

JEREMIAH CURTIN HOUSE
HALES CORNERS, WISCONSIN

H.A.B.S.-WIS-120

HABS
WIS,
40 HALCO,
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
ALEXANDER C. GUTH - DISTRICT OFFICER
1249 NORTH FRANKLIN PLACE, MILWAUKEE, WIS.

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"JEREMIAH CURTAIN HOUSE" (Residence)
Village of Hales Corners, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin
Located on property of Federal Housing Dep't.

U. S. Government - Owner

Erected - 1835

Architect & Builder - Unknown

The building is in a fair state of preservation and sets on its original foundation. It is two stories in height.

The entire building is constructed of lime stone which was quarried near by. The same, after being placed in the walls was completely plastered over. The roof is of wood.

This is one of the most historic structures in the entire state because it was the birth place in 1837 of Jeremiah Curtin. He was destined to become one of the world's greatest linguists and scholars. He mastered 72 languages and in 1864 was appointed by President Lincoln as Secretary to the American Legation at the Court of St. Petersburg, Russia. Here he acquitted himself with much credit because he was able to converse in the native tongue. Returning to the United States, he lived the life of the American Indian, for many years, studying their habits and customs. His chief claim to fame rests upon the fact that he translated from the Polish, that immortal drama, Quo Vadis.

The house has been used for many years as a garage

and hennery and word has now been received that it will be restored to its original condition by the present owners. It is an interesting mass of picturesque gables and lean-tos.

The above information was gathered from records in the hands of the descendants of the original family.

Alexander Carl Guth
District Officer

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