

For Immediate Release

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Wisconsin Historical Society Placed the Benjamin and Wilhelmina Fay House on the State Register of Historic Places

Prairie du Chien, Wis. - The Wisconsin Historical Society placed the Benjamin and Wilhelmina Fay House (Prairie du Chien, Crawford County) on the State Register of Historic Places in May.

The Benjamin F. and Wilhelmina (Lockart) Fay House is a beautiful example of the Italianate style with an ornate interior having particularly fine woodwork and decorative details showing the influence of the Queen Anne style. The house, completed in 1881, is constructed of brick masonry and has an abundance of exterior ornament executed in brick, stone and carved wood.

The house features a decorative brick molding and stone belt course that wraps around the house above the first story, forming a continuous sill for the second-story windows. Beaded cornice boards and heavy scroll-sawn brackets with incised floral motifs embellish the roofline. Segmental-arched openings with brick-and-stone lintels and stone sills frame the original wood windows. The front door is sheltered by a porch, extending half of the width of the front façade, exhibiting the same lavish ornament, having columns, scroll-sawn capitals, frieze and brackets incised with floral and sunburst motifs, and cutout quatrefoils. The house stands out in the community as one of the best examples of the style.

The State Register is Wisconsin's official list of state properties determined to be significant to Wisconsin's heritage. The State Historic Preservation Office at the Wisconsin Historical Society administers both the State Register and National Register in Wisconsin.

To learn more about the State and National Register programs in Wisconsin, visit www.wisconsinhistory.org.

About Wisconsin Historical Society

The Wisconsin Historical Society, founded in 1846, ranks as one of the largest, most active and

most diversified state historical societies in the nation. As both a state agency and a private membership organization, its mission is to help people connect to the past by collecting, preserving and sharing stories. The Wisconsin Historical Society serves millions of people every year through a wide range of sites, programs and services. For more information, visit www.wisconsinhistory.org.

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