireplace forms the rear wall of an inglenook, whose west side includes a window seat, and whose east side conceals a closet in the entrance hall. A long mirror and small leaded casements form the overmantle. The dining room, adjoining to the northeast, opens to both the living room, and the pantry and kitchen to the east; wide and thin cyprus moldings form horizontal bands across the upper wall surface. The Wohlhuter living room and alcove and dining room have flat beamed ceilings; although the alcove on the north wall corresponds to the inglenook of the Chase House, the fireplace is at the opposite end of the room. The Wohlhuter fireplace, of dark brown brick, is narrower than its counterpart, with standard-length leaded "Prairie" casements to each side and a plaster chimney breast above. The dining room to the east opens (through glazed doors with Prairie-style muntins) to the hall on the north, as well as to the living room and pantry. Halls in both houses have wide cyprus moldings, paneled cyprus closet doors, and linen closets with paneled doors and drawers of cyprus. The pantries include "work tables" with painted wood drawers and flour bins, and both closed (painted wood) and glazed cabinets.

Baths in both houses, located between the two bedrooms, have been altered. The Chase kitchen was remodeled some five years ago, and some updating was done in the Wohlhuter kitchen. Kitchen and bedroom walls in the Chase house have been papered, but otherwise surfaces are painted plaster with contrasting dark cyprus moldings. Floors are generally of hardwood.

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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1912-13¹ **Builder/Architect** Percy Dwight Bentley²

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The H.H. Chase and Henry G. Wohlhuter Bungalows are well-preserved "matching" representatives of the Prairie School period of construction. In their narrow, prow-like form, the buildings illustrate the achievement of a regionally-significant architect in reducing classic Prairie formula to suit small-scale commissions. The pair are among the best of a number of Prairie School buildings in La Crosse designed by Percy Dwight Bentley or associate Otto Merman; and in their duality, compactness of plan, and quality of interiors, the buildings are among the most distinctive in the state.

Architect Percy Dwight Bentley (1885-1968), a La Crosse native, graduated from Ohio Wesleyan in 1907 and attended Armour Institute from 1907-10.³ During those few years in Chicago, Bentley followed the activities of architects Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright, and without having worked with either, "became very much indoctrinated with both."⁴ Between 1910 and the early 1920s when Bentley left La Crosse to practice in Minneapolis, he, at times in association with Otto Merman, designed a number of fine Prairie style buildings in west-central Wisconsin. Before Bentley's departure and during successive partnerships, the Prairie School theme was subsumed by features of Period Revival styles.

Scholar H. Allen Brooks, in The Prairie School, Frank Lloyd Wright and His Midwest Contemporaries (New York, 1976), speaks of Bentley's gift for assimilating the work of his master contemporaries; of the Chase and Wohlhuter bungalows in particular he speaks of "how well studied, brilliantly evolved, and well proportioned the designs really are--works of considerable inherent merit."⁵ The one-story, axial form of the buildings, enclosing tightly-woven yet flowing spaces, is a distillation of the classic larger Prairie houses of the previous decade. The design of the living spaces in particular recall Wright's master interiors of the 1908-09 period (the Coonley, Gilmore, Little, Robie, and May houses), in which plaster hipped or recessed ceilings "ribbed" with wood strips form a "continuous skin over an articulated structure;"⁶ in the progression from one room or alcove to the next, Bentley has achieved something of Wright's "orchestration of space." Variations in details (ceiling forms and glazing designs, and location and treatment of fireplaces and alcoves) give the houses separate personalities without sacrificing the economy of repeating major aspects of a single design.

Bentley's Fugina House (1916) in Fountain City, Wisconsin and Richland Center Auditorium (1912) were listed in the National Register in 1979 and 1980, respectively.

¹H. Allen Brooks, The Prairie School, Frank Lloyd Wright and His Midwest Contemporaries, New York, 1976, pp. 266-67. (Date is approximate, based on tax assessment, since early Bentley plans were undated.)

²Blueprints.

³George S. Koyl, Editor, American Architects Directory, AIA, New York, 1955, p.38.

⁴The Prairie School, p. 264.

⁵Ibid., p. 267.

⁶Henry-Russel Hitchcock, In the Nature of Materials, Duell, Sloan, and Pearce, New York, 1942, pp. 43, 48.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Brooks, H. Allen, "Percy Dwight Bentley at La Crosse, Prairie School Review, Vol. IX, No. 3, 1972, pp. 5-17.

Brooks, H. Allen, The Prairie School, Frank Lloyd Wright and His Midwest Contemporaries, W.W. Norton & Co., New York, 1976.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name La Crosse, Wis-Minn.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification 221: N 46.69 ft. of S 114.38 ft. of Block 13 Lot 5 of Overbaugh & Burns Add to LAX, exc. a strip 4½ ft. N&S X 50 ft. E&W lyg between alley and E line of Lot 5 extd.; 223: N 46.69 ft. of S 67.69 ft. of Block 13 of Lot 5 of Overbaugh & Burns Add. to LAX.

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

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diane H. Filipowicz/Architectural Historian (continued)

organization State Historical Society of Wisconsin date December 1982

street & number 816 State Street telephone 608/262-2732

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Richard Henry

title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

date

4/29/83

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date

6/30/83

Melores 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**



Dr. H.H. Chase and Henry G. Wohlhuter Bungalows, La Crosse, County, La Crosse, Wisconsin

Continuation sheet 2

Item number 11

Page 1

FORM PREPARED BY (continued)

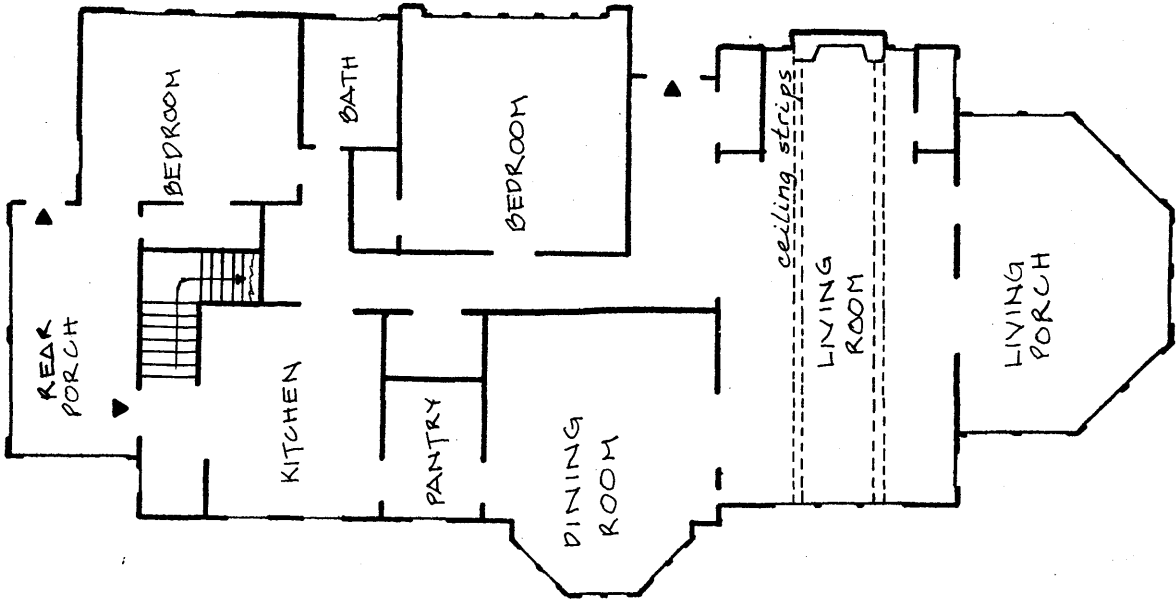
Research Assistance By:

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Voight November 1982
221 South 11th Street
La Crosse Wisconsin

Dr. H. H. Chase and Henry G. Wohlhuter Bungalows, La Crosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

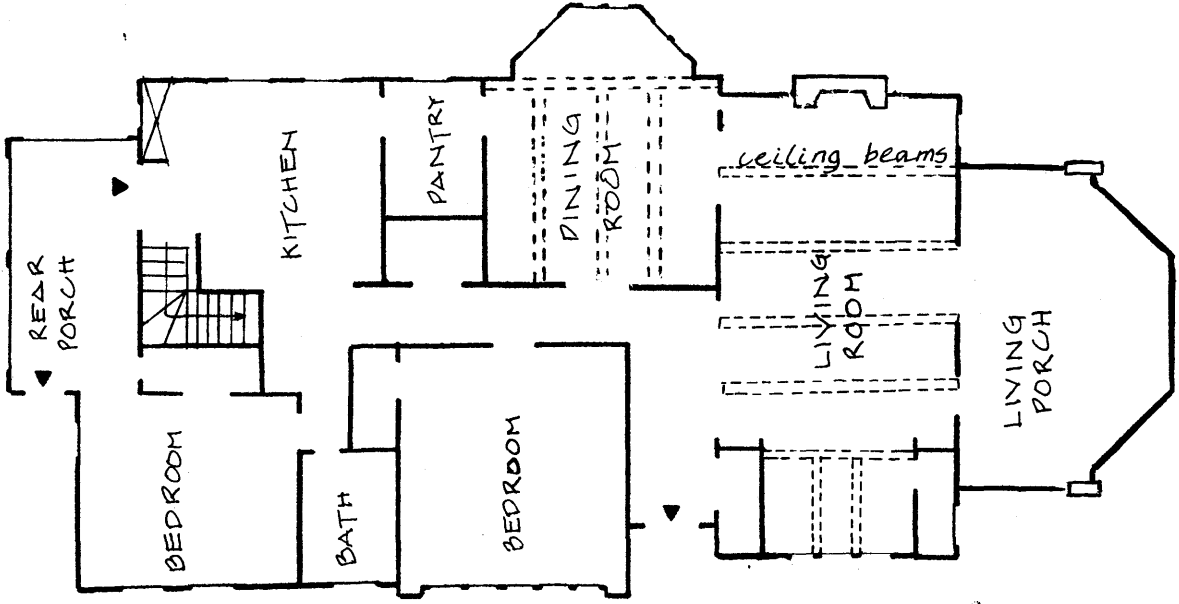


SCALE 3/32" = 1'-0"



DR. H.H. CHASE HOUSE

221 SOUTH 11TH STREET
LA CROSSE, WI



HENRY G. WOHLHUTER HOUSE

223 SOUTH 11TH STREET
LA CROSSE, WI