NPS Form 10-900 (January 1992) Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

1036

United States Department of Interior National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House other names/site number

2. Location

street &	k number	215 Cedar Str	reet				N/A	not for p	ublication
city or t	town	Tigerton					N/A	vicinity	
state	Wisconsin	code	WI	county	Shawano	code	115	zip code	54486

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this \underline{X} nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property \underline{X} meets _ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _ nationally statewide \underline{X} locally. (_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

-11, 2008

State Historic Preservation Officer - Wisconsin

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _ meets _ does not meet the National Register criteria. (_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title



State or Federal agency and bureau

Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House	Shawano Wisconsin
Name of Property	County and State
4. Mational Park Service Certification	<u>Λ</u> ΛΛ
I hereby certify that the property is: See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. See continuation sheet. See continuation sheet.	Son N. Beall 11.5.08
removed from the National Register.	
other, (explain:)	
Signatu	Date of Action
5. Classification	
Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as as apply)Category of Property (Check only one box)	
X private X building(s)	contributing noncontributing
public-local district	1 buildings
public-State structure	sites
public-Federal site object	structures objects
00,000	1 0 Total
Name of related multiple property listing: (Enter "N/A" if property not part of a multiple property listing. N/A	Number of contributing resources is previously listed in the National Register
6. Function or Use	
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) GOVERNMENT/ city hall GOVERNMENT/ fire station	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) COMMERCE/TRADE/ business SOCIAL/ civic
7. Description	
	Materials
Architectural Classification	Waterials
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	(Enter categories from instructions)
(Enter categories from instructions)	(Enter categories from instructions) Foundation stone
	(Enter categories from instructions)
(Enter categories from instructions)	(Enter categories from instructions) Foundation stone

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Shawano

Wisconsin

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- \underline{X} A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- _ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- _ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- _ B removed from its original location.
- _ C a birthplace or grave.
- _ D a cemetery.
- _ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- _ F a commemorative property.
- _G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Politics/Government

Period of Significance

1906-1958

Significant Dates

1906

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A ______

Architect/Builder

Miller, Charles

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Name of Property

9. Major Bibliographic References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National
- Register
- _ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- _ designated a National Historic
- landmark
- _ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	336719	4955946	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
					See Cor	ntinuation Shee	t

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By							
name/title	Patricia Lacey						
organization				date	12/15/2007		
street & number	W5055 US HWY 10			telephone	715-743-4799		
city or town	Neillsville	state	WI	zip code	54456		

County and State

Primary location of additional data:

X State Historic Preservation Office

Name of repository:

Other State Agency

Local government

Federal Agency

University

Other

Shawano

Wisconsin

Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House	Shawano	Wisconsin
Name of Property	County and State	

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps	A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
	A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner							
Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)							
name/title							
organization	Tigerton Main Street, Inc.			date	12/15/2007		
street&number	P.O. Box 3			telephone	715-535-2110		
city or town	Tigerton	state	WI	zip code	54486	_	

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 <u>et seq.</u>).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

		Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House
Section <u>7</u>	Page <u>1</u>	Tigerton, Shawano County, Wisconsin

INTRODUCTION

The Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House was completed in 1906. The building faces north on Cedar Street, the village's main street and is situated within Tigerton's commercial downtown area. Cedar Street has recently been resurfaced. New curb and gutter along with decorative brick accented crosswalks have been installed. The addition of thirty-six new period streetlamps (from Tigerton's Main Street Adopt-a-Street Light program) along with benches and planters has added to the ambience of the downtown.

The structure is an adaptation of the Commercial Italianate style of architecture. "Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin Vol. 2" describes the frequent use of Italianate architecture in commercial design.¹ These structures often have accentuated cornice, decorative window hoods and ornamental stringcourses that delineate each floor.²

The Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House has a two-story rectangular plan. The structure supports a low-pitched hipped roof with wide overhanging eaves. A large balustraded-hipped roof bell tower is situated upon a flat platform area, which is inset into the northeast corner of the hipped roof. Each of the building's window and door openings are topped with a brick segmental arch with decorative brickwork.

The village hall is freestanding. This enables viewing of all four sides of the building. Abundant natural light enters the building through the many windows, which are located on the four facades of both floors of the building. The building abuts the sidewalk that runs parallel to Cedar Street. The lot slopes sharply downward, at the south edge of the building, to a rear parking lot. A narrow alleyway enters the parking lot from the south.

The remainder of Tigerton's commercial downtown is comprised of late nineteenth century and early twentieth century, one and two story retail structures. Several of Tigerton's other commercial structures have been undergoing recent repairs and restoration.

¹ Barbara Wyatt, ed., <u>Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin</u>. (Madison, Wis.: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986), vol. 2, p. 2-6.

² Longstreth, Richard, <u>The Buildings of Main Street</u> (Walnut Creek, CA.: Alta Mira Press, 2000).

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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DESCRIPTION

Exterior

The Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House is two stories in height and is capped by a low-pitched hipped roof. The building is rectangular, having the dimensions thirty-one feet wide by sixty-one feet long. The structure sits upon a lot that is forty feet wide by one hundred and fifty feet long. The only deviation from the rectangular nature of the building is a 14'6" wide projecting bay, which identifies the entrance of the building and forms the base for the bell tower.³

The building rests upon a fieldstone foundation. A stone belt course located at the top of the stone foundation delineates the ground floor and separates the foundation from the brick veneer.

The ground floor is framed with 2" by 12" floor joists that span 9'8" and rest upon 8" wide nominal wood girders that were made by combining four 2" by 12" planks. The girders are supported by 4"diamenter steel posts. Later, additional girders and columns were installed at the center of the basement and directly beneath the vehicle entrance door. This additional support increased the floor load capacity, allowing for heavier trucks. Frame construction begins above the foundation wall. The stud walls are sheathed with 7" wide 7/8" thick tongue and groove slats. One inch of air space is located between the un-reinforced brick veneer and the wall. The brick is anchored to the sheathing with 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " 20-penny nails.⁴

The main north-facing facade is two stories. The east one-half of the façade projects two feet from the main mass of the building. This projection identifies the entrance of the building and forms the front base of the bell tower. The projecting bay anchors the bell tower, giving the appearance of strength and weight. The projecting nature of the bay gives the impression that the bell tower and projecting facade are one unit.

The bell tower, which is inset into the northeast corner of the hipped roof, rests upon a flat platform. Twelve posts, which sit atop square bases, support the hip roof of the bell tower. The posts support an arcade. The edges of the floor of the bell tower are finished with a balustrade with turned spindles.

³ Rachel Carley, <u>The Visual Dictionary of American Domestic Architecture</u> (New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1997).

⁴ Much of the technical description is drawn from Jacobs Engineering Group, <u>Historic Structure Report for Tigerton Village</u> <u>Hall and Engine House</u> (De Pere, WI, 2005).

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The peak of the roof of the bell tower supports an eight-foot pole (lightning rod) that is topped with a 6" diameter ball. During the duration of the occupancy of the fire department, a large bell rested on the floor of the bell tower. The bell was removed years ago but has been returned to the building. It rests on the floor inside the main entry.

The first floor of the north-facing facade contains the main entry door and the fire truck entry doors. The main entry is centered in the two-story projecting bay. The building is entered through a fivepanel door, which is topped with an arched transom. A one over one light window appears at either side of the entry door. The top light of each one over one light is arched to mirror the descending brick segmental arch that is over the entry door and two light grouping. The segmental arch is constructed of rowlock brick set into three concentric rows and capped by a row of header brick. The first and third courses and the header course project outward, while the rowlock course is recessed for contrast. Additionally, the second rowlock course is alternated with inset brick. Centered above the entry door is a date stone, which reads: 1905 Village Hall.

To the west of the projecting bay and centered upon the 16'6" remaining mass of the building is an 11'2" fire engine entry opening. Two four-panel doors are arched to mirror the descending brick segmental arch, which arches over the two-door unit. The segmental brick arch is constructed of rowlock brick set into three concentric rows and capped by a row of header brick. This arch, as all of the other arches of the main façade, mirror the arch over the entry.

The front façade has a decorative three-course brick projection, which touches the top of the segmental arches and underscores the date stone. The middle row of the brick projection is recessed for contrast.

A grouping consisting of three one-over-one lights, of equal width, is centered upon the second floor elevation of the two-story projection. They appear directly above the date stone and the main entry. A segmental brick arch arches over the window grouping. Between the window grouping and the segmental brick arch is an arched wood infill.

A window grouping consisting of three one-over-one lights is centered upon the second floor directly above the vehicle doors. A segmental brick arch arches over the window grouping. Between the window grouping and the segmental brick arch is an arched wood infill.

A limestone stringcourse begins at the northeast edge of the north facing façade. It continues across the face of the building ending at the northwest edge. The stringcourse becomes the sill beneath the window grouping.

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The brick veneer coursing is set in common running bond. The brick veneer begins above the limestone belt course, which sits atop the stone foundation and continues upward to the wood entablature. Simple rectangular brackets are evenly spaced beneath the overhanging eave.

The north facing main façade abuts the sidewalk. A concrete apron approaches the fire truck entry doors. A wooden sign, which reads "Old Tigerton Village Hall," appears directly to the west of the building. It contains a short history of the structure and acknowledges the parties from which funding was received for the restoration.

The west and east facing elevations are similar in nature. Four evenly spaced one-over-one light (32" X 80") windows appear on the west facing first floor and the east and west second floors. The first floor of the east facing wall has only three windows. Arching over each window is a segmental brick arch. A wooden arch infill appears at the top of the window and beneath the brick segmental arch. One row of rowlock brick is set between two concentric projecting rows of brick. The rowlock course is alternated with inset brick. Limestone sills appear under each window. This feature is repeated on the three minor elevations.

The south facing or rear elevation does not have, nor ever did have windows on the second floor. The rear first floor is accessed by a stairway, which leads to a porch. The porch and stairway are balustraded. The building is entered through a centered five-panel door topped with a large square transom. A one-over-one window appears equal distance at each side of the entry door. Above each window and the entry door is an individual segmental brick arch.

The porch projects over the exterior entrance to the basement. Retaining walls project at 90 degrees from the wall of the foundation. The soil is excavated between these walls providing access to the basement entry. This feature is of new construction.

The brick is in its original state and remains unpainted. The wood doors, windows, window surrounds, bell tower posts, and balustrades are painted medium teal, brick red and deep cream. Various architectural details are accented with emerald green.

Interior

An 8'8" X 13'4" foyer is entered through the main entry-projecting bay. To the left of the main door is an L-shaped, open string staircase that has winding treads at both the lower and upper corners. The

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turned balusters, handrail and treads are constructed from wood. The manufactured steel newel post has recessed rectangular panels and is topped with a coved vault newel cap. The entry foyer and upper floor are covered with tongue and groove hardwood flooring. The stair treads are painted wood. The foyer and stairwell walls are finished with plaster.

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The 19' X 57' interior fire engine parking area is accessed through the north facing double engine doors, through a doorway at the rear of the foyer and the rear south entrance. The floor of the parking area is finished with Douglas fir planks, which run in a north south direction perpendicular to the floor joists. Four foot high wainscoting is found on the north, west and south walls of the fire engine parking area. The ceiling is finished with the same type of tongue and groove wainscoting. The remaining area to the south of the foyer and to the east of the fire truck parking area would have been used for equipment storage. The modifications made to this area will be discussed in alterations.

The second floor has a 29' X 41'8" common area located directly to the south of two offices. The dimensions of the west office are 14'9" X 15'6" and the dimensions of east office are 12'4" X 12'10". The stairwell is located to the east of the east office and rises to a small hall between the door to the common area and the door to the east office. The north wall of the common area has two doors topped with large square transoms. These doors enter the two office areas. Six large windows, three on the east wall and three on the west wall, light the common area. Each office has a group of three windows located on the north wall. Additional light transfers through the transoms and doorways. The entire upper floor has plastered walls and ceilings.

The first and second floor elevation windows and doorways have original simple wood moldings and surrounds. Wide original baseboards are found throughout the building.

ALTERATIONS

The building has been restored with historic accuracy and is truly a beautiful testament to the interest the Tigerton community has in its historic past. The Secretary of the Interiors Standards for Rehabilitation were strictly adhered to during the restoration process. Monies raised, both by the community, as well as grants from the Jeffris Family Foundation, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Stockbridge-Munsee Community, and USDA Rural Development, provided the means for the restoration. The Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House has been returned to an architecturally sound structure. The completed restoration will enable this building to be viewed by Tigerton residents as an iconic reminder of their community heritage. The community will also be able to use this building as a center for activity for many years to come.

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Sometime in the past, the bell tower had been removed. When the building fell into disrepair, it became a hazard to pedestrians walking the sidewalk below. It has been replaced utilizing historic photographs and the footprint of the original bell tower that remained upon the flat roof.

The segmental arch above the fire truck entry had been replaced by a horizontal steel lintel. An overhead garage door was also installed. These modifications allowed larger fire trucks to enter the building. These changes have been reversed utilizing historic photos. Paneled swinging doors matching the original structure's fire truck entry door, have been installed.

The first floor east facing window fenestration has been bricked in. This was done by the village due to the extremely close proximity of the building directly east of the village hall. The close proximity inhibits the entry of natural light. The bathrooms and rear stairwell that were added during the renovation are located against this wall. Should the building to the east of the village hall ever be removed, the windows openings may be opened again. The brick arches and limestone windowsills remain intact.

The rear porch and retaining walls have been modified for safety purposes. The stairway, porch floor and retaining walls are of poured concrete. The south facing façade of the structure remains original.

For fire safety, a rear stairwell, which rises to the second floor, has been constructed in the southeast corner of the first floor. Beneath this stairwell a small kitchen has been installed. To the north of the new stairwell, between the stairwell and the entry foyer, two small bathrooms have been added.

The restoration of the building has returned the building to its historic appearance. While its use has changed, the former Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House continues to play an important role in the community.

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Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House Tigerton, Shawano County, Wisconsin

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: SUMMARY

The Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House is being nominated at the local level to the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A. It is the most significant historic building related to the development of the Village of Tigerton's local government. The Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House was the center of government services for seventy-five years. Historically, the Tigerton Village Hall and Engine Hall and Engine House was a tremendous step forward for Tigerton's city government. It provided an administrative center from which it could orchestrate the services the community desired. The building was a multifunctional community space housing the town clerk, the Tigerton Library, the volunteer fire department's equipment and engine, two incarceration cells, council chambers, and a polling location. The large room on the second floor was also used for dances and other social events. The period of significance begins with the completion of the building in 1906 and extends to 1958, the end of the historic period.

HISTORY

In 1843 Charles Wescott and Samuel Farnsworth left Green Bay and paddled up the Wolf River. They were scouting for a location to build a mill as they recognized the potential of the vast forests of Shawano County. They arrived in the area, which would become the city of Shawano. Westcott built a sawmill along the banks of the Wolf River for owners Samuel Farnsworth and F.B. Moore. Captain William Powell, an officer of the Black Hawk War, established a trading post about two miles from the village site, on the east side of the river in 1844.⁵

Shawano County was organized by legislative act on February 16, 1853.⁶ It was formed from sections of Oconto and Outagamie counties. Shawano County embraces thirty-six townships and two Indian reservations, the Menomonee and Stockbridge. The first election was held in November 1853 at the Shawano Mills residence occupied by Charles Westcott. At this time there were only 254 registered inhabitants within Shawano County. In November of 1855, a majority vote resolved to locate the county seat two miles southwest of Lake Shawano on the Wolf River where a community had grown around the Farnsworth and Moore mill.⁷

A resolution was entered in the minutes of the March 14, 1878 meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Shawano County. This resolution requested the formation of the Town of Fairbanks, by detaching

⁵ Shawano County Sesquicentennial, 1853 – 2003 (Shawano, Wis.: Shawano County, 2002).

⁶ The Shawano Advocate, January 26, 1906 (http://www.wisconsinhistory.org).

⁷ Shawano County Sesquicentennial, 1853 – 2003 (Shawano, Wis.: Shawano County, 2002).

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North 26 Range 11 & 12 from the Town of Seneca.⁸ At approximately the same time, lumbermen were discovering the forests in and around what would become the Village of Tigerton, which is located within the new Town of Fairbanks.

Lumbermen from the Oshkosh area were utilizing the many rivers in Shawano County to float their logs to the small mills scattered throughout the county.⁹ By the late 1840s the region around the Wolf River in northeastern Wisconsin was a major lumbering district.¹⁰ In 1881 it was estimated that about 60 percent of Shawano County still remained wooded. The pine was along the streams and the hemlock, oak and hickory were located on the uplands. The harvesting of logs was done in the winter months. The seven to ten thousand feet of logs were loaded on twelve-foot long sleighs. Four-horse teams pulled these loads on specially constructed six-foot wide ice roads pulling their loads to the various rivers located throughout the county.¹¹

The Milwaukee Lake Shore & Western Railway was founded in 1872. Chet Bennet, a timber cruiser who was employed by the MLS&W, blazed the trail for the rail line into Shawano County.¹² Eight hundred miles of the MLS&W's lines served the northeast region of Wisconsin from 1872 to 1893. The Chicago & NorthWestern Railroad purchased the rail line in 1893.¹³ The MLS&W reached New London, Wisconsin in 1876.¹⁴ The president of the MLS & W Railroad was Frederick W. Rhinelander. Rhinelander was also the President of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. He personally guided the railroad expansion from Clintonville to Wausau. Rail lines were built in the advance of settlement; as a result, they played a major role in developing communities.¹⁵ In 1879 the Milwaukee Lakeshore & Western Railroad reached the site on the south branch of the Embarrass River, which would become Tigerton. Lumbermen had already dammed the river and were floating logs to sawmills in New London and Oshkosh. Frederick Rhinelander and Thomas Newbold registered the Original Plat for the Village of Tigerton.¹⁶

⁸ Minutes Board of Supervisors of Shawano County, March 14, 1878.

⁹ A.T. Andreas, <u>The History of Northern Wisconsin</u> (Chicago: The Western Historical Co., 1881).

¹⁰ http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints/tp-027/?action=more_essay

¹¹ Antigo Journal, September 10, 1942 (Article also found at:

http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/wlhba/articleView.asp?pg=3&id=4656&hdl=&np=&ad).

¹² Wausau Daily Record-Herald, April 8, 1933 (http://www.wisconsinhistory.org).

¹³ http://www.midcontinent.org

¹⁴ http://www.greenbayroute.com/railroads.htm

¹⁵ http://www.midcontinent.org

¹⁶ Shawano County Sesquicentennial, 1853 – 2003 (Shawano, Wis.: Shawano County, 2002).

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As the stands of pine throughout Shawano County were depleted, lumber companies turned their focus to the remaining hardwoods (oak, maple and hickory). Hardwood did not float well and it deteriorated when immersed in water. The railroads would transform Wisconsin's lumber industry in the mid-to-late nineteenth century. Transporting logs and lumber by train allowed loggers to work year-round. Additional lands could be harvested as spurs were extended deeper into the woods. The focus now would be the woods that had been previously ignored.¹⁷

With the arrival of the Milwaukee, Lake Shore & Western Railroad, Tigerton was assured development and prosperity. The first permanent building constructed was the Matthais Schumacher boarding house called the "Railroad House."¹⁸ In 1880, Newbold and Livingston built the first sawmill in Tigerton on the north side of the Embarrass River. The mill generated 12,000,000 feet of lumber a year. A gristmill operated in conjunction with the sawmill. ¹⁹ In addition to operating the mill, Livingston opened a grocery store and Newbold built a hotel. Grundy & Brigham built a mill for the manufacturing of veneer.²⁰

In 1881 the settlement of Tigerton had grown to 150 residents.²¹ Sensing opportunity, other businesses opened: the Letizke blacksmith shop, the Mc Devitt hotel and saloon, and Tatterson's barbershop. A shingle mill was established. The first school building was constructed in 1881. The Catholic Church built the first church that same year.²² A good share of the lumber, veneer, and shingle products, which were being produced locally, were utilized to build businesses, homes, schools, and churches in Tigerton.²³

¹⁷ http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints/tp0027?action=more_essay

¹⁸ Shawano County Sesquicentennial, 1853 – 2003 (Shawano, Wis.: Shawano County, 2002).

¹⁹ A.T. Andreas, <u>The History of Northern Wisconsin</u> (Chicago: The Western Historical Co., 1881).

²⁰ Shawano County Centurawano 1853-1953 (Shawano, Wis.: Shawano County Centurawano Committee, [1953]).

²¹ A.T. Andreas, <u>The History of Northern Wisconsin</u> (Chicago: The Western Historical Co., 1881.)

²² Shawano County Centurawano 1853-1953 (Shawano, Wis.: Shawano County Centurawano Committee, [1953]).

²³ Shawano County Sesquicentennial, 1853 – 2003 (Shawano, Wis.: Shawano County, 2002).

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House Tigerton, Shawano County, Wisconsin

HERMAN R. SWANKE AND THE TIGERTON LUMBER COMPANY

In 1885, Herman R. Swanke arrived in Tigerton. Swanke was born February 9, 1860 in Ripon, Wisconsin, the eldest of six children and the son of German immigrants. At age 17 he left home finding employment in the harvest fields of Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, and North and South Dakota. He also drove logs on the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers. Schwanke worked for the Milwaukee Lake Shore and Western Railroad during the time that the right of way was cleared into Shawano County. After working for the police forces of Omaha and Council Bluffs, Swanke returned to Wisconsin and started a threshing business. He operated the threshing business until 1885. Looking to embark into the lumber business, he came back to the woods of Shawano County.

With a friend, Schwanke spent his first winter in Tigerton cutting cedar posts and carrying them on his back to the rail line. Schwanke formed a partnership with Herman Wilkes, William Ottoman and Henry Hillman in 1887. Pooling their resources they built a small sawmill in section thirteen of the Town of Germania on the Embarrass River about two and one-half miles west of Tigerton. The mill cost three thousand dollars to construct. All of the lumber manufactured at the Germania mill had to be hauled to Tigerton by wagon or sleigh for shipment on the railroad. This partnership lasted only a few years and in 1889 the company took the name Tigerton Lumber Company Corporation. Herman R. Swanke was the president and D.C. Buckstaff and R.H. Edwards of Oshkosh, Wisconsin were the other principals. In 1891 the mill burned. The location of the mill was then moved to Tigerton. A larger mill was constructed at a cost of ten thousand dollars. The Tigerton Lumber Corporation also owned a mill at Witcomb. In 1896, Swanke bought out his partners' interests and became the sole owner of the Tigerton Lumber Company. Daily production at the Tigerton Mill was 15,000 to 20,000 feet of lumber. The Witcomb mill was also kept at full production.²⁵

Herman R. Swanke was united in marriage to Lizzie Roemer in 1892. They had one daughter, Irma. Lizzie passed away on November 16, 1893. Herman was married again on July 4, 1899 to Tillie Tobian. This union produced ten children: Roy, John, Cecelia, Herman, Lawrence, Anthony, Mary Ann, Mathilda, Elaine, and Stephen.²⁶

Swanke continued to broaden his investments. He purchased timber holdings in Idaho and then built a mill. Although it was extremely successful, it was difficult to operate his holdings in two states and

²⁴ Shawano County Centuranwano 1853-1953 (Shawano, Wis.: Shawano County Centurawano Committee, [1953]).

²⁵ Anthony E. Swanke and Russell Kostrzak, <u>Tigerton Lumber Company: "One Hundred Years," 1887-1987</u>. ([Tigerton, Wis.]: The Company, [1987]).

²⁶ Herman R. Swanke obituary, <u>Tigerton Chronicle</u>, March 16, 1923.

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Swanke sold his Idaho investments. With this added capital Swanke purchased larger blocks of Wisconsin timberland. In 1897 Swanke opened the Tigerton Company Store.

The continued growth in lumber production at the Tigerton Mill saw the need to expand once again. In 1910, a large modern, concrete and steel mill was constructed. The original pine stands were gone, but Herman R. Swanke had the foresight to see the value in the remaining virgin hardwoods. Swanke continued to purchase thousands of acres of timber holdings. In 1919, Swanke purchased 10,000 acres of Spaulding Lumber Company holdings. He also continued to modernize the lumber company's methods of operation. In 1918 the Tigerton Lumber Company began using the Steam Hauler. This was a cross between a tractor and a steam locomotive. It moved through the woods on large crawler tracks. In years to come, the Tigerton Lumber Company would move logs and lumber with trucks built by Clintonville Four Wheel Drive.²⁷

Swanke brought electricity to Tigerton in 1912. A small generator was placed in the mill. At first the mill had electric lights and then the Swanke home. Electricity was then extended to the company store, a few more houses, and finally the streets of the village. This was the beginning of another Herman R. Swanke enterprise known as the Tigerton Electric Company. Electricity was created for the village as well as approximately 125 miles of the surrounding rural area. The company remained in Tigerton Lumber Company ownership until 1971 when it was purchased by the Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative.²⁸

Herman R. Swanke was known as one of the foremost lumberman in the country. His vision and foresight continues to have an impact on the Village of Tigerton even today. He was remembered in his obituary as a wise counselor. Swanke was a visionary and an innovator. His steady hand not only guided the success of his mills but also the success of the Village of Tigerton. His great courage was reflected when his mills would reemerge from ashes. Herman R. Swanke died on March 13, 1923 at the age of 63. The management of the Tigerton Lumber Company then fell to his wife and sons.²⁹ The Tigerton Lumber Company boasts one hundred and twenty one years of continuous operation at its Tigerton location.

²⁷ Anthony E. Swanke & Russell Kostrzak, <u>Tigerton Lumber Company: "One Hundred Years," 1887 – 1987</u>. ([Tigerton, Wis.]: The Company, [1987]).

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Ibid.

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Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House Tigerton, Shawano County, Wisconsin

THE VILLAGE OF TIGERTON

In 1895, discussions ensued among the citizens of Tigerton about the possibility of incorporating as a village. Herman R. Swanke and others signed the Application of Incorporation and the Notice of Incorporation for the Village of Tigerton on July 18, 1895.³⁰ Official notification of the incorporation of the village occurred on January 14, 1896. The first village officers were: President John Lehman, and trustees: August Kropf, Albert Klug, John McDevitt, A.E. Dedolph, Joseph Roemer, and Ben Roemer. The village clerk was August Nedden, treasurer Tel Ruppenthal, assessor Fred Zellmer, Herman Nedden marshal, and August Nedden justice of the peace.³¹ The meetings of the village board were held in various locations.

A resolution was adopted at the May 16, 1904 Tigerton Village Board meeting to construct a new town hall and engine house at a cost not to exceed \$4,000 for both the site and for the construction.³² A committee was formed on August 20, 1904, comprised of Charles Wojahn, E.B. Sorley and Adoph Kundson. They were directed to locate a site for the new town hall.³³ Again, at the May 2, 1905 village board meeting another committee was formed to once again attempt to locate a site for the construction of the town hall. This committee was comprised of Charles Wojahn, Fred Zellmer and S.C. Arps. Committee member Charles Wojahn came forth to the Village of Tigerton offering to sell them his property, which consisted of Lot 2 of Block 34.³⁴

The Tigerton Village Board received a communication from H. R. Swanke at their July 6, 1905 village board meeting. This communication stated that Swanke had dug several holes into Lot 4 of Block 35 in the Village of Tigerton and had found a good solid clay bottom. He thought that the lot was appropriate for the new village hall and agreed to sell the village the lot for \$675.00. Further, Swanke stated that he would clean the litter from the lot and provide the village a Warranty Deed. In addition, Swanke offered to finance the project by loaning the village money at 5% interest. He insured that the loan would cover the costs of the lot, foundation and construction of the building. His agreement with the village would be based upon the village producing the proper security bonds.³⁵

³⁰ Anthony E. Swanke & Russell Kostrzak, <u>Tigerton Lumber Company: "One Hundred Years," 1887 – 1987</u>. ([Tigerton, Wis.]: The Company, [1987]).

³¹ Shawano County Sesquicentennial, 1853-2003. (Shawano, Wis.: Shawano County, 2002).

³² Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes, May 16, 1904.

³³ Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes, August 20, 1904.

³⁴ Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes, May 2, 1905.

³⁵ Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes, July 6, 1905.

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Some controversy arose when the village board voted on the purchase of Lot 4 of Block 35. The vote ended in a three to three tie. A second vote was taken and that vote resulted in four-vote majority to purchase the lot. A group of Tigerton citizens petitioned the Tigerton Village Board to hold a special election. They wanted to vote upon which lot, Wojahn's or Swanke's, would be purchased. The village board tabled that petition.³⁶

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The Tigerton Village Board voted at their August 1, 1905 meeting to purchase Swanke's lot for a price of \$450.00. The Village President, Charles Lehman, along with Charles Wojahn and S.C. Arps were directed to acquire plans for the construction of the Village Hall and Engine House.³⁷ At the August 24, 1905 Tigerton Village Board meeting, Charles Miller presented the plans and the specifications for the village hall and engine house. He was paid twenty-five dollars.³⁸

The Tigerton Village Board opened the bidding process for both the construction of the foundation and construction of the building. H. R. Swanke produced the lowest bids for the foundation at \$485.00 and the building construction at \$2,870.00 (if he used green joists) or \$2,929.80 (if he used dry joists.)³⁹ Ben Roemer provided the labor for the construction of the building and foundation.⁴⁰

As construction progressed, the Tigerton Village Board entered into an agreement, on January 2, 1906, with H. R. Swanke for the financing of the Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House. H.R. Swanke provided a loan of \$4,000.00 at 5% interest, payable at \$400.00 per year for ten years. The interest would be paid every six months.⁴¹

Two, five foot by six and one half foot, steel cells were purchased by the Village in February of 1906 and placed in the village hall.⁴² One was located in the southwest rear corner of the first floor and the other was placed in the basement.

The Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House was located in direct proximity to the Tigerton sawmill. Swanke had subtly influenced the building and placement of the Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House. He had experienced a devastating fire at his first mill and had also observed the local veneer

³⁶ Russell Kostrzak, " 'Old Village Hall' Another Piece of Tigerton History."

³⁷ Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes, August 1, 1905.

³⁸ Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes, August 24, 1905.

³⁹ Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes, September 5, 1905; Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes, October 3, 1905.

⁴⁰ Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes, January 2, 1906.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes February 6, 1906.

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mill's destruction by fire. Swanke also ensured a speedy response by providing the horses used to pull the fire engine. Horses that were used on a daily bases to move Tigerton Lumber Company logs and lumber were placed into active duty by hauling the village fire apparatus during times of emergency. The lumber company also installed a non-extant steam loop from the mill to the village hall to provide heat for the building.⁴³

By 1898 the population of Tigerton had grown to 500. The Business Directory of the 1898 Shawano County Plat Book listed six saloons, two hotels, three lumber companies, two hardware stores, two general merchants, two druggists, feed mill, printing company, milliner, shoe-maker, butcher, blacksmith, confectionery, as well as physicians, lawyers, real estate brokers, and building contractors.⁴⁴

The First National Bank opened in 1899.⁴⁵ Additional churches were built.⁴⁶ A new brick graded school was built in 1904 to replace the graded school that was destroyed by fire.⁴⁷ The Chicago and NorthWestern Railroad extended a spur through town to the lumber company in 1905.⁴⁸ In 1908 a high school was established by village decree. Classes were held at the grade school until Tigerton built a new high school in 1919.

At the October 7, 1913 meeting of the Tigerton Village Board of Trustees, Board President Arthur Heins appointed Mrs. F.Y. King and Mrs. Ida Hunt to the first Tigerton Library Board. Mrs. King's husband, attorney Y.F. King, was instrumental in pursuing a public library for the Village of Tigerton.⁴⁹ The village appropriated one hundred dollars with which to purchase books and the State Library Commission sent an advisor to help with the book selections.⁵⁰ The library was located in an unheated room in the Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House. Two high school girls offered their services to staff the library. By 1922 the library was falling into neglect. The terms of the library's inventory was moved to the Tigerton High School and incorporated into the high school library.

⁴³ Jacobs Engineering Group, <u>Historic Structure Report for Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House</u> (De Pere, WI, 2005).

⁴⁴ 1898 Business Directory, <u>Shawano County Plat Book</u>.

⁴⁵ Local recollections on file at the Tigerton Library #2. Date and author unknown.

⁴⁶ Shawano County Sesquicentennial, 1853-2003. (Shawano, Wis.: Shawano County, 2002).

⁴⁷ Local recollections on file at the Tigerton Library #2. Date and author unknown.

⁴⁸ Tigerton Chronicle, September 15, 1905.

⁴⁹ Local recollections on file at the Tigerton Library #2. Date and author unknown.

⁵⁰ Ibid.

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At the urging of forward-thinking citizens and the P.T.A., a new library committee was formed in 1929. Mrs. D.O. Brooks and Reverend Oswald Julius Spieth were named to the committee. The committee approached the Tigerton Village Board requesting that the village once again operate a community library. The Tigerton Village Board appropriated seventy-five dollars for operation. The books that had been taken to the high school were retrieved and moved back to the village hall. Mrs. Stuart Horne was appointed librarian.⁵¹ Citizens donated books to aid in the expansion of the library's collection. The hours for library patrons were Wednesday from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm and on Saturday evenings from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.⁵²

At one time Wisconsin Highway 26 traveled directly through Tigerton on Cedar Street. The highway system was reconfigured in the late 1930s to run just parallel to Tigerton on the east edge. The highway was renumbered Wisconsin State Highway 45. After World War II, Tigerton remained a stable community with an economic base in the lumber industry. The agriculture endeavors of the surrounding area played a role as well. In the later part of the twentieth century, the downtown, like many other small towns, began to decline as the lure of big shopping malls and discount pricing drew shoppers away. Cedar Street remains the spine of downtown Tigerton and the configuration of the commercial area remains as it was in 1905.

The Village of Tigerton offices of government and the village library remained in the structure until 1969. Concerns arose over the safety and stability of the second floor. The elderly found the stairway to the second floor an obstacle to their use of the building. The village leased the building directly to the west of the Village Hall in 1969. The clerk's office, village board meetings and library were moved into this building. The volunteer fire department and police department remained in the 1905 Tigerton Village Hall. On October 27, 1979, ground was broken and construction began on a new village hall. This new community building houses the village clerk and village board, library, senior center, police department, and volunteer fire department. When completed in 1980, village government, library and volunteer fire department moved into the new facility located at 221 Birch Street.

After 1980, the village used the 1905 Tigerton Village Hall and Engine house for village storage. The village sold the building in 1994 and it fell deeper and deeper into disrepair. Tigerton Main Street purchased the building in 2003, saving it from the wrecking ball. Tigerton Main Street and the community began the mission of restoring the building, determined to render this landmark functional once again.⁵³

⁵¹ Local recollections on file at the Tigerton Library #1. Date and author unknown.

⁵² Local recollections on file at the Tigerton Library #2. Date and author unknown.

⁵³ Booklet created by Michael & Carol Tauferner while they owned the Tigerton Village Hall & Engine House.

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Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House Tigerton, Shawano County, Wisconsin

TIGERTON MAIN STREET, INC.

In 1993 Tigerton's bid to become a "Wisconsin Main Street Community" became a reality when Governor Tommy Thompson welcomed the community into the program. Tigerton Main Street, Inc. consists of four committees: Design Committee (fostering beautification projects), Promotions Committee (publicizing events and activities), Economic Restructuring Committee (helping existing businesses, attract new business and preserve historic structures), and the Organization Committee (financial management of Tigerton Main Street).

Tigerton Main Street, Inc. plunged forward with many innovative projects. The Adopt-A-Street Light program raised monies for 18 new decorative streetlights in 1998. In 2000 the Veteran's Park Veteran's Memorial was built and six more streetlights were installed along Cedar Street. The kiosk at the Embarrass River Travel Center was completed in 2001. In 2002, nine more streetlights were added to the downtown area. New benches and planters were also installed along Cedar Street.

Tigerton Main Street, Inc. purchased the 1905 Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House for \$8000.00 in 2003. They began local fund raising efforts for its restoration. In August of 2003 a new roof was installed and the foundation was repaired. The missing bell tower was re-built based on historic photos and the footprint that remained atop the building.

Tigerton Main Street, Inc. received a \$167,000 grant from the Jeffris Foundation, a \$162,610 grant from the USDA Department of Rural Development, a \$5000 grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and a \$10,000 grant from the Stockbridge-Munsee Community. Over \$79,000 was raised in donations from businesses and individuals. Tigerton Main Street, Inc. secured an additional \$86,000.00 in loans to facilitate completion of the project.⁵⁴

Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. of De Pere, Wisconsin prepared the Historic Structure Report and blueprints for the restoration process. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation were followed throughout the project.⁵⁵ Becher-Hoppe Associates Inc. of Wausau, Wisconsin oversaw the project. The restoration was completed in early 2007 and the project was dedicated on July 4, 2007.

⁵⁴ http://users.mwwb.net/tigertonmainstreet/history/

⁵⁵ Letter dated June 20, 2006 from Sherman Banker, Office of Preservation Planning, Wisconsin Historical Society.

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Tigerton Main Street, Inc. has been the recipient of seven Wisconsin Governor's Awards from the State Main Street Program and Department of Commerce. Currently, Tigerton Main Street, Inc. is pursuing a "Preserve America" award.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: GOVERNMENT

The Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House is significant for local history under criterion A in the area of government. It was the long time home of Tigerton's village government, fire department and village library. It is a fine example of a village hall erected at the turn-of-the-century for multiple governmental purposes, as well as for the community's social activities. Establishing a single location for village government and providing housing for the volunteer fire department was an important event in Tigerton's history. Important decisions, which impacted every citizen of the village, were made within the building. It was also a source of great pride. It represented a progression from a logging settlement along a creek to a structured community. Citizens desired additional services that would provide for their safety and add to their quality of life. It is the most significant building relating to government remaining within the Tigerton community.

According to Wisconsin's "Cultural Resource Management," there are four units of local government within the state: counties, towns, villages and cities. All may levy taxes, spend revenues amassed and acquire property. Villages and cities are incorporated as municipalities and differ from the other two types of local government in that they primarily provide local government in a concentrated area. Villages and cities are formed when residents of the concentrated area desire to provide and perform the services required within the village or city in a separate fashion from the township or county government.⁵⁶

The main focus of town or village government is the maintenance of roads, bridges, government structures within their boundaries, fire protection, zoning, regulations of parks and lakes, and in some instances city cemeteries. Towns and villages may choose to provide additional police services over and above those provided by the county.

Adding to the historical significance of the structure is that it housed one of Tigerton's important educational institutions, the public library. Next to the local schools, the library was the most important city-sponsored facility contributing to the education if its citizens. A library provided educational materials for both young and old village residents, as well as for people from the

⁵⁶ Barbara Wyatt, ed., <u>Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin</u>. (Madison, Wis.: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986), vol. 1, pp. 9-1, 9-5.

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surrounding area. The rapid growth of public libraries occurred between 1898 and 1919. Before that time libraries were rare, especially in small towns. The Wisconsin Public Library Act of 1872 allowed villages and cities to support a local library through taxes. Many early libraries, which were established in public buildings, required long-term commitments on the part of village or city governments to provide funding.

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The Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House is historically significant at the local level in the area of government. It is the most important building associated with village government and fire protection during the period of significance from 1906 until 1958. Various governmental functions continued in the building until 1980. Like many of Wisconsin's village and town halls of the period, the Village Hall was a multi-use building. Village government was housed in the building from its completion in 1906 until 1969. The library occupied rooms in the Village Hall from 1913 to 1922 and from 1929-1969. The fire department was in the building from 1906 until 1980. The building was also the location of civic events and entertainment.

The significant role that the Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House played in the growth of Tigerton's government in the twentieth century makes it an important landmark to the citizens of Tigerton. This building provides an important social, historical and cultural link of the past, present and future of Tigerton. The Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House has been restored to its original state by a proud community and is worthy of listing in the State of Wisconsin and National Register of Historic Places.

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Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes August 24, 1905.

Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes September 5, 1905.

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Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes January 2, 1906.

Tigerton Village Trustees meeting minutes February 6, 1906.

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"Tigerton Village Board Meeting" Tigerton Chronicle, September 15, 1905.

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http://users.mwwb.net/tigertonmainstreet/history

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Boundary Description:

Village of Tigerton original plat: E 40' lot 4 Blk 35.

Boundary Justification:

The nominated boundary coincides with the legally owned parcel for the building and is the lot historically associated with the Village Hall.

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Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House Tigerton, Shawano, Wisconsin

Photo 1 of 10 **Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House Tigerton, Shawano County, Wisconsin** Photo by Pat Lacey. Photo taken October 2007. Negative on file at the Wisconsin Historical Society. View looking south

The information for the following photos is the same as above, except as noted.

Photo 2 of 10 View looking southeast

Photo 3 of 10 View looking southwest

Photo 4 of 10 View looking southeast

Photo 5 of 10 View looking east

Photo 6 of 10 View looking north

Photo 7 of 10 View looking north

Photo 8 of 10 View looking east

Photo 9 of 10 View looking northwest

Photo 10 of 10 View looking northeast



Not to Scale

Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House

Tigerton, Shawano County, Wisconsin

First Floor

FIGURE 2:



Not to Scale

W

E

4

FIGURE 3: Tigerton Village Hall and Engine House Tigerton, Shawano County, Wisconsin Second Floor



Rear Stairway Added during restoration

Main Stairway



Not to Scale

