



Historic Sites of Central La Crosse County

Neshonoc Dam and
Powerhouse
Built 1895

**LA CROSSE COUNTY
HISTORIC SITES
PRESERVATION COMMISSION**
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LA CROSSE, WI 54601
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The La Crosse County Historic Sites Preservation Commission is a branch of the County government that works to protect, preserve and nominate historic sites in La Crosse County. The Commission deals mainly with properties outside the County's municipalities, but inside the townships.

A historic site is usually considered to be a building, structure or archaeological site that is more than 50 years old and that is determined to be important either by who designed/built it, who lived there, what it was used for, or what it can tell us about the past.

The Commission meets on a monthly basis to discuss pertinent topics that deal with historic properties and archaeological sites in La Crosse County.

Please visit our website for more information on the county's historic sites, and how to nominate a property to the county's list of local landmarks.



#1—Smith Valley School* (Medary Town Hall), 1887, 4130 Smith Valley Road , Town of Medary. This one room schoolhouse was built in 1887, and was used as a school until 1977. This building is now used as a one room school museum.



#2—Arial P. Rublee House, circa 1860's., N4785 CTH M, Town of Hamilton. This two story Italianate style residence has a gabled roof with a prominent cupola.



#3—Welsh Calvinist Church, 1859, 308 Commercial St, Bangor. This mid 19th century building reflects the rich history of the Welsh in the area.



#4 –Waterloo Iron Bridge*, 1911, Town of Hamilton. This bridge spans the La Crosse River on Old County Road B near West Salem. This bridge was built to replace late 19th century bridges that were flooded out. The bridge has been closed to vehicular traffic for almost 25 years.



#5—Hamlin Garland House*, 1859, 357 W. Garland St, West Salem. This house was lived in by Hamlin Garland, a West Salem native and the Pulitzer Prize winning author of *Daughter of the Middle Border*. Garland purchased this house in 1893 as a homestead for his parents. The house was partially destroyed in 1912 by a fire, but Garland rebuilt it. This house has been a National Historic Landmark since 1973.

* Properties Open to the Public



#6—Palmer-Lewis Octagon House*, 1856, W3362 STH 16, West Salem. Built in 1856 by Dr. Monroe Palmer in the Village of Neshonoc, today this house sites near its original location. This house was listed on the National Register of Places in 1979, and has been used as the West Salem Historical Society Visitor's Center since 2007.



#7—Palmer-Gullickson Octagon House*, 1856, 385 Leonard St N, West Salem. Built in 1856 by Dr. Horace Palmer, this house was also the home of Mary Lottridge, the second woman doctor in the United States. This house was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979 and has been used by the West Salem Historical Society as a museum since 1993.