

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

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**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 Byrns, Daniel and Nellie, House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 221 Mill Street N/A not for publication
city or town Lodi N/A vicinity
state Wisconsin code WI county Columbia code 021 zip code 53555

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

 _____ Date Sept 3, 2008

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

Byrns, Daniel and Nellie, House

Columbia

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

10-16-08

[Signature]

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

contributing	noncontributing
2	0 buildings
	0 sites
	0 structures
	0 objects
2	0 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 is previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation CONCRETE
walls WEATHERBOARD

roof ASPHALT

other WOOD

Narrative Description

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

Byrns, Daniel and Nellie House
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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

1915

Significant Dates

1915

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Byrns, Daniel and Nellie, House
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9. Major Bibliographic References

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

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # ___
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # ___

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:
—

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

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

1 16 294970 4798320
 Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
 Zone Easting Northing

See Continuation Sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Timothy F. Heggland/ Consultant for the Lodi Historic Preservation Commission	date	September 10, 2007
organization		telephone	608-795-2650
street & number	639I Hillsandwood Rd.	zip code	53560
city or town	Mazomanie	state	WI

Byrns, Daniel and Nellie, House

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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	James & Elizabeth Campbell	date	September 2007
organization		telephone	608-592-1530
Street & number	221 Mill Street	zip code	53555
city or town	Lodi	state	WI

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Byrns, Daniel and Nellie, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

Description

The Daniel and Nellie Byrns house is an exceptionally fine and highly intact, side gabled, irregular plan, Bungalow style single family residence that is set on a steeply sloping corner lot in the city of Lodi.¹ The 1915 Byrns house is one-and-one-half-stories tall and it sits on poured concrete foundation walls that enclose a full basement story. The first story of the exterior walls that rest on this foundation are clad in wide clapboards and these clapboards are brought down almost to ground level. The lowest course consists of a slightly wider wooden water table that encircles the house and that enframes both the wall surface and the sides and heads of the basement story windows as well. A second belt course encircles the house just above the level of the first story's window heads and the wall surface above and in the gable ends and dormers is clad in narrow clapboards. These walls are sheltered by the main roof, which is clad in asphalt shingles, and this roof's very wide overhanging open eaves are visibly supported by large angle brackets and have soffits that are covered in boards. Windows throughout the house are original and are still protected by their original one or one-over-one-light storm windows, and while these windows come in a variety of shapes and sizes, they all have rectangular openings. Most of the largest second story windows consist of single or grouped nine-over-one-light double hung wood sash. In addition, the house possesses an excellent and highly intact interior.

The lot that belongs to the Byrns house occupies the south corner that was formed by the intersection of Mill and Hill streets and it is well landscaped with shrubs, mature trees and mown lawn. Mill Street runs in a northeast-southwest direction in front of the house and Hill Street runs in a northwest-southeast direction alongside it, and both streets are steep, Hill Street being especially so. The Byrns house is located on the uphill corner formed by this intersection, a location that also gives the house panoramic views out over the city. The lot's north corner faces downhill into the intersection of the two streets and this corner is edged by a low poured concrete retaining wall that is believed to have been built at the same time as the house. The house itself sits on a level area that was created in the middle of the lot and a wide concrete staircase ascends up to the main façade of the house from Mill Street. The rear of this lot is terraced and this terrace ascends from the level portion of the lot uphill to its south corner. In addition, a concrete parking area is located on the Hill Street side of the lot in front of the garage that occupies the lot's east corner. This garage is believed to be contemporary with the house and is considered to be a contributing resource.

¹ The population of Lodi was 2882 in 2000. The city is located approximately nineteen miles northwest of the city of Madison, Wisconsin's capital.

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The neighborhood in which the Byrns house is located is a residential one and both older and newer houses line the streets adjacent to it. In addition, the north corner of the Mill Street-Hill Street intersection opposite the Byrns house is also a corner of the National Register-listed Lodi Street-Prairie Street Historic District.²

Exterior

Although the veranda that encircles the house's north corner suggests otherwise, the Byrns house is essentially rectilinear in plan and measures 32-feet-wide by 30-feet-deep. The house is one-and-one-half-stories tall and has a poured concrete foundation that encloses a full basement. The first story's exterior walls are clad in wide clapboard while its gable ends and dormers are clad in narrow clapboards. These walls are sheltered by the very wide overhanging, slightly flared eaves of the side gabled main roof. The exterior siding of the house is encircled by a slightly wider water table positioned at the base of the walls, and a belt course encircles the house just above the first story window heads and serves to divide the wider clapboards below from the narrower ones above.

The main facade of the house faces northwest onto Mill Street and it is 32-feet-wide, is asymmetrical in design, and the slope of the site reveals a small portion of its stucco-clad poured concrete foundation wall. The first story of this façade is three-bays-wide but it is composed of two separate parts. The wider twenty-two-foot-wide right-hand portion fronts the entrance foyer and the dining room while the ten-foot-wide left-hand portion fronts the living room. The latter portion is inset some four feet from the wall surface of the right-hand portion. The center bay contains the main entrance to the house, which consists of a rectangular door that is simply enframed with wood casing and which contains an oak door that has six-lights placed above two panels. Placed on the wall surface to the right of the entrance in the right-hand bay is a four-window group that consists of four tall, thin, double-hung windows that supply light to the dining room inside. The left-hand bay is centered on the inset portion of the façade and it contains a pair of three-light French doors that admit light to the living room and also open out onto the front porch.

The first story of both the main entrance and the living room on this façade are sheltered by a one-story, gable-roofed, L-plan screened front porch that spans this portion of the façade and which also encircles the north corner of the house in verandah fashion. The northwest-facing slope of this porch's roof is formed by a downward extension of the northwest-facing slope of the main roof, while its shorter southeast-facing slope shelters that portion of the porch that encircles the corner of the house.

² Lodi Street-Prairie Street Historic District. Listed in the NRHP on June 22, 2000.

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The porch roof is supported by four massive, square plan wood pillars, two of which frame the main entrance, and the other two of which support the outer corners of the porch. The outward-facing sides of all four of these pillars bear a narrow, centered, full-height wooden strip that connects to the simple capitals, this simple device being a decorative touch that is very much in keeping with the understated Craftsman style influence that pervades the house. A solid balustrade fills the lower portion of each of the porch's screened bays, while the upper portion of each of the bays consists of a very shallow, flattened Tudor arch. The floor of the porch consists of narrow tongue-and-groove boards, while the ceiling is flat and consists of narrow beaded boards.

Placed directly above the main entrance is a wide, centrally positioned, gable-roofed second story dormer that has a small deck at its base that is inset into the slope of the main roof and which is enframed by a simple wooden balustrade. This dormer is clad in narrow clapboards and its face is sheltered by the same wide overhanging slightly flared open eaves supported by brackets that are found on the main gable ends of the house. The first story of the dormer contains two nine-over-one-light double hung windows that provide light to one of the house's bedrooms. Centered in the gable end above is a much smaller triple window group that consists of three narrow, fixed windows that provide light to the house's attic story.

The northeast-facing, 30-foot-wide side elevation of this side-gabled house is actually two-stories tall and it is asymmetrical in design. The right-hand portion of the elevation is dominated by the northeast end of the screened porch, which covers the right-hand 40% of the three-bay-wide first story of the elevation and a smaller portion of its second story. The first story's right-hand bay is sheltered by the porch and it contains a triple window group that is composed of three tall, narrow, double-hung windows that provide light for the living room.³ The center bay consists of a second triple window group, but this group is placed high up on the wall surface and its windows are all square in shape and also help light the living room, and the left-hand bay contains a single one-over-one-light window that provides light for the study at the rear of the house. The elevation's second story is also three-bays-wide and asymmetrical in design and a portion of its right-hand side is also covered by the upper portion of the screened porch. As a result, only a limited amount of wall surface was available for the right-hand bay, which contains a single small one-light window that lights a second story closet. The middle bay, however, contains a pair of nine-over-one-light double hung windows that light a bedroom, while the left-hand bay a second pair that also light a bedroom, and a small triple window group is located in the gable end above and it contains three narrow one-light windows that help light the attic story.

³ These windows are of the same size and design as the four-window group on the main façade that lights the dining room.

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Byrns, Daniel and Nellie, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

The 32-foot-wide, east-facing rear elevation of the house is also asymmetrical in design, but on this side of the house, the slope of the main roof does not extend as far down as does the northwest-facing slope. It ends at a level that is equivalent to being just above the mid-point of the principal second story windows. Like the main façade, this four-bay-wide elevation is also divided into two separate portions, with the projecting right-hand third being covered by a rectilinear plan, two-story tall, gable-roofed pavilion whose first story contains the house's study. The pavilion's first story contains a single one-over-one-light window while a group of three nine-over-one-light double hung windows that provide light for a bedroom is placed directly above in the second story. The first story of the right-hand bay of the remaining two-thirds of the elevation contains the rear entrance to the house, which is sheltered by a rectilinear oriel bay that is located in the story directly above. This bay is tucked neatly under the overhanging eave of the main roof, its principal wall surface is actually a continuation of the wall surface of the adjacent two-story pavilion, and it contains a one-over-one-light double hung window and another door that opens out onto a shallow balustraded deck that forms the rest of the roof that shelters the rear entrance below. Placed to the left in the second bay from the left is another one-over-one-light window, which helps light the kitchen, and to its left, in the first bay from the left, is yet another rear entrance that opens out from the kitchen and an adjacent one-over-one-light window that also provides light for the kitchen.

The 30-foot-wide southwest-facing side elevation of the house is also two-stories tall and it is asymmetrical in design. The first story is three-bays-wide and the first and second bays from the right each contain a single one-over-one-light double hung window that lights the kitchen, the left-hand one of the two being smaller than the right-hand one. The third bay from the right contains a rectilinear plan, shed-roofed oriel bay, across the top of which is placed a group of three small, square, equal size windows that are filled with yellow art glass that provide light to the dining room.⁴ The second story of this elevation is five-bays-wide with the three center bays each containing a single nine-over-one-light double hung window that light bedrooms, while the two outer bays each contain a small square window that light closets. In addition, a small triple window group is located in the gable end above and it contains three narrow one-light windows that help light the attic story.

Interior

Impressive as the exterior of the Byrns house is, it is equaled by the intact interior. Partly this is due to the high quality of the materials used. For instance, all of the first story floors are varnished oak with the exception of the kitchen, which is floored in maple, and all of the wood trim in the house, including

⁴ This oriel bay contains a built-in sideboard that serves the dining room and the three windows are located above this buffet.

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the oak window and door casings, the baseboards, and the doors and windows and the numerous built-ins that are found throughout the house, is all fashioned from varnished oak, and all the walls and ceilings in the house are plastered.

The main entrance, as noted earlier, is of oak and features six beveled plate glass lights that are placed above two panels. One passes through this door into a small entrance foyer that has a built-in oak bench with storage space beneath placed on one side, and then through a second oak door, this one having a single large beveled plate glass light placed above a single panel, and on into the living room. Located straight ahead on the rear (southeast) wall of the room is a coat closet whose oak door features a full-length beveled plate glass mirror, and to the left of this is the rectangular opening of the staircase that leads up to the second story. Inset into the wall surface to the left of the stairs is a built-in bookcase whose contents are protected by leaded glass doors having diamond pattern comes at the top and bottom, and to the left of this, balancing the wall, is a one-panel oak door that opens into the study at the rear of the house. Two triple window groups are placed on the living room's northeast-facing side wall, the windows in the right-hand group being smaller, square and fixed, and those on the left, rectangular and double hung, and a pair of French doors that both have two-over-one-lights are placed on the room's northwest-facing wall and open out into the front porch.

The southwest wall of the living room contains two door openings. The smaller of the two openings contains a single panel door that opens into the kitchen while the first and largest of the two opens into the dining room and contains a single, very large, paneled pocket door. The dining room is lit by a large four window group on its northwest wall and by three square art glass-filled windows on its southwest wall that are placed in a band above an elaborate oak sideboard that is inset into the wall. This sideboard has a projecting central chest of drawers whose upper surface can be used for serving and this chest is flanked on both sides by taller shelving units whose contents are protected by doors that are also filled with art glass. A paneled oak door that is set into the dining room's southeast wall leads into the kitchen that occupies the south corner of the first story, and which still contains some of its original varnished wood cabinetry.

The house's second story is reached by ascending the closed dog-leg staircase that opens off of the living room. The right-hand wall of this staircase is clad in oak paneling up to the level of the landing, and the landing features a window and a door that opens out onto the deck that shelters the rear entrance door. The next leg of the staircase has an oak balustrade and this leg leads to the second story, which contains three bedrooms and a full bathroom. All of these rooms also have plastered walls and ceilings and they, like the first story rooms, still retain an extremely high degree of integrity and are in excellent condition today.

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Garage

The rectilinear plan, one-story garage is located at the rear of the property and the steep slope of the site through the building means that its rear elevation is partially inset into the hillside itself. The building has a front gable form and a tall rock-faced concrete block foundation, and the exterior walls that rest on this foundation are clad in wooden drop siding and they are sheltered by a simple asphalt-shingle-covered gable roof whose open eaves are supported by exposed rafter ends. The principal elevation of the garage faces northwest towards the house and it is about ten-feet-wide and most of its width is taken up by a single rectangular garage door opening that is centered on it and that is now filled with a modern sectionalized overhead door. Placed high in the gable end above is a small window opening containing a square four-light window, the window being indicative of the fact that the garage is tall enough to have a second story inside for storage.

The twenty-foot-long northeast-facing side elevation of the garage - the side that faces Hill St.- is asymmetrical in design and two-bays-wide, with the left-hand bay being positioned all the way to the left while the right-hand bay is centered on the elevation. Both bays contain a single square four-light window and these are the only openings on the elevation and they would provide light to the ground level of the garage.

While the date of construction of the garage is not known, it is believed that it dates to the construction of the house, and this, and the fact that it is still in an excellent, highly intact state, is believed to justify its being considered as a contributing resource for the purposes of this nomination.

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Byrns, Daniel and Nellie, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

Significance

The Daniel and Nellie Byrns House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for its local significance under National Register (NR) criterion C. More specifically, the Byrns house is being nominated because of its association with the area of Architecture, a theme that is also identified in the State of Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP). The house was identified as a potentially eligible building having local significance under National Register (NR) criterion C (Architecture) by the City of Lodi Intensive Survey, which was undertaken in 1999.⁵ Research was undertaken to assess the NRHP potential of the Byrns house utilizing the Bungalow style subsection of the Architectural Styles study unit of the CRMP.⁶ The results of this research are detailed below and confirm that the Byrns house is locally significant under NR criterion C as a very fine and highly intact example of a single family residence designed in the Bungalow Style, the significance of which is still further enhanced by the house's intact original interior and by its exceptionally intact and well maintained state of preservation. The period of significance corresponds to the year the house was constructed – 1915.

The Byrns house was built in the city of Lodi in 1915 to the design of a still unidentified architect or builder. The client, Daniel D. Byrns, had been born in Ireland in 1870. Byrns and his wife, Nellie, who was also born in Ireland in 1877, eventually emigrated to Wisconsin and operated a farm in the Town of Lodi. By 1915, however, Byrns had moved into Lodi and was operating a grocery store when he decided to build a new house for his family. The lot he purchased was located diagonally across the street from the house he had been renting. The Byrns' new house was ready for occupancy by early 1916 and today, this highly intact house is *the* Bungalow style house in Lodi and it is an outstanding example of the style.

Historic Context

A detailed history of the city and its built resources is embodied in the City of Lodi Intensive Survey Report, printed in 1999. Consequently, the historic context that follows deals primarily with the history of the house itself and with the Byrns family.

⁵ Heggland, Timothy F. *City of Lodi Intensive Survey*. Lodi: 1999. Copy on file at the Division of Historic Preservation, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI.

⁶ Wyatt, Barbara (Ed.) *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin*. Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986, Vol. 2, pp. 2-26 to 2-27 (Architecture).

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Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

Lodi developed where it did because of the adjacent Spring Creek, which passes through Lodi on its northwesterly course towards the nearby Wisconsin River. In the 1840s–1860s, Spring Creek was the only source of water power in the area surrounding Lodi and locations along its banks were thus the logical place to establish saw mills, flour mills, and grist mills, which required water for power, and for the establishment of other industries that required water as part of their manufacturing processes. Indeed, it was for these reasons that Isaac Palmer purchased land bordering the Creek in this area in the first place and built the area's first saw mill in 1848. Building such a mill was often the first step in building up a community because the lumber that came out of it was usually the only building material that was available for newly arrived merchants and farmers wishing to build their first permanent structures in the days before the coming of the railroads. The same was true for Samuel Ring, who constructed the village's first grist mill (non-extant) on Spring Creek late in 1848, and in 1850, Isaac Palmer took further advantage of the available water power when he built the village's first flouring mill on the Creek. It was the placement of these three mills (all now non-extant) in close proximity to one another on the banks of Spring Creek that first defined where the business core of the village would eventually develop.

The construction of these three mills and the concurrent establishment of a road from Madison, the state capital, through Lodi and on to Palmer's ferry on the Wisconsin River, then crossing over to the growing village of Baraboo across the river, served to ensure Lodi's eventual success. With the completion of the mills and the road, Lodi area farmers could now bring their harvest to these new mills for processing and then either to the river, where water transport to distant markets was possible, or else overland to Baraboo or to Madison, both of which were growing markets for agricultural products. This combination of transportation access and the availability of water power meant that Palmer's new community of Lodi became the natural center of commercial activity in the area surrounding Lodi, and inevitably, more roads were soon established that connected Lodi with other nearby communities as well. In Lodi, these roads were (and still are) called Columbus Street, which extends in an easterly direction towards the city of Columbus; Lodi Street, which extends in a westerly direction towards the city of Sauk City; and Portage Street, which extends in a northeasterly direction towards the city of Portage, the Columbia county seat.

Lodi continued to increase slowly in size, with additional buildings such as the first half of the J. O. Eaton Block (extant) being constructed in the downtown in 1866. In 1871, the future of the community was assured when the tracks of the Chicago and North Western Railroad arrived in the town. This all-important act guaranteed that Lodi would be able to hold on to its trading advantage in the area and it also

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Byrns, Daniel and Nellie, House
Lodi, Columbia County, Wisconsin

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created a modest industrial zone bordering the tracks between Water Street and Locust Street that still exists to this day.⁷

By 1881, the population of the village stood at 777, but the 1880s would be slow times for new construction generally in Lodi and growth remained modest throughout the rest of the nineteenth century. This would seem to indicate that Lodi by then had essentially reached its natural place in the economic order of things as a small but prosperous rural trading center whose economy was and would remain dependent on the larger agricultural community that surrounded it. If this dependence placed limits on Lodi's growth and size, though, the village still benefited from the steadily increasing prosperity of the surrounding farms, which was also reflected in the increased prosperity of its mercantile establishments. As a direct result of this prosperity, new commercial, institutional, and residential buildings continued to be built in the village in the 1880s. This growth, however, manifested itself either in the upgrading of existing buildings or else replacing them with new and usually larger ones on the same site.

The 1890s, however, saw a revival of building activity in the village and it was a decade that would leave both a rich architectural legacy and a considerably enlarged community. By 1890, Lodi's population of 736 was 41 less than that of 1881, but, paradoxically, both the community itself and the surrounding farmland had increased considerably in wealth due to the general richness of the soil, the hard work of the settlers, and the steady growth of regional transportation facilities and markets. As a consequence, many Lodi property owners during this period began to think about building new and larger homes and commercial buildings to replace their existing ones.

Most of the new houses and even a number of the remodeled and expanded ones that were built in the village of Lodi in the 1890s were fine examples of the newly fashionable Queen Anne style, with many of the most notable examples being built by the city's merchants on or near Water, Lodi, and Prairie streets, and along Portage Street in areas that are now included within the boundaries of both the NRHP-listed Lodi Street-Prairie Street Historic District and also the NRHP-listed Portage Street Historic District. Equally impressive were new Commercial Vernacular form commercial buildings built on Main Street and Lodi Street during this period, the most elaborate of which included the Schmiedlin Bros. Meat Market building at 133 S. Main St. and the Bank of Lodi Building at 139 S. Main St., both built in 1895. Also, beginning in 1894, the first street lights powered by electricity supplied to the village from lines originating in Hackl's (originally Palmer's) flouring mill were put into service and the first municipal

⁷ Butterfield, Consul W. *History of Columbia County, Wisconsin*. Chicago: Western Historical Co., 1880, p. 780.

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waterworks was completed in the following year.⁸ Telephone service was begun in 1897 under the management of William T. Sparks.

In 1898, the village decided to build its first separate high school building on Pleasant Street (non-extant), a decision that was due in part to the fact that the population of the village had increased to 974 by that year, an increase of 238 over 1893.⁹ As before, most of this growth was due to the increasing prosperity and maturity of the surrounding countryside. Lodi's continuing dependence on the economic well-being of area farms can be seen by looking at the Sanborn-Perris fire insurance maps of the period, which listed all of Lodi's industries in their directories.¹⁰ Between 1892 and 1904, each directory lists only roller mills, grain elevators, tobacco warehouses, and wagon shops as the principal industries of the village, all of which were dependent on agriculture for their economic existence.

Lodi's population continued to increase in the meantime and by the turn of the century had reached 1068.¹¹ In 1902, under the headline "Lodi, City of Homes" one of the local newspapers gave the following description of the village in its July 4th issue.

This town was platted and laid out in 1848 and was incorporated in 1874, and its history from that date has been one of progress and development. The U.S. census of 1900 gave it a population of 1068, but it had the appearance of a town much larger. It has an electric light system, a flour mill, bank, creamery, two lumber yards, and two live newspapers, The Lodi Enterprise and the Lodi Valley News. Civic and fraternal societies are well represented, and the church organizations are in a flourishing condition. The educational system is of the best and her citizens take a pardonable pride in their temples of wisdom. Her people are enterprising and progressive, and the streets are dotted with cozy cottages and handsome homes which form the border for substantial brick business blocks, giving the town the appearance of solidity and commercial activity. Lodi is blessed with plenty of pure water, a perfect climate, free from malaria, and is one of the healthiest places to be found.¹²

⁸ *Lodi Valley News*, August 11, 1894, p. 3. See also: *Lodi Enterprise*, September 21, 1894, p. 1, and May 10, 1895, p. 6.

⁹ *Lodi Enterprise*, July 12, 1895, p. 1.

¹⁰ *Fire Insurance Maps of Lodi, Wisconsin*. New York: Sanborn-Perris Map Co., 1892, 1898, 1904, 1919, 1930.

¹¹ *Lodi Enterprise*, December 21, 1900, p. 2.

¹² *Ibid.* July 4, 1902, p. 1. This article also contains two pages of capsule descriptions of local businesses of the day.

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A far more detailed picture of the community appeared three years later in 1905, when another article gave a detailed census picture of the community.

We give the correct [population] figures for [Lodi in] 1890, 1895, 1900, 1905: 1890–736; 1895–975; 1900–1068; 1905–1096. Thus in five years from 1890 to 1895 we gained 239. There was much building done in those years and many farmers came into town to pass their remaining years in ease. From 1895 to 1900 we have gained ninety-three and in the last five years we have gained twenty-eight. ... Quite a percentage of our population, or 293 people, are past the fifty year mark, and could bring us no material increase ... We have seventy-one widows and twenty-five widowers; twenty-four maiden ladies and fifteen bachelors. Children under 21 years of age, 358, of which 190 are girls and 168 are boys.

The village has 311 families, of which number 217 own their own homes while ninety-four are renters. There are twenty-eight homes with only one person in the family; eighty-one homes with two persons in the family. There are only five vacant houses in the entire village. There are 202 horses in the village valued at \$16,410; 165 wagons and carriages valued at \$5480; 91 cows valued at \$2775; and 1737 fowls valued at \$795.¹³

Agriculture and the servicing of it was still the principal business of Lodi at this time. In December of 1906, the largest agriculture-related institution built in the village up to that date was completed, this being the large brick tobacco warehouse (307 Nestles Ave., extant) built by W. W. Steele, W. G. Bissell, and S. I. Lewis, three local businessmen who realized that the increase in tobacco raising in the area justified investing in such a building. Yet another institution of this type took form in Lodi in 1909 when the Lodi Grain Co.'s new elevator and feed mill (both buildings non-extant) were built along the railroad tracks close to their point of intersection with Park Street and near the railroad depot (also non-extant). This was a significant event since it provided the agricultural community that surrounded Lodi with yet another up-to-date service.

The census of 1910, however, confirmed what some locals already suspected; namely, that Lodi's population of 1044 at that date represented a slight loss rather than a gain in population since the last enumeration in 1905. While this was dispiriting to those who had the village's economic betterment at heart, signs of transformation and modernization were appearing in the village as well, thanks partly to the advent of the automobile. By 1912, automobiles were common enough in the area to persuade local agricultural implement dealer J. I. McFarland to build a new fireproof, two-story, masonry building on

¹³ *Lodi Enterprise*. September 1, 1905, p. 1.

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Lodi Street (146 Lodi Street, extant) to house both an automobile dealership and a garage. By 1914, the local newspaper could even publish a list of area car owners under the headline "Lodi Owns More Than Sixty Automobiles."¹⁴ Two other important events for the village during this decade were the construction of a new \$30,000 high school building (non-extant) on Pleasant Street in 1914 and Lodi's first municipal building, which was built in 1915 at 113 S. Main St. (extant but altered). An equally important event was the creation of the Lodi Canning Co. in 1917 (extant), a major packer of peas and corn that has been and still is the largest seasonal employer in Lodi. Still, while the addition of this company to the local economy was important, it represented only the continuing evolution of Lodi's relationship to the surrounding farmland, it was not a change in kind.

The few new houses built in Lodi during the 1910s were predominantly designed in the Bungalow Style, the Craftsman Style, or in the simpler vernacular forms. Foremost among the Bungalow style houses built during this period was the very fine new house that was built in 1915-1916 for Daniel and Nellie Byrns.

Daniel D. Byrns, had been born in Ireland in 1870, and he and his wife, Nellie, who had been born in Ireland in 1877, later emigrated to Wisconsin and owned and operated a farm in the Town of Lodi. Their first child Ruth, was born in 1904, but by 1915, they had moved into Lodi and Byrns was operating a grocery store in the village. His apparent success at this new venture allowed him to build a new house for his family and his first act was the purchase of a lot that was located diagonally across the street from the house that he had been renting.

D. D. Byrns has bought of Stephen Reindl a lot on Mills street next to the old Lindsay property now owned by Mrs. Clark. Mr. Byrns plans to build a residence there for himself. B. F. Posta also has a deal on for a lot on this street, next to the S. H. Hinds property, and we understand that he also intends to build a residence. Let the good work go on.¹⁵

Unfortunately, the only additional information that has so far been found on Byrns' new project is contained in the following two news items.

Lodi is sure a live burg this summer. The \$30,000 high school building is in the course of construction; street paving is under way; the new city hall, costing \$13,000, will soon be giving employment to a large force of men, and besides there is considerable private building

¹⁴ Ibid, July 3, 1914, p. 1.

¹⁵ *Lodi Enterprise*. "Local." March 5, 1915, p. 5. The Posta and Hinds houses are both still extant and are located in the NRHP-listed Lodi Street-Prairie Street Historic District.

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improvements. Notable among the latter is the new residence of George Holborn, now practically completed at a cost of about \$9,000 - one of the finest houses in town. ... Then there are the new residences to be built by Ben F. Posta, D. D. Byrns and Mrs. Clara Bacon.¹⁶

At this time, the Byrns family was apparently renting the S. H. Hindes house, which is located across the intersection from their new lot, but soon thereafter, they moved into an apartment above their grocery store, which may have been an economy move that helped to defray the cost of construction.

D. D. Byrns and family have vacated the former S. H. Hindes house and have moved to the rooms over his grocery store where they will live until their new house is completed. That will probably be about the first of January.¹⁷

The resulting house is one of Lodi's finest smaller homes, it is also its finest Bungalow Style house. The Byrns continued to own it until at least 1921, according to city tax records.

Architecture

The Daniel and Nellie Byrns house is believed to eligible for listing in the NRHP because it is the finest and most intact example of the Bungalow style in the city of Lodi. The Bungalow style subsection of the CRMP notes that Bungalows are typically modest-size dwellings that are characterized by "simple horizontal lines, wide projecting roofs, one or two large porches, and plain woodwork. They were usually built with ordinary wood siding, either horizontal or vertical, but sometimes had a stucco, or, more rarely, a stone, log, or brick veneer. The usual Bungalow has a massive chimney, and the living room carried across the front of the house. If a second story is provided, it was subdued visually to give the house a one-story look. Protruding brackets frequently were used as decorative features."¹⁸ Almost all of these elements are to be found in the design of the Byrns house, which, being somewhat larger and more elaborate in design than typical examples has additional features that are notable within the Bungalow style context. In addition, the interior of the Byrns house is still intact and it features elaborate interior woodwork that is another characteristic of the best examples of the style. The significance of the Byrns house is considerably enhanced by the high degree of integrity that both its exterior and interior exhibit today.

¹⁶ Ibid, July 2, 1915, p. 5.

¹⁷ *Lodi Enterprise*, November 5, 1915, p. 5.

¹⁸ Wyatt, Barbara (Ed.). *Op. Cit.*, Vol. 2, pp. 2- 26-27 (Architecture).

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The term Bungalow has the unusual distinction of being both the name of a style and the generic name for a particular type of small residential building. Consequently, it is quite usual to speak of Colonial Revival style Bungalows when describing some early twentieth century houses of small size having pronounced Colonial Revival design elements even as it is usual to speak of other houses as being in the Bungalow style. Bungalow style houses themselves are generally small-sized, have either square or rectilinear floor plans, and are usually one-story-tall. When a second story is needed, it is placed under the slope of the main roof in order to maintain the single story appearance and dormers are typically used to admit light. Bungalow designs typically have a horizontal emphasis and are covered with wide, projecting gable or hip roofs that often have protruding rafter ends or brackets supporting the eaves. On almost every example of the style, the front door is sheltered by a porch and full-width front porches are commonplace. The roofs of these porches are often supported by piers having a battered shape although many other shapes can be found depending on the amount of influence other styles had on the overall design. Horizontal clapboard siding such as that found on the Byrns house is the usual exterior surface material for these buildings although examples like the Byrns house that feature two different widths of clapboard are less frequently found. Detailing is usually structural rather than ornamental and features plain, well-executed woodwork.

Occasionally, Bungalows feature design elements borrowed from other styles such as the Craftsman, Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, and Prairie School styles and sometimes these other styles are so dominant that they take precedent over the Bungalow style. In general, though, Bungalows can be divided into three principal types: side-gabled; front-gabled; and hip-roofed. Each type can have square, rectilinear, or irregular plans and can be either one or one-and-a-half stories tall, and their exteriors can be surfaced in any of the materials listed above.

The Byrns house is a very fine example of the side gabled type of Bungalow and its design and its somewhat irregular plan appears to have been developed at least in part as a response to its elevated setting and its corner lot location. Especially notable in this regard is the large veranda-like screened front porch that wraps around the house's north corner. This porch provides occupants with a panoramic view over the city and it also makes the house look bigger than it actually is because it is so beautifully integrated into the overall design that it makes it difficult to detect exactly where the house ends and the porch begins.

The lack of information about the designer and/or builder of the Byrns house is frustrating because the design is expertly done and the build quality is excellent. The possibility that this design came from one of the many house catalogs of the period was investigated, but no similar design was found. This does not rule out the possibility, of course, and many of the features that are found on the Byrns house can also be

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found on Bungalows that were designed by architects working for the major catalog firms, but the way in which these features have been brought together to create a distinctive, comfortable home for Byrns and his family suggests a designer or builder of above average capabilities.

Regardless of who the designer and/or builder of the Byrns' house was, the design they got was an excellent one, and judging from the highly intact state of the house, it was one that satisfied both its original and its subsequent owners. Consequently, the Daniel and Nellie Byrns house is believed to be locally significant under National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an excellent, highly intact example of the Bungalow Style. The Byrns house possesses all the hallmark features that are typically associated with Bungalow style houses of this time and the building's largely original, highly intact interior adds considerably to the overall significance of the house.

Acknowledgment

This project has been funded with the assistance of a grant-in-aid from the Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, under the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended. Historic Preservation grants-in-aid are administered in Wisconsin in conjunction with the National Register of Historic Places program by the Division of Historic Preservation of the Wisconsin Historical Society. However, the contents and opinions contained in this nomination do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the National Park Service or the Wisconsin Historical Society.

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Verbal Boundary Description:

City of Lodi. Lot 1, Block 5, Addition No. 1.

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries enclose all the land that has historically been associated with this resource.

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Items a-d are the same for photos 1-9.

Photo 1

- a) Byrns, Daniel & Nellie, House
- b) Lodi, Columbia County, WI
- c) Timothy F. Hegglund, November 2006
- d) Wisconsin Historical Society
- e) General View, View looking S
- f) Photo 1 of 9

Photo 2

- e) Main Façade, View looking SE
- f) Photo 2 of 9

Photo 3

- e) Northeast-facing Side Elevation, View looking SW
- f) Photo 3 of 9

Photo 4

- e) Rear Elevation, View looking SE
- f) Photo 4 of 9

Photo 5

- e) View looking N
- f) Photo 5 of 9

Photo 6

- e) Living Room, View looking SE
- f) Photo 6 of 9

Photo 7

- e) Living Room, View looking S
- f) Photo 7 of 9

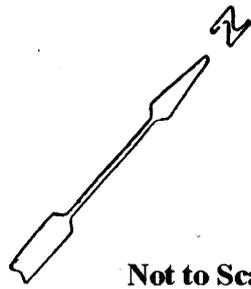
Photo 8

- e) Staircase from Living Room, View looking SE
- f) Photo 8 of 9

Photo 9

- e) Second Story Hall, View looking NW
- f) Photo 9 of 9

FIGURE 1: DANIEL AND NELLIE BYRNS HOUSE
221 MILL STREET
LODI, COLUMBIA COUNTY, WISCONSIN



Not to Scale

