NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 10024-0018

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of Interior National Park Service

1. Name of Property

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

historic name Davies, Edward and Mary, House
other names/site number N/A
2. Location
street & number city or town state 315 North Second Street N/A City of Platteville N/A Vicinity vicinity state Wisconsin code WI county Grant County code 043 zip code 53818
3. State/Federal Agency Certification
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this \underline{X} nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property \underline{X} meets _ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _ nationally _ statewide \underline{X} locally. (_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau
In my opinion, the property _ meets _ does not meet the National Register criteria. (_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Signature of commenting official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

Davies, Edward and Mary, House			Grant County	Wisconsin		
Name of Property			County and S	County and State		
4. National Park Servic	e Certification					
I hereby certify that the property is: See continuation sheet determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet determined not eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet see continuation sheet removed from the National Register other, (explain:)						
		Signature of the	e Keeper	Date of Action		
5. Classification						
Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as as apply) X private public-local public-State public-Federal	Category of P (Check only or X building district structure site object	ne box)		nces within Property eviously listed resources noncontributing 1 buildings 0 sites 0 structures 0 objects 1 total		
Name of related multiple pro (Enter "N/A" if property not p listing.)		operty	Number of contri previously listed i	buting resources in the National Register		
6. Function or Use						
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instru DOMESTIC / Single dwellin			Current Functions (Enter categories from in DOMESTIC / Single dw.			
7 Description				_		
7. Description						
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instru			Materials (Enter categories from in Foundation: stone	nstructions)		
Mid-Nineteenth Century			Walls: brick			
Mid-Nineteenth Century			Roof: Metal			

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

8. Statement of Significance

(Mar	icable National Register Criteria k "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria fying the property for the National Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
_ A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	Architecture
_B	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
<u>X</u> C	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction	Period of Significance
	or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	1864
_ D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	Significant Dates
		1864
	eria Considerations k "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	
Propo	erty is:	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)
_ A	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	N/A
_B	removed from its original location.	
_ C	a birthplace or grave.	Cultural Affiliation
_D	a cemetery.	N/A
_ E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
_ F	a commemorative property.	Architect/Builder
_ G	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographic References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic
- landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

X State Historic Preservation Office

- _ Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local government
- University

Other

Name of repository:

10.	Geograj	phical Data						
Acre	age of Pr	operty: 0.22						
UTM	I Referen	ces (Place addition	onal UTM references on a co	ontinuation she	eet.)			
1	15N	706595	4734650	3				
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing	
2				4				
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone See Con	Easting ntinuation Sh	Northing eet	

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title organization	Gail Klein University of Wisconsin-Milwauke	ee Cultural Re	source	date	April 14, 2022
	Management				
street & number	PO Box 413			telephone	414-229-3078
city or town	Milwaukee	state	WI	zip code	53201

Davies, Edward and Mary, House Grant County Wisconsin

Name of Property County and State

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name/title Dr. Elizabeth Frieders

organizationdateApril 14, 2022street & number315 N. Second Streettelephone608-342-1683

city or town Platteville state WI zip code 53818

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Introduction

Constructed in 1864, the Edward and Mary Davies House is a modest gabled-ell vernacular residence of locally-made red brick construction that displays references to the Greek Revival style. Its primary character-defining features include its red brick exterior utilizing a 7-course common bond; its fieldstone foundation with ashlar drip course; its tooled stone window sills and heavy stone lintels with hashed texturing and tooled margins; and its highly intact interior (including a largely unaltered spatial organization and many original materials and finishes). In addition to these features, the influence of the Greek Revival style on the building's design can be seen in its overall form and proportions (representative of the "gable front and wing" subtype of the Greek Revival style), the balanced composition of its primary façade, its squared wood front porch columns with Doric capitals, and its Classically inspired door and window trim in the front parlor. The property contains one contributing resource (the house) and one noncontributing resource (a c.1895 carriage barn).

Setting

The City of Platteville is located in Grant County in the southwestern corner of Wisconsin, approximately 20 miles northeast of Dubuque, Iowa. The Edward and Mary Davies House is located about two blocks north of the city's historic downtown, just beyond the original village plat (this area was platted in 1836, the year after the original village plat was drafted). The house sits on a corner lot at the northeast corner of N. Second Street and E. Cedar Street where topography is largely flat and even. The neighborhood surrounding the house consists primarily of nineteenth- to mid-twentieth-century single-family houses. Adjacent to the Davies House, N. Second Street and E. Cedar Street are relatively quiet, asphalt-paved, 2-lane city streets with concrete curb and gutter and concrete sidewalks with narrow grass terraces along both sides.

A concrete walkway provides access from the N. Second Street sidewalk to the front porch of the Davies House. A mown grass lawn surrounds the house; this is largely flat and even with the exception of the back yard where the lawn slopes down away from the house. Small trees and shrubs are located in the front and south yard with larger trees in the yard north of the house and in the back yard. A c.1895 carriage barn is located less than 10 feet east of the house with vehicular access from E. Cedar Street via an asphalt paved driveway.

Building Description

The Edward and Mary Davies House is rectangular in plan and consists of a 2-story front-gabled building mass and a 1-story side-gabled wing. The house's construction date, its overall form and proportions, its use of squared wood columns in the front porch, and the well balanced composition of its façade suggests the influence of the Greek Revival style although it is best classified by its gabled ell vernacular form as it lacks the style's characteristic eave returns (or full pediment), Classical door

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surround, or frieze band. The building features a coursed fieldstone foundation capped by a heavy ashlar drip course (the drip course occurs in the 2-story mass only); red brick walls laid in a 7-course common bond; standing seam metal-clad gable roofs over both building masses; and simple wood cornice boards below the eaves. Red brick chimneys project from the roof peaks of both building masses. Other features common to all elevations include narrow, tooled stone window sills and wide stone window and door lintels that feature rough hashed rectangular center panels with tooled margins. The front elevation faces west toward N. Second Street.

West (Front) Elevation

The front elevation of the Davies House is asymmetrical, but well balanced in composition and consists of the western wall of the front-gabled, 2-story mass and the western wall of the side-gabled, 1-story south wing. From left to right (north to south), the first story of the front-gabled mass contains two singly-placed 1-over-1 windows and a pair of slightly recessed wood panel double doors with a narrow block-corner transom above; each door contains two tall, narrow pointed-arch windows in its upper half. A rotary iron doorbell is built into the right (south) door and bears an 1891 date mark (this suggests that the double doors may have been a later addition, possibly in place of an earlier single door with sidelights and transom). The recessed front doors are sheltered under a wood and glass storm door with a removable wood-framed sidelight panel. The second story of the front-gabled mass contains three, evenly-spaced window openings; the left and center openings contain 1-over-1 windows while the right "opening" is a blind window containing louvered "shutters" that are permanently fixed in a closed position over a solid brick wall (this blind window was never a functioning window, but was constructed to appear shuttered as a means of balancing the composition of the façade). All windows feature narrow, tooled stone sills and wide stone lintels that feature a hashed surface with tooled margins. The door also features a heavy stone lintel with the same texturing as the window lintels. The western wall of the side-gabled wing is sheltered under a recessed porch that spans the width of the wing. The porch consists of the overhanging roof eave which is supported by three squared wood columns with Doric capitals and squared plinths resting on a wood porch floor; the porch ceiling is clad in wood beadboard. A single doorway and a single 1over-1 window are located inside the porch, in the western (front) wall of the side-gabled wing. The doorway contains an early twentieth-century, multi-pane glazed door over a mid-twentieth-century wood door containing three vertically-oriented square windows. The 1-over-1 window features a narrow, tooled stone sill and heavy stone lintel featuring a hashed surface with tooled margins. The door also features a heavy stone lintel with a hashed surface and tooled margins. All 1-over-1 windows are post-1976 replacements.

South Elevation

The south elevation of the house consists of the southern wall of the 1-story south wing. This contains two singly-placed 1-over-1 windows with narrow, tooled stone sills and heavy stone lintels that feature a hashed surface with tooled margins. A portion of the south wing was extended to the east in about

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1920 via a narrow brick extension; this is visible in the south elevation via a clear seam in the brickwork between the two masses, a change in foundation materials (the foundation of the extension is concrete), and a change in the roofline between the original south wing and the extension. The ghost of a small window opening is visible at the eastern edge of the original south wall (this window was installed in 1951 and was removed by the current property owner after 2008). All 1-over-1 windows are post-1976 replacements.

East (Rear) Elevation

The rear elevation consists of the eastern wall of the 2-story front-gabled mass and the eastern wall of the 1-story south wing. The eastern wall of the front-gabled mass contains a single off-center 1-over-1 window at the first story, the placement of which is mirrored by a single 1-over-1 window at the second story. Both windows feature narrow, tooled stone sills and heavy stone lintels that feature hashed surfaces with tooled margins (much of this texturing has been worn away with only small areas of texture remaining). A pair of wooden cellar bulkhead doors is located at the level of the foundation north of the first story window; these doors open to a recessed set of stone steps that provide access to the cellar below the house (the bulkhead doors and stone steps were reconstructed by the current property owner after 2008). The eastern wall of the south wing contains a single doorway and a small, single-pane, fixed-sash window at about eye level, both of which are sheltered by a small rear entry porch. The door is sheltered by a wood panel storm door with 6-pane glazing in its upper portion. Constructed by the current property owner after 2008, the porch is recessed under the overhanging roof eave which is supported by a single turned wood post. Indications in the brick wall around the back door suggest the historic presence of a previous entry porch. The c.1920 extension to the south wing extends to cover only a small portion of the eastern wall of the wing and contains a single 1over-1 window with a narrow, tooled stone sill in its eastern wall (the sill was likely repurposed from its original location in the eastern wall of the south wing when the extension was constructed c.1920); the northern wall of the extension serves to anchor the southern end of the small rear entry porch. A very small shed-roofed dormer containing a single-pane window (which functions as a skylight) is located in the south wing's eastern roof slope. All 1-over-1 windows are post-1976 replacements.

North Elevation

The north elevation consists of the northern wall of the 2-story front-gabled mass. This contains two singly-placed 1-over-1 windows at the first story, the placement of which is mirrored by two 1-over-1 windows at the second story and by two small, three-pane windows in the stone foundation. All 1-over-1 windows feature narrow, tooled stone sills and heavy stone lintels that feature hashed surfaces with tooled margins (much of this texturing has been worn away with only small areas of texture remaining). All 1-over-1 windows are post-1976 replacements.

Interior

The interior of the Davies House consists of a front parlor, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, pantry,

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and lavatory at the first floor and two bedrooms, a bathroom, and a laundry room at the second floor. Primary character-defining features of the building's interior include original wood flooring and wide wood baseboards, original plaster walls and ceilings in most areas, painted faux bois detailing on Classically-inspired window and door trim in the front parlor, original turned wood staircase elements, and a largely unaltered floor plan. Brick interior walls feature plastered applied directly to the brick surface while framed wall surfaces are of lath and plaster composition.

The Davies House's primary entrance consists of a pair of double doors that open into a narrow stair hall located at the southwestern corner of the 2-story building mass. The stair hall contains original unpainted wood floors; wide, unpainted wood baseboards; plaster walls; and a plaster ceiling. A narrow, straight staircase located immediately opposite the front doors features painted wood treads and risers and an unpainted wood railing with unpainted, turned wood balusters; all of the individual wood staircase elements appear to be original to the house. An unpainted, two-panel wood door in the north wall of the front hall opens into the front parlor. The parlor contains original wood floors and wide, unpainted wood baseboards, plaster walls, and a plaster ceiling. Windows and doors in the parlor feature fluted wood trim and Classically-inspired head casings with a faux bois finish. The southeastern corner of the parlor is angled and contains an unpainted, two-panel door that provides access to a small dining room. The dining room is also accessed from the front hall by a door in its west wall; this door contains a grid of decoratively carved panels in its lower half and a window opening in its upper half (the window glazing is no longer present). The dining room features narrower strip wood flooring (installed c.1920 over the original wood floorboards); wide, unpainted wood baseboards; plaster walls; and a plaster ceiling. Windows and doors in the dining room feature simple, unpainted wood board surrounds.

A pair of painted wood pocket doors in the dining room's north wall provide access to a small sitting room while a doorway in its south wall provides access to the kitchen. The sitting room features original wood floors; wide, unpainted wood baseboards; plaster walls; and a plaster ceiling. The kitchen, along with a pantry and small lavatory, occupies the entirety of the building's side wing. The kitchen features original wood floors, painted wood wainscoting (added by the current owner after 2008), plaster walls, and a stamped metal ceiling (added by the current owner after 2008). Windows and doors feature painted wood board surrounds. Two door openings in the kitchen's east wall provide access to a small pantry, the northern end of which serves as a vestibule opposite the back door. The pantry and vestibule space contains painted wood floors, wide painted wood baseboards, plaster walls, and a plaster ceiling. A window in the pantry's east wall features a painted wood board surround. An exterior door with painted wood board surround is located in the east wall of the vestibule area. The door features wood paneling in its lower half and glazing in its upper half. The northern wall of the vestibule is of wood board construction and contains a board door that provides access to a small lavatory.

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The second floor of the Davies House is accessed via the staircase in the front hall. The staircase lands near the southern end of a narrow hallway from which all second-floor rooms are accessed. A wood panel door with overhead transom is located in the west wall of the hall and provides access to the master bedroom. The master bedroom features original wood floors, wide unpainted wood baseboards, plaster walls, and a plaster ceiling. An unpainted wood panel door in the bedroom's southern wall provides access to a small closet. Windows and doors feature unpainted wood board surrounds. Doors in the east wall of the hallway provide access to a smaller bedroom and a large bathroom (converted from a former bedroom). The bedroom features original wood floors, wide unpainted wood baseboards, plaster walls, and a plaster ceiling. A painted wood panel door in the bedroom's western wall provides access to a small closet. Windows and doors feature unpainted wood board surrounds (with the exception of the closet door surround which has been partially painted). The bathroom is of approximately the same size as the smaller bedroom; this space originally served as a third bedroom, but was converted for use as a bathroom by the current owner after 2008. The bathroom features an original wood floor, plaster walls with unpainted wood wainscoting (added during the bathroom conversion), and a plaster ceiling. A shower stall with unpainted wood trim is built into the room's southeast corner. The bathroom door and window feature unpainted wood board surrounds. A door in the south wall of the hallway provides access to a laundry room located over the south wing. This space is defined by its painted wood board floor and its peaked ceiling that terminates in low beadboard walls along both sides (east and west). A small skylight is located in the eastern side of the ceiling. A painted wood panel door in the south wall provides access to a small closet; the door features a painted wood board surround. Small beadboardclad hatches at the southern ends of the side walls provide access to attic storage space.

Carriage Barn (noncontributing)

A c.1895, side-gabled carriage barn is located immediately east of the Davies House. This building is rectangular in plan with a poured concrete and concrete block foundation (added c.1950 and c.2008), board and batten siding, and a corrugated metal roof. The front elevation of the barn faces south and is asymmetrical in composition with two pairs of hinged carriage doors (all of board construction) located in a single opening across the eastern half of the south elevation. West of this is a single 6-over-6 window. A single pedestrian-scale door is located at the north end of the western (side) elevation. The north (rear) elevation of the carriage barn contains a single 6-over-6 window at its western end while the remainder of the elevation consists of a shed-roofed projection containing a small 6-pane window in its northern wall (the shed-roofed projection is clad in board and batten siding with a corrugated metal roof). The eastern wall of the carriage barn contains no fenestration.

Integrity

The Edward and Mary Davies House retains a high degree of integrity with no significant alterations to its location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. The loss of a small

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entry porch from the front-gabled mass (added between 1915 and 1929 and removed sometime prior to 1976) is not considered to negatively impact the building's integrity as this porch was constructed after the property's period of significance and its style was not in keeping with the building's Greek Revival-influenced design. Originally, the front entrance may have been accessed by a stone stoop with or without a sheltering hood, but no conclusive information regarding such a feature has been found (although the height of the threshold suggests that some form of step would have been necessary to facilitate access). The c.1920 construction of a small pantry extension to the rear elevation of the south wing does not significantly detract from the building's integrity as this alteration is diminutive in size, is located along the building's rear elevation, does not obscure any original character-defining features, and was constructed in a sympathetic manner with exterior brickwork matching that of the original building mass. Overall, the house retains nearly all of its original design features including its 7-course red brick construction, its fieldstone foundation with ashlar drip course, its tooled stone window sills and heavy stone lintels with hashed centers and tooled margins, and its largely intact mid-nineteenth-century interior featuring original wood flooring and wide wood baseboards, original plaster walls and ceilings in most areas, painted faux bois detailing on Classically-inspired window and door trim in the front parlor, and a largely unaltered floor plan.

Summary

Constructed in 1864, the Edward and Mary Davies House is an excellent local example of a midnineteenth-century gabled ell vernacular house of brick construction that incorporates references to the Greek Revival style. This is evidenced by its overall form and massing (representative of the "gable front and wing" subtype of the Greek Revival style), the composition and balance of its primary façade, the use of squared wood column supports with Doric capitals in the front porch, and the incorporation of Classically-inspired window and door surrounds in the front parlor. The building is further characterized by its fieldstone foundation with ashlar drip course, its tooled stone window sills and heavy stone lintels with hashed centers and tooled margins, and its highly intact interior (including a largely unaltered spatial organization and many original materials and finishes). The Edward and Mary Davies House remains one of the oldest and most intact brick houses in Platteville.

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This nomination recognizes the depth of human presence here, the ancestral homeland of American Indians for millennia, including the Menominee and Ho-Chunk tribes. From as early as the 17th century, inter-tribal conflict, Euro-American exploration and settlement, and ensuing military campaigns all had the effect of repeated displacement of Indians of many tribal affiliations. This continuous tribal movement resulted in Wisconsin being home to many tribes who originated from other parts of the country, generating a pattern of immigration, relocation, and formation of a new homeland. Some of these tribes remain in Wisconsin; others may not, but numerous count Wisconsin as home: Brotherton, Dakota, Fox/Meskwaki, Ho-Chunk, Kickapoo, Mascoutens, Menominee, Miami, Munsee, Odawa, Ojibwa, Oneida, Potawatomi, Stockbridge, Sauk, and Wyandot tribes. We acknowledge that the property that is the subject of this nomination is located on land long occupied by American Indians, and since 1850 by the Mesquakie, Sauk, Ho-Chunk, and Dakota tribes.

Introduction

The Edward and Mary Davies House was constructed in 1864 in a gabled ell vernacular form utilizing locally produced red brick and incorporating distinct references to the Greek Revival style. These references include the building's overall proportions and massing (representative of the "gable front and wing" subtype of the Greek Revival style), the balanced composition of its primary façade, the use of squared wood column supports with Doric capitals in the front porch, and the incorporation of Classically-inspired window and door surrounds in the front parlor. With both an exterior and interior that have undergone few substantial alterations in more than 150 years, the building is one of the most intact mid-nineteenth-century vernacular brick houses remaining in Platteville today. The Davies House is in good condition and retains a high degree of integrity. The property's period of significance is 1864, the year of construction. Because of its local significance in the area of *Architecture*, the Edward and Mary Davies House is considered eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under *Criterion C*.

City of Platteville

The present-day area encompassing the City of Platteville was home to the Mesquakie, Sauk, Ho-Churnk, and Dakota peoples long before the first permanent Euro-American settlers arrived in the area in the 1820s. In the spring of 1827, a number of miners arrived following reports from prospectors who had noted lead deposits in the region. The scattering of huts made by these "quixotic, wandering miners" also marked the beginning of the first permanent Euro-American settlement in Grant County as a whole. In November of that year, two mining partners, Major John Hawkins Rountree and J.B. Campbell discovered the "Rountree lode" that went on to provide over five million pounds of lead ore. Within a year, Platte River Digs (as the community had become known) contained a boarding house, a modest smelting furnace, and a dry goods store, the latter two of which were built and operated by

¹ History of Grant County, Wisconsin (Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1881), 676.

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Major Rountree. In 1829, a post office was established in Rountree's store and the fledgling village officially became known as Platteville.

The first true survey of the village occurred in 1835, but was somewhat irregular due to steep topography as well as the need to avoid active mine shafts. Within two years, the population of the village had reached about 200; by 1850 this number had grown to nearly 1,500 and included a substantial number of German-born residents. By this time, the community boasted three churches, various stores and shops, and three schools.² The village economy continued to rely on the lead mines through about 1850 when reduced lead production and the draw of the California gold rush caused mining activity to rapidly diminish. The community continued to prosper, however, due to flourishing agriculture in the surrounding area and the establishment of the Platteville Academy (today's University of Wisconsin-Platteville) which drew students from throughout the region.

In March of 1880, with a population of over 2,600, Platteville was incorporated as a city.³ By this time, the city contained a number of industrial concerns including a gunpowder factory, carriage and wagon works, a woolen mill, foundry and machine shops, a brick yard, a smelting furnace, a brewery, and a number of grain elevators. In addition to its growing importance as an industrial, agricultural, and educational center in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Platteville was also a regional transportation hub as both the Galena & Southwestern Railroad and the Chicago, Milwaukee, & St. Paul Railroad converged in the city.⁴

Edward and Mary Davies

Edward Davies (frequently misspelled as Davis) was born in Flintshire, North Wales on March 15, 1817. In the early 1840s, Davies relocated to Manchester, England and in about 1847, married Margaret Roberts; the couple had two children, Emma (born in 1848) and Robert (born in 1850).⁵ Shortly after Robert's birth, the Davies family immigrated to the United States and settled in the growing community of Platteville where Davies spent four and a half years working in the plow shop of Joel Potter. During this time, young Robert Davies died (1851) and Edward and Mary Davies had three more children: Elizabeth (born in 1851), Adeline (born in 1854), and Edward Jr. (born in 1856).

By the mid-1850s, Edward Davies had established his own blacksmith shop on Mineral Street (no longer extant).⁶ On December 25, 1858, Margaret Davies died leaving her husband with four young children. Within a year, Edward Davies married Mary Jane Champion, an English immigrant from a

² History of Grant County, Wisconsin, 689-694.

³ History of Grant County, Wisconsin, 695.

⁴ History of Grant County, Wisconsin, 713-725.

⁵ 1850 U.S. Census, Eastern District, Grant County, Wisconsin. Accessed through Ancestry.com (April 22, 2022).

⁶ History of Grant County, Wisconsin, 903.

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local mining family. Born in about 1837 to Ann and Isaac Champion, Mary Jane Champion and her family arrived in the United States in 1848 and settled in Wisconsin's lead mining region where Isaac found work as a miner.⁷

In 1864 – about five years after Mary Champion and Edward Davies were married – Edward Davies purchased a lot at the corner of N. Second Street and E. Cedar Street for a sum of \$500 for the construction of a new family home. By 1880, Emma Davies and Edward Davies Jr. had married, leaving Elizabeth and Adeline Davies at the family home with their parents. By the same time, Edward Jr. had joined his father in the blacksmith business (after which time, the business became known as Davies & Son). Elizabeth Davies died in 1881, and Adeline Davies was married in 1887, leaving only Edward and Mary in the family home. In 1892, Edward and Mary Davies relocated to a smaller home on North Elm Street. Edward Davies died in Platteville on May 16, 1895. Following his death, Mary Davies continued to live in the Elm Street house with her sister Martha until her death on September 1, 1925.

Property History

Edward Davies purchased an undeveloped lot at the corner of N. Second Street and E. Cedar Street in January 1864 for the construction of a new home for his family. Located at the northeastern edge of the original village plat, the lot included land that was both part of the original plat as well as land that had been annexed in 1836 as part of the village's second plat (Carl's Addition). Construction of the Davies House had been completed by the end of 1864. The earliest known depiction of the house – part of a bird's eye illustration of Platteville that was drafted in 1871 – portrays both the front-gabled and side-gabled masses; this documentation, as well as tax rolls from 1864 to 1871, suggest that both masses were likely constructed at the same time. The Davies family lived in the house for more than 25 years, during which time no substantial alterations are documented.

In 1892 (three years before his death), Edward Davies sold the property to retired farmer Henry Kettler and his wife Maria from the nearby Town of Smelser.⁹ At about this time, the carriage barn east of the house was constructed and the house's existing front doors were likely installed. Following the deaths of Henry and Maria Kettler (in 1907 and 1915, respectively), the property was transferred to Henry Kettler, Jr. and his wife Minnie.¹⁰ In about 1920, under Henry and Minnie Kettler's ownership, in an effort to modernize the house, the exterior was painted white and a small pantry extension was added

⁷ 1850 U.S. Census, Eastern District, Grant County, Wisconsin. Accessed through Ancestry.com (April 22, 2022).

⁸ Grant County, Wisconsin, Deed Register Vol. 53, p. 294, Robert and Mary Mann to Edward Davies, January 23, 1864. Grant County, Wisconsin, Deed Register Vol. 53, p. 295, Richard and Mary Straw to Edward Davies, January 30, 1864.

⁹ Property abstract for 315 N. Second Street (Platteville, Grant County, WI), owned by Elizabeth Frieders.

¹⁰ 1930 and 1940 U.S. Census, Platteville, Grant County, Wisconsin. Accessed through Ancestry.com (April 22, 2022).

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to the rear elevation of the south wing.¹¹ The small lavatory at the rear of the south wing was likely added under Henry and Minnie Kettler's ownership as well. The Kettlers also added a decorative entry porch over the primary entrance some time between 1915 and 1929 (now non-extant, the porch featured turned wood supports and arched spandrels). The property remained in the Kettler family until 1949.

Subsequent owners included Orville and Freda Schroeder who lived in the house until the early 1980s. During the Schroeders' ownership of the property, the house functioned as an upstairs-downstairs duplex with the Schroeders utilizing the kitchen entrance to access their first floor living space and their tenant utilizing the primary entrance to access the second floor which served as a rental unit. During this period, a small window was added to the southern wall of the pantry extension, the kitchen door was replaced with the existing mid-century door, the existing 1-over-1 windows were installed, and the entry porch added by the Kettlers was removed from the building's façade. Undated alterations include the removal of at least one fireplace from the two-story building mass (presumably in the front parlor with a possible second fireplace in the sitting room).

The building's current owner, Dr. Elizabeth Frieders, purchased the property in 2008. Under Dr. Frieders' ownership, areas of deteriorating exterior masonry were restored, the chimney over the front-gabled mass (which had been insensitively repaired/rebuilt some time previously) was reconstructed using the original chimney brick, deteriorated original front porch floorboards were replaced, the existing back porch was constructed (utilizing a turned wood support that had been discarded when the early twentieth-century entry porch was dismantled), the cellar bulkhead doors were replaced and the stone cellar steps were repaired using the original stone, the insensitive 1951 pantry window was removed, and damaged interior walls were patched and painted. Other major work consisted of electrical and HVAC updates, the conversion of an upstairs bedroom to a bathroom, and the installation of the existing wainscoting and stamped metal ceiling in the kitchen.

Gabled Ell Architecture

The gabled ell form – sometimes referred to as an "upright and wing" or "gable-front-and-wing" – was one of the most common vernacular house types constructed in Wisconsin between about 1860 and 1910. Defined by its L-shaped or T-shaped plan with two gabled masses standing perpendicular to one another, the form was built for both comfort as well as practicality and was nearly always constructed for residential use. While some gabled ell houses evolved from earlier front or side gabled buildings that were expanded via a side wing, others were originally conceived in their complete T- or L-forms. Historically referred to as a "country cottage," "western cottage," and "workingman's

¹¹ The c.1920 painting date was provided by the Schroeders' granddaughter during an undated conversation with the current property owner, Elizabeth Frieders following her purchase of the property.

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cottage," the gabled ell form can be found in both urban and rural settings, although it is more common in rural locations or small towns where lot limitations were not a concern. 12

While various story combinations are common, probably the most frequent combination found in Wisconsin's gabled ell houses consists of a one-and-a-half-story front-gabled mass connected to a one-story side-gabled wing. When heights varied between building masses, the side-gabled wing was nearly always constructed as the lower of the two.¹³ This is true of the Edward and Mary Davies House in which the front-gabled mass rises to two stories while the side-gabled wing is a single story. In the mid-nineteenth century when the gabled ell form was being developed, the side-gabled wing also tended to be narrow; over time, however, gabled ell houses were built with wider wings to accommodate the changing shape of the interior room (eventually accommodating two rooms).¹⁴ The wing of the Davies House historically contained only a single room (the kitchen) with a narrow area at the rear of the space to serve as a rear entry vestibule and pantry (with a later expansion of the pantry space).

A key feature of the gabled ell form is the sheltered entry porch located in the front ell. Commonly only a few steps above ground level, the porch typically featured a shed or hipped roof (with or without a gablet over the front steps) and was often the only location on the building to display ornamentation. When present, such ornamentation typically took the form of decorative brackets, spandrels, and/or columns or turned posts that reflected popular architectural styles of the period. The Davies House features a recessed front porch with modest square, wood columns with Doric capitals, suggesting the influence of the Greek Revival style. Within the porch, the front door of gabled ell houses was typically placed on either wall with some houses displaying doors in both walls of the ell. In this respect, the Davies House is atypical in that the primary front door is located in the front-gabled mass while the door located in the porch along the front ell served as a secondary entrance. This, too, suggests the influence of Greek Revival design in which the "gable front and wing" adaptation of the style (similar to the "temple and wings" form) featured a formal entrance at one side of the primary façade of the front-gabled mass and a secondary entrance located in the façade of a smaller side wing. In addition, T-shaped gabled ell houses – like the Davies House prior to its c.1920 pantry extension – frequently included a back porch constructed in the rear ell. 15 Although Davies House's pantry extension has likely diminished the rear porch's original footprint, the existing porch continues to shelter the house's back door.

¹² Herbert Gottfried and Jan Jennings, *American Vernacular Buildings and Interiors* (New York: W.W. Norton & Co., Inc., 2009), 141.

¹³ Barbara Wyatt, ed. *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin* (Madison, WI: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986), Vol. 2, Architecture (Gabled Ell), 3-5.

¹⁴ Gottfried and Jennings, American Vernacular Buildings and Interiors, 140.

¹⁵ Wyatt, Cultural Resource Management, Vol. 2, Architecture (Gabled Ell), 3-5.

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In Wisconsin, the vast majority of gabled ell houses are frame buildings (originally clad in clapboard) with brick or stone versions occurring less frequently. Masonry examples are more frequent in areas that historically contained ample natural stone deposits, quarries, and/or local brickyards while frame examples can be found in virtually every community throughout the state. Window openings in gabled ell houses were typically regularly spaced with placement of individual windows dependent on the house's interior plan. In the years following their construction, the most common additions to gabled ell houses consisted of the enclosure of the front and back porches and the construction of an extension to one of the two building masses. With the exception of the narrow pantry expansion, the Davies House features no such addition. Other frequent alterations to gabled ell houses include the covering or replacement of the original wall material with asbestos, aluminum, or vinyl siding (in frame examples) and window and door replacement.¹⁶

With a design that was highly practical, comfortable, and well suited to a variety of settings, the gabled ell form became one of the most ubiquitous house types constructed in Wisconsin in the second half of the nineteenth century. Although the City of Platteville, one of Wisconsin's oldest communities, contains a number of gabled ell houses, the Edward and Mary Davies House is distinguished by its age, its brick construction, and its references to the Greek Revival style that had gained popularity in the mid-nineteenth century.

Greek Revival Architecture

The Greek Revival style is known to be the first national style to have a wide-ranging impact on building construction in Wisconsin. The style originated in the eastern states during the later years of the eighteenth century and was carried westward with the country's expanding population during the first half of the nineteenth century. The dissemination of the style to western territories was aided by the popularity of architectural pattern books published by early American architects such as Asher Benjamin, Edward Shaw, and Minard Lafever. Such books frequently provided models for houses constructed by local builders in areas where trained architects were nonexistent. The Greek Revival style is characterized by its use of Classically-inspired (though not archaeologically correct) architectural forms and elements including low-pitched gable roofs; cornice lines emphasized by wide bands of trim; entry or full-width porches supported by prominent square or rounded columns (typically of Doric style); and a front door accentuated by narrow sidelights and a transom that were often incorporated into a Classically-inspired door surround. The Greek Revival style was known

¹⁶ Wyatt, Cultural Resource Management, Vol. 2, Architecture (Gabled Ell), 3-5.

¹⁷ Wyatt, Cultural Resource Management, Vol. 2, Architecture (Greek Revival), 2-3.

¹⁸ Virginia Savage McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2013), 247.

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for its versatility and, in Wisconsin, the development of brick, fieldstone, and quarried rock variations became a regional specialty (in contrast to the more common clapboard version in other regions).¹⁹

The Wisconsin Cultural Resource Management Plan indicates that throughout Wisconsin, "pure" Greek Revival buildings are relatively rare in comparison with the more common vernacular structures that display limited Greek Revival references (as in the Edward and Mary Davies House). These vernacular Greek Revival buildings display the rectangular massing and regular fenestration characteristic of the style, and often feature distinct eave returns and doorways accentuated by a simple transom and sidelights.²⁰

Early Brick Construction in Platteville

In the years immediately following Platteville's founding, most, if not all, buildings constructed in the community were of log or simple frame construction. Any building materials that could not be crafted from local materials were typically procured from Platteville's sister lead mining village of Galena, Illinois (about 25 miles south of Platteville) which had been established several years earlier. Such materials typically arrived in Galena by boat along the Mississippi River and from there, were hauled overland to Platteville.²¹ The first brick building in Platteville was constructed in 1843 by its founder, Major John Hawkins Rountree. A later account of the building's construction notes that bricks for this and subsequent buildings were "molded and burned on the west side of the Lancaster Road, a short distance from the town...the lime was manufactured in the vicinity, and the sand procured at Platte River."²² As Platteville expanded in the late 1840s and 1850s, several of the village's more affluent residents and businessmen followed Major Rountree's example and constructed brick houses and commercial buildings. To meet this demand, additional brickyards were established in the city during this period, one of which was located on Water Street, less than one quarter mile from the site of the Edward and Mary Davies House. Bricks produced by Platteville's early brickyards were molded and kiln fired by hand; these bricks were typically smaller in size than their later counterparts and of a softer consistency.

Local demand for brick buildings increased after 1874 when a disastrous fire prompted many property owners to rebuild with brick rather than wood. The increased demand for bricks resulted in the establishment of at least one additional brickyard in Platteville. This company, the Grindell Brick Factory located in northeastern Platteville, reported that the local demand for bricks increased annually

¹⁹ Wyatt, Cultural Resource Management, Vol. 2, Architecture (Greek Revival), 2-3.

²⁰ Wyatt, Cultural Resource Management, Vol. 2, Architecture (Greek Revival), 2-3.

²¹ History of Grant County, Wisconsin, 688.

²² History of Grant County, Wisconsin, 691.

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between 1874 and 1881 so that by the latter year, the company's yearly output had reached three-quarters of a million bricks.²³

By this time, however, the large quantities of firewood needed to fire brick kilns had become scarce due to the depletion of the surrounding timber; as a replacement fuel, coal was purchased and transported to Platteville from areas to the south. However, it quickly became apparent that the cost in buying and transporting coal to the city's brickworks was often greater than the cost of purchasing finished bricks elsewhere. By about the same time, the mechanization of the brick-making industry resulted in "sharper, cleaner masonry units" that could be produced with less labor and lower costs; these bricks – typically produced by the state's largest brick manufacturers – soon replaced the earlier hand-produced bricks. Consequently, by the early twentieth century Platteville no longer contained any operating brickworks.

Comparative Analysis

The Wisconsin Historic Preservation Database (a publicly accessible online database operated and maintained by the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office) contains records for 23 extant brick buildings constructed in Platteville between 1840 and 1865; the majority of these are documented in Platteville's 2005 intensive survey of historic architecture. Of these, 10 are classified as houses. The majority of these represent the Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, and Second Empire styles while only 2 embody vernacular forms. The 2 vernacular houses include the Richard and Louisa Verran House at 840 W. Main Street and the Edward and Mary Davies House (the subject building).

The Verran House was constructed c.1860 in a side gabled form with late nineteenth-century to mid twentieth-century frame extensions to the rear (including an attached garage) and a post-1929 frame wing to the east. The frame additions to the building more than double its original footprint and obscure all of the building's original rear elevation and a portion of the east elevation. In addition, a mid-twentieth-century exterior chimney has been added to the east elevation; the brickwork of the chimney (with decorative stone accents) is not in keeping with the brick of the original portion of the house, rendering the chimney an unsympathetic addition. The chimney and frame additions to the Verran House have diminished its integrity as a mid-nineteenth-century vernacular brick house, and it was not recommended as eligible for National Register listing in the city's 2005 intensive survey

²³ History of Grant County, Wisconsin, 724.

²⁴ Two Tours of Historic Platteville (1986). Wisconsin Historical Society Library, Madison, Wisconsin (accessed April 22, 2022).

²⁵ Wyatt, Cultural Resource Management, Vol. 2, Architecture (Industry).

²⁶ Timothy Heggland, *City of Platteville, Wisconsin: Intensive Survey Report*. Prepared for City of Platteville Historic Preservation Commission (October 2005).

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report. Although the Verran House features a small pedimented door surround that suggests the influence of the Greek Revival style, it is lacking any other references to the style and its scroll-cut bargeboards are distinctly in contrast with the typical Greek Revival aesthetic. In comparison, the Davies House retains a much higher level of integrity and a greater degree of architectural distinction.

Of the 8 non-vernacular mid-nineteenth-century brick houses recorded in Platteville, 2 are Greek Revival in style: the John Hawkins Rountree Mansion at 150 Rountree Avenue and the John Lewis House at 85 N. Elm Street. Constructed in 1854, the Rountree Mansion is a capacious two-story house that sits on a large, wooded estate; the house is characterized by its wide, bracketed cornice board; a two-story gallery porch across the primary façade; stone window and door lintels; multi-pane floor-to-ceiling windows; and a front door accented by a large overhead transom. The Rountree Mansion was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1986 as a fine example of the Greek Revival style and for its association with Major John Hawkins Rountree. Because of its large proportions and high style design befitting the village's founder and long-time benefactor, the Rountree Mansion is not comparable to the modest, vernacular Davies House which was constructed for a member of the village's working class.

The John Lewis House, however, is highly comparable to the Davies House in terms of its modest scale, the balanced composition of its façade, and its relatively restrained style. Constructed in about 1847 for Reverend John Lewis of Platteville's First Congregational Church and listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2007 (as a contributing element of the West Main Street Historic District), the house is characterized by its red brick construction, its front-gabled form with wide cornice boards and prominent eave returns, its heavy stone window and door lintels, its narrow stone window sills, and its balanced façade featuring a front door that is aligned to one side and accentuated by multi-pane sidelights and transom with a bracketed, hipped roof hood above. Although the building's eave returns and the sidelights and transom around the front door render it a clear example of the Greek Revival style (whereas the Davies House is lacking these characteristic elements of the style), the Lewis House has been expanded to more than twice its original footprint via a series of frame additions to the east (rear) and north (side) elevations in the late nineteenth century and midtwentieth-century, respectively, and all additions are currently clad in vinyl siding. The late nineteenth-century, one-story addition to the rear elevation only minimally detracts from the building's original form and style; however, the two-story, mid-twentieth-century addition to the north elevation (one of the building's street-facing facades) obscures the majority of the house's original north elevation and appears designed to function as a full house with its own street-facing entrance. As a result of this insensitive addition, the overall integrity of the Lewis House is diminished and the distinction of the Davies House as one of Platteville's most intact mid-nineteenth-century brick houses remains.

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Archaeological Potential

The potential for historic period archaeological deposits associated with the Edward and Mary Davies House exists but has not been evaluated. In addition, there are a number of known precontact archaeological sites within one mile of the property; however, the potential for precontact archaeological deposits within the property's historic boundary has not been evaluated.²⁷

Conclusion

Constructed in 1864 in a gabled ell vernacular form with modest references to the Greek Revival style, the Edward and Mary Davies House retains an exceptionally high degree of integrity. Original features include red brick exterior walls with a heavy stone drip course and coursed fieldstone foundation, tooled stone window sills, wide stone door and window lintels featuring hashed centers with tooled margins, and a highly intact interior with many original materials and finishes. The house is also characterized by its restrained references to the Greek Revival style including its general form and proportions (representative of the "gable front and wing" subtype of the style), the balanced composition of its primary façade with an entrance aligned along one side, its recessed front porch with squared wood columns, and its Classically-inspired interior door and window trim. The Davies House is one of the earliest and best-preserved vernacular brick houses remaining in Platteville today.

Preservation Activity

The property's current owner, Dr. Elizabeth Frieders, supports the nomination of the Edward and Mary Davies House to the National Register of Historic Places and has no plans to significantly alter any of the building's character-defining features that render it eligible for listing in the National Register. Since her purchase of the property in 2008, Dr. Frieders has been working to restore the property to its original condition and is interested in any local, state, or federal assistance in this endeavor that may be available as a result of National Register listing.

²⁷ Wisconsin Historic Preservation Database, Archaeological Sites Inventory (accessed April 19, 2022).

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Verbal Boundary Description:

The historic boundary of the Edward and Mary Davies House is a rectangle that encompasses the contributing house and a noncontributing carriage barn. Beginning at the southwest corner of the property, the historic boundary runs north for approximately 90 feet along the eastern edge of the N. Second Street sidewalk; from there, the boundary runs east for approximately 95 feet along the southern edge of the concrete driveway of the neighboring property to the north; at that point, the boundary runs south for approximately 90 feet along the subject property's eastern property line; from there, the boundary runs west for approximately 95 feet along the northern edge of the E. Cedar Street sidewalk to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

This historic boundary of the Edward and Mary Davies House has been delineated to include the property's single contributing resource (the house) and associated domestic yard space; the boundary also includes a noncontributing carriage barn. The historic boundary coincides with the property's existing and historic legal tax parcel and is visually defined on the south and west sides by the edges of the E. Cedar Street and N. Second Street sidewalks and on the north side by the edge of the neighboring concrete driveway; the eastern historic boundary line is not visually defined, but like all other boundary lines, coincides with the existing property line.

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Name of Property: Edward and Mary Davies House

City or Vicinity: City of Platteville County: Grant County

State: WI

Name of Photographer: Gail R. Klein

Date of Photographs: Location of Original Digital Files:March 23, 2022 and June 1, 2022
Wisconsin Historical Society

Photo 1 of 15

West elevation, camera facing east

Photo 2 of 15

West and north elevations, camera facing southeast

Photo 3 of 15

North elevation, camera facing south

Photo 4 of 15

North and east elevations, camera facing southwest

Photo 5 of 15

East elevation, camera facing west

Photo 6 of 15

East elevation, detail of south wing, camera facing southwest

Photo 7 of 15

South elevation, camera facing north

Photo 8 of 15

South and west elevations, camera facing northeast

Photo 9 of 15

West elevation, detail of south wing, camera facing east

Photo 10 of 15

Interior, parlor, looking toward front hall, camera facing southwest

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Photo 11 of 15 Interior, dining room, camera facing east

Photo 12 of 15 Interior, kitchen, camera facing east

Photo 13 of 15 Interior, second floor hallway, camera facing north

Photo 14 of 15 Interior, second floor master bedroom, camera facing north

Photo 15 of 15 Noncontributing carriage barn, south and west elevations, camera facing northeast

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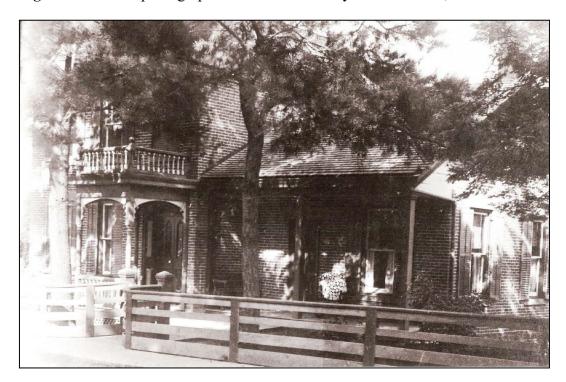
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- Figure 1: Historic photograph of Edward and Mary Davies House, c.1915.
- Figure 2: Bird's-eye map of Platteville (detail), showing Davies House, c.1871.
- Figure 3: Davies House and outbuilding shown in 1929 Sanborn map.
- Figure 4: Sketch map of Davies House nominated area, April 2022.
- Figure 5: Davies House floor plan, June 2022.
- Figure 6: USGS map with UTM coordinates showing location of nominated property.

Figure 1: Historic photograph of Edward and Mary Davies House, c.1915.



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Figure 2: Bird's-eye map of Platteville (detail), showing Davies House, c.1871.

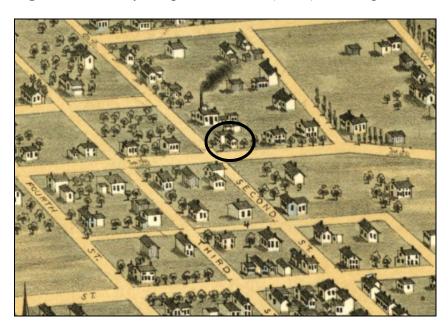
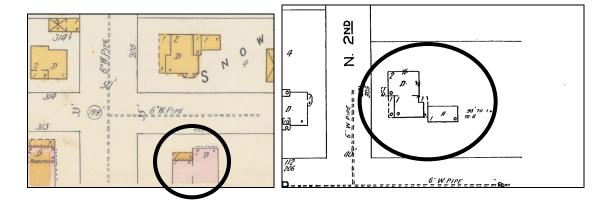


Figure 3: Davies House shown on 1908 (left) and 1929 (right) Sanborn maps.



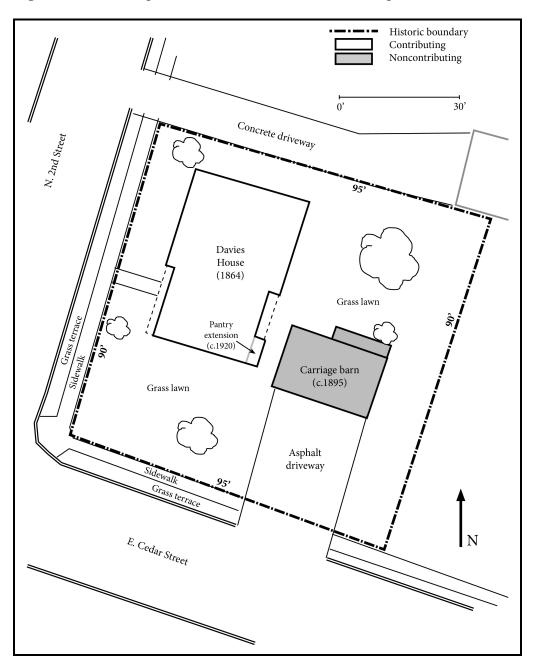
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Figure 4: Sketch map of Davies House nominated area, April 2022.



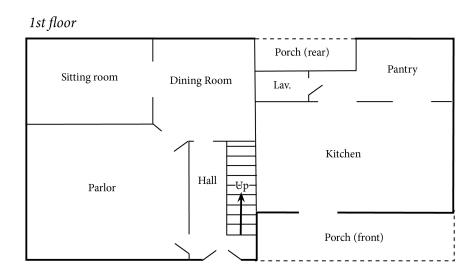
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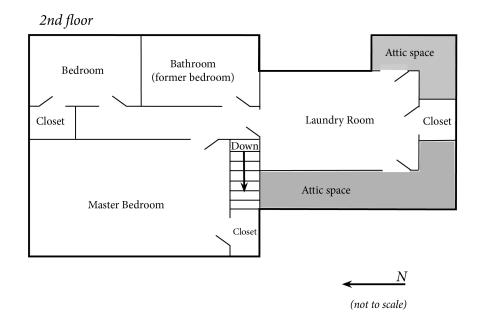
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Figure 5: Davies House floor plan, June 2022.





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Figure 6: USGS map with UTM coordinates showing location of nominated property.

