HISTORIC STRUCTURE OR HISTORIC SITE DESIGNATION
APPLICATION TO THE
CITY OF APPLETON
100 N. APPLETON STREET
APPLETON, WI 54911

This application and more information can be found on-line at www.appleton.org/planning.

Application # 1-05-H

HISTORIC or COMMON NAME: (if any) Trettin Home

SITE ADDRESS 523 W. Eighth Street TAX KEY #(s) 31-3-0823-00

LEGAL DESCRIPTION Grand Chute PLAT 3rd Lot 16 BK 41

PROPERTY OWNER(s) Rosemary Trettin TELEPHONE 920-734-4872

ADDRESS/ZIP 523 W. Eighth Street FAX

APPLICANT Rosemary Trettin

ADDRESS 523 W. Eighth Street TELEPHONE 920-734-4872

CITY/ZIP Appleton, WI 54911 FAX

ZONING: EXISTING R2 Two Family

USES: EXISTING Two Family Home

PROPOSED Same

PARCEL DIMENSIONS 60' X 120'

STATE REASONS & JUSTIFICATION FOR HISTORIC STRUCTURE OR HISTORIC SITE DESIGNATION

See Attached Sheet

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

15 day of August 2005

Rosemary Trettin

Notary Public
Marinette County

My Commission Expires 10-06

Signature (SEAL)

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made upon request and if feasible.

Preapplication Conference 11/11/2004 Application Complete 8/13/05
Reasons and Justification for Requesting Historic Structure

The owner, Rosemary Trettin, nominates the home at 523 West Eighth Street Appleton, Wisconsin. The home is located in the historic “Old Third Ward.” The architectural structure is significant to the history of Appleton and the home is worthy of its preservation.

The grey stucco Prairie style home was built in 1918 for Edgar and Ancilla Walter. Edgar was the youngest son of George Walter and worked at the Walter Brewery Company in Appleton. The family lived in the home for eight years. Edgar sold the home in September 1926 to August and Elizabeth Trettin and moved his family to Eau Claire where he became president of the Eau Claire Walter Brewery Company founded by George’s brother John.

The renowned architect Edward Wettengel Sr. designed the house. The fine craftsmen Martin Boldt and Son built the home.

August and Elizabeth Trettin found the structure was large enough to accommodate their six children. The focal point of the living room is the beautiful red brick fireplace. The room southwest of the living room, called the playroom, was reserved for the children and later was used as a family room. In the dining room is a built in oak buffet. The master bedroom has a unique olive green and white inlaid marble fireplace. Another fine feature is the distinctive oak woodwork. The sleeping porch with its eight windows was a popular summer room before air conditioning existed. The upstairs bathroom remain authentic- a different style from a different era, including a built-in medicine cabinet.

Some years later, August and Elizabeth Trettin became owners of the Brettschneider Furniture Store and Funeral Home. After the death of August Trettin in December 1947, the deed was transferred to Brettschneider Furniture Store. In the fall of 1949, with the efficient help of H.C. Schultz Company, Mrs. Trettin made revisions to the home by enclosing the east side porch and adding a kitchen, bedroom, and a veranda to the southeast corner of the house. The home was then a duplex for the family of James and Elizabeth Long, daughter and son-in-law of August and Elizabeth Trettin.

After the death of Mrs. Trettin in September 1969, daughter Rosemary purchased the home from Brettschneider’s in February 1972. Apart from the renovation in 1949, little has been done to the house, other than general maintenance, redecorating the rooms, replacing the roof and updating the heating system.

The Trettin home was featured in the “Old Third Ward” tour of Appleton’s historic homes on September 15th and 16th of 2000.

Rosemary is a retired high school teacher and past national president of the National Catholic Society of Foresters. She continues to appreciate the elegance of her home, treasures family memories and cannot picture herself moving away from this charming home. Her goal is to help promote the preservation of her home as well as her neighborhood.

Rosemary Trettin
Owner
August 7, 2005
THE AUGUST W. TRETTLIN FAMILY

AUGUST W. TRETTLIN FAMILY IN THE LIVING ROOM is the last photograph taken of the family, 1938. Standing left to right: Arthur W., Mr. Trettin, David H., and Jeanne. Seated left to right: May, Mrs. Trettin, Elizabeth and Rosemary. Jeanne and Rosemary are the living members of the Trettin family.

The Trettin Home
523 West Eighth Street, Appleton, Wisconsin

The grey stucco, prairie style home was designed by Edward Wettengel, Sr. and built by Martin Boldt and Son in 1918. Edgar and Ancilla Walter, original owners, lived in the home for eight years.

In September 1926, August and Elizabeth Trettin purchased the home. They had six children. Some years later, August and Elizabeth also became owners of the Brettschneider Furniture Store and Funeral Home.

After the death of August Trettin in December 1947, the deed was transferred to the Brettschneider Company. His wife became president of the business.

In the fall of 1949, with the help of Contractor H.C. Schultz and Son, Mrs. Trettin made revisions to the home by enclosing the east-side porch and adding a bedroom and kitchen. The home was then a duplex. James G. and Elizabeth Trettin-Long and daughters, Vicki and Patti, were the first tenants.

After the death of Mrs. Trettin in September 1969, daughter Rosemary purchased the home from Brettschneider’s in February 1972.

The focal point of the home is the red brick fireplace in the living room. The master bedroom also has a fireplace. Another feature is the distinctive oak woodwork.

Hanging in the stairway landing is a stained-glass panel from the original Brettschneider Funeral Home. On the east wall of the living room is displayed an 1898 Brettschneider calendar.

The Austrian crystal chandelier and China sideboards are in the dining room with its antique walnut table and eight upholstered chairs.

Another furnishing is the hand-painted bedroom set purchased in the 1930s. The sleeping porch with eight windows was a popular summer bedroom before air conditioning existed.

Rosemary, a retired high school teacher and forensic coach and past national president of the National Catholic Society of Foresters, continues to love her home and treasures family memories.

Her goal is to help in promoting the preservation of her neighborhood.
Southeast Exposure

East Exposure
RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY INQUIRY FOR 1-3-0823-00

ADDRESS: 523 W EIGHTH ST

OWNER LAST NAME: TRETIN
ADDRESS: 523 W EIGHTH ST
APPLETON WI 54911

2ND TITLE HOLDER:

LGL DESC: GRAND CHUTE PLAT 3WD LOT 10 BLK 41 12724M53

OTHER BLDG IMPROVEMENTS

FRAME/CONC GAR-DETACHED 22 20X22 GARAGE 440

FULL VALUATION: Land$ 12,000 Impr$ 113,400 Total$ 125,400

OTHER INFO:
YEAR BUILT: 1918
YEAR REMODELED: 1950
STYLE: OLD STYLE
SF BLD AREA: 3,246
LOT: 60 x 120
PLAN ZONES: R2
MAP NUMBER: Q52
BLDR:
APPLETON'S HISTORIC

OLD THIRD WARD

523 West Eighth Street
October 20, 2005

Rosemary Trettin
523 W. Eighth St.
Appleton, WI 54911

Dear Ms. Trettin:

This is to inform you on October 5, 2005, the Common Council adopted the following recommendation of the Community Development Committee:

Designate the Trettin House located at 523 West Eighth Street as a Local Historic Structure as it complies with Section 23-667 Historic Structure Designation Criteria BE APPROVED. (5-0)

Please be so advised.

Sincerely,

Jeff Towne
Principal Planner I

cc: Cynthia Hesse, City Clerk
    Ross Buetow, Inspections Supervisor
    DeAnn Brosman, City Assessor