NPS Form 10-900 (January 1992)

United States Department of Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form MAR | 3 1995

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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 <u>Callahan, John L., House</u>	
other names/site number <u>N/A</u>	
2. Location	
	N/A not for publication N/A vicinity zip code 54603
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservatic certify that this X nominationrequest for determination of eligistandards for registering properties in the National Register of Procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I reconsidered significant nationally statewide _X locally. (_additional comments.) Signature of criticity of ficial/Title State Historic Preservation Officer-Wisconsin State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National R (_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)	bility meets the documentation Historic Places and meets the D. In my opinion, the property becommend that this property be See continuation sheet for Date
Signature of certifying official/Title	Date
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State of Federal agency and bureau	

J.L. Callahan House	La Crosse, Wisconsin
	County and State
	•
4. National Park Service Certi	fication
I hereby certify that the property is: \mathbf{Y} entered in the National Register.	Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
See continuation sheet.	101 V/V) 11
determined eligible for the National Register.	Edson It Beall 4.14.95
See continuation sheet	
National Register.	tered in the tional Register
See continuation sheet. Na- removed from the National	tional neglection
Register.	The state of the s
other, (explain:)	
5. Classification	Yarkan of Bassanas within Bassanta
Ownership of Category of Property (check as many boxes as only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include listed resources within
as many boxes as only one box)	the count)
apply)	
V private V building(a)	Contributing Noncontributing
<pre>_X private</pre>	1 buildings
public-state site	sites
public-federal structure	structures
object	objects 1 Total
Name of related multiple property	10001
listing (Enter "N/A" if property is	Number of contributing resources
not part of a multiple property	previously listed in the National Register
listing.)	
N/A	0
6. Function or Use	
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
(Enter categories from instructions)	(Enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling	DOMESTIC/Multiple Dwelling
COMMERCE/Professional	DOMESTIC/Secondary Structure
7. Description	
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
Oueen Anne	foundation Stone
	walls Weatherboard
	Shingle
	roof Asphalt
	other Glass
	Моод

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

	La Crosse, Wisconsin	
Name of Property	County and State	
8. Statement of Significance		
Applicable National Register Criteria	Areas of Significance	
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the	(Enter categories from	
criteria qualifying the property for the	instructions)	
National Register listing.)	Architecture	
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.	Period of Significance	
X C Property embodies the distinctive	1894	
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	Significant Dates	
whose components lack individual	/-	
distinction.	N/A	
B B		
D Property has yielded, or is likely to		
yield, information important in		
prehistory or history.	Cimpificant Dansen	
	Significant Person	
	(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)	
Quitonia Quanidonations	marked above)	
Criteria Considerations	NT / 7	
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	N/A	
A owned by a religious institution or	•	
used for religious purposes.	Cultural Affiliation	
used for religious purposes.	Cultural Allittation	
B removed from its original location.	N/A	
B removed from its original rocation.		
C a birthplace or grave.		
D a cemetery.		
<u> </u>	Architect/Builder	
E a reconstructed building, object, or		
structure.	Stoltze, Gustav and	
	Schick, Hugo	
F a commemorative property.		
G less than 50 years of age achieved		
significance within the past 50 years.		
Narrative Statement of Significance		
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)		
9. Major Bibliographic References		
Bibliography		
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in prep	aring this form on one or more	
continuation sheets.)		

J.L. Callahan House	La Crosse, Wisconsin
Name of Property	County and State
Previous Documentation on File (NPS):	Drimary logation of additional data
	Primary location of additional data:
preliminary determination of Office	X State Historic Preservation
individual listing (36 CFR 67) has	Other State Agency
been requested	Federal Agency
previously listed in the National	Local government
Register	University
previously determined eligible by	X Other
the National Register	Name of repository:
designated a National Historic	Area Research Center, UW-La Crosse
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recorded by Historic American Buildi	nge Curvey #
recorded by Historic American Engine	oring Pagard #
recorded by Arstoric American Engine	ering Record #
10 Geographical Data	
10. Geographical Data	. (1)
Acreage of Property Less than one	e (1)acre
UTM References (Place additional UTM refere	ences on a continuation sheet.)
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J.L. Callahan House	La Crosse, Wisconsin
Name of Property	County and State
Property Owner	
Complete this item at the request	of SHPO or FPO.)
name <u>Margaret Solberg</u>	
street & number 933 Rose Street	telephone <u>(608)782-6286</u>
city or town <u>La Crosse</u>	state <u>Wisconsin</u> zip code <u>54603</u>

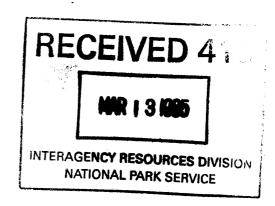
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain 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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Section 7 Page 1 J.L. Callahan House, La Crosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin



Section 7 - Narrative Description

The John L. Callahan House is a two-and-one-half story frame Queen Anne style house located in the city of La Crosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin. The building was designed in 1894 by Gustav Stoltze and Hugo Schick, two La Crosse architects. The house sits on the southwest corner of Rose and Wall streets. It is flanked by residential dwellings to the north, west, and south. Jefferson Grade School is located to the east of the house, across Rose Street. Large hardwood trees are situated along the boulevard to the east of the building. Small ornamental shrubs, trees, and bushes landscape the yard. A six-foot vertical board wood fence encloses the backyard.

The Callahan House is a two-and-one-half story frame building with an irregular plan. The wall material is narrow (approximately five-incheswide) horizontal weatherboard with fishscale, diamond, and square-shaped staggered shingles in the gable ends and covering the second story. The gable ends also display returns. The roof is a combination gable and hip form covered with asphalt shingles. The foundation is constructed of rock-faced limestone blocks, and is exposed approximately three feet from the ground--exhibiting large basement level windows on the south, west, and north elevations.

The front, east-facing main facade faces Rose Street. The house is set back approximately twenty feet from the street, and is approached by a concrete sidewalk that runs perpendicular to the Rose Street sidewalk. The front gable, as well as the second story is covered with shingles. A turret with a bell-shaped roof surmounts the house's northeast corner. A large one-story wrap-around porch, which extends across the entire east elevation and one-third of the north elevation, displays a metal roof and two pediments, one facing east and the other facing northeast. The porch pediments are clad with fishscale-shaped shingles. The first-story of the front facade also features a single paneled door, which leads to one upstairs apartment, on its south end. A double set of doors, located one foot to the right (north) of the single door, provides access to the main level of the house. Three one-over-one windows are located to the right in the northeast corner of the main facade. The second floor of the facade displays one one-over-one sash window located above the double set of doors, and three one-over-one sash windows in the northeast bay. small one-over-one sash windows are located in the gable end and three small one-over-one sash windows are located in the three sides of the turret that surmounts the northeast corner.

The north-facing side elevation features a two-story bay that intersects the main body of the house. This gable-roofed bay features a pedimented gable end and canted lower levels. This secondary body extends

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Section 7 Page 2 J.L. Callahan House, La Crosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

approximately three feet from the center of the elevation. The second story of this three-sided canted bay displays three one-over-one sash windows.

Two small one-over-one sash windows are positioned in the gable end. A single door, which opens to the northeast onto the porch, and a one-over-one sash window are located on the first floor of the north elevation. As previously mentioned, the porch stretches along one-third of the eastern side of the north elevation. A one-story addition, which displays a flat roof, a one-over-one sash window facing north, and an awning window facing west extends from the western one-third of the north elevation.

The west-facing rear elevation features a large main gable end and a smaller two-story gable-roofed bay that is off-set to the right (south). Both gable ends are clad in shingles. One one-over-one sash window is located on the first story of the main body and another identical window is located directly above it in the second story. A small one-over-one sash window is located in the center of the main gable end. A one-over-one sash window is also positioned in the center of the second story of the smaller gabled section. A one-story hipped roof enclosed ell with two single doors facing west provide access to the back of the main level and the western apartment.

Similar to the north elevation, the south-facing side elevation also has a two-and-one-half story bay which projects from the center of the main body of the house. However, this bay has a hipped roof and a hip-roofed wall dormer. Two small one-over-one sash windows are located in the dormer. The bay displays an off-set one-over-one sash window on the first story and a one-over-one sash window on the east and south sides of the second story. The west side of the second story bay displays a covered window. The easterly one-third of the main wall surface displays two stepped one-over-one sash windows between the first and second floors; the lower window has been covered. The westerly one-third of the elevation displays a one-story hipped ell with a small one-over-one sash window facing west and a one-over-one sash window and a smaller one-over-one sash window facing south. Two small one-over-one sash windows are located in the second story above the ell.

The main entry to the house is through off-set double doors. The double doors, which each display four lower panels and a large pane of glass, are original to the house. The interior of the house has been modernized to accommodate three apartments. Original features still present in the interior include wide baseboards, two sets of pocket doors and hardware, and a brick fire place which was originally faced with a wood mantel.

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J.L. Callahan House, La Crosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

Upon passing through the front, easterly doors, a visitor encounters a hallway with a stairway to the basement located to the south, running parallel with the hall. A guest bedroom, originally a parlor, is situated to the east of the hallway through large pocket doors. A door, located in the southwest corner of the bedroom provides access into a living room. A set of pocket doors, located on the living room's south wall open into a kitchen. To the west of the kitchen is the dining room. Two additional doors are located in the dining room. The west door provides access to the back porch while the easterly door on the north wall opens into a den. The den also has a door on its east wall which enters into the living room. The northwest corner of the house is occupied by a master bedroom.

Two apartments are located in the upper one-and-one-half stories of the J.L. Callahan House. Both apartments display two-story floor_plans. The door leading to the front, eastern apartment is located on the south end of the front facade, whereas the back, western apartment is accessed through a door on the first floor of the western elevation. The house has been somewhat modernized to accommodate the new apartments, however, the eastern, front apartment displays much of the original woodwork, including floor boards, window moldings, door surrounds, and hardware.

A one-story front gable garage, which faces north on Wall Street, is located behind the house, to the west. The garage was constructed on the property in 1981. Therefore, it is classified as non-contributing.

The John L. Callahan House is of local significance as an excellent representative Queen Anne style house constructed on the north side of La Crosse. The overall integrity of this building is high and it is a fine example of late nineteenth century residential buildings designed by the La Crosse architectural firm of Stoltze and Schick.

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Section 8 Page 1 J.L. Callahan House,
La Crosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

Statement of Significance

The John L. Callahan House in La Crosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. The Callahan house properly meets the National Register criteria for several reasons. First, it is a fine local example of Queen Anne Style architecture. The house displays a variety of Queen Anne elements including shaped shingles, a wrap-around porch, and a bell-roofed turret. Second, the Callahan House is also representative of residential structures designed by the La Crosse architectural firm of Stoltze and Schick. It was constructed in 1894 for a north side physician, Dr. John L. Callahan. The house was occupied by the physician and served as a residence/office until it was sold to the Blaschke family in 1950 and then converted into a funeral home. The building's exterior has not undergone any significant physical changes during its history.

Section 8 - Historical Background

La Crosse is located along the east banks of the Mississippi River in the southwest region of the state of Wisconsin. Its relationship to several waterways, including the Black and La Crosse rivers, facilitated the growth of the city as a lumbering community and as a commercial hub. La Crosse's development also depended on the nearby fertile soil settled for farming.

In 1841, Nathan Myrick, the first permanent settler in La Crosse, established a fur trading post on Barron's Island (later renamed Pettibone), located on the west bank of the Mississippi River's main channel. During the following spring, the trading post was relocated across the river to the present corner of Front and State streets. La Crosse was originally known by French fur traders as "Prairie La Crosse." The area traditionally served as a meeting place for the Winnebago, where they are said to have played a game with netted sticks to catch and throw balls, known as "la crosse" (Kooiman 1993, 8-1).

By the 1850s, large numbers of settlers were coming to La Crosse, drawn by the well-drained, fertile soil of the prairie and the excellent transportation sources. The river was ideally suited to steamboat docking and in 1858, the La Crosse & Milwaukee Railroad began operations, connecting La Crosse to larger eastern markets. The growth of the city is represented by population statistics, as well as its designation as a city. In 1854 a total of 745 people inhabited La Crosse. Two years later, it was chartered as a city. By 1860, 3,865 people resided in La Crosse (Kooiman 1993, 8-1, 8-2; Sanford and Hirshheimer 1951, 86).

Entrepreneurs quickly flocked to La Crosse in an effort to capitalize on its location as a "gateway city to the Great Plains" (Kooiman 1993, 8-2). La Crosse residents witnessed an increase in beer brewing and lumber operations, as well as general commercial development. Between 1870 and 1900 La Crosse experienced a significant economic and population boom. The lumber industry, one of the strongest foundations for the city's growth, began in the early 1850s with the construction of the first lumber mill in La Crosse (Nesbit 1973, 298; Sanford 1951,155).

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Section 8 Page 2 J.L. Callahan House La Crosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

La Crosse became one of the three most important lumbering centers on the Mississippi between 1880 and 1900. La Crosse lumber mills were producing an average yearly output of nearly 180,000,000 board feet of lumber by the turn of the century, after producing one-ninth that amount only 30 years earlier. However, the lumber industry experienced a dramatic decline in 1900, due to the depletion of white pine stands in northern Wisconsin. By 1909, there were no lumber mills remaining in La Crosse (Kooiman 1993, 8-3).

During the boom period, La Crosse boasted a population of 14,505 in 1880, an approximately 86.3% increase over the previous decade (La Crosse County 1969, 3). Ten years later, La Crosse ranked second in size of Wisconsin cities only to Milwaukee (Nesbit 1976, 332; Kooiman 1993, 8-3) Since approximately twelve lumber mills were located in North La Crosse between 1850-1910, residential neighborhoods grew around that area (Sanford 1951, Map of Sawmills 1850-1910). In 1894, John L. Callahan, a physician, established his residence and later his practice in the core of the lumbering district, on the southwest corner of Wall and Rose streets. Callahan's property was located approximately one block east of the Black River and one-half mile north of its confluence with the Mississippi (La Crosse Morning Chronicle 5 June 1894; City Directory 1903-1904). The Sill, Loomis, and Root Co.'s New Davidson Mill was located on Wall Street, just west of the Callahan property (Sanford 1951, Map of Sawmills).

In 1894, the architectural firm of Stoltze and Schick received a commission to draft Queen Anne style house plans for Callahan (La Crosse Morning Chronicle 5 June 1894). During the spring of that year, Callahan had purchased the lot one, block seventeen, in the original plat of the Village of North La Crosse from Ludwig Coren for \$1,700 (Warranty Deed Vol. 85, 433). Prior to Coren, the property had been owned by Elihu P. Hammond since the fall of 1870 (Warranty Deed Vol. 37, 314). Based upon the 1884 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, an earlier house once stood on that property. Its size and floor plan, however, do not correspond to that of the J.L. Callahan House shown at the same site on the 1906 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map. The 1884 building displayed basically a square floor plan and stood one-and-one-half stories high, whereas the 1906 building had an irregular floor plan, a wrap-around porch, and was two stories tall. In 1885, Hammond sold the property to Ludwig Coren (Warranty Deed Vol. 62, 573; Sanborn Based upon the La Crosse City Tax Rolls, L. Coren's property and improvement were worth \$1200 in 1893. One year later, taxes were paid only on the value of property worth \$800, indicating that the structure on the lot had been removed. By 1895, Dr. Callahan's property was worth \$2300, again indicating the great improvement on the parcel (La Crosse Tax Rolls 1893, 1894, and 1895).

Callahan resided in the house for approximately eight years, until 1903, when he sold the property to Dr. George and Eva Lueck for \$5,000 (Warranty Deed Vol. 106, 272). Based upon city directories, Callahan and Lueck, both physicians, practiced together and held offices at 422 Main Street and 933 Rose Street in the early 1900s. In 1905, the Luecks sold the property to Flora Lueck for one dollar. However, Lueck continued to live and have an office in the house on Rose Street (Warranty Deed Vol. 106, 492; City Directories 1903-1904, 1911, and 1919).

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In 1950, the property passed into the hands of Jerome and Betty Blaschke (Warranty Deed Vol. 231, 249). Based upon city directories, the house served as a residence for the Blaschkes, as well as a funeral home. The couple sold the property in 1968 to Jerome and Joseph Blaschke, co-partners doing business as the Blaschke Funeral Home (Warranty Deed Vol. 452, 466). In 1981, the house was purchased by Robert Solberg (Warranty Deed Vol. 666, 329). After purchasing the house, the Solbergs labored to restore the building to its original status. Margaret Solberg, the current owner of the property, maintains a commitment to leaving the building intact, as well as making changes compatible with the architectural character of the house.

Architecture

The J.L. Callahan House is a fine example of Queen Anne style architecture. Queen Anne houses are often distinguished by an irregular floor plan, as well as a combination of surface textures. Roofs are steeply pitched and often display rounded turrets. The asymmetrical facades also display wrap-around verandas (Wyatt 1986, Architecture 2-15). The Callahan House displays many features typical of the description of a Queen Anne house, including a wrap-around porch, tower, shingle clad gables, steeply pitched roof, and an irregular floor plan.

On a regional level, in Wisconsin, the Queen Anne Style was popular in the late nineteenth century and even survived into the first decade of the twentieth century, dating from 1880 to 1910 (Wyatt 1986, Architecture 2-15; Klein & Fogle 1968, 28). On a local level, in La Crosse, from 1880 to 1900, during the height of the lumber industry, Queen Anne served as the most prolific style of architecture used in the construction of residences. Only 269 Queen Anne houses in La Crosse have maintained their exterior integrity. Of these houses, 237 were constructed of wood, with the remaining 32 of brick. Based upon the "Intensive Historical-Architectural Survey, City of La Crosse" compiled in 1984, "the most distinctive Queen Anne Style houses in La Crosse...were designed by local architects" (Rausch and Zeitlin 1984, 106). The Callahan House, designed by the architectural firm of Stoltze and Schick in 1894, stands as a distinctive Queen Anne style house in La Crosse.

Stoltze and Schick

The partnership of Stoltze and Schick existed from 1887 to 1899. In 1872, Gustav Stoltze left his home in Germany for the United States. In 1878, he completed an architectural technical program in Boston. After graduation, he worked for the offices of Ware and Van Brunt and Rotch and Tilden. Before moving his practice to La Crosse, Wisconsin, Stoltze spent some time in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Hugo Schick received his degree from the Polytechnical School and Academy of Arts of Vienna in 1877. Upon graduation, Schick found employment in Vienna for several years. In 1880, he emigrated to the United States and worked in New York City, Chicago, and St. Paul. He moved to La Crosse in 1886 and formed the partnership with Stoltze one year later. The partnership existed until 1899 (Biographical History 1892, 179-180).

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The team of Stoltze and Schick designed the Callahan House during the height of their practice. During 1894, the team also designed at least two other residences in La Crosse, as well as three commercial buildings in the city. Other residences located in La Crosse designed by Stoltze and Schick include: E.C. Dailey House (1890), Bently-Wheeler House, George Metzger House (1890), Stephen Gantert House (1891), Nymphus B. Holway House (1891), A.F. Youngberg House (1894), Charles Michel House (1892), and J.B. Grigg House (1894) (Rausch and Zeitlin 1984, 73-74)

In conclusion, the John L. Callahan House, located at 933 Rose Street in La Crosse, Wisconsin, is a fine, highly intact, representative example of Queen Anne style design. The house was designed by the regionally renowned La Crosse architectural team of Gustav Stoltze and Hugo Schick in 1894, and was built the same year. This date of construction clearly falls into the state context of Queen Anne architecture, dating from 1880 to 1910, discussed in the work entitled Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin. In addition, the Callahan house exhibits such characteristic Queen Anne style design features as asymmetrical design and massing, a variety of surface materials, a wraparound porch, a polygonal turret, steeply pitched roofs, and a dominant front-facing gable end. Contextually, the house is related to the development of the city of La Crosse, especially the north side of the city near the lumber mills. The house was occupied by two physicians and their families for over a half-century and also served as an office after the turn of the century. Based upon the abovereferenced information, the Callahan House meets the National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an excellent example of Queen Anne architecture in the city and as a fine representative work of local architects Stoltze and Schick.

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LaCrosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

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Section 10 - Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

Lot One (1) in Block Seventeen (17), original Plat of the Village of North La Crosse.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire parcel historically associated with the property.

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Section Photo Page 1 J.L. Callahan House
La Crosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

J.L. Callahan House
La Crosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin
Photographs by Elizabeth Butterfield and
Barbara Kooiman
February 1994

Negatives at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin

The above information applies to all of the following photographs:

Photo #1 of 9
Exterior-east and north elevations
View facing southwest

Photo #2 of 9
Exterior-west and south elevations
View facing northeast

Photo #3 of 9

Exterior-south and east elevations

View facing northwest

Photo #4 of 9
Exterior-north and west elevations
View facing southeast

Photo #5 of 9
Exterior (garage)-north and west elevations
View facing south

Photo #6 of 9
Exterior-front double doors
View facing west

Photo #7 of 9
Interior-door knob on front double doors

Photo #8 of 9
Interior-front double doors
View facing east

Photo #9 of 9
Interior-pocket doors (entrance to living room)
View facing north