

City of Madison Landmarks Commission  
LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (1)

**Name of Building or Site:**

<i>Common Name</i>	<i>Historic Name (if applicable)</i>
Carol Crossan House	Mattermore-Malaney House

**Location:**

<i>Street Address</i>	<i>Aldermanic District</i>
512 East Main Street	Six

**Classification:**

*Type of Property (building, monument, park, etc.)*  
Building

<i>Zoning District</i>	<i>Present Use</i>
R5	Single-family residence

**Current Owner of Property (available at City Assessor's Office):**

*Name(s)*  
Carol Crossan

<i>Street Address</i>	<i>Telephone Number</i>
512 East Main Street Madison, WI 53703	251-0823

**Legal Description (available at City Assessor's Office):**

<i>Parcel Number</i>	<i>Legal Description</i>
0709-133-1605-0	NE 33 feet of Lots 8 and 9, Block 116, Original Plat

**Condition of Property:**

*Physical Condition (excellent, good, fair, deteriorated, ruins)*  
Excellent

<i>Altered or Unaltered?</i>	<i>Moved or Original Site?</i>
Mostly Unaltered	Original site
<i>Wall Construction</i>	
Wood Frame	

**City of Madison Landmarks Commission**  
**LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (2)**

***Historical Data:***

*Original Owner*

Michael Mattermore

*Original Use*

Single-family residence

*Architect or Builder*

Unknown

*Architectural Style*

Front Gable

*Date of Construction*

1875

*Indigenous Materials Used*

not applicable

***List of Bibliographical References Used:***

Crossan, Carol. Current Owner. Personal Communication, March 1, 2001.

Madison Building Permits. Madison Department of Planning and Development.

*Madison City Directory*. Madison: G.R. Angell & Co., 1914; and 1916.

*Madison City Directory*. Milwaukee: Wright Directory Company; 1921 and 1925.

*Madison City Directory: 1883*. Madison: W.F. Curtis & Co., 1883.

Madison Tax Rolls. Madison Department of Planning and Development.

*Map of Madison*. Pelham, New York: Sanborn Publishing Company, 1885; 1892; 1898; 1902 and 1908.

Mollenhoff, David V. *Madison: A History of the Formative Years*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co., 1982.

*Morrissey & Bunn's Madison City Directory: 1880-1881*. Madison: Morrissey & Bunn, 1880.

Pryor's *Madison City Directory: 1877-78*. Madison: Pryor & Co., 1877.

Rankin, Katherine H. *Intensive Survey of the Historic Resources of Madison*, prepared for the Madison Department of Planning and Development and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1994.

*Wright's Madison City Directory*. Milwaukee: Wright Directory Company, 1931; 1937; 1943; 1946; 1951; 1954 and 1960.

Wright's *Madison City Directory*. St. Paul, Minnesota: Wright Directory Company, 1963; and 1966.

**City of Madison Landmarks Commission**  
**LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (3)**

***Form Prepared By:***

*Name and Title*

Elizabeth L. Miller, Historic Preservation Consultant

*Organization Represented (if any)*

City of Madison, Department of Planning and Development

*Address*

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

Madison, WI 53701

*Telephone Number*

266-6552

*Date Nomination Form Was Prepared*

March 2001

**City of Madison Landmarks Commission**  
**LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (5)**

The east-facing façade features a shingled, center gable. A two-over-two window and a pair of one-over-one windows appear on the first story toward the rear of the house. Two, one-over-one windows are found in the center gable. A square, frieze window matching those on the west-facing façade appears toward the front of the building.

Although the portico on the front of the house represents an alteration to the original appearance, the portico is compatible with the historic character of the house and does not impair its integrity.

**City of Madison Landmarks Commission**  
**LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (6)**

*Architectural Significance*

The Front Gable form of vernacular architecture was built in Wisconsin between about 1840 and 1925. It is rectangular in plan with a gable roof, the gable end of which faces toward the street. Residential examples are typically small or medium in size and display simple ornamentation. For early examples (that is, prior to 1890), corner and cornice boards are typical while later examples may exhibit shingling in the gable ends and a cottage window with a leaded glass header on the front-facing façade. Later examples tend to be taller and narrower than earlier Front Gable houses. The intensive survey of Madison identified 100 Front Gable residences erected prior to 1890, 80 of them frame. Of these, only 24 retain their original clapboard finish. The Mattermore-Malaney House is one of the most intact of these. As one of the best and most intact early examples of a frame, Front Gable house, the Madison-Malaney House is eligible for designation as a Madison Landmark.

*Significance of the Nominated Property:*

The Mattermore-Malaney House is eligible for designation as a Madison Landmark because it meets criterion 3 of the Landmarks and Landmarks Sites Designation Criteria (see Madison Ordinances Sec. 33.01(4)(a)). Specifically, it is a good and intact example of a Front Gable house, a vernacular form with few early intact frame examples remaining in Madison. Although the front portico is not original, it was patterned after porticos of the era in which the house was built and is compatible with the historic character of the Mattermore-Malaney House.

*History of the Mattermore House*

Tax records suggest that the house was built for Michael Mattermore in 1875. Mattermore purchased the property in 1873, at which time there does not appear to have been a building on the site. Mattermore, who is not listed in the Madison city directories, probably built the house as an investment and rented it out.<sup>6</sup> James and Theresa Malaney (sometimes spelled Mullaney) bought the property in 1881. James Malaney was a plumber and gas fitter, one of the first in Madison. His father was the manager of the Madison City Gas Light and Coke Company. James Malaney's brother, John Malaney, also a plumber and gas fitter, lived in the 500 block of East Main Street as well. James Malaney died around 1902. Theresa Malaney continued to live in the house until 1925, operating a boarding house until about 1916.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> *Pryor's Madison City Directory: 1877-78*, (Madison: Pryor & Co., 1877); *Morrisey & Bunn's Madison City Directory: 1880-1881*, (Madison: Morrisey & Bunn, 1880); and *Madison City Directory: 1883*, (Madison: W.F. Curtis & Co., 1883).

<sup>7</sup> *Madison City Directory*, (Madison: G.R. Angell & Co., 1916); and *Madison City Directory*, (Milwaukee: Wright Directory Co., 1925).

**City of Madison Landmarks Commission**  
**LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (7)**

In 1926, Grover and Lucy Kingsley acquired the property.<sup>8</sup> According to building permit records, Grover Kingsley owned the house until at least 1975. Grover Kingsley was a musician and piano tuner.<sup>9</sup> Through at least 1966, some of the Kingsleys' children lived with their parents. Son Edsel was a City of Madison fire fighter from at least 1951 until at least 1966, rising to the rank of Captain. Daughter Maisel was a typist with the State Tax Commission and lived at 512 East Main Street from at least 1937 until about 1945. Son Norman, a music teacher and leader of the Norman Kingsley Orchestra, lived at home in 1939 and at 518 East Main Street from about 1946 through 1954. Daughter Edna, who worked as a clerk in various stores during the 1930s, became an underwriter at Reitan-Lerhdahl around 1945, a job she held until at least 1960. She lived at 512 East Main Street until 1951 and returned home during the early 1960s.<sup>10</sup> When Lucy Kingsley became an invalid in 1966, Robert Sweeney, who had built a parking empire on the block by purchasing and removing several houses, built the addition on the back of the Kingsley's house for Mrs. Kingsley. In return, Mr. Kingsley agreed to sell his home to Mr. Sweeney. When Mr. Kingsley died around 1976, Mr. Sweeney took possession of the house, despite the fact that Edna Kingsley, then elderly and mentally unstable, was residing in the house. Edna remained in the area, in apartments rented by Edsel, until about 1990. In 1979, the City of Madison passed a law to prohibit tearing down houses for parking, so Mr. Sweeney put the house at 512 East Main Street into rental use. Sweeney rented the house to several university students. Unlike many houses in the neighborhood, the Mattermore-Malaney House was not subdivided. In 1983, Steve Brokish acquired the property. He sold it to Carol Crossan in 1984<sup>11</sup>. Ms. Crossan has restored the house in a manner sensitive to its historic character.

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<sup>8</sup> Tax Rolls

<sup>9</sup> *Madison City Directory*.

<sup>10</sup> *Wright's Madison City Directory*, (Milwaukee: Wright Directory Company, 1931; 1937; 1943; 1946; 1951; 1954 and 1960); and *Wright's Madison City Directory*, (St. Paul, Minnesota: Wright Directory Company, 1963 and 1966).

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