

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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 Robert Schofield House

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number 303 W. Schofield Avenue not for publication

city, town Greenwood vicinity of Congressional district

state Wisconsin 54437 code 55 county Clark code 019

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<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"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 checked="" 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 Ruth Drew

street & number 903 S. 76th Street

city, town West Allis vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Wisconsin 53214

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number \_\_\_\_\_

city, town Neillsville state Wisconsin

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1982  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State Street

city, town Madison state Wisc, 53706

## 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

Framed by tall trees and set back from Schofield Road on a rise at the north end of the former farm, the Robert Schofield house is a large, two-story frame building with the wide eaves and low hip roof with paired brackets that are typical of the Italianate style. Facing north, it is built on a coarsed rubble stone foundation; its heavy wood main beams are supported by rectangular stone piers. A twenty-five foot by twenty-seven foot two story wing of lesser height is attached to the rear of the forty foot by forty foot main block. The single chimney at the east side of the main block vents the furnace in the basement. A pair of television antenna now stand in the location of the cupola.

The formal balance of the house is evident from the generous fenestration. A central one-bay porch is topped by a second story bay with pedimented roof that is lighted by four tall, thin windows. The double-doors of the main entrance contain the original etched glass windows. On both the first and second floors the tall windows to either side of the central bay are paired. The first floor windows to the front (north) and east have rounded tops and the remainder of the rooms on the first and second floors are lighted by rectangular, two-over-two sash windows. All windows in the house have headmold and sills with paired brackets. A large bay at the southwest corner of the first floor bathes the dining room in light. A much smaller bay is located at the northwest corner of the west side of the house.

The centrally located rear wing is flanked by porches that run the length of the east and west sides and provide access both to the wing and to the main block. Three small attic story windows above each porch light the second floor rooms.

The central hall plan of the interior of the main block reinforces the house's formal balance. There are four large rooms on each floor. The single front rooms of equal size that flank the entrance hall are entered by way of large camber archways with paired, wood panelled sliding doors; from these rooms similarly designed doorways provide access to the two rooms at the back of the block. The dining room can also be entered from a door under the main stairwell at the back of the entrance hall near the first floor bathroom. All four bedrooms open onto the second floor central hall, as does the bath located directly above the one on the first floor. The stairway that formerly led up to the cupola now provides access to undereave storage areas.

Many of the original decorative features remain to remind us of the lumbering background of the builder. The entrance hall is visually dominated by an oak and mahogany elliptically spiralled stairway. Oak treads compliment the mahogany balustrade and wave moldings on the stringer. The octagonal mahogany newel-post is inlaid with moldings and vines carved from walnut. At turns in the stairway between floors are small rectangular niches surmounted by half-domes and panelled and trimmed in mahogany. Mahogany trimmed arches on the first and second floors and oak flooring complete the effect. In the dining room, the flooring is alternating strips of dark walnut and light maple; the wide pine floors of the second floor bedrooms are painted. The extensive wood trim in all the rooms also is painted, including the panelled spandrels under each window. Dominating the living room is an "Eastlaked," mirrored walnut mantelpiece, painted black, that covers the wall around the original, non-functioning fireplace.

Hanging from plaster medallions on the fourteen foot ceilings of the first floor hall and the living and dining rooms are the original carbide gas chandeliers of zinc and brass; they were electrified along with the rest of the house in 1947. The frosted glass globes of the living

(continued)

## 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"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

association with significant person

**Specific dates** 1880 <sup>1</sup> - 1905 <sup>2</sup> **Builder/Architect** Robert Schofield, builder <sup>2</sup>  
 (period of significance)

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Robert Schofield house is significant as a fine example of Italianate style architecture of frame construction in an unsurveyed county and as the home of an important local person.

**ARCHITECTURE:** With its square main block, low hip roof, and tall windows, the Robert Schofield house is the embodiment of wood frame Italianate style residential architecture. Its formal balance accentuated by paired brackets under wide eaves, a central porch with second story bay and pediment, and by bracketed windowhoods all distinguish this building as a fine representative of the style. The balance is reinforced by the interior arrangement of rooms off a central hall. The interior was decorated by the Alexander H. Revell Company of Chicago, Illinois. The house is in very good condition and, despite the removal of the cupola more than thirty-five years ago, retains much of the original interior and exterior fabric and decorative features. A wood privy with similar exterior details constitutes the only outbuilding extant and is included in the nomination. <sup>3</sup>

**ASSOCIATION WITH SIGNIFICANT PERSON:** When Robert Schofield arrived in the vicinity of Greenwood, Wisconsin in 1855, he was already an experienced sawyer. Born on February 2, 1836, in Thompkins County, New York, the son of Baxter J. and Carlotta Schofield, young Robert left home at thirteen and gradually migrated west, working as a sawyer and lumberman. After laboring in sawmills in various parts of New York and spending the year 1853 employed in the mills of Paw Paw, Michigan, Schofield migrated to the village of Two Rivers, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, where he worked for Harvey and Smoke's sawmill. Two years later, and not yet twenty years old, he moved to Clark County to log along the Black River. <sup>4</sup>

Schofield eventually grew to become one of the area's leading citizens. In 1863 he established his own lumber camp along the Black River near Weston's Rapids in the Town of Weston. Within seven years he was among the wealthiest individuals in the area, with a total estate valued at \$16,000, including one of the area's largest farms. On July 28, 1870, he married Almira Burt, a music teacher and the daughter of his neighbors, Reuel and Rachel Burt. During the 1870s, the partnership of Schofield and Weston, one of the "principal local loggers," operated a planing mill and lumber dealership in Weston township. <sup>5</sup>

In 1879, after purchasing the Black River lumber and flour mills of Elijah Eaton, one of the first settlers of Clark County, Schofield moved to Greenwood, Wisconsin. An 1880 plat map shows that Schofield owned about 250 acres of woodland scattered around Greenwood in Eaton township, including a large tract of land south of present day Schofield Avenue. This is the farm upon which he built the Schofield house. <sup>6</sup>

(continued)

1. Clark County Tax Rolls, 1870-1890.  
 2. Ibid.; Greenwood, Hub of Clark County, Wisconsin, 1844-1934 (Greenwood, Wisc., 1934), passim.  
 3. Greenwood, Hub of Clark County . . . ., p. 45.  
 4. Biographical History of Clark and Jackson Counties, Wisconsin, p. 300; History of Clark

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

The American Sketchbook: Volume 1, Number 5; Neillsville and Clark County, Wisconsin.  
 Edited by Mrs. Belle French (LaCrosse, Wisconsin: Sketch Book Publishing Co., 1875)  
 Biographical History of Clark and Jackson Counties, Wisconsin. (Chicago: Lewis Publishing  
 Company, 1891)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property approx. one acre

Quadrangle name Owen, Wisconsin

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

A	1 5	6 8 9 8 5 0	4 9 5 9 1 7 5	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

**Verbal boundary description and justification** Lots 4 and 5, Block 1, Drew addition to the City of Greenwood and N 348 feet of NWSE except starting and except commencing at NW corner of Lot 9 Block 1, Drew addition to the City of Greenwood, the W 132 feet, the S 148 feet, the E 132 feet, then N 148 feet to point of beginning except parcel described in 335 records 513, 3263 W.

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 George C. Brown

organization N/A date 2 April 1982

street & number 2210 Rusk Street telephone (608) 244-2515

city or town Madison state Wisconsin 53704

## 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

*Richard Murray*

title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

date 8/2/82

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

date 9/9/82

*Stelous Byers*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Robert Schofield House, Greenwood, Clark Co., WI

Continuation sheet Description

Item number 7

Page 2

For HCERS use only

received

date entered

and dining room fixtures also are original. In each of the second floor bedrooms, original brass-plated zinc wall sconces of similar design flank marble lavatories set into mirrored alcoves.

The rear wing, which now is rented as a separate apartment, formerly housed the kitchen for the main block and served as quarters for the servants and farm hands. Its eight rooms, four on each floor, are of proportions more modest than the main block, with eight foot ceilings and little ornamentation. The kitchen originally could be entered from the dining room of the main block as well as by doors off the side porch, but the dining room door, though extant, is sealed. The outside basement entrance is at the rear of the wing.

Despite having stood empty for nearly fifty years before the present owners purchased it in 1947, the house is little changed. Prior to 1947, descendants of the builder removed the cupola. The present owners, upon taking possession, replaced the original furnace and the corroded bath fixtures and electrified the house. Since the 1950s a kitchen unit has been added to the west interior wall of the original dining room and a kitchen unit and small bath were added to the large southwest room on the first floor when the two west rooms were converted to a small apartment for the owner's mother. The small amounts of moisture damage that are evident in the plaster ceilings of two of the bedrooms resulted in the house being reroofed in the late 1970s. The exterior of the house was repainted in the summer of 1981 at a cost of \$5000.

Only one outbuilding of the farm remains. It is a small privy designed to match the style of the house. It was converted to a playhouse by the present owners in the 1950s.

Significance

8

2

The house that stands today probably replaced a cabin owned by Schofield that was later used by the village of Greenwood as a school. The cabin was torn down sometime after the village built its own school in 1881. Schofield built his house about one-half mile south of his Black River mills on the southwest edge of the village of Greenwood in 1880. His sixteen room residence cost Schofield \$12,000, a price tag that included interior decoration by the Alexander H. Revell Company of Chicago. For another \$1,000 he built "the largest barn in Clark County," measuring "56 X 110 feet, and 26 X 22 feet posts, and from the ground to the comb fifty-four feet." It burned to the ground in 1895.

The Schofield home remained in family hands until 1947. Soon after purchasing it, the present owners razed the remnants of the barn that had been built to replace the one that had burned, electrified the house, and added a modern kitchen and new bath and heating facilities. Except for the removal of the cupola prior to 1947, the house remains in original condition.

County, Wisconsin, by Franklyn Curtiss-Wedge, p. 633.

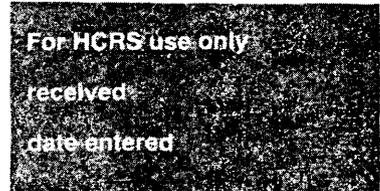
5. Greenwood, Hub of Clark County...., pp. 4, 27; Biographical History of Clark and Jackson Counties...., p. 300; History of Clark County...., p. 114 (quote); The American Sketchbook Vol. 1, No. 5; Neillsville and Clark County, Wisconsin, ed. by Mrs. Belle French, p. 256; Marriage Records for Clark County, Wisconsin, 1858-1889, p. 37; U.S. Manuscript Census, 1870, Clark County, Wisconsin, population schedule (p. 245), agriculture schedule (p. 301)

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Robert Schofield House, Greenwood, Clark Co., WI



Continuation sheet

Item number 8 , 9

Page 3

Significance (cont.):

6. Clark County plat maps 1880, 1893, 1894; Greenwood, Hub of Clark County...., p. 27; The personal property tax rolls for Eaton Township (1880) indicate that Robert Schofield was among the wealthiest individuals in the area, with a personal estate worth \$2675. The second highest valuation was \$1630 and most were less than \$200.
7. Greenwood, Hub of Clark County...., pp. 27, 45; History of Clark County...., p. 635; Biographical History of Clark and Jackson Counties...., p. 300; Sanborn-Perris maps, 1894; Chicago city directory, 1881.

Bibliography

9

2

Greenwood: Hub of Clark County, Wisconsin, 1844-1934. (Greenwood, Wisconsin: Neuenfeldt and O'Connel, 1934)

History of Clark County, Wisconsin. By Franklyn Curtiss-Wedge (Chicago: H.C. Cooper & Company, 1918)

United States Manuscript Census: Wisconsin, Population Schedules, 1870, 1880, 1900, Agriculture Schedules, 1870, 1880.

Clark County, Wisconsin Marriage Records, 1858-1889

Clark County, Wisconsin Tax Rolls: Real Estate, 1870-1890; Personal Property, 1870-1890.

Clark County, Wisconsin Plat Maps, 1893, 1894

Greenwood, Wisconsin Sanborn-Perris Maps, 1894