

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JUN 11 1986

date entered JUN 10 1986

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

1. Name

historic CARL KOCH BLOCK

and/or common BEEK'S LOUNGE/ S & R RANCH WEAR

2. Location

street & number 2 Tayco Street _____ not for publication

city, town Menasha _____ vicinity of

state Wisconsin code 55 county Winnebago code 139

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Pat Maynard

street & number 2 Tayco Street

city, town Menasha _____ vicinity of state Wisconsin 54952

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds, Winnebago County Courthouse

street & number 415 Jackson Drive

city, town Oshkosh _____ state Wisconsin 54901

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1977, 1985 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin

city, town Madison _____ state Wisconsin 53706

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Carl Koch Block is a two-story brick commercial building located in the industrial city of Menasha at the western end of the central business district. Bordered by the Fox River Canal on the south, the Koch Block is situated on the northwest corner of Tayco and Water Streets. The plan configuration is rectangular, the roof is flat, the walls are yellow brick with a stretcher bond, and the foundations are regular coursed stone. The fenestration is restricted to the second story on the east and south facades, where it consists of double-hung, single-paned sash with mitered arches, keystones, extrados, and dripstops of limestone. Asymmetrical in design, the east facade includes two altered storefronts which remain in scale with the building. These storefronts are separated to the right of center by a tower-like pavilion housing the second floor entry. The entry includes a heavily bracketed hood over a segmentally arched doorway with transom and double doors. Above the entryway are two second floor windows with transoms and a limestone tablet marked CARL KOCH 1882, above which was a Mansard cupola now gone. On either side of the building stand two arcaded and pilastered chimneys. Decorative features on the second story include a bracketed cornice above a Ruskinian corbel table, a springer belt course, and carved limestone springers and sill course. Other decorative features include a bracketed wood storefront cornice. The first story of the south facade has been painted white, while the rear facade has been stuccoed.

The interiors of both stores feature original coffered ceilings of pressed metal, and stairway to the upstairs apartments retains the original wooden banister and heavy wood trim.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1882¹ **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Carl Koch Block is of local architectural significance as an outstanding example of the late nineteenth century period of commercial construction. It is also of local historical significance for its association with the commercial development of the central business district.

ARCHITECTURE

The Carl Koch Block is of local architectural significance as an outstanding example of the late nineteenth century period of commercial construction. Mitered arch window heads, incised carvings, and richly applied limestone trim are a few of the late Victorian Gothic features found on the Koch Block, but rarely incorporated into local commercial design. While the architect is unknown, it is similar to the work of Charles Hove. Hove designed several Menasha structures including the Menasha City Hall (NRHP 1984), the Scott Block (Upper Main Street Historic District, NRHP 1984), and Planner's Block (Upper Main Street Historic District, NRHP 1984). These buildings are similar in size and massing, the use of towers or projecting pavilions, and such features as decorative brick courses and bracketed cornices. Carl Koch Block is particularly reminiscent of the Scott Block in massing and the rhythm of its fenestration. While the majority of commercial buildings in Menasha are vernacular brick structures, the Koch Block is one of four elegantly detailed structures which maintain their integrity of site and form.

COMMERCE

The Carl Koch Block is historically significant for its association with the nineteenth century development of the central business district. Commerce in Menasha originally developed at three different locations: at Appleton and Broad Streets adjacent to the steamboat landing; at Mill and Main Streets adjacent to the waterpower; and at Tayco and Main Streets adjacent to the Butte des Morts Bridge. At first each area served a particular clientele unique to its location. Merchants at Tayco and Main Street specifically catered to the Town of Menasha wheat farmers who crossed the bridge to sell their wheat and purchase goods. After the Civil War the community became

(Continued)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Smith, Alice E. Millstone and Saw. State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1966
Madison, Wisconsin

Glaab, Charles N. and Larsen, Lawrence H. Factories in the Valley. State Historical
Society of Wisconsin, 1969, Madison, Wisconsin.

Upper Main Street Historic District. Nomination Form.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .22

Quadrangle name Neenah, Wisconsin

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	6	3	8	3	8	7	8	4	8	9	4	7	6	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Original Plat

All that part of lots 1 - 2 - 3 as described in document.
Desk Document #471976, Register of Deeds, Block 4.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code

state	N/A	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jeffrey H. Mulvey and Peter J. Adams

organization Peter James Adams and Associates date August 15, 1985

street & number 537 E. Wisconsin Avenue
P. O. Box 341 telephone (414) 722-8963

city or town Neenah state Wisconsin 54956

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title

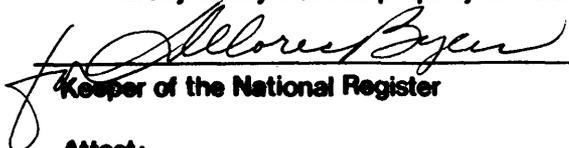
date MAY 29, 1986

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 7-10-86


Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

CARL KOCH BLOCK: Menasha, Winnebago County, Wisconsin
Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 1

increasingly industrial, and commercial specialization declined. Main Street became the principal commercial district with foci at the Tayco Street and Mill Street bridges. Known as Lower Main Street, the Tayco Street area thrived on its proximity to the Menasha Woolen Mills, the John Strange Pail Factory, the Paul Paper Company, and other industries which grew rapidly in the 1880's.

Constructed two years before the city's fire limits ordinance, the Koch Block was the first of four major commercial blocks that heralded a commercial boom in the late 19th century. Completed in 1882, the Koch Block was followed by Planner's Block (1884), the Scott Block (1885), and the Menasha City Hall (1886).³ The construction of these buildings in the central business district mirrored industrial expansion in the the adjacent milling district: Whiting Paper Company in 1882, Gilbert Paper Company in 1887, and the Howard Paper Company, Strange Pail Company, and Menasha Wood Split Pulley Company in 1888. The builder was Carl Koch (1829-1909), one of Menasha's leading merchants and citizens. A native of Bavaria, he came to Menasha in 1855 and shortly thereafter he entered the dry goods and grocery business. Active in the government of Menasha, Koch was one of the city's most popular citizens.⁴ Koch built the block in 1882 for a saloon and his own dry goods store on⁵ the first floor, his family's residence and an apartment on the second floor.

Footnotes

¹ Menasha Press; November 5, 1882, page 4.

² Glaab, Charles N. and Larsen, Lawrence H. Factories in the Valley. State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1969. Madison, Wisconsin. P. 12.

³ Ibid.; April 9, 1884, page 1.

⁴ Island City Times; April 10, 1869, page 2.; Menasha Record; February 23, 1903, page 1.

⁵ Menasha Press; October 5, 1882, page 4.