

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Wisconsin	
COUNTY: Milwaukee	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 14 1973	

1. NAME

COMMON: Milwaukee County Historical Center Congressmen to be notified:
Sen. Wm. Proxmire

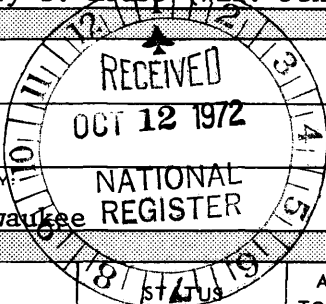
AND/OR HISTORIC: (Second Ward Savings Bank) Sen. Gaylord A. Nelson
Rep. Henry S. Reuss, (Wis. 5th Dist.)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 910 North Third Street

CITY OR TOWN: Milwaukee

STATE: Wisconsin CODE: 55 COUNTY: Milwaukee CODE: 079



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Research center & historical soc. hq.</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: County of Milwaukee

STREET AND NUMBER: 901 North Ninth Street

CITY OR TOWN: Milwaukee STATE: Wisconsin CODE: 55

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Milwaukee County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: 901 North Ninth Street

CITY OR TOWN: Milwaukee STATE: Wisconsin CODE: 55

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A two-story building with walls of gray Bedford limestone, the former Second Ward Savings Bank is triangular in shape and occupies a triangular lot bounded by West Kilbourn Avenue, North Third Street, and North Plankinton Avenue. French Renaissance architecture inspired the design. Monumental engaged columns of the Ionic order dominate the elevations; pedimented entrances occur in the central bays of east and west elevations (both nine-bay compositions); and a balustrade surmounts the cornice and surrounds the flat roof.

The exterior has seen no important modifications since the bank opened in 1913. On the interior, the mezzanine, originally limited to the south end of the fabric, was extended along north, east, and west sides in remodelling projects of 1919 and 1924. Conversion from bank to historical society headquarters during the mid-1960's brought additional changes: partitions on the basement level were altered; on the main level, most bank counters were removed and replaced by exhibit areas; three stairways joining main floor and mezzanine were also removed and a new staircase built; library and display spaces were created on mezzanine level. Nonetheless, much of the earlier interior remains--the gray marble flooring of the main story, the green and white marble staircase connecting main floor and basement, the two-story, scagliola-faced Ionic columns, the ornamental plaster ceilings. Intact, also, is the original's serene and classical flavor.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1911-13**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" 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 | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" 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

An officially designated Milwaukee Landmark, this small, graceful Neo-Renaissance building was the work of Milwaukee architects Charles Kirchoff and Thomas Leslie Rose. It was erected for the Second Ward Savings Bank, an institution founded in 1855 and, after reorganization during the next decade, popularly called the "Brewers' Bank" because such leaders of the local brewing industry as Valentine Blatz, Joseph Schlitz, Philip Best, and members of the Uihlein family played important roles in directing its affairs. It was therefore highly important in Milwaukee's commercial life.

In 1928 the bank merged with the First Wisconsin National Bank of Milwaukee, the building then becoming the First Wisconsin's Second Ward Branch. In April, 1965 it was donated to Milwaukee County by the First Wisconsin and eighteen months later reopened as the Milwaukee County Historical Center. Today it houses the collections and exhibits, library and offices, work and storage rooms of the Milwaukee County Historical Society.

The building is an Official Landmark of the City of Milwaukee, so designated in 1969.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Anderson, Harry H., "The Historical Society's New Building," Historical Messenger of the Milwaukee County Historical Society, XXI, No. 2, June, 1965, 59-60.

"Bank Building a Great Credit," Milwaukee Journal, February 3, 1913, 9. Civic Center and Plaza, Milwaukee, n.d. [c. 1969].

Perrin, Richard W. E., Milwaukee Landmarks, Milwaukee, 1968, 56. Second Ward Savings Bank, Milwaukee, n.d. [1913].

"Second Ward Savings Bank Is In New Home," Milwaukee Sentinel, February 2, 1913, Part 1, 4.

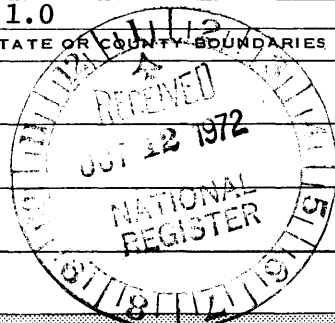
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N 43° 02' 31"	W 87° 54' 50"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than 1.0**

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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mary Ellen Wietczykowski, Chairman

ORGANIZATION: **Milwaukee Landmarks Commission** DATE: **5 July 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
210 West Michigan Street

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

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>James Morton Smith</u> James Morton Smith</p> <p>Title <u>Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin</u></p> <p>Date <u>OCT 16 1972</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Robert M. Utley</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>3/14/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>WJ Muntaghs</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>3.9.73</u></p>
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Wisconsin	
COUNTY Milwaukee	
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MAR 14	1973

(Number all entries)

MILWAUKEE COUNTY HISTORICAL CENTER

6. Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Buildings and Sites (State)

1971

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

816 State Street

Madison

Wisconsin

Code: 55

11. Donald N. Anderson, Asst. Director, Historic Sites & Markers Division

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

July 17, 1972

816 State Street

Madison

Wisconsin

Code: 55

