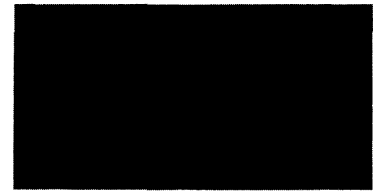


United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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

historic Halfway House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Potts Avenue _____ not for publication

city, town Rural Kenosha, Wis. _____ vicinity of congressional district 8th

state Wisconsin code 55 county Waupaca code 135

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 type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Paul and JoAnne Yaeger

street & number 377 Grandview

city, town Glen Ellyn _____ vicinity of state Illinois 60137

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Waupaca County Courthouse

street & number Main Street

city, town Waupaca _____ state Wisconsin 54981

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes no

date 1980 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin

city, town Madison _____ state Wisconsin 53706

Jan

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" 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

As originally constructed, the Halfway House consisted of two wings joined by a long one-story plus attic section. The frame, a combination of heavy timbers and locally-milled light wood members covered with clapboard, rests on a fieldstone foundation. The intersecting gable roofs were originally covered with wood shingles, since replaced with asphalt ones, with twin dormers projecting from the south slope. A partly-enclosed porch with a shed roof, also original, is attached to the south and west facades. Three double-flue brick chimneys remain from the original five. Window openings are intact and are primarily 6/6 light sash windows with the exception of the casement window on the main (south) facade. Exterior alterations include the addition of a north wing in the mid-1850s that served as kitchen and dining area for the inn. About the turn of the century, the west wing was removed by a local blacksmith who had used it as shop space. In the 1950s a garage was added to the north wing of the house and in 1969 a studio was added to the east wall of the garage. Both are covered with board and batten siding and are not visible from the main facade.

The interior of the Halfway House is in near-original condition. The first floor is irregular in plan: the present bedroom originally served as the taproom while the present living room served as office and meeting room. The low-ceilinged second floor also retains the original floor plan with three bedrooms and a large bath. Floors throughout, with the exception of the north wing and the recent studio addition, are original wide pine boards. The kitchen floor is made of hard maple. Original woodwork has been retained, including horizontal wainscoting in the kitchen and bare vertical wood walls in one second floor bedroom. Ceilings and the remaining walls are plaster-covered. The stairway illustrates the building's early construction with its square nails and wide pine boards. The living room fireplace, although not original, contributes to the period-feeling of this former inn.

The Halfway House is located on a tree-covered lane adjacent to the Crystal River in the unincorporated community of Rural, Waupaca County, the heart of the Chain O' Lakes region, long a popular resort area.

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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
				Association with
Specific dates 1852 ¹	Builder/Architect James H. Jones			significant person

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Built in 1852 by James H. Jones to attract newcomers to settle on his "rural holdings," the Halfway House is significant for the role it played in the early development of the village of Rural in southwestern Waupaca County whose growth was cut short when the railroad bypassed it in the early 1870s. Jones' Tavern, as it was otherwise known, served as the lodging and meeting place of the early settlers of this area and was the first structure of many built by Jones to promote his village.

Exploration/Settlement. In 1851, James Hinchman Jones settled along the Crystal River in what is now southwestern Waupaca County on 160 acres which he termed his "rural holdings." Of Welsh stock, Jones, unlike the others that settled in Dayton Township that year, did not have an interest in homesteading. A printer by trade with a sharp business sense, Jones saw the potential for waterpower along the Crystal River around which a community could grow. To stimulate settlement along the river, Jones erected the first frame house in the township which consisted of "two uprights joined by a long room and a partly-enclosed porch."² Located at the halfway point on the road between Berlin and Stevens Point, Jones' Tavern, as it was first called, was popularly referred to as the Halfway House. The east wing of the inn housed the taproom and an office with a stairway leading from this room to the boarding rooms on the second floor. In the west wing Jones kept a store and for a few years, the post office. When Jones became postmaster in 1853, he assigned the name "Rural" to his settlement which it retains today.³

Association with significant person. James Hinchman Jones is significant for his vital role in the establishment and development of the village of Rural. In addition to his construction of the Halfway House which initially attracted settlers to the site, Jones erected various other structures to promote the village. In 1854, hoping to divert the flow of settlers to nearby Parfreyville and Waupaca, Jones began work on a grist mill which was in operation by 1856.⁴ During Rural's boom period, roughly 1856-1871, Jones continued to erect houses in which he would live for a short time before passing them on to new settlers. Jones was also active in local politics, serving as justice of the peace of Dayton Township in 1852, sheriff of Waupaca County in 1853 and clerk of court in 1854 and 1855. Jones was also publisher of the Waupaca Spirit (1856-57) which later became the Waupaca County Post.⁵ When the railroad bypassed Rural in 1872 in favor of Waupaca, Jones moved to nearby Wild Rose, then only a crossroads, where he operated a general store for several years. About 1880, Jones returned to Rural to live with his daughter until his death in 1890.

1) Norma Stromberg, Rural on the Crystal, Amherst, Wisconsin: Palmer Publications, Inc., 1978, p. 13, and History of Waupaca County, edited by John M. Ware, Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1917, p. 400.
 2) Stromberg, Rural on the Crystal, p. 13.
 3) Ibid.
 4) Ibid., pp. 15-16.
 5) Ibid., pp. 14-15.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Green Bay Press-Gazette, October 15, 1961.
 Stromberg, Norma, Rural on the Crystal. Amherst, Wisconsin: Palmer Publications, Inc., 1978
 U.S. Census Records: Population Schedules for 1850, 1860, and 1870.
 Ware, John M., ed. History of Waupaca County. Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1917.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 0.46
 Quadrangle name King, Wis. Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>3</u> <u>2</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u> <u>3</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u> <u>8</u> <u>5</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

All of Lots 2 and 4, and the west 20 feet of Lot 6, Block "C" of the Plat of the Village of Rural.

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael R. Matucheski, Preservation Assistant, Historic Preservation Assistant
 organization State Historical Society of Wisconsin date December 10, 1980
 street & number 816 State Street telephone 608/262-2970
 city or town Madison state Wisconsin 53706

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 Mowmy

title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

date 2/8/81

For HCERS use only

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

for factory
Shelvia Byers
 Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
 National Register

date 3/1/82

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration