

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 12 1978

DATE ENTERED

SEP 11 1978

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 5

Owner: Mr. Phil Watson, President ✓
Milton Historical Society
P.O. Box 245
Milton, Wisconsin 53563

cc: Lois Westlund, Curator ✓
Milton Historical Society
P.O. Box 245
Milton, Wisconsin 53563

Goodrich Blacksmith Shop
28 South Janesville Street
Out lot 361, less than one acre
UTM: 16/341615/4737570

Description:

The grout blacksmith shop was also built by Joseph Goodrich in 1844, as a simple vernacular 30' x 30' square one-story building with a pyramidal roof. Sited just south of the two-story south wing of the Milton House, it was built before the Milton House was finished, according to Fowler, who said that Goodrich "erected a blacksmith shop, and finally a block of stores and dwellings." After its use as a blacksmith shop, it served in the 1920's as storage for the stores located in the two-story wing of the Milton House. By the mid-1940's its rough-appearing surface was disfigured with peeling stucco, and in 1946 it was fronted with a smooth concrete "vernacular moderne" facade and anteroom to the grout portion. This building operated as Unique Dry Cleaning for over 30 years, but recently was sold for use as a small engine sales and repair shop. The shop, whose original grout walls remain behind the later facade, is not immediately endangered, though its long-range future is unsure.

Significance:

The Goodrich Grout Blacksmith Shop is significant as one of the three buildings mentioned by Fowler as constructed by Joseph Goodrich in 1844 in his new grout material. According to him, it was built after the Academy and before the Milton House. It must be considered one of his successful experiments in the new technique, because like the hexagon of the Milton House, it still stands. As a square with a pyramidal roof, it also bears some relationship to centric buildings, though of course its present appearance is changed with the addition of the mid-20th century anteroom of the shop.

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PAGE 6

Secondary significance would be its 19th-century function as a blacksmith shop, necessary for nearby agriculture and for transportation and convenience to the inn next door.

(Fowler, A Home for All, 1853 (Dover 1973) pp. 19-20; Concrete and Engineering News, Vol. 36, No. 6, 1924; Douglas and Hartung, RCHSR, pp. 126-27; interview with Lois Westlund, 1976-77.)

Owner: James Burkett
39 W. Madison Avenue ✓
Milton, Wisconsin 53563

John Alexander Wheat Warehouse
304 South Janesville Street
Outlot 251, less than one acre
UTM: 16/341590/4737390

Description:

The Alexander grout warehouse now known as Sunnyview Orchard Warehouse, was constructed ca. 1850 by John Alexander as a wheat warehouse. It was later a blacksmith shop, then one of Milton's first auto service-filling stations in the early 1920's. Since 1945-6 it has been operated as an apple warehouse.

Its 40' x 50' main block of foot-thick grout walls, two stories high, is surmounted by a frame gable front which is pierced by a central window. Second-story windows are twelve-paned. Though the triple door in the center is a later door, the facade of this and of the Elijah Goodrich grout warehouse are strikingly similar, although the Janesville Street warehouse is larger.

The first story is presently utilized for apple grading and sales. The interior walls are now panelled white. The second story, with rough-hewn interior posts and beams, is open to the exposed rafters. It is unaltered and unused. A wooden wheel from the original wheat operation is still in place. Behind the grout block is a frame two-story addition built in the late 19th century, now in use for apple storage.

Surface gouges which may have been caused by backing vehicles have disturbed the smooth cream covering of the grout front of the building and reveal the rubble-concrete aggregate composition of the walls. Yet the owners have few doubts about the soundness and continuing usefulness, as well as the historical nature of the structure.