HISTORY AND BACKGROUND OF NORTH POINT TOWER

1846 - Milwaukee was incorporated as a city.
1868 - The Common Council secured the services of Civil Engineer, E.S. Chesbrough to make a survey, and prepare plans, specifications and estimates for the construction of a waterworks system for the City of Milwaukee.
1871 - The State Legislature gave Milwaukee the authority “to construct water works and to carry on and manage same” and “to create a Board of Water Commissioners to construct and complete the work.” The seven commissioners were Alexander Mitchell, John Plankinton, Frederick Pabst, Edward O’Neil, Guido Pfister, E.H. Brohead, and George Burnham.
1872 - Original construction began on the water system, under the direction of Civil Engineer, Moses Lane.
1873 - Construction on the North Point Tower started.
1874 - The beam engine pumps started.
1963 - The North Point Tower pumps stilled.

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“The North Point Water Tower was built of large blocks of Wauwatosa Limestone according to plans prepared by the Milwaukee architect, Charles Gombert. The building is 175 feet high and contains a 120 foot metal standpipe four feet in diameter. It was originally built to relieve the water mains of the surging pulsations of the old type engines. Modern pumping equipment no longer requires such a facility and Water Tower is, therefore, no longer needed, functionally, but wisely has been retained by the City as an ornament and as a landmark to add interest, both by virtue of its appearance and its historical association with Milwaukee’s traditionally bountiful and pure water supply.”

Excerpt taken from MILWAUKEE LANDMARKS, Richard W.E. Perrin

Program printed courtesy of Heritage Banks

“Its Victorian expression of Gothic Architecture is a reminder of days gone by, a graceful link of yesterday and tomorrow.”
Annabel D. McArthur
WATER TOWER LANDMARK TRUST, INC.
"Dedicated to the preservation of our unique residential area."

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CENTENNIAL YEAR STAFF

Chairman, Mrs. A. Peter N. McArthur
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Public Relations Director, Mrs. Joseph L. Schall

RECOGNITION CEREMONY
October 20, 1973

10:45  Marquette University High School Band
       Joseph La Spisa, Band Director

11:00  Presentation of Colors
       Girl Scout Troop #1009
       Boy Scout Troop #452

Introduction
Gordon Hinkley

Welcome
Russ Good, President

Honored Guests and Speakers
Alderman Ed Griffin
County Supervisor H. Michael Mett
Commissioner Herbert Goetsch
Superintendent Nathan E. Miller
Senator William Proxmire
Assemblyman Dennis Conta
State Representative Harout Sanasarian

Architectural and Historic Importance of the Water Tower
as a Landmark
Mary Ellen Wietczykowski, Chairman
Milwaukee Landmarks Commission

Centennial Announcements
Shirley McArthur, Chairman

11:30 - 12:30
City of Milwaukee from Top of Water Tower

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Vertical Triple Expansion Crank and Fly-wheel Pump
Model by Gregory Strzelczyk