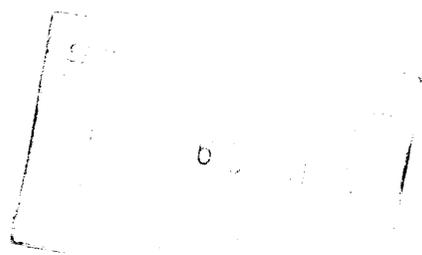


**United States Department of Interior
National Park Service**

**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 Nathan Strong Park Historic District
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by North Wisconsin, East Moore, North Swetting, and East Huron streets N/A not for publication
city or town Berlin N/A vicinity
state Wisconsin code WI county Green Lake code 047 zip code 54929

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 of certifying official/Title _____ Date 3/23/05
State Historic Preservation Officer-WI

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 _____

Nathan Strong Park Historic District

Green Lake

Wisconsin

Name of Property

County and State

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.
 ___ See continuation sheet.
 ___ removed from the National Register.
 ___ other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall

5/10/05

[Signature]

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	district	158	10 buildings
public-State	structure	1	sites
public-Federal	site	1	structures
	object	1	objects
		161	10 total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
 DOMESTIC/ single dwelling
 RELIGION/ religious facility
 LANDSCAPE/ park

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
 DOMESTIC/ single dwelling
 RELIGION/ religious facility
 LANDSCAPE/ park

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
 Greek Revival
 Italianate
 Second Empire
 Queen Anne
 Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
 Foundation Stone
 walls Weatherboard
 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 7 Page 1

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Description

Surrounding the beautifully landscaped one-block-square Nathan Strong Park, the Nathan Strong Park Historic District comprises the city of Berlin's most architecturally significant historic residential neighborhood and is a well-defined portion of the larger nineteenth century residential area located north and south of Huron Street and east of the Fox River.¹ This residential district is located immediately to the east and to the northeast of the east end of the already listed Huron Street Historic District and it contains the homes of many of the persons whose businesses and offices once occupied the buildings in this downtown commercial district.² All but seven of the district's buildings consist of small to large size, well-built and well-maintained mid-nineteenth to mid twentieth century single family residences. The seven exceptions are a single modern doctor's office building, four historic churches, a modern school associated with one of the churches, and a parish hall associated with another. The oldest houses in the district are typically medium and large size Italianate and Greek Revival style buildings and vernacular form versions of the same that are located close to the downtown and around the periphery of the Park. These buildings do not pre-date Nathan Strong Park, however, which is shown on the First Addition to the original plat of Berlin, at which time it was known as the Public Square.³ Berlin's gradual growth throughout the nineteenth century resulted in the construction of several larger Queen Anne style houses around the Park's periphery and many more elsewhere in the district along with American Craftsman, Bungalow style and Period Revival style houses and resulted in what is now Berlin's most architecturally distinguished historic residential neighborhood.

The Nathan Strong Park Historic District includes most of the area bounded by North Wisconsin, East and West Moore, North Swetting, and East Huron streets and consists of all of nine city blocks and portions of twelve others. The square plan Nathan Strong Park provides the principal focus for the district. No fewer than four of the district's blocks have sides that front directly onto the Park and three others make up its corners. The slope of the land in the district increases gradually from the south to the north boundaries and the district's streets are laid out on a grid plan and are lined with wide parkways, mature shade trees, and concrete sidewalks, curbs and gutters. Houses in the district generally respect uniform setbacks and most of the lots are typical of nineteenth century urban practice, being longer than they are wide and mostly rectilinear in shape, resulting in houses that are set rather close together unless occupying double lots. There are only two blocks in the district that are bisected

¹ The 2000 population of the city of Berlin was 5305.

² The Huron Street Historic District is the principal historic commercial district of the city of Berlin and it was listed in the NRHP on August 31, 1992.

³ The original plat was recorded in 1848 as the Village of Strongville, but was soon afterwards changed to Berlin.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 2

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

by alleys; consequently, most lots meet back-to-back and side-to-side. Garages are generally detached and are usually located at the rear of their respective lots and are reached by long driveways. The only vacant lots within the district are those belonging to houses that occupy more than one lot.

The Nathan Strong Park Historic District's resources consist almost entirely of single-family homes. The district's contributing residences were built between ca.1848 and 1945 and many of them were the homes of the owners of the buildings and businesses located in the nearby downtown and they are noticeably larger than houses in the surrounding neighborhoods. The most distinguished of these residences were built between 1854 and 1911 and their designs reflect both the status of their original owners and the prosperity of the era in which they were built. Most of these residential buildings are two or two-and-a half-stories in height and they are typically clad either in brick or in clapboard, although the Queen Anne style examples can display a variety of siding materials, including both stucco and wood shingles. Bungalow and Craftsman Style examples are also sometimes clad partly or completely in stucco. Exterior decoration is high in quality but is generally quite restrained in design, giving buildings a dignified character. Several carriage houses/garages were included in the county. The counted carriage houses were deemed to be of significant size and architectural design. Besides its residences the district contains four contributing churches: the excellent Stick Style Union Church (192 E. Huron St., 1898); the fine Gothic Style St. Stanislaus R.C. Church (102 W. Moore St., 1886); the equally fine Romanesque Revival Style St. Joseph's R. C. Church (246 E. Park Ave., 1908); and the Romanesque Revival style First Baptist Church (123 E. Park Ave., 1865/1895). There is also a single modern medical office building in the district (147-149 N. State St.) that is considered to be a non-contributing resource.

Buildings in the district range in size from small bungalows to houses of mansion-like proportions, but most are middle to large-size houses within their local context. These buildings exhibit a considerable range of construction dates and styles, which is not surprising given the wide age distribution of the contributing buildings in the district (ca.1848-1945). Prior to 1881, the forty-two still extant houses built by that date within the district boundaries were predominantly small and medium-sized Italianate and Greek Revival style buildings or similarly sized vernacular form houses that had been influenced by these styles. Beginning in 1881, the first of the district's sixty-four Queen Anne style houses began to appear and it is these houses that give the district its decidedly Late Victorian Period flavor. The district's last Queen Anne style houses were completed by 1910, their construction overlapping the start of the district's "Progressive Styles" period, which saw sixteen American Foursquare, American Craftsman, and Bungalow style houses built between 1906 and 1925. The last important group of houses to be built in the district were examples of the various Period Revival styles; thirteen of which were constructed between 1903 and 1945.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 3

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

The diversity of styles present in the district and their distribution is in part a product of the historic development of the area. The oldest portion of the district is its west end, which lies adjacent to the city's historic commercial district and is part of the original plat of Berlin. This plat was recorded in 1848 and it was roughly bounded by the Fox River to the west and southwest, by Moore Street to the north, Adams Street to the east, and Ceresco Street to the south.⁴ The much larger First Addition to the Original Plat was surveyed in the following year and it encircled the original plat, being bounded on the west and southwest by the river, by Liberty and Main streets to the north, and by Church and State streets to the east.⁵ This addition also included within its boundaries a city block dedicated to the use of the public known as the Public Square, which block was later renamed Nathan Strong Park. Subsequently, seven other additions were platted that have lots that are now included either wholly or partially within the district's boundaries. All but one of these plats were recorded either just before or just after the track of the Milwaukee & Horicon Railroad was extended to Berlin from its previous terminus in the nearby city of Ripon. This event occurred in August of 1857 and these six plats (as well as others located elsewhere in Berlin) were almost certainly created in anticipation of the future growth that the coming of the first railroad to reach Berlin would surely inspire.

The coming of the railroad and the availability of newly platted lots did not, however, immediately result in construction of new houses on these lots. A *Bird's Eye View of Berlin* published in 1867 shows that even ten years after the arrival of the railroad, buildings within the district were still mostly concentrated in the blocks in the district's west end, which were the ones nearest to the commercial establishments on Huron St., although additional growth had also occurred further east along Huron Street and further north along Wisconsin Street, both of which streets were then and still are among the principal thoroughfares leading into and out of Berlin.⁶ It is not surprising, therefore, to find that the district's west end contains its oldest houses and its largest concentration of Greek Revival and Italianate style buildings and their vernacular equivalents. By the 1880s, though, construction in the district was spreading eastward thanks to Berlin's steady if unspectacular late nineteenth century growth. This resulted in houses being built on many of the still undeveloped lots in the west end of the district as well as in its still lightly developed eastern end. These later houses displayed newer styles, such as the Second Empire style and especially the Queen Anne style, which would be the predominant one in the district until the end of the first decade of the twentieth century. And yet, even by 1892, when the second *Bird's Eye View of Berlin* was published, much of the block bounded by E.

⁴ Ceresco Street is located two streets south of and parallel to Huron Street.

⁵ Liberty Street is located one block north of and parallel to Moore Street and what was then called Main Street was later renamed Park Avenue. This addition was not officially recorded until 1855, however, and only sporadic attempts were made to sell lots within it prior to the mid-1850s.

⁶ Ruger, A. *Bird's Eye View of The City of Berlin, Green Lake Co., WI*. Chicago: Chicago Lithographing Co., 1867.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 4

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Park Ave. and N. State, E. Moore, and Sumner streets remained undeveloped as was the entire block bounded by Sumner, E. Moore, N. Swetting, and E. Noyes streets, and many of the lots fronting on E. Moore St. as well as other lots throughout the district remained open as well.⁷

Gradually these empty lots were filled, a process that was aided to a considerable degree by the equally gradual development of the Park that lies at the heart of the district. By 1892, the Bird's Eye View published in that year shows that the essentially undeveloped city block shown on the 1867 Bird's Eye View, then known as the Public Square, had been landscaped and had achieved its present form. Not surprisingly, the transformation of the Park into a destination for public recreation also increased the desirability of the lots fronting onto it and this led to the replacement of some of the original homes on these lots with larger, more fashionable ones, most of which were designed in the Queen Anne style. The consequent rise in prestige of the area surrounding the Park resulted in still more development in the district, development that included both the filling in of previously empty lots and the subdivision of some of the larger parcels that had been associated with the district's earliest homes.

By 1911, the Sanborn-Perris map of the city published in that year shows that nearly all the lots in the district were occupied and the subsequent history of the district consisted of the slow filling in of the district's few still empty lots and the subdivision of others. The result is a district whose resources display a variety of styles and sizes but which are typically newer as one travels from west to east. Older styles such as the Greek Revival and Italianate are most common in the west end of the district, while the Queen Anne style predominates in the middle and the eastern end.

Today, houses in the Nathan Strong Park Historic District are still much sought after and the district is exceptionally well-preserved and has much the same appearance today that it would have had in later part of its period of significance. Most of the houses within it have been well maintained and exterior alterations have been minimal and have generally been limited to residing with more modern materials. Of the single family residential buildings in the district, only two are considered to be non-contributing by virtue of loss of integrity. Only seven buildings have been added to the district after the end of the period of significance in 1945.

⁷ Pauli, C. J. Berlin, Wis. Milwaukee: C. J. Pauli, 1892.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 5

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

INVENTORY

What follows is a complete list of all the resources in the Nathan Strong Park Historic District. The abbreviations given below for architectural styles and vernacular building forms are the same abbreviations used by the Division of Historic Preservation. These are as follows:

AF = American Foursquare
AS = Astylistic Utilitarian Form
BU = Bungalow
CG = Collegiate Gothic
CO = Colonial Revival
CON = Contemporary
CR = Craftsman
CRO = Cross Gable
DU = Dutch Colonial Revival
ELL = Gable Ell
FG = Front Gabled
FP = French Provincial
GO = Gothic Revival
GR = Greek Revival
IT = Italianate
NA = Not a Building
NE = Neo-Classical
RI = Richardsonian Romanesque Revival
RO = Romanesque Revival
SE = Second Empire
SG = Side Gabled
ST = Stick Style
TSC = Two-Story-Cube
TU = Tudor Revival

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Section 7 Page 6

Number		Street	Original Owner	Date	Style	C/NC
117	N.	Adams Street	Marshall Perry House	1905-1910	QU	C
140	N.	Adams Street	Isaac Jenkins House	1905-1910	TSC	C
144	N.	Adams Street	Elijah M. Wadsworth House	1871	IT	C
145	N.	Adams Street	D. H. Shumway-Lew Smith House	1851/1886	SE	C
151	N.	Adams Street	Fletcher B. Talcott House	1914	BU	C
156	N.	Adams Street	DeWitt & Sarah Benham House	1858	IT	C
159	N.	Adams Street	T. Reese House	1863	IT	C
168	N.	Adams Street	House	pre-1872	IT	C
169	N.	Adams Street	Christ Johnson House	1892	QU	C
174	N.	Adams Street	Guy F. Page House	1950-1955	CON	NC
175	N.	Adams Street	Charles & Nancy Hitchcock House	1911	NE	C
179	N.	Adams Street	Asa Newell House	1859	IT	C
180	N.	Adams Street	U. Stewart House	1867-1875	IT	C
104	N.	Church Street	Oscar & Julia Silver House	1857	GR	C
112	N.	Church Street	J. A. Murkley House	1892	QU	C
122	N.	Church Street	Henry Walker House	1887	QU	C
104	S.	Church Street	Arthur Johnson House	1872	IT	C
110	S.	Church Street	William H. Johnson House	1867-1887	QU	C
170	E.	Huron Street	Joseph Yates House	1858	IT	C
179	E.	Huron Street	Nelson F. Beckwith House	1858/1869	IT	C*
180	E.	Huron Street	Horace Miner House	1872	IT	C
184	E.	Huron Street	Henry Miner House	1872	IT	C
192	E.	Huron Street	Union Church	1898	ST	C
ca.203	E.	Huron Street	Nathan Strong Park	1848/1861	NA	C
" "	E.	Huron Street	Soldiers & Sailors Monument	1894	NA	C
" "	E.	Huron Street	Bandstand	ca.1906	NA	C
204	E.	Huron Street	Fred W. Sackett House	1885	QU	C
212	E.	Huron Street	Robert A. Christie House	1895	QU	C
235	E.	Huron Street	House	pre-1867	SG	NC
236	E.	Huron Street	J. Stetter House	pre-1887/1918	BU	C
247	E.	Huron Street	M. Schultz House	pre-1867	IT	C
257	E.	Huron Street	M. Kalgare House	pre-1867	GR	C
106	E.	Moore Street	Ira Mitchell House	1940-1945	TU	C

*previously individually listed on National Register

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Section 7 Page 7

Number		Street	Original Owner	Date	Style	C/NC
121	E.	Moore Street	F. W. Lambrecht House	1906	AF	C
"	E.	Moore Street	Carriage House		DU	C
127	E.	Moore Street	Perry Niskern House	1903	QU	C
"		Moore Street	Carriage House	ca.1903	AS	C
135	E.	Moore Street	Elmer E. Fuller House	1903	QU	C
139	E.	Moore Street	House	1892-1910	ELL	C
145	E.	Moore Street	M. Safford House	1915	CR	C
146	E.	Moore Street	M. Safford House	1905-1910	QU	C
151	E.	Moore Street	House	1867-1875	ELL	C
163	E.	Moore Street	House	pre-1867	ELL	C
164	E.	Moore Street	Dr. A. J. Wiesender House	1911-1915	CR	C
170	E.	Moore Street	W. R. Williams House	1910-1911	QU	C
175	E.	Moore Street	A. A. Kreuter House	1925-1930	TU	C
176	E.	Moore Street	E. Packard House	1905-1910	QU	C
181	E.	Moore Street	August Montie	1910-1911	QU	C
187	E.	Moore Street	House	pre-1867	GR	C
193	E.	Moore Street	August Montie House	1918	FG/CR	C
197	E.	Moore Street	Morris Martins House	1930-1935	CO	C
200	E.	Moore Street	Carl Much House	1905	DU	C
201	E.	Moore Street	Mrs. Alice Clark Est. House	1911-1915	QU	C
204	E.	Moore Street	Alvin Davey House	1901-1905	QU	C
"	E.	Moore Street	Carriage House		AS	C
207	E.	Moore Street	Fred & Gladys Engelbrecht House	1935-1940	DU	C
211	E.	Moore Street	House	pre-1892	SG/CR	C
212	E.	Moore Street	August J. Kramp House	ca.1900	QU	C
"	E.	Moore Street	Carriage House		DU	C
217	E.	Moore Street	Julia O'Conner House	1892-1901	QU	C
218	E.	Moore Street	Henry Heffernan House	1901-1905	QU	C
225	E.	Moore Street	Charles Schissler House	1910-1915	QU	C
250	E.	Moore Street	William Maloney House	1910-1911	QU	C
258	E.	Moore Street	Fred Guske House	1910-1911	QU	C
262	E.	Moore Street	Roland & Margaret Gotlbehuet House	1957	CON	NC
102	W.	Moore Street	St. Stanislaus R. C. Church	1886	GO	C
108	W.	Moore Street	St. Stanislaus R. C. Parish Hall	1924	CG	C
116	W.	Moore Street	Frank Metcalf House	1911-1915	QU	C
162	E.	Noyes Street	House	pre-1875	TSC	C
163	E.	Noyes Street	Charles Much House	1912	QU	C

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Section 7 Page 8

Number		Street	Original Owner	Date	Style	C/NC
169	E.	Noyes Street	Morris Martin House	1911	QU	C
170	E.	Noyes Street	Rev. Lark Livermore House	1860/18?	IT	C
175	E.	Noyes Street	George M. Heilman House	1911-1915	QU	C
181	E.	Noyes Street	/A. A. Schadewald House	pre-1875/ 1935-1945	ELL/CO	C
201	E.	Noyes Street	James Moriarty House	1935-1940	TU	C
209	E.	Noyes Street	George A. Ceaman House	1935-1940	CO	C
210	E.	Noyes Street	Howard H. Kolpin House	1952	CON	NC
249	E.	Noyes Street	Morris Martin House	/1911-1915	IT	C
252	E.	Noyes Street	William Mellaney House	1911-1915	QU	C
255	E.	Noyes Street	Mrs. Mike Scherakowski House	1919	BU	C
256	E.	Noyes Street	J. F. Wilson House	1911-1915	QU	C
107	W.	Noyes Street	Albert C. Mertz House	1905-1910	QU	C
145		Oak Street	Dr. G. N. Stephens House	1926	CR	C
"		Oak Street	Garage		AS	C
151		Oak Street	Edward G. Longcroft House	1903	QU	C
159		Oak Street	D. J. Jenne House	1899	QU	C
"		Oak Street	Carriage House	1900	DU	C
171		Oak Street	House	1875-1892	ELL	C
172		Oak Street	Ed Whiston House	1912	SG	C
177		Oak Street	Mrs. Martha Scobie House	1897	QU	C
181		Oak Street	Mrs. S. J. R. Smith House	1901-1905	DU	C
205		Oak Street	Lewis Inversetti House	1909	QU	C
206		Oak Street	Ernest Greuerns House	1905-1910	CRO	C
105	E.	Park Avenue	Mrs. Nellie Alberts House	1925	BU	C
109	E.	Park Avenue	Nathan Strong House	ca.1848	ELL	C
110	E.	Park Avenue	House	1867-1875	IT	C
116	E.	Park Avenue	House	pre-1867	SG	C
117	E.	Park Avenue	House	pre-1867	ELL	C
122	E.	Park Avenue	House	pre-1867	GR	C
123	E.	Park Avenue	First Baptist Church	1865/1895	RO	C
133	E.	Park Avenue	J. F. Dolliver/Bert W. Horton House	1905	QU	C
134	E.	Park Avenue	House	pre-1875	IT	C
139	E.	Park Avenue	Mrs. Kate Engelbracht House	1902	BU	C
143	E.	Park Avenue	L. C. Smith House	1895-1896	QU	C
151	E.	Park Avenue	William D. Williams House	1882	QU	C

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Section 7 Page 9

Number		Street	Original Owner	Date	Style	C/NC
165	E.	Park Avenue	Deville L. Harkness House	1875	IT	C
"	E.	Park Avenue	Garage		AS	C
169	E.	Park Avenue	John Ayers House	ca.1849	GO	C
181	E.	Park Avenue	Charles Wright House	1894	RI	C
195	E.	Park Avenue	T. H. Ramsey House	/1901-05	CO	C
199	E.	Park Avenue	Henry R. Laing House	1894	QU	C
"	E.	Park Avenue	Carriage House		AS	C
209	E.	Park Avenue	Robert Holmes House	1882	QU	C
217	E.	Park Avenue	Horatio N. Ward House	ca.1854	GR	C
"	E.	Park Avenue	Carriage House		AS	C
225	E.	Park Avenue	Carl J. Much House	1915-1920	BU	C
231	E.	Park Avenue	Fred R. Peck House	1897	CRO	C
232	E.	Park Avenue	Chan H. Buell House	1906	QU	C
236	E.	Park Avenue	Charles Morgenroth House	1905-1910	QU	C
242	E.	Park Avenue	St. Joseph's R.C. School	1953	CON	NC
243	E.	Park Avenue	Wright House	ca.1875	IT	C
246	E.	Park Avenue	St. Joseph's R.C. Church	1908	RO	C
"	E.	Park Avenue	St. Joseph's R.C. Rectory	1913	AF	C
258	E.	Park Avenue	Mrs. Mary J. Evans House	1901-1905	QU	C
264	E.	Park Avenue	Samuel Thomas House	1901-1905	QU	C
115	N.	State Street	Edward & Ellida Christensen House	1960-1965	CON	NC
121	N.	State Street	Ezra & Martha Wheeler House	1854	GO	C
147-49	N.	State Street	Dr. L. J. Seward Chiropractor Office	1961	CON	NC
148	N.	State Street	House	pre-1875	FG	C
"	N.	State Street	Carriage House		AS	C
156	N.	State Street	John D. Husted House	1871/1875	GR	C
164	N.	State Street	August Voeltner House	1935-1940	FP	C
167	N.	State Street	Jacob Dorr House	1893	QU	C
170	N.	State Street	Mrs. Agusta Davey House	1920	BU	C
175	N.	State Street	House	1867-1875	ELL	C
176	N.	State Street	Charles Much House	1898	QU	C
181	N.	State Street	John Kraehling House	1905-1910	QU	C
"	N.	State Street	Garage		CO	C
182	N.	State Street	Charles Much House	1902	QU	C
115	S.	State Street	Theodore Kiejewski House	1889	IT	C

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Section 7 Page 10

Number		Street	Original Owner	Date	Style	C/NC
144		Sumner St.	House	1867-1875	SG	NC
145		Sumner St.	Geo. B. Sackett Est. House	1892	ELL	C
149		Sumner St.	Kearn Butler House	1903-1905	QU	C
152		Sumner St.	L. P. Lathrop House	1899	QU	C
159		Sumner St.	House	1903-1911	QU	C
164		Sumner St.	Nellie Martin House	1903-1905	QU	C
165		Sumner St.	John Krahling House	1903-1905	QU	C
169		Sumner St.	J. R. Williams House	1903-1905	QU	C
170		Sumner St.	J. H. Field House	1903-1905	QU	C
176		Sumner St.	Julius E. Kush House	1905-1910	QU	C
177		Sumner St.	Mrs. Marv Hinderman House	1899	QU	C
183		Sumner St.	Martin Killeen House	1903	QU	C
184		Sumner St.	Mrs. Jennie Eagan House	1903-1905	QU	C
163	N.	Swetting St.	Frank Kalluppa House	1905-1910	QU	C
169	N.	Swetting St.	Lawrence Finnerty House	1910-1915	QU	C
175	N.	Swetting St.	John H. Polakowski House	1910-1911	QU	C
115	N.	Wisconsin St.	Frank A. Whitting Flats	1915	CR	C
119	N.	Wisconsin St.	House	1867-1875	ELL	NC
123	N.	Wisconsin St.	Duane Doty House	1911	CR	C
124	N.	Wisconsin St.	House	pre-1867	GR	C
133	N.	Wisconsin St.	Frank H. Russell House	1905-1910	QU	C
141	N.	Wisconsin St.	House	1992	GR	NC
142	N.	Wisconsin St.	Frank M. Smith House	1901-1905	QU	C
145	N.	Wisconsin St.	C. H. Russell House	1896	QU	C
"	N.	Wisconsin St.	Carriage House		AS	C
148	N.	Wisconsin St.	William Russell House	1908	QU	C
"	N.	Wisconsin St.	Carriage House		AS	C
151	N.	Wisconsin St.	Parker House	pre-1867	GR	C
160	N.	Wisconsin St.	Mark Tustin House	1900-1901	QU	C
167	N.	Wisconsin St.	St. Stanislaus R. C. Church Rectory	1878	IT	C
170	N.	Wisconsin St.	Gilbert Rounds House	1881	SE	C
180	N.	Wisconsin St.	T. S. Ruddock House	pre-1875/ 1876	ELL/IT	C

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 11

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Building Descriptions

The following are brief descriptions of some representative examples of the district's resources, which are listed in chronological order by style and in chronological order within each style when possible.

Greek Revival

Horatio N. & Harriet Ward House 217 E. Park Ave. Ca.1854

Located on a large lot fronting Nathan Strong Park, the Horatio N. and Harriet Ward house is both the largest and the finest example of the Greek Revival style in the district and, indeed, in all of Berlin. Ward was a native of western Massachusetts who came to Berlin with his wife Harriet ca.1854. He brought with him an Easterner's taste in architecture and the means to recreate it. The resulting L-plan, clapboard-clad two-story house has numerous Greek Revival style features, including wide full-height corner pilasters, a front-facing gable end that consists of a full triangular-shaped pediment, a main entrance door that is flanked by sidelights and topped by a transom, and nearly floor-to-ceiling-height first story windows. The only substantial changes made to the exterior of the house both occurred near the beginning of the twentieth century, these being the replacement of the original multi-light windows with one-over-one light substitutes and the replacement of the original front porch with a larger and grander one of classically derived design.

Horatio Ward was fifty-one years old when he and his wife, Harriet, moved to Berlin and he was clearly already a man of means by this time. Ward involved himself in a number of enterprises in Berlin before his house was finally sold in 1873 to James Carey, a cranberry grower who occupied it until 1882.⁸ Since then, the Ward house has had several more owners, all of whom have taken good care of this important and historic Berlin residence.

Oscar & Julia Silver House 104 N. Church St. Ca.1857

Much smaller than the Ward house located just a block away, but exhibiting several of the same stylistic features, is the Greek Revival style, Gable Ell form, clapboard-clad house built ca.1857 for Oscar and Julia Silver on a corner lot bounded by E. Huron and N. Church streets. Here too,

⁸ Gillett, Lulabelle C. *Early Houses in Berlin Wisconsin, and the People Who Lived in Them*. Stevens Point, WI: Worzalla Publ. Co., 1976, pp. 7-9.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 12

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

the main facade faces onto Nathan Strong Park and here too the taller upright wing also has full-height corner pilasters, a front-facing gable end that consists of a triangular (in this case 'broken') pediment, and tall first story windows. The lower one-story ell wing, however, contains the main entrance, as is true of many Gable Ell form houses.⁹ Although later additions have been added to the rear and north sides of the house, the original building is still clearly evident and it has been well maintained and is in excellent condition today.

Oscar Fitzalan Silver (1825-1888) was a lawyer and occasional justice-of-the-peace who also served in the Civil War and was the mayor of Berlin from 1867 to 1868.¹⁰

Gothic Revival

There are only three Gothic Revival style buildings in the district, the largest and newest being St. Stanislaus R.C. Church. The other two are single family houses, both built by John Ayers, one of the earliest of Berlin's builders and carpentry contractors.

John Ayers House

169 E. Park Ave.

Ca.1849

The house John Ayers built for himself and his family is one of the oldest in Berlin and one of the oldest in the district, having been built ca.1849, the year after the Ayers family came to Berlin. This relatively simple, clapboard-clad, rectilinear plan house is essentially a two-story-tall Front Gable form building, but it also has features that are closely associated with the Gothic Revival style. Chief among these features are the triangular arched openings of the inset main entrance door and the similarly arched heads of the windows on the asymmetrical main facade of the house. Other features include the building's steeply pitched gable roof and the decorative wooden bargeboards that decorate both of the gable ends and also the eaves of the side elevations. The only changes that have affected the exterior of the house over the years have been the replacement of the original windows with one-over-one-light double hung examples and the addition of a square plan, one-story bay on the east side of the house ca.1867 that was extended to the rear in the 1920s to form a kitchen. Otherwise, the Ayers house is still in largely original condition and has been well maintained.

⁹ Historic photos of the house show that the first story window in the upright wing was originally a door but was changed to a window at an early date.

¹⁰ Letter from the current owner, Henry G. Moerschel, to the author.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 13

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

John Ayers came to Berlin from Milwaukee in 1848 with his wife and four children and there resumed his career as a builder. In the years that followed, Ayers was responsible for constructing many of the city's earliest buildings.¹¹ (See photo No. 13 of 13, right-hand house)

Ezra & Martha Wheeler House 122 N. State St. Ca.1854

Among the later John Ayers built houses in the district is this fine example of the Gothic Revival style built for his daughter, Martha, upon her marriage to Ezra Wheeler. The two-story Wheeler house has a cruciform plan, is clad in clapboards, and it too features the steeply pitched roofs that are typical of the style. The main facade faces east onto Nathan Strong Park and it is symmetrical in design and features a centrally placed two-story-tall gable-roofed wing that contains the main entrance to the house in its first story. Of special note is the triple pointed-arch window group located above the entrance in the second story of this wing and the identical single windows that are located in the second story of the north and south end elevations. This is noteworthy because the pointed arch is the single most characteristic feature of the Gothic Revival style and Ayers' use of it here is a testament to his familiarity with the style. Also typical of the style were the elaborate bargeboards that originally decorated the gable ends but which have since been removed. Also now lost is the original front porch, which extended across the first story of the main facade on either side of the entrance wing. It was replaced in the 1920s with the two-story porch that is in place today.

Ezra Wheeler was an attorney who came to Berlin in 1849 from New York. In 1852 he was elected to the Wisconsin legislature and from 1862-1865, served in the U.S. House of Representatives as the congressman from this district. After his death in 1871, Wheeler's widow lived on here until moving to Chicago in 1888, but she continued to own and occasionally occupy the house until finally selling it in 1898.¹²

St. Stanislaus R. C. Church 102 W. Moore St. 1886

The Gothic Revival style is most frequently encountered in examples of nineteenth century church architecture and St. Stanislaus Church is a fine and typical example of the application of this style. The church occupies a prominent corner lot, its three-bay-wide main facade faces north onto W. Moore Street; this facade is symmetrical in design and is bisected by a projecting, centrally positioned steeple crowned by a modified helm-roofed spire. St. Stanislaus has cream brick walls and these walls still contain their original historic windows and rest on granite foundation walls. The only significant

¹¹ Gillett, Lulubelle C. Op. Cit., pp. 20-22.

¹² Ibid, pp. 22-25.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 14

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

change that has been made to the exterior of the church has been the addition of a modern, full-width, stone-clad entrance pavilion across the first story of its main facade. Otherwise, this church is largely intact and is in good condition, although its continued use as a Catholic church is now in doubt due to current consolidation plans for the city's several parishes.

Italianate

The Nathan Strong Park Historic District is especially rich in outstanding examples of the Italianate style, one of which, the Nelson Beckwith house at 179 E. Huron St., is already listed in the NRHP.¹³ There are no fewer than nineteen houses in the district that exhibit Italianate style characteristics. The houses exhibit a wide range of plans and sizes and are found in both wood and brick-clad examples.

DeWitt & Sarah Benham House 156 N. Adams St. ca.1858

The Benham house is one of the earliest and one of the finest of the district's Italianate style buildings. Occupying a large double lot, the Benham house has an L-plan that is comprised of a two-part, two-story-tall main block and a one-story-tall rear wing that is placed at a right angle to the main block. The walls of the house are clad in red brick and these walls are sheltered by shallow-pitched hip roofs whose very wide overhanging boxed eaves are supported by paired brackets. Similar brackets also decorate the equally wide overhanging eaves of the hip roof of the rectilinear plan cupola that crowns the roof of the larger of the two portions of the main block. Cupolas such as this are frequently found on Italianate style houses and this one has east and west-facing sides that each have three round-arched single light windows and north and south-facing sides that both have four identical windows. The main facade of the house faces west onto N. Adams St. and it is asymmetrical in design and five-bays-wide. The three right-hand bays span the larger forward projecting portion of the facade, this portion being the one upon which the cupola is centered, while the remaining indented portion is two-bays-wide. An original one-story wooden front porch spans the full width of the facade and shelters both the main entrance door in the middle bay and the windows that occupy the other four bays. These windows consist of pairs of four-light, nearly full height French style doors that are each crowned by transom lights, windows of this type being another typical feature of the Italianate style. The entire house has recently been beautifully restored and is immaculate original condition.

DeWitt Benham was an attorney who married Sarah Noyes, the daughter of one of Berlin's most prominent early citizens. The Benham's lived here for only a few years before selling to Stillman

¹³ The Nelson Beckwith House was listed in the NRHP 4-6-90.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 15

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Wright, who would become the proprietor of Berlin's flour mill and whose widow would live here until 1924.¹⁴ (See photo No. 9 of 13).

Arthur Johnson House 104 S. Church St. 1872

The Arthur Johnson House is both the smallest and one of the most distinctive examples of the Italianate style in the district. The Johnson house occupies a prominent corner lot across from Nathan Strong Park and its main facade faces west onto S. Church St. The house consists of two principal elements, a rectilinear plan, one-and-one-half-story-tall, hip-roofed main block and a narrower rectilinear plan, hip-roofed, one-story-tall rear wing that is attached to the rear (east) elevation of the main block. Both the main block and the rear wing are clad in orange brick and both also feature the wide wood frieze boards decorated with paired brackets that are characteristic of the style. In addition, the roof of the main block is crowned by a rectilinear plan, hip-roofed, wooden cupola. The arch shape of the cupola windows is echoed in the large, similarly arched second story window on the main facade that breaks the eave line of the roof and acts as a wall dormer. This is the only full-size window that provides light to the building's second story, all the others are small oblong windows set into the frieze band that encircles the walls of the main block.

Arthur Johnson came to Berlin from what is now Northern Ireland and established a stationary shop and news depot here in the early 1850s. Johnson was also one of the founders of Berlin's Masonic temple in 1852, the same year that he purchased several lots along S. Church Street that included the corner lot that this house sits on. This house was built in 1872 and it was rented out until Johnson himself moved in.¹⁵ The house remained in the possession of the Johnson family until 1953.¹⁶

Horace & Henry Miner Houses 180 and 184 E. Huron St. 1872

These two houses were built next to each other in 1872 by the brothers Horace and Henry Miner and they are among Berlin's finest examples of the Italianate style. These houses are situated on a one-and-one-half-lot parcel that forms the southeast corner of the intersection formed by E. Huron and State streets, a location that places them very close to each other and directly across E. Huron Street from the older Italianate style Nelson Beckwith house. Both the Miner houses are two-stories-tall and are essentially rectilinear in plan and both have walls clad in cream brick. These walls have corners that

¹⁴ Gillett, Lulubelle C. Op. Cit., pp. 28-31.

¹⁵ *Berlin Daily Journal*. September 15, 1875, p. 3.

¹⁶ Gillett, Lulubelle C. Op. Cit., pp. 35-37.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 16

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

consist of two-story-tall corner pilasters and they are sheltered by very shallow-pitched hipped main roofs whose broad, overhanging eaves are supported by massive, ornate, scrollsawn wood brackets. The main north-facing E. Huron Street facades of the Miner houses are almost exact mirror images of each other. Both facades are three-bays-wide with the two right-hand bays of the Henry Miner House (184) and the two left-hand bays of the Horace Miner House (180) both placed in shallow, projecting two-story-tall ells. Portions of the first story of the Horace Miner House are covered by the house's elaborate original front porch, while the whole of the first story of the Henry Miner House is now covered by a full-width wraparound veranda that replaced the original porch in the first years of the 20th century. All the windows in both houses were originally tall, narrow, round-arched, six-light wood sash and many of these are still in place. In addition, both houses are also notable for their highly intact and well maintained state.

The two brothers, Horace and Henry Miner, came to Berlin in the 1860s and there married sisters, Sophrina and Luduska Montague. Horace Miner became a partner in the Johnson and Miner Bookstore in Berlin in 1867 and his brother ran a general store in Berlin.¹⁷ (See Photo No. 1 of 13)

Deville L. Harkness House 165 E. Park Ave. 1875

The Harkness house is sided in clapboards, occupies a prominent corner lot, and was one of the last examples of the Italianate style built in the district. This fine two-story cruciform plan house exhibits nearly all of the same stylistic characteristics that were found on the district's earlier examples, including very tall first story windows, a shallow-pitched hip roof, and very wide overhanging boxed eaves that are supported by elaborate, paired, scrollsawn brackets. Other notable features include full-height corner pilasters and the wraparound veranda that spans the full width of the first story of the main south-facing E. Park Ave. facade and part of the west-facing side elevation.

Deville L. Harkness was the general manager of the Berlin Woolen Mill when his house was built in 1875 and it was still his home when he served as the mayor of Berlin from 1891-1892.¹⁸ (See Photo No. 13 of 13, left-hand house).

Second Empire

Second Empire style houses can be identified by their characteristic Mansard style roofs and they are among the rarest of nineteenth century residential buildings in Wisconsin and are most frequently

¹⁷ Gillett, Lulubelle C. Op. Cit., pp. 38-40.

¹⁸ Ibid, pp. 40-42. See also: *Berlin Journal*, June 23, 1874, p. 3; May 12, 1875, p. 3.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 Page 17

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

found in the state's largest cities. It is surprising, therefore, to find not just one but two examples in the district. The smaller of the district's two examples is the Shumway-Smith house at 145 N. Adams St., which began life in the early 1850s as a modest Front Gable form, possibly Greek Revival style-influenced house and was then enlarged and rebuilt in 1887 in the more fashionable Second Empire style, complete with a small Mansard-roofed corner tower.¹⁹ Much more elaborate and more typical of Wisconsin's other examples, however, is the earlier example built for Gilbert Rounds in 1881.

Gilbert E. Rounds House

170 N. Wisconsin St. 1881

The large Second Empire style house that Gilbert E. Rounds had built on a double lot on N. Wisconsin Ave. was a source of considerable local comment even while it was being constructed. An article in the local paper that appeared just before construction began had the following to say:

Gilbert E. Rounds will erect a frame house veneered with brick. It will be different in style from any house in town. He will ceil the structure with matched boards inside and out, then cover with building paper and veneer with brick. He thinks he will have a house that for dryness and warmth cannot be excelled. He is negotiating for Racine brick which he thinks are superior to any that he has seen. This new house promises to excel any now in existence in Berlin.²⁰

Rounds' new house was designed in the Second Empire style and it is two-and-one-half stories tall, is essentially rectilinear in plan except for having two-and-one-half-story-tall bays located on both its north and south-facing side elevations, and it has exterior walls clad in cream brick from Milwaukee. The elaborate Mansard roof that crowns the house is clad in slate and has wide overhanging boxed eaves that are supported by paired, scrollsawn wood brackets. All windows openings have segmental-arched corbelled brick heads and the first story windows in particular are notably tall and narrow. Nor was the new architectural style that the house displayed its only notable feature. Later newspaper accounts of the actual construction make it clear that Rounds' new house was also at the forefront of technology for its day.

Gib Rounds has the steam boiler in his cellar and in place with pipes all up and steam coils placed for heating his new house. A man is here from Chicago doing the work. The work of

¹⁹ Gillett, Lulubelle C. Op. Cit., pp. 46-48.

²⁰ *Berlin Evening Journal*, April 19, 1881.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 18

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

laying brick commenced today. He is using Milwaukee pressed brick, they make the finest brick wall in the world.²¹

In addition to steam heating, the Rounds house also had plate glass windows and its own plant for making gas for lighting purposes.

Rounds was finally able to move in to his new home early in November of 1881.²² Rounds first came to Berlin in 1869 and was even then a relatively wealthy man. Once in Berlin he became associated with cranberry growing interests in the area and later went into partnership in a number of other businesses including the Rounds-Russell Glove Company. After his death in 1897, his widow continued to live in their house until 1912, when it was sold to others.²³ The Rounds house is still in very good and very original condition and is one of the district's most impressive houses.

Stick Style

True examples of the Stick Style are rare in Wisconsin. What is usually found are wood-clad Queen Anne style houses that have exterior wall surfaces that are divided into panels by the use of framing boards in a manner that is very close to that used on the Stick Style houses that preceded them. While the Nathan Strong Park Historic District has no residential examples of this style it does have the Union Church, a building that utilizes both Stick Style and Gothic style ornamentation and design features to produce a building of quite exceptional architectural interest.

Union Church

192 E. Huron St. 1898

The present Union Church faces north across E. Huron Street onto Nathan Strong Park and was built in 1898 on the site of the previous Union Church. The site comprises the southeast corner formed by the intersection of E. Huron and S. State streets. The earlier church was a typical rectilinear plan, clapboard-clad example of the Greek Revival style that had a Front Gable form design, gable ends that consisted of full-width triangular pediments, walls that were ornamented with corner pilasters, and an octagonal belfry that was placed near the front of the building's gable roof. The present church could hardly be more different. This church has an L-plan, a main facade that has a tall corner bell tower whose first story contains the church's main entrance, a hip-roofed sanctuary that is crowned with a

²¹ *Berlin Evening Journal*, June 18, 1881.

²² *Berlin Journal*: June 11, 1881, p. 5; July 2, 1881, p. 1; July 16, 1881, p. 1; September 24, 1881, p. 1; November 5, 1881, p. 1.

²³ Gillett. Lulubelle C. Op. Cit., pp. 43-45.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 19

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

small tapering spire, and a rear wing that has paired gable roofs, the gable ends of which face west onto S. State St. The building's exterior was originally clad in clapboards and although these have recently been covered over with narrow gauge vinyl siding, most of the framing boards that originally divided the surface into panels in typical Stick Style fashion are still intact and the overall appearance is still much as it was originally and the church is still in use. (See Photo No. 2 of 13).

W. D. Kimball of Milwaukee was the architect of the church and he gave it a sanctuary that features what was then a very fashionable auditorium plan. The plan of this room is oriented from the main entrance in the bell tower in the northwest corner of the building towards the altar in the sanctuary's southeast corner. Arcs of pews slope down from the entrance towards the altar and the room is lit with numerous Gothic style pointed arch windows that are placed in the north, east, and west-facing elevations of the sanctuary.²⁴

Queen Anne

With sixty-four examples, the Queen Anne style is by far the most frequently encountered architectural style in the district and includes some the district's smallest as well as its largest houses. Not surprisingly, many of these houses are actually vernacular versions of the style but others are superb, elaborate examples that are among Berlin's finest historic houses.

William D. Williams House 151 E. Park Ave. 1881

The earliest example of the Queen Anne style in the district is also one of the finest. This is the W. D. Williams house, which occupies a prominent corner lot comprising the northwest corner formed by the intersection of E. Park Ave. and Oak Street. The Williams house was built in 1881, the same year that the Second Empire style Gilbert Rounds house was built (see above), and like the Rounds house, it too was the subject of comment in the local newspapers of the day.

W. D. Williams' new house is to be gothic—something entirely new in Berlin.²⁵

²⁴ Gillett, Lulubelle C. Op. Cit., pp. 74-76. See also: Berlin Sesquicentennial Committee. *Home Town Ties: Berlin, Wisconsin 1848-1998*. Berlin: Berlin Journal Newspapers, 1998, p. 63.

²⁵ *Berlin Journal*: September 17, 1881, p. 1. However inaccurate this description may have been, calling the new house "Gothic" is understandable because the Queen Anne style was still a new one at the time and the stylistic appellation we use today was then only just coming into general usage.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 20

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Additional notices continued to appear throughout the construction process and the end result was a building that has been a district showpiece ever since.²⁶

The Williams' house is asymmetrical in design, two-and-one-half stories tall, cruciform in plan, and has exterior walls clad in clapboards. An elaborate combination hip and gable main roof crowns the house and it has wide overhanging boxed eaves that are supported by scrollsawn wood brackets, and gable ends that are ornamented with bargeboards. The right-hand bay of the two-bay-wide south-facing main facade of the house consists of a shallow two-and-one-half-story-tall gable-roofed ell while the first story of the narrower left-hand bay contains the main entrance to the house, which is still sheltered by the house's elaborate, original, gable-roofed wooden entrance porch. Located on the slope of the main roof directly above the main entrance is a tall hip-roofed element that has dormers facing west and south. Visually, this element acts as the uppermost part of a corner tower of the type that would subsequently become a signature feature of the Queen Anne style. In this case, however, just the outline of the tower is delineated by placing vertical boards on the siding of the main walls of the house to show where the corners of the tower would be.

William D. Williams came to Berlin from Milwaukee in 1868 and there established a wholesale produce company that became one of the biggest business concerns in the county.²⁷ To design his new home, Williams chose as his architect William Waters of Oshkosh, who was then well on his way to establishing what became one of the most important architectural practices in central Wisconsin.²⁸

Robert Holmes House

209 E. Park Ave. 1884

Located one block to the east of the Williams house on a large double lot facing south onto Nathan Strong Park is the Queen Anne style house built in 1884 by Robert & Elizabeth Holmes as a wedding present for their daughter, Mrs. David Junor, whose husband, David Junor, was the editor/publisher of the *Berlin Courant* newspaper.²⁹ The Holmes house is both the largest and the most elaborate example of the Queen Anne style in Berlin and it is a quintessential example of the style. The house has an irregular plan, is two-and-one-half stories-tall, and has walls that are clad in clapboard. The house is sheltered by a complex combination hip and gable roof having jerkinhead gables and gable ends

²⁶ Ibid, September 10, 1881, p. 5; September 24, 1881, p. 1.

²⁷ Gillett, Lulubelle C. Op. Cit., pp. 52-54.

²⁸ *Oshkosh Weekly Northwestern*, May 19, 1881. Reprinted in: Groth, David & Patti Pata. *A Compilation of Articles Pertaining to the Works of Architect William Waters*. Oshkosh: Winnebago County Historical Society, 2000, p. 328.

²⁹ Gillett, Lulubelle C. Op. Cit., pp. 54-57. The Holmeses retained ownership of the house but the Junors lived there until they moved from Berlin in 1887.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 21

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

ornamented with elaborate wooden bargeboards. Every elevation of the house is asymmetrical in design and features one or more two to two-and-one-half-story-tall projecting ells. Especially notable are the house's large, elaborate, and extremely intact porches. Both of these, the south-facing front porch and the polygonal plan west-facing side porch, have roofs that are upheld by thick turned wood columns and both are ornamented by elaborate, identical spindled friezes as well. The resulting composition features all the elements typically associated with the Queen Anne style and the house has the further advantage of good proportions and generous size to boot.

The Holmes house is still in a highly original, well maintained state and it is arguably the best known and most frequently photographed house in Berlin. (See Photo No. 4 of 13).

Frank H. Russell House 133 N. Wisconsin St. 1905-1910

Frank H. Russell's fine house was built between 1905 and 1910 and occupies a prominent corner lot that comprises the northwest corner formed by the intersection of Park Ave. and Wisconsin St. The Russell house is a good example of later Queen Anne style designs, many of which were influenced by the growing demand for houses that exhibited greater simplicity of design and more classically derived detailing, both of which reflected, in part, America's growing interest in its classically inspired Colonial past. Evidence of the effect of these new trends on the design of the Russell house includes the triple groups of Ionic Order columns that support both stories of the very fine, two-story, inset front porch, and the modified Palladian style triple window group in the principal gable end of the main east-facing Wisconsin St. facade. Otherwise, the house is a large, cruciform plan building that has a cut stone foundation, walls clad in clapboards, and which is crowned with an elaborate hipped roof having lower cross gables placed above several elements that project from the main facade and the side elevations. Especially notable is the polygonal plan three-story corner tower that occupies the left-hand bay of the main facade.

Frank Russell was, along with his father and brother, one of the owners of the Russell Glove Co., which was one of Berlin's principal industries in its day and became, shortly after World War I, the biggest manufacturer of gloves and mittens in the world.³⁰ (See Photo No. 12 of 13, left-hand building)

³⁰ Berlin Sesquicentennial Committee. Op. Cit., pp. 107-110.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 22

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Neo-Classical Revival

Neo-Classical Revival style houses are readily distinguished by the usually full-height, classically derived columned porticos that dominate their principal facades. There is just a single example of the Neo-Classical Revival style in the district but it is an unusually interesting one: the Charles & Nancy Hitchcock house.

Charles & Nancy Hitchcock House 175 N. Adams Ave. 1911

The Hitchcock house was built by Mrs. William H. Argall for her daughter, Nancy, on the occasion of Nancy Argall's marriage to Charles W. Hitchcock. This two-story, rectilinear plan house sits on a granite foundation and its clapboard-clad walls are sheltered by the very wide overhanging boxed eaves of the hipped main roof. The main facade faces east onto N. Adams St. and it is dominated by a full-height, two-story central portico that is crowned with a full-width, triangular, gable-roofed pediment of classical design. The roof of this portico is upheld by two pairs of fluted Ionic Order two-story-tall wood columns. These columns support a second story balcony that spans the width and depth of the portico and shelters the main entrance to the house. Interestingly, the main facade is not symmetrical in design, as is typical of examples of this style, the portico being placed to the left of center. In addition, the first story of the facade's left-hand bay consists of a projecting, circular plan bay window that serves both to extend the space of the living room inside while also providing additional light to that room. (See Photo No. 11 of 13)

Charles W. Hitchcock, the husband of Nancy, was born in Berlin and operated an insurance agency in that city. In addition, he also served as the mayor of Berlin from 1915-1921 and again from 1925-1929.³¹

Nathan Strong Park Bounded by E. Huron, N. Church, & N. State Streets and E. Park Ave. 1849

The First Addition to the Original Plat of Berlin (Village of Strongville) was surveyed in 1849 and this addition included within its boundaries a whole city block that was known initially as the Public Square and which was dedicated by Nathan Strong to the use of the public. Little was done to improve this square in the first decades of its existence, although mentions in the local newspapers over the

³¹ Gillett, Lulubelle C. Op. Cit., pp. 82-84.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 23

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

years suggest that sporadic attempts were made to improve it from time to time. The earliest recorded instance of such an attempt dates from 1861.

Public Spirited — The improvement of the Public Square and street adjacent has been a greater or less bone of contention ever since the city was incorporated, and during the heated discussions between the parties who demand a lavish expenditure there by the city, and those who take the other extreme view of the question, the improvements have remained in that interesting condition, known as *status quo*. This season private enterprise has taken hold of the matter, and much, heretofore noticed, has been done to beautify the grounds.

Monday, a goodly number of public spirited citizens turned out and graveled the street [E. Huron Street] for the whole distance in front of the Square, sufficiently wide for one good track. And the poor horses that used to haul loads through that sand hole will greatly rejoice thereat.³²

Never-the-less, the first *Bird's-Eye View of Berlin* published in 1867 shows that even by that date the square still lay on the far eastern edge of the city and it consisted only of trees and perhaps some grass; no formal landscaping activity was then in evidence. Twenty years later, the city had grown eastward to the point where residences all but surrounded the square and the citizens of the city were finally ready to invest in its development. The desire to erect a memorial to the Civil War veterans of the area seems to have acted as a spur to this development.

The City Council of 1887 voted to improve the park and build a mound for the Civil War monument that was being planned by the Women's Relief Corp. and the John H. Williams Post of the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic). GAR comrade Ralph Pardy built the foundation and in the spring of 1887 the granite steps were put in leading to the base.³³

This work took place in a circular plot in the center of the square. At the same time a system of graveled walkways was also developed that radiated out from this center to the four corners of the square. The *Bird's-Eye View of Berlin* published in 1892 shows that by that time trees had been planted around the statue circle, along both sides of these walkways, and around the periphery of the square, and on October 10, 1894, the memorial statue was finally dedicated. The total cost had been

³² *Berlin Courant*. July 26, 1861, p. 1.

³³ Erdmann, Bobbie. "A Gift From Our Founder and the People." Undated press release describing the history of the Nathan Strong Park.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 24

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

\$3100 and its design made liberal use of the granite whose quarrying was one of Berlin's principal industries at the time.

The base of the monument is unfinished Berlin Granite, then a brownish block of granite from Montello, then more Berlin stone with a polish to bring out the red and green flecked blackness. More of the Berlin stone with an axed (rough hewn) finish forms the shaft which is topped by a darker granite from Montello and the bronze figure of a Civil War color bearer with his flag.³⁴

In addition to the memorial a new wooden polygonal plan raised bandstand was constructed at the same time a slight distance to the east of it that is also still in place.³⁵

Once the memorial was in place, the square became a natural setting for civic events such as Memorial Day and the Fourth of July. In 1902, a City Park Commission was established to take over the maintenance of the park from the volunteers who had been responsible previously. A report in the newspapers in May of the following year stated that the Commission's first improvements had been trimming the trees and mowing the grass.

In the following years additional improvements were made such as the construction of a fountain in 1903 and the placement of two Civil War vintage cannons next to the Memorial. In 1976, the park, which had long been known as City Park, was renamed Nathan Strong Park in honor of the original donor. The park retains its original design and is still well maintained today, as is the Civil War Memorial and the park's bandstand.

³⁴ *Oshkosh Northwestern*. August 7, 1963.

³⁵ Fire Insurance Map of Berlin, Wisconsin. New York: Sanborn-Perris Map Co., 1895.

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Name of Property

Green Lake
County and State

Wisconsin

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.
- 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

1848-1945

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Waters, William
Kimball, W. D.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance 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 8 Page 1

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Significance

The Nathan Strong Park Historic District is an architecturally important residential district in the city of Berlin that surrounds the block square Nathan Strong Park. The park was first established in 1849. The district that surrounds this park is roughly bounded by N. Wisconsin, Moore, N. Swetting, and E. Huron streets and its boundaries enclose nine whole blocks and portions of twelve others. The district is located just to the north and east of the Huron Street Historic District business district, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Nathan Strong Park Historic District was first identified by the City of Berlin Intensive Architectural/Historical Survey, undertaken in 1991-1992, as a potential historic district having local significance under National Register (NR) criterion C.³⁶ Research was undertaken to assess the potential for nominating the district to the NRHP utilizing the NR significance area of Architecture, a theme identified in the State of Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP). This research centered on evaluating the resources within the district utilizing the Greek Revival, Italianate, Gothic Revival, Second Empire, Stick Style, Queen Anne, American Foursquare, American Craftsman, Bungalow, and Period Revival styles and also the Front Gable, Side Gable and Gabled Ell vernacular forms subsections of the Architectural Styles study unit of the CRMP.³⁷ The results of this research are detailed below and show that the Nathan Strong Park Historic District is locally significant under NR Criterion C as an architecturally and historically important collection of mostly residential buildings that together constitute a well-defined and visually distinct geographic and historic entity.

The contributing resources include very fine representative examples of several of the most popular styles applied to residential architecture in Berlin during the period of significance and four of Berlin's finest historic churches. Individually, the district's resources are fine examples of architectural styles and vernacular forms that were important in Berlin during the period of significance and a number of them are the finest examples found by the Berlin Intensive Survey. Collectively, these buildings are also notable architecturally because they typify the stylistic and historic evolution of the district and also the larger residential area that surrounds it during the period of significance (ca.1848-1955).³⁸

³⁶ East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. *City of Berlin Intensive Architectural/Historical Survey; 1991-1992*. Menasha (WI): October, 1992, pp. 115-122. Copy on file at the Division of Historic Preservation, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI.

³⁷ Wyatt, Barbara (Ed.). *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin*. Madison: Division of Historic Preservation, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986, Vol. 2, pp. 2-3, 2-5, 2-6, 2-11, 2-14, 2-15, 2-17, 2-18, 2-24-2-33, and 3-2 – 3-6.

³⁸ The period of significance is bounded by the known construction dates of the resources in the district

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 2

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Historic Context

Good general histories of the city of Berlin are contained in both Lulubelle Gillett's book, *Early Houses in Berlin, Wisconsin, and the People Who Lived in Them*, published in 1976, and in the more recent and extensive *Home Town Ties: Berlin, Wisconsin, 1848-1998*, written by the Berlin Sesquicentennial Committee and published in 1998. Consequently, the historic context that follows deals primarily with the development history of the Nathan Strong Park District itself and with that portion of the immediate surrounding area that had an effect on this development.

The city of Berlin owes its existence to the fact that its site is the location of the narrowest part of the channel of the upper Fox River for a number of miles in either direction. As a result, this site was chosen in January of 1846 as the crossing point for a road whose route was being surveyed between the city of Fond du Lac, located on Lake Winnebago, and the village of Plover, located on the Wisconsin River in Portage County just south of the city of Stevens Point. This road, like many others of the period, was intended to create an overland linkage among several of Wisconsin's inland waterways and reflects the high priority the early citizens of Wisconsin gave to the creation and improvement of Wisconsin's water transportation routes. Indeed, so great was the importance attached to access to transportation--especially to water transportation--that proximity to a transportation route was often the single most important factor in establishing the location of a community and was also a principal determinant in a community's subsequent success or failure. Consequently, sites located where land and water routes met, as they did at Berlin, were especially prized since they seemed to offer a community a double chance for success.

It is hardly surprising that a number of Wisconsin cities were founded by the men who originally surveyed these early transportation routes and were therefore the first to recognize the opportunities for future settlement some sites contained. Such was the case of Berlin, whose site was first seen on January 1, 1846 by a party of road surveyors consisting of Nathan H. Strong, Hugh G. Martin, Hiram Barnes, and William Dickey. This same group had explored the sections of the Fox River above and below this point the year before and had decided to claim and settle the land that surrounded the site of any suitable river crossing they found.³⁹ Their faith in the ultimate success of any site they might choose was backed by their belief in the importance of the proposed development of a ship canal between the Fox and Wisconsin rivers. This canal was designed to facilitate the movement of water

³⁹ *Portrait and Biographical Album of Green Lake, Marquette and Waushara Counties*. Acme Publishing Company, Chicago, Illinois, 1890, pp. 234-236.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 3

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

transport between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River and its history is discussed in the Inland Waterways subsection of the Transportation study unit in the CRMP.⁴⁰

The territorial and the federal government's involvement in the various canal proposals then under discussion must have made the future of any settlement located on the Fox River seem all but assured to the men who first saw the eventual site of Berlin. Consequently, claims for lands on the east side of the river (the west side was still unceded by various Wisconsin Indian tribes) were duly entered and Nathan Strong erected a building on his portion in the following year, becoming the first permanent citizen of a settlement which originally went by the name of "Strong's Landing". Others arrived to join Strong and soon a ferry and later a float bridge was built to span the river. Shortly thereafter, Strong and several associates platted his land under the name of "Strongsville" and the new community quickly began to benefit from its position astride both land and water transportation arteries. Strong's original plat was recorded September 21, 1848 and it was roughly bounded by the Fox River to the west and southwest, by Moore Street to the north, Adams Street to the east, and Ceresco Street to the south.⁴¹ The much larger First Addition to the Original Plat also belonged to Strong and his associates and it was surveyed in 1849. This plat encircled the original plat, bounded on the west and southwest by the river, by Liberty and Main streets to the north, and by Church and State streets to the east, and it also included within its boundaries a city block dedicated to the use of the public known as the Public Square. The block was subsequently renamed Nathan Strong Park in 1976.⁴² Together, these two plats contained almost the entire west half of what is now the Nathan Strong Park Historic District.

At first there were very few people to populate the large number of lots contained within these additions but change came quickly. By 1850 the village population had grown to 250 and in 1851 the village voted to rename itself "Berlin." The real growth of the village came soon afterwards.

The bridge and road spurred Berlin's growth, for they funneled the trade from the north and west to the city, and in 1849-1850 they were incorporated into an important road [the fruition of the original Fond du Lac-to-Plover road] laid out to Stevens Point. Very soon there were stage lines with daily or every-other day service from Berlin to Stevens Point, Oshkosh, and Waupaca.

⁴⁰ Wyatt, Barbara (Ed.). Op. Cit. Vol. 2, 2-1 (Transportation).

⁴¹ Strong's fellow proprietors in this venture were Benjamin Moore, Joseph Giles, and Oscar Wilson.

⁴² Liberty Street is located one block north of and parallel to Moore Street and what was then called Main Street was later renamed Park Avenue. This addition was not officially recorded until 1855, however, and only sporadic attempts were made to sell lots within it prior to the mid-1850s.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Section 8 Page 4

River and rail transportation also funneled business to Berlin, which became an important transfer point. In 1857, after mounting a considerable campaign, Berlin businessmen persuaded the Milwaukee and Horicon Railroad to extend its Milwaukee branch from Ripon to Berlin. Over the next fifty years repeated attempts were made, and were just as often unsuccessful, to extend the line beyond Berlin, which still [1976] is the terminus of the line, now the Milwaukee Road.

Boat service ... had brought settlers as well [as commerce] to the community from an early date. ... Within a few years of the city's founding, regular daily steamers ran to and from it to Oshkosh. A great deal of heavy freight was hauled by barge, and the Fox also became a part of a government waterway upon which millions of dollars were spent for dams and locks and other improvements. ... The transportation advantages and commercial potential resulted in phenomenal early community growth. The first settlers arrived in 1847 and by 1850 there were 250 persons in the village. By 1857 there were 2800 and Berlin was incorporated as a city.⁴³

The buildings that were the visible signs of this growth were clustered most thickly around the place where the east-west running E. Huron St. crosses the Fox River, a location that is situated just to the south of the place where a ferry first began conveying land traffic across the river ca.1848. This ferry was soon replaced by a wooden swing bridge that was located at the site of the current E. Huron St. bridge. A wooden drawbridge replaced the swing bridge in 1856.⁴⁴ Because the river was a primary carrier of commercial traffic in the days before good land roads and railroads had been developed, the point where these two different types of traffic converged became a natural focal point for commercial development and Berlin's earliest commercial buildings were here. By 1857, the commercial core of the city was well developed on both sides of the first four blocks of E. Huron St. east of the bridge (Huron Street was called Broadway on the west side of the river). Mills and other industrial concerns had been developed along the river's edge to the north and south of the bridge, again on the eastern side of the river for the most part, and the houses of the city's inhabitants had sprung up on the platted lots located north and south of this commercial core, including among them the earliest buildings in the district.

The arrival of the railroad in Berlin in August of 1857, coming as it did in the midst of a national financial panic and subsequent depression, did not have an immediate effect on building construction

⁴³ Gillett, Lulubelle C. Op. Cit., pp. ix-x.

⁴⁴ *Portrait and Biographical Album of Green lake, Marquette, and Waushara Counties, Wisconsin*. Chicago: Acme Publishing Co., 1890, pp. 244-245. This bridge was replaced by an iron one in 1888 and the latest bridge at this location is being completed in 2004 even as this account is being written.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 5

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

in the city or on the city's population, but it did have a considerable effect on those owning unplatted lands adjacent to the already platted areas. Between 1856 and 1858, no fewer than thirteen additional plats of various size were added to the four plats that then comprised the city, six of which are now included either wholly or partially within the district's boundaries. All of these plats were recorded either just before or just after the track of the railroad was completed to Berlin and these plats (as well as others located elsewhere in Berlin) were almost certainly created in anticipation of the future growth that the coming of the first, and, as it turned out, the only railroad to reach Berlin, was sure to inspire.

The first of these six new additions was the Park Block Addition, which was loosely bounded by E. Park Ave., N. State St., E. Moore St., and N. Church St. and was platted by R. N. & June Messinger of Milwaukee on May 29, 1855. This was followed by: Strong & Gott's Addition, bounded by Oak, E. Moore, and an unopened portion of N. State streets and platted by Kitty Strong and Joseph Gott on June 28, 1856; Leffert's Addition, bounded by S. Church, E. Huron, and S. Johnson streets and platted by Arthur Johnson of Berlin and L. E. Lefferts and J. Volner Swetting of Fond du Lac on July 31, 1856; Smith's Addition, bounded by N. Church, E. Huron, E. Noyes, and an opened portion of N. Johnson streets and platted by John B. Smith on January 30, 1857; Strong's Addition, bounded by Oak, E. Moore, and N. State streets and E. Park Ave. and platted by Lewis G. Strong on April 3, 1858; and Franklin's Addition, bounded by E. Moore St. to the south and an unopened portion of N. Church St. to the west, and platted for Benjamin F. Strong, the minor heir of Nathan H. Strong, on October 21, 1858.

These new additions enclose almost all the land contained within the boundaries of the Nathan Strong Park Historic District that is located to the north, south, and east of the Original Plat of Berlin and the First Addition to it, as well as much other land besides.⁴⁵ But as was noted earlier, the availability of a large number of new building lots in Berlin did not spark a building boom. The combination of the national financial depression and the looming threat of civil war combined to suppress population growth. Indeed, in spite of the arrival of the railroad, the 1860 census found that Berlin's population had actually fallen from a high of 2800 in 1857 to 2277 by 1860.

After the Civil War ended, Berlin began to grow once again but at a much less rapid pace than before. By 1865, Berlin's population had climbed back to 2554, but as the *Bird's Eye View* of the city published in 1867 shows, the new construction that had occurred in the city and in the district since 1857 was confined largely to lots located in the city's original two plats. That this is so is not really very surprising since the district's older lots were also the ones that were located nearest to the commercial establishments on Huron St., an especially important consideration in a day when most

⁴⁵ The last addition to contain land that is located within the district was Argall's Addition, which was platted by Almira M. Argall on June 29, 1903.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 6

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

persons lived within walking distance of work and shopping. It also explains why most of the district's Greek Revival and Italianate style houses are located in the district's western end.

The slow market for the district's newer lots also affected the development of the Public Square, which is located six blocks east of the Fox River. Even though Huron Street runs along its south edge, the Square continued to be located on the eastern edge of the city for much of the nineteenth century, which was apparently too far away from where people lived and worked to make it an object of daily use. Consequently, the city did little to develop it until the growth of the city had all but encircled it in the mid-1880s.

The reasons for Berlin's relatively slow growth following the war were varied.

By 1870 it [Berlin] had 2778 residents. The slower growth was due in part to the Civil War, the fact that Berlin was a terminus on a branch railroad line, and the fact that its location on a small, inland river was not as advantageous as other cities in the state. A group of businessmen, it has been suggested, fought to keep the railroad from extending out of the city limits thereby mistakenly causing this slow growth. They thought their businesses would suffer if the railroad went through.

The city's slower growth remained in force for the rest of the century, as Berlin's population increased to 3353 by 1880 and 4149 by 1890. The number of city residents then remained in the 4000 range for the next seventy years.⁴⁶

But even though Berlin's growth rate slowed, the growth it did experience was far from negligible. The physical size of the city grew considerably between 1867 and 1887 and, as noted above, its population also grew, from fewer than 2778 to 4149 in 1890. The reason for this rise in population has much to do with the kind of growth the city experienced during this period. By 1881, the population of Berlin had grown to 3500 and the city had developed a sizable and varied industrial base for a city of its size.

The manufactories of Berlin are being pushed with considerable enterprise. The woolen mill, a large stone building, owned by D. L. Harkness & Co., was erected in 1870, at a cost of \$25,000. The mill gives employment to forty-five persons, and manufactures \$50,000 worth of cloths and flannels annually. In addition to the woolen mill, the city contains three steam

⁴⁶ Berlin Sesquicentennial Committee. Op. Cit., p. 4.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 7

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

flouring mills, using constantly twelve run of stone; one coffin and furniture manufactory; two foundries; two machine shops; two tanneries; three saw-mills; two carriage factories; two marble shops; one brewery; one sash factory; two whip factories; one glove factory; six hotels; and nine churches. The business houses are mostly all substantial stone or brick buildings, while the variety and quality of goods kept in stock by the merchants are such as to command a large patronage. There are two banks in town, both private institutions. Large quarries of granite and limestone rocks are now being successfully worked near the city.⁴⁷

Much of the population growth that Berlin enjoyed between 1867 and 1887 consisted of new workers employed by these industries and much of the physical growth that Berlin experienced during this period consisted of the new houses built to house them. Visible evidence of this can be seen by looking at the bird's eye view of Berlin dated 1892, which shows that by that date substantial growth had occurred both to the north and south of the district and also in that portion of the city located on the west side of the Fox River. The district did not share in this growth to the same degree, since only some twenty-five new houses were built within its boundaries during this same twenty-year period.

The reasons for this relatively modest growth are speculative but it seems likely that it is partly because of the higher prices that lots in this part of the city sold for and partly because those with the means to buy and build on these lots were correspondingly few in number. The district, after all, was the home of many of the city's professionals and the home of many of those who owned businesses on Huron St. and industries along the river, and it had been since the late 1850s. Even as early as 1859, the houses in the district built for such Berliners as Horatio Ward (217 E. Park Ave.), attorney Ezra Wheeler (122 N. State St.), builder John Ayers (169 E. Park Ave.), hotelier Nelson F. Beckwith (179 E. Huron St.), retired lumber dealer Asa Newell (179 N. Adams St.), and attorney DeWitt C. Benham (156 N. Adams St.) were already the largest and finest in the city. Thus it is not surprising that those who built in the district in the decades that followed tended to be owners of similar stature. The following decades saw men such as mill owner Deville L. Harkness, mill owner Stillman Wright, cranberry marsh owner Gilbert L. Rounds, wholesale produce dealer William D. Williams, and many others all moving into either already existing houses in the district or else building new ones.

What is actually most striking about the pace of development in the district is how steady it was from 1848 to 1920. Of the 168 buildings in the district, twenty-four are believed to have been built prior to 1867, twenty-five were built between 1867 and 1887, twenty-three between 1888 and 1901, thirty-eight between 1902 and 1910, and twenty-seven between 1911 and 1920. By 1920, though, almost all

⁴⁷ *History of Northern Wisconsin*. Chicago: The Western Historical Company, 1881, p. 350.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8 Page 8

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

the open lots in the district had been built upon and houses built afterwards were almost all built on lots that had been subdivided from older multi-lot parcels. Fortunately for the future Nathan Strong Park Historic District, the same inherent advantages of close proximity to the downtown and the presence of the gracefully landscaped park at its heart have helped insure that the homes that make up the district continue to find a ready and appreciative market as single family homes.

Architecture

The Nathan Strong Park Historic District was identified by the City of Berlin Intensive Survey as one of the areas in Berlin that is most worthy of being listed in the NRHP. It is nominated to the NRHP under Criterion C for its local significance as a well-defined residential neighborhood whose buildings are very good to outstanding, largely intact, representative examples of many of the successive architectural styles that were applied to residential buildings in Berlin between the years 1848 and 1945. The architectural significance of the contributing resources in the district is based in part of their ability to portray the architectural evolution of the larger historic neighborhoods that surrounds the district, but their greatest significance is as representative examples of locally important architectural styles. In addition, the district contains numerous excellent buildings of individual architectural distinction. These buildings include the best examples of the Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, and Queen Anne styles in Berlin, fine examples of the American Craftsman, and Bungalow styles, two of Berlin's finest Gothic Revival style churches, plus many other slightly less notable but still fine buildings.

The buildings within the Nathan Strong Park Historic District today constitute a mix of 160 single family houses, four historic churches, two historic church-related rectories, a single late but still contributing church school building, and a single modern doctor's office. Of these 168 buildings in the district, twenty-four are believed to have been built prior to 1867, twenty-five were built between 1867 and 1887, twenty-three between 1888 and 1901, thirty-eight between 1902 and 1910, twenty-seven between 1911 and 1920, four between 1921 and 1930, six between 1931 and 1940, one between 1941 and 1950, three between 1951 and 1955, and four after 1955.⁴⁸

Not surprisingly, many of the buildings built in the district prior to 1867 have since been moved, demolished, or altered out of all recognition, but those that have survived demonstrate that most of the district's first houses were either clapboard-clad Greek Revival style houses and clapboard-clad Gabled Ell form, Side Gable and Front Gable form buildings whose designs were influenced by similar Greek Revival style examples, or they were similar-sized Italianate style and Italianate style-influenced houses.

⁴⁸ Thirteen garages and carriage houses are counted separately as contributing buildings because of their size and design but not dated.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 9

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

This is consistent with the typical stylistic evolution of Wisconsin's other communities founded prior to the Civil War. As the Gabled Ell form, Front Gable form, Side Gable form, Greek Revival style and Italianate style study sections of the Architectural Styles study unit of the CRMP all make clear, the architectural styles found in the district prior to 1867 were typical of those found in most other Wisconsin communities of that day as well, which were then just beginning to follow national architectural trends. Thus, the oldest houses in pre-Civil War Wisconsin communities typically tend to have been built in the Greek Revival style or were vernacular expressions of it, such as the Gabled Ell and Front and Side Gable forms, and they were also mostly built of wood. Shortly thereafter, Italianate style houses begin to appear and these two styles and the vernacular houses that they influenced, together constitute the bulk of pre-Civil War houses in Wisconsin cities.

This same stylistic evolution can also be traced in the buildings constructed during the 1850s and 1860s in the other residential neighborhoods that evolved around the downtown commercial core of Berlin. What sets the district apart from these other neighborhoods is both its larger number of surviving examples of Greek Revival and especially Italianate style houses, and its substantially larger number of large size examples. Also notable is the district's large number of surviving brick-clad Italianate style houses, whose creation is a tribute to the fact that Berlin grew quickly after its founding and achieved prosperity early in its history. The district contains eight examples of the Greek Revival style, of which the Oscar & Julia Silver house at 104 N. Church St., built in 1857, and the Horatio N. Ward house at 217 E. Park Ave., built ca. 1854 are the best examples. Although very different in size and degree of elaborateness, both of these houses (and all the other district examples as well) are clad in clapboards and the Ward house in particular is the finest example of the Greek Revival style in Berlin.

It is the district's outstanding collection of Italianate style houses, however, that is its most notable heritage from the pre-Civil War era. There are twenty examples of the Italianate style in the district, one of the earliest being the clapboard-clad Nelson F. Beckwith house at 179 E. Huron St., built in 1854, enlarged in 1869, and already listed in the NRHP. Built just four years later, in 1858, is the even finer brick-clad DeWitt & Sarah Benham house at 156 N. Adams St., one of five Italianate style houses located on this street. Located across from the Benham house is the even larger and almost equally fine brick-clad T. Reese house at 159 N. Adams St., built in 1863, and an older one, the brick-clad Asa Newhall house, is located just down the block at 179 N. Adams St. and built in 1859. Indeed so rich is the district in fine examples that even smaller ones can be found that are brick-clad and well detailed, such as the Arthur Johnson house located at 104 S. Church St. and built in 1871. Of exceptional interest are the twin Miner brother houses located next door to each other at 180 and 184 E. Huron St. Both of these houses were built in 1871 and they are both clad in cream brick and are mirror images of each other. Indeed so popular was the Italianate style in Berlin that outstanding examples continued to be built even after more

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 10

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

up-to-date styles were coming into fashion. An excellent example is the clapboard-clad Deville L. Harkness house at 165 E. Park Ave., which, even though built in 1875, is one of the district's finest examples of the style.

Newer, more fashionable designs were, however, finding clients in Berlin by the 1880s including two houses designed in the Second Empire style. The first of these and one of the district's most impressive houses was the Gilbert L. Rounds house located at 170 N. Wisconsin St. It was built in 1881 with walls clad in cream brick, a Mansard roof clad in slate, plate glass windows, central heating, and elaborate interiors. Far more modest and a good example of the way in which older houses were often updated using new stylistic features was the Shumway-Smith house at 145 N. Adams St. This house started life as a vernacular expression of the Greek Revival style and was probably built ca.1851, but in 1887, a later owner enlarged the house and gave it a mansard roof and corner tower, transforming it into a Second Empire style building.

What most clearly distinguishes the Nathan Strong Park Historic District from other early Berlin neighborhoods is its especially fine collection of Queen Anne style residences. There are sixty-four in all plus the Union Church, an outstanding frame construction Stick Style church building built in 1895 whose design exhibits numerous characteristics that are also found in Queen Anne style designs of the same period. Many of the district's houses exhibit almost every feature typically associated with Queen Anne style residences, including the use of varied cladding materials, irregular plans, complicated asymmetrical facades, wraparound verandahs, and polygonal or circular towers. Not surprisingly, these houses come in a wide variety of sizes and they display varying degrees of integrity. Of the district's sixty-four examples, some of the most notable and intact are: the William D. Williams house at 151 E. Park Ave., built in 1881 and designed by William Waters of Oshkosh; the exceptional Robert Holmes house at 209 E. Park Ave., built in 1884; the August J. Kramp house at 212 E. Moore St., built ca.1900; the D. J. Jenne house at 159 Oak St., built in 1900; the Mark Tustin house at 160 N. Wisconsin St., built in 1900-01; the Charles Much house at 182 N. State St., built in 1902; the John Krahling house at 181 N. State St., built between 1905 and 1910; the Frank H. Russell house at 133 N. Wisconsin St., built between 1905 and 1910; the Fred Guske house at 258 E. Moore St., built in 1910-1911, and the very late Charles Much house at 163 E. Noyes St., built in 1912.

What is especially interesting about the district's Queen Anne style houses is that almost two-thirds of them were built between 1902 and 1915, which is quite late for examples of this style. Forty-four later examples were built in the district in this thirteen year period, twenty-seven between 1902 and 1910 and another seventeen between 1911 and 1915. And yet, even as the last of the district's Queen Anne style houses were being constructed, new houses that exhibited more current stylistic preferences were already

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Section 8 Page 11

making their appearance. In addition to the Queen Anne style houses listed above, another twenty-one buildings were built in the district during the first two decades of the twentieth century. These twenty-one buildings include among them fine examples of the American Craftsman and Bungalow styles. A large number of these buildings were built on lots that had not yet been built upon or on new lots that were created by subdividing multi-lot parcels associated with the district's earlier buildings, while others replaced older houses in the district, which helps explain the district's decidedly eclectic architectural character.

There are five examples of the American Craftsman style in the district, all but one of which are clad either partially or completely in stucco. The finest of these is the M. Safford house at 146 E. Moore St., built in 1915. Other stucco-clad examples are: the Frank A. Whiting Flats building at 115 N. Wisconsin St., built in 1915; the Duane Doty house at 123 N. Wisconsin St., built in 1911; and the Dr. A. J. Wiesender house at 164 E. Moore St., built between 1911 and 1915. The latest example of the style, the Dr. G. N. Stephens house at 145 Oak St., built in 1926, is clad in brick.

Also notable are several of the district's seven houses that represent various aspects of the Bungalow style. The finest and largest is the stucco-clad Fletcher B. Talbot house at 151 N. Adams St., which was built in 1914 and is a fine example of a Craftsman style-influenced Front Gable type of Bungalow that has the full-width front porch that is a characteristic of the style inset in this case into its main facade. Another very fine and similar but considerably smaller stucco-clad example is the Mrs. Augusta Davey house at 170 N. State St., built in 1920, which is also of the Front Gable type (See Photo No. 6 of 13, left). Equally fine example clapboard-clad examples of the Side Gable type of Bungalow design are also present, the best being the Mrs. Kate Englebracht house at 139 E. Park Ave., built in 1902, which also has the full-width front porch that is so characteristic of the style, as does the equally fine Mrs. Mike Scherakowski house at 255 E. Noyes St., built in 1919.

As the earlier chronological building count shows, the district was largely complete by 1920, only 18 buildings of all types being built within its boundaries thereafter. Thus, it is not surprising that Period Revival style houses play only a small role in the overall fabric of the district. Still, at least two of these buildings deserve individual mention because their quality, if not their size, is the equal of the best houses in the district that preceded them. The older of the two is the A. A. Kreuter house at 175 E. Moore St., built between 1925 and 1930. This one-and-one-half-story Tudor Revival style house has a brick-clad first story and gable ends clad with stucco and false-half timber work, and its main south-facing facade also features a full-width terrace edged by a combination brick and concrete balustrade. This last feature, in combination with the relatively unadorned design of the house, gives the overall design a somewhat modern flavor that also looks backward to earlier Arts and Crafts style designs that were also influenced

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 12

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

by historic Tudor style examples. The newest of these two Period Revival style examples is the August Voletner house at 164 N. State St., built between 1935 and 1940. The L-plan, one-and-one-half-story Voletner house is a superb example of Normandy Revival style design applied to a relatively small house and displays such characteristic features of the style as a tall hipped main roof and a conical-roofed entrance tower located at the juncture of its two wings. In addition, the house has a stone-clad first story and a massive stone chimney, both features associated with the Normandy Revival style.

Only nine additional buildings were built in the district after 1941. Consequently, the district retains its pre-World War I appearance and scale even though the city of Berlin has grown extensively to the north and east of the district since then.

Architects

Judging from the quality and size of many of the district's historic buildings, it is all but certain that professionally trained architects were responsible for the design of many of its houses and probably all of its churches. Unfortunately, as is the case with most residential districts in Wisconsin that involve buildings constructed in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the identities of the designers of most of the buildings within the Nathan Strong Park Historic District are unknown, as are the identities of their builders. Usually, some attributions can be gleaned from church histories and general county and city histories and this was also the case in Berlin, but the best sources for the names of those who designed and built pre-World War II buildings are usually contemporary accounts in local newspapers. Unfortunately, not every newspaper included this type of information and a thorough search of Berlin's newspapers from the earliest extant one, published in 1859, through the early 1880s, found no architect's name mentioned in association with any of the houses in the district. Especially frustrating are the few instances when the newspapers allude to an architect but do not identify him. A case in point is the very fine Richardsonian Romanesque Revival style Charles Wright house located at 181 E. Park Ave. built in 1893 and identified as the work of "a Chicago architect" but without further attribution.⁴⁹

It is likely, of course, that most of the district's buildings were designed by those who built them. A case in point being the brick-clad Italianate style house of Asa Newell at 179 N. Adams St., built in 1859 by the local firm of White & Stebbins, who had earlier built a similar but as yet unidentified house in Berlin for a Mr. Burr.⁵⁰ The fact remains, however, that only three of the district's buildings have identified designers and short biographies of two of these men are given below.

⁴⁹ Gillett, Lulubelle C. Op. Cit., pp. 70-73.

⁵⁰ *Berlin Courant*. September 8, 1859, p. 3.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 13

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

William Waters

Only one of the district's residential buildings has an identified designer, this being the William D. Williams house, which was designed by Oshkosh architect William Waters. William Waters (1843-1917) practiced for most of his professional career out of Oshkosh where he was the most prominent architect of his day and also one of the best known architects in Wisconsin. Waters was born in Delaware County, New York in 1843, and grew up and was educated in the schools of Franklin, New York. He subsequently studied architecture at the Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York and after graduation in 1867, came to Oshkosh, where he would remain for the rest of his life.

During his career in Oshkosh, Waters designed numerous commercial buildings, private residences, and public buildings and churches, both in Oshkosh and elsewhere in Wisconsin. A biographical note written about him in 1895 credited him with the following buildings outside of Oshkosh as of that date:

Among the many buildings, the plans for which were drawn by Mr. Waters, may be mentioned the following: Courthouses at Phillips, Wautoma and Waupaca; high schools at Ripon, Sheboygan Falls, Shawano and Marshfield; school buildings—two at Ashland, one at Phillips; four at Appleton; two at Neenah; and two at Menasha—Citizens Bank, Phillips; Commercial Union Bank, Oshkosh; Commercial and National Bank, Appleton; and a bank at Waupaca; opera houses at Watertown, Appleton, and Ripon; the Danish Hall at Waupaca.

In addition to the above, Waters achieved renown outside the borders of the state when he designed the Wisconsin State Building built at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893.⁵¹

Waters designed at least three buildings in Berlin during his career. His earliest identified building was the three-story brick store building designed in 1871 for the firm of Yates and Foote, which is located on the southwest corner of E. Huron and S. Pearl streets and which is still extant, although in a greatly modified and reduced state. The newspaper account of its construction provides an interesting insight into the mid-nineteenth century design process.

The Architect of this work was Wm. Waters of Oshkosh, who drew the plans under direction of the owners. They pointed out the lower front of one building which they wished him to imitate, the upper windows of another which he must follow, and the cornice of another which suited them. Thus, the good points of many handsome buildings were combined to suit the taste of the

⁵¹ *Commemorative Biographical Record of the Fox River Valley*. Chicago: J. H. Beers & Co., 1895, pp. 1172-1173.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 14

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

builders of this one.⁵²

Waters' next known Berlin commission was for the fine Queen Anne style house of William D. Williams, which is located in the district at 151 E. Park Ave.⁵³ This is the earliest Queen Anne style house in the district, and the presence of what was then a house displaying cutting edge design in a city the size of Berlin makes more sense when one knows who designed it. Waters' last known commission in Berlin was for the second portion of the now demolished Eastside Primary School building, which addition was built in 1888 and was located on E. Huron Street just to the east of the district.⁵⁴

Waters continued to practice for many years after he finished his last known Berlin project and he also served as a president of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Waters died in Oshkosh in 1917.⁵⁵

William D. Kimball

Most of the basic facts surrounding the life of William D. Kimball such as his place and date of birth and death are unknown at this time. It is known, however, that he was educated at the Virginia Military Institute, after which he went to Baltimore, where he worked for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad until 1878, when he moved to Minneapolis to establish an architectural practice. Kimball remained in Minneapolis until 1890, in which year he moved his practice to Milwaukee, where he continued to practice until 1901. Most of what is known of his work consists of single family houses that are examples of the Queen Anne and early Colonial Revival styles.

Kimball's only known commission in Berlin was for the outstanding late Stick Style-influenced Union Church located at 192 E. Huron St., built in 1898.⁵⁶

Keith & Co.

The third house in the district that is known to have been architect-designed is the Edward G. Longcroft house at 151 Oak St., built in 1903. This very late Queen Anne style house was built from designs

⁵² *Berlin Journal*. January 10, 1871, p. 3.

⁵³ *Oshkosh Weekly Northwestern*. May 19, 1881.

⁵⁴ *Berlin Journal*. May 31, 1888. Reprinted in: Groth, David & Patti Pata. *A Compilation of Articles Pertaining to the Works of Architect William Waters*. Oshkosh: Winnebago County Historical Society, 2000, p. 328.

⁵⁵ *Oshkosh Northwestern*: December 15, 1917.

⁵⁶ Gillett, Lulubelle C. Op. Cit., p. 74.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 15

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

made by Keith & Co. of Minneapolis, a publisher of pattern books and architectural plans.⁵⁷

It is worth noting that all of the identified designers of buildings in the district were from cities other than Berlin and much larger cities at that. A similar situation has been found in most other Wisconsin cities of Berlin's size, the reason being that it took a community with a sizable population to support an architect of its own over the long run. Architects did, however, often appear in communities when these places were experiencing a period of growth, such as when a railroad finally reached a community, but these tenures were usually short-lived and the architect typically moved on once the boom had run its course. Much more typical were local building firms that also had a partner who did some designing. Berlin appears to have had at least one such firm in the late 1860s. This was the firm known first as Boynton, Simmons, & Beckwith, the members being A. E. Boynton, Joseph Simmons, and Luke Beckwith, which identified itself as "Architects & Builders."⁵⁸ No buildings designed by this firm have been identified, however, and it is likely that the "architect" of the firm was a largely self-taught builder-designer of the type who was responsible for most of the built environment in the days before professionally trained architects became more common.

Summary

The Nathan Strong Park Historic District is nominated to the NRHP because the buildings within it constitute a visually impressive, architecturally significant residential grouping that is also representative of the historic patterns that shaped the larger neighborhood of which the district is a part. Not only are the buildings within the district impressive as a group, but several of the individual houses are also among the best and the most intact examples of the more important architectural styles found in Berlin. The significance of the district is further enhanced by its highly intact and very well maintained state of preservation. The streetscapes in the district are unusually cohesive because of this intact building stock and because of the retention of period street and landscaping features. In addition, there has been very little new construction in the district. Only seven buildings have been constructed since 1945 and all but two of these were single-family residences that either replaced earlier houses or else were built on land that had originally belonged to older houses located adjacent to them.

⁵⁷ Ibid, p. 81.

⁵⁸ Ibid, January 9, 1868, p. 1. By July 30 of that year, Beckwith had apparently left because the name of the firm had been changed to Boynton & Simmons,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 16

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Archeological Potential

The extent of any archeological remains in the district is conjectural at this time. Earlier buildings are known to have occupied the sites of a number of the existing buildings in the district including those associated with the Edward & Ellida Christensen House at 115 N. State St., the house located at 141 N. Wisconsin St., and the Dr. L. J. Seward Chiropractor Office located at 147-149 N. State St. In addition, Sanborn-Perris maps and the Bird's Eye Views of the city (1867 and 1892) indicate that there were earlier, now non-extant buildings on several other lots in the district. Despite subsequent construction activity, some archeological remains from all of these earlier buildings may still be extant. No information about possible prehistoric remains in this area was found in the course of this research. It is likely, however, that any remains of these pre-European cultures located within the district would have been greatly disturbed by the building activity associated with the subsequent development of this area.

Preservation Activity

The Nathan Strong Park Historic District has been fortunate in that it has consistently been able to attract new owners who have taken pride in their historic houses, and in many cases, restored them. In addition, the Berlin Historical Society has also been very active in educating property owners in the district and elsewhere in the city as to the importance and value of historic preservation.

Criteria Consideration A

All four of the churches in the district and the other buildings that are associated with them are subject to Criteria Consideration A, which they satisfy because they all derive their primary significance from their architectural distinction.

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Name of Property

Green Lake
County and State

Wisconsin

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:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:
Berlin Historical Society

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 46 acres

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

1	<u>16</u>	<u>343780</u>	<u>4870280</u>	3	<u>16</u>	<u>344380</u>	<u>4869920</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>16</u>	<u>344420</u>	<u>4870260</u>	4	<u>16</u>	<u>344100</u>	<u>4869900</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

X 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	Timothy F. Heggland	date	September 21, 2005
organization		telephone	608-795-2650
street & number	6391 Hillsandwood Rd.	zip code	53560
city or town	Mazomanie	state	WI

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 1

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES:

Berlin Courant. Various issues.

Berlin Journal. Various issues.

Berlin Sesquicentennial Committee. *Home Town Ties: Berlin, Wisconsin 1848-1998*. Berlin: Berlin Journal Newspapers, 1998.

City of Berlin Real Estate Tax Assessment Rolls. The earliest rolls are for 1887 and they are available annually thereafter until 1900 and every five years thereafter through the 1970s at the Area Research Center located at UW-Oshkosh.

Commemorative Biographical Record of the Fox River Valley. Chicago: J. H. Beers & Co., 1895.

East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. *City of Berlin Intensive Architectural/Historical Survey; 1991-1992*. Menasha (WI): October, 1992.

Erdmann, Bobbie. "A Gift From Our Founder and the People." Undated press release describing the history of the Nathan Strong Park.

Fire Insurance Maps of Berlin, Wisconsin. New York: Sanborn-Perris Map Co., 1895, 1900, 1911, 1926, 1926 updated to 1945, 1926 updated to 1947.

Gillett, Lulubelle C. *Early Houses in Berlin Wisconsin, and the People Who Lived in Them*. Stevens Point, WI: Worzalla Publ. Co., 1976.

Groth, David & Patti Pata. *A Compilation of Articles Pertaining to the Works of Architect William Waters*. Oshkosh: Winnebago County Historical Society, 2000.

History of Northern Wisconsin. Chicago: The Western Historical Company, 1881.

Oshkosh Northwestern: December 15, 1917.

Oshkosh Weekly Northwestern.. May 19, 1881..

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 2

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES: CONTINUED

Pauli, C. J. *Berlin, Wis.* Milwaukee: C. J. Pauli, 1892. This is the 1892 Bird's Eye View of Berlin.

Portrait and Biographical Album of Green lake, Marquette, and Waushara Counties, Wisconsin.
Chicago: Acme Publishing Co., 1890.

Reetz, Elaine. *Come Back in Time: Volume 1, Communities.* Princeton (WI): Fox River Publishing Co., 1981, Vol. 1.

Ruger, A. *Bird's Eye View of The City of Berlin, Green Lake Co., WI.* Chicago: Chicago Lithographing Co., 1867.

Wyatt, Barbara (Ed.). *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin.* Madison: Division of Historic Preservation, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Section 10 Page 1

UTM Co-Ordinates, Continued:

5	16	343760	4870040
<hr/>			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The boundary of the Nathan Strong Park Historic district begins at a point on the S curbline of W. Moore St. that corresponds to the NW corner of the lot associated with 116 W. Moore St.. The line then continues E along said S curbline, crossing N. Wisconsin St., and continues to a point that lies directly opposite a point on the north curbline of E. Moore St. that corresponds to the SW corner of the lot associated with 121 E. Moore St. The line then turns 90° and continues N across E. Moore St. to said point, then continues N along the W lot line of said lot to the NW corner, then turns 90° and continues E along the rear lot lines of the lots associated with 121, 127, 135, 139, 145, and 151 E. Moore St., then crosses Oak St. and continues E along the rear lot lines of the lots associated with 163, 175, 181, 187, 193, 197, 201, 207, 211, 217, and 225 E. Moore St. to the NE corner of the lot associated with 225 E. Moore St. The line then turns 90° and continues S along the E lot line of said lot to the SE corner, then crosses E. Moore St. to a point on the south curbline that corresponds to the NE corner of the lot associated with 183 Sumner St. The line then turns 90° and continues E across Sumner St. and along the S curbline of E. Moore St. until reaching a point that corresponds to the NE corner of the lot associated with 262 E. Moore St. The line then turns 90° and continues S along the W curbline of N. Swetting St. to a point that corresponds to the SE corner of the lot associated with 163 N. Swetting St. The line then turns 90° and continues W along the N curbline of E. Noyes St. to a point that lies directly opposite a point on the south curbline of E. Noyes St. that corresponds to the NE corner of the lot associated with 256 E. Noyes St. The line then turns 90° and continues S across E. Noyes St. to said point, then continues S along the E lot line of said lot to the SE corner, then turns 90° and continues W along the rear lot lines of the lots associated with 256 and 252 E. Noyes St. to a point that corresponds to the NE corner of the lot associated with 243 E. Park Ave. The line then turns 90° and continues S along the E lot line of said lot to a point on the N curbline of E. Park Ave. that corresponds to the SE corner of said lot, then continues S across E. Park Ave. to a point on the S curbline that corresponds to the NE corner of the lot associated with 242 E. Park Ave. The line then turns 90° and continues E along said curbline to the NE corner of the lot associated with 264 E. Park Ave. The line then turns 90° and continues S along the W curbline of N. Swetting St. to the SE corner of the lot associated with 264 E. Park Ave., then turns 90° and continues W along the rear lot line of said lot to the SW corner, then turns 90° and continues S along the E lot line of the lot associated with

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Section 10 Page 2

257 E. Huron St. to a point on the N curbline of E. Huron St. that corresponds to the SE corner of said lot. The line then turns 90° and continues W along said curbline to a point that lies directly opposite a point on the south curbline of E. Huron St. that corresponds to the NE corner of the lot associated with 236 E. Huron St. The line then turns 90° and continues S across E. Huron St. to said point, then continues S along the E lot line of said lot to the SE corner, then turns 90° and continues W along the rear lot line of said lot and of the S lot line of the lot associated with 110 S. Church St. to a point on the E curbline of S. Church St. that corresponds to the SW corner of said lot. The line then continues W across S. Church St. to the SE corner of the lot associated with 212 E. Huron St., then continues W along the rear lot lines of 212, 204, and 192 E. Huron St. to a point on the E curbline of S. State St., then crosses S. State St. to a point on the W curbline that corresponds to the SE corner of the lot associated with 184 E. Huron St. The line then turns 90° and continues S along said W curbline to the SE corner of the lot associated with 115 S. State St. The line then turns 90° and continues W along the S lot line of said lot to the SW corner, then turns 90° and continues N along the rear lot line of said lot to the NW corner, then turns 90° and continues W along the rear lot line of the lot associated with 170 E. Huron St. to the SW corner of said lot. The line then turns 90° and continues N along the W lot line of said lot to a point on the S curbline of E. Huron St. that corresponds to the NW corner of said lot. The line then turns 90° and continues E along said curbline to the NE corner of said lot, then turns 90° and continues N across E. Huron St. to a point on the N curbline that corresponds to the SW corner of the lot associated with 179 E. Huron St. The line then continues N along the W lot line of said lot and along the rear lot lines of 115 and 121 N. State St. to a point on the S curbline of E. Park Ave. that lies directly opposite a point on the N curbline of E. Park Ave. that corresponds to the SW corner of the lot associated with 181 E. Park Ave. The line continues N across E. Park Ave. to said point, then turns 90° and continues W along said N. curbline to the SW corner of the lot associated with 139 E. Park Ave. The line then turns 90° and continues S across E. Park Ave. to a point that corresponds to the NE corner of the lot associated with 134 E. Park Ave. The line then continues S along the E lot line of said lot to the SE corner, then turns 90° and continues W along the rear lot line to the SW corner, then crosses N. Adams St. and continues W along the lot line of the lot associated with 117 N. Adams to the SW corner of this lot, then turns 90° and continues N along the W lot line of said lot to the SE corner of the lot associated with 116 E. Park Ave. The line then turns 90° and continues W along the rear lot line of said lot to the SW corner, then turns 90° and continues S along the E lot line of the lot associated with 110 E. Park Ave. to the SE corner of said lot, then turns 90° and continues W along the rear lot line of said lot to the SW corner, then turns 90° and continues N along the W lot line of said lot to the SE corner of the lot associated with 124 N. Wisconsin St. The line then turns 90° and continues W along the S lot line of said lot to the SW corner of said lot, which

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Section 10 Page 3

is also a point on the E curbline of N. Wisconsin St. The line then continues W across N. Wisconsin St. to the W curbline, then turns 90° and continues S along said curbline to a point that corresponds to the SE corner of the lot associated with 115 N. Wisconsin St. The line then turns 90° and continues W along the S lot line of said lot to the SW corner, then turns 90° and continues N along the rear lot lines of the lots associated with 115, 119, and 123 N. Wisconsin St. to a point on the S curbline of W. Park Ave. that corresponds to the NW corner of the lot associated with 123 N. Wisconsin St. The line then continues N across W. Park Ave. to the N curbline and a point that corresponds to the SW corner of the lot associated with 133 N. Wisconsin St. The line then continues N along the rear lot lines of 133, 141, 145, and 151 N. Wisconsin St. to a point on the S curbline of W. Noyes St. that corresponds to the NW corner of the lot associated with 151 N. Wisconsin St. The line then continues N across W. Noyes St. to the N curbline, then turns 90° and continues W along said curbline to the SW corner of the lot associated with 107 W. Noyes St. The line then turns 90° and continues N along the W lot line of said lot to the NW corner of said lot, then turns 90° and continues W along the rear lot line of the lot associated with 116 W. Moore St. to the SW corner of said lot, then turns 90° and continues N along the W lot line of said lot to the POB. Said boundaries enclose 46 acres MOL.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The boundaries of the district enclose all the land that is historically associated with the district's resources. Adjacent residential neighborhoods located to the northwest, north, east, southeast, and south contain smaller, less intact buildings than those within the district and the areas to the west and southwest are occupied by a mix of commercial and institutional buildings that are of a different type than the predominantly residential buildings in the Nathan Strong Park Historic District.

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Name of Property

Green Lake
County and State

Wisconsin

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/title	Various, see separate listing		date
organization			telephone
street & number			zip code
city or town	state	Wisconsin	

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

Nathan Strong Park Historic District
Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Section photos Page 1

Items a-d are the same for photos 1 – 13.

Photo 1

- a) Nathan Strong Park Historic District
- b) Berlin, Green Lake County, WI
- c) Timothy F. Heggland, March 25, 2004
- d) Wisconsin Historical Society
- e) 180 & 184 N. Huron St., View looking S
- f) Photo 1 of 13

Photo 9

- e) 156 N. Adams St., View looking E
- f) Photo 9 of 13

Photo 10

- e) 159 N. Adams St., View looking W
- f) Photo 10 of 13

Photo 2

- e) 192 E. Huron St., View looking SE
- f) Photo 2 of 13

Photo 11

- e) 175 N. Adams St., View looking W
- f) Photo 11 of 13

Photo 3

- e) Nathan Strong Park, View looking NE
- f) Photo 3 of 13

Photo 12

- e) 133-151 N. Wisconsin St., View looking NW
- f) Photo 12 of 13

Photo 4

- e) 209 E. Park Ave., View looking N
- f) Photo 4 of 13

Photo 13

- e) 165 & 161 E. Park Ave., View looking N
- f) Photo 13 of 13

Photo 5

- e) 242 E. Park St., View looking S
- f) Photo 5 of 13

Photo 6

- e) 170 & 164 N. State St., View looking NE
- f) Photo 6 of 13

Photo 7

- e) 163, 169, & 175 E. Noyes St., View looking NE
- f) Photo 7 of 13

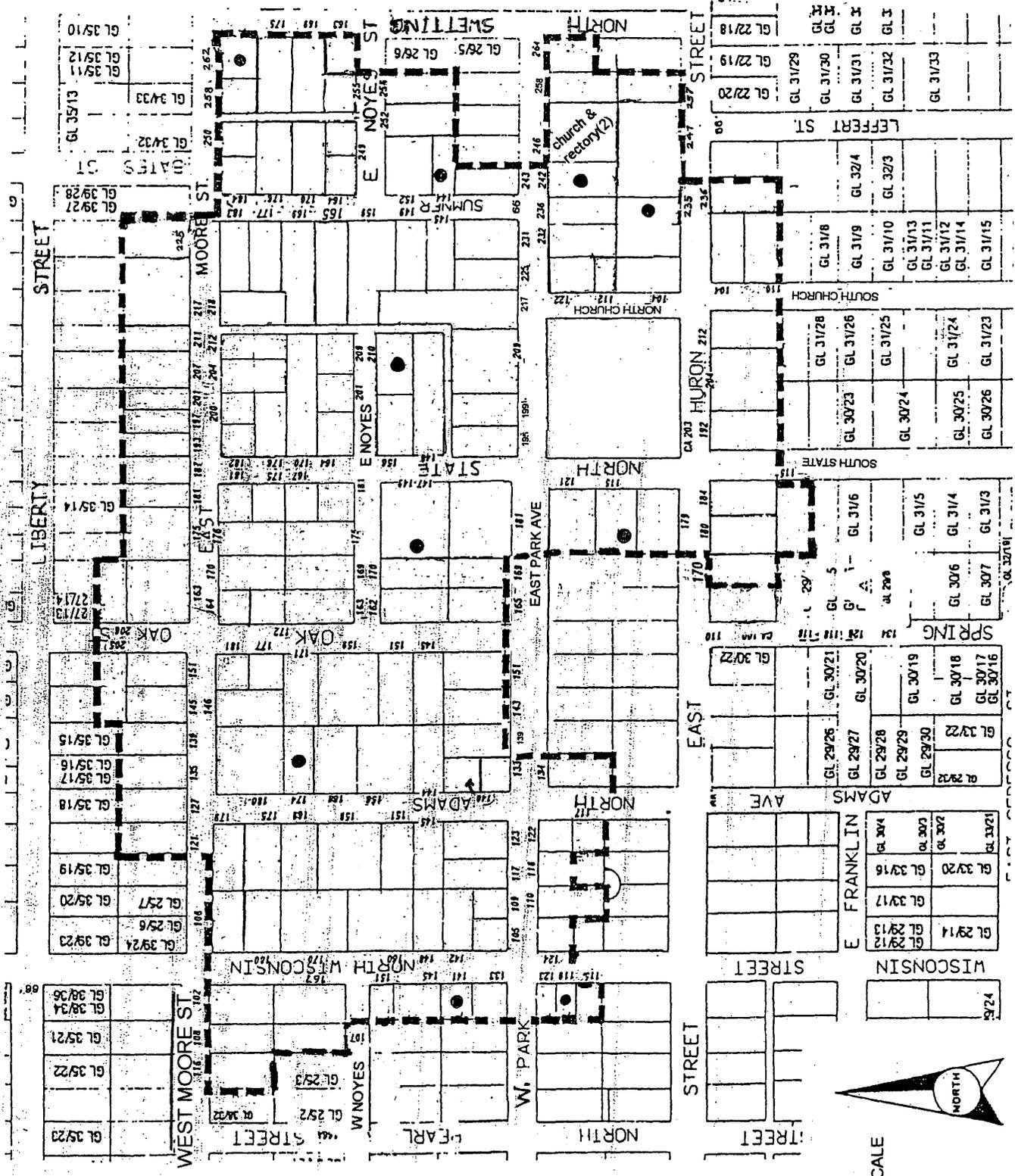
Photo 8

- e) 145 & 151 N. Oak St., View looking W
- f) Photo 8 of 13

NATHAN STRONG PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT

BERLIN, GREEN LAKE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

● NONCONTRIBUTING



NO SCALE

