

NPS Form 10-900 (January 1992) Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

		OMBA	l <u>o - 1002</u> 4-001	8
	RECEIVED	2280	_	
	M ^{rp} – 4	2002		
NAT.	REGISTER OF HI NATIONAL PARI	STORIC PLI	ĀCES	

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 Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street	& number	225 Sheboyga	in Stre	et			N/A	not for p	oublication
city or	r town	Fond du Lac					N/A	vicinity	
state	Wisconsin	code	WI	county	Fond du Lac	code	39	zip code	54935

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this \underline{X} 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 \underline{X} meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Alicia Z. (me 1	Febra	1-7 15	,200 2
Signature of certifying official/Title		Date	1	

State or 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 commenting official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Tallmadge, Montgomery and	1 Nancy, House	Fond du Lac	Wisconsin			
Name of Property		County and State				
4. National Park Servic	e Certification	$\Delta i \Delta \Lambda \Lambda$				
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.	(a)se	n A. Beall	4/190			
See continuation sheet. removed from the National Register.						
other, (explain:)	bor					
	Signature of t	he Keeper	Date of Action			
5. Classification						
Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within (Do not include previously listed in the count)				
x private	X building(s)	•	tributing			
public-local public-State	district	<u>1 1 buildi</u>				
public-Federal	structure site	sites structures				
poone record	object	objects				
		1 1 total				
Name of related multiple pro (Enter "N/A" if property not p listing.		Number of contributing reso is previously listed in the Nat	ional Register			
N/A		0				
6. Function or Use			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Historic Functions		Current Functions				
(Enter categories from instru	ctions)	(Enter categories from instructions)				
DOMESTIC/single dwelling		DOMESTIC/single dwelling				
7. Description	·					
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instru-		Materials (Enter categories from instructions)				
Italianate		Foundation stone				
······	·····	walls brick				
		roof asphalt				
		other wood	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			

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

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section _____ Page ____ Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Montgomery and Nancy Tallmadge House is an Italianate style house that sits on a small urban lot in a large residential neighborhood in Fond du Lac, a medium-sized city in east-central Wisconsin. The Tallmadge House is located in the city's most prominent historic neighborhood, an area that lies along Sheboygan and East Division streets between the city's downtown commercial district and a large hospital complex in the eastern suburbs. This area developed primarily during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries with the construction of large, high-style homes in the Queen Anne, Period Revival and modern styles for some of Fond du Lac's most prominent families. These homes joined a few Greek Revival, Italianate and Gothic Revival houses that started the development of the neighborhood during the mid-nineteenth century, the Tallmadge house being among this group.

The Tallmadge House lies in the eastern portion of this neighborhood, only a few blocks from the large hospital complex that ends the neighborhood. The streetscape along this part of Sheboygan Street consists of houses in the styles mentioned above, all on medium to small-sized lots with similar setbacks from the street. The Tallmadge House is one of the older houses in the streetscape. Most of Sheboygan Street is a wide, urban street with improved concrete curbs, gutters and sidewalks, and carries a heavy traffic load. Because this part of Sheboygan Street is east of Park Street, a major north-south thoroughfare, it carries a much lighter traffic load. This portion of Sheboygan Street is slightly narrower, but is wide enough for parallel parking on both sides of the street. There are wide terraces between the sidewalks and the street. The topography of the area is generally flat and dotted with mature trees and shrubs, along with smaller, more recent plantings, many replacing older trees that have been removed.

Mature landscaping accents the Tallmadge House and two large trees sit in front of the house in the terrace. Most of the landscaping on the property is at the front, back and on the west side of the house. Most of the east side of the lot is made up of an asphalt driveway that leads to a twocar garage at the rear of the lot. The mature landscaping includes a few large trees and a number of mature evergreen shrubs, such as junipers and arbor vitae. The rear of the lot features a small lawn space and additional mature trees, as well as a landscaped garden area.

The one-story garage dates from the mid-twentieth century. It includes a gable roof, a modified Palladian style window in the front gable, and two storage bays. The bays are covered with modern garage doors and there are several modern doors and windows on the side walls of the small building. The garage is a non-contributing element of the property.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 2 Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

Exterior

The Tallmadge House has a two-story main block with a one and one-half story rear wing. A one-story bay projects from the east elevation and a one-story enclosed porch addition projects from the west elevation of the rear wing. The main block has a moderately-pitched gable roof with wide eaves decorated with scroll modillions attached to a wooden frieze. The eaves are returned at both the north and south ends of the main block. The roof of the rear wing has eaves that overhang less than the main block and they are undecorated except for a narrow wooden frieze. The house is constructed of light red brick and the walls sit on a cut limestone foundation under a smooth limestone water table. There are several basement windows in the foundation that are filled in with modern glass blocks. The Tallmadge House was built in 1875.

The main or south elevation of the house is topped with an oculus window in the gable peak. The window openings of this elevation are segmentally arched and decorated with segmental brick arches. On the second story of this elevation, the window openings are filled with singlelight double-hung sashes. On the first story, the windows are filled with two-over-two-light double-hung sashes. The main entrance to the house consists of a single wood-paneled door that dates from the mid-twentieth century. The door is framed by narrow sidelights and topped with an elliptically-arched transom. A wooden Colonial Revival style frontispiece decorates the entrance. This frontispiece features a pedimented cornice, returned eaves, and fluted pilasters with plain capitals decorated with circles. A modern concrete porch and set of steps with a modern wrought iron balustrade sits in front of the entrance.

Two-thirds of the east elevation of the main block has no openings. A large, square bay projects from the north one-third of the main block. It has a shed roof with wide overhanging eaves decorated with scroll modillions and a narrow wooden frieze. The bay has tall, narrow, segmentally-arched openings on the side walls and a segmentally-arched window in the center of the main wall. This opening is filled with a single-light sash. Above the bay, the openings of the main block are segmentally-arched and include a small opening filled with two small sashes and a larger opening filled with a single-light sash. In the rear wing, the windows are smaller. On the second story, the windows are filled with small sashes. On the first story, a single opening has been enclosed with a modern two-light window under the old segmental brick arch.

The west elevation of the house has a large chimney rising from near the center of the wall. It is flanked by segmentally arched openings that are slightly smaller on the second story. The first story openings are filled with two-over-two light sashes, while the second story openings are filled with single-light sashes. Most of the west wall of the rear wing is covered with a one-story addition that the owner believes may have been added during the 1960s or 1970s. The addition features a flat roof accented with a modern balustrade in an "x" pattern. The walls of the

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

 Section
 7
 Page
 3
 Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House

 Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

addition are covered with modern board and batten siding and punctuated by large modern sliding windows.

The addition is also part of the rear or north elevation. On this side of the addition, there is a large sliding window and an entrance with a plain door covered with a modern screen door and reached by a modern set of concrete steps. The north elevation of the rear wing features a single opening in the second story that is segmentally arched and filled with a single-light sash. On the first story, there is a modern bay consisting of casement windows and board and batten siding.

Interior

The interior of the house has a side hall plan with a rear wing. The original plan of the first floor main block included a dining room at the end of the side hall and two parlors. The first floor rear wing housed the kitchen and pantry. This plan has been slightly altered. The two parlors were joined to make a large living room and small dining room, while the dining room has been converted into a library and the pantry into a bathroom. The second story has retained much of its original floor plan of three bedrooms in the main block. The rear wing has been slightly altered to include a bathroom along with a bedroom.

The main entrance of the house leads into the foyer and the side hallway of the first floor. Along the east wall of the hallway is a staircase that leads to the second floor. To the left of the foyer is an entrance into the large living room and at the end of the hallway is an entrance into the library. The foyer and hallway are carpeted and the walls are covered with wallpaper. A large cast iron radiator sits near the main entrance. The hallway is trimmed with wide painted moldings dating from the original construction of the house.

The house retains many of its original interior Italianate features, including doors, moldings and its staircase. While some redecorating was done before and after World War II, the only major change to the house was in the current living-dining room arrangement created from two earlier rooms. The rooms were joined to make a large living room that leads through a wide entryway into a smaller dining room. The floor shows evidence of this change. Most of the living room has a narrow maple floor, probably from the early twentieth century. Closer to the dining room area, the floor changes to oak, which is laid in the dining room. The wide molded trim around the windows of both the living and dining rooms are original to the house. Redecorated features a simple paneled architrave surround topped by a cornice. In the dining room is a built-in, corner china cabinet that is decorated with fluted pilasters and a swan's neck pediment. The upper door of the cabinet has a large round-arched opening filled with nine lights topped with a fanlight. Plain doors sit below the glazed opening.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

 Section
 7
 Page
 4
 Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House

 Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

Two doors at the back of the dining room lead into the remodeled rear wing of the house. The remodeled wing originally featured a kitchen and a porch. In the mid-twentieth century, the porch was enclosed and the room is now used as a family room. It features modern wall, ceiling and floor surfaces and modern windows with very simple trim. The original rear wing still holds the kitchen and an area for family dining. This space has also been remodeled with modern wall, ceiling and floor surfaces, along with modern cabinets and appliances.

Just to the south of the kitchen is a small bathroom that was probably the pantry in the original floor plan. This bathroom has features from the mid-twentieth century, including wall surfaces covered with ceramic tile, modern flooring and fixtures from that era. The library is south of the pantry, but is accessed from the main hallway and from the small hallway near the kitchen and bathroom. The library was probably the original dining room of the house. It was redecorated in the mid-twentieth century with modern wood paneling that is painted and built-in bookshelves, also with painted surfaces.

The original staircase leads up to the second floor. It is an open-string staircase with painted and carpeted risers and treads that are undecorated. The original walnut balustrade features turned posts, a walnut railing, and a large, turned newel with a heavy, turned knob. The staircase curves sharply at the top of the stairs and becomes a balustrade that runs along a short hallway that leads to the bedroom on the south end of the second floor. A small opening with two casement lights sits at the top of the stairs, lighting the hallway. This opening covers the exterior double sash along the east wall of the house.

The doors of the second floor main block have four panel construction and are painted, as are all of the doors, and all of the molded trim around doors and windows of the second story. The south bedroom is a medium-sized room that is carpeted. At the southeast corner of the room, there is a large opening that leads into a dressing room. A large, modern closet fills up most of the space in the dressing room.

The other two bedrooms in the second floor main block are smaller, with the smallest being at the northeast corner of the block, right before the rear wing. The other bedroom is slightly larger. It has original wood trim around the doors and windows that has been painted, as well as period wall and ceiling surfaces. The floor is carpeted and there is an old cast iron radiator that provides heat. A small closet is also in this room. The smaller bedroom has similar features.

According to Sanborn-Perris Fire Insurance Maps and the owner, the rear wing was remodeled sometime between 1927 and 1942. Prior to this time, the rear wing probably had one to two bedrooms. The remodeling created a bathroom that has details from the mid-twentieth century,

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

 Section
 7
 Page
 5
 Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House

 Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

including simple wood trim and a period cabinet. Also in this wing is a large bedroom behind a four-paneled wooden door. This area of the house is also carpeted, and the walls are covered with wallpaper. On the west side of the rear wing is a small hallway that leads to an entry door dating from the early twentieth century. It has three horizontal panels and a glazed opening. The door leads to the roof of the first floor enclosed porch.

The Tallmadge House is in excellent condition. The current owners are maintaining all of the historic features of the house and have uncovered some details that had been hidden, such as the wood floors of the living and dining rooms. They are also retaining some of the high-quality details from the mid-twentieth century redecorating and plan to continue to do minor renovations to the house, while keeping its historic details.

Fond du Lac

Wisconsin

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the 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.
- $\underline{x} C$ 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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1875

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>8</u> Page <u>1</u> Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

SIGNIFICANCE¹

The Montgomery and Nancy Tallmadge House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C, architecture, because it is locally significant example of the simple front-gabled version of the Italianate style, constructed in brick. The city of Fond du Lac has a number of good examples of the Italianate style. This house stands out because it is a good example of a popular, primarily urban, variation of the Italianate style, a variation that took the simple rectangular, front-gabled, plan from the Greek Revival style and added Italianate details. Only a few front-gabled Italianate style houses have been identified in Fond du Lac, and of these few, this masonry example stands out because of its craftsmanship and integrity.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Between 1672 and 1829, the area at the southern end of Lake Winnebago was visited by French explorers, missionaries, and fur trappers; and trading posts were built in what is now the city of Fond du Lac. In 1829, James Duane Doty, along with several companions, traveled from Green Bay to Prairie du Chien looking for sites to develop. Among the sites they viewed was an area where the Fond du Lac River flows into Lake Winnebago. In 1835, after the federal government overcame Native American claims to the area, Doty and George McWilliams purchased 3,705 acres of this land under the name of the Fond du Lac Company. Within these acres, Doty also drew the city's original plat of 33 city blocks with 1800 lots.²

In 1836, the historic Military Road came through Fond du Lac on its way between Green Bay and Prairie du Chien, an event that helped early settlement in the state. Looking to capitalize on the new road, the Fond du Lac Company established a tavern, inn and land office at the site of the new community. Brothers Colwert and Edward Pier, with Colwert's wife, Fanny, agreed to run this business in a log cabin, becoming the first permanent white settlers in Fond du Lac.³

In 1838, physician Mason C. Darling, who was recruited to the new settlement by James Doty, arrived in Fond du Lac. As a fee for locating there, the Fond du Lac Company gave Darling 80 acres of prime land in the new plat, along with some nearby farmland. In a shrewd, but underhanded, economic move, Darling legally blocked the Fond du Lac Company from selling their lots for a time, while selling the lots from his own 80-acre parcel and some additional land

¹ The period of significance for this house corresponds to its date of construction. The construction date for this house was selected based on an evaluation of deeds, city directories, and information from the owner.

² Carol Lohry Cartwright, *City of Fond du Lac Intensive Survey Report*, Fond du Lac: City of Fond du Lac, 1992, pp. 9-10.

³ Ibid., p. 10.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

 Section
 8
 Page
 2
 Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House

 Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

he had obtained. Much of Darling's land was in what would develop as downtown Fond du Lac, and Darling quickly became wealthy. Additionally, Darling promoted the settlement by giving away some lots, donating land for the county courthouse, acquiring the postmaster appointment, and opening a hotel. But, despite Darling's efforts, Fond du Lac grew slowly during the 1840s, and only 400 people lived there in 1847.⁴

During the 1850s and 1860s, the population of Fond du Lac grew rapidly, the result of two important developments. The first was the development of an important rail link. In 1851, ground was broken for the Rock River Valley Railroad, a line out of Janesville, Wisconsin. This line was reorganized in 1855 and absorbed by the large Chicago Northwestern Railroad Company (CNW) in 1859. The Fond du Lac stop was part of the CNW's rail line that they developed through eastern Wisconsin during the 1860s, a line that became one of the most important transportation lines in the state.⁵

The second development that changed Fond du Lac was the lumber industry. Fond du Lac was an early "sawmill town," processing the timber that came down the Fox River system from areas north of the city. The first sawmill built in Fond du Lac operated in 1846-1847, then reopened in 1849, and operated until 1855. During the 1850s and 1860s, more sawmills were established in Fond du Lac. In 1873, at the peak of the lumber industry in the community, the city had 18 lumber and wood products mills that employed over 1,400 workers, who processed 67,000,000 feet of lumber and 2.3 million dollars worth of wood products.⁶

Largely due to these developments, the population of Fond du Lac rose to almost 5,000 in the early 1850s, then doubled to 10,000 during the 1860s. At the peak of the lumber boom, Fond du Lac had just over 15,000 residents, 18 churches, six banks, and a dozen hotels. In order to house all of these new residents, a building boom began in the city. This boom included the development of downtown Fond du Lac, as well as three residential neighborhoods that grew up to the east, west, and south of the downtown. Much of the new housing was built for workers and was simple, vernacular housing, but a number of wealthier families built larger, more stylish, houses in these neighborhoods.⁷

In the residential area east of Fond du Lac's downtown, the larger, more stylish houses were concentrated primarily along two streets, East Division and Sheboygan, and during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, this area developed into the city's most prominent

⁴Ibid.

⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 11, 108.

⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 84-85.

⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 11.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 3 Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

residential neighborhood. South and east of the city's downtown, the larger, more stylish houses were less concentrated. Only two small concentrated areas of stylish houses were built in these neighborhoods. One is a small area along West Division Street close to downtown, and the other is a small area along Linden Street, just south of the city's downtown and courthouse complex.

After the lumber industry died out in the 1880s, Fond du Lac's economy slowed for a while. Although the city had other industries, none could rival the size of the lumber mills and factories. But, after the turn of the twentieth century, new or expanded industries brought a revival of the city's industrial economy. Large repair shops and division headquarters for both the Soo Line and Chicago Northwestern railroads in North Fond du Lac employed almost 2,000 men by 1912. Several industries, including the Fred Rueping Leather Company, the Moore and Galloway Lumber Company, and the Giddings and Lewis Company, employed another 1,500 workers at that time. Several smaller industries, such as the Gurney Refrigerator Company, the Fond du Lac Table Manufacturing Company, the Northern Casket Company, the Vulcan Manufacturing Company, and the Galloway-West Dairy Products Company employed almost 1,000 workers in 1912. These companies continued to grow during the twentieth century; in particular, the Giddings and Lewis Company, the Vulcan Manufacturing Company, and the Galloway-West Company. They were the core of Fond du Lac's industrial economy in the twentieth century that helped the city become one of the largest industrial centers in east-central Wisconsin.⁸

During the economic boom of the early twentieth century, Fond du Lac's already-established residential neighborhoods grew significantly. But, most of this new housing was in the form of small to medium-sized residences built for the skilled industrial workers of the city. In fact, Fond du Lac's historic period housing stock contains large concentrations of American Foursquare and simple Bungalow style houses, both built among the older streetscapes of the city and in new streetscapes further east, west, and south of the older neighborhoods. In the East Division and Sheboygan streets neighborhood of large, stylish houses, the new construction of the early twentieth century consisted primarily of large Craftsman and Period Revival style homes. But, in the older neighborhoods to the south and west of downtown Fond du Lac, including the West Division and Linden Street neighborhoods, this new construction was primarily smaller "infill" type housing for middle-class and working-class families that was typical of the American Foursquare and Bungalow homes rising in other areas of the city.

During the late twentieth century, the residential neighborhoods of Fond du Lac continued to expand, primarily with tracts of suburban-style ranch houses. The prominent neighborhood along East Division and Sheboygan streets has been largely retained, and some houses that had been deteriorating during the 1970s and 1980s, are now being restored. The other historic

⁸*Ibid.*, pp. 11-12.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 4 Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

neighborhoods in Fond du Lac have seen more intrusive elements introduced and more remodeling. But, overall, these neighborhoods are relatively stable, and the larger, older homes along West Division and Linden streets are still extant. Other historic period houses scattered throughout the city have also been largely preserved and are recognized as local landmarks in the community.

The Montgomery and Nancy Tallmadge House is one of the early, stylish houses built in the East Division-Sheboygan Street area of Fond du Lac. As the neighborhood aged, the Tallmadge House was joined by many other stylish houses. The house was built around 1875 on a large multi-lot property owned by Cornelius Alling, a notable Fond du Lac businessman. Cornelius Alling had acquired the property in 1860 and built his own house around that time on one of the lots facing East Division Street. In 1876, Alling sold the lot that the Tallmadge House sits on to Nancy Tallmadge, the wife of Montgomery Tallmadge. The value of the property suggests a house was already on the property, but the exact date of construction is unclear.⁹

Montgomery Tallmadge was born in 1818 in New York City where he operated a hardware store until 1840. In 1843, he came to Wisconsin and located on a farm in the Town of Fond du Lac. In August of 1844, he married Nancy Eastman, who came to Wisconsin from New York State with her parents in 1835. The Tallmadges worked the original farm until 1862, then acquired another farm in the same town, working it until 1876, when they moved into the city of Fond du Lac. They retained farm ownership, though, for many years. Montgomery Tallmadge died between 1880 and 1884, but Nancy Tallmadge lived until 1902. In 1908, Augustus and Emma Long purchased this house and lived there until 1924, when Emma Long sold the property to E. M. Moore, who turned over the property to his daughter, Amy Bogk. She lived there with her husband, Chester, during the mid-twentieth century. In 1958, the estate of Amy Bogk sold the property to Robert and Alice Promen. In 1997, the current owners acquired the property.¹⁰

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: ARCHITECTURE

The Montgomery and Nancy Tallmadge House is architecturally significant at the local level as a good and intact example of a variation of the Italianate style, the simple front-gabled house with Italianate style details. This type of Italianate house is one of the main variations of the style found throughout the eastern half of the United States, and one of only a few such examples in

⁹ Deeds, Volume 32, page 198; Volume 73, page 635, on file in the Register of Deeds Office, Fond du Lac City-County Building, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin; City Directories for Fond du Lac, on file in the Fond du Lac Public Library, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

¹⁰ C. W. Butterfield, *The History of Fond du Lac County*, Wisconsin, Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1880, p. 870; Deeds, Volume 175, page 309; Volume 218, p. 480; Volume 235, page 621; Volume 409, page 27; City Directories; information from the owner.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

 Section
 8
 Page
 5
 Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House

 Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

Fond du Lac. Because of its brick construction, the house is not as elaborately detailed as some of the high-style Italianate houses in the city. The Tallmadge house is, nevertheless, important because it represents the wide variety of the style in Fond du Lac. The 1992-completed intensive survey for Fond du Lac lists this house as being one of the significant and potentially eligible Italianate houses in the survey. Its good level of integrity and high quality of construction adds to its importance in the city.

The Italianate style was widely popular in Wisconsin between 1850 and the early 1880s. Italianate houses are commonly square, two-story buildings with hipped roofs; wide, overhanging eaves with brackets; arched openings; and picturesque porches with thin posts and decorative brackets. Other variations of the Italianate style include hipped-roof houses with a centered gable on the main elevation; an asymmetrical type house, sometimes with a tower or raised gable; a front-gabled type of house; and an attached townhouse type seen in dense urban neighborhoods.¹¹

The front gable variation of the Italianate style takes a popular Greek Revival style form, the rectangular house with rear wing, and gives it Italianate details. It can be distinguished from the vernacular front gable house by its use of stylistic details. These details make the house distinctively Italianate. In the case of the Tallmadge House, the Italianate details include bracketed eaves and arched openings that distinguish it from common vernacular front gable houses that can be seen throughout Fond du Lac. These details are well-preserved and make the house similar to examples of front gable Italianate houses in the eastern half of the United States.¹²

The Tallmadge House displays a high level of craftsmanship in both its exterior and interior details. The light red brick construction of the exterior walls gives this house an attractive appearance. The craftsmanship of the brickwork can be seen by its current high-quality appearance today, even after more than 120 years of use. The cut limestone foundation is also in fine condition, and it adds to the attractiveness of the exterior. The interior has many fine features that are intact from the original construction date, including the staircase, with its beautiful walnut balustrade. The original, wide molded woodwork around the interior windows and doors is the main interior architectural feature, and this woodwork is also in fine condition, well illustrating its original craftsmanship. Most of the arched openings are extant and filled

¹¹ Barbara Wyatt, ed., *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin, Vol. II*, Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986, Architecture, p, 2-6; Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1985, pp. 211-214, 226-227.

¹² McAlester, pp. 211-214, 226-227.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 6 Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

with period glazing. This historic fenestration, although simple, is one of the best architectural features of the house.

The remodeling and renovation efforts of this house have been largely well-executed and, on the exterior, they are located primarily at the back of the house. The only significant change to the front has been the addition of the Colonial Revival style frontispiece that accents the original arched transom and sidelights of the main entrance. The other changes are on the rear wing in the form of a small, enclosed porch addition and a modern bay on the rear elevation. These details do not significantly detract from the overall good integrity of the house's exterior.

Likewise, the changes in the interior do not significantly affect the historic quality of the Tallmadge house. Although the large living room and dining room was made from two original rooms, the historic woodwork and wall surfaces of this area are still extant. The main changes to the first floor interior have occurred in the rear wing in the kitchen, which was modernized, and the pantry, which was made into a bathroom. The old dining room was converted into a library, but the size of the room appears to have remained the same. Throughout the first floor, historic walls, moldings, and wood floors are extant, in a few cases covered with wallpaper and carpeting. These historic details add to the historic quality and the good integrity of the interior.

The second floor interior has the fewest alterations. Carpeting and wallpaper cover most of the wall and floor surfaces, but the floor plan has not been altered in the main block and only slightly in the rear wing. The changes in the rear wing, primarily the addition of the bathroom, date from the pre-World War II period and have had little alteration since that time. The second floor adds greatly to the good level of integrity of the house's interior.

The Tallmadge House has a good level of integrity on both its exterior and interior, making it stand out in the community. It is one of the earlier houses built in the East Division-Sheboygan Street neighborhood for a prominent family that helped begin the development of this area into the most stylish residential area of the city. The Tallmadges were upper middle-class retired farmers who had the means to purchase a \$4,000 house in the 1870s, a period when the economy was depressed. They were typical of the families that would make this area their home in the coming decades.

The Montgomery and Nancy Tallmadge House is architecturally significant at the local level and eligible for the National Register of Historic Places because it is a good and well-preserved example of a common and important variation of the Italianate style, executed in brick. It has a high level of craftsmanship on both the exterior and interior, and a good level of integrity. Its modern alterations on the exterior do not greatly detract the historic façade of the building, and blend in with the nineteenth century details of the original house.

Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House Name of Property

9. Major Bibliographic References

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

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

- 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:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	384260	4848200	3				
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing	
2				4				
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing	
					See Co	ntinuation Sh	reet	

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 Prep	ared By			
name/title	Carol Lohry Cartwright			
	the de Cite of Ford de Lee	3.4.	5/20/01	

organization	prepared for the City of Fond du Lac			date	5/30/01
street & number	W7646 Hackett Rd.			telephone	262 473-6820
city or town	Whitewater	state	WI	zip code	53190

Wisconsin

Fond du Lac County and State

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 1 Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Butterfield, C. W. The History of Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1880.
- Cartwright, Carol Lohry. City of Fond du Lac Intensive Survey Report. Fond du Lac: City of Fond du Lac, 1992.
- City Directories for the City of Fond du Lac. On file in the Fond du Lac Public Library, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.
- Deeds, Volume 32, page 198; Volume 73, page 635; Volume 175, page 309; Volume 218, p. 480; Volume 235, page 621; Volume 409, page 27. On file in the Register of Deeds Office, Fond du Lac City-County Building, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

Information from the current owner.

- McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1985.
- Sanborn-Perris Fire Insurance Maps for the City of Fond du Lac. On file in the Archives of the Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin.
- Wyatt, Barbara. Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin, Vol. II, Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986, Architecture.

.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>10</u> Page <u>1</u> Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Montgomery and Nancy Tallmadge House has a boundary that is described as follows: Winslow's Addition, Block 3, Lot 6.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

This has been the parcel associated with the house since its construction.

Tallmadge, Montgomery and Nancy, House	Fond du Lac	Wisconsin
Name of Property	County and State	

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

MapsA 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/title	James & Kathleen Follmer					
organization				date	5-30-01	
street&number	225 Sheboygan St.			telephone	920-924-6774	
city or town	Fond du Lac	state	WI	zip code	53935	

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.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section _	photos	Page	1	Tallmadge,	Montgomery an	nd Nancy, Ho	ouse
				Fond du La	c, Fond du Lac	County, WI	

TALLMADGE, MONTGOMERY AND NANCY, HOUSE, 225 Sheboygan Street, Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. Photos by Carol Cartwright, February 2001. Negatives on file in the Historic Preservation Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin.

Views:

1 of 12:	Site view, from the southwest.
2 of 12:	Main (south) elevation, from the south.
3 of 12:	East elevation, from the southeast.
4 of 12:	West elevation, from the southwest.
5 of 12:	Interior, first floor main hallway and main entrance.
6 of 12:	Interior, first floor main hallway looking into library.
7 of 12:	Interior, first floor, living room.
8 of 12:	Interior, first floor, living and dining room.
9 of 12:	Interior, first floor, close-up view of staircase.
10 of 12:	Interior, second floor, bedroom.
11 of 12:	Interior, second floor, closet door.
12 of 12:	Interior, second floor, hallway, looking toward rear wing.

TALLMADGE, MONTGOMERY AND NANCY, HOUSE Floor Plan

NOT TO SCALE

FOND DU LAC, FOND DU LAC COUNTY, WISCONSIN



First Floor



Second Floor