

**United States Department of Interior  
National Park Service**

**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 Fraternal Order of Eagles  
other names/site number

**2. Location**

street & number	405 Washington Avenue	N/A	not for publication
city or town	Oshkosh	N/A	vicinity
state Wisconsin	code WI	county Winnebago	code 139
			zip code 54901-5043

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets \_ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_ nationally \_ statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

*Jim Daegu* 1/5/18  
 Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Office - 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 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 State or Federal agency and bureau

Name of Property

County and State

**4. National Park Service Certification**

- I hereby certify that the property is entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

*James Walker*

2.21.2018

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	1	0 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	0	0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0 objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	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 previously listed in the National Register

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)  
SOCIAL/Meeting Hall

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)  
VACANT

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)  
LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Tudor Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)  
foundation CONCRETE  
walls LIMESTONE  
BRICK  
roof ASPHALT  
SYNTHETICS  
other LIMESTONE  
BRICK

**Narrative Description**

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

Name of Property

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.)

- 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)

Social History (A)

Architecture (C)

### Period of Significance

1927-1968 (A)

1927 (C)

### Significant Dates

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Auler, Henry, Architect

Ganther, Alfred R., Builder

### Narrative Statement of Significance

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

### 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 #

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State Agency
  - Federal Agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository:

### 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** Less than an acre

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

1    16     377178             4874933  
    Zone   Easting             Northing

3    \_\_\_\_\_  
    Zone   Easting             Northing

2    \_\_\_\_\_  
    Zone   Easting             Northing

4    \_\_\_\_\_  
    Zone   Easting             Northing

X See Continuation Sheet

**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

<b>name/title</b>	Ben Ganther / President	<b>date</b>	06.14. 2017
<b>organization</b>	Ganther Construction   Architecture, Inc.	<b>telephone</b>	920.426.4774
<b>street &amp; number</b>	4825 County Road A	<b>zip code</b>	54901-9618
<b>city or town</b>	Oshkosh	<b>state</b>	WI

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Fraternal Order of Eagles

Name of Property

Winnebago County, Oshkosh, WI

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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**Summary Description**

The Fraternal Order of Eagles (FOE) building, located at 405 Washington Avenue in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, is a two-story brick building with limestone accents and framing around the windows and main entrances. The concrete foundation wall extends 4'-0" above grade at the north, east and west facades. The primary facade has a high cross-gabled roof; the roof at the rear of the building is flat. Designed by prominent Oshkosh architect Henry Auler, the building was completed in December of 1927 in the Tudor Revival style. The concrete structure, brick and limestone accented building is symmetrically composed with two story limestone clad bay windows dominating the front projecting wings and divided light casement windows are surrounded by corsetted frames. Originally, a large elliptical-shaped entrance stair led up to a tiled terrace before entering the building through the center pair of five pairs of radius topped doors at the primary facade.<sup>1</sup> The Fraternal Order of Eagles building's primary (north) facade faces Washington Avenue and has a 25'-0" setback, typical of the surrounding area residences. The site is situated in a transitional neighborhood with four residential buildings abutting the property at the east and west facades. The Fraternal Order of Eagles sold the building in 2002 and, after a brief stint as a public school, the building is currently vacant and being rehabilitated.

**Narrative Description**

**Setting and Site**

The Fraternal Order of Eagles building is situated on a flat, irregularly-shaped .51 acre lot located approximately 128'-0" east of the southwest corner of Washington Avenue and Broad Street. There is a concrete sidewalk parallel to Washington Avenue. At the front of the building there are two entrances facing north: a center entrance and another entrance located at the east end of the façade. A concrete path with two sets of steps and a railing leads from the sidewalk to a broad terrace and the centered entrance; while the other entrance is accessed by a single set of concrete steps and path. At the northwest corner, a concrete path leads from the sidewalk, past the building, to the rear of the property. At this corner there is also a concrete handicap ramp which accesses the terrace. There are two areas of mown grass between these three concrete paths. The east facade fronts an abandoned gas station, two boarding houses and a duplex. South of the building there is a parking lot for the subject building as well as an outbuilding for an adjacent funeral home. To the west, a single family residence

<sup>1</sup> Fraternal Order of Eagles: Discover Historic Oshkosh, <http://www.historicoshkosh.org/fraternal-order-of-eagles/> (accessed June 2017)

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and out buildings creates the western border of the property. Across the street to the north is a newly expanded YMCA building. The subject building is located in a transitional area consisting of single and multi-family residences, an abandoned gas station, the YMCA, and a 3-story office building forming the four boundaries of the Fraternal Order of Eagles site.

**Exterior**

The building's exterior massing is divided into two main components: the northern two-story, U-shaped Tudor Revival section, and the south facing, flat roofed section. The primary (north) façade is composed of eight bays. The second and eighth bay are symmetrical, project from the wall plane at a ninety degree angle, have gabled roofs and two-story bay windows. The side gabled center section is composed of bays three through seven. At the first floor, each of these bays has a pair of doors, and above each, there is a pair of windows. At bays four and six, there is a small hipped-roof attic dormer. The flat roof section is located at the rear of the building. Limestone ornament surrounds the windows and doors, composes the beltcourses, and borders the gabled ends. Windows at the front part of the building are leaded-glass casements with leaded glass transoms. The doors are of wood and glass with a slight Tudor arch. There is a two story, secondary east elevation entrance wing, contained within the width of the main east/west gable roof. This section is visible from the north, east, and west elevations and partial south elevation of the east entrance wing elevation. The southern segmented bowed and flat roofed two story rectangular auditorium section with four equally spaced pilasters on the east and west elevations connects to the majority of the north section along the short northern leg of the southern section rectangle marrying the south section 25% into south slope of the east/west gable of the north section. This section can be seen from the south, east and west elevations. The north, east, and west elevations of both sections has an angled limestone belt course capped above the concrete foundation, extended approximately 4'-0" above grade.

**North section**

The north sections north elevation contains a variety of window and door openings. The pair of two story bay window projections are made up of four sets of five divided light casement windows at both the first and second floor of each wing, framed on all sides by limestone sills, lintels and jambs with rectangle limestone framed fixed divided light transoms above each individual casement window. Beveled limestone lintels separate the casements from the transoms above. The fixed center casement window is flanked by an operable casement window on each side and a fixed angled window returning to the main façade on each side, forming four sets of north facing bay windows, which are framed on

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each side by beveled limestone. Each bay window location contains a set of three casement windows with transoms above, flanked on each side by a single casement and transom window angled back to the brick façade of each projecting bay window wing. The heavy limestone surrounds between the first and second floor bay window assemblies are separated by a solid 24 inch high band of continuous framed limestone, matching the bay window spacing and detailed with an inset, carved rectangular flower. The limestone is offset and keyed into the brick façade on both sides of the bay windows. The six, first-floor, north facing bay casement windows contains a dark green and light green shield, surrounded by a narrow circular band of yellow stained glass, and centered in the upper half of the window.

The limestone bay window lintels are crowned above the eave line by a protruding limestone cap and 24 inch brick parapet wall with keyed, offset limestone at each corner and a limestone coping, framing the brick field in front of a small, flat roof, and over the projected bay windows. These original painted steel bay casement windows are all operable with the exception of the four center windows, one in each bay window assembly, which are fixed. Above the parapet walls of the bay window projections, in the gables of the attic are a single pair of operable casement windows with heavy limestone surrounds. The mansard has two small, equally spaced hipped roof dormers, each with a single, double-hung window. Five equally spaced pairs of casement windows and transoms stretch between the two projecting wings on the second floor. Below the center second floor window is the projecting primary entrance foyer. The original wood, full divided light radius topped double-entry doors and are now replaced with a pair of straight top aluminum entry doors. The limestone radius header is filled with radius aluminum door framing. Limestone jambs, similar to the four north elevation terrace doors frame the primary entry doors. Flanking the entry, two on each side, are two pairs of two wood full divided light, swing-set doors with heavy limestone jams and lintels, offering access onto the terrace. The terrace projects from the primary elevation from between the bay window wings, approximately 14'-0" north to the original wide, sweeping arched stair. Today a straight stair, a third of the original width stands in its place. A pineapple shaped limestone balustrade and railing, flanked one of the corners and opposite sides by a square of brick accent, framed in limestone from its intersection with the building out to the original ends of the arched stairway. The gap from the original stair width to the current stair location is filled on each side by a black square steel tubular railing assembly. This same railing follows the current to sets of stairs and landing out to the public sidewalk on Washington Avenue. The offset east entrance to the bowling alley and auditorium is detailed similar to the terrace double doors with a similar aluminum entrance to the main building entrance, accessed from via three steps off the Washington Avenue sidewalk by a concrete walk with a three line steel

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tubular railing on the east elevation. The existing sign above the east entrance of the north elevation is for entrance to the “Electric Lounge and lanes” was added within the past 15 years. In 2004 a concrete walled handicap ramp was added to the front of the building approximately 10’-0” north of the west bay window wing, connecting to the terrace at the west edge of the current stairs.<sup>2</sup> A white tubular conduit for interior mini-split HVAC units on the first floor frame the entrance foyer and one pair of doors on each side of the entrance. The frame for a monument sign is located at the northeast corner of the property, a white flag pole and abandoned rusty sign post are located about 4’-0” in front of the handicap ramp. The original carved stone eagle that sat with wings spread on the parapet above the main entrance is missing. In its place above the stone parapet is a sign, the width of the upper stone parapet for “Washington Hall”.

The east elevation has the same casement window style as the north elevations non-bay windows. The first floor has two single casement windows, a pair of double-casement windows with the single window to the south covered with brown painted plywood, and a triple set of casement windows. The second floor has four double casement windows with matching transom windows above. The east facing gable contains a pair of fixed leaded glass casement windows. A steel framed dumpster enclosure runs along the east elevation from the south side of the north single casement window to approximately the end of the fire escape stairs; added in 2004.<sup>3</sup> The first floor of the west elevation has an elevated service door with the threshold on top of the limestone cap above the concrete foundation which extends above grade, with the original double transom windows left above. This door was added sometime after the building was put into use; it was installed in an existing window location at the original first floor kitchen. The transom windows are covered by brown painted plywood. In addition to the service door, the first has two sets of three casement windows and a double window with transoms above detailed similar to other casement windows in this section, these windows are all covered by brown painted plywood. The second floor to the north of the west elevation has a three set and pair of casement windows, and two pair of double casement windows with transoms, all detailed similar to other casement windows in this section. The west facing gable contains a pair of fixed leaded glass casement windows.

The south elevation of the east entrance wing takes two one story jogs as the portion of the building south of the eave of the east gable and east of the auditorium drops to one story before the south wall meets the east elevation of the auditorium 40% the distance to the south east corner of the auditorium.

<sup>2</sup> Interview with former building owner, Art Dumke (interviewed by Ben Ganther, May 15, 2017)

<sup>3</sup> Ibid



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The first floor has a covered double set of radius topped wood doors with full divided lights, covered by brown painted plywood, under the eave of the east gable at the south east corner of the east entrance wing with limestone detailing similar to other entrance doors on this section. The last jog, where the south wall meets the east auditorium wing, is a simple high, square wood framed opening that is infilled with plywood. This opening was added sometime after the building was completed. The second floor has a three set casement window similar to other windows of this section. A second original double casement window has been used for a fire escape door to a metal fire escape cantilevered to the south and a stair straight to the south added sometime after the buildings completion. The transoms above are retained.

Most of the basement windows are covered with brown painted plywood, some are blocked up to grade and the window wells have been cut down below grade and paved over.

Most of the original copper gutters and downspouts remain, with the exception of gutters on the west elevation. The original gutters are supported by the original painted decorative wood brackets. The existing asphalt shingles are incorrectly fastened to the roof boards and are in need of replacement.

The single, three stack brick chimney serving the three fireplaces, has a large angled protruding limestone band, 3'-0" above the flat roof line with a limestone chimney cap. The chimney is located 4'-0" south of top of the mansard and centered on the east eave of the west projection wing.

**South section**

The light brown common brick, with every 6<sup>th</sup> course a rowlock course and concrete foundation extending 4'-0" above grade on all but the south elevation, topped with a belt course of angled limestone, make up the majority of the south sections three elevations; south, east, and west. Aside from a 2'-0" return of the concrete foundation above grade and limestone cap at each corner on the south elevation, the brick on this elevation meets the concrete foundation at grade. The coping of all parapet walls on the south section is PAC-CLAD, added about 20 years ago.<sup>4</sup> The south elevation steps down at the front of the stage, which is flanked on each side by exit stair towers, dropping once again prior to the south end of the building where a flat roof covers the former boiler room, at grade fuel room and ash room. Approximately 15'-0" west from the southeast corner of the south elevation is a

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<sup>4</sup> Interview with former building owner, Art Dumke (interviewed by Ben Ganther, May 15, 2017)

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large 50" square chimney for the former boiler, extending approximately 20'-0" above the parapet wall. Less than a foot south of the chimney is a wood gambrel roofed, 8'-0" square garden shed partially sitting on the east exit stoop. A small chimney, flush with the main south wall, 20'-0" east of the west corner extends about 3'-0" above the parapet. There are two windows in each of the south elevation of the stairwells. The first floor windows are fixed tan vinyl residential replacement windows installed approximately 20 years ago.<sup>5</sup> The smaller east second floor stair well window is the original steel divided light window with an operable hopper in on the upper sash. The west second floor stair well window is partially infilled with unpainted particle board and has a small white, double hung vinyl window. The lowest level has five windows covered with painted brown painted plywood.

Each side of the south elevation has a pair of hollow metal exit doors. A large air conditioning condenser sits on the west end of the lower level roof. The buildings gas service line runs parallel to and above the lower lever roof to approximately the building midpoint before turning up 90 degrees to over the top of the parapet wall. A single light fixture is above each pair of stairwell exit doors and one wall mounted sodium vapor light is located at approximately the mid-point of the south wall elevation. Both east and west elevations of this section has a parapet wall in front of a short flat roof before the segmented bowed truss roof raises above the two story auditorium floor area. The bowed truss area is roofed with a fully adhered EPDM roof system. Four roof top HVAC units are located on this roof. Four equally spaced limestone capped pilasters extend from a 3'-9" protruding brick stub wall that sits atop the elevated foundation wall to 3'-6" below the parapet on both the east and west elevations. A large angled stone coping which also acts as a sill for 10 narrow operable casement windows, sits between each pilaster, two of each equally spaced between the pilasters on the first floor and under a single large vinyl residential replacement window with large fixed panes above operable awning sashes on the second floor, each one equally spaced between each pilaster. The four large second floor auditorium windows on the second floor are covered in a light gauge metal panel. A 4" round PVC pipe is being used as a temporary downspout where the stage/stairwell meets the auditorium on the east elevation. The electrical service enters the building along the along the upper third of the west elevation of the auditorium.

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<sup>5</sup> Ibid

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**Interior**

First Floor

The Fraternal Order of Eagles building retains its historic interior spatial layout and volumes, and most of its original interior finishes and decorative elements. Although the center entrance from the front terrace is the most visually prominent entrance, the primary entrance is located at the northeast corner of the building. Wood and glass double-doors leads to a vestibule and formal foyer, and on to the primary corridor which extends in an east-west orientation across the width of the building. The corridor is double-loaded; to the north are lounge rooms and to the south is the auditorium. At the center of the corridor is a grand stair to the second floor and on the east side of the stair is a toilet room. The corridor has a terrazzo floor, textured plaster walls, and a plaster ceiling with boxed beams of stained wood.

The first floor Lounge is reached by wood paneled, double doors at the center of the corridor and across from the main stair. The Lounge is a large room, highly ornamented, and includes a terrazzo floor, textured plaster walls, a plaster ceiling with boxed beams of stained wood, original Tudor Revival style chandeliers, solid wood doors, and a fireplace with a plaster surround. The north wall of the Lounge is a bank of five, Tudor-arched, double-doors of wood and glass, which access the exterior terrace at the front of the building. To the west of the Lounge is the Grill Room (in one of the gabled wings extending from the building) and is accessed by double-doors next to the fireplace. The Grill Room is long and narrow terminating at a large bay window at the north end. The floors are of terrazzo, the walls are of plaster, and the ceiling is of plaster with boxed beams of wood. To the east of the Lounge is the Reading Room (in the second gabled wing extending from the building) and is accessed from the northeast corner of the Lounge. The Reading Room has a terrazzo floor, textured plaster walls, patterned plaster ceiling and original Tudor Revival wall sconces. Behind the Reading Room to the south is a stair to the basement level.

At the entrance foyer, by turning south, one enters the Auditorium foyer which has terrazzo floors, unique textured plaster walls, an ornate plaster cornice, and a plaster ceiling. The three large doors of wood and glass, and having a slight Tudor arch, are located on the west wall; these access the Auditorium. The Auditorium is a large, two-story volume, extending south where the room terminates at a wood stage. The Auditorium has a wood floor, plaster walls, and an ornate plaster ornament around the state and cornice, a balcony that circles the sides and north wall, and above is a plaster

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ceiling. At the southeast and southwest corners, stairs access upper level dressing rooms. There is a single run of stairs at the northwest corner of the Auditorium, as well as along the east wall that ascends to the balcony.

#### Second Floor

The second floor mimics the plan of the first floor, having an east/west corridor with social gathering rooms to the north and the auditorium to the south. The grand stairs have terrazzo steps, plaster wall and ceiling and an ornate iron and wood hand rail. The second floor corridor has a terrazzo floor, textured plaster walls, an ornate plaster cornice, and a barrel curved plaster ceiling. The doors are of wood and are three-paneled. To the north of the corridor, the Auxiliary Lodge Room is the most ornate room in the building. The floor is of concrete and was originally covered with wall-to-wall carpet. The walls are plaster and the ceiling is of wood, embellished with ornate wood braces and boxed beams. The wood is stained and varnished. This room also has a fireplace on its west wall and the room retains its ornate Tudor Revival chandeliers.

#### Basement

The basement is accessed by stairs next to the main floor entrance foyer. At the north end of the basement there is another lounge with a fireplace on the west wall. The walls are of plaster and the ceiling has flush, synthetic tiles and boxed beams of wood. The floor is of concrete. To the south, the area under the Auditorium is the bowling alley. The bowling alley has floors of wood. At the far south end of the basement, behind the bowling alley are mechanical rooms.

#### Integrity

The Fraternal Order of Eagles building has a high degree of integrity, having retained nearly all of its original features and materials on the exterior, as well as having retained its original interior plan, finishes, and decorative features, including almost all the original interior light fixtures. The building's original Tudor Revival-inspired massing, exterior brown brick and limestone detailing remain intact and continue to express important characteristics of the Tudor Revival style. The building retains its original fenestration pattern and original windows on the primary and secondary elevations of the north section of the building. The interior wood work, terrazzo flooring, plaster work, and decorative features are in very good condition and remain intact. The primary North section of the building's original steel framed divided light casement windows are still in place and in good shape for restoring to their original condition.

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The building's original interior spatial layout also remains intact, with a closet converted to a handicap bathroom, the addition of roof top units, mini-split units, an added service door, a handicap ramp added to the primary elevation, and some infilled basement windows as alterations to the original building design. The building continues to convey its significance as a fraternal organization and as an excellent example of the Tudor Revival style in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

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**Summary Statement of Significance**

The Fraternal Order of Eagles building at 405 Washington Avenue in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, is locally significant under National Register Criterion C, in the area of Architecture as an excellent Oshkosh example of Tudor Revival style architecture, designed by prominent Wisconsin architect Henry Auler (1884-1951), and is one of the best examples of the style in the community. The building retains the characteristics of the Tudor Revival style; the brick and limestone accented building is symmetrically composed with two story limestone-framed bay windows dominating the front projecting wings and leaded glass, divided light casement windows and transoms are surrounded by corsetted frames. The craftsmanship and good condition of this edifice and the fact that most of the original windows, fixtures, finishes, and floor plan remain intact, justifies the Fraternal Order of Eagle building for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

The period of significance for the Fraternal Order of Eagles building under Criterion C is 1927, the date of construction.

The building is also locally significant under Criterion A, in the area of Social History for its association with a prominent and active fraternal organization in Oshkosh. The period of significance under Criterion A is 1927-1968, reflecting the year the Fraternal Order of Eagles occupied this building, and ends using the National Register program’s 50-year rule, given that the fraternal group remained in this building until 2002.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

**History of Oshkosh, Wisconsin**

The area that later became the city of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, was first permanently inhabited by European settlers in 1836, the year that the Menomonee tribe ceded the area to the United States. The availability of inexpensive land and the site’s strategic location along Wisconsin’s Fox River, which linked the western inland markets to eastern markets via the Great Lakes, made it a popular settlement location in the early 1800s. Originally comprised of two separate settlements – Brooklyn, located south of the Fox River, and Athens, located north of the river – in 1840 the combined villages were renamed “Oshkosh” in honor of the areas former Menomonee chief.

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Originally a fur trading community, migration to the Oshkosh area increased throughout the nineteenth century as fur trading soon gave way to the burgeoning lumber industry as the city's driving economic force. The Fox River runs through the center of Oshkosh, provided power for large riverfront lumber- and gristmills, and attracted capital and immigrants to the community. The city of Oshkosh incorporated in 1853 and six years later, the Chicago NorthWestern Railroad established a rail line from Fond du Lac into the city, which allowed for the wider distribution of goods and products, and firmly linked Oshkosh to Chicago, the nation's leading lumber market.<sup>6</sup>

The exponential growth of Oshkosh's lumber industry over the next decades inspired the city's moniker "Sawdust City" as the number of mills grew from less than a dozen in the mid-1860s to over 60 by 1874.<sup>7</sup> Early Oshkosh was also home to notable wood product manufacturers including the Morgan Company, a wood window and door maker established in Oshkosh in 1855, and the Buckstaff Edwards Company, established in Oshkosh in 1865 and among the largest wood casket and casket trimming maker in the country.<sup>8</sup> By 1890, the population of Oshkosh had grown to nearly 23,000 and was served by four different railroads.<sup>9</sup>

Many non-lumber and non-furniture related companies also called "Sawdust City" home. The area's largest manufacturers of clothing, Grove Manufacturing Company, was established in Oshkosh in 1895 and later became better known as the OshKosh B'Gosh Overalls Company. The brewing industry was a great source of revenue for the city and was closely linked to the German heritage of the area's immigrants. The city's best-known brewery, the Oshkosh Brewing Company, was established in 1849. As early as the mid-1850s, the city also had many well-established small businesses including grocers, meat markets, blacksmiths, hotels, retail, hardware, and liquor stores with North Main Street on Oshkosh's North Side becoming the city's commercial center.<sup>10</sup> The diversification of Oshkosh's industrial and commercial activity cemented the city's economic success and by 1900, the overall population of Oshkosh and the surrounding Fox River Valley was second in size in the state only to the city of Milwaukee.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Wisconsin Historical Society Library-Archives, Wisconsin-A Brief History. Wisconsinhistory.org: 2009.

<sup>7</sup> HNTB, Final Report: Intensive Survey for the City of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, N.p.: HNTB, 1981. p3.

<sup>8</sup> Publius V. Lawson, History, Winnebago County, Wisconsin: Its Cities, Towns, Resources, People, Vol. 1 (Chicago: C.F. Cooper and Company, 1908), 526-528.

<sup>9</sup> HNTB, Final Report: Intensive Survey for the City of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, N.p.: HNTB, 1981. p3.

<sup>10</sup> Mead & Hunt, Historic Resources Survey: City of Oshkosh, N.p.: City of Oshkosh, 2006. p10

<sup>11</sup> Mead & Hunt, Historic Resources Survey: City of Oshkosh, N.p.: City of Oshkosh, 2006 p21.

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### Fraternal Organizations

With the rapid industrialization of Midwestern cities like Oshkosh, fraternal organizations delivered a pathway to social capital for the working class and immigrant populations by providing disparate cultural groups access to powerful social institutions. In addition to serving social functions, fraternal organizations also offered low-cost insurance policies that provided income in the event of injury, illness, or death of the insured. According to *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin*, fraternal organizations played a vital role in modernizing the social order, in a way that has come to define modern American culture.<sup>12</sup>

While fraternal organizations provided upward mobility to male immigrants in the United States, the very structure of such organizations was founded on the principle of exclusivity. Therefore, fraternal organizations created what is defined in *Cultural Resource Management of Wisconsin* as “pluralistic societies” where previously disenfranchised populations were afforded opportunities to engage in civic development which redefined social hierarchy, but also reinforced racial and gender inequities. Fraternal organizations provided a network for collective association through a form of fictive kinship.<sup>13</sup> Rituals, initiation rites, and the exclusion of women created a male bond between members who monopolized the political landscape in early-American history. *Cultural Resource Management of Wisconsin* presents these organizations as divided into two distinct categories: the “club” or “recreational” type, which formed social networks and built political legitimacy through philanthropy as well as civic and moral reform campaigns, and the “instrumental” type which primarily served as private insurance for workers industrial workers and tradesmen.<sup>14</sup> Although instrumental-type fraternal organizations served less of a social function, these organizations were modeled after the archetype “club” organizations which are more often referred to colloquially as “secret societies”, such as the Freemasons. Though they sometimes retained the vestiges of exclusive membership and philanthropic and ritualistic programs celebrated by the more mainstream Freemasons- the Elks, Oddfellows, and Eagles fraternal benefit societies usually channeled the majority of their membership activities and dues into the administration of popular insurance programs, and even sometimes loan and mortgage lending programs.

<sup>12</sup> Barbara Wyatt, editor. *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin*. Madison, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986, p.1

<sup>13</sup> David T. Beito, *From Mutual Aid to the Welfare State: Fraternal Societies and Social Services, 1890-1967*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2000. p2.

<sup>14</sup> Clawson, Mary Ann, “Nineteenth Century Women’s Auxiliary and Fraternal Orders” *Signs* No. 12, Winter 1986. p40.



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**Fraternal Organizations in Oshkosh, Wisconsin**

The rise in popularity of fraternal organizations is presented in Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin over four distinct periods: Origins and Growth (1823-1865), Peak Activity (1866-1910), Transformation (1911-1945) and Decline (1945-present). The Peak Activity and Transformation periods are most relevant to the development of fraternal organizations in Wisconsin as the early twentieth century was a time of increased civic engagement on the part of local businessmen in which fraternal organizations played a large role through social and economic development of cities. The Fraternal Order of Eagles was one of many fraternal organizations in early twentieth century Oshkosh, including the Freemasons, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Loyal Order of Moose, the Independent Order of Oddfellows, and the Equitable Fraternal Union.

Since the city's founding, fraternal organizations played an important role in Oshkosh's social and economic development. The Fox River Valley Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons, established in 1849, was the first of these organizations, followed by the Independent Order of the Odd Fellows, as well as the Elks, Moose, and Eagles, each with their own local membership and later with their own local headquarters facilities.

Near the close of the American Civil War (1861-1865), Oshkosh saw the formation of its first service groups and fraternal benefit societies which provided charitable assistance to Union soldiers and their dependent families. The numbers and missions of local fraternal organizations expanded as the city of Oshkosh grew in size and affluence.

Many of Oshkosh's large fraternal organizations purchased and sometimes built dedicated meeting halls, recreational facilities, club houses, or other fraternal buildings within the city's downtown commercial district. These buildings often displayed elaborate architectural designs, including decorative motifs and signage that celebrated the organization. These organizational facilities were fully funded by membership dues and often contained small lodge halls, offices, libraries, and classrooms for small assemblies, and ballrooms, auditoriums, gymnasiums, bars, and dining rooms for large public events. According to Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin, "It was not uncommon for communities of under a thousand in population to have 10 to 15 lodges representing a variety of fraternal groups. Of course, this surprisingly high ratio is partially explained by the fact that many persons held multiple memberships. Nevertheless, it is clear that fraternal organizations formed a

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central focus of social life in the mid-to late-nineteenth century. They were important cultural institutions that played an instrumental role in the maintenance of group life, particularly in the more isolated rural communities.”

Oshkosh’s surviving fraternal halls include the Loyal Order of Moose Hall at 316 Court Street (completed 1875); the Independent Order of Oddfellows Hall at 103-105 Algoma Boulevard (completed 1884, a contributing property in Oshkosh’s North Main Street Historic District); Elks Club Lodge #292 at 431 Jefferson Street (completed 1913); Henry Auler’s the Fraternal Reserve Association Building at 105 Washington Avenue (completed 1914, NRHP 15001048); architects Auler, Jensen & Brown’s Oshkosh Masonic Temple at 204 Washington Avenue (completed 1925); and architects Auler & Jensen’s Fraternal Order of Eagles Club, the subject building, at 405 Washington Avenue (completed 1927). At its completion in 1927, the Fraternal Order of Eagles building was among the largest fraternal organization buildings in Oshkosh and remains among the most intact of Oshkosh’s surviving fraternal organization buildings.

### **History of the Fraternal Order of Eagles**

The Fraternal Order of Eagles was founded in February, 1898 by six theatre owners gathered in a Seattle shipyard to discuss a musician's strike. After addressing the matter, they agreed to "bury the hatchet" and form "The Order of Good Things." As numbers grew, members selected the Bald Eagle as the official emblem and changed the name to "The Fraternal Order of Eagles." The women's auxiliary traces its roots to 1927. The Fraternal Order of Eagles includes nearly 800,000 members and more than 1,500 locations across the United States and Canada. The main purpose of the Eagles is “the helping of the fellow who is up against it.” This quotation is taken directly from the Saturday Evening Edition of the *Oshkosh Daily Northwestern* (2/11/28) and clearly shows the intention of the organization to help the citizens of the community. The four basic principles that the Eagles stand for are Liberty, Truth, Justice and Equality. The Fraternal Orders of the Eagles is known for establishing Mother’s Day, championing diabetes research and creating the \$25 million Fraternal Order of the Eagles Diabetes Research Center at the University of Iowa; serving as a driving force behind the development of social security; and helping to end age-based discrimination with the “Jobs After 40” program. The Fraternal Order of Eagles Oshkosh Aerie #267 was established 1902. The Oshkosh Aerie #267 occupied several different buildings in Oshkosh until the completion of the Eagles Club Building

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at 405 Washington Avenue in 1927.<sup>15</sup> The Fraternal Order of Eagles grew from a club of hundreds of members, eventually reaching well over a thousand members. Their service to the community included charitable fundraising, as well as hosting a variety of events, and social activities in the building. The Fraternal Order of Eagles in Oshkosh remains an active organization although due to aging membership, fewer volunteers, and high operating costs, they were forced to sell the building in 2002. Between 2004-2010, the building was the home of East High, an alternative school for students at risk of academic failure or dropping out of school. In 2015, the building was again for sale; it was recently purchased by a private owner for restoration and rehabilitation into a wedding and event venue.

### **History of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Building**

The Fraternal Order of the Eagles occupied the building at 405 Washington Avenue since the time of its construction (1927) as a club and meeting hall. The original interior included main lounge area with dark oak wood decoration emphasizing the ceiling beams as well as a large fireplace, library and reading room, service bar, ballroom, and stage. The basement included a bowling alley and spectator's gallery as well as a kitchen and the second story held the main lodge room fronting Washington Avenue and several large state rooms. Stunning woodwork and remarkable architecture details grace almost every corner of this building.

The building served as the home of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Oshkosh and was considered a showcase for the local organization. Many events for the group as well as for community organizations, statewide conventions of organizations, unions, and political parties were booked for the distinctive hall. Local banquets and balls and school and athletic events were held there, and during the big band era well know bands played the Eagles Club. Boxing and wrestling matches were popular events and the location of the old ring posts might still be seen on the hardwood floor in the main ballroom. In addition, many bowling teams used the 10 alleys in the basement. The Fraternal Order of Eagles sold the building in 2002.

<sup>15</sup> Fraternal Order of the Eagles Website. (2017). Retrieved from: <https://www.foe.com/>; Historic Oshkosh (2017). Retrieved from <https://www.historicoshkosh.org/fraternal-order-of-eagles>

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### **Tudor Revival Architecture**

Tudor Revival, like many revival styles, was adapted widely across America for use in middle-class homes, wealthy country houses, commercial buildings, early skyscrapers, and civic buildings. Though overlapping with the more picturesque Victorian era, these styles largely gained popularity during the first two decades of the twentieth century and heavily influenced our residential and commercial landscapes. The period of popularity for Tudor Revival was roughly 1900 – 1940. The Tudor Revival became especially popular for 1920s suburban homes, loosely based on late medieval prototypes. The style reaches back to England's Tudor period (1500-1559) as a romanticized revival of the timber-frame buildings popular at that time. Many of the revival examples are dominated visually with (ornamental) half-timbering, a medieval English building tradition, often with stucco or masonry veneered walls, steeply pitched roof, and cross-gabled plans. A variant of this is sometimes referred to as the Picturesque Cottage or English Cottage, which typically includes a picturesque (asymmetrical) floor plan, but without the half timbering. A whimsical variant of the Tudor Revival is the playful Storybook style, also known as the Cotswold Cottage or Hansel and Gretel Cottage that imitates late medieval structures characteristic to England's Cotswald region.

In Wisconsin, the Tudor Revival style was popular between 1900 through 1940, was most commonly expressed in residential architecture, and was at its height of popularity in the 1920s, all mirroring national trends. The style was adopted widely throughout the state from Ashland in the far north, to Eau Claire, Manitowoc, Waukesha, Shorewood, Milwaukee, Madison, Beloit, and many smaller communities between. In Oshkosh, the Tudor Revival was particularly popular for home design with only a small number of non-residential buildings designed in the style, including Lakeside Hospital, the unique Lutz Barn, and a commercial block on Oregon Street. The Fraternal Order of Eagles building has the hallmarks of the Tudor Revival style, including brick masonry construction, limestone accents, window and door surrounds, formal plan, multi-gabled rooflines, large expanses of windows, leaded glass casement sash, Tudor arched window and door openings, Tudor arches at the interior, textured plaster walls, fireplaces, and ornate Tudor lighting fixtures. The Fraternal Order of Eagles building stands apart in Oshkosh as, not only an excellent stylistic example having a highly intact interior, but one of the few non-residential buildings of the style.

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**About the Architect: Henry Auler (1884-1951)**

The architect of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles Building, Henry Auler, was a regionally significant architect who worked during the first half of the twentieth century primarily in east-central Wisconsin. Auler was born in and attended public school in Oshkosh before taking structural engineering courses at the University of Wisconsin. He also gained practical design and drafting experience in numerous firms throughout the state. In 1907 Auler returned to Oshkosh and opened his own business. Soon after, Auler began working with William Waters, a noted Oshkosh architect of the time. After Waters' death in 1917, Auler formed a partnership with architect James P. Jensen. The firm of Auler & Jensen designed many public buildings, including Oshkosh and Ripon high schools. After architect Wallace H. Brown joined in the early 1920s, the firm became known as Auler, Jensen & Brown. Henry Auler, along with Jensen and Brown, designed numerous public buildings and private residences. The most notable of which are the Wisconsin National Life Insurance Building, Oshkosh (1925, NRHP 82000737), the Paine Thrift Bank, Oshkosh (1929, NRHP 86001392), the Longfellow School (Ripon, NRHP 97000325), and the Oshkosh Daily Northwestern Newspaper Office (1930, NRHP 82000732). Auler, Jensen & Brown also designed two fraternal organization headquarters in downtown Oshkosh, the Oshkosh Masonic Temple at 204 Washington Avenue (1925, NRHP 100000863) and the Fraternal Order of the Eagles Club at 405 Washington Avenue (1927).

**About the Builder - Alfred R. Ganther Sr. (1900-1976) President Ben B. Ganther Company**

In 1927, Alfred R. Ganther Sr., president of Ben B. Ganther Company, was the builder of the Fraternal Order of Eagles building. He was born in Oshkosh in 1900, and graduated from UW-Madison with a degree in mechanical engineering, joining his father, Ben B. Ganther's business after graduation until his death in 1976. The company built many landmark Wisconsin buildings in the period: The Institute of Paper Chemistry, Appleton, Detox Rug Co., Oshkosh, St. Johns English Lutheran Church, Oshkosh, Trinity Lutheran School, Peoples Brewing Co., Oshkosh, State Street Fire House, Oshkosh, Wisconsin Axle Plant & Offices, Oshkosh, Universal Foundry Plant and Offices, Oshkosh, Chilton High School, Chilton, Delta Manufacturing Co., Milwaukee, Sacred Heart Church, Oshkosh, Banta Publishing Co., Menasha, Naval Reserve Armory, Oshkosh, First Presbyterian Church, Neenah, and Holy Name School, Sheboygan. 90 years after the completion of the Fraternal Order of Eagles building, his grandson, Ben Ganther, president of Ganther Construction | Architecture, Inc., is

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submitting this application and designing and renovating the same edifice back to its original condition, similar non-private use, with only minor changes to update bathrooms, HVAC, and the creation of two small offices and a closet in originally open areas.

**Conclusion**

The Fraternal Order of Eagles building in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, played an important role in the fraternal and social life in the development of the city. The construction of their own building reflected the fraternal group’s expansive growth and prominence in the community. The Oshkosh Eagles Club aerie grew from 295 members to 1,440 members by the time the formal, grand opening on February 11, 1928. Throughout its history, its active engagement in the community included its charitable work as a fraternal organization and, the building was a premier location for a wide variety of social events in Oshkosh.<sup>16</sup> The Fraternal Order of Eagles exemplified the trends in civic engagement and the use of fraternal clubs as a springboard to social acceptance for immigrants, providing its members with social and business connections, and anchoring them to the larger civic network. The growth of the Fraternal Order of Eagles necessitated the construction of their own clubhouse, and their large membership attested to their standing in the community and their role in the social development of the community. The building also remains an excellent local example of Tudor Revival style architecture and retains integrity and significance to make it eligible for listing under National Register Criteria A and C.

<sup>16</sup> “Eagles Decide to Start Building of Clubhouse Soon” The Daily Northwestern. March 30, 1926.

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary is the entire parcel associated with the Fraternal Order of Eagles building and the address 405 Washington Avenue. This boundary corresponds to the historic boundary of the building.

**Boundary Justification:**

The boundaries encompass the entire parcel of land associated with the Fraternal Order of Eagles building in Oshkosh, Winnebago County, WI.

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Name of Property: Fraternal Order of Eagles

City or Vicinity: Oshkosh

County: Winnebago State: Wisconsin

Photographer: Ben Ganther  
Ganther Construction | Architecture, Inc.  
4825 County Road A  
Oshkosh, WI 54901

Date Photographed: May 31, 2017, June 12, 2017, June 19, 2017, July 19, 2017

Location of Original Digital Files: Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI

Description of Photograph(s) and Number:

- 1 of 27: Primary north facade, looking south
- 2 of 27: Terrace at front entrance, looking southeast
- 3 of 27: East facade, looking west
- 4 of 27: South facade, looking north
- 5 of 27: West facade, looking southeast
- 6 of 27: West facade, looking northeast
- 7 of 27: West facade, looking East
- 8 of 27: Basement bowling alley, looking south
- 9 of 27: Basement bar & fireplace, looking northwest
- 10 of 27: Basement foyer, looking northeast
- 11 of 27: First floor main east/west corridor looking east
- 12 of 27: First floor grill room, looking northwest
- 13 of 27: First floor entrance into auditorium and coat room, looking southwest

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- 14 of 27: First floor lounge room, looking northwest
- 15 of 27: First floor lounge room, looking south
- 16 of 27: First floor plaster ceiling in reading room, looking east and up
- 17 of 27: First floor windows in reading room, looking north
- 18 of 27: Second floor view from balcony in auditorium, looking south
- 19 of 27: Second floor plaster ceiling detail, looking northeast
- 20 of 27: Second floor main east/west corridor, looking east
- 21 of 27: Second floor auxiliary lodge room, looking west
- 22 of 27: Second floor fireplace in auxiliary lodge room, looking west
- 23 of 27: Second floor chandelier in auxiliary lodge room, looking northwest and up
- 24 of 27: Second floor main center stairway, looking east
- 25 of 27: Second floor doors in main east/west corridor, looking north
- 26 of 27: Second floor ante room, looking south
- 27 of 27: Second floor serving room, looking southwest

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- Figure 1 of 23 Fraternal Order of Eagles Building, North Facade, c. December 1927
- Figure 2 of 23 P.F. Auler Eagles Club Rendering on a cigar box.
- Figure 3 of 23 1957 Sanborn Insurance Map
- Figure 4 of 23 Aerial View of Site
- Figure 5 of 23 Blueprint of site plan by architect Henry Auler
- Figure 6 of 23 Blueprint of basement plan by architect Henry Auler
- Figure 7 of 23 Blueprint of first floor plan by architect Henry Auler
- Figure 8 of 23 Blueprint of second floor plan by architect Henry Auler
- Figure 9 of 23 Blueprint of roof plan by architect Henry Auler
- Figure 10 of 23 Blueprint of north & east elevation plan by architect Henry Auler
- Figure 11 of 23 Blueprint of south & west elevation plan by architect Henry Auler
- Figure 12 of 23 Blueprint of Enlarged North elevation plan by architect Henry Auler
- Figure 13 of 23 Blueprint of section plan by architect Henry Auler
- Figure 14 of 23 Eagles lounge room, December 1927, from Ben Ganther files
- Figure 15 of 23 Eagles Auxiliary lodge room, December 1927, from Ben Ganther files
- Figure 16 of 23 Eagles auditorium, December 1927, from Ben Ganther files
- Figure 17 of 23 Eagles Club House ground breaking April 12, 1927, from Ben Ganther files
- Figure 18 of 23 Eagles bowling alleys, December, 1927, from Ben Ganther files
- Figure 19 of 23 Postcard, Lithographic of the Eagle's Home, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, c.1929-1930
- Figure 20 of 23 Coordinates based on WGS 84
- Figure 21 of 23 Photo key: basement
- Figure 22 of 23 Photo key: first floor
- Figure 23 of 23 Photo key: second floor

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Figure 1: Fraternal Order of Eagles Building, North Facade, December 1927, from Ben Ganther

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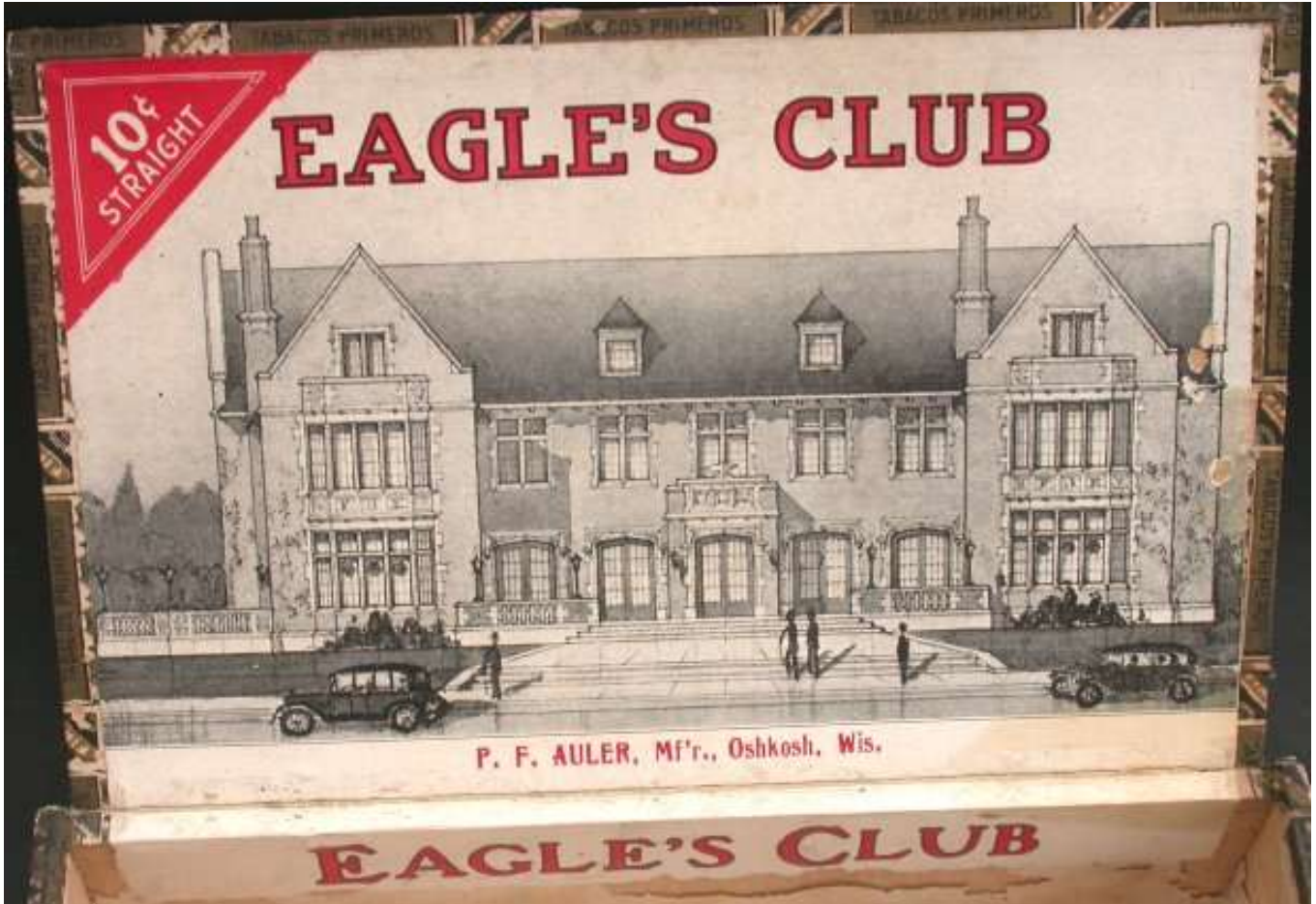


Figure 2: P.F. Auler Eagles Club Rendering on a cigar box. Phonix Masonry, Inc. Website (accessed 05.29.2017)

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Figure 3: 1957 Sanborn Insurance Map (Fraternal Order of Eagles Building outlined in red)

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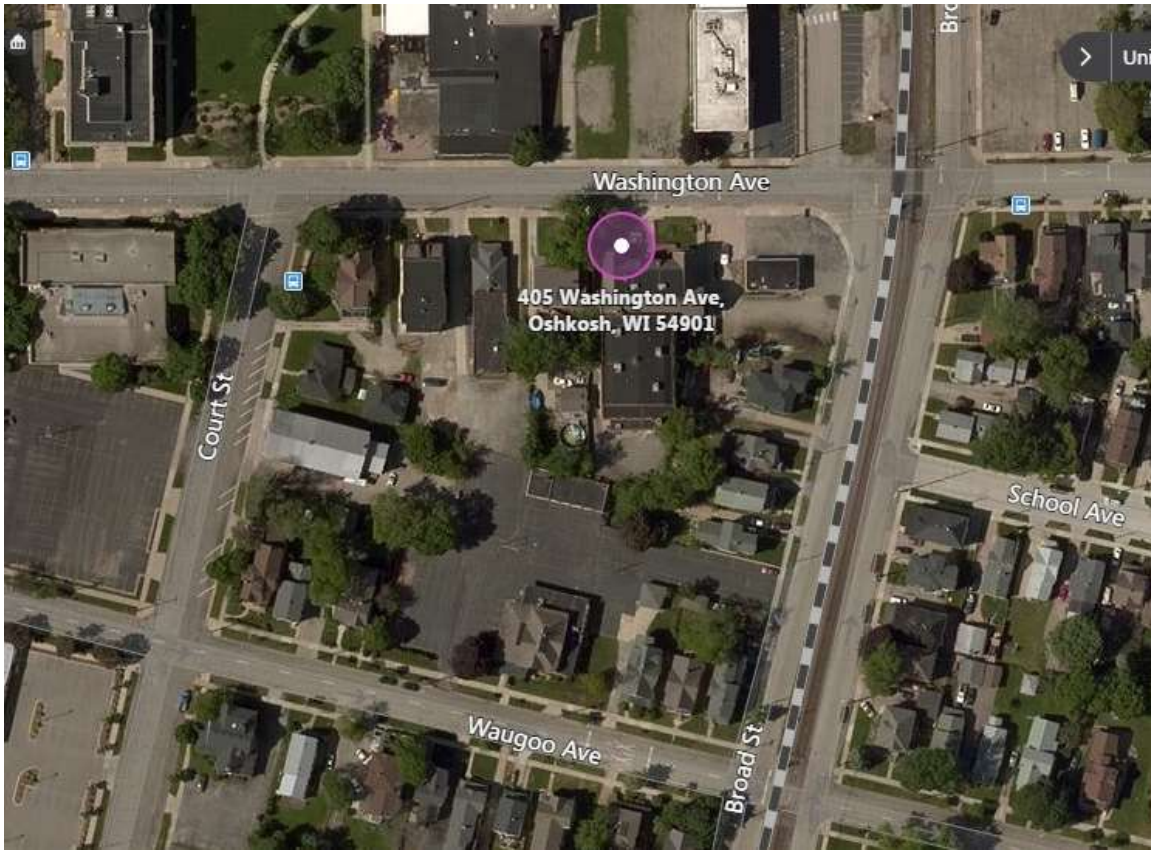


Figure 4: Aerial View of Site

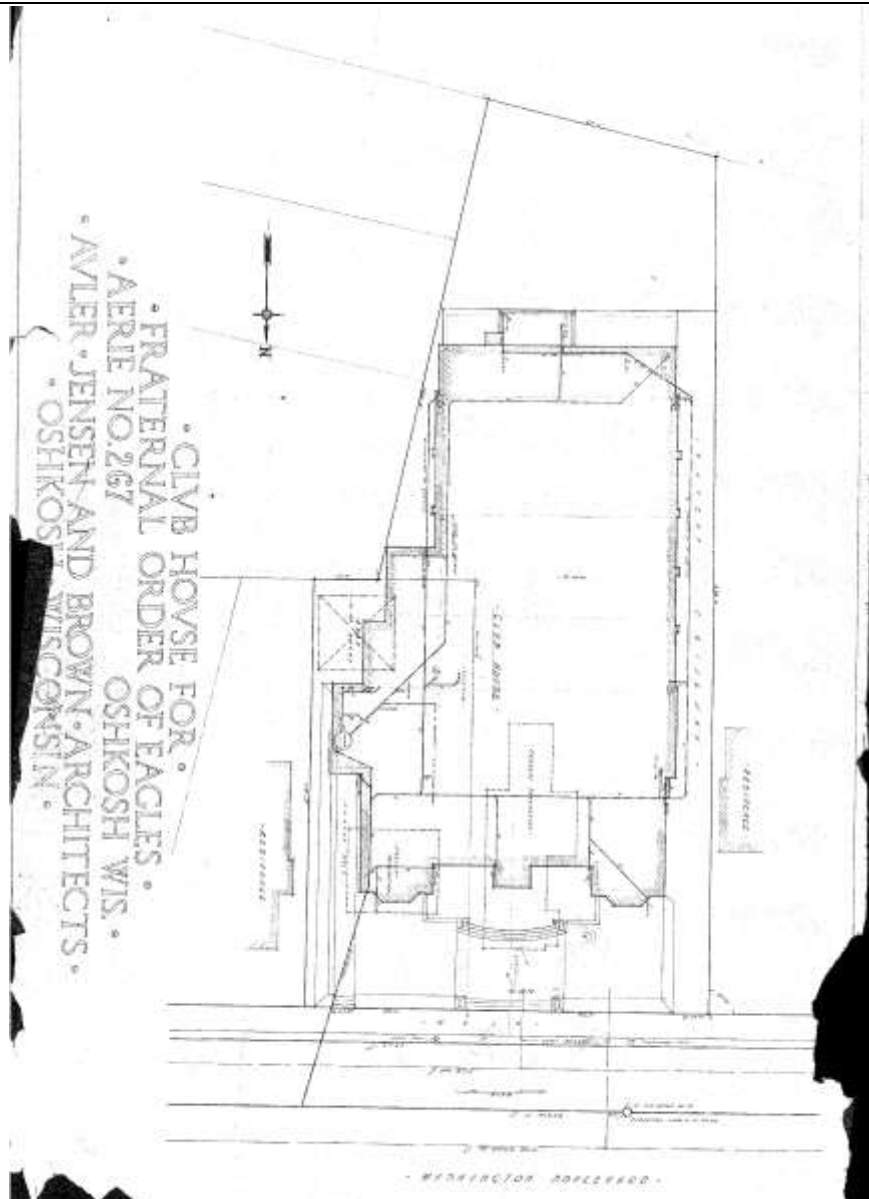



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Fraternal Order of Eagles
Name of Property Winnebago WI
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Continuation Sheet

Section Figures Page 6



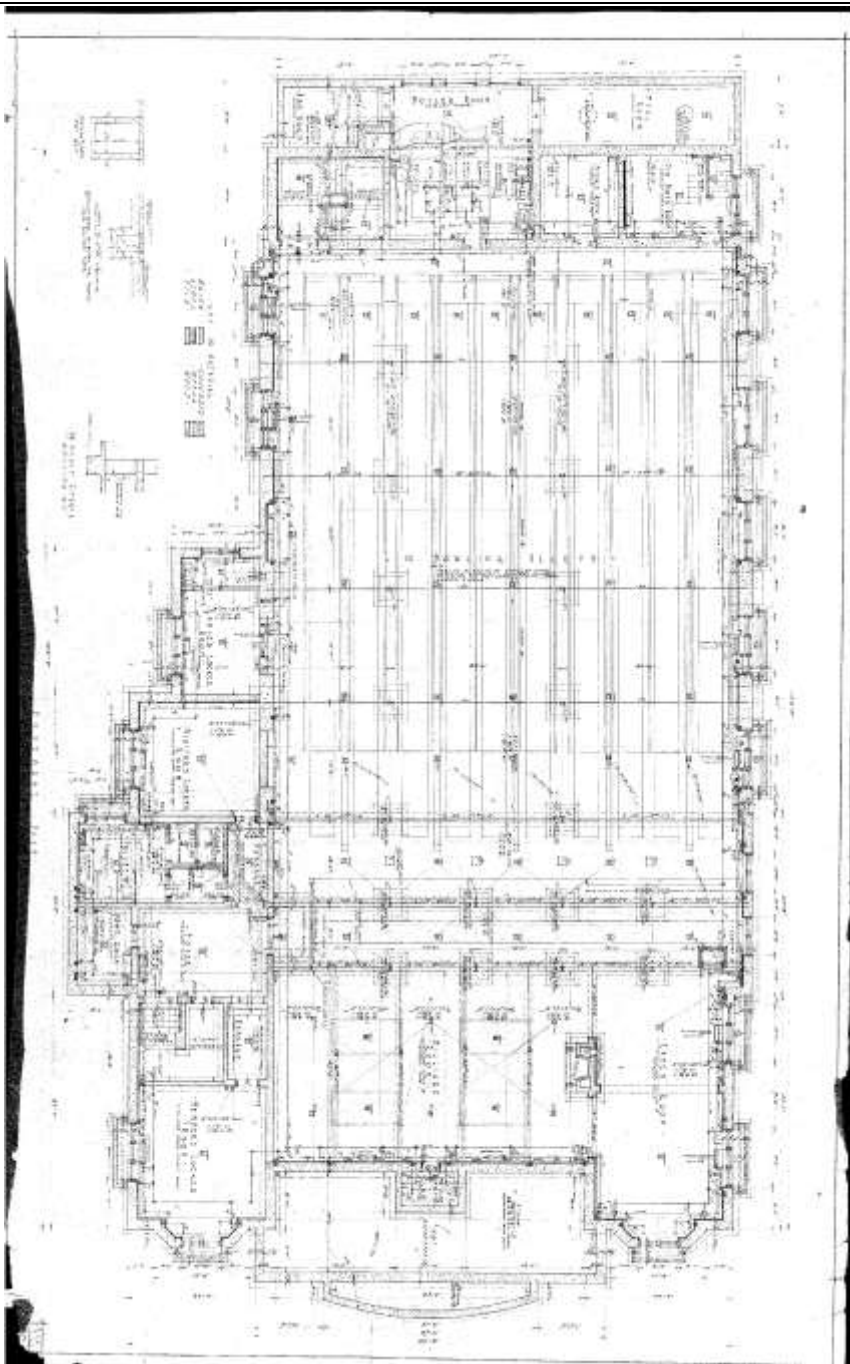
 Figure 5: Blueprint of site plan by architect Henry Auler


**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

Fraternal Order of Eagles
Name of Property
Winnebago WI
County and State
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Section Figures Page 7



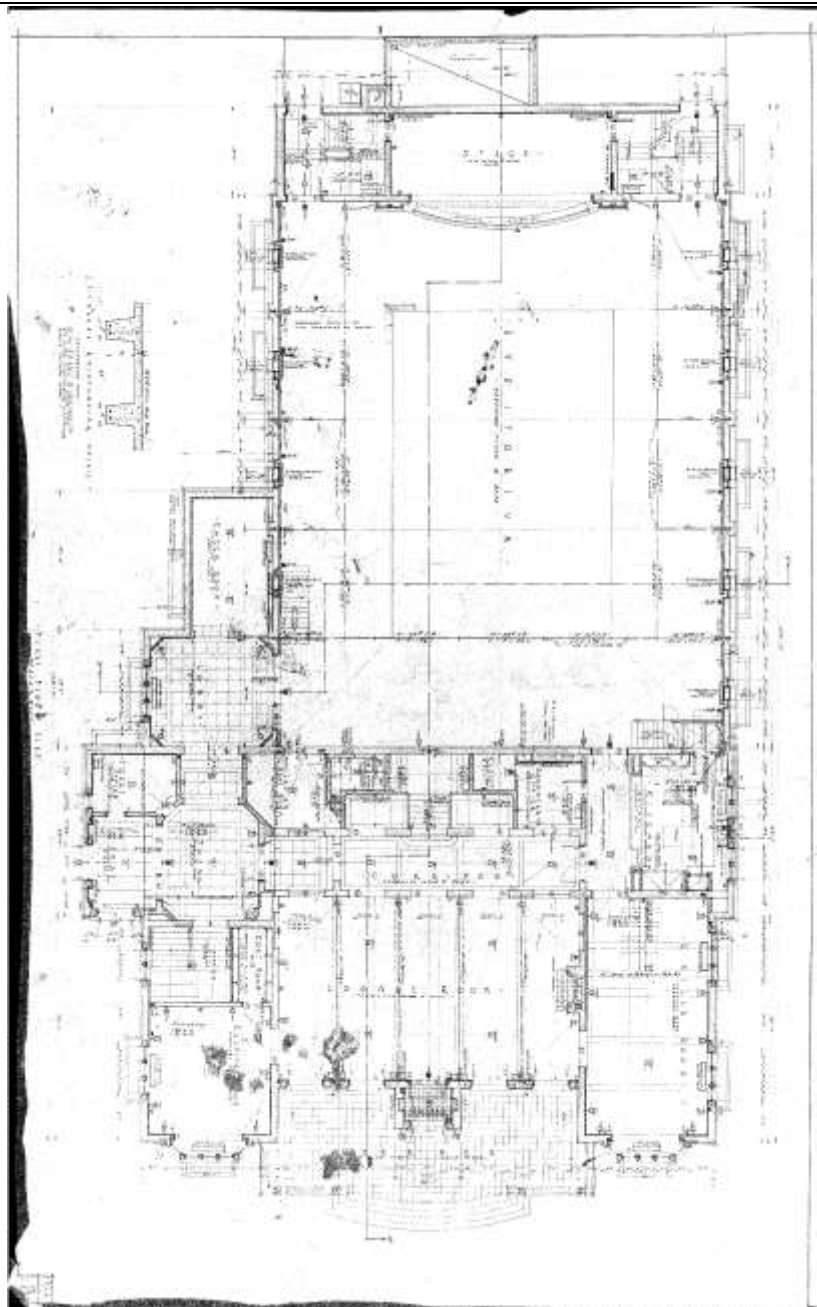
 Figure 6: Blueprint of basement plan by architect Henry Auler


**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

Fraternal Order of Eagles
Name of Property
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County and State
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Continuation Sheet

Section Figures Page 8



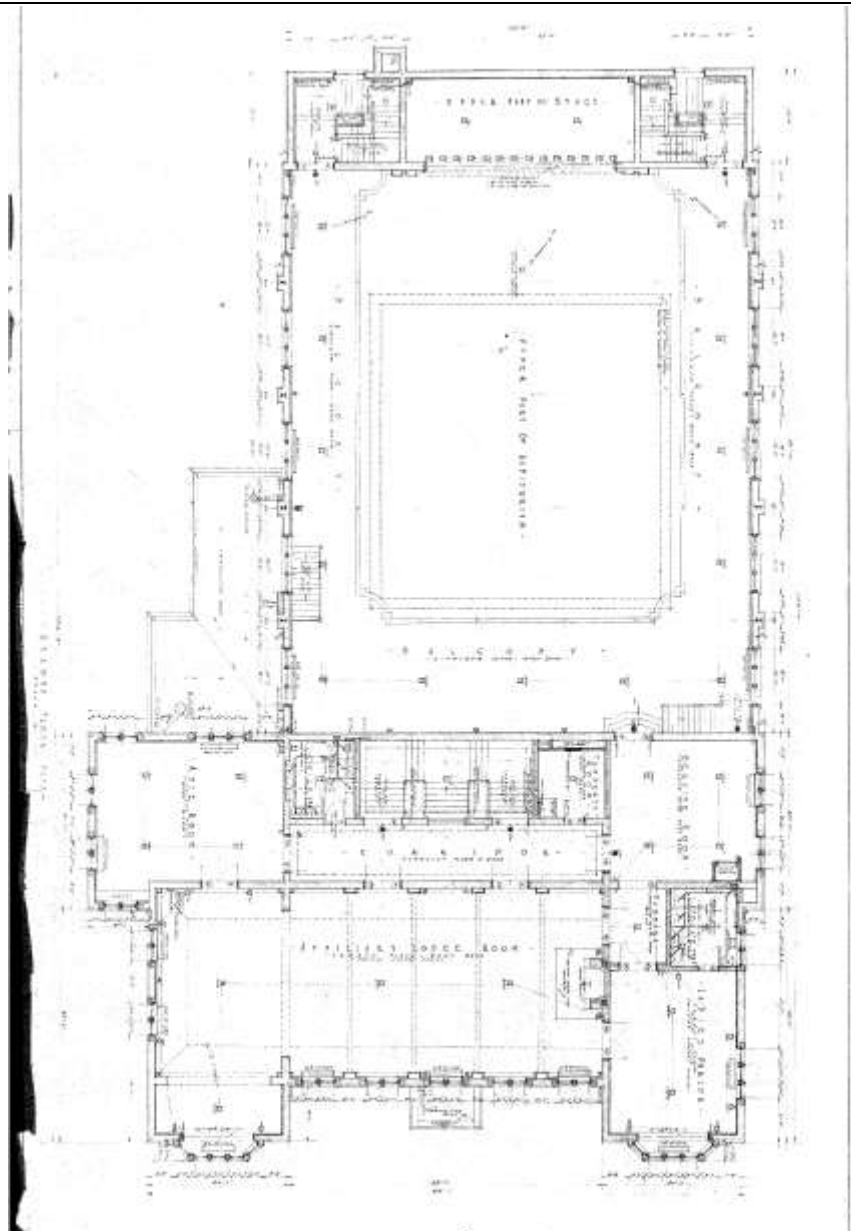
 Figure 7: Blueprint of first floor plan by architect Henry Euler


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Name of Property
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 Figure 8: Blueprint of second floor plan by architect Henry Auler

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Name of Property
Winnebago WI
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Continuation Sheet

**Section Figures Page 10**

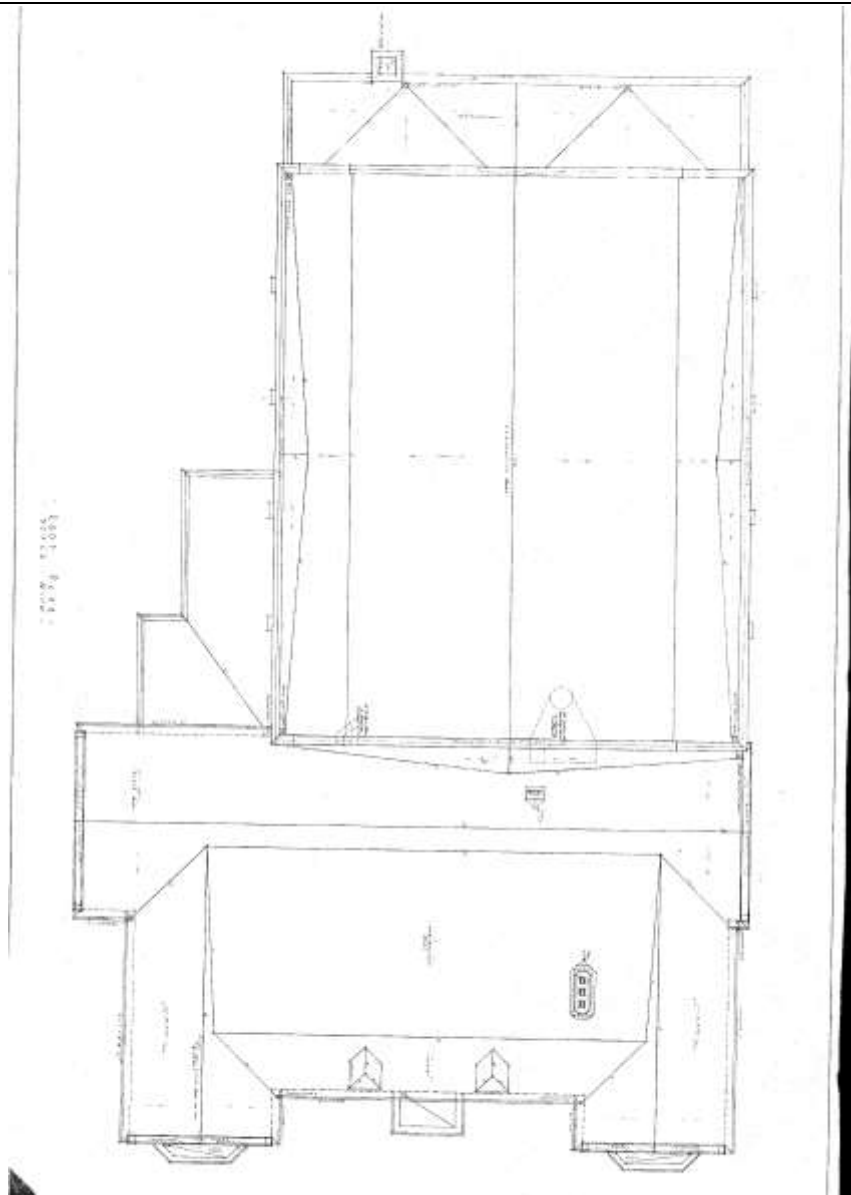


Figure 9: Blueprint of roof plan by architect Henry Auler

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

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Fraternal Order of Eagles

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**Section Figures Page 11**

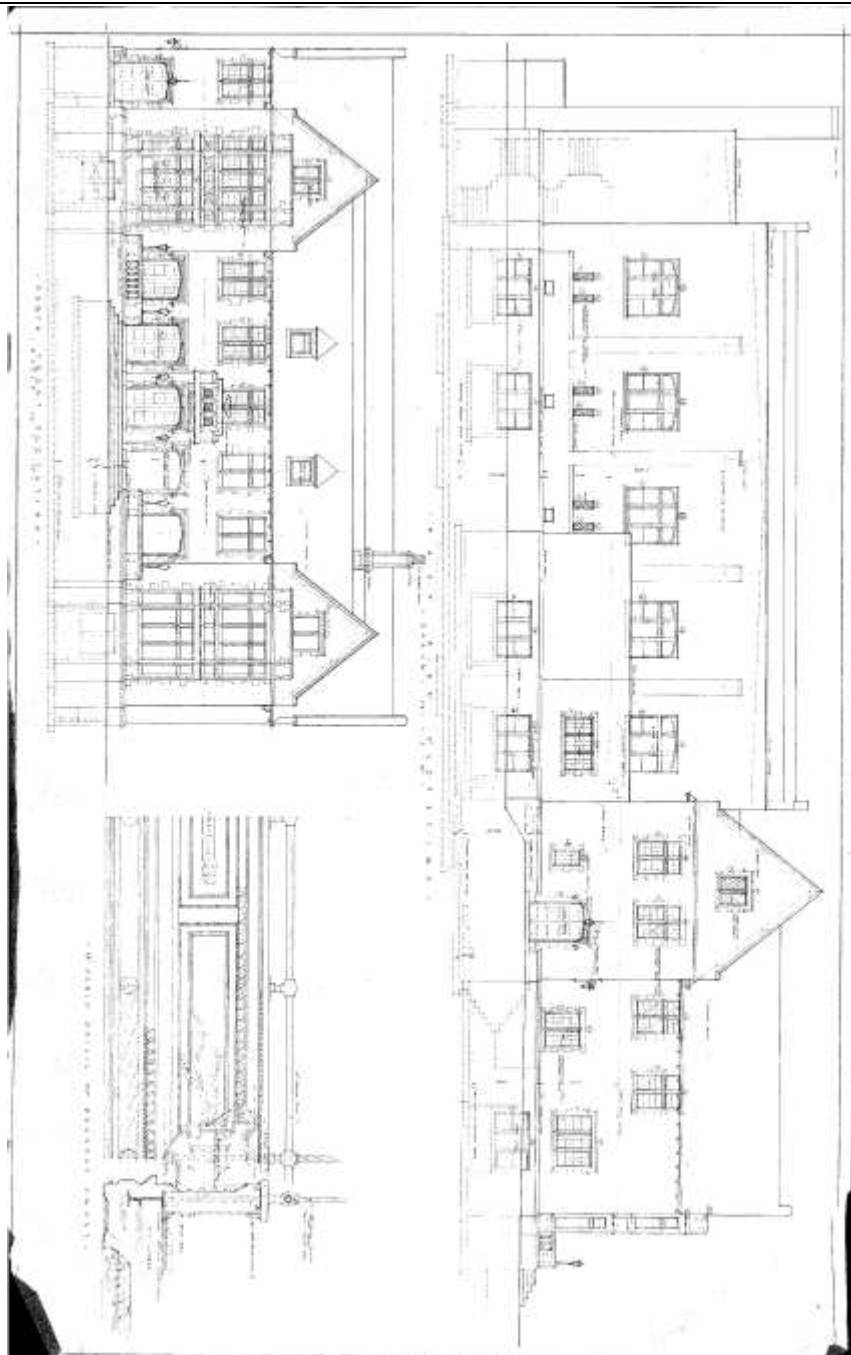


Figure 10: Blueprint of north & east elevation plan by architect Henry Auler

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

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Name of Property
Winnebago WI
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

**National Register of Historic Places**  
Continuation Sheet

**Section Figures Page 12**

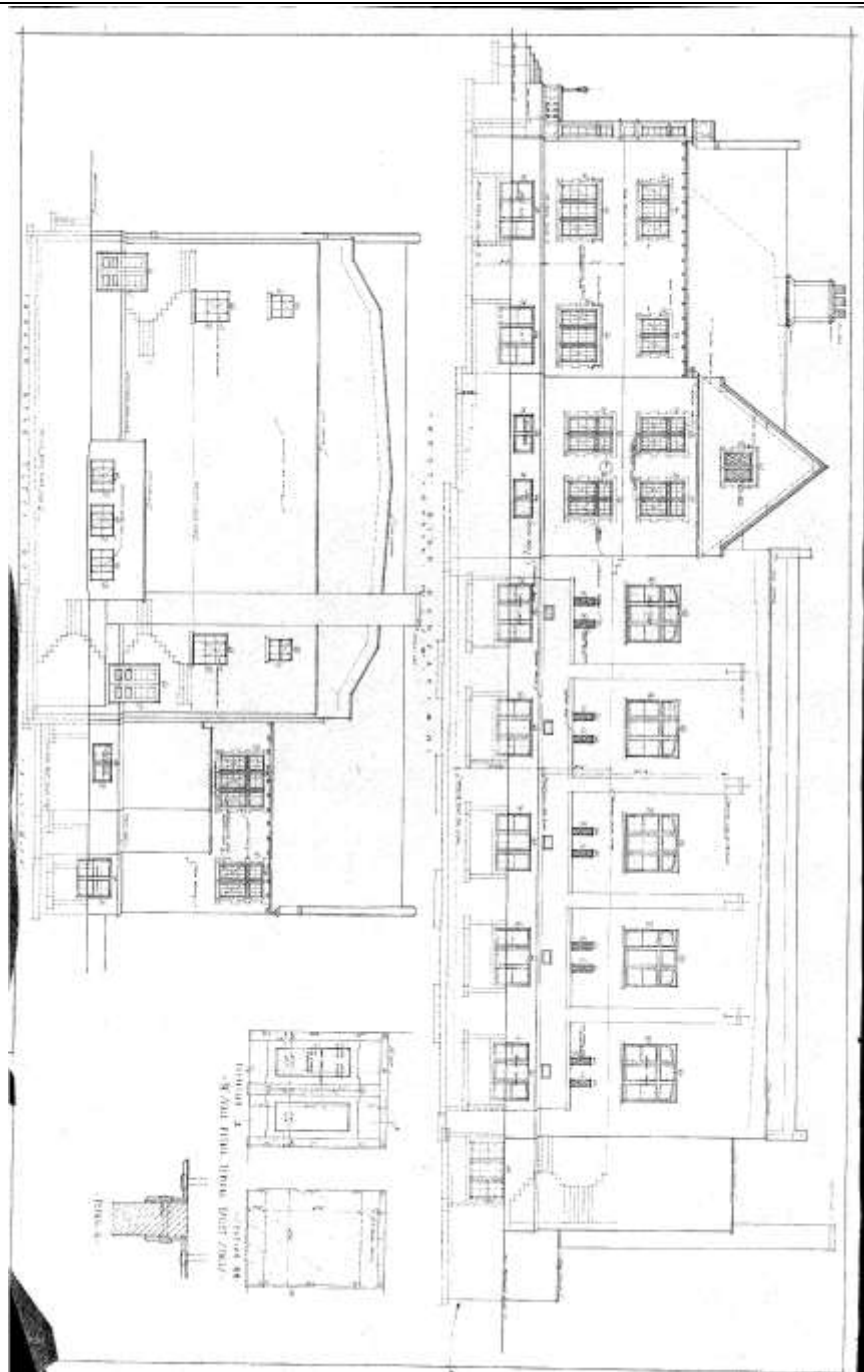


Figure 11: Blueprint of south & west elevation plan by architect Henry Auler

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

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Fraternal Order of Eagles
Name of Property
Winnebago WI
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

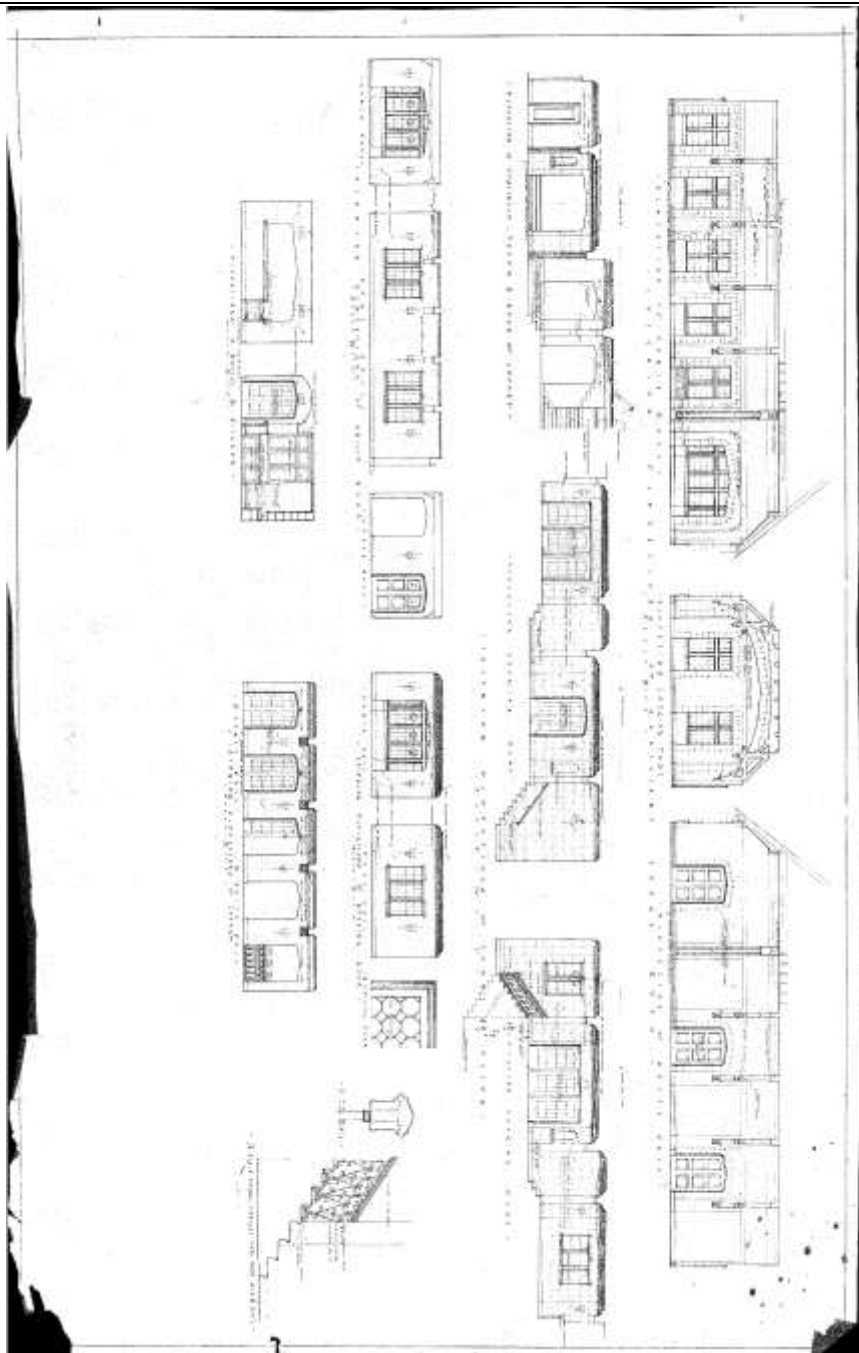


Figure 12: Blueprint of Enlarged North elevation plan by architect Henry Auler



**United States Department of the Interior**  
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Name of Property
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**Section Figures Page 14**

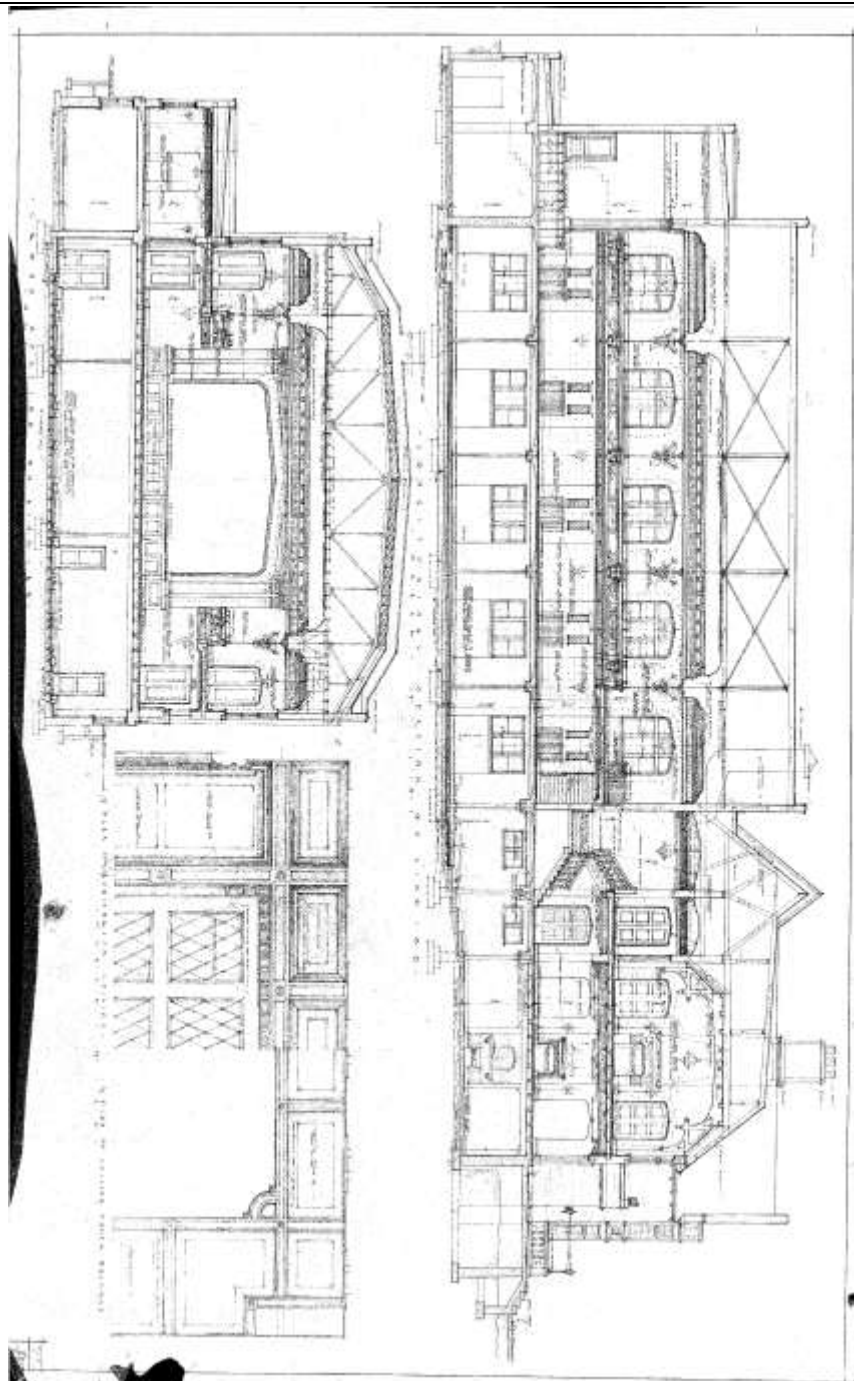


Figure 13: Blueprint of section plan by architect Henry Auler

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National Park Service

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Fraternal Order of Eagles
Name of Property
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Figure 14: Eagles lounge room, December 1927, from Ben Ganther files

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Continuation Sheet

Fraternal Order of Eagles
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Figure 15: Eagles Auxiliary lodge room, December 1927, from Ben Ganther files

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**National Register of Historic Places**  
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Fraternal Order of Eagles
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Figure 16: Eagles auditorium, December 1927, from Ben Ganther files

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Fraternal Order of Eagles
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Figure 17: Eagles Club House ground breaking April 12, 1927, from Ben Ganther files

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Fraternal Order of Eagles
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Figure 18: Eagles bowling alleys, December, 1927, from Ben Ganther files

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Fraternal Order of Eagles
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



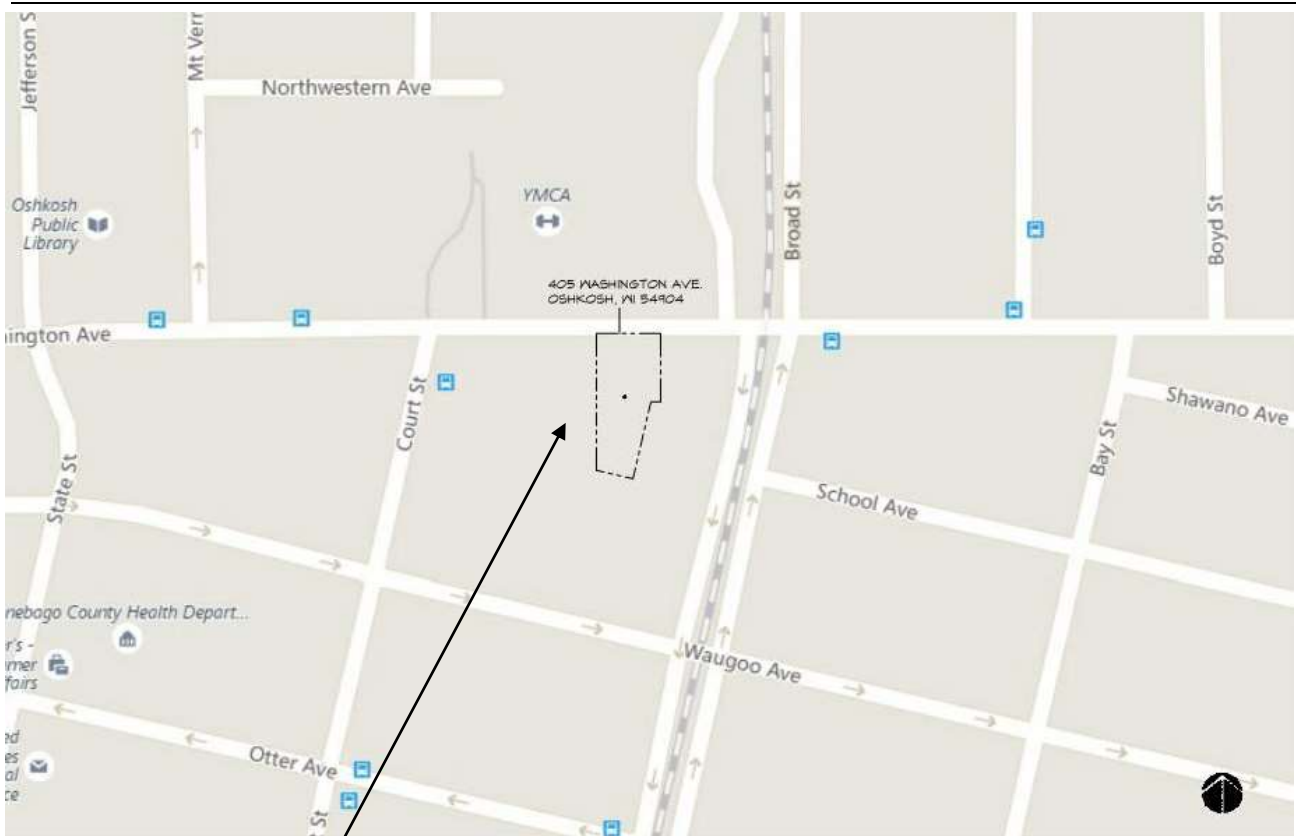
Figure 19: Postcard, Lithographic of the Eagle's Home, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, c. 1929-1930

**United States Department of the Interior**  
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Fraternal Order of Eagles
Name of Property Winnebago WI
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**Continuation Sheet**

**Section Figures Page 21**



Fraternal Order of Eagles Building  
405 Washington Avenue Oshkosh,  
Wisconsin 54901  
Latitude: 44.017278  
Longitude: -88.532377

*\*Coordinates based on WGS 84*

Figure 20: Coordinates based on WGS 84



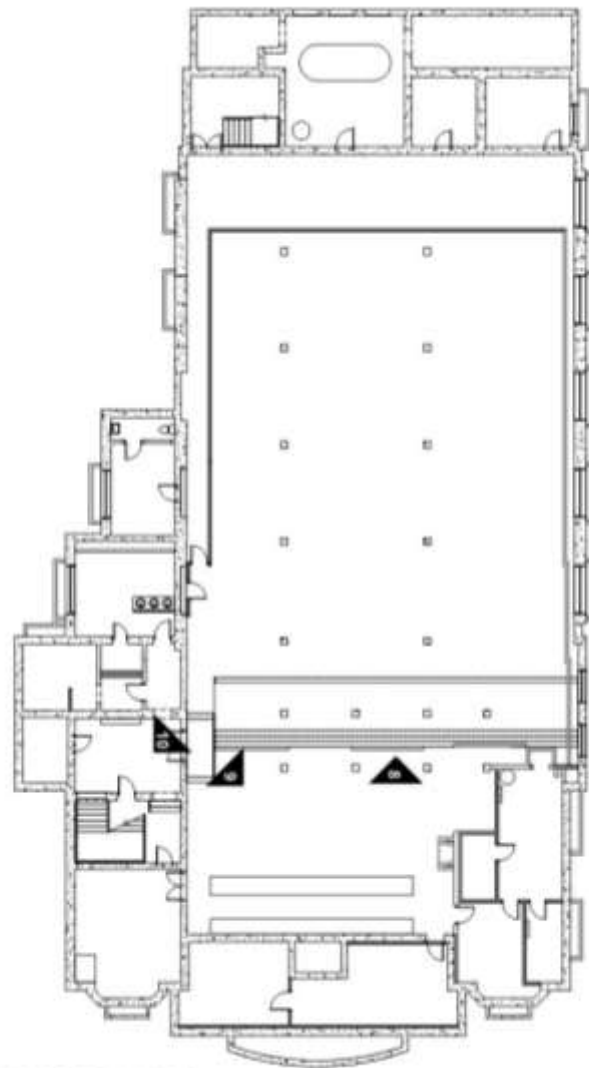
**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

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FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES  
OSHKOSH, WINNEBAGO COUNTY  
NOT TO SCALE



Figure 21: Photo locations in basement

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

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Fraternal Order of Eagles
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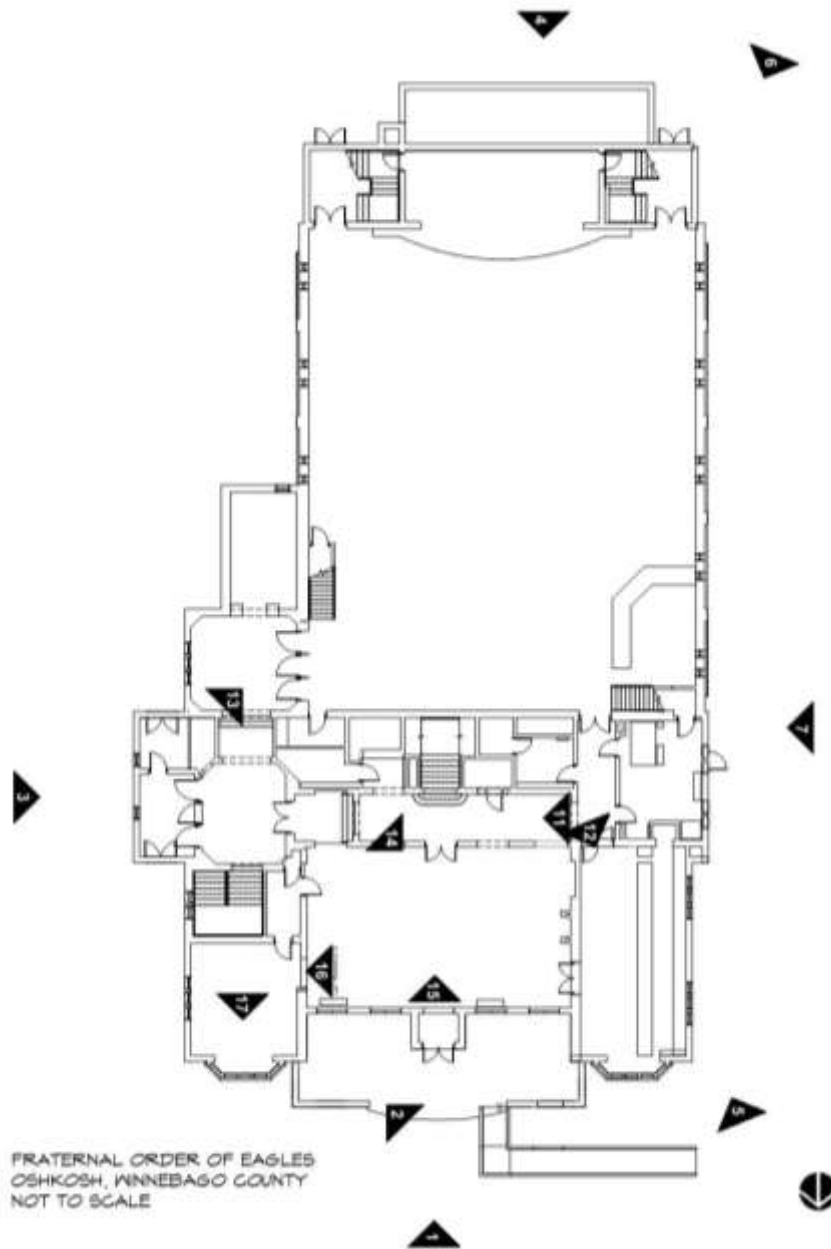


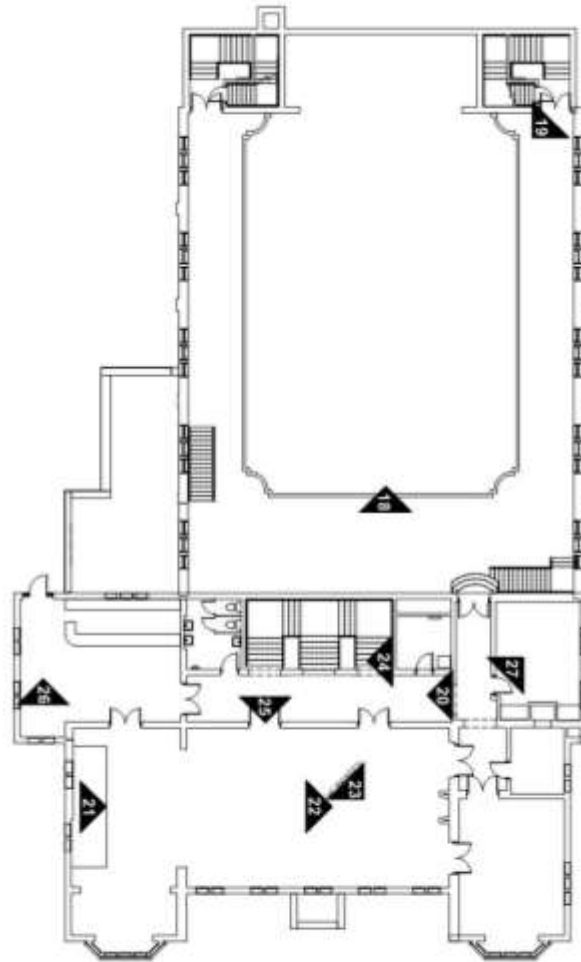
Figure 22: Photo locations on first floor

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
Continuation Sheet

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Fraternal Order of Eagles
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Winnebago WI
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES  
OSHKOSH, WINNEBAGO COUNTY  
NOT TO SCALE



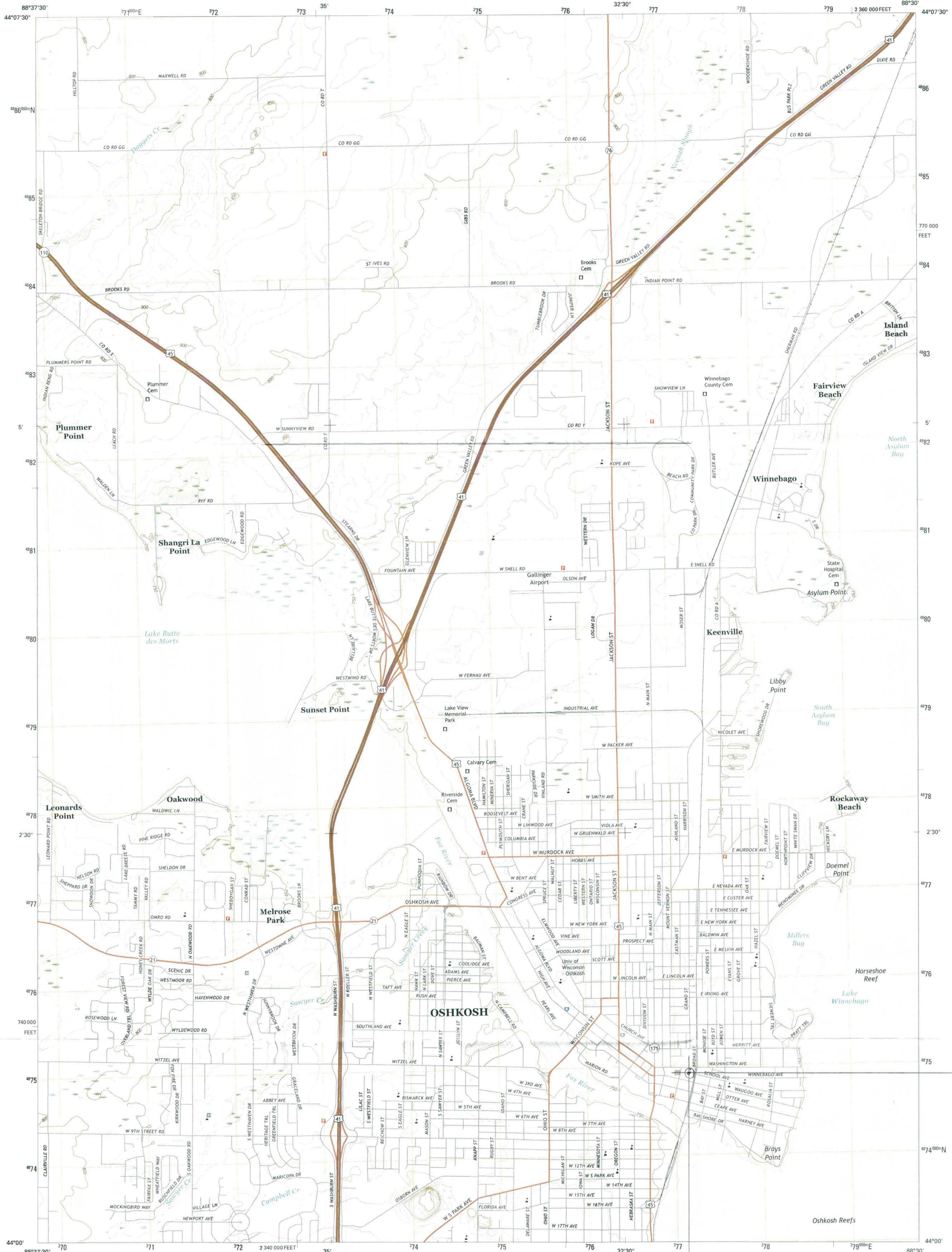
Figure 23: Photo locations on second floor



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



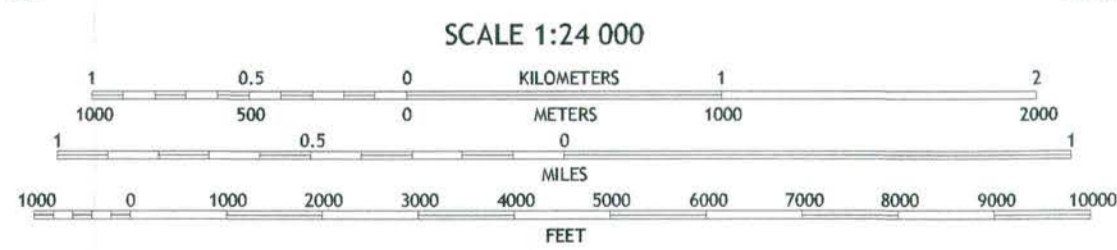
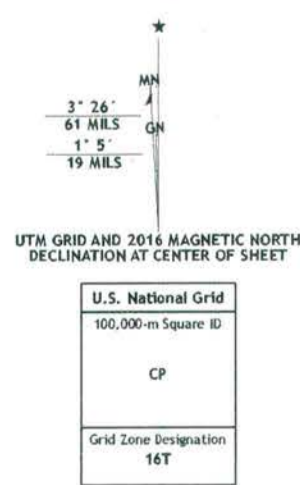
OSHKOSH QUADRANGLE  
WISCONSIN-WINNEBAGO CO.  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES



Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83)  
World Geodetic System of 1984 (WGS84). Projection and  
1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 16T  
10 000-foot ticks: Wisconsin Coordinate System of 1983 (south  
zone)

This map is not a legal document. Boundaries may be  
generalized for this map scale. Private lands within government  
reservations may not be shown. Obtain permission before  
entering private lands.

Imagery: .....NAIP, July 2013  
Roads: .....U.S. Census Bureau, 2015  
Names: .....GNS, 2016  
Hydrography: .....National Hydrography Dataset, 2013  
Contours: .....National Elevation Dataset, 2010  
Boundaries: .....Multiple sources; see metadata file 1972\_2016  
Public Land Survey System: .....BLM, 2014  
Wetlands: .....FWS National Wetlands Inventory 1977 - 2014



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988  
This map was produced to conform with the  
National Geospatial Program US Topo Product Standard, 2011.  
A metadata file associated with this product is draft version 0.6.19

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Expressway
- Secondary Hwy
- Ramp
- Local Connector
- Local Road
- 4WD
- US Route
- State Route

OSHKOSH, WI  
2016

FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES  
405 WASHINGTON AVENUE  
WINNEBAGO COUNTY, OSHKOSH, WI 54901-5043

CENTER OF SITE UTM REFERENCE POINT:  
16 37178 4874933





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TOGETHER  
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Work. Play. Learn. Grow.

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A BRIGHTER  
FUTURE







IS DEDICATED TO THE COMMUNITY

BELIEVE IN STRONG KIDS

BELIEVE IN STRONG KIDS

Y  
A CHILD WHO CAN  
RECOVER

Y  
BELIEVE IN STRONG KIDS  
LIVE BETTER

BRINGING DREAMS TO LIFE

IN MEMORY OF BOB MEMORKE  
BELIEVE IN STRONG KIDS





Blue sign with text and an arrow pointing right.









DO NOT  
ENTER

LIBRETY OF JUSTICE  
TRUTH OF EQUITY

DO NOT  
ENTER







FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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**IP TO**



**STRONG  
KIDS**  
© 2012 YMC&Y







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Fraternal Order of Eagles

Multiple Name: \_\_\_\_\_

State & County: WISCONSIN, Winnebago

Date Received: 1/9/2018      Date of Pending List: 1/29/2018      Date of 16th Day: 2/13/2018      Date of 45th Day: 2/23/2018      Date of Weekly List: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference number: SG100002140

Nominator: State

Reason For Review:

<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PDIL	<input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue
<input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Photo
<input type="checkbox"/> Waiver	<input type="checkbox"/> National	<input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary
<input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission	<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource	<input type="checkbox"/> Period
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> TCP	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years
	<input type="checkbox"/> CLG	

Accept       Return       Reject      2/21/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: Locally significant in architecture and social history.

Recommendation/ Criteria: Accept / A & C

Reviewer Jim Gabbert      Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275      Date \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.





NOVEMBER 27, 2017

Wisconsin Historical Society

Historic Preservation Board of Review  
816 State Street  
Madison, WI 53726

Dear Members of the Board of Review,

Thank you for considering the nomination of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Club, 405 Washington Avenue in Oshkosh. This distinctive building, designed by Oshkosh architect Henry Auler, was a showcase for the Eagles' events and also served as a venue for local organizations, statewide conventions, unions and political parties. Banquets and balls, wedding receptions, school and athletic events were held here. During the big band era well-known bands played the Eagles Club. Boxing and wrestling matches were popular events in the main ballroom. Bowling teams used the 10 alleys in the basement.

Recognizing and restoring Oshkosh's historic buildings is a catalyst for renewing the pride in downtown Oshkosh that was so obvious when the Eagles Club was built. Reopening this building to the community will showcase for residents an excellent example of the glory of 1920s Tudor Revival architectural design and craftsmanship.

We are most grateful for your time and years of experience and expertise as you examine this nomination. Honoring the Eagles Club with your approval for historic designation will highlight another Oshkosh structure that has been saved, restored, & revitalized with renewed life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Sincerely,

  
Shirley Brabender Mattox

Oshkosh Landmarks Commission, chairman



**DAN FEYEN**  
**STATE SENATOR**

18th Senate District  
(608) 266-5300, (888) 736-8720  
Sen.Feyen@legis.wi.gov

PO Box 7882, Madison, WI 53707-7882  
[www.SenatorFeyen.com](http://www.SenatorFeyen.com)

November 30, 2017

Wisconsin Historical Society  
Peggy Veregin, National Register Coordinator  
State Historic Preservation Office  
816 State Street, Madison, WI 53706

RE: The Fraternal Order of Eagles Club

Dear Ms. Veregin:

I am writing in support of the nomination for the National Historic Register of the The Fraternal Order of Eagles Club located at 405 Washington Avenue in Oshkosh, WI.

This building is an excellent example of Tudor Revival architecture, designed by Oshkosh architect, Henry Auler, located east of the Washington Avenue Neoclassical Historic District in downtown Oshkosh.

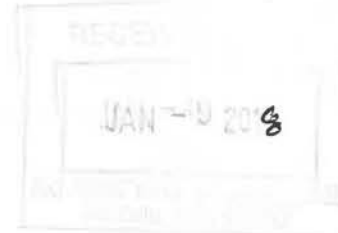
This is an example of the role that fraternal organizations played in the social life of the city. The preservation of this historical site is good for the community and our state. I strongly support this designation.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (608)266-5300

Sincerely,

State Senator Dan Feyen

18<sup>th</sup> Senate District





STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**GORDON HINTZ**

WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

54th DISTRICT

January 5, 2018

Wisconsin Historical Society  
State Historic Preservation Office  
816 State Street  
Madison, WI 53706

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for considering the Fraternal Order of Eagles Club at 405 Washington Avenue in Oshkosh to be added to the National Historic Register. I am happy to offer my support for its nomination.

The Eagles Club is a beautiful building that I have been happy to visit over the course of my life as a native resident of Oshkosh. This Tudor Revival was designed by local architect Henry Auler in the early twentieth century. With its dormer windows, two story bay windows, and classic lines, the building still stands out in the neighborhood as a remarkable architectural monument.

The building was home to the Fraternal Order of Eagles for over seven decades, during which time it served as a community hub for culture, music, and recreation. In a later inception, the building served as an alternative high school, helping at risk students in Oshkosh obtain their high school diplomas. Last year the building was sold to private owners who are investing in massive renovations and restorations to return the Eagles Club to its former glory. These owners, like myself and other community members, are excited at the prospect of historical registry status.

The Eagles Club building is unique in that it is a quintessential Tudor façade whose interior has been home to a bowling alley, punk rock shows, philanthropic endeavors, political events, and academic endeavors. It is worthy of preservation and recognition as not only one of the historic buildings of Oshkosh, but the nation.

Thank you to the committee for its consideration of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Club. If I can be of any additional assistance in the decision making process I am happy to oblige. You may reach me at my office at 608-266-2254 or via email at [Rep.Hintz@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Rep.Hintz@legis.wisconsin.gov).

Sincerely,

Gordon Hintz

State Representative -54<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Assembly Minority Leader

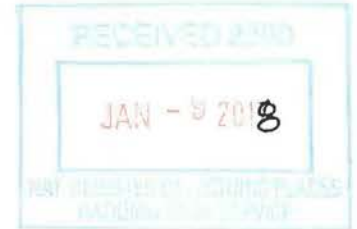


WISCONSIN  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

TO: Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Peggy Veregin  
National Register Coordinator

SUBJECT: National Register Nomination



The following materials are submitted on this Fourth day of January 2018, for the nomination of the Waite Grass Carpet Company to the National Register of Historic Places:

<u>1</u>	Original National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form
<u>1</u>	CD with NRHP Nomination form PDF
<u>          </u>	Multiple Property Nomination form
<u>27</u>	Photograph(s)
<u>1</u>	CD with image files
<u>1</u>	Map(s)
<u>23</u>	Sketch map(s)/figures(s)/exhibit(s)
<u>3</u>	Piece(s) of correspondence
<u>          </u>	Other:

COMMENTS:

<u>          </u>	Please ensure that this nomination is reviewed
<u>X</u>	This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
<u>          </u>	The enclosed owner objection(s) do or do not constitute a majority of property owners
<u>          </u>	Other: