

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JUN 2 1987
date entered JUL 16 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Henry and Mary Schuttler House

and/or common N:A

2. Location

street & number 371 E. Lisbon Rd.

___ not for publication

city, town Oconomowoc

___ vicinity of

state WI

code 55

county Waukesha

code 133

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N.A.	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Rip O'Dwanny

street & number P. O. Box 565

city, town Plymouth

___ vicinity of

state WI 53073

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Waukesha County Courthouse

street & number Moreland Blvd.

city, town Waukesha

state WI

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title WI Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes ___ no

date 1976, 78, 80 ___ federal state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records SHPO, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

city, town Madison

state WI

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" 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

The Henry and Mary Schuttler house sits at a prominent location on a rise at the eastern end of the city of Oconomowoc. The grounds immediately to the north, south, and east of the house have a number of large, mature trees. There is a large lawn to the west of the house which during the historic period was landscaped with gardens and shubbery. Originally the main entrance was on the west side of the house, but in recent years, the east side of the house, more accessible to the street, has become the primary entry. The house originally was part of a 158-acre farm where Henry Schuttler, whose wealth came from his father's successful Chicago wagon-making factory, dabbled in farming and stock-breeding. Later, after the Schuttlers departed the estate, the grounds shrank to about 12 acres of which most today is a condominium development. The Schuttler grounds originally extended to Lake Fowler, but today, the condominium project has interrupted the lake view. Surprisingly, the condominium project has not detracted significantly from the house. The buildings cannot be seen very well from the main entry to the grounds from the east, and there is still a broad expanse of lawn separating the house from the other buildings; and the house has its own one and one-half acre parcel. While the site has not yet been re-landscaped (the house is undergoing restoration at this time), the grounds will be developed in the near future.

The Schuttler house is a generally rectangular two and one-half story cream brick house with an asymmetrical appearance. There are numerous projections from the house, which sits on a cut limestone foundation. The double hip roof features distinctive flared eaves, two hip-roofed dormers with a witches cap profile, and a gable dormer. A dormer projects from the steeply-pitched roof of the rear entrance pavilion. Decoration on the dormers feature brick corbelling, wooden trim, and brackets. Projecting from the moderately-pitched roof are massive brick chimneys with corbelling and round chimney pots.

The main body of the house features many projections including gabled pavilions. The most prominent of these pavilions is on the east or rear entrance. This pavilion is topped with a very steeply-pitched hip roof. Other projections have gable roofs intersecting the main roof. At the northwest corner of the house is a two and one-half story octagonal tower with a double conical roof decorated with a window. This tower also features brick corbelling on its main body. At the southwest corner of the house is an octagonal oriel tower with a tent roof. Its body is also decorated with brick corbelling outlining window spaces. In 1950, high winds damaged these two towers and the original slate roof of the house. The tower tops were removed at that time along with the roof material. A recent restoration, using historic photos as a guide, has replaced the towers as they were originally designed.

The openings of the house are largely original, and a recent restoration of the house has returned some openings that had been altered from the house's original design. The windows are decorated with stone sills, some of which are bracketed, and polychrome segmental brick and stone gothic arches. Decorating the arches are stone keystones with an incised cross carved into the stone. No original sash exists, but replacements are in keeping with the original window type. All window openings also feature the same profile or enframing consisting of the distinctive incised notches at the sides. Original porches were wooden topped with metal cresting.

Nomination includes:

ONE Contributing Building.

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The original entry porches were removed around the 1950s. Working from historic photographs, the restoration will soon include replacement porches which match those in the old photographs. Also, in 1957, the original sun room off the dining room at the southwest end of the west facade was removed and a large addition built to house a modern kitchen and restaurant room. A picture window was also added to this facade at that time. The modern addition has been removed and the sun porch will be reconstructed, again using historic photos as a guide. The picture window has been removed and the two original windows have been reconstructed. The main entry doors on the west facade are large, carved wooden doors with small stained glass windows. The doors have their original hardware. Upon entering, there is a second set of double wooden doors with the same elaborate carving.

The interior of the Schuttler house is currently undergoing restoration for its transformation into an inn. The restoration effort will keep as much of the original floorplan intact with only the addition of additional bathrooms to meet the codes for an inn operation and restaurant equipment for the food operation. All the elaborate woodwork, the house's most significant interior feature, will be restored and retained. The main entrance leads into a hallway off which is the main staircase and sets of doors leading to the parlor/library on one end and another hallway (the old smoking room) on the other end. The doors are elaborate and are surrounded by heavy, decorative moldings. Two sets of these doors lead to the second hallway, once the smoking room. The rear entrance (now used primarily as the main entrance) is off this hallway. This room features an abundance of woodwork including wainscoting with a carved rail, a fireplace with elaborate mantel featuring mirrors and bookcases, and a fine parquet floor. Two sets of carved and glazed butternut doors lead from this room/hallway to the dining room and kitchen of the house and the back staircase. On the north side of the house, also behind elaborate doors is the original parlor and library. Originally two rooms, it is now one large room. The main feature of this room is the bay window and the fireplace with black walnut mantel. Back in the entry hallway is the main staircase. It is made of walnut and has an elaborately carved balustrade anchored by a massive carved newell post. The elaborate woodwork on the first floor of the house, and to a lesser extent on the upper floors, is executed in the Renaissance Revival style, although one can also see elements which resemble both the eastlake and gothic style in this woodwork.

The second floor has five bedrooms and a two-room master suite. This floor is currently undergoing remodeling, primarily involving the addition of bathroom facilities for the guest rooms. But every effort is being made to maintain the original floorplan and all the elaborate woodwork, similar to that found on the first floor, is being retained. The third floor was once servant's quarters, storage, and a billiard room and contains several small rooms and two larger ones. Even on this floor the elaborate woodwork is found.

The Schuttler house was in a "holding pattern" throughout much of the twentieth century, with some unattractive alterations during the 1950s. The recent restoration effort is being done with care and taste, and the new use of the house as an inn harkens back to the time when the Schuttlers filled the house with their friends and relatives in a social atmosphere.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1879-1880¹ **Builder/Architect** Charles A. Gombert²

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Henry and Mary Schuttler house is significant for architecture because it is a good and unusual example of the Victorian Gothic architectural style as expressed in a residence. It is also significant as the work of noted nineteenth century Milwaukee architect, Charles A. Gombert.

Historical Background

In the 1870s, Oconomowoc was a small village sited between two lakes and in the vicinity of many other lakes. These natural resources and the natural beauty of the area contributed to the development of a resort and summer home community in the village. This development began in earnest during the 1870s and has continued intensively up to the present time. By the turn of the century, Oconomowoc and the area around the nearby lakes was a retreat for the wealthy, especially the wealthy from Chicago. Henry and Mary Schuttler were typical of these wealthy persons who made Oconomowoc their home.

Henry Schuttler was one of the sons of Peter Schuttler, a German immigrant, who became successful and very wealthy as a wagon manufacturer in Chicago. In the nineteenth century Chicago was a leading producer of wagons and the Schuttlers specialized in the production of heavy wagons. Peter Schuttler established the firm in 1843 and in 1865, his other son, Peter, became head of the firm. Henry Schuttler entered the firm in 1871, but may not have been as active as his brother, as he moved to Oconomowoc in the late 1870s and stayed as a permanent resident, while his brother remained in Chicago.³

In 1877, Henry Schuttler purchased a farm at the site of the present house. The land fronted on Fowler Lake and was within the Oconomowoc city limits. Between 1879 and 1880, Schuttler built this house. Like many of the wealthy residents of Oconomowoc and the nearby lakes, the Schuttler house was a vacation home for the high society family and friends of the Schuttlers. Although Henry Schuttler was described simply as a farmer and stock breeder in the 1880 biographical section of the Waukesha county history, the Schuttler's lifestyle was not typical of most Wisconsin farmers. An account of Schuttler's house shortly after it was built describes an opulently decorated home with elaborate furniture, tapestry wall coverings, gold plated chandeliers, and heavy carved woodwork. The Schuttlers often entertained lavishly and their guests often included members of the Anheuser and Busch brewing families of St. Louis. Henry's brother Peter had married Minnie Anheuser, and it is reported that these families were frequent guests at the Oconomowoc home of Henry and Mary Schuttler.⁴

9. Major Bibliographical References

see continuation pages

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.5027 acres

Quadrangle name Oconomowoc East, Wis.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification The boundary description is identical to the Legal Description: Lot of Certified Survey Map No. 4240, recorded as Document No. 1195144 on pages 251, 252, and 253 of Vol. 33 of Certified Survey Maps in Waukesha Co. Deeds. (see enclosed site map)

List all states and counties for properties overliapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carol Lohry Cartwright, Consultant

organization prepared for the owner date October 30, 1986

street & number R. 2, 5581 A Hackett Rd. telephone (404) 473-6820

city or town Whitewater state WI 53190

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

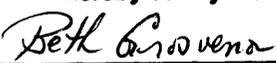
national state local

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 
title _____ date 1/27/87

For NPS use only

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


Keeper of the National Register date 7/16/87

Attest: _____ date _____
Chief of Registration

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Between 1880 and 1922, the Schuttler family became part of local legends of the wealthy residents who spent part or all of their time in or near Oconomowoc. The public was openly welcomed on the estate as the spacious and decorative grounds were open on Sundays and for special activities. But by the turn of the century, family tragedies gradually lessened the social atmosphere of the Schuttler house. In 1895, Henry Schuttler died at age 44 after a difficult illness. In that same year, one of his daughters, reportedly in love with a man her family thought unsuitable, committed suicide in the house. After these deaths, Mary Schuttler, Henry's widow, continued to live on the property, but was increasingly reclusive. In 1919, another tragedy struck. The couple's only son, Frances Schuttler, a bright young lawyer, had just returned from his service in World War One. He tripped and fell to his death down the massive main staircase of the house. The additional death compelled Mary Schuttler to close the house, and with her other daughter, Albertine, she lived in a Milwaukee apartment until her death in 1933. Between 1920 and 1922, Mary Schuttler rented the estate land, then sold the estate for conversion into a resort. In 1928, the resort was sold to Annette Ziebelmann, who ran it as the Pine Terrace Resort for many years. In 1981 the estate had shrunk to only 12 acres, and in that year most of these acres were developed into a condominium project. The house was scheduled for renovation in 1984, but was delayed until the present owner began his work in the fall of 1986. Scheduled for completion in May of 1988, the restoration will return the property to much of its original beauty and elegance.⁵

Architecture

The Schuttler house is a good example of the Victorian Gothic style, a style somewhat unusual in Wisconsin, and definitely unusual in Oconomowoc. At the time the Schuttler house was built, 1879-1880, most large houses were constructed in the late Italianate, French Second Empire, or Queen Anne styles in Wisconsin. That the architect, Charles A. Gombert, and the Schuttler family chose this style indicates a desire to be both impressive and unique in the community.

The most elaborate examples of the Victorian Gothic style are characterized by a variety of details including polychrome exterior materials, Gothic arched openings, conical roofed turrets, projecting pavilions, and a heaviness and solidity that distinguished the style dramatically from the earlier Gothic Revival style. The Schuttler house, although not the most elaborate example of the style, has many of the above details. Its brick construction with heavy stone foundation give it a very solid appearance. It has many projecting pavilions, dormers, and Gothic arched decorations over windows. The arches are not as steep as many Gothic arches, but they are particularly interesting on this house. They contain the polychrome detail which help identify the house as Victorian Gothic. The cross carving in the arches is particularly distinctive. The conical roofed towers, the building's most impressive detail, have reconstructed roofs that were copied from historic photographs, and these towers, in particular, add to the overall design of the house.

The interior woodwork is particularly impressive. While it contains some elements of the exterior Gothic style (in the finials at the peak of the window and door moldings) and the eastlake style, it is overall an example of the Renaissance Revival style of interior design. This style of interior was often used in this type of Victorian house. The fact that the elaborate woodwork is

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seen throughout the house shows that the Schuttlers spared no expense on their interior.

The architect of the Schuttler house was Charles A. Gombert of Milwaukee (1833-1920). Gombert was a German immigrant who began his architectural practice in Milwaukee in 1873. Considered a talented architect, unfortunately, there are few identified extant examples of his work in Wisconsin. His best known work is the Victorian Gothic North Point Water Tower in Milwaukee, built in 1873 and listed in the National Register. Because it is a good and unusual example of the Victorian Gothic style, the Schuttler house is an important example of Gombert's work. That it appears outside Milwaukee indicates that his reputation was known beyond that city. The house also illustrates Gombert's ability to design outside the more popular Italianate, French Second Empire, and Queen Anne styles and may indicate the breadth of his talents better than most other extant examples of his work.

Oconomowoc is a community of many large houses. Often built for wealthy Chicagoans, these houses are primarily in the Queen Anne style, the most popular style at the time when Oconomowoc was peaking in popularity as a resort and summer home area for city residents. Other large houses in Oconomowoc show the influence of the shingle style and the more classical details of some houses show the coming influence of the neo-classical revival and colonial revival styles. A survey of large houses on the scale of the Schuttler house was conducted in Oconomowoc and the results indicate that the Schuttler house is indeed unusual. It is one of only a few large brick-constructed houses in the city. It is one of the earliest of the large houses to be built in the city. And, there are no other large houses that can be identified as being Victorian Gothic. This survey dramatically illustrates that the Schuttler house is special as an example of an unusual style in the city, as well as being a finely-constructed representative of a type of house found in Oconomowoc--the large home of the wealthy Chicagoan.

Because the Schuttler house is a good and unusual example of the Victorian Gothic style in Oconomowoc designed by a noted Milwaukee architect, and because the house is an unusual element of Oconomowoc's architectural heritage, it is worthy of being designated as a National Register property. Its integrity is high and the restoration effort, soon to be completed, will return the house to its original appearance and charm. It represents a time and lifestyle that still exists to a certain extent in resort communities such as Oconomowoc, but that was bolder and more extravagant than today. In its reuse, the Schuttler house will continue to provide elegant accommodations to persons coming to the community for the same reasons people came in the nineteenth century.

Notes

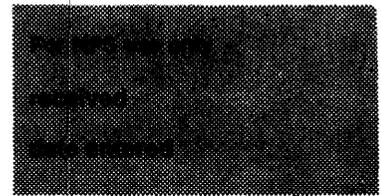
¹Item appearing in Oconomowoc Local, Volume 5, transcription in local history files of the Oconomowoc Public Library, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.

²Ibid.

³Biographical Sketches of the Leading Men of Chicago, Chicago: Wilson and

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St. Clair, 1868, p. 248; Bessie Pierce, A History of Chicago, Vol. II, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1947, p. 105.

⁴Jean Lindsay Johnson, When Midwest Millionaires Lived Like Kings, Milwaukee: Jean Lindsay Johnson, 1981, pp. 63-66.

⁵Ibid., pp. 67-70.

ITEM 9: MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Butterfield, C. W. The History of Waukesha County, Wisconsin. Chicago: Western Historical Co., 1880, pp. 709-728, 872.

Haight, Theron W. Memoirs of Waukesha County. Madison, WI: Western Historical Association, 1907, pp. 213-222, 241-250.

Johnson, Jean Lindsay. When Midwest Millionaires Lived Like Kings. Milwaukee: Jean Lindsay Johnson, 1981.

Stock No. 26273

1195144

***FOR THE SCHUTTLE HOUSE.

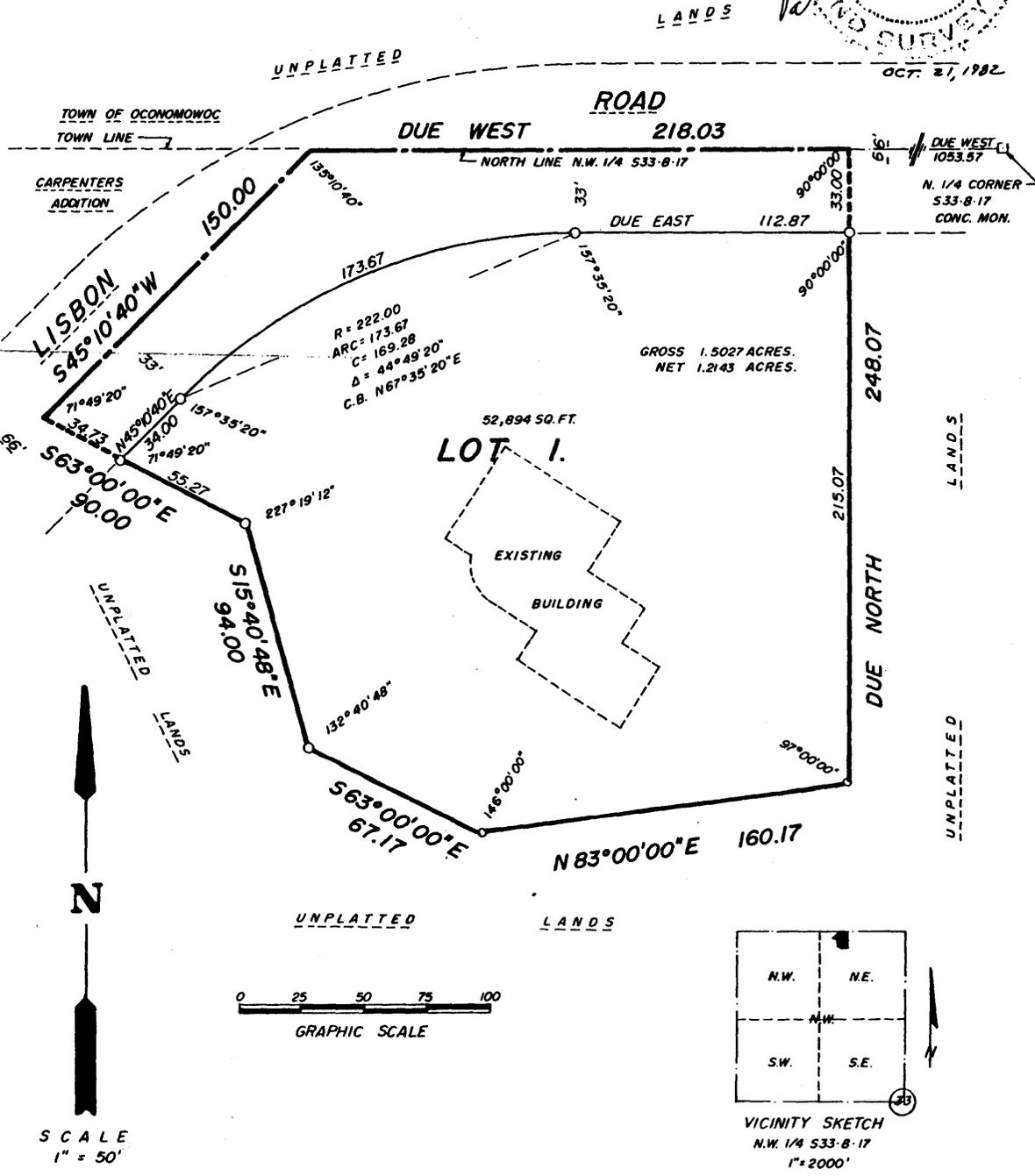
CERTIFIED SURVEY MAP NO. 4240

20 p.d.i.a. in 1907 Lot 1 of 1st 40 p. 1st 1's M 49-22

PART OF THE N.W. 1/4 OF SECTION 33, TOWN 8 NORTH, RANGE 17 EAST, CITY OF OCONOMOWOC, WAUKESHA COUNTY, WISCONSIN

O DENOTES 1" x 24" IRON PIPE
1.13 LBS. PER LINEAL FOOT.

BEARINGS ASSUMED REFERRED TO THE NORTH
LINE OF THE N.W. 1/4 533-8-17 AS DUE EAST.



This instrument was drafted by Patrick E. Smith

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