Nomination to the LaCrosse County Historic Sites Preservation Commission

Date:

3 December 1999

Property:

Arial P. Rublee House

Location:

West side CTH M, 75 feet South of CTH B, west of West Salem (N4785 County

Rd. M, Town of Hamilton)

Date Constructed: circa 1870

Current Owner: Darlene Dovenberg

Nominated by: Barbara Kooiman, LCHSPC board member

Statement of Significance:

The A.P. Rublee House is an excellent example of the Italianate style in a residential house in LaCrosse County. This two story red brick house features the main body of the building as a front gabled structure, with a gabled ell on the north side. The gabled roof features a prominent cupola which is a common feature on Italianate style houses, particularly in LaCrosse County.

Not much is known at this time about Rublee, though it may be inferred by his prominent house that he was a successful farmer in the fertile valley of the LaCrosse River. Tax rolls for Hamilton township exist as early as 1867, where A.P. Rublee was paying taxes on this 40 acre parcel which was valued at \$1000, whereas surrounding undeveloped 40 acre parcels were valued at only \$175. Rublee owned the property well into the 1870s. By 1906 the property was owned by a W. W. Dudley.

Today the parcel is still nearly the entire 40 acre parcel, with only a small part taken where County M passes by the house. As the village of West Salem continues to grow, this is a threatened property, with its 40 acres surrounded by new subdevelopments to the east and north.



