

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Wisconsin
COUNTY: Grant
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE DEC 17 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Rountree Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Platteville Academy

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Campus, University of Wisconsin, Platteville *Elm + Main Sts.*

CITY OR TOWN:
Platteville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Third

STATE: Wisconsin CODE: 55 COUNTY: Grant CODE: 043

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System

STREET AND NUMBER:
c/o Secretary of the Board of Regents, Van Hise Hall

CITY OR TOWN:
Madison

STATE:
Wisconsin

CODE:
55

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Grant County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Lancaster

CITY OR TOWN:
Lancaster

STATE:
Wisconsin

CODE:
55

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Wisconsin's Historic Preservation Plan, Vol. II, The Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1973 Federal State County Local

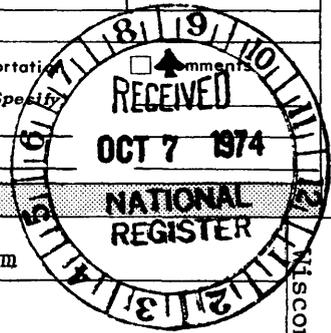
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
State Historical Society of Wisconsin

STREET AND NUMBER:
816 State Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Madison

STATE:
Wisconsin

CODE:
55



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Dec 17/80
9/19/80

Dec 17/80
9/19/80

STATE: Wisconsin

COUNTY: Grant

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ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Constructed of local limestone, the central block of Rountree Hall is a three-story structure topped by a pedimented attic which is lighted by one small round window. The gabled roof is topped with a small, square stone cupola with double-arched, louvred windows and a concave, hipped roof. The front facade of this 1853 portion of the building is three bays wide with rectangular windows set between pilaster strips of stone. Additions to the central portion of the building follow its style closely. A south wing was added in 1868 and in 1873 was linked to the main block. In 1881 a southwest wing was added and finally in 1891 a north wing was constructed. A central doorway in the main block has been eliminated and entrances are now in the two recessed linking wings which join the northernmost and southernmost wings to the main block of the building. The cupola and bell tower were added in 1868 and various minor alterations have been made over the years. Fenestration in the recessed wings varies and only one of the two has a pediment to match the central pediment. The northernmost and southernmost wings also have pediments intended to match the central pediment but have thinner cornices. Small stone porches with arched double doors mark the entrances.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1853, 1867-8, 1873, 1881, 1891**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Completed in 1853, the central portion of Rountree Hall housed the Platteville Academy and was a replacement for an original building which had become inadequate to the needs of the Academy's student body. The Platteville Academy was founded in 1839 by the Literary Association of Grant County, a lead-mining region of southwestern Wisconsin. It is one of the earliest of Wisconsin's educational institutions and in 1866 became the first Wisconsin state normal school. John H. Rountree, after whom the building is named, was the Literary Association's first president and later became treasurer of the first Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin. Rountree Hall was planned by a New York architect named Gardiner. Its plans and specifications are still in existence and have been used in constructing subsequent additions and alterations. The history of the Platteville Academy contains one of the first examples of the protection of civil rights in education in Wisconsin. An early principal of the Academy, J. C. Pickard, successfully defended the admission of a girl of mixed Negro and white parentage against the school's trustees by threatening to resign if she was not admitted. In 1866 the title to Rountree Hall passed into the hands of the State of Wisconsin, and on October 9 of that year the first Wisconsin State Normal School opened its doors in Rountree Hall. A new building for the normal school was opened to the south of Rountree Hall in 1867-8, and in 1873 an addition was built which joined the two buildings together. In 1881 a west wing was added and in 1891 a north wing completed the structure standing today. In 1907 the State Normal School was moved to another location and Rountree Hall became the home of the State Mining Trade School. This, in turn, became the Wisconsin Institute of Technology in 1939. In 1959, the Normal School and the Institute of Technology merged to become Wisconsin State College and Institute of Technology. And finally in 1971 this institution became the University of Wisconsin - Platteville.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Letter of March 7, 1974 to James Morton Smith from Bjarne R. Ullsvik, Chancellor, University of Wisconsin at Platteville. (three pages,)
 Letter
 Butterfield, C.W. et. al
A History of Grant County, Wisconsin Chicago: Western Historical Co. 1881. pp. 699.
Commencement Exercises, Programs, 1854, 1855. Platteville Academy.
 State Historical Society of Wisconsin library.
Broadside, Schedule and fees Platteville Academy, 1859.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

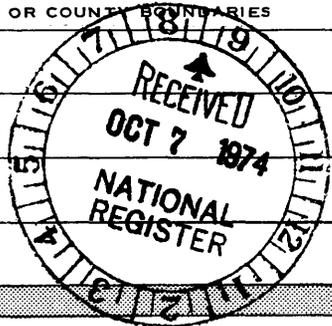
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		42° 44' 07N	90° 28' 53W	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

NO UTM
 H-L

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Charlene Stant Engel, Preservation Planning Assistant

ORGANIZATION: State Historical Society of Wisconsin DATE: 28 June 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
816 State Street

CITY OR TOWN: Madison STATE: Wisconsin CODE: 55

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name James Morton Smith
 James Morton Smith

Title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Date Oct. 1, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

A. R. Mortensen
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 12/12/74

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date Dec. 12, 1974

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAR 19 1980
DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

ROUNTREE HALL, Platteville, Grant County, Wisconsin
NRHP December 17, 1974

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

2. LOCATION:

Change Street and Number to read: 30 North Elm Street
Platteville, WI 53818

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY:

If not already changed, should read: City of Platteville
Attn: Dean G. Williams, Clerk
P.O. Box 252
75 North Bonson Street
Platteville, WI 53818

D. N. Anderson

D. N. Anderson
Historian & Registrar
March 14, 1980

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Wisconsin	
COUNTY Grant	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

ROUNTREE HALL

4. City of Platteville

Municipal Building

Platteville

Wisconsin 53818

Code: 55

transfer of ownership
not yet finalized as of 3/14/75

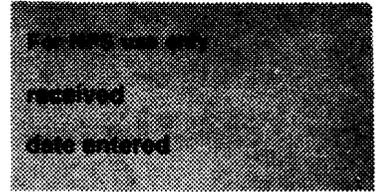


(1-17-75)

on 18-1-75

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

PROPERTY NAME Rountree Hall

7	4	0	0	0	0	9	1
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REFERENCE NUMBER

W	I
---	---

STATE

0	4	3
---	---	---

COUNTY CODE

Correct street address is 30 North Elm Street

[Handwritten Signature]

SIGNED, SHPO OR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

2/13/86

DATE