NPS Form 10-900 (January 1992) Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92) OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of Interior 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 inHow 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 GREEN LAKE VILLAGE HALL

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & 1	umber	534 Mill Stre	et				N/A	not for p	ublication	
city or to	wn	Green Lake					N/A	vicinity		
state W	isconsin	code	WI	county	Green Lake	code	047	zip code	54941	

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this \underline{X} 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 \underline{X} meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally state view \underline{X} locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Si nature of certifying official/Title Deputy State Historic Preservation Office

8/03/04

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

Green Lake Village Hall		Green Lake Co	ounty Wisconsin
Name of Property		County and St	ate
4. National Park Service	Certification		n Λ
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.	Cas	on H. Bal	9/15/04
National Register. See continuation sheet.	·	······································	
removed from the National Register.			
other, (explain:)	hard		. –
and the second sec	Signature of th	he Keeper	Date of Action
5. Classification	······································		······································
Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)		ces within Property viously listed resources
private	X building(s)	contributing	noncontributing
X public-local	district	1	0 buildings
public-State public-Federal	structure site		sites
public-rederal	object		structures objects
		1	0 total
Name of related multiple prope (Enter "N/A" if property not part listing. N/A		Number of contrib is previously listed 0	uting resources in the National Register
<u> </u>	·····		
6. Function or Use		······································	······································
Historic Functions		Current Functions	
(Enter categories from instructio	ns)	(Enter categories from inst	tructions)
GOVERNMENT/ CITY HALL	······································	GOVERNMENT/ CITY H	IALL
7. Description			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Architectural Classification	,	Materials	
(Enter categories from instructio	ns)	(Enter categories from inst Foundation concrete	tructions)
Modern Movement		walls brick	
·····	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	roof asphalt	
·····		other wood	······

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

Green Lake Village Hall

Name of Property

Green Lake County

Wisconsin

County and State

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.)

- \underline{X} 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.
- $\underline{X} C$ 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)

Architecture

Politics/Government Entertainment/Recreation

Period of Significance

1939-1954 (1)

Significant Dates

1939 (2)

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Weeks, W.C., Inc. (3)

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Name of Property

Green Lake County

County and State

Wisconsin

9. Major Bibliographic References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

-	preliminar listing (36 previously Register previously the Nation designated landmark recorded b	ry determination of CFR 67) has been listed in the Nation determined eligibnal Register a National Histor by Historic Americ	requested nal le by		X State Othe Feder Loca	Historic Preser r State Agency ral Agency l government ersity		
10.	Geogra	ohical Data						-
	-	operty <u>less than</u> ces (Place addition	one acre al UTM references on a contin	uation sh	eet.)			
1	16	3/4/2/5/0/0	4/8/5/6/4/3/0	3				
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	<u></u>			4			·	
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone See Cor	Easting ntinuation Sh	Northing eet	

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)

1. Form Prepar	ed By				
name/title	Peter J. Adams			• /	E 1 16 0004
organization				date	February 15, 2004
street & number	604 East Forest Avenue			telephone	920-725-1945
city or town	Neenah	state	WI	zip code	54956

Green Lake Village Hall	Green Lake County	Wisconsin
Name of Property	County and State	

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

MapsA 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	Lawrence D. Behlen, Mayor						
organization	City of Green Lake			date	February 2004		
street&number	534 Mill Street			telephone	920-294-6912		
city or town	Green Lake	state	WI	zip code	54941		

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.

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

	Green Lake Village Hall
Section <u>7</u> Page <u>1</u>	Green Lake, Green Lake County, Wisconsin

The Green Lake Village Hall is situated on less than an acre of land on the southeast corner of Mill and Water streets at the northern end of the central business district. The immediate neighborhood, located between the Puchyan River and Dartford Bay, is predominately occupied by late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial structures. Among these are the 1899 Green Lake County Courthouse (492 Hill St., NRHP 1982) and the 1910 Thrasher's Opera House (506 Mill St., NRHP 1999).

X 7°11 TT 11

The village hall is a one-story Art Deco influenced governmental building constructed of masonry and completed in 1939 as a federally funded WPA project. The structure was designed to house a high school gymnasium and stage on the first floor, with city offices, a library, and fire departments in the basement level. Side elevations on the hillside location fall to the north, allowing at-grade access to the basement along Water Street for the municipal offices. The overall plan configuration is rectangular, and the foundations are poured concrete. The walls are brown brick with a common bond and limestone coping, and the roof form is flat with a molded parapet wall along the west facade. Across west elevation and slightly lower in height is a full width pavilion of the same configuration, materials and roof form. It serves as the front entrance to the building on Mill Street. The east facade includes a lower roof level at the southeast corner and a hose drying tower on the northeast corner.

The building fenestration and entries are predominately functional and were included in a recent renovation project, reviewed by the Historic Preservation Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society and completed in the 1990s. The fenestration consists of contemporary double-hung, multi-paned sash replicating original patterns that were previously replaced in the 1980s. The entries are similarly fitted with contemporary door units. The main entrance to the gymnasium on the west facade is comprised of double multi-paned doors, which like the windows replicate those that had been original to the building. On the north facade a single multi-paned door with sidelights provides access to Green Lake's basement-level municipal offices. Two utilitarian entrances on the east facade, also basement level, employ contemporary metal door units. Two additional double metal emergency exit doors are located on the first floor of the south facade, with multi-paned transoms matching the adjacent windows. A double overhead garage door, originally serving the fire department, is located at the northeast corner of the building. A single overhead door to the west of this also served the fire department but was converted to offices as part of the renovation.

The west or main facade of the entry pavilion is symmetrically composed around the central entryway with two windows on either side. Five steps lead up from the sidewalk with flanking concrete piers and black wrought iron pedestaled lanterns. The two doors have eighteen lights each, over which is located a twelve-pane transom. Above these is a stone panel with GREEN LAKE VILLAGE HALL carved into its surface. The stonework surrounding these elements features character-defining reeded pilasters and a stepped stone entablature with a raised central chevron ornament and the year 1938 carved into the surface. The size and color of the stone matches the color and weight of the concrete foundations. Stone sills and coping provide further unity to the whole, while the entrance entablature repeats the effect of the molded parapet in the main mass. In addition to the stone sills,

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

	Green Lake Village Hall
Section <u>7</u> Page <u>2</u>	Green Lake, Green Lake County, Wisconsin

the flanking windows have recessed brick lintels and surrounds, and six-over-six sash. Below each of these is a basement level window with proportionally smaller six-over-six sash. The southern two windows are in window wells.

The north facade by comparison is functional but not without character-defining features. The most important of these is the recessing of the wall surface separating the village hall entry from the garage doors of the fire departments. The break in the expanse of concrete and brown creates two distinct bays. Reinforcing the separation of bays are an eight-over-eight window on the basement level, and an inset molded brick panel on the first floor.

The larger of the two bays incorporates the village hall entry near the northwest corner of the main mass. Confined to the concrete foundations, the doorway is flanked by two-window groupings, each with eight-over-eight sash, and two large scale wrought iron lanterns. The entry itself is made up of a single eighteenlight door with sidelights of twelve lights each. These elements are in turn all recessed within a stepped surround of molded concrete. Completing the composition of this bay are two first floor gymnasium windows with six-over-nine sash. The garage bay follows a similar design, with stepped molded concrete around both original garage entries, and two gymnasium windows on the first floor. On the basement level of this bay, two eight-over-eight windows have also been used to in-fill the smaller of the two garage entries. Completing the composition of this facade are two windows on the north facade of the west pavilion: one with sixover-six sash on the first floor, and another with the same sash pattern but proportionally smaller on the basement level.

The east facade is entirely functional and includes only a single window with sixover-six sash on the southeast corner. An enclosed coal storage area was also at one time attached to this corner of the structure, but this has since been removed as part of the reviewed renovation.

The south facade repeats the formality of the north side, but due to the higher grade incorporates little basement exposure. On the first floor gymnasium window openings are located opposite identical north windows in similar groupings of two, but in each of these the easterly opening is occupied by an exit doorway with an eighteen-pane transom light to match the height of the adjacent six-over-nine windows. Concrete steps with wrought iron railings are located at each exit, and six-over-six windows are symmetrically located in wells directly under each of the two first floor windows. A blind window, with recessed brick lintel and stone sill, is located on the south facade of the west pavilion, and a small window with six-over-six sash is located at the southeast corner of the main mass.

The interior is simple but retains much of its historic fabric on the first floor. Entering through the main west facade entrance leads to a vestibule with full width concrete steps leading up to the gymnasium. On either side of this on the first floor are bathrooms, an elevator and a small office, areas previously dedicated to kitchen and coat check facilities. The rest of the floor is dedicated to a basketball court with brown brick wainscoting and three full-span, V-arched laminated wood ceiling beams. At the east end of the room is a raised stage with

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

		•	Green Lake Village Hall
Section <u>7</u>	Page <u>3</u>		Green Lake, Green Lake County, Wisconsin

a segmentally arched proscenium of brown brick and stone skew-backs. A service area for the stage is located in the adjacent southeast corner of the building.

The lower level was originally divided into a series of small utilitarian rooms and offices accessed through the principal north entrance as well as the stairs leading down from the west main entrance vestibule. Arranged around a central Lshaped hall were village offices, library room, public toilets, and a series of showers and dressing rooms to serve home and visiting basketball teams. Of these, all are still in place but the showers and dressing rooms, these being removed with the adjoining hallway to create council chambers as part of a renovation in 2000. Although this work significantly altered the lower level in its appearance and room arrangement, the effect on the building's larger architectural integrity is minimal. Care was taken to preserve character defining features on the first floor, while at the same time continuing many of the same municipal uses on the lower level. Today, more than 60 years later, the public library and a fire department are located elsewhere, but the building still houses the city's police department, municipal offices, and recreational program.

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>8</u> Page <u>1</u>

Green Lake Village Hall Green Lake, Green Lake County, Wisconsin

The Green Lake Village Hall is eligible to the State and National Registers for its local significance under criteria A and C. Built in 1939 as a multi-use village hall and high school gymnasium under the Works Projects Administration, it was the first municipal structure constructed in Green Lake and has remained in continuous use ever since then. Architecturally, the village hall is a fine example of the influence of the Art Deco on small, municipal buildings and is among the first examples of laminated timber arches in early twentieth century construction. The center of governmental, recreational and social activities in the community, the Green Lake Village Hall is reflective of a significant period of growth and achievement.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Founded by Anson Dart of Vermont in 1845, Green Lake was originally known as Dartford. That same year a sawmill was constructed by Dart. With the addition of a dam and mill race, the local economy quickly expanded and by 1859 included grist, flour, planing and woolen mills, as well as blacksmith shops, cabinet and wagon makers, and boot and shoe makers. By 1860 the population had reached 500. Two years later Dartford became the county seat, soon after Green Lake County was created by dividing Marquette County. In 1871 Dartford incorporated as a village, and that same year railroad lines were established.(4)

Hit hard by the economic downtourn of 1873, Dartford's mill economy never fully recovered. By the 1880s tourism had become the community's growth industry, attracting a loyal following of seasonal visitors, including residents of New Orleans and Mobile who were seeking an escape from yellow fever. Although significantly smaller and less prosperous than Berlin, Dartford held on to its position as county seat through the construction of the second Green Lake County Courthouse (NRHP 1982) in 1899. To further strengthen its association with the county, Dartford reincorporated as the Village of Green Lake in 1907. The organization of a library association in 1900 and the construction of Thrasher's Opera House (NRHP 1999) in 1910 added to the village's cultural resources, as did the formation of the women's Twentieth Century Club in 1913.(5)

By the opening of the 1920s, Green Lake's notable resorts had fallen into decline as the automobile made vacationers more mobile and the popularity of rustic communal living decreased among the rich. During this period, inexpensive cottage operations and motels began to spring up. At the same time private lakefront estates increased in number, as did luxurious golf courses and country clubs. (6) The most notable of these was the Lawsonia Country Club, created in 1929 out of the estate of Chicago Daily-News owner and Associate Press co-founder Victor Lawson.

The Depression stunted Green Lake's economic development in the ensuing years, with the exception of improvements funded by the federal Works Projects Administration. A boom followed at the end of World War II, bringing with it new school construction in the 1950s and a more established division between permanent residents, referred to as "townies," and Green Lake's vacationing community, known Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>8</u> Page <u>2</u>

Green Lake Village Hall Green Lake, Green Lake County, Wisconsin

as "lakers." The last of the great resort hotels, the Maplewood, was demolished in 1958.

Green Lake incorporated as a city in 1962 and has a population of about 1,100. (7)

GOVERNMENT

During much of its early history Green Lake had been a frequently contested center of governmental activities. In 1853 as Dartford it became the Marquette County seat by a majority vote of county residents. Later that same year the Board of Supervisors had the offices and records unilaterally removed to Marquette. Nearly a decade later in 1862, Dartford once again won voter approval over Berlin as the official county seat, this time for newly organized Green Lake County.(8) Four years after that, however, neighboring Princeton sought the designation. When voters rejected the change, a delegation of Princeton residents removed official documents to their community. Later that same year the state Supreme Court ruled in favor of Dartford where the county seat has remained ever since.

With the legal challenge settled, the Dartford Building Association began construction of a stone courthouse, leased to the county in 1864. In 1870 county offices and a jail were added to the facility, all of which remained in use until 1890s, when the city of Berlin began campaigning to be made the county seat. Citing the inadequate facilities in Dartford, Berlin proponents brought the issue to a referendum, which was once again rejected by voters who preferred Dartford's more central location. The current Green Lake County Courthouse (NRHP 1982) was authorized by the county and completed in 1899 at a cost of \$25,000.

These numerous and lengthy battles, in conjunction with a decline in its economic fortunes, inhibited the development of local municipal services and facilities until well after the turn of the century. Fire and police protection was minimal, and village offices remained in rented rooms. The public library, organized in 1898, was similarly located over a paint shop. (9) Ironically, it was not until the Great Depression and the formation of the federal Works Projects Administration that the reincorporated village of Green Lake was able to establish a permanent facility serving numerous publicly needed uses.

Inspired by the construction of the Green Lake County Highway Garage, a WPA project completed just within the village limits in 1937, village officials began the application process for the construction of a village hall. (10) Securing authorization for the required bonding, use of a state trust fund loan, and WPA authorization to proceed, the Sheboygan architectural firm of W. C. Weeks Inc. was retained to design a structure intended to serve as village offices, public rest rooms, fire department, public library, high school gymnasium and locker rooms.

With ground breaking taking place in September of 1938, the construction moved forward quickly and was completed in March of 1939 at just over \$50,000. As planned, the first floor housed a gymnasium and stage, along with a cloak room and kitchen. In the lower level were the public restrooms, the public library, the

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>8</u> Page <u>3</u>

Green Lake Village Hall Green Lake, Green Lake County, Wisconsin

village boardroom and offices, the fire department, and the locker rooms needed to serve the gymnasium.

Remarkably, the building continued to serve all these uses until well into the 1950s and continues in much the same use to this day, serving as city offices and fire department, and as an activities center for the park and recreation department. The public library remained at this location until a separate facility was constructed in 1982.

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

A small yet vital part of village life, public education began in 1845 with the first school and reached a high point in 1898 with the construction of a union schoolhouse.(11) This building combined all grades in a single structure and remaining in use for nearly sixty years. What it lacked, however, were recreational facilities and any kind of large space for graduation ceremonies, dances and other social functions that had became a part of school life after the turn of the century. In 1910 these needs were met by Thrasher's Opera House (NRHP 1999), the village's first public hall. Although privately owned, it was put to use for numerous school activities, including basketball games. It also came to house village social functions and dances, adult competitive sports, and graduation ceremonies for rural country schoolhouses in the surrounding townships.

Although no documents are known to record the public deliberations, construction of a village hall with federal funding was seen undoubtedly as an opportunity to provide the school district with a formal gymnasium. As completed in 1939, the main floor was occupied by a basketball court, stage, kitchen and check room, all accessible through the principal main entrance on Mill Street. Downstairs were two sets of locker rooms, showers, public rest rooms and a library. Indeed, the largest area of the building was dedicated to school-related uses.

School district use of the main floor continued until a new high school and gymnasium were built in 1958.(12) After that the gymnasium and stage was left to the village's public recreation program, and to community social organizations. These included the 20th Century Club, which in 1941 began holding its annual flower shows there to benefit local parks. The space also was put to use by the University of Wisconsin - Extension homemakers' organization, which began staging its holiday fair and tea there in 1955. (13)

The first floor gymnasium in the Green Lake Village Hall is the only recreational structure constructed within the current city limits in the first half of the 20th century.

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>8</u> Page <u>4</u>

Green Lake Village Hall Green Lake, Green Lake County, Wisconsin

ARCHITECTURE

According to Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin, Art Deco was a romantic early 20th century style that incorporated futuristic and stylized historical details into building designs. Popular in Wisconsin from 1925 to 1945, the style is characterized by an angular hard edge suggesting machine precision, and lowrelief geometrical ornamentation including shallow fluted columns, chevrons, stylized sunbursts and muted polychromy. Verticality is stressed, enhanced in large buildings by the stepped setbacks that were required under urban zoning regulations. Popular in large buildings by famed architects, it was also popular for small-scale commercial structures in communities large and small.

The Green Lake Village Hall exemplifies elements of the style as applied to smallscale designs. Although unrestricted by zoning considerations, the building displays a vertical orientation through the stepped setbacks of the parapet walls, with added height provided by the sloping site. Equally characteristic are the shallow fluted pilasters flanking the front entry and the chevron ornament directly overhead. The use of brown brick and tan stone adds a muted polychromy that is equally characteristic of the style.

The only other Art Deco influenced structure in Green Lake is the Green Lake County Highway Garage, completed in 1937. Far more massive in scale, the garage employs a similar polychromatic pallet and breaks its sprawling horizontal orientation through the use of vertical corner pylons and large-scale fenestration. The window units, however, have been replaced and in-filled, which given their size has a massive adverse effect on the structure's architectural integrity.

Further strengthening the architectural significance of the village hall is its early use of laminated timber arches in the gymnasium design. First applied to building construction in Switzerland in the 1890s, the process of forming glued timber into structural arches was originally brought to Peshtigo, Wisconsin by German architect and engineer Max Hanisch Sr.(14) In partnership with members of the Thompson boat family, Hanisch organized Unit Structures Inc. in 1934 to develop a the engineered lumber product, the Thompsons providing skilled boatbuilding workmen during the slow boat construction season of summer and fall.

The introduction of laminated arches would eventually have a profound affect on twentieth century construction. First, the process uses timber from small trees, allowing for a shorter harvesting rotation and smaller scale milling operations in the lumber industry. Secondly, it provided architects with an inexpensive alternative to steel, making expansive floor plans less expensive and more applicable to a wide assortment of projects. The appeal of wood structural members also made it possible to omit the cost of finished ceilings.

Among the earliest applications in the state were the Peshtigo High School gymnasium and the Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, both constructed in 1934. This was followed by the St. Leonard Catholic Church in Laona, designed by Hanisch in 1936. (15) In the years that followed laminated timber arches were employed in

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>8</u> Page <u>5</u>

Green Lake Village Hall Green Lake, Green Lake County, Wisconsin

the construction of numerous churches, halls, factories, and barns. Multi-purpose uses, combing school gyms and community halls, were also extensively built in smaller communities throughout the Midwest at this time.

Among the state's first architectural proponents of laminated arches was Alfred H. Siewert of Milwaukee and Edgar A. Stubenrauch of Sheboygan. Also in this number was the architectural firm of W. C. Weeks Inc. of Sheboygan. The Green Lake Village Hall was among the firm's earliest designs using laminated timber arches, being preceded by St. Peter's Ev. & Reformed Church at Kiel in 1937. Subsequent projects included the Calvary Presbyterian Church at Cedar Grove in 1940, and the Grade School auditorium and gymnasium at Randolph in 1942. (16) Construction of the Green Lake Village Hall followed shortly after the death of William C. Weeks, at which time the business passed to his son, William Weeks.

The arches used at Green Lake's village hall were initially bid out by the newly organized Rilco Laminated Products, part of the Weyerhauser family enterprise. When production proved to be beyond the company's capabilities, Unit Structures stepped in as a professional courtesy to the architectural firm. The company subsequently complained to Weyerhauser about the tactics Rilco had used to secure the work, threatening legal action if not reversed.

Dominating the building's principal interior space, the laminated arches convey a sense of late twentieth century design that contrasts sharply with the exterior's fine Art Deco detailing. This disparity underscores the cutting-edge nature of the arch technology and compliments the visionary quality of the village hall's multiuse design. Constructed in the midst of the Great Depression, the Green Lake Village Hall represents a significant period of growth and achievement, a time when limited financial resources and new technologies were being used to meet increasing community needs.

CONCLUSION

The Green Lake Village Hall is significant as the center of local government, and of recreational and social activities in the community from the time of its construction. Some of the original uses have been removed from the building over the years; however, it still contains city offices. The entertainment aspect remains as the center for activities sponsored by the park and recreation department. The building is further significant in the area of architecture. The building is a local example of the application of high style Art Deco elements to a small municipal building, reflecting the trend in municipal architecture of the Public Works era. The building is further significant as an early example of the use of laminated arches in its construction. The building retains a high degree of integrity.

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Green Lake Village Hall Green Lake, Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Section <u>8</u> Page <u>6</u>

NOTES:

(1) The period of construction begins with the date of the completion of construction and applies the 50-year rule to its continuing, multi-purpose use as municipal, recreational, and social center. (2) Berlin Evening Journal. (3) Ibid. (4) A Heritage History of Beautiful Green Lake, p. 58. (5) Green Lake Memories, p. 114. (6) Ibid., p. 113. (7) Wisconsin Bluebook, 731. (8) A Heritage History of Beautiful Green Lake, p. 70. (9) Berlin Evening Journal. (10) A Heritage History of Beautiful Green Lake, p. 73. (11) Ibid., p. 60. (12) Ibid. (13) Green Lake Memories, p. 137. (14) Engineered Wood Products, chapter 1, p. 5. (15) Site file materials. (16) Ibid.

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>9</u> Page <u>1</u>

Green Lake Village Hall Green Lake, Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Bibliographic References:

Text:

_____. State of Wisconsin Bluebook. State of Wisconsin 1997. Madison, Wisconsin.

Gnewuch, Thomas. Green Lake Memories. Ripon Community Printers, 1997. Ripon, Wisconsin.

Heiple, Robert W. and Emma B. A Heritage History of Beautiful Green Lake, Wisconsin. McMillan Printing Co., 1976. Ripon, Wisconsin.

Gillespy, John C. History of Green Lake County. T. L. Terry & Co., 1860. Berlin, Wisconsin.

Smulski, Stephen. Engineered wood products - A guide for specifiers, designers and users. PFS Research Foundation, 1997. Madison, Wisconsin.

Wyatt, Barbara. Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin. State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986. Madison, Wisconsin.

Newspapers:

Berlin Evening Journal: June 24, 1939.

Green Lake County Reporter: May 25, 1939; March 10, 1938.

Oshkosh Northwestern: Sept. 19, 2000.

Fond du Lac Reporter: Sept. 20, 2000.

Other sources:

Green Lake Village Hall building records; Darford Historical Society Collections; Green Lake, Wisconsin.

Site file materials; Division of Historic Preservation, Wisconsin State Historical Society; Madison, Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>10</u> Page <u>1</u>

Green Lake Village Hall Green Lake, Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Verbal Boundary Description

The north half of lots 3 and 4, Block 9, of the Original Plat.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries include only that property historically associated with the Green Lake Village Hall.

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section photos Page 1

Green Lake Village Hall Green Lake, Green Lake County, Wisconsin

Photographic Materials - Identification Green Lake Village Hall, Green Lake, Green Lake Co., WI Photos by Peter J. Adams; August 2003 Negatives at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Photo #1 of 13: View from the west. Photo #2 of 13: View from the northwest. Photo #3 of 13: View from the southeast. Photo #4 of 13: View from the southwest. Photo #5 of 13: Entrance detail. Photo #6 of 13: Interior, view from west of steps to the qym. Photo #7 of 13: Interior, view from west of the gym. Photo #8 of 13: Interior, detail of the stage. Photo #9 of 13: Interior, view from east of the gym. Photo #10 of 131: Interior, view of basement stairs. Photo #11 of 13: Interior, view of lower level lobby. Photo #12 of 13: Interior, view of council chambers. Photo #13 of 13: Interior, view of garage area.