



**CITY OF LA CROSSE  
HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

Historic Landmark Nomination Form

**1. What is the historic name of the Landmark or Landmark District?**

Fall-Lamb House

**2. What is the current name of the Landmark or Landmark District?(If applicable)**

Property is two houses away from the 10th & Cass Historic District

**3. Property Address:** 122 10th Street South

**4. OWNERSHIP**

a. Owner(s): Jay Lokken & Ken Riley

b. Street: 950 Cass Street

c. City, State, Zip Code: La Crosse, 54601 Phone: 608) 792-9360

d. Email: ken@rlrpropertiesoflacrosse.com Parcel ID#: 17-20184-80

**5. NOMINATED BY (If different):**

a. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Street: \_\_\_\_\_

c. City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

d. Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**6. CLASSIFICATION AND USE (Check all that apply):**

**Proposed Designation** (choose one)

Landmark District

Landmark

If it is a Landmark, choose a category (definitions can be found on the instructions page)

Historic Structure

Historic Site

Historic Object

**Present Use**

Agriculture

Industrial

Religious

Commercial

Military

Scientific

Educational

Museum

Transportation

Entertainment

Park

Government

Private Residence(s)

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Condition:**

- |                                               |                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fair                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other        |

**Has the property been nominated previously?**  Yes  No

When? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the outcome? \_\_\_\_\_

**Is the proposed Landmark or District on the National Register?**  Yes  No

When? \_\_\_\_\_

**7. SIGNIFICANCE:**

Section 20.90 of the *Municipal Code of Ordinances* lists 4 criteria that a district, site, structure or object may be designated under.

**Please check one or more of the listed criteria that apply to this Property:**

Associated with events or person(s) who have made a significant contribution to the history, heritage, or culture of the City of La Crosse, the County of La Crosse, the State of Wisconsin, or the United States.

It embodies the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period, style or method of construction or of indigenous material or craftsmanship.

It is representative of the notable work of a master builder, designer or architect whose individual work is significant in the development of the City of La Crosse, the County of La Crosse, the State of Wisconsin, or the United States.

It exemplifies or reflects the broad cultural, political, economic or social history of the nation, state, or community.

**8. HISTORIC OVERVIEW/ANALYSIS (See attached instructions for analysis outline):**

**Please attach the analysis as a separate document containing the following sections:**

**A. Existing Physical Description**

- a. Write a physical description of the nominated property or district in its current state.
- b. If it has been altered over time, indicate the date(s) and nature of the alterations.
- c. Include additional information as applicable.

**B. Narrative History**

- a. Provide a complete narrative history of the district, structure, site, or object.
- b. If known, include the year it was built, the architecture style, and the name of the architect or builder.
- c. Include references to source material that are listed in the bibliography.

**C. Additional Information**

- a. Include any additional information that helps support the claim of criteria (Section 7) made in this document; or is otherwise deemed useful for the purposes of evaluation.

**D. Bibliography**

- a. Include a list of all sources consulted.
- b. Include copies of relevant source materials with the nomination form.

**9. PHOTOGRAPHS:**

Include photos, as applicable, of the nominated district, structure, site, or object as follows:

**A. Current photographs**

- a. Exterior photographs are required.
- b. Interior photographs if available and relevant to its historic significance.

**B. Historic photographs**


- a. Interior and exterior if available.

Each photograph must be labeled with the street address of the building(s) and the month and year the photograph was taken.

Designation of property will require affixing a plaque to said property and that the plaque will be the sole property of the City of La Crosse. Signature of the property owner assures the Heritage Preservation Commission that designation and installation of a plaque are supported.

  
Signature of Property Owner

  
Date

  
Signature of Nominator

  
Date

When completed, submit application to the City of La Crosse Planning Department, 400 La Crosse Street, La Crosse WI.

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is the responsibility of the nominator to provide the Heritage Preservation Commission and its Staff with information sufficient to fairly evaluate the nomination. **Incomplete nomination forms will not be accepted.** A fee, in the amount stated in the Schedule of Fees and Licenses table in Section 25.01 of the Municipal Code, must be included.

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*Heritage Preservation Commission, Historic Property  
Nomination*

*122 10<sup>th</sup> Street South, Fall-Lamb House*

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*Existing Physical Description*

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Earlier than the more elaborately decorated Queen Anne style houses in the city, the Fall-Lamb House is one of few exceptional examples of a brick Queen Anne style house remaining in La Crosse. The house is constructed of brick on a coursed, limestone foundation. The ashlar limestone foundation blocks were likely quarried from Grandad's Bluff. Limestone sills and lintels contrasting with the red brick suggestive of the polychromatic Victorian Gothic style combined with features of the Queen Anne style to create the exceptional exterior of the Fall-Lamb House. Each side of the house has a variety of gabled features, which includes curved dentil trim/molding in all gables, bracketed eaves and spectacular window and entablature features throughout. Because each side is so significant and different, they are broken down as follows:

**EAST:** Three story, double gabled roof on the East (one with staggered shake shingles, and the other brick) on the front of the house. The East double gable features several impressive windows with trim casing. The tallest/wood shake gable features a round, wood window with keystone trim casing. The other brick gable features an arched window, decorative arch, keystone and sill of limestone. The window is then accentuated even further with a decorative, window hood mold.

**WEST:** The West gable has a combination of arched shingles that stagger with smaller rectangular shingles.

**SOUTH:** Double gabled shake and brick dormers on the South Side, South gabled dormers feature large, curved and decorative cornice brackets under the overhanging eave of the west dormer. While the east dormer features the same staggered shakes as the East and North sides of the house, the west dormer has the same arched shingles that stagger with smaller rectangular shingles as the West side of the home.

**NORTH:** The north side of the house features a spectacular stained and colored glass arched window with an arched, decorative keystone window hood. The gable features several windows, with double brackets under the eave, and then connecting with several other double brackets that then connect with fluted column pediments that tie into the fascia and curved dentil molding.

The elaborate interior features include carved woodwork, a open newel post stairway railing and multiple boxed newel post systems, all featuring elaborate carved acorn-like finials, as well as a foyer archway with unique and intricate fretwork spandrels, supported by a combination of raised panels and octagonal columns. There are multiple raised panel pocket and regular doors throughout the house. The raised paneling uses contrasting light and dark woods of redwood, oak, cherry and mahogany. The home has one remaining fireplace with decorative trim and entablature, and the entire house is illuminated by exceptional stained and painted glass throughout. All of the trim woodwork throughout the house features egg and dart appliques within the entablature, and a beaded panel below all of the windows on the main floor.

The open front porch with classical trim and single, tapered column supports placed on porch base. The **Entablature** is decorated on the East side with a swag and garland appliqué or festoon.

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### *Narrative History*

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As the home of an early La Crosse pioneer grain dealer and a long-time partner with W.W. Cargill, as well as the home of an early wholesale grocer and socially connected wife, the Fall-Lamb House is a significant link to the past history of the city.

James Fall (born in Canada) and his wife Mary Louis (Rackerby) Fall (born in Kentucky) moved to La Crosse in 1880 as indicated by the 1880 La Crosse City Directory. Shortly after arriving, Mary Louis came into possession of two lots at 120 and 122 South 10th Street. The family lived in the home at 120, and then started building a grander house of brick in the empty lot at 122 South 10th in 1887. It is unclear if the plan was to raze the house at 120 when the 122 property was completed in 1898 and move into the larger home, or keep the 120 South 10th Street house as rental income. Shortly after the house was completed, the family moved to Portland, Oregon in 1900.

Having lived in Houston, MN prior to the move to La Crosse, James Fall became business partners in the grain business with W. W. Cargill, and appears to have operated as Cargill & Fall Grains until shortly after 1888. With the blending of the Cargill and MacMillan

families, it can be surmised that the six-year partnership was perhaps dissolved, and could also be a factor in the move of the family from La Crosse to Oregon. By all accounts, James Fall was a prominent and successful businessman with Cargill as referenced in the La Crosse Tribune. ***“James Fall was one of the pioneer grain dealers in this section and was for many years a partner with W.W. Cargill, the firm name being Cargill and Fall.”*** Oct. 11, 1921.

In 1900, James I Lamb, who started a very successful wholesale grocery business under the name of Lamb & Beckel, the name later changing to J.I. Lamb Company moved into the house with his second wife, Sarah. Mr. Lamb was a well-respected citizen of La Crosse as noted in several La Crosse documents:

***James I Lamb is a member of one of the best known and most deservedly popular establishments in La Crosse, the firm in Lamb & Beckel, who are wholesale dealers in fruits and produce. Their transactions are conducted upon a large scale and their connections are of the most substantial and gratifying character.*** (Biographical history of La Crosse, Trempealeau and Buffalo counties, Wisconsin, page 168.)

***His (Lamb) is, by common consent, the most reliable and best-known house of the kind in the city, none maintaining a higher reputation for integrity, and few, if any, enjoy a larger measure of recognition.*** (Biographical history of La Crosse, Trempealeau and Buffalo counties, Wisconsin, page 168.)

***He (Lamb) is a member of the K. of P., and he and his wife move in the highest social circles of La Crosse, in which city they are well known and have many friends.*** (Biographical history of La Crosse, Trempealeau and Buffalo counties, Wisconsin, page 168.)

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### Bibliography

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Biographical History of La Crosse, Trempealeau and Buffalo Counties, Wisconsin, page 168.

City Directories, Murphy Library Archives

Newspapers.Com,

<https://www.newspapers.com/search/#query=Lamb+and+Beckel&t=619>

Sanborn Maps, Murphy Library Archives

Tax Records, Murphy Library Archives

Wisconsin Historical Society,

<https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Property/HI33022>

