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United States Department of Interior
National Park Service

Nat. Register of Historic Places
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

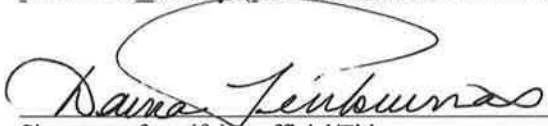
historic name Woodland Hotel
other names/site number

2. Location

street & number	207 North Central Avenue	N/A	not for publication
city or town	Owen	N/A	vicinity
state Wisconsin	code WI	county Clark	code 019
			zip code 54460

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

3/16/2016
Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer - Wisconsin
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Woodland Hotel
Name of Property

Clark
County and State

Wisconsin

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):

by Barbara Wyatt
Signature of the Keeper

5-10-11
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	contributing	noncontributing
public-local	district	1	2 Buildings
public-State	structure		sites
public-Federal	site		structures
	object		objects
		1	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
previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/hotel
COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
Work in Progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements

foundation stone
walls brick

roof asphalt

other

Narrative Description

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

Woodland Hotel
Name of Property

Clark
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)

Commerce (A)

Architecture (C)

Period of Significance

1906 – 1965 (A)

1906 (C)

Significant Dates

1906

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Claude & Starck

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Woodland Hotel
Name of Property

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Wisconsin

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 - less than one acre

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

1 15 692113 4980146
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
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	Patricia Lacey	date	3-25-2015
organization		telephone	715-743-4799
street & number	W5055 US HWY 10	zip code	54456
city or town	Neillsville	state	WI

Woodland Hotel
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Clark
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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	Woodland Hotel LLC	date	3-25-2015
organization	Tim Swiggum	telephone	715-613-1422
street & number	739 E. 7 th Street	zip code	54460
city or town	Owen	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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Section 7 Page 1Woodland Hotel
Owen, Clark County, WI

Start description on line below

Introduction

The Woodland Hotel is located at 207 North Central Avenue in the northeast Clark County community of Owen, Wisconsin. Lumberman John S. Owen commissioned the architectural firm of Claude & Starck to design a “modern first class hotel to be built upon four of the choicest lots in the new town site.”¹ The hotel is situated on a prominent corner in Owen’s commercial district, among late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial buildings. The building’s construction began in early 1906 and was completed in late December of 1906.

The Woodland Hotel is an excellent example of an early 20th century hotel. It’s exterior is a blend of commercial vernacular form and exhibiting characteristics reflective of the Classical Revival style of architecture. *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin: Volume 2* describes the characteristics found in commercial vernacular architecture of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century; commercial vernacular buildings exhibit large retail windows, an emphatic cornice and simple window openings on the second story. Simplified period motifs are implied without any overt stylistic character.²

The Woodland Hotel is a free-standing building which is L-shaped and abuts the sidewalk on both the west (Central Avenue) and south (Fourth Street) facades. This placement accommodates two principal facades: the west-facing main block with the primary entrance (having a north/south orientation) and the south-facing wing with the secondary entrance (having an east/west orientation). For clarity, these two parts will be referred throughout as the west block and the south wing.

The first floor of the west block is composed of the large lobby and central stair, dining room (now a restaurant), kitchen and support spaces, including what were originally three bedrooms for employees located at the north end. The central stair is U-shaped with a landing midway between the two flights of steps between the first and second floors. Behind the steps on the first floor is a separate flight of stairs to the lower level. The south wing of the hotel has a double-loaded bedchamber corridor on the first floor. Since the bedchamber wing is located beyond the public and retail areas of the restaurant and lobby, privacy is assured. The second story of the Woodland Hotel contains two double-loaded bedchamber corridors (one in the west block and one in the south wing). Due to the assignment of both second floor corridors as sleeping areas, there is considerable more privacy than on the main floor.

¹ *The O – W Enterprise*, Withee, Wisconsin, April 23, 1992, Reprint of an article from the Milwaukee Sentinel, “Owen Wisconsin Has a Promising Future”, from October 29, 1905

² Barbara Wyatt, ed. *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin: Volume 2, A Manual for Historic Properties*, (Wisconsin Historical Society, June 1986) page 3-10

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Woodland Hotel
Owen, Clark County, WI

The Woodland Hotel was designed with additional public spaces located below the first floor. These areas could be accessed from the interior by the central stair, or from the exterior by a stair at the south portico. The stair is oriented parallel to the exterior wall and descends below the portico. At this lower level, the bar, barber shop, public bath, billiard room, and meeting rooms were located. It is important to note that the Claude & Starck blueprints show the south wing having four fewer rooms/chambers at the east end on both the first and second floors than were actually built.³

Exterior

The prominent corner location of the Woodland Hotel provides the building with two principal facades; the main entry facade which faces west toward Central Avenue and a side entry façade which faces south toward Fourth Street. Both the west-facing main entrance façade and the south-facing secondary entrance facade emphasize a strong horizontal delineation to the street. Each is treated in a formal manner utilizing the very best in construction materials. The east façade of the west block and the north façade of the south wing cannot be seen from either Central Avenue or Fourth Street and are treated in a utilitarian manner.

The foundation of the Woodland Hotel projects 4'-4" above grade. The walls of the raised foundation on both the south and west sides are constructed of sculpted Colfax sandstone blocks. Several windows interrupt the walls of the projecting base. Larger sculpted Colfax sandstone blocks (12" X 32") rest or cap the blocks of the projecting base. They appear as a beltcourse terminating the foundation of the lower level. A larger cap block of the south-facing elevation, which is located at the southwest corner of the south-facing secondary entry east/west wing, has the date of 1906 carved into the sandstone. Commercially produced red bricks which are laid in running bond pattern begin at the top of the sandstone beltcourse (bottom of the first floor) and extend upward ending at the base of the frieze.

The east-facing and north-facing (rear) walls of the west block and south wing have a rubble foundation which projects 4'4" above grade. A soft brick, of lesser quality than of the two main facades, begins at the top of the rubble foundation and extends upward to the underside of the roof. Exposed roof rafters extend to the outer edge of the eaves which are not boxed.

A brick chimney for the hotel's heating system pierces the hotel roof at the junction (inside corner) of the west block and south wing. The kitchen cook stove chimney rises on the north-facing wall of the west block.

³ Claude & Starck blueprints, "Hotel: for the Owen Lumber Co. Owen Wis"

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Woodland Hotel
Owen, Clark County, WI

West Façade

The west-facing façade of the west block is 83' in length. The wall composition is asymmetrical and there is a partial-width, one-story, rectangular portico at the south end. The portico (10' x 51') spans across approximately two-thirds of the first floor. The floor of the portico is supported by three centered piers which are 20 ½" wide and are spaced 4'-4" from the west edge of the portico. In addition, a 20 ½" x 20 ½" pier supports both the southwest corner and northwest corner of the portico. Five Tuscan columns and two engaged Tuscan columns support the undecorated entablature of the porch ceiling. A wide cornice molding projects outward from the top of the entablature. At the time of construction, a balustrade of newels and narrow closely placed balusters surrounded the floor of the upper porch (since removed). The upper porch was purely decorative and no access was ever provided.

The portico is accessed by stairs located at the south edge of the porch. Originally the stairs would have provided access to the porch on the west edge; however, when the street was widened and sidewalks installed, the location of the stairs was changed to the south and north ends. A two inch in diameter, original metal pipe railing extends around the perimeter of the portico at a height of twenty-seven inches from the floor. The portico's original wood entry door is centered upon the rear wall. A large six-light window spans the rear wall from the entry door to the southwest corner of the building. The window begins at a height of 16" from the porch floor and rises upward to within 18" of the ceiling. A large, six-light window spans the rear wall from the entry door to the north corner of the portico. The window begins at a height of 16" from the porch floor and rises upward to within 18" of the ceiling. The double-hung windows that appear at each side of the two larger centered panes are original. The glass of the large center windows has been replaced. Neither the original window openings, nor the surrounds that appear on either the interior or exterior of the window units have been compromised. A (non-original) glass vestibule, which is slightly larger than the width of the main entry door unit, is centered on the entry door. It extends from the east wall of the portico to the west edge of the portico. The vestibule has a door located on the south-facing wall.

The remaining one-third of the west wall (on the first floor) contains three, evenly spaced, double-hung windows. The top of each wood window frame is arched. Each window opening is segmentally arched and the slightly projecting bricks mimic the appearance of stones and a center keystone. The bricks of the segmental arch are placed in a vertical position, and the center bricks which form the "keystone" are taller than those on either side. Each window has a 6" high limestone sill.

The second floor fenestration of the west wall is comprised of eight, evenly spaced double-hung windows. Each arched wood window unit has the same segmentally arched brick window surround as described above, and a 6" high limestone sill.

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Three rows of brick are above the top of the center window keystone. Above the three rows of brick is a raised stringcourse of bricks which becomes the base support for a deep area of overlapping brick corbels. The frieze and projecting cornice rests upon the top of the brick corbels and against the brick parapet that rises behind. The brick parapet continues upward to a height of two feet above the cornice.

The frieze is covered with pressed metal that has a repeating raised pattern of garland swags connected with crimped ribbon bows and a tassel. The tassel knot is embossed with a flower motif. Above the frieze is a projecting cornice. Clay tile tops the parapet. The parapet conceals the slightly sloping roof. The frieze and cornice are painted white and serve as an elaborate terminus to the building.

South Façade

The south-facing façade of the south wing is 98' in length. This façade is asymmetrical with a one-story (5'-7" x 14'-10") rectangular portico located just to the west of the center of the building. The floor of the portico is supported by six 21" x 21" brick piers. Two Tuscan columns and two engaged Tuscan columns support an undecorated entablature. A wide cornice molding projects outward from the top of the entablature. The west portion of the portico is accessed by concrete steps. Directly west and adjacent to this secondary portico is a flat-roofed, enclosed entry (5'-7" x 7'-3") which houses an original stairway which leads to the lower level.

To the west of the portico on the first floor, there is a double-hung window. Directly west of the double-hung window is a large two-light window. Five evenly spaced double-hung windows appear to the east of the portico on the first floor. A brick segmental arch, identical to those on the west wall, is located above each arched wood window. Each window has a 6" high limestone sill.

The second floor fenestration is composed of nine, evenly spaced, double-hung windows. A brick segmental arch, identical to those on the west wall, is located above each arched wood window. Each window has a 6" high limestone sill.

Three rows of brick are above the top of the center window keystone. Above the three rows of brick is a raised stringcourse of brick which becomes the base support for a deep area of overlapping brick corbels. The frieze and projecting cornice rests upon the top of the brick corbels and against the brick parapet that rises behind. The brick parapet extends to the height of two feet above the cornice.

The frieze is covered with pressed metal that has a repeating pattern of swag garlands connected with crimped ribbon bows and a tassel. Each tassel knot is embossed with a flower motif. Above the frieze is a projecting cornice. Clay tile coping tops the parapet wall. The parapet conceals the slightly

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sloping roof. The frieze and cornice are painted white and serve as an elaborate terminus to the building.

Alternating brick quoins of two sizes accentuate the southeast, southwest and northwest corners of the building. The larger quoin is four bricks high having a width of three full bricks. The smaller quoin is four bricks high having a width of two and one-half bricks. A flat row of bricks appears between each of the quoins.

East Wall of the South Wing

The rear walls of the hotel are treated in a utilitarian manner and are absent of any of the two main facades' expensive materials or decorative details. The raised foundation on this side is of rubble construction. The common soft brick wall begins at the top of the rubble foundation and is laid in a running bond pattern.

The east wall is 36' in width. An enclosed porch is centered on the lower portion of the wall and is painted white. The porch has a low pitched flat roof and is clad in clapboard siding which encloses the porch to the ground. A door facing north is accessed by wood stairs that have a simple board railing. Two windows are on the south wall of the porch and three windows are on the east wall of the porch.

A single wood door is centered on the second floor wall. The door opening and frame have a segmental arch, accented with arched brick. A metal fire escape provides egress to the north from the second floor door.

North Wall of the South Wing

The north wall of the south wing has five double-hung windows evenly spaced on both the first floor and the second floors. The wood window units have a simple, segmental arched opening of three rows of rowlock bricks. Each window has a 6" high limestone sill.

East Wall of the West Block

The north two-thirds of the east-facing first floor has a one-story 16'-4" x 26'-5" kitchen addition which has a low-pitched front-gable roof. The kitchen addition was added after 1965. Increasing state health regulations called for commercial dishwashers and other updated equipment and the original area of the kitchen could not support the additional equipment. The kitchen addition has a door located in the northeast corner. Small side-by-side sliding windows are located on each wall of the addition.

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Directly south of the kitchen addition is an enclosed stairway which leads to the basement. The stairway is original to the building. To the south of the enclosed entry stairway and between the north wall of the south wing, the basement projects outward from the main structure. The east exposed wall of the basement is even with the wall of the enclosed stairway.

The first floor fenestration is composed of three, evenly spaced, double-hung windows. The second floor fenestration is also composed of three, evenly spaced, double-hung windows. A double-hung window which is slightly smaller than the first three is located directly south of the three larger windows. Two double-hung windows, smaller than the fourth window, appear south of the fourth window. All of the windows are treated with the same brick segmental arches and limestone sills as previously described.

North Wall of the West Block

The north wall of the west block is 40' in width. A one-story entrance has been installed on the lower portion of the wall. The entrance is set back four feet from the edge of the west-facing primary façade. The set back somewhat conceals the entrance. The entrance has an interior stairway which rises to the first floor.

The one-story entrance is clad with red brick and has a glass door facing west and a small window facing east. A double-hung window is centered above the one-story entry on the second floor. East of this entrance is a large chimney. A single double-hung window is located to the east and to the west of the chimney on the first floor. All of the windows are treated with the same brick segmental arches and limestone sills as the rest of the building.

Interior

First Floor

The interior of the Woodland Hotel is handsomely appointed. The extensive use of black cherry woodwork throughout the lobby, dining room, main staircase, first and second floor rooms and corridors supports John S. Owen's lumberman's legacy. Not indigenous to central Wisconsin, the virtually knot-free black cherry lumber in the interior of the Woodland Hotel was likely imported from central Illinois.⁴

When entering the building through the original main entrance, one arrives in the 28'-5" x 37'-11" lobby. Directly east of the main entrance is the main staircase which accesses the second floor. To the

⁴ Dan Clough Neillsville, Wisconsin, former Wisconsin DNR Forester, interview February of 2015

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left, or north, of the main entry are two swinging doors which enter the formal 22'4" X 37'11" dining room.

The lobby has an L-shaped registration desk constructed of black cherry. The registration desk begins at the south edge of the main staircase, first extending to the south and then turning to the east. The registration desk has a 7" baseboard which is topped with inset panels that have a stylized grooved pilaster separating each panel. The top of the registration desk has a slight overhang. The south facing portion of the registration desk has a built-in glass cigar case. Behind the registration desk is a closet. Hanging on the west-facing wall of the closet is the hotel's call box. Beneath the call box are a series of mail slots.

The original secondary entry door of the south wing enters the southeast corner of the lobby. The double-loaded corridor of the south wing is located behind the registration desk area. The hotel room doors are composed of five stacked panels. Above each door is a single light transom. The doors and transoms have a simple flat surround. The top of the transom has a cornice that extends slightly beyond the door unit. Each door has its original brass door knob. The windows located in each room have the same surrounds as the doors.

The ceiling of the lobby has a deeply pressed, gilded metal ceiling with a wide embossed cornice. The large windows that are located on the main portico and the southwest edge of the south-facing façade allow a considerable amount of natural light into the lobby area. All of the doors and windows located in the lobby and parlor have simple flat surrounds. The top of each window and door has a cornice that extends slightly past each unit.

Black cherry wainscoting lines all of the walls of the lobby area and main staircase. The wainscoting is composed of a 7" baseboard, topped with wide upright boards separated by narrow batten strips. The wainscoting terminates with an overhanging cornice. The total height of the baseboard and wainscoting is six feet.

The dining room is entered through two five-panel swinging doors that have their original push plates. The dining room ceiling has two wood beams which extend from east to west dividing the ceiling into three sections. All of the walls of the dining room have the same six-foot high, black cherry wainscoting as the lobby and main staircase.

The kitchen is entered on the north wall of the dining room through the two original swinging kitchen doors. Each door has six lights and its original push plate and door knobs. An original step-back cupboard is located on the wall to the east of the kitchen doors. The kitchen itself has been modernized.

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The three worker quarters that are shown on the first floor plans have had their interior walls removed and are open to the dining room. This area is located in the northwest section of the building adjacent to the kitchen and dining room. Built-in restaurant style booths are located along the walls in this area.

The ceiling on the first floor elevation is 12'-3" in height. With the exception of the kitchen, maple hardwood floors are found throughout the first floor.

Second Floor

The second floor is accessed by the main staircase which is located in the center of the building. A secondary, or service, stairway is located at the north end of the west block.

The main staircase rises to the east reaching a landing. It then turns to the west and continues to the second floor. The staircase and landing have the same six-foot high black cherry wainscoting found in the lobby and dining room. The staircase balustrade is comprised of rectangular newel posts which are topped with a four-sided domed newel cap. Narrow rectangular balusters support a shaped handrail. On the second floor the balustrade surrounds the staircase opening. A fire hose and water source are located within the staircase.

A double-loaded hotel corridor is located to the east and to the north of the staircase. The hotel room doors are five-panel doors. Above each door is a single light transom. The doors and transoms have a simple flat surround. The top of the transoms have a cornice that extends slightly beyond each door unit. Each door has its original brass door knob. The windows located in each room have the same surround as the entry doors. A 7" baseboard is found throughout the second floor.

The west block has two built in storage units. The first is a four-door unit which is located directly north of the main staircase. Each door has five-panels. The center two doors access linen storage. The north and south doors enter original bathrooms. The second built in storage unit is located at the north end of the north/south wing. Directly across from the egress to the main staircase is a twenty-four light door which enters the former women's parlor.

The ceilings on the second floor are 9'-3" in height. Maple hardwood floors are found throughout the second floor.

Lower Level

The lower level is accessed by a stairwell located under the main staircase. An original balustrade, identical to the main staircase, lines the south edge of the staircase. The lower level is also accessed by a stairway that descends to the lower level beneath the secondary entry of the south-facing façade.

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A secondary, or service, stairway is located at the north end of the west block also provides access to the lower level.

A bar room is located in the buffet room shown on the architectural plans. This area is just to the west of the south-facing entry. The original bar and back bar have been replaced with a Formica unit. A corridor extends to the east of the central staircase. Although the original footprint of rooms and hallways remain, the lower level has lost most of its historic features. Most of the walls of the lower level have been clad with new, horizontal pine planking.

Alterations

Exterior

The Woodland Hotel has experienced minimal alterations which do not affect the architectural and historic integrity of the building. Very limited changes have been made to the west-facing and south-facing facades. The stairs of the main portico have been moved to the north and south edges of the porch floor instead of the original west location. The wood lattice grates located between the piers of the porch are not original. Photos indicate excessive weed growth took place under the porch before the placement of the grates. Currently, there is a small glass vestibule located in front of the entry door.

The two large center windows located on the rear wall of the main entry portico and the large window located at the west end of the first floor of the south wing have been replaced with new glass; however, the replacement windows utilize the original openings. These are the windows which provide light to the lobby area. The balustrade that appeared above the projecting cornice of the main entry portico has been removed.

The stairway located under the south portico has been enclosed. The spaces that were originally open under this portico have been enclosed with glass block.

At the time of construction, the east façade of the south wing had no point of egress on either level of the building. As fire codes became more restrictive the first floor window and the second floor window were replaced with an exit door. A fire escape was installed to provide egress from the second floor. The first floor exit door is accessed with a stairway to an enclosed flat-roofed entry porch. The same was true for the north-facing façade of the west block. An enclosed entryway was installed to provide an additional point of egress at the north end of the west block.

The original kitchen porch and refrigerator have been removed. It was replaced with a 16'-4" x 26'-5" kitchen expansion that was constructed in 1965. Directly to the south of the kitchen expansion is an

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original stairway to the lower level that has been enclosed. The enclosed stairway and kitchen expansion are clad with brick.

The original windows on the north-facing first floor of the south wing have been replaced with smaller windows. The smaller windows are surrounded by wood in order to fit into the original openings.

Interior

The interior of the Woodland Hotel provides a glimpse of the style and design of an early 1900s commercial hotel. The lobby, registration desk, dining room and main staircase remain virtually unchanged. The first and second floors retain their original double-loaded corridors.

When Jack Nikolay purchase the building in 1974 it was in danger of being abandoned and falling into disrepair. The demand for a 10' x 14' room without an attached bathroom was limited. Nikolay made the decision to combine two or three rooms on the same side of a double-loaded corridor and create apartments with kitchenettes and bathrooms. To create more privacy and eliminate the noise from the corridor only one door was retained to each apartment. The remaining doors and transoms have their original surrounds on both the exterior (corridor) and interior. The original windows remain in each room and all have their original surrounds.

The kitchen has been changed over time, including the kitchen expansion on the east facing wall of the north/south wing. These changes were made in order to meet Wisconsin health code requirements for a restaurant.

The lower level does not retain much of its original character except for the original balustrade and south entry.

The new owners intend to remove the wrought iron work and short brick walls that are located in the lobby (visible on photographs). The walls and iron work do not compromise the integrity of the lobby and was installed as a nighttime security measure for the lobby as this area was used as a bar room. In addition, the new owners intend to replace the missing exterior balustrade above the main portico.

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Integrity

Other than the kitchen expansion that replaced an original porch and the refrigerator on the rear elevation of the north/south wing, the modifications that have been made to the building are very minor and in no way impact the significance of the building.

The exterior retains a very high level of integrity which is demonstrated by the historic photos that have been included with this nomination. The quality of the materials that were used on both the building's exterior and interior, certainly added years to the building's longevity.

Other than the removal of some of the double-loaded corridor doors, the interiors of the first and second floors captures most if not all of its historic originality and integrity.

Noncontributing Resources

Located at the rear of the building are two one-story buildings. One is a two-car gabled roof garage and the other is a smaller gabled roof shed. Both the garage and the shed are of later construction and are outside the period of significance. Both buildings are used for storage.

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Woodland Hotel
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__Insert Statement of Significance

Introduction

The Woodland Hotel is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places having local significance under Criterion A for the hotel's contribution to the history of commerce in the City of Owen and Criterion C for the architectural significance as an example of a hotel property type. The Woodland Hotel exhibits characteristics reflective of the Classical Revival style of architecture. The Tuscan columns that are at the main entry portico and the secondary entry portico give the building a sense of dignity. They assured the traveler that the interior of the hotel would provide fine accommodations. Many of its interior spaces were designed for a specific purpose such as: restaurant, socialization space (lobby), billiard room, bar, barber shop, public bath, and sleeping rooms.

The thousands of visitors who came and stayed at the Woodland Hotel also patronized the businesses of other merchants located in Owen, furthering the commercial prosperity of the city. The Woodland Hotel provided the community with a sense of pride that is still realized today. The survival of this building is of the utmost importance to the residents of Owen as it remains a glimpse of their illustrious logging heritage and its founder John S. Owen.

Summary of Significance

The Woodland Hotel, as well as many other late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century hotels transformed travel into a pleasant adventure and their presence accelerated the westward migration of America.

When the Woodland Hotel was completed the local residents referred to the hotel as a "showcase".⁵ Architects Claude & Starck's design, coupled with the use of quality building materials, created a hotel which was far above what one would expect to find in a small logging town. The Woodland Hotel provided an arena for conducting commercial activities, but more importantly it was a building of substance which anchored all businesses within Owen's commercial district.

The Woodland Hotel bustled with activity. It provided meals, liquid refreshments, barber and bath facilities, billiard room, sleeping accommodations, and a lobby that provided a space for conversation and relaxation. Much of the hotel's success came from its listing on Yellowstone Trail maps and in hotel directories. Train travel pushed America westward, but the automobile made the United States

⁵ *The O - W Enterprise Vol. 10 - No. 46*, Withee, Wisconsin, November 15, 2006, "Woodland Hotel - 100 Years in Owen's Downtown", pages 1,12

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the most mobile society in the world. It allowed independent travel and advanced the growth of Middle America.

Period of Significance

The period of significance for Criterion A is 1906 through 1965. This period of time begins with the year of construction and ends with the year 1965, following the National Park Service's 50 year rule. The hotel and restaurant were open and operated successfully until 1974.

The period of significance for Criterion C is 1906, the date of construction.

Lumberman John Sabine Owen

John Sabine Owen was born May 1, 1849 in Clarkston, Oakland County, Michigan, the second child of John G. and Maria Owen. John G. Owen came to America in 1842 with his older brother Woodland and sister Hester. They traveled from Woodchurch, Kent County, England to begin a new life in Pittsfield, New York. Not long after arriving in America, John G. Owen and his sister separated from their older brother and, on their own, traveled from New York to Macomb County, Michigan. After only a short period of time, Hester married. Four years later, John G. married Maria Ann Sabine on April 18, 1846. The married couple settled in Clarkston, Michigan where John G. purchased a general store. Here, eight of their ten children were born. In 1860 John G. Owen moved the family to Waterford, Michigan where he purchased a farm, flour mill, and general store.

John G. Owen expanded his business ventures purchasing a large warehouse in East Saginaw, Michigan. He began selling groceries and supplies to the loggers in the Saginaw Valley. Owen's wholesale business grew to be one of the most profitable businesses in Saginaw grossing over \$500,000 a year. John G. Owen then ventured into the lumbering business building a large saw mill, lath mill, shingle mill, and planing mill in Saginaw, Michigan.

John G. and Maria's son, John S. Owen was educated in the Clarkston District School, the Clarkston Academy and Pontiac High School. While attending college at the Adrian Academy at Adrian, Michigan he stayed with his uncle Dr. Woodland Owen who was a trustee at the college.⁶ After graduating from Adrian, John S. Owen attended Eastman Business College in Poughkeepsie, New York for one year.⁷ By this time John S. Owen had had enough of school and was anxious to go into business for himself. That eagerness would have to wait for a few more years.

⁶ *The John S. Owen Enterprises*, by Duane Dale Fischer, (A thesis for a Ph. D in History, The University of Wisconsin, 1964), pages 1- 590

⁷ *Who Was Who in America, Vol. 1 1897 - 1942*, Marquis, (Marquis Publications, Chicago, 1968) page 925

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In 1868 John S. spent the summer in the Michigan woods learning the art of timber cruising. The next year he worked in his father's wholesale business. Over the next three years John S. managed the branches of this father's wholesale businesses that were located in Flint, Michigan (1870), Midland, Michigan (1871), and Averill, Michigan (1872). John S. cultivated valuable business experience from his involvement in his father's operations. Years later, he would draw on this experience in managing his own enterprises.

John S. Owen fell in love with Aloney Rust's daughter Cora Mathilda (b. 1852, d. 8-16-1895). They married in 1872. Together they had four sons and one daughter: Aloney Rust (b. 2-9-1873, d. 3-16-1951), John Greenleaf (b. 7-26-1875, d. 1935), Kate Woodland (b. 1881, d. 1-22-1890),⁸ Ralph Woodland (b. 5-26-1884, d. 1972), and Frank Gilchrist (b. 8-6-1887, d. 6-26-1922). Owen's father-in-law, Aloney Rust and his five sons were prominent lumbermen in both Michigan and Wisconsin. Hearing of the vast virgin pine forests in Wisconsin, the Rusts purchased 13,000 acres of land in Wisconsin in 1869. By 1872, the Rust's Wisconsin timber holdings had grown to 37,000 acres.

The magnet for lumber investments was the Wisconsin virgin white pine. It was particularly buoyant so it easily floated upon very little water. The white pine was easy to saw and when made into lumber, nails were easily driven into or extracted from it. Even though pine is a relatively soft wood, it has properties of strength and durability.⁹ Estimates made on the amount of lumber situated along these Wisconsin tributaries to the Mississippi were: Black River, 9 billion board feet; St Croix River, 12.5 billion board feet; and the Chippewa River, 46 billion board feet. Perhaps the largest source of virgin white pine was located along the Red Cedar River. Here, the Knapp & Stout Lumber Company harvested 90,000,000 board feet of lumber per year.¹⁰

The rivers which flowed out of Wisconsin and emptied into the Mississippi became water highways carrying logs to the mills on the Mississippi. Loose logs were run on the rivers to the Mississippi River where large log rafts were built for the balance of the trip. In some instances where the Mississippi widens into small lakes and the current waned, tow boats moved the rafts downstream. When the logs reached the saw mills they were milled into lumber for the vast migration of settlers moving onto the plains of the mid and upper mid-west.

⁸ Christopher Rust Owen, Great grandson of John S. Owen, interview 3-18-2015, <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=99235754&ref=acom>, ancestry.com, Find a Grave Index 1600 - Current

⁹ *The John S. Owen Enterprises*, by Duane Dale Fischer, (A thesis for a Ph. D. in History, The University of Wisconsin, 1964), pages 1-590

¹⁰ *Wisconsin Northern Pineries a Narrative Economic History*, by C. Ford Runge, (University of Minnesota, October 2002) pages 1-37

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Woodland Hotel
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John S. Owen was intoxicated with the thought of adventure and profit generated by the lumbering successes of his brother-in-laws. In 1873, John Owen decided to try his luck in the Wisconsin pineries. The premise was that he would scout timber for his father, father-in-law and other lumbermen. When Owen arrived in Eau Claire, Wisconsin in 1873, lumberman Henry C. Putnam hired the 24 year old as an office clerk and timber scout. He remained in Putnam's employ until 1876 when the two men formed a joint logging operation. They would work together for several years, although they never formed a legal partnership.

Over the next ten years, John S. Owen partnered with many of Wisconsin's famous lumbermen such as Weyerhaeuser, Taylor, Rust, Lamb, Sage, Wilson, and Hayward in mills and land purchases which logged thousands of acres of Wisconsin timber.

Up to the summer of 1881, John S. Owen was primarily a logger and land speculator. He set up lumber camps for logging operations, sold supplies in camp stores, found buyers for cut logs and sold cut over land. Owen's career in the lumber industry was a constant financial struggle. Since he did not possess extensive capital, he was forced to buy land and supplies on credit. This chronic shortage of available capital restricted Owen to purchase land from those who would extend him credit. In many instances, that translated into not getting the best bargain for the land. After his personal yearly expenses, and the satisfaction of outstanding land loans, very little money was left. But, as the years went by and Owen was able to sell his cutover land holdings to new arrivals, John S. Owen saw his fortune begin to expand.

In the summer of 1881, some of the heirs of the Aloney Rust estate were ready to liquidate. John S. Owen purchased the Wisconsin pine interests of Ralph E. Rust, William Rust, and his wife Cora (Rust) Owen paying each partner \$35,000. Aloney's brothers John F. and David W. Rust bought out the interests of the remaining heirs.

In July of 1881, John S. Owen, and brothers-in-law William Aloney, John and Ralph Rust and Frank Gilchrist decided to forge further into the northern pine forests. Their plan was to build a sawmill on a small creek that flowed into the White River near what is now known as Drummond. This area was far above the Chippewa River and St. Croix River watershed. The men found out that the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Rail Road was planning to build a rail line from Cable, Wisconsin to Ashland, Wisconsin. Their plan was to buy railroad property along the rail line (this type of sale financed many railroads), as well as purchasing as much additional pine forest that they could from private landowners.

In 1882, the Rust-Owen Lumber Company was formally incorporated with John S. Owen as President. Work began immediately on the sawmill. A boarding house, school, blacksmith shop, large store,

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office building, hotel, bank and several houses were also built. During the years 1883 and 1884, 45,000 acres of land were purchased from the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Rail Road. The Rust-Owen Lumber Company built seven miles of short-line rail off of the main rail lines. The short-line rail provided access to their timber holdings that were located away from the main rail lines. These timber lands contained 81% virgin white pine, 10% hardwoods and 8% hemlock. Within six years, the profits of the Rust – Owen Lumber Company exceeded \$755,200.

The Rust-Owen Lumber Company was a medium sized lumber company. They never competed with the larger mills such as Weyerhaeuser or the Knapp and Stout Mill located in Menomonee, Wisconsin. The mill did provide a substantial return on their investments. The longevity of the Rust-Owen Lumber Company surpassed many of the larger mills, sawing its last log in 1930. The Rust-Owen Lumber Company maintained its headquarters in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

In 1899 John S. Owen resigned as president of the Rust – Owen Lumber Company. He did retain his percentage of ownership in the company and continued to share in the profits. After leaving the day to day work of the company, John S. Owen continued to maintain a residence in Eau Claire, Wisconsin where he lived until his death in 1939. (The John S. and Cora Owen House, 907 Porter Avenue, Eau Claire, Wisconsin was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1983).

After resigning as operational president of the Rust – Owen Lumber Company, Owen continued to enter into short-term logging partnerships, operated small saw mills, did land speculation and oversaw the cutting and sale of timber. Owen also began a commission business which handled the transfer of pine lands from speculators to buyers. He enjoyed this process as it was a quick and easy way to make money.

In 1892 John S. Owen assessed the timber resources in Clark, Taylor and Marathon counties. Following this assessment Owen purchased land in northeastern Clark County. He located a sawmill along the tracks of the Wisconsin Central Railroad at a point near the junction of the Brick and Popple Creeks. The village which grew up in the clearing around this sawmill took his name. About this time, John S. Owen's four sons were becoming young men. This new lumber venture was established for them as a legacy from their father. They joined with their father and in some instances took over the Owen lumber business after completing their educations.

Formation of the John S. Owen Lumber Company in Owen, Wisconsin

In December of 1892, John S. Owen negotiated for the purchase of two sawmills and 32,000 acres of timber land owned by the bankrupt Dudley J. Spaulding and the Midland Lumber and Manufacturing Company for a price of \$133,000. The Spaulding sawmills were located at Unity and Withee in Clark

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County, Wisconsin. John S. Owen was again experiencing financial difficulty at the time of this purchase. He recently had taken over the debts of his father. When he approached his banker for a loan in 1894, his assets were worth over \$600,000 however his cash flow was somewhat restricted. Owen was forced to borrow the money for the Spaulding purchase from Joseph C. Thorp. The John S. Owen Lumber Company began to show a profit late in the summer of 1897 and the loan to Thorp was repaid.

Owen did not plan to use either of Spaulding's sawmills. He had the Withee sawmill dismantled and loaded onto Wisconsin Central Railroad flatcars and moved two miles to the east. The sawmill was rebuilt on a site along Brick Creek in close proximity to the rail line. The first order of business was to rebuild the dam at the junction of Brick Creek and the Popple River. In a letter to the traffic manager of the Wisconsin Central Railroad, Owen stated, "I just purchased 50,000,000 board feet of timber. As I see it, I have two options; put the lumber on your railroad or float it down the river." Owen wanted assurances from the railroad that they would supply him with a sufficient number of cars to move his product.

The John S. Owen Lumber Company was incorporated in March of 1894 with a capital of \$175,000. John S. Owen held 1000 \$100 shares; his oldest son Aloney (who was 22 years of age) held 25 shares, son Ralph (who was 10 years of age) held 1 share and Cora (John S. Owens wife) held 100 shares. With the formation of the John S. Owen Lumber Company, the entire family focused upon the timber centered around Owen, Wisconsin.

When Aloney Owen graduated from Cornell University in the fall of 1894, he came directly to Owen becoming the vice-president and general manager. He purchased an additional 250 shares (\$2,500) of company stock. In 1897, Aloney married Florence Benson (d. 1-3-1949). In 1898 they built a six-room home which was expanded several times over the next fifty years.¹¹ Three children were produced; John S. (b. 1900), Katherine Woodland (b.7-28-1911, d. 3-24-1914 and Elizabeth (b.1905).¹²

Tragedy struck when their mother Cora Owen passed away on August 16, 1895. Upon her death, her 100 stock shares were divided evenly by her four sons.

John (Jack) G. Owen became an officer and director in the John S. Owen Lumber Company upon his graduation from college in 1897. He also located to Owen. In 1904, Ralph purchased \$5,000 worth of stock but did not get directly involved in day to day operations. Ralph graduated from Princeton

¹¹ *The John S. Owen Enterprises*, by Duane Dale Fischer, (A thesis prepared for a Ph. D. in History, University of Wisconsin), 1964, pages 1-590

¹² Obituary for Aloney Rust Owen, <http://www.clarkcountyhistory.org/odata/9/9489.htm>

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College and went on to continue his studies at Oxford University. Upon graduation, Ralph taught school at the University of Wisconsin from 1911 to 1916. After World War I, Ralph came to Owen and became directly involved with the company.

John S. Owen married once again to the former Mrs. Josephine Shaw, the widow of Congressman George B. Shaw in 1899. He adopted her 15 year old son George B. Shaw Jr. John S. Owen's youngest son Frank moved to Owen in 1906 to join in the lumber operation. Unable to get along with his brothers, he left Wisconsin and moved to California where he worked in the redwood lumber industry.

The days of lumbering in northeastern Clark County and southeast Taylor County were prolonged by the use of shortline spur rail lines that exited off of the main railroad lines. In 1897, the Wisconsin Central Railroad agreed to provide all of the second-hand rails needed for a six mile spur that Owen wished to build from the Owen mill into the forest. Owen agreed to take the responsibility of grading, installing all of the bridges and supplying all of the wooden ties. Owen also had to consent to operate his own locomotive and flat cars and to maintain the spur. As part of the deal, Owen agreed to ship all of his lumber on the Wisconsin Central Railroad. In 1899 a similar deal was entered into between the John S. Owen Lumber Company, the Northwestern Lumber Company and the Wisconsin Central Railroad. This time a ten mile spur was built south of the main rail line deeper into the waiting timber.

The Wisconsin Central Railroad approached John S. Owen in July of 1902 to see if he was willing to partner in building a rail line from Owen to Ladysmith. At Ladysmith the rail line would connect with the Soo Railroad line. Owens agreed to purchase at least 30,000 acres of land from Wisconsin Central Railroad. In addition, Owen agreed to manufacture at least 10,000,000 board feet per year at the Owen mill and ship it via their rail line. Owen purchased an additional 80,000 acres of land, in the vicinity of the rail line, from private property owners.

The John S. Owen Lumber Company cut both pine and hardwood. The demand for hardwood products had greatly expanded. Hardwood logs did not float well, but since most logging was now done by rail they became a valuable product. The John S. Owen Lumber Company harvested 6,000,000 board feet of lumber a year during the years 1894 to 1895. The amount of lumber harvested grew over the next ten years to a harvest high of 25,000,000 board feet of lumber in 1926. A byproduct of milling the logs was slabwood. Slabwood was shipped by rail to the cities of Eau Claire, St. Paul and Minneapolis where it was sold to families to burn in their stoves and furnaces for heat.¹³

¹³ *The John S. Owen Enterprises*, by Duane Dale Fischer, (A thesis prepared for a Ph. D. in History, the University of Wisconsin), 1964, pages 1 - 590

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In 1915, the John S. Owen Lumber Company, the Northwestern Lumber Company (located in Stanley, Wisconsin) and G. W. LaPointe Jr. (owner of the former Knapp & Stout Mill located in Menomonie, Wisconsin) organized the O & N Lumber Company, a retail lumber company. The partnership opened 29 retail outlets and sold sawn lumber and lumber products to the public. The head offices were located in Menomonie, Wisconsin and were managed by George W. LaPointe Jr.¹⁴

City of Owen, Wisconsin

The undeveloped wilderness in northeastern Clark County supported abundant pine and hardwood forests. The Village of Owen grew around the John S. Owen Lumber Company located in the southeast corner of Hixon Township. The Wisconsin Central Railroad extended its rail line from Abbotsford to Chippewa Falls in 1880, slicing through the remaining northern forests. Abundant pine and hardwood forests were finally accessible and were waiting to be harvested. By the late 1890s the logging boom in southern Clark County was coming to an end. Areas in northeastern Clark County did not have adequate rivers to float logs west to the Mississippi River or east to rivers like the Fox River that emptied into Green Bay. In this part of Wisconsin the next logging boom would have to be done by rail. Rail transported logs became more desirable to consumers. They began to prefer lumber that had not been in the river. During its travels downstream, the logs absorbed mud and grit which in turn dulled the carpenter's tools.

In 1893, the Wisconsin Central Railroad moved the sawmill, which John S. Owen had purchase from Dudley J. Spaulding, on flat cars from Withee two miles east to a site on Brick Creek. The mill was positioned a short distance from the tracks of the Wisconsin Central Railroad.¹⁵ John S. Owen's four sons would locate to the village and manage the many Owen businesses.

The prosperity of the sawmill brought loggers to Owen seeking work. The sawmill provided employment for 300 to 400 men. The desirable cutover timber lands brought settlers to the Owen area to farm the rich soil. This migration empowered the town of Owen to rise from the earth in the remote woods of northeastern Clark County.

The Owen sawmill was located on the west side of the mill pond which had been created by damming Brick Creek. The John S. Owen Lumber Company also built a planing mill, warehouses, a company store, boarding house, a school, and a number of tenement houses. An application was made on

¹⁴ *Clark County the Heart of Wisconsin*, 1914, Booklet published by the supervisors of Clark County Wisconsin

¹⁵ *The John S. Owen Enterprises*, by Duane Dale Fischer, (A thesis prepared for a Ph. D. in History, The University of Wisconsin), 1964, page 1-532

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August 19, 1904 for the right to incorporate as a village.¹⁶ A survey of the village was conducted by C. S. Stockwell in 1905.

Construction began on the Woodland Hotel in the spring of 1906. The hotel was completed in December of 1906 and began offering a good meal and comfortable overnight accommodations. At this time several additional businesses were located in the Central Avenue business district area. Dempsey's Livery Stable, Westergaard's Bakery, Fleischman's Meat Market, Abler Dry Goods and Grocery Store, Rawson Hardware, Krom's Clothing Store, and several saloons met the needs of the loggers and their families.¹⁷

John S. Owen was heard saying to W. G. Royer when Royer had twelve men pulling stumps near the mill so a log sled could turn around; "Don't put any more time on that, for we will not be here more than five or six years and I don't want to leave any croquet grounds when we go away."¹⁸ He failed to foresee that his Owen logging operations would survive for thirty-six years, would expand to extend outward from Owen for 400 – 500 square miles and would cut and process millions of board feet of timber.¹⁹

The city of Owen became the northern terminus for several rail lines. The Wisconsin Central Railroad built a line from Abbotsford to Chippewa Falls in 1880 and in 1881 the rail line was extended to Ashland. Because of the lumber shipped by the John S. Owen Lumber Company the Wisconsin Central Railroad established a stop in Owen in 1896. Owen then became the northern terminal of the Fairchild & Northwest Railroad in 1907. In 1908, the Wisconsin Central Railroad built a rail line from Owen to Duluth, Minnesota through the city of Ladysmith. The daily train that operated from Owen to Ladysmith and then back again became known as the "Scoot".

In 1909, all of the original Wisconsin Central lines were leased for 91 years by the Minneapolis, St. Paul, & Sault Ste. Marie Railroad. The railroad became known as the "Soo Line". The Soo Line offered Owen passengers six trains a day which traveled in four different directions.²⁰ By 1918 the John S. Owen Lumber Company had built twenty-five miles of short-line railroad in order to reach

¹⁶ *History of Clark County Wisconsin*, by Franklyn Curtiss Wedge, (H. C. Cooper, Jr. & Co., Chicago and Winona, 1918), pages 648-651

¹⁷ *City of Owen Golden Jubilee 1925 – 1975*, Booklet published by Jubilee Extent Committee, page 5 - 9

¹⁸ *History of Clark County Wisconsin*, by Franklyn Curtiss Wedge, (H. C. Cooper, Jr. & Co., Chicago and Winona, 1918), pages 648 - 651

¹⁹ *The John S. Owen Enterprises*, by Duane Dale Fischer, (A thesis prepared for a Ph. D. in History, The University of Wisconsin), 1964, page 532

²⁰ *Owen, Wisconsin a Commemorative History, 1925-2000*, Booklet published by the Yellowstone Trail Committee, pages 6-24

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their timber resources deep into Clark and Taylor counties. The short-lines extended off of the main rail lines and were operated with their own rolling stock.

John S. Owen realized that eventually logging would cease in the woods around Owen. That hypothesis could mean that Owen would fall on hard times if there were no other employment opportunities for the residents. The John S. Owen Lumber Company established the Owen Box & Crating Company which used short boards and cull lumber to create boxes. Then the E. Z. Box Company was also created to make cheese boxes for the many cheese factories located in Clark County.²¹ The Owen Canning Company was started in 1913 and it employed 100 workers. Over 40,000 cases of peas, beets, beet greens, and sauerkraut were produced each year providing a market for the farmers to sell their crops.²²

Their faith was very important to the Owen family. In 1914 a church that was located in Eau Claire, Wisconsin was dismantled and moved by railcar to Owen, Wisconsin where it was re-assembled. The church was named St. Katherine's Episcopal Mission in the memory of John S. and Cora Owen's only daughter Kate who died at the age of nine from pneumonia and for Aloney R. and Florence Owen's only daughter Katherine Woodland who died at the age of two years nine months.

As the timber on the land owned by the John S. Owen Lumber Company was harvested, the cut over land had to be sold. Owen endeavored to promote a transition for this land to farming. In September of 1915, the company placed a one page ad in the Granton News Newspaper which stated: "John S. Owen Lumber Company offers the settlers choice farming lands in Clark, Taylor, Rusk and Chippewa Counties. Soil of the very best in the state. Lands on good roads near markets in thickly settled and highly improved localities. We have good water, schools, markets and climate. Reasonable Prices. Easy Terms. Remember: There never was but one crop of this choice land and there never will be another."²³ From 1893 to 1926, the John S. Owen Lumber Company sold 101,000 acres of cut over land for an average price of \$16.55 per acre.²⁴

By 1915, the population of Owen had grown to 1,000 residents. Two hundred families a year were locating to the Owen area purchasing cut-over lands from John S. Owen. The village was progressive in its infrastructure and provided electric lights, water, and power. The power for electricity was

²¹ *The John S. Owen Enterprises*, by Duane Dale Fischer, (A thesis prepared for a Ph. D. in History, The University of Wisconsin), 1964, pages 1-532

²² *History of Clark County Wisconsin*, by Frankly Curtiss Wedge, (H. C. Cooper Jr. & Co., Chicago and Winona, 1918) pages 648- 651

²³ *Granton News*, September 1915, Special Edition, Clark County, "The Heart of Wisconsin The Inspiring Past, The Prosperous Present, and Its Glorious Future"

²⁴ *The John S. Owen Enterprises*, by Duane Dale Fischer, (A thesis prepared for a Ph. D. in History, The University of Wisconsin), 1964, pages 1-532

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furnished to the village by the Owen mill. The commercial area of the village had expanded to include four boarding houses, four general stores, a bakery, butcher shop, tailor shop, jewelry store, two hardware stores, three barber shops, a shoe store, harness shop, a bottling works, movie theatre, bank, newspaper, several saloons, and a telephone company.²⁵

John S. Owen was instrumental in establishing the State Bank of Owen in 1907 and was elected its first president. Until construction was completed for the new bank building in 1909, the Owen bank was located in the basement of the Woodland Hotel.²⁶

In 1914 the Vaudreil Canning Company opened a factory in Owen canning peas and beans. The Owen Public Library opened in 1915 with a collection of 1,441 books. The Library was first housed on the second floor of the telephone building. In 1921, the public library was moved to the newly built high school. In 1924, the village had reached a population of 1,200 residents and incorporation as a city was actuated on April 30, 1925.

The last log was sawed at the John S. Owen Lumber Company mill in 1932. The mill's equipment was dismantled and sold. On April 29, 1935 the mill site was sold to the Western Condensing Company.²⁷ With lumbering at an end in Owen, Aloney R. Owen concentrated on their retail lumber businesses.²⁸ Owen family members continued to receive monies from the liquidation of the Owen family assets into the 1960s.²⁹

Woodland Hotel

John S. Owen wanted to build a hotel in Owen that would equal or rival the hotels found in much larger Wisconsin cities. In 1906 Owen commissioned the Madison architectural firm of Claude & Starck to design a spacious, two-story, L-shaped hotel. Owen selected the prominent northeast corner of Central Avenue and East Fourth Street for the location of his hotel. He hired William Sutter to build his hotel. Sutter had just completed building a horse barn for John S. Owen.³⁰

²⁵ *History of Clark County Wisconsin*, by Frankly Curtiss Wedge, (H. C. Cooper Jr. & Co., Chicago and Winona, 1918) pages 648-651

²⁶ *Owen Wisconsin A Commemorative History 1925-2000*, Booklet published by the Yellowstone Trail Committee, pages 6-24

²⁷ *Owen Wisconsin A Commemorative History 1925-2000*, Booklet published by the Yellowstone Trail Committee, pages 6-24

²⁸ *The Book of Years the Story of the Men who Made Clark County 1853-1953*, (Booklet published by the Clark County Centennial Incorporated, 1953) pages 21-23

²⁹ *The John S. Owen Enterprises*, by Duane Dale Fischer, (A thesis for a Ph. D. in History, The University of Wisconsin, 1964), pages 1 -532

³⁰ Undated newspaper article from a scrapbook located in the Withee, Wisconsin Public Library

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Woodland Hotel
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The hotel was named in honor of John S. Owen's uncle Woodland who brought his father and his Aunt Hester to America.³¹ The Woodland name is also nicely reflective of the northern forests which provided jobs and prosperity for the people of Owen. While the hotel was owned and operated by John S. Owen, it was referred to as the Hotel Woodland.³² After the sale of the hotel in 1937, it was called the Woodland Hotel. The Woodland Hotel would become known as one of the finest hotels in Wisconsin.

The History of Clark County, published in 1918, described the hotel: "The Woodland Hotel, owned by the Owen Company, is probably one of the best hotels in Wisconsin for a town the size of Owen, being built of stone and brick, with twenty-four transient rooms and all modern equipment."³³ The interior of the hotel was finished with the finest lumber. Maple hardwood floors were installed throughout the hotel. Black cherry wainscoting rises six feet up the walls in the dining room, lobby and main staircase. The hotel was fitted with hot and cold running water, steam heat, and electric lights.³⁴ Bathrooms were located on the second and lower floors of the hotel.

When the hotel was completed in December of 1906, Owen enlisted James Wade, who formerly ran the popular Galloway House Hotel in Eau Claire, Wisconsin and the Stanley House in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin to manage his hotel and restaurant. The hotel opened on December 25th, Christmas day. That day the restaurant served Kansas roast beef, roast turkey, and plum pudding.³⁵

Sleeping rooms or chambers were found on both the first and second floor of the hotel. To the south of the main entry is a large parlor (lobby) where the registration desk is located. The desk clerk had access to a call system whereby he could ring the rooms of guests to notify them of either a phone call or a visitor. The callbox is still located behind the registration desk. Chairs, rockers, and sofas were provided throughout the lobby for guests to relax and visit. Across from the lobby was the large formal dining room and behind that a kitchen. Having been designed during the growing temperance movement, the bar room was located in the lower level. Also located in the lower level were the barber shop, public bath, salesman's sample room, billiard room, and meeting rooms.³⁶

³¹ Christopher Rust Owen, Great grandson of John S. Owen, interview 2-18-2015

³² *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory 1913-1914*, (R.L. Polk & Company, Chicago – Detroit, 1914), page 1490, *The Official Hotel Red Book and Directory*, (Official Hotel Red Book and Directory Publishing Co., New York, 1920), page 775

³³ *History of Clark County Wisconsin*, by Frankly Curtiss Wedge, , (H. C. Cooper, Jr. & Co., Chicago and Winona, 1918) pages 648-651

³⁴ *American Road Magazine*, Vol. VII Number 2, "On the Yellowstone Trail The Woodland Hotel", 2009, pages 68 - 70

³⁵ *Eau Claire Leader*, "Town of Owen Grand Boom", November 22, 1906

³⁶ *American Road Magazine Vol. VII Number 2*, "On the Yellowstone Trail From Plymouth Rock to the Puget Sound" by John and Alice Ridge, 2009

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The Woodland Hotel provided various amenities which made the hotel a destination for lumber buyers, businessmen, salesmen and tourists. The restaurant offered meals three times a day. An adult beverage and a game of billiards or snooker were available in the lower level of the hotel. The barber shop and public bath offered men an opportunity to “spruce up” after a long train or car ride. The salesman’s sample room offered the traveling salesman a place to display his wares. The ladies were offered the privacy of their own parlor, located on the second floor.

The Woodland Hotel served the traveler but also provided a social center for the Owen community. It provided vital public spaces for dining, parties, socialization, and meetings. The Woodland Hotel has hosted labor union meetings, state mink and chinchilla raisers club conventions, and service club meetings.

In the first years of operation, the railroad brought patrons to the Woodland Hotel. A new kind of traveler would make Owen and the Woodland Hotel a destination. The new affordable motor car was changing the way America looked at travel. Car clubs were formed and cross-country car races were all the rage. In the early 1900s, coast to coast highways were being created to provide ease of travel for the new automobile.

To the good fortune of the Woodland Hotel the Yellowstone Trail, a new motor car highway was built right in front of the hotel. The Yellowstone Trail linked Plymouth Rock and the Puget Sound by a constructed roadway which traveled across the northern tier of states. As is demonstrated in the photographs included with this nomination, motor car clubs made the Woodland Hotel a popular stop on the Yellowstone Trail. The *Automobile Blue Book 1921*, contained an advertisement for the Woodland Hotel which stated; “Woodland Hotel Owen, Wisconsin, Strictly modern. A Comfortable Stop-over for Tired Tourists. Write or Phone for Reservations. Right on the Yellowstone Trail.”³⁷. Room rates in the early 1920s were \$2.50 to \$3.00 per night.³⁸

Cliff and Etta Patrie managed the hotel and restaurant for John S. Owen from 1911 to 1937 when it was sold to Nick Lehnen. Lehnen operated the hotel and restaurant for 28 years until 1955 when family members Ed and Irene Lehnen took over the management of the hotel. In 1965, Hector and Julia Callaway purchased the property.³⁹ The kitchen was enlarged and remodeled in 1965, to comply with Wisconsin State restaurant codes. The last coal fired cook stove was removed. In the 1970s

³⁷ *Automobile Blue Book 1921, Vol. 10*, (The Automobile Blue Book Publishing Company, Chicago) page 278

³⁸ *The Official Hotel Red Book and Directory*, (Official Hotel Red Book and Directory Publishing Co., New York, 1920), page 775

³⁹ *O – W Enterprises Vol. 10 No. 46*, Withee, Wisconsin, November 15, 2006, “The Woodland Hotel – 100 Years in Owen’s Downtown” pages 1, 12

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when the hotel began to fall on hard times, antique collectors tried to purchase the wood pantry cupboards, dining room lights and front desk call box. They even offered \$24,000 for the black cherry wood wainscoting in the dining room.⁴⁰ Fortunately, only the clock in the lobby was sold.

Current owners are Woodland Hotel LLC who purchased the property on March 4, 2015. They are excited about opening a supper club and leasing the apartments and hotel rooms.

Yellowstone Trail

The invention and mass production of the automobile was a dramatic turning point in American history. The automobile provided for increased mobility and transformed the American culture and economy. In 1900 less than 4,000 people in the United States owned automobiles. That number of automobile owners would expeditiously expand when Henry Ford made the automobile affordable. Ford marketed a motor car, in 1914, which sold for only \$490. Over 248,000 drivers purchased motor cars that year.⁴¹

Local motor clubs were organized and members participated in “road rallies” or organized trips. On March 4, 1901 the American Automobile Association (AAA) was organized combining the motor clubs from nine states. The AAA, as they became known, demanded that states provided a suitable surfaced road for their member’s motor cars.⁴²

The concept for a transcontinental highway began on April 23, 1912 during a District Development meeting hosting 100 representatives from five counties in South Dakota. A small business owner from Ipswich, South Dakota, Joseph W. Parmley, was tired of the awful roadways which had pot holes that he said were large enough to swallow his car. Parmley suggested building a “great main highway” across South Dakota that someday would link up with other highways and cross the northern tier of states.⁴³

Construction began on the highway on July 11, 1912. By October of 1912, the plans for the highway were expanded to include crossing the State of Montana and establishing a route south to Yellowstone National Park. The proposed route for the highway utilized the established rail lines of the Milwaukee Road Railroad to Montana and the Northern Pacific Railroad through Montana to Three Forks,

⁴⁰ *Marshfield News Herald*, December 1974, “Once Stately Hotel at Owen Proud Monument of Past Era”,

⁴¹ *The Automobile Industry the Coming of Age of Capitalism’s Favorite Child*, by E. D. Kennedy, (Reynold & Hitchcock, 1941) pages 1-77

⁴² The AAA News Room, “History – A Century of Service”, page 1-4, newsroom.aaa.com,

⁴³ *The Yellowstone Trail a Good Road from Plymouth Rock to Puget Sound*, by Alice A. Ridge and John Wm Ridge, (Hignell Printing Limited, Winnipeg, Canada, 2000), pages 1-91

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Montana. The perception was that the rail lines followed the best grades and their routes had already been established through the small towns which dotted the landscape. These towns would provide convenient stops for the traveler where they could buy gas have a meal or remain overnight.

At first the funding for the Yellowstone Trail came from counties, townships and property owners. Additional highway funding was raised through memberships in the Yellowstone Trail Association. What began as a sixty mile stretch of highway from Aberdeen, South Dakota to Mobridge, South Dakota became a nationwide undertaking. Much of the actual road work was done by volunteers who built bridges, placed culverts and dragged road beds. In Montana they used convict labor. Eventually, the state and federal governments took over the project after passing the Federal Aid Road Act of 1916 which assured the Yellowstone Trail's completion.

In the summer of 1916, the Yellowstone Trail Association advertised that the Yellowstone Trail was "A Good Road from Plymouth Rock to the Puget Sound." During that summer, motor cars traveled the 3,700 miles of road in five days, one hour and twelve minutes. The average speed during the trip was 31 miles per hour. The new automobile owner and tourist now had a drivable route across the north portion of the country. All they had to do was follow the bright yellow Yellowstone Trail signs with the arrows that pointed the way.⁴⁴

Conclusion: Criterion A - Commerce

The Woodland Hotel is significant under Criterion A as an excellent local representation of a commercial hotel which provided shelter, food, and refreshment to the weary traveler. The Woodland Hotel was also an important community resource as it provided vital public spaces for socialization. Local residents could come to meet one another to either dine in the restaurant or to visit in the seating areas of the lobby. The dining room, billiard room, bar room, and barber shop offered the local patron ways to enjoy the hotel without actually renting a hotel room.

As Owen continued to expand, the Woodland Hotel became a point of contact between the local community and the larger society beyond. When a community opened a hotel it was demonstrating its willingness to welcome unknown outsiders. The hotel industry also became pioneers of domestic conveniences by offering internal plumbing, steam heat, gas and electric light, and telephone service.

When the Civil War was over, the railroad aided the westward expansion of the United States and was imperative for the birth of small logging towns such as Owen. The railroad would be also become crucial for their continuing survival. Access to the railroad provided Owen a means to move lumber

⁴⁴ *On the Road to Yellowstone: The Yellowstone Trail and American Highways, 1900-1930*, by Harold A. Meeks, (Pictorial Histories Publishing Co., 2000) pages 1-208

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and crops, as well as people, which was independent of the weather and poor roads. Hotels, such as the Woodland Hotel, which sprang up along the rail lines facilitated human mobility and can be seen as being a part of a generalized effort to make improvements to transportation.

The popularity of ordering from mail-order catalogs provided people access to products at reasonable prices that were not currently available from their local merchants. The traveling salesman brought examples of elixirs, household goods, and farm machinery for display in the hotel's sample rooms. The traveling salesman became the mainstay of many hotels. By the turn of the century, over 200,000 salesmen traveled the rails throughout the United States.⁴⁵

The growing popularity of the motor car greatly increased the public's range and ease of travel. Americans loved the freedom of travel and communities strove to make sure that they became a stop-over place for the new tourist. Travel booklets and maps aided the motor car tourist in planning and navigating their trip. Hotel directories listed the available lodging and services in communities and nationalized the American hotel system.

The Woodland Hotel partnered with the business community by offering services and lodging which in turn brought potential customers for an overnight stay in their community. John S. Owen understood that transportation and accommodations were intrinsically linked and that the traveler judged a community's potential on the substantiality and capaciousness of their commercial buildings.

Trade and interstate commerce will continue to depend on the hotel to serve both the mobile professional and the tourist. The Woodland Hotel continues to offer the ambiance of a 1906 well-appointed hotel. The Yellowstone Trail may have faded away, but STH 29 is right outside of town and the thousands of travelers who pass by might just love an overnight stay at this historic logging era hotel.

Madison Architectural Firm of Claude & Starck 1896-1929

Wisconsin born architects, Louis Ward Claude and Edward F. Starck, began their architectural firm in Madison, Wisconsin in 1896. They are credited with designing over 175 buildings in the Madison area and over 30 Carnegie Libraries throughout Wisconsin and the surrounding states. Many of these libraries were designed in the Prairie Style.

Louis Ward Claude was born in 1868 in Devils Lake, Wisconsin. He attended grade schools in Baraboo and Madison before graduating from the University of Wisconsin with a degree in civil

⁴⁵ *Hotel an American History*, by A. K. Sandoval-Strausz, (Duke & Co., Devon, Pa., 2007), pages 1-316

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engineering.⁴⁶ In the early 1890s he worked in the offices of architects Adler & Sullivan in Chicago, Illinois and then in 1893, with Chicago architects Burnham & Root who were the architects for the World's Columbian Exposition. Claude's life-long friends were Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright.⁴⁷

Edward F. Starck was born in 1868 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. As a child, Starck attended public school in Madison, Wisconsin. After graduating from high school, Starck sought no higher education. Despite the lack of additional schooling, Starck was an accomplished draftsman. He worked in the offices of Madison architect D. R. Jones, Milwaukee architect Edward Townsend Mix and Chicago architects Handy & Cady (Jeremiah K.).

The partnership of Claude & Starck continued until 1929 when they decided to dissolve the firm. Both remained living in Madison, Wisconsin until their deaths; Louis Ward Claude died in August of 1951 and Edward F. Starck died in October of 1947.⁴⁸

Conclusion: Criterion C – Architecture

The Woodland Hotel is architecturally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an excellent example of a hotel property type. The building retains excellent exterior integrity as well as an intact interior reflective of the property type with its lobby, dining room, and sleeping chambers. Its exterior blends a commercial vernacular form with elements of the Classical Revival style imparting a sense of dignity and grandeur to a small-town hotel. Many architects felt that commercial buildings should be dignified and that their ornamentation should be kept more restrained. Hotels that were built during the early twentieth-century had many different configurations and many used an academic approach which tended to emphasize unity, order, and balance both on the interiors and on the exteriors.

The Madison architectural firm of Louis Ward Claude and Edward F. Starck (Claude & Starck) was commissioned by John S. Owen in 1906 to design a hotel to rest on four lots that were located on the prominent corner of Central Avenue and Forth Street. The title on the blueprints read; "Hotel: For the Owen Lumber Co. Owen Wis. Claude & Starck – Architects Madison."

The exterior of the Woodland Hotel is an example of commercial vernacular architecture with Classical Revival design elements. The Classical Revival style was inspired by the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition, held in Chicago, Illinois. The buildings of the exposition were historical interpretations of Roman and Greek architecture. The Classical Revival style is formal and

⁴⁶ Chase Sturos, "Claude & Starck", <http://www.ss.mtu.edu/CopperCountryArchitects/cs/htm>, page 1

⁴⁷ Ruth Ann Montgomery, "Eager Free Public Library", <http://www.evansvillehistory.net/files/39WestMain.html>, page 1

⁴⁸ Chase Sturos, "Claude & Starck", <http://www.ss.mtu.edu/CopperCountryArchitects/cs/htm>, page 1

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monumental in design with an enthusiasm for classical antiquity. Buildings that interpret this style often support colossal entry porticos, side entry porticos, a repetition of rectangular double-hung windows, undecorated entablatures and wide cornices. The expression of volume is interpreted both on the outside and on the inside of the building.⁴⁹

In 1923, architect W. Sydney Wagner from the firm George B. Post and Sons, New York, New York, described the spatial arrangement needed for a commercial hotel to satisfy a complex variety of potential guests: "The hotel must, above all else, be a place where the traveler can obtain shelter and rest. The atmosphere of its public lobbies and dining rooms, should be such as will neither offend nor repel the woman guest, nor yet overawe the commercial traveler. The salesman should be able to display his wares and transact his business with comfort. The essence of the hotel plan is, after all, its usefulness as a service machine in providing for the comfort of the guest."⁵⁰ As guests experienced the commercial hotel they found basic hotel features coupled with an expanded lobbies, upscale dining rooms and service areas such as barber shops, bars and entertainment areas.

The exterior of any hotel would demonstrate to the traveler what could be expected on the inside. The Woodland Hotel's interior design surpassed many of the expectations of the early twentieth-century traveler. Upon entering the Woodland Hotel visitors found the lavish use of a variety of woods, high ornate metal ceilings, electricity, and heat and water throughout the building. The restaurant became a frequent choice for luncheons, parties, club meetings, and holiday dinners. The prominence of the Woodland Hotel was a source of pride for the citizens of this simple lumbering town. The building became a point of pride in the community.

Architects purposefully designed the interior spaces of a hotel to have quiet areas such as the sleeping chambers and access hallways. It was imperative to provide natural light and ventilation to each room no matter how small the sleeping chambers were. The design of the double-loaded hallways of the Woodland Hotel's first and second floors offered light and outside air to each room.

Bathroom and bathing facilities were an essential necessity for the traveler. The hotel blueprints indicate that gender specific shared bathrooms were provided for the guests on the second floor. The guests located in the bed chambers in the first floor double-load hallway of the east/west facing wing would have had to ascend the stairs to the second floor gender specific bathrooms or descend to the lower level and use the general bathroom located there. Bathtubs were located in each of the second

⁴⁹ James Stevens Curl, *A Dictionary of Architecture*, (Oxford University Press, 1999), pages 151-152

⁵⁰ *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture Vol. 10 Building Environment, Chapter 8*, "A Service Machine Hotel Guests and the Development of an Early-Twentieth-Century Building Type, by Lisa Pfueller Davidson, (University of Tennessee Press, 2005), pages 113 - 129

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floor bathrooms and in the public bath area located in the lower level. The public bath area was accessed through the barber shop.

Many of the hotel's spaces were used to support the labor involved with the services provided by the hotel. Hotels that offered the service of a restaurant and bar, such as the Woodland Hotel, need areas that were specific to the preparation of food (kitchen, pantry, storage rooms, bar, and dining room). Since twenty-six bed chambers, three employee chambers, tablecloths, and napkins from the dining room created an abundance of dirty linen, an area was designed exclusively for doing laundry. The hotel's heating system was located in a separate room in the lower level.

Other specific areas within the hotel were used for a variety of public activities. The large lobby provided a setting for socialization. If women preferred a private setting, there was a ladies parlor located on the second floor. The barber shop, public bath, and salesman sample room had spaces specific to their occupations. The salesmen displayed the latest innovations in farm equipment to products which would alleviate the work of the over-burdened homemaker in the salesman's sample room located in the lower level. The traveling salesman was the mainstay of many hotels.

Amenities that are now take for granted, water, electricity, heat, and telephone, were amenities that surprised many travelers who stayed at the Woodland Hotel. The lumber mill generated the electricity needed for the hotel and community. John S. Owen had sewage lines installed under the city streets so that the hotel's indoor facilities were operational.

The Woodland Hotel captures the essence of an era early twentieth-century architecturally designed commercial hotel. During this period of time, the proper traveling woman required a hotel to not just provide a sleeping chamber but a commodious restaurant and relaxing spaces within the hotel that were separate from men. The traveling businessman required spaces to conduct business. After his business was concluded, he wanted a good meal, a game of billiards, a shave, and perhaps a glass of spirits. The virtually untouched interior of the first and second floors of the Woodland Hotel encapsulates the dignity and grandeur of a commercial hotel not commonly found in a small logging town.

The Woodland Hotel continues to convey the property's history, character and essence of the time. The hotel retains excellent integrity both on the interior and exterior as well as its location, design, setting and significant architectural features.

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Verbal Boundary Description:

LOT 10 BLK 19 EX N 11' & ALL OF LOTS 11 TO 13 ORIGINAL PLAT & BG PT OF OL 101-A
ASSESSORS PLAT CITY OF OWEN

LOTS 14 & 15 BLK 19 & 117' x 16" ALLEY LOC W OF LOT 14 ORIGINAL PLAT & BG PT OF
OL 101-A ASSESSORS PLAT CITY OF OWEN

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries enclose all of the land that has historically been associated with the Woodland Hotel (as shown on the 1905 C. S. Stockwell Plat Map of Owen). Parcels include lots 10, 11-14 which the hotel sits upon and lot 15.

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Name of Property:	Woodland Hotel
City or Vicinity:	Owen
County:	Clark
State:	Wisconsin
Name of Photographer:	Patricia Lacey
Date of Photograph:	February 2015
Location of Original Digital Files:	Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI
Number of Photographs:	20

Photo 1

West facing main entry façade
Camera facing northeast

Photo 2

South facing secondary entry façade
Camera facing northeast

Photo 3

Window eyebrow, brick corbels, cornice
Camera facing north

Photo 4

Rear elevation showing east facing entry of the east/west wing
Camera facing west

Photo 5

East facing elevation of north/south wing showing kitchen addition and basement stairwell
Camera facing northwest

Photo 6

East facing fenestration of north/south wing
Camera facing northwest

Photo 7

East facing elevation of the north/south wing showing kitchen addition and noncontributing garage
Camera facing southwest

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Photo 8
North facing entry of north/south wing
Camera facing southeast

Photo 9
Registration desk showing callbox, first floor corridor of east/west wing visible behind callbox
Camera facing east

Photo 10
Registration desk showing cigar case
Camera facing northeast

Photo 11
Main staircase to second floor
Camera facing east

Photo 12
Dining room with swinging doors
Camera facing southwest

Photo 13
Kitchen doors
Camera facing north

Photo 14
Built in pantry in kitchen
Camera facing southeast

Photo 15
Balustrade and newels second floor main staircase
Camera facing northeast

Photo 16
Entry to women's parlor
Camera facing west

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Woodland Hotel
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Photo 17

Second floor corridor north/south wing. Two center doors linen closet. Two flanking doors entries to bathrooms. Additional built-ins at end of hallway.

Camera facing north

Photo 18

Examples of hotel room doors and transoms

Camera facing southeast

Photo 19

Second floor corridor east/west wing

Camera facing east

Photo 20

Lower level balustrade and newel

Camera facing northwest

___ End of Photo Descriptions

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Figures

Figure 1: Elevation drawing

Figure 2: Plan drawings

Figure 3: Historic view, c. 1906

Figure 4: Historic interior view of lobby c. 1925

Figure 5: Historic view, 1910

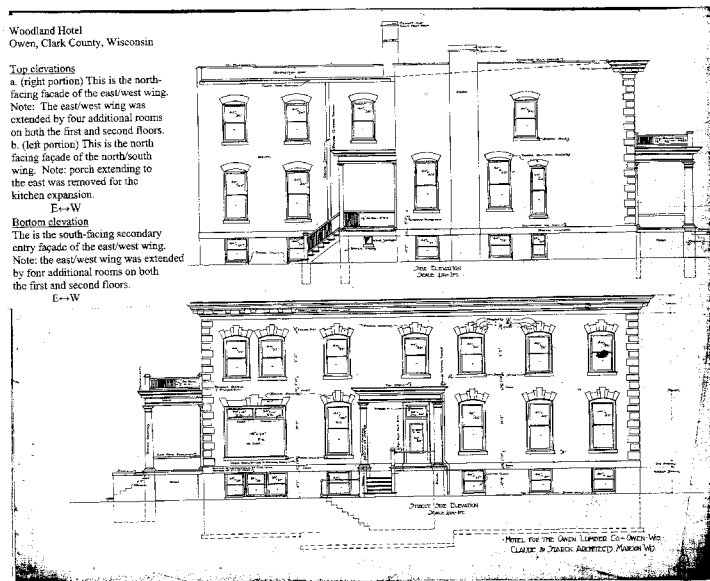
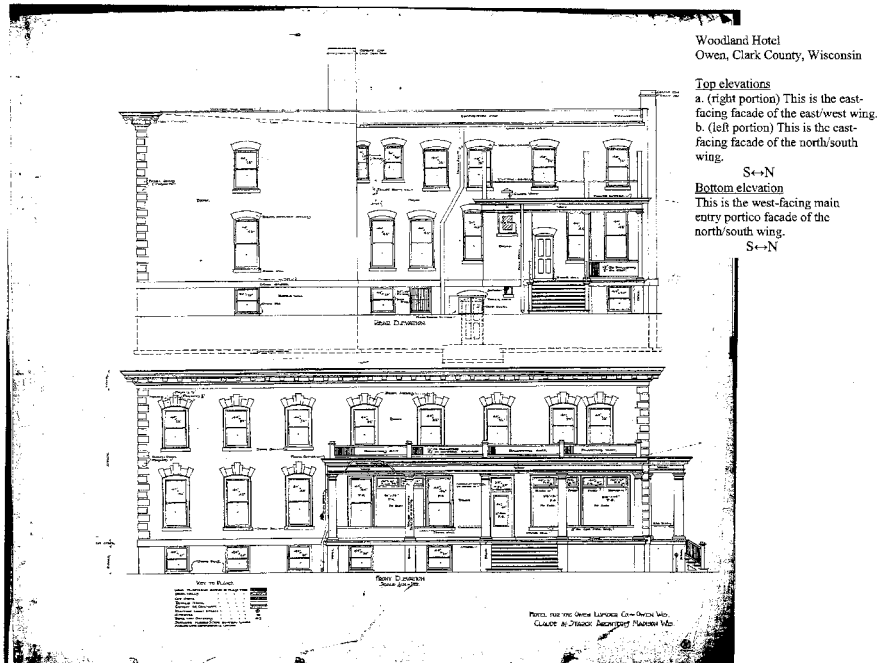
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Figure 1



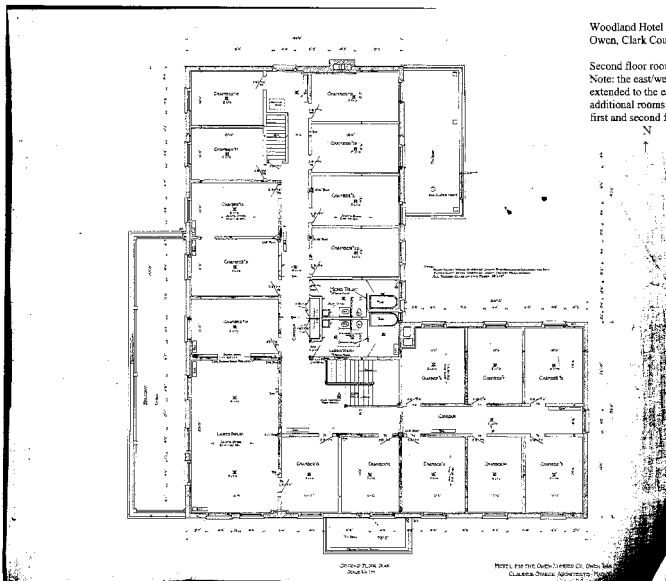
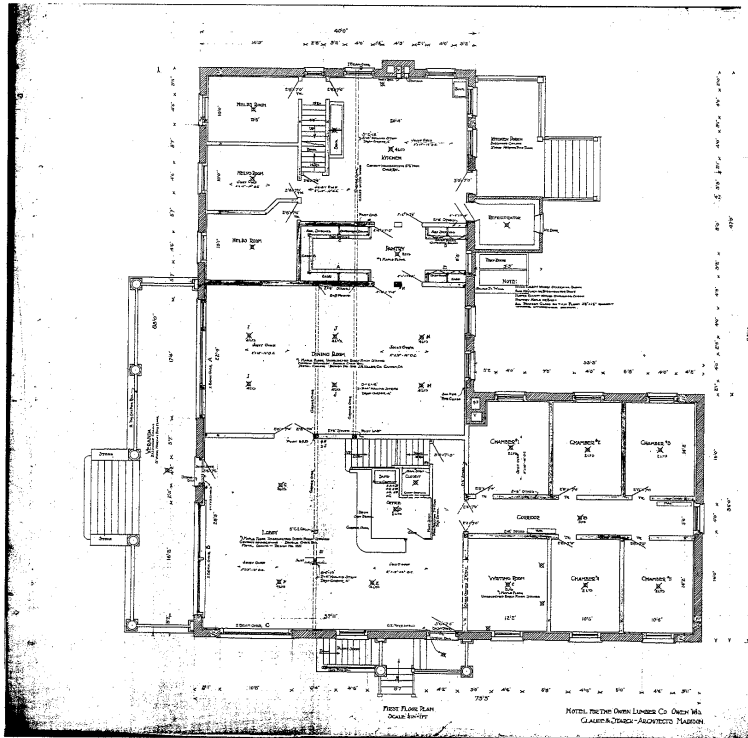
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Figure 2



Woodland Hotel
Owen, Clark County, Wisconsin

Second floor room arrangement
Note: the east/west wing was
extended to the east by four
additional rooms on both the
first and second floors

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section figures Page 4

Woodland Hotel
Owen, Clark County, WI

Figure 3



Figure 4

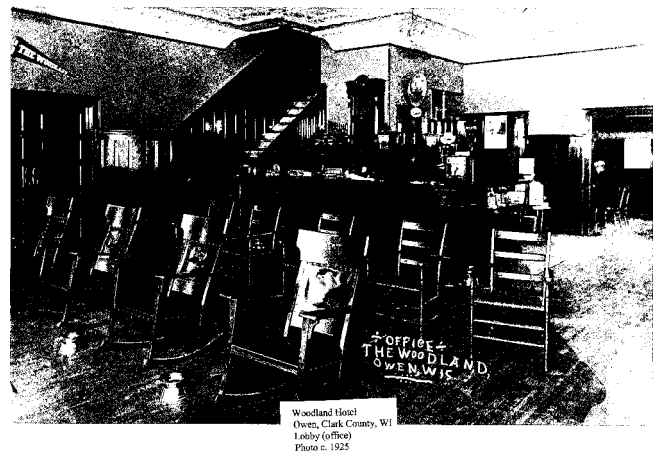
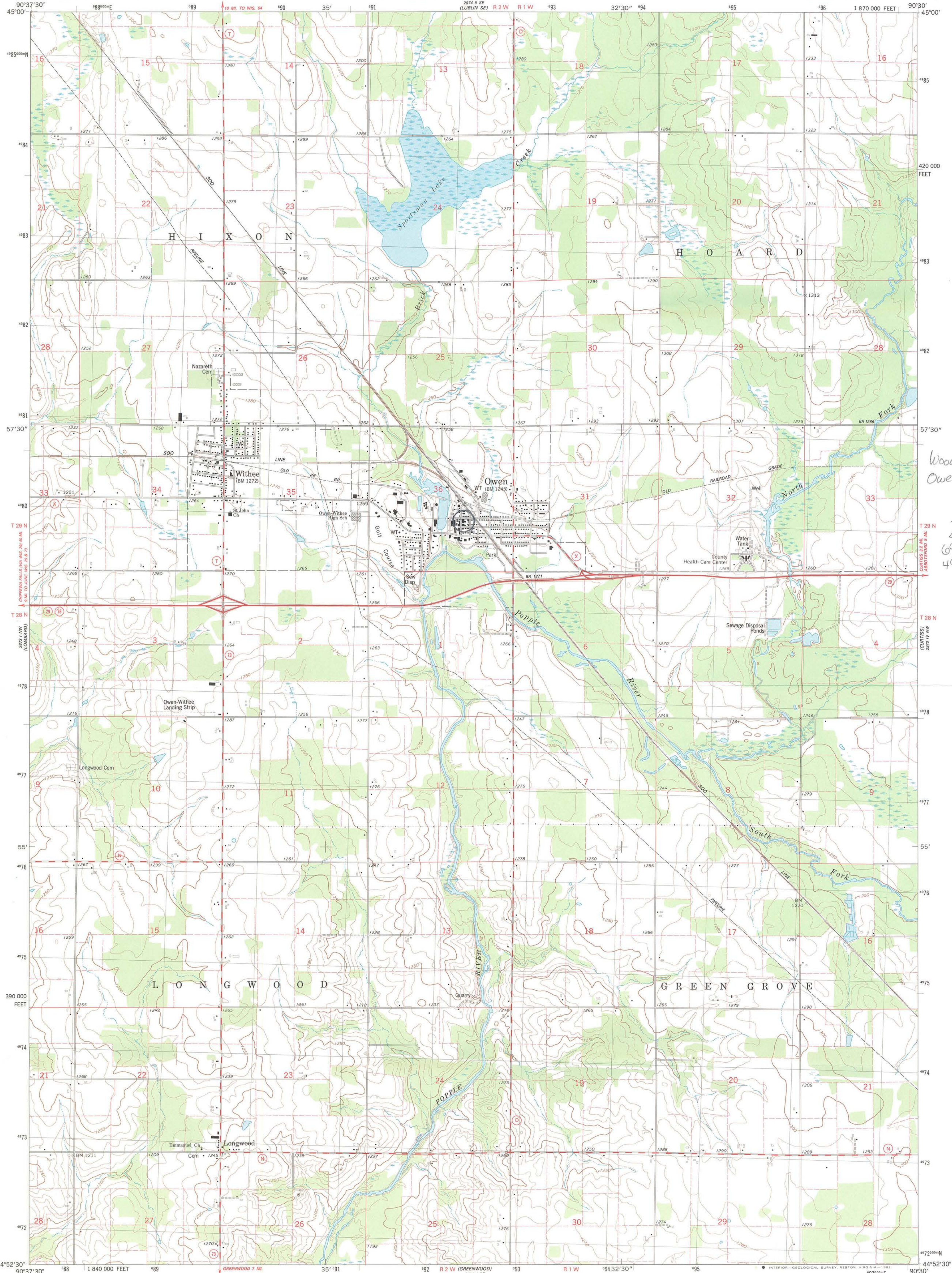
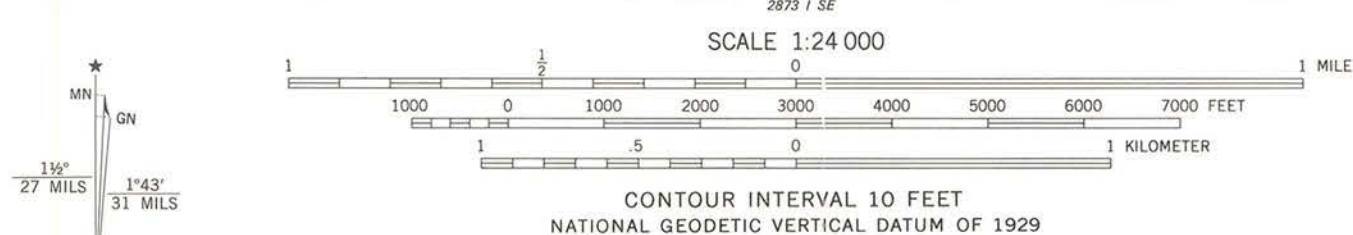


Figure 5





Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey in cooperation with the Wisconsin Division of Highways and Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey. Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA. Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1952. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1978 and 1980. Field checked 1980. Map edited 1982. Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Wisconsin coordinate system, central zone (Lambert conformal conic). 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15 1927 North American Datum. To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 6 meters north and 11 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks. Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked.



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092 AND WISCONSIN GEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY, MADISON, WISCONSIN 53706. A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

OWEN, WIS.
NE/4 OWEN 15' QUADRANGLE
N4452.5-W9030/7.5
1982
DMA 2873 1 NE-SERIES V861





Woodland Hotel
and
Supper Club

Living Room

PINE STREET

WOODLAND
HOTEL

















REST ROOM

REST ROOM





REST ROOM

God Bless The People
That Work, Live And Dine Here

Established 1880

















&a20CUNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
&a30CNATIONAL PARK SERVICE

&a22CNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
&a29CEVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Woodland Hotel
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: WISCONSIN, Clark

DATE RECEIVED: 3/25/16 &pW DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/15/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/30/16 &pW DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/10/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000240

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

&a4L

RECOM./CRITERIA

REVIEWER

TELEPHONE

Barbara Wyal
DISCIPLINE *Historian*
DATE *5-10-16*

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

BOB KULP

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 69TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

November 2, 2015

Wisconsin Historic Preservation Review Board
Peggy Veregin
Wisconsin Historical Society
816 State Street
Madison, WI 53706

To the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Review Board:

I am writing in support of the Woodland Hotel which is up for nomination to the Wisconsin State Register of Historic Places and National Register of Historic Places. The building, located in Owen, WI, is part of the 69th State Assembly district that I represent.

The Woodland Hotel was built in 1906 by the same lumber company that founded the city of Owen, the John S. Owen Lumber Company. The Woodland Hotel has been the center of the community in Owen since its construction, being one of the first major buildings built there. After the John S. Owen Lumber Company went out of business in 1942, the legacy of the lumber industry in the area continued to be represented by the Hotel. It has only passed through five owners in its long history.

The building remains in excellent condition, as it is still open for business. Today it is a successful supper club and cocktail lounge, helping bring tourism to our community. Due to its continued historical significance to the Owen Community, the Woodland Hotel is very deserving of this honor. Therefore I support adding the Woodland Hotel to the Wisconsin State Register of Historical Places. Thank you for your consideration.

Make it a great day!



Bob Kulp
State Representative
69th Assembly District

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S 69TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



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 Twentieth day of March 2016, for the nomination of the Woodland Hotel 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>20</u>	Photograph(s)
<u>1</u>	CD with image files
<u>1</u>	Map(s)
<u>5</u>	Sketch map(s)/figures(s)/exhibit(s)
<u>1</u>	Piece(s) of correspondence
<u> </u>	Other:

COMMENTS:

<u> </u>	Please ensure that this nomination is reviewed
<u> </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: