

<b>1</b> City, Village or Town: Superior	County: Douglas	Surveyor: P. Lusignan	Date: 2/1/85	Street East 5th Street Number 2229 Town 49N Range 13W Section 30 Map Name Superior Intensive Survey Map Code J	
Street Address: 2229 East 5th Street (North corner N 5th St. and 23rd Ave. East.)		USGS Quad and UTM Reference: Superior WI-Minn. 15 / 572720 / 5172480	Acreage: less than one		
Current Name & Use: Barnard,s Mini Market/Apartments		Current Owner: Walter L. Haugen			
Film Roll No. DG - 12	Affix Contact Prints	Current Owner's Address: 43 Billings Drive Superior, Wisconsin 54880			
Negative No. 14		Legal Description: Townsite of Superior; West 5th Street, Lots 284,286, 288. (all within the present city of Superior.)			
Facade Orient. Southwest					
<b>2</b> Original Name & Use: Northern Block	Source A, D	Previous Owners	Dates	Uses	Source
Dates of Construction /Alteration 1888-1889	Source B, D				
Architect and/or Builder: Conover, Porter and Padley	Source C				
<b>3</b> Architectural Significance <input type="radio"/> Represents work of a master <input type="radio"/> Possesses high artistic values <input checked="" type="radio"/> Represents a type, period, or method of construction <input type="radio"/> Engineering <input type="radio"/> None	<b>4</b> Historical Significance <input type="radio"/> Assoc. with lives of significant persons <input type="radio"/> Assoc. with significant historical events <input checked="" type="radio"/> Assoc. with development of a locality <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ <input type="radio"/> None Period of significance: _____				Section 30 Map Name Superior Intensive Survey
Architectural Description and Significance:  The two story Romanesque Revival office building rests on a rusticated base of brown Arcadian sandstone. Ruggedly detailed, the 12,000 square foot building features a rusticated stone surround about its central, raised entry. The doorway itself is lit by a large semicircular fan light. At the second floor, the window openings have splayed brick lintels over segmental openings. The sash units, unfortunately, have been altered and now consist of small double-hung and (continued) Interior visited? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Historical Background and Significance:  The 100 x 60 foot Northern Block was built by the Northern Improvement Co. in 1888-89. A sizable commercial structure for that date, the speculative block attained local importance as one of the earliest major business centers in the older East End business area of the city. A small scale land speculating company, the Northern Improvement Co. restricted its investment to the East End and succeeded in making the Northern (continued)				
<b>5</b> Sources of Information (Reference to Above) <b>A</b> Name Stone	<b>6</b> Representation in Previous Surveys <input type="radio"/> HABS <input type="radio"/> LDMK <input checked="" type="radio"/> WIHP <input type="radio"/> NRHP <input type="radio"/> other: _____				Map Code J
<b>B</b> Assessor's Records	<b>7</b> Condition <input type="radio"/> excellent <input checked="" type="radio"/> good <input type="radio"/> fair <input type="radio"/> poor <input type="radio"/> ruins				
<b>C</b> Superior Daily Leader, Superior, 1/8/1893	<b>8</b> District: _____ <input type="radio"/> pivotal <input type="radio"/> contributing <input type="radio"/> non-contributing				
<b>D</b> Superior Daily Leader, Superior, 10/9/1892	<b>9</b> Opinion of National Register Eligibility date: _____ initials: _____ <input checked="" type="radio"/> eligible <input type="radio"/> not eligible <input type="radio"/> unknown <input type="radio"/> national <input type="radio"/> state <input checked="" type="radio"/> local				
<b>E</b> Evening Telegram, Superior, 2/5/1934					
<b>F</b>					

Architectural Description (continued)

fixed pane units. A series of corbelled brick string courses decorate the main facades and a stone inset with the inscription Northern Block caps the main SW elevation. The roofline carries a metal cornice detailed with floral motifs. The interior has been altered to provide apartment spaces in the former office areas, but much of the original oak detailing has been retained. The western portion of the ground floor has been altered as well, with the addition of a metal and glass storefront, which serves to detract from the building's otherwise rich street facade.

Historical Background (continued)

Block a leading center of growth and business in the area. Designed by the Ashland office of architects Conover, Porter and Padley, the original plans for the site had called for a four story block. As built, the structure cost \$ 75,000 and consisted of only two stories and a full, brick-vaulted basement. With 52" thick foundation walls and oversized structural steel support members, the block was designed for easy expansion. For most of the late 19th century the block served as the home of the Superior Bank and a number of prominent local attorneys. Only in recent years has the site been converted from office/business use to apartments.

Significance

An example of the work of one of the smaller speculating companies that existed in the community in the Boom Period, the Northern Block represents the investment and developmental efforts that made the small port city of Superior a major center of trade and commerce in the upper northwest during the late 19th century.

A handsome Romanesque Revival structure the block has seen serious alterations which tend to detract from its architectural integrity. It stands never the less as one of the more ornate 19th century designs in this portion of the community, and a significant local landmark.