


1 City, Village or Town: Kaukauna ✓		County: Outagamie	Surveyor: M. Betz	Date: 4/5/83	Second Street (East) 148, 150, 152
Street Address: 148, 150, 152 East Second Street			USGS Quad and UTM Reference: See Continuation Sheet	Acreage: Less than one acre	
Current Name & Use: Kaukauna Hardware			Current Owner: Ruth Voet		
Film Roll No. 16			Current Owner's Address: 150 E. Second Street		
Negative No. 27			Legal Description: Lots 13 and 14, Block 3, Ledyard Plat, Ward 4		
Facade Orient. S					

2 Original Name & Use:	Source	Previous Owners	Dates	Uses	Source
Kuehn Blacksmith Shop/Hardware Store	A	Wm. Klumb (Lot 13) J. Kuehn (Lot 14)	1887		A
Dates of Construction /Alteration	Source	Julius Kuehn	1889-1921	Blacksmith/HW	A, B
1889	E	Merbach Hardware Co.	1922-1938	Hardware	A
Architect and/or Builder:	Source	Hilda J. Merbeck	1939	Hardware	A
NA					

3 Architectural Significance

Represents work of a master  
 Possesses high artistic values  
 Represents a type, period, or method of construction  
 Engineering  
 None

Architectural Description and Significance:  
  
See Continuation Sheet

Interior visited?  Yes  No

4 Historical Significance

Assoc. with lives of significant persons  
 Assoc. with significant historical events  
 Assoc. with development of a locality  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 None Period of significance: \_\_\_\_\_

Historical Background and Significance:  
  
See Continuation Sheet

5 Sources of Information (Reference to Above)

A See Continuation Sheet

B

C

D

E

F

6 Representation in Previous Surveys

HABS  LDMK  WIHP  NRHP  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_

7 Condition

excellent  good  fair  poor  ruins

8 District: \_\_\_\_\_

pivotal  contributing  non-contributing

9 Opinion of National Register Eligibility

date: 4/5/83 initials: MB

eligible  not eligible  unknown  
 national  state  local

Street  
 Number  
 Town  
 State  
 Section  
 City Engineer  
 Date

Kuehn Blacksmith Shop  
and Hardware Store (148, 150, 152 East Second Street)  
Intensive Survey Form - Continuation Sheet (1)

Architectural Statement:

Description: The Kaukauna Hardware Store building, located at the eastern end of the Second Street commercial district, was built in 1889 around two existing rectangular buildings. Pilasters separate the building into four vertical divisions: The first and fourth have brick corbelling and round arched windows with semi-circular lintels; the second and third have semi-circular recessed arches and rectangular windows. Metal cresting (now removed) once joined the parapets (also removed) that flanked the east and west sides of the facade.

The interior consists of two large showrooms with storage area to the rear. The eastern portion of the building has an intact stamped metal ceiling. There are several small apartments and offices with bullseye door and window moldings on the upper level.

Significance: Although the building has been denuded of its parapets and metal cresting, it is still one of the finest examples of commercial Romanesque Revival architecture in Kaukauna. Few commercial buildings in the City retain their original storefront or have an intact stamped metal ceiling.

Historical Statement:

This commercial building was erected by Julius Kuehn, Kaukauna's first blacksmith, who had come to south Kaukauna in 1881 and served two terms as Mayor of Kaukauna in 1900 and 1906 respectively. (B & C) In 1911 it became the hardware store of Fred Merbach, who dealt in "general hardware, stoves, paints, oils, etc. general line of furniture, does under-taking". (D) It continues as a hardware store to the present.

USGS Quad and UTM Reference:

UTM: Zone 16  
Easting: 398590  
Northing: 4903280  
USGS Kaukauna Quadrangle  
1:24,000

Sources of Information (Reference to Above):

- A Kaukauna tax assessment rolls 1887-1939.
- B Commemorative Biographical Record of the Fox River Valley, p. 852.
- C Kaukauna 175th Jubilee Album, p. 1.
- D History of Outagamie County, p. 782.
- E On Building.
- F Old photograph, 1907.
- G Sanborn Perris Maps, 1890, 1894, 1913.