

Racine Landmark, 845 Villa Street

Whereas, Section 58-61 of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine establishes criteria for the designation of landmarks or landmark sites; and

Whereas, the property at 845 Villa Street meets three criteria:

58-61 a. (3) Embodies distinguishing characteristics of architecture, an architect or architectural materials, or craftsmanship reflective of an 1856 Cream City Brick, Italianate Vernacular style.

58-61 a. (4) In its inherent historical nature provides the citizenry with educational or aesthetic enrichment; and

58-61 a. (5) Contributes to the character and understanding of a district and is one property that helps form the basis of a district.

Whereas, in 2008 the property was identified as a potential contributing property to a proposed local Southside Historic District.

Whereas, characteristic architectural element of the structure are described as follows:

- “T” shaped cross gable-type roof having a two-story east-west orientation and a story-and-a-half north wing, non-bracketed boxed eaves, a south-facing cross gable-type dormer,
- Cream City brick exterior walls with a 1/6 header to stretcher bonding system and flush mortar joints,
- Partial inset porch on the west façade having a hipped roof supported by three square columns capped with vernacular Doric capitals hosting simple wedged brackets holding an un-adorned frieze/beam and scroll cut brackets supporting a boxed eave,
- Hooded window openings having brick lintels constructed using brick headers arranged in the form of double-corbelled segmental arches with opposing single-cross pendants,
- Hooded doorways having brick lintels constructed using brick headers arranged in the form of single-corbelled syrian arches,
- Single and double hung widows (some arched) and recreated and original wood framed storm windows having from one to four lights,
- Stone rubble foundation consisting mainly of rough-cut irregular courses (visible from the interior),
- Single story flat roofed brick garage addition (circa 1900) with slight parapet walls topped by clay coping, window openings having brick lintels constructed using brick headers arranged in the form of syrian arches; said garage being connected to the main structure via a story-height brick wall with clay coping.

Whereas, on April 4, 2011 the City of Racine Landmarks Preservation Commission found that the property was of historic significance under Sections 58-61 a. (3), (4) and (5) of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine, and that the property be rezoned accordingly.

Further resolved by the Common Council of the City of Racine, that the property at 845 Villa Street be designated a Racine Landmark in accordance with the criteria contained herein.