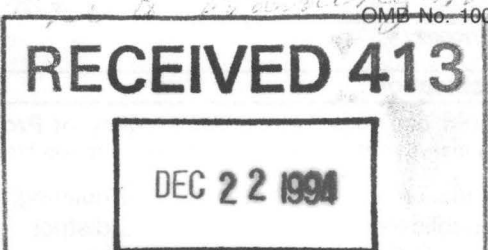


1598

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts under the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Dohrmann-Buckman House

other names/site number 8455 West Grand Avenue

2. Location

street & number 8455 West Grand Avenue  not for publication

city or town River Grove  vicinity

state Illinois code \_\_\_\_\_ county Cook code \_\_\_\_\_ zip code 60171

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

William L. Scheel 12-16-94  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

Entered in the National Register 1.24.95 Date of Action

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal
- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Domestic/Secondary Structures

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture/museum

Recreation and Culture/museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

Other: front gable house

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls Wood weatherboard

roof Wood shingle

other

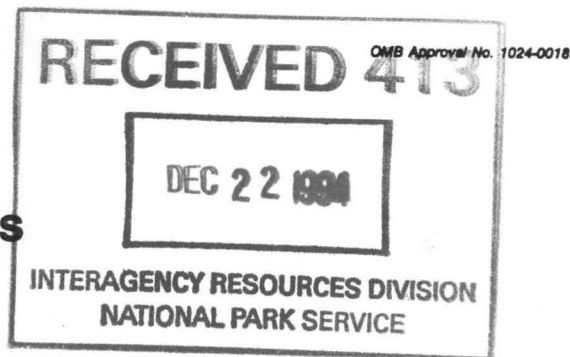
Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Dohrmann-Buckman House

### Description

The Dohrmann-Buckman House consists of a house and barn located on the south side of Grand Avenue in the first block west of Thatcher Avenue in River Grove, Illinois, some 12 miles north-west of Chicago. The house and barn were built on a 1/2 acre lot that was purchased by Frederick Dohrmann from A. C. Schmidt in 1874. The house was purchased and occupied by Henry Buckman, one of the founding fathers of River Grove, in 1890, and it has remained in the Buckman family until 1992 when it was deeded to the Village for future use as a house museum. Henry Buckman built two additions to the house between 1891 to 1909.

From contemporary village records there was a wood plank sidewalk built along Grand Avenue during the early days of the Henry Buckman family ownership.<sup>1</sup> Early in the house's history there was a stranded iron wire fence around the property as is seen in the attached 1911 photograph of the site (Attachment #6). The girl in the picture is Mrs Esther (Buckman) Webber, the last owner of the house, who is currently living in River Forest, Illinois. There is a gravel driveway on the east side of the house leading to the rear yard from Grand Avenue. The presence of this driveway is apparent in a 1949 aerial photograph of River Grove (Attachment #3).

There were several outbuildings on the lot historically, including a 1 1/2 story barn, a storage shed, a privy, a cistern and an ornamental iron pump which is visible in historic photographs but now lost. The only remaining outbuilding is the 1 1/2 story gable roofed wood frame barn which is shown in the photographs and is located on the attached site plan. The barn is 19 feet wide by about 28 feet deep. It is shown in the 1895 Sanborn map, so it at least pre-dates that time (Attachment #4). The barn is balloon frame construction, is presently sided with asphalt synthetic siding, but has its original clapboards under this siding. The loft is still extant, as well as a narrow stair leading up to it. The barn needs extensive repair, including removing

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<sup>1</sup>Martha Ridge Vercammen, *The Making of River Grove*. River Grove, 1988, p. 28.

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Dohrmann-Buckman House

the synthetic siding, structural bracing, and roof patching. The barn leans slightly toward the north, but this is reversible. Large sliding doors were installed across the north side of the barn at some relatively recent time, thus leading to the loss of lateral support in this direction. There is currently no structural bracing on this wall. The long range plan for the property includes repair and restoration of this building to allow interpretation of the entire site as a typical example of life in the late 19th century in a midwestern country farming village.

The two story wood balloon frame and clapboarded house is approximately 22 feet wide by 58 feet deep. It stands on its original site. It is a side hall plan, with the front door and hall located on the west side of the house. The first floor contains a sitting room, a parlor, a bedroom, a room that is now used as a bathroom, a kitchen, a pantry and a storage room. The second floor contains three bedrooms and an attic. The house was built in three phases, the first phase in 1875, according to an analysis of the chain of title. The first phase consisted of a two story portion ending at the rear wall of the sitting room with a one story kitchen and dining room to the south. This is evident by inspection of the interior of the attic space which shows clapboards on its north wall. The second phase added an unfinished attic at the second floor above the kitchen. The third phase added a kitchen, pantry, storage room, and rear porch farther to the south on the first floor only. The additions occurred early in the history of the house. Although we cannot be certain of the exact dates, Mrs. Esther (Buckman) Webber, the daughter of Henry Buckman, stated verbally that her father himself built the first addition immediately after her brother was born in 1891, and the second addition was built around 1895.<sup>2</sup> Stylistically both additions are very similar in design and materials to the original house. The first addition is shown on the Sanborn map of 1895 (attachment #4). The first and second additions are shown on the Sanborn map of 1909 (attachment #4a).

There is a full basement under all phases, with foundation walls constructed of rubble Joliet limestone. Super-structure of house is wood balloon frame throughout.

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<sup>2</sup>Interview with Esther (Buckman) Webber, October 12, 1994.

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Dohrmann-Buckman House

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From evidence in the attic, the house was originally painted white. A color chronology has not yet been made for this property, so that it is not known precisely what the exterior trim was painted or what the interior finishes were like. The original roof was cedar wood shingle 5 1/4" to the weather, on spaced boards. The roof shingles were unstained, but have taken on a brown-black color, presumably from the soot from coal-burning fires over the years.

The windows on the first floor original house are 4 over 4 double hung, with lintel moldings. These windows are not counterbalanced with sash weights, but have a locking mechanism built into the window frame which serves to hold the window sash open at various fixed positions. The second floor windows are similar, except the two on the front (north) facade have segmental arched heads with ornamental cornices. First addition windows are 2 over 2 double hung, with sash cords and weights. Several historic wood removable exterior storm windows exist in place. Nearly all window glass is historic.

The front porch has been altered since the original porch was built. Currently the columns support a plain frieze under a low hipped roof. A 1911 photograph (Attachment #7) shows this porch to be much more decorative, with carpentry scrollwork at the tops of the columns and a spindle course under the eaves. The porch railing also had spindles and a decorative newel post at the stairs. The front door is a raised panel wood door with a glazed transom above.

The rear porch is located on the southwest corner of the house, accessed from the kitchen. It is intact, but in need of structural repair. This porch had removable storm windows as seen by the marks on the columns and frieze. These are now lost.

Interior finishes have been painted over, but underlying materials have not been removed. Most hardwood floors are oak strip. Several rooms have had wood floors overlaid over previous layer of flooring. Floor levels on the first floor between the additions are slightly out of plane with one another.

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Dohrmann-Buckman House

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All historic doors and hardware remain in place, although many have been painted over. Stair railings are painted wood with turned balusters and a turned Italianate newel post. There is a built-in wood and glass china cabinet and buffet on the east wall of the dining room.

No interior partitions have been added or removed since the house was built, except in the current non-historic bathroom on the first floor. The kitchen and pantry rooms remain as originally built -- they have not been remodeled.

The heating system was likely one or more cast iron stoves. Evidence of stove pipe connection to the chimney is visible in several locations. The present heating system is gas fired forced air furnace located in the basement.

Electric lighting has been installed in relatively recent times. Wiring in the attic is knob-and-tube type. Original historic lighting is not documented or evident. There is no evidence of gas piping on interior.

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1875 - ca. 1909

**Significant Dates**

1875 - ca. 1909

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

unknown

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**Acreage of Property 1/2 acre**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 6	4 3 0 5 3 0	4 6 4 2 0 5 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

 See continuation sheet**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**name/title Frank Heitzmanorganization Heitzman Architects date October 20, 1994street & number 111 North Marion telephone (708) 848-8844city or town Oak Park state Illinois zip code 60301**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets****Maps**A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.**Photographs**Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name The Village of River Grovestreet & number 2621 Thatcher Avenue telephone (708) 453-8000city or town River Grove state Illinois zip code 60171**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Dohrmann-Buckman House

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## Narrative Statement of Significance

### Summary

The Dohrmann-Buckman House is locally significant in the area of architecture. It meets National Register Criterion "C" as a good representative example of a front-gabled house with Italianate details in River Grove. A period of significance is 1875 to ca. 1909, has been established to encompass the period during which the house was initially built, two later additions constructed (ca. 1891 and ca. 1909), and the sole remaining outbuilding, a 1 1/2 story wooden barn was built (ca. 1895). The later additions to the house are virtually intact and do not detract from the design of the original Italianate house. Both the additions and the barn contribute to the property as they convey the function of the residential property during the time the Buckman family owned the house.

### History of the Property

Until the early years of the 19th century, the inhabitants of the area now called River Grove, Illinois were the Potawatomi Tribe of native Americans.<sup>3</sup> In 1816, the Treaty of St. Louis ceded to the U.S. Government a strip of land 20 miles wide centered on the DesPlaines River, extending from the mouth of the Chicago River to the Fox and Kankakee Rivers near Ottawa, Illinois. The purpose of this ceded strip was to ultimately construct a canal from the Chicago River to the DesPlaines and Illinois Rivers, and led to the development of the Illinois and Michigan Canal. The north and south borders of this land were surveyed by the federal government and were marked as the so-called "Indian Boundary Lines."<sup>4</sup> River Grove is located where the north Indian Boundary Line crosses the DesPlaines River. This border is visible today in the form of a diagonal street by that name in River Grove.

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<sup>3</sup>Vercammen, pp. 3-4.

<sup>4</sup>Vercammen, p. 13.

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In 1833, after the defeat of the Indians in the Black Hawk War, all Native American Tribes were forced to cede all land east of the Mississippi to the U. S. Government. In Illinois, the Tribes were given three years to leave their homelands.<sup>5</sup> As a provision of the treaty of Prairie du Chien in 1829, Indians who were previously friendly to the settlers were granted "annuities" (yearly payments) and land in the form of reservations. Two reservations make up the bulk of historic River Grove, that of Alexander Robinson (Che Che Pinqua), and Claude LaFramboise. Both of these large reservations were located north of the Indian Boundary Line. Portions of the LaFramboise reservation were gradually sold over the succeeding years to settlers.<sup>6</sup> This is the area that soon was to become the Village of River Grove.

Shortly after the final treaty with the native Americans, waves of immigrants began to arrive in the midwest, many from Ireland and Germany. Between 1848 and 1854, 3/4 million Germans came to America due to the unsettled conditions and economic uncertainty which followed the revolution in Germany. Most of these Germans were farmers and many desired to settle in the fertile fields near the DesPlaines River west of Chicago. The Leyden Township census of 1880 indicated a population which was 80% of German origin.<sup>7</sup>

One of those early German settlers was Andrew Christian Schmidt, who came from Prussia with his wife, bought a large tract of land and set up a butcher shop on Grand Avenue in what is now River Grove.<sup>8</sup> The lot on which the Dohrmann-Buckman House stands was part of the

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<sup>5</sup>Sylvia Norten Schacht. *When River Grove Was Young -- 1888-1938*. River Grove: The Maecenas Press, 1985, p. 3.

<sup>6</sup>Vercammen, p. 14.

<sup>7</sup>Schacht, p. 4.

<sup>8</sup>Schacht, Supplement, p. 1

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Schmidt estate, purchased by Frederick Dohrmann in 1874.<sup>9</sup> Around 1875, the first phase of the present house was constructed on the site and sold in 1877 to Heinrich Dohrmann.<sup>10</sup> The population of the pioneer community at that time was only about 200. In 1890, Schmidt's granddaughter, Bertha Senf, married Henry Buckman, a carpenter. According to Henry's daughter, Esther, the house was given to Henry and Bertha by Bertha's grandparents as a wedding gift. Attached are historic photographs of Henry and Bertha Buckman (Attachment #5).

Henry Buckman was very active in the community. His sister Sophia was married to Paul Lau, who was elected as the first mayor of River Grove after it was incorporated in 1888. The Laus owned the house on the lot immediately north of the Dohrmann-Buckman House. Although this house no longer exists, photographic evidence shows that it was similar in style to the Dohrmann-Buckman house. An aerial view taken in 1949 shows both houses and what appears to be a well-worn path between them (see Attachment #3). In addition to his duties as mayor of the new village, Paul Lau was a successful businessman who owned extensive greenhouses on his property (see Attachment #4 for plan of these greenhouses) and supplied the Chicago retail florest Bloom & Company. He also undoubtedly assisted Henry Buckman in his political career. Buckman was elected to the post of Village Clerk for a great number of years "which office he filled creditably and faithfully, always actuated by the spirit

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<sup>9</sup>Document Number 102359 from Cook County Recorder's Office.

<sup>10</sup>Document Number 153174, from Cook County Recorder's Office

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Dohrmann-Buckman House

of progressive policy."<sup>11</sup> In 1894, he was elected as the first fire chief of the village.<sup>12</sup> He also served as the Leyden Township Clerk.<sup>13</sup>

The property has remained in the Buckman family for some 100 years, passing first to Henry's son Harry in 1941 and then to Henry's daughter Esther (Buckman) Weber in 1957. Esther is now 86 years old and currently resides in River Forest, Illinois. In 1992, she deeded the house to the Village of River Grove to be ultimately used as a museum depicting life in the early settlement years of the Village. The Village has maintained the property and has begun a process of repair and restoration in preparation to opening it to the public. During the summer of 1994, asphalt and damaged wood shingle roofs were removed and a new wood shingle roof was installed matching the historic shingle spacing, over the original roof sheathing. In addition, the Joliet limestone rubble stone foundation was carefully tuckpointed to prolong its functionality.

#### The Architecture of the Dohrmann-Buckman House

The Dohrmann-Buckman House is a good example of a front gabled house with Italianate details built in the rural areas of the new western settlements surrounding Chicago in the third quarter of the 19th century. Exterior elements are nearly all intact or easily repairable. Only the original front porch ornamental trim seems to have been removed. Windows, glazing and doors are all original. The setting for the house is undisturbed, and includes a repairable historic barn which is shown on the Sanborn map of 1895 (Attachment #4).

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<sup>11</sup>Williams. *River Grove in Review -- River Grove Golden Jubilee 1888-1938*, p. 23.

<sup>12</sup>Village of River Grove Board Meeting Minutes, January 7, 1894.

<sup>13</sup>Minutes of the Board of the Commissioners of Highways of the Town of Leyden, April 17, 1900.

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Two additions which were added between the years of 1891 and 1909 are similar in style and materials to the original house. They are both in good condition and are significant historically as being an important part of the house that Henry Buckman built himself to accommodate his family.

The interiors are virtually unaltered, with the exception of the insertion of a gas fired forced air heating system, and contemporary bathroom which are easily reversible. Room layout and finishes are unchanged since the 19th century. Interior ornamental moldings are intact, as is the interior stair railing and decorative newel post.

Italianate Residential Architecture<sup>14</sup>

The Italianate style was very popular in the United States in the era between 1850-1880, particularly in the midwest, as well as the northeast and west. Many of the early frame houses in San Francisco exhibited this style. The style is not often found in the southern part of the country since there was not much new construction in the south during this era due to the Civil War and the 1870's depression.

Beginning in England, as an element of the picturesque movement, the Italianate style was characterized by rambling Italian farmhouse forms with square towers. In the midwestern part of the United States, Italianate dwellings often were patterned after picturesque informal rural examples, and were adapted in a style which exhibited only a few of the characteristics of the Italian precedents. Another form of the Italianate in the U.S. was the Italian

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<sup>14</sup>This information has been duplicated from the National Register Nomination for the Cornelius Flagg farmstead near Springfield, Illinois, nominated by Charles Kirchner in 1992, which in turn has been derived from Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, New York, 1986, pp. 210-230.

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Renaissance townhouse. These were usually rectangular, masonry, 3 story buildings with few decorative embellishments except for window pediments.

Andrew Jackson Downing's pattern books were responsible for fostering the style's popularity.<sup>15</sup> Most of the examples which survive today were built in the era between 1855 to 1880. The financial panic of 1873 and the resulting depression have been noted as the cause for the demise of the Italianate style. As the economic picture brightened in the late 1870's, residential architecture turned to other styles such as the Queen Anne for inspiration.

### Stylistic Characteristics

Italianate houses were usually 2 stories high with low pitched roofs and widely overhanging eaves. The eaves were generally supported by decorative wood brackets. Windows were usually tall and narrow, often with segmental or full arched tops. Windows frequently had decorative hood molds, particularly on full or segmental arched shapes. The Dohrmann-Buckman House front second story windows are segmental arched and have heavy head moldings. Flat topped windows are also crowned with prominent moldings.

Porches are quite common in the Italianate style with restrained detailing and of one story height. While small entry porches were common, so were full width porches. The porch posts were usually square and bevelled.

Doorways were either paired or single with large pane glazing in the doors. Doorways are similar in shape to the windows with crowns or lintels similar to those found on the windows.

Interior stairway of the Dohrmann-Buckman House has an Italianate style newel post.

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<sup>15</sup>Such as his *The Architecture of Country Houses*, published in 1850.

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Basically there were six principal subtypes of the Italianate style: the *simple hipped roof* (most common subtype), *centered gable* (usually with projecting center pavillion), *asymmetrical* (compound plan, generally L-shaped without tower), *towered*, *front gabled roof* (the Dohrmann-Buckman House is an example of this subtype), and *townhouse*.

Italianate Houses in the Chicago and River Grove areas

The Dohrmann-Buckman House compares favorably with other examples of the Italianate house type built about the same time in Chicago and closer areas. In Chicago, the house built at 215 West Eugenie in 1874, exhibits many of the same characteristics (Attachment #8).<sup>16</sup> Contemporary examples closer to River Grove include the Charles A. Wilmeroth house in River Forest, built ca. 1878 (Attachment #8).<sup>17</sup> This house likely had a front porch which is missing now. In Oak Park, the John Carne house, ca. 1870, is also similar, but with more decorative details.<sup>18</sup> The Jennie S. Thompkins house, 503 North 4th Avenue in Maywood, Illinois, 1872, on the National Register, is nearly identical to the Dohrmann-Buckman House, even including a closely related interior stair railing and newel post.

In the village of River Grove, there are several related examples which have been badly altered subsequent to their construction. The house at 8441 West Center Street is the same size and configuration as the Dohrmann-Buckman House. It retains its decorative front porch, but the exterior has been sided with vinyl siding and the foundation has been replaced with glazed clay tile block. Many of the earliest houses built in River Grove have had their foundation replaced in recent times. A close examination of the foundations in the historic

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<sup>16</sup>Alice Sinkevitch, ed., *AIA Guide to Chicago*, p. 178.

<sup>17</sup>Jeanette Fields, ed., *A Guidebook to the Architecture of River Forest*, building number 18.

<sup>18</sup>Arlene Sanderson, ed., *Ridgeland Revealed*, p. 77.

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center of the village reveals that there has been extensive water damage, likely caused by the periodic flooding of the DesPlaines River, most recently in 1987, and by rising damp from a high water table. The Dohrmann-Buckman House has not suffered as much as other early homes closer to the river, and retains its original rubble stone foundation. The house at 8450 West Center Street is another contemporary example. It has a coursed Joliet stone foundation, but has been sided and its front porch has been enclosed. The house at 8551 West Center Street has been sided with aluminum siding and its historic foundation replaced with molded concrete block foundation, but it still has its original ornamental barge boards. Finally, the Italianate house at 8519 West Center Street is of the period but is one of the few existing L-shaped plan examples of the style. Its exterior has been sided and the stone foundation has been painted to conceal severe weathering.

The Dohrmann-Buckman House is stylistically similar to other early River Grove buildings no longer standing but known through photographs. The Charles O. Streetz store and post office was built in the 1850's is stylistically similar to the Dohrmann-Buckman House (see Attachment #9). This store existed in River Grove at least until 1938.<sup>19</sup> The school house for the village was built in 1869, and, although only one story tall, is related in architectural character to the Dohrmann-Buckman House by its form, materials, roof pitch and window design (Attachment #9).<sup>20</sup>

In conclusion, within the context of the front gabled Italianate houses which were so prevalent in the Chicago and western settlements in the 1870s, the Dohrmann-Buckman House remains the premier representative example in River Grove.

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<sup>19</sup>Vercammen, *The Making of River Grove*, p. 35.

<sup>20</sup>Vercammen, *The Making of River Grove*, pp. 30-32.

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Dohrmann-Buckman House

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number   9   Page   14  

Dohrmann-Buckman House

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number   10   Page   15  

Dohrmann-Buckman House

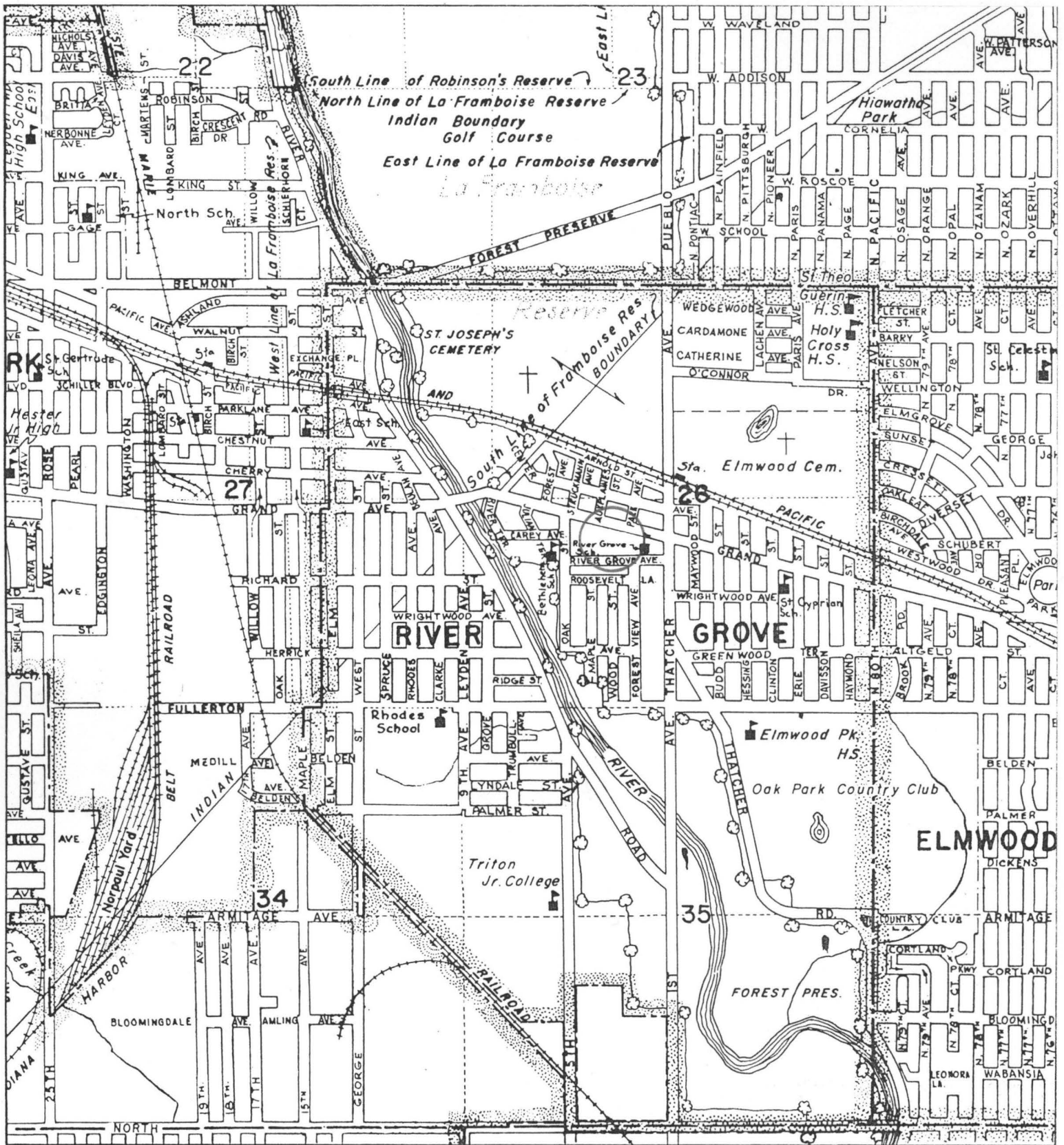
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Verbal Boundary Description

Lot Three (3) of County Clerks Division of that part lying south of Grand Avenue of Lot Two (2) of Assessors Division of fractional West Half (1/2) of Section Twenty Six (26), Township Forty (40) North, Range Twelve (12), East of the Third Principal Meridian, in the Village of River Grove, Cook County, Illinois. Permanent Index Number 12-26-309-019-0000.

Boundary Justification

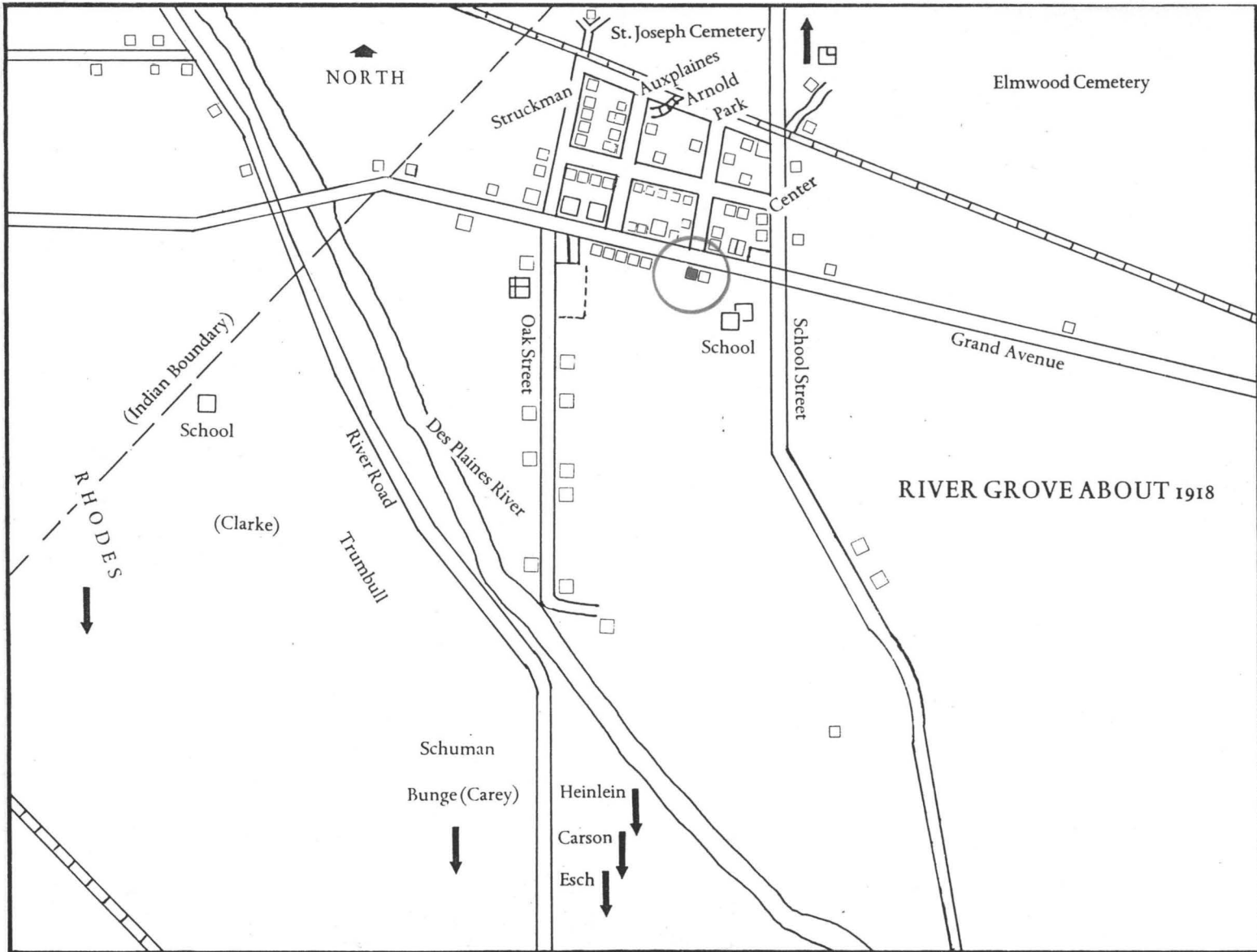
The boundary includes all of the real property originally purchased by Frederick Dohrmann from A. C. Schmidt, on which was constructed the house in 1875, and the barn later.



(Courtesy of Cook County Highway Department) Map of River Grove as it appears today.

Dohrmann/Buckman  
House

Attachment #1



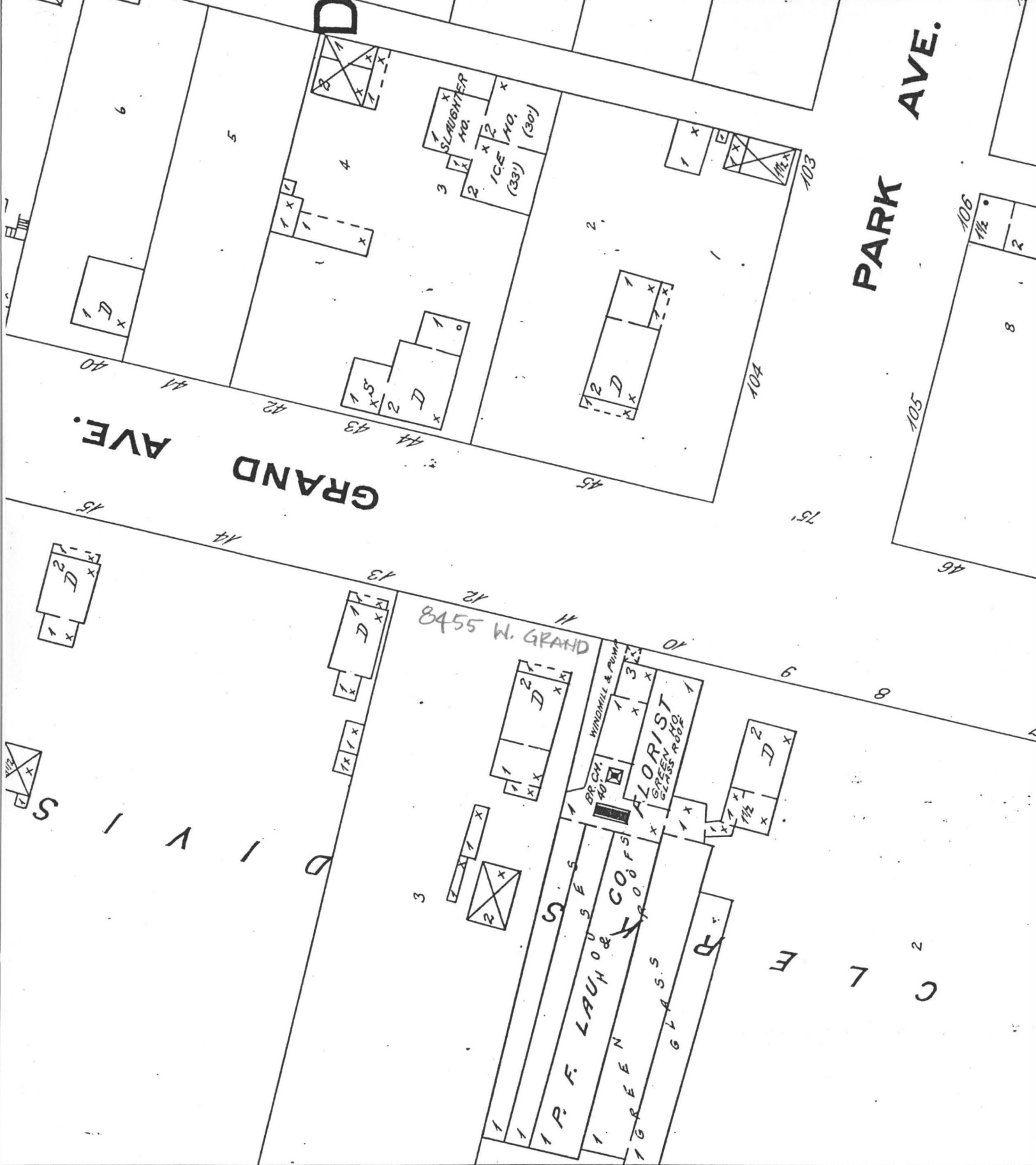
Dohrmann/Buckman  
House

Attachment #2



Dohrmann/Buckman  
House

Attachment #3  
1949 Aerial View of River Grove



Sanborn Map of 1895  
 River Grove, Illinois

Dohrmann/Buckman  
 House

Attachment #4





Mr. Henry Buckman



Mrs. Henry Buckman as a small girl.

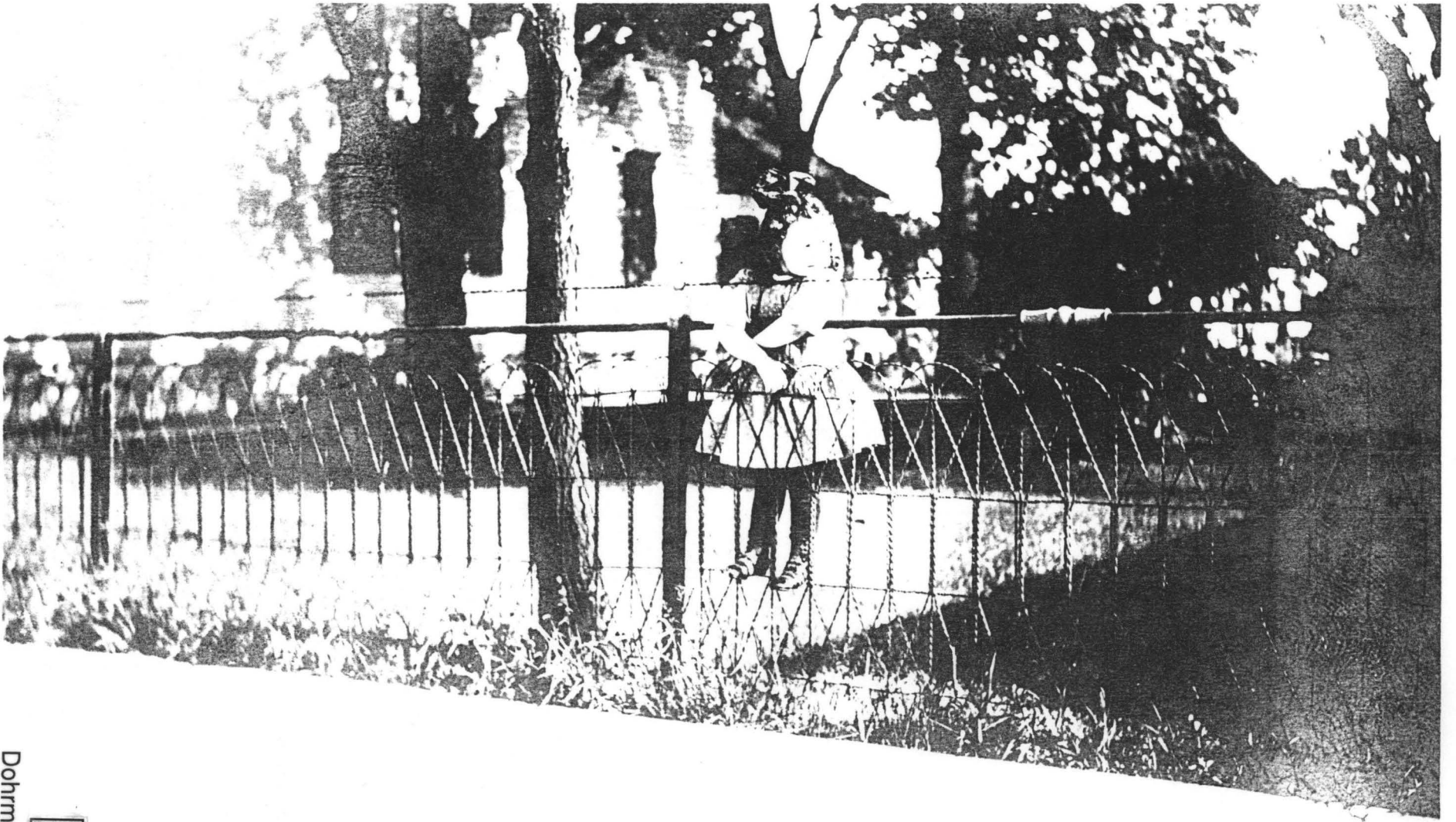
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Buckman, residing at 8485 Grand Ave., can be truly numbered among the pioneers of our village.

They were but a newly married couple when they came to take up their residence here in the year 1890. Both took an active interest in the development and progress of the slowly growing settlement. Mr. Buckman served as Village Clerk for a great number of years, which office he filled creditably and faithfully, always actuated by the spirit of progressive policy.

Mr. and Mrs. Buckman have two children, Harry and Esther, both born here and residents of River Grove. Harry resides at 2720 Thatcher Ave., while Esther lives at home with her aged parents.

Dohrmann/Buckman  
House

Attachment #5



Dohrmann/Buckman  
House

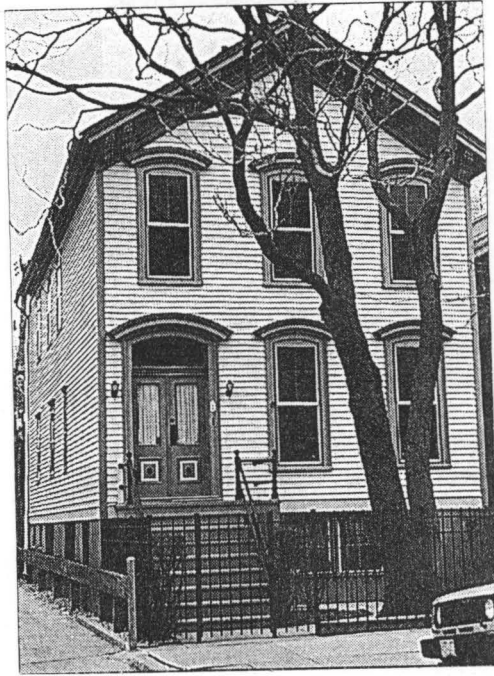
Attachment #6

1911



Dohrmann/Buckman  
House

Attachment #7



215 West Eugenie, Chicago  
1874



Charles A. Wilmeroth House  
611 Keystone, River Forest  
ca. 1878



John Carne House  
144 North Cuyler Avenue, Oak Park  
ca. 1870

Dohrmann/Buckman  
House



*(From author's collection) Charles O. Streetz and his sister Olga, who served as postmaster and postmistress, stand in front of their father's store and post office in the early 1900's. The following statement was made about the building during the Golden Jubilee in 1938. "The first building, a double store housing a grocery was erected in*



Dohrmann/Buckman  
House

Attachment #9

*Original school house erected about 1869, was 100 feet by 30 feet and.*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Dorhmann--Buckman House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ILLINOIS, Cook

DATE RECEIVED: 12/22/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/04/95  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/20/95 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/05/95  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94001598

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 1.24.95 DATE Entered in the National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

\_\_\_ count \_\_\_ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

\_\_\_ historic \_\_\_ current

DESCRIPTION

\_\_\_ architectural classification  
\_\_\_ materials  
\_\_\_ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- \_\_\_ summary paragraph
- \_\_\_ completeness
- \_\_\_ clarity
- \_\_\_ applicable criteria
- \_\_\_ justification of areas checked
- \_\_\_ relating significance to the resource
- \_\_\_ context
- \_\_\_ relationship of integrity to significance
- \_\_\_ justification of exception
- \_\_\_ other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

\_\_\_ acreage \_\_\_ verbal boundary description  
\_\_\_ UTMs \_\_\_ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

\_\_\_ sketch maps \_\_\_ USGS maps \_\_\_ photographs \_\_\_ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



DOHRMANN/BUCKMAN HOUSE  
8455 W. GRAND, RIVER GROVE, IL  
COOK COUNTY

PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANK HEITZMAN  
10/21/94

VIEW TOWARD SOUTHWEST

#1



DOTTMANN/BUCKMAN HOUSE  
8455 W. GRAND, RIVER GROVE, IL  
COOK COUNTY

PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANK HEITZMAN

10/21/94

VIEW TOWARD SOUTHEAST

#2



DOHRMANN / BUCKMAN HOUSE  
8455 W. GRAND, RIVER GROVE, IL  
COOK COUNTY

PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANK HEITZMAN  
10/21/94

VIEW OF FRONT DOOR LOOKING  
SOUTH

#3



DOHRMANN/BUCKMAN HOUSE  
8455 W. GRAND, RIVER GROVE, IL  
COOK COUNTY

PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANK HEITZMAN

10/21/94

VIEW TOWARD EAST

#4



DOHRMANN/BUCKMAN HOUSE  
8455 W. GRAND, RIVER GROVE, IL  
COOK COUNTY

PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANK HEITZMAN  
10/21/94

VIEW TOWARD NORTH-EAST

#5



DOHRMANN/BUCKMAN HOUSE  
8455 W. GRAND, RIVER GROVE, IL  
COOK COUNTY

PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANK HEITZMAN  
10/21/94

VIEW TOWARD NORTH WEST

#6



DOHRMANN/BUCKMAN HOUSE BARN  
8455 W. GRAND RIVER GROVE, IL  
COOK COUNTY

PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANK HEITZMAN  
10/21/94

VIEW TOWARD SOUTHEAST

#7



DOHRMANN/BUCKMAN HOUSE  
8455 W. GRAND, RIVER GROVE, IL  
COOK COUNTY  
PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANK HEITZMAN  
10/21/94

VIEW OF ENTRY HALL STAIRS  
LOOKING TOWARD SOUTHWEST

#8



DOHRMANN/BUCKMAN HOUSE  
8455 W. GRAND, RIVER GROVE, IL  
COOK COUNTY  
PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANK HEITZMAN

10/21/94

VIEW OF ENTRY HALL LOOKING NORTH

#9



DOHRMANN/BUCKMAN HOUSE  
8455 W. GRAND, RIVER GROVE, IL  
COOK COUNTY

PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANK HEITZMAN  
10/21/94

VIEW OF DINING ROOM LOOKING  
TOWARD SOUTHEAST

#10



DOHRMANN/BUCKMAN HOUSE  
855 W. GRAND, RIVER GROVE, IL  
COOK COUNTY

PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANK HEITZMAN

10/21/94

VIEW OF KITCHEN LOOKING SOUTH

#11



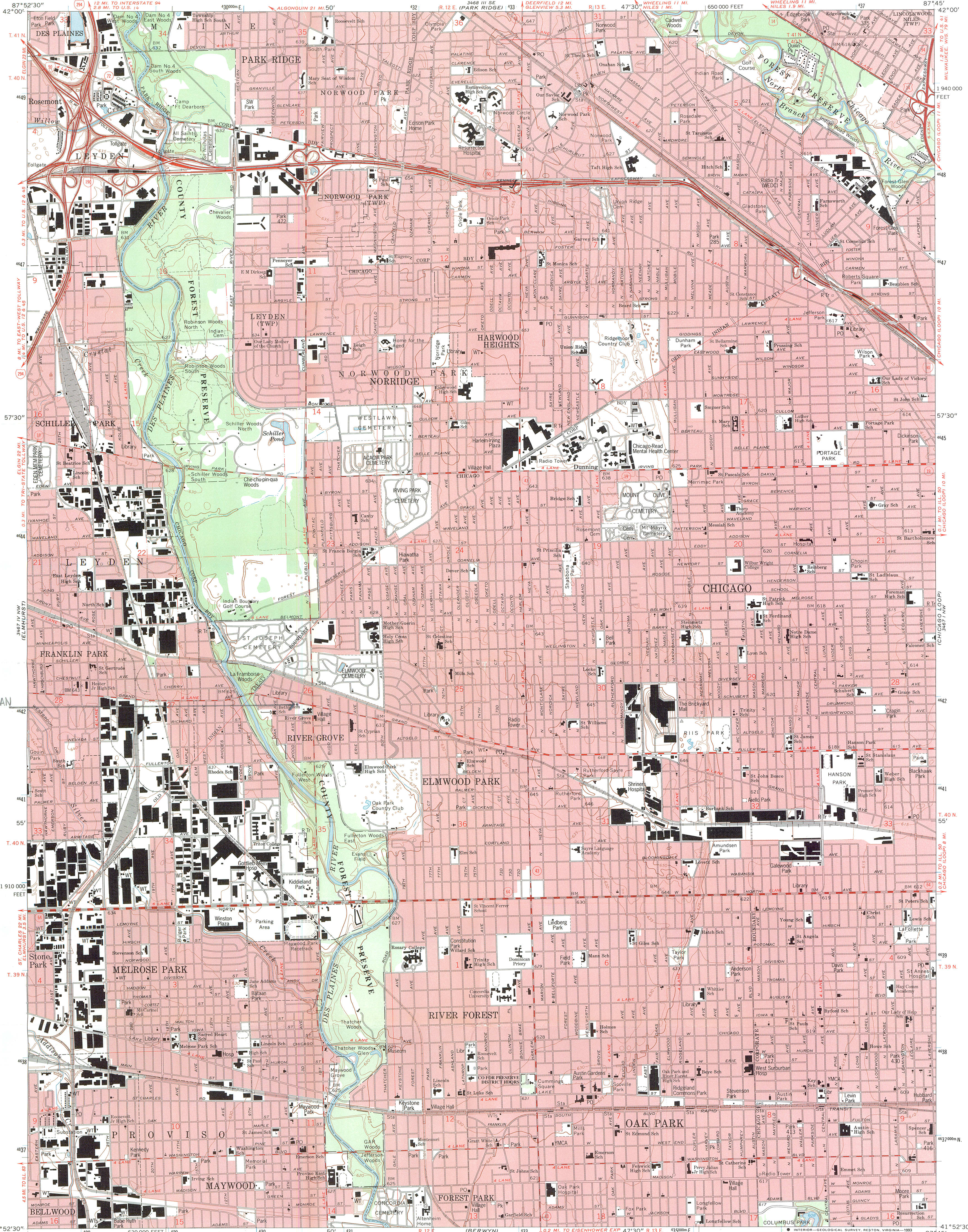
DOHRMANN/BUCKMAN HOUSE  
855 W. GRAND, RIVER GROVE, IL  
COOK COUNTY

PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANK HEITZMAN

10/21/94

VIEW OF FRONT BEDROOM LOOKING TOWARD NORTH

#12



DOHRMANN-BUCKMAN  
HOUSE  
ZONE 16  
E 430530  
N 4642050

Produced by the United States Geological Survey

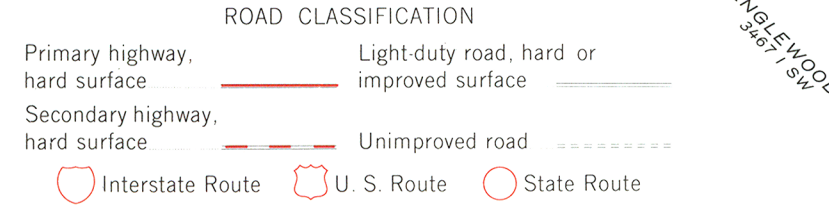
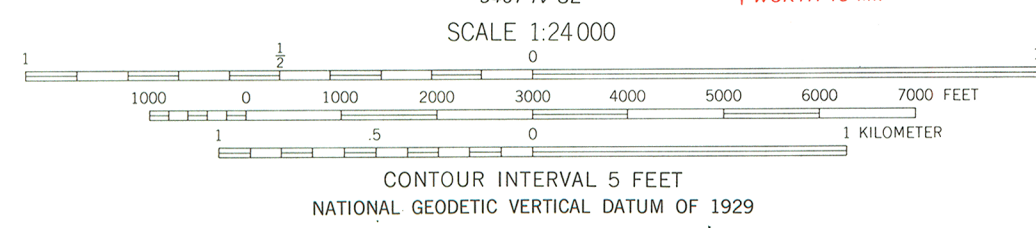
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, City of Chicago and Cook County Highway Department

Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1962-63. Topography by plane-table surveys 1924-25. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1988. Field checked 1992. Map edited 1993.

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Illinois coordinate system, east zone (transverse Mercator). 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue 1927 North American Datum (NAD 27).

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are given in USGS Bulletin 1875.

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown.



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092 AND ILLINOIS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS 61820. A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

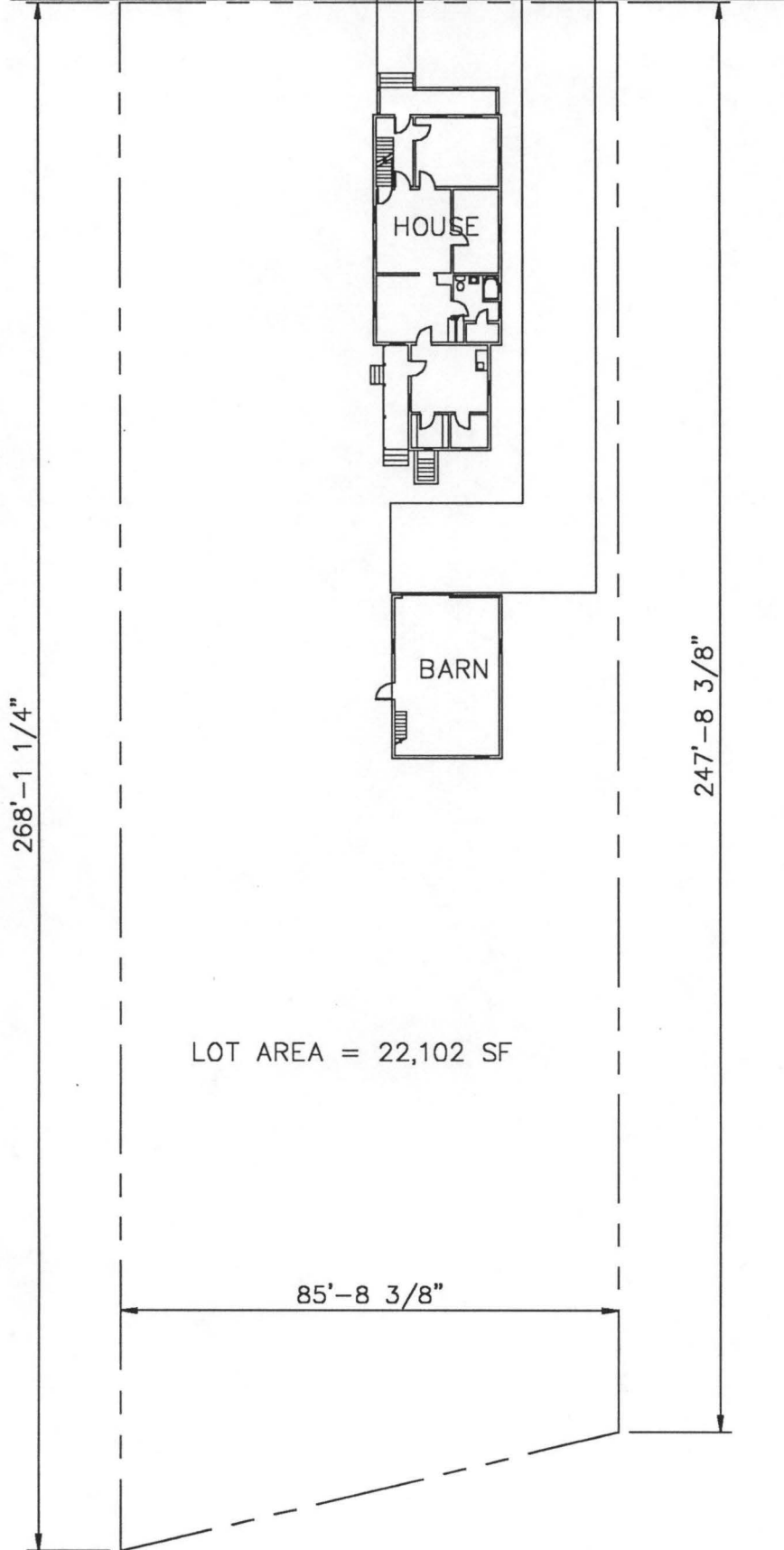


RIVER FOREST, ILL.  
41087-H7-TF-024

1993

DMA 3467 IV NE-SERIES V863

GRAND AVENUE



1" = 30'-0"



30 SEP 84

HEITZMAN ARCHITECTS

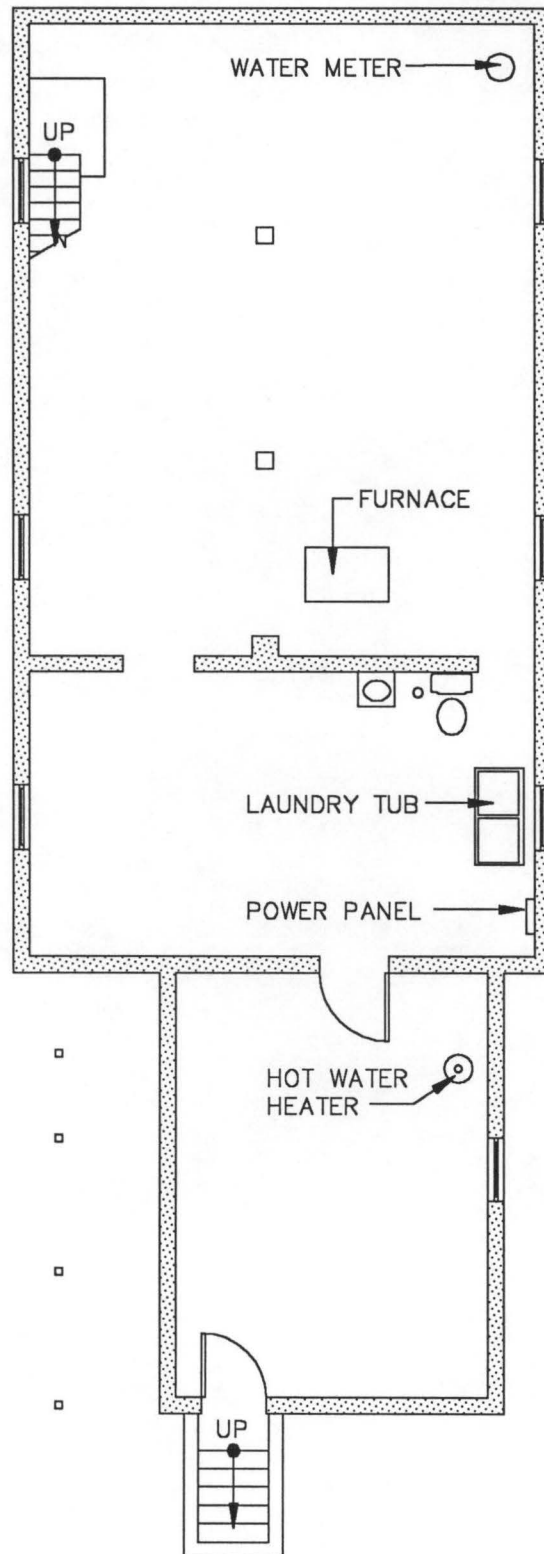
111 NORTH MARION STREET  
OAK PARK, ILLINOIS 60301  
(708) 848-8844  
FAX (708) 848-8845

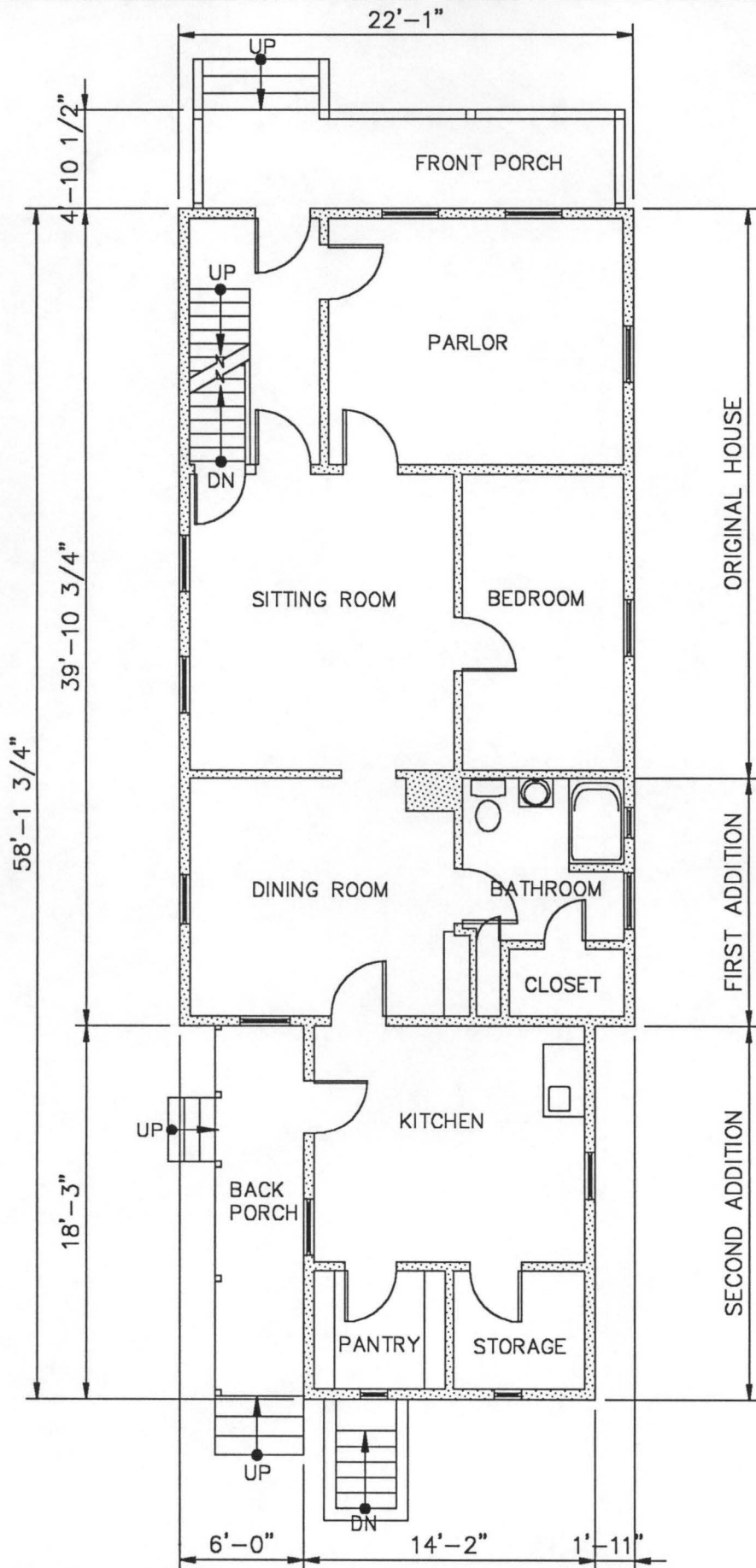
SITE PLAN

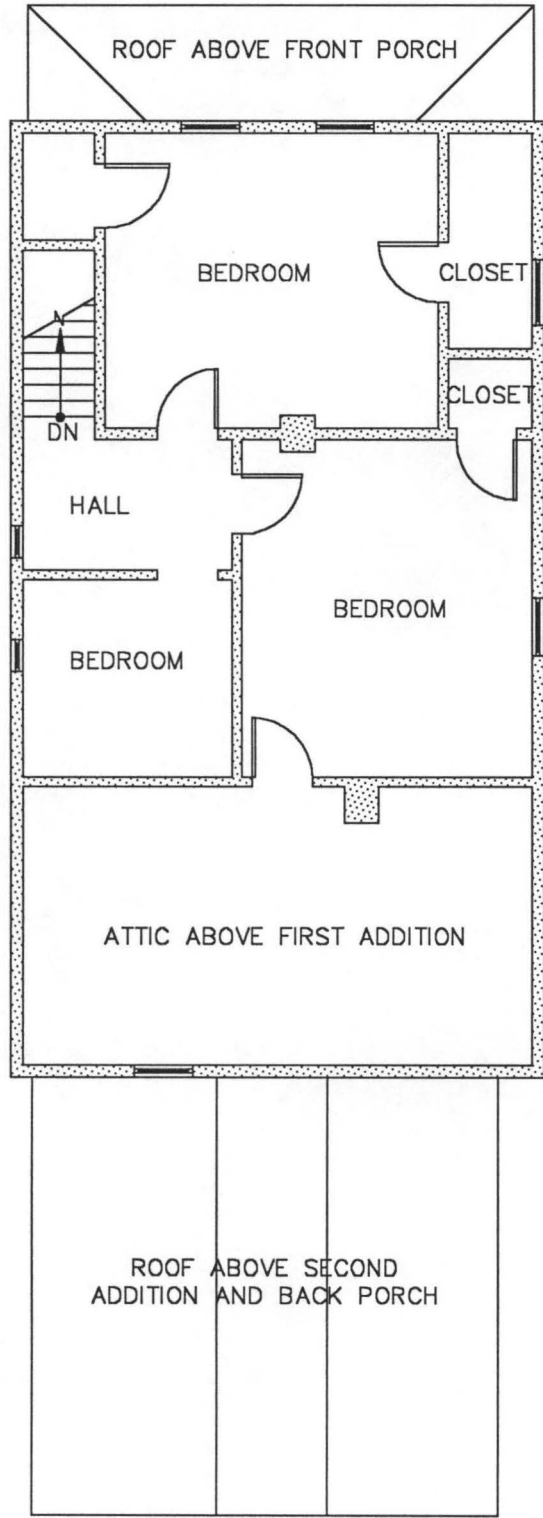
Dohrmann-Buckman House

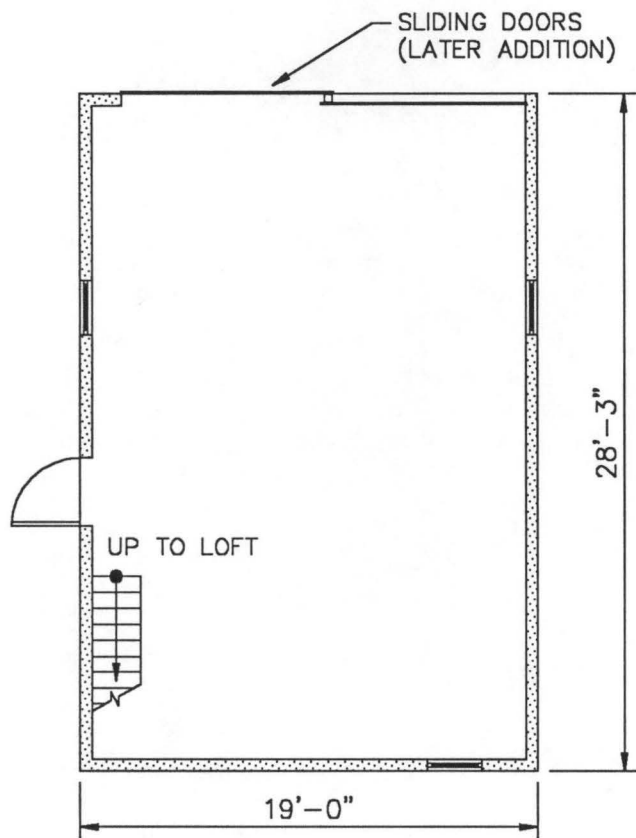
8455 WEST GRAND  
RIVER GROVE, ILLINOIS

C-1











**Illinois Historic  
Preservation Agency**

Old State Capitol • Springfield, Illinois 62701 • (217) 782-4836

**RECEIVED 413**

**DEC 22 1994**

**INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

December 16, 1994

Ms. Beth Boland  
National Register Program  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
800 N. Capitol Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20421

Dear Beth:

Enclosed please find the National Register documentation for properties in Illinois, including one request for a determination of eligibility. They are as follows:

Vienna Public Library, Vienna  
St. James Episcopal Church, McLeansboro  
Jeremiah Strawn House, Ottawa  
Yorkville School, Yorkville  
Wood-Tellkamp House, LeMoille  
Dohrmann-Buckman House, River Grove

United States Post Office, DeKalb -- private owner  
objection, no comment received from the Mayor of DeKalb

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Ann V. Swallow  
Survey & National Register  
Coordinator

encl.