

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

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

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

1. Name → Fredendall Block

historic Kenilworth-Fredendall Block

and/or common Fredendall Block (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 33-39 South Main Street not for publication

city, town Janesville vicinity of congressional district First

state Wisconsin code 55 county Rock code 105

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Bob Kimball

street & number 510 Greendale Drive

city, town Janesville vicinity of state Wisconsin 53545

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Rock County Courthouse

street & number 51 South Main Street

city, town Janesville state Wisconsin 53545

6. Representation in Existing Surveys (continued)

Rock County Historic Sites and Buildings title has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1975 federal state county local

depository for survey records Rock County Historical Society

city, town Janesville state Wisconsin 53545

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Fredendall Block is a large commercial-apartment structure on the N.E. corner of South Main and Court Streets. It faces west. The fabric of the block and almost all of its ornamentation are of cream brick.

The first level of the three story building is given over to retail business. There are four store fronts and two stair entrances giving access to the upper floors. Seven cast iron Corinthian pilasters demarcate the four store fronts and two stair wells across the front of the building. Each of the pilasters is marked RRIW 1869, indicating manufacture by the Rock River Iron Works, a subsidiary of Harris Manufacturing Company, Janesville. A denticulated cornice runs across the facade of the building above the pilasters and serves to define the commercial lower floor from the two residential floors above. The two stores in the south $\frac{1}{2}$ of the building retain their 1869 storefronts of plate glass with a center recessed entrance defined by slender cast iron columns on pedestals. The stores in the north $\frac{1}{2}$ have remodeled storefronts, circa 1920. Each of the store entrances is recessed.

The two floors above are chiefly distinguished by the brick work treatment around the centered window arrangement. On each floor the eight windows giving into the apartments are hooded with elaborate brickwork which rises on each side from a keystone-like corbel. The windows of the second floor are segmentally arched, while those of the ~~third floor~~ are Roman arched.

The windows of the stairwells, near the ends of the west elevation, are differently treated, although they are also segmental arched on the second floor and Roman arched on the third. Brick hood molds on the second story are modified into pedestals supporting molded brick pilasters to each side of the third-story windows. The third story hood molds are carried into inverted arches; with an intervening panel of diamond work molded brick, each two-story unit is transformed into a late Renaissance-style frontispiece.

The facade presently culminates in bands of elaborate corbelled brick cornice, enclosed by corbelled brick capitals aligned with the Corinthian columns of the first level. An elaborate parapet over the frontispieces was originally part of the building, but it was removed many years ago.

None of the interior details are significant to the nomination due to destruction by fire in 1979.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1868-69 (1)

Builder/Architect George F. Schulze, Architect (2)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Fredendall Block is a fine example of Victorian commercial architecture. It is significant for the handling of the masses and the elaboration of detail almost exclusively in brick. That it retains some of its original storefronts lends an added significance to a building that has served the Janesville community for over a century.

While the nominated structure is Italianate in detail, and anticipates the massed cast-iron facades of the later 1800's, the handling of the brick work and ornamentation of the Fredendall Block is of European origin and reflects the skill of its architect, George F. Schulze. The flatness of the hooded window treatment and the verticality and regimentation in the treatment of stairwells and windows in combination with the use of cast-iron Corinthian pilasters at the first level may anticipate the regular vertical massings of later cast-iron facades.

George F. Schulze (dates unknown), architect of the adjoining structures, was of German origin. When he designed this block for Baker and Fredendall he had been a practicing architect for about thirteen years. Some of that time had been spent in Germany, some in Milwaukee, and the last two years he had been active in Janesville with offices on West Milwaukee Street.⁽³⁾ His advertisement in Holland's Janesville Directory, 1870, lists him as the successor to Nettleton, the architect of the Lappin House and probably the Randall House. His repertoire included villas, farm houses, cottages, churches, city residences, school houses, court houses, and store fronts. He also advertised as a consulting engineer on the heating and ventilation of buildings. He was the architect of the First Ward School in Janesville, and in the absence of E. Townsend Mix, supervised the construction of the Rock County Courthouse in 1870-71. Both of these structures are now demolished. ⁽⁴⁾

Following a fire on the site of the Fredendall block in 1868, John C. Fredendall acquired the property on which he would erect one half of the present building. Hiram J. Baker (who owned the remainder of the land on which the present building would stand) and Fredendall agreed to a common wall April 5, 1869 because they were each going to put up a building. ⁽⁵⁾ Having mutually agreed, they combined their efforts to build an outstanding commercial block on a principal corner in Janesville.

The South half of the building continued to be owned by the Fredendall family from 1868 to 1966. In 1966 ownership of both the north and south halves was consolidated in the Durfee family. Following a fire in 1979 which gutted the upper two floors of the building, it was acquired by Bob Kimball. Kimball is presently restoring the exterior of the building

(continued)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Letter, Nancy B. Douglas, Rock County Historical Society, to K.E. Hundt
September 18, 1978. RCHS Collections
2-Holland's Janesville City Directory, Chicago, Western Publishing Company
1879-71

~~3-Portrait and Biographical Album of Rock County, Wisconsin, Chicago,
Acme Publishing Company, 1889~~

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Janesville West Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	3	3	4	3	9	0	4	7	2	7	3	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Legal description: Lot 4, Block 33, Original Plat Town of Janesville

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Maurice J. Montgomery, Assistant Director

Ruth Ann Willis, Preservation Officer

Nancy B. Douglas, Preservation Officer 1974-1979

organization Rock County Historical Society date December 5, 1980

street & number P.O. Box 896

telephone 608-756-4509

city or town Janesville

state Wisconsin 53545

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Richard Merriam

title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

date 2/15/82

For HCRS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 3/25/82

Melona Byers
Keeper of the National Register

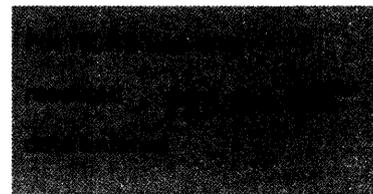
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation sheet Significance Item number 8 Page 2

and has plans for the adaptive re-use of the interior upper level space for executive type apartments. The lower floor is in use as prime retail space. The three other stores in the block have seen various uses, but have never been vacant over long periods of time.

Footnotes:

- 1.--Letter, Nancy B. Douglas, Rock County Historical Society, to K.E. Hundt September 18, 1978. RCHS Collections
Brown, William Fiske, Rock County. Chicago; 1908, p. 563
Hollands Janesville City Directory, 1870-71, p. 85
Holland's Janesville City Directory, p. 54.
- 2.--Holland's Janesville City Directory, p. 54.
- 3.--Holland's Janesville City Directory, p. 54
- 4--Holland's: Ibid. p.54
- 5--Letter, Nancy B. Douglas, Rock County Historical Society, to K.E. Hundt September 18, 1978. RCHS Collections

Continuation sheet-Representation in Existing Surveys. Item number-6, page-1.

Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places
1975

State Historical Society of Wisconsin
Madison Wisconsin 53706