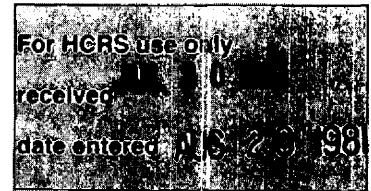


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



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

1. Name Pureair Sanatorium

historic Tri-County Pureair Sanatorium

and/or common Pureair Sanatorium (preferred)

2. Location

street & number S of Bayfield not for publication

city, town Bayfield vicinity of congressional district 7th

state Wisconsin code 55 county Bayfield code 007

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name County of Bayfield, Attention: James C. Strom, County Clerk

street & number 117 East 5th

city, town Washburn vicinity of state Wisconsin 54801

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bayfield County Courthouse

street & number 117 East 5th

city, town Washburn state Wisconsin 54801

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1980 federal state county local

depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin

city, town 816 State Street, 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 type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located south of Bayfield overlooking Salmo Bay, part of Chequamegon Bay, the Pureair Sanatorium is situated in a stand of second-growth maples and white pines. The site consists of five buildings: the sanatorium, the doctors' and nurses' residences, the power house and the sewage treatment plant. Only the sanatorium, doctors' and nurses' residences are significant to the nomination.

The sanatorium building is a T-shaped structure consisting of a main block, the offset west wing and the north wing. Exterior walls are made of light-colored brick with a locally quarried brownstone veneer along the first story. A brownstone course further marks the existence of stories. The main (south) facade has regular fenestration with large steel sash window openings replacing the original 4/4 casement windows on the first and second stories. Elsewhere, all window openings are original. Openings on the northwing are distinguished from the others by segmental brick arches with brownstone keystones. All window openings have brownstone sills. The intersecting hip roofs were originally covered by tile but were replaced with composition in the early 1970s. The raised basement houses the lab, kitchen, support facilities and storage areas. The interior of the first floor consists of an open reception/lobby area in the west wing (main block) along with examination rooms. A recreation hall and dining area are located in the northwing. The east wing is divided into patient rooms and office space. Corridors throughout the building are six feet wide. The second floor is devoted entirely to patient quarters. All rooms face the bay and are separated from the corridor by a dressing area with built-in closets. Glass doors divide the spaces and provided an easy method for observing the condition of the patients. The sleeping rooms are simple and barely accommodated two beds. All sleeping rooms were unheated as this was part of the accepted treatment for tuberculosis. Later, operating facilities were installed on the second floor as the numbers housed there gradually decreased after 1945. Plaster walls, simple woodwork and steel trim are found throughout the building.

The doctors' residence, constructed in the mid-1920s, is also of light-colored brick and stands three stories in height with the north facade partially-cut into a hillside. The rectangular structure sports a gabled tile roof. Fenestration is regular and is distinguished by window openings with brownstone sills. Windows are double-hung with 6/6 lights. Shutters have been added in some cases. The interior is unspectacular with irregular floor plans. Kitchen, dining and relaxation areas are located on the first floor with private bedrooms and studies on the second and third levels. A frame wrap-around sunporch was added in the early 1960s.

The nurses' residence was erected in the early 1930s and is similar to that of the doctors'. Of light-colored brick, the building stands two stories and has a gabled tile roof. Fenestration is irregular with double-hung windows with 6/6 lights. Sills are brownstone. The rectangular plan of the building is broken by a small one-story addition, to the south facade, that contains a large picture window. A large brick end chimney is located along the east wall. The interior is irregular in plan and is divided into kitchen and dining/recreation areas on the first floor with sleeping quarters on the second. Walls are plaster-covered with simple wood trim as in the doctors' residence. Floors are covered with tile and linoleum. Furnishings are standard.

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Pureair Sanatorium, Bayfield, Wis. vicinity

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

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DESCRIPTION (continued)

The powerhouse is a one story rectangular brick structure with a large brick smokestack at its west end. Fenestration is irregular with simple openings. Built in the 1930s, the interior mechanical systems are intact and still operational.

The sewage treatment plant was built in the early 1970s and is of standard contemporary industrial construction. It is now part of the city of Bayfield's water treatment system.

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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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 1918-23¹

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Constructed between 1918 and 1923, the Pureair Sanatorium is significant as a representative of the fight against tuberculosis in the northern tier of Wisconsin counties. It is also significant as an early example of a regional health care unit shared by three counties: Ashland, Bayfield and Iron.

In 1918, work began on the Tri-County Pureair Sanatorium after years of exhaustive lobbying by Ashland physician, Dr. Matthew S. Hosmer. Aware of the importance of the isolation of infected individuals as the key to reducing the spread of tuberculosis, Hosmer had traveled throughout the Chequamegon Bay region since the late 1890s trying to convince area residents of the need for a TB sanatorium. However, no single county could afford to construct and maintain a sanatorium and since state law forbade cooperation between counties on such matters, Hosmer faced something of a dilemma. This was finally overcome in 1915 with the passing of special legislation to allow for the establishment and maintenance of district sanatorium hospitals.² Pureair was the first of only two sanatoriums to be built as a result of this change in state law, the other being Sunnyside, jointly administered by Winnebago and Fond du Lac counties.

The Pureair Sanatorium opened on July 12, 1920 with every bed filled although the building was only half-finished, such was the demand for a bedrest facility for TB in the area. Ashland, Bayfield, and Iron counties had a high incidence of the disease, resulting from poor sanitation, health care and nutrition in the region. Consumption, as it was often called, was widespread among the Chippewas on the Bad River reservation in Ashland County and the Red Cliff reservation in Bayfield County. Tuberculosis was also the major killer of iron miners on the Penoque and Gogebic Ranges in Iron County, referred to locally as the "black belt." "Loggers" were also victims of the disease though it was not specific to any occupational type. By 1921, the county boards agreed to expand the sanatorium to meet the treatment needs of World War I veterans who had contracted the disease overseas. The 32-bed addition was completed in 1923.³

In the early years of the sanatorium's operation, the only known treatment for tuberculosis was to subject the patient to several years of isolation. Initial care consisted of near total bedrest. Fresh air was also considered crucial to the treatment and "cure" of the disease and it was for this reason that there is an abundance of window openings.⁴ These

¹ Ashland Daily Press, July 12 and September 2, 1920, p. 1 and the Iron River Pioneer, August 16, 1979, p. 4.

² Report of the State Board of Health, Madison, Wisconsin, 1916-17, pp. 12 & 13.

³ Iron River Pioneer, August 16, 1979, p. 4.

⁴ Harold Holand, House of Open Doors, Milwaukee: Wisconsin Anti-tuberculosis Association, 1958, p. 138.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property 4.74

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Bayfield, Wis.

Graphic scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	5	6	6	4	3	8	0	5	1	8	4	0	2	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B

1	5	6	6	4	3	5	0	5	1	8	3	8	8	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

C

1	5	6	6	4	2	4	0	5	1	8	3	9	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

D

1	5	6	6	4	2	6	0	5	1	8	4	0	4	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

E

Zone	Easting				Northing									

F

Zone	Easting				Northing									

G

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H

Zone	Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael R. Matucheski, Preservation Assistant, Historic Preservation Division

organization State Historical Society of Wisconsin date December 12, 1980

street & number 816 State Street telephone 608/262-2970

city or town Madison. state Wisconsin 53706

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Richard Meiny

title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

date 7/2/81

For HCRS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

William H. Brannan

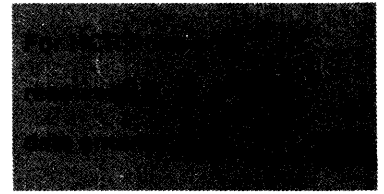
date 8-20-81

Chief of Registration

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

**United States Department of the Interior
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Pureair Sanatorium, Bayfield, Wis. vicinity
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SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

8. were left open at night, even in winter, and often the rooms would fill with several inches of snow that would have to be swept out every morning. In 1945, state law was enacted to provide free care and treatment for TB. Prior to this, many families accumulated massive debts from the treatment of ailing family members. With the advent of the antibiotic streptomycin in the 1940s and later of the synthetic drug isoniazid, the need for prolonged care at a bedrest sanatorium was greatly reduced. It was because of this and new surgical techniques that Pureair was forced to close its doors in 1975.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ashland Daily Press, July 12 and September 2, 1920

Holand, Harold, House of Open Doors, Milwaukee: Wisconsin Antituberculosis Assn., 1958

_____, ed., A Mirror for Cure-takers, Milwaukee: Wisconsin Antituberculosis Association, 1946

Iron River Pioneer, August 16, 1979

Report of the State Board of Health, Madison, Wisconsin, 1916-1917

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property consists of a rectangular area located in the NW 1/4, SE 1/4, Sec. 22, T50N, R4W, Civil Town of Bayfield, Wisconsin. Beginning at a point on the northern edge of the Chicago & North Western Railway right-of-way approximately 60 feet southwest of the southwest corner of the steam powerhouse, proceed southeasterly along said right-of-way 430 feet to a point, thence northeasterly at a 90° angle 480 feet to a point on the sanatorium driveway, thence northwesterly at a 90° angle 430 feet to a point approximately 100 feet northwest of the northwest corner of the physician's residence, thence southwesterly at a 90° angle 480 feet to the point of beginning.

Nurses'
Residence

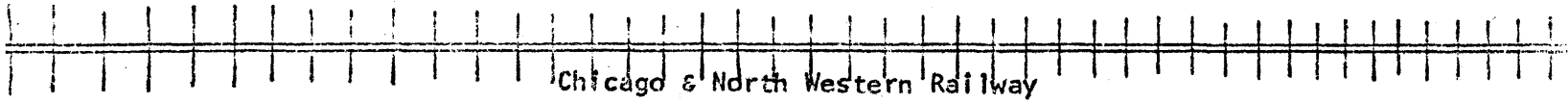
Doctor's
Residence

DRIVEWAY

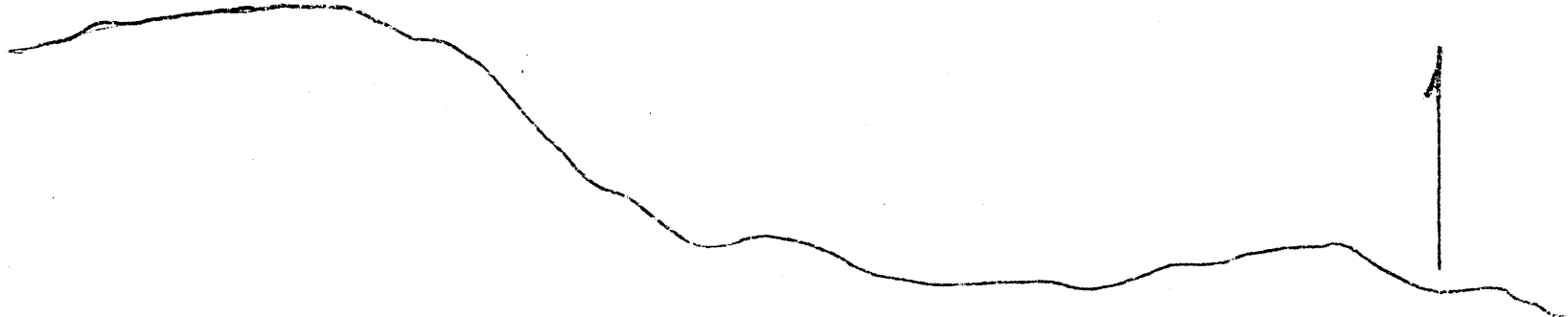
Sanatorium Building

Power
Plant

PURAIR
SANATORIUM



Chicago & North Western Railway



LAKE
SUPERIOR



Not to Scale

AUG 20 1981

07-12-81