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Sandstone and buffalo robes. 1969

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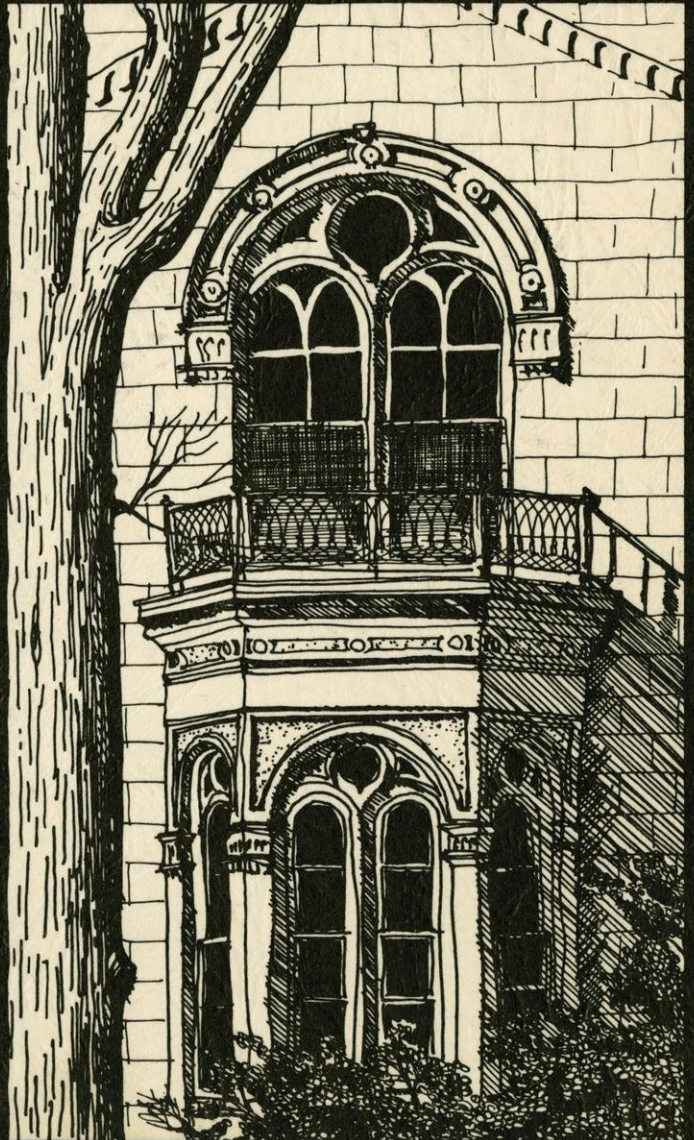
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SANDSTONE and BUFFALO ROBES



Instructional Materials About Our Community



a project of...
The Instructional
Materials Center
Madison Public Schools
Madison, Wisconsin

SANDSTONE AND BUFFALO ROBES

Section I: Teacher Information

A. Objectives and Suggested Uses of Materials	Page 1
B. Bibliography	Page 1
C. Map of a Historic Walking Tour	Page 2
D. The Birth of a City	Page 3
E. Sullivan and Wright Buildings	Page 4
F. Historic University Buildings	Page 5
G. News Articles:	
"Old Synagogue Waits Wrecking Crew"	Page 6
"Old Synagogue is Spared"	Page 7

Section II: Script for filmstrip

"Sandstone and Buffalo Robes"	Page 8
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The filmstrip and guidebook were produced by the Instructional Materials Center, Madison Public Schools, Administration Building, 545 W. Dayton Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53703.

The work presented or reported herein was performed pursuant to a grant from the U.S. Office of Education, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Objectives and Suggested Uses:

It is with respect for Madison's important heritage and in recognition of the need for appreciation and preservation of its remaining historic buildings, that the City Planning Department published the guide, "Sandstone and Buffalo Robes". The Local Materials Project coordinated the script written by Jeffrey Dean, Madison Planning Department and Frank Custer, Capital Times, with pictures. This set of materials can be used with a field trip or to promote an independent walking tour.

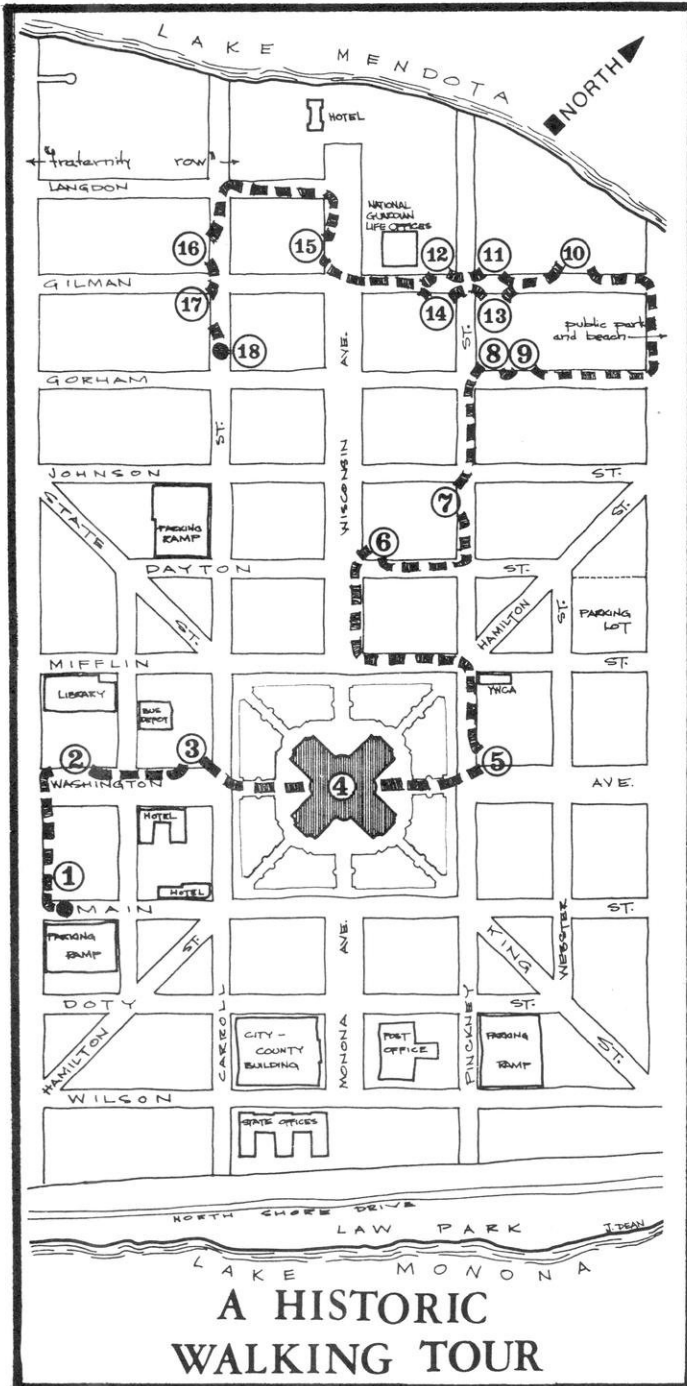
Besides the eighteen downtown buildings included on the walking tour, lists of historic University buildings and of several buildings designed by Louis Henry Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright are included in this guidebook on pages 4 & 5.

Bibliography:

The Architecture of Wisconsin by Richard W. E. Perrin, State Historical Society, 816 State Street, Madison, Wis. 53706, \$7.50.

Historical Picture Print Series — Wisconsin Architecture. 23 black and white pictures 8-1/2 x 11 inches. State Historical Society of Wisconsin, \$1.10 per set.

Badger History. "Wisconsin and the Arts". Volume XXI, March 1968, State Historical Society. \$1.00 per issue or \$.50 per issue when ordered in quantities of ten or more copies.



1. St. Raphael's Cathedral
2. Old Synagogue
3. Grace Episcopal Church
4. Wisconsin State Capitol
5. Old Park Savings Bank
6. First Methodist Church
7. Strelow House
8. Keyes House
9. Brown House
10. Old Executive Mansion
11. Kendall House
12. Keenan House
13. Bashford House
14. Pierce House
15. Jones House
16. Van Slyke House
17. Mears House
18. Breese Stevens House

Source: Sandstone and Buffalo Robes booklet
Published by the City Planning Dept.
For the Madison City Plan Commission.

THE BIRTH OF A CITY

Madison was created out of whole cloth — or perhaps it would be better to say swampy wilderness — during the first Wisconsin territorial legislature session in 1836. Largely due to the not entirely selfless efforts of James Duane Doty, a federal judge who later became governor, the isthmus was selected as the new state's capital.

Judge Doty first saw the isthmus in May, 1829, when he and two others were the first white men to travel overland from Green Bay to Prairie du Chien. He recognized potential profit in the "Four Lakes Region" as it was then called, and with Governor Stevens T. Mason of Michigan he bought 1,200 acres of isthmus land for \$1,500.

Madison was one of several prospective cities offered to the 1836 legislature for selection as the future capital. Besides Madison, there was Fond du Lac, Belmont and Cassville, as well as many other towns offered with less success. But none could match Judge Doty or his Four Lakes Region. It is said that as he extolled the virtues of his pet site to that first legislature, Judge Doty passed out buffalo robes and 23 titles to choice corner lots in his "paper town" as an added inducement.

Duly chosen the future capital, the isthmus was first settled by a white family in April, 1837, when Eben and Rosaline Peck built three interconnected log cabins in the middle of what is now South Butler Street. Today, a plaque hangs on the rear of the Capitol Hotel in the 100 block of South Butler Street to commemorate that first homesite. Actually, John Catlin had put up a log house on the site of Manchester's before the Pecks, but the Catlin homestead was destroyed by fire before it could be occupied, and the Peck house was the first to be lived in. The Pecks' inn housed 36 construction workers who arrived in June, 1837, to begin building the first Capitol in Madison.

In 1846 Madison, with a population of 626, became an incorporated village. When, in 1848, Wisconsin became the thirtieth state, the capital city was selected as the site for a new state university, now the University of Wisconsin. The first university building, now called North Hall, was built on Bascom Hill two years later, and still stands today.

Tremendous growth followed Wisconsin's statehood, and Madison became a full-fledged city in 1856 when it had a population of 6,864. Many of the old homes included in this walking-tour guide were built about the time Madison became a city. The area north of the Square, in the vicinity of Langdon and East Gilman Streets, was THE prestige residential area, as evidenced by the elegant character of many of these houses.

Sullivan and Wright Buildings

Madison is fortunate to have buildings designed by two of America's greatest architects, Louis Henry Sullivan and his protege, Frank Lloyd Wright. Though well beyond walking distance from the downtown area, these buildings should be seen by those interested in local architecture.

The Bradley House, at 106 North Prospect Avenue, was designed by Sullivan in 1909, and is one of Madison's finest historic buildings. It was designed late in Sullivan's career, and shows the influence of his former pupil, Wright.

In this house, Sullivan employs one of the earliest and most successful residential uses of the cantilever, a form of construction which Wright later carried to the ultimate in his masterful Falling Water house in Pennsylvania. A huge house, the Bradley dwelling is now used as a college fraternity. It was laid out on a compartmentalized, structural grid reminiscent of Sullivan's earlier steel frame buildings in Chicago and St. Louis.

There are several buildings designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in or near Madison, some of which are quite well known. A list of these follows:

Unitarian Meeting House	900 University Bay Dr.	1949
Gilmore House	120 Ely Place	1908
Pew House	3650 Mendota Drive	1940
Jacobs House I	441 Toepfer Avenue	1937
Jacobs House II	Seen from Pleasant View Road south of Old Sauk Road in Middleton	1949
Erdman Prefabricated House	5817 Anchorage Avenue	1957

Historic University Buildings

In 1850, two years after Madison was chosen the site for a future state university, College Hill, at the foot of State Street was bought for the campus of the University of Wisconsin.

The first building, **North Hall**, was finished in 1851. A simple, native sandstone building, it housed classrooms, living quarters for faculty and students, and a dining hall. **South Hall** was built across the hill in 1855 and served for years as a faculty dormitory.

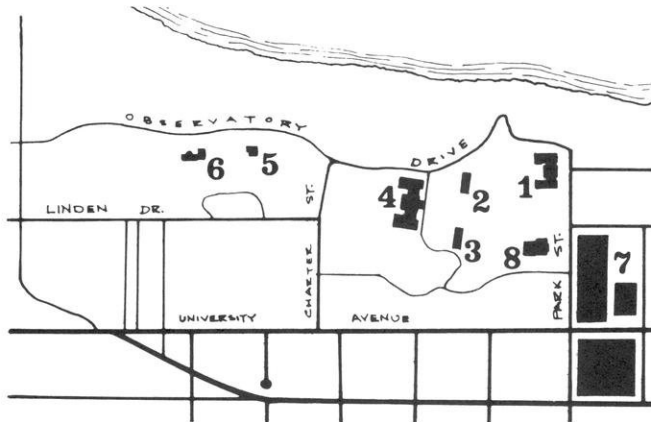
In 1857 **Bascom Hall** was perched atop the hill, and it has been the University's symbolic landmark for well over a century. A Classic Revival building, it was remodeled in 1895 when a round portico on the east facade was replaced by a rectangular portico. A dome once stood on top of Bascom Hall, but was removed after a fire in 1916. The noted statue of Abraham Lincoln, east of the building, was sculpted by Adolph Weinman in 1909.

Since 1850, over 100 buildings have been erected on campus. The most imaginative and distinctive contemporary buildings are the **South Lower Campus** and **Elvehjem Art Center** structures, both designed by Chicago architect Harry Weese.

A walk through the campus will show that the University is not only preserving historic buildings, but it is commissioning some of the best modern architecture in the area today.

A list of historic University buildings should include:

1. Science Hall	.....North Park Street	1887
2. North Hall	.....Bascom Hill	1851
3. South Hall	.....Bascom Hill	1855
4. Bascom Hall	.....Bascom Hill	1857
5. Washburn House	.....Observatory Drive	1870's
6. Observatory	.....Observatory Drive	1878
7. Elvehjem Art Center & Humanities Building	.....North Park Street	1967-69
8. Music Building	.....Bascom Hill	1879



Home of First City Jewish Congregation

Old Synagogue Waits Wrecking Crew

By GEORGE MITCHELL
(Of The State Journal Staff)

A wrecking permit was issued Monday for the demolition of the Old Synagogue, a 107-year old building at 214 W. Washington Ave. which housed Madison's first Jewish congregation.

The synagogue, part of an historic building downtown walking tour, reportedly will be torn down Friday.

AN UNIDENTIFIED official at the Allen Wrecking Co. said, "I'd appreciate if there wasn't something in the paper until the last minute. At the request of the owner, we don't want to get involved in a landmark controversy or something like that."

The owner of the synagogue is the Fiore Coal and Oil Co. Donald R. Huggett, attorney for Fiore, declined comment and referred a reporter to David Slota, a Fiore official. Slota could not be reached for comment.

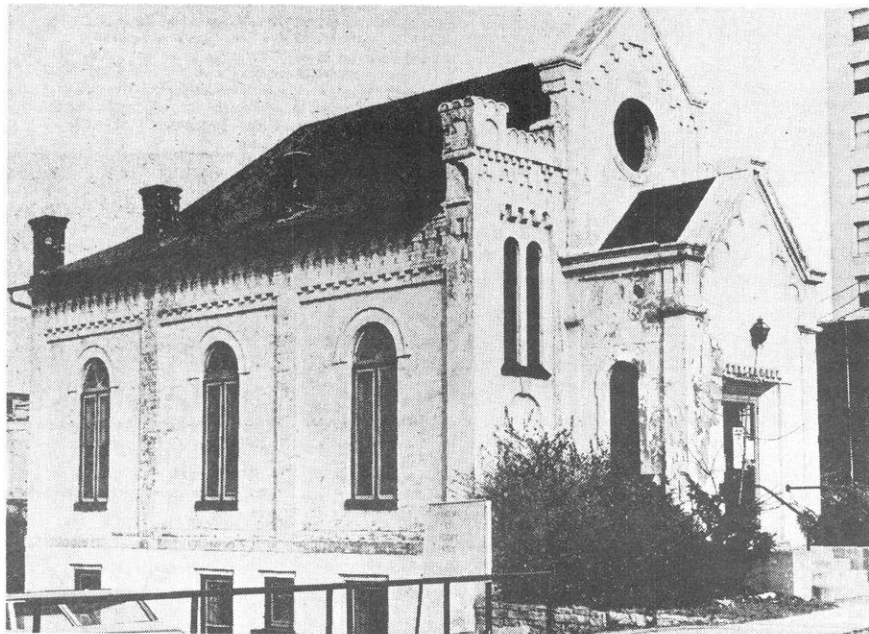
Dr. Joseph Donovan now operates a veterinary service at the synagogue location. He reportedly will relocate to a State St. location, but was unavailable for comment.

RABBI MANFRED Swarsensky of Beth El Temple, 2702 Arbor Dr., said there appears to be no prospect the building can be saved. There had been talk of moving it to another site, but costs were prohibitive," he said.

"It's a question of how much you can pay for your sentiments," Rabbi Swarsensky said.

THE COST OF moving the synagogue was quoted as low as \$30,000 and as high as \$100,000 by various people who have shown interest in preserving the building.

Jeffrey Dean, of the City Plan Department, said the recently-enacted landmarks ordinance would have no effect on the building. He said a landmarks commission has not been named



The Old Synagogue's long years are coming to a crashing end.

—State Journal Photo

yet, and such a commission would have to draw up criteria for landmarks designation.

"Obviously not much can be done now," Dean said, adding that the synagogue has more historical heritage than Maple-side, the recently-demolished home on University Ave.

THE SYNAGOGUE IS ON a larger site planned for a hotel-bank-office complex planned by Madison Bank and Trust Co. The land will be leased to the bank by Fiore. It includes the block bounded by W. Washington Ave., N. Henry St., W. Mifflin St., and Fairchild. The Madison Public Library, at the northeast corner of the block, will remain.

Construction is not expected to begin until February of 1971, according to the original announcement of the project. At

that time, in April, a bank official said there would be enough time to plan for the relocation of the synagogue.

HOWEVER, Rabbi Swarsensky said there was limited interest shown by members of the Madison Jewish community. He said there is not historical continuity between the present Beth El and Beth Israel congregations and the congregation which built the synagogue.

The synagogue was completed in 1863, paid for by Jewish immigrants to Madison from southern Germany.

There were never more than 20 families in the congregation, according to a 1958 book by Rabbi Swarsensky. The book, "From Generation to Generation," outlines the history of the Madison Jewish community.

IN 1879 the congregation turned the building over to the

Unitarian Society. In 1890 it became the Madison headquarters of the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

The ecumenical history continued. In 1898 the building went to the First Church of Christ, Scientist, and the English Lutheran Church took the premises in 1908. It was later used as a funeral home, a storage place for books in World War II, a dentist's office, and most recently as an animal hospital.

According to Swarsensky's book, the synagogue was used for a public memorial service by the State Legislature after the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln.

MADISON, THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 23, 1970

But Funds Needed for Its Removal

Old Synagogue Is Spared, Possibly for Six Months

By GEORGE MITCHELL
(Of The State Journal Staff)

The Old Synagogue was given a new lease on life Wednesday, possibly for as long as six months.

The synagogue, the first such building in Madison, is at 214 W. Washington Ave. and was built in 1863.

IT WAS scheduled to be torn down soon, possibly Friday, but the building owner relented Wednesday and the possibility now exists that the building can be relocated and saved.

Fiore Coal and Oil Co. said it will delay plans to demolish the building, on one condition. That is if insufficient funds are collected to move the structure, the company retains its right to tear it down.

THE FIRM is concerned that a recently enacted landmarks ordinance could be used to pre-

vent demolition. A resolution exempting Fiore from the ordinance will be introduced at the Aug. 4 City Council meeting.

It is expected to be approved, but if not, the synagogue will be torn down.

"This is an extremely reasonable thing they're doing," said Jeffrey Dean of the City Plan Department.

"THE POSSIBILITY of saving the synagogue rests 100 per cent with the citizens of Madison. People have to stick their noses to the grindstone and come up with the money," Dean said.

Dr. Norton Stoler, one of the leaders of the effort to save the synagogue, estimated it would cost about \$20,000 to move the building.

The city possibly could get half of this from the federal government. Another possible source would be money raised

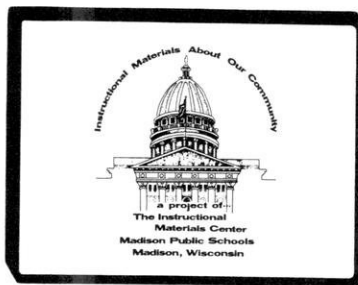
to save Mapleside, the historic home on University Ave. which was torn down earlier this year and will be replaced by a hamburger stand.

It would have taken about \$150,000 to move Mapleside.

DEAN SAID the city now has more time and less money to raise, making it reasonably possible the synagogue can be saved.

Two possible sites for relocation — Law Park and Brittingham Park — have been mentioned.

Dr. Stoler could not be reached Wednesday regarding what direction fund raising efforts will take.



1 Colophon

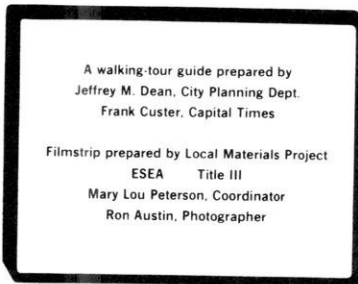
SPECIAL NOTE:

Please do not judge the quality of the beautiful full-color pictures in the film-strip by the appearance of the black-and-white photos in this guide! Obviously, there is no comparison between full-color and black and white pictures.

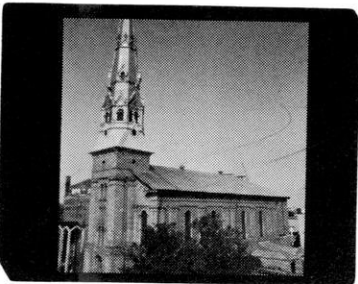


2 Title Sandstone and Buffalo Robes

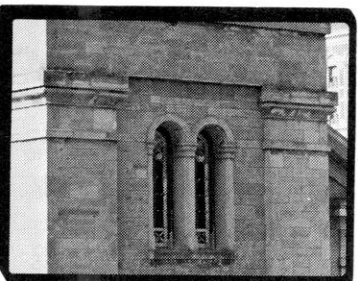
[Check sites to see if the 18 historical buildings included in this filmstrip still remain at the original site, have been moved, or torn down.]



3 Credit Frame



4 St. Raphael's Cathedral 222 W. Main St. 1854-62 One of the oldest buildings in the city, St. Raphael's is a robust Italian Renaissance Revival church . . .



5 . . . built with Madison sandstone. The cornerstone was laid in 1854 and dedication was in 1862.

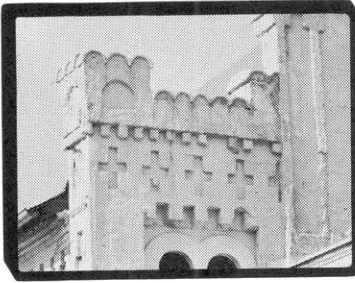
[Madison's Catholic community held its first mass in what was then the territorial Capitol on August 15, 1842. Later, a wooden church was built on this Main Street site donated by Governor Doty. A brick addition to the frame building doubled its size in 1850. Fr. Francis Etchmann, the second pastor of St. Raphael's, secured the money for a major building during a statewide fundraising tour in 1853, and construction of the church began the next year.]



6

The steeple was designed by Chicago architect Colonel S. V. Shipman and added in 1881.

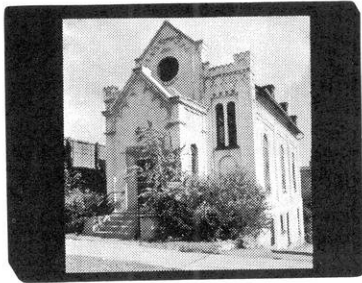
["St. Ray's" became a full-fledged cathedral in 1945, and a major reconstruction in 1955 has assured the preservation of this venerable Madison landmark.]



7

Old Synagogue 214 W. Washington Ave. 1863

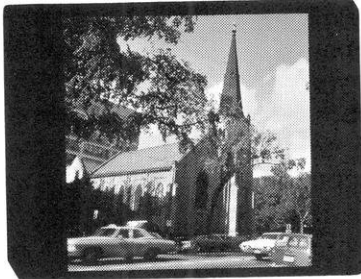
A Victorian interpretation of the old Spanish Catholic missions of the southwest, Madison's first synagogue was built in 1863 on a site the Madison Jewish Society had bought thirteen years earlier.



8

The architect for the building, August Kutzbach, also designed the second Capitol building built in Madison.

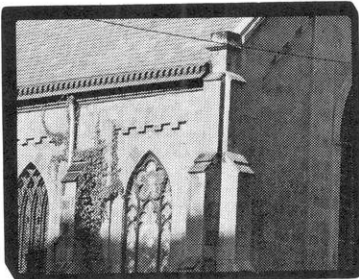
[In these spiritedly ecumenical days, it is interesting to note the variety of uses this old building has seen. It has served successively as a Unitarian Society meeting hall, a Christian Science church, a Lutheran church, a Full Gospel Assembly church, and twice as a funeral home. It was last used as a dentists' office from 1952 through 1962, and since then it has remained vacant.]



9

Grace Episcopal Church 6 N. Carroll St. 1855-58

Madison's oldest Christian congregation built the only remaining church on the square between 1855 and 1858, and added the steeple to its eastern corner in 1870. At one time four churches stood around the Capitol grounds.

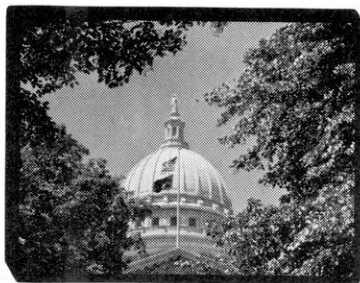


10

Grace Episcopal is a fine English Gothic Revival building, reflecting the Anglican heritage of the Episcopal church. It was designed and built by James Douglas of Milwaukee.

[James Douglas also built Milwaukee's St. John's Cathedral, and the Bishop White Hall which is on the grounds of Nashotah House, an Episcopal theological seminary near Nashotah. Douglas' experience in building St. John's (which was designed by a Philadelphia architect) is apparent in Grace Episcopal Church, which strongly resembles the Milwaukee cathedral in many details.]

This congregation's first chapel was located behind the present church next to the rectory on West Washington Avenue.



- 11 Wisconsin State Capitol Capitol Square 1907-17**
Designed by the famous eclectic architect George B. Post, winner of a design competition, this is the third Capitol building in Madison and is the state's fifth.

The first was in Belmont, Wisconsin, and housed the 46-day legislative session in 1836 during which Madison was selected capital. The next was a rented building in Burlington, Iowa, then within the Wisconsin Territory. Madison's first Capitol was built between 1837 and 1848 of Maple Bluff stone. Its second, with a dome similar to today's, was finished in 1857, but was destroyed by fire in 1904. The present Capitol was constructed from 1906 to 1917 at a cost of \$7,200,000.



- 12**
The gold-leafed "Miss Forward" atop the dome was sculpted by Daniel Chester French on the cliffs above New York's Hudson River. He could gain the same visual perspective from the river that we have today from the Square.

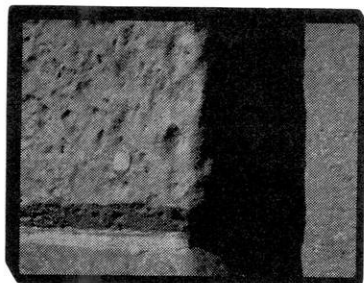
[Tours of the Capitol are given regularly.
Inquire within.]



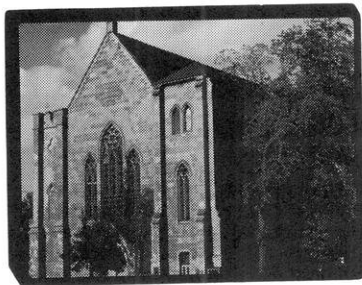
- 13 Old Park Savings Bank 1 N. Pinckney St. 1871**
This is all that remains of the original local sandstone building erected on the site of Madison's first hotel, the American House.

The Wisconsin territorial legislature met in the old American House until the first Madison Capitol was finished. When the wooden, two-story hotel burned down in 1868, the sandstone building, three times wider than the portion that remains, was built in 1871. The Park Savings Bank occupied the corner quarters that stand today.

The First National Bank bought the building in 1881 and remained in it for over 40 years. Then, in 1922, the German-American Bank, now known as the American Exchange Bank, bought the building. The northwestern two-thirds of the original building were razed after World War II, but the remaining portion was recently restored by the bank.

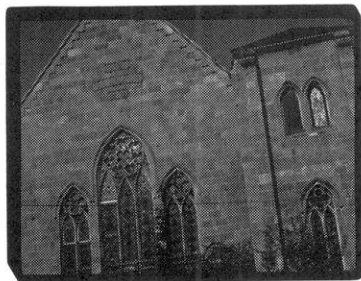


- 14**
A closer look at the sandstone reveals signs of weathering.

[illegible]

Gothic Revival was an extremely popular style for churches, as evidenced by this, the second such building on the tour.

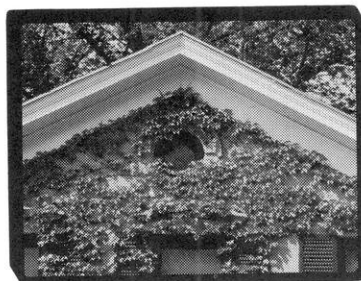
The first Methodist Church in Madison was constructed of brick on the site of the YWCA at Pinckney and Mifflin streets in 1853. This church was sold after the congregation outgrew it. Work on the present building was started in 1872 but was delayed late in 1873 and the building was temporarily roofed over. After meeting in the half-built structure for fourteen years, construction was renewed and completed in 1887.



16

This particular building is quite massive in character, and was designed by architect E. H. Klerke. A steeple was planned for its southern corner, but has never been built.

The first Methodist worship service in Madison was held in 1837 in the then newly-built American House



17	Strelow House	218 N. Pinckney St.	c. 1858
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A simple, charming house with a fine bull's-eye window in the pediment, the Strelow House shares an architectural relationship with the Mears House (No. 37). Its characteristics demonstrate the fusion of the Greek Revival and the earlier Federal styles . . .

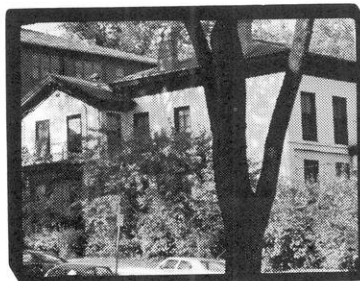


18

...creating what one might call "Wisconsin Federal". Its porticos are similar to that on the Mears House.

The Strelow House was built for Charles H. Billings, who moved to Madison in 1846 and helped set up the Madison Plow Works. Later known as Fuller and Johnson, this firm made a wide variety of agricultural implements.

The house was bought by Herman Strelow, proprietor of the Madison Steam Dye Works, in 1902. Almost 70 years later, the house is owned by Arthur Strelow, vice-president and treasurer of the Madison Steam Dye Works.



19	Keyes House	102 E. Gorham St.	c. 1858
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This greatly modified Victorian house was built in the late 1850's by Lansing W. Hoyt, one of the early settlers of the isthmus. In 1867, after several owner-ships, it was bought by the Madison postmaster, E. W. Keyes.

Keyes was a long-time postmaster, having first been appointed by Abraham Lincoln, and a powerful Republican political leader. Known as a gruff, but kindhearted person, Boss Keyes dominated the Madison and southern Wisconsin Republican patronage scene. Frequently seen walking to the Post Office in a jaunty derby, Keyes was finally unseated from his political throne when Robert M. LaFollette Sr. challenged him in a county election for district attorney and won.



20

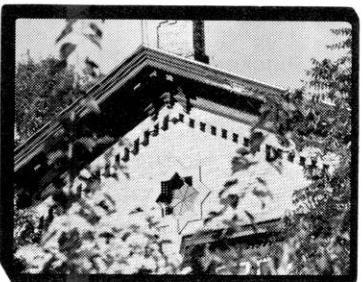
In later years the Attic Angels, a Madison welfare organization, operated a nursing home in this house. Today it is a college women's cooperative house.



21

Brown House 116 E. Gorham St. c. 1863

One of Madison's best Greek Revival houses, the Brown House has a superb portico with fluted Ionic columns later painted an unfortunate color.



22

The eight-pointed star window in the pediment breaks with the traditional bull's-eye form.

This home was built by Timothy Brown, who came from Syracuse, New York, on the invitation of N. B. Van Slyke, the man who built several of the old houses in this tour. Brown then served as an official of the First National Bank when Van Slyke was its president. Brown was one of the first Madisonians to install central heating and indoor plumbing.

One of Brown's grandsons, also named Timothy, served as a Wisconsin Supreme Court justice and lived in this house from 1922 to 1936. Other residents included another justice, C. R. Bardeen, and Attorney Robert Siebecker, a partner of Senator Robert M. LaFollette Sr.



23

Old Executive Mansion 130 E. Gilman St. 1854

First known as the "White House" after its builder Julius White, this imposing Victorian house of local sandstone served as the home of seventeen Wisconsin governors from 1881 to 1949. Built in 1854, it once had a vast porch with an elegant colonnade running across the front and around the west side.



24

Its bold detailing and the deliberate contrast between masonry and window openings — as though punched with a giant cookie cutter — are actually quite contemporary in flavor.

The first governor to live here was Jeremiah Rusk, who bought the house shortly after his election. In 1885 Governor Rusk sold the house to the State as a permanent executive mansion. The last governor to live here was Governor Warren P. Knowles, who stayed in it while the Maple Bluff executive mansion was being remodeled during 1966.

Today, the University of Wisconsin uses the old building as a rooming house for graduate students.

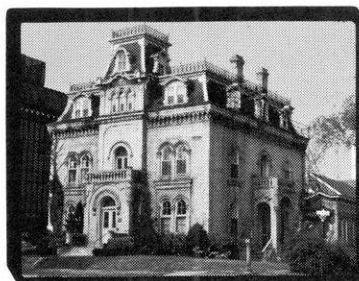


- 25** **Kendall House** **104 E. Gilman St.** **1855**
 The Kendall House is a cleanly-designed French Victorian building with a rather massive mansard roof. It is located on the city's most historic corner, the intersection of East Gilman and North Pinckney streets.

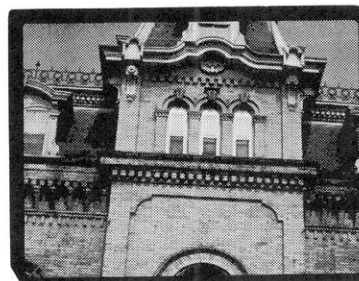
The house was built by J. E. Kendall, a pioneer Madison banker, in 1855. In the late 1870's the house was occupied by D. R. Garrison, whose daughter married Governor William A. Smith's son.

In 1880 the house was bought by George L. Storer, who had come to Madison from Maine in 1875 to operate a dry goods business, and help found the First Unitarian Society. F. W. Montgomery, owner of the old Madison Street Railway Company, bought the house from the Storer estate in 1929.

In recent years, the house was remodeled and now contains small apartments.



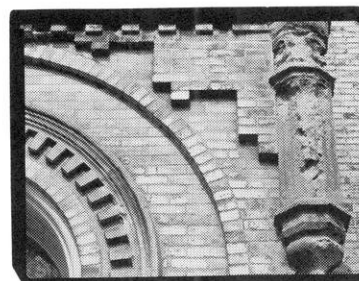
- 26** **Keenan House** **28 E. Gilman St.** **1858**
 One of four impressive houses located on what was once called "Big Bug Hill", the Keenan House was built in 1858 by N. B. Van Slyke, an active man in house building during the mid-nineteenth century (see nos. 29 and 35).



- 27**
 The French mansard roof was added during 1870, evidently to bring it into the popular vogue of the times.

Soon after it was built, the house was bought by James Robins, owner of an old flour mill that stood on the Yahara River at Lake Mendota. During the 1880's and 1890's, the house was owned by Colonel John H. Knight, who was a partner in a northern Wisconsin lumbering business with Senator William F. Vilas, who was also a Postmaster General and Secretary of the Interior.

Fraternity and sorority chapters have used the building since, but recently it was converted into apartments.



- 28**
 Again note the effect of weathering on the sandstone.



29 Bashford House 423 N. Pinckney St. 1857

This venerable Victorian house has been a residence for a state governor and of a Madison mayor who also became a state senator and State Supreme Court justice. Of unusually clean design, the house is in the popular Italian Villa style. Its square, hipped-roofed, three story tower is unique among old Madison houses.

N. B. Van Slyke built this house in 1857. It was first occupied by Van Slyke's banker friend, H. K. Lawrence. While he was governor, Edward Salomon lived here from 1862 to 1864.

The house received its lasting name from Robert Bashford, an attorney who served as Madison's mayor in 1890, and who later became a state senator and justice.

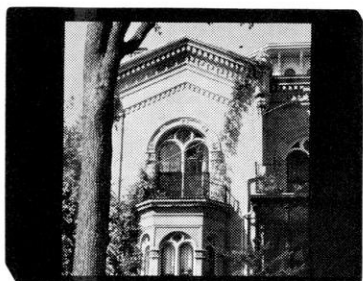
For a time during the 1860's, the house was owned by M. E. Fuller, owner of the Prairie du Chien quarry which supplied the stone for the second Capitol in Madison. Fuller's daughter, Sarah, was Bashford's wife.



30 Pierce House 424 N. Pinckney St. 1857

Here is one of Madison's finest historic houses. Beautifully and elaborately detailed, it is a locally unique Victorian Gothic house built with the same Prairie du Chien stone used in the second Capitol in Madison.

The house was built in 1857 for A. A. McDonnell, who built a portion of the second Capitol. It was designed by S. H. Donnell, an architectural partner of August Kutzbach, the Capitol's designer.



31

The house is full of discoveries. Its large double windows incorporate a wooden version of Gothic plate tracery and the side pediments contain fine quatrefoil windows. Parallel rows of corbel tables run under a roof-line formed by three intersecting gable roofs.



32

At the corners are vestigial mediaeval bastions resembling large torches. The house is trimmed with intricate wrought ironwork and the whole package is topped off with an octagonal Italianate cupola. Inside, a superb spiral stairway soars from the basement to the cupola.



- 33** **Jones House** **512 Wisconsin Ave.** **1879-80**
 This is one of two buildings in the tour, the other being the old Park Savings Bank (no. 13) which have been beautifully restored by their present owners.

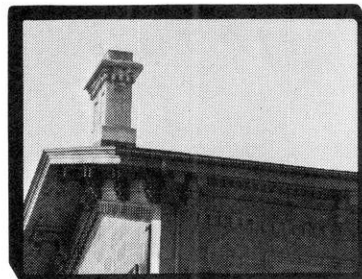
The Jones House, a tastefully-restrained French Victorian building, was built by John N. Jones, an early Madison hardware merchant. Jones was named Madison postmaster by President Franklin Pierce, and was renamed to that post by President James Buchanan. Later Boss Keyes received this post.

Professor J. B. Overton bought the house shortly after the turn of the century and doubled its size. The Overtons lived in it until 1927, and to many it is known as the "Overton House."

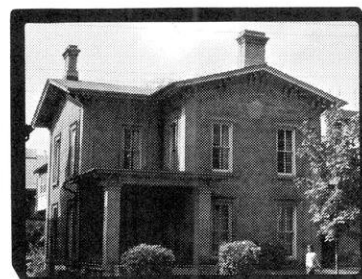
Recently, the house was refurbished by Frederic Mohs, who added the porch and enclosed it. Mohs, an attorney and real estate entrepreneur, lives in it today.



- 34**
 Recently, the house was refurbished by Frederic Mohs.



- 35** **Van Slyke House** **510 N. Carroll St.** **1857**
 A wonderful local sandstone Victorian house, . . .



- 36**
 . . . this building was erected by Napoleon Bonaparte Van Slyke, a leading Madison banker and entrepreneur, and it is where he lived during his later years.

Van Slyke came to Madison from New York in 1853 and organized the Dane County Bank, of which he was president until 1859. He built several of the city's finest residences, and bought the city's first fire engine. He later became president of the First National Bank, which superseded the bank he organized. He was a regent of the University of Wisconsin, and was president of the American Bankers Association.

Adjutant General Ralph M. Immell was a later occupant of the house.



- 37** **Mears House** **420 N. Carroll St.** **1871**
 Here is one of Madison's most charming historic houses.



38

It is similar to the Duncan House, built in Cooksville in 1848, . . .



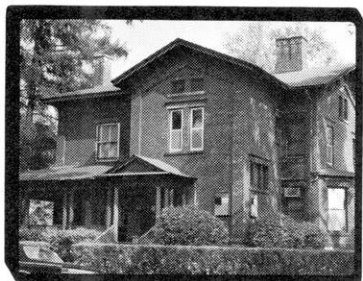
39

. . . but uses different local brick and has more elaborate detailing because of the growth of the Victorian influence in the intervening two decades.

It was built for James R. Mears, of the Civil War's Wisconsin Volunteers, in 1871. Mears came to Madison in 1853 as a realtor and merchant, and served in the military from 1862 to 1875.

The University Women's Club bought the house in 1923, and later it was owned by Professor Frederick W. Kehl, dance teacher to generations of Madisonians.

The fine portico on the Mears House strongly resembles those on the Strelow House, included earlier in this tour

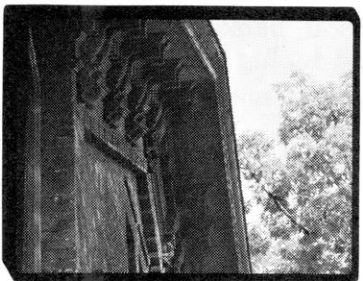


40

Breese Stevens House 401 N. Carroll St. c 1870

This is a fine, red brick, Victorian house with a characteristic meandering porch.

Breese J. Stevens, one of the city's leading nineteenth-century attorneys, once owned this building. Stevens was Madison's mayor in 1884 and served as a University regent from 1891 until he died in 1904. He was also a member of the first board of directors for the First National Bank, and was an attorney for several railroads. The well-known stadium on East Washington Avenue was named after him.

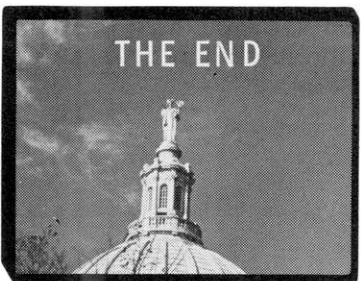


41

For some odd reason, the red brick was later painted brick red, and the finish is patchy today.

The old brick house is now a men's rooming house, and contains the offices of a local architect.

Look again at some of the buildings on this tour. Consider what possible uses would also preserve the historical value.



42

The End.

