## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received AUG 2 3 1983
date entered SEP 2 2 1983

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

Type all ent	ries—complete applicab	le sections			
1. Na	me				
historic	NA				
and/or comm					
2. Lo	cation Raugh	ly bounde	d lug	Louisiana and l M. 8th aucs.	" Kentucky
street & num	56., N	.5th, n.	7th, and	l n. 8th aues.	not for publication
city, town	Sturgeon Bay	vic	cinity of		
state	Wisconsin d	code 55	county	Door	code
3. Cla	assification				
Category  X district buildinge structure site object	Ownership  (s)  Divide private  Doth  Public Acquisition  in process  being considered  X NA	Status  X occupi — unocci X work ii Accessible — yes: re — yes: ui — no	upied n progress e estricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum parkX private residence _X religious scientific transportation other:
<u> 4. Ow</u>	ner of Prop	erty			
name	Multiple Ownership	See Inven	tory		
street & num!	ber				
ity, town	action of Lo		inity of	state	
5. LO	cation of Le	gai Desi	criptio	'I'	
ourthouse, r	registry of deeds, etc.	Door County	Courthous	se	
treet & numb	ber 138 South Four	th Avenue			
ity, town	Sturgeon Bay			state W	I 54235-0067
6. Re	presentatio	n in Exis	iting S	urveys	
	nsin Inventory of storic Places		has this prop	erty been determined eligib	ole? yes _X_ no
late 1975	(updated 1982)			federal X_ state	county local
epository fo	r survey records Histor	ic Preservati	on Divisio	on. State Historical	Society of Wiscons
ity, town	Madison			state Wis	sconsin 53706
,					

# 7. Description Condition X excellent X good S This is a litered X altered Check one X original site X altered M moved date M moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

#### I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District is a residential neighborhood that includes twenty-seven late 19th and early 20th Century houses and one visually prominent, turn-of-the-century church complex. The District encompasses nearly twenty-one acres and is located approximately two blocks from Sturgeon Bay's traditional central business district.

The city of Sturgeon Bay developed gradually, first along the waters of the bay that gave the city its name and then outward from the bay as the forests of pine and, later, hardwoods were cleared. (1) Houses were mixed with commercial buildings and no definitive land-use pattern was established until about 1880. A "bird's eye view" of the city published in that year shows the pattern at that time--saw-mills and shipyards along the bay, the earlier "ground cover" of wood houses and false fronted commercial building along Main Street (now Second Avenue), and Cedar Street (now Third Avenue) beginning to emerge as the real "main street". (2) Then, to the north, came open space--dotted with some churches, a handful of houses, the public school, the courthouse--and then the forest.

In 1880, the District lay in this open swath and the only hints of what was to come were the dirt paths then called Church Street (now Fifth Avenue) and Cottage (now Louisiana) Street, the clapboard sided St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church (not extant), and a house or two at the edge of the forest.

By 1893, another bird's eye view of the city showed the District beginning to take its present form. (3) Grant Street (now N. Seventh Avenue and Louisiana Street) had been platted and a few more of the large, clapboard houses that today characterize the area had been built. Also, the similarly wood clad church had been replaced by a much larger and more stylish one of brick. A parish school and a rectory (120 N. Fifth, DR 6-8) were built nearby. (Both the school and the newer brick church have been replaced.)

By the 1920s, the District was fully developed.

Today, the District is at the heart of a mature residential neighborhood, anchored by the newest (1909/10) St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church (102 N. Fifth, DR 5-36) and dominated by large, late 19th and early 20th Century houses. Set well back on ample lots that flank tree-lined streets that were stump- or tree-filled just a hundred years ago, these are still within easy walking distance of downtown and command a view on leafless winter days of the waters of the bay.

Surrounding the District are other tree-lined streets that were developed at about the same time and named for the heroes of the same war. But, the presence of the church and school complex, and the direct path to the heart of downtown Sturgeon Bay, seemed to give an added impetus to the earlier construction of houses within the District and to the maintenance of their architectural quality and integrity over time. Outside the boundaries of the District, the residential land use character of adjacent streets is similar but many houses are smaller and of more recent (1940s and later) construction or, if older, have been substantially "modernized" through remodeling. It is only within the District that a distinguishable concentration of older building types and architectural styles—and houses that have maintained their architectural integrity over time—can be found and, more importantly, seen in context. (For a discussion of

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin Continuation sheet | Item number 7 | Page 1

the techniques used in determining District boundaries, see item 8-V of this nomination.

#### II. BUILDING TYPES

The older houses that comprise the Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District have been designed in a variety of local interpretations of the late Italianate, late Queen Anne, Classical Revival, and Craftsman styles common to the District's primary period of development--1890 through 1920. Of particular interest are the "hybrid" buildings that show these styles in transition or that have been refashioned in later styles. A major visual accent is the St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church complex with the older buildings clad in grey, native limestone.

The houses located within the District are generally two or two and one-half stories high, sheathed with bevel siding, and painted white. Other colors are used, of course, but this is the dominant visual impression of the District. The houses are set back from the streets on large, neatly landscaped lots and convey a consistent, ordered image. Even with those few houses constructed after the 1920s, the District as a whole reflects a strong turn-of-the-century architectural character and tradition as shown in the multiple gables, broad porches, varied surface textures, and both classical and fanciful trim.

Only a handful of these houses have been converted to multi-family use and none are used for commercial purposes. In fact, the only non-residential use within the District is the church complex which is located on the periphery.

Fortunately, most District buildings have been well maintained although some have been altered. Many of these alterations—such as new or enclosed porches, new roofing or siding, and additions or garages—are in sympathy with the original architectural character of the buildings, however, and do not detract from the architectural integrity of the District. Additionally, many District buildings have been substantially and sympathetically rehabilitated by present owners and still others are undergoing this process.

#### III. DESCRIPTIONS OF PIVOTAL BUILDINGS

....

As a result of the architectural inventory and evaluation process on which this nomination is based, seven (22%) of the thirty-one District buildings were determined to be of "pivotal" significance, and twenty-one (68%) of "contributive" significance to the historic architectural character of the District during its primary period of development. Only three (10%) were felt to be non-contributive.

Those buildings identified as being of <u>pivotal</u> significance are well maintained, of high architectural integrity, and the best examples of a particular architectural style or building type within the District. These are the buildings that clearly illustrate the collective architectural significance of the District. Those identified as <u>contributive</u> exhibit these same characteristics but to a lesser degree. Yet, these buildings are of importance in establishing the contextual significance of the District. Non-con-

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin Continuation sheet 7 Page 2

tributive buildings are of more recent construction or substantially remodeled. While still being sound housing stock within the neighborhood, they are not architecturally representative of the District's historic period of significance. The buildings of pivotal significance within the District are described in the following paragraphs:

102 NORTH FIFTH AVENUE--ST. JOSEPH"S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, 1909/1910: St. Joseph's Parish was organized in 1865 and the first church--a plain, clapboard building--was completed in 1866 and stood on the site of the present church. (4) In 1891, a brick building replaced the original church. A rectory was added to the north in 1904 (120 N. Fifth, DR 6-8) and a school was located to the east. In 1909, this brick church was demolished and the present one begun. It was completed in 1910. (5)

One of several churches in Sturgeon Bay built of grey, local limestone, St. Joseph's is the third oldest but the most imposing and ornately detailed. Its twin towers, which flank the west facade and are capped by copper trimmed octagonal spires, are visible from the downtown and-particularly--from that portion of the city west of the bay. Done in a simply detailed, local interpretation of the Romanesque Revival style, the side windows and the belfry openings are in the form of Venetian arches. The arch motif that is a characteristic of this style is repeated in the primary entry with a large, semi-circular arch flanked by smaller versions of the same. The entry cornice is classical in tone, accented with a central pediment directly above which is a large wheel window glazed with colored, leaded glass. The stonework of the mass of the building is alternating courses of wide and narrow limestone blocks set as ashlar. The stonework for the towers above the eave line is regularly coursed. Sawn limestone (Bedford) is used for the window arches, the arcuated facia at the gable eaves, the foundation, and the water table. This is the largest and most visible of the early 20th Century churches remaining in active use in Sturgeon Bay and is of particular significance because it remains in close to original condition. (DR 5-26)

120 NORTH FIFTH AVENUE--ST. JOSEPH'S RECTORY, 1904: The rectory is intimately associated with the evolution of the St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church. Completed in 1904 when the Catholic population of the area was rising, it predates the present church by five years. (6)

The massing of this two and one-half story residential type building suggests the so-called "Foursquare" style that was beginning to become popular in the first decade of the 20th Century. This style is characterized by a square plan, hipped roof, broad porch, and central dormer. The detailing is handsome--particularly the central gable above a bracketed cornice which is sheathed with shingles and accented with a Palladian motif window. A broad porch, extending across the front of the building, has been removed and replaced with a newer and smaller entry porch, stairs, and handrail. The lower story is of rusticated local limestone, grey in color, and laid as ashlar in alternating wide and narrow courses. The upper story is of regularly coursed limestone set as rockfaced ashlar. This is the only residential type

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

For NPS use only received date entered

Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin Continuation sheet Item number 7 Page 3

building within the District of local limestone and is also of significance as the oldest building comprising the present St. Joseph's Church complex. (DR 6-8)

114 N. SEVENTH AVENUE--THE C.M. SMITH HOUSE, 1879: C.M. Smith, a Sturgeon Bay insurance salesman, constructed this house in 1879. (7) In 1881, he became associated with a drugstore operation which soon failed. He moved to California in 1886. (8)

This two-story, clapboard clad house is a tri-gabled "ell" variation of the typical vernacular style of builder's house of the late 19th Century. Generally, this style is unadorned and sheathed with simple clapboards. is plainly detailed except at the window surrounds which have incised lintels. These are located at the second story and at the north side. More ornate windows with multiple lights are at the lower level including a larger, many muntined window on the primary facade. A Palladian motif window is also on the lower level of the north side. These later modifications may have been made around the turn-of-the-century when Eastake style detailing was in voque. A deep porch extends across the width of the primary facade and fills the legs of the "ell". The classifual detailing of this feature is indicative of another and perhaps later remodeling. An extension of the house to the rear shows detailing similar to that of the primary structure although this may be a later addition. The house is painted red with white trim and is the oldest extant building within the District. It is an example of a simple, early house that has been remodeled during the early decades of the 20th Century. Thus it shows the characteristics of several popular design styles. (DR 15-35)

54 N. EIGHTH AVENUE--THE GEORGE W. WASHBURN HOUSE, 1901: George W. Washburn was the son of Nevil S. Washburn, a yard foreman of the Sturgeon Bay Lumber Company. The elder Washburn eventually established his own lumber company which he passed on to his son. The Washburns were associated with the A.W. Lawrence interests which inluded banking and commercial fruit growing. (9) The House was built in 1901. (10)

This two and one-half story, bevel sided house is in the late Queen Anne style. Characteristically, it is asymetrical in plan and fenestration yet quite chaste in detailing with classical elements and ornament. This particular variation of this hybrid style is called by some the "Princess Anne" and reflects a concern with the "propriety" of classical detailing while retaining the asymetry and textural variety of its more exhibitionistic ancestors. A Palladian motif window on the gable of the primary facade and the gabled veranda with its roof supported by grouped Tuscan columns are characteristics of the Classical Revival style just becoming popular. The proch columns are supported by bases of uncourrsed rubble. The roof is of composition shingles and the gable is sheathed with ones of sawn wood. This building, painted white with grey trim, appears to be virtually unaltered from the original. This could probably be because of the quality of materials supplied, no doubt, by the original owner's lumber business. (DR 22-6)

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received data entered

Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin Continuation sheet | Item number 7 | Page 4

627 KENTUCKY STREET--THE A. HAMACHECK HOUSE, 1904: The site on which this house was built was unimproved until 1904 when A. Hamacheck constructed a house which was valued on the local tax rolls at \$2,450. (11)

This two-story house is an "ell" in plan and is in the simple vernacular, or builder's style of the turn of the century. The gables are clad with fancy butt shingles, and the roof extends downward to cover the porch which fills the legs of the "ell". The building is clad with white painted bevel siding and pierced with a variety of window forms including a "carpenter's" Palladian window, (a tall, rectangular central window flanked by two similar lower ones) and paired windows with stained, leaded glass in the transoms. The rear porch has a shed roof and is entered through an ornately arched opening. This is an excellent example of the common turn-of-the-century building style within the District that has not been altered substantially over time. (DR 20-12)

552 LOUISIANA STREET--THE CHARLES REYNOLDS HOUSE, 1903: Charles Reynolds became identified with the foods industry in 1888. He became the head of the Reynold's Preserving Company in partnership with his Edward. The company eventually pioneered the packing of fruit. (12) Reynolds built this house in 1903. (13).

This two-story, tri-gabled house has little in the way of ornate detailing as was commonly applied to other houses within the District. Two features are of interest—the double windows which are found on both levels of the primary facade, with their broad (and gabled at the second level) surrounds, and the veranda with a gabled accent at the entry. Now painted yellow with white trim, the only modifications to this largely intact and well maintained house are the reroofing with asphalt shingles and the cladding of the porch gable and railing with a clapboard like material slightly wider than the beaded, lap siding found on the remainder of the house. Some hints of the Classical Revival style can be seen in the massing of the porch roof and the detailing of the windows. This plainly detailed house is an excellent example of the unadorned vernacular house type of the turn of the century. (DR 18-8)

808 LOUISIANA STREET--THE WALTER J. OERTLING HOUSE, 1920: Gideon W. Allen owned the land on which this house was built since the formation of the city in 1883. Allen was the spiritual leader of the local Democratic party. (14) He sold many of his parcels of land as building lots in this area. In 1919, Walter J. Oertling acquired the property and, the next year, completed a house valued at \$1.350. (15)

This one and one-half story house is symetrical in plan and is accented with Colonial Revival motif detailing interpreted in the Craftman style popular in the years around World War I. This style is characterized by certain blockiness of detailing that gives the appearance of sturdy, hand crafted (almost a "basement workshop" project) construction with the structural elements either exposed or implied. The central dormer and the eaves of the main

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin Continuation sheet | Item number 7 | Page 5

roof show the characteristically exposed rafter ends, the upper sash of the paired and tripled windows are glazed with small lights, and the entry door is surrounded by sidelights with a fanlight above. False blinds stop the window spread and the entry portico is protected by an arched roof supported by round, unfluted columns. This house is clad with narrow gauge, bevel siding and is painted white. It is the center of three similarly detailed houses that represent the last architectural style that was in vogue during the District's period of significance. (DR 15-36)

#### IV. ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

Archaeological investigations within the District have not been undertaken and its archaeological potential is not known at this time.

#### V. INVENTORY AND EVALUATION OF DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

Note: Evaluations are indicated as (P) Pivotal, (C) Contributive, and (N) Non-Contributive.

ADDRESS/ PHOTO KEY	EVALUATION	OWNER	OWNER'S ADDRESS
102 N. Fifth DR 5-36	(P)	St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church	526 Louisiana Street Sturgeon Bay
120 N. Fifth DR 6-8	(P)	St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church	526 Louisiana Street Sturgeon Bay
24 N. Seventh DR 18-16	(C)	Fannie B. Prichep	Same
30 N. Seventh DR 18-15	(N)	Michael E. Seeber	160 N. Third Avenue Sturgeon Bay
36 N. Seventh DR 18-13	(C)	Norbert J. Peot	Bay Shore Drive Sturgeon Bay
114 N. Seventh DR 15-35	(P)	Robert G. Wettstein	Same
123 N. Seventh DR 20-11	(C)	Vera E. Parsons	Same
130 N. Seventh DR 15-34	(C)	Carl G. Fischer	Same
54 N. Eighth DR 22-6	(P)	Richard J. McCormick	Same

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin Continuation sheet | Item number 7 | Page 6

Softingation sileet		nem number	/Page 6
(Continued)			
ADDRESS/ PHOTO KEY	EVALUATION	OWNER	OWNER'S ADDRESS
627 Kentucky DR 20-12	(P)	Roderick D. Buechner	Same
525 Louisiana DR 19-18a	(C)	Richard J. Virlee	534 Delaware Street Sturgeon Bay
526 Louisiana DR 18-5	(C)	St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church	Same
531 Louisiana DR 19-17a	(C)	Barbara J. Degrave	Same
537 Louisiana DR 19-16a	(C)	Paul Kiehnau	Route 1 Sturgeon Bay
538 Louisiana DR 18-6	(C)	Agnes O'Hern	Same
541 Louisiana DR 19-15a	(N)	Joseph J. Martinson	Same
544 Louisiana DR 18-7	(C)	Bank of Sturgeon Bay Trustee for M&E Prang	217 N. 4th Avenue de Sturgeon Bay
549 Louisiana DR 19-14a	(C)	Mrs. Lucy Brauer	Same
551 Louisiana DR 19-12a	(C)	Jean C. Hougard	Same
552 Louisiana DR 18-8	(P)	Harry W. Nell	Same
604 Louisiana DR 18-9	(N)	Stanford Johnson	Same
607 Louisiana DR 19-11a	(C)	Edmund A. Paul	Same
611 Louisiana DR 19-10a	(C)	Peninsular Land Co c/o A. Breuer	orp. 118 North Lawton Place
612 Louisiana DR 18-10	(c)	United Meth. Church	Same

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic DIstrict, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin Continuation sheet 7 Page 7

(Continued)

ADDRESS/ PHOTO KEY	EVALUATION	OWNER	OWNER'S ADDRESS
712 Louisiana DR 18-17	(C)	Ruth Wendorf	Same
722 Louisiana DR 18-18	(C)	Ronald R. Casadont	Same
808 Louisiana DR 15-36	(P)	Darrel J. Schaefer	Same
816 Louisiana DR 15-37	(C)	John Weiterman	Same
828 Louisiana DR 18-21	(C)	John Garland	Same
836 Louisiana DR 18-22	(C)	Margaret E. Taylor	Same
842 Louisiana DR 18-23	(C)	William G. Berg	Same

### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 X 1800–1899 X 1900–	Areas of Significance—C — archeology-prehistoric — archeology-historic — agriculture — X architecture — art — commerce — communications		g landscape architectur law literature military music	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1890 to 1920	Builder/Architect	NA	

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District is the most architecturally intact and representative grouping of late 19th and early 20th Century houses in Sturgeon Bay. For this reason, it is signficant as a distinguishable entity that is more than merely the sum of its component parts. Most of these houses have not been substantially altered, the integrity of the streetscape has not been eroded, and many examples of the anonymous craftsmanship of the turn-of-the-century housebuilder remain. It is not a neighborhood of millionaires' mansions, nor is it a neighborhood of workingmen's cottages. It is a modest, middle class neighborhood not dominated by any particular architectural style but reflecting--and illustrating--a wide variety of traditional, local residential building modes.

#### II. HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

Because the significance of the District is primarily architectural and therefore visual, its development from edge-of-town open space to a built-up residential neighborhood within the context of the early growth of Sturgeon Bay was discussed in Item 7--the descriptive section of this nomination. The District evolved from forest to cropland to neighborhood with the primary period of development occurring between 1890 and 1920. It was during this time that its present architectural character was established. It was also during this span of thirty years that the architectural styles that distinguish the District today emerged, flourished, and waned. This is not to say that earlier (or later) buildings do not exist. They do. But, the present architectural character of the District was firmly established within that time frame.

Within the District itself, growth was not systematic as in a contemporary residential subdivision. Houses were built in a hop-scotch pattern and later houses in later styles were built on bypassed lots. The earliest is the house that was seen in the 1880 bird's eye view--the C.M. Smith House at 114 N. Seventh Avenue (DR 15-35), built in 1879. It is set back at some distance from the street on a large, wooded lot. Other early houses appear to have developed from the edge of the District toward the center, probably following the availability of road access from the periphery. (16) The growth by 1890 added several houses including 525 (DR 19-18a), 537 (DR 10-16a), and 544 (DR 18-7) Louisiana Street, all of which can be distinguished on the1893 bird's eye view of the city.

#### III. AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE

#### ARCHITECTURE

Because of its present and--when compared with other residential areas within the city--relatively intact historic architectural character, the District is an environment that

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheets

10. Geograph	ical Data			
Acreage of nominated property				
Quadrangle name Sturgeon Bay East			Quadran	gle scale 1:24000
UTM References				
A 116 4710 41610 Zone Easting	4 19 6 14 6 10 10 Northing	B 1 <sub>6</sub> Zone	4 7 0 3 8 0 Easting	4 <sub>1</sub> 9 6 <sub>1</sub> 4 6 <sub>1</sub> 6 <sub>1</sub> 0  Northing
c 116 47,05,00 [	4   9   6   4   7   8   0	D 116	4 7 10 5 18 10	419 614 81410
E 116 4710 81410	419 614 71610	F [1 <sub>1</sub> 6]	4 7 0 8 4 0	4 19 6 14 7 10 10
$G[1_16][4]7_10[7_14_10][$	4,9 6,4 6,4,0	H [1 <sub>1</sub> 6]	4 7 10 6 4 10	4 9 6 4 7 0 0
Verbal boundary descriptio	n and justification			
See Continuation	Sheets			
List ail states and counties	for properties over	lapping state or c	ounty boundaries	B
state NA	code	county		code
state	code	county		code
Historian organization Pfaller Herbs		C. d	ate 1 March 1	ed H. Zeitlin, Ph.D., 983 271-5350
ity or town Milwaukee		s	tate Wisc	onsin 53202
				ertification
The evaluated significance of the	nis property within the	state is:		
national	state	_X_ local		
As the designated State Historic 665), I hereby nominate this pro according to the criteria and pro State Historic Preservation Office	perty for inclusion in to ocedures set forth by the	he National Register	and certify that it h	
itle Director of Histor	ic Preservation	W	date	August 16,198
For NPS use only I hereby certify that this p	roperty is included in the	he National Register Entered in the National Regis	Mining and the second s	9/22/83
Keeper of the National Reg	107 - 100 -		. Colle	A STATE OF THE STA
Chief of Registration	And the second s		Acceptable of these	

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

LOuisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin Continuation sheet 8 Page 1

conveys a sense of time and place through the survival of a variety of building types and architectural styles. That this variety is found within a distinguishable context allows the relationship of these to be clearly seen within the District.

During the District's primary period of development—about 1890 through 1920—buildings were constructed in local interpretations of a variety of architectural styles. The simplest and earliest of these is, of course the vernacular style of plain, unacorned house. These were, and still are, commonly found throughout the city although, too often, these once simple buildings have been substantially remodeled and "modernized." The best example of this style within the District—originally plain and later "fancied up" through turn-of-the-century remodelings—is the C.M. Smith House, 1879, at 114 N. Seventh (DR 15-35). A later example, but one having retained its plainness, is the house at 712 Louisiana Street (DR 18-17), built about 1910.

The building of larger houses by more wealthy individuals did not occur in Sturgeon Bay to any great extent until the 1880s, peaking in the 1910s. For this reason, Sturgeon Bay architecturally bypassed the Italianate style which was popular with affluent Midwesterners through the 1870s and into the 1880s. This style never found a substantial foothold in Sturgeon Bay and, of the handful ofhouses built in this style, only later "editions" exist and the most significant of these are located outside the District. The one example within the District that shows hints of the Italianate style is the large, frame house at 525 Louisiana Street (DR 19-18a). This plainly detailed, two story, three bay, hipped roof house was not constructed until the end of the 1880s, quite late for this style, and shows the characteristics of the Italianate only in its massing and in diminutive brackets at the cornice. This house has been recently and sympathetically rehabilitated.

By far, the greatest number of houses within the District show the characteristics of the later Queen Anne style which reached its peak of popularity in Sturgeon Bay at the turn of the century. This architectural style is characterized by an asymetry of plan and massing but with not as great a variety of building materials and textures as was commonly used in the earlier editions of this style. Also, the application of Classical Revival trim, porches, and other touches hint at the relative lateness of these buildings. This is the dominant architectural style within the District and the concentration of so many intact examples of local interpretations of this style is a major factor contributing to the significance of the District. The finest example of this style in the District, and one of the best within the city, is the George W. Washburn House at 54 N. Eighth Avenue (DR 22-6), built in 1901. Several other houses, such as 551 (DR 19-12a) and 537 (DR 22-6) Louisiana Street, are less oppulent examples of this style. A still later (1900 to 1920) variation of this style, descriptively titled by some the "Princess Anne," is still more chaste in its detailing. Examples of this style include 828 (DR 18-21) and 836 (DR 18-22) Louisiana Street. These District examples are similar to many other houses of this period scattered throughout the city. Many of those, however, have been substantially altered and none can be seen in as intact a context as within the District.

After the turn of the century, the Classical Revival influence was felt more strongly in the District. It was not, however, shown in any way other than in the detailing of some of the later Queen Anne style houses and in the almost universal practice of painting houses solid colors, especially white. Hints of Classical Revival detailing

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For MPS use only received date entered

Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin Continuation sheet Item number 8 Page 2

in the remodeling of earlier houses can be seen, particularly in the entry porches, of 611 Louisiana Street (DR 19-10a) and 123 N. Seventh Avenue (DR 20-11). This is the first of two major threads of architectural hybridization that can be traced within the District. The later popularity of the Craftsman style formed the other thread. As the other District example of hybridization, this is shown in the remodeling of earlier buildings with Craftsman detailing. This is particularly evident on entry porches and enlarged windows-as at 130 N. Seventh Avenue (DR 15-34), and 544 Louisiana Street (DR 18-7).

A number of later (1910s-1920s) buildings were designed entirely in the Craftsman style. While not the dominant architectural style within the District, these later house contribute to its architectural significance by showing both transitional and mature examples of this many faceted style. An example of the "rustic" variation, with a large fieldstone porch, is at 130 N. Seventh (DR 15-34) and three Neo-Georgian variations, with their blockish but classically derived detailing, are at 722 (DR 18-8), 808 (DR 15-36), and 816 (DR 15-37) N. Seventh Avenue. The Walter J. Oertling house (808 N. Seventh), built in 1920, shows this stylistic variation both within the District and the city at its best.

The only non-residential buildings within the District are those of the St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church Complex--the present rectory, at 120 N. Fifth Avenue (DR 6-8), the church itself, at 102 N. Fifth Avenue (DR 5-36) and the more recent building at 526 Louisiana (DR 18-5). (The school, built in the late 1930s, is located outside the District.) The newer building is of buff colored limestone and, while large and of relatively recent construction (c1960), maintains a residential character that complements that of the District. The two older structures are pivotal to the significance of the District--the rectory as an example, done in local limestone, of the popular early 20th century "Foursquare" style and the church as the most ornately detailed and architecturally intact local limestone church within the city. These are described in detail in Item 7-II of this nomination. The church, in particular, is also the major visual landmark within the District and its twin spires are visible throughout Sturgeon Bay. It has been historically associated with the development of the District through three architectural generations--clapboard, brick, then limestone--since 1866. (17)

#### **SUMMARY**

While there are residential structures of greater architectural significance located within Sturgeon Bay, it is only within the Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District that there is a surviving concentration of older, well maintained, and architecturally intact houses that, collectively, are of architectural significance in Sturgeon Bay. A walk around the District is a visual textbook on the way Sturgeon Bay families built houses, adapted them to new fashions, and continue to use them today.

#### IV. INTEGRITY OF THE DISTRICT

At the present time there are no unbuilt lots and only three buildings within the District that, because of their recent construction or substantial remodeling, were

NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82)

OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

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

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin Continuation sheet | Item number | 8 | Page 3

felt to be non-contributive to its architectural significance. Because of this sense of architectural and land-use continuity, the District retains a clearly distinguishable sense of both historic and architectural cohesiveness, not as an architectural set-piece but as a living and livable neighborhood that has retained its architectural character over time.

There appears to be an increasing amount of rehabilitation occurring at this time as well as a continuing high level of maintenance activity. Also, the adoption of a local historic preservation ordinance by the City of Sturgeon Bay is being considered and would provide a formalized design review process fo the area should it be designated as a local historic preservation district.

#### V. BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary of the Louisiana/Seventh Avenue Historic District was determined during the completion of the intensive architectural and historical survey of Sturgeon Bay. During that survey, all buildings in the city were preliminarily evaluated in accordance with their architectural significance using the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places. This information was mapped and tentative district boundaries were drawn around those areas where clusters of significant buildings were located. These preliminary boundaries were then "tested" in the field by a more detailed evaluation that determined the pattern of pivotal, contributive, and non-contributive buildings both within a potential district and on its periphery.

The boundary for this District was finally determined by encompassing the greatest number of the two higher categories of buildings and including non-contributive buildings only to the extent necessary to assure that the continuity of the "neighborhood" character of the District was not impaired.

It was necessary to use this technique because the District is in the center of a larger area with similar land-use characteristics but dissimilar architectural qualities. For ease of description and recording, specific District boundary lines then followed lot lines or the right-of-way lines of streets and alleys to the extent possible. The boundary of the District is as shown on the accompanying map.

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin Continuation sheet | Item number 7.8 | Page 1

#### NOTES FOR THIS NOMINATION

- Holand, Hjalmer R. <u>History of Door County, Wisconsin, Vol. I.</u> (Chicago, 1917). pp. 147-148.
- (2) Stoner, J.J., Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin 1880, Bird's Eye View. (Madison, 1880).
- (3) Pauli, C.J. Sturgeon Bay 1893, Bird's Eye View. (Milwaukee, 1893).
- (4) Holand, op. cit., p. 194.
- (5) Broens, Rev. Alph. <u>General Information Pertaining to the Church of the Patronage</u> of St. Joseph--Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin. (Muskego, Michigan, 1905).
- (6) Holand, op. cit., p. 194.
- (7) Tax Roll, Village of Sturgeon Bay, n.p., and Door County Advocate (Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin), 12 October 1879, p. 1.
- (8) Holand, op. cit., p. 99.
- (9) Western Historical Company, <u>History of Northern Wisconsin</u>, (Chicago, 1881) p. 262.
- (10) Tax Roll, City of Sturgeon Bay, n.p.
- (11) Ibid.
- (12) Holand, op. cit., p. 97.
- (13) Tax Roll, City of Sturgeon Bay, n.p.
- (14) Greene, Stanley R. "Papers" (in possession of Mr. Greene, Sturgeon Bay).
  Biographical File.
- (15) Tax Roll, City of Sturgeon Bay, n.p.
- (16) Randall and Williams Co., <u>Illustrated Atlas of Door County</u>, (Oshkosh, Wisconsin, 1899) and Sanborn-Perris Co., <u>Maps of Sturgeon Bay.</u>, (New York, 1885, 1891, 1898, 1904, 1911, 1919, 1928).
- (17) Broens, op. cit.

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

For NPS use only received date entered

Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Continuation sheet ltem number q Page 9

Wisconsin

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

### Unpublished Sources

Door County Treasurer's Records 1860-1864, State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Archives.

Greene, Stanley R. "Papers," In possession of Mr. Greene, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.

Tax Roll, City of Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin--1884-1935. City Assessor's Office, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.

Tax Roll, Village of Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin--1874-1883. City Assessor's Office, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.

U.S.--Works Progress Administration, Federal Writers Project Green Bay District Office, Papers, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Archives.

### Other Primary Sources

Broens, Rev. Alph. General Information Pertaining to the Church of the Patronage of St. Joseph Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin (Muskegon, Michigan, 1905).

Door County Advocate, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, 1862 to date.

"Diamond	Jubilee	Edition,"	Oct.	21,	1958,	Sturgeon	Bay,	Wisconsin	l -

"Centennial Issue," March 22, 1962, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.

Martin, Charles I. History of Door County, Wisconsin (Sturgeon Bay, 1881).

Western Historical Co. History of Northern Wisconsin (Chicago, 1881).

Wisconsin, State of, Blue Books (Madison 1875-1980).

### Maps and Bird's Eye Views

Hixon, W.W. and Co. Plat Book of Door County, Wisconsin (Rockford, Illinois, 1920).

Nelson, Otto (comp.) Atlas of Door County, Wisconsin (Sturgeon Bay, 1914).

Pauli, C.J. Sturgeon Bay 1893 (Milwaukee, 1893)--Bird's Eye View.

Randall and Williams Co. Illustrated Atlas of Door County (Oshkosh, WI, 1899).

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

For NPS use only received date entered

Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic District, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin Continuation sheet Page 2

Sanborn-Perris Map Co., Ltd. Sturgeon Bay (New York, Chicago, 1885, 1891, 1898, 1904, 1911, 1919, and 1928.)

Stoner, J.J., Sturgeon Bay, 1880--Bird's eye view. (Madison, 1880.)

#### Published Secondary Works

Bureau of Community Development, U.W. Extension (Comp.) Economic Base Survey of Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin (Sturgeon Bay, 1956).

Holand, Hjalmer R. History of Door County, Wisconsin, 2 vols. (Chicago, 1917).

"Glimpses of Door County by Early Travelers." Peninsula Historical Review, vol. 6, no. 1 (April, 1932).

Old Peninsula Days (Ephraim, Wisconsin, 1945).

Kahlert, John. Early Door County Buildings and the People who Built Them 1849-1910. (Baily's Harbor, Wisconsin, 1978).

Stapleton, George M. "The Development of Door County as shown by Legal Documents and Records." The Peninsula, vol. 1 (1948).

OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82)

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

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Historic DIstrict, Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin Continuation sheet Item number 10 Page 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Louisiana Street/Seventh Avenue Hi toric District is as shown on the accompanying map and is described as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of N. Fifth Avenue and Louisiana Street, thence northerly along N. Fifth Avenue to the northwest lot line of 120 N. Fifth Avenue, thence easterly along said lot line of 526 Louisiana Street, thence easterly along said rear lot line and then continuing easterly following the rear lot lines of those properties fronting on Louisiana Street to the intersection with the alley, thence northerly along said alley to Kentucky Street, thence easterly along Kentucky Street (as extended) to the rear lot line of 130 N. Seventh Avenue, thence southerly along said lot line and then continuing southerly and east following the rear lot lines of those properties on N. Seventh Avenue and Louisiana Street to the intersection with Michigan Street, thence south to the intersection of Michigan and Louisiana Streets, thence west along Louisiana Street to the intersection with the alley, thence south along this alley to the intersection with the south property line of 54 N. Eighth Avenue, thence west to the intersection of said property line and N. Eighth Avenue, thence northerly along N. Eighth Avenue to its intersection with Louisiana Street, thence west along Louisiana Street to its intersection with the rear lot line of 611 Louisiana Street, thence westerly along said lot line and continuing westerly following the rear lot line of those properties fronting on Louisiana Street to the intersection with the southwest property line of 525 Louisiana Street, thence northerly along said property line to its intersection with Louisiana Street, thence westerly along Louisiana Street to the point of beginning. This is an area of approximately 20.89 acres.

## Historic Buildings Survey STURGEON BAY, WISCONSIN

## LOUISIANA/SEVENTH AVENUE Historic Preservation District

