

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUN 21 1979
DATE ENTERED

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

(Property declared eligible 11/30/77)

HISTORIC
Graham Row
AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
1501, 1503, 1507 N. Marshall Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Fifth

CITY, TOWN
Milwaukee

VICINITY OF

STATE
Wisconsin

CODE
55

COUNTY
Milwaukee

CODE
079

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Robert L. and Molly E. Kealy

STREET & NUMBER
1501 N. Marshall Street

CITY, TOWN
Milwaukee

VICINITY OF

STATE
Wisconsin 53202

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Milwaukee County Courthouse, Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER
901 N. Ninth Street

CITY, TOWN
Milwaukee

STATE
Wisconsin 53233

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places (continued)

DATE
1977

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS State Historical Society of Wisconsin

CITY, TOWN
Madison

STATE
Wisconsin 53706

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Graham Row is a large, 2-1/2 story Romanesque Revival row house located in Milwaukee's near east side residential neighborhood. The block directly to the south across Lyons Street is part of a long east-west corridor of blocks cleared many years ago for a proposed freeway. Because of the potential impact of the freeway, Graham Row was determined eligible for the National Register on November 30, 1977.

The building is constructed of cream brick 12" thick load-bearing walls. Sandstone trim, in the form of string courses, copings on the parapet gables, caps and corbels on corbelled turrets, a water table course and round arches, adds texture to the design. Two red terra cotta plaques resembling tiles and outlined in sandstone are inset asymmetrically into the front (east) facade and a similar one decorates the south chimney.

Three round-arched entrances on the main facade lead to three separate residences. Next to each arch is a wide parlor window originally decorated with a stained glass transom (the original transom for 1501 is no longer extant). Above each parlor window is a three-sided orielled bay of wood, above which is a parapet gable featuring a 3/4-circular arch. Inset into each of these arches is a sash window surrounded by tiny squares of colored glass (1501 is missing this original feature, also). The south side of the building is an asymmetrical design of two wall chimneys rising high above the mansard roof and capped with decorative brickwork, a two-story bay with a conical roof, and parapet gables.

The interior of each residence follows a typical Queen Anne layout popular for town-houses of the era. A vestibule leads to a large reception hall, in which is featured a staircase which turns at two landings and which is trimmed with a decorative railing composed of simple rectangular tracery in a characteristically Queen Anne design. Across from the staircase in the hall is a small fireplace. A pendent platband of spindlework is all that separates the reception hall from the parlor, which has a larger Queen Anne fireplace decorated with tiles and a tiled hearth, and a mirrored overmantel with curio shelves. Sliding doors separate the reception hall from the dining room, from which a butler's pantry, with its original cabinets, leads to the kitchen. The kitchen has not been much altered. Storage is provided by another large pantry which also features its original cabinetry.

The second floor contains an open sitting area above the reception hall, a master bedroom above the parlor, with an oak floor and a Queen Anne fireplace, two more bedrooms, and a bath, which has been modernized through the years. The third floor contains three bedrooms.

Woodwork throughout the house is mahogany stained to look like cherry (the woodwork in 1501 has been painted). Window trim is in the ubiquitous bull's-eye design. Much original brass hardware also remains and the gas light pipes and some gas lights are still operative.

The owners are nominating the building in the hopes of taking advantage of the Tax Reform Act provisions for restoring the house.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
—PREHISTORIC	—ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	—COMMUNITY PLANNING	—LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	—RELIGION
—1400-1499	—ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	—CONSERVATION	—LAW	—SCIENCE
—1500-1599	—AGRICULTURE	—ECONOMICS	—LITERATURE	—SCULPTURE
—1600-1699	X—ARCHITECTURE	—EDUCATION	—MILITARY	—SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
—1700-1799	—ART	—ENGINEERING	—MUSIC	—THEATER
X—1800-1899	—COMMERCE	—EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	—PHILOSOPHY	—TRANSPORTATION
—1900-	—COMMUNICATIONS	—INDUSTRY	—POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	—OTHER (SPECIFY)
		—INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1887¹ BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Graham²

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Graham Row is an excellent example of a 19th century row house -- a house form unusual in the City of Milwaukee. It has suffered few alterations through the years and is a good example of the eclecticism of late Victorian design.

History

Graham Row was built by John Graham for his own residence and as an investment property. Born in Belfast, Graham was one of a group of Irish immigrants who settled in Milwaukee early in its history and assimilated themselves quickly into the life of the early yankee community. Graham and his wife, Mary, set up housekeeping on the corner of Lyons and Marshall (later the site of Graham Row), in the year after their marriage in 1851. At the time, their neighborhood was one of the strongly Irish areas in the growing community. A mason by training, Graham was one of Milwaukee's early contractors. Until his death in 1887, Graham built many of the major buildings in the city, including Chapman's Department Store, the Third Ward Gas Plant, St. Paul's Episcopal Church (NRHP), the Keenan Apartments, and the Pabst Theater (NRHP). In 1875 his sons, James, John, Jr., George and Arthur, joined him in the business, which became known as the "Graham Construction Company."

The construction of the row houses presumably was a family undertaking, begun shortly after completion of St. Paul's Episcopal Church near-by. John Graham died in 1887 just as the building was being finished. His family retained it, however, until the 1920s. During that time, the building housed many notable individuals, including Dr. Byron Kilbourn, son of one of the founders of Milwaukee, and Charles Parker Connelly, influential minister of the Plymouth Congregational Church. From about 1926 to 1977, the building was owned by the Soltillas, an Italian family in the grocery business.

Architecture

The few row houses which exist in Milwaukee date mostly from the same era as Graham Row, but most are Queen Anne in design. Graham Row, on the other hand, is an interesting example of the combination of Victorian design motifs of various traditions in one building. The verticality of the design and the spiky skyline are characteristic of the High Victorian. The combination of varying textures and materials, from rough-cut stone to finely executed brickwork, terra cotta panels and stained glass are Queen Anne characteristics, as is the open floor plan and the centralized, picturesque reception hall. The round arched entrances and parapet gables with corbelled buttresses are typical motifs of the Romanesque Revival. Thus, Graham Row exemplifies the eclectic

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Milwaukee Sentinel, March 29, 1914.

The Milwaukee Journal, March 29, 1914.

The Catholic Citizen, April 4, 1914.

Milwaukee Blue Book, 1894.

Evening Wisconsin, Feb. 14, 1887.

Milwaukee city directories, county probate records, register of deeds, tax rolls.

Rasher's Fire Insurance Maps, 1888.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .126

QUADRANGLE NAME Milwaukee, Wisconsin

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 6 | 2, 6 | 6, 1, 0 | 4, 7 | 6, 6 | 4, 8, 0

B | | | | |

C | | | | |

D | | | | |

E | | | | |

F | | | | |

G | | | | |

H | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The south 60 feet, except the west 36 feet of quarter-block 60, in the E 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of Section 21, T7N, R22E, City of Milwaukee.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Robert and Molly Kealy

(continued)

ORGANIZATION

Owners

DATE

February 14, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

1501 N. Marshall Street

TELEPHONE

414-347-0184

CITY OR TOWN

Milwaukee

STATE

Wisconsin 53202

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Richard M. Emery

TITLE

Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

5/10/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

John W. ...

DATE

7-27-79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *Emmo ...*

DATE

7-27-79

~~CHIEF OF REGISTRATION~~
Regional Coordinator

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

FOR HCRS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUN 21 1979
DATE ENTERED	11 27

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER see
below PAGE 1

6. continued

"Graham Row" was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places by the Federal Highway Administration in 30 November 1977.

11. continued

Katherine E. Hundt, Architectural Historian
State Historical Society of Wisconsin
816 State Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

April, 1979
608-262-2970

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUN 21 1979
DATE ENTERED	JUL 27 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

characteristics of late Victorian design as interpreted for a middle class client.

Because of the availability of land in Milwaukee, row houses were never popular. The majority of residential buildings contemporary with Graham Row are either single family houses or duplexes of frame or are large brick apartment buildings. Graham Row's form, therefore, is an interesting anomaly which by its rarity reflects the physical development of the City of Milwaukee.