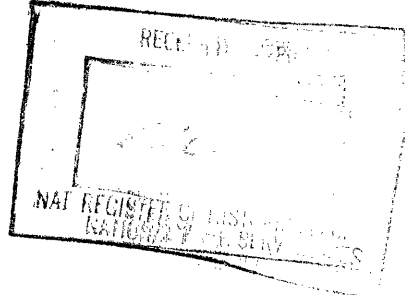


**United States Department of Interior
National Park Service**

**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 Falque, Joachine J., House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number	1059 County Trunk Highway C	N/A	not for publication
city or town	Town of Brussels	N/A	vicinity
state Wisconsin	code WI	county Door	code 029 zip code 54204

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.)

Signature of certifying official/Title *Michael J. Brown* SHPO "3/27/01" Date

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

Falque, Joachine J., House

Door County

Wisconsin

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):

Edson A. Beall

5/6/04

Jan

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district structure
- site
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

contributing	noncontributing
2	2 buildings
	sites
	structures
	objects
2	2 total

Name of related multiple property listing:
(Enter "N/A" if property not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources is previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling

AGRICULTURE/ agricultural outbuilding

VACANT/ not in use

AGRICULTURE/ storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation STONE

walls BRICK

roof METAL

other CONCRETE

Narrative Description

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

Falque, Joachine J., House
Name of Property

Door County
County and State

Wisconsin

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)

ARCHITECTURE

ETHNIC HERITAGE/ European

Period of Significance

C. 1880-c. 1900

Significant Dates

c. 1880

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Name of Property

County and State

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:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.9 acres

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

1 16 450780 4952040
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
Zone Easting Northing

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

name/title	Erin Pogany, Matt Becker, and Jeremy Happel	date	April 2003
organization	Mead & Hunt, Inc.	telephone	608-273-6380
street & number	6501 Watts Road	zip code	53719-2700
city or town	Madison	state	WI

Falque, Joachine J., House
Name of Property

Door County
County and State

Wisconsin

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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

Photographs Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

Property Owner

Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name/title	Ronald Vlies	date	1/2004
organization		telephone	920 825-1387
street&number	1059 County Trunk Highway C	zip code	54204
city or town	Brussels	state	WI

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

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

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

Start

Description

The Joachine J. Falque House at 1059 County Trunk Highway (CTH) C is located in Section 18, Township 26 North, Range 24 East, in the town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin. Flat agricultural fields and scattered trees and shrubs surround the property. The property contains two contributing buildings – a gabled-ell house and a threshing barn; and two non-contributing buildings – a modern house and a garage. Since 1995, two buildings on the property have been demolished – a c.1930 shed with timber framing and wood siding, and a c.1890 one-and-one-half-story granary with timber framing and a gable roof.¹

Falque House *c. 1880*

Contributing

The Falque House, c.1880, exhibits Belgian influences in its gabled-ell form, brick construction, and decorative brickwork. It is constructed of red brick on a stone foundation with a standing-seam metal roof. The interior space of the two-and-one-half-story gabled section of the house includes living and storage rooms on the first floor and three bedrooms on the second floor. The one-and-one-half-story ell section is divided into a kitchen, a bathroom, and a small enclosed entryway or porch.

The gabled section of the east (front) facade displays original arched, two-over-two, double-hung windows on the first story and one-over-one replacement windows on the second story. The arched lintels of the east facade are three-tiered, feature alternating red and gray bricks, and have extensions of brick around the windows. The first-story windows also feature gray brick keystones. A simple door with an arched crown and boarded-over transom exists on the north end of the east facade. The gabled section includes a wide brick beltcourse between floors composed of three strings with a center of rowlock bond of alternating red and gray bricks between two rows of stretcher bond, and above the second-story windows by a single row of protruding stretcher bond. Under the gable is a bull's-eye window with a raised red brick surround. The ell section of the east facade is sheltered by an extended eave porch that was supported by three square wood Doric piers that have recently been removed. The door on the east facade is a modern, six-paned door with a three-paned wood storm door. A one-over-one replacement window with a protruding three-tiered lintel is north of the door.

The north facade displays one arched, two-over-two, double-hung window with a three-tiered lintel of alternating red and gray bricks. A small aluminum-sided addition with a shed roof, small door, and concrete-block foundation provides access to the cellar. An exterior chimney of concrete block is on the north facade. The north facade displays a half-moon window. This feature is uncommon in the gable of a minor facade.

The west (rear) facade of the ell section is completely covered by a shed roof addition sheathed with aluminum siding. The addition rests on a concrete-block foundation and contains one-over-one, double-hung windows and a modern door with a metal storm door. The gabled section of the rear facade displays four symmetrically

¹ At the time of the 1995 survey the granary was in the process of being dismantled due to its deteriorated state.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 2

Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

openings. All windows on the gabled section of the rear facade display arched lintels that are flush with the wall.

Four symmetrically placed windows pierce the south facade. The first-story window on the west half of the facade is a one-over-one, double-hung replacement window in an altered opening; while the east window is an original arched two-over-two, double-hung window. The second-story has modern one-over-one windows with flush arched lintels. Lintels on the first-story windows protrude with three tiers and extensions around the windows.

The interior plan is attached. This simple farmhouse has no significant interior architectural distinction.

Threshing Barn c. 1900

Contributing

The threshing barn, c.1900, has timber framing, vertical wood siding, and a gable roof with standing-seam metal on the south half and asphalt shingles on the north half, signifying a possible later addition. The south facade features a modern garage door and two vertical wood boards missing from the upper story. The east facade contains two glass-block windows and a large hipped-roof addition with wide clapboard siding, a concrete-block foundation, single-pane fixed windows, and multiple entrances. Portions of the rear facade have been covered with rolled faux brick asphalt siding. As an example of an early threshing barn, this building is considered to be a contributing resource despite its diminished historic integrity. It further demonstrates the property's roots as a farmstead.

Garage c. 1940

Non-Contributing

A two-bay garage, c.1940, is located behind the house. The concrete-block building has vertical wood garage doors and two fixed windows on the rear (south) facade. The side-jerkinhead gable roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles and contains an interior concrete-block chimney on the southeast corner. Due to its use of modern materials and construction methods, the garage is a non-contributing resource.

House c. 2000

Non-Contributing

A c. 2000 one-story house sits to the north of the historic gabled-ell house. It has a side-gabled roof, two-bay attached garage, a canted bay, and one-over-one windows. This house is a non-contributing resource due to its modern date of construction.

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Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 1

Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

Statement of Significance

The Joachine J. Falque Farmstead is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under *Criterion C: Architecture* as a fine local example of a late-nineteenth-century farmhouse, with a contributing threshing barn. Built c. 1880, the house has a two-story, gabled-ell form, and displays many of the traditional elements of Belgian construction, including brick construction on a stone foundation, a bull's-eye window under the front gable, a half-moon window under the gabled-ell, a beltcourse, and arched lintels with decorative brickwork. The house is in good condition, with alterations to the minor facades only. A c. 1900 timber-frame threshing barn also contributes to the significance of the farmstead. Despite its diminished historic integrity, this barn is considered to be a contributing resource as an example of an early threshing barn. The Falque Farmstead is also eligible under *Criterion A: Ethnic Heritage*, for its strong association with Belgian settlement in the region and the perpetuation of these immigrants' native building practices and culture. The period of significance for the Falque Farmstead is c. 1880 through c. 1900, encompassing the construction dates of the house and the contributing barn.

Historic Context

History of Belgian Settlement²

The difficult economic situation in Belgium that followed the country's independence in 1830, combined with promotional activities by immigrant recruiting agents, resulted in an exodus of rural Walloon peasants seeking a better life in America. Wisconsin was advocated as a place to settle by recruiters who worked for Antwerp shipowners and were equipped with promotional guidebooks. The Belgians who emigrated to Wisconsin's Door Peninsula between 1853 and 1857 came primarily from the south-central provinces of Brabant, Hanaut, and Namur. Belgians from these southern provinces were Catholics and spoke Walloon, a French-Patois

² Belgian settlement in northeast Wisconsin has been well studied, most recently by Professors William Laatsch of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, and William H. Tishler of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This section was compiled from a number of secondary sources, including William G. Laatsch and Charles F. Calkins, "Belgians in Wisconsin," in *To Build in a New Land: Ethnic Landscapes in North America*, ed. by Allen G. Noble (Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992); William H. Tishler, "Namur Belgian-American District," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 6 November 1989; Allen G. Noble, *Wood, Brick, and Stone: The North American Settlement Landscape*, Vol. 2, *Barns and Farm Structures* (Amherst, Mass.: University of Massachusetts Press, 1984); Barbara Wyatt, ed., *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin*, 3 Vols. (Madison, Wisc.: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986); Deborah B. Martin, *History of Brown County, Wisconsin: Past and Present*, Vol. 1 (Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1913); Xavier Martin, *Collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin*, Vol. 13, *The Belgians of Northeast Wisconsin*, ed. by Reuben Gold Thwaites (Madison, Wisc.: Democrat Printing Co., 1895); William H. Tishler and Erik Brynildson, "The Architecture and Landscape Characteristics of Rural Belgian Settlement in Northeastern Wisconsin" (Madison, Wisc., July 1986); and Virginia C. Dell, "Bay Settlement: A Hamlet in Northeastern Wisconsin," 1974, Belgian-American Research Collection, Special Collections, Cofrin Library, the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Green Bay, Wisc.

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Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 2

Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

dialect. In 1857, however, emigration slowed due to restrictions by the Belgian government and discouraging letters from previous emigrants.

Most of the Belgian settlements in the Door Peninsula were concentrated in the towns of Gardner, Union, and Brussels in Door County; the communities of Red River and Lincoln in northern Kewaunee County; and the towns of Humboldt, Scott, and Green Bay in Brown County. The majority of the settlers were farmers, but a few were skilled laborers or factory workers who left these professions in their native country to farm their own land in America. The number of Belgians in the peninsula by 1860 was estimated to be 4,647.

Dense forests and scattered swamps physically isolated the Belgian enclave from other nearby settlements. Language and cultural misunderstandings also kept the Belgians apart from their German, Irish, and Scandinavian neighbors who lived in communities 10 to 15 miles away. This isolation, coupled with economic troubles, denied these Belgian settlers benefits that were enjoyed by other tax-supported populations in the area, including expanded county roads and schools. However, in 1858, the Belgians, as a group, finally decided to exercise their right to vote and run for office. The result was a Belgian coup of local government through which they assumed the upper hand in the affairs of Bay Settlement – the nearest large community. The community of Belgians was thereafter recognized as an important faction in the county. Newly elected Belgians were instrumental in establishing school districts, obtaining teachers, and improving roads in their settlement. Upon application to the federal government, post offices were soon established at Bay Settlement and Robinsonville, also located in Brown County. By the 1860s large tracts of previously forested land were under cultivation and larger, more commodious houses and barns were being built.

The Walloon Belgian immigrants were largely of the Catholic faith and carried cultural affiliations of the Roman-Catholic Church with them from their homeland. Originally, 10 Belgian-American families had claims to settle land located to the south of Green Bay near Kaukauna. However, Father Edouard Daems, a Belgian immigrant who came to Wisconsin in 1852 and became the first priest of Bay Settlement, convinced the families to settle near his parish north of Green Bay in Door County.³ Father Daems' presence would attract many other Belgian immigrants to this part of northeast Wisconsin.

³ Hjalmar R. Holand, *History of Door County, Wisconsin: The County Beautiful* (Chicago, Ill.: The S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1917), 1:412.

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Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

Congregations and shrines were quickly established following settlement. Constructed in 1858, the Chapel of the Holy Virgin in Robinsonville (Brown County) was the first church to be built in the area. In 1860 St. Mary's was built in the township of Union.⁴ By 1880 Bay Settlement was home to three institutions founded by Father Daems – the Holy Cross Church, the Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross convent, and the Holy Cross School.⁵

The Belgian Americans often constructed roadside chapels to participate in daily worship without traveling to the local church. These numerous chapels attest to the deep religious conviction of the Belgian-Americans. Usually located on public roads, chapels were easily found, placed to facilitate use in religious processions, and by travelers. Traditionally, the function of wayside chapels is tied to the road and typically they were moved to keep their use viable. Owners of chapels encouraged their use by visitors. Chapels were often built for such reasons as to remember a loved one or to honor a particular patron saint.⁶

Many Germans, Irish, Scandinavians, and Hollanders were also Roman Catholic and contributed to the development of the strong religious community in the Door Peninsula. Members of the Norbertine Order, for example, came from Holland in 1893 and became influential among Catholics in the area. The Norbertines advocated adherence to church rules by settlers who had fallen astray of their religion. They also established facilities for higher learning, including St. Norbert's College in De Pere.⁷ By 1898 Roman Catholics, the majority of whom were immigrants, numbered 125,000 in the Green Bay Diocese, which had jurisdiction over northeastern Wisconsin, and 121 churches had been established.⁸

History of Door County

The shores of Green Bay were inhabited by Menominee, Winnebago, and Fox Indian tribes when Jean Nicolet landed there in 1634. In the 1650s and 1660s, French traders began fur trading and missionary activities and soon established Wisconsin's first community of European settlers. In 1835 Increase Chafin, a trapper and trader, settled at Little Sturgeon in Door County. Besides trapping and trading, other early settlers to the area

⁴ Tishler and Brynildson, 60.

⁵ Wyatt, ed., "Religion," 3:3.4-3.7; Wyatt, ed., "Settlement," 1:4.5; and Sylvia Hall Holubetz, ed., *Farewell to the Homeland: European Immigration to N.E. Wisconsin 1840 to 1900* (Green Bay, Wisc.: Brown County Historical Society, 1984), 21.

⁶ Holubetz, ed., 25.

⁷ For information about the Norbertines and their influence, see *The Haven of My Salvation . . . Dedication of St. Norbert Abbey* (West De Pere, Wisc., 1959); and *With the Grace of God . . . 100th Anniversary* (Green Bay, Wisc.: Alt Publishing Co., 1993).

⁸ Wyatt, ed., "Religion," 3:3.4-3.7; and Wyatt, ed., "Settlement," 1:4.5.

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Continuation Sheet

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Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

fished the waters of Green Bay. The timber industry, namely the harvest of pine and cedar, began around 1850 with mills being built in Sturgeon Bay and other communities. The population of Door County reached 2,948 in 1860, rising to 4,919 by 1870.⁹

Beginning in the 1850s, a large number of Belgian immigrants settled in southern Door County, forming ethnic enclaves in Brussels and Union Townships. The town of Brussels was first settled in 1856 by Belgian Ferdinand Debraux and his family and three other Belgian immigrant men. Within 2 years, 55 families had settled in Brussels, and by 1861 the first business – a tavern – was opened by Francois Pierre. The first Brussels post office was established in 1862. In 1870, 216 of the 406 residents were Belgian natives.¹⁰ A new township was established from a portion of Brussels Township by the County Board in November of 1865. A town meeting was held shortly thereafter at the home of X. Braus, where the name “Union” was decided upon because its townspeople were thought to be unified in areas of public interest.¹¹

Early settlement of townships typically involved the development of villages at major road intersections or near mills and general stores, as these areas were better able to support commercial activities. Rosiere and Brussels in Brussels Township, and Namur in Union Township, are communities that developed in the early history of southern Door County. Typically, these communities included a commercial center with a general store, mill, and other services, and they were surrounded by houses.

In the 1890s the village of Rosiere had the largest population in Brussels Township with 300 residents and supported three general stores. The Charles Rubens General Store in Rosiere was also a hotel and cheese factory, and it commanded a prominent location in the village on the main thoroughfare. Rosiere also sustained three blacksmiths, a carpenter, a mason, a shoemaker, and a notary public. At the same time, the village of Namur in Union Township supported three general stores, including Frank Everard’s General Store. With a population of 100, Namur also boasted two physicians and a blacksmith. In contrast, by 1895 the smaller village of Brussels had only one business – the Pierre Virlee & Company General Store.¹²

By 1903 business in Rosiere and Namur had decreased. The population in Rosiere had dropped from 300 to 50. Rosiere possessed the Charles Rubens General Store, three blacksmiths, a carpenter, a shoemaker, a creamery, a

⁹ Holand, 1:83.

¹⁰ Tishler and Brynildson, 25.

¹¹ Chas I. Martin, *History of Door County, Wisconsin* (Sturgeon Bay, Wis.: Expositor Job Print, 1881), 90.

¹² *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* (Chicago, Ill.: R.L. Polk & Co., 1895-96). The Pierre Virlee & Company General Store is still extant and was determined to be eligible for the National Register in a report by Mead & Hunt, Inc., “State Trunk Highway 57 Reconstruction, Door County, Reconnaissance Survey of Potentially Significant Historic Properties,” April 1995, Madison, Wisc.

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Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 5

Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

cooper, a mason, a hay presser, and a sculptor; while just one general store continued to operate in Namur. At the same time, Brussels' population grew to 160 as the village gained many new businesses, including two saloons, two masons, a hotel, a tailor, a shoemaker, a carpenter, and a blacksmith. According to the *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory*, the Pierre Virlee & Company General Store added a flour mill on-site.¹³

Brussels continued to grow through 1912 to a population of 200, while the population of Rosiere and Namur remained static. Namur still supported one general store as did Rosiere, with only a few other surrounding businesses. Brussels, on the other hand, added three new stores, including the Gabe Pierre General Store and Agricultural Implements.¹⁴

By 1918 Brussels had doubled in population to 400, and besides having six general stores, added businesses such as the Rex Theater, a restaurant, newspaper, pharmacist, cement contractor, and two horse breeders. The Pierre Virlee & Company had disbanded, but Gabe Pierre and Jules Pierre, who may have been proprietors of this enterprise, operated separate businesses in Brussels.

Architecture

Building Materials

Belgian immigrants in the Door Peninsula built their first domestic structures, including homes and agricultural outbuildings, of log. Wood was the most logical construction material to these early settlers, in that it was both abundant and inexpensive. The most predominant wood source in the area was white cedar. In addition to being available, white cedar was soft, grew relatively straight, and was easy to work with.¹⁵ Construction techniques included the use of rough-hewn cedar and pine logs with square, half, or dovetail notching, and clay chinking.¹⁶ Although many immigrants to Wisconsin brought traditional timber construction with them from their homelands, log construction was not common in Belgium.¹⁷ As a result, initial log structures built by Belgian immigrants often lacked the refinement and craftsmanship found with those of other ethnic groups in Wisconsin, such as the Finns, Swedes, and Norwegians.¹⁸

¹³ *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* (Chicago, Ill.: R.L. Polk & Co., 1903-04).

¹⁴ *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* (Chicago, Ill.: R.L. Polk & Co., 1911-12).

¹⁵ Tishler and Brynildson, 68.

¹⁶ Noble, 2:139-141.

¹⁷ Wyatt, ed., "Architecture," 2:4.2.

¹⁸ Tishler and Brynildson, 68.

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Continuation Sheet

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Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

Once the Belgian settlers became established on the land, initial log dwellings were often converted to a farm structure, and a second house was constructed. This house usually exhibited a higher degree of craftsmanship than that of the first house. These second dwellings were sometimes covered with a wood or brick veneer and enlarged with frame additions over time.¹⁹

Other early wooden buildings and structures not entirely built of logs utilized timber and balloon-frame construction. Timber-frame construction, which involves a system of heavy posts and timbers held in place by wooden pegs, was brought to Wisconsin by European settlers and was used well into the nineteenth century. Balloon-frame construction originated in Chicago in the 1830s. It substituted lighter boards and nails for the massive timbers and pegs used in timber framing. Balloon framing became very popular in Wisconsin in the late nineteenth century because it was inexpensive and expedient. However, as with all wood construction, buildings with balloon frames were vulnerable to catching fire.²⁰

On October 8, 1871, the great Peshtigo fire took a number of lives and destroyed many of the buildings and structures made of log and wood in the Door Peninsula. In Brussels, for example, approximately 130 people were killed. The city of Green Bay was largely untouched by the fire and served as a relief center for other communities.²¹ Since historic and contemporary accounts of the Peshtigo fire are unclear as to the extent of the damage in the area, it is unknown if all buildings were destroyed. Yet, it is likely that some log and wood buildings did survive the fire and date before 1871.²²

¹⁹ Tishler and Brynildson, 69.

²⁰ Wyatt, ed., "Architecture," 2:4.4 - 4.5.

²¹ "Brown County History - 1700 to 1800," n.d., <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wibrown/1700s.htm>>(7 September 2001).

²² Joe Knappen, "A Terrible Visitation," *Door County Advocate*, 23 June 1995.

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Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 7

Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

Shortly after the Peshtigo fire, Belgians in the Door Peninsula began to expand their farms onto former timberland cleared by the fire and to rebuild their farmsteads with fireproof materials, such as stone, brick, and metal.²³ Brick and stone were common building materials in Belgium and were readily accepted by Belgian immigrants in the Door Peninsula. Typical Belgian houses are one-and-one-half to two-and-one-half-story structures with stone foundations, shingle or metal roofs, and brick exteriors. A bull's-eye window in the gable end facing the road appears on many examples of brick Belgian houses. The floor plan for these houses is often four-and-two, which consists of two large rooms on one end and four small rooms on the opposite end of the first floor. Similar four-and-two floor plans can also be found in some log, stone, and bricked-over log houses in the area of Belgian settlement.²⁴ Over time, these unique brick buildings have become icons of Belgian settlement in northeastern Wisconsin.

The entire region in which the Belgians settled lies within what is known as the "Red Clay District of Wisconsin." This proximity to soil types suitable for making bricks allowed for bricks to be easily and inexpensively manufactured.²⁵ Small, local brickyards were established in the 1880s and supplied the deep red bricks used for construction in the area. These locally produced red bricks were used for the main building, and light tan or cream-colored bricks from the Milwaukee area were sometimes used to accent window and door openings. The use of different colors in brick construction is a distinctive feature of this rural landscape.²⁶ According to the *Milwaukee Journal*, Joseph Vandermissen had the largest brick-making kiln in the area, employing several people, and George Peters operated a kiln south of Brussels.²⁷ A 1986 survey conducted by William H. Tishler and Erik Brynildson, *The Architectural and Landscape Characteristics of Rural Belgian Settlement in Northeastern Wisconsin*, documented 18 brickyards in the area, including those owned by Vandermissen and Peters.²⁸ Local brick production diminished by the early twentieth century when larger brick-making operations and newer technologies took over. By 1913 there were only seven brick manufacturers in the area around Green Bay.²⁹

²³ Noble, 2:139-140.

²⁴ Tishler and Brynildson, 68, 70-71, 75, 77.

²⁵ Tishler and Brynildson, 75.

²⁶ Noble, 2:140; Wyatt, ed., "Architecture," 2:4.11.

²⁷ "Red brick homes mark of Belgian Settlement," *Milwaukee Journal*, 9 May 1926
<<http://www.shsw.wisc.edu/wlhb/articleView.asp?pageno=1&id=12467>> (31 July 2002).

²⁸ Tishler and Brynildson, 41-49.

²⁹ Deborah B. Martin, 330.

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Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

Higher-quality bricks were used on the exterior of the building, while lesser-quality bricks were used for the interior walls, which were often plastered over. The mortar was made from local lime and sand from the shores of Lake Michigan.³⁰ Brick architecture was used not only for domestic structures, but also for educational, commercial, and some agricultural facilities. Brick agricultural outbuildings are rare in the region, though a few barns, sheds, granaries, and pigsties have been identified in the area. Tishler and Brynildson noted two examples of brick barns, a smokehouse and pumphouse of brick, and a number of brick granaries in their survey of Belgian architecture.³¹ Brick veneer over hewn cedar or pine logs can also be found in the Belgian architecture of the Door Peninsula. They also recorded that at least one barn in the area had a brick veneer; this example was reported in the *Door County Advocate* in 1884 but is apparently no longer extant.³² This construction technique is unusual, however, and likely represents a transition from log to all-brick construction.³³

In "The Architecture and Landscape Characteristics of Rural Belgian Settlement in Northeastern Wisconsin," Tishler and Brynildson documented 233 pioneer brick farmsteads in the area of Belgian settlement – constituting 62 percent of all houses inventoried, and 16 brick schools – constituting 70 percent of all schools inventoried.³⁴ In these buildings, Tishler and Brynildson found a transfer of architectural themes and building methods from the Old World. The greatest concentration of Belgian brick dwellings in northeastern Wisconsin is in the Namur Belgian-American National Historic Landmark District (NRHP, 1989) in Door County. The c. 1880 Falque House is an example of a brick dwelling displaying a transfer of Old World Belgian architectural themes. Brick outbuildings are rare in the region, and the contributing barn of the Falque Farmstead is constructed of wood.

Gabled-Ell Houses

According to *CRM in Wisconsin*, the gabled-ell house, also known as upright with wing or temple with wing, is one of the most common and widespread vernacular forms found in Wisconsin. Gabled-ell houses were generally built in Wisconsin from 1860 to 1910. *CRM* identifies those built by Belgian immigrants in Door,

³⁰ Lawrence LeRoy, interview by William H. Tishler and Erik Brynildson, in "The Architecture and Landscape Characteristics of Rural Belgian Settlement in Northeastern Wisconsin" (Madison, WI, July 1986), 76.

³¹ Laatsch and Calkins, 200; and Tishler and Brynildson, 87-89. According to Allen G. Noble, "The Belgians did not use brick for either barns or outbuildings," see Noble, 2:141. He was apparently not aware of the few examples that have been identified.

³² Laatsch and Calkins, 200; Noble, 2:140; and Tishler and Brynildson, 74. Tishler notes having located mention of such a barn in the newspaper.

³³ Tishler and Brynildson, 73.

³⁴ Tishler and Brynildson, 35, 69.

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Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

Kewaunee, and Brown Counties as a well-known variant of this form. Gabled-ell houses consist of two wings, creating a cruciform, "L" or "T" shape plan. Shed or hipped-roof porches are commonly found at the intersection of the wings. While these houses appear with a variety of combinations of stories, the most common occurrence is a one-story wing attached to a one-and-one-half-story main section.³⁵ Decorative brickwork and bull's-eye windows are characteristics of gabled-ell houses built by Belgian immigrants.

The c. 1880 Joachine J. Falque House has a gabled-ell form, and displays many of the distinctive stylistic elements of Belgian construction in northeastern Wisconsin. These elements include brick construction on a stone foundation, decorative brickwork, a bull's-eye window under the front gable, and a half-moon window under the gabled ell. Mead & Hunt's reconnaissance survey noted that many houses in the area have been altered or modernized, leaving very few pristine examples.³⁶ Alterations range from simple window replacements and porch additions, to completely modified window openings and large modern sections being added. Alterations to the Falque House include a small addition on a minor facade and a standing-seam metal roof, neither of which hinder its original form and appearance. Two-thirds of the windows on the house are original arched, two-over-two, double-hung windows and all windows are in original unaltered openings.

³⁵ Wyatt, ed., "Architecture," 2:3-5.

³⁶ The corridor studied by Mead & Hunt focused on properties near STH 57, from STH 54 on the southwest end to STH 42 on the northeast. The corridor spanned the STH 57 centerline by 1 mile to the north and 2.5 miles to the south, and included much of the Belgian-American settlement region of northeastern Wisconsin.

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Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

*History of the Property*³⁷

Joachine J. Falque is recorded as having claimed 120 acres in the S ½ of the SE ¼, and the SE ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 18, Township 26 North, Range 24 East, Brussels Township, Door County on 10 September 1875. The house was constructed c. 1880 while Falque had ownership of the property. The 1899 atlas of Door County indicates J.J. Falque as the owner of 148 acres in the SW ¼ and SE ¼ of Section 18, where the present buildings are located. Atlases of Door County from 1914 and 1930, as well as tax records document J.J. Falque as the owner of these same parcels from 1900 through 1930. Joachine J. Falque, a farmer by trade, and his wife were both born in Belgium. The Falque's two sons were also born in Belgium and were farmers. Ronald Vlies currently owns the property.

Conclusion

The Joachine J. Falque House is significant under *Criterion C: Architecture*, as a fine example of a late-nineteenth-century Belgian house, with a contributing threshing barn. The c. 1880 house is in good condition and displays many of the traditional elements of Belgian construction. The Falque House is also significant under *Criterion A: Ethnic Heritage*, for its strong association with Belgian settlement and the perpetuation of these immigrants' native building practices.

The Falque House reflects the continuation of a Belgian cultural preference for masonry construction. Many European immigrants who settled in Wisconsin came from areas with scarce timber resources and were culturally disposed to construct masonry buildings. Typically, the first generation settlers were strongly influenced to build masonry dwellings, whereas their children followed the prevailing upper Midwestern preference for frame construction due to the low cost and easy availability of lumber. The Belgians were

³⁷ Information regarding the property, assessment, and familial history was compiled from Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin, *Assessment and Tax Rolls, 1900-1949*, Door County Courthouse, Sturgeon Bay, Wisc., and Special Collections, Cofrin Library, the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Green Bay, Wisc.; *Illustrated Atlas of Door County, Wisconsin* (Oshkosh, Wisc.: Randall & Williams, 1899); *Atlas of Door County, Wisconsin* (Sturgeon Bay, Wisc.: Otto Nelson, 1914); *Plat Book of Door County, Wisconsin* (Rockford, Ill.: W.W. Hixson & Co., c. 1930); *Wisconsin State Census, 1905* (Madison, Wisc.: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Archives Division, 1952); and Hjalmar Rued Holand, *Wisconsin's Belgian Community*, (Sturgeon Bay, Wisc.: Door County Historical Society, 1933).

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atypical of this pattern of cultural adaptation. Their perpetuation of masonry traditions may be a result of the devastating consequences of the Pestigo Fire. Shortly after the fire, many surviving log buildings were clad in brick for fire resistance, and the continued local masonry building tradition may be the result of a circumstance where a terrifying natural disaster reinforced a cultural behavior that might otherwise have been lost as later generations became increasingly Americanized.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The historic boundary is described as follows: Beginning at a point on the west edge of CTH C approximately 80 feet from the southwest corner of the house proceed west for 290 feet, turn north for 280 feet, turn east for 290 feet, and turn south for 280 feet to the beginning point. The east boundary is concurrent with the western edge of CTH C. The map is to scale.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the extant buildings that were historically associated with the Joachine J. Falque House and excludes acreage not related to the significance of the property.

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Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

The following information pertains to all photographs:

*Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin
Date: November 2002
Photographer: Matt Becker, Mead & Hunt, Inc.
Negatives located at the Wisconsin Historical Society*

*Photograph 1 of 9
General view of farmstead
View looking northwest*

*Photograph 2 of 9
General view of farmstead
View looking southwest*

*Photograph 3 of 9
House, north and east facades
View looking southwest*

*Photograph 4 of 9
House, south and east facades
View looking northwest*

*Photograph 5 of 9
House, south and west facades
View looking northeast*

*Photograph 6 of 9
House, north and west facades
View looking southeast*

*Photograph 7 of 9
House, detail of bull's-eye window
View looking west*

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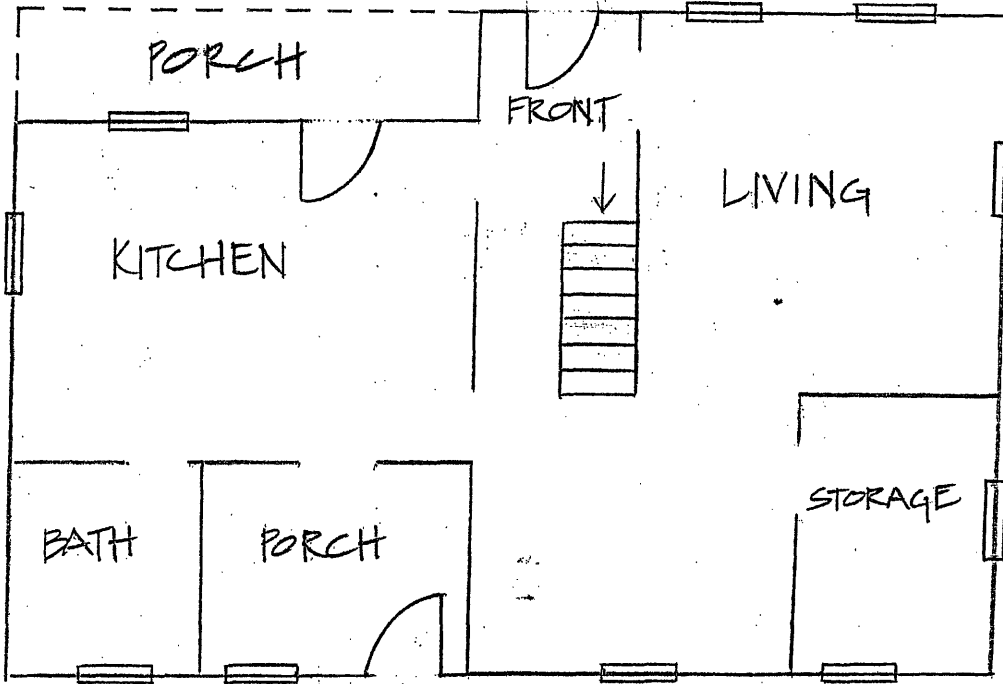
Falque, Joachine J., House
Town of Brussels, Door County, Wisconsin

Photograph 8 of 9
House, detail of window and lintel
View looking west

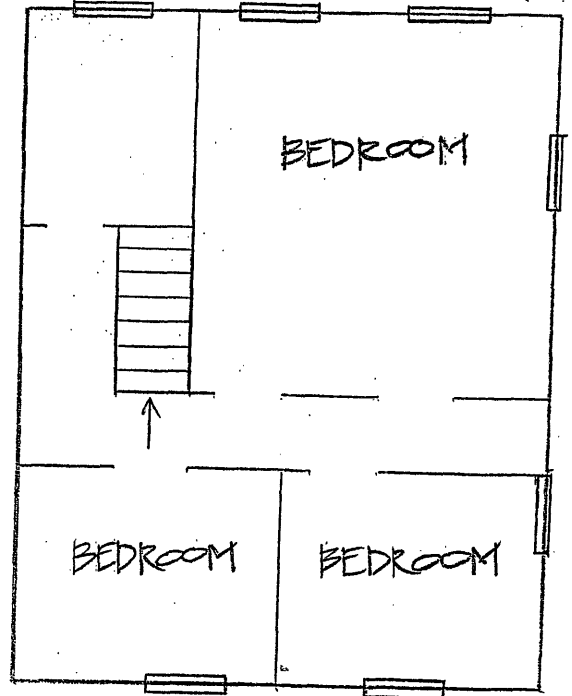
Photograph 9 of 9
Threshing barn, east facade
View looking west

FALQUE FARMSTEAD

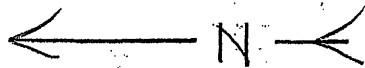
FIRST LEVEL FLOOR PLAN



SECOND LEVEL FLOOR PLAN



NOT TO SCALE

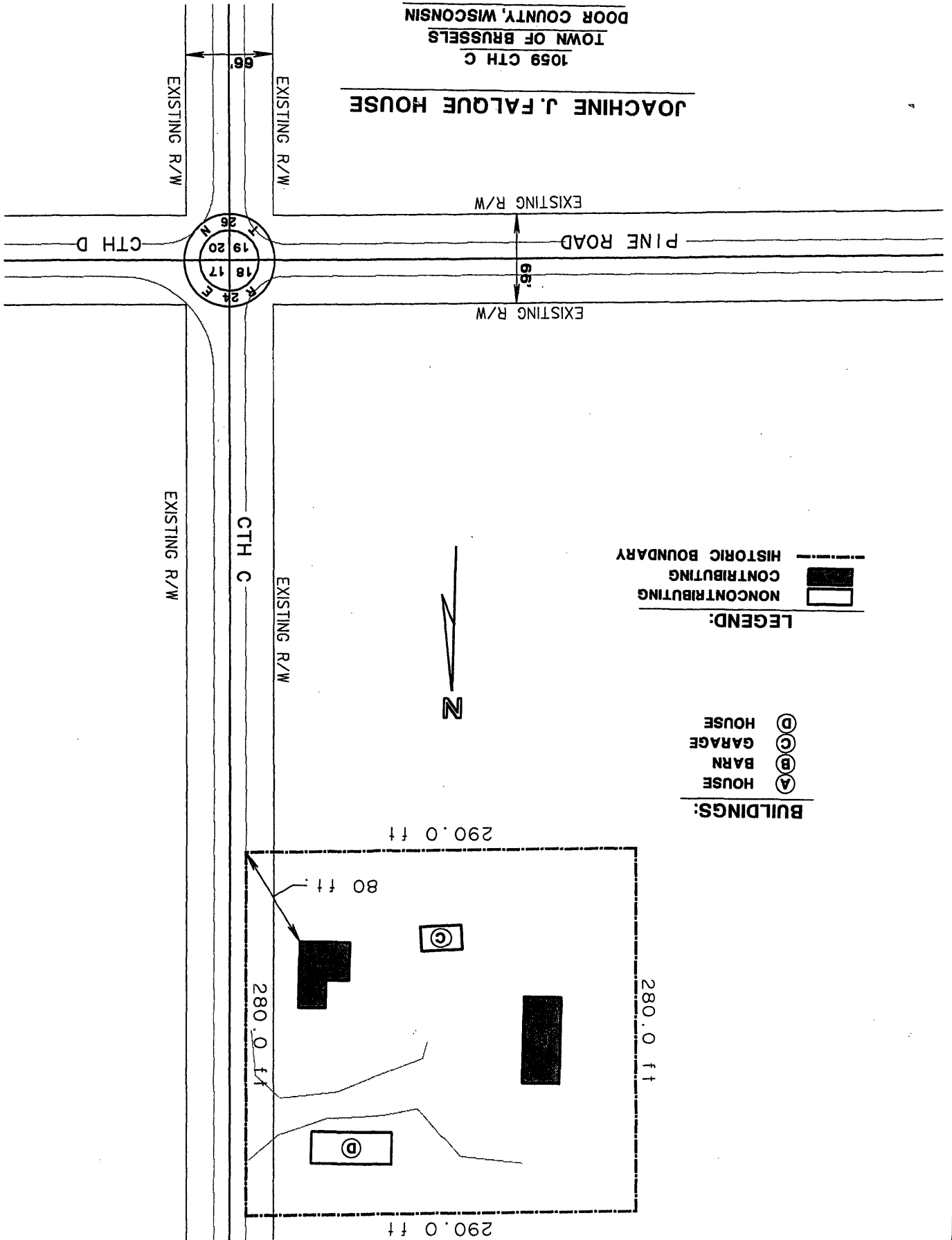
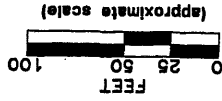


FLOOR PLAN

1059 COUNTY TRUNK HIGHWAY C
TOWN OF BRUSSELS
DOOR COUNTY, WISCONSIN

1059 CTH C
 TOWN OF BRUSSELS
 DOOR COUNTY, WISCONSIN

JOACHINE J. FALQUE HOUSE



- BUILDINGS:**
- (A) HOUSE
 - (B) BARN
 - (C) GARAGE
 - (D) HOUSE

- LEGEND:**
- CONTRIBUTING
 - NONCONTRIBUTING
 - HISTORIC BOUNDARY

