

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

historic California Wine and Liquor Store

and/or common Craftsmans Guild Emporium

2. Location

street & number 201 Farmers Street ~~Street~~ _____ not for publication

city, town Fairchild _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district Third

state Wisconsin code 55 county Eau Claire code 035

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 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 Hugh E. Passow

street & number 201 Farmers Street

city, town Fairchild _____ vicinity of _____ state Wisconsin

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Eau Claire County Courthouse

street & number 201 West Grand Avenue

city, town Eau Claire _____ state Wisconsin 54701

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 Madison _____ state Wisconsin 53706

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located in the village of Fairchild in southeastern Eau Claire County, the former California Wine & Liquor Store is one of the integral components of its two-block business district. At the corner of Farmers and Front Streets, the prime commercial location, the small store is well-situated for appreciation by the village population of five hundred. The former lumbering center of Fairchild, which reached its peak in the late nineteenth century, is oriented with respect to the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad tracks running northwest to southeast from Minneapolis to Milwaukee.

Enriched by its cast iron and glass storefront, the nominated structure is twenty-four by fifty feet in plan and two stories in elevation. The corbelled-brick parapet falls in three grades from front to rear along the north and south sides, enclosing the tar roof. Corbelled brick denticulation between the first and second stories, three applied brick "eye-brow" arches over the second-story windows, and three diamond-set brick panels above the second story add more dimension to the front facade. The double-door entrance, recessed between two full-length display windows, is off-set to the right of center to allow for the second-story entrance at the far left. Queen Anne-style stained glass panels top the front and side extension of the display windows, and form transoms over the doors. Double-hung rectangular windows, like the three on the front facade, puncture the north wall in random fashion on both stories. Two such openings on the south side have been brick-filled to less than half-size. Short interior brick chimneys with molded caps are integrated into the roofline, three on the south side and one on the north. A single course of the rock-faced fieldstone foundation is visible along the side walls. Building materials were supplied by the Menomonie Brick Company, N. C. Foster Lumber Company of Fairchild, and the Phoenix Steele Company of Eau Claire. A small one-story shed, the only exterior addition, was appended to the rear in 1917-18.¹

Now used as an antique shop, the interior is essentially unchanged. Elm hardwood floors are still covered with used rock maple, and pine moldings and ceiling are intact. A simple fir banister and newel serve the enclosed stair to the second story, whose interior is divided into four rooms by north-south walls. Additional doorways between rooms were added in the 1920s, and secondary walls in the front and back rooms were removed in the 1970s.

¹Dated bill of sale for building materials.

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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1896¹ **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The finest of a small number of commercial buildings in the two-block business district in Fairchild, Wisconsin, the former California Wine & Liquor Store is a pristine example of late nineteenth-century small-town commercial construction. With corbelled brick cornices, raised parapet, applied segmental brick arches, and cast-iron storefront filled with plate and stained glass, the building retains all of the original features of the building type of the period. Extensive cosmetic work by the current owner has revealed the handsome details of the original materials.

Originally settled in the 1860s and incorporated in 1880, the face of the town of Fairchild was wholly changed by recurring fires in the 1870s, '80s, and '90s. The largest, the Great Fire of October 21, 1895, destroyed the entire business district. Part of large-scale rebuilding undertaken soon after, the construction of the California Wine & Liquor Store was underwritten by local lumber baron Nathaniel C. Foster through mortgage to Martha Knuth. Subsequent uses have included a saloon, grocery store, and the present antique shop.

¹Abstract of title.

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

9. Major Bibliographical References

Fairchild Centennial, 1872-1972, Copyright 1972, Fairchild Centennial Organization, Fairchild, Wisconsin 54741.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Fairchild, Wis.

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UMT References

A

1	5	6	6	1	4	7	5	4	9	4	0	4	0	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 Parts of Lots 2 and 2, Block 2, of the original plat of Fairchild, described as follows: Commencing at the easterly corner of said Lot 1, thence in a southerly direction 32 feet, thence northwesterly at right angles with Branch St. 99 feet to the center of Lot 2, thence northeasterly 32 feet, thence southeasterly 99 feet to the place of beginning.

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diane H. Filipowicz, Architectural Historian

organization State Historical Society of Wisconsin date November, 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 Murray

title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

date 5/8/81

For HCERS use only

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

entered in the National Register

date 3/1/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

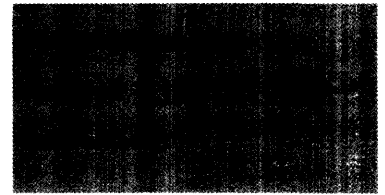
date

Chief of Registration

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

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

California Wine & Liquor Store, Fairchild, Wisconsin



Continuation sheet

Item number 11

Page 1

FORM PREPARED BY

Research Assistance by:

Hugh E. Passow
201 Farmers Street
Fairchild, Wisconsin 54741

May, 1980
(715) 344-4774