CITY OF ONALASKA MEETING NOTICE

COMMITTEE/BOARD: **Historical Preservation Commission**

DATE OF MEETING: August 11, 2016 (Thursday)

PLACE OF MEETING: City Hall – 415 Main Street (Room 112)

TIME OF MEETING: 4:00 P.M.

PURPOSE OF MEETING

1. Call to Order and roll call.
2. Approval of minutes from the previous meetings
3. Public Input: (limited to 3 minutes/individual)

Consideration and possible action on the following items:

4. Discussion and Consideration of Survey of Historic Properties Project within the City of Onalaska.
5. Adjournment

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that members of the Common Council of the City of Onalaska who do not serve on the Commission may attend this meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision making responsibility.

Therefore, further notice is hereby given that the above meeting may constitute a meeting of the Common Council and is hereby noticed as such, even though it is not contemplated that the Common Council will take any formal action at this meeting.

NOTICES MAILED TO:

Mayor Joe Chilsen
Ald. Jim Binash
Ald. Jim Olson
Ald. Bob Muth.
Ald. Jim Bialecki
*Ald. Harvey Bertrand - Chair
Ald. Barry Blomquist
City Attorney Dept Heads
La Crosse Tribune Onalaska Holmen Courier Life
WKTY WLXR WLAX WKBT WXOW

*Sandy Whiteman – Vice Chair
*Gary Lass
*Jim Nelson
*Nancy Tolvstad
*John Grider
*Jerry Sjolander

*Committee Members

Date Notices Mailed and Posted: 8-3-16

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the City of Onalaska will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with a disability to ensure equal access to public meetings provided notification is given to the City Clerk within seventy-two (72) hours prior to the public meeting and that the requested accommodation does not create an undue hardship for the City.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Heritage Research, Ltd., would like to thank the City of Onalaska and the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC member names are listed on the following page) for their assistance throughout the project. We also thank HPC member and local resident Nancy Tolvstad for accompanying Principal Investigator Traci E. Schnell on a driving tour of the city, as well as for sharing her historical information and general knowledge of Onalaska, which helped to orient Schnell to the city and its resources. Thanks also to the City's former Land Use and Development Director Brea Grace, who lent Schnell her personal copy of *From Sawmills to Sunfish* for the duration of the project and to Katie Aspenson, Planner|Zoning Inspector and Historic Preservation Commission liaison for the City of Onalaska, for her assistance in a variety of areas, including access to historic materials housed in different city departments.

This program receives Federal financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or handicap (mental and/or physical impairment) in its federally assisted programs. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, D.C., 20240.

The activity that is the subject of this architectural and historical survey has been financed entirely with Federal funds from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, and administered by the Wisconsin Historical Society. However, the contents and the opinions do not necessarily reflect the view or policies of the Department of the Interior or the Wisconsin Historical Society. Nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior or the Wisconsin Historical Society.

CITY OF ONALASKA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Katie Aspenson, Staff Liaison
City of Onalaska

Harvey Bertrand, Alderman and Commission Chair

John Grider

Gary Lass

Jim Nelson

Jerry Sjolander

Nancy Tolvstad

Sandy Whiteman

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this project is to provide a survey of the architectural and historical resources located within the City of Onalaska. This material may be useful in the development of local preservation plans; to identify buildings, structures, sited and historic districts that meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; and to increase public and private sector awareness of the community's historical and architectural heritage.

Funded in part through a National Park Service grant-in-aid administered by the Wisconsin Historical Society, the City of Onalaska contracted with Heritage Research, Ltd., to conduct a survey of the city within a specific Scope of Work (found in the Introduction and Survey Methodology). The primary goal of the survey effort was to identify and inventory historical and architectural properties throughout the city and to evaluate them regarding their potential eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places.

At the project start, there were a total of approximately thirty Onalaska properties included in the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Database (WHPD), the electronic database that is maintained by the Wisconsin Historical Society. Following review of the entire city, the database now includes a total of fifty-five properties that meet current survey standards. No historic districts were identified. Of the total seven properties that were considered for National Register eligibility, six are recommended as potentially eligible for the National Register (this includes a re-discussion of a property that had been previously determined eligible in 2011). The remaining property, which was not determined to meet National Register criteria at this time, is recommended for potential local landmark designation.

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INTRODUCTION AND SURVEY METHODOLOGY

In 2014-2015, the City of Onalaska applied for, and received, a historic preservation grant-in-aid from the National Park Service—a grant administered by the Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS). The objective was to provide a survey of the architectural and historical resources located within the City of Onalaska. The ultimate purpose of such a survey is to identify those historic districts and/or individual properties that are potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Consequently, Heritage Research, Ltd., a historical/environmental consulting firm in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, was contracted to conduct a survey of the city within a specific Scope of Work, which included the following:

(1) All previously surveyed properties will be re-photographed to update the inventory with color photos from black-and-white (even if no change has occurred to the property since its last survey date). Those properties will be re-reviewed for potential National Register eligibility and recommendations provided.

(2) Contextual chapters will be written that reflect the resources surveyed. No less than three chapters were to be written; they include Historical Overview, Architecture and Architects, Engineers and Builders.

(3) Photos will be taken of those properties that are currently missing a photo in the WHPD.

Ms. Traci E. Schnell, M.A., Senior Architectural Historian, served as the Project Manager and Principal Investigator, as well as the author of the subject final report. Katie Aspenson, Planner|Zoning Inspector and Historic Preservation Commission liaison represented the city and its interests as director for the survey subgrant.

A public meeting was held in October 2015 to launch the project. Press releases were issued to the local newspaper seeking historical and/or resource-related input from area residents. In addition, HRL staff reviewed the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Database (WHPD/known as WAHI to the public) to determine how many properties in Onalaska had already been surveyed. At that time, there were thirty surveyed properties in the community. All of this preliminary work helped to facilitate fieldwork in the Fall of 2015, during which time all areas of the city were reviewed. Much of the fieldwork was covered by car, while other areas were reviewed on foot.

SURVEY, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION PROCESS

As identified in the Scope of Work, all previously surveyed properties (excluding National Register-listed properties) were re-photographed to update the WHS inventory/database (except for the two ancillary National Guard buildings, as permission needed to be obtained to enter the property and take photos); at the same time, "new" properties were photographed and photos were taken of those properties with photos "missing" from WHPD.

While only a small number of properties had been surveyed prior to 2015, photos of previously surveyed properties were compared to their current appearance. If significant alterations had occurred (siding, windows, porches, etc.), and those properties no longer meet survey standards today, they are considered to be "not resurveyed," although an "update" photo was entered into WHPD. As a result of that effort, four properties were not resurveyed (they are listed on page 42 of this report).

Those properties that maintain a good degree of integrity and/or offer some level of historical significance (totaling eleven) are considered to be "Resurveyed" and appear in Appendix A, Survey Inventory (Pages 39-41), and are identified with an asterisk.

And finally, the number of newly surveyed properties amounts to forty-four; they are listed in Appendix A, Survey Inventory (Pages 39-41). Records were created and entered into WHPD. Since no pre-1960s-era building permits exist at the City offices, dates of construction were largely gleaned from city assessor records, with additional information derived from local historical resources, including *From Sawmills to Sunfish*, a history of the City of Onalaska that was written by John and Joan Dolbier in 1985. As well, since the number of surveyed properties was somewhat minimal and early city directories for Onalaska are small in number, deeds were, in many cases, reviewed to determine ownership information (deed citations for the properties are included in WHPD). What was not done, however, was the review of tax rolls. Where circa dates are ascribed, it is the tax rolls that could better determine the age of the building.

All properties that had been demolished since the time of survey (a total of ten) have been updated in the database as such—either with the exact date of demolition (if known) or that line simply reads "Unknown." That list of properties is available on page 42 of this report.

Following Schnell's (HRL) review of all properties inventoried, WHS staff (Daina Penkiunas) reviewed the properties in the field along with Schnell. Following that dual field review, the properties to be discussed in the Recommendations Chapter were determined. Know that aside from the former Onalaska State Bank building at 201 Main Street--which is a business and open to the public--that no interior inspections were completed for this report.

As a result of this survey (and after subtracting those no longer extant, as well as those that no longer meet current survey standards), a total of fifty-five properties met survey standards. Of those fifty-five properties, seven were reviewed for potential National Register eligibility. No historic districts were identified. Of the total seven properties that were considered for National

Register eligibility, six are recommended as potentially eligible for the National Register (this includes a re-discussion of a property that had been previously determined eligible in 2011). The remaining property, which was not determined to meet National Register criteria at this time, is recommended for potential local landmark designation.

Please note that Onalaska's single, National Register property—the Frank Eugene Nichols House at 421 2nd Avenue N—is not evaluated as part of this report, because it already listed in the National Register. However, an electronic record (in WHPD) did not exist for the building, so a separate one was created.

Because all of the research information available cannot be put into this report, that information was put into the electronic record for the property. As noted earlier, WHPD, the database in which the information was added, is accessible to the public through the Wisconsin Historical Society's website at http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Content.aspx?dsNav=N:1189. Once on that page, you simply need to type in an address if you are looking for a specific property or, if you want to review all records for Onalaska, simply type in "Onalaska." The resulting page will then offer a series of filters along the left hand side, in order for you to filter results.

CHAPTER 1: HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

An extensive history of Onalaska is provided in Dolbiers' *From Sawmills to Sunfish,* which was published in 1985. The following is largely summarized from that book, as well as a few additional sources, as noted.

Onalaska was formally platted by New Yorker Thomas G. Rowe and John C. Laird in 1851. The community's settlement was propagated by its location along the Black River and the creation of the lumber industry. Indeed, the first sawmill in Onalaska was built between 1852 and 1853. As of 1856, the community reportedly included the following: three sawmills--with two more under construction; a sash and blind factory; brewery; bakery; two blacksmiths; a copper, eight stores and forty dwellings. The following year a post office was established. In 1872, Onalaska incorporated as a village and, as of 1875, the population of the village numbered 680, with men far outnumbering the woman, numbering 393 and 287, respectively.[1]

In 1887, the town had incorporated as a city and, in 1890, the population was recorded at 1,587. That same year, the community erected a two-story, frame high school which would burn to the ground just five years later. The following year it was replaced by a substantial two-story brick building (no longer extant). Despite the prosperous lumber business, the once extensive timber stands were rapidly depleted and the last sawmill in the community closed in 1902. With the close of the boom lumber business came an increase in other industries. As of 1901, the J.S. Gedney Pickle Company purchased the former Onalaska Brewery buildings at 841 2nd Avenue SW. Although they remained there for only five years, the business continued there into the late-1950s under the name of the Onalaska Pickle & Canning Company. Among other notable businesses to establish themselves in the community included the Aiken Coal and Lumber Company (no longer extant) and the Onalaska Woolen Manufacturing Company, known later as the Western Spinning Mills. The latter entity built a new facility (no longer extant) in 1917 to replace the one previously destroyed by fire. The first two decades of the twentieth century brought with it the construction of the La Crosse County School of Agriculture (1909; No longer extant), as well as the city's first banking establishment, the Onalaska State Bank (1912) at 201 Main Street and the Oak Forest Tuberculosis Sanatorium (no longer extant).[2]

The 1921 *Wisconsin State Gazetteer* enumerates the city's population at 1,075 and the city's primary employer was that of the pickle and canning factory. Although small, the city offered all of the standard services, including (but not limited to) an undertaker, dentist, physician, grocers, and a plumber and blacksmith. In 1934, Erickson Lumber, later Erickson Hardwoods, was established. As of 1936, the year that resident Irving Pertzsch was elected mayor, he is noted as saying that the city had the bare minimum of everything. That same year, Lake Onalaska was created, which allowed for an increase in area fishing. Shortly thereafter, with the help of Works

[1] C. W. Butterfield, *The History of La Crosse County, Wisconsin* (Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1881), 253; Benjamin F. Bryant, ed. *Memoirs of La Crosse County, Wisconsin* (Madison, WI: Western Historical Association, 1907), 288;
[2] John and Joan Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish* (Onalaska, WI: By the Authors, 1985), 140, 191, 194.

Progress Administration funding, Pertzsch directed the construction of a city sewerage system was built and the city's yet unpaved streets were paved.[3]

Between 1940 and 1960, the population nearly doubled from 1,742 to 3,161; this increase in population put a strain on the existing school facilities and a new school was built at 524 Main Street in 1950. The following year, St. Patrick's Catholic Church also built a school (at 127 11th Avenue N), which was combined in one building with church and convent accommodations. In 1954, First Lutheran Church built a new sanctuary at 410 Main Street and six years later, St. Patrick's would build a new church, as well as a rectory at 1031 Main Street, leaving the 1951 building to house only the school children. In 1957, a parochial high school--Luther High School (WELS) was built. Between 1951 and 1963, 341 new homes were built. As of 1968, construction hit an all-time record, with work amounting to $1.61 million, including eighty-seven homes totaling $1.30 million of that number. The following year would see the construction of the shopping center at Main Street and Sand Lake Road, including the start of construction of the Bank of Onalaska (1970) at 1145 Main Street, which continues in that location today as BMO Harris.[4]

Onalaska's population in 1970 was recorded at 4,909 and, as of 1985, numbers nearly doubled to 10,800. It was during that period that the community saw significant construction, including such buildings as the dental offices of Drs. Barney & Baumgardner (1972) at 1008 Main Street; the Dickinson Funeral Home (1974) at 401 Main Street and the La Crosse Community Credit Union (1981) at 625 Main Street. As of the 2010 census, the city was home to approximately 18,000 residents and the city's footprint had expanded to about 11 square miles.[5]

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[3] *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1921* (Chicago: R.L. Polk & Co., 1821), 1017; "He's An Institution: Mayor Pertzsch Has Held Post 24 Years," *The La Crosse Tribune,* 29 March 1964, 13/8; Pat Moore, Pertzsch Is Proof That Nice Guys Get Elected," *The La Crosse* (WI) *Tribune,* 10 April 1974, 2/1-4.

[4] Robert C. Gehl, "Might Have Little Industry, But Onalaska Grows Anyhow," *The La Crosse Tribune,* 29 March 1964, 13/7-10; "Construction in Onalaska Hits Record $1.61 Million," The La Crosse Tribune, 5 January 1969, 1/5-6; Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish,* 205.

[5] "Introducing Onalaska...City With Growing Pains," *The La Crosse Tribune,* 17 October 1976, 1/top.

Surveyed properties are associated with the following themes*:
***Bolded** addresses denote properties discussed in Chapter 4: Recommendations; see Chapter 2: Architecture for properties surveyed in association with the Architecture theme.

AGRICULTURE

1281 County Road PH	House (Ca. 1900)	AHI#231084
2137 Sand Lake Road	Farm (Ca. 1900)	AHI#232256-58

COMMERCE

201 Main Street	**Onalaska State Bank (1912)**	**AHI#136205**
205 Main Street	Luedtke Pharmacy/ Luedtke Walgreen Agency, Inc. (1964)	AHI#136206
401 Main Street	Dickinson Funeral Home (1974)	AHI#230963
625 Main Street	La Crosse Community Credit Union (1981)	AHI#230960
1145 Main Street	Bank of Onalaska (1970)	AHI#232259
710 2nd Avenue N	Sunset Inn Motel (1968; 1987)	AHI#231077-78
716 2nd Avenue N	The Blue Moon (1924)	AHI#231079
926 2nd Avenue N	Lake Motel (Ca. 1955)	AHI#136178

EDUCATION

3015 Kinney Coulee Road S	**Fauver Hill School (1924; 1957; 1966; 1974)**	**AHI#72365**
410 Main Street	First Lutheran Church Education Center (1963)	AHI#230962
212 4th Avenue N	Onalaska Methodist Church Educational Unit (1960)	AHI#230946

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

330 Main Street	Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge (1882)/Onalaska Lodge No. 214, F. & A.M.	AHI#72487

INDUSTRY

841 2nd Avenue SW	**Onalaska Brewery/ J.S. Gedney Pickle Company/ Onalaska Pickle & Canning Company (1884; Ca. 1901; Ca. 1911; Ca. 1920)**	**AHI#72485**
718 2nd Avenue SW	Frame Office Building (Ca. 1900)	AHI#231085
423 4th Avenue N	**Earl M. Page House (1916)**	**AHI#230965**
"	Earl M. Page Workshop (Ca. 1927)	AHI#231067

NOTABLE PERSONS

530 La Crosse Street	Ole T. and Christine Kraabel House (Ca. 1890)	AHI#72473
229 2nd Avenue N	**Irving & Alberta Pertzsch House (1951)**	**AHI#230954**
230-232 2nd Avenue N	Frank I. Phelps House (Ca. 1882)	AHI#230969
421 3rd Avenue S	Thomas & Hannah Aiken House (Ca. 1903)	AHI#230964
414 4th Avenue S	**Thomas & Mary Thompson House (Ca. 1885)**	**AHI#72472**

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

1008 Main Street	Donald Barney & William Baumgardner DDS, Office (1972)	AHI#231080
202 3rd Avenue N	Drs. George Reay Office (Ca. 1930) (served as office in the 1940s-50s)	AHI#231068

RELIGION

410 Main Street	First Lutheran Church (1954)	AHI#230961
"	First Lutheran Church Education Center (1963)	AHI#230962
1031 Main Street	St. Patrick's Catholic Church (1960)	AHI#230967
"	St. Patrick's Catholic Rectory (1960)	AHI#230968
701 Well Street	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (1972; 1982)	AHI#230949
212 4th Avenue N	Onalaska United Methodist Church (1972; 1985)	AHI#230947
"	Onalaska Methodist Church Educational Unit (1960)	AHI#230946
112 9th Avenue N	St. Paul's German Lutheran Parish Hall (1928)	AHI#230953
127 11th Avenue N	St. Patrick's Catholic School, Church & Convent (1951; 1984; 2013)	AHI#230966

CHAPTER 2: ARCHITECTURE

While there are certainly a few architect-designed structures in the city, the majority of Onalaska buildings were constructed by local builders and carpenters. As well, much of the city's building stock is vernacular, which means they do not outwardly express detailing that is particular to a specific style. Construction materials chosen for buildings was generally based on availability of those materials, what was in vogue for that time period, as well as the amount of money available to the patron at the time of construction. Among the most notable vernacular homes in the community is the Thomas & Mary Thompson House at **414 4th Avenue S** (Ca. 1885; AHI#72472). Sheathed with clapboard, the largely unadorned house is a gabled T-plan. Detailing is limited to the turned wooden supports of the porch, simple wooden raised window surrounds, as well as the modest ornamentation that trims the bay on the south side of the house. Also retaining their clapboard sheathing but not representing any particular style are the homes at **921 Main Street** (Ca. 1920; AHI#230958), **631 Oak Avenue** (Ca. 1900; AHI#231076) and 2137 Sand Lake Road (Ca. 1900; AHI#232256).

A review of the inventoried structures indicates that about half of the approximately thirty total surveyed structures that date prior to 1950 retain their original sheathing—either stone, brick or clapboard. Just one of the surveyed properties, the former Onalaska Brewery/J.S. Gedney Pickle Company/Onalaska Pickle and Canning Company, located at **849-905 2nd Avenue SW** (1884; Ca. 1901-1920; AHI#72485), is constructed of limestone.

BRICK

Of the pre-1950 buildings surveyed, just five of them employ brick. Indeed, there were no known brick manufactories in the immediate vicinity; however, La Crosse was home to a few. Although painted white, the home of Thomas & Hannah Aiken at **421 3rd Avenue S** (Ca. 1903; AHI#230964) is one of the few early brick residential examples in the city. Of those surveyed structures that were built after 1950, the bulk of them are either entirely, or at least partially, faced with brick, including nearly all of the church properties.

CONCRETE BLOCK

While the earliest recorded use of concrete dates to 121 B.C., the development of concrete blocks occurred in the 1830s, when patents were granted for precast concrete blocks from compressing hydraulic lime into wooden frames. In 1855, two Wisconsinites received a patent for a variation that mixed sand and lime in certain proportions. Effective commercial production of concrete blocks did not occur, however, until 1868, when the Frear Stone Manufacturing Company of Chicago used metal presses. As more presses developed, the availability and popularity of concrete blocks increased. The blocks, which were described as "cheaper than stone and stronger than brick," were widely used until sometime in the 1930s. In Onalaska, C. E. "Ed" Randall, was a known cement contractor. His firm is identified as having produced the cement for much of the early sidewalk in the city. His nephew, Earl Page, would learn the trade and build himself the

house located at **423 4th Avenue N** (1916; AHI#230965), out of rock-faced concrete blocks that he made himself. Although significantly less decorative, his workshop (located immediately south of the house; Ca. 1927; AHI#231067), is also made out of concrete blocks. Fredrick Holthaus is also noted as having been in the cement block business, operating the Onalaska Artificial Stone Company. Although no specific homes (of those surveyed) are identified with Holthaus' blocks, they are cited as used for porches or trim throughout the city—and no doubt includes the porch supports of the brick-faced, Friedrich & Ann Holthaus home at **837 Main Street** (Ca. 1900; AHI#230956).[6]

QUEEN ANNE

Briefly summarized, Queen Anne architecture is a late-Victorian era building style characterized by an irregular plan, often evident through asymmetrical walls. A combination of various building materials ranging from shingles, clapboard and brick may be used on one structure, while typical details include large porches or verandas, turrets, bay windows and decorative patterns such as fish-scale and diamond shingles. Although Onalaska has no true, intact examples of the Queen Anne style, the carved wooden porchwork that remains along the south side of the house at **323 4th Avenue S** (AHI#231082), illustrates the decorative nature of the style. Although believed to have been built circa 1880 by Hogan and Martha Berg, the decorative porchwork may not have been added until circa 1898, when Willis E. and Aurilla Barber purchased the house.

AMERICAN FOURSQUARE

Popularized by mail-order catalogues, the American Foursquare residence is typically two stories, features a nearly square plan and usually displays a large porch across its primary and generally symmetrical façade. Foursquares are typically topped with a low, broad, hipped roof pierced on each side—or at least the primary façade—by a central roof dormer. Exterior materials range from clapboard to stucco to concrete block. A good--and the only surveyed--example of an American Foursquare is the house of Thomas & Hannah Aiken at **421 3rd Avenue S** (Ca. 1903; AHI#230964). In addition to its brick construction, it also includes a decorative concrete block, front porch.

BUNGALOW

The bungalow, which is perhaps more a form than a style, became popular in Wisconsin between 1910 and 1940. Characterized as an economical dwelling with simple lines, the bungalow typically rises one-and-one-half stories and features a wide, projecting roof, often low-pitched and featuring a dormer window. The roof, which oftentimes features exposed rafter tails, allows for large, façade-length porches, which may be enclosed. Clapboard siding is usually predominant; however, stucco and brick are also commonly used. Woodwork, including knee braces and brackets, tends to be plain but solid. Numerous mail-order catalogues of the period featured varied plans that could be obtained cheaply and then executed by a local builder. While

[6] Barbara Wyatt, ed. *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin,* 3 vols. (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Historic Preservation Division, 1986), Vol. 2, Architecture, 4/8-9; Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish,* 120, 126, 276.

prevalent in many Wisconsin cities, Onalaska has a limited number of bungalow examples. Based on property ownership records, the clapboard-sheathed, one-story bungalow at **414 2nd Avenue N** (Ca. 1930; AHI#136203), which was owned by the Aiken family, may have been built from plans obtained from the Aiken Lumber Company. Another largely intact frame example is the house located at **308 2nd Avenue N** (Ca. 1920; AHI#136202). Two examples, seemingly sheathed later in their lives with a stucco veneer, include the homes of Frank & Sophia Uehling at **512 4th Avenue N** (Ca. 1929; AHI#230950) and Bernhard Nelson at **213 4th Avenue S** (Ca. 1930; AHI#231072). Finally, a very good and largely intact bungalow built of concrete block is located at **423 4th Avenue N** (1916; AHI#230965), the home of cement contractor Earl M. Page (and later his family).

CAPE COD OR MINIMAL TRADITIONAL

The "Cape Cod' style has its roots in 17th century homes that were built in Cape Cod, Massachusetts. The first known usage of the term "Cape Cod House" is recorded to have occurred in 1800, in a statement made by Yale College president Timothy Dwight. Generally small in size, original examples were generally clad with wooden shingles and sited to take advantage of the sun. They offered little in the way of a "style" aside from basic Colonial elements and were more often one-half or three-quarter Capes. When Colonial architecture was revived in the 1930s, the "Cape Cod" also came back. This time, however, they were full Capes, meaning that they were symmetrical along the entrance elevation, with a centered front door. On the inside, the staircase was typically at the center, with a kitchen and dining room on one side and a living room on the other. The second level generally had a bedroom to either side of the staircase and a bathroom at the center. The 1930s examples are also generally modest in size, rise one-and-one-half stories and have little ornamentation. Notably, some house plan books of the 1930s classified such homes as bungalows or semi-bungalows, albeit some noting the Colonial Revival-style influence on the exterior.[7]

All built between the 1930s and the 1940s, the following homes can be classified as examples of Cape Cod houses:

1227 County Road PH	Fred & Louise Pralle House (1947)	AHI#231081
208 3rd Avenue N	Warren & Vivian Aiken House (Ca. 1935)	AHI#231069
302 4th Avenue S	Maurice & Emma Enge House (Ca. 1941)	AHI#231070
402 8th Avenue S	Cora Bowen House (Ca. 1930)	AHI#231073
113 9th Avenue N	Floyd & Sadie Brotz House (1940)	AHI#231065
418 9th Avenue S	Cape Cod House (Ca. 1945)	AHI#231074

[7] Patricia Poore, "Cape Cod Cottage & History of Cape Cod Architecture," Available online at www.oldhouseonline.com/original-cape-cod-cottage, Accessed July 2016; *Ideal Homes of the 1930s* (Mineola, NY: Dover Publications, Inc., 2010), 9, 35, 43, 81, 89, 113. Book originally published as the 11th edition of *Ideal Homes: Two-story Houses* (St. Paul, MN: Plan Service Company, ca. 1933).

RANCH

The concept of the Ranch house was born as early as 1925. But it was not until the 1940s that a group of West Coast architects formalized what became the "Western Ranch House." Ranch homes are strictly one story and rectilinear in design and most often feature a hipped roof and an attached garage. Early Ranch examples are generally modest in size and the house located at **224 4th Avenue N** (1952; AHI#230948) is a good example of a small-scale, frame Ranch house that retains its original, horizontal-pane windows. A large Ranch example is the stone-sheathed home of Irving & Alberta Pertzsch at **229 2nd Avenue N** (1951; AHI#230954). It features a combination of horizontal-sash and plate-glass picture windows, some of which featured mitred corners.

MODERN/CONTEMPORARY

This category represents the majority of the buildings built from circa 1950 and thereafter. While still considered by some as not "historic," many structures built in the 1950s through the 1970s are slowly coming of age. Since some of these structures are still "too young" to have been appropriately categorized for their stylistic features, they are vaguely grouped and termed "Contemporary." Some, which display a distinct horizontal emphasis and perhaps a flat roofline, can be identified as "Wrightian" in design, a nod to master architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Materials utilized for their construction are still considered modern but not necessarily innovative and can include a combination of brick, glass and/or wood. Onalaska does not have Wrightian examples of architecture. The following is a list of Onalaska buildings considered to be Contemporary design examples.

401 Main Street	Dickinson Funeral Home (1974)	AHI#230963
410 Main Street	First Lutheran Church (1954)	AHI#230961
1008 Main Street	Donald Barney & William Baumgardner DDS, Office (1972)	AHI#231080
1031 Main Street	St. Patrick's Catholic Church (1960)	AHI#230967
"	St. Patrick's Catholic Rectory (1960)	AHI#230968
1403 Monroe Street	Bernard & Bonnie Bachmann House (1973)	AHI#231083
309 Spruce Street	Delbert & Grace Buchmiller House (1966)	AHI#231066
701 Well Street	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (1972; 1982)	AHI#230949
212 4th Avenue N	Onalaska United Methodist Church (1972; 1985)	AHI#230947
308 6th Avenue N	Wayne & Bonnie Hotson House (1963)	AHI#230955
109 9th Avenue S	Hubert & Vera Shuda House (1973)	AHI#230952
132 9th Avenue S	Charles & Agnes Price House (1958; 1969)	AHI#232255

NEO-ECLECTIC

Within this "modern" period of architecture the Neo-Eclectic subgroup emerged, which drew from the earlier Revival Styles, including Mansard, Colonial and Mediterranean—either specifically or a combination thereof. The first was the Mansard, which takes its name from its distinctive Mansard roof. Likewise, Neocolonial examples drew from the Colonial Revival style and loosely incorporated such elements as columnar porch supports, corner quoining and/or multiple-light windows. Finally, Neo-Mediterranean examples generally include round arches, stucco finish and, sometimes, a red tile roof. Onalaska is home to examples of all of the preceding Neo-Eclectic styles.[8]

906 Main Street	Roger & Beulah Grangaard House (1966)	AHI#230957
1145 Main Street	Bank of Onalaska (1970)	AHI#232259
108 Oak Forest Drive	Richard & Rita Nelson House (1977)	AHI#230940
116 Oak Forest Drive	William & Joyce Murphy House (1980)	AHI#230941
1005 Quincy Street	Christopher & Mary Salek House (1979)	AHI#230942
1013 Quincy Street	Roy Jr. & Mary Jaeger House (1978)	AHI#230943

[8] Virginia & Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1990), 487.

CHAPTER 3: ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS & BUILDERS

There are very few known architects, builders and/or contractors of the surveyed buildings; especially for the early buildings. From 1854 to 1864, Harvey J. Peck is identified as residing in Onalaska, where he worked in the carpentry and joiners' trade, in association with an H.D. Egerly. A review of the Town of Onalaska biographical entries in the 1881 *History of La Crosse County* identifies two men, both also farmers, as being trained in the carpentry trade. They include R. R. Congdon and George E. Hawkins, neither of which is associated with the construction of any surveyed buildings. Stone work contractor Hans Moe resided in Onalaska as of 1870. Following a career in the lumber business, he turned his attention to working as a stone work contractor, which he continued through at least 1907. Like the preceding men, no associated buildings were identified as a result of this survey.[9]

BUILDERS/CONTRACTORS

Among the earliest men identified with the construction of a surveyed property is that of **Joseph Burgermeister** of La Crosse. He was born in Austria in 1843 and immigrated to the United States in 1863; he moved to La Crosse in the fall of that same year. After service in the Civil War (February 1864 to October 1865), he began working as a stone mason, the trade of which he had learned in Germany. In 1866, he wed Theresa Islet. The 1885 *La Crosse City Directory* indicates that Burgermeister, a contractor and builder, was responsible for the construction of the 1884 limestone Onalaska Brewery buildings at **849-905 2nd Avenue SW** (AHI#72485). Buildings to his credit (identified in the 1885 directory) included "the great stone mills, owned and operated by Messrs. A.A. Freeman & Co., and Wm. Listman, the well known brewery at Onalaska, the ice houses connected with the breweries of Messrs. C. & J. Michel, the John Gund Brewing Co., and G. Heileman, many of the finest public buildings which grace the city, and the foundations for a number of the largest and best school houses." Burgermeister died in 1929.[10]

Another known 1880s-era builder was Lars Osgaard. Lars was the uncle of Ole Kraabel, who is recorded as having designed his own house located at **530 La Crosse Street** (Ca. 1890; AHI#72473). Ole reportedly hand-picked the lumber from the lumber year at which he worked as the foreman—the Island Mill Lumber Company. From Ole's plans, Lars and his three sons, August, Olaf and Julius, built the house. Ole is also identified as having designed the Norwegian Lutheran Church in Onalaska (no longer extant), the plans from which Lars and his sons built the church. Lars is identified as still residing in Onalaska as of the 1893 *Onalaska City Directory*.[11]

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[9] Butterfield, *The History of La Crosse County*, 472, 810, 814; Brief biography of Hans Moe in Bryant, ed., *Memoirs of La Crosse County*, 358-59.
[10] Butterfield, *History of La Crosse County* (1881), 743; *La Crosse* (WI) *City Directory*, 1885, 96.
[11] Information regarding the construction of the Kraabel home, as well as the Norwegian Lutheran Church in "Ole Kraabel," Biographical information compiled by a Kraabel family member, Provided to Traci E. Schnell by Wanda Weinberg, Ohio; a citation of a "Mr. Osgaard" is included in the sketch on the First Norwegian Lutheran Church in Dolbier, *From Sawmils to Sunfish,* 217.

Earl Page who was born in 1892 in Sparta, Wisconsin. Page would move to Onalaska circa 1910/early 1910s to work for his uncle, **C. E. "Ed" Randall**, a **cement** contractor. His firm is identified as having produced the cement for much of the early sidewalk in the city. Earl would learn the trade and build the subject house out of cement that he made himself. The following year Page would serve in World War I, during which time he was exposed to mustard gas and subsequently lost a lung. After recovery in a hospital in France, he returned to Onalaska and the cement contracting business. In 1916, Earl built himself a concrete block house at **423 4th Avenue N** (AHI#230964) Four years later, he wed Ida Schnick and they had two children, Earl Jr. and Anita. In 1927, Earl obtained the warehouse-type building to the south from his uncle. Earl remained in business--as Earl Page & Son Contracting--into the 1950s; he died on 15 December 1961. Ida remained in the home until her death in 1989.

Arnold LeFebre was born in La Crosse on 14 March 1938, the son of Arnold and Bernice (Nee Lamke) Lefebre. He married Anita Thaldorf on 29 March 1958. Arnold (aka "Skip") ran LeFebre Electric and Construction and is noted as having built many homes in the Onalaska and La Crosse area. He is identified as having built the Hubert & Vera Shuda House at **109 9th Avenue S** (1971; AHI#230952). Le Febre died on 19 April 1916.

Horman Builders

401 Main Street	Dickinson Funeral Home (1974)	AHI#230963

Peter Nelson & Son

1145 Main Street	Bank of Onalaska (1970)	AHI#232259

ARCHITECTS

Boyum, Schubert & Sorensen of La Crosse was the architect for the 1951 St. Patrick's Church, School and Convent at **127 11th Avenue N** (AHI#230966). Comprised of Benjamin O. Boyum (1884-1954), Carl W. Schubert (1898-1988) and Roy E. Sorensen (1891-1960), the firm was established in 1928. Boyum graduated in 1910 from the University of Minnesota with a degree in civil engineering. He was a draftsman from 1907-1910 with Long & Long (later Long, Lamoreaux, Long) in Minneapolis, after which he established his own practice in Weyburn, Saskatchewan, Canada (1910-1915) and later in Peterson, Minnesota (1915-1928). Schubert attended Lawrence College in Appleton, Wisconsin, (1918-19) and, later, the University of Minnesota (1921-23). Prior to joining the firm, he worked as a draftsman for the Standard Oil Company of Indiana (out of La Crosse). Finally, Sorenson, who did not have formal school training, served as a draftsman at the Trane Company in La Crosse (1912-1916) and then as superintendent at the Curtiss Airplane Factory in Buffalo, New York. He then returned to Wisconsin and worked from 1918-1927 for his father, O.J. Sorensen, an architect in La Crosse. Following Boyum's death in 1954, Schubert & Sorensen continued in La Crosse and Winona, Minnesota, until Sorensen's death in 1960. William Schroeder joined Schubert in 1971 and the firm was known as Schubert, Schroeder & Associates. In 1973, the firm was sold to Kratt-Lachecki-Meyers & Solberg of La Crosse. Among the firms more notable designs include the National Register-listed Winona City Hall (1939), Winona, Minnesota, Longfellow Junior High

(1939) in La Crosse, Wisconsin and the 1950 Onalaska Elementary School (later named Pertzsch Elementary) at 524 Main Street (not surveyed due to modern additions).[12]

The firm of **Hackner, Schroeder, Roslansky & Assoc., Inc**. is the architect on record for the Church of Jesus Christ, Latter Day Saints at **701 Well Street** (1972; AHI#230949), which was built in 1972. The firm is recorded as using one of the several standard designs approved by the church and they modified it for the local congregation. After earning degrees in architecture from Notre Dame and the University of Pennsylvania in 1942 and 1948, respectively, the firm began in 1953 with Robert Hackner (b. 1921) establishing an office in the Rivoli Building in La Crosse. Three years later, Hackner was joined by Racine, Wisconsin native Harry Schroeder (b. 1924). Schroeder received architecture degrees from both the University of Wisconsin-Madison (1948) and Rice University (1952), after which he worked in Milwaukee. In 1956, the firm then incorporated as Hackner, Schroeder and Associates, Inc. The firm was further expanded in the late 1960s to include Roger Roslansky. In 1972, they built their offices at 100 Milwaukee Street. In the 1970s-80s, they employed up to 55 persons. During that period, they shortened their name to HSR Associates, the firm of which continues today. The firm is identified as having designed the La Crosse City Hall, La Crosse Public Library, La Crosse Municipal Airport, as well as UW-La Crosse's Mitchell and North halls, among others.[13]

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[12] "St. Patrick's in Onalaska to Open This Fall," *The La Crosse* (WI) *Tribune*, 19 August 1951, 5/2; Biographical information gleaned from the following three sources: "Questionnaire for Architects' Roster," (Boyum, Schubert & Sorensen) 23 October 1947, 3 May 1949 and 10 February 1953, Available online at http://public.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/AIA%20scans/Rosters/BoyumSchubertSorenson_roster.pdf, Accessed July 2016; "Roy Sorensen, City Architect, Dies Thursday," *The La Crosse Tribune*, 29 January 1960; "Local Architecture Firm Sells to Kratt-Lachecki," *The La Crosse Tribune*, 2 September 1972, 4/7.

[13] "Mormon Church Nearing Completion in Onalaska," *The La Crosse Tribune*, 10 June 1972, 5/4-6; Reid Magney, "Architecture Firm Celebrates 50th Anniversary," *The La Crosse Tribune*, 22 October 2006. *American Architects Directory, 1956* (New York, NY: R. R. Bowker, 1955), 217; *American Architects Directory* (New York, NY: R.R. Bowker, 1962), 624.

CHAPTER 4: RECOMMENDATIONS

Of the total fifty-six properties inventoried and photographed for this survey, seven individual properties were thought to offer a sufficient degree of historical intrigue and/or architectural integrity to suggest potential for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Those seven resources are listed below. Expanded discussions of those properties follow the list. Please note that no historic districts were identified.

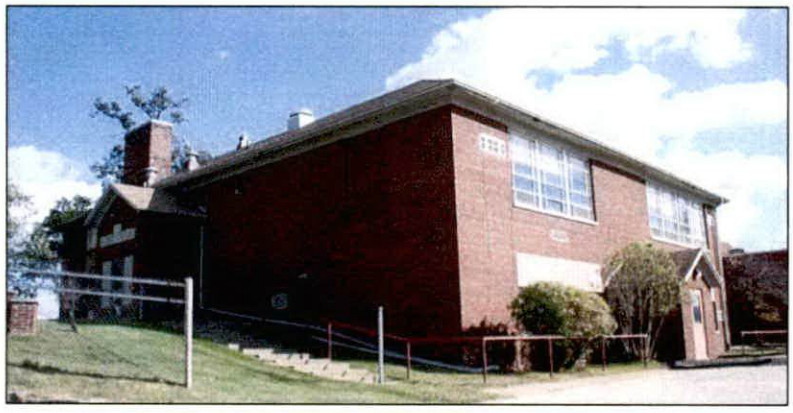
ADDRESS	NAME/RESOURCE	AHI#
3015 Kinney Coulee Road S	Fauver Hill School (1924; 1957; 1966; 1974)	72365
201 Main Street	Onalaska State Bank (1912)	136205
229 2nd Avenue N	Irving & Alberta Pertzsch House (1951)	230954
841 2nd Avenue SW	Onalaska Brewery/Gedney Pickle Co./Onalaska Pickle and Canning Co. (1884; Ca. 1901; Ca. 1911; Ca. 1920)	72485
423 4th Avenue N	Earl M. Page House & Workshop (1916; Ca. 1927)	230965, 231067
512 4th Avenue N	Frank & Sophia Uehling House & Outbuilding (Ca. 1929)	230950-51
414 4th Avenue S	Thomas & Mary Thompson House (Ca. 1885)	72472

INTENSIVE SURVEY RECOMMENDATION DISCUSSIONS

Individual Properties

Address	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
3015 Kinney Coulee Road S	72365	Potentially Eligible

Description and Statement of Significance



Fauver Hill School (1924 with additions), 3015 Kinney Coulee Road S.

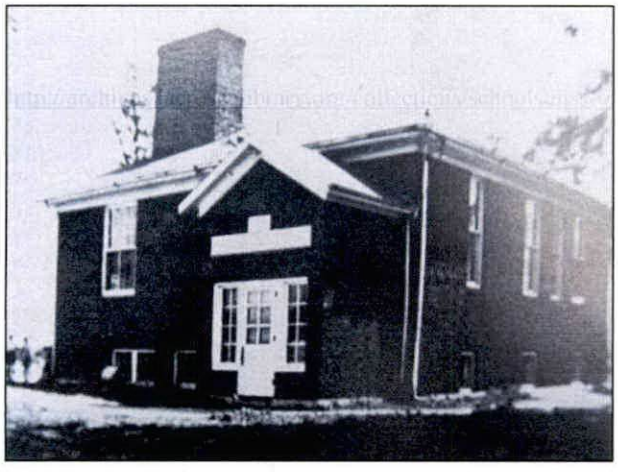
This former school building is comprised of four primary periods of construction that date to 1924, 1957, 1966 and 1974. The building's original 1924-25, one-story, plus raised basement, hipped-roof block is evident along the northwest/STH 16. Sheathed with brick, it includes a projecting, one-story gabled entry above which reads "Fauver Hill School" and "1924," inscribed in stone. A large rectangular chimney rises from the roof. Extending to the southwest from the 1924 block is the two-story, hipped-roof 1957 wing. Centered within its southwest elevation is a one-story, gabled and projecting entrance with a metal-and-glass door. A bank of three windows are located along each level to the left (west) of the door, while a similar bank of four windows is found east of the entry. The two-story, flat-roofed, 1966 brick-clad wing extends from the rear of the 1924 and 1957 blocks. The visible northwest elevation is entirely devoid of fenestration, while the southwest elevation carries regular window openings along each level. The rearmost, 1974 brick-faced, gymnasium block is also topped with a flat roof, nor does it include any windows.

The first school in this area, which was then known as the Town of Campbell, was built in 1867. In 1880, that school was replaced by a new, one-room school building, also known as District #3 School and which was built on the subject parcel, upon land donated by David Claude Fauver. It was not until 1919 that the school was renamed Fauver Hill School. Shortly thereafter, the more modern, concrete block and brick-clad Fauver Hill School was completed in 1925 at a cost of $8,944.07. Although still only including one classroom, it also included a library, storage room and kitchen. By 1932, bus transportation was provided to those children that lived more than two miles from the school and, four years later, running water was installed by Works Progress Administration workers.[14]

[14] Fauver Hill Kindergarten Center (Onalaska, WI) Records, 1915-1999), MSS 092, Available at the La Crosse Public Library Archives, La Crosse, WI, Guide to and summary of records available online at

Crowding was evident by the early 1950s and, in 1953, the seventh and eighth grade classes were transferred over to the "Campus School" at the State Teachers College in La Crosse. Despite that change, additional space was still needed and an addition was made to the subject building that was completed in 1957. At the same time, additional land was purchased for a playground and a parking lot, while the new brick-faced wing provided for three classrooms, two restrooms, a teachers' room, kitchen and a multi-purpose room. A hot lunch program was started and two cooks were hired, along with a janitor and four additional teachers. In 1960, the school joined the Onalaska School District and the following year Kindergarten was added.[15]

In 1966, another addition was made to the school. Attached to the building and extending to the southeast, this two-story, brick-faced wing included four classrooms. Finally, in 1974, a concrete block-constructed gymnasium was added at the easternmost end of the facility. In 1978, the parcel upon which the school was located was incorporated into the City of Onalaska. In 1983, the school, which had most recently housed K thru 4th grade, was made into a Kindergarten Center and all elementary school-age children were sent either to Northern Hills or Pertszch Elementary schools in Onalaska. Conversely, all district kindergarten children were transported to this school building.[16]



Fauver Hill School, Historic image, ca. 1940s. In Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish* (1985), 203.

Increased elementary school enrollment throughout the district resulted in the approval of an $11.8 million referendum (in 1997) to build a new elementary school and kindergarten wing. Two years later, Eagle Bluff Elementary School and Onalaska Kindergarten Center were completed and the subject property was sold to Gunderson Lutheran Hospital for $1.4 million. The subject facility was, thereafter, used for exercise and health education programs; however, the building is no longer utilized at the present time.[17]

A National Register Questionnaire Form, recommending the potential eligibility of the Fauver Hill School, was completed and submitted to the Wisconsin Historical Society in October 2015. The WHS response to the questionnaire was a request for additional photos of the additions and, if possible, interior photographs. No additional documentation was provided; however, WHS staff reviewed the exterior of the property in person in April 2016. Following that review, it was determined that

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http://archives.lacroseelibrary.org/collections/schools/mss-092, Accessed July 2016; Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish*, 202-03.

[15] Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish,* 203; Fauver Hill Kindergarten Center Records, Summary and Historical Note.

[16] The date of construction for the gymnasium is identified as 1970 in Dolbier; however, it is noted as 1974 in the school records; therefore, the school records date is the one that is utilized in this discussion, Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish,* 203; Fauver Hill Kindergarten Center Records, 1915-1999, Historical Note.

[17] Fauver Hill Kindergarten Center Records, 1915-1999, Historical Note.

the facility had a good degree on integrity, as the additions were all added during the school's Period of Significance, 1924 to 1974.[18]

Although an interior inspection of the building could not be completed for purposes of this report, the subject building's exterior does, indeed, reflect the history of education in the greater Onalaska area. The community does not retain any pre-1950/historic school buildings other than this facility. The next "oldest" school building in Onalaska is Pertzsch Elementary at 524 Main Street. Although built in 1950, that facility has been altered by modern additions. Based on the visible exterior of the building--which would be largely recognizable to past students attending the school--the property is recommended potentially eligible under Criterion A: History (Education). However, if after an interior inspection it were found that the building no longer retained an acceptable degree integrity of classroom layout, hallways, staircases, etc., the potentially eligible recommendation could be reversed.

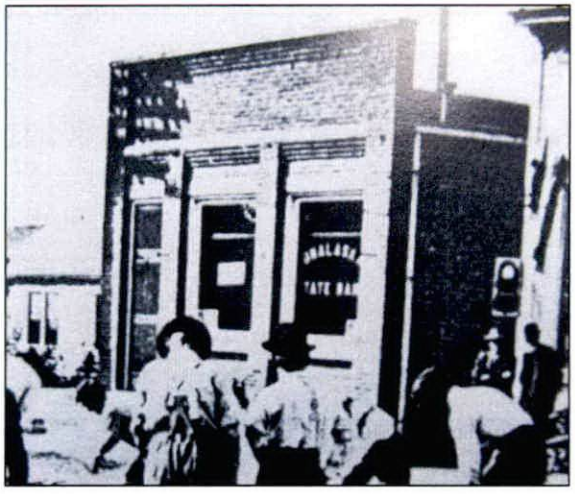
Address	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
201 Main Street	136205	Determined Eligible in 2011

Description and Statement of Significance

Rising from a raised stone foundation, this small, one-story, commercial building is topped with a flat roof and faced with brick. A brick parapet rises from above a prominent cornice that features dentil trim that runs along the front (south) elevation of the building and around to the west, along 2nd Avenue N/STH 35. A large, two-light, plate-glass window with a continuous stone sill punctuates the entrance elevation, along with a replacement door. The west elevation includes a door that is flanked by a single, plate-glass window to either side. Although the building is, today, utilized as a wine bar, the first-floor interior of the former bank building retains the original vault, while the former public banking area is an open area (with tables). A room at the rear, which includes a decorative tin ceiling, now functions as an office. The lower level also includes a vault, which is believed to have been added when the building served as a bank for a second time, from 1968-1970.

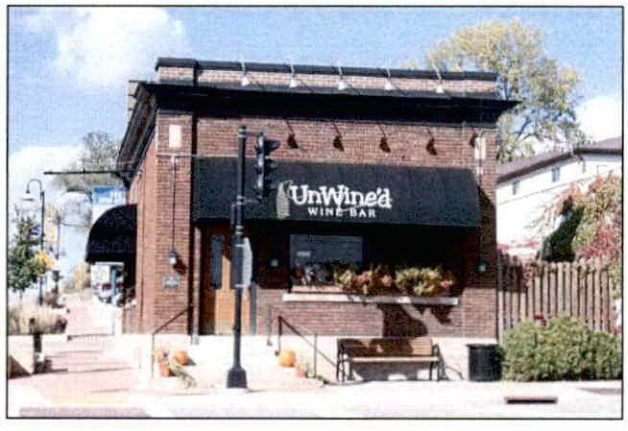
Historic, but undated photos of the building--when it served as the Onalaska State Bank, indicate that the entrance elevation originally featured a parapet front and that brick pilasters divided the primary elevation into four bays. The cornice that is evident today, as well as the parapet that raises above it, is not original to the building. In fact, the structure appears to perhaps have been re-bricked, for the stone insets that are located in the outer pilasters of the entrance elevation are also a later alteration. With no available photos of the building from the mid-1930s to the 1960s, it is unknown as to when those alterations were made. It is possible that they were completed when the building was converted for use as the post office.[19]

[18] "Fauver Hill School," National Register Questionnaire Form, Completed by Ms. Sheila Helfrich, Onalaska, Wisconsin, 6 October 2015, Form at file at the Wisconsin Historical Society, Division of Historic Preservation, Madison, WI.
[19] Historic photos of the bank are included in Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish*, 126, 312.



Onalaska State Bank, Historic photo, undated. In Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish* (1985), 312.

The Onalaska State Bank received their charter from the Wisconsin State Banking Commission on 27 May 1912, approximately six months after area businessmen determined that the village needed its own banking facility. Directors of the bank included Abel N. Moore, Thomas G. Aiken, Gustave A. Kaeppler, R. D. Gordon and Ellsworth. T. Johnson. Officers of the institution included Moore as president, Kaeppler as vice president and John Aiken as cashier. When the bank opened, it was among thirty-four other state banks to open in Wisconsin. Bid information for the building indicated that it was to be faced with "Mormon Coulee" brick and interior floors to be of yellow pine. Teller booths were located at the front of the building (fronting a vault) and the bank director's office was at the rear. As of the end of 1917, bank resources were reported as $176,289.61, up from the mere $17,035.80 noted in the first year of operation. In 1929, the bank was robbed of approximately $1,950 by a La Crosse resident, who was apprehended shortly thereafter in Eveleth, Minnesota. [20]



Onalaska State Bank (1912), 201 Main Street.

Following the National Bank Holiday of 1933, the bank never recovered and closed shortly thereafter; however, all assets were not fully liquidated until 1943. Following some interior renovations, the building was used from 1937 to 1957 as the Onalaska Post Office, after which it served as a sporting goods store (1957-1966). As of April 1968, the structure was again used as a bank—the Bank of Onalaska—which would later move to their new facility at 1145 Main Street. The establishment of the Bank of Onalaska was the first banking facility to establish itself in Onalaska since the failure of the Onalaska State Bank. It was thereafter used as a real estate office (1972-1974); day care (1975); and gift shop (1979-1980). Since 1981, it has served as a restaurant and, most recently, a wine bar.[21]

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[20] A citation in the 1907 *Memoirs of La Crosse County* notes that a bank was started in Onalaska circa 1856; however, it was not able to "weather the financial crisis" that occurred soon thereafter, Bryant, ed., *Memoirs of La Crosse County*, 166; "Annual Banking Report Issued," *The Grand Rapids* (WI) *Tribune*, 8 January 1913, 2/6; *Twenty-Third Annual Report of the Commissioner of Banking on State Banks, Mutual Savings Banks and Trust Companies* (Madison: Democrat Printing Co., 1918), 277 (includes date of charter); "Onalaska Robber Held at Eveleth," *The Sheboygan* (WI) *Press*, 23 February 1929, 8/3; Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish*, 126; "Onalaska State Bank," Determination of Eligibility (DOE), Prepared by Barbara Kooiman, March 2011, n.p;

In 2011, as a result of a survey conducted for a Wisconsin Department of Transportation project along STH 35, the bank building was recommended as potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C: Architecture, as a very good and intact example of the Neoclassical Revival style of architecture. The former bank building was noted as the only example of the style in the entire City of Onalaska. Despite that recommendation and following WHS staff review, the structure was determined eligible not for architecture but for its association with Commerce in the City of Onalaska, as the first, and only, bank in the community for nearly a quarter century. Following its closing, Onalaska would not see a new banking establishment in its boundaries until the Bank of Onalaska was established in the 1960s. Despite the alterations made to the building for its interim use as a post office, the building, which is a locally designated landmark, continues to retain a level of integrity that continues to support potential eligibility under Criterion A: History (Commerce and Government).

Address	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
229 2nd Avenue N	230954	Potentially Eligible

Description and Statement of Significance

This sprawling, one-story Ranch house is sheathed with stone veneer and topped with a hipped roof. The street-facing elevation is dominated by large picture windows, including a mitred corner window, as well as three entrances. Windows along the side elevations appear to include original, horizontal sash examples; a porthole window is located along the south elevation of the garage wing.

The house, which overlooks Lake Onalaska, was built in 1951 by Irving "Irv" H. and Alberta (nee Latshaw) Pertzsch, who wed in 1930. Following his 1923 graduation from Onalaska High School, Irving (born Irvin) first worked for the Standard Oil Company in Onalaska. After building Standard Oil stations in the area, he started in 1929 his own construction company which included bridge construction. The firm is identified as having built five of the bridges that link Wisconsin to Minnesota, along I-90; the company also paved STH 35 when it was built in 1952. After serving two years as an alderman, Irving was elected mayor of Onalaska in 1936 and served five consecutive, two-year terms. It was during this period that, along with the aid of WPA grants, he was instrumental in the installation of the city's sewage system. It was also during this time that many of the city's streets were first paved. In 1950, an elementary school was named after him; the school (located at 524 Main Street) continues to bear his name. Following the 1950 death of Mayor Ben Sias and the immediately subsequent death of John Nicholson (Sias's replacement who died just three days later) the City Council appointed Pertzsch to fulfill the term. He would hold the mayoral position until 1974. He officially retired from the construction business in 1982 and died in December 1984. Highlights of his civil

[21] "Post Office Moves to New Building," *The La Crosse Tribune*, 21 February 1957, 14/5; "Onalaska State Bank," DOE, n.p.; "8 Propose Onalaska Bank; Hearing is Set," *The La Crosse Tribune*, 27 June 1967, 9/3-4; "Onalaska Bank Draws No Opposition," *The La Crosse Tribune*, 7 July 1967, 9/4; "Onalaska Bank Plans to Open In 2 Months," *The La Crosse Tribune*, 3 February 1968, 4/6; Bank of Onalaska, opening ad, *The La Crosse Tribune*, 30 August 1970, page 14, bottom half.

service career include the 1936 dedication of Lake Onalaska, and the 1968 dedication of the new Onalaska City Hall (no longer extant).[22]

Irving & Alberta Pertzsch House (1951), 229 2nd Avenue N.

No information was found to suggest potential eligibility under Criterion A: History. Regarding Criterion C: Architecture, the house is a good and largely intact example of a "high-style" Ranch house. Despite that fact, the house is not recommended as potentially eligible in that regard. It is, however, recommended as potentially eligible for the National Register under Criterion B: Significant Persons for its association with Irving Pertzsch. While a total tenure of thirty-four years as mayor is notable, it is what he accomplished during his time as mayor that is significant, including, most notably, the installation of the city's sewerage system and the paving of city streets, as well as the expansion of the city's school system.

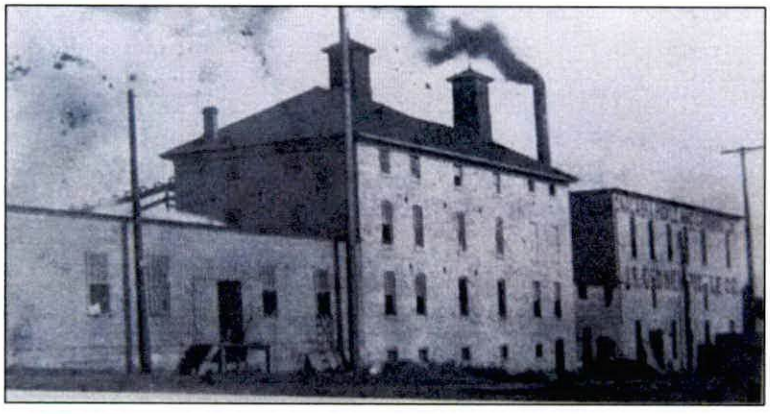
Address	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
841 2nd Avenue SW	72485	Potentially Eligible

Description and Statement of Significance

A series of five buildings comprise what was, at its peak, the Onalaska Pickle & Canning Company complex. Four buildings line 2nd Avenue SW just north of the railroad tracks, while a fifth building is located at the rear (east). Of the four, connected, street-side buildings, the two center structures, built of limestone, are the oldest and date to 1884. The northern of the two stone structures rises four stories and is topped with a hipped roof. Much of the original six-bay window arrangement that is comprised of single openings that are each topped with a stone header remains intact; however, larger window openings now occupy part of the second floor. Most of the windows have been infilled with siding, while others have been infilled with stone. The southern stone building essentially rises three stories and is topped with a flat roof. Like the north building, each of the original window openings is topped with a stone header and many of the openings are infilled with vinyl siding. An overhead garage door opening has been placed along the first floor; a second overhead garage door is located in the one-story "connector" between the two buildings.

[22] Alonzo and Eleanore Herdrich to Irvin and Alberta Pertzsch, Warranty Deed, 13 December 1949, 228/313, #533115, this and all deeds hereafter on file at the Register of Deeds Office, La Crosse County Courthouse, La Crosse, WI; Pertzsch biographical information included in Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish*, 92-93, 145, 155, 156, 270; Moore, "Pertzsch Is Proof Nice Guys Get Elected," 2/1-4.

The south, stucco-sheathed block (Ca. 1911) of the complex rises two stories and is topped with a low-pitched, gabled roof. Regular window openings are located along each level. Extending from the north end of the complex is a two- to three-story, gabled block that is sheathed with metal (Ca. 1901 with alterations). Finally, and although largely obscured from view, the one-story building (Ca. 1920) to the rear of the facility is faced with brick and features a stepped parapet on both ends.



Onalaska Brewery/Gedney Pickle Company/Onalaska Pickle & Canning Company, Historic image, Ca. 1905, In Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish* (1985), 128.

Although there are no known historic photos of the buildings when it served as a brewery, there are many images of the building while it served as a pickle factory; one of which is included at left.

The subject stone buildings were built in 1884 and originally served as the Onalaska Brewery. Onalaska brewing history, however, began in the 1850s, with the arrival of the Gabriel Knecht family. At the age of sixteen, Gabriel Knecht immigrated to the United States with his family from Germany in 1846. While in Newark, New Jersey, he wed German-born Wilhelmina Hemel and in 1852 they moved to Wisconsin. The first record of Gabriel as residing in Onalaska is the 1860 census, which enumerates him, his wife and their five-year-old son Adolph as residing there. Gabriel is identified as a brewer. He died on 12 January 1866. Secondary accounts indicate that his wife (who is identified throughout her lifetime by various nicknames for Wilhelmina, such as Helen, Mena, Minnie and Amelia) ran the brewery, in association with a bar, restaurant and a hotel, which was managed by Milford G. Moore.[23]

Milford G. Moore was born in Maine in 1829 and, as of the 1860 census, was still recorded as living in his home state, where he worked as a farmer.[24] After moving to Onalaska, he wed Wilhelmina Knecht in August 1867. As of the 1870 census, Milford is identified as both a hotel

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[23] "New York, Passenger Lists, 1820-1957," Immigration records available online at www.Ancestry.com, Accessed July 2016; U.S. Federal Census, Population, 1860; Based on a 1907 citation regarding the existence of a brewery in Onalaska as of 1856, it is likely that is Knecht's brewery, Bryant, ed., *Memoirs of La Crosse County,* 288; Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish,* 120; "Onalaska Canning Plant Closes, Offered for Sale," *The La Crosse Tribune*, 24 September 1957, 10/7-10, includes photo and caption. A citation regarding the will of Gabriel Knecht was referenced online, however, it was not investigated for brewery-specific information, "Wisconsin Wills and Probate Records, 1800-1987, Wills, Vol. 1 and Vol. 3, 1866-1872, 1876-1879, Available online at www.Ancestry.com, Accessed July 2016. Gabriel Knecht is buried at the Onalaska City Cemetery, where his death date is identified as 1866. Please note that Gabriel's death date is erroneously identified as 1863 in Franklin Curtiss-Wedge, comp., *History of Clark County, Wisconsin* (Chicago: H.C. Cooper Jr. & Co., 1918), 373.

[24] An 1881 biographical entry for Moore indicates that he came to Wisconsin in 1853, where he engaged in the lumber business. It is possible that he returned to Maine in the lumbering off-season, Butterfield, *History of La Crosse County, Wisconsin* (1881), 815.

keeper and brewer, while "Mena" is noted as simply "keeping house." In addition to her two children with Gabriel, she and Milford had a son, Frank, who was born in 1868. Little is known regarding actual beer production numbers for the brewery; however, as of 1879 (and prior to the subject facility being built), it is recorded as having produced/sold 660 barrels out of the total recorded 625,284 barrels produced in the state. Notably, of the total 218 breweries in 1879, over half produced less than 500 barrels. As of 1880, Gabriel's son Adolph was also working in the brewery, with fifty-one-year-old Wilford continuing as brewer. Wilford and Wilhelmina had also by then adopted a daughter, Pearl (age 12).[25]

Based on secondary accounts, it is believed that Milford continued to serve as brewer through the early 1880s. However, by 1885, an ad in the *La Crosse City Directory*, identifies Adolph as proprietor brewer and shipper of lager beer at the Onalaska Brewery. That directory also identifies La Crosse contractor and builder Joseph Burgermeister as responsible for the construction of the stone buildings. Adolph is also credited as having excavated the beer caves in the bluff, located east about one mile from the city, in Sand Lake Coulee (they remain extant). The brewery appears to have continued in operation under Knecht until sometime between 1888 and 1893. An 1891 Sanborn map indicates that the capacity of the brewery was 40 barrels. After briefly sitting idle, the brewery started up once again as of 1894, this time under the name of the Onalaska Brewing Company. Five La Crosse men, including C. Hafner, Emil Kohn, William Wuttke, Emil Bittner and Fred Schnell, ran the firm until its bankruptcy in 1899. The brewery had been associated with five Onalaska and La Crosse area saloons, the fixtures of which were being sold in order to pay off the brewery's creditors.[26]

The J.S. Gedney Pickle Company, which was headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, would purchase the former brewery buildings in 1901. Onalaska is noted as having been chosen for three reasons: good transportation facilities; the high quality of area vegetable crops; and the significant yield of area crops. The firm is identified as doing extensive remodeling to the buildings and installed machinery that was noted as worth $15,000. The first year of operation, the factory canned 1,200 cases of peas, 2,000 bushels of pickles, 3 tons of sauerkraut, along with some tomatoes. After five years of operation, the Gedneys pulled out of the firm and the

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[25] U.S. Federal Census, Population, 1860, 1870, 1880; Curtis-Wedge, *History of Clark County,* 1918, 373; "Brewing in Wisconsin Thirty-Six Years Ago," in *The Western Brewer: and Journal of the Barley, Malt and Hop Trades* (Chicago, IL), November 1915, 178-179.

[26] The 1881 biographical entry for Milford Moore notes him as brewer in 1881, Butterfield, *History of La Crosse County* (1881), 815; Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish,* 120; *La Crosse City Directory*, 1885, 96, 124; Although secondary accounts note an 1890 closing of the brewery (and the 1891 Sanborn map includes a note that the brewery had closed three years earlier, thus indicating that it had closed in 1888), Adolph Knecht continues to be identified as a brewer in Onalaska as of the 1891-1892 state gazetteer; however, by the 1893 city directory, he is no longer listed as residing in Onalaska, *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1891-92* (Chicago: R. L. Polk & Co., 1891), 804; *La Crosse City Directory*, 1893 (includes Onalaska directory), 480-482; Sanborn Map Company, *Fire Insurance Map of Onalaska, WI* (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1887, 1891, 1894); *Eighth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labor and Industrial Statistics, State of Wisconsin, 1897-98* (Madison, WI: Democrat Printing Co., 1899), 417; "Onalaska Canning Plant Closes, Offered for Sale"; "60 Years Ago," *The La Crosse Tribune*, 26 July 1959, 10/6-9; "Federal Bankruptcy Act," *The Wall Street Journal* (New York, NY), 19 August 1899, 5/3.

company was renamed Onalaska Pickle and Canning Company, with Franklin L. Pierce serving as the new firm president (until his death in 1931).[27]

As of 1910, the total number of workers at the plant numbered 102, twenty-eight of which were women and two were under sixteen years of age. Improvements made to the facility by either Gedney or the Onalaska Pickle firm include the additions to both the north and south ends of the stone structures, as well as the one-story brick building that is located behind (east of) the original stone facility. They were completed as a result of the factory's expanding canning operations, which were a result of expanding the territory from which they could get vegetables, It is noted that the original radius, covered by horse-drawn wagons, was approximately seven miles. Following the use of motorized trucks, that area was expanded to include the bulk of La Crosse County and into surrounding counties, as well as Minnesota. In addition to the purchase of produce from area farmers, the firm also operated (until 1952) their own farm east of Onalaska. The company reorganized in 1945 but continued operations until closing in 1957, at which time the company president was John Westerhouse.[28]

Onalaska Brewery/J.S. Gedney Pickle Company/Onalaska Pickle & Canning Company (1884 with additions), 841 2nd Avenue SW.

Despite closing, the property remained in the possession of the Onalaska Pickle & Canning Company into the 1980s. In 1963, the buildings were designated as one of two buildings in the city that were identified by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers as fallout shelters, in the case of a warning or attack. Currently, the property is owned by D&M Recycling.[29]

No information was found to suggest potential eligibility under Criterion B: Significant Persons. Regarding Criterion C: Architecture, the original stone buildings stand as a testament to the masonry skills of La Crosse contractor and builder, Joseph Burgermeister. Despite that fact, and combined with the alterations that have been made to the buildings, including the additions to each end, the property is not considered potentially eligible under Criterion C. However, the central portion of the property--which began its life as a brewing facility--combined with the additions to the north, south and the rear (east) that were completed by the successor pickle and canning companies, remains as testimony of the industrial history of Onalaska. In fact, the subject building is the only

[27] Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish,* 128; Financial Ledgers of the Gedney firm are available at the La Crosse Public Library Archives, however, they were not reviewed for purposes of this document, Gedney Pickle Company Financial Ledger, 1901-1905, MISC MSS 253, La Crosse Public Library Archives, La Crosse, WI.

[28] J.D. Beck, et. al., *Fourteenth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labor and Industrial Statistics, State of Wisconsin, 1909-1910* (Madison, WI: Democrat Printing Company, 1911), 693; "Onalaska Canning Plant Closes, Offered for Sale"; Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish,* 128-129.

[29] "County by County Listing," *The La Crosse Tribune*, 6 January 1963, 4/3; Onalaska Pickle & Canning Company to Alberta Pertszch, Warranty Deed, 18 June 1986, 762/89, #977639.

historic structure that remains in the city that is directly representative of industry in the city from 1884 to 1957, the date that the canning company closed. As a result, the subject structure, which was designated as a city landmark in 2002, is recommended as potentially eligible for the National Register under Criterion A: History (Industry).

Address	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
423 4th Avenue N	230965 & 231067	Potentially Eligible

Description and Statement of Significance

Earl M. Page House (1916), 423 4th Avenue N.

This one-story, bungalow-type house is constructed of rock-faced concrete block and topped with a hipped roof that includes hipped-roof dormers along the primary (east) and south slopes. An open (and formerly screened) porch is located beneath the roofline and shelters a central entrance, along with a large single-pane window to either side. Windows throughout much of the house are six-over-six-light, double-hung replacements. A modern, hipped-roof garage is located behind the house, while a large, concrete block industrial building/warehouse-type facility is located to the south. The concrete-block building is comprised of a central, one-and-one-half-story, gabled section from which a one-story, shed-roofed wing extends to the north and a two-story, flat-roofed wing to the south. Glass block windows and wooden doors are located throughout the structure.

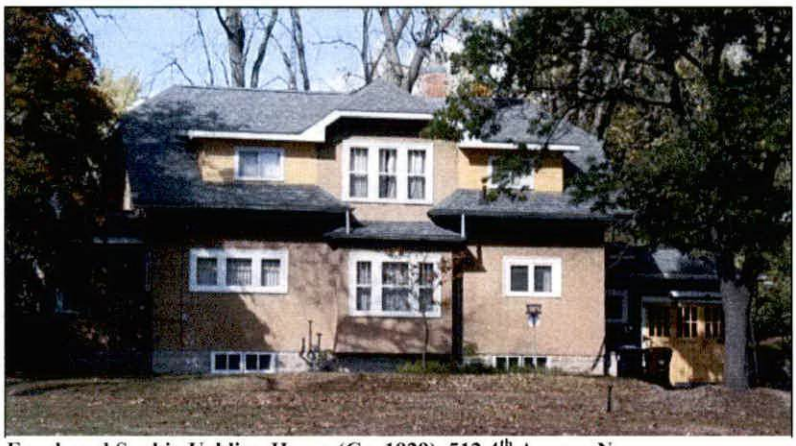
The house on the property was built in 1916 by Earl Page who was born in 1892 in Sparta, Wisconsin. Page would move to Onalaska circa 1913 to work for his uncle, C. E. "Ed" Randall, a cement contractor. His firm is identified as having produced the cement for much of the early sidewalk in the city. Earl would learn the trade and build the subject house out of concrete blocks that he made himself. The following year Page would serve in World War I, during which time he was exposed to mustard gas and subsequently lost a lung. After recovery in a hospital in France, he returned to Onalaska and the cement contracting business. In 1920, he wed Ida Schnick and they had two children, Earl and Anita. In 1927, Earl obtained from his uncle the parcel, along with a warehouse-type building to the south (at least a portion of which is believed to have already been built). Earl remained in business—as Earl Page & Son Contracting—until retiring in 1958. He died on 15 December 1961. Ida remained in the home until her death in 1989.[30]

[30] Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish*, 120, 276; U.S. Federal Census, Population, 1900, 1910, 1930, 1940; World War I Draft Registration (for Earl Page), 5 June 1917, Available online at www.Ancestry.com, Accessed July 2016; Isabel Gabrielson to Earl M. Page, Quit Claim Deed, 1 July 1916, 127/347; C. E. and Linda Randall Jr. to Earl M. Page, Warranty Deed, 4 February 1927, 160/69; Earl M. and Ida Page to the Banking Commission of the State of

Although a successful and long-time contractor in the community, no information was found regarding Earl Page to substantiate eligibility under Criterion B: Significant Persons. Regarding Criterion C: Architecture, the Page house is a good and relatively intact example of a bungalow that was built from cement/concrete blocks. While among the more notable examples of a bungalow in the community, it is not recommended for eligibility in that regard. Furthermore, it is not considered potentially eligible for its construction materials. It is, however, the home's concrete block construction that renders the property as potentially eligible under Criterion A: History (Industry), as it is a representative example of an industry that was located in Onalaska from the turn of the twentieth century through the 1960s.

Address	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
512 4th Avenue N	230950 & 230951	Potential Local Landmark

Description and Statement of Significance



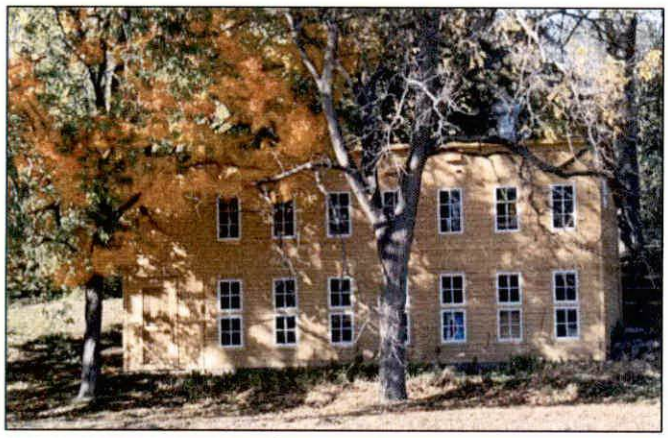
Frank and Sophia Uehling House (Ca. 1929), 512 4th Avenue N.

This one-and-one-half-story, clipped-gable bungalow rises from a rusticated concrete block foundation; a one-story, side-gabled garage extends from the rear. The house is largely sheathed with a stucco-like veneer, while shed-roofed dormers are sheathed with clapboard. A one-story, front-gabled and enclosed porch projection includes the home's primary entrance that is set beyond an open archway; three-over-one-light, double-hung sash occupy the remainder of the porch. Windows throughout the remainder of the house, including the first-floor, rectangular bay and upper-level wall dormer to the south, are comprised largely of additional three-over-one-light sash replacement windows; slider windows punctuate the roof dormers. The garage includes what appears to be a folding, wood-and-glass garage door. Behind/east of the house is a large, two-story, shed-roofed and clapboard-sheathed outbuilding that appears to be a chicken coop. Oriented to the south, the structure consists of seven, paired, four-light windows along the first level and six-light windows directly above and on the second floor. A wooden door is also located along the south elevation.

This house was built circa 1929 by Frank and Sophia Uehling. Franklin Emil Uehling was born in Nebraska in 1874. By no later than 1910, he and his wife Alwine (Alvina nee Rische) had moved to Wisconsin, where he worked at the Barre Mills Creamery Company. Alvina, with

Wisconsin, Warranty Deed, 21 April 1936, 167/592, #350450; Banking Commission of the State of Wisconsin to Earl M. and Ida Page, Warranty Deed, 24 February 1938, 183/153; "Retired Onalaska Contractor Dies," *The La Crosse Tribune*, 16 December 1961, 1/5.

whom he had twin sons, died in 1917. By no later than 1920, Frank remarried to Sophia Borger and they had a son Philip. As of the 1930 census, Frank, his wife Sophia and their two-year-old son Philip had moved to Onalaska, where they built the subject house. Frank died in 1938 (18 December) and Sophia remained in the house until her death on 21 May 1966. The house has since been under the ownership of Frank and Sophia's son Philip and his wife Frances. Philip worked at the Trane Company, from which he retired in 1988.[31]



Uehling Outbuilding, 512 4th Avenue N.

No information was found to substantiate potential eligibility under Criterion B: Significant Persons. Regarding Criterion C: Architecture, the house is among the few examples of bungalows in the community. Despite that fact, the house has been largely re-sided with a stucco veneer and many windows have been replaced. As a result, the house is not considered potentially eligible under Criterion C. Finally, regarding Criterion A: History, it was the substantial outbuilding to the rear that first suggested Register potential. However, finding no concrete information regarding that building, the property is not recommended potentially eligible for the Register at this time. If additional information is found, however, the recommendation could be reversed. Despite that conclusion, the property is a good candidate for local landmarking.

Address	AHI#	NRHP Evaluation
414 4th Avenue S	72472	Potentially Eligible

Description and Statement of Significance

Rising from a fieldstone foundation, this two-story gabled T-plan house is sheathed with clapboard and also includes a one-story gabled wing to the rear (west), as well as a one-story, square bay projection with wooden bracket trim to the south. The home's front entrance is sheltered beneath a one-story, open wraparound porch, and along the south side of the street-facing gabled wing. Four, one-over-one-light sash windows are symmetrically placed along the east elevation of the street-facing wing, two along the first floor and two along the second, each with a simple wooden surround with slightly raised trim along the top edge. Two additional and identical windows are located along the first floor, one each along the north and south side walls, while an additional single window rests in the space opposite the front door. Windows

[31] U.S. Federal Census, Population, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940; U.S. World War I Draft Registration Card (for Franklin E. Uehling), 12 September 1918, registration card cites his year of birth as 1873; however, his headstone at the Onalaska City Cemetery is engraved with 1874; Frieda Dalberg and Julia D. Bowers to F.E. and Sophia Uehling, Warranty Deed, 16 August 1929, 162/110, #283615; Sophia M. Uehling, Obituary, *The La Crosse Tribune*, 22 May 1966, 2/2.

throughout the remainder of the house are one-over-one examples that are largely symmetrically arranged.

Thomas and Mary Thompson House (Ca. 1885), 414 4th Avenue S.

Deeds indicate that in 1883 this property was sold by Alonzo and Anna Colby to Thomas and Mary Thompson. The $200 purchase price, combined with the appearance of the home, suggests that the house had not yet been built and was built by the Thompsons. Therefore, a circa-1885 date of construction has been ascribed to the house. Thomas Thompson was born in 1852 in Norway and immigrated to the United States in 1867. After residing for eight years in La Crosse, he moved to Onalaska, where he clerked for two years for Richard Bailey, after which they became partners. The 1880 census enumerates Thompson in Onalaska, along with his Wisconsin-born wife Mary and their three-month-old son Richard. Thomas is identified as a dry goods dealer. His store, which was destroyed by a fire in January 1903, had been located at the corner of Main Street and Third Avenue South. Thomas and Mary, who wed circa 1879, raised four children in the home: Richard, Charles, Thomas and Esther. In 1889, Thomas was appointed Onalaska postmaster, a position he held until 1894. Following the 1903 fire, the Thomases sold their home to Charles Sjolander and Thomas, Mary and daughter Esther moved to Huron (City), Beadle County, South Dakota, where Thomas worked first as a clothing merchant and later as a bookkeeper at a cigar factory.[32]

The C. (Charles/Carl) A. Sjolander family then owned the home from 1903 through 1944. Like Thomas Thompson, C.A., as he was often referred to, was born in Norway in 1851. He immigrated to the United States at the age of fourteen and resided in La Crosse County all his life. His obituary identifies him as the second registered druggist in the State of Wisconsin. After attending business college and residing in Holmen, Sjolander would be among the organizers of the Holmen Creamery, as well as the Holmen State Bank, the latter institution of which he would later serve as president. It is unclear if the house was rented for a time, as his obituary notes that he did not retire from the bank until circa 1931, "...since which time he has made his home in Onalaska." Among the Sjolander family photos available online, it appears that one dated 1933 was taken along the south side of the house, as the one-story bay is evident. C.A. passed away in

[32] Biographical entry for Thompson (spelled Tompson) in Butterfield, *History of La Crosse County, Wisconsin*, 819; Alonzo and Anna Colby to Thomas Thompson, Warranty Deed, 22 August 1883, Book 57, Page 541; "Big Fire at Onalaska," *Eau Claire* (WI) *Leader*, 20 January 1903, 3/3; Thomas and Mary Thompson to C.A. Sjolander, Warranty Deed, 30 March 1903, 104/315; U.S. Federal Census, Population, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920 and South Dakota State Census, 1905, All available online at www.Ancestry.com, Accessed May 2016; Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish*, 118, 123, 160, 163.

1934 and his wife Karen died in 1940. The home then reverted to the heirs, specifically their daughter Hulda (Sjolander) Winbaugh, who sold it in 1944 to George and Ella Metzger of West Salem.[33]

While Thomas Thompson was, no doubt, well-known in the community as a result of his being among the early businessmen in the community, as well as serving as postmaster for a period, no evidence was found to suggest potential eligibility under Criterion B: Significant Persons. And although the Thompson house is among a very small number of homes in the community that pre-date 1900 and continue to retain its original clapboard sheathing, it is a largely vernacular example of a gabled T-plan and exhibits no particular style. As a result, the house is not considered potentially eligible under Criterion C: Architecture. However, regarding that same information and considering its integrity of materials under Criterion A: History, the frame-constructed, clapboard-sheathed house was built in circa 1885, while Onalaska was still in its hey-day of the lumbering era. Notably, the Thompson house is among only four surveyed, pre-1900 residential examples that retain its original siding. Based on the preceding information, the Thomas and Mary Thompson House is recommended as potentially eligible under Criterion A: History, for its association with the early development of Onalaska.

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[33] Biographical entry for Sjolander in Butterfield, *History of La Crosse County,* 842; Charles Sjolander to Karen Sjolander, et. al., Last Will and Testament, 28 August 1934, 191/307 (death date cited as 10 October 1934); "C.A. Sjolander, County Pioneer, Passes, Aged 83," and "Aged Pioneer Passes," unidentified newspaper articles (although likely the LaCrosse Tribune and the Onalaska WHAT), undated (but likely either August or September 1934), "Mrs. C.A. Sjolander, Pioneer Resident, Dies Suddenly," unidentified newspaper article, undated (1940) and 1933 photo of Sjolander family south of the subject house, All articles and photo available online at www.sjolander.com, Accessed June 2016; Sjolander family information included in Dolbier, *From Sawmills to Sunfish*, 36-37; Wilbur and Hulda Winbaugh, Chicago, IL, to George and Ella Metzger, West Salem, Warranty Deed, 18 November 1944, 206/401, Doc. #457967.

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APPENDIX A

SURVEY INVENTORY

An asterisk (*) following the address denotes properties previously surveyed in the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Database. **Bolded** addresses are individually discussed in the Recommendations Chapter. The historic name and date of construction provided is based on deeds or other information. When the original owner could not be 100% verified, it is simply listed as "house" on this list, however, the electronic WHPD record (located at http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Content.aspx?dsNav=N:1189) includes the owner's name as far back as could be confirmed within the "Comments" section.

ADDRESS	NAME/RESOURCE (DATE)	AHI#
1227 County Road PH	Fred and Louise Pralle House (1947)	231081
1281 County Road PH	House (Ca. 1900)	231084
416 Irvin Street	Brick House (Ca. 1935)	231075
3015 Kinney Coulee Road S	**Fauver Hill School* (1924; 1957; 1966; 1974)**	**72365**
530 La Crosse Street	Ole T. & Christine Kraabel House* (Ca. 1890)	72473
201 Main Street	**Onalaska State Bank* (1912)**	**136205**
205 Main Street	Luedtke Walgreen Agency, Inc.* (1964)	136206
330 Main Street	Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge* (1882)/Onalaska Lodge No. 214, F. & A.M.	72487
401 Main Street	Dickinson Funeral Home (1974)	230963
410 Main Street	First Lutheran Church (1954)	230961
"	First Lutheran Church Education Center (1963)	230962
625 Main Street	La Crosse Community Credit Union (1981)	230960
837 Main Street	Freidrich & Ann Holthaus House (Ca. 1900)	230956
906 Main Street	Roger & Beulah Grangaard House (1966)	230957
921 Main Street	Clapboard House (Ca. 1920)	230958-59
1008 Main Street	Donald Barney & William Baumgardner, DDS Office (1972)	231080

1031 Main Street	St. Patrick's Catholic Church (1960)	230967
"	St. Patrick's Catholic Rectory (1960)	230968
1145 Main Street	Bank of Onalaska (1970)	232259
1403 Monroe Street	Bernard & Bonnie Bachmann House (1973)	231083
631 Oak Avenue S	Clapboard House (Ca. 1900)	231076
108 Oak Forest Drive	Richard & Rita Nelson House (1977)	230940
116 Oak Forest Drive	William & Joyce Murphy House (1980)	230941
910 Oak Forest Drive	Onalaska National Guard Armory* (1960)	149664
"	Training Building* (1958)	140358
"	Building and Vehicle Maintenance Shop* (1959)	140359
1005 Quincy Street	Christopher & Mary Salek House (1979)	230942
1013 Quincy Street	Roy Jr. & Mary Jaeger House (1978)	230943
2137 Sand Lake Road	Farm (Ca. 1900)	232256-58
309 Spruce Street	Delbert & Grace Buchmiller House (1966)	231066
701 Well Street	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (1972; 1982)	230949
229 2nd Avenue N	**Irving & Alberta Pertzsch House (1951)**	**230954**
232 2nd Avenue N	Frank I. Phelps House (Ca. 1882)	230969
308 2nd Avenue N	Bungalow* (Ca. 1920)	136202
414 2nd Avenue N	Bungalow* (Ca. 1930)	136203
421 2nd Avenue N	FRANK EUGENE NICHOLS CARRIAGE HOUSE (NR-LISTED)	230939
710 2nd Avenue N	Sunset Inn Motel (1968; 1987)	231077-78
716 2nd Avenue N	The Blue Moon (1924)	231079
926 2nd Avenue N	Orr's Landing/Lake Motel* (Ca. 1955)	136178
2nd Avenue N/STH 35, west side	Sunny the Sunfish Sculpture (1998)	231086
841 2nd Avenue SW	**Onalaska Brewery/J.S. Gedney Pickle Company/Onalaska Pickle & Canning Company (1884; Ca. 1901; Ca. 1911; Ca. 1920)***	**72485**
718 2nd Avenue SW	Frame Office Building (Ca. 1900)	231085

202 3rd Avenue N	Drs. George Reay office (Ca. 1930) (served as office in the 1940s-50s)	231068
208 3rd Avenue N	Warren & Vivian Aiken House (Ca. 1935)	231069
421 3rd Avenue S	Thomas G. & Hannah Aiken House (Ca. 1903)	230964
212 4th Avenue N	Onalaska United Methodist Church (1972; 1985)	230947
"	Onalaska Methodist Church Educational Unit (1960)	230946
222 4th Avenue N	Ranch House (1952)	230948
423 4th Avenue N	**Earl M. & Ida Page House (1916)**	**230965**
"	**Earl M. Page Workshop (Ca. 1927)**	**231067**
512 4th Avenue N	**Frank & Sophia Uehling House (1929)**	**230950**
"	**Uehling Outbuilding**	**230951**
213 4th Avenue S	Bernhard Nelson House (Ca. 1930)	231072
302 4th Avenue S	Maurice & Emma Enge House (Ca. 1941)	231070
323 4th Avenue S	Hogan & Martha Berg House (Ca. 1880)	231082
414 4th Avenue S	**Thomas & Mary Thompson House* (Ca. 1885)**	**72472**
308 6th Avenue N	Wayne & Bonnie Hotson House (1963)	230955
402 8th Avenue S	Cora Bowen House (Ca. 1930)	231073
112 9th Avenue N	St. Paul's German Lutheran Parish Hall (1928)	230953
113 9th Avenue N	Floyd & Sadie Brotz House (1940)	231065
109 9th Avenue S	Hubert & Vera Shuda House (1973)	230952
132 9th Avenue S	Charles & Agnes Price House (1958; 1969)	232255
418 9th Avenue S	Cape Cod House (Ca. 1945)	231074
127 11th Avenue N	St. Patrick's Catholic School, Church & Convent (1951; 1984; 2013)	230966

APPENDIX B

LIST #1: PROPERTIES PREVIOUSLY SURVEYED/INVENTORIED AND NO LONGER RETAIN SUFFICIENT INTEGRITY TO MERIT RESURVEY

ADDRESS	NAME/RESOURCE	AHI#
200 Main Street	Bailey & Buttles General Store	136298
212 2nd Avenue N	House	136201
440 2nd Avenue N	House	136204
445 2nd Avenue N	Bungalow	72471

LIST #2: PROPERTIES PREVIOUSLY SURVEYED/INVENTORIED THAT ARE NO LONGER EXTANT
(* = no longer extant previous to 2005; ** = no longer extant as of 2015)

ADDRESS	NAME/RESOURCE	AHI#
110 Irvin Street	Aiken Lumber Company**	162241
111 Irvin Street	Lumber Mill Office**	162222
1606 Kinney Coulee Road S	Pertzsch Farm (last surveyed in 1992)	121261-63
700 Wilson Street	La Crosse County School of Agriculture and Domestic Economy (Dem. 1987)	29816
113 2nd Avenue N	Concrete Block Retail Building**	136200
100 2nd Avenue S	Western Spinning Mills (Dem. 2011)	162201
112 2nd Avenue S	Concrete Block Retail Building	162221
605 2nd Avenue S	Concrete Block Building**	136199
619 2nd Avenue S	Gas Station**	136198
NW corner of 2nd Avenue & Irvin Street	Chicago & North Western Train Depot*	72486

LIST #3: PROPERTIES LISTED[34] IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

ADDRESS	NAME/RESOURCE	AHI#
421 2nd Avenue N	Frank Eugene Nichols House (NR-listed 1993)	27782

LIST #4: PROPERTIES OFFICIALLY DETERMINED ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

ADDRESS	NAME/RESOURCE	AHI#
201 Main Street	**Onalaska State Bank** Determined Eligible, 14 July 2011	**136205**

LIST #5: PROPERTIES LISTED AS CITY OF ONALASKA LANDMARKS[35]

ADDRESS	NAME/RESOURCE	AHI#
201 Main Street	**Onalaska State Bank**	**136205**
421 2nd Avenue N	Frank Eugene Nichols House	27782
841 2nd Avenue SW	**Onalaska Brewery/** **J. S. Gedney Pickle Company/** **Onalaska Canning & Pickle Company**	**72485**

[34] Although still officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the La Crosse County School of Agriculture and Domestic Economy, formerly located at 700 Wilson Street, was demolished in 1987.
[35] All three properties were designated as local landmarks in 2002, Randy Erickson, "Onalaska Designates Three Historic Sites," *The La Crosse Tribune*, 22 November 2002.

APPENDIX C

THE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

Criteria: The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and:

A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant to our past; or

C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D. That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations: Ordinarily, cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered potentially eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria if they fall within the following categories:

A. A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or

B. A building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or

C. A birthplace or grave of a historic figure of outstanding importance if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life; or

D. A cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or

E. A reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or

F. A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition or symbolic value has invested it with its own historical significance; or

G. A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.

Directly cited from: National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 16A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1997), 37 and available online at www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb16a.