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NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8/86)
Wisconsin Word Processor Format (1331D)
(Approved 3/87)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United State Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register form (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Use letter quality printer in 12 pitch, using an 85 space line and a 10 space left margin. Use only archival paper (20 pound, acid free paper with a 2% alkaline reserve).

1. Name of Property

historic name South Main Street Historic District

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number various, see inventory N/A not for publication

city, town Fond du Lac N/A vicinity

state Wisconsin code WI county Fond du Lac code 039 zip code 54935

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of Resources within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>37</u>	<u>10</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		<u> </u> objects
		<u>37</u>	<u>10</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

No. of contributing resources
previously listed in the
National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 x meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Handwritten Signature]

2/8/93

Signature of certifying official
Historic Preservation Officer-WI
State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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.

 removed from the National Register.

 other, (explain):

[Handwritten Signature]

3/11/93

Signature of the Keeper

Date

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions
(enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(enter categories from instructions)

- COMMERCE/TRADE/business
- COMMERCE/TRADE/financial institution
- COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store
- COMMERCE/TRADE/department store

- COMMERCE/TRADE/business
- COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store
- COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant

7. Description	
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)
Italianate	foundation stone
Classical Revival	walls brick
Art Deco	roof asphalt
	other metal
	wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The South Main Street Historic District is composed of approximately one-half of the downtown commercial center of Fond du Lac, a medium-sized city in east-central Wisconsin. All of the buildings in the district are commercial buildings, mostly used for retail trade or professional services. There are also some large office buildings in the district, along with a few vacant storefronts. Most of the buildings are two or three stories in height, but there are also two taller office buildings at the center of the district.

Most of Fond du Lac's downtown sits along North and South Main Street, with only a small amount of commercial development spreading into the cross streets. Throughout much of the city's history, Fond du Lac's historic downtown streetscape was uninterrupted by intrusive new construction or extensively remodeled storefronts. Today, however, Fond du Lac's historic downtown is divided almost in half by some modern and remodeled commercial buildings that sit about in the middle of the city's commercial district. The South Main Street Historic District encompasses the historic buildings south of this intrusive area. Much of the downtown that lies north of this area is potentially eligible for the National Register as the North Main Street Historic District.

Fond du Lac's Main Street is a typical urban street that has two lanes allowing for two-way traffic, plus parking spaces on each side of the street. The street is improved with concrete curbs, gutters, and sidewalks, and is lighted with sodium-vapor lights affixed to both tall and medium-sized modern light poles. Traffic control lights are housed in attractive modern fixtures. Decorating the district are tall, young trees interspersed along Main Street.

Few of the buildings in the district are free-standing and sit on small lots with only small spaces behind them used for storage or parking. Most of the buildings are connected to each other by party walls, as is typical of downtown business districts. As the district progresses south along Main Street, though, there are some vacant lots and a courtyard interspersed between some buildings. As much as possible of this vacant space has been drawn out of the district.

Most of the buildings in the district are constructed of brick, about half cream brick and half red brick. Several of the buildings have been painted. One building is constructed of brownstone, and several buildings are faced with modern materials like metal, vinyl, wood, stucco, and porcelain enamel. Four buildings are faced with stone.

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Most of the buildings in the district have a late nineteenth century appearance and reflect the popular architectural styles of that era. But, many other buildings are simple, reflecting the Commercial Vernacular form because they have the arched windows, the brick corbelling, or the metal cornices with Italianate, Queen Anne, or Classical Revival details, but they have too few of these details to label them with an architectural style. The many Commercial Vernacular buildings in the district suggests that it might be rather ordinary. But, in actuality, the individually distinctive buildings that are fine examples of nineteenth and early twentieth century architectural styles stand out, along with the fine Commercial Vernacular buildings in the district, giving the district a stylish and unusual appearance.

Specifically, of the 47 buildings in this district, 20 (43%) are Commercial Vernacular, five (11%) are Italianate, six (13%) are early twentieth century revival styles, three (6%) are Twentieth Century Commercial, and nine (19%) are astylistic. There is one Richardsonian Romanesque building, one High Victorian Gothic building, one Commercial Style building, and one Art Deco building in the district.

The condition of most of the buildings in the district is good, and there are only a few vacant storefronts in the district. The commercial nature of this district distinguishes it from other areas of the city, and, as mentioned earlier, the continuation of Fond du Lac's historic downtown that lies north of the South Main Street Historic District (the potential North Main Street Historic District) is separated from this district by new construction and non-contributing buildings.

Most of the district's storefronts have been remodeled with post-World War II materials, but the historic nature of the buildings is very evident at the upper level making these buildings contributing in the district. Buildings constructed after the period of significance, or remodeled so that their historic details have been obscured, have been labeled non-contributing in the district. Many of these non-contributing buildings, though, have modern false fronts and may have their historic details intact, so that they could be restored some time in the future.

Overall, the non-contributing buildings in the district are largely overshadowed by the historic fabric that remains and the potential for restoration of historic storefronts is high. The result is a commercial historic district that reflects all stages of Fond du Lac's downtown development. The high occupancy rate of buildings in the district indicates that this part of downtown Fond du Lac continues to serve important commercial needs in the community.

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DESCRIPTION OF SELECTED BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT

71 S. Main St.
Citizens State Bank
1912
Classical Revival

This Classical Revival bank building has a facing of limestone veneer in a regularly coursed ashlar pattern. The building's classical details include a parapet above the cornice decorated with modillions and dentils. At the center of the building is a large arched opening. This recessed opening has been enclosed with paneling and modern aluminum windows. It is decorated at the center of the arch with a large foliated limestone keystone. There are also two plain medallions that decorate the upper portion of the building. The modern storefront of large show windows with an aluminum and glass door is covered with a modern overhang and awning.

The Citizens State Bank occupied this building until around 1950. It then became the office of the Fond du Lac Building and Loan Association. Since the 1970s, the building has housed a clothing store, a credit bureau, and a shoe store. (1)

75 S. Main St.
Commercial Building
c.1880, altered c. 1900
Classical Revival

This unusual Classical Revival building features windows that suggest the Gothic Revival style. The two-story building is clad in stone veneer and features a heavy classical cornice decorated with large modillions and brackets. Under the cornice is a wide frieze made up of a stone fret band on top of a fluted belt course over panels carved with swags. The panels are separated by fluted pilasters and sit above a rope molding. A rope molding separates the four windows of the second floor. These windows are single-light double-hung sashes with compound pointed arched portals and molded archivolt in the Gothic Revival style. The portals extend downward to frame the windows. The storefront has been modernized with a large wooden transom sign, stucco walls, and modern aluminum show windows and entry door.

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In the 1880s and 1890s, this building was used as a saloon. In the early 1900s it was a tailor shop operated by Kaufman and Koehn. During the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s, it was Sommerfeld's furniture store. Recently, it has been a photo studio and camera store. (2)

79 S. Main St.
Commercial Building
c.1880, altered, c. 1900
Classical Revival

This two-story commercial building has brick walls with stone trim and a stuccoed first floor. There is a heavy classical cornice at the top of the building that is decorated with modillions and a row of dentils. Under the cornice is a paneled brick frieze separated by brackets. A stone belt course sits on top of a row of arcaded round arched windows. The windows are decorated with compound round arched portals with enriched archivolt. Brick pilasters topped with denticulated capitals separate the windows. A slightly projecting stone belt course sits under the windows. It is decorated with brackets. The stuccoed storefront has a small, recessed entrance and two sets of casement windows.

This building had two storefronts with separate businesses throughout much of its history. Between 1884 and 1915, the two occupants were Furstnow's jewelry store and the Lauenstein liquor store. Other occupants during the twentieth century included a bakery, shoe store, and clothing store. Since the early 1970s, the building has housed a large hair salon. (3)

83 S. Main St.
Commercial Building
c.1895
High Victorian Gothic

Stone veneer covers the upper levels of this two-story commercial building. There are also decorative metal panels accenting this part of the building. The building has a tall gable-roofed parapet decorated with clay tile and crockets. In the parapet are three tall and narrow pointed arch windows that have been enclosed. They are decorated in the peak with foliated enrichments and crosses. The parapet's gable peak also has a foliated enrichment. The openings of the large second story bay have also been enclosed. This bay features overhanging eaves with foliated enrichments and under the bay's eaves are panels of linear enrichments. At the bottom of the bay window are enriched foliated rinceu panels. The storefront's

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transom has been enclosed and there is a back-lit sign attached to it. Large show windows and a recessed entrance make up the modern storefront.

In the 1890s, this building was the office for the U. S. Express company. During the early twentieth century, it housed a tobacco store and pool hall. The building has also housed a clothing store, shoe store, music store, and party store. (4)

91 S. Main St.
Commercial National Bank
1903
Richardsonian Romanesque

This impressive two story bank building is built of rusticated brownstone with a coursed ashlar finish. Under the parapet roof is a stone cornice with small, heavy brackets. The window openings on the upper floor are deep-set behind round Richardsonian arches with heavy stone voussoirs and archivolt moldings. The openings have been partially enclosed with stucco and modern casement windows. On the first floor, the openings are deep-set behind larger round Richardsonian arches with heavy stone voussoirs and archivolt moldings. These arches sit on large piers and have plain capitals on the side of the building and foliated capitals on the front of the building. The openings are partially enclosed.

At the southwest corner of the building is the main entrance. It sits in an identically-decorated Richardsonian arch, except the voussoirs are smooth and the word "Bank" has been applied to the surface. On top of the capitals flanking the entrance are two stone-carved lion heads. The entrance is partially enclosed and features a modern glass and aluminum entry door.

The Commercial National Bank occupied this building until 1923, when they moved into their Commercial Style multi-story office building at 104 S. Main St., in this district. Between 1924 and the 1970s, the building housed a cafe and professional offices. It was known as the H & H Building and the Lion Cafe Building, respectively. It has been a lighting store and office building since the early 1970s. (5)

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104 S. Main St.
Commercial National Bank Building
1923
Commercial Style

This seven story office building is constructed of red brick accented with stone trim. Above the plain stone cornice of the building is a row of parapet trim. Under the cornice is a row of dentils and a wide frieze decorated with plain medallions. The top floor is defined by a stone belt course and stone shields flank both sides of the end windows on both the front and side walls. Both ends of the front wall of the building are very slightly projecting, suggesting wide pilasters. Windows are almost all single-light double-hung sashes, regularly placed in the building walls. A stone cornice divides the second and third floors. The main entrance to the building has been remodeled and consists of large glass and aluminum entry doors. The single pane show windows are also modern.

This building was constructed as the new office for the Commercial National Bank. By 1934, though, the bank's name had changed to the National Exchange Bank and the office building was renamed accordingly. By 1970, the building was known as the First National Casualty Building. Most of the building's space has been taken up with professional offices, but a drug store has been located on the first floor of the building for a number of years. (6)

106 S. Main St.
Commercial Company Building
c.1930
Art Deco

This eight-story building is constructed of brick with a front wall facing of limestone veneer. The building is devoid of detail, although its vertical emphasis is accented by shallow pilasters on the upper floor and a raised roofline at the center of the building. Windows are all double-hung sashes with two vertical muntins in each light. The first floor storefront has been combined with several other buildings to the south and consists of large, modern show windows. Above the storefront are three arched openings that have been enclosed.

This building was originally built for the Commercial Company, an investment firm, and other professional offices. The Commercial Company vacated the building in 1934. After that time, the building housed offices and a series of businesses on the first floor, including a tavern, restaurant, and part of a clothing store. (7)

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109-11 S. Main St.
Commercial Block
c.1880
Italianate

This three-story Italianate business block is constructed of cream bricks and trimmed with stone, metal, and wood. At the top of the building is a large and formal cornice that features modillions, dentils, and scroll brackets. Shallow piers accent the corners and the center of the building on the upper floors. Windows are either round-arched or segmentally-arched openings with single-light, double-hung sashes. The windows are decorated with stone label moldings on the third floor, and round arch moldings on the second floor that are trimmed with keystones and ancones. Corbels support the stone window sills.

Another classical cornice separates the storefronts from the upper floors. This cornice has large scroll brackets, modillions, and dentils. Shallow piers are also used on this floor to accent the corners and the center of the building. The storefronts have been remodeled. The north storefront has been enclosed with bricks and has a small, recessed entrance. The south storefront has been partially enclosed with vertical boards and modern show windows.

There have been many retail businesses in this building, including a grocery store, a restaurant, a candy store, a piano store, a clothing store, and a shoe store. (8)

113-15 S. Main St.
Commercial Block
c.1875
Italianate

This three story Italianate business block is constructed of cream bricks that have been painted on the front wall. A large wooden cornice sits at the top of the building and features simple brackets, modillions, and a paneled frieze. Windows are either round-arched or segmentally-arched openings with two-over-two light double-hung sashes. The windows are decorated with label moldings on the second floor, and round arch moldings on the third floor that are trimmed with elaborate keystones and ancones. Corbels support the stone window sills.

A plain cornice runs along the top of the storefronts that have been enclosed with stucco, modern windows, and modern entrances. The storefronts of this building have been combined with another building to the south, creating a large office.

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There have been a number of businesses in the storefronts of this building. During the late nineteenth century, J. R. Smith and his wife operated a hardware store here, and a grocery store was in the other storefront. Other businesses included a jewelry store, a shoe store, furniture store, and a millinery store. (9)

119 S. Main St.
Commercial Building
c.1905
Spanish Colonial Revival

This unusual building is constructed of cream bricks that have been painted on the front wall. The parapet consists of a curvilinear gable that is accented with painted stone trim. In the center of the gable is a palladian-like niche that is accented with a stone cornice. Below this detail is a six-light opening filled with modern glass panels. The storefront features modern show windows, a recessed aluminum and glass door, and a concrete block apron. The entry to the upper story and the store entrance are decorated with transoms.

141 S. Main St.
Carstens' Meat Market
c.1890
High Victorian Gothic

This decorative two-story commercial block has a thin stucco covering. The cornice has pilaster brackets supporting a central geometric designed parapet. Projecting from each end of the cornice are finials. Under the cornice is a paneled frieze sitting on a denticulated cornice. Shallow piers decorate the corners and center of the building. The openings of the second floor include a central window with a curvilinear arch and tall, arrow-like keystones. Similar keystones decorate the segmentally-arched flanking windows. The openings have modern tinted glazing. A belt course in a cut-out design also runs across the upper floor of the building. The storefront consists of modern show windows, an apron paneled with stone veneer, and a transom that has been enclosed with wood paneling.

This building was constructed for August Carstens Meat Market. Carstens' market was a descendent of the Bartlett and Olmstead Meat Market that began in Fond du Lac in 1860. After Olmstead left the store, Carstens joined with Bartlett in operating the market in the late nineteenth century. Carstens was sole proprietor of the market from the 1890s to around 1905. Other businesses in this building have included a print shop, shoe store, a clothing store, and the Salvation Army. (10)

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167-71 S. Main St.
Commercial Block
c.1890, 1896
Commercial Vernacular

This three-storefront business block is a fine example of the Commercial Vernacular style of architecture. It is a two-story building constructed of red brick with accents in stone. The building at 167-169 S. Main St. was built first, with the building at 171 S. Main St. constructed later with details that harmonize with its neighbor. The cornice of the building is done in brick corbelling in a pattern that suggests brackets. On 171 S. Main St., there is a gable peak at the center of the building. The windows have been enclosed with wood and modern sash windows. Decorating them on 167-69 S. Main St. are stone lintels that are joined together to form a belt course. On 171 S. Main St., the windows are decorated with stone lintels resembling jack arches.

The storefronts of 167-69 S. Main St. consist of modern show windows and two recessed entrances. The transom is enclosed by a panel of vertical boards. On 171 S. Main St., the transom is also enclosed with wood paneling that is decorated by a brick panel topped with a stone cornice. The storefront of 171 S. Main St. has large show windows and a recessed entrance.

This three-part building housed William Nietmann's harness shop, the Christian Lange hardware store, and a saloon during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Lange hardware remained in the building until the 1950s. In the other storefronts were a clothing store and a saloon. (11)

183 S. Main St.
Rueping Block
1880
Italianate

This two-story late Italianate commercial block is constructed of cream bricks that have been painted on the first floor of the south wall. The building features an elaborate pressed metal cornice with parapets, brackets, and a paneled frieze. The second floor windows of the building are partially enclosed with wood paneling and have single-light, double-hung sashes in the openings. These windows are decorated with segmentally-pointed brick arches. Similar windows are on the south wall of the first story. They are also partially enclosed. The main entrance at the corner of the first floor is a modern aluminum and glass door with a transom. It is

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surrounded by board paneling and brick veneer. The storefront on the first floor west wall also has board paneling, stone veneer, and modern show windows.

There were numerous businesses in this block in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. They included saloons, grocery stores, millinery shops, an oil company, a clothing store, and an undertaker. (12)

Notes to Section 7:

- (1) City Directories for the City of Fond du Lac, on file at the Fond du Lac Public Library, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.
- (2) Ibid.
- (3) Ibid.
- (4) Ibid.
- (5) Ibid.
- (6) Ibid.
- (7) Ibid.
- (8) Ibid.
- (9) Ibid.
- (10) City Directories; Michael D. Lempinen and Les Ross, Intensive Survey Report, Architectural and Historical Survey Project, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, Fond du Lac: City of Fond du Lac, 1989, p. 41.
- (11) City Directories.
- (12) Ibid.

BUILDING INVENTORY

<u>Address</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Style</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
71 S. Main St.	Citizens State Bank	Classical Revival	1912 (1)	C*
72 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Astylistic	c.1880 (2)	NC*
73 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Italianate	c.1880 (3)	C
74-78 S. Main	Whittelsey Building	Twentieth Century Commercial	c.1865 (4)	C
			altered: c. 1908	
80-82 S. Main	Commercial Building	Twentieth Century Commercial	c.1880 (5)	C
			altered: c.1908	

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<u>Address</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Style</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
75 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Classical Revival	c.1880 (6) altered: c. 1900	C
79 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Classical Revival	c.1880 (7) altered: c.1900	C
81 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Commercial Vernacular	c.1880 (8)	C
83 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	High Victorian Gothic	c.1895 (9)	C
84-86 S. Main	Commercial Building	Commercial Vernacular	c.1870 (10) altered: c.1950	C
85 S. Main St.	Mason Building	Commercial Vernacular	1892 (11)	C
87 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Commercial Vernacular	c.1883 (12)	C
89 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Commercial Vernacular	c.1890 (13)	C
88-94 S. Main	O'Brien Block	Commercial Vernacular	c.1895 (14)	C
91 S. Main St.	Commercial National Bank	Richardsonian Romanesque	1903 (15)	C
101 S. Main St.	First Federal S & L	Twentieth Century Commercial	c.1942 (16)	NC
103 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Astylistic	c.1875 (17) altered: c.1975	NC
104 S. Main St.	Commercial National Bank Building	Commercial Style	1923 (18)	C
105-07 S. Main	Commercial Building	Commercial Vernacular	c.1890 (19)	C
106 S. Main St.	Commercial Co. Bldg.	Art Deco	c.1930 (20)	C
108 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Astylistic	c.1875 (21) altered: c. 1950	NC
109-11 S. Main	Commercial Block	Italianate	c.1880 (22)	C
110 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Astylistic	c.1880 (23) altered: c. 1950	NC
113-15 S. Main	Commercial Block	Italianate	c.1875 (24)	C
114-16 S. Main	Commercial Building	Astylistic	c.1875 (25) altered: c. 1960	NC
117 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Commercial Vernacular	c.1890 (26)	C
118-20 S. Main	Wagner & Rueping Bldg.	Commercial Vernacular	c.1878 (27)	C
119 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Spanish Colonial Revival	c.1905 (28)	C
121 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Astylistic	c.1953 (29)	NC
122-24 S. Main	Commercial Building	Commercial Vernacular	c.1875 (30)	C
123 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Astylistic	c.1910 (31) altered: c.1990	NC

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<u>Address</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Style</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
131 S. Main St.	Treleven Brothers Department Store	Classical Revival	1914 (32)	C
137 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Astylistic	c.1880 (33) altered: c. 1980	NC
139 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Contemporary	c.1880 (34) altered: c.1985	NC
141 S. Main St.	Carstens Meat Market	High Victorian Italianate	c.1890 (35)	C
143 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Commercial Vernacular	c.1875 (36)	C
161-65 S. Main	Commercial Block	Commercial Vernacular	c.1890 (37)	C
167-71 S. Main	Commercial Block	Commercial Vernacular	c.1890,1896(38)	C
173-75 S. Main	Commercial Block	Commercial Vernacular	c.1890 (39)	C
177-79 S. Main	Commercial Block	Italianate	c.1875 (40)	C
183 S. Main St.	Rueping Block	Italianate	1880 (41)	C
191 S. Main St.	Commercial Building	Commercial Vernacular	1880 (42)	C
193 S. Main St.	Helmer Block	Commercial Vernacular	c.1875 (43)	C
207-09 S. Main	Commercial Building	Commercial Vernacular	c.1890, (44) c.1910	C
211 S. Main St.	Roloff Building	Commercial Vernacular	c.1895 (45)	C
213 S. Main St.	Saloon	Commercial Vernacular	c.1890 (46)	C
5-9 E. Second	Commercial Building	Commercial Vernacular	c.1910 (47)	C

Notes to Building Inventory:

- (1) Building Inscription.
- (2) Sanborn-Perris Fire Insurance Maps for the City of Fond du Lac, on file in the Archives of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin; City Directories for the City of Fond du Lac, on file at the Fond du Lac Public Library, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.
- (3) Ibid.
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- (31) Sanborn-Perris Maps, City Directories, field observation.
- (32) Sanborn-Perris Map, 1915.
- (33) Sanborn-Perris Maps, City Directories, field observation.
- (34) Ibid.
- (35) Ibid.
- (36) Ibid.
- (37) Ibid.
- (38) Ibid.; building inscription.
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- (40) Ibid.
- (41) Building Inscription.
- (42) Ibid.
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8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: nationally statewide x locally

Applicable National Register Criteria x A B x C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

 Architecture

 Commerce

Period of Significance

 1865-1930 (1)

Significant Dates

 N/A

Cultural Affiliation

 N/A

Significant Person

 N/A

Architect/Builder

 Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The South Main Street Historic District is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C. It is being nominated under criterion A for its local significance as an important part of the historic commercial activity in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Although there was also important commercial activity along North Main Street, this fact does not detract from the significance of this district. In fact, the area to the north of this district is also potentially eligible for the National Register.

The South Main Street Historic District is also being nominated under criterion C at the local level because there are some fine and outstanding individual examples of popular nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial architectural styles in the district. In particular, there are fine examples of Italianate, Richardsonian Romanesque, High Victorian Gothic, Commercial, Art Deco, and Classical Revival style buildings in the district. The district also contains a good concentration of Commercial Vernacular architecture. The themes of architecture and commerce will be discussed in detail following a brief historical overview.

 x See continuation sheet

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Historical Overview

When the first white settlers came to the Fond du Lac area, they found Native American activity, particularly along lower Lake Winnebago. It is known that these Native Americans engaged in trade, hunting, and fishing along the lake, and that there were at least three villages in the area. The most significant group in the area were the Winnebagos, who ceded their lands in the 1830s. (2)

Laurent Ducharme, a French fur trader, established a trading post in the area in 1785, but it was short-lived. More permanent white settlement came in 1835, when James B. Doty and his associates formed the Fond du Lac Land Company. This land company controlled 3,705 acres along Lake Winnebago, and the company platted the village of Fond du Lac in 1836. The land company also built a small house at the fork of the Fond du Lac River for the company agent and any settlers needing shelter. When Colwert Pier and his wife moved into the house in 1836, they became the first permanent white settlers in the village. Like many early settlers, the Piers also operated a hotel/inn in their home to serve travellers and settlers in the area. (3)

In 1836, the "Military Road," which connected the forts at Prairie du Chien and Green Bay, was constructed through Fond du Lac. This important early transportation link encouraged the influx of settlers and spurred on Fond du Lac's growth. In 1840, there were only 139 people in the entire county, but by 1850, almost 2,000 persons populated Fond du Lac village, which was officially recognized in 1847. One of Wisconsin's plank roads was completed between Fond du Lac and Sheboygan in 1852. Although largely a failure, the plank road was a recognition of the importance of Fond du Lac in mid-nineteenth century Wisconsin. (4)

One of the earliest and most important railroad links in the state came through Fond du Lac in 1851. The Rock River Valley Railroad, a company operating out of Janesville, Wisconsin, broke ground for their new line in Fond du Lac in 1851. Like many early railroad lines in the state, it had financial problems and was reorganized in 1855. In the late 1850s, the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad began their quest to serve the lucrative timber and mining lands of northeastern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. As part of this effort, they acquired the Fond du Lac line in 1859. It was the company's first step in establishing a route to Green Bay through Fond du Lac and other cities in eastern Wisconsin. The Chicago and Northwestern was one of the three major railroad lines that served Wisconsin in the nineteenth century, and was the dominant line in eastern Wisconsin. (5)

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In the 1840s, lumber milling was the most important industry in Fond du Lac. Fueled by the timber lands to the north, lumber related businesses in the city grew rapidly. At the same time, the city's location as a hub of a major railroad carrier and its proximity to Lake Winnebago lured other manufacturing to the community. In particular, the local agricultural economy was booming with wheat growing, and flour milling was one of the most important industries in the state during the Civil War era. By 1870, Fond du Lac was the state's second largest city behind Milwaukee, with a population of 12,764. (6)

The depletion of forests in central Wisconsin and the collapse of cash crop wheat farming when the crop was played out in the area, along with the financial panic of 1873 caused an industrial slow-down in the village. But, the large influx of people to the city in the mid-nineteenth century, along with the farmers in the surrounding area, created a high demand for consumer goods. The result was that Fond du Lac developed a large and successful commercial center. By 1884, the city's commercial and retail businesses were spread out along 10 blocks of Main Street in the city's downtown. (7)

While Fond du Lac's commercial center was growing, industry continued to stagnate during the late nineteenth century. In 1876, the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad moved its expansive car shops from Fond du Lac to Chicago, but, the growth of the railroad in northeastern Wisconsin and more positive economic conditions saw the return of the car shops to North Fond du Lac. In 1916, the Chicago and Northwestern erected a showplace depot in Fond du Lac, serving an estimated 100 trains passing through the city every day, thus proving the city's significance as a railroad hub in eastern Wisconsin. (8)

The return of the railroad hub also reflected the new industrial growth in early twentieth century Fond du Lac. During this era, a wide variety of factories sprang up in the city producing leather goods, cast iron goods, agricultural equipment, furniture, typewriters, candy, pianos, carriages, and caskets. The most significant industries in the community, though, were related to machine tools, with the well-known Giddings and Lewis plant being a leader in this area. In 1900, the population of the community was 15,100, but it jumped to 18,797 in only 10 years. (9)

The community has continued to grow along with industry throughout the twentieth century, and retailing continued to grow as consumers came not only from the city, but from a wide rural area as well. The fact that the city has been the location of the county seat has also been important to the growth of the community, as governmental services have increased in the post-World War II era.

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Today, Fond du Lac is a thriving community with a diversified economy centered around industry, commerce, and government. And, while the city has many of the concerns typical of an urban area of this size, city officials and many of its citizens are making a concerted effort to guide the community successfully into the twenty-first century while respecting its important past.

Architecture

The South Main Street Historic District contains a significant concentration of fine individual examples of popular nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial styles. These buildings reflect the progression of commercial architectural design and were meant to convey an image of importance and stylishness to the owner and/or occupant of the building. Interspersed between these outstanding individual buildings are good examples of Commercial Vernacular architecture. These simple buildings are common in most of Wisconsin's downtowns and often reflect, in their simple details, the popular styles of architecture at the time when they were built. The result is a historic district that is an intact and relatively well-preserved portion of Fond du Lac's historic and architecturally significant downtown.

According to Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan, Italianate commercial buildings are usually distinguished by their bracketed wood, stone, or metal cornices. Arched window hoods or label moldings of wood, stone or metal are also common details on the upper stories of Italianate buildings. In fact, the Plan indicates that often Italianate details are only seen in the upper stories of buildings. (10)

The commercial blocks at 109-11 and 113-15 S. Main St. are fine and typical examples of Italianate commercial buildings. They feature the heavy classically-detailed cornices that are common to the style, along with heavy, elaborate window hoods and label moldings. The building at 113-15 S. Main St. is more impressive due to its outstanding window detail. Both buildings have had some considerable storefront alterations, but the high level of preservation of both building's upper floors, including the extant glazing in the window openings, is significant and largely overshadows the inappropriate remodeling.

The Rueping Block is an unusual variation of the Italianate commercial style. Its elaborate metal cornice with its unusual gabled parapets, brackets, and frieze adds individual distinction to the building. The unusual Gothic derived pointed arch openings are also of architectural interest, even though most have been partially enclosed. The storefronts are altered, but some of the frieze between the first and

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second floors is extant, along with some first floor windows, adding to the building's integrity.

The commercial building at 83 S. Main St. is an unusual and decorative example of the High Victorian Gothic style. According to Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan, High Victorian Gothic buildings are eclectic, picturesque buildings that are relatively rare in Wisconsin. The buildings also feature heavy detailing and complex massing with pointed arches and polychromatic details. The style is most often seen in commercial or institutional buildings. (11)

The commercial building at 83 S. Main St. has Gothic features such as the steeply-pitched gable parapet and pointed arches, but the building's eclecticism is evident in the detailed rinceaus and embellishments executed in the Sullivan-esque manner. This building expresses the whimsical nature of the style and how a variety of unrelated details can create an unusual and decorative building.

The Commercial National Bank is a fine example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style of architecture. Taking its name from one of America's best native architects, Henry Hobson Richardson, the style features heavy, massive details on buildings constructed of large, rough-finished stone blocks. According to Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan, details of the style include a simple form, large round-arched arcaded openings, and, often, round or square towers. (12)

The Commercial National Bank puts all of the commonly seen Richardsonian Romanesque details to good use in this building. Its massiveness is achieved by the use of rusticated brownstone. The heavy, almost chiseled cornice is large, but almost lost in the heavy stone walls. The arches of the second floor openings, and their more elaborate arcaded counterparts on the first floor are massive in scale and reflect a common detail of the style. The partial enclosure of the openings detracts only a little from the overall integrity of the building, as most of the details of this sturdy building, down to the carved lion heads, are extant.

There are three interesting examples of the Classical Revival style of commercial architecture. According to Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan, the Classical Revival style re-introduced formal buildings with heavy, classical details around the turn of the century. The style was spurred on by the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago. At that fair, many prominent architects designed large, impressive buildings that were painted white. Called the "White City," these buildings were models for the style. The Classical Revival style was used primarily for public, institutional, or commercial buildings. (13)

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The Citizens State Bank (71 S. Main St.) is a good example of how the style was typically used for commercial buildings, particularly bank buildings. The smooth limestone veneer, the prominent classical cornice with parapet, and large arch with classical keystone are all typical details used in the Classical Revival style. Even though the building is somewhat small, its heavy, classical details gives it a larger, more massive appearance, an appearance of prestige that the bank hoped would suggest to its customers an attitude of conservative and sound fiscal management.

Two other commercial buildings illustrate a different version of the Classical Revival style. The building at 75 S. Main St. is a typical commercial building with many decorative, classical features. It has a heavy cornice that is typical of the style, but its other decorative details are not usually seen on such a small building. These details include rope and fret band moldings, carved panels with swags, mini pilasters, and the very unusual pointed arched windows. These extra details give this building a more distinctive appearance that largely overshadows the inappropriate alterations on the first floor.

The large business block at 79 S. Main St. is more typical of a Classical Revival business block that was not used for a bank. The heavy cornice and arcaded windows that are decorated with classical details are well-executed and have a high level of integrity, but are otherwise not unique.

The Commercial National Bank Building (104 S. Main St.) is a good example of the Commercial Style. The style developed in the late nineteenth century when new technology made the construction of taller, larger, and more open office buildings feasible. Sometimes referred to as the "Chicago Style," it evolved in that city after the great Chicago fire. Commercial Style buildings have iron or steel structural systems that allowed for five or more stories in height and an open interior plan. The buildings have regular fenestration with large, divided-light windows and minimal exterior ornamentation. (14)

All of the above descriptive information applies to the Commercial National Bank Building. With its seven stories, simple ornamentation, and regular fenestration, the building is typical of the Commercial Style. And, with the exception of the lower floor storefront and entrance, the building exhibits a high level of integrity. This building is especially important as an example of a building that would be found more commonly in larger cities, like Milwaukee or Madison. It's design and construction can provide important information about such buildings in smaller communities in the state.

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The eight-story Commercial Company Building (106 S. Main St.) that sits right next to the Commercial National Bank Building is a simple but interesting example of the Art Deco style of commercial architecture. According to Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan, the Art Deco style incorporated futuristic or highly stylized historical details with hard edges that suggested machine precision. Low-relief geometrical ornamentation is commonly seen on Art Deco buildings, including shallow columns, chevrons, stylized sunbursts, and muted polychromy. Vertical massing is emphasized in Art Deco buildings, as well as stone, terra cotta, and metal decoration and/or facing. (15)

The Commercial Company Building shows the strong influence exerted on the Art Deco style by the emergence of modernism. Its smooth veneer, largely devoid of decoration, and its thin form and massing are used to evoke a recognition of the vertical emphasis of the Art Deco style. A comparison of this building to the Commercial Style Commercial National Bank Building next door well illustrates the differences between these two examples of popular early twentieth century office building design. While only one story apart in height the form and massing of both buildings are radically different, and the Commercial Company Building seems taller, while the Bank Building appears shorter and boxier.

Another unusual building in this district is the commercial building at 119 S. Main St., an interesting interpretation of the Spanish Colonial Revival style. The large curvilinear gable parapet and palladian-like niche above the second floor are typically seen on Spanish Colonial Revival style buildings. Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan, indicates that this style is relatively rare in the state, and is seen primarily on residences. Because it is unusual to see this style of building in commercial districts, and because it is a relatively intact example of the style, this building is significant.

Along with the individually distinctive buildings addressed above, there are a number of more simple, Commercial Vernacular buildings in the district. According to Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan, Commercial Vernacular buildings feature large show windows on the first floor, simple window openings on the second floor, simple wooden entry doors with transoms, and cornices with some decorative treatment such as brick corbelling, wood moldings, or metal friezes. Often, these buildings have segmental arches or label moldings over upper floor windows, and cornices with brackets, or brick corbelling that suggests brackets; details from the Italianate style, a popular style for nineteenth century commercial buildings. Many turn-of-the-century or early twentieth century commercial buildings have bays and cornices with classical details that reflect the Classical Revival style. (16)

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The building at 167-71 S. Main St. is a fine example of this style. Its simple brick corbelled cornice suggests the Italianate style, but is not elaborate enough for the building to be categorized as Italianate. The same can be said of the polychromatic details that are not elaborate enough to categorize High Victorian Gothic. But, most importantly, this building illustrates the fact that even a simple, vernacular commercial building can be dressed up with some stylish architectural details to make it attractive and distinctive.

Other good examples of the Commercial Vernacular style on their second floors include 73 S. Main St., 80 S. Main St., 105-07 S. Main St., 117 S. Main St., 143 S. Main St., 161 S. Main St., 191 S. Main St., 193 S. Main St., 207 S. Main St., and 213 S. Main St. All of these buildings epitomize the Commercial Vernacular form, because they have similar building materials and details. They are all constructed of brick with simple brick corbelling as a cornice. They are not elaborate buildings, but rather, they are simple, economical business buildings that are more functional than architecturally significant. Together, they represent this vernacular, but important, type of commercial construction in the city.

As in most commercial districts in the state, most of these buildings have altered storefronts. These alterations range from modern show windows and doors to partially and totally enclosed first floors. While this does detract somewhat from the district's overall architectural integrity, it is largely overshadowed by the high level of preservation found at the second floor of the contributing buildings. And, using historic photographs and period designs, the storefronts can be returned to an historic appearance.

The architectural significance of this district lies primarily in the outstanding individual examples of nineteenth and early twentieth century architecture. The simple Commercial Vernacular buildings in between also adds to the district's significance. The outstanding individual buildings in the district are all good examples of the styles they represent, and to have such a good concentration of fine buildings in a small business district is significant. These buildings are also significant because they illustrate the growth and importance of Fond du Lac as a regional commercial center during the era when they were constructed. Because of this, the South Main Street Historic District is an important architectural entity in the city of Fond du Lac.

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Commerce

The South Main Street Historic District is significant to local commercial history in Fond du Lac, because it encompasses about one-half of the city's historic downtown business district. In Fond du Lac, today, modern construction and alterations have divided the historic business district in half. The South Main Street Historic District consists of the southern half of the city's historic downtown. The northern half of the city's historic downtown is contained in another potentially eligible National Register historic district.

Trading in goods and services began in Wisconsin communities almost from the beginning of their settlement, some businesses starting out in primitive log cabins. Often pioneer businesses were multi-purpose, incorporating general store, inn, and post office all under one roof. As communities developed in the late nineteenth century, even the smallest towns usually had a variety of stores such as groceries, dry goods, and hardware stores, all located in a commercial business district at the center of the community. Entrepreneurs in larger communities, such as Milwaukee, developed larger stores that featured more specialty goods. The popularity of retailing increased during the late nineteenth century, and while the pioneer general store persisted during this time, it gradually died out as retailing became more specialized. There was a high turnover of businesses in commercial districts and short-term retailers were the rule and not the exception. (17)

Like the model described above, the history of commerce in Fond du Lac began with small businesses, such as the inn operated by the Pier family, the first permanent settlers in the village. Retailing grew rapidly as settlers moved into the village and settled farms in the outlying area. The earliest stores were general stores, and many of these businesses were in frame commercial buildings that either burned (as they were very susceptible to fires and nineteenth century fire departments could offer only rudimentary service), or outlived their usefulness and were replaced with brick blocks.

As retailing grew in the city, the general stores gave way to more specialty businesses, such as grocery stores, meat markets, dry goods stores, clothing stores, tailor shops, and millinery stores, all carrying items that could be found earlier in general stores. Hardware and furniture stores also sprang up in the growing downtown, as well as saloons, restaurants, candy stores, banks, and hotels. By 1884, Fond du Lac had a downtown business center that spanned over 10 blocks along Main Street. During the nineteenth century, some small industries, such as blacksmithing, harness making, and boot and shoe making, also occupied commercial

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buildings downtown, until these goods were replaced with factory-made items sold at retail stores. The business activities in the South Main Street Historic District included a wide variety of businesses found in typical downtown commercial centers in Wisconsin. One of the most important of these activities was banking, and there are three buildings related to banking in this district.

Two significant bank buildings in this district are related to the Commercial National Bank. This bank had its origins with William Wells' private bank that he organized in 1870. When Wells died in 1888, his brother, John C. Wells continued to operate the bank until his death in 1898. In 1901, the bank was reorganized and given a national charter as the Commercial National Bank, and in 1903, they moved into their impressive new Richardsonian Romanesque bank building at 91 S. Main St. The bank moved to a new, and more impressive Commercial Style office building (104 S. Main St.) in 1923. In 1932, the Commercial National Bank consolidated with the Citizens State Bank (also in this district) and began operating under the new name of National Exchange Bank. This new bank stayed in the building at 104 S. Main St. until after World War II. (18)

The third important bank building in the district housed the Citizens State Bank (71 S. Main St.). This bank was organized in 1911, and only operated for 21 years. In 1932, it was consolidated with the Commercial National Bank and the new bank operated under the name of National Exchange Bank. Another building associated with finance in this district is the Commercial Company Building (106 S. Main St.). Built for the Commercial Company, city directories indicated that the company was involved in financial transactions, including stocks and other investments. The building was finished right before the stock market crash of 1929, and the company only survived until 1934. (19)

Like most business districts in Wisconsin, retailers in the South Main Street Historic District often came and went quickly. What is interesting, though, is that buildings did not stay vacant long after a business failed. Just as quickly as a business left a building, the storefront was filled with a new enterprise. Some retailers were more fortunate, or worked harder, or had the right business for the time, and their businesses succeeded and thrived for many years. Among these successful retailers was Albert Hauer, who founded Hauer's Paint Store in 1911 and operated it alone, and with his son, at 173 S. Main St. until the 1950s. (20)

Another long-time business is Brauer's clothing and home furnishings store. Established in 1916 as a tailor shop, the store grew and expanded at its location at 118-120 S. Main St. One of the long-time meat markets in the district was the

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Carstens meat market at 141 S. Main St. Begun as the Bartlett and Olmstead meat market in 1860, A. L. Carstens entered the business shortly thereafter and operated the market alone between 1890 and 1905. J. C. Whittelsey and John Sharpe opened one of the oldest dry goods stores in the community in 1861. By 1880, the store was operated only by Whittelsey and Whittelsey's Dry goods continued to operate out of 74-78 S. Main Street until around 1910. (21)

Other long-time retail businesses in this district include the Furstnow (A. H. and Charles) Jewelry Store at 79 S. Main St., the W. and J. E. Mason Crockery and China Shop at 85 S. Main St., the Egelhoff Shoe Store at 87 S. Main St., the Wilkie Hardware Store at 108 S. Main St., the Dana and Worm Drug Store at 114-116 S. Main St., and the Wagner and Rueping General Store, later the Wagner Dry Goods Store, at 118-120 S. Main St. and at 122-24 S. Main St. (22)

Today, there is still an abundance of retail goods and services in this district, including clothing stores, taverns, a drug store, home furnishings, a bicycle shop, and a "dime" store (Woolworths). Some downtown retailers have left for shopping malls, so there are many storefronts that have been converted into professional offices for attorneys, realtors, and others, even a large hair salon. Historically, professional offices were housed in the upper levels of business blocks, but today, many downtown building owners depend on offices to fill their storefronts. But, regardless of the type of commercial enterprises housed in this historic district, and in the rest of Fond du Lac's downtown, this area of the city still continues to be an important commercial center for the community.

The types of businesses and services historically provided in this district illustrates that the trading in retail goods and services was its most significant function. And, because this district is physically separated from the rest of the city's downtown, it stands alone as an individual commercial sector within Fond du Lac's business district. The intact building groups of this district give it a genuine feeling as a nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial streetscape. And, because commerce was important in Fond du Lac, both on a local and regional level, and because commercial activity was one of the most important functions of communities in Wisconsin, this district, as a relatively intact historic commercial streetscape, is significant for commerce.

Notes to Section 8:

(1) The period of significance begins with the construction date of the earliest extant building and encompasses the important historical activities up to 1930, when the modern era of Fond du Lac's downtown began.

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- (2) Michael D. Lempinen and Les Ross, Intensive Survey Report, Architectural and Historical Survey Project, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, Fond du Lac: City of Fond du Lac, 1989, p. 11.
- (3) Ibid., pp. 11-12.
- (4) Ibid., p. 13.
- (5) Maurice McKenna, ed., Fond du Lac County Wisconsin Past and Present Vol. I, Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1912, pp. 185-186.
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- (7) Ibid., p. 15.
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- (10) Barbara Wyatt, ed., Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin Vol. II, Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986, Architecture, p. 3-10.
- (11) Ibid., p. 2-10.
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- (14) Ibid., p. 2-20.
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- (22) City Directories.

ARCHEOLOGICAL STATEMENT

Historic sources indicate that there was considerable Native American activity in the area in and around Fond du Lac. Also early explorers and fur traders frequented Lake Winnebago. And, while surface disturbances have taken place since the 1840s, there is a high potential for the existence of hidden archeological resources in this district. A comprehensive study and excavation may uncover both prehistoric and historic Native American and fur trade resources, as well as resources related to early settlement activity in this area of Fond du Lac.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:
 State Historic preservation office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 6 acres

UTM References

A	<u>1/6</u>	<u>3/8/3/5/2/0</u>	<u>4/8/4/7/9/2/0</u>	B	<u>1/6</u>	<u>3/8/3/6/1/0</u>	<u>4/8/4/7/9/2/0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u>1/6</u>	<u>3/8/3/5/8/0</u>	<u>4/8/4/7/4/5/0</u>	D	<u>1/6</u>	<u>3/8/3/5/2/0</u>	<u>4/8/4/7/7/5/0</u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title	<u>Carol Lohry Cartwright, Consultant</u>	date	<u>10-1-91</u>
organization	<u>for the City of Fond du Lac</u>	telephone	<u>(414) 929-3311</u>
street & number	<u>160 S. Macy St.</u>	state	<u>WI</u>
city or town	<u>Fond du Lac</u>	zip code	<u>54936</u>

NPS Form 10-900a
(Rev. 8-86)
Wisconsin Word Processor Format
Approved 2/87

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Page 1 South Main Street Historic District,
Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac County, WI

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL RESOURCES

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10 Page 1 South Main Street Historic District,
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


GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

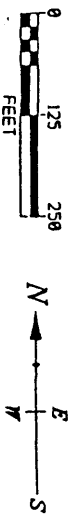
Beginning at the intersection of the east curb line of South Main Street and the north lot line of 71 N. Main Street, then east along this line to the east lot lines of 73-143 S. Main Street, then south along these lines to the north curb line of Third Street, then west along this line to the east lot lines of 181-85-213 S. Main St., then south along this line, across Third Street and Fourth Street, to the north curb line of Fifth Street, then west along this line to the west curb line of South Main Street, then north along this line to the north curb line of Second Street, then west along this line to the west lot lines of 72-122-124 S. Main Street, then north along this line to the north lot line of 72 S. Main Street, then east along this line to the east curb line of South Main Street, then north along this line to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

This boundary was selected to include as much of the historic fabric of this portion of historic downtown Fond du Lac. Specifically, the northern boundary was drawn at the point in Fond du Lac's downtown where extensive new construction and remodeling divides the historic downtown into northern and southern sections. The boundaries on the east and west were drawn to exclude non-contributing buildings and buildings and vacant lots that have no association with historic downtown Fond du Lac. The southern boundary is two-fold. On the west side of South Main Street, the downtown business district ends and the land is taken up with city and county governmental buildings, a large park-like lawn, and parking lots. The boundary was drawn to end the district when the historic commercial buildings ended and the new use began. The eastern portion of the southern boundary was drawn when the downtown business district ended, and at a point where the area becomes transitional between business and residential uses.

-  DISTRICT BOUNDARY
-  0123 PROPERTY ADDRESS
-  CONTRIBUTING
-  NON-CONTRIBUTING

SOUTH MAIN STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT,
FOND DU LAC, FOND DU LAC COUNTY, WISCONSIN



PREPARED BY BRIAN M. LASH
 COMPUTER GRAPHICS LABORATORY
 UW-W DEPT. OF GEOG., NOVEMBER 1991

