

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

William A. Tanner Home

AND/OR COMMON

Aurora Historical Museum

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

304 Oak Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Aurora

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Illinois

VICINITY OF

15th

CODE

17

COUNTY

Kane

CODE

089

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE Non Profit	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Aurora Historical Society

STREET & NUMBER

304 Oak Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Aurora

VICINITY OF

STATE

Illinois

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kane County Recorder of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

719 S. Batavia Avenue, Building B

CITY, TOWN

Geneva

STATE

Illinois 60134

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Illinois Historic Structures Survey

DATE

1974

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Department of Conservation

CITY, TOWN

Springfield

STATE

Illinois

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William Tanner Home was built in 1856 of brick in the Italianate Mode. The layout is of the Latin Cross style. An octagon cupola crowned the central section at the junction of the cross. The home is two stories. The first floor is primarily taken up by the parlor, music room, library, dining room, kitchen and pantry and a former master bedroom and bath. The second floor is composed of bedrooms.

The exterior is of common bond brick construction with ornate wooden brackets with ornamental pendants. The projecting front porch had a wooden railing around its roof. The two front windows also had railings in a balcony-like arrangement. The railings have been removed in both cases.

The first floor window lintels have ornately decorated hoods while the second floor lintels in their present state are more simple in tone.

The rear porch has been removed.

The house was built for William Tanner an early resident and merchant in Aurora.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1856-1957

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The William A. Tanner Home is significant because:

1. It is a symbol of early settlement in the community of Aurora, Illinois.
2. It is a fine, original example of the early Italianate architecture of which there are few in the area.
3. It is a living example of the lifestyle of the 1850's, as the interior rooms and furnishings have been maintained as they were originally, over 125 years ago.
4. It is a community resource for future generations to view the excellence of workmanship and design of yesterday.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Derry, Vernon, Aurora in the Beginning. Aurora, Illinois: Kelm-Scott Press, 1953. References at pages 61 and 63.

Whittaker, Mary Jo, Museums of Illinois. Salem, Illinois: Weekends, Inc., 1974. Reference on page 6.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately 1.3

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	3,9,0	4,2,0	4,6	2,4	1,4,5	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				
C				D						

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 5, 7, and 8 and the South half of Lot 9, of Block 6 of Gale's Addition to the City of Aurora, Kane County, Illinois. Lot is irregular in dimension, but roughly extends 200' west from the intersection of Cedar (southern boundary) and Oak Avenue, and 300' north on Oak Avenue (easterly boundary).

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Illinois		Kane	

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mrs. Shirley Robillard, Director

ORGANIZATION

Aurora Historical Society

DATE

3-11-76

STREET & NUMBER

304 Oak Avenue

TELEPHONE

(312)897-9029

CITY OR TOWN

Aurora

STATE

Illinois 60506

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Anthony J. Deane

TITLE

DATE

3/26/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ILLINOIS

Date Entered AUG 19 1976

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Tanner, William A., House	Aurora Kane County

Also Notified

Hon. Charles H. Percy
Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson
Hon. Tim L. Hall

COPY OF CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION

K-H-112

MR 200721

ILLINOIS HISTORIC SITES SURVEY INVENTORY

1. Name of Site:

Common Aurora Historical Museum
Historic Wm. Tanner House

2.. Location:

Street and Number Township Section
304 Oak Ave. City or Town Zip Code Range 1/4 Section
Aurora
County
Kane

3. Classification:

Category (check one) Integrity (check one)
() District (X) Building () Altered (X) Unaltered
() Site () Structure () Moved (X) Original Site

4. Ownership:

() Private (X) Occupied
(X) Public () Unoccupied
() Preservation work in progress

Access to Public

() Yes (X) Restricted () Unrestricted () No

Present Use (check one or more)

() Agricultural () Industrial () Religious
() Commercial () Military () Scientific
() Educational (X) Museum () Transportation
() Entertainment () Park () Other (specify)
() Government () Private Residence

5. Ownership of Property:

Owner's Name Aurora Hist. Soc. Phone Number
Street and Number
City or Town
State County Zip Code

6. Description: Italianate, painted pink.

() Excellent (X) Good () Fair () Deteriorated () Ruins () Unexposed

Is there a program of preservation underway? (X) Yes () No

URBAN PLANNING

7. Historical Themes : (check one or more of the following)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological Site | (Pre-Columbian) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological Site | (Post-Columbian to 1673) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French Influence | (1673-1780) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Frontier | (1780-1818) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Early | (1818-1850) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illinois Middle | (1850-1900) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Late | (1900-present) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Famous People | (give names & dates) |

8. Specific Date: 1857

Areas of significance (check one or more of the following)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal (historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal (pre-historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> Military |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | |

Brief statement of significance: (include all names and dates) Use additional sheets if necessary. Tanner was early settler & merchant. Several local historical markers in yard.

9. Form prepared by:

Name and Title: T.H. Date: _____

Organization: _____ Phone: _____

Street and number: _____

City or Town: _____ County: _____ Zip Code _____

During the course of the Survey we often find it necessary to search for references for a particular site. When filling out the Survey form, please list according to the following example, published references to the site for which forms are being completed. If a bibliography can be compiled, it will greatly deduct from the Survey's task.

Bibliography

Robertson, Robert, Of Whales and Men. New York, Alfred K. Knopf, Inc., 1954.





1937
IN MEMORY OF
WILLIAM A. TANNER
AND
ANNA PLUM MAKEPEACE
FROM THEIR TWIN DAUGHTERS
MARTHA T. THORNTON
AND
MARY T. HOPKINS
HOME ERECTED 1887