

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

BACK SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 5 1976

DATE ENTERED DEC 12 1976

**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

HISTORIC

Upham, Governor William H., House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

212 West Third Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Marshfield

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7th

VICINITY OF

STATE

Wisconsin 54449

CODE

55

COUNTY

Wood

CODE

141

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER: Currently and temporarily not in use.

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

William H. Upham

STREET & NUMBER

2728 East Bradford Street

CITY, TOWN

Milwaukee

VICINITY OF

STATE

Wisconsin 53211

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Wood County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Wisconsin Rapids

STATE

Wisconsin 54494

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Wisconsin's Historic Preservation Plan, Volume II: The Inventory

DATE

1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS State Historical Society of Wisconsin

CITY, TOWN

Madison

STATE

Wisconsin 53706

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Governor Upham house, built in 1880, is a very large, clapboarded, T-shaped, two-story Italianate structure with a single story kitchen wing at the rear. The gently sloping hipped roof has the typically Italianate wide eaves, denticulated and supported by brackets. All end elevations are pedimented, with a small round-arched window breaking the horizontal cornice at the center. Other windows are uniformly tall, segmentally arched, and nicely proportioned. The foundation is high, built partly of stone and partly of red brick, and painted red. The exterior of the house is painted white.

There has been only one alteration worthy of mention. In the 1920's the east side of the single-story, wrap-around veranda surrounding the entire front (north) wing was enclosed as a sun room leading off the front parlor. Otherwise the house retains its original appearance in every respect and is in a very good state of preservation inside and out. It is perhaps the oldest residence standing in Marshfield, having been one of a very few to survive the great fire of 1887 which virtually leveled the city.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Association with a historically important person.
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1880 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

William H. Upham (1841-1924) was a soldier, businessman, politician, and governor.¹ Born in Massachusetts, he moved to Racine, Wisconsin with his mother in 1853. At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in the Belle City Rifles, which became a company in the Second Wisconsin Infantry. He was wounded at the first battle of Bull Run and reported dead. Memorial services were held for him in Racine in August, 1861. However he was actually captured by the Confederates and hospitalized near Richmond. After recovering, he was transferred to Libby Prison. When he was finally paroled, he received a direct appointment to the U. S. Military Academy from President Lincoln. He graduated from West Point with honors in 1866 but served only briefly, resigning his commission as first lieutenant in 1869. One of his assignments had been to guard Jefferson Davis, who had occasionally visited the hospital at Richmond when Upham was among the wounded.

Upham engaged in lumbering in northeastern Wisconsin in 1869 but in 1871 moved to Marshfield, which was just being platted, and he largely built the city. He "not only entered a variety of business ventures, but grew as the community. He and his associates established a sawmill, a furniture factory, a general store, a planing mill, a grain elevator, a flour mill, a railroad, a power plant, a waterworks, a machine shop, and organized the First National Bank,"² of which Upham became the first president. The Upham furniture factory was early to become Marshfield's principal employer.

Despite his heavy losses in the Marshfield fire of April 27, 1887, which destroyed all of Upham's plants and leveled nearly the entire city, he took the lead in rebuilding its industries and encouraging other businessmen, workers, and citizens to remain. "By January 1888,...the community under the forceful leadership of Upham had rebuilt 62 blocks of brick structures for which he pledged his own credit."³ Thus he virtually built Marshfield a second time and prevented almost certain abandonment of the community.

A Republican, Upham was more interested in civic affairs than political life and was an alderman, mayor for two terms, and clerk of the school board for 13 years. In 1894, however, he received the State Republican Convention's nomination as the candidate with the best chance to unseat the incumbent Democratic governor. He won the election and served as governor for one term, 1895-1897. He refused to run again and returned to resume his enterprises in Marshfield, including the presidency of the Water, Electric Light and Power Company and the Upham Manufacturing Company. He remained a prominent business leader until his death. Governor Upham's house, which he built in 1880 and which miraculously escaped the great fire of 1887, is the remaining structure most closely associated with him.

1. Dictionary of Wisconsin Biography, 356.
 2. The Wisconsin Blue Book, 1960, 141.
 3. Idem.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Botsford, Joe, "'Dead' Union Soldier Became Governor," Milwaukee Sentinel, June 18, 1961.
Dictionary of Wisconsin Biography (Madison, 1960), 356-357.
 "Fire Discovered in Lumber Pile Raised Curtain on Epic Disaster," Marshfield News-Herald,
 June 26, 1962 (Marshfield Fire Anniversary Edition), 1, 16, 17.
 "Marshfield Owes Lasting Debt to Pioneer Builder W. H. Upham," ibid., 15.
The Wisconsin Blue Book (Madison, 1960), 139-142.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.8

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	5	7	2	3	7	7	5	4	9	4	9	4	7	5
ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

B

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING							

C

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING							

D

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING							

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

Donald N. Anderson, **Historian & Registrar, Historic Preservation**

ORGANIZATION

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

10-24-75

STREET & NUMBER

816 State Street

TELEPHONE

608/262-0746

CITY OR TOWN

Madison

STATE

Wisconsin 53706

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

James Houston Smith

TITLE

Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

1/29/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Attesting

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

12/12/76

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12/6/76