

**Madison Has Many Very Old Houses,
But Little Interest Expressed In Proposed Markings**

(Copied from page one of the Madison Press, July 17, 1953.)

Although a few residents have responded to the suggestion published last week, that the oldest houses in the Village be identified by a suitable plaque, the interest has not been too encouraging, since it is known that most of the houses here were built before 1890.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Bates on Main Street is the oldest reported so far, it having been built in the 1820's.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Luikart on Eagle Street was built before March 1840, according to an abstract which Mr. Luikart brought to the Press office.

The Lettie Ross home on W. Main St. is known to be over 104 years of age, as the late Asa Childs was born there in 1849.

Mrs. Jessie King has papers showing that her home on East Main Street was also built before 1840.

The R. Kurtzhals home on West Main Street, known as the Teachout home, was built in 1855, according to Mrs. Katie Smead, a relative of the late Mr. A.W. Teachout. Mrs. Smead's home on East Main Street, was built in 1861.

According to a picture map which the Press has, the following houses were known to be in existence before 1883. West Main Street from Eagle Street, north side, Colter, Keyse, Trisket, Hejduk, Kimball, Griswold, Joiner, Reigert, Ross, Hearn, Neville, Ritola, Jacobson, DeHeck, C. Kimball, Stanton.

East Main Street from Lake St., north side, Bollard, Jessie King, Hupp, Keener, Williams, Morris, Barr, Kiss, Greenman and Smead: south side from Park Street, where Behm residence now stands, the place now owned by James Waterman on River Street used to be there, old Paige house now owned by Dr. Klingbeil, Rhodes, Ritcher, Tinker, Hupertz, Adams, Hathaway, Svruga.

Eagle St., west side, Luikart, Ford, Phelps, Kroner, Hummel; Eagle Street, east side, Leslie, Tyler, Shahan, Denn, Scott, McCormick. Lake Street east side, Bollard, Priscak, Miller, Vernick, Hunt. Safford St., those identified are Berta's and Sidley's.

Among those on River St. are Dodge home, now Febel's on Saxton St.; home of the late Gertrude Carnahan, Winans, Chaffe, Dame, Smead, Lexso, Fisher, Reigert, Heckel, Madsen, Bahner, Mears, North, Naughton, Lonser, Jopko, Behm.

Many other pictures of houses were shown in this picture-map, which the Press is unable to identify.

Madison Village Homes

63 West Main Street was built about 1874 by Robertus Childs. The building was used as a bank for 94 years, being the Madison Exchange Bank during some of the time, and the vault still remains in the basement. It has also been used as an antique shop. The building has been fully restored. Current owners are the Redlins.

25 Park Street is situated on land originally purchased in 1823 by John Kellogg who passed it down to his children. Nathaniel Holbrook who married Mary Kellogg built the present home in 1861. Named "The Curious Cat", this historic home is now owned by Shirley Hardman.

31 Park Street, Park Methodist Church, was dedicated Dec. 25, 1865. Prior to this the spiritual needs of early Methodists were met by circuit riders. The first Methodist class in Madison was organized in 1833, although, the first sermon was preached by Rev. G.H. Cowles at the home of J.T. Andrews. Wesley Wing, the newest structure on the property, houses Sunday school rooms

49 Park Street, Township Hall, was built by the Congregational Church in 1828. The building was moved to its present site in 1840. It was vacated by the church in 1842 and given to township officials for their use. In 1867 the hall was repaired and enlarged, resulting in the building as it is today. Old jail cells remain. The outer structure is brick with stucco covering; the foundation is block with newer areas of re brick. It has also been used by the United States Postal Service.

Park and River Streets, Central Congregational Church, was built about 1842 during the pastorate of Rev. Reuben Tinkers. Early church meetings had been held in the log house of Lemuel Kimball, the block schoolhouse and old town house. The church also built and occupied the building that is now Township Hall. In the years between 1887-92 the old colonial frame church was changed to the present brick structure.

44 River Street was built in 1870 and has been used not only as a family dwelling but also as a beauty shop when owned by Mrs. Helen Rhoades. It served as a rest home for older women when owned by Mrs. Helen Hathaway. The current owner Mrs. Robert Jopko, enclosed the front porch with glass windows and tore down the chimney from the inside to build another on the outside of the home.

143 River Street is registered with the Register of Historic Places. The home was built about 1830(1850 according to Lake County records). It was built by Addison Kimball on the Kimball Homestead. It was moved to its present site in 1870 by Dr. Winas. Owned now by Mr. and Mrs. William Smith, the house still has some of its original wallpaper, including the same blue brocade that is found in the "Blue Room" of the White House in Washington, D.C.

170 River Street was moved to its present site in 1863 with one proviso, that any neighbors desiring to drive their cows across the property should forever be able to do so. Happily, as far as the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Merle Billington, have been able to determine, none of their present neighbors have cows, so the fences are safe. Fence liens were often written into deeds years ago.

220 River Street, now owned by Alice B. Waterman, was built about 1842 (1813 according to Lake County records) on Main Street, but was moved to its present site in 1919. While the house was still on Main Street, mail carriers traveling by horseback stopped and sorted their mail there. On January 2, 1857, Frederick Burr Opper, creator of the cartoon, "Happy Hooligan" was born in this house.

Fairview Cemetery was established in 1854. A cemetery association was formed at that time which purchased the current site. Before this, burials had been in a parcel of land to the east of the Common (village park). Bodies buried there were moved to Fairview. Some tombstones date from the early 1800's. It covers 12.5 acres of land.

100-102 West Main Street was built in 1827 as a tannery for Elisha Wood. The building was built with 8x8 beams joined with pegs, and its exterior appearance has remained basically intact throughout the years. Current owner is Oliver W. Bates.

126 West Main Street was the Madison Library for 57 years. At a meeting in July 1915, the Fortnightly Club formed the Madison Township and Village Free Library Association. Land was bought and donated, \$10,000 given by the Andrew Carnegie Foundation, \$5,400 given by township trustees, and the remaining needed funds collected by popular subscription, to complete the library building in March 1919. The building has remained essentially the same and is now the Madison Village Hall.

249 West Main Street was built before 1857(1860 according to Lake County records) and was first owned by Cyrus Ingersoll. The Western Reserve style house, presently owned by the Fidanzas, has eight-inch thick brick exterior walls, 8x8 chestnut beams, and horsehair plaster.

293 West Main Street was built about 1840 by Edwin L Ware. In 1858 George W Layman and his wife Susan Bishop Wood Lyman acquired the house. George Lyman was a signed petitioner for the incorporation of the village in 1867 and served until 1876 as Madison Village's second Mayor.

391 West Main Street was known as the Cutler Kimball Home. Part of the original Kimball Homestead, it was built by Solomon Cutler Kimball in 1825(1860 according to Lake County records). The home is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Schwindl. Original features of the home remain intact today.

390 West Main Street was built in 1825 (1820 according to Lake County records) by noted local architect and builder, Addison Kimball, son of the pioneer Lemuel Kimball. The house remained in Kimball ownership for 135 years, until 1960 when it was purchased by Dr. and Mrs. Donald B Klingbeil.

417 West Main Street was built about 1866 (1870 according to Lake County records) by James Dayton with his mustering out pay from the Civil War. Built with high ceilings and elaborate woodwork, it contains 15 rooms including a harness shop, hired man's room and trunk room. The tall windows downstairs have 3-tiered shutters that fold into the window casings on the inside. It has had only four owners, including the Balstads, current owners.

467 West Main Street, Abel Kimball required two years to build this stately home about 1868 (1870 according to Lake County records) out of virgin timber taken from the surrounding land owned by the Kimballs. The Kimball family came to Madison in 1812 from Massachusetts and five generations lived on this property until 1977 when the James McCormick family purchased it.

712 West Main Street was built between 1867-71(1880 according to Lake County Records), this date estimated by an increase in tax valuation. In the 1920's, a long front porch was shortened, the narrow Victorian windows replaced by large windows, and a second story added to the west one story wing. Present owners are Dr. and Mrs. Gordon W Hasse.

841 West Main Street was built prior to 1850,(1840 according to Lake County records).It was built by George Damon for Horace Ensign. Originally there were eight rooms, with most features essentially the same, including the original iron door latches and window glass. The present owner, Catharine Burr Rose, is the great granddaughter of Dudley Bailey, who owned the house from 1854 to 1864. It is now known as the Holly-Rose Farm.

508 East Main Street is a Greek revival house built between 1847-56 for Sherman Dayton. The home is constructed of hand-hewn beams on a foundation of big boulders. Mr. and Mrs. Olen Claypool presently own the house and 12.5 of the original 40 acres.

269 East Main Street was built in 1863 by Robertus Childs for David and Alsamena Smead. Present owner is Nova Herman. The foundation stones were from the land and the bricks were made at the Tilden-Hollow Brick Works. Of interest are the wooden cornices, double bracketed and iron-capped windows. There are 14 rooms, fully restored. At one time called Potato Hill, it is now named Serein.

128 East Main Street was built in 1854 for Milton and Cedinia Frisbie. The original home consisted of four rooms; two up and two down, in what is now the west wing. The east wing was added by D. C. Childs and included an open stairway of cherry wood. The owner at that time was Mr. Couch, manager of the Madison Wheel Works. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Loxterman are the present owners.

13-15 Main Street was designed and built by Addison Kimball about 1842. It was first a home, then a general store, a hardware store, a streetcar depot, and finally a restaurant, before it was restored by Dr. and Mrs. D. B. Klingbeil, current owners in 1962.

21-25-29 Main Street was designed and built by Addison Kimball in 1830 for David R. Paige and his wife Nancy (Addison's sister). It was the Paige Hotel. It was later bought by the Cortletts, who lived in the main section and operated a Notary Public Office in the east wing. The west wing was used by Church and Barnard Milliners and Dressmakers. A Livery was in the rear and rented horses and carriages. The building is currently owned by Dr. and Mrs. Donald B. Klingbeil.