

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN:
HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES

by

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Historic American Buildings Survey
(Summer Field Team, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin)

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ERRATA

Some inconsistencies of page numbering are contained in this report. Pages 68, 69, and 200 were assigned twice; therefore, pages 68A, 69A, and 200A were used in the numbering sequence. Page 88 was blank and has been deleted from the numbering sequence.

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ABSTRACT

The survey of the project area of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, flood relocation project at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, determined that the structures within this area are not architecturally unique or individually significant outside the context of the historical importance of Prairie du Chien itself. Within this context, however, the twenty-seven structures identified in the list of preferred properties represent a cohesive and unified resource, which contributes to the understanding of both the antique and modern history of the city. Of the twenty-seven structures, three were identified as potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, under the Register's criteria of evaluation. These three structures represent distinctive methods of building and material which clarify the development of Prairie du Chien in the nineteenth century and add visibly to the knowledge of its growth. The recommendations proposed by this study outline four separate alternatives for the preservation of these resources.

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INTRODUCTION

This historical and architectural survey and inventory was undertaken in partial fulfillment of the obligations of the St. Paul District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, regarding cultural resources, set forth in the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (P.L. 91-190), Executive Order 11593 for the Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment (13 May 1971, 36 C.F.R. 8921), the Archaeological Conservation Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-291), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's "Procedures for the Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 C.F.R., Part 800), the Department of the Interior's guidelines concerning cultural resources (36 C.F.R., Part 60, and Interim Regulations Parts 32, 60, 61, 63, 64, 65, 66) and the Corps of Engineers Regulation (ER 1105-2-460), "Identification and Administration of Cultural Resources" (Federal Register, 3 April 1978).

Because of a long history of high water capped by the devastating flood of 1965, the current flood control project at Prairie du Chien calls for the removal of all residences from the designated floodplain area. Some buildings are being relocated by their owners or purchasers, and the rest are slated to be demolished. The purpose of this study is to identify which structures might be eligible for inclusion on the National Register, and therefore are of sufficient historical value to be preserved in place. A secondary objective, encouraged by the Historic American Buildings Survey, is to inventory and record all the structures from a historical/architectural point of view. In view of their imminent demolition, an inventory of all the buildings over fifty years old is justified, although they may not merit actual preservation or detailed recording.

The project area is limited to the floodplain as determined by the Corps of Engineers. This area includes the entire Island of St. Friole with certain exceptions. Five structures and their outbuildings, by virtue of having been declared National Historic Landmarks, are already listed on the National Register and are therefore exempt from this study: Villa Louis, American Fur Warehouse, Brisbois House, Rolette House, and Dousman House (see figures 1-5). In addition, only two businesses, both taverns dependent on walk-in trade, are included in the flood control project; other industries on the island, such as the gravel pit and the lumberyard, are exempt from this study. Historically known as the main village, the Island of St. Friole is popularly referred to as the Fourth Ward. The project area also includes the lowest lying portions of the city's mainland, which stretch nine blocks north of Blackhawk Avenue, and sixteen blocks south, but only two blocks east of the river (see map 6).

Because this study is concerned with extant buildings, much of Prairie du Chien's frontier past is irrelevant to the present survey. Instead, this study is concerned with the development of Prairie du Chien from a trading post to a city, from 1820 to 1875. In those years, Prairie du Chien grew from an outpost on the Mississippi, dependent largely on the fur trade for subsistence, to an incorporated city accessible to a transportation network.

Also during that time, the large French land holdings were subdivided and platted into the blocks and lots we know today. After 1875, Prairie du Chien declined gradually, being supplanted by St. Paul in importance, and little new construction was undertaken in the project area.

This study involves this nineteenth century history, of which so little has been written. In many ways, the buildings themselves are the best guides to the past, from frontier construction to high style, or lack of it. Each building over fifty years old is recorded herein, with a photograph, written description, and indication of construction date. Each building built before 1876 is further recorded with a more complete history in which the owners and personalities are defined, and probable construction dates pinpointed.

This study also includes a brief history of the urban development of Prairie du Chien, important to an understanding of the architecture. A section on the types and styles of architecture in the project area attempts to explain the influences on the vernacular. And, finally, recommendations for development of the island as a historic resource, as well as interpretation of the preserved buildings, are made.

METHODOLOGY

The identification of structures within the project area that are eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places was based on the evaluation of properties in accordance with the criteria established by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service of the Department of the Interior. The criteria for evaluation are as follows:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, 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 in 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.

The National Register criteria are written in a manner broad enough to encompass the variety of cultural resources found within the United States. They emphasize the selection of structures which are of merit either for their architectural or aesthetic quality or for their association with personalities or events of historic and cultural significance.

In applying these criteria to the structures found within the project area, it was necessary to analyze the buildings on these two levels. Prairie du Chien's early historical significance as an outpost in the Old Northwest Territory in the early nineteenth century is recognized nationally. Therefore, stress was placed on identifying structures that qualified for the National Register within the context of this early historic significance. Though the early period of this area's history was stressed, the study did not limit itself to that era alone. Effort was made to expand the period of significance and to explore events and personalities of local importance to the development of Prairie du Chien and in particular to the development of the Main Village, the earliest area of settlement and continual inhabitation. Emphasis was also placed on judging the relative merit of the local architecture and building techniques and placing these styles within the context of this city's historical development.

The report prepared by Edgar S. Oerichbauer in 1976, Prairie du Chien: A Historical Study, was used initially to outline the work to be done in surveying the properties within the project area. Oerichbauer's study

examined the archaeological importance of this area and provided an excellent historical synopsis of the early settlement of Prairie du Chien. His brief survey of structures within the project area provided valuable information on probable structures of interest. Oerichbauer's main contribution to the present survey, however, was his documentation of the early appearance of this city as reported by various visitors and travellers whose observations were recorded in the literature his study revealed. His study provided little help in dealing with the vernacular structures so prevalent within the project area. As commented on before, the majority of structures of interest in the project area are the product of the mid-nineteenth century, not the early period of settlement that his study researched so exhaustively. Historical studies of Prairie du Chien tend to pay little attention to the period of growth between 1820 and 1875, in that they concentrate on the French influence and frontier role of the city. Peter L. Scanlan's work, Prairie du Chien: French, British, American, is an excellent study of the early development of the town but he too neglects the later events of local significance on which this survey was so dependent. Stored in the Area Research Center in Platteville, Wisconsin, his papers are referred to in this paper by file box number; the book, by page number. It was fundamental to this report that the development of Prairie du Chien, and in particular, the growth of the project area, be more fully researched and documented if the historical associations of the present structures were not to be neglected.

In researching the urban development of the project area, several primary sources were invaluable. Two maps of Prairie du Chien, an 1870 bird's-eye view and an 1876 map showing subdivisions and locations of existing structures, were used extensively in documenting early structures and growth patterns. Tax records from 1857 to the present were also used to determine the age of structures and to pinpoint building dates. The most important information on the development of the project area in the nineteenth century, however, was gathered from the deed records maintained in the Crawford County Courthouse. By preparing title searches of the Main Village lots, the original land divisions granted to the earliest settlers by the United States in 1820, a complete history of the changing land ownership of the project area was obtained. These histories illustrate the gradual subdivision of the land and the pattern of settlement and growth within the project area.

In order to determine the importance of the personalities uncovered by the lot histories and associated with structures in the project area, several local histories were consulted. John G. Gregory's Southwestern Wisconsin: A History of Old Crawford County discussed the achievements of numerous Prairie du Chien natives during the nineteenth century. The History of Crawford and Richland Counties, compiled in 1884, provided biographies on local notables and documentation of events of local significance. Interviews with local historians also identified important individuals and events. Don Munson, Curator of the Villa Louis, and Griffith Williams, President of the Crawford County Historical Society, contributed significantly to an understanding of the personalities and events that shaped the present day Prairie du Chien during the nineteenth century.

Research into the urban development of Prairie du Chien in the nineteenth

century was augmented by careful architectural analysis of the structures in the project area. This analysis was aided by several works dealing with local and regional architectural styles. Lee Budahl's master's thesis was carefully reviewed because it is the only guide to Prairie du Chien architecture. Though her work did not deal specifically with structures within the project area, it nevertheless provided a good overview of architectural styles prominent throughout the city. Rexford Newcomb's Architecture of the Old Northwest Territory offered insights into pioneer structures typical of this region and described in detail early building techniques. The Architecture of Wisconsin, written by Richard W.E. Perrin, the leading authority on this state's architecture, was of little use to the study because it neglected modest vernacular architectural styles. Other articles of interest suggested by the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office specifically relating to early building techniques, and in particular, log house construction, were reviewed when available. It became obvious, however, that a serious study of these types of structures in Wisconsin remains to be done.

On-site inspections of structures within the project area were also made to examine their architectural style and construction technique. Only the exteriors of most of the structures were examined due to the great number of interior alterations that have occurred due to repairs of flood water damage. The interiors of those structures of particular interest were inspected and, in some cases, controlled demolition was carried out to determine building material or technique. So many structures are still inhabited that it was impossible to do an adequate amount of fabric analysis. Destructive testing as houses are vacated will have to be an ongoing project.

HISTORY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The pattern of urban development in Prairie du Chien is as important as the buildings themselves. Prairie du Chien's growth was influenced by several factors. There was a constant struggle among speculators who wanted development to occur on their land, and different parts of town often seemed to be in competition with each other. Eastern United States entrepreneurs, who favored immediate subdivision and development, differed from the French Canadians, who preferred to retain ownership of large sections of land. It was these French settlers, however, who owned the riverfront property that largely controlled the economy of Prairie. In the early nineteenth century, Prairie du Chien was important as a fur-trading center and military outpost. Both of these industries diminished in importance as the century progressed, but Prairie's excellent location, near the confluence of two rivers, continued to make the city significant as a major crossroads in the early frontier transportation network. Prairie's role in this transportation network illustrates why the city developed. How it developed is seen in the history of intra-city transportation. When a section of land was subdivided and developed, and when certain streets were laid out, determined how the land was used: both what kind of buildings were constructed and who built them. Therefore, the following brief history of Prairie du Chien emphasizes the way it developed as a city.

Soon after Marquette and Joliet discovered the upper Mississippi in 1673, a French settlement was established at Prairie du Chien. The exact location of this outpost is not known, but it is thought that a fort was built on the mainland on the south side of the present town, and then, during the French and Indian War, moved to a site north of town. The first permanent white settlement, however, did not occur until 1781 (Oerichbauer, 74), and it was on the island that partially comprises the project area. While Oerichbauer has ably amassed descriptions and travelers' reports of this early village, it is not until 1820 that the first definite record of the settlement appears.

In 1820, Isaac Lee arrived in Prairie du Chien to record land claims. By interviewing the residents and requiring two witnesses to each claim, Lee was able to acquire the record of ownership that appears in the American State Papers, which were used by the U.S. Government in formally granting land titles. His map of that year (map 1) shows main village lots which run perpendicular to the Mississippi River, from the river on the west to the Marais de St. Friole in the east. Farm lots cover the prairie, running from the river or marais east to the bluffs. In addition, there are small upper village lots carved out of the farm lots. In 1828, Lucius Lyons, U.S. Surveyor, redrew this map (map 2), this time measured to scale. He also drew in nine little houses, one on the west end of each main village lot south of Fort Crawford. In addition, there are five houses on the prairie, although the number of houses should be seen as suggestive, not representative.

In locating their houses near the banks of the river, these early settlers were responding to the topography, as the highest ground on the island, with the exception of some mounds, is found there. Also, the island has the best

access to the river in the Prairie du Chien area, and throughout the nineteenth century, business relating to river traffic located there. So by building their houses, fur warehouses, and stores close to the river, these settlers were setting a pattern that would be followed throughout the century.

The census of 1820 showed 492 inhabitants at Prairie du Chien: 361 civilians and 131 assigned to the military garrison (Smith, 163). Visiting in 1820, Schoolcraft reported: "It consists of about eighty buildings, including the garrison, the principal parts of which are of logs arranged in two streets parallel with the river....The village has the old and shabby look of all the antique French towns on the Mississippi..." (Oerichbauer, 92). It was a French-dominated community, in which the island served as the main center of inhabitation while the adjacent mainland was used for farming and grazing. Most of the inhabitants were involved in the fur trade with the Indians. Practically, the only American institution at Prairie du Chien was the log Fort Crawford, situated at the northern end of the village lots, built by the Americans in 1816 (Scanlan, 123).

In 1821, the borough of Prairie du Chien was incorporated, and some laws were instituted and some streets laid out. Joseph Rolette, a French Canadian fur trader, donated land in the rear of village lot 17 for a courthouse and jail, but only the jail was built. Just two years later, there was an effort to build a courthouse on the mainland. In 1823, James Duane Doty, appointed U.S. judge for Crawford and two other counties, as well as the first postmaster, came from Mackinac to Prairie du Chien where he intended to make his home. Doty was instrumental in getting Governor Lewis Cass of Michigan to designate Prairie du Chien as the county seat of Crawford County. The location for the courthouse that Doty preferred was opposed by other residents. Doty had bought farm lots 33 and 34, and proposed to locate the courthouse on a large mound on these two lots. "In consideration of probable increase in value of lots from the erection of public buildings" (Deed Book A, page 83), he donated eighteen acres to the county for that purpose. Other residents objected, however, feeling that Doty was trying to remove the government from the stronghold of French Canadians on the island (Scanlan, 189, and box 5). Besides, Rolette had already donated land for a courthouse on the island. Doty left Prairie du Chien in May, 1824, and in 1825 (A/137), he sold farm lots 33, 34, and 35, excepting the portion he had donated to the county, to Joseph Rolette. The price was "one yoke of oxen and five heifers three years old with calf."

A map drawn in 1829 to locate a new site for Fort Crawford shows the settlement of Prairie du Chien (map 3). Twenty-five buildings are indicated in the main village, all clustered near the river, and fifteen buildings are shown in the mainland Village of St. Friole. In addition, a drawing of that year (fig. 7) shows that log Fort Crawford dominated the view from the river, with a cluster of one-story buildings to the south. Behind them stands a single building that may represent the jail, and in the distance, a group of buildings in the Village of St. Friole.

In 1829, the U.S. Army, after several years of indecision and dissatisfaction

with the island site of Fort Crawford, ordered that a new site be found for the fort. Poor health conditions due to regular flooding of the island were the prime objection to its previous site. The new site chosen was the same that James J. Doty had hoped would be the site of his courthouse. Construction of the fort, a limestone rock structure, commenced in the early 1830s and the garrison was formally transferred in 1832 (Oerichbauer, 95).

With the movement of Fort Crawford to the mainland, the commercial activities that supported it were forced to move as well. The Village of St. Friole, to the north of the new Fort Crawford and bounded by the marais on the west and what is now Beaumont Street on the east, increased in size and importance. The Americans did not choose to settle in the main village among the largely French and Indian inhabitants, and the Village of St. Friole became known as "New Town" or "American Town." Whereas in 1828 it had only five structures, it soon became a major residential area that contained two stores and an inn (Oerichbauer, 96). In 1835, a courthouse was erected amidst the growing New Town settlement. In the same year, St. Gabriel's Church was begun by Father Mazzuchelli, two blocks north of the courthouse site. Catholic parishioners in the main village were provided access by a foot bridge at the present site of the Washington Street bridge.

By 1836, the main village was definitely considered a declining area, if not a slum. Strange Palmer, a visitor to Prairie du Chien in that year, commented on the town's appearance: "Old Town...was exclusively occupied by the store and warehouse, a large and elegant stone structure, and other buildings of the North American Fur Company, with a few mean huts tenanted by a miserable set of French and Indians.....On the opposite side of the bayou, or New Town', was Fort Crawford in which were about 300 U.S. troops.....The New Town' contained but few dwelling houses, and those of a very ordinary character -- the only one of any pretensions, which I recollect, being that occupied by Judge Lockwood" (WHC 6:305). In 1835, C. F. Hoffman described the old main village as a group of "...rude and ruinous dwelling houses, which were almost black with age...." (Oerichbauer, 96).

The 1830s were a turbulent period for Prairie du Chien. The Winnebago uprisings and the Black Hawk Wars severely affected the fur trade and thus the economic livelihood of the original settlers, and may explain the decline of the main village. As the Indians were subdued and the virgin farmlands of Iowa and Minnesota appeared more hospitable, however, immigrants from the east began to flood Prairie du Chien on their way west. Many of these immigrants chose to settle in Prairie, and the American sympathies of these newcomers accelerated this decline of the main village as they moved into New Town and into areas south of Fort Crawford. Until modern times, the island retained a concentration of French descendants unlike any on the mainland.

The influx of agricultural immigrants gave rise to land speculation fever in Prairie du Chien during the late 1830s. Large tracts of land to the south were bought by New England speculators and sold off to new arrivals. An early speculation group was the Prairie du Chien Land Company Number One which began subdivision of its holdings in 1837.

A letter written by a prominent resident, H. L. Dousman, characterized the era of this feverish speculation: "We are overrun here with land speculators, sharpers, etc., etc. They are buying up the whole country--they have got the people here perfectly delirious--there are two or three opposition towns in contemplation on the Prairie alone--I have lost at least 8 to 10 thousand dollars by selling out my land a few weeks ago--but I don't despair of making it out of them yet before they get rid of me" (Scanlan, 200).

As if to reaffirm the viability of the old main village, three showplace houses, two of them still standing today, were built there at about 1840 by three of the most prominent families. In 1842, Bernard W. Brisbois, the son of Michael Brisbois (who had been the leading businessman of Prairie du Chien during the first years of the nineteenth century), built a large two-story stone house on the banks of the Mississippi (fig. 2). Joseph Rolette, the aging fur trader whose cleverness and business acumen had earned him the respect of the French community, built on a lot to the south of this stone house a two-story frame structure with brick nogging for his daughter (fig. 3). Both of these structures were unusually pretentious for the main village and Prairie du Chien as a whole, but in comparison to the home erected by H. L. Dousman, they were small. In 1843, Dousman, who had originally come to Prairie du Chien as John Jacob Astor's partner in the American Fur Company and then had expanded his dealings into land speculation and other business pursuits, built the first Villa Louis to the north of Brisbois' house on the site of old Fort Crawford. Constructed in the Georgian style with red brick imported from St. Louis, it was an imposing mansion with extensive grounds. The sudden appearance of these three structures during the early 1840s changed the aspect of the main village completely. Where previously it had been a cluster of blackening, aging log structures, decayed by floods, it suddenly became the site of the most imposing and attractive homes in the region. Despite the location of several businesses on Water Street, including those owned by landholders E.W. Pelton, T.A. Savage, and B.W. Brisbois (May 8, 1850 Prairie du Chien Patriot), commercial growth, however, centered around the Fort and New Town.

The boom years of the late 1830s were followed by near economic collapse of the town in the 1840s. During this decade, the Indian tribes were moved west, beyond the Iowa farmlands, and the fur trade on which Prairie du Chien had been dependent for so many years dissolved. In 1849, the garrison at Fort Crawford was transferred and the fort abandoned. With the departure of the garrison, the businesses and individuals that had depended on the military presence at Prairie du Chien left as well. The population of the town dropped considerably and visitors reported vacant homes, stores, and warehouses throughout the city (Oerichbauer, 96).

The immigrants continued to move west through Prairie because they depended on the ferries located there to cross the Mississippi. As early as the 1820s, Jean Brunet ran a ferry from a site near his tavern at the west end of the main village lot 19. As late as 1830, George Aubin ran a ferry from the same site. Between these two dates, numerous ferries were run from different sites in and near Prairie to Iowa. In 1837, Alexander McGregor was granted a ferry license from a site south of Prairie to Sioux Coulee in Iowa, which soon

became the town of McGregor (Scanlan, box 5). Joseph Schafer, in an article entitled "Ferries and Ferryboats" (WMH 21:454), states that McGregor's ferry departed from Wisconsin at a site south of the mouth of the Wisconsin River. At one point, immigrants, then flooding the area in a westward move, waited in a line that stretched nine or ten miles back, with only a few teams moving each day.

In 1843, B. W. Brisbois was granted a license to run a ferry from the main village to the mouth of the Yellow River in Iowa (Scanlan, box 5). In 1858, John Lawler and Z. M. Sherwin both applied for a ferry license from Prairie to McGregor, but Alexander McGregor sent such a strong remonstrance that their application was rejected (Scanlan, box 5). At about this time, however, Lawler bought McGregor's ferry (Flaherty, WMH 24:143), and changed the source of power to steam. Previously, ferries had been powered by mules or horses working a treadmill. Schafer (21:443) states that the earliest ferry at Prairie was powered by a single mule. The May 16, 1849, Prairie du Chien Patriot observed that "a new ferryboat has been procured for the upper ferry at this place. It was built at Rock Island, arranged for two horses, and is a neat, safe, and fast running little craft" (WMH 21:443).

The 1850s brought prosperity to Prairie du Chien after the economic slowdown of the 1840s. In 1852 it was announced that Prairie du Chien had been selected as the western terminus for the Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad (Oerichbauer, 97). The anticipated economic revival of the city spurred growth as people returned to the town. Speculation that the rail depot would be built on the mainland at the south end of town led to an increase in the number of residents in the Lowertown area. When in 1857 the train finally did arrive in the city, the depot was located in that area and dock facilities for grain boats and an elevator were constructed there. That same year a building boom occurred with approximately 327 new structures reported under construction, 141 of which were in the Lowertown area (Oerichbauer, 141). Though the island shared little of this prosperity, the arrival of the railroad in Prairie du Chien accelerated the growth in population and economic vitality returned to the area. The population of Crawford County increased dramatically, from 3323 in 1855, to 8068 in 1860.

It was during the 1850s that Prairie du Chien began to resemble the present city. The 1850 census lists 1407 people in Prairie, with 305 dwelling houses, of which 235 were owner-occupied. In 1853, both the main village and the upper village, or New Town, were officially platted, although by this time it was fully recognized that the upper village was no longer an adjunct but now the heart of the city. Streets were laid out at this time, and it would perhaps be worthwhile at this point to return to the 1820s and look at the first streets.

In 1822, officers of the Borough of Prairie du Chien laid out three streets in the main village. Main Street ran beside the Mississippi and parallel to it. Street No. 1 ran east-west between main village lots 16 and 17, and became the present day Fisher Street. Street No. 2 also ran east-west, between main village lots 24 and 25. This site was changed when the bridge

was built in 1857 to its present location between lots 25 and 26. First called Bridge Street, it is known as Blackhawk Avenue. The rest of the streets in the main village were not laid out until the main village was platted in 1853.

On the mainland, the Old Indian Trail ran north-south close to the shore. As early as 1820, another north-south road, running along the east ends of the upper village lots, approximated today's Beaumont Road, first called Church Street. In 1834, Samuel Gilbert and Ezekiel Tainter laid out a road between farm lots 31 and 32, belonging to Julien Lariviere and Jean Marie Querie, which ran east into the bluffs and was called Bluff Street. In 1930, the name was changed to Blackhawk Avenue.

Complementary to the streets is the history of the bridges that attempted to link the main village to the mainland. A bridge over the Marais de St. Friole was proposed as early as 1824, and Jean Brunet was contracted to oversee its building, but there is no evidence that it was ever built. In this year, Scanlan finds three crossings of the marais that are indicated. One is at Lariviere's or the site of the present Washington Street bridge; one is at the present Blackhawk Avenue bridge, and the third is two blocks south of it. In low water, the marais could be forded, and in high water, boats were used.

In 1837, the county commissioners again voted to build a bridge across the marais. Julien Lariviere was contracted to build a stone bridge 120 feet long, 20 feet wide, with one arch in the middle and macadam two feet above the high water mark. The bridge was located near Julien Lariviere's property at upper village lot 13, or the site of the present Washington Street bridge, thus giving residents of the main village access to the church and courthouse. Two years later, Lariviere was paid in full for building the bridge. In 1841, Henry Brandes was paid for his work on the St. Friole bridge, but by 1843, the bridge was declared unsafe and in need of repairs. In 1846, a new bridge was started at the site of present Court Street, but it was changed, probably to the site of the old bridge. County commissioners' records noted in 1848 that the bridge was finished in the previous year, and the unnamed contractor was still owed \$400. In 1869, another bridge at this site was arranged for.

Originally, the main access to the island was at its northern end, but in 1857 A. McDonald built a substantial bridge on Bluff Street, now Blackhawk, which was becoming the primary business street on the mainland. The bridge building thus reflected the development of the city as a whole. Just as the heart of the city moved from the Washington Street area a few blocks south to Blackhawk on the mainland, the bridge to the island moved also.

When agricultural products of the farmlands across the Mississippi to the west increased, Prairie became more important because it provided a direct link with Milwaukee and eastern markets. Until the late 1850s, Prairie du Chien's economic success relied on steamboat traffic up and down the Mississippi. The first steamboat, the Virginia, arrived in 1823, and soon Prairie was a regular

stop for many ships. As many as twelve steamboats stopped there in one day (Scanlan, 193). The steamboats were vital to the transportation of local goods to markets, as well as facilitating the importation of staples, finished goods, and people to Prairie.

The steamboat's pre-eminence, though, was challenged by the railroad, which had reached Prairie du Chien on April 15, 1857. The Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad first used a depot in Lowertown, and crossed the Mississippi by loading cars, freight and passengers onto ferries (WMI 21:444). In 1864, the railroad, now known as the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul, moved the depot to the island, as the previous location had lost its accessibility to the river through silting. The new depot, still standing today, was located near the first ferry landing at village lot 19. The railroad was important not only for transporting the tide of immigrants west, but also for sending produce to market. During the Civil War, the need for agricultural products became greater than ever before in the East, at the same time that the traditional way of sending products to market, down the Mississippi to New Orleans, was prevented by a blockade. The railroad thus became a vital link to markets in Chicago and the East. The waterfront of the main village was significantly transformed with the addition of a large grain elevator, train depot, and warehouse, and docks to handle river traffic. The Dousman House, called the Railway House when it was built (fig. 4) in 1864, is representative of the hotels and taverns that soon dotted the waterfront and provided the services required by the numerous businessmen and workers at the busy terminus of three modes of transportation: train, steamboat, and barge. In addition, building of dwelling houses increased markedly in the main village, and the city shared in a general post-war prosperity.

In 1870, a bird's-eye map of Prairie du Chien was printed (map 4). This view, besides showing individual buildings in great detail, also illustrates Prairie's growth as a city. The three original parts of the city are still clearly delineated. The main village is now the busiest, with steamboats, trains, mills, and elevators all operating. Multi-story buildings, indicative of hotels and commercial buildings, line both Water and Second Streets. There is just one bridge to the mainland, at the present Blackhawk Avenue, which is also lined with multi-story buildings on the mainland. The largest concentration of residences is found just north and south of Blackhawk on the mainland. Separated by the almost vacant Fort Crawford tract, Lowertown is sparsely developed, with some blocks vacant and others packed with large buildings. Despite large undeveloped sections, Prairie du Chien appears to be a thriving town. Just after 1870, the last of the great houses on the island was built. This is the second Villa Louis, an Italianate mansion built by H. L. Dousman's widow (fig. 5). The 1876 map, showing the same concentration of development seen in the 1870 map, is peppered with advertisements indicating the optimistic outlook of Prairie's business community (map 5).

In the 1870s, the method of transportation changed once more, when a bridge to carry the trains across the river was built. Born in Ireland, John Lawler came to Prairie du Chien in 1857 as station agent for the railroad, and worked his way up to become a general agent. In 1874, he developed his famous pontoon bridge, which allowed the railroad to cross the river. This bridge,

which he patented, consisted of a pile bridge built from both shores and across the island in the middle, with an opening in both channels of the river. Two huge pontoons operated by steam power were able to swing open to permit river traffic to pass through (Evans, 225). This first bridge ran north of the Villa Louis over to North McGregor, now known as Marquette, Iowa. Some time in the twentieth century, the bridge was moved to a location farther south on the island, approximating the route of the present bridge crossing the river at Prairie du Chien.

After the 1870s, Prairie's importance as the Mississippi River terminus for the railroad and the transfer point for goods shipped across the river or down it by barge, ferry, and steamboat diminished. The Twin Cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis at the Falls of St. Anthony increased in size and population, dominating the upper Northwest trade routes. The midwestern agricultural empire to the west necessitated more efficient transportation routes that bypassed Prairie du Chien. The population of the city stabilized, increasing slightly from 2700 in 1870 to 3232 in 1900. The development of woolens and button industries supplemented the city's agricultural bases, as industrialization of Prairie occurred in the late nineteenth century. More importantly, Prairie's significance as the ancient outpost in the Old Northwest Territory waned as the frontiers of the nation advanced farther west.

VILLAGE LOT HISTORIES

The owners of main village lots are clearly denoted by Isaac Lee in 1820, Lucius Lyons in 1828, and the American State Papers. The ownership of the entire island is explained and proven until 1820, but it is less clear what happened to the island after 1820. Generally, it has been assumed that these patentees divided their lands and sold off lots in the 1820s or 1830s, but a closer examination proves that this is not so.

In 1820, the island was divided into main village lots, which ran across the island from the Mississippi River in the west to the Marais de St. Friole in the east. Of the thirteen main village lots that are occupied today (13 through 25), only two, lots 15 and 24, were divided at all before the 1850s. The others, which each had a different owner in 1820, were bought up by wealthy interests before they were subdivided. For example, in 1840, Joseph Rolette owned lots 16, 19, 20, and 21. The American Fur Company owned lots 14 and 18 in 1830, and Hercules L. Dousman owned lots 13 and 17, as well as several lots to the north, in 1840.

If these original landowners, most of them French Canadians, had wanted to make a profit, they would have platted their land and sold off small lots, as the Americans did in Lowertown as early as the late 1830s. Instead, these men were content to build their houses near the river and hold onto their large lots until speculation connected with the arrival of the railroad induced them to sell. The main village was not platted until 1853, and it was not until the late 1850s that any small portions were sold off.

This late subdivision has two effects. First, it seems unlikely that very many privately-owned houses were built in the main village before the 1850s. That the landowners' large houses dominated the waterfront is still apparent today, and a network of outbuildings can be assumed. But if the land behind the waterfront was built up, it must have been by tenant houses, for none of the land was sold. Secondly, because the land was subdivided so late, it is extremely difficult to determine when these tenant houses might have been built. Because one owner's land includes five or six city blocks, the records are not clear as to what is occurring on any particular lot.

Below is a brief narration of what happened to each village lot from 1820 when the American State Papers confirmed the claim, to the time when it was subdivided, usually in the 1850s. The mainland had the same pattern of development, although different sections were subdivided at different times. These early histories are included in the individual inventory sheets (maps 7, 8). Deedbook references are in parentheses (book/page).

Village Lot 13

The American State Papers confirm to Nicholas Boilvin ownership of main village lot 13 (ASP 4/873). Boilvin was assigned as Indian Agent to Prairie du Chien by the Governor of Louisiana in 1808 (Scanlan, 171). He served in this post until 1827 and was a major supporter of American interests during

this time. He acquired lot 13 from the estate of John Campbell, his predecessor, in 1804 (Scanlan, WMH 27:149). Lot 13 was 194 feet wide, fronting on the Mississippi River and, like all the village lots, extending east to the Marais de St. Friole.

In 1824 (A/72), Boilvin sold this house and furnishings to Oliver N. Bostwick, an agent of the American Fur Company, who immediately sold to Samuel Abbott, also of the American Fur Company (A/75). As Scanlan suggests, Abbott may have befriended Boilvin, for Boilvin was using the Agency house as late as 1826, and his successor was using it the following year (Scanlan, 106). In 1835, Abbott sold the entire lot 13 to Hercules L. Dousman (B/140), and in 1845 Dousman sold it to Edward W. and Champion Pelton (E/376). By 1850, E.W. Pelton, who was born in Massachusetts and came west in 1836, owned \$25,000 worth of real estate, far more than any other resident of Prairie (1850 census).

In the 1853 Main Village Plat, lot 13 was divided into seven blocks bounded on the south by Bolvin Street. The first tax records in 1857 indicate that these seven blocks were owned by E. W. Pelton and assess their value at \$7,000 including a "Mill Property." In 1858, Pelton began selling off individual lots from his seven blocks (M/441). The 1870 bird's-eye view of Prairie du Chien shows a three-and-one-half story steam-powered mill on the banks of the river, and the 1876 map labels this structure "Flouring Mill, J. Famechon."

Village Lot 14

The American State Papers (4/873) attribute village lot 14 to the American Fur Company, directed by John Jacob Astor, Ramsey Crooks, and Robert Stewart. The lot had belonged to the Michilimackinac Company, traders, who merged with the Astor interests in 1811 to form the Southwest Fur Company which the American Fur Company eventually dominated (Scanlan, 87).

The patent of village lot 14 was protested by John W. Johnson, the U.S. factor. The American State Papers record his protest in which he stated that he rented the Southwest Fur Company's building on May 27, 1816, but on June 21, Brigadier General Smith took possession of the buildings for the United States. Johnson continued to occupy the building as public property, and he erected other buildings and made improvements, the value of which he estimated at \$3,000. The protest was denied.

Johnson's building probably did not include the rock warehouse now on the site (Scanlan, 106). The 1829 view of Prairie shows a building different from the present structure. In 1834, Astor sold out his interest in the American Fur Co. to Ramsey Crooks. In 1842, a new American Fur Co. was formed, headed by Hercules L. Dousman in Prairie du Chien and Henry Sibley in Mendota, Minnesota, and it rented Rolette's stone store on village lot 16. This American Fur Co. was active in Prairie until 1864 (Scanlan, 112).

In 1850 (F/483), Ramsey Crooks, George Ehringer, and Steven A. Halsey, as directors of the dissolved American Fur Co., sold village lot 14 "together with the tenements," or rented buildings, to Bernard W. Brisbois for \$300. When platted in 1853, village lot 14 formed the southern side of Bolvin Street. Brisbois began selling individual lots in 1858.

Village Lot 15

The widest of the main village lots, number 15, was patented to Michael Brisbois, a trader (ASP 4/874). Brisbois, a French Canadian, came to Prairie du Chien in 1781, and was one of the first white settlers and landowners. He was commissioned in the Prairie du Chien militia in 1809 by the Governor of Illinois, and then charged with treason after the War of 1812 for sympathizing with the British. In 1822 (A/27), Brisbois mortgaged his lot to the American Fur Co. His lot was then described as being 500 feet wide, fronting on the public street, and "having on said lot a dwelling house, stable, outhouses, etc."

After Michael Brisbois' death in 1837, village lot 15 was divided lengthwise into three separate portions. In 1848, the northernmost 210 feet frontage, running east to the marais, was sold at the auction of the estate of Domitelle Brisbois, widow of Michael, to Ann, widow of Charles Brisbois (F/139). In 1853 (G/302), when she sold this property to H. L. Dousman for \$2,000, she was called Ann Hermaringer. This northern portion of lot 15 comprised the northern side of Brisbois Street when it was platted in 1853.

The middle section of lot 15 was sold by Domitelle Brisbois to her son Bernard W. in 1841 (E/45). It had 123 feet frontage by 550 feet depth. This is the lot on which the Brisbois house, an impressive stone structure, was built at about this time. In 1852 (G/75), Bernard acquired the land to the east of this from his sister-in-law Ann Hermaringer so that his property then ran from the river to the marais. When platted in 1853, this section formed the south side of Brisbois Street.

The southern section of lot 15 was 100 feet wide and had been sold by Michael Brisbois to Joseph Rolette in 1835 (B/69). Rolette also owned lot 16, which adjoined this one on the south. H. L. Dousman acquired this lot in 1847 (F/130) after a court case. When platted in 1853, this southern 100 feet of lot 15 had no frontage on an east-west street, but instead ran through the middle of the blocks between Brisbois and Fisher Streets. Dousman sold individual lots beginning in 1858.

Village Lot 16

The American State Papers confirm to Francis Bouthellier ownership of main village lot 16 (ASP 4/874). According to the stated claim, in 1820 Bouthellier, the agent for the Southwest Fur Company, had acquired this lot in 1792 at the auction of the Michael Bouthe estate. Lot 16 is described as being 179 feet wide and bound on the south by an alley, now Fisher Street. Though lot 16 was mortgaged twice (A/60, 140) and seized by the sheriff and sold at public auction to pay damages incurred by an individual for whom Bouthellier, Brisbois, and Louis Musick had stood surety (A/90), Bouthellier redeemed lot 16 each time (A/123, 158) and owned it as his death.

In 1834 (A/501), Joseph Rolette bought lot 16 at the auction of Bouthellier's estate and before he died had built on it both a two-story residence and a stone store used by the American Fur Company. In 1840 (D/292), Rolette mortgaged lot 16 and other real estate to B. W. Brisbois in trust for his wife, Jane Fisher Rolette, in order to guarantee her annuity of \$800 agreed upon when they separated. This act mentions that village lot 16 and 100 feet on the south side of lot 15 were the same site "on which the store of the American Fur Company is now located." This store was probably the largest building in the main village when it was built about 1835. Popularly referred to as the Hudson Bay Company store, although there is no evidence that they ever owned it, the building was two and one-half stories, stone, rectangular, and had five bays with a center door and twin gable-end chimneys. In 1842 (E/92), Joseph Rolette sold to his daughter Elizabeth "all within the east and west boundaries of lot 16, and south of the line drawn six feet south of the stone store aforesaid (American Fur Company), and to include the new frame dwelling house now being erected by me."

H. L. Dousman, who had married Rolette's widow in 1844, purchased the mortgaged lots, including lot 16, at an auction of the estate of Joseph Rolette. On July 13, 1847 (F/130), he paid \$2,000 for five farm lots and main village lot 16 and part of main village lot 15. Dousman later acquired the claim of Henry Brandes to "a certain two-story frame dwelling-house...which I built for Joseph Rolette deceased and which was sold to me to pay my lien on it for work done and materials furnished" (F/144). Known as the Rolette House, this frame-with-brick-nogging dwelling still stands today. In 1864, Dousman began to sell off lots from main village lot 16.

Village Lot 17

The American State Papers confirmed title of village lot 17 to Joseph Rolette, who had acquired the lot September 27, 1819, from Jean Baptiste Ferrebeaux (or Faribault) (A/18). When Rolette mortgaged this property to his brother Hypolite in 1823 (A/35), the act noted that it was 130 feet wide and bound on the north by the public road, now Fisher Street.

In 1821 (A/12), Joseph Rolette deeded part of this lot to the County of Crawford "in consideration that the County erect thereon a County Jail & Court House." The portion conveyed began 900 feet east of the western boundary of lot 17, ran east to the marais, and was $11\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide. The county did erect a jail of hewn oak logs, 25 by 26 feet, with two sections, one for criminals and one for debtors (Evans, 180). It burned in 1834 (Snyder, 202).

In 1824 (A/70), Rolette sold to Jean Baptiste Pion the part of lot 17 fronting on the river and running 900 feet east. Pion sold the whole lot 17 "with all buildings" to Hercules L. Dousman in 1835 (B/133). In 1853 (G/172), Dousman sold the front 900 feet of this lot to Thomas A. Savage, reserving land on the north boundary needed to widen the street to 60 feet. In 1864 (17/526), Savage, a promoter of and investor in the railroad, sold six lots in the west end of lot 17 to the Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien Railway Company, where they erected the Railway House, now known as the Dousman House or Hotel. He held onto his other lots until the 1880s.

Village Lot 18

The American State Papers confirm title of main village lot 18 to the heirs of James Aird. According to the stated claim, this 128-foot-wide lot was owned in 1793 by Francois Rocker, who sold it to Jean Baptiste Barthelette, who in turn sold the lot to Joseph Rolette, from whom Aird purchased it. Aird was a licensed trader who worked for a fur company based in Montreal (Scanlan, 95). He was born in Scotland and died in 1819, reportedly by choking on some wild rice (Brisbois, 294).

In 1821 (G/518), lot 18 was sold at auction for \$1,000 to J. J. Astor, Ramsey Crooks, and Robert Stuart of the American Fur Company. J. J. Astor withdrew from the Company in 1834 but Ramsey Crooks and Stephen Halsey continued to operate the firm until 1850 when the company was dissolved. In 1853 (G/201),

Crooks and Halsey sold lot 18 to H. L. Dousman who sold it the same year (G/324) to Frederick J. Miller. In 1855 (H/165), Miller began to sell individual lots off the property.

Village Lot 19

According to the American State Papers, in 1820 village lot 19 was patented to Marshal Mann, who had occupied it continually for 25 years. Mann ran a hotel on this lot (Scanlan, box 5), and the Lyons Plat of 1828, which has primitive drawings of houses, shows a somewhat larger structure on lot 20. Scanlan believes that when Judge Doty held court here in 1823, it was in Mann's hotel (Scanlan, box 5).

In an 1824 act recorded in Louisianaville, Missouri (A/65), Mann sold his lot, including "a dwelling house, stables, outhouses, etc.", to Jean Brunet, representing Brunet & Despouse, for \$500. In 1823 a tavern license was issued to Brunet & Despouse (Scanlan, box 5). Brunet bought out his partner in 1825 (A/115), paying him \$800 cash and \$200 in lumber or a boat. Brunet ran a hotel and tavern there, and after the massacre in 1827, settlers stayed at the hotel because there was a stockade around it (Scanlan, box 5). On the site of this hotel, the railroad depot stands today. Brunet also ran a ferry across the Mississippi to Iowa from the west end of this lot.

In 1829 (A/249), Brunet sold lot 19 to William M. Read, the sutler at old Fort Crawford who was still living in the fort in 1831 (Scanlan, box 5). Read immediately mortgaged it back to Brunet, who turned the mortgage over to someone else. Henry K. Ortley finally obtained it in 1832 (A/452, 407, 409) and took possession from Read. Ortley sold lot 19 to Joseph Rolette in 1835 (B/142). At an auction resulting from a suit concerning Rolette's heirs, Charles L. Learned acquired lots 19, 20, and 21, and sold them in 1845 (E/47) to Alexander S. Hooe of the U.S. Army in trust for his wife Emilie Rolette Hooe. She sold half of her interest in these lots to Benjamin F. Fay in 1856 (H/90, K/283), and they both began selling off individual lots soon after. Fay became Prairie du Chien's first mayor when it was incorporated in 1872. Lot 19 was 135 feet wide, and after platting in 1853, ran through the middle of the blocks between Rolette and Fisher Streets.

Village Lot 20

In 1820, the American State Papers confirmed title of lot 20 to Charles Lapointe, stating that the lot had been occupied for the last 25 years. Lapointe ran the Franklin House, a hotel and tavern, on this lot at the site of the present McClure's tavern (Scanlan, box 5). In 1821 (A/6), Lapointe sold the 96-foot-wide lot to Joseph Rolette for \$650. When Rolette mortgaged this lot to his brother in 1823 (A/35), lots 20 and 21 contained four dwelling houses and two stables.

Like lot 19, this lot was auctioned after Rolette's death and changed hands until it ended up in the joint ownership of Emilie Rolette Hooe and Benjamin F. Fay, who sold off individual lots after 1856. After platting, lot 20 was

located on both sides of Rolette street.

Village Lot 21

The American State Papers confirm title of main village lot 21 to Joseph Rolette (ASP 4/875). The lot was described as being 180 feet wide, and fronting on Water Street. Rolette purchased this lot in 1816 from Basil Giard, who had lived on lot 21 since 1788 (A/21). According to the deed of sale, the lot contained two houses, one of which was for offices, and dependencies. Giard was an early settler of Prairie du Chien and was one of the three men on behalf of the trading community at Prairie to whom Governor Sinclair, the British governor of Mackinac, granted formal possession of nine square miles of prairie north of the Wisconsin River's mouth in 1781 (Scanlan, 70). Rolette owned this lot until his death in 1841 and lived in a house constructed on this site (Oerichbauer, 85).

Like lot 19, this lot was auctioned after Rolette's death. It changed hands until Emilie Rolette Hooe and B. F. Fay became joint owners in 1856, and they both began to sell off individual lots soon after. After platting in 1853, lot 21 was just south of Rolette Street.

Village Lot 22

When the British evacuated Prairie du Chien at the end of the War of 1812, they burned Fort McKay behind them. American troops returned to Prairie du Chien in 1816 to rebuild the fort, which was renamed Fort Crawford. Colonel Chambers removed the occupants of the sites he wanted, by exchanging their lots for ones south of the main village (Scanlan, 125). James McFarlane, who owned lot 10, had come from Pennsylvania in 1808 (Scanlan, 86). He was granted lot 22 in exchange for lot 10, as seen in the American State Papers (4/875).

After McFarlane's death in 1826, Rolette acquired lot 22 and "dwelling house" (A/163). In 1847 (F/95), Thomas Owens acquired this lot from the estate of James Hendricks. He formed a brief partnership with John H. Londerman in the ownership of this land, but bought him out in 1855 (H/34). Owen sold the entire lot 22 to John Lawler in 1864 (18/473), and Lawler, agent for the railroad, sold off individual lots soon thereafter. The 120-foot-wide lot 22 ran through the middle of the blocks between Rolette Street and present Blackhawk Avenue.

Village Lot 23

The American State Papers confirm title of lot 23 to Antoine Lachapelle in 1820 (ASP 4/875). Lot 23 had been given to Lachapelle in 1816 by Col. Chambers in exchange for lot 9. Lot 23, described in the original patent as being 72 feet wide, was owned by the LaChapelle family until it was sold in 1852 by Antoine's son, Pierre LaChapelle, to Josephine Brisbois, the daughter of Michael Brisbois (G/62). By 1859, Josephine and her husband Joel D. Jones

had begun to sell off individual lots (N/174). After platting in 1853, lot 23 ran between the present day Blackhawk Avenue and Rolette Street.

Village Lot 24

The narrowest of the village lots, lot 24, was only 50 feet wide. As early as 1825, it was bound on the south by a street, which was moved in 1857 to village lot 26, where it forms the present Blackhawk Avenue. As recorded in the American State Papers (4/875), Francois Galorneau obtained title to lot 24 in an exchange with Col. Chambers for Fort Crawford land.

In 1825 (A/105), Galorneau, or Gallerno, sold part of this lot to Jacob Forsenot for \$12. The land conveyed was 50 feet front by 376 feet depth, and was located in the east of lot 24, being bound in the east by the prairie leading to the marais. Jacob Forsenot's widow Mariah married Era Putnam and in 1845 (F/45) the Putnams sold to Benjamin Boudrie a 50 by 150 feet section, bound on the east by the rest of the Putnams' property, and on the west by the part of lot 24 that Gallerno had not sold to Forsenot. After Boudrie's death, Charles Weidemer bought up the interests of the Boudrie heirs between 1857 and 1865 (K/158, M/33, 20/265) and he sold off individual lots soon after.

The rest of the Putnams' holdings measured 50 feet by 276 feet, and were located in the easternmost end of lot 24. This they sold to Alonzo Pelton for \$50 in 1853 (G/154). In 1867 (24/62), Pelton sold this property, which had been platted into two lots, to Charles Weidemer.

In 1836 (C/44), Francois Galorneau sold to Hyacinth St. Cyr all of lot 24, although he had previously sold all but the west 80 feet. This was not changed in the acts until 1845 (E/324) when Michael St. Cyr's property was seized in a court action. At this time the lot was described as being 50 feet wide by 80 feet, bound on the east by Boudrie. This small lot was appraised at \$100 by two disinterested parties. Theodore Bugbee acquired the lot at the sheriff's auction in 1848 (F/324) and his heirs, all from New England, sold the lot for \$1,000 to Thomas A. Savage in 1856 (I/312).

Village Lot 25

The American State Papers confirm title of lot 25 to Joseph Crele (ASP 4/875). Pierre LaPointe and Michael Brisbois testified that Col. Chambers had given Crele this lot in exchange for lands seized in 1816 for use by the U.S. Army. Lot 25 was described as being 62 feet wide.

In 1830, Joseph Crele (or Crelly) sold lot 25 to Francois Labatte (A/305). The deed of mortgage stated that the property included one building and improvements (A/308). Three years later Labatte sold lot 25 to James Reed (A/487). According to Scanlan's research (box 5), Reed had obtained a tavern license in 1823 and opened a hotel here in 1834, a year after purchasing lot 25. When Reed bought lot 25, its northern boundary was a public road that

crossed the island from river to marais. In 1857 this road was moved to the south of lot 25 and is the present Blackhawk Avenue.

In 1846 (F/48), Reed sold lot 25 to Michael Gauthier, who sold the south half of the lot in 1851 (F/502) to Michael Bernatz, whom the 1850 census listed as a baker. The deed states that a two-story building was included on this portion of the lot. The remaining northern portion of lot 25 was sold to the Gauthier children and contained a one-story building (F/96). In 1857 (L/76), Bernatz began to subdivide his portion of lot 25.

TYPES AND STYLES

The buildings in the project area are invariably simple in style and modest in size. By no means are they representative of Prairie du Chien architecture as a whole. The most elaborate examples of architecture in Prairie, such as the Villa Louis and the Dousman House, are in the Fourth Ward but excluded from the project because they are already entered in the National Register. After 1850 or so, or the time that current architectural styles began to be reflected in Prairie buildings, the more fashionable addresses were on the mainland and out of the project area. What remain for this study are mostly vernacular buildings, designed for comfort and not style, built for shelter and not to make a statement, yet revealing of how the ordinary resident lived.

Whole areas of architectural development characteristic of the rest of the city are not found in the project area. For example, the local buff-colored limestone rock, seen in important buildings such as the county courthouse, rock Fort Crawford, and the Diamond Jo Warehouse, was not used in any of the modest residences in the project area although it is found on the island in several of the buildings already on the National Register. Whole architectural styles, such as Gothic Revival and Italianate, are not found in the project, but they too are certainly present in the rest of the city. Nor could any architects be identified, although that does not mean that there were none. Many of these houses, however, were probably designed and built without an architect.

Some sense of style is reflected in these simple houses. The Greek Revival gives way to the irregular floor plans of the Victorian Gothic, which yields to a flurry of bungalow building around the First World War. Many of the houses possess a timeless quality, though; they could really have been built at any time. They are solid and well-built, yet flexible enough to adjust to many families. The most common feature of houses in the project area is the enclosed porch, revealing a gradual adding on, sometimes in several directions. The simple rectangular house, either one or two stories, is expanded by an addition to the rear or to the side, in which case it becomes an L-shaped house: Then the space in the angle is filled in with a porch, which eventually is enclosed, and the house is square again. Yet out the rear another porch has been added, expanding the house again. With this expansion as the norm, a house is never quite finished, because there is no ultimate state.

Yet what is most important about the architecture of the project area is not the style but the type. Because the project area includes the part of Prairie du Chien that was settled first and continues to be occupied, it has the potential for including the earliest type of construction techniques. Although no colonial French building types were found, two houses of horizontal squared timber construction are indicative of early 19th century building. After about 1840, framed construction came into use, as well as brick. The styles that became popular are perhaps better represented outside of the project area, but the types of building, important to an understanding of Prairie du Chien's development, are found here.

The building materials reflect local availability. Wood, of course, was most common, and of that, oak and pine predominant. Much of the timber came from Iowa across the river, and other locations upstream, because the village's immediate surrounding area was soon depleted. In 1819, Inspector General A. P. Hayne noted while visiting Fort Crawford that, "The great difficulty is to obtain fuel. They have to go 6 miles for wood" (Scanlan, 126). The steamboats also consumed vast quantities of timber which had to be imported. Nonetheless, wood was the easiest material to obtain. Concerning the construction of rock Fort Crawford, Scanlan (p. 138) notes that "brick was burned extensively in Prairie du Chien, the clay along the bluffs being used for the purpose," and that in 1829, 80,000 bricks were burned. Despite this availability of brick, Newcomb (p. 127) says that the first brick house in the State was built in 1840 in DePere, and the first documented brick house in Prairie was the Folsom House of 1842. Also, it was not uncommon to bring bricks from St. Louis by steamboat, as H. L. Dousman did for the building of Villa Louis. The red brick of the 1840s was replaced by the more popular Milwaukee buff brick of the 1870s, but none of the latter is found in the project area. Today, the twentieth-century fondness for fake-brick asphalt siding is all too apparent in the project area.

The earliest documented building in Prairie du Chien is the American Fur Warehouse, a stone structure listed on the National Register, and built about 1830. While it is generally acknowledged that an 1807 flood destroyed most of the buildings in the town at that time, it is also possible that the high water of 1826, which forced the troops to evacuate old Fort Crawford (Scanlan, 137), might have done similar damage to the town. At any rate, no building in the project area that stylistically or structurally might belong to the 1820s or earlier could be found. Located just outside the project area, however, the Strange Powers House at 338 N. Main Street is a fine example of French colonial building techniques. This house is constructed of vertical square timbers mortised into a square timber still. Between these vertical posts, which are spaced about four feet apart, are horizontal round poles, apparently once covered with whitewashed clay. The Strange Powers House is thought to date from the early 1820s.

An idea of what the British-ruled, French-influenced Prairie du Chien might have looked like can be gained from the travelers' reports, which Oerichbauer has reprinted. But by excerpting just the portions relating to building style and construction type, a clear picture emerges. Thomas Anderson, 1800: "Except one framed one, the houses were all built of logs, plastered with mud, and covered either with cedar, elm or black ash bark" (Oerichbauer, 75). Lt. Zebulon Pike, 1805: "...part of the houses are framed, and in place of weatherboarding there are small logs let into mortises made in the uprights, joined close, daubed on the outside with clay, and handsomely whitewashed within" (Oerichbauer, 76). In 1856, J. H. Lockwood described Prairie in 1816: "The houses were built by planting posts upright in the ground with grooves in them, so that the sides could be filled in with split timber or round poles, and then plastered over with clay, and white-washed with a white earth found in the vicinity, and then covered with bark, or clapboards, riven from oak" (Oerichbauer, 90). Obviously, the French type of construction found in the Strange Powers House once dominated the village of Prairie du Chien.

Fort Crawford, heralding the arrival of United States governance, was built of horizontal squared timbers in 1816 (Oerichbauer, 82). This type of construction was subsequently used in Prairie for at least forty years. Introduced to colonial America by Scandinavians in Delaware in 1638, the log cabin had become the typical American frontier dwelling by the time of the American Revolution (Shurtleff, 4). It was a natural construction type for a wooded countryside, and needed no tools other than those used in felling the trees, namely an axe (Newcomb, 48). Even after the establishment of Prairie's first sawmill in 1819 (Scanlan, box 5), houses continued to be built of logs, although they were often covered with clapboards.

Unfortunately, for the two log structures identified in the project area, construction dates are difficult to determine. Merilla Coorough's house at 419 Fifth Street (File #62) was moved to its present site in 1900 from an undetermined location northwest of the Villa Louis. In its original state it was a rectangular, one-and-one-half story, gable-roofed building, with the entrance in the center of the long side. The logs were squared and laid horizontally, neatly dovetailed at the corners. The other log structure is at 113 Villa Louis Road (#33), and it could have been built as late as the 1860s. It has two and one-half stories, but like the other one, it is rectangular with the long side toward the street and a gable roof. As far as could be determined, it too has horizontal squared timbers, but in the basement the floor joists are seen to be round. Nonetheless, for a frontier style, these log structures are the best demonstration of Prairie as a frontier settlement.

As Rexford Newcomb noted (p. 126), the log cabin was the principal structural type in the old Northwest until the introduction of the Greek Revival style. This style reached Prairie by 1840 and continued in use until after 1860. But its influence was exceedingly subtle: no columned porches or pedimented gables can be found in the project area. Instead, the style is reflected in rectangular buildings with gable facades, which hint at a temple form, and occasional returns on the gables, reminiscent of a pediment. The Greek Revival style's tendency towards simplicity meshed easily with the simple vernacular of frontier Prairie du Chien.

One of the most delightful examples of the vernacular Greek Revival is the small brick building at 210 Villa Louis (#26). Its rectangular shape and gable front are reminiscent of a Greek temple, as is its site on a mound. This house has a three-bay facade with one window in the gable. Two other nearby houses are similar, but with a slightly steeper roof pitch. These are 215 Villa Louis (#24) and 109 Villa Louis (#35), which also have a three-bay gable facade with a single window in the gable. All three of these buildings are probably contemporary and could dated from the 1840s. A fine example from the 1850s is the two-story three-bay house with a side-hall entrance at 222 Villa Louis (#22); the doorway has rectangular sidelights. Gable facades continued to be popular into the 1860s and 1870s. The houses at 200 Villa Louis (#28) and 219 Fourth (#54) are similar, both exhibiting two-story, two-bay gable facades, and both built in 1867. This same type is seen with ells at 128 Villa Louis (#30) and 1403 S. First (#135); these both date from about 1870. One-story three-bay gable-facade houses are found in the twin buildings

at 116 and 112 Villa Louis (#34 and #36), from 1871. The houses at 122 Villa Louis (#31) and 1420 S. Main (#127) might have been similar when they were built in 1867, but they are now altered. One embellishment traceable to the Greek Revival style is returns on the gable, which is seen in three two-story buildings dating from the 1870s. These are 120 S. Villa Louis (#43), 512 Bolvin (#75), and 314 Bolvin (#73).

One could argue that these simple buildings are purely vernacular, uninfluenced by any style, and that a gable facade does not a temple make. But it is indisputable that nearly all of the houses built between 1840 and 1870 had gable facades. The prevalence of a style, or an accepted building design, is obvious when the twenty-five buildings in the project area dating from 1840 to 1876 are compared: their similarity is striking. Furthermore, the lack of architects meant that builders were responsible for design. Rexford Newcomb noted:

The majority of Wisconsin's early builders come from the East; hence they were versed in the Greek Revival, which was then popular. They based their work upon the handbooks of Asher Benjamin and Minard Lafever, which they imported, from time to time making such changes as were dictated by life in the West, the climate of the new country, or the materials employed. The result was an indigenous type of Greek Revival different from that of any other state of the Old Northwest (p. 127).

In Prairie du Chien, it seems as though the builders omitted all Greek Revival ornament, but were content with the classical form.

After 1875, there was little building in the project area, and what there was tended to be simple. Although some gable facades persisted, these were often found in two-story, L-shaped buildings, such as 230 Villa Louis (#21), 212 Fourth (#55), 209 Fisher (#88), 416 Fifth (#64), and 419 Villa Louis (#70). Only one house has the varied facade and projecting bays that are associated with this period of architecture: 312 Fourth (#49), built at the early date of 1871. This reflects the fact that the more ostentatious building was being done on the mainland, out of the project area, after 1875.

A hint of the Gothic Revival is seen in the appearance of the cross-gable roof. Although none of these roofs are so steep as to earn their houses a claim to being in the Gothic Revival style, these roofs are undoubtedly influenced by picturesque Downing cottages. The houses are all large two-story structures, and are located at 120 S. Villa Louis (#43), 314 Bolvin (#73), both from the 1870s, 206 Fourth (#57) from 1880, and 217 McLeod (#141) from 1890. Particularly of interest is 314 Bolvin, which is a square building with jigsawed window surrounds and corner pilasters.

In the first quarter of the twentieth century, building activity increased in the project area. By and large, these new buildings were in the bungalow style, a simple one-story functional house, often featuring a front porch. These bungalows are neither exclusive to the area nor do they display any regional characteristics. Instead, they represent a kind of mass-market

architecture, foreshadowing the popularity of pre-fabricated housing. Examples of the bungalow abound. Those with gable facades are: 227 Fourth (#51), and 231 Fourth (#50), 122 Second (#9), 124 Second (#8), and 316 Villa Louis (#19). Bungalows with hipped roofs are 408 Villa Louis (#17), 324 Fourth (#47), 328 Villa Louis (#18), 410 Villa Louis (#15), and 309 Bolvin (#71). Hipped-roof bungalows with hipped-roof dormers are: 101 Fourth (#61), 414 Villa Louis (#14), 400 Fourth (#46), 404 Fourth (#44), 418 Fifth (#63), 106 Villa Louis (#37), and 403 N. Main (#115).

The bungalow paved the way for architectural styles popular after World War II: the ranch-style suburban-type home, often pre-fabricated, and its cousin the mobile home. Both of these are simple one-story structures that stay close to the ground, and they reflect not only their bungalow predecessors, but also the simple styles prevalent in the project area.

Because of the frequent high water in the project area, interiors of almost all the houses have been much altered. Many homeowners attributed their wood panelling or sheetrock interiors to the fact that the 1965 flood damaged plastered walls beyond repair. Floors are generally carpeted wall-to-wall or covered with linoleum. In addition, the necessity of raising furnaces and hot-water heaters out of the basement accounts for some of the one-story additions. But the extreme plainness of the woodwork and lack of any architectural detailing is attributable more to a preference for simplicity reflected on the exterior as well, rather than to alterations since construction.

Any observations on architectural style have to be accompanied by two words of warning. First, it must be remembered that the project area is not representative of Prairie du Chien as a whole, and that its development was erratic enough to eliminate whole eras of architectural style. Secondly, any style is boiled down to its simplest level in the project area. Ornament is rare; interior detailing even rarer. Architectural styles are seen in shape and massing rather than embellishment or detail. As such, these buildings probably represent the vernacular more than anything else. They are simple buildings, influenced by styles, but wholly the work of the local builder.

I. PREFERRED PRE-1876

Properties included in this category are those determined to have been built prior to 1876. Identification of these structures was made using the 1870 bird's-eye view of Prairie du Chien, the 1876 map of the city, and research of tax and deed records for Crawford County. Properties within this category were ranked as preferred structures because they reflected the architectural styles and construction techniques associated with the period of urban evolution that transformed Prairie du Chien from a frontier fur-trading post into an active crossroad of the nineteenth-century midwestern transportation network. The inventory form for each building has its own individual statement of significance.

History Cont'd: are valued at \$300. In the 1870 and 1876 maps, houses are indicated on all four lots, so it is difficult to tell when any one of them might have been built.

2 CLASSIFICATION YES NO URBAN RURAL

4 DANGER OF DEMOLITION? (PULCH Y THREAT) YES NO

5 DATE August 1978

6 GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT

7 OWNER/ADMIN Mrs. Orlan Reed

8 NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE
210 Villa Louis
File #26

9 COUNTY NAME Prairie du Chien CITY/VICINITY Prairie du Chien

10 STATE COUNTY COUNTY NAME CITY/VICINITY COUNTY DIST CONG DIST

11 STATE ADDRESS STREET NO 210 Villa Louis

12 EXISTING SURVEYS HRS HAER-1 HAER STATE LOCAL OTHER

13 SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW) INTERIOR INTACT EXTERIOR INTACT ENVIRONS INTACT

14 CONDITION 70 EXCELLENT 71 GOOD 72 FAIR 73 DETRIMENTAL 74 POOR 75 UNEXPOSED 76 ALTERED 77 DESTROYED 85 DEMOLISHED

15 CONSTRUCTION 70 EXCELLENT 71 GOOD 72 FAIR 73 DETRIMENTAL 74 POOR 75 UNEXPOSED 76 ALTERED 77 DESTROYED 85 DEMOLISHED

16 INVESTIGATED BY Alison K. Hoagland & Bradley T. Frandsen AFFILIATION HABS DATE Summer 1978

17 DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), HISTORICAL DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, EXISTING EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

Description: Brick, rectangular, one and one-half story, gable roof, cinder block addition on north, porch with turned columns on west and south sides, white-painted bricks are laid in a common bond, seven rows of stretchers separated by a row of headers, west gable front facade has three bays, sidehall door, with one window in gable, windows have wooden lintels about 5" wide and two-over-two lights, southeast corner was replaced when wall crumbled; new windows in east and south facade.

Interior had two rooms, but owner tore out part of dividing wall. Partition consisted of board door that led to stairs to attic, similar closet door next to it, stove in middle, with chimney, and cupboard next to it, all removed, plaster over brick interior, now wood panelling, upstairs consists of two rooms with slanted walls. (CONT OVER)

18 ORIGINAL USE PRESENT USE ADAPTIVE USE

19 REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER residence

20 JURISDICTION AREA 50 000 POP OR MORE? YES NO

21 HRS Reg 10112 PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY YES LIMITED YES UNLIMITED NO UNKNOWN

22 LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO

23 EDITOR INDEXER

24 DISTRICT ID NO

(CONT O/EPI)

History: The house was probably built before 1853, but how long before is difficult to determine. The building is located on main village lot 19, which Marshal Mann sold to Jean Brunet in 1824 (A/65). The lot changed hands several times after 1829 until Joseph Rolette acquired it in 1835 (B/142). After Rolette's death in 1841, the lot again had several owners before Emilie Rolette Hooe acquired it in 1845 (E/447). After the large village lot was platted, Emilie Hooe sold two smaller lots to Paulina Hurd in 1853 (G/268) for \$195. Paulina Hurd's husband Dennis was a tavern keeper, and the 1850 census shows Emilie Hooe living in the same house with them. In the earliest tax records, 1857, this property is assessed at \$200 in the name of Paulina Hurd. After Paulina's death in 1887, her heirs lost the property in a court suit and it was auctioned to Charles A. Patzloff (52/252). The house's location on a mound is a prime site to have been built on early.

Significance Cont'd: The rarity of this red brick on the island makes its method of construction significant, and the modest size of this two-room, one-and-one-half story residence represents what was probably a common dwelling house.

1 PRIORITY 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

2 NAME OF STRUCTURE
200 Villa Louis
File #28

3 DATE OF DEMOLITION? (CAPTURE THREAT) YES NO

4 GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT

5 DATE **August 1978**

6 OWNER'S ADDRESS
City of Prairie du Chien
same

7 OWNER ADMIN

8 STATE COUNTY CITY VICINITY COUNTY NAME
 STATE COUNTY VICINITY COUNTY NAME
 STATE COUNTY VICINITY COUNTY NAME

9 EXISTING SURVEYS NHL CORP STATE LOCAL OTHER

10 SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW)
 INTERIOR INTACT EXTERIOR INTACT ENVIRONMENTAL

11 SCALE 1/4" 1/2" OTHER

12 SCALE 1/4" 1/2" OTHER

13 QUAD NAME QUAD NAME

14 DETERIORATED 70 UNEXPOSED 71 DESTROYED 85 DEMOLISHED

15 AFFILIATION **HABS** DATE **Summer 1978**

16 ALIEN K. Hoagland, & Bradley T. Frandsen

17 DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), HISTORICAL DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, EXISTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC

Description: Asphalt siding over frame, rectangular, two stories, gable roof, west gable facade two bays wide with front porch, house two bays deep, modest oriel on one window south side has upper pane of leaded glass, porch also on south side has turned columns, former owner Dorcas Olson says that the house was insulated with sawdust between 2 x 4 studs, sawdust since removed.

History: Built about 1867. Located on main village lot 20, this property was sold by Emilie Rolette Hooe to H. H. Hall in 1859 (0/389). Hall sold this lot and another to William D. Merrell who sold it to H. L. Dousman. Dousman sold this lot alone to Henry Hurley for \$65 in 1865 (21/111). That year, the tax records assessed this property at only \$10, but by 1868 it was valued at \$150. Hurley kept the property for over twenty years, selling to C.C. DeLorimer in 1886 (49/128) for \$450.

18 USE OF GENERAL USE PRESENT USE ADAPTIVE USE

19 RESIDENCE residence residence

20 REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES PERSONAL CONTACTS AND/OR OTHER

21 NRS Region 102 PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY YES LIMITED YES UNLIMITED NO UNKNOWN

22 LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO NAME DISTRICT ID NO

23 CONTACTS

1 PRIORITY August 1978

2 NAME OF STRUCTURE
128 Villa Louis
File #30

3 OWNER/ADMIN
Zella Welsh

4 OWNER'S ADDRESS
same

5 CITY/STATE/COUNTY
Crawford Missouri

6 DISTRICT OF DEED
Prairie du Chien

7 COUNTY
Crawford

8 QUAD
Prairie du Chien

9 QUAD NAME
Prairie du Chien

10 QUAD NAME
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Prairie du Chien

31 QUAD NAME
Prairie du Chien

32 QUAD NAME
Prairie du Chien

33 NAME OF OWNER
Alison K. Hoagland & Bradley T. Frandsen

34 AFFILIATION
HABS

35 DATE
Summer 1978

36 DESCRIPTION: Clapboard, two stories, L-shaped, gable roof, west front gable, three bays, center door, two windows above front porch, windows have small triangular lintels, walls have horizontal planks on studs. Interior much altered: walls removed, doors moved.

37 HISTORY: Built about 1870. Located on main village lot 21, this property was sold with others by Benjamin F. Fay to Amariah B. James in 1857 (L/134). Nathan S. Greene acquired it at a tax sale (18/64) and he sold it back to B.F. Fay. Fay then sold this property to John Lovewell in 1869 (32/430) for \$150. When Lovewell sold it to Ann Cortis in 1878 (36/625), the price was \$1,200. The tax records reveal that the property was valued at \$30 in 1869, and at \$350 in 1870. This house appears on 1870 and 1876 maps.

38 ORIGINAL USE
residence

39 PRESENT USE
residence

40 REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES PERSONAL CONTACTS AND/OR OTHER

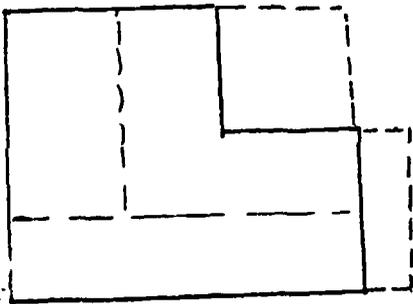
41 URBAN AREA SCORE
POP. GROWTH YES NO

42 LOCAL USE IN HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO NAME

43 DISTRICT ID NO

44 EDITOR
DATE

45 CONTACTS



← N



Roll 4 #Ba

Site location This building is a fine example of the L-shaped structures that appeared in Prairie after the Civil War and were popular until the end of the century. It is in no way unusual, however, and repeated alterations of the interior have marred its integrity. The mound on which it is located may be an Indian mound (see Oerichbauer, 103).

REFERENCES CONTINUED:

PHOTO NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	LOCATION
1	WEST END PHOTO	1894	...
2	EAST END PHOTO	1894	...
3	NORTH END PHOTO	1894	...
4	SOUTH END PHOTO	1894	...

1 NAME OF STRUCTURE 122 Villa Louis File #31	2 CITY/VICINITY Prairie du Chien	3 COUNTY NAME Crawford	4 COUNTY NUMBER 1	5 CITY NUMBER 1000	6 CONG DIST 1
7 NAME OF STRUCTURE 122 Villa Louis	8 COUNTY NAME Crawford	9 COUNTY NUMBER 1	10 CITY NUMBER 1000	11 CONG DIST 1	12 SPECIAL FEATURES - SCRIBE BELOW <input type="checkbox"/> EXTERIOR CONTACT
13 NAME OF STRUCTURE 122 Villa Louis	14 COUNTY NAME Crawford	15 COUNTY NUMBER 1	16 CITY NUMBER 1000	17 CONG DIST 1	18 SPECIAL FEATURES - SCRIBE BELOW <input type="checkbox"/> EXTERIOR CONTACT
19 NAME OF STRUCTURE 122 Villa Louis	20 COUNTY NAME Crawford	21 COUNTY NUMBER 1	22 CITY NUMBER 1000	23 CONG DIST 1	24 SPECIAL FEATURES - SCRIBE BELOW <input type="checkbox"/> EXTERIOR CONTACT

16 WHEN REPORTED BY: **Alison K. Hoagland & Bradley T. Frandsen**

17 AFFILIATION: **HABS**

18 DATE: **Summer 1978**

19 NEED FOR AND BACKGROUND HISTORY, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), HISTORICAL DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

Description: Aluminum siding over clapboard over frame, rectangular, gable roof, addition on south, door in corner of L. Owner says that when interior walls were replaced after 1965, 2 x 4 studs were revealed. Owner put window in west wall as well as added south wing. Originally, the rectangular building had a door on the west end of the south wall, a bedroom in the northwest corner, a living room to the east of that, and a kitchen in the east end.

History: Built about 1867. Located on main village lot 22, this property was sold by John Lawler to Patrick Burk in 1866 (20/609) for \$100, although that same year the tax records list it at a value of only \$10. In 1868 (23/584) Burk sold it to Nehemiah Lovewell for \$400, and that year it is valued at \$130. The house is indicated on the 1870 birdseye map with a windowless west wall.

25 ORIGINAL USE	PRESENT USE	ADAPTIVE USE
residence	residence	
26 REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER		
27 URBAN AREA 455000 POP OR MORE? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	28 HCRS Region 12 PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY <input type="checkbox"/> YES LIMITED <input type="checkbox"/> YES UNLIMITED <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN	29 CONTACTER
30 LOCAL EDINBURGH HISTORIC DISTRICT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	31 NAME	DISTRICT ID NO

1. TITLE: **113 Villa Louis**

2. ADDRESS: **113 Villa Louis, File #33**

3. CITY: **Prairie du Chien**

4. COUNTY: **Crawford**

5. STATE: **MO**

6. ZIP CODE: **64570**

7. DATE OF RECORDING: **August 1978**

8. OWNER: **Esther Obmacher**

9. TYPE OF STRUCTURE: **113 Villa Louis**

10. COUNTY NAME: **Crawford**

11. CITY/VICINITY: **Prairie du Chien**

12. COUNTY: **Crawford**

13. STATE: **MO**

14. ZIP CODE: **64570**

15. DATE OF RECORDING: **August 1978**

16. OWNER: **Esther Obmacher**

17. ADDRESS: **695 E. Blackhawk**

18. EXTERIOR CONTACT: EXTERIOR CONTACT

19. INTERIOR CONTACT: INTERIOR CONTACT

20. SPECIAL FEATURES (CHECK ONE BELOW):

21. EXTERIOR CONTACT: EXTERIOR CONTACT

22. INTERIOR CONTACT: INTERIOR CONTACT

23. SPECIAL FEATURES (CHECK ONE BELOW):

24. EXTERIOR CONTACT: EXTERIOR CONTACT

25. INTERIOR CONTACT: INTERIOR CONTACT

26. OWNER: **Alison K. Hoagland & Bradley T. Frandsen**

27. AFFILIATION: **HABS**

28. DATE: **Summer 1978**

29. DESCRIPTION: **Clapboard over square timbers, two and one-half story, rectangular, gable roof, enclosed porch front and rear, windows two-over-two; gable facade has three windows, one at each level, east front facade has three bays, center door, south facade shows brick chimney with supporting studs, horizontal square timbers also visible. Basement has round timbers as joists, remnants of two stone arches, small room northeast corner has arched vault and stone walls, whitewashed. Interior has one room each side of center stairway; first level interior has wood panelling, linoleum floors; northeast room has beaded ceiling, which owner says covers hand-hewn beams; ceiling in south room is tile over beading, also over beams; second floor has the narrow-board panelling.**

30. HISTORY: **This house might have been built any time during the Lachapelles' long ownership of the land, or in 1860 for**

31. PRESENT USE: **residence**

32. ADAPTIVE USE: **residence**

33. REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES PERSONAL CONTACTS AND/OR OTHER: **residence**

34. URBAN AREA 50,000 POP OR MORE? YES NO

35. OCCURRED IN A HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO

36. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY: YES LIMITED YES UNLIMITED NO UNKNOWN

37. DISTRICT ID NO: **113**

23	EDITOR	
24	INSETER	

History Cont'd:

Josephine B. Jones. Main village lot 23 was given to Antoine Lachapelle in 1816 by Col. Chambers of the U.S. Army in exchange for village lot 9. In 1837 (F/538), Antoine Lachapelle sold the lot to his wife Pelagie, née Lapointe. After her death in 1850, Pierre Lachapelle bought up the interests of his fellow heirs (F/334, F/537, G/27), and sold the lot to his sister-in-law Josephine Brisbois for \$250 in 1852 (G/62). Josephine Brisbois and her husband Joel D. Jones subdivided the large village lot and sold an undivided half of two 40 by 145 foot lots to Minnie Erdenberger in 1859 (N/154) for \$40. Tax records in 1860 value the two lots together at \$200. In 1862 (16/480, 484), they divided the holdings, each getting one lot, and in 1864 (18/502) Charles Erdenberger and his wife Minnie bought the Jones's lot for \$25. It is possible that Erdenberger was involved in the building of this house, and that these transactions involved payment for his work. The 1860 census indicates that Erdenberger was a German-born mason. When Erdenberger sold to Wilhelmina Fritsche in 1870 (31/80), the price was \$1,000. Previous resident Cappy West of 137 N. Minnesota recalls vault in basement being used for storing meat. He added the rear kitchen /dining room section. The wood panelling was added by the Obmaschers after the 1965 flood. There was a fire in the house in the 1930's which started in the chimney (no mortar left) and badly charred and burned the attic.

Significance Cont'd:

construction is noteworthy. The original brick chimney is also quite rare in this area, as most houses are raised during their lifetimes due to the floods, and chimneys rebuilt or removed.

CLASSIFICATION: YES NO OTHER

4. DANGER OF DEMOLITION? SPECIAL STUDY:

5. DATE: August 1978

6. GOVT SOURCE OF FUNDS:

7. OWNER/ADMIN: Lester Hubbard

8. OWNER'S ADDRESS: same

NAME OF STRUCTURE: 109 Villa Louis
 File #35

CITY VICINITY: Prairie du Chien
 COUNTY: Crawford

9. COUNTY NAME: Crawford

10. STREET ADDRESS: 109 Villa Louis

11. COUNTY: Crawford

12. COUNTY: Prairie du Chien

13. COUNTY: Prairie du Chien

14. COUNTY: Prairie du Chien

15. COUNTY: Prairie du Chien

16. COUNTY: Prairie du Chien

17. COUNTY: Prairie du Chien

18. COUNTY: Prairie du Chien

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47. COUNTY: Prairie du Chien

48. COUNTY: Prairie du Chien

49. COUNTY: Prairie du Chien

50. COUNTY: Prairie du Chien

11. SPECIAL FEATURES (SEE BELOW)

12. INTERIOR RELAT:

13. INTERIOR CONTACT:

14. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

15. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

16. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

17. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

18. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

19. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

20. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

21. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

22. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

23. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

24. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

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48. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

49. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

50. EXTERIOR CONTACT:

Alison K. Hoagland & Bradley T. Frandsen
 HABS
 ATTORNEYS

DESCRIPTION: Asphalt shingles over frame, one and one-half story, L-shaped, gable roof, east front gable facade has one window second level, three bays and center door first level, ell to south somewhat lower, six-over-six windows with molding.

HISTORY: Built before 1845. Located on main village lot 24, this property is part of the eastern 376 feet sold by Francis Gallerno to Jacob Forsenot in 1825 (A/105). Forsenot's widow Mariah married Era Putnam and they apparently rented out this lot. The Putnams sold it to Benjamin Boudrie in 1845 (F/45) for \$20. This section, 50 by 150 feet, is the size of the lot as platted in 1853. The act stipulated that it was "the lot on which Boudrie now resides." William Boudrie, an heir, sold his third interest to Alpheus Wright in 1857 (K/158), and eight months later (M/33) Wright

18. ORIGINAL USE: residence

19. REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER: residence

20. UPBAY AREA 50 000 POP OR MORE? YES NO

21. HCRS Regio 12 PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY YES, LIMITED YES, UNLIMITED UNKNOWN

22. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO

23. EDITOR INDEXER

DISTRICT ID NO

History: sold it to Charles Weidner, or Weidemer. These two acts mentioned that the land conveyed was supposed to include lot 20 of block 26, or this lot. The earliest tax records, 1857, indicate a building here, and it is probably the same building in which Boudrie was living in 1845.

1 PROPERTY
2 DATE
August 1978

3 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
4 COUNTY
5 COUNTY NAME
6 COUNTY
7 COUNTY

8 NAMES OF CONSTRUCTORS
108 S. Villa Louis
File #41

9 OWNER'S ADDRESS
Elizabeth Vance
same

10 STATE
11 COUNTY NAME
Crawford
12 EXPIRING SURVEY
13 SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW)

14 CITY/VICINITY
Prairie du Chien
15 HABS
16 STATE
17 COUNTY
18 LOCAL
19 OTHER

20 CONSTRUCTION HISTORY (INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATES) HISTORICAL DATA (S) PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS
21 HOURS Regi On: 2 PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY
22 URBAN AREA \$7,000 POP CAPTURE
23 LOCATED IN HISTORIC DISTRICT?

24 ORIGINAL USE
25 PRESENT USE
26 ADAPTIVE USE
27 REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES PERSONAL CONTACTS AND/OR OTHER

28 ORIGINAL USE
29 PRESENT USE
30 ADAPTIVE USE
31 REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES PERSONAL CONTACTS AND/OR OTHER

32 URBAN AREA \$7,000 POP CAPTURE
33 LOCATED IN HISTORIC DISTRICT?

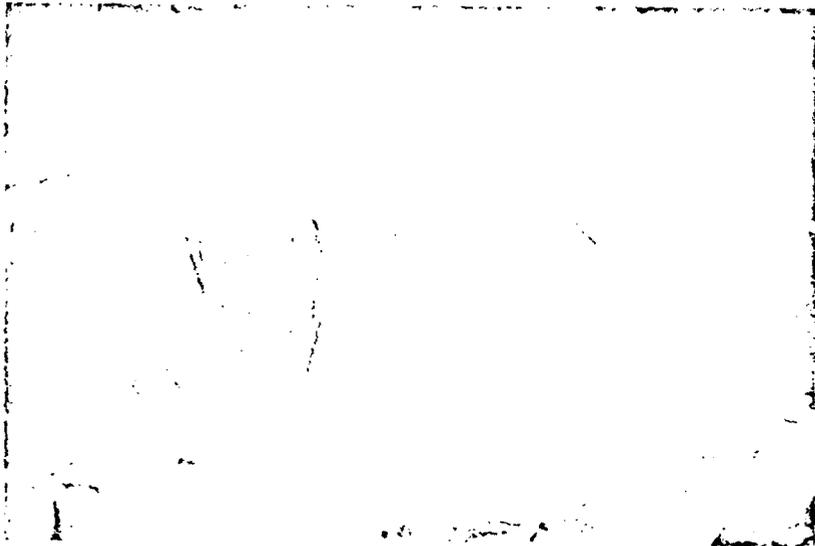
Alison K. Hoagland & Bradley T. Frandsen

Description: Asphalt shingles over clapboarding, one story, L-shaped, gable roof, windows two-over-two, west gable facade has three bays, center door.

History: This house is located on main village lot 27 which was never platted. The 1876 tax records list lot 27 as divided into seven different portions, none of them measured. The highest assessed value of any portion is \$70 for Patrick O'Tool, but it is difficult to determine where this portion is located, because a house appears on this site in 1870; however, it probably pre-dates 1870.

23 EDITOR	
24 MADE-UP	
DISTRICT ID NO	

SITES AND SAEIC-7442 POPULATION

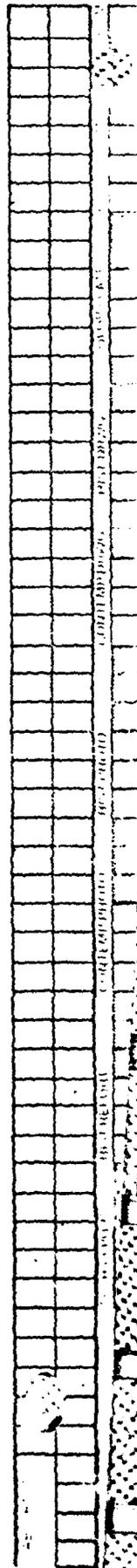


DOVETAILING
NORTHWEST
CORNER

Site location

This structure serves as an example of a distinctive method of construction. The use of squared hewn timbers, laid horizontally, and neatly dove-tailed at the corners was a construction technique used among pioneers in this country when milled lumber, stone, or brick were not available. As the log house could be constructed from the products obtained in clearing land, it was a style of building ideally suited to the rugged American frontier.

Despite the fact that this structure was moved from its original site it retains its integrity. Log construction has been a common technique in Prairie du Chien since its earliest times, as numerous travellers have reported. Today few of these structures remain. This structure, although its date is not ascertainable, acts as a reminder of the common building materials and methods of the early pioneers of Prairie du Chien.

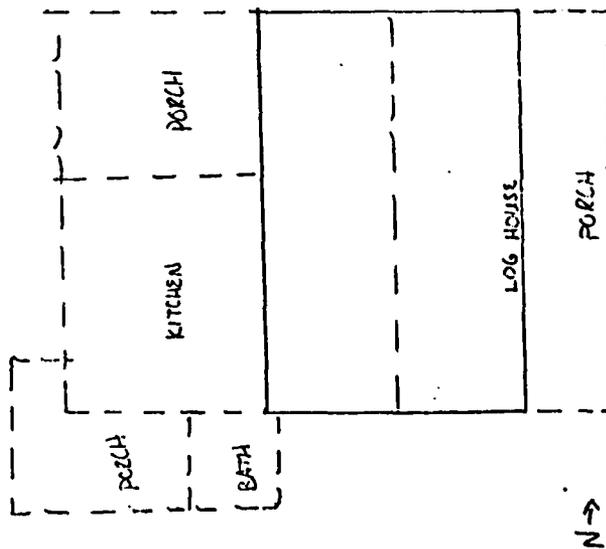


Description: northeast and northwest rooms was closed up, there was a stove in northeast corner of southwest room (kitchen) and southwest corner of northeast room, window put in east facade, north end. The plastered interior walls were covered with wood panelling after the 1965 flood.

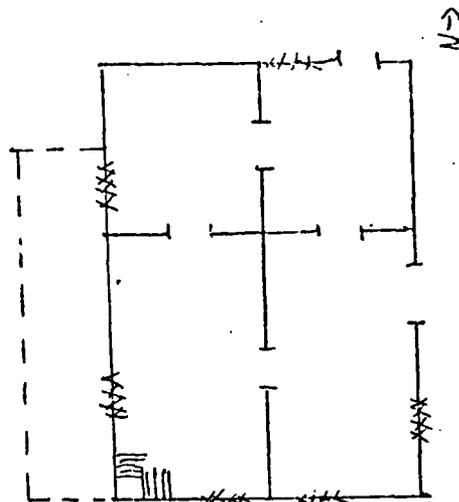
History: According to former owner Merilla Coorough, this building was moved to the present site by Charles Gremore from the northwest corner of the Villa Louis grounds. Her father remembered attending dances at the house on its former site.

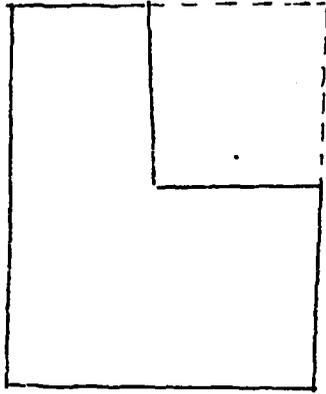
Gremore acquired two lots at the present site in 1892 and 1895 from different owners for \$10 each (53/536, 57/282). Tax records indicate that he moved the house in 1900. George Coorough bought the house in 1902. Merilla Coorough moved there when she was seven years old and lived there until she was 83. She moved from her life-long home in 1978.

Because it is unknown from whom Gremore purchased the house, it is impossible to tell just where or when it was built. In examining the parcels of land northwest of Villa Louis, one lot does suggest itself as a possible site. The tax records show that in 1902 John Lawler's estate owned a 60 by 100 foot lot in the southwest corner of main village lot 7 that had no improvements on it. He had acquired it from the railroad company, who had purchased it from Harriet Gardipi about 1885. Gardipi acquired the west part of main village lot 7 from Guillaume, or William, St. Germain between 1876 and 1880. St. Germain is listed as the owner of the lot in the first tax record, 1857, when it is valued at \$350. Of course, it is only speculation that St. Germain once owned this log house, but it is a logical explanation for why such a small lot, with no improvements on it in 1902, was distinguished from the larger village lots.



SKETCH PLAN 419 FIFTH ST. (#62)





↑ N

cell #6

Site location

This house could have been built as rental property by either H. L. Dousman or E. W. Pelton, both wealthy landholders. The construction technique, though, is unusual. Because the house is still inhabited, no destructive testing could be done. If indeed this house proves to be frame with brick nogging, it might be related to the Rollette House, still standing on Water Street, which also has brick nogging between studs and dates from 1842. Later renovations, though, have severely impaired the integrity of this structure. Without the brick between the posts, the building is more important for what it was than what it is.

REFERENCES CONTINUED

1857-1860	1861-1864	1865-1868	1869-1872	1873-1876	1877-1880	1881-1884	1885-1888	1889-1892	1893-1896	1897-1900	1901-1904	1905-1908	1909-1912	1913-1916	1917-1920	1921-1924	1925-1928	1929-1932	1933-1936	1937-1940	1941-1944	1945-1948	1949-1952	1953-1956	1957-1960	1961-1964	1965-1968	1969-1972	1973-1976	1977-1980	1981-1984	1985-1988	1989-1992	1993-1996	1997-2000
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History: sold the village lot to E. W. Pelton (E/376). After subdivision in 1853, Pelton sold this smaller lot to Joseph Wilhaber in 1858 (M/441) for a token one dollar. The 1860 tax records value this property at \$200, so the house was probably already standing. In 1866 (23/35) Wilhaber sold to Christopher Nugent, who lived there until his death in 1907 (78/545). The 1889 pamphlet of the proceedings of the county board has advertisements on it, one of which is for "Nugent Brothers Livery" (Scanlan box 5).

The owner claims that this house was built about 1840 by his great grandfather John Peter Fernette, a French Canadian who was given the land and materials to build his own house as payment for being head carpenter at the building of the Dousmans' house nearby. No evidence can be found to support this. J. P. Fernette may have rented the land; however, this would not show up in the records.

Office of Technology Conservation

1 CLASSIFICATION

2 PRIORITY

3 DATE

4 PRIORITY OF HISTORIC PROPERTY (HHA)

5 DATE

6 GOVT SOURCE OF FUNDS

7 OWNER/ADMIN

8 NAMES OF STRUCTURE

9 OWNER'S ADDRESS

10 STATE COUNTY CITY VICINITY CONG DIST

11 STATE ADDRESS STREET & NO

12 EXISTING SURVEYS

13 SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW)

14 INTERIOR INTACT

15 EXTERIOR INTACT

16 ORIGINAL USE

17 PRESENT USE

18 URBAN AREA (5,000 POP OR MORE)

19 REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

19 REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

20 URBAN AREA (5,000 POP OR MORE)

21 HCRS Region 12 PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY

22 LOCAL MAINLAND DISTRICT

23 EDITOR

24 LOCAL MAINLAND DISTRICT

25 ALISON K. HOAGLAND & BRADLEY T. FRANZSEN

26 ORIGINAL USE: residence

27 PRESENT USE: residence

28 AFFILIATION: HABS

29 DATE: Summer 1978

30 DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATES, HISTORICAL DATES, PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, EYANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC

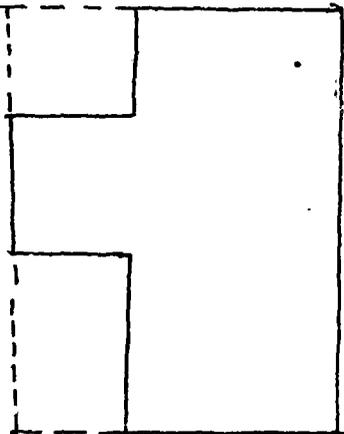
31 Description: Clapboarding over frame, T-shaped, one and one-half story, low pitched gable roof, cornice returns on gable, north front facade has three bays, center door boarded over, two windows one-over-one, one window each story in gable ends.

32 History: Built about 1870. Located on main village lot 14, this property was sold to Marie F. Aubin in 1863 (17/370). In 1865, tax records valued it at \$25, and the same in 1869, but in 1870 it was valued at \$125. The tax records listed it in the name of her husband Jacques Aubin, who, the 1870 census recorded, was a Canadian-born carpenter. He inherited it after Marie's death in 1901 (64/597).



rdl 3 #2a

N
→



Significance

This one-and-one-half story building is larger than most of its neighbors, yet it is built in an unpretentious style. The returns on the gable hint that it was Greek Revival simplicity that inspired the builder. The poor proportions of the facade, however, make the building seem awkward rather than accomplished.

REFERENCES (CONTINUED)

45-122	12	10	8	6	4	2	0	2	4	6	8	10	12
CORRECTION													
HISTORICAL													
CORRECTION													
HISTORICAL													
CORRECTION													
HISTORICAL													

310 Brisbois --- pa.

History: its location nearer the alley and squarely on lot 7 to its present raised site straddling lots 6 and 7. Both former owners firmly denied that the house was built of logs; the present owner refused to discuss the house with these researchers.

Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240

OAHHP

1. SITE ID NO. _____ CAUTION _____

2. _____

3. PRIORITY _____

4. DANGER OF DEMOLITION? (SPECIFY THREAT) YES NO

5. DATE August 1978

6. GOVT SOURCE OF THREAT _____

7. OWNER/ADMIN Mark Ingle

8. OWNER'S ADDRESS 217 Beaumont

9. NAME OF STRUCTURE 200 Fisher File #87

10. COUNTY NAME Crawford CITY/VICINITY Prairie du Chien CONG DIST _____

11. STATE _____ COUNTY _____

12. EXISTING SURVIVAL HAUS MAEN-1 MAER LOCAL OTHER

13. SPECIAL FEATURES (DESCRIBE BELOW) INTERIOR INTACT EXTERIOR INTACT EVR-RMS INTACT

14. SCALE _____ SIGN _____ QUAD NAME _____

15. SCALE _____ SIGN _____ QUAD NAME _____

16. CONDITION 70 EXCELLENT 71 GOOD 72 FAIR 73 DETERIORATED 74 RUINS 75 UNIMPOSED 76 ALTERED 77 DESTROYED 78 REMOVED

17. DATED BY _____ DATE _____

18. ATTRIBUTION HAPS SUMMER 1978

19. PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN RESEARCH AND BACKGROUND HISTORY (INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATES), HISTORICAL DATA (SI), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, AND OTHER RELEVANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

20. Alison K. Hoggland, & Bradley T. Frandsen

Description: Clapboard over frame, one story, L-shaped, gable roof, two bays in north gable facade, attic vent in gable, windows one-over-one.

History: Built about 1868, Located on main village lot 17, this house was built by Thomas A. Savage. In 1867, Savage owned six lots here valued at \$30, and in 1868 they were valued at \$450. In 1883 (41/610) he sold three lots here to Hannah Deary for \$300. Neighbor Lou Cardin at 209 Fisher recalls being sent by his father to the Deary's saloon to fetch beer.

21. CFG USE Saloon PRESENT USE residence ADAPTIVE USE _____

22. REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER _____

23. AREA NO. FOR GROUND _____

24. YES NO

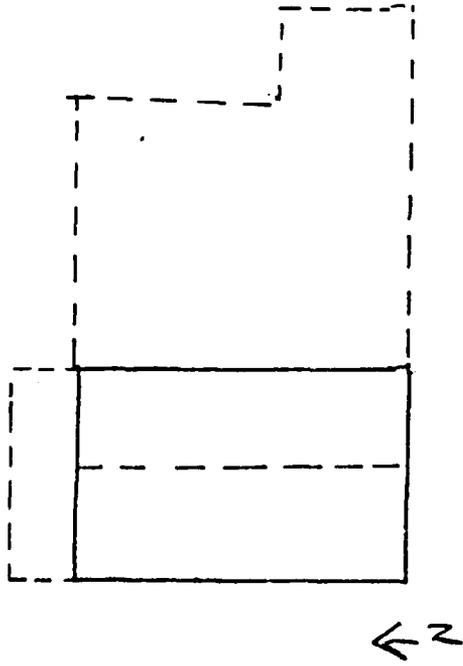
25. YES, LIMITED YES, UNLIMITED UNKNOWN

26. YES NO

27. EDITOR _____

28. CHECKER _____

PLANS AND SKETCH MAP OF LOCATION



rd 1 / #35

Architecturally, this structure is unremarkable, and bears little indication of its original function. However, its construction as a firehouse by Badger Fire Company No. 2 in 1878 links this building with an important community organization of local significance. According to a local informant, the firehouse provided not only the expected civic service, but served as a social club for its members.

REFERENCES (CONTINUED)

	1855-1865	1865-1875	1875-1885	1885-1895	1895-1905	1905-1915	1915-1925	1925-1935	1935-1945	1945-1955	1955-1965	1965-1975	1975-1985	1985-1995	1995-PRESENT	
HISTORICAL PHOTO																
HISTORICAL DRAWING																
COLLECTOR'S																

History: for 1874 drops dramatically to \$100, providing evidence that this tavern was destroyed that year. In 1876 (36/141), Quinn sold to Jeremiah Murphy who immediately sold it to Edward Rogers (35/487). Rogers operated the Sherman House Hotel here until after the turn of the twentieth century. In 1903, the hotel burned completely, but was rebuilt in the same style, as seen in a comparison with the 1870 map. In 1920, the McClures acquired the building, renaming it, and their family lived in the eight rooms on the second level.

Description: Louis Lemire (or Lamere) who sold it in 1846 (E/423) to Levi R. Marsh for the same price. Alonzo Pelton bought this lot at the auction of Marsh's estate in 1856 (K/27), but lost it when it was sold for taxes ten years later (17/328). The purchaser, Thomas Walsh, who probably built the present house, held on to it until his death in 1899.

History: Only this one, which is reputed to have been a hotel, remains.

II. NON-PREFERRED 1876-1927

Properties included in this category are those built between 1876 and 1927. They were identified by use of the maps available and the deed and tax records for Prairie du Chien. These properties were ranked as non-preferred because (1) they are undistinguished architecturally, and (2) chronologically they are unrelated to the era of Prairie du Chien's recognized national historical significance and regional importance. Between 1876 and 1927, Prairie du Chien became more self contained and less associated with the exploration and settlement of the frontier or the development of the commercial transportation system of the upper Mississippi Valley. Furthermore, most of the development in Prairie after 1876 occurred outside the project area. It was during this time that the Fourth Ward became less of an integral part of the city and more of a quiet residential neighborhood. No significance warranting their preservation could be found for any of these buildings.

The buildings in this category have been attributed to the late nineteenth century or the early twentieth century. The 1902 tax records are the first that distinguish assessments of land from improvements, so buildings standing at that time are readily indicated. Building dates have been further specified, where warranted, through the use of the tax records.

1. NAME OF STRUCTURE
 2. ADDRESS STREET NO.
 3. CITY VICINITY
 4. COUNTY NAME
 5. STATE

6. DATE
 August 1978

7. OWNER/ADMIN
 Ken Fernette

8. CITY VICINITY
 Prairie du Chien

9. COUNTY NAME
 Crawford

10. STATE
 MO

11. TYPE OF STRUCTURE
 same

12. SPECIAL FEATURES (if SCRIBE BELOW)
 EXTERIOR INTACT
 INTERIOR INTACT

13. EXTERIOR MATERIALS
 BRICK
 OTHER

14. EXTERIOR COLOR
 WHITE
 OTHER

15. EXTERIOR DECORATION
 NONE
 OTHER

16. EXTERIOR CONDITION
 GOOD
 FAIR
 POOR

17. EXTERIOR DAMAGE
 NONE
 OTHER

18. EXTERIOR DAMAGE DATE
 Summer 1978

19. NAME OF ARCHITECT
 Alison K. Hoagland & Bradley T. Frandsen

20. NAME OF CONTRACTOR
 HABS

21. HISTORICAL REFERENCES
 PERSONAL CONTACTS AND/OR OTHER

22. LOCAL HISTORICAL DISTRICT
 YES
 NO

23. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY
 YES LIMITED
 YES UNLIMITED
 UNKNOWN

24. DISTRICT ID NO.

25. PRESENT USE
 residence

26. ADAPTIVE USE

27. CONTACTS

28. DESCRIPTION
 asphalt shingle, one story, rectangular, gable roof, small windows.

29. HISTORY
 probably built 20th century

30. LOCAL HISTORICAL DISTRICT
 YES
 NO

31. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY
 YES LIMITED
 YES UNLIMITED
 UNKNOWN

32. DISTRICT ID NO.

33. LOCAL HISTORICAL DISTRICT
 YES
 NO

34. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY
 YES LIMITED
 YES UNLIMITED
 UNKNOWN

35. DISTRICT ID NO.

36. LOCAL HISTORICAL DISTRICT
 YES
 NO

37. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY
 YES LIMITED
 YES UNLIMITED
 UNKNOWN

38. DISTRICT ID NO.

39. LOCAL HISTORICAL DISTRICT
 YES
 NO

40. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY
 YES LIMITED
 YES UNLIMITED
 UNKNOWN

41. DISTRICT ID NO.

42. LOCAL HISTORICAL DISTRICT
 YES
 NO

43. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY
 YES LIMITED
 YES UNLIMITED
 UNKNOWN

44. DISTRICT ID NO.

1. PRIORITY YES NO

2. DATE August, 1978

3. NAME & RESIDENCE
412 Water
File # 3

4. COUNTY NAME Crawford CITY VICINITY Prairie du Chien CONG DIST

5. OWNER'S ADDRESS
6. OWNERS NAME Calvin Koecke

7. 1745 Madison St., Dubuque, IA. 52001

8. ARCHITECT
9. MATERIALS
10. HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

11. STATE CITY

12. TYPE OF DAMAGE
13. EXTENT OF DAMAGE

14. ADAPTIVE USE PRESENT USE residence

OWNER'S NAME Alison K. Hoagland, Bradley T. Frandsen
 ALIENATION HABS
 DATE Summer, 1978
 HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE
 BACKGROUNDS HISTORY INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATES, HISTORICAL DATA, PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, ENVIRONMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

Description: clapboard over frame, rectangular, one and one-half story, gable roof; three-bay west gable facade has center door, front porch roof has been removed; horizontal planks visible underneath clapboard; bungalow style.
 History: probably built early 20th century.

15. REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS AND/OR OTHER

16. DISTRICT ID NO. []

17. HABS REGIONAL PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY

18. YES NO

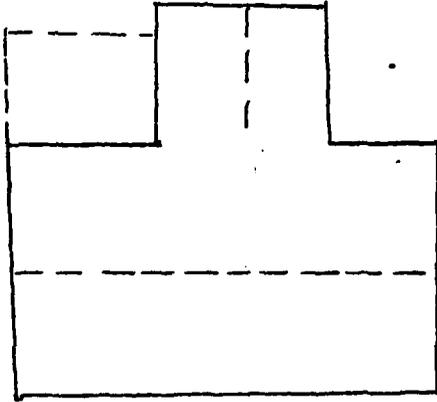
19. YES LIMITED YES UNLIMITED UNKNOWN

20. YES NO

21. COUNTY NAME STATE CITY DISTRICT ID NO.

22. YES NO

23. YES LIMITED YES UNLIMITED UNKNOWN



N
←



rd11 #32

Site location

REFERENCES CONTINUED

Table with 10 columns and 10 rows, containing a grid of empty cells and labels: PHOTO, VIDEO, MAP, DRAWING, PHOTO, VIDEO, PHOTO, PHOTO, PHOTO, PHOTO.

6 NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE: **725 Villa Louis File #11**

7 OWNER/ADMIN: **Mrs. F. E. Dillman**

8 OWNER'S ADDRESS: **same**

9 DATE: **August 1978**

10 CITY VICINITY: **Prairie du Chien**

11 COUNTY: **Crawford**

12 STATE: **MO**

13 ZIP CODE: **64501**

14 SPECIAL FEATURES: OTHER DETAILS

15 INVENTORIED BY: **Alison K. Hoagland & Bradley T. Frandsen**

16 AFFILIATION: **HABS**

17 DATE OF SURVEY: **Summer, 1978**

18 CONDITION: EXCELLENT GOOD FAIR DETEIORATED RUINS

19 DETERIORATED: 71 75 76 77

20 EXPOSED: UNEXPOSED ALTERED RESTORED

21 HISTORIC REGISTERED: YES NO

22 PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY: YES LIMITED UNLIMITED

23 OCCURRED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT: YES NO

24 PRESENT USE: **residence**

25 ADAPTIVE USE

26 REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

27 DISTRICT ID NO.

28 DISTRICT NAME

29 DATE OF SURVEY

30 SURVEYOR

Description: aluminum siding, L-shaped, hipped roofs, one story; aluminum window surrounds and soffits.

History: west part probably built in early 20th century. East part was built in 1952 when house was raised, according to owner.

1 CATION YES NO

4 DATE OF DEMOLITION? YES NO

6 GOVT. SOURCE OF THREAT OTHER

7 OWNER/ADMIN

9 OWNER'S ADDRESS
City of Prairie du Chien
City of Prairie du Chien

3 PRIORITY

5 DATE
August 1978

8 NAME S-OF STRUCTURE
408 Villa Louis File #17

10 STATE COUNTY CITY/VICINITY CONG. DIST.
Crawford Prairie du Chien

11 SITE ADDRESS STREET & NO.
Crawford Prairie du Chien

12 EXISTING SURVEYS NH NHHL HABS STATE LOCAL OTHER

13 SPECIAL FEATURES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW)
 INTERIOR INTACT EXTERIOR INTACT ENVIRONS INTACT

14 QUAD NAME
1625

15 CONDITION
70 EXCELLENT 71 GOOD 72 FAIR 73 DETERIORATED 74 RUINS 75 UNEXPOSED 76 ALTERED 77 DESTROYED 78 DEMOLISHED

16 INVENTORIED BY
Alison K. Hoagland & Bradley T. Frandsen
AFFILIATION
HABS

DATE
Summer, 1978

17 DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), HISTORICAL DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, EXTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

Description: aluminum siding, one story, rectangular, hipped roof; three bays across west front facade; enclosed porch covered by roof; one-over-one windows; bungalow style.

History: probably built early 20th century. No improvements indicated in 1902 tax records.

18 ORIGINAL USE
residence residence

19 REFERENCES - HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

ADAPTIVE USE

20 JPBAN AREA 50,000 POP OR MORE? YES NO

21 HCRS Reg 101.12 PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY YES, LIMITED NO YES, UNLIMITED UNKNOWN

22 LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO

23 EDITOR INDEXER

DISTRICT ID NO

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401 Fourth, File #45
 August 1978
 Gene McCrath
 OWNER'S ADDRESS
 same

401 Fourth
 CITY: Crawford
 COUNTY: Crawford
 CITY: Prairie du Chien
 COUNTY: Crawford
 STATE: MO
 ZIP: 63501
 DISTRICT: 71
 SUBDIVISION: 71000
 LOT: 4
 BLOCK: 10
 SECTION: 36
 TOWNSHIP: 36S
 RANGE: 10E
 MERIDIAN: 4TH

Owner: Wilson K. Kogland & Bradley T. Frandsen
 Affiliation: HABS
 Date: Summer, 1978

Description: frame with clapboarding, rectangular, gable roof; enclosed porches front and back, dormer in center of east facade has full-sized window, all windows are one-over-one with elaborate molding over lintel.

History: owner says built 20th century. No improvements indicated in 1902 tax records.

PRESENT USE: residence
 ADAPTIVE USE:

21 HOURS PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY: YES LIMITED NO YES UNLIMITED UNKNOWN
 DISTRICT NAME:

On receipt of this form, the following information shall be provided to the State Historic Preservation Office:

1. PROJECT NUMBER: _____
 2. DATE OF SURVEY: _____
 3. COUNTY: _____
 4. CITY: _____
 5. ADDRESS: _____
 6. OWNER: _____
 7. DATE OF PHOTOGRAPHY: _____
 8. PHOTOGRAPHER: _____

400 Fourth File #46 August 1978 Gerald Coorough
 1217 Putnam, Jaynesville, WI. 53545

PROPERTY OWNER: _____
 SURVEYOR: _____
 COUNTY: _____
 CITY: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 STATE: _____
 ZIP: _____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: _____
 DATE: _____

Wilson K. Hoagland & Bradley T. Frandsen
 HABS
 HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE SURVEYING AND RESTORATION SERVICES
 1000 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53233

Description: stucco, rectangular, one and one-half stories, hipped roof with dormers on west and east sides; roof of entrance to cover front porch; bungalow style, similar to 404 Fourth St.

History: probably built early 20th century. No improvements indicated in 1902 tax records.

PRESENT USE: _____
 ADAPTIVE USE: _____
 RESIDENCE

21 HRS. REGIONAL PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY
 YES NO LIMITED YES UNLIMITED YES UNKNOWN

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: _____
 DATE OF PHOTOGRAPHY: _____
 PHOTOGRAPHER: _____

August 1978 Charles Spiker

524 Fourth File #47

same

PROPERTY NAME Crawford	CITY/TOWNSHIP Prairie du Chien	COUNTY Crawford	STATE MO	SECTION 1	RANGE 1	TOWNSHIP 1	ACRES 1.00	DATE Summer, 1978
OWNER NAME Crawford	OWNER TYPE Individual	DEED TYPE Warranty Deed	DEED DATE 12/20/78	DEED BOOK 712	DEED PAGE 100	DEED TYPE Warranty Deed	DEED DATE 12/20/78	DEED BOOK 712
OWNER NAME Crawford	OWNER TYPE Individual	DEED TYPE Warranty Deed	DEED DATE 12/20/78	DEED BOOK 712	DEED PAGE 100	DEED TYPE Warranty Deed	DEED DATE 12/20/78	DEED BOOK 712

APPLICANT: Alfred K. Ladson & Bradley T. Frandsen AFFILIATION: HABS
 HISTORICAL DATA: CONSTRUCTION DATES: HISTORICAL DATA: PHYSICIAN DIMENSIONS
 IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

Description: 8" wavy shingles over frame, rectangular, one story, hipped roof; roof extends to cover front porch; bungalow style.

History: Although there is evidence of an 1850's house on this lot, this bungalow was most likely built in the 20th Century.

PRESENT USE	ADAPTIVE USE
residence	

REFERENCES PERSONAL CONTACTS AND/OR OTHER

AT RISK	REGISTRY	PLANS	ACCESSIBILITY	YES LIMITED	YES UNLIMITED	NO	UNKNOWN
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO

August 1978
City of Prairie du Chien

251 Fourth File #50
City of Prairie du Chien

PROPERTY NUMBER	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY	CITY/CITY
OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER	OWNER
PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE	PROPERTY TYPE

251 Fourth
City of Prairie du Chien
August 1978

251 Fourth File #50
City of Prairie du Chien

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:**
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

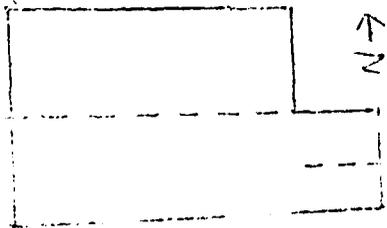
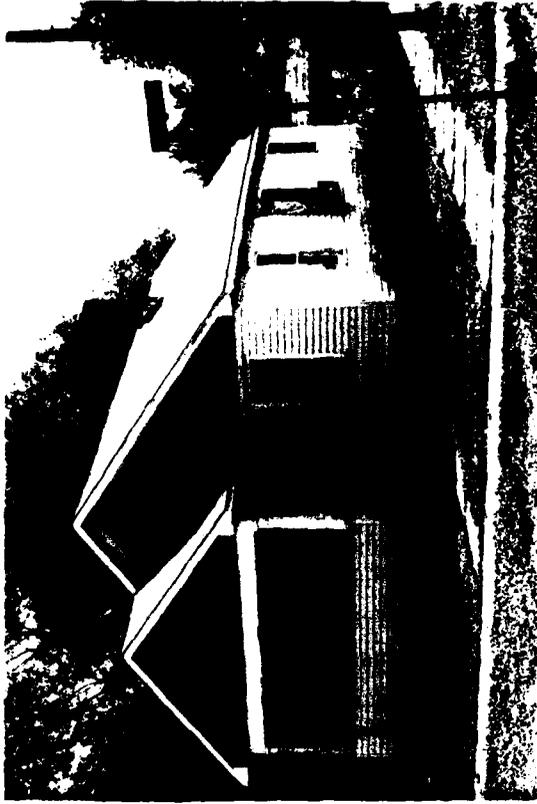
251 Fourth
City of Prairie du Chien
August 1978

251 Fourth
City of Prairie du Chien
August 1978

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:**
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

251 Fourth
City of Prairie du Chien
August 1978

251 Fourth
City of Prairie du Chien
August 1978



146

Significance

1. The building is a good example of a building of its type.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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August 1978

227 Fourth File #51

Prairie du Chien

227 Fourth

Joe Folenback
OWNER'S ADDRESS

New Jersey

STATE COUNTY CITY TOWNSHIP ZIP CODE

PROPERTY TYPE

APPROXIMATE VALUE

DATE ACQUIRED

REASON FOR SALE

DATE

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

DATE

Architects: K. Hopland & Bradley T. Frandsen
 HABS
 HABS - HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL RECORDS
 HABS - HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL RECORDS
 HABS - HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL RECORDS

Description: aluminum siding over frame, one story, gable roof, rectangular; enclosed front porch, three large
 windows on gable front; three bays wide, center door, windows one-over-one; bungalow style.

History: probably built early 20th century.

ADAPTIVE USE

PRESENT USE

residence

ADAPTIVE USE

PRESENT USE

residence

ADAPTIVE USE

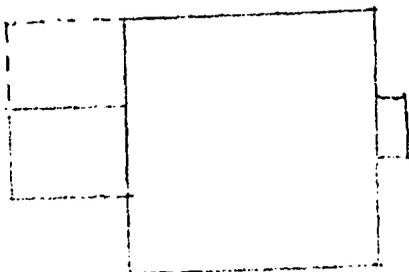
PRESENT USE

residence

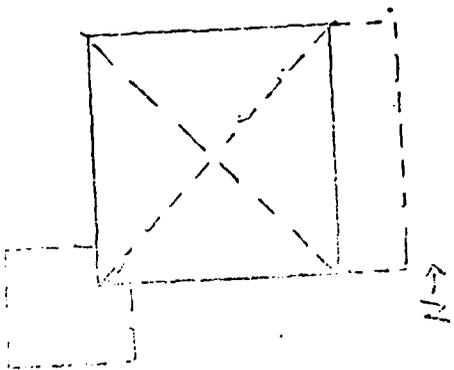
ADAPTIVE USE

PRESENT USE

residence



157



110

CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION FOR WOMEN
 STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
 DIVISION OF INSTITUTIONS
 REPORT

PROPERTY ADDRESS	415 N. Deaumont
CITY/TOWNSHIP	Crawford
COUNTY	Prarie du Chien
STATE	MO
ZIP	6412
DATE	August 1978

PROPERTY ADDRESS	415 N. Deaumont
CITY/TOWNSHIP	Crawford
COUNTY	Prarie du Chien
STATE	MO
ZIP	6412
DATE	August 1978
PROPERTY ADDRESS	415 N. Deaumont
CITY/TOWNSHIP	Crawford
COUNTY	Prarie du Chien
STATE	MO
ZIP	6412
DATE	August 1978

OWNER: Richard, Bradley T. Frandsen HAES
 AFFILIATION: HAES DATE: Summer 1978

DESCRIPTION: 1 1/2 story, 1 1/2 bays each side, cross gable roof with returns; corners have jigawed
 corners, flush window surrounds also jigawed; one story addition to rear.

NOTES: Local records indicate that the house was built by Hubert Aubin in 1877, when it was assessed at \$400. Aubin
 sold the property from B. W. Brisbois. The building does not appear on the 1876 map.

PRESENT USE	residence
ADAPTIVE USE	

21 FRS REGIONAL PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES LIMITED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNLIMITED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN
DISTRICT TO R/R			

cross-wise on the lot, the house sits on the adjacent lot as well. It was not until 1878 that the two adjacent lots had the same owner, so it could not have been built here before then. It is possible that Hobbs moved the house here, as stylistically it would pre-date 1878. Hobbs' will in 1908 stipulated that his widow Martha had dower rights to the homestead, which comprised the west 50 feet of lots 17, 18, and 19 -- in other words, this house.

PROPERTY ADDRESS

APRIL 1978

NAME: Mary J. Maffei

ADDRESS: Prairie du Chien, Wis.

PROPERTY ADDRESS

APRIL 1978

NAME: Mary J. Maffei

ADDRESS: Prairie du Chien, Wis.

PROPERTY ADDRESS

APRIL 1978

NAME: Mary J. Maffei

ADDRESS: Prairie du Chien, Wis.

PROPERTY ADDRESS

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PROPERTY ADDRESS

APRIL 1978

NAME: Mary J. Maffei

ADDRESS: Prairie du Chien, Wis.

PROPERTY ADDRESS

APRIL 1978

NAME: Mary J. Maffei

ADDRESS: Prairie du Chien, Wis.

August 1978
Louis Favie
Duoque, Iowa

PROPERTY ADDRESS

City: Prairie du Chien, State: Missouri, County: Mississippi, ZIP: 63450

OWNER INFORMATION

Name: Louis Favie, Address: Duoque, Iowa, City: Duoque, State: Iowa, ZIP: 52002

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

Year Built: [], Area: [], Bedrooms: [], Bathrooms: [], Full Bath: [], Half Bath: [], Other: []

Other Structures: []

APPROXIMATE DATE OF CONSTRUCTION

Summer, 1902

ARCHITECT

William T. Fraidson

APPROXIMATE DATE OF OCCUPANCY

Summer, 1902

DESCRIPTION: Home with clapperboard on front, 8" shingles on rear, essentially square, three bays, one and one-half stories; hipped roof with dormers east and west; south facade has bay projecting 1 foot; dormer windows are triple; bungalow style.

HISTORY: Probably built early 20th century. No improvements indicated in 1902 tax records.

PRESENT USE: residence ADAPTIVE USE:	YES <input type="checkbox"/> LIMITED NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNLIMITED	27 27 27 27 27 27	27 27 27 27 27 27	27 27 27 27 27 27	27 27 27 27 27 27	27 27 27 27 27 27	27 27 27 27 27 27	27 27 27 27 27 27	
		DISTRICT ID No.							
		YES <input type="checkbox"/> LIMITED NO <input type="checkbox"/> UNLIMITED UNKNOWN <input type="checkbox"/>							

DATE: August 1978
 NAME: Mrs. Ada May
 ADDRESS: same,

PROPERTY: prairie du Chien
 CITY/TOWN: Crawford
 COUNTY: prairie du Chien
 STATE: ILLINOIS
 ZIP CODE: 62526

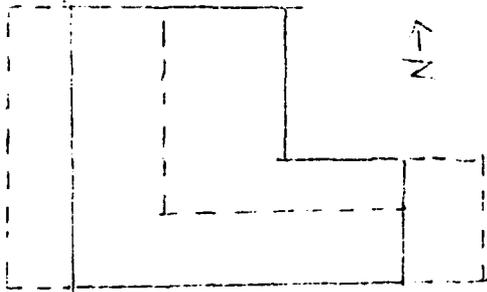
AFFILIATION: HABS
 DATE ACQUIRED: Summer 1978

Description: frame with clapboarding, L-shaped, one story, gabled roof, enclosed porches front and rear; windows one-over-one; essentially one bay deep each side.

History: not on 1876 map, probably built late 19th century. Tax records indicate improvements by 1902.

PRESENT USE: residence
 ADAPTIVE USE:

OTHERS: REGIONAL PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY YES LIMITED YES UNLIMITED OPEN MEN



PROPERTY ADDRESS
CITY AND STATE
COUNTY

August 1978

Mrs. Jerry Nagel

OWNER'S NAME

same

PROPERTY ADDRESS	CITY AND STATE	COUNTY	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
Crawford	Prairie du Chien	WI	Prairie du Chien
OWNER'S NAME	OWNER'S ADDRESS	OWNER'S CITY AND STATE	OWNER'S ZIP CODE
Mrs. Jerry Nagel			
PROPERTY TYPE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
RESIDENCE			
RENTAL			
COMMERCIAL			
INDUSTRIAL			
AGRICULTURAL			
OTHER			

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
DATE OF ACQUISITION
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
DATE OF RENOVATION

HANS

Summer 1978

APPLIANCES

REMARKS

Bradley T. Frassen
HANS
AFFILIATION

REMARKS: frame with wood siding, rectangular, one story, gable roof, two bays, wood shingled, one-over-one
addition on south side.

DATE: probably built late 19th century.

PROPERTY ADDRESS
CITY AND STATE
COUNTY

residence

residence

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

PROPERTY ADDRESS	CITY AND STATE	COUNTY	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
OWNER'S NAME	OWNER'S ADDRESS	OWNER'S CITY AND STATE	OWNER'S ZIP CODE
PROPERTY TYPE	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

DISTRICT ID NO.

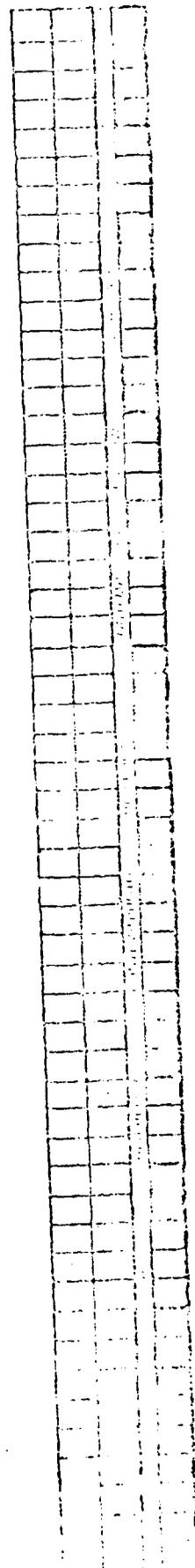
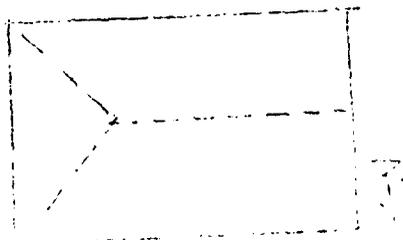
1978
 August 1978
 John Kivi,
 1978

Prairie du Chien
 1978
Prairie du Chien
 1978
 same

Crawford
 1978
Crawford
 1978
 HABS Summer 1979

Bradley I. Prandsen
 1978
 HABS Summer 1979

1978
 1978
 1978



COUNTY: BERNARD BURLINGTON CHITTENDEN COLCHESTER FRANKLIN GREENWICH LENOX MADISON MIDDLEBURY ORANGE RUTLAND WASHINGTON WINDHAM YORK

DATE: 10/13/75

COUNTY: BERNARD BURLINGTON CHITTENDEN COLCHESTER FRANKLIN GREENWICH LENOX MADISON MIDDLEBURY ORANGE RUTLAND WASHINGTON WINDHAM YORK

PROJECT ADDRESS: 934 S. Beaumont
 CITY/TOWN: Crawford
 COUNTY: BERNARD BURLINGTON CHITTENDEN COLCHESTER FRANKLIN GREENWICH LENOX MADISON MIDDLEBURY ORANGE RUTLAND WASHINGTON WINDHAM YORK

ARCHITECT: Bradley T. Frandsen
 AFFILIATION: HARS

DATE: Summer 1975

Description: clapboarding over frame, L-shaped, one story, gable roof with hipped roof on ell; porch when turned east side has gable facade has two one-over-one windows off center, new clapboarding perhaps 1965; door now in southern section.

Notes: Tax records indicate that this was built between 1900 and 1905, when John Pintz's improvements were assessed at \$2,000.00.

PRESENT USE: residence
 ADAPTIVE USE:

REGIONAL PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY: YES LIMITED YES UNKNOWN NO

DISTRICT ID NO:

III. EXCLUDED POST-1927

Properties included in this category are those not shown on the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers' aerial survey of Prairie du Chien conducted in 1927. As the National Register criteria generally exclude properties that are less than 50 years old, any structure not shown on this 1927 survey was excluded from further consideration, if stylistic analysis indicated that it had been built since that date. While the National Register criteria provide for the inclusion of exceptional properties which may be less than fifty years old, none of the post-1927 structures in the project area would qualify. Street addresses and file numbers of these structures are given and photographs of several examples are provided.

File No.

Address

Island

4	400(?) N. Water Street
5	408 Second Street
7	210 N. Second Street
10	112 N. Second Street
13	500(?) N. Villa Louis Rd.
16	405 N. Villa Louis Rd.
20	310 N. Villa Louis Rd.
29	137 N. Villa Louis Rd.
32	117 N. Villa Louis Rd. City-owned
38(2)	100 N. Villa Louis Rd.
40	105 S. Villa Louis Rd.
42	107 S. Villa Louis Rd.
52(2)	223 Fourth Street
53	220 Fourth Street City-owned
59	125 Fourth Street
65	207 Fifth Street
66	204 Fifth Street
67	200 Fifth Street
76	207 Brisbois Street City-owned
77	209 Brisbois Street
78	211 Brisbois Street
79(2)	300 Brisbois City-owned
81	409 Brisbois Street
82	414 Brisbois Street
83	506 Brisbois Street
84	511 Brisbois Street
85	508 Brisbois Street
86	512 Brisbois Street
93	109 S. Villa Louis Rd.
94	104 S. Villa Louis Rd.

Mainland

101	S. Burnett
102	S. Burnett
103	S. Burnett
104	S. Burnett
105	S. Burnett
106	S. Burnett
107	824 N. Main Street
108	721 N. Main Street
109	N. Main Street
111	514 N. Main Street
114	405 N. Main Street
119	409 S. Main Street

File No.

Address

Mainland

120	425 S. Main Street
123	958 S. Main Street
124	958 S. Main Street
125	1314 S. Main Street
130	825 N. Prairie
131	955 S. First Street
132	961 S. First Street
136	1407 S. First Street
137	1423 S. First Street
140	201 Miller Street
142	213 Wells Street

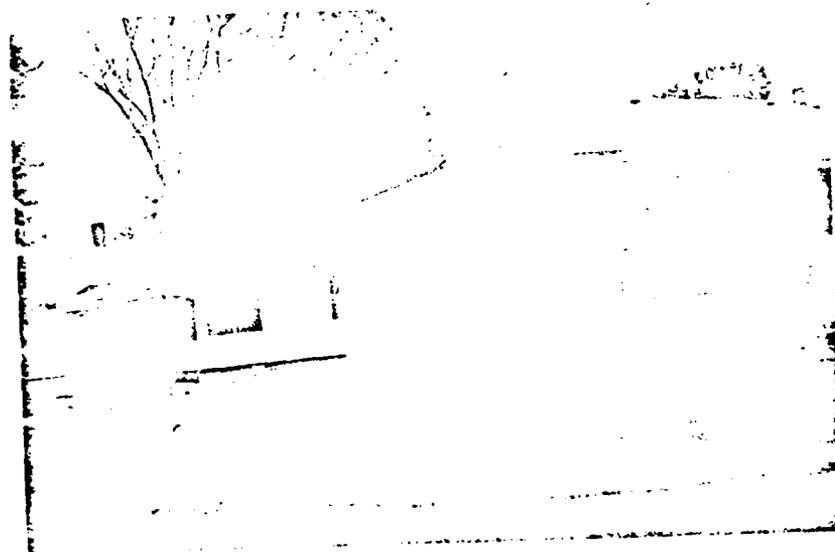
(1) Except as noted, all these homes were not at their present locations in 1927, as revealed by aerial photographs taken that year.

(2) Structures were present at these sites in 1927. However, other data show that totally new structures replaced those present in 1927.

EXAMPLES



#16. 405 VILLA LOUIS ROAD



#17. 408 Villa Louis Rd - (left)

#79. 310 Brisbois St. - (right)

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following four recommendations are suggested by the historical resources in the project area. They are not intended to be definitive, nor are they independent of each other. Each plan incorporates parts of the others. Plan A is the simplest, yet the most urgent: it recommends three buildings which should be determined eligible for listing in the National Register. Plan B involves the preservation of twenty-seven structures which define or in some way reflect nineteenth-century life in the project area. Plan C proposes a neighborhood museum which would preserve something of twentieth-century life in the Fourth Ward. Finally, Plan D discusses some ways of integrating these other plans into an interpretive program.

Above and beyond these plans, further recording of the project area should be done. The three significant structures discussed in Plan A should be recorded by measured drawings and a site map would be made of the project area. The estimated cost of this documentation is about \$15,000, or \$5,000 per building. In addition, all twenty-seven buildings should be recorded by a professional photographer. At two shots per building, with some extra for details, and at \$20 per photograph, this would cost about \$1200.

One area in which little was found, and no urgent recommendations are made, is that of archaeology. It was suggested that sites of buildings no longer extant might prove worthy of further investigation, but few building sites would merit this. One possible site is that of the Indian Agency House, a building constructed of vertical timbers. Its location was main village lot 13, or the northeast corner of Water and Bolvin Streets. A second site might be the stone warehouse known as the Company Store located between the Brisbois and Rolette houses on Water Street. By all accounts, it was an imposing building and the site of much activity. A third area of interest is the hotels and taverns that were built on the island in response to the railroad, but existing buildings such as the Dousman House tell far more about this activity than other sites would. In general, this is true of all the extant buildings: they tell as much about the past as demolished structures do. Because the project area will not be disturbed by Corps action, these locations could be investigated at any time, perhaps as a student project.

PLAN A

The following properties are potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register: 419 Fifth (File #62), 113 Villa Louis (#33), and 210 Villa Louis (#26). The log house at 419 Fifth (Coorough House) meets the National Register criteria in that it embodies "the distinctive characteristics of a ... method of construction." Its square timbers are laid horizontally and dovetailed at the corners, and thus the building provides an excellent illustration of frontier construction. Also of interest for its method of construction is the log house at 113 Villa Louis. Two-and-one-half stories tall, this building represents a grand scale of log house building. Furthermore, the crumbling but intact brick chimney and the floor joists with bark illustrate the log house in a more original state than the Coorough house

them to another site, which would sever their association with the main village of Prairie du Chien, would be of no benefit. Creative uses would have to be devised for these uninhabitable residences, for as empty buildings the district would hold little attraction. Except for the three buildings in Plan A, which are educational for structural reasons, these preferred structures have limited interest architecturally. Rather, it is their mid-nineteenth century quality that could serve to re-create a Prairie du Chien of the past for future historians.

PLAN C

The 104 remaining buildings in the project area should not be discarded as valueless. Although they have no great architectural distinction or association with local historical events or people, it should be noted that the project area includes a whole neighborhood, the Island of St. Friole, popularly referred to as the Fourth Ward. While the preservation of individual buildings other than those mentioned above perhaps cannot be justified, the Fourth Ward as a living unit should be recognized. To this end, inventory sheets of every structure are herein included, so that their existence will not be totally forgotten. But even more importantly, the possibility of one of these vernacular houses, or one of the 27 buildings on the preferred list, being converted to a small museum of the Fourth Ward should be considered. The older residents who were born and raised in the Fourth Ward have a memory of the island quite different from what it is today: they will tell you of a proud neighborhood with white picket fences and ladies' reading clubs, of a firehouse that was built by the volunteer firemen who pulled by hand the cart that carried the hose, of a community whose members were able to trace their families back to French coureurs de bois. Too much of the emphasis in explaining Prairie du Chien's past has been given to its role as a fur trading center, and not enough attention has been paid to Prairie du Chien the city, and the Fourth Ward as a neighborhood. A small museum might retain the image of the neighborhood through photographs and residents' recollections.

PLAN D

The two log houses and one brick one could easily fit into an interpretation of the historical resources on the island. Look at the materials alone: to the stone Brisbois House and Fur Warehouse, the frame Rolette House, and buff brick Villa Louis, add the red brick and two square-timbered houses. That these three houses complement the others cannot be doubted. They are the true support structures for the opulent larger ones, housing the ordinary people, not the town giants. These houses are vital to an understanding of how people lived before there were grand villas, and how most people lived even after there were grand villas. Their modes of construction show how it was possible for people to build a house with just an axe, and how they carved a town out of the wilderness. These modest dwellings teach more about the lifestyles of the ordinary resident than the elegant showplaces overlooking the river.

In 1957, a group called the Development Guidance Associates printed a plan for the Fourth Ward called St. Feriole Island Restoration. In it, they outlined a

program for the development of a historical park, with the area around the Fur Warehouse devoted to a re-creation of a fur trading center, the area around the Dousman House devoted to transportation, the area around the Rolette House devoted to a re-creation of a French colonial village, and so forth. It was an ambitious plan, and not perhaps what we would encourage today. Reconstruction is no longer favored as an authentic means of re-creating the past. Instead, however, St. Friole Island has enough resources to accomplish some of the goals set forth in that proposal.

The Fourth Ward should be viewed as one historical site. The five National Register buildings and the three proposed here should be interpreted together to cover the many faces of the island's early history: fur-trading center and military outpost to transportation hub. One other building that is not in the project should be nominated to the National Register. This is the 1870s train depot in the Fourth Ward, representative of the railroad and all that it meant to Prairie du Chien's growth and development (fig. 6). In addition, another building might be set aside to preserve the flavor of the turn-of-the-century Fourth Ward neighborhood. These buildings could be joined together in a comprehensive historical museum. Other sections of the island could be devoted to recreation, with an emphasis on active sports through playing fields and tennis courts. Prairie du Chien's immediate area has several spectacular State and National parks, but as a park devoted to local needs, the island might find some success. Vehicular traffic should be severely restricted. Industries should be removed from the island, with the possible exception of the gravel pit, which might employ a truck route that did not cut through the heart of the island.

Prairie du Chien's early history as an outpost on the frontier is adequately commemorated through the Fur Warehouse, rock Fort Crawford, and the houses of the men who gained fame and fortune in the fur trade. It is necessary, though, to provide the means for remembering that the Fourth Ward did not belong only to rich and famous men. There were ordinary working people who lived here, and built their modest houses without benefit of a sawmill. They deserve to be remembered.

SUMMARY

The historical and architectural resources of the flood control project area in Prairie du Chien were investigated. The primary conclusion was that little remains of French-influenced architecture, even though French-Canadian people and culture dominated the village until after the War of 1812. Despite a military outpost here, United States influence was not apparent until the 1820s. Perhaps because of damage from frequent inundations, no buildings dating from before that time seem to have endured. The French Canadians, who owned most of the land in the project area in 1820, held onto this land in its entirety, and did not subdivide until the 1850s. This decreased the likelihood that many buildings would date from before this time.

Three buildings were found that should be declared eligible for the National Register. These were two log structures and one rare red brick one, all important for their method of construction. Building dates for these structures were difficult to ascertain, but one log house may date from as late as 1860. In addition to these three, twenty-four other buildings were named as having some degree of historic value. It was recommended that a historic district for these twenty-seven buildings be considered, because their importance in relation to the whole is greater than their significance alone. Other recommendations included a neighborhood museum to preserve something of the Fourth Ward as a neighborhood, and possibilities for interpretation of the island as a whole historical museum. It is strongly urged that measured drawings of the three significant buildings, and photographic recording of the twenty-seven preferred structures, be undertaken.

SOURCES CONSULTED

- American State Papers. Ed. by Walter Lowrie. Washington: Duff Green, 1834.
- Brisbois, Bernard W. "Recollections of Prairie du Chien." Wisconsin Historical Collections. Volume IX, 1882.
- Budahl, Lee. "Architecture Before 1900 in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin." M.A. Thesis, University of Wisconsin, 1967.
- Current, Richard N. The History of Wisconsin, Volume II: The Civil War Era, 1848-1873. Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1976.
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The following residents of Prairie du Chien were most helpful to this study.

Three local historians:

Don Munson, Curator, Villa Louis.
June Steiner, amateur genealogist.
Griffith Williams, President, Crawford County Historical Society.

Residents and former residents of the project area:

George Benish, 1420 S. Main
Lou Cardin, 209 Fisher
Merilla Coorough, re 419 5th Street
Mrs. Charles Fernette, re 309 Bolvin
Lawrence Fernette, 504 Fourth
Mrs. Louis Fernette, 315 Bolvin
Amy Gokey, 106 Villa Louis
Emma Gokey, 205 Villa Louis
Mrs. Lester Hubbard, 109 Villa Louis
Frank Kozelka, re 310 Brisbois
Fay Marie McClure Moore, re 136 N. Water
Dorothy Obmascher, re 113 Villa Louis
Dorcas Olson, 200 Villa Louis
Geneva Olson, 215 Villa Louis
Joe Pitzer, re 310 Brisbois
Cora Reed, 210 Villa Louis
Elizabeth Vance, 108 S. Villa Louis
Mrs. Vern Webster, re 122 Villa Louis
Zella Welsh, 128 Villa Louis
Cappy West, re 113 Villa Louis

A special thanks to Dale Klemme

APPENDIX A
(ILLUSTRATIONS)



Fig. 1 AMERICAN FUR WAREHOUSE



Fig. 2 BRISBOIS HOUSE



Fig 3. ROLETTE HOUSE

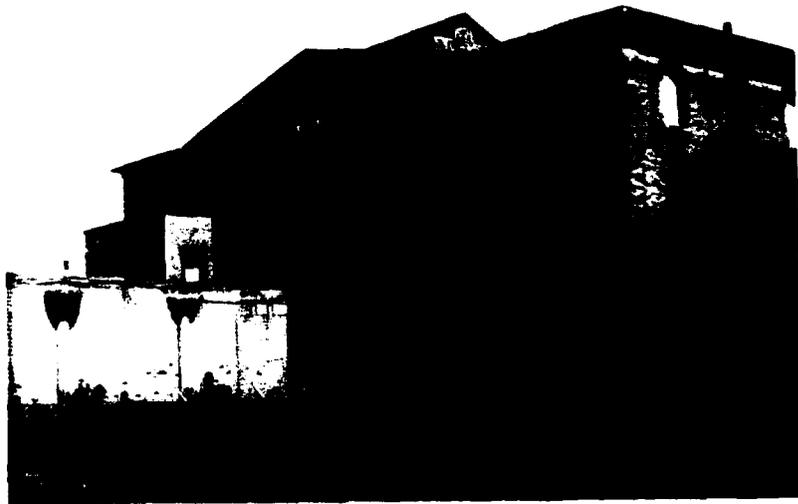


Fig. 4 DOUSMAN HOUSE



Fig. 5 VILLA LOUIS



Fig. 6 CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL
RAILROAD DEPOT



Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, October 1829, by Seth Eastman. Xerox from State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Photograph of original drawing in David I. Bushnell Collection in the Peabody Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

6116 1829

Fig. 7

APPENDIX B:
PERSONNEL

VITA FOR ALISON K. HOAGLAND

PII Redacted



EDUCATION: Forthcoming -- M.A. in American Civilization, concentration in Historic Preservation, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

June, 1973 -- B.A. with honors, concentration in American Civilization, from Brown University, Providence, R.I.

EMPLOYMENT: June to August, 1977 -- summer intern at Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland.

February, 1976, to May, 1977 -- research assistant/ secretary to Mary Louise Christovich, co-author of five volumes of New Orleans Architecture.

October, 1975, to February, 1976 -- tour guide at Gallier House, a New Orleans architect's 1860 townhouse, New Orleans, Louisiana.

VITA FOR BRADLEY T. FRANSEN

NAME: Bradley T. Frandsen

PII Redacted

EDUCATION: Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa
B.A. History, 1977

University of Birmingham, England

L'Universite de Paris IV, France

EMPLOYMENT: August 1977, to June 1978, program assistant at the
National Register of Historic Places, HCRS,
Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

June to August 1976 -- summer intern, Division of
Musical Instruments, Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C.

June 1974 to July 1975 -- research assistant to
M. Kursanskis, author of articles and monograph
on Byzantine history and numismatics, Paris, France



M. H. P. & S. D. R. M. L. M. W. S.

W. S. L. V. T. R. O. N. T. Y.

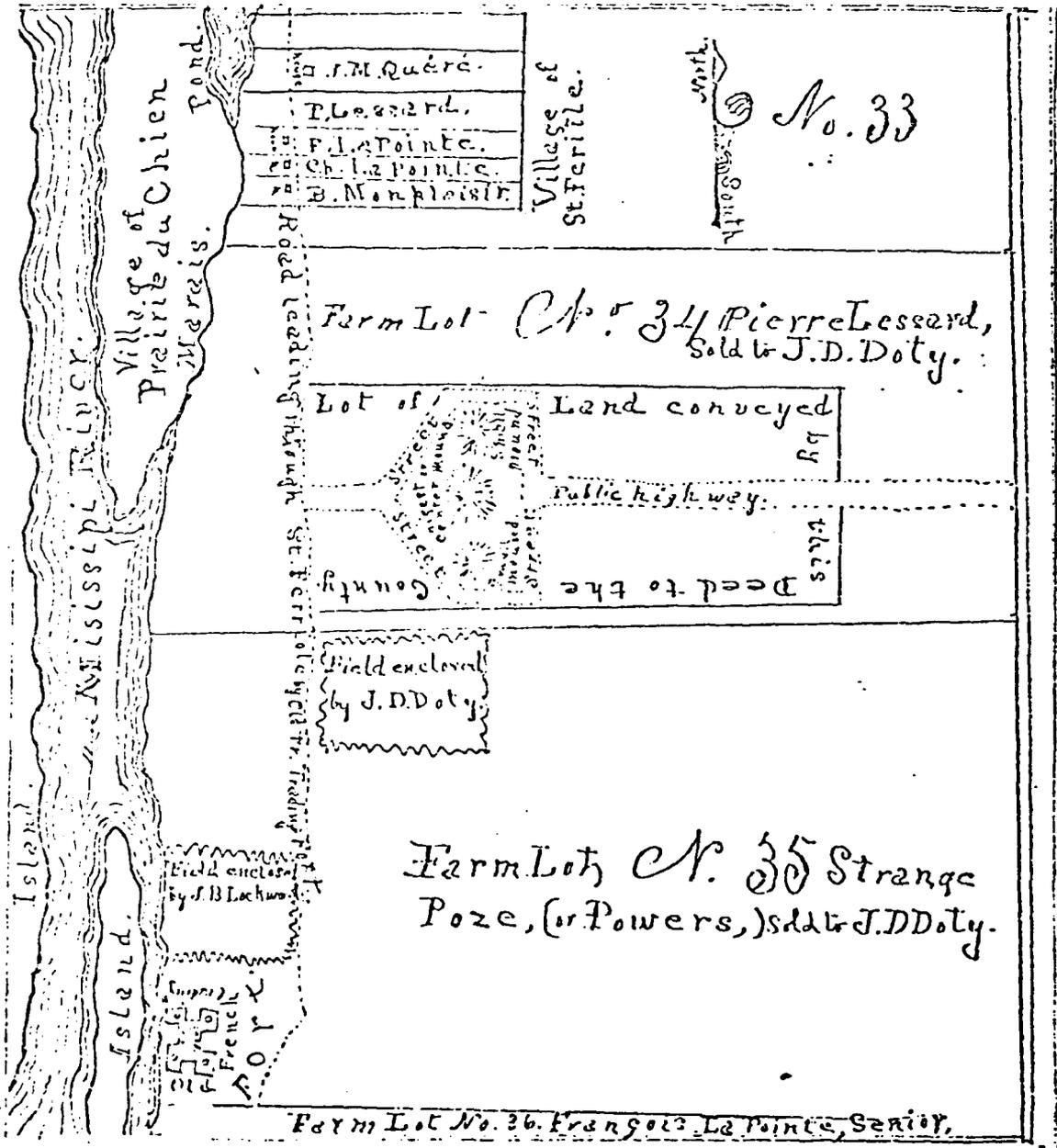
Changement de 1865 à 1874



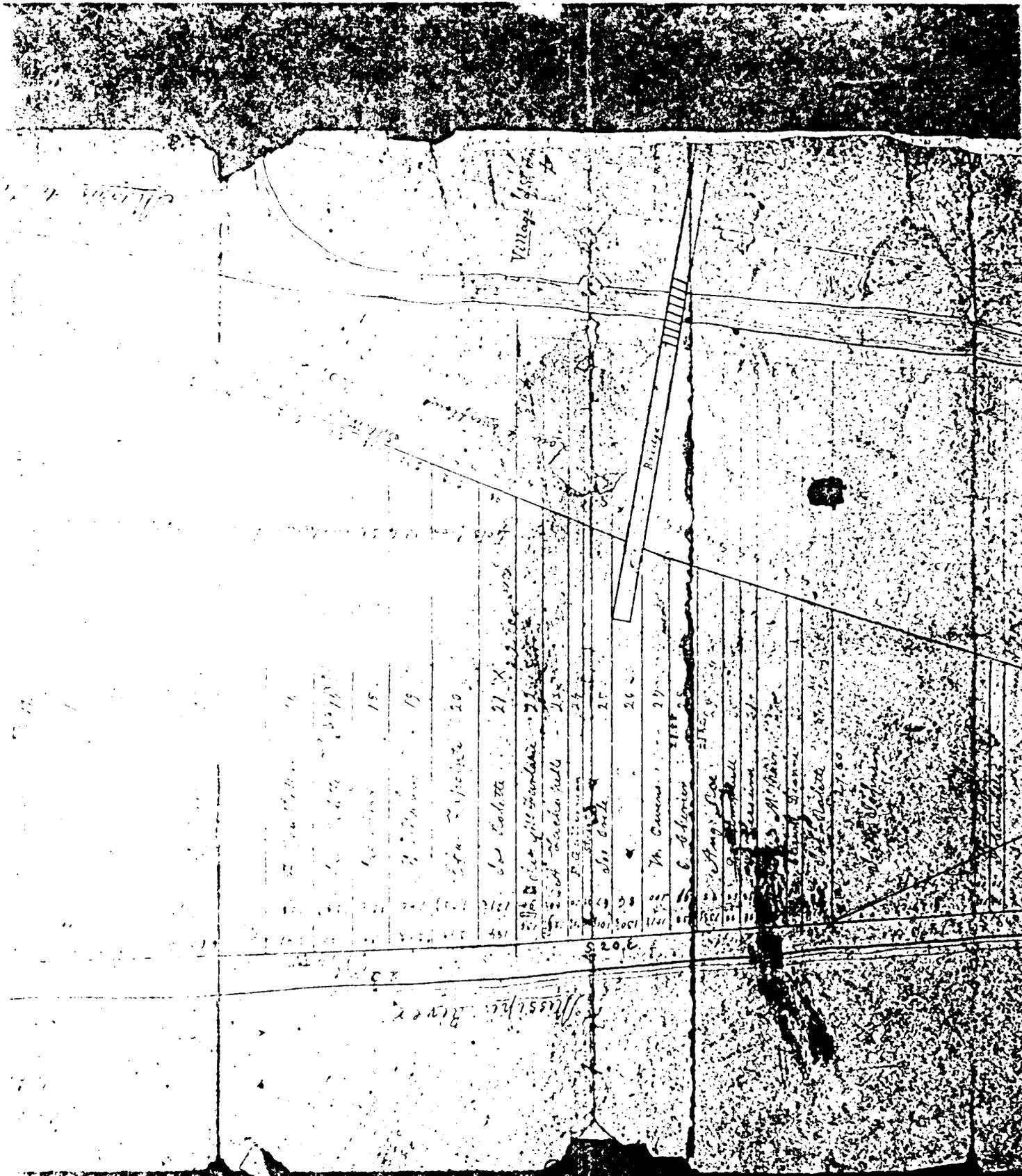
LE PORT

PALMISTE DU CHEN

LE VILLAGE

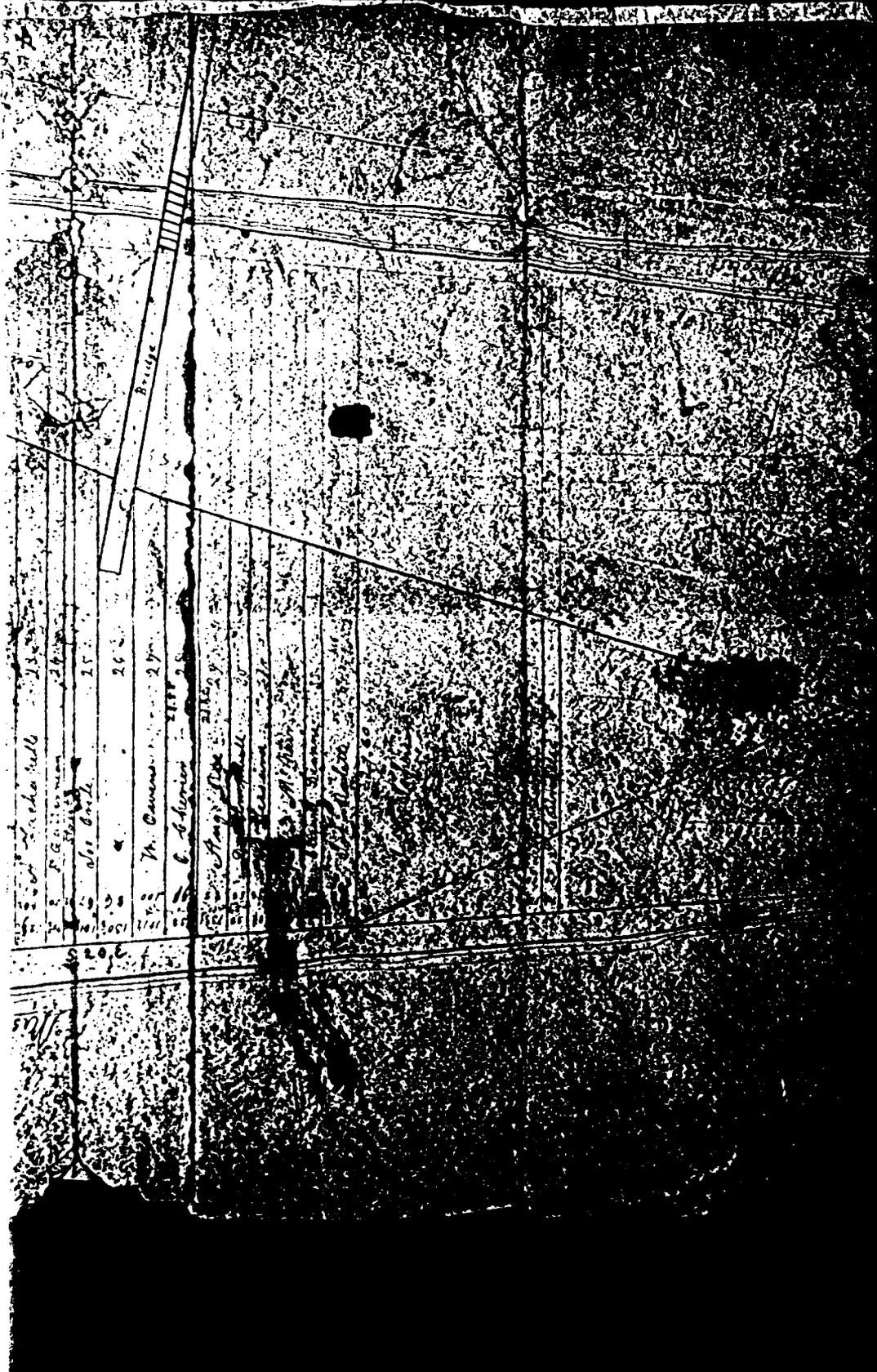


MAP 4



PREVIOUS PAGE
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Reproduced from
best available copy.

Corporation Line

MARAIS

DE

SAIN

FERIOLE

LOT 5
GOVERNMENT LOT 4

Approximate Line of 1965 Flood
Elevation = 630' ± 254' River Stage

VILLAGE LOT NO 1

VILLAGE LOT NO 2

VILLAGE LOT NO 3

VILLAGE LOT NO 4

VILLAGE LOT NO 5

VILLAGE LOT NO 6

VILLAGE LOT NO 7

VILLAGE LOT NO 8

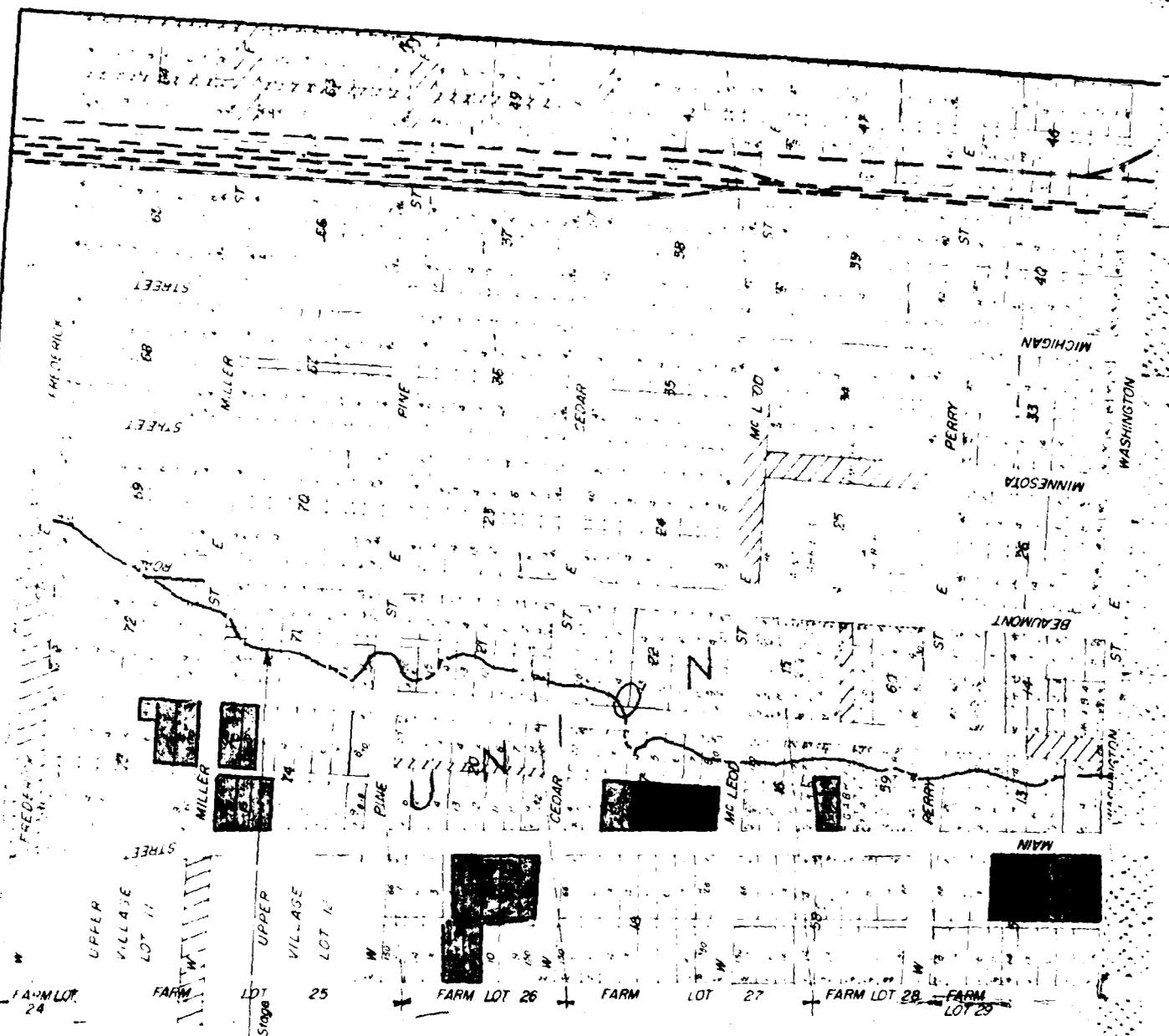
VILLAGE LOT NO 9

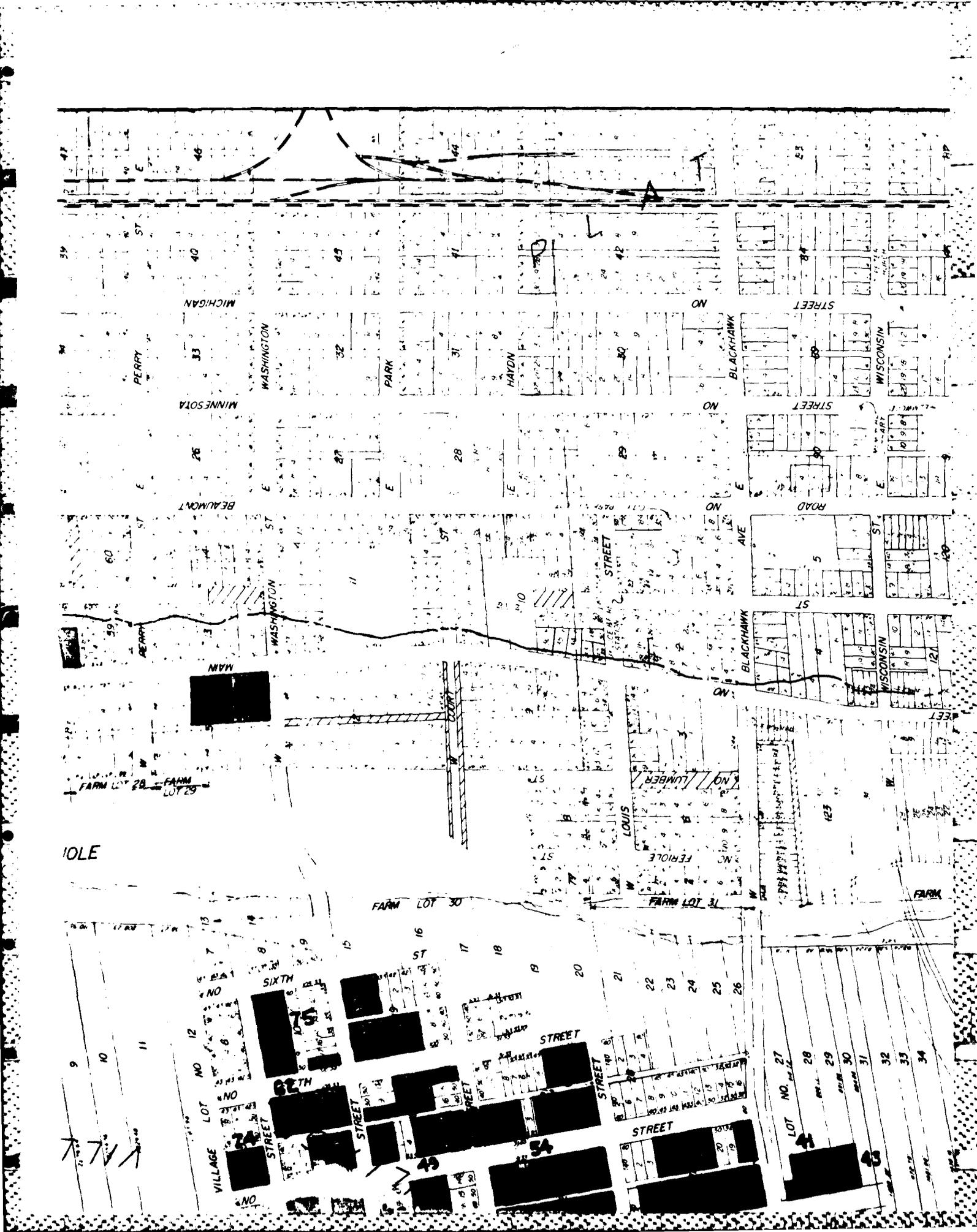
VILLAGE LOT NO 10

VILLAGE LOT NO 11

VILLAGE LOT NO 12

W K K A G E





(1)



MATCH LINE WITH DWG. NO. 5/101

- 28
- 29
- 30
- 31
- 32
- 33
- 34
- 35
- 36
- 37

LARGE LOT NO

GOVERNMENT LOT 2

GOVERNMENT LOT 1

CARAWAY FORD

FARM LOT 28 FARM LOT 29

RIOLE

FARM LOT 30

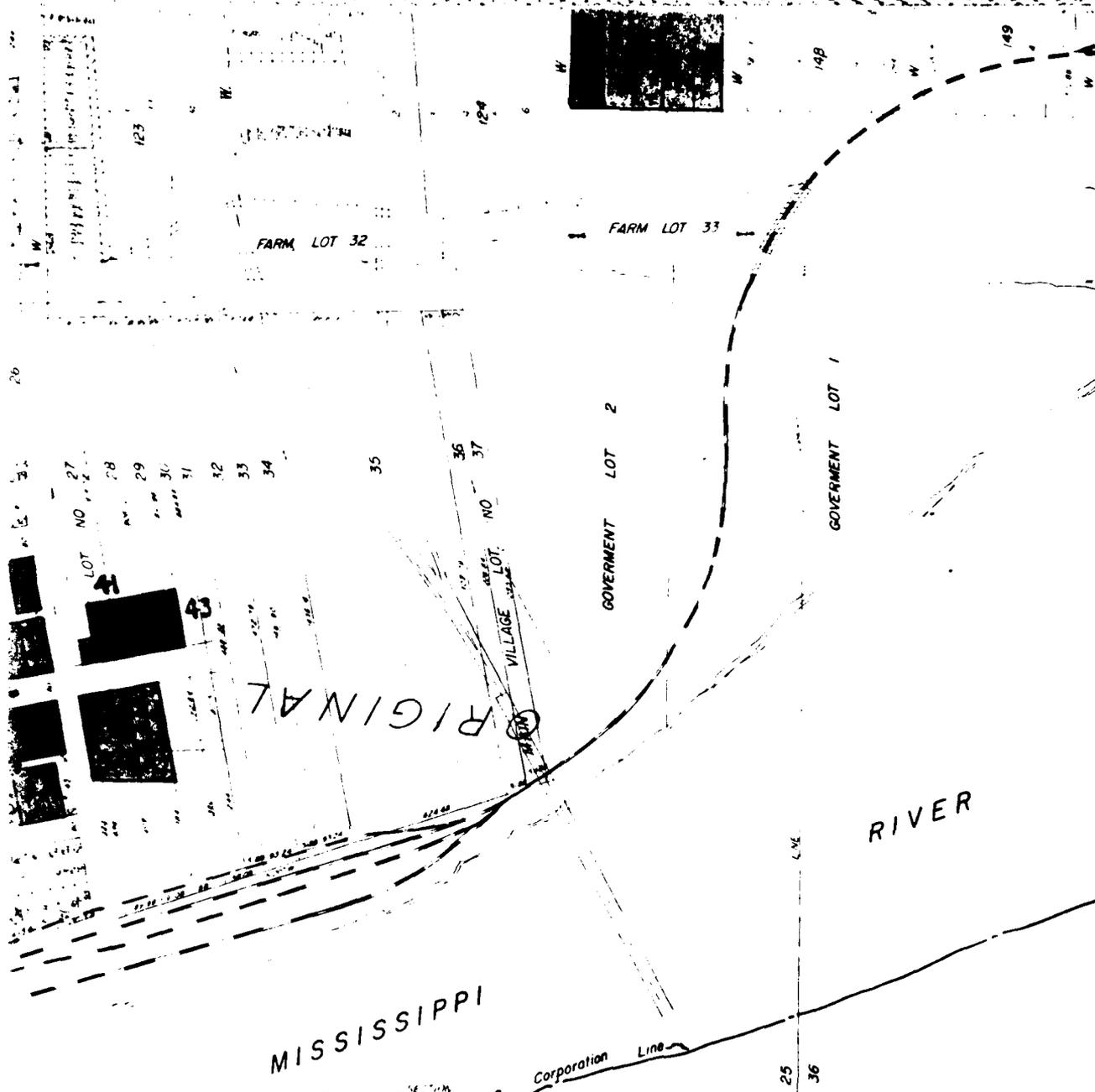
FARM LOT 31



CHANNEL

EAST

5



MATCH LINE WITH DWG. NO

DESIGN MEMORANDUM NO. 2
 GENERAL PHASE II PROJECT DESIGN
 FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION
 MISSISSIPPI RIVER AT
 PRAIRIE DU CHIEN WISCONSIN
 APPROXIMATE ACQUISITION BOUNDARIES
 ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA DISTRICT
 FILE NO. M-RIO-5/100

PLATE 2

6

MISSISSIPPI

RIVER

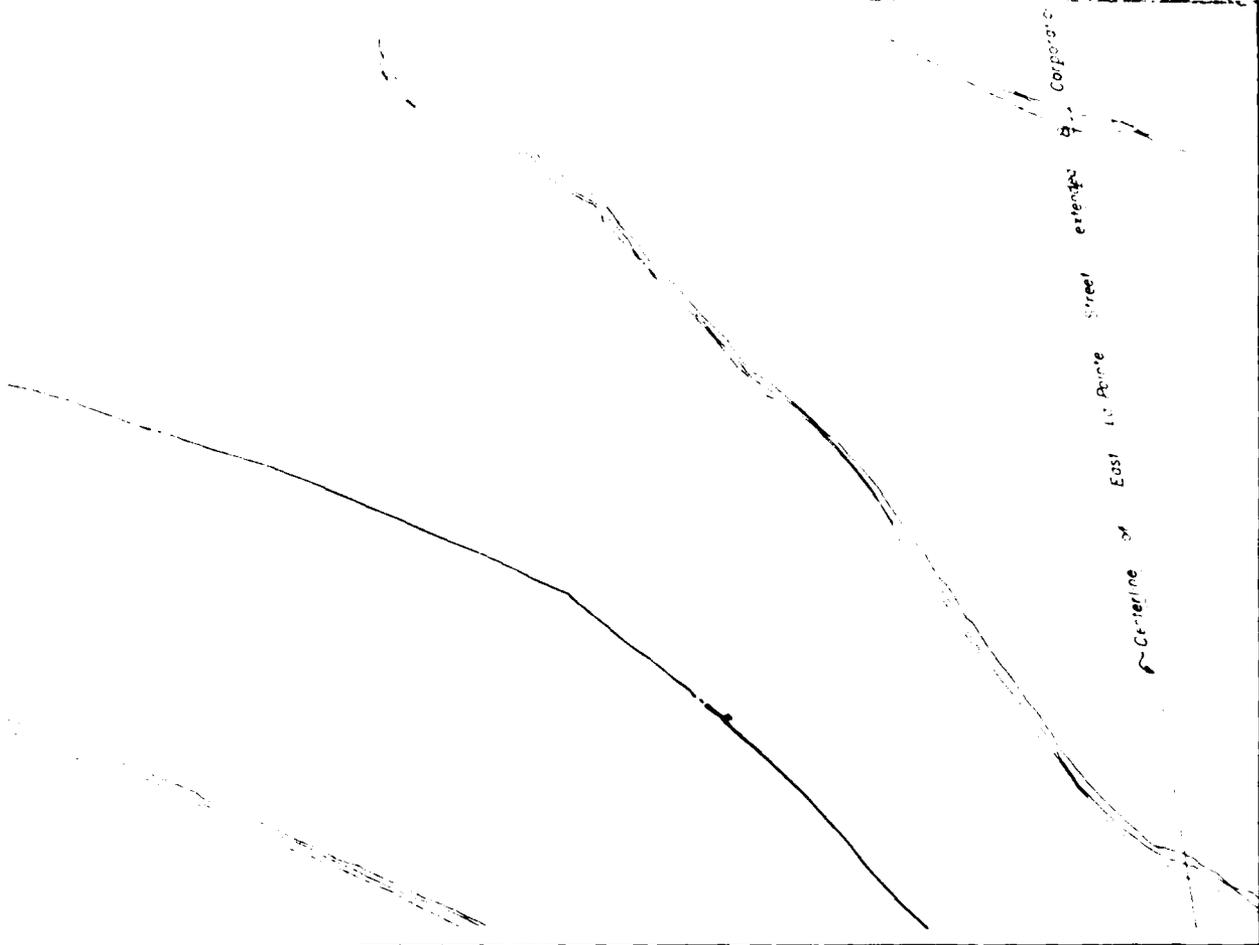
Center Line of East Channel B Corporation Line



36 36
2

SECTION

5



DESIGN MEMORANDUM NO. 2
GENERAL PHASE II PROJECT DESIGN
FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION
MISSISSIPPI RIVER AT
PRAIRIE DU CHIEN WISCONSIN
APPROXIMATE ACQUISITION BOUNDARIES
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA DISTRICT
FILE NO. M-R10-5/101

PLATE 3

6