



4.) Owner of Property to Be Nominated

Name: Laura Schwalbe

Street and Number: 4115 Bank Drive

City: La Crosse

State: WI

Zip: 54601

Telephone: 608-787-6450

5.) Photos included & Sketches attached

6.) SIGNIFICANCE

The nominated property is a well-preserved example of a modest Civil War era home built near the center of historic downtown La Crosse. Research of tax roll records at the Area Research Center on the UW La Crosse campus indicates the dwelling was built in 1864 for George Howard, a clerk for the Martindale Druggist also located in downtown La Crosse. The simple two-story rectangular wood frame structure is typical of many homes of the time period and was possibly built by the owner or local carpenters. City Directory entries indicate that by the mid 1880s the dwelling was used as a boarding house. The building was sold at auction in 1954 for \$1000 according to a previous owner and moved that year by Ralph Kumm to its present site and placed on a new foundation. (see photo) In 1997 the home was purchased by Laura Schwalbe and has been well maintained inside and out with great sensitivity to the historic character of the building.

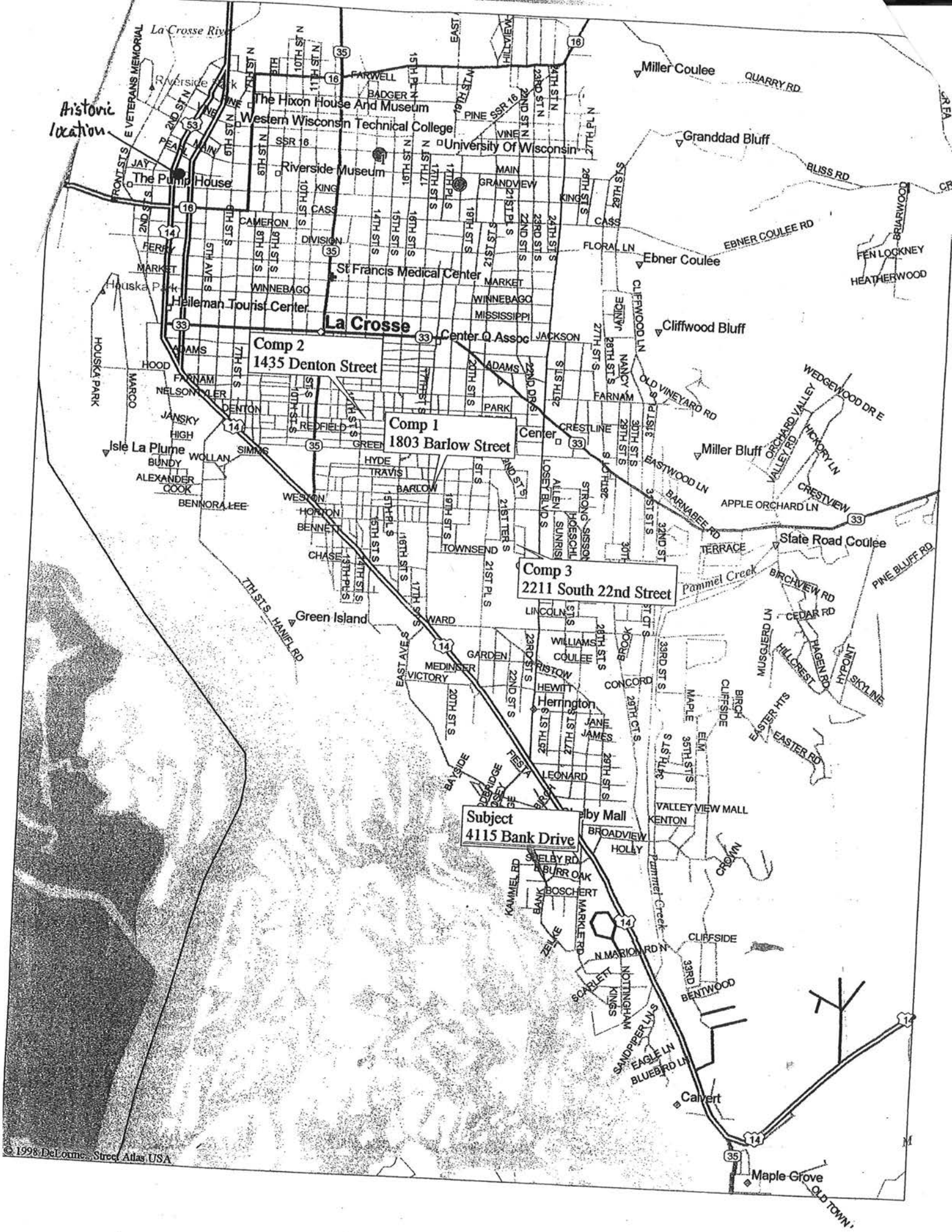
The original location of the home was determined by matching the names of adjacent business that were evident in the moving photos from 1954 with the City Directories 1950-1953. The 1884 Sanborn map confirms the location of a dwelling at 315 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street of similar size and shape to the dwelling with additions that appears on the 1906 Sanborn map. The 1906 Sanborn Map indicates a footprint for the home that is essentially the same today.

The Howard/Kumm/Schwalbe home is significant because it represents a style of residential construction popular in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century in a mostly intact and unaltered condition. The successful relocation of the dwelling from the commercial center of downtown La Crosse to the growing suburban area just south of the city nearly 100 years later is indicative of social and economic patterns and growth in La Crosse. The choice of siding and architectural detailing of window trim, eaves and open porch is consistent with mid-19<sup>th</sup> century ornamentation of vernacular and local Italianate style homes of the period. The symmetrical nearly cubic mass with hip roof, tall windows, paired brackets and dentiling are typical of the transitional Italianate style.

7) DESCRIPTION

The original condition of the exterior is unknown but the current exterior reflects period appropriate roof, window and door openings and placement as well as the open porch and ornamentation described above. The interior floor plan (see attached) is apparently unaltered. Placement of entry, staircase, living and dining rooms, kitchen and pantry area





Historic location

La Crosse River

The Pump House

The Hixon House And Museum

Western Wisconsin Technical College

University Of Wisconsin

Riverside Museum

St Francis Medical Center

Heileman Tourist Center

La Crosse

Comp 2  
1435 Denton Street

Comp 1  
1803 Barlow Street

Comp 3  
2211 South 22nd Street

Subject  
4115 Bank Drive

Elby Mall

BROADVIEW

HOLLY

BURR OAK

BOSCHERT

MARKLE RD

ZELEVANS

SCARLETT

NOTTINGHAM

KINGS

SANDPIPER LN

EAGLE LN

BLUEBIRD LN

Calvert

Maple Grove

OLD TOWN

CLIFFSIDE

BENTWOOD

CLIFFSIDE

CLIFFSIDE

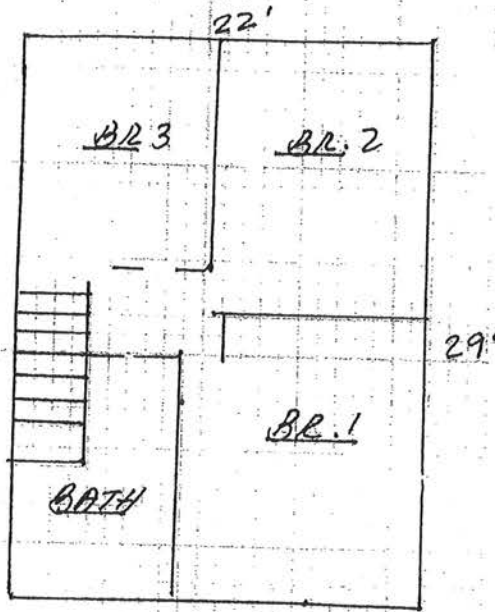
CLIFFSIDE

CLIFFSIDE

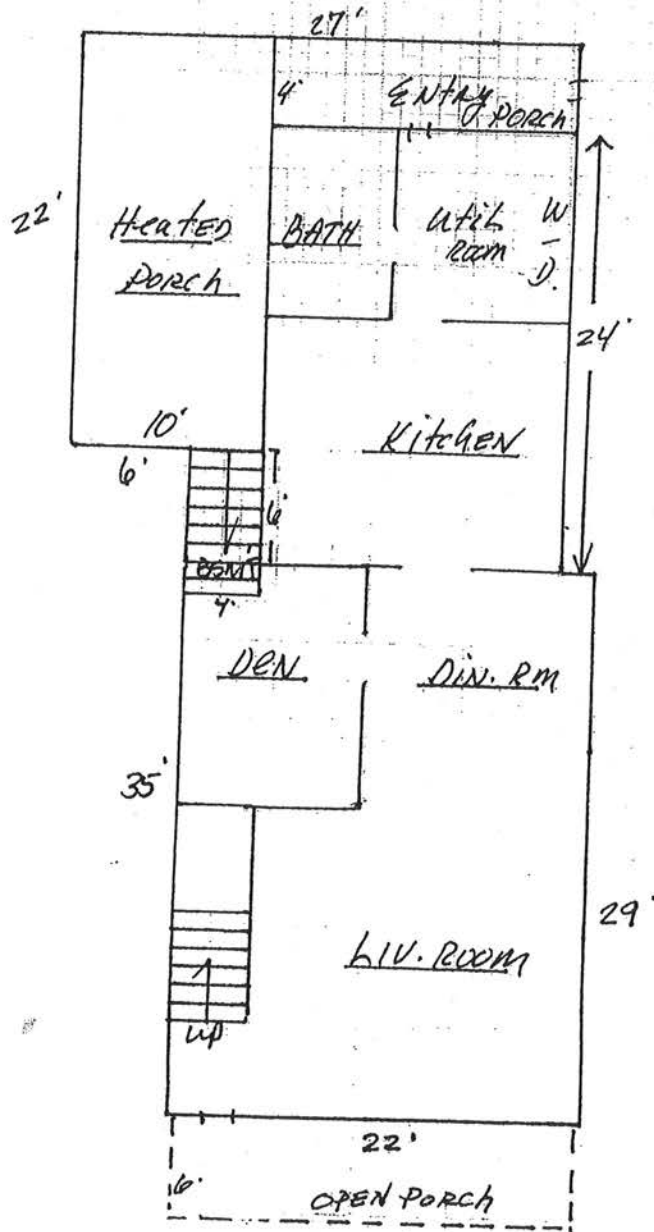
CLIFFSIDE







2ND FLOOR  
 $22 \times 29 = 638 \text{ SF.}$



1ST FLOOR.  
 $17 \times 24 = 408$   
 $4 \times 6 = 24$   
 $22 \times 29 = 638.$   
1070 SF.

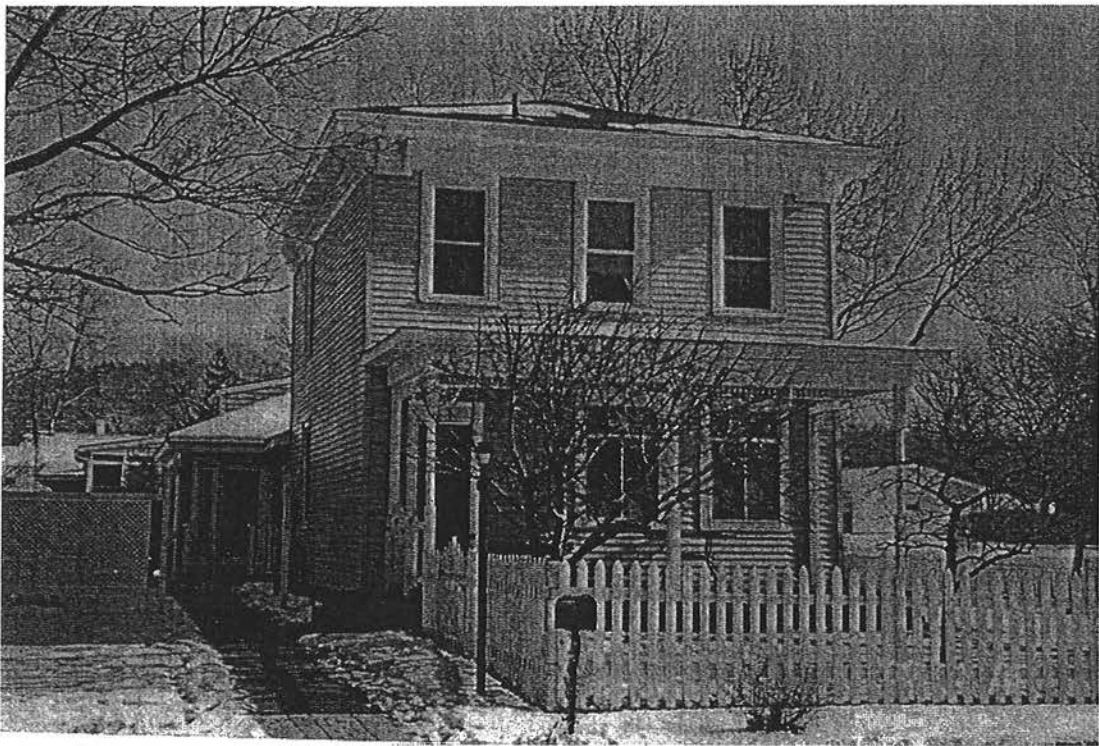
Total = 1708 SF.

Entry porch = 68 SF.  
 Heated porch = 220 SF.  
 Open porch = 132 SF.  
 Garage = 441 SF.

LaCrosse County Historic Sites Preservation Commission Nomination



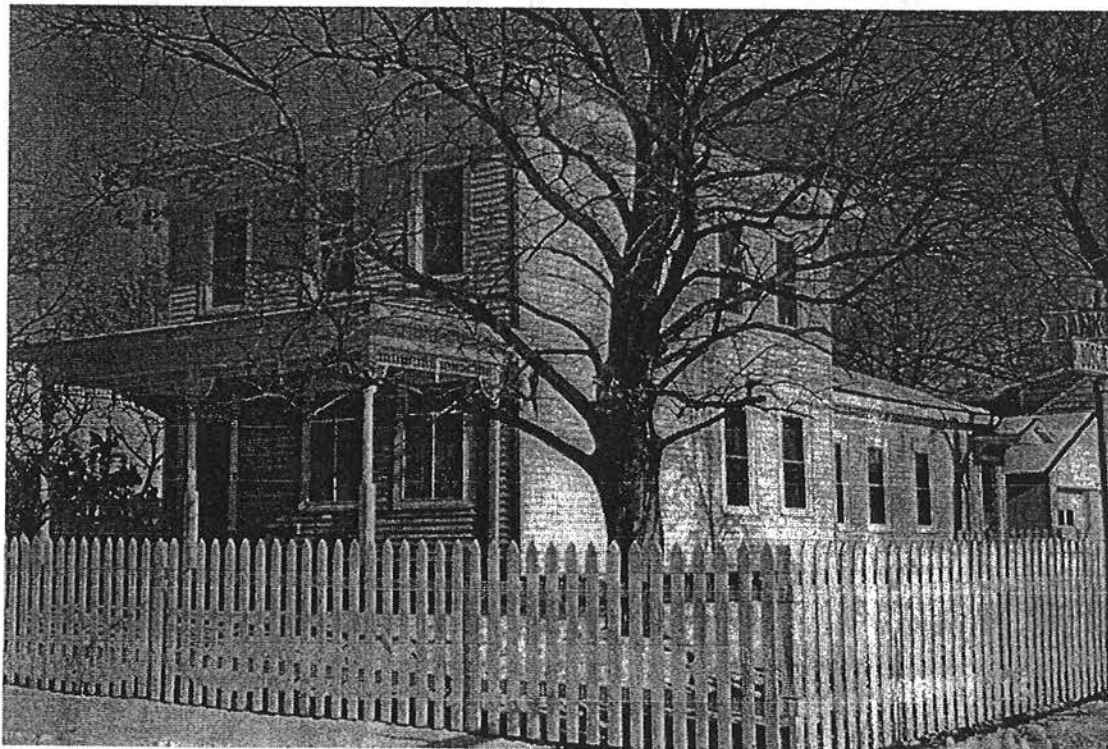
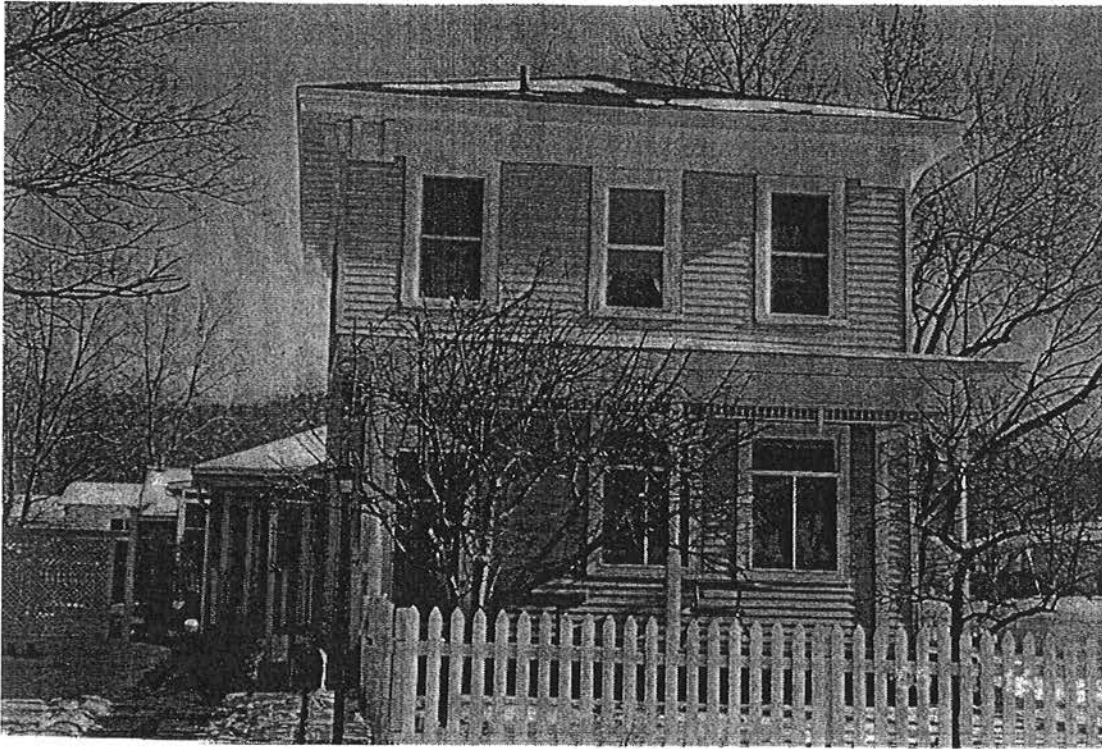
Howard House being moved by Kumm family, ca. 1954



Howard/Kumm/Schwalbe House



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