

# HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY 2018-2019

*City of Fitchburg, Dane County, Wisconsin*



Prepared for:  
The Fitchburg Landmarks Commission  
Fitchburg, Wisconsin

Prepared by:  
tes | Historical Consulting, LLC

August 2019

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Traci E. Schnell/ tes | Historical Consulting, LLC, would like to thank the City of Fitchburg and its Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC member names are listed on the following page) for their assistance throughout the project, including former community planner Susan Badtke, current city planner/zoning administrator Sonja Kruesel, as well as assistant planner and LPC liaison Lisa McNabola. Thanks also to city assessor Amy Mercer for cluing me into the city's post-1930 tax assessment books which were instrumental in the identification of original owners and dates of construction for the more modern-era buildings and homes. Sincere appreciation to Mike Aquino of the Nevin Fish Hatchery for allowing me to traverse the property twice; each time taking the time to share his extensive knowledge of the property and its history and thanks to the Fitchburg Historical Society for having a pretty amazing website, as well as for letting me rifle through their holdings (which included pre-1930 tax rolls). Finally, thanks also to Wisconsin Historical Society staff—Joe DeRose and Daina Penkiunas—for guidance throughout the project and including the actual field review of properties discussed in the Intensive Survey Recommendations Chapter of this report.

This program receives Federal financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or handicap (mental and/or physical impairment) in its federally assisted programs. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, D.C., 20240.

The activity that is the subject of this architectural and historical survey has been financed entirely with Federal funds from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, and administered by the Wisconsin Historical Society. However, the contents and the opinions do not necessarily reflect the view or policies of the Department of the Interior or the Wisconsin Historical Society. Nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior or the Wisconsin Historical Society.

## **CITY OF FITCHBURG LANDMARKS COMMISSION**

Lisa McNabola, staff liaison  
Assistant Planner, City of Fitchburg

Mike Couillard, Chair  
LaVerne Brummel  
Dan Carpenter, Alderman (through May 2019)  
Bill Kinney  
Amy Steger  
Michael Stevens  
J. Eric Urtes

## **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this project is to provide for both a reconnaissance and intensive survey of the architectural and historical resources located in the City of Fitchburg, as well as a defined area currently located within the Town of Madison, which is planned for annexation to Fitchburg by no later than 2022. The primary use for this report is to identify buildings, structures, sites and historic districts that meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. This material also may be useful in the development of local preservation plans and to increase public and private sector awareness of the community's historical and architectural heritage.

Funded through a National Park Service grant-in-aid administered by the Wisconsin Historical Society, the City of Fitchburg contracted with Traci E. Schnell / tes | Historical Consulting, LLC, to conduct a reconnaissance and intensive survey within its city limits (and including a small portion of the Town of Madison). When the project began, a total of 120 resources had been previously surveyed in the community. As a result of this survey, a total of approximately 205 resources offered enough visual interest to warrant a photograph and information entry into the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Database (WHPD), which is accessible to the public and known as the Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory (WAHI). Among the resources surveyed, three historic districts and twelve individual properties were considered for National Register eligibility and are discussed in this report. Of the three historic districts, two are recommended as potentially eligible for the Register, while one is not yet fifty years of age. Of the twelve individual properties, six are recommended as potentially eligible. Of the remaining six properties, three have not yet reached fifty years of age, while the final three require additional information and/or historic photographs in order to render a definitive decision regarding their eligibility.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Introduction and Survey Methodology	page 5
Chapter 1: Historical Development of Fitchburg	page 8
Chapter 2: Architecture	page 16
Chapter 3: Architects, Contractors & Carpenters	page 21
Chapter 4: Recommendations List	page 30
Historic District Recommendations	page 31
Individual Property Recommendations	page 44
Bibliography/References Consulted	page 65
Appendix A: Complete Survey Inventory	page 70
Appendix B: Properties Listed in the National Register of Historic Places	page 79
Appendix C: Properties Officially Determined Eligible for the National Register of Historic Places	page 79
Appendix D: List of Properties Designated as Fitchburg Local Landmarks	page 80
Appendix E: National Register Criteria	page 81

## INTRODUCTION AND SURVEY METHODOLOGY

In 2017-18, the City of Fitchburg applied for, and received, an historic preservation grant-in-aid from the National Park Service, a grant administered by the Wisconsin Historical Society (hereafter cited as WHS). The objective was to survey (photograph and record in an established database of the WHS) the architectural resources within the city's corporate limits (along with a small area in the Town of Madison that is to be annexed by the City of Fitchburg by no later than 2022), and to identify those properties that were potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Consequently, Traci E. Schnell / tes | Historical Consulting, LLC, was contracted to conduct a reconnaissance and intensive survey of the city. The major products of the effort were to consist of an Intensive Survey Report that provides the following: (1) a chronicle of the historical development of the City of Fitchburg, focusing upon themes that were embodied in the city's extant historical and architectural resources; (2) insight into which resources—either as individual structures or as historic districts—might offer potential for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; (3) an inventory of all resources observed within the project area; and (4) the entering of a record and associated historical information into the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Database (WHPD; maintained by the WHS) for each surveyed property.

The person solely responsible for the survey work and the subject report was Ms. Traci E. Schnell, M.A., sole proprietor/owner of tes | Historical Consulting, LLC, in Brown Deer, Wisconsin. The project was initiated with Susan Badtke, former City Planner in Fitchburg. Following Ms. Badtke's departure, the city liaison role was taken over first by Sonja Kruesel, City Planner/Zoning Administrator and later by Associate Planner Lisa McNabola.

The project began with a public kick-off meeting that was held on 17 September 2018, in City Hall Council Chambers, a meeting that was also televised on Fitchburg Access City TV, Inc. A press release was issued and carried on the city's website, seeking historical and/or resource-related input from area residents. Prior to the kick-off meeting, Schnell reviewed the WHPD/aka Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory (WAHI; the state's database, which is available to the public at <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS15309>) to determine how many Fitchburg properties had already been surveyed.

Prior to Ms. Badtke's departure, she prepared two maps of the City that were helpful in my (Schnell's) driving review of the city—one that identified residential properties that were 40+ years old and a separate map that identified commercial properties that were 40+ years old. Both maps broke down the periods in which the properties were built (through 1978), based on

available assessment and/or other city information. All of this preliminary work helped to facilitate fieldwork between late Fall 2018 through early Summer 2019.

As residents of Fitchburg are aware, a number of the city's properties have a significant setback and are not visible from the roadway. As a result, most structures that were not at least remotely visible from the roadway were not reviewed for this survey (as traversing lengthy driveways may be considered trespassing). The exception to this was in the case of all residences located along E. Clayton Road (where there is little to no shoulder), where letters were sent to all homeowners to request permission to access their property for a photograph. Along with homes along E. Clayton Road, a few additional properties also received letters (again, in some cases where it was not safe to pull over on the side of the roadway to review the property or a closer inspection of the property was necessary in order to render a recommendation decision). Only in one case did a homeowner request that a photograph not be taken.<sup>1</sup>

## **SURVEY, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION PROCESS**

Regarding previously surveyed properties, previous survey photos (available on the WHPD/WAHI) were compared to their current appearance. If significant alterations had occurred (generally a combination of siding, window and/or porch replacement), those properties were determined to no longer meet current survey standards and were, therefore, "not resurveyed"; however, in most cases, an update photo was taken and entered into WHPD/WAHI. Properties that maintained a good degree of integrity and/or offered some level of historical or architectural interest were considered to be "resurveyed."

In order for a new property to "make the list" of surveyable properties, it must retain a sufficient amount of historic integrity and must pass the "three strike rule." In general, that means it did not have a combination of siding, window and porch replacement. Please note that in some cases, a property needed only to have one "strike" to be considered non-surveyable--if the alteration was significant.

Properties that had been demolished since the time of last survey have been updated in the database as such—either with an exact date of demolition (if known) or that line in the record simply reads "Unknown."

Following a review by the consultant (Schnell/tes | Historical Consulting, LLC) of all properties inventoried, WHS staff (Joe DeRose) reviewed all properties in the field along with Schnell in May 2019. As a result of some outstanding questions, a few of the properties were re-reviewed in June 2019 with State Historic Preservation Officer Daina Penkiunas. Following that re-review,

---

<sup>1</sup> Although not likely potentially eligible for the National Register, a photograph of the circa 1960 home at 4973 E. Clayton Road would have been taken if permission had been granted.

the properties to be discussed in the Recommendations Chapter were fully determined. Please know that no interior inspections of any building were completed for this report.

Research on individual properties was completed through the use of (but not limited to) the following: local newspapers, the Fitchburg Historical Society archives (maintained at the Fitchburg Public Library), personal interviews, as well as city records, including tax assessment books (1931 and after) and building permits. Since Fitchburg did not incorporate as a city until 1983, there are no building permits on file at the City previous to the early 1980s. Please also note that the pre-1900 tax assessment rolls (in possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society) do not separate out the land from the (building) improvements.

As a result of this survey, approximately 205 new resources were identified and entered into the WHS database. A second public meeting was held on 5 August 2019 to present the report's results to the community and/or interested persons. A total of three historic districts were identified, with two of them recommended as potentially eligible, while the final one had not yet reached fifty years of age. Of the twelve individual recommendations discussed at the second public meeting, seven were recommended as potentially eligible, three were not yet fifty years of age and two required additional information. As a result of additional information brought forth at that August meeting, additional research was completed and modest adjustments were made to the recommendation write-ups thereafter, resulting in six properties being definitively recommended as potentially eligible and three required additional information and/or historic photographs (while the remaining three were not yet fifty years of age).

Please be aware that any research information gathered for properties that were not addressed in either the Recommendations Chapter or in the contextual chapters can be found in the electronic record for the property. As noted earlier, WHPD/WAHI, the database in which the information is added, is accessible to the public through the WHS website at <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS15309>. Once on that page, you simply need to type in an address into the search box beneath "Preserve Your Homes and Properties," if you are looking for a specific property. Or if you want to review all records for Fitchburg, simply type in "Fitchburg." The resulting page will then offer a series of options along the left-hand side of the screen that allows one to filter results by age, historic use, architectural style, etc.

## CHAPTER 1

### HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF FITCHBURG

Due to the limited number of surveyable structures associated with various standard themes—such as government, commerce, industry, education, etc.—many of the different types of surveyable structures are addressed within this historical overview chapter, which includes headings to help orient the reader. This is not meant to be the end-all be-all history of Fitchburg, it is simply meant to provide a general overview of the community’s development in order to better understand its extant resources. Bolded addresses represent properties that were surveyed as part of this project. All property names in this chapter and throughout the report are considered their historic name (which, in most cases, is the name of the property’s original owner).

Much of the following information was gleaned primarily from four sources: Darling and O’Brien’s *Fitchburg: A History* (1976), Kinney’s *Irish Settlers of Fitchburg, Wisconsin, 1840-1860* and two Madison newspapers—the *Wisconsin State Journal* and *The Capital Times*.<sup>2</sup>

The present-day City of Fitchburg was originally (in 1846) part of the Town of Rome and also included present-day Dunn and Oregon townships. One year later, present-day Fitchburg was separated from the Town of Rome, at which time it was called Greenfield. The first town election (in April 1847), which had a turnout of fifty-five voters, resulted in Joseph Vroman as town chairman; he also served as one of the town’s first two highway commissioners. In 1853, Greenfield was renamed Fitchburg. The first permanent settlers of the town included William Vroman, George Vroman and Joseph Vroman, who came in 1839. The farm property of Joseph Vroman (ca. 1855 and continually expanded through the 1950s by Vroman descendants) remains extant at **2387 S. Seminole Highway** (See Recommendations Chapter). Following shortly thereafter was William Quivey, who established an inn (which included a post office as of 1842) at the crossroads community of Oak Hall (named after the log structure built by Quivey in 1841). Located around the intersection of present-day S. Fish Hatchery Road and County Highway M and comprised largely of New Yorkers, the only structure that dates to the mid-1850s is the brick gabled ell home of Philander M. Pritchard located at **1749 S. Fish Hatchery Road** (AHI#4643), while the Oak Hall Cemetery (Ca. 1857; #224530) remains extant at **5868 County Highway M**, west of the formerly bustling intersection.<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup> Connie Darling and Jean A. O’Brien, *Fitchburg: A History* (Madison, WI: Countryside Publications, 1976, edited and reprinted in 1998); Thomas P. Kinney, *Irish Settlers of Fitchburg, Wisconsin, 1840-1860* (Fitchburg, WI: Fitchburg Historical Society, 1993); *Wisconsin State Journal* (Madison, WI) and *The Capital Times* (Madison, WI).

<sup>3</sup> C.W. Butterfield, ed., *History of Dane County, Wisconsin* (Chicago: Western Historical Society, 1880), 868; Darling and O’Brien, *Fitchburg: A History*, 11, 45-46, 67; Kinney, *Irish Settlers of Fitchburg, Wisconsin*, 20-23. Oak Hall was later renamed Floyd as there was confusion between Oak Hall and the post office of Oak Hill.

Although far less busy than Oak Hall, the crossroads community of Lake View developed by no later than the 1840s. Located at the corner of highways B and MM, the Lake View Stagecoach Hotel and Tavern (#239070) was built at **2235 County Highway MM** in 1845 by Conrad Getts. This settlement was reportedly comprised of Yankees—and largely of Pennsylvanians.<sup>4</sup>

In 1864, construction of the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad (later the Chicago & North Western) and depot outside of Lake View and one-half mile north of the intersection of S. Syene and Lacy roads (known as Syene Depot) diminished traffic through the Lake View community. Like Oak Hall, very little remains evident of the hamlet of Syene, although a pair of non-surveyable properties (a school remodeled as a residence and structures formerly associated with the Blaney Seed Company) do remain extant at the intersection of Lacy and S. Syene Road, while a railroad bridge with stone abutments is visible just **east of S. Syene Road, a short distance south of Lacy Road** (#239126). The Syene Depot closed in 1926.<sup>5</sup>

A second railroad, the Illinois Central, came through what would develop as Fitchburg village in 1888 and a two-story depot (no longer extant) was built along Wendt Road. The ticket office, freight and passenger area was on the first floor of the depot, while the agent and his family lived on the upper level. Depot business peaked in 1922, at which time there were four passenger and freight trains running daily. However, by 1939, the depot closed and train travel through Fitchburg village ceased in 1980. In the mid-1990s, the tracks were removed and the right-of-way was designated a bike trail. Evidence of Fitchburg village is a bit more apparent due to the number of extant structures clustered together; however, only one property—an altered Queen Anne-style house at **1974 Wendt Road** (Ca. 1900; AHI#238993), met survey criteria.<sup>6</sup>

## **Agriculture**

Farmers in the Town of Fitchburg initially raised wheat, while stock raising (sheep, hogs, etc.) became prominent in the 1870s. As with the rest of the state, dairy cattle dominated the barns of the town's landscape by the 1890s. However, at the turn of the twentieth century, many area farmers embraced tobacco farming, with Dane County leading the state, as well as counties throughout the United States, in tobacco production. Today, the town continues to retain a good number of farmsteads. Among them, the previously mentioned Vroman Family Farm (See Recommendations Chapter) at **2387 S. Seminole Highway** and the Pritchard-McManus Farmstead at **1749 and 1757 S. Fish Hatchery Road** (Ca. 1856+; See page 79) retain a

---

<sup>4</sup> Darling and O'Brien, *Fitchburg: A History*, 70, 73 (includes historic photo of stagecoach stop).

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., 89-90; Kinney, *Irish Settlers of Fitchburg, Wisconsin*, 26.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid; Fitchburg Village Train Depot, Timeline, In possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society. Holdings of the Society are housed in the Fitchburg Room (and office) in the Fitchburg Public Library, Fitchburg, WI. The house at 1974 Wendt Road rests on a poured concrete foundation and, therefore, it's possible that the house was moved to this location at some point.

significant number of outbuildings such that they each stand as very good examples of historic farmstead layouts.<sup>7</sup>

In addition to the township's numerous farming operations, a small but significant number of agriculture-related businesses established themselves. Barry Stables was in 1976 noted as the oldest operating business in the town. Horse breeding was begun by the Barry family as early as the 1870s. Specifically, Garrett Barry and his son George are associated with raising saddlebred horses. The Barry family farm remains extant at **5526 County Highway M** (See Recommendations Chapter).<sup>8</sup>

Within the first two decades of the twentieth century, the Bowman Dairy was established by C. Harlan Bowman and his son Duane. The business began in 1914 after the Bowman's single cow produced enough milk that allowed him to sell the excess—that which was (literally) peddled by his son Duane (on his bike) on his way to school. The milk business was in addition to Harlan's celery raising that he had begun in his hometown Lodi and continued following a move to Mazomanie, which earned him the nickname "Celery." In 1918, when Duane left to serve in World War I, Harlan's single cow had grown to approximately eight and the dairy business expanded. In 1929, a modern dairy plant was built—one that received its milk supply from approximately fifty-five area farms and, by 1932, the celery raising ended. Just one year earlier (1931), the dairy employed only about nineteen people and milk came from just twenty-five area farms, along with the Bowman's own cows. Two decade later (1953), the daily operation had grown to include over 500 acres, a dairy plant that had been expanded multiple times, as well as a workforce of over 125. In 1983, milk bottling was discontinued at the Bowman Dairy facility (which, by that time, was owned by Golden Guernsey) and operations shifted to orange juice packaging under a number of labels. The Bowman Dairy property (less the original farmhouse and barn) remains in a seemingly abandoned state at **3101 S. Fish Hatchery Road** (1929 with later additions/alterations; #4628).<sup>9</sup>

In 1932, in the midst of The Depression, farmer Edwin Blaney took a short course at the UW School of Agriculture. At that time, a hybrid seed was introduced by the UW School and Blaney was provided enough seed to plant one acre. Expansion of the business was steady until it hit a high in 1977, at which time Blaney Seed (by this time run by Edwin's son Richard) had 8,600

---

<sup>7</sup> Darling and O'Brien, *Fitchburg: A History*, 119-121.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, 153.

<sup>9</sup> The year in which the dairy was established varies from source to source—some saying as early as 1912, others as late as 1917. "Wholesome Milk Products From Modern Farm Plant," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 1 January 1933, "Bowman, 91, Farm Dairy Founder, Dies," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 31 December 1958, 1/3, 2/6; Darling and O'Brien, *Fitchburg: A History*, 153; Susan Lampert Smith, "Competitor Raps 'Iowa Milk' Claim," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 19 February 1983, 1/1-4. A 1932 photo of the Bowman Dairy (originally built in 1929 and already expanded as of 1931) shows a significantly different-looking building than stands at the location today, "Rural Setting Enhances Beauty of Modern Bowman Dairy Plant Here," photo and caption, along with article entitled "Local Independent Milk Concern Gaining Popularity With Madison Trade," *The Capital Times*, 16 May 1931, 8, 1-2.

acres planted with seed corn. As of 1976, it was the largest employer in the Town of Fitchburg. The Blaney Seed Farm operation, which was located at S. Syene Road and Lacy Road (altered buildings remain extant but unsurveyed), continued until 1978 when it was sold to Stauffer Chemical.<sup>10</sup>

## Industry

The Town of Fitchburg remained largely agricultural well into the 1960s. However, industry began to present itself by no later than the 1920s. Indeed, in 1924, German immigrant John J. Werth, who worked as a shoemaker in Madison, purchased 40 acres along the east side of County Highway MM to start a fox farm, known as Capitol [Silver Fox] Fur Farm. Although Werth began raising silver fox in circa 1927, it would soon expand to include mink. Although sons Anton and Rudolph both initially assisted with the farm, Anton “Tony” officially joined him in running the business as of 1932. Following World War II, mink fur would overtake that of fox and fox raising was discontinued. In 1959, grandson Tom Werth took over the farm from his father after graduating from the UW School of Agriculture. As of 1980 (the year of Anton’s semi-retirement), there were 310 mink ranches in the state and Wisconsin produced nearly one-third of the nation’s mink. That was, however, down from a high of approximately 600 farms in the 1960s, at which time Wisconsin was the nation’s top mink pelt producer. By 1995, that number was down to roughly eighty. Although most of the low-lying, gabled mink shelters have been removed, a two-story brick building associated with the business remains extant on the grounds at **2980 County Highway MM** (Ca. 1927; #239896; its specific use however, is unknown). Anton, who at one point served as the president of the Great Lakes Mink Association and was inducted into the Fur Farming Industry Hall of Fame, died in 1999.<sup>11</sup>

Among the few mid-twentieth century industries founded in Fitchburg was that of the Holmes Tire & Supply Company’s tire-recapping plant. Holmes Tire & Supply was founded in Madison

---

<sup>10</sup> “Blaney Gets New Name,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 28 June 1981, 42 Section 6, page 2; “November General Meeting,” Fitchburg Historical Society Newsletter, November 1990, 1, In possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society. Available online at <https://fitchburghistory.org/publications>. Accessed June-August 2019; Darling and O’Brien, *Fitchburg: A History*, 154.

<sup>11</sup> “Capitol Fox Farm Now has 263 Foxes; Get Best of Care,” *The Capital Times*, 31 December 1929, 60; A 1964 photo in the local paper includes the building at the rear, along with the mink shelters, photo and caption, *The Capital Times*, 1 February 1964, 11, top right; Ron Seely, “Their Bread and Butter Come from Mink,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 24 January 1980, 1, this article indicates that Wisconsin produced 31% of the mink in the United States; “Fur Farmer Anton Werth Makes Hall of Fame,” *The Capital Times*, 5 November 1987, 2; Jennifer A. Galloway, “State Mink Ranchers Face Shrunk Market,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 5 January 1995, 1F; “Fitchburg Mink Farmer Werth Dies,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 19 December 1999, 12/1; “John Werth,” Obituary, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 16 September 2018, C10. This property was one of the properties that received a letter regarding access request to the property. Although access to the property was gained and a photo of the brick building was taken, no additional photos were taken, nor was any direct contact made with the property owner. Following review of a 2017 aerial view of the parcel, it does appear that one of the mink shelters remains on the property, just west of the two-story brick structure, 2017 aerial view accessed via Dane County GIS mapping, Available online at <https://dcimapapps.countyofdane.com/demapviewer>. Accessed August 2019. County mapping also indicates that the property is still in the hands of the Werth family.

in 1926 by Frank J. Holmes. At that time, flat tires were extremely common and Holmes recognized the need for a tire repair shop, which he established at 431 W. Main Street in Madison. During World War II, when rubber was scarce due to the war, Holmes expanded the business to include tire recapping. In 1950, a tire recapping plant was opened on S. Syene Road in the Town of Fitchburg, which reportedly produced hundreds of recapped tires a day. As of 1951, it was the largest recapping plant in the Northwest; three years later, a newspaper article identified it as the second largest tire recapping firm in the world. This facility, comprised of three concrete block-constructed buildings (plant, warehouse and office) remains at **2792 S. Syene Road** (1950, 1954; #239893-895). Also located on the greater Holmes-owned parcel, was “No Oaks Ranch,” which was purchased by the Holmes family in circa 1946 and served as the location of the Holmes family rodeo from 1950 to 1989. In 1950, the tire business was taken over by Frank’s son George, who continued in charge until 1989.<sup>12</sup>

Although not “technically” industry, the Town of Fitchburg holds claim to the state’s first research park. Established in 1963 by Dr. Johan Bjorksten, the Fitchburg Research Park was begun on Bjorksten’s 175 acres along S. Fish Hatchery Road—the same grounds upon which he started Bjorksten Research Laboratories at **2800 S. Fish Hatchery Road** (aka 5512 Bjorksten Place; See Recommendations Chapter). Zoned as light industrial, the park was envisioned to include only research-related facilities. As of 1963, research facilities totaling 28,782 square feet were already located in the park and, aside from Bjorksten’s own lab, they were occupied by the following: Foamalum Corporation, the John W. Krueger Laboratory, the Oscar Mayer Observatory of the Madison Astronomical Society and the Bjorksten Research Foundation. An architect’s drawing from February 1963 demonstrated the potential for the park’s development, depicting research laboratory space amounting to 282,350 square feet. Although the park did not develop as planned, the park—known today as Fitchburg Center—is home to Promega Corporation, Fitchburg’s number two employer (regarding number of employees). Today, Fitchburg Center is a mix of commercial, retail & mixed use, as well as residential developments.<sup>13</sup>

---

<sup>12</sup> “Article Features Holmes Family,” *The Capital Times*, 24 October 1950, 9/3; Holmes Tire & Supply Co., Advertisement, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 18 May 1951, 10, includes citation as largest recapping plant in the Northwest; Newsbrief (re: Construction of a warehouse), *The Capital Times*, 5 June 1953, 3/1; “Future Looks Bright For City’s Industry,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 13 January 1954, Business Review Section (2), 1, 3; Holmes Estate Worth \$132,025,” *The Capital Times*, 12 May 1975, 3/3; “Rodeo Still Scheduled Despite \$150,000 Fire in Holmes Storage Shed,” *The Capital Times*, 5 June 1989, 22; Marv Balousek, Tire Business a Family Affair,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 24 January 2007, C8; “Banking on Uptown; Fitchburg’s Smart Growth,” Article available online at <https://www.wisconsin.com/news/business-madison/may-2013/banking-on-uptown-fitchburg-smart-growth>, Accessed July 2019; After relocating in 1969, Holmes Tire closed in 2015, Barry Adams, Holmes Tire Closes After Nearly 90 Years in Business,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 27 February 2015, Available online at [https://madison.com/ws/business/holmes-tire-closes-after-nearly-years-in-business/article\\_80136ca4-7a83-5e55-b6c3-01582985dba6.html](https://madison.com/ws/business/holmes-tire-closes-after-nearly-years-in-business/article_80136ca4-7a83-5e55-b6c3-01582985dba6.html), Accessed August 2019.

<sup>13</sup> Drawing and caption (re: research center), *The Capital Times*, 11 February 1963, 15; “Research Park is Established Near Madison,” *The La Crosse (WI) Tribune*, 17 February 1963, 16; “Research Parks-Tool to Attract Industry,” *Appleton (WI) Post-Crescent*, 10 May 1963, 4/1-2.

Plans for a second research park, the Fitchburg Technology Campus, began in 2002. Located at the southeast corner of Lacy Road and S. Fish Hatchery Road, the campus was initially designed/conceptualized by Vandewalle & Associates, the same firm that designed Hatchery Hill (see below). Developed on former farm land and owned by the Jack Kelly family, the pedestrian-focused mixed-use campus contains office and retail spaces, along with residential construction including apartments and condominiums. The development was, in part, a “response to a trend among technology workers to live close to the workplace.” Construction began in 2004 and, by the following year, the campus included a Park Bank branch (the bank that provided the construction financing), an Irish Pub (R & R Kelly’s), as well as Platypus Technologies (located in the New Venture Center, located at 5520 Nobel Drive and which was completed in 2005) and the \$5 million headquarters for the Gordon Flesch Co., an office equipment firm, located at 2675 Research Park Drive. Also completed in 2005 was Kinsale Place (at 2690 Research Park Drive), a four-story, retail, commercial and residential building designed by The Kubala Washatko Architects of Cedarburg.<sup>14</sup>

## **Commerce**

As of 1976, the number of businesses in Fitchburg was still relatively low in number. Of the businesses considered “necessities,” there were just three grocery stores, one filling station, and three banking institutions.<sup>15</sup> Regarding the lattermost, the first bank known to establish itself in Fitchburg was United Bank & Trust of Madison. Located first in a temporary structure at 4721 Fish Hatchery Road in 1972, that building was removed in 1974 (and relocated for use in the Town of Burke), following the completion of its new brick quarters at **5574 Lacy Road** (#239104). That building, which now serves as a daycare, originally included meeting space for use by area groups. The next bank to locate in Fitchburg chose to build on the city’s west side. The former Affiliated Bank of Jamestown (#239136), also completed in 1974, is located at **5250 Verona Road**. Today that structure continues to function as a banking facility but as BMO Harris Bank. Conceived in 1974, but not built until the following year, was First Federal Savings & Loan, which built their modern building at the corner of Fish Hatchery Road and Post Road (no longer extant). In 1979, construction began on the community’s first major shopping center, Fitchburg Ridge (not surveyed), which was developed and built by the Flad Development & Investment Corp. Located south of Post Road and west of Fish Hatchery Road and across from the former Bowman Dairy, initial businesses in the complex included Fitchburg Hardware,

---

<sup>14</sup> Kathryn Kingsbury, “Research Park is in Works for Fitchburg,” *The Capital Times*, 31 January 2002, 1B; Marv Balousek, “Fitchburg Developments Pin Success on Biotech Businesses,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 14 December 2003, 1C, 5C; Marv Balousek, “Platypus Technologies Moving to Fitchburg Technology Center,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 8 October 2004, D12; Elizabeth V. Gross, “Tech Center to be Up in August,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 15 February 2005, C10.

<sup>15</sup> The 1976 history of Fitchburg noted that there were 184 businesses in Fitchburg at that time, Darling and O’Brien, *Fitchburg: A History*, 153-54. Please note that number seemingly also included businesses that would fall more appropriately under industry or light industry, such as Hammersley Stone, Bjorksten Research Laboratories, Blaney Seed and Nicolet Instruments (formerly Fabri-Tek, Inc.), to name a few.

Bergemann's Pharmacy, Ridge Liquors, Fauerbach Fine Foods and a clothing store, The Copper Rivet.<sup>16</sup>

### **Development 1970s and Forward**

Between 1970 and 1976, the population of Fitchburg grew from 4,706 to 10,259. As of 1976, there were 1,500 residential homes and thirty-three platted subdivisions. Among the early subdivisions were Country Heights and Hillside Heights, both of which were platted in the 1950s and provided for lot sizes of over one acre and were without curb and gutter. Among the surveyed homes within Country Heights is the Darrell and Ann Wild House (1964; #238942) at **2238 Branson Road**. Darrell Wild, then a Madison masonry contractor (and later a developer), used ninety tons of local quarry stone to build his uniquely styled, somewhat Wrightian-influenced house that was featured in a March 1965 issue of the *Wisconsin State Journal*. As of 1976, Wildwood Subdivision, located north of Lacy Road and between S. Fish Hatchery and S. Seminole Highway, was the largest with nearly 200 lots. Despite its size, just two homes were surveyed in that development, including the split-level home of Joseph and Suzanne Strehlow (1974; #239128) at **2774 Raritan Road** and the Modern Movement/Shed Style-influenced, William and Kathleen Keyes House (1975; #239127) at **2757 Raritan Road**.<sup>17</sup>

In the late-1970s, a merger was considered between the Town of Madison (which was about 95% developed) and the Town of Fitchburg, which remained over half rural. That merger was mutually dropped. By 1980, the population of Fitchburg was recorded at 11,973 and housing stock equaled 5,323. In order to prevent additional annexation by the City of Madison, the remaining thirty-five square miles of the Town of Fitchburg incorporated as a city in April 1983, at which time the population stood at 13,728, almost triple the number from just thirteen years earlier. In an effort to provide a gathering point in a community that is spread over 35 square miles, a community center (designed by Potter Lawson) was built in 1988 at 5510 Lacy Road (not surveyed).<sup>18</sup>

In 1998 and with a population of approximately 18,000, Hatchery Hill (not surveyed), the city's largest mixed-use project to date (1998), was making progress. Covering 64 acres along the west side of Fish Hatchery Road (across from the Fish Hatchery and DNR Headquarters at 3911 Fish Hatchery Road) and between High Ridge Trail and McKee Road/County Highway PD, the \$60

---

<sup>16</sup> "Shopping Center Proposed for Fitchburg," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 4 January 1979, 5; "Shopping Center Plans Grand Opening Sept. 6," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 28 August 1980; "New Affiliated Bank," Rendering of bank and caption, *The Capital Times*, 4 May 1974, 3; "Bank Relocates to Fitchburg Site," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 26 November 1974, 2; "1<sup>st</sup> Federal Buys Kassuba Land for New Branch Office," *The Capital Times*, 2 August 1974, 1.

<sup>17</sup> Darling and O'Brien, *Fitchburg: A History*, 148; Lea Andresen, "It's a Real 'Wild' Home," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 8 March 1965, 12.

<sup>18</sup> Thomas W. Still, "Fitchburg Merger Idea Shelved," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 18 April 1977, section 3, page 1; Robb Johnson, "At Last, Community Has a 'Downtown,'" *The Capital Times*, 27 July 1988, 1; City of Fitchburg Housing Assessment, Prepared by the City of Fitchburg, November 2014, Available online at <http://fitchburgwi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/9210/Fitchburg-housing-Assesment?bidl>, Accessed August 2019.

million development included both commercial and residential construction, including a Kohl's Food Emporium, Hallmark store, hair salon and bank, as well as condominiums and apartment buildings. Designed for walkability, it was suggested at the time of its construction that "it may very well become Fitchburg's downtown." Just four years later, a caption regarding the continued development of Hatchery Hill stated, it "has evolved into a virtual downtown for Fitchburg." The urban designer for the complex was Vandewalle & Associates, while the developer behind the project was David Schutz (See Chapter 3 for biographical information on Schutz).<sup>19</sup>

In 1999, a new city hall, designed by Potter Lawson (not surveyed) was completed at 5520 Lacy Road. It replaced the former city (and town) hall at **2377 S. Fish Hatchery Road** (although the town/city hall building is no longer extant, the town garage remains there; #239499). In addition to city offices, the police department is located in the ground level of the Lacy Road building. Since 1990, the population of Fitchburg has nearly doubled from 15,648 to 29,495 as of 2017. As of 2014, just 28% of the 22,506 acres of land in the city were developed, while 50% continued to be used for agricultural use. The remaining land was woodland or vacant. As of 2014 statistics, only approximately 15% of the city's housing stock was built prior to 1970, while 25% was built between 1970 and 1979. The second largest decade of building was from 2000 to 2009, comprising 22% of the city's housing stock.<sup>20</sup>

---

<sup>19</sup> "High-price Condos Coming to Fitchburg," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 13 May 1992, 8B; Rob Zaleski, "No Doubt, 'Hill' Will Change Fitchburg," *The Capital Times*, 3 April 1997, E1; Roger A. Gribble, "Fitchburg Project Takes Shape," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 9 April 1998, 1F, 3F; Kathryn Kingsbury, "Downtown Fitchburg?" *The Capital Times*, 28 February 2002, 1-2E.

<sup>20</sup> Valeria Davis-Humphrey, "Fitchburg Packs for Trip," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 17 January 1999, 3E; "City of Fitchburg Housing Assessment," 2, 23.

## CHAPTER 2

### ARCHITECTURE

A chronological examination of Fitchburg's architecture reveals that from the 1850s through the 1980s, only a small number of the significant period styles are represented. While much of the housing stock is vernacular—that is, it does not exhibit any particular style—the vast majority (over 150) of the surveyed resources date to between 1950 and 1990, most of which are considered to be either Contemporary or Neo-Colonial in styling. Although photos are not included in this chapter, please keep in mind that images of the properties identified to follow can be looked up on the Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory (WAHI), available online at <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS15309>. **Bolded** addresses in this chapter reflect structures included in the full survey inventory, not just those included in the Recommendations Chapter.

#### **Greek Revival**

The Greek Revival style, which was popular in the State of Wisconsin between the 1830s and the 1870s, is typified by overall symmetry, a wide frieze, gable end returns, multiple-light fenestration and a classical porch entry that often incorporates a transom and sidelights with a wooden surround. Fitchburg has only a few examples of the Greek Revival style—most of which are gabled ell forms that include limited Greek Revival attributes. Although sheathed with vinyl and including an enclosed porch, the Joseph and Mary Vroman House (Ca. 1855, 1864; #4636) at **2387 S. Seminole Highway** features an entrance with a transom and sidelights, as well as six-over-six-light, double-hung sash arranged regularly throughout the north wing. Although significantly altered, the Henry Helms House (Ca. 1850; #4638) at **2259 S. Fish Hatchery Road** features a narrow attic story, as well as retains wooden pilaster cornerboards and a wide wooden frieze.

#### **Italianate**

Identifiable by the presence of a wide overhanging eave underscored with decorative brackets, the Italianate style was popular between 1850 and 1880. Typically square in plan and topped with a hipped roof, homes of this style often display decorative hoodmolds above segmentally or fully arched window openings; although rectangular windows are not uncommon. Just four Fitchburg homes exhibit Italianate detailing—one of which is the National Register-listed, limestone-constructed John Mann House (1856; #4631) at **6261 Nesbitt Road**. Square in plan and topped with a hipped roof, the wide overhanging eave is embellished with carved wooden brackets. Tall-and-narrow multiple-light windows occupy the first floor, while the entrance features a transom and sidelights. Remaining examples include the brick-constructed McCoy Farmhouse (1852; #4635) at **2915 S. Syene Road** and Fox Hall (1856; #4645) at **5183 County**

**Highway M** (which is a side-gabled variant), both of which are also National Register listed. Also a gabled variant, the west wing of the Nott-Barry House (1856, Ca. 1883-84; #4644) at **5526 County Highway M** (See Recommendations Chapter) is the only example that includes decorative windowhoods.

### **Queen Anne**

Briefly summarized, Queen Anne architecture is a late-Victorian era building style that is characterized by an irregular plan, often evident through asymmetrical walls. A combination of various building materials including shingles, clapboard and brick may be used on one structure, while typical details include large porches or verandahs, turrets, bay windows and decorative patterns such as fish-scale and diamond-shaped shingles. The Queen Anne style was popular in Wisconsin between 1880 and 1910. Among the city's examples of the style—of which there are few in number—include the James and Mary Whalen House (1898; #4637) at **5823 Whalen Road**. Built in 1898, the house is largely sheathed with its original clapboard and retains peak shinglework, colored glass windows, as well as its spindled wraparound porch; however, application of narrow vinyl siding has begun along the west and rear elevations of the house. Retaining its original clapboard sheathing and peak shinglework, but built slightly later, is the home of Tillinghast & Almira Bentley (1906; #220961) located at **5644 County Highway M**. Tillinghast, who was trained as a carpenter, built the home for himself and his family. Although the exact date of construction remains in question, another example, as well as the most historically intact, is the Alfred and Marian Bitney House (1887, Ca. 1900; #230446) at **5329 Lacy Road** (See Recommendations Chapter).

### **American Foursquare**

Popularized by mail-order catalogues, the American Foursquare house is typically two stories high, features a nearly square plan and usually displays a large porch along its primary and generally symmetrical façade. Popular between 1900 and 1920, Foursquares are typically topped with a low, broad, hipped roof pierced on each side—or at least the primary façade—by a central roof dormer. Exterior materials range from clapboard to stucco to concrete block. Elements influenced by the Colonial Revival style are most often found on Foursquares, although Prairie examples are often seen as well. A largely intact American Foursquare, built circa 1920, is found at **5427 Lacy Road** (#230444). Sheathed with clapboard, the two-story home features an enclosed porch along the home's primary elevation, as well as a gabled roof dormer, along with four-over-one-light windows arranged singly and in pairs throughout. The gabled roof of the porch seems to be a later alteration to what was a flat-roofed porch and the concrete foundation does suggest that the house may have been moved. An additional example, located at nearly the most westernmost end of Lacy Road is the Samuel and Mary Kuhni House (Ca. 1920; #239017) at **6303 Lacy Road**. In this example, an open, hipped-roof porch extends across the clapboard-sheathed home's entrance elevation and a hipped-roof dormer rises from three sides of the home's hipped roof. Although no longer extant (and formerly located at 5593 McKee Road), the

Edward and Frances McKee House (Ca. 1910; #117953)--despite its asbestos siding--was a very good example of the style, that included a porch that wrapped around the house and dormers on three elevations of the roofline.

### **Bungalow**

The Bungalow, which is perhaps more a form than a style, became popular in Wisconsin between 1910 and 1940. Characterized as an economical dwelling with simple lines, the bungalow typically rises one-and-one-half stories and features a wide, projecting roof, often low-pitched and featuring a dormer window. The roof, which oftentimes features exposed rafter tails, allows for large, façade-length porches which may be enclosed. Clapboard siding is usually predominant; however, stucco and brick are also commonly used. Woodwork including knee braces and brackets, tend to be plain but solid. Although re-sheathed with vinyl siding and its porch enclosed, the singular surveyed bungalow is located on the Pritchard-McManus farmstead property at **1757 S. Fish Hatchery Road** (Ca. 1925; #220939). It features open eaves with exposed rafter tails, as well as wooden knee bracing.

### **Ranch**

The concept of the Ranch house was born as early as 1925 but it was not until the 1940s that a group of West Coast architects formalized what became the Western Ranch House. Strictly one story and rectilinear in design, the traditional Ranch house is generally topped with a hipped roof and very often includes an attached garage. However, later Contemporary Style examples can include side-gabled roofs. Early Ranch homes were small but, by the 1950s, they had expanded to larger, sprawling examples. Architectural styles can, sometimes, be applied to Ranch homes, with Colonial Revival and Spanish Revival motifs being the most common. Sheathing can range from brick to wood to stone and can also incorporate a mixture of sidings. Of the total thirteen Ranch homes surveyed in Fitchburg, the most intact example is the stone-clad, hipped-roof Ranch at **2692 County Highway MM** (#239077). Built circa 1952, the house includes a picture window in the living room and a breezeway that connects the house proper to the two-car garage that continues to retain its original wooden panel-and-glass overhead doors. The horizontal paned, casement windows found throughout the house are typical of 1950s architecture. A good 1970s-era Ranch example is located at **2218 Branson Road**. Clad with brick, the gabled Louis Schmidt House (#238940) is modestly influenced by the Colonial Revival style and includes a double-door entry along with multiple-light, double-hung sash with shutters.

### **Contemporary Style**

While still considered by some as not “historic,” many structures built in the 1950s and through the 1980s, are slowly coming of age. The Contemporary Style is generally a catch-all category for a variety of individual styles (Shed Style, Wrightian, Neo-Colonial, etc.), although in some cases, a decade is associated with the word Contemporary, resulting in 1950s Contemporary, 1960s Contemporary—meaning that elements of the home (or building) reflect stylistic characteristics common to that era. The Contemporary Style was not restricted to residential use

and evidence of that style is exhibited through at least a few commercial and religious structures in the city. Nearly one hundred of the total surveyed resources in Fitchburg fall under the “Contemporary Style” category.

The only 1950s-era, non-residential building to exhibit Contemporary styling is the former Hammersley Stone Company office at **6311 Lacy Road** (Ca. 1957; #239018). Sheathed with board siding and topped with a flat roof with wide overhanging eaves, the structure’s north entrance elevation is comprised largely of banks of windows. Of the four 1950s-era homes to be surveyed, the house at **4811 E. Clayton Road** (Ca. 1958; #239122) is the most interesting. Set on a wooded parcel, the two-story home is mostly covered with board siding, except for the ground level that is covered with a stone veneer. Although a walk around the house was not possible, the visible entrance elevation includes an angled second floor wall that is comprised of large, plate-glass windows, above which is a line of clerestory windows.

A good example of the city’s 1960s Contemporary Style (or Split Level) homes is the one at **5502 Lacy Road** (Ca. 1965; #239004). Sheathed with a combination of board, board-and-batten, and brick siding, the house features wide overhanging eaves, as well as a porch that wraps around the home’s southeast corner. Built at approximately the same time as that Lacy Road house was the West Arbor Free Methodist Church (1965; #239121) at **2924 Fish Hatchery Road**. Sheathed with board siding and brick, the steeply pitched building features a porte cochere that extends to the south. A large expanse of colored glass dominates the street-facing elevation, along with a horizontal row of rectangular, colored-glass windows.

Among the 1970s Contemporary-style residential examples include the house at **5605 Champion Circle** (Ca. 1974; #238987). Located in the Briarwood Subdivision (developed by Philip and Michael Barry), this steeply pitched house evokes the sense of a ski lodge through its expansive use of glass and the deck that wraps around much of the home. Although on a seemingly larger scale, the home of Jim and Bonny Gold (1973; #239071) at **2302 Gold Drive** and in the Gold Subdivision (See Recommendations Chapter) is similar in its styling, featuring both large expanses of glass and a wraparound deck.

Fitchburg includes a good number of **Shed Style-influenced** homes. Sheathed with both vertical and diagonal board siding, the Shed Style house at **5905 Timber Ridge Drive** (Ca. 1979; #239014) appears to be significantly intact. Another circa 1979 example is the house at **5605 Winners Circle** in the Briarwood Subdivision, which features a variety of steeply pitched rooflines, diagonal board siding and casement windows, all hallmarks of the style.

The **Neo-Colonial Revival style** is well-represented, with over thirty examples in the city. A 1970s example is the brick-clad home of Philip and Vera Barry located at **5564 Stable View Lane** (1970; #239098). Although seemingly a Ranch plan, the Briarwood Subdivision house is dominated by a portico entrance that shelters a double-door entrance with a classical surround. Another good and largely intact example of the Neo-Colonial Revival style is located at **2131**

**Vintage Drive** (#239064). Built circa 1977, this house is comprised of a central, two-story, gabled and board-sided section that is fronted by a full-height pedimented portico entrance that shelters a door with sidelights and a transom. Each of the one-story, side-gabled wings is clad with brick and accented with corner quoining, while windows throughout the entire home are eight-over-twelve-light examples. Sheathed with brick, the David Russell House at **5483 Maves Road** (Ca. 1972; #239084) is a highly intact example of the **Neo-Dutch Colonial Revival style**, featuring a gambrel roof, a pair of gabled roof dormers, multiple-light windows, as well as a wooden door surround.

## CHAPTER 3

### ARCHITECTS, CONTRACTORS & BUILDERS

#### ARCHITECTS

Only a small number of architects were identified as a result of this survey. While this list does not cover all the architects discovered throughout the course of the project, it does, at the very least, reflect most that are represented in the Recommendations Chapter (and for which information could be readily found). Additional architects were identified in association with some of the previously surveyed properties, as well as properties not included in the Recommendations Section. **Bolded** addresses of properties within the following text identify those that are discussed in the Recommendations Chapter of this document.

#### **Ajango, Helmut (1931-2013)**

Architect Helmut Ajango was born in November 1931 in Voru, Estonia. At the age of thirteen, he and his family fled to Germany following the Communist occupation of their country, after which they resided in a displaced persons camp for five years. In 1949, the Ajango family immigrated to the United States, where Helmut earned degrees in both Art & Mathematics (from Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio) and Architectural Engineering (from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign). In 1962, he opened an architectural office in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, where he practiced until his death in 2013. His work included over 175 churches, as well as residential, commercial and institutional buildings. Among his best-known Wisconsin buildings include the former Gobbler Restaurant (1967) in Johnson Creek, and the Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church (a.k.a., “The Spaceship Church,” 1975) in Racine. In Fitchburg, Ajango was responsible for the design of Memorial United Church of Christ (1989; #239006) at **5705 Lacy Road.**<sup>21</sup>

#### **Jones, David R. (1832-1915)**

David R. Jones was born in 1832 in North Wales and immigrated with his family to the United States in 1845. They settled in Cambria, Columbia County, Wisconsin, where his father made a living as a farmer. At the age of twenty, David left Cambria and moved to Racine where he served for about four years as an apprentice to Lucas Bradley. He then returned to Cambria and designed a number of buildings, while also maintaining a lumber yard. For two years (1871-73) he worked in St. Paul, Minnesota, as the head draftsman for Abraham Radcliffe. He then moved to Madison, where he established his own firm, which he maintained until 1885. Thereafter he

---

<sup>21</sup> Helmut Ajango, Obituary, Available online at [www.dunlapmemorialhome.com/obituary/2324828](http://www.dunlapmemorialhome.com/obituary/2324828), Accessed June 2019.

returned to Cambria, where he continued to work until his death in 1915. During his career, he designed business blocks, churches and high-style residences, as well as the Washburn Observatory (1879; #102240) at 1401 Observatory Drive (on the UW campus), as well as the UW-Madison Student Observatory (1877-78; #233000) that was relocated in 1960 to **5512 Bjorksten Place** (See Recommendations Chapter). In 1854, Jones married Jane Williams of Cambria and they had three children. Jane died in 1871 and seven years later he married Anna Roberts.<sup>22</sup>

**Kaesar, William V. (1906-1995)**

Architect William Vogt Kaeser was born in Greenville, Illinois, in 1906. He first attended Milliken University, after which he went on to earn a B.S. in Architecture from the University of Illinois and an M.S. from MIT (in 1932). After additional training at the Cranbrook Academy of Art (1933-1935), Kaeser opened his own firm in Madison (in 1935), while also serving as Madison's city planner (from 1935-1939). He maintained the architectural firm alone until joining with Arthur M. McLeod in 1954, after which the firm was renamed Kaeser & McLeod. Like Frank Lloyd Wright, Kaeser often turned his home designs away from the street and employed large expanses of windows to bring the outside in. Kaeser died in 1995. Although Kaeser's Robert McClean House (1940; #239123) located at 4877 E. Clayton Road has been altered by the application of siding, as well as a late-1980s addition designed by Herb DeLevie, the interior continues to retain much of Kaeser's original design.<sup>23</sup>

**Potter, Lawson & Pawlowsky, Inc.**

5250 Verona Road

Affiliated Bank of Jamestown (1974)

AHI#239136

**Siberz, Purcell, Cuthbert & Newcomb**

The firm of Siberz, Purcell, Cuthbert & Newcomb had its beginnings with Lewis Siberz. Born in Baraboo, Wisconsin, in 1899, and following WWI service, he attended the University of Notre Dame, after which he graduated from the University of Illinois. Following work in St. Louis, Chicago and Madison, he established a partnership in 1930 with Frank Riley (Madison), for whom he had worked since 1924. In 1940, Siberz opened his own firm, which he maintained solely until 1954. At that time, he joined with two former employees, Mark Thomas Purcell (a graduate of UW-Madison and M.I.T.) and Alexander James Cuthbert (also a UW-Madison graduate) to form Siberz, Purcell & Cuthbert. The firm's only known work in Fitchburg includes

---

<sup>22</sup> Butterfield, ed., *History of Dane County, Wisconsin*, 1005; David R. Jones, Obituary, *Portage (WI) Register*, 25 February 1915.

<sup>23</sup> Entries for William V. Kaeser in George S. Koyl, ed., *American Architects Directory* (New York: R.R. Bowker Co., 1956, 1962), pages 286 and 362, respectively and in John F. Gane, ed., *American Architects Directory* (New York: R.R. Bowker Co., 1970), 468.

the 1965 addition to the Bjorksten Research Laboratories building (#239929) at **2800 S. Fish Hatchery Road**.<sup>24</sup>

### **Weiler & Strang**

The Madison firm of Weiler & Strang was comprised of Joe Weiler and Allen Strang. The firm had its beginnings as Beatty & Strang, which began in 1935. Richland Center native Strang was a graduate of the School of Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania, while Madisonian Hamilton Beatty studied at London's Bartlett School of Architecture. Between 1935 and 1940, Beatty & Strang produced fifty International Style homes with an average price of \$5,000. Beatty left the firm in 1940 and, in 1946, architect and engineer Joe Weiler joined the firm, changing the name to Weiler & Strang. With the addition of Weiler, the firm moved away from residential design to schools and churches. The only confirmed design of Weiler & Strang in Fitchburg is the Chalet Gardens Cooperative Apartments for the Elderly (1962) at **2302-2350 Chalet Gardens Road** (See Recommendations Chapter).<sup>25</sup>

## **CONTRACTORS**

### **Anderson, Verne "Andy"/Homes By Andy**

An asterisk (\*) denotes a home located within the proposed **Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District** (See Recommendations Chapter).

<b>5829 Timber Land Circle*</b>	Melvin & Beverly Bejma House (1981 Parade Home)	#239152
5850 Woods Edge Road	Neo-Tudor Revival House (1985)	#239156

### **Barrett, Gene/Seminole Forest Custom Homes**

Gene Barrett was born circa 1944 on a farm in Muscoda, Wisconsin. Following high school graduation, he started in the construction field, working as a general laborer; he eventually earned his real estate license. After working for former Governor Patrick Lucey's firm, he joined T.H. Weber Realty and, for a time, worked for Yahara Builders. In 1976, he formed his own firm—Gene Barrett Real Estate Corp.--and developed his first three subdivisions: Crest View on Madison's east side; Deer Trail in Mt. Horeb and Fitchburg's Seminole Forest, west of Osmundsen Road and south of McKee Road/County Highway PD. He also established his own construction firm—Seminole Forest Custom Homes. It was with Seminole Forest that Barrett gained his reputation as a builder. Following its success, he would go on to develop Seminole Hills, west of Osmundsen Road and north of McKee Road/County Highway PD. Aside from

---

<sup>24</sup> Bowker, ed., *American Architects Directory* (1962), 149, 568, 641; Gane, ed., *American Architects Directory*, 836. Although Newcomb is identified in the firm name as having done the addition to the Bjorksten Research Laboratories building, no information could be found regarding Newcomb who was not part of the firm as of the 1962 *American Architects Directory* and was no longer with the firm by the 1970 edition.

<sup>25</sup> Jill Carlson, "Strang's Imprint Prominent in Madison," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 4 December 2015.

being a home builder/developer, he was also, for a time, the owner of the Madison A's, an amateur baseball team.<sup>26</sup>

An asterisk (\*) denotes a home located within the proposed **Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District** (See Recommendations Chapter).

<b>2852 Osmundsen Road*</b>	David J. Price House (1986)	#239133
<b>2860 Osmundsen Road*</b>	Clyde Helton House (1986)	#239134
2911 Robin Court	1984 Parade Home	#239497
<b>5827 Schumann Drive*</b>	Jeremy Wright House (1982 Parade Home)	#239480
<b>5859 Schumann Drive*</b>	Ralph Benjamin House (1983 Parade Home)	#239491
<b>5863 Schumann Drive*</b>	Seminole Forest Custom Homes (1983)	#239492
<b>5847 Timber Land Circle*</b>	Harry & Gloria Graff House (1981 Parade Home)	#239476
5843 Timber Ridge Trail	1980 Parade Home	#239148

### **Dohm Construction Company**

The Dohm Construction Company was established in Madison in the early 1950s by Gerard F. Dohm, who learned the carpenter trade from his father, F.J. Dohm, a partner in the Dohm and Peterson Construction Co. Following one year at the Michigan College of Mining and Technology, Gerard served in the Air Force during World War II. In 1947, he wed Margaret Kovarik, with whom he had nine children. In addition to the home construction business, Gerard began in land development--among the subdivisions he created include Parkwood Hills and Park Towne in Madison. Between the late 1950s and through at least 1967, Gerard was a board member of both the Madison Builders' Association and the National Association of Home Builders. In 1967, he was the president of the Wisconsin Builders' Association. Dohm had a house on the annual Parade of Homes twelve of the sixteen years between 1950 and 1966. By no later than 1976, Gerard's eldest son Rick had become the president of the construction company.<sup>27</sup>

An asterisk (\*) denotes a home located within the proposed **Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District** (See Recommendations Chapter).

<b>5830 Timber Land Circle*</b>	Joseph & Theresa Littel House (1981 Parade Home)	#239153
5845 Timber Ridge Trail	1980 Parade Home	#239149

---

<sup>26</sup> Yahara Builders ad, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 1 June 1975, Section 3, page 14; David Callender, "Urge to Win Drives Builder Gene Barrett," *The Capital Times*, 14 May 1988, 1, 4-5; Stacey Singer, "Developer Shifts Assets to Partner," *The Capital Times*, 18 November 1988, 1, 10; Warren Gaskill, "Developer Barrett Settles Lawsuits for \$1.1 Million," *The Capital Times*, 25 July 1991, 6B.

<sup>27</sup> "Dohm House Merges Outside, Inside," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 21 June 1964, Parade of Homes Section, 28; "Your Madisonian: Gerard Dohm," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 12 February 1967, Section 5, page 4; "Early Vision Proves Profitable for Developer Gerard Dohm," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 29 September 1994, 1F, 3F.

**Gold, Jim (1936-2008)**

Born in Madison in 1936, James Thomas Gold was the son of Maurice and Eleanor Gold. Gold was a builder in the Madison area for over forty years. He died in 2008 at the age of seventy-two. Among the homes he designed include the house he designed for himself and his family, the Jim and Bonny Gold House at **2302 Gold Drive** (1973; #239071, See Recommendations Chapter), as well as three Home Show homes in the proposed **Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District** (See Recommendations Chapter), including the Ronald and Joanne Schmidt House (1981; #239154) at **5837 Timber Land Circle**, the Michael and Janice Shea House (1982; #239481) at **5830 Schumann Drive** and the Ronald Ryan House (1983; #239493) at **5867 Schumann Drive**.<sup>28</sup>

**Jenness, Leo (1918-2016)/Jenness Construction Co.**

Leo Jenness was born in Ladysmith, Rusk County, in December 1918. In 1939, Jenness married Florence Wahl and, as of the 1940 census, they resided in Monona, Wisconsin, where Leo worked as a carpenter. He worked up his business to become a contractor and ultimately incorporated as the Jenness Construction Company. The Jennesses remained in the Madison area until 1980, at which time they retired to Rice Lake. Florence died in 2002. Leo, who later remarried, died in January 2016 at the age of ninety-seven. Jenness was reportedly responsible for the construction of the West Arbor Free Methodist Church at 2924 Fish Hatchery Road (1964-65; #239121).<sup>29</sup>

**Monson Construction Company**

An asterisk (\*) denotes a home located within the proposed **Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District** (See Recommendations Chapter).

<b>5838 Schumann Drive *</b>	Charles H. Gietzel House (1982 Parade Home)	#239142
<b>5856 Schumann Drive*</b>	1983 Parade Home	#239490
5876 Timber Ridge Trail	1980 Parade Home	#239151

**Nichols, Bruce/Bruce E. Nichols/Nichols Construction Company**

The son of Dr. Roy E. Nichols, Bruce Nichols was a graduate of UW-Madison, after which he attended the School of Architecture at the University of Illinois. After working as a structural engineer and architect for Building Systems in Middleton, he established his own firm shortly after his marriage to Judith Hudson in April 1974. Initially called Bruce E. Nichols Construction, it was later changed to Nichols Construction Co. Wife Judith, who operated her own real estate

---

<sup>28</sup> U.S. Federal Census, Population, 1940, Available online at [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com), Accessed June 2019; James Thomas Gold, Obituary, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 3 July 2008, 18.

<sup>29</sup> Florence Jenness, Obituary, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 6 January 2002, F4. Leo Jenness is identified as the “architect” of the West Arbor Free Methodist Church in Carole A. Kinney’s “Old Churches of Fitchburg,” Presentation to the Fitchburg Historical Society, 16 October 2005, Copies of Powerpoint slides and written information, In possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society.

business, also served as the company's vice president. The firm participated in the Madison Area Builders Association Parade of Homes for thirty-four years. In addition to the 1983 home of Jeffrey and Carol Straubel House at **5846 Schumann Drive** (in the proposed **Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District**, See Recommendations Chapter), he also designed the Contemporary Style house at 5870 Timber Ridge Trail (1984; #239150) and his own family home, which was a featured 1990 Parade Home in Seminole Hills Estates in Fitchburg.<sup>30</sup>

#### **Norwood Custom Homes, Inc.**

An asterisk (\*) denotes a home located within the proposed **Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District** (See Recommendations Chapter).

<b>5849 Schumann Drive *</b>	1983 Parade Home	#239487
<b>5834 Timber Land Circle*</b>	Stephen & Carolyn Weiler House (1981 Parade Home)	#239473
5866 Timber Ridge Trail	1980 Parade Home	#239500

#### **Schutz, David/Schutz Homes, Inc.**

David Schutz graduated from UW-Madison in 1970 and actively engaged in the building of homes by no later than 1978. In 1984, Schutz became the new president of the Madison Area Builders Association and, six years later, he was named the Association's Builder of the Year. In addition to three Parade Homes and one non-Parade house in the proposed **Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District** (see list below), he was also responsible for the construction of a 1980 Parade Home (see below), as well as the Seminole Village Condominiums (1992) in Fitchburg (not surveyed). He later turned to development as a career and was responsible for the multi-use, Hatchery Hill development (not surveyed) on the west side of Fish Hatchery Road and between High Ridge Trail and McKee Road.<sup>31</sup>

Schutz Homes in the proposed **Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District** are marked with an asterisk (\*)

<b>5826 Schumann Drive*</b>	Schutz Homes, Inc. House (1986)	#239479
<b>5831 Schumann Drive*</b>	Allen & Debra Kemp House (1982 Parade Home)	#239482
<b>5855 Schumann Drive*</b>	Ron Behling House (1983 Parade Home)	#239489
<b>5838 Timber Land Circle*</b>	Drs. Norbert Toussaint & Karen Brungard House (1981 Parade Home)	#239474
5841 Timber Ridge Trail	1980 Parade Home	#239502

<sup>30</sup> "Are Establishing Their First Homes," Hudson-Nichols Wedding Announcement, *The Capital Times*, 29 April 1974, 15; "Judith Anne Nichols, Obituary, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 28 July 2019, C9.

<sup>31</sup> Julie Johnson, David Schutz Exchange Vows," *The Capital Times*, 10 June 1969, 17; "Looking Back," 10 Years Ago, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 9 February 1994, Neighbors Section, 2.

### **Simon, Michael F., Builders**

Michael F. Simon Builders began in 1893 with Michael Simon constructing farm buildings. In 1939 he was joined by his youngest son Michael F. Simon and they renamed the business M. Simon and Son. Following the elder Michael's retirement in 1950, son Michael F. incorporated the business in 1960 as Michael F. Simon Builders. He was joined by three sons—Mike, Peter and Phil—during which time they built about fifty houses a year. Michael F. retired in 1980 and the firm's focus changed to custom building and remodeling. Today the company is run by Michael F.'s youngest son Phil, who holds a degree in architecture. Phil's son Paul, who graduated from UW-Stout in 2009, also joined the company. In addition to custom homes, the company also builds commercial, industrial and multi-family structures. The firm has long been involved in the Madison Area Builders Association Parade of Homes and they were responsible for the construction of the John & Sharon Wong House (#239485), a 1983 Parade home located at **5842 Schumann Drive** in the **Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District** (See Recommendations Chapter).<sup>32</sup>

### **Sveum, John (1947-2018)/Yahara Builders**

Yahara Builders was established in Stoughton circa 1974 by John C. Sveum. Sveum was born in Stoughton in January 1947 and graduated from Stoughton High School. After serving in the military, he attended Arizona State University, from which he graduated in 1973. After returning to Wisconsin, he established Yahara Builders the following year. For more than thirty-five years he built homes in southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois. He was often involved in the Madison Area Parade of Homes and he/his firm was responsible for the construction of three homes in the **Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District** (see list below and See Recommendations Chapter), as well as a 1984 Parade Home (see list below). He was selected by the Madison Area Builders Association as the Builder of the Year in 1986 and was a past board member of the association, serving as secretary and later as treasurer. In addition to home construction, Sveum went on to become a developer and was responsible for the 1988 construction of the building at 2817 Fish Hatchery Road (not surveyed) in Fitchburg. That structure was originally built to house Coldwell-Banker-Sveum Realtors (founded by Arthur Sveum in 1963 and later run by his son Peter); Sveum Financial Services (run by Phillip Sveum) and Yahara Builders, operated by John Sveum. In 2013, Sveum received the US Green Building Council's LEED Builder Award.<sup>33</sup>

---

<sup>32</sup> Jill Carlson, "Michael F. Simon Builders Advances to Fourth Generation," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 8 April 2014, Available online at [https://madison.com/wsj/business/michael-f-simon-builders-advances-to-fourth-generation/article\\_075fb75e-776c-58d0-9762-e5d57418f044.html](https://madison.com/wsj/business/michael-f-simon-builders-advances-to-fourth-generation/article_075fb75e-776c-58d0-9762-e5d57418f044.html), Accessed August 2019; Roberta Baumann, "Building Company Evolved with Waunakee," *Waunakee (WI) Tribune*, 12 January 2018, Available online at [http://www.hngnews.com/waunakee\\_tribune/news/business/article\\_f96f6563-59e3-5d93-835b-344c5bbdc8e7.html](http://www.hngnews.com/waunakee_tribune/news/business/article_f96f6563-59e3-5d93-835b-344c5bbdc8e7.html), Accessed August 2019.

<sup>33</sup> "On the Move," *The Capital Times*, 18 April 1986; "On the Move," *The Capital Times*, 2 March 1987, 22; "Office Building Going up on Fish Hatchery," *The Capital Times*, 1 June 1988, 18; "John C. Sveum," Obituary, 7 April 2018, Available online at <https://cressfuneralservice.com/obituary/251231/John-Sveum/>, Accessed August 2019.

Homes in the proposed **Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District** are marked with an asterisk (\*).

2903 Robin Court	Mike Virion House (1984 Parade Home)	#239495
<b>5835 Schumann Drive*</b>	Dr. James & Linda Garnett House (1982 Parade Home)	#239483
<b>5839 Schumann Drive*</b>	George & Harriet Murphy House (2004)	#239484
<b>5854 Schumann Drive*</b>	Yahara Builders 1983 Parade Home	#239488

### **Threlfall, John B. (1920-2017)**

John Brooks Threlfall was born in 1920 in Newton, Massachusetts, and a graduate of Weymouth High School. After earning a degree in mechanical engineering from Purdue University in 1942, he enlisted one year later in the Navy, serving three years and reaching the rank of lieutenant. After building a house in Madison on speculation with a friend, and a short stint in Panama, he returned to Madison and taught for three years at UW-Madison. During that time, he met Finnish graduate student Eila Maarit Hyyrylainen and they wed in 1949. While teaching, he returned to home building—the occupation of which he ultimately returned to full-time. His obituary stated that he built a total of sixty-eight houses, six apartment buildings and four office buildings. In addition to his full-time job, he was a genealogist and published a number of genealogy books. Among the homes he built include the Richard & Anna Baum House at 2623 Richardson Street (1986; #238992, Anna was John’s daughter), 5704 Modernaire Drive (1981; #239005), 5732 Modernaire Drive (1984; #239010), 5707 Tudor Drive (1980; #239007) and the Robert Threlfall House at 5712 Tudor Drive (1983; #239008).<sup>34</sup>

### **WilMac Builders**

WilMac Builders was established by William McDonough in 1971. Born circa 1941 and raised in Superior, Wisconsin, McDonough worked as a welder and carpenter while he was in high school. After working in construction and laying concrete blocks in Milwaukee, he settled on plumbing as a career. In 1965 he moved to Madison, where he continued to work as a plumber. As a sideline, he started to build homes on speculation and, by 1971 he incorporated as WilMac Builders. In 1979, McDonough was named Builder of the Year. By 1988, the same year he served as the president of the Madison Area Builders Association, he had built fifteen Parade homes, his first was in 1973. His 1988 entry, a 7,800-square-foot home, cost \$650,000, then the most expensive in Parade history. Also by 1988, McDonough estimated he had built somewhere between 700 and 800 homes and buildings.<sup>35</sup>

---

<sup>34</sup> “John B. Threlfall,” Obituary, *Price County (WI) Review*, 11 July 2017, Available online at [https://apg-wi.com/Price\\_County\\_review/obituaries/john-b-threlfall/article\\_02ec2636-667e-11e7-8a2a-4ffe2586d401.html](https://apg-wi.com/Price_County_review/obituaries/john-b-threlfall/article_02ec2636-667e-11e7-8a2a-4ffe2586d401.html), Accessed July 2019.

<sup>35</sup> Al Parkins, “Top Madison Builder is Changing with Market,” *The Capital Times*, 19 October 1988, 1.

An asterisk (\*) denotes a home located within the proposed **Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District** (See Recommendations Chapter).

<b>5850 Schumann Drive*</b>	Robert Allen Pike House (1983 Parade Home)	#239144
<b>5848 Timber Land Circle*</b>	William & Yvonne Curry House (1981 Parade Home)	#239477
5847 Timber Ridge Trail	Helge & Pearl Christensen House (1983)	#239501

## **CARPENTERS**

### **Bentley, Tillinghast H. (1830-1907)**

Born in 1830 in New York, Tillinghast Herman Bentley attended schools in New York. After working first at a sawmill, he learned the carpenter trade. In 1856, he came to Wisconsin and settled in the community of Oak Hall (the intersection of S. Fish Hatchery Road and County Highway M). Upon arrival, he worked as a school teacher and a carpenter but ultimately established a blacksmith shop and wagon works at Oak Hall, which he operated for thirty years. In 1860, he married Almira Inman and they had six children. In the summer of 1906, he commenced construction of his Queen Anne-style family home at 5644 County Highway M (1906; #220961), which he hadn't yet moved into by the time of his death in January 1907. He died as a result of complications related to a fall on the ice.<sup>36</sup>

---

<sup>36</sup> "Tillinghast Bentley," Obituary, *Oregon (WI) Observer*, 31 January 1907, Available online at <http://findagrave.com/memorial/10695576/tillinghast-herman-bentley>, Accessed August 2019.

## CHAPTER 4

### INTENSIVE SURVEY RECOMMENDATIONS

#### HISTORIC DISTRICTS

ADDRESS	NAME (Period of Significance)	EVALUATION
2302-2350 Chalet Gardens Road (even only)	Chalet Gardens Cooperative Apartments for the Elderly (1962)	Potentially Eligible
3911 Fish Hatchery Road	Nevin State Fish Hatchery	Potentially Eligible
Timber Land Circle, Schumann Drive & Osmundsen Road (See map on page 43)	Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District (1981-1986)	Not Yet 50 Years Old

#### INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

ADDRESS	NAME (DATE)	EVALUATION
5512 Bjorksten Place	UW-Madison Student Observatory(1879-80)/Oscar Mayer Observatory (moved 1960)	Potentially Eligible
5526 County Highway M	Nott-Barry Farmhouse (1856; Ca. 1883-84)	More Information/Historic Photo Required
2377 S. Fish Hatchery Road	“Weary Veteran” Sculpture (1973-74)	Not Yet 50 Years Of Age
2800 S. Fish Hatchery Road/aka 5512 Bjorksten Place	Bjorksten Research Laboratories, Inc. (1950-1970)	More Information Required
2302 Gold Drive	Jim & Bonny Gold House (1973)	Not Yet 50 Years Of Age
5481 Irish Lane	Dr. John M. & Marian Opitz House (Ca. 1952)	Potentially Eligible
5329 Lacy Road	Alfred & Marian Bitney House (Ca. 1887; Ca. 1900)	Potentially Eligible
5705 Lacy Road	Memorial United Church of Christ (1989; 2001; 2006)	Not Yet 50 Years of Age
2387 S. Seminole Highway	Vroman Family Farmstead (Ca. 1855-1955)	Potentially Eligible
5225 Verona Road	Fabri-Tek, Inc. (1965)	Potentially Eligible
5335 Whalen Road	Boyce F. Totz Home & Studio (1967)	Potentially Eligible
5443 Whalen Road	Dogtown School/Fish Hatchery School (Ca. 1860; moved 1989)	More Information Required

## HISTORIC DISTRICT RECOMMENDATIONS

---

Name	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
Chalet Gardens Cooperative Apartments for the Elderly	See page 33	Potentially Eligible

---

Description and Statement of Significance



**Main Building/Office of the former Chalet Gardens Cooperative Apartments for the Elderly (1962) at 2350 Chalet Gardens Road.**

Located at the northwesterly corner of Fitchburg, the former Chalet Gardens Cooperative Apartments for the Elderly is located on an approximately 10-acre parcel and consists of thirteen contributing structures (all built in 1962) and a non-contributing sign. The main, two-story T-plan building is comprised of a central gabled section with wide overhanging eaves that protect large expanses of glass. An exterior, second-story deck wraps around the front of the building, providing access to the second floor units, which gives the building a ski chalet appearance.

Remaining windows throughout the building are largely casement examples; however, some replacements appear to be sash examples. Although the first floor of the street-facing (east) side appears to be sheathed with replacement siding, the upper floor and remainder of the first floor retain its original board siding. Of the remaining buildings, eight are one-story, gabled Ranch-like units, while four are two-story, gabled units—all exhibit wide overhanging eaves and are sheathed with variations of board siding, all of which is original. Although the Ranch units appear to have only sash windows, the two-story units have a combination of both sash and casements (some may be replacements). Like the main building, the two-story buildings include second-floor decks that continue the chalet influence through the grounds.

Modeled after Scandinavian co-ops, Chalet Gardens is understood to be the first cooperative housing project in the United States that was built primarily for the elderly. Created and directed by Bjarne Romnes, who formerly held the position of Chief of Community Services in the State Department of Welfare, Chalet Gardens was built under Section 213 of the National Housing Act of the Federal Housing Administration. The total cost of the project was estimated to be \$1,346,000. Down payments on the apartments were to range from \$1,120 to \$3,500, while total costs would range from \$11,200 to \$22,500. Although intended primarily for the elderly, apartments for young married couples and single professional women were also to be included in specific areas. As conceptualized, the eighty(+)unit complex was to include a combination of three-room, four-and-one-half-room and six-room units in a variety of one- or two-story

buildings. Following expansion, the development was to include between 150 and 200 units. The design of the complex was completed by the Madison firm of Weiler & Strang (See Chapter 3 for information on the firm).<sup>37</sup>



**Two-story unit at the former Chalet Gardens Cooperative Apartments for the Elderly (1962), 2330 Chalet Gardens Road.**

Construction of the housing project began in June 1961. As built, the complex included eighty-six units with a mixture of one, one-and-one-half and two-bedroom apartments. The main building, which was originally

built to include an office, community dining room, library, lounge, laundry and a recreation

room, also contains smaller apartment units. As of 6 May 1962, three weeks before its grand opening, just eleven of the apartments had been sold. Differing from (and less than) the initial estimates, minimum down payments ranged from \$950 to \$2,150 and maximum down payments ranged from \$9,950 to \$20,150. Despite citing lower down payment costs, the overall investment in the project totaled \$1.4 million, 90 percent of which was provided by an FHA insured mortgage.<sup>38</sup>

Just over two years after its grand opening, Chalet Gardens was returned to the Federal Housing Administration, as the project's four sponsors (including Romnes, his two brothers, and Dr. R. F. Schoenbeck), were unable to sell 90 percent of the stock within the required two-year timeline. Despite more than 90 percent occupancy, only 60 percent of the stock was sold. Since that time, the property has functioned as regular rental apartments, continuing under the name of Chalet Gardens.<sup>39</sup>

No information was found to suggest potential eligibility under Criterion B: Significant Persons. Regarding Criterion C: Architecture, the complex was designed by the notable Madison firm of Weiler & Strang. While the office/community building displays 1960s Contemporary styling through its wide expanses of glass, the individual buildings do not offer much in the way of architectural detailing and, therefore, the property is not recommended eligible for its architectural significance. The property is, however, a very good and intact example of a property type: the 1960s apartment complex. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Chalet Gardens Cooperative Apartments for the Elderly is recommended as potentially eligible under Criterion A: History, for its association with a national movement—specifically associated with

<sup>37</sup> "Will Go Up Near Madison Soon," *The Capital Times*, 12 December 1960, 34.

<sup>38</sup> "Co-op Housing Project to Be Started Friday," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 8 June 1961, 8; "Co-op Apartments Set Here," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 6 May 1962, 19.

<sup>39</sup> "Co-op for Elderly Returned to FHA," *The Capital Times*, 17 August 1964, 13.

Section 213 the National Housing Act—of the Federal Housing Administration, which allowed for housing cooperatives. The Period of Significance for property is 1962-1964, representing the two years that the apartments operated as a housing cooperative for the elderly. Although cited as the first cooperative in the U.S. that was built specifically to house the elderly, additional research is suggested to confirm that particular supposition.

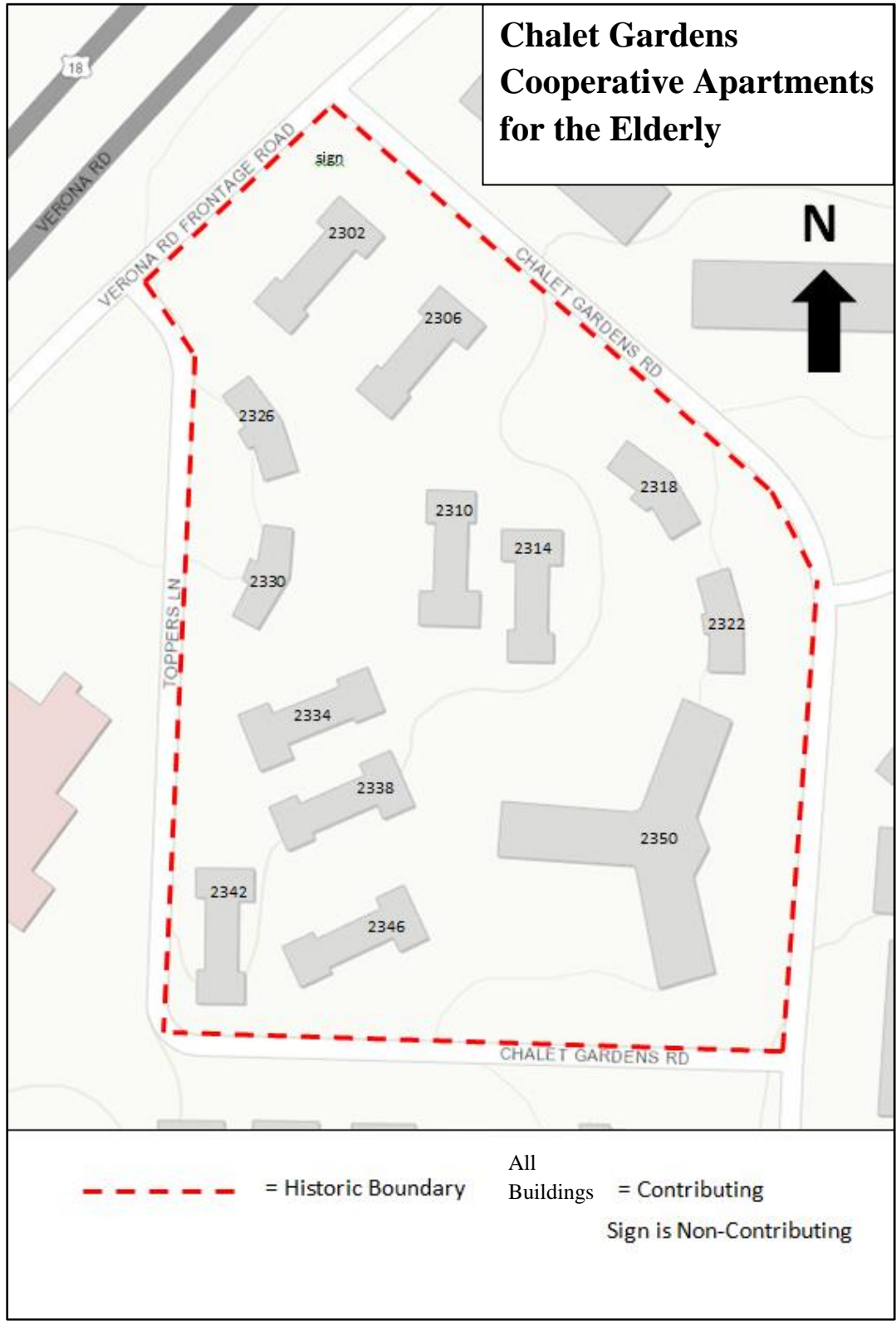


Single-story, Ranch-like apartment unit at 2334 Chalet Gardens Road.

## Chalet Gardens Cooperative Apartments for the Elderly **INVENTORY**

C = Contributing NC = Non-Contributing

<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>AHI#</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
2302 Chalet Gardens Road	Chalet Gardens Cooperative Apartments for the Elderly	1962	238974	C
2306 “	“	“	238975	C
2310 “	“	“	238976	C
2314 “	“	“	238977	C
2318 “	“	“	238978	C
2322 “	“	“	238979	C
2326 “	“	“	238980	C
2330 “	“	“	238981	C
2334 “	“	“	238982	C
2338 “	“	“	238983	C
2342 “	“	“	238984	C
2346 “	“	“	238985	C
2350 “	“	“	238986	C
Chalet Gardens Road & Verona Road Frontage Road	Signage	Modern	239093	NC



---

<b>Name</b>	<b>AHI#</b>	<b>NRHP Evaluation</b>
Nevin State Fish Hatchery	See page 37	Potentially Eligible
<b>Description and Statement of Significance</b>		

---



**Fish Hatchery office and hatchery itself, built circa 1939, 3911 Fish Hatchery Road.**

The Nevin State Fish Hatchery is located along the east side of Fish Hatchery Road, just north of the north end of Glacier Valley Road (see map on page 38). The greater property also houses the South Central Regional Headquarters of the Department of Natural Resources, which includes a Service Center, as well as a Forestry Building, the latter two buildings of which are located along the property's "upper" drive and are considered to

be non-contributing to the property's significance as they are not associated with the hatchery (note that the Forestry Building is drawn out of the historic boundary on the map). The entire DNR-owned grounds include approximately 320 acres, while the hatchery occupies about fifteen of those acres. Although the hatchery grounds proper are today all found east of the lower drive, earlier associated buildings were located to the west and north of the roadway. The hatchery's main building—the hatchery itself (AHI#4629), is a modest, hipped-roof, frame-constructed building that includes offices at the front and the hatchery tanks to the rear. A springhouse (Ca. 1939; 76355) is situated to the south of the hatchery building, while a feed shed (Ca. 1960s; #239754) is to the north. A series of concrete, outdoor raceways are located east of the hatchery building, as is the gabled metal, Spiral Building (1963; #239753). Two rearing ponds are found at the easternmost edge of the hatchery grounds, one to the north and the other to the south. A grouping of garages ranging in date from the 1940s to the 1980s, is located at the southwesterly quadrant of the property. Please see page 37 for a full list of buildings and structures on the property, along with their construction dates and AHI numbers.

Originally comprised of just under 40 acres, the Nevin State Fish Hatchery began in 1876, following the purchase of the privately held, Madison Fish Hatchery by the Wisconsin Commissioners of Fisheries (later absorbed into the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources). In 1882, Canadian native James Nevin was brought to Wisconsin by the then Governor Jeremiah Rusk to serve as the hatchery's first superintendent and is identified as being responsible for the construction of all of the other hatcheries in Wisconsin. Nevin died in 1921. Five artesian wells and one spring supply 2.2 million gallons of water to the facility daily. Over one half million trout are raised at the Nevin Hatchery annually. While domestic brook, brown and rainbow trout were long the primary fish raised at Nevin (as of the 1970s, rainbow trout was the primary species raised; however, more recently brown trout make up half the amount raised),

a wild-strain brook and brown trout program began there in 1995. It is estimated that seventy percent of the statewide inland wild trout are raised at Nevin.<sup>40</sup>



**Built in 1940, this WPA-constructed, poured concrete building has historically functioned as a repair shop associated with the Hatchery.**

Although the subject hatchery was named after the hatchery's first superintendent James Nevin--who is noted as having made "exceptional contributions in the field of conservation in Wisconsin"--none of the extant buildings date to his tenure at the facility. No additional information was found to substantiate potential eligibility under Criterion B: Significant Persons. Regarding Criterion C: Architecture, the property is comprised of largely

vernacular or astylistic utilitarian buildings and is not considered potentially eligible in that regard. Finally, however, the Nevin State Fish Hatchery is recommended as potentially eligible for the Register under Criterion A: History (Recreation and Conservation). The Nevin Hatchery is the oldest of all of the DNR-operated hatcheries in the state. Although the buildings and structures on the grounds have changed over its over 140-year history (as they evolved and continue to evolve along with the evolution of fish raising), the hatchery's function remains the same—to produce and distribute fish for recreational and conservation purposes. In addition, the grounds have always been open to the public. As late as 1941, a local paper noted, "The property is a favorite picnic ground and mecca of visitors during the summer months." Finally, while Criterion D: Archeology is not generally a Criterion that is addressed in reports that focus on standing structures, in this case, the property does offer the potential of archaeological information, due to the fact that as raceways are discontinued, they are not removed entirely, they are simply collapsed and filled in. It's also likely that the foundations of a number of other earlier buildings and structures remain intact or partially intact beneath the ground.<sup>41</sup>

---

<sup>40</sup>Butterfield, ed., *History of Dane County, Wisconsin*, 454-55; "James Nevin, Former State Official, Dies," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 30 December 1921, 1; "Nevin State Fish Hatchery," brochures, Prepared by Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources staff, Ca. 1970s and circa 2010s.

<sup>41</sup>"Fire Damages Fish Hatchery Garage Sunday," *The Capital Times*, 20 January 1941, 4.

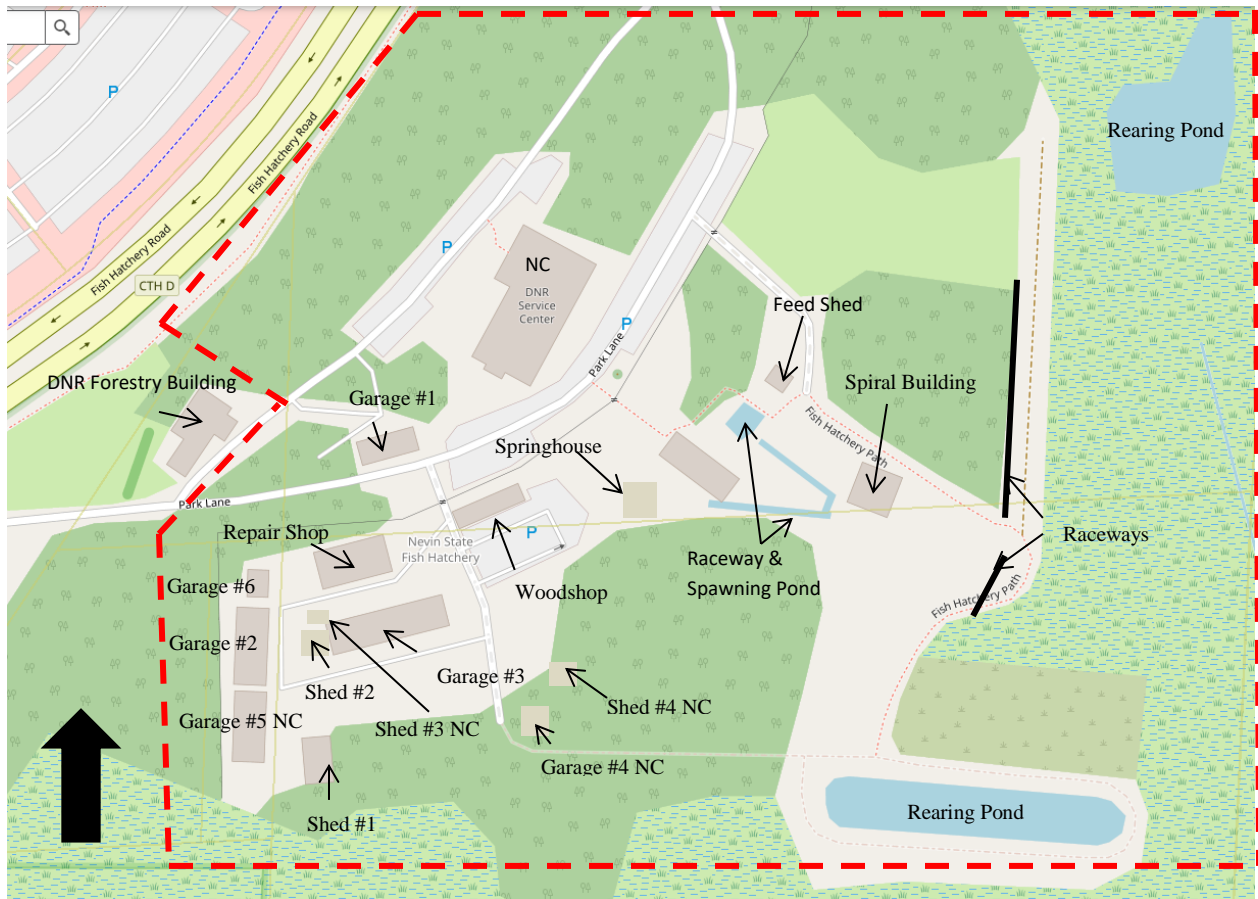
**NEVIN STATE FISH HATCHERY  
INVENTORY**

C = Contributing NC = Non-Contributing

ADDRESS	NAME	DATE	AHI#	STATUS
3911 Fish Hatchery Road	Fish Hatchery Office & Hatchery	1939	4629	C
“	Springhouse	1939	76355	C
“	Garage #1	1939	77040	C
“	Repair Shop	1940	76358	C
“	Garage #2	1944	76356	C
“	Hatchery-Spiral Building	1963	239753	C
“	Woodshop	Ca. 1950s	239755	C
“	Feed Shed	Ca. 1960s	239754	C
“	Rearing Pond (north)	Ca. 1945	77134	C
“	Rearing Pond (south)	Ca. 1960	77154	C
“	Raceway and Spawning Pond	Ca. 1950s	77148	C
“	Raceway	Ca. 1950s	77153	C
“	Garage #3	Ca. 1955	77156	C
“	Garage #4	Ca. 1980	77161	NC
“	Garage #5	Ca. 1980s	239863	NC
“	Garage #6	Ca. 1950s	239864	C
“	Shed #1	Ca. 1970s	239865	C
“	Shed #2	Ca. 1955	239866	C
“	Shed #3	Ca. 2000	239867	NC
“	Shed #4	----	239868	NC
“	Department of Natural Resources Service Building	Ca. 1995; 2003	239752	NC
“	Signage	Modern	77044	NC



**AT LEFT:** One of the concrete raceways located on the property. As improvements were made to the hatchery property, including the construction of new raceways, the concrete walls of the old ones were simply collapsed and the hole filled in. Hatchery staff has indicated that records of their locations were not well kept over the years. As a result, the property may offer additional significance under Criterion D: Archaeology.



NC = Non-Contributing Please see opposite page for AHI# and dates of construction

--- = Historic Boundary

The historic boundary is drawn to the roadway to include the artesian wells and spring. If formally listed in the National Register, the boundary may need to be reevaluated.

---

<b>Name</b>	<b>AHI#</b>	<b>NRHP Evaluation</b>
Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District	See page 42	Not Yet 50 Years Old

---

**Description and Statement of Significance**



**Among the Parade Homes in 1981 was the Contemporary Style house of Joseph & Theresa Littel, at 5830 Timber Land Circle.**

Located along Schumann Drive, Osmundsen Road and Timber Land Circle, the Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District is comprised of thirty-five homes that range in date of construction from 1981 to 1986. As the district's name would indicate, most of the Seminole Forest Subdivision homes in the delineated boundary (see page 43) were

featured on the Madison Area Builders Association Parade of Homes between 1981 and 1983. Just two of the thirty-five homes

in the proposed district are considered to be non-contributing (due to their later--2004-2005--construction dates). Homes in the district include examples of Contemporary, Ranch, Shed, Neo-Colonial and Neo-Tudor architectural styles.

Despite citations that the Parade of Homes first came to Fitchburg in 1980, the first known Fitchburg Parade home was built in 1950—associated with the first home show in the Madison area since 1937. That home, located at the corner of Irish Road and S. Syene Road, remains extant (albeit altered) at 5166 Irish Lane (not surveyed). Thirty years later (in 1980), the (29<sup>th</sup>) Parade returned to Fitchburg and featured nine homes on Timber Ridge Trail, a short distance north of the subject proposed historic district and also in the Seminole Forest Subdivision. Located one mile south of the Beltline (USH 12/18), the 150-acre subdivision was developed by Gene Barrett (See Chapter 3 for biographical information) with construction beginning in 1978. The 1979 selection of Seminole Forest as the 1980 Parade site was somewhat controversial. Complaints lodged against the site selection charged that it was too remote, with no available shopping or transit. Furthermore, the Seminole Forest lots (which ranged from 10,000 to 40,000 square feet) were considered by some as too large and the homes to be built there too pricey (between \$80,000 and \$175,000). Barrett countered that shopping was available at the Nakoma Shopping Plaza (opened in 1969 at Verona Road and the Beltline) and that he planned on building a shopping center in 1980. Despite the energy crisis and concern for urban sprawl, people were, in fact, moving to suburban locations, including Fitchburg. Indeed, as of October 1979, twenty-six homes had been built in Seminole Forest, with twenty-four of them already purchased and occupied. Conveniences offered in the yet unincorporated community of Fitchburg included underground utilities and municipal water and sewer. Notably, inflation set in

that year and there was some concern that the 1980 Parade may not actually take place—however, tradition prevailed.<sup>42</sup>



**Featured on the 1982 Parade of Homes was this Neo-Colonial Revival style house at 5838 Schumann Drive that was built by the Monson Construction Company for Charles Gietzel.**

For the next four years—1981 through 1984, the Parade was, in part, held in the Seminole Forest Subdivision, which features winding roadways and heavily wooded lots. The 1981 Parade of Homes was different than earlier years, as three sites were chosen instead of two. Homes for the 1981 tour (where the focus was on energy savings and innovative design) ranged in price from \$75,000 to \$250,000, with the higher-priced homes being

located in Seminole Forest (a total of eleven). In 1982, and in a depressed market (there were only fourteen total Parade homes that year, seven of which were in Seminole Forest), home prices in Seminole Forest ranged from \$150,000 to \$200,000. As of 1983, Parade home prices ranged from \$80,000 to \$285,000, with the higher priced ones, once again, located in Seminole Forest. Most of the 1983 Seminole Forest homes were Contemporary in design, however, a few reflected traditional styling and homes continued to focus on energy efficiency.<sup>43</sup>

In 1988, the Parade of Homes returned to Fitchburg and featured the developments of Seminole Hills Estates and Seminole Ridge (Cross Country Heights in Verona, was also featured that year). Situated north of Seminole Forest and north of McKee Road/County Highway PD, the seventeen Seminole Hills Parade homes were located on Brynwood and Tree Line Drive. Seminole Ridge, located east of Seminole Forest, included an additional seventeen homes, this grouping clustered at the intersection of Schumann Drive and Dunton Circle. In 1989, Seminole Ridge was again featured (along with two developments in Madison), with sixteen homes located along Forest Down and North Hill Court, while the 1990 Parade returned to both Seminole Ridge

---

<sup>42</sup> Wallace Wikoff, “Show to Open Thursday, Due to Draw Thousands,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 10 September 1950, Parade of Homes Section, 1; John Newhouse, “Twelve Model Homes Ready for Public Inspection Today,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 10 September 1950, Parade of Homes Section, 1 (includes photo of house at the northwest corner of Irish Lane & S. Syene Road); “Shopping Centers to Grow in Two Years,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 17 January 1970, Section 2, page 13; Seminole Forest Grand Opening Advertisement, *The Capital Times* (Madison, WI), 26 August 1978, 32; Linda Thomson, “Fitchburg Site Raises Ruckus With Parade of Homes,” *The Capital Times*, 2 October 1979, 1. A second parade site in 1980 was located in Village Green East and included six homes; Ann Rundell, “Parade of Homes Offers Ideas for ‘Dream Home’,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 31 July 1980, Section 3, page 1.

<sup>43</sup>Linda Thomson, “Parade of Homes to Focus on 3 Subdivisions,” *The Capital Times*, 18 December 1980, 29; “33 New Homes on Parade Today,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 25 July 1981, Section 3, Page 1, 4; Genie Campbell, “Big and Beautiful in Parade of Homes,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 7 August 1982, Section 3, 1; Kathleen Lange, “Homes Showcase Builders’ Skills,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 12 June 1983, Parade of Homes Section, 20.

(seven homes at Ivanhoe Circle and Forest Down) and Seminole Hills Estates (thirteen homes at Oak Leaf Circle and Tree Line Drive). Although the location of the Parade homes between 1988 and 1990 are identified here, they were not surveyed for this report and should be reviewed as they begin to “come of age.” As well, any post-1990 Fitchburg Parade locations were not investigated.<sup>44</sup>



**Built for Robert Pike at an approximate cost of \$140,000, this 1980s Contemporary Style house was built by WilMac Builders for the 1983 Parade of Homes.**

No information was found to substantiate potential eligibility under Criterion B: Significant Persons. Regarding Criterion A: History, Seminole Forest was among the sites chosen for the Parade of Homes for five consecutive years. After mapping out all five years of Seminole Forest tour homes, the proposed district along Schumann Drive, Timber Land Circle and Osmundsen Road represents a tight concentration of a large number of Parade homes, all of which were built between 1981 and 1983. Of those that are not specifically Parade homes (a total of five), two were built in 1983 and three in 1986. All five

non-Parade homes reflect the same architectural character as the Parade homes and, as a result, are considered to be contributing to the proposed district. Despite offering potential eligibility under both Criteria A and C, the proposed district is not yet fifty years old and should be re-reviewed for eligibility in about fifteen years.

---

<sup>44</sup> Michael St. John, “Welcome to 38,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 12 June 1988, Parade of Homes Section, 3, Map of the Seminole Hills Estates Parade Homes, 4 and Map of Seminole Ridge Homes, 14; Map of Seminole Ridge Homes, in *Wisconsin State Journal*, 11 June 1989, Parade of Homes Section, 13; Location of the 1990 Parade Homes, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 10 June 1990, Parade of Homes Section, 1, Map of Seminole Hills, 21, Map of Seminole Ridge, 29.

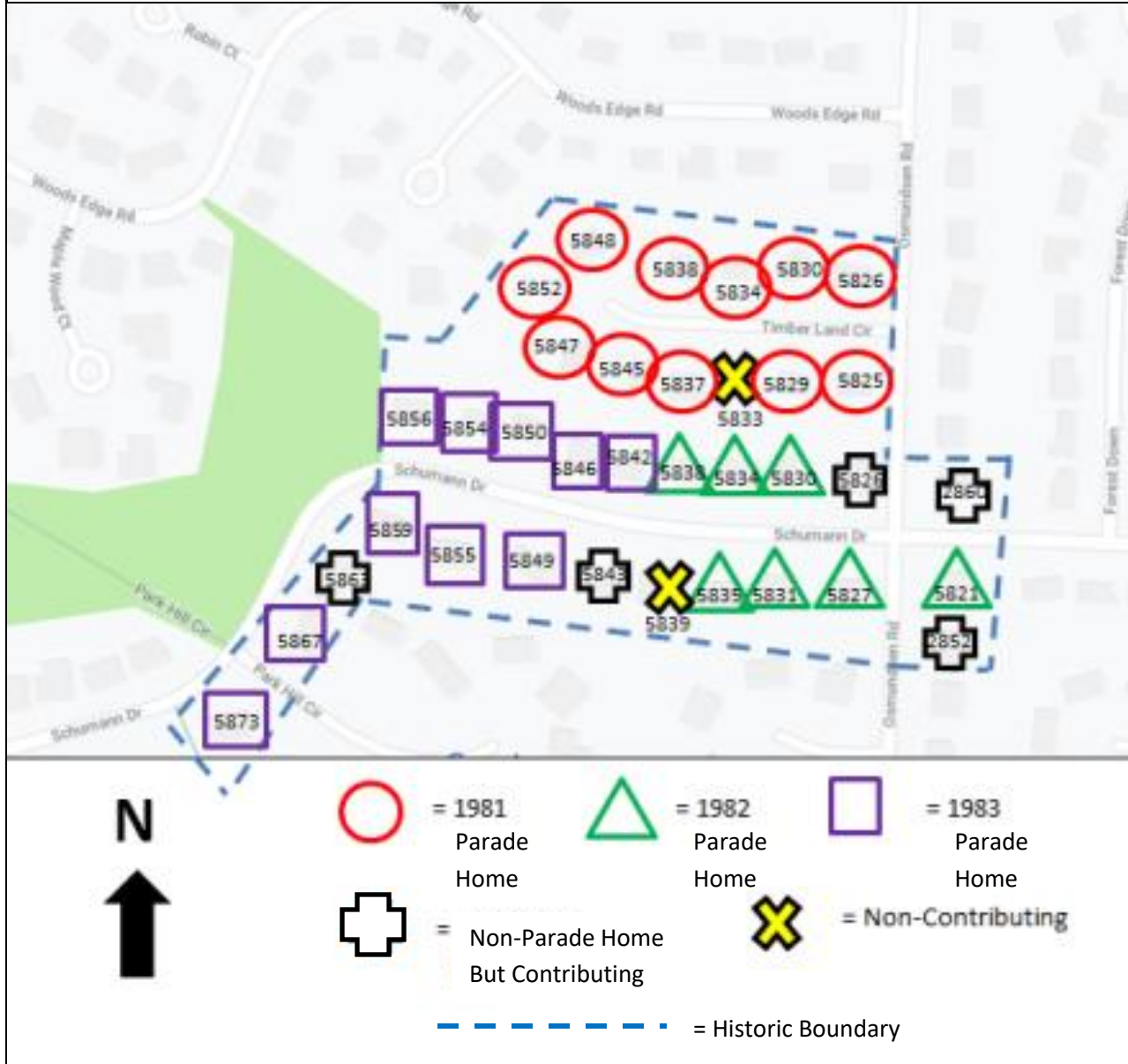
Please note that the original owner of the home was used for the Resource/Historic Name, rather than using the name of the builder. However, in some cases, the original owner was not easily obtained, so the builder's name was used. Please see the Wisconsin Architecture and History Inventory (WAHI) for the builders responsible for each of the homes.

**SEMINOLE FOREST PARADE OF HOMES HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 INVENTORY**

C = Contributing NC = Non-Contributing

<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>RESOURCE/HISTORIC NAME</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>AHI#</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
2860 Osmundsen Road	Clyde Helton House	1986	239134	C
2852 "	David J. Price House	1986	239133	C
5821 Schumann Drive	Frank & Marcia Polyak House	1982	239140	C
5826 "	Schutz Homes, Inc. House	1986	239479	C
5827 "	Jeremy Wright House	1982	239480	C
5830 "	Michael & Janice Shea House	1982	239481	C
5831 "	Allen & Debra Kemp House	1982	239482	C
5834 "	John & Susan Udelhofen House	1982	239141	C
5835 "	Dr. James & Linda Garnett House	1982	239483	C
5838 "	Charles H. Gietzel House	1982	239142	C
5839 "	George & Harriet Murphy House	2004	239484	NC
5842 "	John & Sharon Wong House	1983	239485	C
5843 "	Richard & Judy Batty House	1983	239486	C
5846 "	Jeffrey & Carol Straubel House	1983	239143	C
5849 "	Norwood Custom Homes, Inc. 1983 Parade Home	1983	239487	C
5850 "	Robert Allen Pike House	1983	239144	C
5854 "	Yahara Builders 1983 Parade Home	1983	239488	C
5855 "	Ronald Behling House	1983	239489	C
5856 "	Monson Construction Co. 1983 Parade Home	1983	239490	C
5859 "	Ralph Benjamin House	1983	239491	C
5863 "	Seminole Forest Custom Homes House	1983	239492	C
5867 "	Ronald Ryan House	1983	239493	C
5873 "	Thomas & Diane Schmidt House	1983	239494	C
5825 Timber Land Circle	Earl & Janice Ross House	1981	239342	C
5626	Michael & Anne Cavill House	1981	239471	C
5829	Melvin & Beverly Bejma House	1981	239152	C
5830	Joseph & Theresa Littel House	1981	239153	C
5833	Edward & Judy Peirick House	2005	239472	NC
5834	Stephen & Carolyn Weiler House	1981	239473	C
5837	Ronald & Joanne Schmidt House	1981	239154	C
5838	Dr. Norbert Toussaint & Dr. Karen Brungard House	1981	239474	C
5845	Charles & Gail Nemeckay House	1981	239475	C
5847	Harry & Gloria Graff House	1981	239476	C
5848	William & Yvonne Curry House	1981	239477	C
5852	Manville Jr. & Bonnie Smith House	1981	239478	C

## Seminole Forest Parade of Homes Historic District (1981-1986)



## INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY RECOMMENDATIONS

---

Address	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
5512 Bjorksten Place	233000	Potentially Eligible

---

Description and Statement of Significance

Rising from a concrete foundation, this frame-constructed building consists of a gabled block to the rear, which is connected at its southwest corner to the domed observatory proper via a one-story, flat-roofed section. Windows throughout the building consist of tall-and-narrow openings with a pedimented wooden surround. A four-panel wooden door is located along the easterly side of the one-story connecting section, while a second entrance is located along the westerly elevation of the rear gabled wing.<sup>45</sup>



**UW-Student Observatory/Oscar Mayer Observatory (1880; moved 1960), 5512 Bjorksten Place.**

Designed by architect David R. Jones (See Chapter 3 for biographical information regarding Jones) and completed in 1880, the subject observatory was built as the student observatory at UW-Madison. It originally stood alongside the Washburn Observatory (1401 Observatory Drive, Madison), which was completed two years later. Both structures were utilized by the University until the late 1950s, at which time the new Pine Bluff Observatory was built (in 1958) in Cross Plains, approximately 11 miles west of the UW

campus. Considered for demolition following construction of the Pine Bluff facility, the student observatory was, instead, donated in 1959 by the UW-Regents to the Madison Astronomical Society, a non-profit, educational organization that was established in 1930 as an offshoot of the UW Astronomy Department. The building was then moved in 1960 to the subject location in what was then the Town of Fitchburg, on the grounds of Bjorksten Research Laboratories. The moved building joined a small frame structure (no longer extant) that was built at that same Fitchburg location in 1954 and was used by the Madison Junior Astronomical Society (age 18 and under). A larger portion of the funding for the building's move from the UW campus was provided by Oscar Mayer Sr., an amateur astronomer, who had previously donated a telescope (that was previously in Chicago's Adler Planetarium) to the group in 1954. As a result of Mayer's contributions, the building was renamed the Oscar Mayer Observatory. The observatory was owned and utilized by the Astronomical Society until the mid-1980s, until city lights rendered its discontinued use. In 1990, the Astronomical Society donated the building to the City of Fitchburg. It was later turned over to the Fitchburg Research Park Associates. In 1999, there

---

<sup>45</sup> As with all other properties, access to the interior was not gained for this evaluation.

was a movement to list the building in the National Register; however, that did not come to fruition. The building is now owned by the Promega Corporation.<sup>46</sup>

The number of observatory structures in the state of Wisconsin is small in number and, of those, just three—Washburn Observatory, Yerkes Observatory and the subject Oscar Mayer Observatory--were built prior to 1900. Although Yerkes (which is owned by the University of Chicago and was completed in 1897) is still open to researchers, it was closed to the public in 2018. Owned by UW-Madison and completed in 1882, the Washburn Observatory is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is open to the public on a regular monthly schedule. As mentioned above, Pine Bluff--the official observatory of the University--is located in Cross Plains and was built in 1958. The Oscar Mayer Observatory, while moved, does still function as an observatory; however, it is privately owned by Promega and open only to its employees or those invited to use it (the land upon which it is located, however, is owned by the Fitchburg Research Park Associates).

No information was found to substantiate potential eligibility under Criterion B: Significant Persons. Regarding Criterion A: History (Education), the structure was built for use by the UW students (whereas the Washburn Observatory was built for faculty research) and is significant for that fact. However, the building's relocation off campus--that being the original location where it was built and utilized for nearly seven decades--negates its potential eligibility in that regard. Finally, regarding Criterion C: Architecture, the structure does not reflect any particular architectural style; however, it does stand as a very good example of a property type (an observatory)--one that is somewhat rare throughout the state, especially regarding pre-1900 examples. Although a moved structure, the building meets Criterion Consideration B, as the structure's primary significance is derived from its architecture. Furthermore, despite the move, the observatory was again used as such from the time of its move until 1985, a period of twenty-five years. As a result, the UW-Madison Student Observatory/Oscar Mayer Observatory is recommended as potentially eligible under Criterion C: Architecture (Property Type).

---

<sup>46</sup> "Corrects Story on Observatory," *The Capital Times*, 4 December 1954, 6; "New Observatory Near For Astronomers Here," *The Capital Times*, 26 November 1954, 13; "Pine Bluff Observatory Dedicated," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 1 July 1958, 12; "Would Give Observatory to Youths," *The Capital Times*, 7 March 1959, 3; "Two University Bills to Nelson," *The Capital Times*, 23 June 1959, 2; "Tipping Its Hat in Farewell," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 20 July 1960, 15; "Madison Astronomy Day Celebration May 1," *The Capital Times*, 19 April 1982, 30; "Observatory Report Completed," FHS newsletter, May 1990, 2; Matt Gallo, "Fitchburg Panel Wants to Make Observatory a Star," *The Capital Times*, 18 January 1999, 6; Valeria Davis-Humphrey, "Fitchburg's Dome a Star in its Own Right," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 6 June 1999, 3C; David L. Chandler, "Astronomical Find," *The Boston Globe* (Boston, MA), 15 July 2000, 1. The Washburn Observatory is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is open (under the direction of the UW-Madison Astronomy Department) for free public observing on the first and third Wednesday of each month and every Wednesday June through August, weather permitting. Information regarding the Washburn Observatory available online at [www.astro.wisc.edu/the-public](http://www.astro.wisc.edu/the-public), Accessed July 2019. The original 1954 observatory appears to have remained on the research park grounds until at least 1968, as it is visible in a photo from that year, "Bjorksten Lab Does Research For Profit," *The Capital Times*, 19 January 1968, 29.

---

Name	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
2800 S. Fish Hatchery Road	#239929-239934	Additional Information Required

---

Description and Statement of Significance

Located east of S. Fish Hatchery Road and in the Fitchburg Research Park, the buildings associated with the Bjorksten Research Laboratories consist of the following: a two to three-story, concrete-constructed laboratory and office (1955; 1966; AHI#239929); two, one-story concrete buildings (Ca. 1950-51; #239930 and 239931), Dr. Johan Bjorksten's home (1965; #239933), a guest house and sauna (Ca. 1963, remodeled 2006; #239934), as well as the framing from the experimental dome that once served as the office of Dr. Bjorksten and, later, as the Promega Administrative offices (1970; #239932). [Another building associated with Bjorksten's labs is located adjacent to this grouping but it has been significantly altered].<sup>47</sup>



**Bjorksten Research Laboratories (1955; 1966), 2800 S. Fish Hatchery Road.**

Dr. Johan Bjorksten was born in Finland in 1907. After graduating from the University of Stockholm in 1927, he earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Helsinki. In 1931 he came to the United States on a Rockefeller Foundation scholarship and completed post-doctoral work at the University of Minnesota. Thereafter he would work for a succession of five companies as a chemist (at

various levels) before establishing his own lab in Chicago in 1944. Four years later, he moved operations to Madison (because of the “favorable intellectual climate”), while still maintaining offices in Chicago. In need of additional space, he established the present campus in what was then the very rural Town of Fitchburg. In March of 1952, it was reported in local papers that a new building had been built on the grounds, one that was dedicated to mining and metallurgical research. The following year, construction began on the firm’s fifth campus building--the present-day Faraday Center of Promega Corporation. Designed by Silberz, Purcell, Cuthbert and Newcomb of Madison, the 5,000-square-foot laboratory building was to be used largely for plastics and polymer research. In 1965, that building was expanded with a \$25,000 addition that was completed the following year. At about the same time, Bjorksten built a house on the property. As of 1957, operations at the Fitchburg campus included “government research in physical chemistry, electronics, radioisotopes, electro chemistry, fuels, propellants, glass and

---

<sup>47</sup> Information regarding the two homes on the property is from an interactive campus map on the Promega Corporation website, Available online at [https://map.promega.com/?\\_ga=2.92331541.961084819.1567129892-2136261884.1564850456](https://map.promega.com/?_ga=2.92331541.961084819.1567129892-2136261884.1564850456), Accessed June 2019. It notes that the guest house and conference center was built in the 1950s “to house a sauna for his Finnish wife.” However, research indicates that Bjorksten did not remarry until 1961, Louise C. Marston, “Dr. Johan Bjorksten’s Marriage to Finnish Woman Is Announced,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 8 November 1961, 19. Dr. Bjorksten was previously married to Bettina Feitler; they divorced in 1954.

ceramics.” In 1961, Dr. Bjorksten wed Christel Suedlin, also of Finland, who would later direct the Montessori School of Fitchburg. As of 1961, Bjorksten labs (and offices) were located in the following cities: Madison; Fitchburg; Houston, Texas; Washington, DC; and Dayton, Ohio. In 1963, Bjorksten Research Laboratories created the Fitchburg Research Park. Dr. Bjorksten served as the president of his laboratories until 1969, after which he continued to work until retiring in 1991. At the time of his death (1995), he had approximately 100 patents in his name on polymers and proteins, with a significant number more obtained by his company in general. Among the more publicized work of Dr. Bjorksten was that which pertained to the end of aging and disease, research that he invested his own personal money into. As of 1955, he believed that an end to aging could be found during his lifetime. Bjorksten died in 1995 at the age of eighty-eight.<sup>48</sup>



**Bjorksten Research Laboratories, Upper Lab (Ca. 1950-51), 2800 S. Fish Hatchery Road.**

In 1978, Bill Linton rented out space in the building known as the Upper Lab and it was in that building that Promega was born; two years later, he hired his first employee. The first building built by Promega was the Research & Development (R & D) Building in 1988-89, which is located at 2800 Woods Hollow Road. As of 2018, Promega, which has branches in sixteen countries, employed approximately 1,500 persons total, with 944 in Dane County, making it the second-largest employer in Fitchburg (with SubZero/Wolf being number one).<sup>49</sup>

Although historic views of the research lab building, as well as the experimental dome (when it had walls) are available, no historic photos of the other structures were found.<sup>50</sup> While updates

---

<sup>48</sup> “Research Firm Plans to Set Up Office Here,” *The Capital Times*, 23 June 1948, 1, 8 (including quoted material); “Zoning Change Asked for Lab,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 10 August 1950, 11; “Research Company Completes Building,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 21 March 1952, 4; “Start Building Bjorksten Lab,” *The Capital Times*, 9 June 1953, 6; “Dr. Johan Bjorksten Gets Divorce from Wife Here,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 19 November 1954, 1; “Bjorksten’s New Lab Put Under Yaeger,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 30 August 1957, sec. 2/page 5; Marston, “Dr. Bjorksten’s Marriage to Finnish Woman Is Announced,” 19; Building permit for addition to Office and Lab, reported in the *Wisconsin State Journal*, 5 December 1963, sec. 4/ page 4, est. cost, \$25,000; Building Permit for Dr. Johan Bjorksten Residence, est. cost \$15,000, reported in the *Wisconsin State Journal*, 8 September 1965, 23; “Bjorksten Laboratories Have Grown By 900 Per Cent In Past 20 Years,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 22 January 1966, Business & Industry, 14; “Bjorksten Lab Does Research for Profit,” *The Capital Times*, 19 January 1968, Business & Industry, 13; “Johan Bjorksten,” Obituary, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 17 June 1995, 2; “Bettina Bjorksten Orsech, Obituary,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 20 February 2008, 14. In 1956, Johan’s son Oliver built a house on S. Fish Hatchery Road and next to the Bjorksten Research Laboratories. In 1968, the house, described as a ranch-style frame house, was heavily damaged due to a fire; however, its exact location remains unclear.

<sup>49</sup> “Key Events for Linton and the Fitchburg Research Park,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 16 October 1994, 2F. Information regarding the Research and Development Center included on Promega’s interactive campus map.

are known to have been made to the research lab building, the structure is still clearly recognizable from when it was ultimately completed in 1966 and is recommended as potentially eligible for its association with Dr. Johan Bjorksten, a nationally acclaimed research chemist who had approximately 100 patents in his name. With the aid of historic photos, the additional structures on the property (two homes and two other lab-related structures) may also be considered to be contributing elements the Bjorksten Research Laboratories property.

---

Name	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
5526 County Highway M	4644	Additional Information Required

---

Description and Statement of Significance



**Foliage obscures much of the Nott-Barry Farmhouse (1856; Ca. 1883-84) at 5526 County Highway M.**

The Nott-Barry farmhouse is comprised of two periods of construction. The original one-and-one-half-story, stone-constructed wing of the house (to the west) is identified as having been built in 1856, while the east, stucco-sheathed wing was added later—likely between 1883-84. Windows of the 1856 wing are tall-and-narrow examples, with first-floor openings extending from nearly floor to ceiling, similar to those found on the National Register-listed Fox Hall (at 5138 County Highway M; AHI#4645). The one-and-one-half-story wing to the east is side-gabled in form and

carries more standard-sized, rectangular windows arranged singly or in pairs, along with a solid wooden-panel door. The two upper-level windows of the south entrance elevation break through the roofline and are topped with a hipped roof. An additional gabled wing extends from the rear of the house. A flat-roofed porch with square wooden supports and decorative brackets extends across the entire south elevation. Additional carved wooden brackets accent the overhanging eave of both wings. A historic newspaper photograph, along with a verbal account, indicates that the porch supports—at least as of 1953--numbered five and they were round columns, not the square supports that are there today (and are now eight in number).<sup>51</sup>

The original 1856 stone wing of the house was built by Benjamin Frank Nott and his wife Sarah. Sources conflict as to where the stone for the home came from—a 1950s account cites that it was “from a nearby farm to the south, on his holdings,” whereas more recent information states that it was from a quarry on Caine Road. Sarah died in 1857 and Benjamin remarried to Caroline

---

<sup>50</sup>Information regarding “The Dome,” Available on Promega’s interactive campus map. An image of the unaltered dome that served as Dr. Bjorksten’s office is included in Dr. Johan Bjorksten (as told to Robert Bonin), “A Match for Methusalah,” in the *Cincinnati Enquirer Magazine* (Cincinnati, OH), 20 February 1972, 8.

<sup>51</sup> Historic (1953) image of the house is included in Alexius Bass, “Around the Town: The Barry House,” *The Capital Times*, 3 February 1953, 8.

Vreeland one year later. As of the 1860 census, Benjamin is identified as a merchant. That same year, he was appointed postmaster of Fitchburg (on 23 October 1860) and he maintained that position for less than one year—after which it then passed on to his brother Philetus (by April of 1861). Between 1866 and 1867, the Notts (who moved to Stoughton by no later than 1870) sold the property to Vermont native William Cummings and his wife Julia, who remained there until selling to Philip Barry between 1871 and 1872. It is assumed that from 1872 to 1883-1884, the house was also occupied by Philip, along with his wife Mary, their children, as well as Mary's mother and a live-in servant (as enumerated in the 1880 census). Although a 1953 newspaper article on the history of the house suggests that the wing to the east was built circa 1878 (which, per the 1953 article, was the presumed date that Garrett Barry purchased the farm from his brother Philip), tax roll information would support that it was more likely built about five years later—between 1883 and 1884.<sup>52</sup> Garrett and Catherine had four children: George, Anna, Catherine and Eleanor. Garrett died in 1932, while Catherine passed away eight years later. The house was thereafter occupied by the Barry girls (Anna and Catherine), while the farm was worked by their uncle George and cousin Philip. As of 1953, the farm was home to twenty-five horses, twenty-five head of cattle and ninety swine. The home remained in the Barry family until 1973, when it was purchased by Bill and Betty Reddan, who began restoration efforts.<sup>53</sup>

No information was found to suggest potential eligibility under Criterion A: History. As well, the house is not considered potentially eligible under Criterion C: Architecture, due to the two different time periods of construction (each exhibiting a different architectural style), along with the porch support alterations, as well as the replacement, stucco-like exterior sheathing of the later wing. Regarding Criterion B: Significant Persons, while Benjamin Nott served briefly as a postmaster and was a local Fitchburg merchant for a time, no evidence was found to substantiate eligibility in association with Mr. (or Mrs.) Nott. However, the home's association with Garrett Barry does suggest potential Criterion B eligibility. The Barry family and, specifically Garrett

---

<sup>52</sup> The 1953 article reads, “When Garrett and his family took over the Knott (sic) house and farm their first move was to add a wing to the original stone house. This was in 1878...”. According to tax roll review, the property did not transfer to Garrett until between 1883 and 1884. As well, per tax rolls, there is no evidence that supports construction having taken place in 1877-1878. Following an across-the-board valuation rise between 1867 and 1868, there is a slight increase that occurred between 1883 and 1884; there is also a note in the 1884 tax rolls that cites Garrett as a “non-resident owner.” After that time, there is no valuation rise until between 1900 and 1901, which would seem to be too late for the wing addition, since the information for the 1953 article on the home's history was provided by two of the Barry children, Anna and Catherine, and by 1900, Anna would have been between 15 and 16 years old and would, therefore, definitively recall the construction of the wing (Catherine, however, would have only been 3 or 4). Bass, “The Barry House,” 8, Tax Rolls, Town of Fitchburg, Various volumes reviewed between 1858 and 1904. Although tax rolls generally properly reflect ownership at the time that taxes are paid, deeds should be reviewed in order to fully confirm the date of land transfer.

<sup>53</sup> U.S. Federal Census, Population, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900; *History of Dane County, Wisconsin*, 1253; “Garrett Barry, Early Fitchburg Settler, Dies,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 25 February 1932, 12/1; Baas, “The Barry House,” 8; *Historic Properties of Fitchburg* (Fitchburg, WI: Fitchburg Landmarks Commission, 2014), 11. As of the 1880 census, Garrett Barry and his wife Catherine (nee Fox) had been married about two years (they wed in 1878) and they had no children—thus additional quarters (i.e., an addition) would not have been warranted. Philip and Garrett's father, Michael Barry, was among the earliest settlers to the area, coming to Fitchburg from Potsdam, N.Y. in 1848.

and his son George, are identified as being tied to the early development of the Wisconsin horse industry. They “specialized in breeding and training Percheron and Belgian work horses and also registered some of the first saddle horses in the American Saddle Horse Breeders Association, founded in 1891.” In 2005, Garrett’s great-grandson Mike Barry, “received the ASWA<sup>54</sup> [sic] Lifetime Achievement Award for the Barry family’s history and achievements in the state’s saddlebred horse industry.” Despite the award, additional, more specific information is needed regarding the Barrys’ contributions to the industry and contact should be made directly with the Barry family. Furthermore, while the porch alterations are, for the most part, considered minimal, a historic (pre-1953) photo would be useful in determining the extent of the alterations made to the house since Garrett’s occupation of the home.<sup>55</sup>

---

Name	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
2377 S. Fish Hatchery Road	31003	Not Yet 50 years Old

---

Description and Statement of Significance

Resting upon a Minnesota granite base, this aluminum sculpture consists of a male figure in uniform, kneeling on one knee in a state of weariness, with a rifle in his hand.<sup>56</sup>

The sculpture, entitled “Weary Veteran,” was designed and created by sculptor Harry Whitehorse, a Winnebago Indian. The sculpture was commissioned by the Fitchburg Club as a memorial for a local boy (Bob Schley) lost to the Vietnam War, as well as other Fitchburg casualties of war. The piece of land upon which the sculpture was installed was donated to the Town of Fitchburg by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gorman, on behalf of the Fitchburg Club. At that time, the Fitchburg Town Hall was located adjacent to the donated parcel, now known as Gorman Wayside Park. The club, which was organized in 1968 to develop, promote, and support the

---

<sup>54</sup> The initial quoted material cites the “American Saddle Horse Breeders Association,” however, a quick search confirms that the original name was the National Saddle Horse Breeders Association—it is now known as the American Saddlebred Horse Association, per the ASHA website available at <https://asha.net/aboutus/theamericansaddlebred/breedhistory/>, Accessed August 2019, quoted material from Darling and O’Brien, *Fitchburg: A History*, 153. Although the second quoted material does cite the “ASWA,” it should have been the ASAW, the American Saddlebred Association of Wisconsin, per a Google search for the acronym.

<sup>55</sup> Kay Witt, “Barrys’ Horses Step Lively Today,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 19 May 1966, 24. This article does state that the Barrys have resided on the same farm since 1878. Information regarding the 2005 award accepted by Mike Barry from “This Month in History,” compiled from the *Oregon Observer* by Gerald Neath of the Oregon Area Historical Society, Available online at <https://oregonareahistoricalsociety.org/may-2015/>, Accessed July 2019.

<sup>56</sup> This sculpture is one of four sculptures executed by Harry Whitehorse that are recorded in the Art Inventories Catalog, Smithsonian American Art Museums, available online at <https://siris-artinventories.si.edu/ipac20/ipac.jsp?session=156670F0774O1.11649&menu=search&aspect=Keyword&npp=50&ipp=20&spp=20&profile=ariall&ri=&term=&index=.GW&x=0&y=0&aspect=Keyword&term=Whitehorse&index=.AW&term=&index=.TW&term=&index=.SW&term=&index=.FW&term=&index=.OW&term=&index=.NW>, Accessed June 2019. Please note that the circa 1960s date recorded in the art inventory for the sculpture is incorrect.

various activities of the town, was open to all Fitchburg residents. The sculpture was completed and installed in 1973 (or 1974).<sup>57</sup>



**“Weary Veteran” Sculpture (Ca. 1973), designed and executed by Harry Whitehorse, at Gorman Wayside at 2377 S. Fish Hatchery Road.**

Monona sculptor and painter Harry Whitehorse was born in 1927 near the Indian Mission in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. He served in the Navy in World War II, during which time he visited museums while on leave. Upon his return, he attended the University of Madison, where he studied both human and animal anatomy. He also attended the Arthur Colt School of Fine Arts in Madison, where he studied oil painting. In

addition, he apprenticed to his uncle who worked as a silversmith. He also learned how to work metal in a factory and, later, as owner and operator of Chief Auto Body & Repair in Madison. As of 1966--the year he was awarded first prize for his submission to the Capital Times-Madison Art Association Sidewalk Art Fair-- his design influence was identified as Michelangelo. Following that award-winning sculpture, Whitehorse received a number of commissions. Among his known works include a baptismal font at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church (30 Dempsey Road, Madison; 1971); “Let the Great Spirit Soar,” (1991); and “Asclepius,” (1964), the latter two of which (along with the Fitchburg sculpture) are recorded by the Smithsonian. In August of 2019, Whitehorse’s “The Badger,” a 10-foot-long bronze statue made from the model he created approximately a decade earlier, will be installed across the street from Camp Randall Stadium and dedicated in September.<sup>58</sup>

No information was found to substantiate potential eligibility under either Criterion A: History or Criterion B: Significant Persons. The sculpture, however, may hold potential eligibility under Criterion C: Architecture, as a work of art executed by well-known sculptor Harry Whitehorse. Completed and installed in 1973 (or 1974), “Weary Veteran,” is not yet fifty years of age. Although the subject sculpture is a notable and relatively early example of Whitehorse’s work,

<sup>57</sup> “Fitchburg Club Gives Memorial Tract to Town,” *The Capital Times*, 21 January 1970, 2; Joseph McBride, “Fitchburg: Whole Town’s a Club,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 22 February 1970, 8; Darling and O’Brien, *Fitchburg: A History*, 152-153.

<sup>58</sup> Sidewalk Art Sales Total \$26,000,” *The Capital Times*, 19 July 1966, 9; Samara Kalk Derby, “Renowned Local Sculptor and Painter Harry Whitehorse Dies at 90,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 1 December 2017; Lawrence Andrea, “Remembering Harry Whitehorse,” *Madison 365*, 18 September 2018, Available online at <https://madison365.com/remembering-harry-whitehorse/>, Accessed June 2019; Emily Hamer, “Bronze Badger Statue by Ho-Chunk Artist Harry Whitehorse to be Installed Across from Camp Randall,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 15 July 2019, article available online at [https://madison.com/wsj/news/local/bronze-badger-statue-to-be-installed-across-the-street-from/article\\_630cbc8f-328a-507f-ac07-a57d490af41e.html?utm\\_medium=social&fbclid=IwAR3dTTN0RyvzKiTUATHQUndZ0wd3iD6LP1MwraFoC9CcXu0Wjz1ZFAvFZI](https://madison.com/wsj/news/local/bronze-badger-statue-to-be-installed-across-the-street-from/article_630cbc8f-328a-507f-ac07-a57d490af41e.html?utm_medium=social&fbclid=IwAR3dTTN0RyvzKiTUATHQUndZ0wd3iD6LP1MwraFoC9CcXu0Wjz1ZFAvFZI).

more information is needed to fully place the sculpture within Whitehorse's lifetime of works in order to fully determine its significance.

---

Name	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
2302 Gold Drive	239071	Not Yet 50 Years of Age

---

Description and Statement of Significance



**Jim & Bonny Gold House (1973), located at 2302 Gold Drive in the Gold Subdivision.**

This 1970s Contemporary Style house is sheathed with stone along the first floor/lower level, while the upper level is comprised of board siding and large expanses of glass. The primary entrance elevation is dominated by a steeply pitched central gabled section that comes to a prow-like peak, around

which is a deck. The doorway itself is located east of the central section and includes an overhead plate-glass

transom as well as sidelights. The wing to the east includes a single-door, two-car garage, while the remaining walls of the primary elevation carry tripartite windows. Sale advertisements from 1975 to 1977 indicate that the home was built with 2,800 square feet and included a cathedral ceiling in the living room and dining room, along with a Lannon stone fireplace that separated the two rooms. A master suite occupied one side of the house, while three other bedrooms were located on the opposite side and a family room was on the lower level.<sup>59</sup>

This house was built in 1973 by builder Jim Gold and it served as his personal residence, along with his then-wife and business partner Bonny and their three children. The subdivision within which the house is located was developed by Gold and was called the Gold Subdivision. Born in Madison, Gold was the son of Maurice and Eleanor Gold. Gold was a builder in the Madison area for over forty years and a regular participant in the Madison Area Builders Association Parade of Homes. He died in 2008 at the age of seventy-two.<sup>60</sup>

No information was found to support potential eligibility under Criterion A: History. While Jim Gold was a builder in the Madison metro area for over forty years, eligibility under Criterion B:

---

<sup>59</sup> Sale ads of the home from 1975-77 include a photo which is rather small and the view is partially obscured by foliage. However, the area east (to the left) of the central gabled prow portion appears to look slightly different on the photo than it does today. A review of permits indicates that an addition was made to the rear of the house; however, there are no other recorded alterations, Building permit file for 2302 Gold Drive, On file at the Building Inspection Department, City of Fitchburg; Sale advertisements for 2302 Gold Drive, *Wisconsin State Journal*, October 1975 through July 1977.

<sup>60</sup> "James Thomas Gold," Obituary, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 3 July 2008, page 18.

Significant Persons could not be substantiated. Retaining a significant degree of integrity, the Gold house appears to stand as a very good and highly intact example of a 1970s Contemporary style house. The large expanses of glass and the steeply pitched roofline, along with the balcony suggest a Rustic influence found on ski chalets. Not yet having attained fifty years of age, the house should be re-evaluated in 2023 and should include a review of historic photographs, if available.

---

Name	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
5481 Irish Lane	239083	Potentially Eligible

---

Description and Statement of Significance

Primarily side-gabled in form, this one-and-one-half-story house is faced with heavily mortared fieldstone on the first floor and vinyl siding on the upper half-story, which includes a shed-roof dormer on both the front and rear elevations. Oriented to the west, the home's entrance is located at center and fronted by a small stoop, while a single, six-over-six-light sash window rests to either side. Windows throughout the remainder of the house are six-over-six-light sash, arranged singly and in pairs. A small fieldstone-constructed shed is located south of the house, while a bank barn is situated to the southwest.



**Built by Harold Christesen (Ca. 1952), the house, located at 5481 Irish Lane, was later owned by renowned pediatrician and clinical geneticist, Dr. John M. Opitz.**

Harold and Lula Christesen purchased the subject property by no later than 1935, at which time a different house was located on the parcel. Harold Christesen was born in Necedah, Wisconsin, in 1896 to Danish parents. A World War I veteran, Christesen wed Lula Edith Killion in Indiana in 1921. As of the 1930 census, Harold is identified as a thirty-four-year-old Fitchburg farmer, residing with Lula and their eldest three children:

Ione, Robert and Eugene. By no later than 1935, the Christesens moved to the then 30-acre parcel on Irish Lane, by which time they had another son, Karol. Harold, who attended school until only sixth grade, appears to have dabbled in a number of occupations, including working as a salesman for Bowman Dairy, a gardener and a warehouse worker. According to a neighbor, Harold was also a stone mason and it was he who built the house. Initially the Christesens lived in the basement, which was completed in the 1940s. By 1952, the house was complete. That same year, Lula died and the house was sold the following year to Richard Maves. The Maves' owned the house until circa 1964, when it was sold to Dr. John M. Opitz and his wife Marian.<sup>61</sup>

---

<sup>61</sup> Bill Kinney, long-time resident of Irish Lane, Conversation with Traci E. Schnell, tes Historical Consulting, LLC, August 2019; U.S. Federal Census, Population, 1900, 1910, 1930, 1940; Tax rolls, Town of Fitchburg, 1948-1964,

Born in Hamburg, Germany, in 1935, John Marius Opitz was a clinical geneticist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison from 1964 to 1979. He and his mother immigrated to the United States in 1951 and settled in Iowa City, where his uncle was a music professor at the University of Iowa. John graduated from the University of Iowa in 1956 with a degree in Zoology and continued there in medical school, earning his MD in 1959 and where he remained for his internship. In 1961, Opitz married Marian Ohden (who earned a degree in nursing from the University of Iowa), as well as completed his residency at UW-Madison (where he served as chief resident), after which he completed a fellowship in Medical Genetics. In 1964, he joined the UW-Madison faculty as an assistant professor of Medical Genetics and Pediatrics and, in 1974, he founded the Clinical Genetics Unit. Four years later, he took a position at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana, and, as of 1998, he moved to join the faculty at the University of Utah Medical School. He is widely considered one of the world's leaders in medical genetics, which is dedicated to identifying, treating and understanding genetic disorders. In fact, there are reportedly about 100 "Opitz" syndromes, named as such because he was involved in identifying them. In 2011, Opitz received the William Allan Award, the highest honor awarded by the American Society of Human Genetics. Opitz continues to reside in Utah.<sup>62</sup>

No information was found to substantiate eligibility under Criterion A: History. While the home's fieldstone exterior and multiple-light windows provide for a fair degree of integrity and suggest a Colonial Revival influence, the upper level is sheathed vinyl and the home, overall, does not offer a truly distinct style that might otherwise suggest potential under Criterion C: Architecture. While the home's original owner does not appear to offer any potential under Criterion B: Significant Persons, its second owner, Dr. John Opitz, may well do so. Although further information may be required to fully substantiate Dr. Opitz's contributions to the field of medical genetics (and the exact timing thereof), a 2011 article about him indicates that his "landmark work"...began in the 1960s and...has continued for decades. In 1976, he founded the *American Journal of Medical Genetics*, the periodical of which he served as the first editor-in-chief and remained as such until 2001. As stated by John C. Carey, M.D., "The seminal work of Dr. Opitz extends to the early days of the history of what we now consider clinical genetics. He is unarguably a pioneer in the field..."<sup>63</sup>

---

*Madison City Directory*, 1939, 1943; "Mrs. Harold Christesen," Obituary, *The Capital Times*, 15 March 1952, 12; "Real Estate Transfers," (re: Christesen to Maves), *The Capital Times*, 31 March 1953, 18; The A fourth son, Carleton, is identified in Christesen's obituary, "Harold R. Christesen," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 2 July 1983, 2/1.

<sup>62</sup> "Marian C. Ohden Bride of Dr. Opitz," *The Capital Times*, 30 November 1961, 24; "Birth Defect Studies Here Hope to Pinpoint Causes," *The Capital Times*, 26 July 1967, 22; John M. Opitz, M.D., Faculty of the School of Medicine at the University of Utah, Information available online at <https://medicine.utah.edu/faculty/mddetail.php?facultyID=u0030518>, Accessed August 2019; Kristen Long, "World-Renowned U of U Medical Geneticist John M. Opitz, M.D., To Receive 2011 William Allan Award in Human Genetics for Pioneering Work Identifying, Understanding Genetic Syndromes," Press Release, University of Utah Health Care, 7 October 2011, Available online at [https://healthcare.utah.edu/publicaffairs/news/archive/2011/10-07-11\\_John%20Opitz%20Award.php](https://healthcare.utah.edu/publicaffairs/news/archive/2011/10-07-11_John%20Opitz%20Award.php), Accessed August 2019.

<sup>63</sup> Phil Sahn, "A Quiet Man, Towering Scholar and Gifted Physician: John M. Opitz, M.D., Awarded Federal Decoration From Republic of Germany," Press Release, University of Utah Health Sciences Office of Public

---

Name	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
5329 Lacy Road	230446, 239079	Potentially Eligible

---

Description and Statement of Significance



Originally built in 1887 and reportedly rebuilt after a circa-1900 fire, this was the home of Alfred C. and Marian Bitney, 5329 Lacy Road.

Rising two-and-one-half stories, this Queen Anne-style house is sheathed with clapboard. Rising from a cut-stone foundation, the front-facing gable features canted corners and carved wooden brackets that support the upper half-story which is sheathed with decorative shinglework. The gabled peak is further accentuated by a carved wooden bargeboard and kingpost trim. The open, shed-roof porch includes turned wooden supports but is without a balustrade/railing. Double-hung windows are found throughout much of the house, with the

central windows of the front-facing gable retaining their upper fixed pane featuring small, colored-glass panes. Along one of the basement's fieldstone and plastered walls is Alfred Bitney's signature, along with his handprint (although no date). Also located on the property is a board-and batten-sheathed, bank barn (1919) that rests on an earlier stone foundation. Previous to the home's tri-color scheme, the house was white.<sup>64</sup>

This house is believed to have been built for Alfred C. and Marian Bitney circa 1887, with a reported rebuild circa 1900. Bitney, a Civil War veteran, was born in New York in 1837, the son of Canadian immigrants. Between 1850 and 1860, Bitney and his older brother Eli moved to Fitchburg, where they resided briefly with the Fitchburg postmaster, John Salisbury. In 1860, Alfred wed Norwegian-born Marian Johnson and they settled in Dunn, Dane County and together they had four children. Alfred, a farmer, purchased the subject property from the Waldron family at some point between 1883 and 1885, at which time a house is believed to already have been on the property (per plat maps). A somewhat significant rise in tax roll valuation—from \$470 to \$700—would seem suggest that some construction occurred on the property between 1886 and 1887. Valuation thereafter did not noticeably change such that it would suggest that new construction occurred. To further complicate things, local accounts indicate that both the house and the barn had fires “sometime around 1900” and the barn's last fire occurred in 1919, at which time it was rebuilt again. Between 1904 and 1905, the Bitneys sold the property to William and Elizabeth Dick and moved to Madison. Alfred and Marian died

---

Affairs, 3 December 2016, Available online at <https://healthcare.utah.edu/publicaffairs/news/2016/11/john-opitz-award.php>, Accessed August 2019.

<sup>64</sup> Joe Rueden, former owner of 5329 Lacy Road, Email correspondence (including photos) with Traci E. Schnell, August 2019.

in January and March of 1917, respectively. Elizabeth Dick died in 1943 and William passed two years later. The house remained in the Dick family into at least the 1970s, having passed in 1943 to William and Elizabeth's son Walter and his wife Alma.<sup>65</sup>

No information was found to suggest potential eligibility under Criterion A: History or Criterion B: Significant Persons. Regardless of the fact that the house--which is a designated local landmark--may have been rebuilt at the turn of the twentieth century, it stands today as the best known example of Queen Anne architecture in the City of Fitchburg and is recommended as potentially eligible for the Register.<sup>66</sup>

---

Name	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
5705 Lacy Road	239006	Not Yet 50 Years Old

---

Description and Statement of Significance



Memorial United Church of Christ, 5705 Lacy Road, designed by Helmut Ajango.

Set on a 7.2-acre parcel, and readily identified by its 100-foot-high tower, Memorial United Church of Christ was originally built in 1989, with additions completed in 2001 and 2006. The low-lying structure is dominated by its ground-hugging roofline. It rises minimally from the ground level and extends to cover the entrance at the north end of the building and exposes a continuous line of windows along its east elevation. The three circles

of the tower, along with the three crosses at the top, reflect the three crosses on Calvary where Jesus died. On the interior, the communion table, pulpit, cross and baptismal font were made by church member Jim Tetzlaff, as were desks and cupboards in the office.<sup>67</sup>

---

<sup>65</sup> Tax rolls, Town of Fitchburg, Various dates reviewed between 1883 and 1905; U.S. Federal Census, Population, 1860-1940; "Alfred Bitney," Obituary, 30 January 1917, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 2; "Mrs. William Dick," Obituary, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 7 May 1943, 12; "Real Estate Transfers" (re: William S. Dick to Walter Dick), *The Capital Times*, 14 May 1943, 20; "William S. Dick," Obituary, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 5 October 1945, 5; Rueden, Email correspondence with Schnell, it is Rueden who passed along the story that a fire occurred at the house (and the barn) around 1900. That information was passed along to Rueden by Bill Stoneman, who is now deceased. As well, a fire burned down the barn not once, but twice, and the upper portion of the barn that stands there today is believed to have been constructed in 1919 (as evidenced by the year 1919 being carved into a door frame, as told by Joe Rueden). Although a significant rise in tax roll valuation was evident between 1900 and 1901 (from \$1250 to \$2,200)—a review of neighboring parcels would seem to indicate that the rise was an across-the-board rise in the assessment.

<sup>66</sup> Although the home's appearance would suggest a pre- or circa-1900 date of construction, it is possible that the house could have been built shortly after the property was purchased by the Dicks however, to date, no information was found to substantiate that possibility.

<sup>67</sup> An interior inspection of the building was not completed; however, a number of interior photos, indicate that the interior retains significant integrity. The information regarding the furniture built by Tetzlaff was taken from the

Designed by Helmut Ajango, the original portion of Memorial United Church of Christ was completed in 1989 at an approximate cost of \$600,000. Formally established in 1917 in Madison, the congregation was originally known as Memorial Reformed Church and was comprised largely of Swiss that had moved from Green County to Madison for job opportunities. Their original meeting space was in the Grand Army of the Republic Hall (at present-day Martin Luther King Jr. Drive & Doty Street; no longer extant); however, by 1918, they had moved into their newly remodeled church building at 14 W. Johnson Street (formerly a residence). In 1931, the congregation joined the German Evangelical Church to form the Memorial Evangelical and Reformed Church and, in 1957, following the merger with the Congregational-Christian Church, the name changed again to Memorial United Church of Christ (UCC) and they moved to 1510 Madison Street. During the 1970s, the congregation began to dwindle. Shortly thereafter, the United Church of Christ began to consider the establishment of a new church in Fitchburg. The Memorial UCC members were asked if they would consider being the “core” of that new congregation and, with a vote of 60 to 37, the decision was made in 1986 to make the move (with some families choosing not to make the move). Between 1988 and 1989, more than eighty members contributed over 15,000 hours of labor into the construction of the building which included 8,000 square feet and 113 windows. Since 1989, two additions have been made to the church: a music wing was completed in 2001 and, five years later, a youth wing (including offices for the associate pastor and parish nurse) was added.<sup>68</sup>

No information was found to substantiate potential eligibility under either Criterion A: History or Criterion B: Significant Persons. However, Memorial United Church of Christ is considered a significant modern design of renowned Wisconsin architect Helmut Ajango. Although the main church block was completed in 1989, additions were added in 2001 and 2006 and, therefore, the church has not yet attained fifty years of age. As a result, the Memorial United Church of Christ should be re-evaluated in the future, upon turning fifty years old.<sup>69</sup>

---

Name	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
2387 S. Seminole Highway	4636, 239109-10, 239112-19	Potentially Eligible

---

Description and Statement of Significance

The Vroman Family Farmstead includes a total of thirteen structures that date from circa 1855 to circa 1955. The earliest building on the property is the Greek Revival-style house (AHI#4636) that is believed to have been built in two phases—the first being the circa mid-1850s, one-and-one-half-story wing on the south, while the two-story front-gabled block (which rises from a brick foundation) is believed to be completed in 1864. The ell wing’s porch was enclosed in the

---

church’s website, “Our History-Reaching Out Across the Years,” History of Memorial United Church of Christ, Available online at [www.memorialucc.org/our-history](http://www.memorialucc.org/our-history), Accessed May 2019.

<sup>68</sup> “Our History-Reaching Out Across the Years”; “Memorial United Church of Christ,” Available online at <https://fitchburghistory.org/memorial-united-church-of-christ/>, Accessed November 2018; “Memorial UCC to Dedicate Sanctuary,” *Wisconsin State Journal*, 15 April 1989, 2D.

<sup>69</sup> It was not confirmed whether or not the 2001 and 2006 additions were part of Ajango’s original plan.

1960s and vinyl siding applied to the entire house. Despite the siding application, the house retains its regularly placed six-over-six-light sash windows along all three of its visible elevations. Added in 1939, the arched Dairy Barn (#239109) dominates the property; a single silo is located to either side of the barn (also #239109), while a small frame-constructed Pumphouse (#239113) is located immediately to the west. West of the Dairy Barn is a board-sided and arched-roof Small Animal Barn (#239110) that was built circa 1952, while a former Horse Barn (ca. 1900) that was converted for use as a Corn Crib (#239112) in circa 1955 is situated to the northwest of the Dairy Barn. Between the house and the Dairy Barn and located further west on the parcel is a circa-1940 Chicken Coop (#239114), a 1930s-era, side-gabled, frame Machine Shed (#239115) and a gabled, frame Tool Shop (#239116). The final three structures on the parcel include two Garages (both built in the early 1950s, #239117 & 239118) and a circa-1940s Double Outhouse (#239119). An historic (1933) image of the south side of the home shows the cream separator building (which is now part of the house and includes the garage).<sup>70</sup>



**Joseph and Mary Vroman Farmhouse (Ca. 1855; 1863-64), 2387 S. Seminole Highway.**

The Vroman brothers--George, William and Joseph--are recognized as Fitchburg's first permanent settlers, moving onto Fitchburg lands in the Fall of 1839. The following year, Joseph (b. 1816 in New York) wed Mary Westrope—who is identified as the first white woman in Fitchburg--and they settled on the subject parcel, where they had five children. Their initial home was a log cabin. An 1863-64 date has previously been

ascribed to the entire house (a gabled ell); however, observation, combined with available tax roll information, would seem to suggest that

the one-and-one-half-story ell wing was built first (perhaps as early as the 1850s) and the two-story, front-facing gabled wing was added in 1863-64. Joseph, who had served as the town's first chairman, died in 1869 and his will provided a glimpse into the extent of his farming operation. Crops raised included wheat, oats, corn, potatoes, hay and wool. Livestock numbers were generally modest as far as horses, cows and pigs; however, he had 219 sheep. Following Joseph's death, the farm was taken over by son Hiram although Joseph's widow Mary remained at the house until her death in 1905. Hiram died in 1937, while his wife Mary passed the following year. Farming operations then passed on to Hiram and Mary's sons, Elmer and Arthur, with both families residing in the home—one in each wing. Arthur died in 1955, after which his

<sup>70</sup> Hiram Vroman's Residence, Photograph, July 1933, Image ID#31024, Available online at [www.wisconsinhistory.org](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org), Accessed June 2019. Additional aerial views of the property were reviewed—some in possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society and others available on the Dane County GIS website.

son Gordon took over the farm. Gordon died in 2007 and the property is currently owned and maintained by Gordon's son Lloyd.<sup>71</sup>

Regarding Criterion A: History (Settlement), the house was built by Joseph Vroman who, along with his two brothers, is recognized as one of the first permanent settlers of Fitchburg. Although a log house (no longer extant) preceded construction of the subject house, the east wing is believed to have followed in the 1850s, after which the larger gabled wing is understood to have been completed by 1864—all of which was built by Joseph. Although Joseph Vroman is regarded as one of the first permanent settlers in Fitchburg, no information was found to substantiate potential eligibility in that regard or regarding Criterion B: Significant Persons. Finally, the Vroman Family Farmstead, which includes a good number of buildings erected over a one hundred-year period, stands as a very good example of farmstead layout and is recommended as potentially eligible under Criterion C: Architecture (Farmstead Layout).

---

Name	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
5225 Verona Road	239094	Potentially Eligible

---

Description and Statement of Significance



**Built originally by Fabri-Tek, Inc. (1965), 5225 Verona Road. Today the building is part of the Thermo Fisher Scientific campus.**

Consisting of an H-shaped plan, this concrete and brick-clad building is built into the site's natural topography. From the west, the building appears to be only a single story. The recessed main entrance includes a set of glass double doors, above which is a hipped roof with

clerestory windows. The blocks to either side of the entrance are topped with a hipped roof with wide overhanging eaves and, like the central entrance, the roof of each block carries an additional raised hipped section beneath which are clerestory windows. The eastern wing of the building is two stories, as the

---

<sup>71</sup> U.S. Federal Census, Population, 1850-1940; "Wisconsin, Wills and Probate Records, 1800-1987," for Joseph Vroman, Box 42, Cont. Box 43, Available online at [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com), Accessed August 2019; The Vroman Brothers are cited as having come to Wisconsin (Territory) to build the first capitol building in Madison, Darling and O'Brien, *Fitchburg: A History*, 4; Butterfield, ed., *History of Dane County*, 1259; Alexius Baas, "J. Arthur Vroman, Pioneer Area Family, Busy, Useful Life," in All Around The Town column, *The Capital Times*, 27 December 1955, Clipping available in the Vroman Family file, FHS; Kinney, *Irish Settlers of Fitchburg, Wisconsin, 1840-1860*, 18, 92; "Gordon B. Vroman," Obituary, *Baraboo (WI) News Republic*, 1 June 2007; Lloyd Vroman, Conversation with Traci E. Schnell/ tes | Historical Consulting, LLC, April 2019. Tax Rolls were reviewed for this parcel in order to see if a date of construction could be verified from the date of construction provided in the aforementioned 1955 newspaper article. Please note that there were no tax roll books available prior to 1858. Indeed, a valuation rise occurred between 1863 and 1864 (from \$2,400 to \$3,400). Thereafter the only noticeable valuation rise occurred between 1867 and 1868, at which time there was an across-the-board valuation rise as a result of the end of the Civil War, Tax Rolls, Town of Fitchburg, 1858-1904.

lower level is exposed, featuring battered concrete walls. Windows throughout the building are steel-framed with a lower awning opening. Two early newspaper photos of the building (from 1967 and 1971) confirm that the exterior of the structure has changed little, if at all, since its 1965 construction.<sup>72</sup>

The subject 17,000-square-foot office, research laboratory and manufacturing building was erected in 1965 by Fabri-Tek, Inc. and opened in early 1966 as the Instruments Division of the firm. The company was established by M.F. Mickelson while he was an employee of Remington Rand Univac of St. Paul. Mickelson's belief was that "a small company could produce computer memory components more efficiently than a larger computer manufacturer." After two years of working part-time to prove his point, he resigned from his job in 1957 and established a Fabri-Tek plant on Minnehaha Avenue in Minneapolis. Soon thereafter, two plants were built in Wisconsin; one in Eau Claire and another in Amery, while headquarters remained in Minnesota. The new Instruments Division designed and manufactured "special-purpose equipment for use in the biomedical, nuclear and associated fields." At the time of the Fitchburg facility's opening, the company employed more than 2,500 people in seven facilities in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania. Scientist Robert W. Schumann served as the head of the Madison division, which employed over thirty persons by mid-1966. By that time, Fabri-Tek plants expanded to include locations in Hong Kong, Scotland and Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. In 1967, the division was established as Fabri-Tek Instruments, Inc. and, four years later, was renamed Nicolet Instrument Corp. In 1992 Thermo Instrument Systems Inc. (a division of Thermo Electron Corp.) purchased the company and, today, it is known as Thermo Fisher Scientific.<sup>73</sup>

No information was found to substantiate potential eligibility under either Criterion A: History or Criterion B: Significant Persons. However, the Fabri-Tek facility stands as a highly intact example of 1960s Contemporary styling that has no direct comparisons in the City of Fitchburg. As a result, the former Fabri-Tek, Inc. building is recommended as potentially eligible under Criterion C: Architecture.

---

<sup>72</sup> Fabri-Tek, Inc., Photo and caption, *The Capital Times*, 20 January 1967, 18; "Have You Seen This in Madison," Photo and caption, *Wisconsin State Journal*, 19 September 1971, 18.

<sup>73</sup> Harold Chucker, "In Small Town...Happiness is 'Landing' Fabri-Tek Plant, Wisconsin Towns Delighted," *The Minneapolis Star*, 2 February 1965, 9A, including initial quoted material; Havens Wilber, "New Instruments Plant Here," in The World of Business column, *The Capital Times*, 29 December 1965, 15; Wilber, "Fabri-Tek Proud of Averagers," The World of Business column, *The Capital Times*, 6 July 1966, 39; Jeff Richgels, "Name Game: Thermo Electron Embraces its Nicolet History," *The Capital Times*, 23 September 2004, 8E. A 1969 article that discussed the many "entrances" to Madison, touted the plants design and reads, "It may be too much to ask each industry to build an attractive plant, such as the Fabri-Tek place on Highway 151 between Madison and Verona...", William Luellen, " 'Welcome to Madison': 17 Different Views," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 6 July 1969, 8. The architectural or engineering firm responsible for its design remains unknown at this time.

---

Name	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
5335 Whalen Road	239080	Potentially Eligible

---

Description and Statement of Significance

Due to the home's setback and location of trees, only a limited view of the house is available from the road. Despite the limited view, the entrance elevation of the single-story house is sheathed with vertically set cedar siding and topped with a flat roof, beneath which is a narrow line of clerestory windows. Oriented to the northeast, the front entrance is defined by a raised section of roof that is comprised of a glass door next to a plate-glass window of nearly the same size, while larger clerestory lighting is located above.



Begun in 1964 and completed in 1967, the Boyce F. Tetz House is located at 5335 Whalen Road.

Construction of this house began in 1964 but it was not fully completed until 1966-67. The home's original owner, who was also responsible for its construction, was artist Boyce F. Tetz. Born in Batavia, Illinois, in 1928, Tetz and his family moved to Louisiana, where he remained until 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Thereafter, they moved back to Illinois,

settling again in Batavia, where he graduated from the local high school in 1946. Following graduation from

Bradley University (Peoria, IL), Tetz pursued a variety of occupations--including school bus and taxi driver and clothing store clerk--in order to support his painting. After receiving first prize for his entries in the Rockford Area Art Show two years in a row (1960 and 1961), and after receiving larger commissions as a result, Tetz was ultimately able to make a living solely as an artist. In circa 1961, Tetz moved to Madison where he opened an art studio. Within a few years, Tetz began discussions with a Fitchburg farmer regarding the purchase of 2.5 acres of farmland so that he could build a house for himself. After two days' discussion, Tetz was able to secure the land and a building permit was taken out on 8 August 1964 for what was to be a \$15,000 home and studio. Aside from the poured concrete basement (which was done by a contractor), the rest of the home was built by Tetz himself. In order to finance construction of the rest/main floor of the home, he initially lived in the basement, where he produced paintings for sale. In 1967, he held an open house, which was publicized with an interview with Tetz by the *Wisconsin State Journal*. His inspiration for the home's design--which was identified in the article as "a Japanese home"--derived from his "admiration for Oriental art." Within just three years, and

after another open house in 1970, Totz sold the home to join a communal living experiment in Mt. Horeb. The home's next owners were Albert Jr. and Catherine Little.<sup>74</sup>

No information was found to suggest potential eligibility under Criterion A: History. Regarding Criterion B: Significant Persons, Boyce F. Totz was, in fact, an artist of some note in both Illinois and Wisconsin; however, no information was found to suggest potential eligibility in that regard. Finally, regarding Criterion C: Architecture, the house is a very good and seemingly intact example of 1960s Contemporary residential architecture—in fact, it is the best example (and is without any comparisons) in the City of Fitchburg and, as a result, the Totz home is recommended as potentially eligible for the Register.

---

Name	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
5443 Whalen Road	239092	Additional Information Needed

---

Description and Statement of Significance

This frame-constructed, one-room schoolhouse is sheathed with drop siding and topped with a roof covered with asphalt shingles. A single, replacement door topped with a transom is located along the entrance (north) elevation, while each of the side walls includes two, six-over-six, double-hung windows. At the front of the building and along the roof's ridge is a school bell (not original to the building), while a brick chimney rises from the rear.



**District No. 9 School, also known as Dogtown School and, later, as Fish Hatchery School, was moved in 1989 to its current location at 5443 Whalen Road. The date of its construction is still in question.**

Discrepancies exist regarding the history of District No. 9 School. A schoolhouse was originally built circa 1860 at the northwest corner of Lacy and Fish Hatchery Road (in Section 9) and was, at that time, known as the Dogtown School. In September 1872, the Fitchburg Town Board held a special meeting following a request "...for the purpose of locating a schoolhouse site." Approximately six months later, a lot was sold to the District by Edward Sweeney and the school was relocated to a hill approximately one-half mile directly north of the earlier location (and again in Section 9). It was thought that perhaps a new schoolhouse

---

<sup>74</sup> "Exhibits Paintings in Batavia," *Chicago Tribune*, 31 December 1961, 38; Building permit for 5335 Whalen Road, Town of Fitchburg, Published in the *Wisconsin State Journal*, 8 August 1964, 14; "Artist Totz Opens Japanese Home Built By and Around His Art," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 17 September 1967, Section 5, page 3; "Boyce Totz to Display His Spanish Art," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 21 June 1970; "Artist Totz Back in Town," *Wisconsin State Journal*, 11 December 1977; Tax Rolls, Town of Fitchburg, 1964-1970. As of the time of the completion of this report, Boyce Totz appears to live in Madison.

replaced the earlier building as of 1873; however, it's possible that the earlier structure was simply moved to the new location. In any case, following the school's relocation, whether it be a new structure or the old, it was known as Fish Hatchery School. Based on photographic evidence, combined with a student's account, the school building was extended by four feet sometime prior to 1911. That structure served students from first through eighth grades until 1919, when a new schoolhouse (no longer extant) was built. The earlier school building was thereafter used as storage and/or stood vacant for years. In 1989, Fish Hatchery Road was to be widened and, in its way stood the schoolhouse which, by that time, was in significant disrepair. Located on land owned by Lyman McKee—a former student at the school—the schoolhouse was donated by McKee to the Gary Gorman family. The structure was then moved to Gorman family land on Whalen Road, where it remains today following a 1989-90 restoration by Gary and Kevin Gorman. The property, however, is no longer in possession of the Gorman family.<sup>75</sup>

No information was found to substantiate potential eligibility under Criterion B: Significant Persons. Regarding Criterion A: History (Education), the schoolhouse may have been moved twice. Since the building was moved (at least once), and has lost its historic context, the school is not considered potentially eligible under Criterion A. However, despite the move, the schoolhouse may be potentially eligible as a property type: a one-room schoolhouse. It is acknowledged that the schoolhouse did not function as such for decades and was, instead, used for storage. During that time, the building--both inside and out--suffered an integrity loss. Despite a 1989-90 restoration (completed according to a former student's memories) and standing as what appears to be a very good example of the one-room schoolhouse type, the building remains a "moved" structure—and, as noted, is one that may have been moved twice. As such, it would need to meet Criteria Consideration B regarding moved structures, which requires knowledge of the building's historic setting and orientation--the evidence of which is not available at this time.<sup>76</sup> Per a discussion with State Historic Preservation staff, additional

---

<sup>75</sup> District School No. 9 (aka Dogtown and, later, Fish Hatchery School), Historic photo, circa 1911, In possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society, Society materials housed in the Fitchburg Public Library, Fitchburg, WI; Leo Lacy, Former student at District School No. 9, Interview dated 13 July 1975, Transcript in possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society; "Dogtown Schoolhouse," Fitchburg Historical Society (FHS) newsletter, May 1989, page 1; "Schoolhouse Goes 'On the Road'," FHS newsletter, November 1989, 1; "September General Meeting," FHS newsletter, August 1990, 1, the article indicates that the school's date of construction was unknown and that much of the restoration was complete; Robb Johnson, "1-Room Schoolhouse in Fitchburg Spared the Construction Ax," *The Capital Times*, 3 October 1989, 1, 8. An extant District School No. 9 record book begins in 1873 and makes no specific mention of the schoolhouse moving or of new construction. In Kinney's *Irish Settlers of Fitchburg, Wisconsin*, the author writes, "The Dogtown School is believed to have been built on the hill in the latter part of 1873 after the plat map was made which shows a schoolhouse at the old location down in the village," Kinney, *Irish Settlers of Fitchburg, Wisconsin, 1840-1860*, 76-77, 96. Kinney also cites a series of unusual expenditures in the summer of 1873; however, following review of the expenditure list, it does not specify what the expenditures were for, it only lists to whom the money was paid, *Fitchburg Town Clerk Records*, vol. 2, 1860-1911; *Account Book of Treasurer, School District No. 9, Fitchburg, Dane County, Wis., 1873-1937*, both record books in possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society.

<sup>76</sup> "Fitchburg's One-Room School House on the Road to Restoration," *Fitchburg Star*, 5 October 1989, 3, clipping found in Dogtown/Fish Hatchery School file at the FHS. Although an interior inspection was not completed as part

evidence would need to be produced in order to make the final determination regarding its potential eligibility.<sup>77</sup>



**Photo of District School No. 9, Ca. 1911, formerly located along the west side of S. Fish Hatchery Road, approximately ½ mile north of the intersection of Lacy Road and S. Fish Hatchery Road.**

---

of this review, a view of the interior of the school after restoration is included in Chuck Nowlen, “Area School House Brings Holidays, History Together,” *Fitchburg Star*, Vol. 19, No. 47, Date obscured by a mailing label, clipping found in Dogtown/Fish Hatchery School file at the FHS.

<sup>77</sup> Gary Gorman, Telephone conversation with Traci E. Schnell/ tes |Historical Consulting, LLC, July 2019.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY/RESOURCES CONSULTED

*25 Years of Service, 1971-1996: Fitchburg, Wisconsin Fire Dept.* Spiralbound book in possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society, Fitchburg, WI.

*Account Book of Treasurer, School District No. 9, Fitchburg, Dane County, Wis., 1873-1937.* Account book in possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society. Society materials housed at the Fitchburg Public Library, Fitchburg, WI.

Aerial maps, Dane County GIS mapping. Available online at <https://dcimapapps.countyofdane.com/dcmapviewer>. Accessed August 2019.

“Ajango, Helmut,” Obituary. Available online at [www.dunlapmemorialhome.com/obituary/2324828](http://www.dunlapmemorialhome.com/obituary/2324828). Accessed June 2019.

American Saddlebred Horse Association (ASHA). ASHA website available at <https://asha.net/aboutus/theamericansaddlebred/breedhistory>. Accessed August 2019.

Andrea, Lawrence. “Remembering Harry Whitehorse.” *Madison 365*, 18 September 2018. Available online at <https://madison365.com/remembering-harry-whitehorse/>. Accessed June 2019.

Art Inventories Catalog. Smithsonian American Art Museums. Available online at <https://siris-artinventories.si.edu/ipac20/ipac.jsp?session=156670F0774O1.11649&menu=search&aspect=Keyword&npp=50&ipp=20&spp=20&profile=ariall&ri=&term=&index=.GW&x=0&y=0&aspect=Keyword&term=Whitehorse&index=.AW&term=&index=.TW&term=&index=.SW&term=&index=.FW&term=&index=.OW&term=&index=.NW>. Accessed June 2019.

*Atlas and Plat Book of Dane County, Wisconsin.* Rockford, IL: The Thrift Press, 1931.

*Atlas of Dane County including Plats of towns, cities and villages.* Madison, WI: Democrat Printing Co., 1904.

*Atlas of Dane County, Wisconsin.* Madison, WI: Harrison & Warner, 1873.

“Banking on Uptown; Fitchburg’s Smart Growth.” Article available online at <https://www.wibmadison.com/In-Business-Madison/May-2013/Banking-on-Uptown-Fitchburg-smart-growth>. Accessed July 2019.

Baumann, Roberta. "Building Company Evolved with Waunakee." *Waunakee (WI) Tribune*, 12 January 2018. Available online at [http://www.hngnews.com/waunakee\\_tribune/news/business/article\\_f96f6563-59e3-5d93-835b-344c5bbdc8e7.html](http://www.hngnews.com/waunakee_tribune/news/business/article_f96f6563-59e3-5d93-835b-344c5bbdc8e7.html). Accessed August 2019.

"Bentley, Tillinghast," Obituary. *Oregon (WI) Observer*, 31 January 1907. Available online at <http://findagrave.com/memorial/10695576/tillinghast-herman-bentley>. Accessed August 2019.

Bjorksten, Dr. Johan (as told to Robert Bonin). "A Match for Methusalah." *Cincinnati Enquirer Magazine* (Cincinnati, OH), 20 February 1972, 8.

Building permits. City of Fitchburg. Circa 1982 to present. On file at the Building Inspection Department, City of Fitchburg, WI.

Butterfield, C.W., ed. *History of Dane County, Wisconsin*. Chicago: Western Historical Society, 1880.

*The Capital Times* (Madison, WI). Various dates cited. See individual footnotes for specific citations.

Chandler, David L. "Astronomical Find." *The Boston Globe* (Boston, MA), 15 July 2000, 1.

Chucker, Harold. "In Small Town...Happiness is 'Landing' Fabri-Tek Plant, Wisconsin Towns Delighted." *The Minneapolis Star*, 2 February 1965.

City of Fitchburg Housing Assessment. Prepared by the City of Fitchburg, November 2014. Available online at <http://fitchburgwi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/9210/Fitchburg-housing-Assesment?bidld=>. Accessed August 2019.

Darling, Connie and Jean A. O'Brien. *Fitchburg: A History*. Madison, WI: Countryside Publications, 1976, edited & reprinted, 1998.

District School No. 9 (aka Dogtown and, later, Fish Hatchery School). Historic photo, circa 1911. In possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society. This and Society materials mentioned hereafter, housed in the Fitchburg Room (and office) in the Fitchburg Public Library, Fitchburg, WI.

Dogtown Schoolhouse/Fish Hatchery Schoolhouse file. On file at the Fitchburg Historical Society, Fitchburg, WI.

"Exhibits Paintings in Batavia." *Chicago Tribune*, 31 December 1961, 38.

Fitchburg Historical Society Newsletters. April 1989-April 2019, not a full run. In possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society. Available online at <https://fitchburghistory.org/publications>. Accessed June-August 2019. See individual footnotes for specific citations.

*Fitchburg Town Clerk Records*, vol. 2, 1860-1911. Record book in possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society, Fitchburg, WI.

Foote, C.M. and J.W. Henion. *Plat Book of Dane County, Wisconsin*. Minneapolis: C.M. Foote and Co., 1890.

Gane, John F., ed. *American Architects Directory*. New York: R.R. Bowker Co., 1970.

Gay, Leonard W. *New Atlas of Dane County, Wisconsin*. Madison, WI: Leonard W. Gay, 1899.

Gorman, Gary. Telephone conversation with Traci E. Schnell/ tes | Historical Consulting, LLC, July 2019.

Hiram Vroman's Residence. Photograph, July 1933, Image ID#31024. Available online at [www.wisconsinhistory.org](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org). Accessed June 2019.

*Historic Properties of Fitchburg*. Prepared by the City of Fitchburg Landmarks Preservation Commission, December 2014.

Jones, David R. Obituary. *Portage (WI) Register*, 25 February 1915.

Kinney, Bill. Telephone conversations with Traci E. Schnell/ tes | Historical Consulting, LLC, July and August 2019.

Kinney, Carole A. "Old Churches in Fitchburg." Presentation to the Fitchburg Historical Society, 16 October 2005. Copies of Powerpoint slides and written information in possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society.

Kinney, Thomas. *Irish Settlers of Fitchburg, Wisconsin, 1840-1860*. Fitchburg, WI: Fitchburg Historical Society, 1993.

Koyl, George S., ed. *American Architects Directory*. New York: R.R. Bowker Co., 1956, 1962.

Lacy, Leo. Former student at District School No. 9. Interview dated 13 July 1975. Transcript in possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society.

Ligowski, August. *Map of Dane County, Wisconsin*. N.p., 1861.

Long, Kristen. "World-Renowned U of U Medical Geneticist John M. Opitz, M.D., To Receive 2011 William Allan Award in Human Genetics for Pioneering Work Identifying, Understanding Genetic Syndromes." Press Release, University of Utah Health Care, 7 October 2011. Available online at [https://healthcare.utah.edu/publicaffairs/news/archive/2011/10-07-11\\_John%20Opitz%20Award.php](https://healthcare.utah.edu/publicaffairs/news/archive/2011/10-07-11_John%20Opitz%20Award.php). Accessed August 2019.

*Madison City Directory*, 1939, 1943.

"Memorial United Church of Christ." Available online at <https://fitchburghistory.org/memorial-united-church-of-christ/>. Accessed November 2018.

*Official County Plat Book and Farmers' Directory of Dane County, Wisconsin*. Mankato, MN: Farm Plat Book Publishing Co., 1953.

Opitz, John M., M.D. Faculty of the School of Medicine at the University of Utah. Information available online at <https://medicine.utah.edu/faculty/mddetail.php?facultyID=u0030518>. Accessed August 2019.

"Our History-Reaching Out Across the Years." History of Memorial United Church of Christ. Available online at [www.memorialucc.org/our-history](http://www.memorialucc.org/our-history). Accessed May 2019.

Parade of Homes Annual Tour Booklets (1980-1984). In possession of the Madison Area Builders Association, Fitchburg, WI.

*Plat Book, Dane County, Wisconsin*. Madison, WI: Derr Map Studio, 1955.

*Plat Book of Dane County, Wisconsin*. Milwaukee, WI: Marathon Map Service, 1947.

Promega Corporation, Interactive Campus Map. Available online at <https://map.promega.com/?ga=2.92331541.961084819.1567129892-2136261884.1564850456>. Accessed June 2019.

Public Observing at Washburn. Available online at [www.astro.wisc.edu/the-public](http://www.astro.wisc.edu/the-public). Accessed July 2019.

"Research Park is Established Near Madison." *The La Crosse (WI) Tribune*, 17 February 1963, 16.

"Research Parks-Tool to Attract Industry." *Appleton (WI) Post-Crescent*, 10 May 1963, 4/1-2.

Rueden, Joe. Former owner of 5329 Lacy Road. Email correspondence (including photos) with Traci E. Schnell, tes | Historical Consulting, LLC, August 2019.

Sahm, Phil. "A Quiet Man, Towering Scholar and Gifted Physician: John M. Opitz, M.D., Awarded Federal Decoration From Republic of Germany." Press Release, University of Utah Health Sciences Office of Public Affairs, 3 December 2016. Available online at <https://healthcare.utah.edu/publicaffairs/news/2016/11/john-opitz-award.php>. Accessed August 2019.

*Standard Historical Atlas of Dane County, Wisconsin*. Madison, WI: Cantwell Printing Co., 1911.

"Svuem, John C.," Obituary, 7 April 2018. Available online at <https://cressfuneralservice.com/obituary/251231/John-Sveum/>. Accessed August 2019.

Tax Rolls, Town of Fitchburg. Various dates reviewed. See individual footnotes for specific citations. Early records in possession of the Fitchburg Historical Society, while post-1931 records are on file with the City of Fitchburg Assessor, City of Fitchburg.

"This Month in History." Compiled from the *Oregon Observer* by Gerald Neath of the Oregon Area Historical Society. Available online at <https://oregonareahistoricalociety.org/may-2015/>. Accessed July 2019.

"Threlfall, John B.," Obituary. *Price County (WI) Review*, 11 July 2017. Available online at [https://apg-wi.com/Price\\_County\\_review/obituaries/john-b-threlfall/article\\_02ec2636-667e-11e7-8a2a-4ffe2586d401.html](https://apg-wi.com/Price_County_review/obituaries/john-b-threlfall/article_02ec2636-667e-11e7-8a2a-4ffe2586d401.html). Accessed July 2019.

U.S. Federal Census, Population, 1860-1940. Available online at [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com). Accessed May-June 2019.

"Vroman, Gordon B.," Obituary. *Baraboo (WI) News Republic*, 1 June 2007.

Vroman, Lloyd. Current owner of 2387 S. Seminole Highway. Conversation with Traci E. Schnell, tes | Historical Consulting, LLC, April 2019.

*Wisconsin State Journal* (Madison, WI). Various dates cited. See individual footnotes for specific citations.

"Wisconsin, Wills and Probate Records, 1800-1987," for Joseph Vroman. Box 42, Cont. Box 43. Available online at [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com). Accessed August 2019.

Wyatt, Barbara, ed. *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin*, 3 vols. Madison, WI: Sate Historical Society of Wisconsin, Division of Historic Preservation, 1986.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **COMPLETE SURVEY INVENTORY**

- An “A” following the construction date indicates that the date was taken from the assessor’s records.
- A date preceded by “Ca.” indicates that either there was no date of construction listed in the assessor’s records or the assessor’s date of construction did not appear accurate and was therefore circa-dated based on observation.
- Dates with no associated designation before or after, indicate a confirmed date of construction from either newspapers, permits, or other published sources.
- Properties with no date of construction identified indicates that a date could not be verified.
- Addresses/resources that are **bolded** are written up in the Recommendations Chapter of this report.
- Properties identified with an asterisk (\*) after the name/resource type (date) indicates they are in the proposed Seminole Forest Residential Historic District.

<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>RESOURCE (DATE)</b>	<b>AHI#</b>
5988 Adams Road	Lewis & Mary Adams House (1868)	#4641
<b>5472 Bjorksten Place (aka 2780 Woods Hollow Road)</b>	<b>Dr. Johan &amp; Christel Bjorksten House (1965)</b>	<b>#239933</b>
<b>5474 Bjorksten Place</b>	<b>Bjorksten Guest House and Sauna (Ca. 1962)</b>	<b>#239934</b>
<b>5512 Bjorksten Place</b>	<b>UW-Madison Student Observatory/Oscar Mayer Observatory (1880; moved 1960)</b>	<b>#233000</b>
2218 Branson Road	Ranch House (1970A)	#238940
2230 Branson Road	1960s Contemporary Style House (1962A)	#238941
2238 Branson Road	Darrell & Ann Wild House (1964)	#238942
2275 Branson Road	Richard E. Zach House (1965)	#238943
2285 Branson Road	Beauford Polglase House (1966)	#238944
1855 Briarwood Lane	Neo-Colonial/Mansard Style House (1973A)	#238945

2128 Caine Road	1960s Contemporary Style House (Ca. 1960)	#238946
2658 Cambrian Circle	1980s Contemporary Style House (1982A)	#238947
<b>2302 Chalet Gardens Road</b>	<b>Chalet Gardens Cooperative Apartments for the Elderly (1962)</b>	<b>#238974</b>
<b>2306</b>	“	<b>#238975</b>
<b>2310</b>	“	<b>#238976</b>
<b>2314</b>	“	<b>#238977</b>
<b>2318</b>	“	<b>#238978</b>
<b>2322</b>	“	<b>#238979</b>
<b>2326</b>	“	<b>#238980</b>
<b>2330</b>	“	<b>#238981</b>
<b>2334</b>	“	<b>#238982</b>
<b>2338</b>	“	<b>#238983</b>
<b>2342</b>	“	<b>#238984</b>
<b>2346</b>	“	<b>#238985</b>
<b>2350</b>	“	<b>#238986</b>
<b>Chalet Gardens Road</b>	<b>Signage for Apartment Complex</b>	<b>#239093</b>
5605 Champion Circle	A-Frame House (1974)	#238987
4811 E Clayton Rd	1950s Contemporary-Style House (1958A)	#239122
4877 E Clayton Rd	Robert McClean House (1940; 1988)	#239123
4879 E Clayton Rd	1980s Contemporary Style House (1983)	#239124
4891 E Clayton Rd	1970s Contemporary Style House (1973)	#239125
4986 County Highway M County Highway M just west of the Correctional facility	District No. 8 School (Ca. 1870)	#224527
	St. Mary’s Cemetery (Est. 1856)	#80917
5286 County Highway M	Palmer Farmstead	#224517-21 & #224534
5438 County Highway M	Samuel & Nancy Green Farmhouse (Ca. 1850; Ca. 1890s)	#224516
<b>5526 County Highway M</b>	<b>Nott-Barry Farmhouse (1856; Ca. 1883-84)</b>	<b>#4644</b>
5546 County Highway M	American Foursquare House (1905A)	#224515
5644 County Highway M	Tillinghast & Almira Bentley House (1906)	#220961
5868 County Highway M	Oak Hall Cemetery (Est. 1857)	#224530
6171 County Highway M	Front-Gabled House (Ca. 1900)	#224508
1848 County Highway MM	Cambodian Buddhist Society Entrance Gate (Ca. 1995)	#239873
1861 County Highway MM	Ranch House with attached Business Garage (1950)	#239875

2113 County Highway MM	Olsen Tourist Camp (Ca. 1949)	#239880
“	Olsen Tourist Camp and Office (Ca. 1949)	#239877
2235 County Highway MM	Lake View Stagecoach Hotel and Tavern (1845)	#239070
2405 County Highway MM	Ranch House (1954A)	#239076
2692 County Highway MM	Ranch House (1952A)	#239077
2927 County Highway MM	Two-Story Cube Farmhouse (1901A)	
#239102	Barn (Ca. 1900)	#239103
2980 County Highway MM	Werth Capitol Fur Farm Building (Ca. 1927)	#239896
3080 County Highway MM	9 Springs Motel (1960s)	#239882
4514 Crescent Road	Dr. J.M. Bloodworth House (1971)	#239002
4532 Crescent Road	Paul & Sharon Porter House (1970)	#239003
5830 Dawley Drive	Jen Weiss House (2013)	#239011
2924 Fish Hatchery Road	West Arbor Free Methodist Church (1965)	#239121
3085 Fish Hatchery Road	Bowman Dairy Building (1929+)	#4628
<b>3911 Fish Hatchery Road</b>	<b>Nevin State Fish Hatchery &amp; DNR South Central Regional HQ</b>	
“	<b>Fish Hatchery Office &amp; Hatchery (1939)</b>	<b>#4629</b>
“	<b>Springhouse (1939)</b>	<b>#76355</b>
“	<b>Garage #1 (1939)</b>	<b>#76356</b>
“	<b>Repair Shop (1940)</b>	<b>#76358</b>
“	<b>Garage #2 (1944)</b>	<b>#77040</b>
“	<b>Spiral Building (1963)</b>	<b>#239753</b>
“	<b>Woodshop (Ca. 1950s)</b>	<b>#239755</b>
“	<b>Feed Shed (Ca. 1960s)</b>	<b>#239754</b>
“	<b>Rearing Pond North (Ca. 1945)</b>	<b>#77134</b>
“	<b>Rearing Pond South (Ca. 1960)</b>	<b>#77154</b>
“	<b>Raceway and Spawning Pond (Ca. 1950s)</b>	<b>#77148</b>
“	<b>Raceways (Ca. 1950s)</b>	<b>#77153</b>
“	<b>Garage #3 (Ca. 1955)</b>	<b>#77156</b>
“	<b>Garage #4 (Ca. 1980)</b>	<b>#77161</b>
“	<b>Garage #5 Ca. 1980s)</b>	<b>#239863</b>
“	<b>Garage #6 (Ca. 1950s)</b>	<b>#239864</b>
“	<b>Shed #1 (Ca. 1970s)</b>	<b>#239865</b>
“	<b>Shed #2 (Ca. 1955)</b>	<b>#239866</b>
“	<b>Shed #3 (Ca. 2000)</b>	<b>#239867</b>
“	<b>Shed #4</b>	<b>#239868</b>
“	<b>Department of Natural Resources Service Building</b>	<b>#239752</b>
“	Department of Natural Resources Forestry Building	#239756

1722 S. Fish Hatchery Road	Patrick Barry House (Ca. 1890)	#4642
1749-1757 S. Fish Hatchery Road	Pritchard-McManus Farmstead (Determined Eligible)	
“	Farmhouse (1856)	#4643
“	Bungalow (1940)	#220939
“	Barn (Ca. 1915)	#220936
“	Poultry House (Ca. 1915)	#220937
“	Garage (Ca. 1925)	#220938
“	Pump House (Ca. 1915)	#220940
“	Animal Barn/Stable (Ca. 1910)	#220941
“	Shed (Ca. 1880)	#220942
“	Silo (Ca. 1915)	#220943
“	Pig Barn (Ca. 1940)	#223080
“	Granary (Ca. 1900)	#223081
“	Pole Barn	#223659
“	Pole Barn	#223660
“	Shed	#223661
“	Garage	#223662
1781 S. Fish Hatchery Road	Prairie School House (Ca. 1920)	#239101
2259 S. Fish Hatchery Road	Henry Helms House (Ca. 1850)	#4638
<b>2377 S. Fish Hatchery Road</b>	<b>Weary Veteran Sculpture (1973-74)</b>	<b>#31003</b>
“	Town of Fitchburg Garage (1956; 1969-70)	#239499
2651 S. Fish Hatchery Road	WIBA Radio Transmitter Station (1942+; post 1995)	#238995
<b>2800 S. Fish Hatchery Road</b>	<b>Bjorksten Research Laboratories, Inc. (1955; 1966)</b>	<b>#239929</b>
“	<b>Bjorksten Research Laboratories, Inc.— Upper Lab (Ca. 1950-51)</b>	<b>#239930</b>
“	<b>Bjorksten Research Laboratories, Inc.— Lower Lab (Ca. 1950-51)</b>	<b>#239931</b>
“	<b>Bjorksten Research Laboratories, Inc.— The Dome (1970)</b>	<b>#239932</b>
1941 Fitchburg Road	District No. 12/Maple Corners School (1864; 1955)	#224507
2320 Fitchburg Road	1970s Contemporary Style House (1977A)	#238991
<b>2302 Gold Drive</b>	<b>Jim &amp; Bonny Gold House (1973)</b>	<b>#239071</b>
5626 Harris Circle	Fred Krueger House (1968)	#239087
2404 W. Hill Drive	Ranch House (1958A)	#239075
<b>5481 Irish Lane</b>	<b>Dr. John M. &amp; Marian Opitz House (Ca. 1952)</b>	<b>#239083</b>

2397 Kathleen Street	Neo-Colonial Revival House (1977A)	#239074
5267 Lacy Road	Sam McGaw Farmhouse (Ca. 1859; Ca. 1900)	#239078
<b>5329 Lacy Road</b>	<b>Alfred &amp; Marian Bitney House (Ca. 1887; Ca. 1900)</b>	<b>#230446</b>
“	Bank Barn (Ca. 1890)	#239079
5335 Lacy Road	Side-Gabled House (1920A)	#230445
5386 Lacy Road	Cape Cod House (1931A)	#239081
5420 Lacy Road	Ranch House (1962A)	#239082
5427 Lacy Road	American Foursquare House (1920A)	#230444
5481 Lacy Road	1950s Contemporary Style House (1959A)	#239137
5491 Lacy Road	1950s Contemporary Style House (1959A)	#239138
5497 Lacy Road	Split-Level House (1968A)	#239139
5502 Lacy Road	1960s Contemporary Style House (1965A)	#239004
5530 Lacy Road	Fitchburg Public Library (2011)	#239105
5574 Lacy Road	United Bank and Trust of Madison (1974)	#239104
<b>5705 Lacy Road</b>	<b>Memorial Church of Christ (1989)</b>	<b>#239006</b>
5791 Lacy Road	Town of Fitchburg Safety Building (1972; 1981)	#239012
6131 Lacy Road	Split-Level House (1963A)	#239015
6147 Lacy Road	Grady House (Ca. 1905)	#239016
6303 Lacy Road	Samuel and Mary Kuhni House (Ca. 1920)	#239017
6311 Lacy Road	Hammersley Stone Company Office (Ca. 1957)	#239018
2385 Lisa Lane	1980s Contemporary-Style House (1982A)	#239073
5483 Maves Road	David Russell House (1972)	#239084
5491 Maves Road	Peder & Jean Hill House (1971)	#239085
5499 Maves Road	Brick Neo-Colonial Revival House (1979A)	#239086
6048 McKee Road	Camp Badger School (1927+)	#117955
6169 McKee Road	General Beverage Sales Company (1968)	#239158
5704 Modenaire Drive	The Way of Wisconsin House (1981A)	#239005
5732 Modenaire Drive	Neo-Colonial Revival House (1984A)	#239010
2673 Mutchler Road	John Lacy Farm	
“	Aluminum Gabled Ell (1894)	#238996
“	Barn	#238997
“	Outbuildings	#238998
“	Sheds	#238999
6317 Nesbitt Road	Bavaria Sausage Kitchen (1967)	#227874

5707 Niagara Court	1970s Contemporary Style House (1977A)	#239090
2742 Osmundsen Road	Neo-Colonial Revival House (1987A)	#239000
2767 Osmundsen Road	Donald & Barb Burns House (1976)	#239001
2775 Osmundsen Road	Stephan & Claudia Tadevich House (1976)	#239130
2784 Osmundsen Road	William & Judith Henzie House (1977)	#239131
2821 Osmundsen Road	Joseph & Roseanne Strohl House (1994)	#239132
<b>2852 Osmundsen Road</b>	<b>David J. Price House (1986)*</b>	<b>#239133</b>
<b>2860 Osmundsen Road</b>	<b>Clyde Helton House (1986)*</b>	<b>#239134</b>
2880 Osmundsen Road	Neo-Tudor Revival House (1985)	#239135
1848 Paddock Place	Grant Tessmann House (1968)	#239095
1856 Paddock Place	William R. Roberts House (1987)	#239096
1867 Paddock Place	Gerald Miller House (1968)	#239097
5795 Pembroke Drive	Philip & Sonja Stowitts House (1973)	#239013
2757 Raritan Road	William & Kathleen Keyes House (1975)	#239127
2774 Raritan Road	Joseph Charles & Suzanne Strehlow House (1974)	#239128
2833 Raritan Road	Christ Memorial Lutheran Church (1976; 1996)	#239129
2623 Richardson Street	Richard & Anna Baum House (1986)	#238992
5730 Richmond Drive	1970s Contemporary House (1978A)	#239009
5869 Ridge View Court	Neo-Colonial Revival House (1979)	#239157
2903 Robin Court	Mike Virion House (1984)	#239495
2907 Robin Court	Conservor Homes, Inc. 1984 Parade Home	#239496
2911 Robin Court	Seminole Forest Custom Homes 1984 Parade Home	#239497
<b>5821 Schumann Drive</b>	<b>Frank &amp; Marcia Polyak House (1982)*</b>	<b>#239140</b>
<b>5826 Schumann Drive</b>	<b>Schutz Homes, Inc. House (1986)*</b>	<b>#239479</b>
<b>5827 Schumann Drive</b>	<b>Jeremy Wright House (1982)*</b>	<b>#239480</b>
<b>5830 Schumann Drive</b>	<b>Michael &amp; Janice Shea House (1982)*</b>	<b>#239481</b>
<b>5831 Schumann Drive</b>	<b>Allen &amp; Debra Kemp House (1982)*</b>	<b>#239482</b>
<b>5834 Schumann Drive</b>	<b>John &amp; Susan Udelhofen House (1982)*</b>	<b>#239141</b>
<b>5835 Schumann Drive</b>	<b>Dr. James &amp; Linda Garnett House (1982)*</b>	<b>#239483</b>
<b>5838 Schumann Drive</b>	<b>Charles H. Gietzel House (1982)*</b>	<b>#239142</b>
<b>5839 Schumann Drive</b>	<b>George &amp; Harriet Murphy House (2004)*</b>	<b>#239484</b>
<b>5842 Schumann Drive</b>	<b>John &amp; Sharon Wong House (1983)*</b>	<b>#239485</b>

5843 Schumann Drive	Richard & July Batty House (1983)*	#239486
5846 Schumann Drive	Jeffrey & Carol Straubel House (1983)*	#239143
5849 Schumann Drive	Norwood Custom Homes, Inc. 1983 Parade Home*	#239487
5850 Schumann Drive	Robert Allen Pike House (1983)*	#239144
5854 Schumann Drive	Yahara Builders 1983 Parade Home*	#239488
5855 Schumann Drive	Ronald Behling House (1983)*	#239489
5856 Schumann Drive	Monson Construction Co. 1983 Parade Home*	#239490
5859 Schumann Drive	Ralph Benjamin House (1983)*	#239491
5863 Schumann Drive	Seminole Forest Custom Homes House (1983)*	#239492
5867 Schumann Drive	Ronald Ryan House (1983)*	#239493
5873 Schumann Drive	Thomas & Diane Schmidt House (1983)*	#239494
2387 S. Seminole Highway	Vroman Family Farm	
“	House (Ca. 1850s; 1864)	#4636
“	Barn (1939)	#239109
“	Small Animal Barn (Ca. 1952)	#239110
“	Horse Barn/Corn Crib (Ca. 1900; 1955)	#239112
“	Chicken Coop (Ca. 1940)	#239114
“	Pumphouse (1939)	#239113
“	Machine Shed (Ca. 1935)	#239115
“	Workshop (Ca. 1940)	#239116
“	Garage #1 (Ca. 1952)	#239117
“	Garage #2 (Ca. 1952)	#239118
“	Double Outhouse (Ca. 1940s)	#239119
2652 S. Seminole Highway	Farmstead-House	#220959
“	Outbuildings	#238989
2105 Shafer Drive	Split-Level House (1966A)	#238990
5564 Stable View Lane	Philip & Vera Barry House (1970)	#239098
5588 Stable View Lane	Vito Gervasi House (1968)	#239099
2626 Stanbrook Street/ 5804 Tudor Drive	Contemporary Duplex (1982)	#238994
2381 S. Syene Road	Donald McGaw House (Ca. 1950)	#239072
S. Syene Road, S of 2559	RR Bridge	#239126

2792 S. Syene Road	Holmes Tire & Supply Recapping Plant (1950)	#239893
“	Holmes Tire & Supply Office (Ca. 1950)	#239895
“	Holmes Tire & Supply Warehouse (1954)	#239894
2830 S. Syene Road	Ranch House (Ca. 1966)	#239120
<b>5825 Timber Land Circle</b>	<b>Earl &amp; Janice Ross House (1981)*</b>	<b>#239342</b>
<b>5826 Timber Land Circle</b>	<b>Michael &amp; Anne Cavill House (1981)*</b>	<b>#239471</b>
<b>5829 Timber Land Circle</b>	<b>Melvin &amp; Beverly Bejma House (1981)*</b>	<b>#239152</b>
<b>5830 Timber Land Circle</b>	<b>Joseph &amp; Theresa Littel House (1981)*</b>	<b>#239153</b>
<b>5833 Timber Land Circle</b>	<b>Edward &amp; Judy Peirick House (2005)*</b>	<b>#239472</b>
<b>5834 Timber Land Circle</b>	<b>Stephen &amp; Carolyn Weiler House (1981)*</b>	<b>#239473</b>
<b>5837 Timber Land Circle</b>	<b>Ronald &amp; Joanne Schmidt House (1981)*</b>	<b>#239154</b>
<b>5838 Timber Land Circle</b>	<b>Drs. Norbert Toussaint &amp; Karen Brungard House (1981)*</b>	<b>#239474</b>
<b>5845 Timber Land Circle</b>	<b>Charles &amp; Gail Nemeckay House (1981)*</b>	<b>#239475</b>
<b>5847 Timber Land Circle</b>	<b>Harry &amp; Gloria Graff House (1981)*</b>	<b>#239476</b>
<b>5848 Timber Land Circle</b>	<b>William &amp; Yvonne Curry House (1981)*</b>	<b>#239477</b>
<b>5852 Timber Land Circle</b>	<b>Manville Jr. &amp; Bonnie Smith House (1981)*</b>	<b>#239478</b>
5826 Timber Ridge Trail	Shed Style House (1984)	#239145
5835 Timber Ridge Trail	Thomas J. & Cherry Smith House (1980)	#239146
5841 Timber Ridge Trail	Schutz Homes, Inc. 1980 Parade Home	#239502
5842 Timber Ridge Trail	Rolyn A. & M.R. Hermanson House (1980)	#239147
5843 Timber Ridge Trail	William & Arlene Michaels House (1980)	#239148
5845 Timber Ridge Trail	William & Judith Henzie House (1980)	#239149
5847 Timber Ridge Trail	Helge & Pearl Christensen House (1983)	#239501
5866 Timber Ridge Trail	Norwood Custom Homes, Inc. 1980 Parade Home	#239500
5870 Timber Ridge Trail	Shed Style House (1984)	#239150
5873 Timber Ridge Trail	David Lenz House (1980)	#239503
5876 Timber Ridge Trail	Richard & Yo-Ling Piazza House (1980)	#239151
5905 Timber Ridge Trail	David & Kay Hutchinson House (1979)	#239014
5707 Tudor Drive	Neo-Colonial Revival House (1980)	#239007
5712 Tudor Drive	Robert Threlfall House (1983)	#239008
5225 Verona Road	<b>Fabri-Tek, Inc. (1965)</b>	#239094
5250 Verona Road	Affiliated Bank of Jamestown (1974)	#239136
5253 Verona Road	Henry Spencer House (Ca. 1860)/Mathews Hatchery	#4630
5634 Vineyard Road	Thomas & Mary Frydenlund House (1974)	#239088

5661 Vineyard Road	Richard & Nelva Hoerz House (1974)	#239089
5713 Vineyard Road	Ranch House (Ca. 1972)	#239091
2127 Vintage Drive	Guenther & Joan Scheffler House (1976)	#239062
2129 Vintage Drive	Neo-Colonial Revival House (Ca. 1979)	#239063
2131 Vintage Drive	Neo-Colonial Revival House (Ca. 1977)	#239064
2132 Vintage Drive	1970s Contemporary Style House (Ca. 1978)	#239065
2134 Vintage Drive	Zolton & Marj Torok House (1976)	#239066
2138 Vintage Drive	1970s Contemporary Style House (Ca. 1979)	#239067
2157 Vintage Drive	1970s Contemporary Style House (Ca. 1973)	#239068
2159 Vintage Drive	1970s Contemporary Style House (Ca. 1973)	#239069
1974 Wendt Road	Queen Anne House (1900A)	#238993
2005 Westchester Road	Clayton Wolf House (1967)	#239107
2318 Westchester Road	Colonial Revival-influenced Cape Cod (1936)	#239106
<b>5335 Whalen Road</b>	<b>Boyce F. Tutz House and Studio (1967)</b>	<b>#239080</b>
<b>5443 Whalen Road</b>	<b>District No. 9 School/Dogtown School/ Fish Hatchery School (Ca. 1860)</b>	<b>#239092</b>
5539 Whalen Road	Oregon Catholic Church Rectory (Ca. 1900; moved)	#90947
5578 Whalen Road	Fitchburg Center School (1923)	#220960
5823 Whalen Road	James & Mary Whalen House (1898A)	#4637
“	Barn	#239108
5605 Winners Circle	Shed Style House (1979A)	#239100
5832 Woods Edge Road	Mark Burish House (1983)	#239155
5850 Woods Edge Road	Neo-Tudor Revival House (1985)	#239156
5895 Woods Edge Road	1980s Contemporary Style House (1984)	#239504
TOWN OF MADISON (Area to be Annexed by 2022 to the City of Fitchburg)		
102 E. Badger Road	Ca. 1970 Contemporary Style, Light Industrial Building	#239892
2505 Ski Lane	Side-Gabled House (Ca. 1930)	#239891
Ski Lane, Northwest of Deer Valley Road	RR Overpass	#239887

**APPENDIX B**

**PROPERTIES LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>HISTORIC NAME (DATE)</b>	<b>NR-LISTING DATE</b>
5183 County Highway M	Fox Hall (1856)	12/1/1983
5212 County Highway M	Wisconsin Industrial School for Girls (1931-1941)	9/13/1991
4926 Haight Farm Road	Nicholas Haight Farmstead (circa 1855 to circa 1900)	10/29/1993
6261 Nesbitt Road	John Mann House (1856)	7/8/1982
2915 S. Syene Road	McCoy Farmhouse (1860)	5/29/1980

**APPENDIX C**

**PROPERTIES PREVIOUSLY (OFFICIALLY) DETERMINED ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>HISTORIC NAME (DATE)</b>	<b>DATE DETERMINED ELIGIBLE</b>
1749 & 1757 S. Fish Hatchery Road	Pritchard-McManus Farmstead (1856+)	2/12/2013



The Pritchard-McManus Farmhouse, as well as the entire property, which includes an additional house and outbuildings, was officially determined eligible for the National Register in 2013.

**APPENDIX D**

**CITY OF FITCHBURG DESIGNATED LANDMARKS**

<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>HISTORIC NAME (DATE)</b>	<b>YEAR OF LOCAL LISTING</b>
5512 Bjorksten Place	UW-Madison Student Observatory/Oscar Meyer Observatory (1879-80; moved 1960)	1999
5183 County Highway M	Fox Hall (1856)	1998
5526 County Highway M	Nott-Barry House (1856; Ca. 1883-84)	2001
Section 35, off of County Highway M at entrance to Oakhill Correctional Institute	St. Mary's Cemetery (Est. 1856)	2001
5868 County Highway M	Oak Hall Cemetery (Est. 1853)	1998
1749 S. Fish Hatchery Road	Pritchard-McManus Farmhouse (1856)	2000
4926 Haight Farm Road	Spooner's 1852 Swan Creek Farm— aka Nicholas Haight Farmstead (circa 1855 to circa 1900)	1998
5329 Lacy Road	Alfred C. & Marian Bitney House (Ca. 1887; Ca. 1900)	1999
6261 Nesbitt Road	John Mann House (1856)	1998
2915 S. Syene Road	McCoy Farmhouse (1860)	1998

## APPENDIX E

### THE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

**Criteria:** The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and:

- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant to our past; or
- C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations:** Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered potentially eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria if they fall within the following categories:

- A. A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- B. A building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
- C. A birthplace or grave of a historic figure of outstanding importance if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life; or
- D. A cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or
- E. A reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or
- F. A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition or symbolic value has invested it with its own historical significance; or
- G. A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.

**Directly cited from:** National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 16A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1997), 37 and available online at [www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb16a](http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb16a).