

STATE: Wisconsin
 COUNTY: Ashland
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE: DEC 27 1974

1. NAME AND/OR HISTORIC: The Security Savings Bank

2. LOCATION
 STREET AND NUMBER: 212-214 West 2nd Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Ashland CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Seventh
 STATE: Wisconsin CODE: 55 COUNTY: Ashland CODE: 003

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
 OWNER'S NAME: West II Building Corporation
 STREET AND NUMBER: 214 West 2nd Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Ashland STATE: Wisconsin CODE: 55

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Ashland County Courthouse
 STREET AND NUMBER: West 2nd Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Ashland STATE: Wisconsin CODE: 55

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
 TITLE OF SURVEY: Wisconsin's Historic Preservation Plan, The Inventory
 DATE OF SURVEY: 1974 Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: State Historical Society of Wisconsin
 STREET AND NUMBER: 816 State Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Madison STATE: Wisconsin CODE: 53706

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Security Bank Building is a three-story commercial storefront building built in a heavily ornamented Richardsonian Romanesque style. In massing it is a simple rectangular cube with a vertically-oriented rectangular main (northwest) facade facing the commercial West 2nd Street. This facade is three bays wide and three stories high. The first story has been remodeled over the years conforming with commercial needs, but the second and third stories are original. Each of these upper stories has three round-arched openings, and the third story openings are separated and flanked by round columns with Romanesque captials which rest on ornamented brackets. The main facade is executed in indigenous Brownstone and red brick.

The side (northeast) facade which is exposed is brick with brownstone trim and steps down slightly toward the rear as the modestly-pitched shed roof slopes downward. On this facade the third story windows have straight lintels, but the second story windows are boldly arched with brick voisoirs.

A small pediment on center and the top of the northwest facade frames a datestone giving the date of construction, 1889. Beneath this is a rectangular stone which originally would have identified the occupant, but which has been smoothed over.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1889**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Security Savings Bank building is the finest existing example of commercial architecture in Ashland designed by Allan Darst Conover and Lew Forster Porter in the Richardsonian Romanesque style.

During the 1880's and 1890's, the population of Ashland exploded as lumber passed through this Lake Superior port city. A hamlet of 353 in 1880, Ashland grew to 9,956 in 1890, and then 13,074 in 1900. The city's commercial prosperity during this twenty-year period caused 2nd Street to become lined with superb structures of red brick and indigenous brownstone, mostly more-or-less Richardsonian Romanesque in style. Since Ashland's growth ceased and has slowly ebbed to less than 10,000 in 1970, some of these original buildings have been preserved.

The successful Madison architectural firm of Conover and Porter decided to take advantage of the burgeoning construction economy of Northern Wisconsin, and in 1887 established a branch office in Ashland. The firm quickly became the largest and most successful in this area of the state, and for a period took on local associate, Horace P. Padley of Ashland. The firm's northern office remained active until 1899, when the partnership dissolved and Conover and Porter, individually, practiced almost exclusively out of Madison. The Security Savings Bank represents some of the firm's most sensitive and successful work, for many of its designs were very utilitarian and did not attempt to achieve the esthetic quality found in this bank.

The Security Savings Bank occupied this building for little over a decade before it went into receivership. Thereafter it has served a variety of commercial occupants.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Conover Porter and Padley," Pen and Sunlight Sketches of Duluth, Superior, and Ashland. Phoenix Publishing Co., Chicago (1892)

Ashland City Directory, 1893. R. L. Polk and Co., Ashland & St. Paul.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

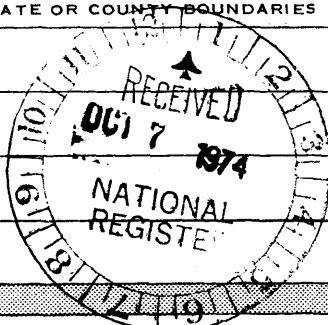
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	UTM Coordinates: Zone 15 5,161,610 N. 662,030 E.		
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

15/662040
5/61610
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Jeffrey M. Dean, Preservation Planner

ORGANIZATION: **State Historical Society** DATE: **July 15, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
816 State Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Madison** STATE: **Wisconsin** CODE: **55**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name James Morton Smith
James Morton Smith

Title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Date Oct. 1, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert W. Neumann
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 12/27/74

ATTEST:

W. M. Neely
Keeper of the National Register

Date DEC 26 1974