

HISTORIC DESIGNATION STUDY REPORT
August 2013

I. NAME

Historic: Tiefenthaler House

Common Name: Tiefenthaler House

II. LOCATION 2425 West McKinley Avenue

Legal Description - Tax Key No. 3641456000
LYNDE'S ADDN NO 2 IN SW ¼ SEC 19-7-22 BLOCK 10
LOT 7-W1/2 LOT 6

III. CLASSIFICATION Site

IV. OWNER City of Milwaukee
809 North Broadway
Milwaukee, WI 53202

ALDERMAN Ald. Robert Bauman 3rd Aldermanic District

NOMINATOR Lois Redic and Ald. Bauman

V. YEAR BUILT 1886 (Tax Rolls 1880 through 1887)

ARCHITECT: Unknown

VI. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

THE AREA

The Tiefenthaler House is located on the city's near west side just over a mile and a half from the Central Business District. The neighborhood is predominantly residential with houses built in the 1870s and 1880s. There are examples of Queen Anne, Gothic Revival, and Italianate style buildings with later houses and duplexes filling in the empty lots through the turn of the twentieth century. These latter houses were designed in the Arts and Crafts style or vernacular front gable form.

The street layout follows the grid pattern established by the earlier development to the east. The 1856 City Charter, as well as the 1874 Charter, required all new streets and alleys to align with all existing and adjacent platting (Roger D. Simon, "The Expansion of an Industrial City: Milwaukee 1880-1910." PhD. Dissertation, History, University of Wisconsin, 1971 p. 23). This was done to prevent the misalignment of streets that had occurred when Kilbourntown and

Juneautown were platted. The charter resulted in a uniform grid pattern that became the only legal way to subdivide city land into residential lots. The west side continued to be divided into subdivisions and by 1885, all the land to 27th Street had been platted except a few minor parcels. (West Side Neighborhood Historic Resources Survey, City of Milwaukee, September, 1984, Immigration and Settlement pp 6-8)

This portion of the west side was originally the domain of large land holdings and multi-acre estates. Some were treated as gentleman's farms, some as investments. In the area bounded by West Wisconsin Avenue, West Vliet Street, North 12th Street and North 27th Street five individuals owned over 75% of the property and included Elisha Eldred, Hans Crocker, William P. Lynde and Cyrus Hawley. These men were among the pioneer residents of the city and they quickly emerged as leaders in the civic, business, professional and entrepreneurial arenas of Milwaukee. Over time as the city grew, they subdivided their land to create residential neighborhoods. (West Side Neighborhood Historic Resources Survey, City of Milwaukee, September, 1984, Immigration and Settlement pp 6-8)

Public transportation went hand in hand with subdivision development. The first horse cars lines were established in Milwaukee in 1859 and primarily served the dense central business district. The West Side Railway Company established its Wells Street horse car line in 1874 that terminated at today's 35th Street. A route was added to Juneau Avenue from North 12th Street to North 27th Street in 1879. The West Side Railway put its first electric trolley into use on April 4, 1890. This fast, efficient and all-weather electric trolley greatly increased property values west of North 27th Street and the area developed rapidly in the 1890s. Such transportation advances helped in the development of the block in which the Tiefenthaler House would be built. (West Side Neighborhood Historic Resources Survey, City of Milwaukee, September, 1984, Transportation pp 10-12)

Cold Spring Avenue, as West McKinley Avenue was originally known, was named for the western terminus of the street, Cold Spring Park. The park, in turn, was named for the natural spring located in the northwest corner of the grounds. The grounds were bounded by 27th Street, 35th Street, West Juneau Avenue and West Vliet Street, the equivalent of 16 city blocks. The entrance was located at the east end of the park on 27th Street and was accessible by two plank roads in the early years and the street railway system later. A grove of trees stood on the grounds and the whole area was surrounded by a forest. (West Side Neighborhood Historic Resources Survey, City of Milwaukee, September, 1984, Recreation and Entertainment pp 8-11)

Racing was a favorite sport at this location with mention of racing on the site going back as early as 1848. The Wisconsin Regional Agricultural and Mechanical Association used the park for a race track in 1866 as did the Milwaukee Driving Park Association for a few years after 1877. Local driving clubs of the well-to-do held invitational trotting races there in the 1860s and 1870s. The location was also the site of the second annual State Fair. It also housed Civil War soldiers as Camp Washburn until vacated in 1864. Traveling circuses, the William Cody Wild West Show and the Milwaukee Light Horse Squadron performed martial arts there. A hotel, called the Cold Spring House, was located adjacent to the park and provided accommodations for visitors and racers. It was notorious for its gambling, cockfights, courtesans and dances. After the State Fair declined to purchase the property for a permanent location, the land was ultimately subdivided into building lots in 1891. This is today's Cold Spring Park/McKinley Boulevard Historic District. (West Side Neighborhood Historic Resources Survey, City of Milwaukee, September, 1984, Recreation and Entertainment pp 8-11)

The portion of Cold Spring Avenue west of North 27th Street was renamed McKinley Boulevard on May 5, 1902 just months after President William McKinley died on September 14, 1901. The remainder of Cold Spring Avenue, including the portion that is part of this nomination, was renamed McKinley Avenue on December 20, 1926. (Milwaukee Legislative Reference Bureau Street Files)

Description

The Tiefenthaler House is a fine example of an intact Queen Anne style house that retains all of its original features. It also exhibits some of the elements of the Stick Style and shows how fluid local interpretations of high style architectural design were in this era. It is the only house on its block to still retain its original clapboard siding and decorative detail.

The house at 2425 W. McKinley is located on a residential block in a densely developed neighborhood. It is located on the south side of the street and its main façade faces north onto McKinley Avenue. The house sits back from the sidewalk behind a grassy, bermed lawn. There are some foundation plantings and volunteer trees growing up alongside the building. There is a shallow grassy side yard to the east. The building sits almost on the property line to the west. The rear yard features two very large trees, one of which is a catalpa, and their size indicates that they may have been on the property before the house was constructed in 1886. A third large tree sits on the neighbor's property to the east. The rear yard is not landscaped. Aside from grass and the two trees, there is only a concrete parking pad.

The two and one-half story frame house has a cross gabled roof currently clad in asphalt shingles. Fire insurance maps (Sanborn 1894, 1910) show that there was originally a wood shingled roof. A simple utilitarian chimney rises from the apex of the roof. The house sits on a stone foundation. The building is T-plan in form with a three-sided bay projecting from the east side of the building. The house is sheathed in clapboard siding.

The front or north façade is the most highly embellished. Each story is demarcated by belt courses and there are corner boards framing the elevation. The grouping of three windows at the first story features a belt course that extends across the façade. Likewise, belt courses extend at the sill and the lintel of the upper two windows. There may have once been decorative shingles in the zone between the first and second stories. Decorative shingles fill in the gable ends and feature both scallop and rectangular shape. A single window, with one over one sash, is located in the gable end. Brackets support the detailed raking cornice.

There are two entrances on this façade; one at the west end and one tucked into the L created by the intersection of the house and projecting east wing. The west end entrance features a five panel door with transom, surmounted by an ornamental hood. This pedimented hood is a masterwork of scroll sawn ornament and features foliate design and dogtooth scallop as well as two brackets with drop finials. The spandrels in the brackets feature the same foliate ornament as in the pediment. The second entry is sheltered by a porch with slanting roof and has decorative spindles, incised designs and ornamental posts with stylized Ionic capitals. An open deck with simple balustrade wraps around the north and east elevations.

Windows on the front façade are grouped into three on the first story and two on the second. There are single windows on the bay and in the gable ends. Windows appear to have one-over-one sash.

The west elevation is simple in design and features windows that are arranged to meet the needs of the interior spaces. One bank of three windows, each with nine lights, is the highlight of this elevation.

The east façade features the three-sided bay with windows stacked above one another on each story.

The rear or south elevation features a two and a half story gabled block with windows placed according to the interior spaces. Attached to this is a small one story gabled wing with porch. A rear entry is located on the east face of this wing. This one story is original to the house and is seen in the fire insurance maps.

Alterations to the house appear minimal. The front terrace with balustrade is not original to the house per the 1894, 1910 and 1910-1961 fire insurance maps. A better constructed version of this balustrade and terrace and skirting was already on the house when it was surveyed by the Historic Preservation staff in 1983. The balusters at the rear porch are replacements. The skirting is also a replacement. The entrance door on the west side of the front façade appears original but the one on the east end is a replacement and it appears that the entrance opening has been blocked down in size. The entrance door on the rear wing is a replacement. Windows throughout the house have one-over-one sash for the most part. Windows on the rear elevation feature two-over-two sash and this may have been the window type originally on the entire house. Two-over-two storms that appear in the 1983 survey photo are gone.

Permit records during the occupancy of the Tiefenthaler family are minimal. In 1971 Leo Tiefenthaler was issued a list of plumbing violations to correct that included the removal of an unused wood sink and the proper support for the kitchen sink.

A question remains as to why there are the two entrances on the front façade. Census records and city directories show that only the Tiefenthaler family members lived on the premises, aside from a maid. Fire insurance maps do not show this building as a Flat, which they did on adjacent properties when there were multiple occupants. On an application in 1990 to convert the house into a family day home for seven children, the permit indicates that this was a two-family converted to a single family. (Milwaukee Permit Records 1990) The application was cancelled.

Later owners, M. Kimble and John Lloyd Taylor received citations and corrected additional code violations. The house must have been surprising original on the interior through 1974. There are references to a painted tin bath tub, marble sink, wood framed sink, as well as a dirt floor in the basement, all of which have apparently been removed.

HISTORY OF 2425 WEST MCKINLEY AVENUE

The property occupied by 2425 West McKinley Avenue is located in Block 10 of Lynde's Subdivision #2, and occupies Lot 7 and part of Lot 6. It was once part of a 60 estate owned by pioneer attorney William P. H. Lynde. The estate was bounded by North 20th Street, North 27th Street, Chestnut street (today's Juneau Avenue) and Vliet Street. Lynde, who also served as Milwaukee Mayor (1860-1862), state assemblyman (1866), state senator (1868), and US Congressman (1874-1878) lived in a large mansion located between today's Juneau Avenue, McKinley Avenue, North 22nd and North 23rd Streets.

Lynde had purchased the property in 1854 from pioneer attorney Francis Randall. Over time the estate was gradually subdivided with 35 acres remaining around the family mansion that was called Lynden. The grounds were described as a picturesque combination of farm, dense forest, and landscaped areas that included a pond.

The property around the mansion dwindled to 6 acres in 1880 and then to 3 acres in 1886, bounded by Poplar Street (McKinley Avenue), 22nd Street, 23rd Street, and Chestnut Street (Juneau Avenue). (Milwaukee Tax Rolls 1880-1887)

The mansion eventually became the home of Milwaukee's Catholic Archbishop until the archbishop moved into the former Pabst mansion. It was subsequently used as a medical facility (Misericordia Hospital) and multiple additions were built on the property. The mansion, and then the hospital were ultimately demolished. The site is now a park.

Lynde's Subdivision # 2 was platted in 1877. It consisted of 10 blocks. Block 10, in which the Tiefenthaler House would be built, was bounded by North 24th Street, North 24th Place, West Juneau Avenue and West Cold Spring Avenue (today's West McKinley Avenue). The lots were

relatively narrow, 30 feet by 125 feet. Values of the lots varied. The more expensive ones were located along Juneau Avenue where the street railway ran. Assessments on the still-to-be-sold lots ranged from \$100 to \$130 in 1880 and increased in value to \$430 to \$570 by 1887, illustrating that development was in full swing in the area.

There were no restrictions on the type of house or size of house that could be built. Those wanting to erect a larger house bought more than one lot. What we see today is a mix of large, high-style, architect-designed dwellings, sizeable middle class houses and more modest cottages. While the early houses tended to be single family, the later buildings were often duplexes.

TIEFENTHALER OWNERSHIP

The story of 2425 West McKinley Avenue is the story of a remarkable family who believed strongly in education and public service. All were successful and there was not a slacker in the bunch.

Pancratius Tiefenthaler was the patriarch of the family. He was a native of Gisingen, Vorarlberg, Austria and attended the Innsbruck normal school. He subsequently taught in the Tyrol and Vorarlberg before immigrating to America in 1867. Pancratius is an unusual name and it came from one of two saints, a Sicilian martyr from the first century and a Roman martyr in the 4th century who was beheaded by Diocletian at the age of 14. This latter saint's feast day is celebrated on May 12th. (Website <http://www.behindthename.com/name/pancratius> ; Website http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=88)

Pancratius continued his teaching career in America at the Holy Cross rural school north of Port Washington. He then went on to Port Washington and later the Good Hope rural school in Ozaukee County. Pancratius moved to Milwaukee in 1871. City directories show him teaching German at the Quentin School which was located in the 9th Ward at the southwest corner of 14th and Galena Streets. Pancratius married Clara Wuerst the following year in 1872. ("Public School Veteran Dies. P. Tiefenthaler Had Been Teacher, Principal Here Many Years." Milwaukee Journal, Friday October 6, 1933 page 5)

Clara Wuerst Tiefenthaler was born in 1863 and shared Pancratius' values about education. Her father Gustave Wuerst had come to Milwaukee from Berlin, Germany. Gustave was a distiller and his business originally operated out of a log cabin on the corner of North 35th Street and West Sarnow Place. He later moved his distillery to the corner of North 35th Street and West McKinley Avenue, a site that was later part of the right-of-way of the Milwaukee Road railroad. It can be speculated that the distillery was relocated here due to the close proximity of the Cold Spring Park racetrack and hotel. The Wuerst family home was located at North 35th Street and West Vliet Street. Clara would recount making bandages from their bed sheets for the nearby military encampment Camp Washburn, which occupied the Cold Spring racetrack grounds during the Civil War. Clara also recalled watching Native American women making their way into the city with their babies on their backs. Clara was educated at the St. Mary's convent school of the Notre Dame convent. ("Mrs. Tiefenthaler" Obituary, Milwaukee Journal, Monday April 10, 1944, page 20)

The Tiefenthalers would have seven children, five of whom survived into adulthood. Four of their children were born before the family constructed the house on McKinley Avenue. Laura was born in November 1873; Gustave was born in November 1877; Leo was born in July 1880; and Eugene was born in January 1885. The family at this time lived at a number of addresses including a house on Fond du Lac Avenue, one on Cherry Street and one on Walnut Street. Pancratius went on to teach in the Third Ward School and then became principal of the 2nd District Primary School No. 1 in 1886. His entry in the city directory that year is marked by bold typeface and the family moved into their new home on McKinley Avenue.

Pancratius Tiefenthaler had acquired Lot 7 and half of Lot 6 in the previous year, 1885, giving him frontage of 45 feet on McKinley Avenue, then known as Cold Spring Avenue. The block was bounded by North 24th Street, West Cold Spring Avenue (today's McKinley Avenue), North 24th Place (originally Luscombe Avenue then 24 1/2 Street), and Juneau Avenue (then Chestnut Street). This area had recently opened up for development (1877) as the Lynde family continued to divide their estate into building lots. The varying topography on this block gives a clue to the once pastoral and scenic quality of the property. This location also had street car access along Juneau Avenue. Lots fronting along Juneau Avenue actually were valued higher by the city assessor because of this access. There was no barn built on the Tiefenthaler property so it is assumed that family members commuted by foot or street car. One can speculate that it must have been a comfortable location for Clara Tiefenthaler, being so close to the family homestead and just two blocks from the old racetrack grounds at which Cold Spring Avenue terminated.

Tax rolls show that the house was constructed in 1886 when the first improvements (\$1,450) were listed. Interestingly, the house immediately to the east, addressed today as 2419 West McKinley Avenue, was built in the same year, by an owner named Gus Schulz, and valued exactly the same. Fire insurance maps show the two houses with an almost identical footprint. Today's 2419, however, was "bungalowed" sometime in the early 20th century and today has aluminum siding and is used as a duplex. To date, no architect can be found for either of the two dwellings.

During the long ownership of the Tiefenthaler family, not much was done to the house. As stated above, no barn or garage was ever built in the rear. No substitute siding was ever applied to the exterior. From permit records there is a smattering of information that leads to the conclusion that even plumbing fixtures were original or nearly original to the time of construction. The family was evidently frugal but there was reference to a "summer home" at Cedar Lake where the family had celebrated Pancratius' 90th birthday. Census records show that there was a maid living on the premises through at least 1940. Census records also show that Clara's elderly brother, Edward Wuerst, age 79, was living on the premises in 1930. There is no documentation to show that the house was used as a duplex despite its having two entry doors. ("Public School Veteran Dies"; Census records Ancestry.com 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940)

Pancratius Tiefenthaler retired from teaching around 1919 at the age of 76. He died at the house on Thursday October 6, 1933 at the age of 90. His widow Clara survived him by 11 years and died herself at the age of 90 on April 9, 1944. Services for both were held at St. Michael's Church (24th and Cherry Streets) and both are buried in Calvary Cemetery. ("Public School Veteran Dies"; Mrs. Tiefenthaler, Obituary; Milwaukee City Directories)

THE TIEFENTHALER CHILDREN

The Tiefenthaler family grew in size after the move to McKinley Avenue with the addition of Lenora (aka Lenore/Elenore) who was born in December 1888.

The Tiefenthaler children were all successful and had careers, even the daughters.

Laura Tiefenthaler (November 1873-August 1974) began teaching in 1892 in the 21st District School No. 2 at 9th and Ring Streets. She was among the first teachers appointed to the Girls Trade and Technical High School when it opened in 1910. She taught sewing classes there for decades. She never married and lived in the family home until her death at the age of 100.

Gustave Tiefenthaler (born November 1877-died before 1974) followed in his father's and sister's footsteps and taught school his entire career. He was principal of the 6th District School in Wauwatosa through 1906, then served as principal of the following Milwaukee schools: the 22nd District School No. 3, the 13th District School No. 4, the North Pierce Street School, the

Mound Street School, the 14th Street School and ultimately served as principal of Steuben Jr. High School in today's Washington Heights neighborhood. Gustave moved out of the family home around 1914. He and his wife Laura eventually moved to Wauwatosa. His death date is currently being researched.

Eugene J. Tiefenthaler (January 11, 1885-January 27, 1967) did bridge work, shipping, soliciting, contract agent work and engineering for the Worden-Allen Company. Worden-Allen was one of the largest bridge companies in the Midwest during the twentieth century. Eugene eventually worked his way up to company president. Eugene moved out of the family home in 1913 and eventually moved to 6904 Cedar Street in Wauwatosa. He retired from Worden-Allen in 1958 at the age of 73. He and his wife Camilla had five children. ("Elect New Head at Worden-Allen", Milwaukee Sentinel, March 22, 1958, Part 2 Page 4; Ancestry.com 1940 Census)

Lenora (aka Lenore/Elenore) (December 12, 1888-January 3, 1926) began her teaching career around 1910. The city directories do not show the schools at which she taught. In 1917 she married Stephen Bernatowicz and moved to Cleveland, Ohio. They later lived in Michigan. Both are buried in Holy Cross Cemetery in Detroit. (www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRID=58146905)

Leo Tiefenthaler became a well-known figure in governmental circles and was often referred to as "Mr. Metropolitan Milwaukee". He was born in Milwaukee on July 3, 1880, the feast day of Pope St. Leo II after whom he is presumably named. After finishing two years at the old Normal School (the teacher's college that is the predecessor to today's UWM) Leo taught 6th grade for seven years. Deciding in a career in government, Leo then earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in political science from the University of Wisconsin. ("He Pauses at 91 to Count Blessings"; Milwaukee Sentinel July 2, 1971; Eileen Powell. "Taxpayers Lose Their Watchdog" Milwaukee Journal Monday November 11, 1974)

Upon his return to Milwaukee, Tiefenthaler was selected from other applicants for the position of Municipal Reference Librarian in 1911. He was the second person to hold this position and would serve through 1917. The first librarian, T. J. Willis, was appointed by Mayor Rose who wanted the position kept as parts of the spoils system. The Socialists who succeeded Mayor Rose fought against the spoils system and made sure that the Municipal Reference Librarian was a Civil Service position.

The Municipal Reference Librarian was a new position in city government. It was modeled after a similar position in State government and came about as a way to provide lawmakers with accurate research for passing legislation and budgets. Prior to this, lawmakers had to rely on the statistics and data provided by lobbyists and lawmakers had no way to analyze the data. At the time of its creation, the position was controversial because of budget concerns. Even today there are periodic attempts to eliminate the Legislative Reference Bureau (as it is known now) during the city budget cycle. Tiefenthaler was the first Municipal Librarian to be assigned the duty of writing the more routine Common Council resolutions that did not require the need of the City Attorney. This practice is still followed.

Leo Tiefenthaler then became the civic secretary and principal spokesperson for the City Club for the next 57 years. This latter group formed in 1908 to oversee government and was known for debating civic issues, promoting efficiency in government, promoting reform and proposing legislation. Lectures were held on a variety of issues to acquaint the public with measures that would make government better. Some of the issues of concern to the City Club were independently elected school boards, County Civil Service, school building programs and the County control of the parks as well as the nonpartisan ballot (adopted in 1912) and regional planning (established in 1960). (Powell, 1974) In addition to serving as civic secretary for the City Club Leo also acted as general manager, advisor to the committees that research specific topics and also coordinated club activities. ("He Pauses at 91") Leo was often appointed to

serve on various boards and commissions. Governor Walter S. Goodland appointed Leo as one of fifteen citizen members to handle the observance of Wisconsin's admission to statehood in 1945-1946. (Wisconsin Blue Book 1946. Compiled by The Wisconsin Legislative Reference Library. Published biennially by the State of Wisconsin. Jt. RRS 29, S 1945, page 254)

The tall, lanky, bright eyed gentleman was a fixture at budget and other public hearings and stood for honesty in government. It is said that he "probably attended more public meetings than any other man in the state, always to speak out as a citizen advocate." (Powell) "When the time came to speak, he'd give the elected officials a tongue lashing filled with righteous indignation-whether the issue was park planning or budget balancing." (Powell)

Recognized in the community as an important government watchdog, Leo was honored by a testimonial dinner in 1965 attended by nearly every elected official in the area. This was followed by Milwaukee County's distinguished citizen citation in 1971. (Powell) Leo attributed his longevity, good health, quick mind and ability to work at age 91 to the family genes. Not only did his parents live till their 90th years but his mother's parents lived into their nineties and his sister Laura lived until she was 100. ("He Pauses at 91")

Leo died at Columbia Hospital from complications of old age at age 94 on Sunday, November 10, 1974. He was known to have had emphysema but didn't miss a county budget hearing that fall. Leo is buried in Calvary Cemetery along with his parents and sister Laura. (Powell)

In 1978 the Milwaukee County Committee on Parks and Recreation voted to name a new park after Leo Tiefenthaler. Two City Club members spoke on behalf of the naming and said that Leo had always championed the parks and worked harder than anyone else to see them improved. Tiefenthaler Park is today located at the northeast corner of North 27th Street and West Cherry Street.

Lois Redic, one of the nominators of this property, was prompted to research her elderly neighbor Leo after years of watching him leave the house promptly every morning. She often wondered what he did. She was surprised at Leo Tiefenthaler's high profile in the community. She communicated with Alderman Bauman and initiated this application for historic designation.

LATER OWNERS

The house that was last occupied by Leo Tiefenthaler in 1974 has changed hands a number of times since his passing.

Among the owners listed are:

M. Kimble (1975)

Jack/John Lloyd Taylor (1980)

Johnnie, Jr. and Phyllis Kimble (1980, 1981)

Kenneth and Elsa Herro (1988-1999)

Javier and Judith Rodriguez (1999-2001)

Lisa A. Hubbard (2001-2005)

D & K Real Estate Investments LLC (2005-2007)

BK of New York TR Co NA (2007-2007)

Timothy Ricketts (2007-2012)

City of Milwaukee (2012 to present)

The front terrace and balustrade, chimney and other items were repaired by the Kimbles following orders by the city. There was a proposal in 1990 to occupy the house as a day care center but that did not happen. Otherwise the house was otherwise left alone.

This rapid change in ownership reflects the disinvestment in the neighborhood and its transition from a relatively stable middle and upper middle class neighborhood to one with largely

absentee owned properties. It is even more remarkable that the Tiefenthaler House has survived all this change. The City of Milwaukee currently owns the property and will be selling it.

VII. SIGNIFICANCE

The Tiefenthaler House is significant both for its architecture and its family's contribution to Milwaukee history.

It is rare to find a 1880s house in Milwaukee that retains all of its original character. Most houses of the middle class were wood frame dwellings, not the costlier brick, and were embellished with decorative shingles, spindle work on the porches and scroll sawn ornament. The 1880s were an inventive time when buildings could feature elements from a number of styles adapted from prominent, published architects. The Tiefenthaler House is an excellent example of its era, showing a traditional T-plan footprint but dressed up with Queen Anne details as well as some elements from the Stick Style. The Tiefenthaler House is the only intact wood frame dwelling on its block and one of the few in its immediate neighborhood. One need only to look at the neighboring house next door, once a near twin, to see how much has been lost through remodeling and substitute siding. Houses like this nominated property are important as artifacts or documents that show us how a façade was organized and how a variety of ornament gave texture, movement and elegance to a building. One needs only to walk around the block to see the more ebullient forms of Queen Anne with towers and massive porches. But the Tiefenthaler House is the type of dwelling most representative of Milwaukee's middle class residents who wanted an updated dwelling but did not have the finances or perhaps the inclination for showy towers, dramatic bays and bold, complex porches.

The Tiefenthaler family is significant for its contribution to Milwaukee's educational history. Pancratius and his son Gustave served as principals/teachers during the period of greatest expansion of the Milwaukee Public School system. Daughter Laura taught in the innovative Girls Trade and Technical High School which was established to complement Boys Tech and help young women with skills for the work place. Daughter Lenora was also a teacher before her marriage. Son Leo would teach for seven years before devoting his life to public service.

Son Eugene broke from the family mold and worked his way up in the Worden-Allen Company to become president of the one of the largest twentieth-century bridge companies in the Midwest. It had offices in Milwaukee, Chicago and Houghton, Michigan and later formed a subsidiary bridge company called Lackawanna Bridge Company with offices in Milwaukee, Buffalo and New York. They designed and constructed numerous bridges during a period when private transportation, the automobile, and the need for more roads and bridges literally exploded. (Historic American Engineering Record. National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. HAER No. WI-31 Wagon Trail Road Bridge Spanning the Eau Galle River on the Wagon Trail Road, Village of Spring Valley, Pierce County, Wisconsin, page 2)

Leo Tiefenthaler is probably the best remembered member of the Tiefenthaler Family and is the impetus for this nomination for historic designation. Leo symbolized in his dedication and perseverance to honest government Milwaukee's progressive spirit in the early 20th century. Leo served as Municipal Reference Librarian and helped define the role of that new department. Leo continued to be an advocate for good and fair government and served as the civic secretary of the City Club for over 50 years. His interests and activities were directed at a broad range of social and political issues of the times and included everything from civil service and public parks to regional planning, non-partisan ballots and careful budget planning. Leo remained a government watchdog until the end of his life in 1974. He was honored for his efforts throughout his lifetime and today's Tiefenthaler Park is named after him. Since his passing there has been no one individual that can be considered such a watchdog of local government.

VIII. THE ARCHITECT

The architect has not yet been identified for the Tiefenthaler House. Research is ongoing.

SOURCES

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"Elect New Head at Worden-Allen", Milwaukee Sentinel. March 22, 1958.

"He Pauses At 91 To Count Blessings". Milwaukee Sentinel. July 2, 1971.

Milwaukee City Building Permits. 2425 West McKinley Avenue.

Milwaukee City Directories 1868-1930.

Milwaukee City Tax Rolls 1880-1887.

Milwaukee Legislative Reference Bureau. Street Files.

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"Mrs. Tiefenthaler". Obituary. Milwaukee Journal. Monday April 10, 1944.

Powell, Eileen. "Taxpayers Lose Their Watchdog." Milwaukee Journal. Monday November 11, 1974.

"Public School Veteran Dies. P. Tiefenthaler Had Been Teacher, Principal Here Many Years." Milwaukee Journal. Friday October 6, 1933.

Rascher's Fire Insurance Maps of the City of Milwaukee. Chicago: Rascher Fire Map Company, 1888.

Sanborn Insurance Maps of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. New York: Sanborn-Perris Map Co., 1894, 1910, 1910-1961.

Roger D. Simon, "The Expansion of an Industrial City: Milwaukee 1880-1910." PhD. Dissertation, History, University of Wisconsin, 1971

The Wisconsin Legislative Reference Library. Wisconsin Blue Book 1946.

Website <http://www.behindthename.com/name/pancratius>.

Website http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=88.

Website. www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRID=58146905.

West Side Neighborhood Historic Resources Survey. City of Milwaukee. September, 1984.

IX. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Tiefenthaler House be given historic designation as a City of Milwaukee Historic Site as a result of its fulfillment of criteria e-3 and e-5 of the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Section 320-21(3) of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances.

- e-3 Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the culture and development of the city of Milwaukee

Rationale: The house at 2425 West McKinley Avenue was the longtime home of the Tiefenthaler family, a group of well-educated and civic minded individuals. Members of the family contributed to the public education of the city's children by working as teachers and principals of various west side schools. Leo Tiefenthaler, the last of the family to occupy the house, was the most well-known of his siblings. After teaching for seven years he devoted his life to public service, first as Municipal Reference Librarian and then as the civic secretary of the City Club for well over 50 years. The City Club had been established to provide speakers and discussion groups on civic problems, study government reform, and advocate for changes to the way government operated. The group did much to promote independently elected school boards, County Civil Service, school building programs and the County control of the parks and successfully brought about the nonpartisan ballot (adopted in 1912) and regional planning (established in 1960). Leo Tiefenthaler acted as general manager, advisor to the committees that research specific topics and also coordinated City Club activities. He is said to have attended more public meetings and budget hearings than anyone else during his lifetime. He could always be counted on to point out excesses and irregularities and crusade for sound budgeting procedures. His death at the age of 94 in 1974 was marked by an editorial in the Milwaukee Sentinel showing a political cartoon of an empty chair marked "Milwaukee's Conscience" Leo Tiefenthaler, 1880-1974. In honor of his dedication to good and honest government and his dedication to the parks system, Milwaukee County named the newly created park at North 27th and West Cherry Streets after Leo Tiefenthaler in 1978.

- e-5. Its embodiment of the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen.

Rationale: Tiefenthaler House is an excellent and well preserved example of the Queen Anne style that also has some elements of the Stick Style. The house is T-plan in form and features the scalloped shingles, ornamental hood and spindled porch that are common with Queen Anne. The belt courses that extend from the lintels and sills on the main façade as well as the slant roofed porch are a nod to the Stick Style. Many Queen Anne porches have hip roofs with cresting. The Stick Style was not broadly used here but architects and builders were aware of the form as evidenced in historic photographs. Virtually all examples have been demolished or altered beyond recognition. While more flamboyant examples of the Queen Anne style can be found on Prospect Avenue (Kane House) or the Concordia Historic District (Albert Publitz House), the Tiefenthaler House is closer to what a middle class family would have owned. This type has all but disappeared in Milwaukee, hidden under layers of substitute siding with decorative details removed. The Tiefenthaler family took great care of the house during their ownership. It is remarkable that the exterior has remained intact through the nine subsequent investor owners.

Preservation Guidelines for the Tiefenthaler House

The following preservation guidelines represent the principal concerns of the Historic Preservation Commission regarding the historic designation of the Tiefenthaler House at 2425 West McKinley Avenue. The intent of the commission is to preserve the historic, existing exterior features of the building.

Building maintenance and restoration must follow accepted preservation practices as outlined below. Any exterior changes including repair of ornamental trim but exclusive of routine painting will require a certificate of appropriateness. Most certificates are issued on a staff-approved basis and only major new construction or alteration requests typically will go before the Historic Preservation commission. The Commission reserves the right to make final decisions based upon particular design submissions.

A. Roofs

Retain the roof shape. The installation of skylights where they would be visible from the street are not permitted as they would have a negative impact on the building. Skylights however may be added to roof slopes if they are not visible from the street or public right of way. No changes can be made to the roof shape which would alter the building height, the roofline or its pitch. Locate mechanical systems and vents on portions of the roof not visible at all from the public right of way and paint them out to minimize impact. If the building gets re-roofed, consultation with historic preservation staff is required to review and approve the new roofing material, flashing, and gutters. The minimum standard for re-roofing is a 3-tab asphalt shingle. Very light colors or very dark colors such as black are not permitted. Architectural shingles are permitted, but they must resemble wood shingles which were original to the house. Use of these materials is on a case-by-case basis as some of the products are not compatible with Victorian-era houses. Any new gutters should be of the half-round style as they function and look best on a house with crown moldings on the eaves. Should a satellite dish be installed it should be placed where it is not visible from the street, preferably at the rear, southwest corner of the house. Removal of the rooftop chimney would require consultation with Historic Preservation staff. No rooftop construction or addition is allowed, as this would have a negative impact on the historic character and proportions of the building. The construction of other rooftop features requires review by Historic Preservation staff and a Certificate of Appropriateness.

B. Materials

1. Masonry

- a. Unpainted brick or stone must not be painted or covered. Painting masonry is historically incorrect and could cause irreversible damage if it was decided to remove the paint at a later date. Covering masonry with other materials (wood, sheet metal, vinyl siding, etc.) is not allowed. On the Tiefenthaler House, masonry is confined to the exposed foundation.
- b. Re-point defective mortar by duplicating the original in color, hardness, texture, joint finish and joint width. See the masonry chapters in the books, As Good As New or Good For Business for explanations on why the use of a proper mortar mix is crucial to making lasting repairs that will not contribute to new deterioration of the masonry. Using much harder, contemporary Portland

cement mortar will not make a lasting repair and can damage the historic brick and stone. Replaced mortar joints should be tooled to match the style of the original. Do not use mortar colors and pointing styles that were unavailable or were not used when the building was constructed. Consultation with historic preservation staff and a Certificate of Appropriateness is required before starting any re-pointing.

- c. In the future should masonry cleaning be necessary it should be done only with the gentlest method possible. Sandblasting or high pressure water blasting or the use of other abrasive materials (baking soda, nut shells, dry ice, etc.) on limestone, pressed brick or cream brick surfaces is prohibited. This method of cleaning erodes the surface of the material and accelerates deterioration. The use of accepted chemical products to clean masonry is allowed and a test panel is required before general commencement of the work. Work should be done by experienced individuals as the chemical cleaning process can have a negative impact on the masonry. Consultation with historic preservation staff and a Certificate of Appropriateness is required before any cleaning would begin. .
- d. Repair or replace deteriorated masonry with new material that duplicates the old as closely as possible. The use of EIFS (exterior insulation and finish systems) which is synthetic stucco is not permitted. Consultation with historic preservation staff and a Certificate of Appropriateness is required before attempting work on the masonry

2. Wood/Metal

- a. Retain original material, whenever possible. Do not remove architectural features that are essential to maintaining the building's character and appearance. The front porch on the east side of the front elevation and the hood above the entry on the west side of the front facade are important features to be retained. Fire insurance maps do not show the broad terrace that currently exists across the front of the house. Retaining this terrace is not mandatory. However, should the owner want to build a new terrace in the footprint of the existing one sometime in the future, historic preservation staff will assist in its design.
- b. Retain or replace deteriorated material with new material that duplicates the appearance of the old as closely as possible. Covering wood or metal with aluminum or vinyl or other substitute material is not permitted. Spot replacement or spot repair of any deteriorated elements is encouraged rather than complete removal and replication. Structural wood epoxies are suggested for the lasting repair of damaged or decays areas of wood trim. Any new elements must replicate the pattern, dimension, spacing and material of the originals.

C. Windows and Doors

1. Retain existing window and door openings. Retain the existing configuration of panes, sash, surrounds and sills, except as necessary to restore them to the original condition. Do not make additional openings or changes in existing fenestration by enlarging or reducing window or door openings to fit new stock window sash or new stock door sizes. Do not change the size or configuration of the original window panes or sash. Use storm windows or protective glazing which have glazing configurations similar to the prime windows and which obscure the prime windows as little as possible. The use of structural wood epoxies is strongly encouraged to repair any minor damage or decay to wood windows.
2. Most of the windows currently visible on the building appear to be one-over-one sash. Some two-over-two windows are located at the rear. In the event any windows need to be replaced, consultation with Historic Preservation staff is required to determine appropriate glazing patterns. New glass must match the size of the historic glass. New windows must be made of wood. Do not fill in or cover openings with inappropriate materials such as glass block or concrete block. Glass block is permitted in basement windows on the rear elevation where they are not visible from the street. Do not use modern style window units, such as horizontal sliding sash or casements, in place of double-hung sash or the substitution of units with glazing configurations not appropriate to the style of the building.

Any original windows on the building must be retained and repaired if at all possible. Vinyl, vinyl clad, metal, and metal-clad or fiberglass prime window units are not permitted. Wood combination/storm screen units or fixed storm windows that fit the shape of the original opening are permitted. The house once had two-over-two storms, as shown in a 1983 photo that matched the prime windows. The front door on the west side of the façade appears to be original and should be maintained. The door on the east side of the façade is a replacement and has been blocked down. Any replacement doors must be appropriate to the historic period of the building. Any changes to doors and windows, including installation of new doors and windows, require consultation with Historic Preservation staff and a Certificate of Appropriateness.

3. Steel bar security doors and window guards are generally not allowed where they are visible from the street. If permitted, the doors or grates must be of the simplest design and installed so as to be as unobtrusive as possible. A Certificate of Appropriateness is required for this type of installation.

D. Trim and Ornamentation

There should be no changes to the existing historic trim or ornamentation except as necessary to restore the building to its original condition. A replacement feature must match the original member in terms of scale, design, color, appearance and wood species. Existing historic trim, located at the gable ends, front porch, front hood and corbels, must not be removed unless it is for the purpose of repair. Spot repair is preferable to wholesale replacement of details. Wood epoxy repair is often highly desirable for permanently repairing smaller areas of decay or damage to wood trim. Consultation with Historic Preservation staff is required before any changes or repairs are made to the building.

E. Additions

No additions will be permitted on the front and side elevations as this would greatly alter the character of the building. Any rear addition requires the approval of the Commission. Ideally an addition should either compliment or have a neutral effect upon the historic character of the building. Approval shall be based upon the addition's design compatibility with the building in terms of window proportion and placement, building height, roof configuration, scale, design, color, and materials. Additions must be smaller than the original building and not obscure the historic building.

F. Signs/Exterior Lighting

The installation of any permanent exterior sign or light fixture on the front of the building or its lawn shall require the approval of the Commission. Approval will be based on the compatibility of the proposed sign or light with the historic and architectural character of the building. Consultation with Historic Preservation staff is required to assist in the selection of exterior fixtures. Plastic internally illuminated box signs with a completely acrylic face are not permitted.

G. Site Features

New plant materials, paving, fencing, on the front elevation shall be compatible with the historic architectural character of the building. Should a fence be built in the future examples of appropriate fencing can be found in As Good As New and Living With History. No retaining wall is permitted along the front of the property. Consultation with Historic Preservation staff is required before starting any work that would involve the landscape features, parking, walkways, or driveway. Victorian front yard landscaping was traditionally very simple and the raised limestone foundation was allowed to be seen rather than covered by shrubs. At the rear of the house are two very large trees that might pre date the construction of the house in 1886 so may have been part of the old Lynde estate. These are to be retained as they add to the historic character of the house.

H. Guidelines for New Construction

It is important that new construction be designed to be as sympathetic as possible with the character of the structure. Small-scale accessory structures, like a gazebo, garage or fountain, may be permitted depending on their size, scale and form and the property's ability to accommodate such a structure. Any request to construct a new garage would be subject to review for code compliance and appropriate design and would require a Certificate of Appropriateness.

1. Site work

New construction must respect the historic site and location of the building. It should be accomplished so as to maintain the appearance of the building from the street as a freestanding structure. Any new construction would be located to the rear since the lot lines and character defining features of the house would prevent any construction at the side elevations.

2. Scale

Overall building height and bulk, the expression of major building divisions including foundation, body and roof, and individual building components, such as overhangs and fenestration that are in close proximity to a historic building must be compatible to and sympathetic with the design of the

building. New construction is to be smaller in size and shorter in height than the historic building.

3. Form

The massing of the new construction must be compatible with the goal of maintaining the integrity of the building as a freestanding structure.

4. Materials

The building materials which are visible from the public right-of-way and in close proximity to the historic building should be compatible with the colors, textures, proportions, and combinations of cladding materials used on the historic building. The physical composition of the materials may be different from that of the historic materials, but the same appearance should be maintained and materials not available when the building was constructed should be avoided.

5. Should a new garage be constructed, care must be taken to preserve the large trees on the property. Consultation with Historic Preservation staff is required to determine how the building will be designed, sited and clad. Taller sidewalls, usually 10 feet are required.

I. Guidelines for Demolition

Although demolition is not encouraged and is generally not permissible, there may be instances when demolition may be acceptable if approved by the Historic Preservation Commission. The following guidelines, with those found in subsection 9(h) of the ordinance, shall be taken into consideration by the Commission when reviewing demolition requests.

1. Condition

Demolition requests may be granted when it can be clearly demonstrated that the condition of a building or a portion thereof is such that it constitutes an immediate threat to health and safety and is beyond hope of repair. This would generally be in case of a major fire or a natural catastrophe.

2. Importance

Consideration will be given to whether or not the building is of historical or architectural significance or displays a quality of material and craftsmanship that does not exist in other structures in the area.

3. Location

Consideration will be given to whether or not the building or portion of it contributes to the neighborhood and the general street appearance and has a positive effect on other buildings in the area.

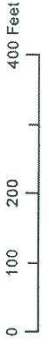
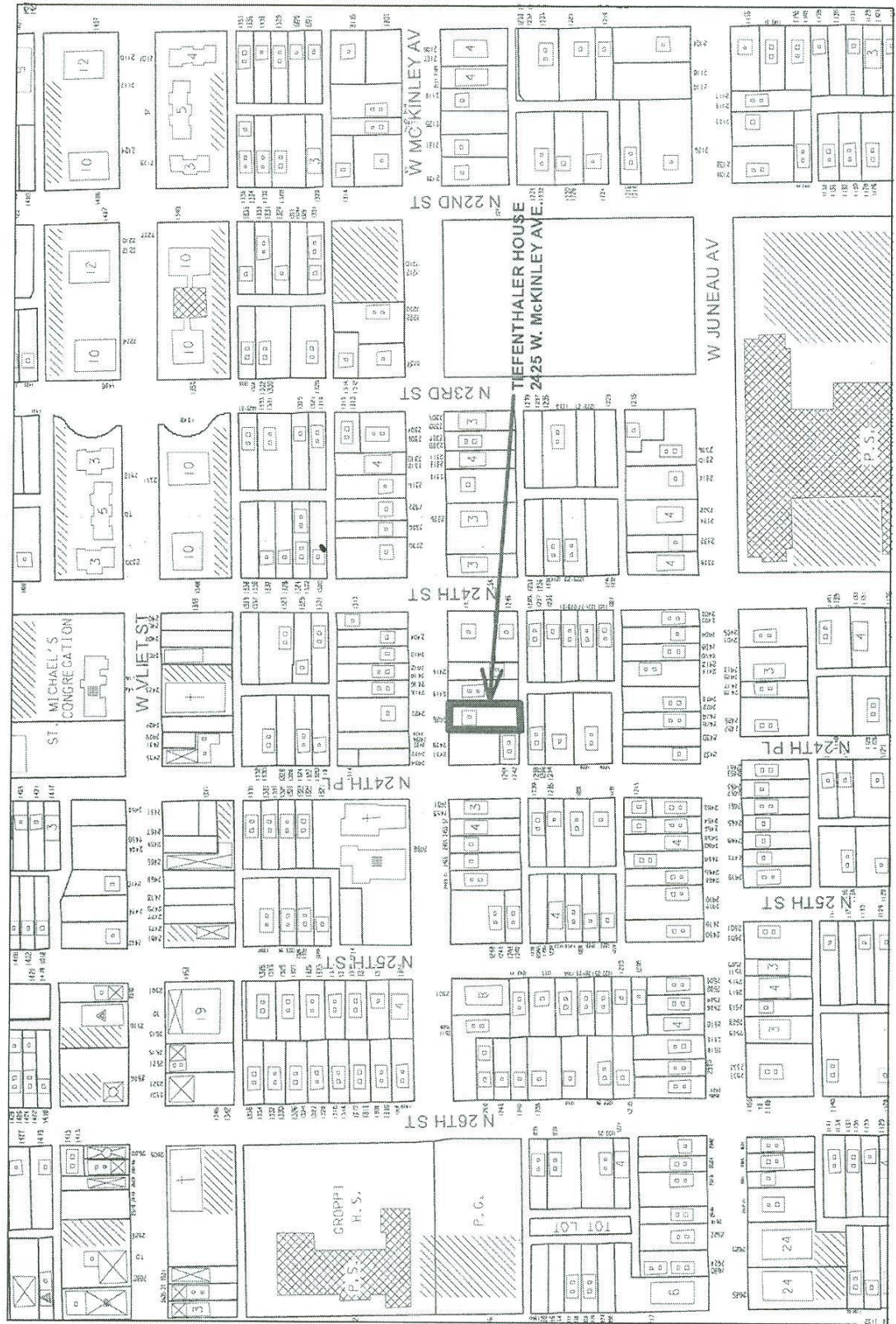
4. Potential for Restoration

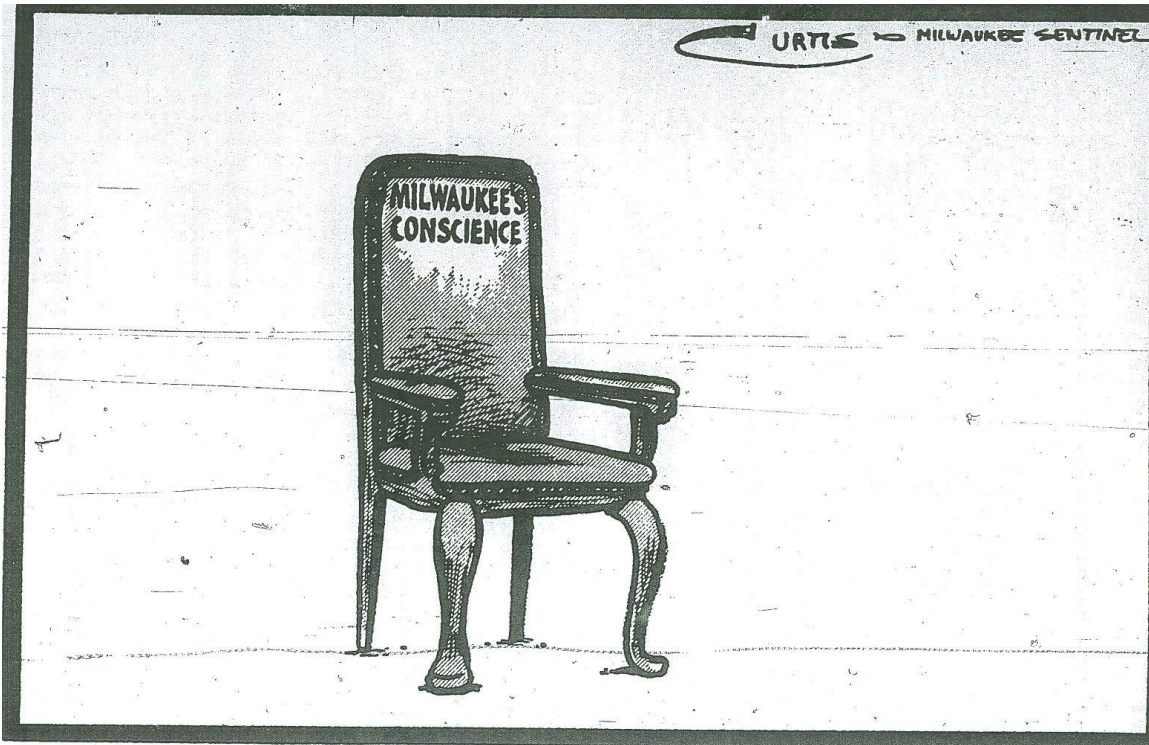
Consideration will be given to whether or not the building is beyond economically feasible repair.

5. Additions

Consideration will be given to whether or not the proposed demolition is a later addition that is not in keeping with the original design of the structure or does not contribute to its character. On the Tiefenthaler House there is really no part of the house that would be a candidate for demolition based on this criterion.

**PROPOSED PERMANENT HISTORIC DESIGNATION
TIEFENTHALER HOUSE - 2425 W. MCKINLEY AVENUE**





Leo Tiefenthaler, 1880-1974

MILWAUKEE SENTINEL NOVEMBER 12, 1974 PART 1 PAGE 14

Taxpayers Lose Their Watchdog

By Eileen Alt Powell
of The Journal Staff

The scene was almost always the same. Leo Tiefenthaler would enter a public meeting room and carefully choose a seat.

He would bow his head, put his arms up and cup his hands



Leo Tiefenthaler

behind his ears. Then he'd lose his eyes.

He wasn't bored or dreaming. When the time came to speak, he'd give the elected of-

ficials a tongue lashing filled with righteous indignation — whether the issue was park planning or budget balancing.

The tall, lanky man with bright eyes no longer will be a "regular" at the meetings of the school board, county committees or city functions.

Tiefenthaler, for more than half a century the citizen's watchdog of government, died Sunday at Columbia Hospital after a three day hospitalization.

Relatives said that although he had suffered from emphysema in recent months, his death was believed to be due to complications of age. He was 94.

For 57 years, Tiefenthaler was civic secretary and principal spokesman for the City Club, an organization formed in 1908 to oversee local government.

As recently as this fall, he faithfully attended county budget hearings, as he had in the six preceding decades.

Tiefenthaler probably attended more public meetings than any other man in the state, always to speak out as a citizen advocate.

Norman N. Gill, executive director of the Citizens' Governmental Research Bureau and himself a citizen activist for 29 years, described Tiefenthaler as "dedicated to the

Turn to Death, page 3, col. 1

Death

Citizen Watchdog, Tiefenthaler, Dies

From page 1

work and the club — they were his whole life."

What Tiefenthaler stood for most was honesty in government, and many of the reforms he lobbied for early in the century allow activists today to concentrate on issues such as governmental efficiency and priorities.

Among his top priority causes were the nonpartisan ballot, adopted in 1912, and regional planning, established in 1960.

Through the years there were other causes, the results of which often are taken for granted today — independent, elected school boards, establishment of county civil service, school building-planning programs and county control of parks.

Compatriots remember Tiefenthaler's rising to speak as if giving a dramatic presentation. He would, they said, start in a low, modulated tone and end with a ringing, clarion voice calling for reform.

Child

Court Gets Custody Dispute

From page 1

lated a photograph of the baby among the woman's neighbors, she called the Welfare Department and threatened to leave town with the child, which she claimed as hers, the worker said.

A Sheriff's Department investigation revealed that the woman had had a

Described on several occasions as "Mr. Metropolitan Milwaukee," Tiefenthaler was honored at a testimonial dinner in 1965. Nearly every elected official in the area attended.

The awards he received in the last 15 years could cover a wall. Among the groups that

He received the county's distinguished citizen citation in 1971.

Tiefenthaler was the son of an elementary school principal, Pancratius Tiefenthaler, who emigrated from Austria to America in the mid-1800s.

He was born in Milwaukee July 3, 1880, and taught elementary school for seven years after finishing two years at the old Normal School in 1900.

He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in political science at the University of Wisconsin — Madison before returning to Milwaukee in 1911 to serve as municipal reference librarian.

Six years later he began his citizen activist role.

He never married, and lived with his sister, Laura, who died in August, at the family's original homestead at 2425 W. McKinley Ave.

His body will be at the Schmidt & Bartelt Funeral Home, 5050 W. Vliet St., from 4 to 9 p.m. Tuesday. A vigil will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at St. Michael's Catholic Church, 1445 N. 24th St. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery.

He is survived by seven nieces and four nephews, who suggested that memorials be given in Tiefenthaler's name to the Wisconsin Lung Association.

ANNOUNCING THE

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL NOVEMBER 11, 1974

Leo Tiefenthaler

Back in 1965, Leo Tiefenthaler, who died Sunday, was honored at a testimonial dinner for his work as a government watchdog.

It was an old story for Tiefenthaler, but Ald. Martin E. Schreiber, master of ceremonies and then Common Council president, said there was a reason for the frequent tributes to the City Club founder. Schreiber said it was always hoped that Tiefenthaler would respond by announcing that he would retire and stop hounding public officials.

"But every year, Leo comes back hollering louder than ever," Schreiber said in mock lament.

Well, Leo Tiefenthaler will not be back to keep his eye on local government anymore and it is an understatement to say he will be missed.

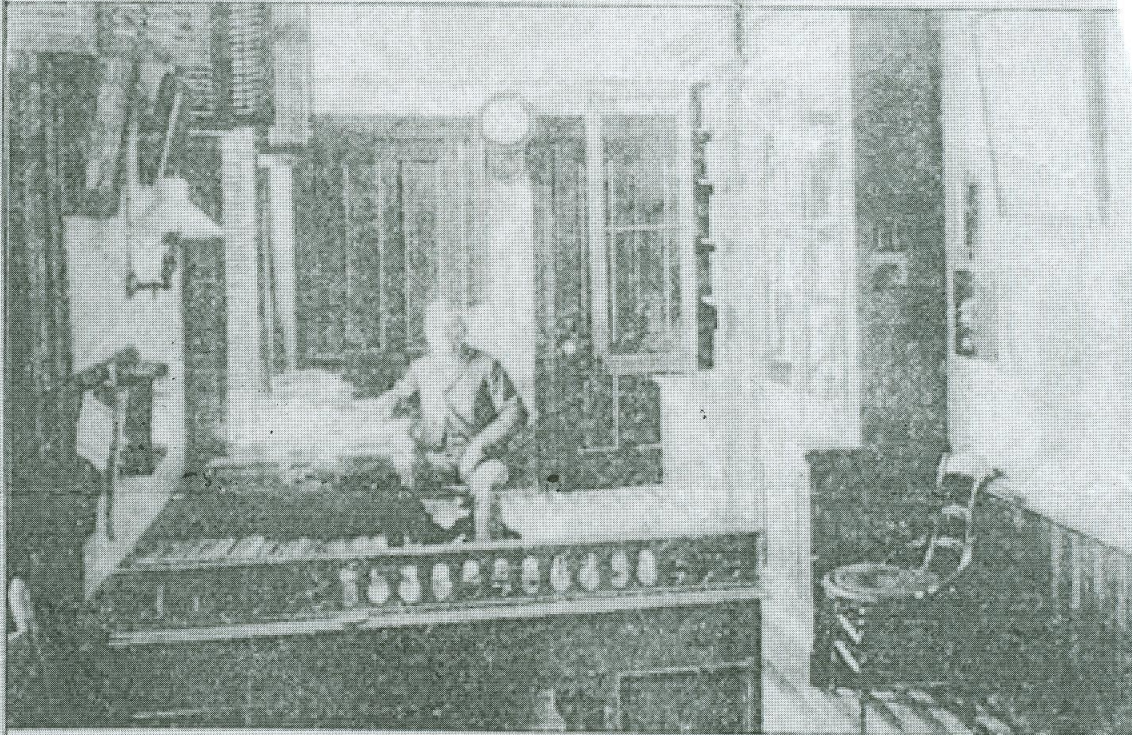
The community will not be the same without his eloquent and informed oratory. And lest those who did not know him get the wrong idea, the record should state that Tiefenthaler was as quick to compliment as he was to criticize. Above all, he was a fine and gentle man.

But his passion for good government could bring him to a peak of emotion that befitted his patriarchal appearance and reputation. It was a moving experience to behold a man with such love for his community.

Leo Tiefenthaler was, in fact, a voice of conscience in our community and, although God has chosen to take him from us after a long and full life, his spirit of civic concern must live on. It is part of the moral and ethical foundation on which our local governments have been built and should be maintained as a lasting tribute to Tiefenthaler's memory.

MILWAUKEE SENTINAL NOVEMBER 12, 1974 PART ONE PAGE 4

Remember when . . .



. . . the principal's office looked like this?

IF YOUR TEACHER sent you to the principal's office at the Ninth District School in 1901, this would have been your first glimpse of it and him. The school now is Siefert School at 1547 N. 14th St. The splendidly named Pancratius Tiefenthaler, pictured here, worked as teacher and principal in Milwaukee Public schools for 48 years. Born in Austria, he graduated from Innsbruck Normal School, taught for a while, then emigrated to the United States in 1867. He taught in Ozaukee County schools before settling in Milwaukee around 1871. First an instructor of German

at the old Third Ward and McKinley Avenue schools, Tiefenthaler became principal of the Second District school, serving in that capacity until 1906. He died in 1933 at the age of 90. A son, Gustave, also rose to principalship in Milwaukee Schools, and a daughter, Laura, was a teacher. Another son, Leo, well known as a civic watchdog, served as secretary of the City Club from 1917 to 1974.

Photograph and information from the Milwaukee Public Library local history collection.

PANCRATIUS TIEFENTHALER 1901

Public School Veteran Dies

P. Tiefenthaler Had Been Teacher, Principal Here Many Years

A teacher in Milwaukee public schools for 48 years, Pancratius Tiefenthaler died Thursday at his home,



P. Tiefenthaler

2425 W. McKinley av. Death came two weeks after his ninetyeth birthday when all of his children and grandchildren held a reunion at his summer home at Cedar lake.

Mr. Tiefenthaler began his teaching career in this country in 1867 at the Holy Cross rural school, north of Port Washington. From there he went to Port Washington and later to the Good Hope rural school in Ozaukee county. In 1871 he came to Milwaukee and served successively as a class teacher in the old Ninth ward school; a German teacher in the Third ward school under Principal Patrick Donnelly in what then was an Irish neighborhood; principal for four years of the Second ward primary school which was on the site of the offices of the Pabst brewery, and finally as principal of the Ninth ward school for 17 years. Later he returned to the teaching of German at the McKinley avenue school.

Retired 15 Years Ago

He retired about 15 years ago. Mr. Tiefenthaler was a diligent reader and until very recently followed closely the economic and political trends. At the silver anniversary of the Ninth ward class of 1902, held at the Milwaukee Athletic club, he was a guest of honor.

A native of Gisingen, Vorarlberg, Austria, he attended the Innsbruck normal school and

taught in the Tyrol and Vorarlberg before coming to America. In 1872 he married Clara Wuerst, who survives him. A year ago they celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their wedding.

Survived by Family

Besides his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Laura, a member of the faculty of the Girls' Trade and Technical High school; three sons, Gustave, principal of the Steuben Junior High school and at one time, like his father, principal of the Ninth ward school; Leo, civic secretary of the City club, and Eugene, contracting engineer. Eleven grandchildren also survive.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 10:30 a. m. at St. Michael's Catholic church, N. Twenty-fourth and W. Cherry sts. Burial will be in Calvary cemetery.

Mrs. Marie Kiesslich

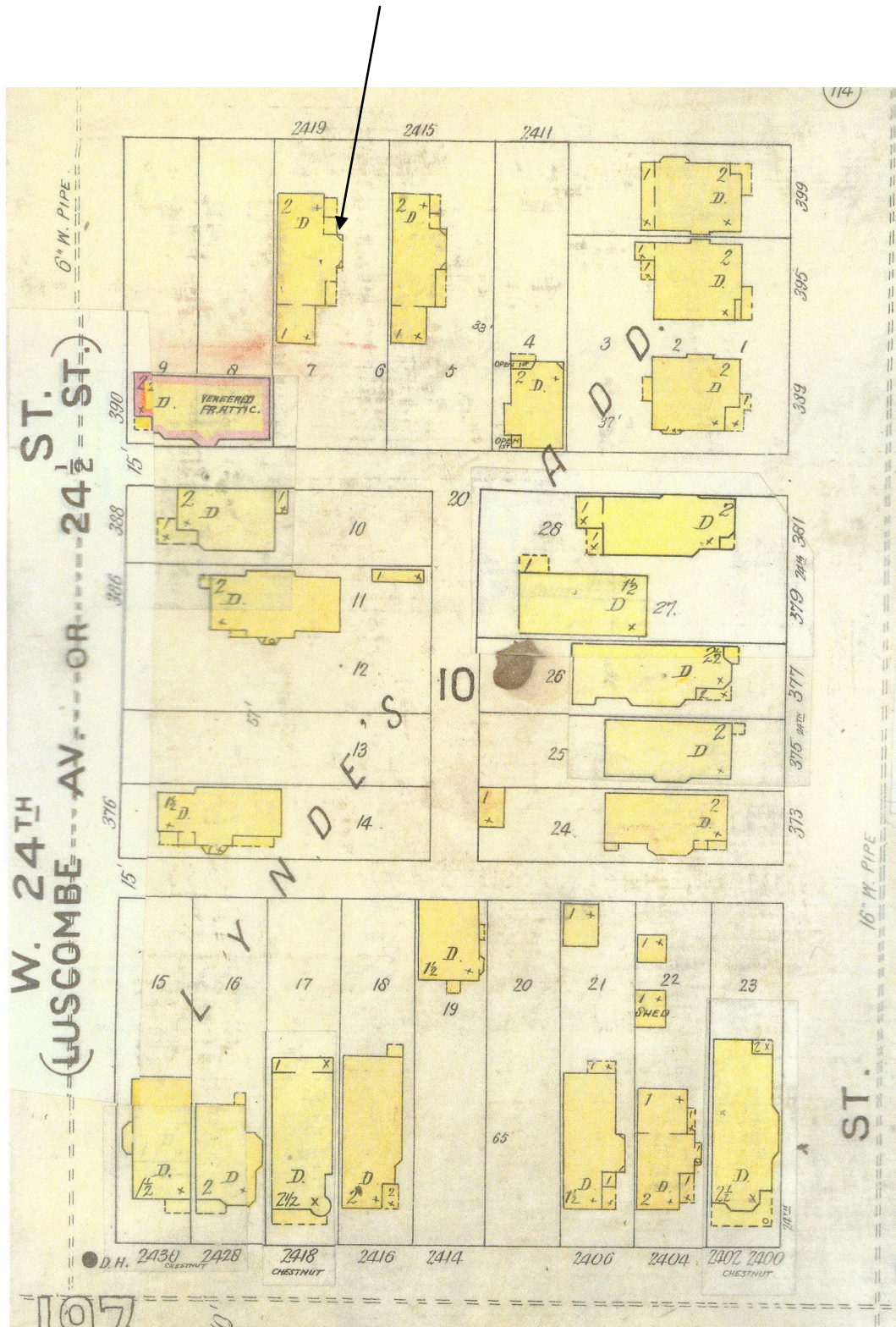
Mrs. Marie Kiesslich died Friday at her home, 1430 N. Fortieth st., where she had lived since 1887. She had been ill a week.

Mrs. Kiesslich, who was 87 last New Year's day, was born in Vienna, Austria, and came to Milwaukee in 1872. Her husband, Reinhold, was a shipping clerk for the Pabst Brewing Co. until his death 36 years ago.

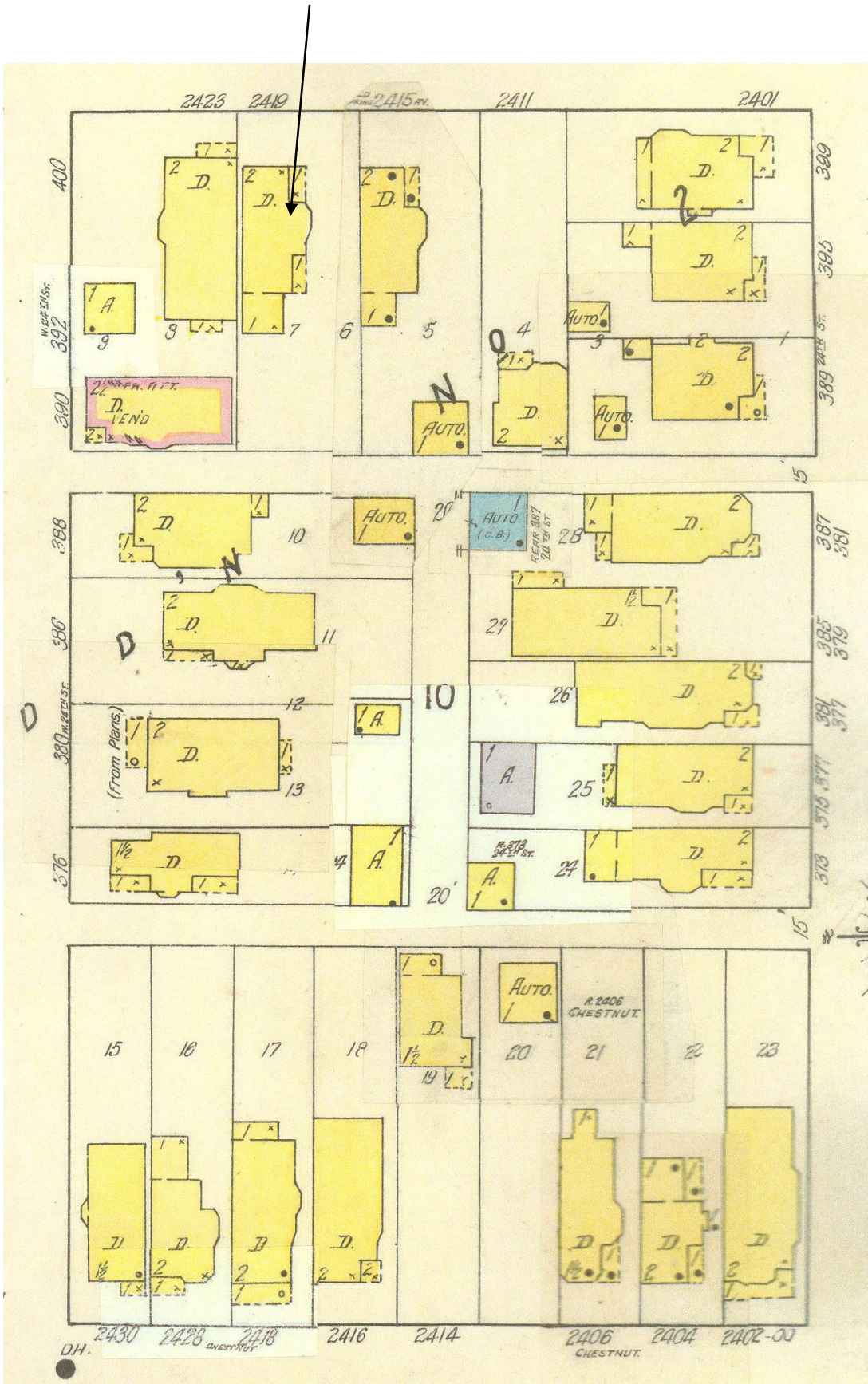
Surviving her are a son, Edward, and four daughters, Mrs. Alexander Guth, Mrs. Julius P. Schroeder, Mrs. William Pabst and Mrs. Marie Puchta. Ten grandchildren and four great-grandchildren also survive. Services will be held Saturday at 2 p. m. at the Ritter funeral home, 5304 W. North av., with burial in Union cemetery.

Mrs. M. E. Kline

Four months after the death of her husband, Jacob, in Danville, Ill., Mrs. Mattie E. Kline, 72, died Friday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Oscar C. White, 3414 W. Wisconsin av., with whom she had lived since her husband's death. She had been in poor health for a year but was not seriously ill until two weeks ago. Besides her daughter, she is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Laura Clark, Compton, Calif., and Mrs. Ida Lawson, Covington, Ky. Services and burial will be at Danville Sunday. The body will be at the Gerber & Son funeral home, 1300 W.



SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAP 1894-1909 VOLUME 2 PART 4 PAGE 198



SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAP 1910-1926 VOLUME 3 PART 3 PAGE 286



1983 SURVEY PHOTO OF TIEFENTHALER HOUSE 2425 WEST MCKINLEY AVENUE