



Landmark Nomination

1. Name

historic Hamilton House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 328 W. Main St.

city, town Whitewater

congressional district

state WISCONSIN

code 055

county Walworth

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name City of Whitewater

street & number City Hall

city, town _____ vicinity of

state

ZIP

5. Location of Legal Description (In County Courthouse)

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

street & number

city, town

state Wisconsin

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title

date _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Hamilton House is a Second Empire style building that is elaborately decorated with both Second Empire and Queen Anne details. The building is one and one-half stories in height and constructed of cream brick. The mansard roof features arched-roof dormers decorated with pilasters and arches. The two story bays at each end of the house rise above the roofline with narrow mansard roof peaks. These bays are decorated with brackets, a denticulated frieze, pilasters, and wooden panels. There are also one-story bays that are similarly decorated on the house. Windows are single-pane double-hung sashes and are decorated with either flat lintels or have round or segmental arches. Some windows have flat brick arches.

The two front porches feature square Italianate style posts, brackets, and a simple balustrade. One front porch also has Queen Anne details such as turned posts, a spool and spindle balustrade and frieze, brackets, and a pediment. The west side two-story bay also features a Queen Anne decorated gable.

The house is in a deteriorated condition at the present time, however, a Madison developer will shortly take over the property and proceed with a restoration and adaptive reuse plan for the building.

8. Significance

(Continue on separate sheets if necessary)

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (Give specific sources for all statements of fact.)

The Hamilton House is significant and eligible as a Whitewater Landmark because it is a fine and very decorative example of the Second Empire style of architecture. In fact, it is Whitewater's best example of the style and one of the best small Second Empire houses in the area. The house features abundant details from both the Second Empire style and from minor additions done in the Queen Anne style at the turn of the century. These Queen Anne details do not detract from the original style of the building. In fact, they add to its overall elaborateness.

While the house is in a deteriorated condition, the historic details are all intact. The interior is also deteriorated, but all the original moldings, floor and wall materials are still extant. Some of the rooms were remodeled in the Eastlake Style of interior decoration and these details are also intact. What is especially outstanding about the interior of this house is the large and gracious Eastlake style staircase and fireplace on the first floor and the other marble, wood, and granite fireplaces throughout the building.

The city is looking forward to the restoration of this property both inside and out. When it is completed, the elegance of the historic appearance of this building will be returned and will enhance downtown Whitewater once again.

