United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

code

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not for publication

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Sixth

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type ali entries—complete applicable sections

Name 1.

0 The Daily Northwestern Building historic

and/or common N/A

Location 2,

street & number 224 State Street

city, town Oshkosh

state

Wisconsin 3. Classification

Category district _X_ building(s) structure	Ownership public private both	Status _X_ occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible	Present Use agriculture X commercial educational entertainment	museum park private residence
site object	Public Acquisition N/A in process being considered	yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	government industrial military	<pre> religious scientific transportation other:</pre>

county

Winnebago

_ vicinity of

4. **Owner of Property**

name The Daily Northwestern; Mary Martin, Mag. Editor

street & number 224 State Street

city, t	own Oshkosh	vicinity of	stat	e Wisconsin	54901
5.	Location of	Legal Description			
court	house, registry of deeds, et	. Winnebago County Courthouse	9		<u> </u>
street	& number	415 Jackson Avenue	1. (b.)		
city, t	own	Oshkosh	stat	e Wisconsin	54902
6.	Representa	tion in Existing Sur	veys	continued)	
titie	Wisconsin Inventor Historic Placeș	7 of has this property b	been determined	eligible?	yes <u>X</u> no
date	1978		_ federal \underline{X} :	state count	y local
depos	sitory for survey records	State Historical Society of Wis	Sconsin		
city, to	own Madison		stat	e Wisconsin	53706

7. Description

Condition		Check one
\underline{X} excellent	deteriorated	unaltered
good	ruins	<u>X</u> altered
fair	unexposed	

Check one X original site moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

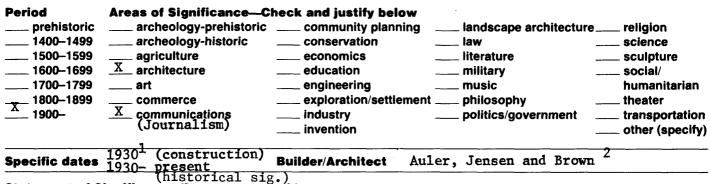
Sited in close proximity to the central business district, the Daily Northwestern Building shares, with neighboring buildings, a grand scale and reliance on classical precendents. Auler and Jensen, the architects of the Daily Northwestern building, drew on the vocabulary of the Italian Renaissance to structure and unify the large rectangular building. Measuring seventy by one hundred and sixty feet, the structure consists of four floors including basement and mezzanine. On the exterior this translates to two stories which are surfaced with Bedford stone and pierced by regularly aligned round headed windows on the first story and rectangular sash on the second.

Four colossal Corinthian columns set in antis mark the main entrance facade. The entrance is centrally located and capped by an elaborate bronze screen. The remaining two units are filled by windows. Each corner of the main elevations is embellished by round headed and rectangular windows, with balconies placed on the second story. The ten Corinthian pilasters lining the north elevation determine the pattern of fenestration and support a simple entablature and cornice. A low hipped roof covered with green tile completes the composition.

The restrained exterior opens into a room of disciplined but lavish decoration. This main business office (measuring 55 feet square) employs pinkish Rosata marble for wainscoting, window and door casings and the main horseshoe-shaped counter. Cabled pilasters and piers support the coffered ceiling which, like the wall, is covered with classical motifs painted in muted brown, green, blue and pink. The original "electrolier" fixtures have been retained but supplemented by modern unobtrusive surface mounted fixtures. The staircase occupies the south wall and is an elaborate composition of grillwork, similar to the screens on the mezzanine level. The original vault remains on the east wall beneath a portrait of John Hicks who was instrumental in developing the paper.

The production area for the newspaper is located east of the main business office. Technological advances have required remodeling of these rooms. The recent modernization of the press room resulted in removal of four round headed windows from the north elevation. These openings have been filled with Bedford stone.

8. Significance



Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This fine Neo-Italian Renaissance structure, the Daily Northwestern Building, is architecturally significant as a representative example of a period of construction, and has gained historical significance through its role a office and production area for the regionally important newspaper, The Oshkosh Daily Northwestern.

Architectural Significance

Representing a period of construction, the Daily Northwestern Building is the most sophisticated example of the Neo-Italian Renaissance style in Oshkosh and among the most impressive in the state. The beautifully ornamented office and public space complements the restrained expression of the exterior. Designed by the local firm of Auler, Jensen and Brown, this design serves as an important corollary to their other classically inspired buildings erected in the city.

Historical Significance-Communications

The Daily Northwestern Building is historically significant because of its association with the development of the regionally important newspaper, <u>The Oshkosh Daily Northwestern</u>. This is the only newspaper still published of the dozen papers produced in early Oshkosh. <u>The Northwestern</u> was founded by local businessmen in 1860 as a Republican publication and, under the direction of John Hicks, became one of the strongest Republican newspapers in the state.

A succession of owners acquired the newspaper prior to its purchase in 1870 by Colonel John Hicks and General T. S. Allen. Hicks was a prominent member of the community, enjoying and illustrious career as author, editor, publisher, art patron and politician (ambassador). He managed the paper until his death in 1917.

The newspaper had been located in a number of buildings in Oshkosh which have since been demolished. Expansion and improved technology necessitated construction of the present structure, begun in 1928 and occupied in 1930. The building was one of the showplaces of Oshkosh, and was advertised by the <u>Northwestern</u> as one of the most conveniently planned and beautifully decorated newspaper buildings in the state. ³

Footnotes

- 1. Date on cornerstone
- 2. <u>The Story of the Daily Northwestern</u>. Oshkosh Daily Northwestern. c. 1930 reproduction of blueprints.
- 3. <u>Ibid.</u>

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

9. Major Bibliographical References

The Story of	the Northwestern.	Oshkosh
UTM	NOT VENDEU	
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rn. Oshkosh Daily Northwestern. Oshkosh, Wisconsin. c.1930

10. Geographic				
Acreage of nominated property	ss than one acr	e		
Quadrangle name Oshkosh, Wis	<u>sconsin</u>		Quadrang	le scale <u>1: 24,000</u>
UMT References			• •	·. ·
A 1 6 3 7 6 9 0 0 4 8 Zone Easting North	3 7 4 6 7 0 hing	B Zone E	asting	Northing
c		D		
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Verbal boundary description an	id justification	I M Millerte	First additi	on Lot 1 and N1y 26'
of Lot 2. Also Lot 23 an Wly 18' of Sly 69.4' of 1	nd Wly ½ of Lot	22 exc. Wly 18	' of Sly 692	4' of Lot 22 exc.
List all states and counties for	properties overla	oping state or cour	ty boundaries	
state	code	county	,	code
state	code	county	•	· code
11. Form Prepa	red By . (c	ontinued)		
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
name/title Dorothy Steele, Are	<u>chitectural His</u>	torian		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
organization Howard, Needles,	Tommon È Ponge	ndoff date	September 1	081
organization noward, Needres,	Tanmen & berge		beptember 1	
street & number 6815 West Cap	itol Drive	telep	hone 414-463	-2310
city or town Milwaukee		state	Wisconsin	53216
12. State Histo	ric Prese	rvation O	fficer C	ertification
The evaluated significance of this p	roperty within the sta	nte is:	e1	
national	_X	local		i .
As the designated State Historic Pre 665), I hereby nominate this property according to the criteria and proced	y for inclusion in the	National Register and	d certify that it ha	as been evaluated
State Historic Preservation Officer s	ignature VT	bund M	ener	,
title Director, State Histor	ical Society of	Wisconsin	date	3/34/82
For HCRS use only		e		•
I hereby certify that this prope		Intered in the		
Xelour 75		ational Register	date	5713/82
Keeper of the National Register				· ·
Attest:	· · · ·	• 	date	
Chief of Registration		·		

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

OMB NO. 1024-0018 EXP. 12/31/84



Continuation sheet The Daily Northwestern Bldg. Item number

Page 1

6. REPRESENTATION:

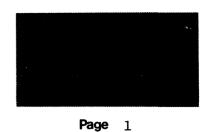
Intensive Survey of Oshkosh 1980 State Historical Society of Wisconsin Madison, WI 53706 United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

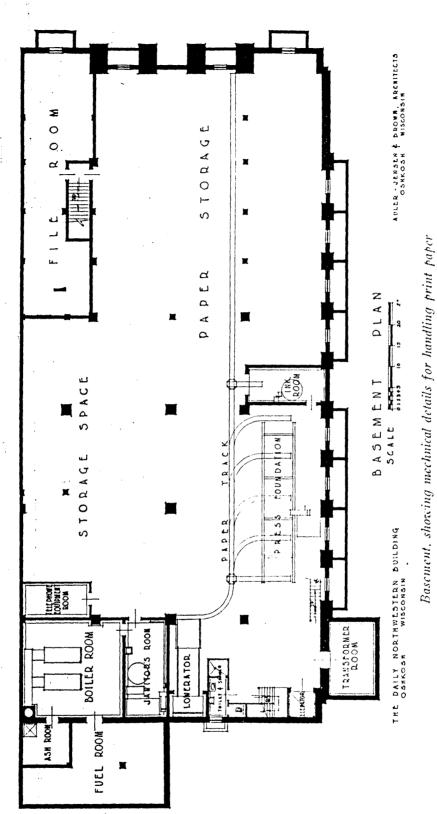
National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet The Daily Northwestern Item number 11

Form Prepared By:

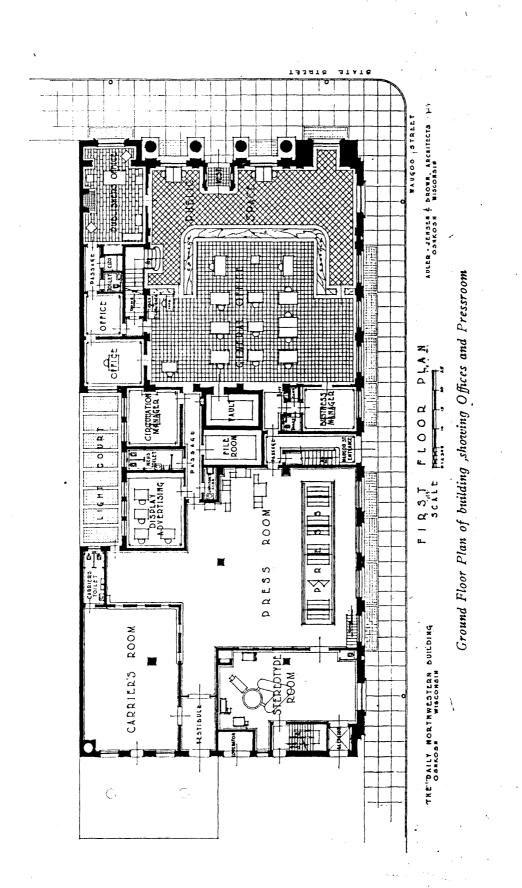
Charles W. Causier, Historian Howard, Needles, Tammen and Bergendoff 6815 West Capitol Drive Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53216 Telephone (414) 463-2310 September 1981

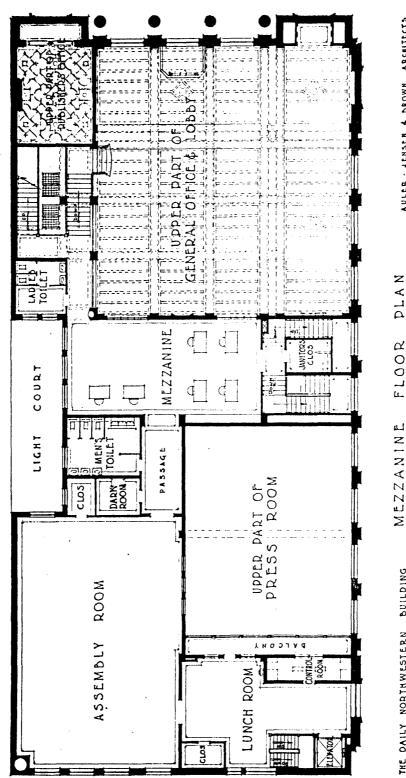




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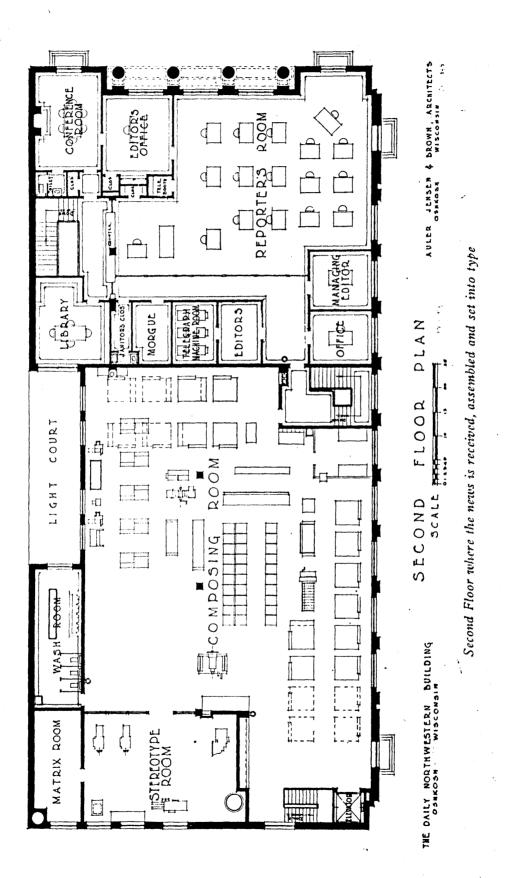
MEZZANINE FLOOR

AULER - JENSER & DROWN, ARCHITECTS Oshkosh wisconsin

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