

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Eschweiler Thematic Resources of Marathon County, Wisconsin

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

7. Description (continued)

The Karl Mathie House (1912), 202 Water Street. Mosinee
Mr. and Mrs. David Whitmore
202 Water Street
Mosinee, WI 54455

Map 1, A
Acreage: 1.5

The Karl Mathie House is a two-story plus attic clapboard and shingle residence with Shingle Style and Bungalow characteristics. The large, irregular design is oriented to give maximum visual access to the river. Much of the shingled second story is canted out over the first; projections on the east, north, and south are supported by large paired brackets. Purlins and rafters extend from parallel gables on the north, south, and east. Large window areas looking out over the river are formed by grouped casements or large, volumetric arched cut-outs. The included porch around the front entrance in the northwest corner of the house is surmounted by a second-story porch above; both are screened-in. A third porch is located on the second story above the dining room. Gabled roofs meet to form an L shape at the southeast corner; the plan is extended to the north to include a one-story, two-car garage. The elliptical drive parallels Water Street, and fills the angle of the plan. The ground story of the house includes a kitchen, butler's pantry, dining room, sun room, parlor, hall, and enclosed link to the yard near the garage. Upstairs, the three bedrooms, baths, porch, den, and servant's quarters are interconnected and supplied with a number of closets and built-in storage spaces. All interior woodwork is oak, and the solidly-constructed interior remains in original condition.

First Universalist Church (1914), 504 Grant Street, Wausau
First Universalist Church Congregation
504 Grant Street
Wausau, WI 54401

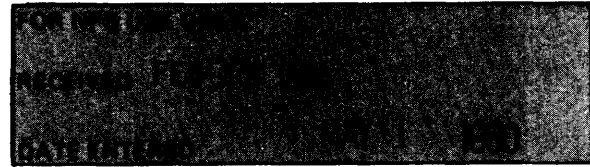
Map 2, D
Acreage: 0.871

The First Universalist Church and Parish House form a "U" on the corner of Grant and La Salle Streets in Wausau. The random ashlar gable-roofed church has a three-stage buttressed tower with steeple displaced to the east side of the front gable. A large perpendicular stained glass window is cut into the center of the north and south ends; smaller similar windows fill the bays along the east and west walls between buttresses. Great oak trusses supporting the wood-paneled ceiling of the nave spring from stone corbels between the windows. The dark woodwork in the choir loft, pews, and altar is hand-carved oak. Small balustraded balconies flank each stained glass window in the north and south ends. The half-timbered parish house and link form an "L" joined to the east side of the church. An arched cloister-like porch cut into the stone ground story fronts the main entrance. A gabled projection on the second story is canted out over the bay-windowed vestibule, and is supported by curved wood brackets. Trefoil-cut rafters extend from the steep gable roof.

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



Eschweiler Thematic Resources of Marathon County, Wisconsin

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

8. Significance (continued)

and long, gable-roof ranges are appropriately barn-like, but in contrast of colors (white stucco with red tile roofs) and forms are pleasing design entities. Even the grandstands, with an arcaded steel canopy, are an elegant solution for a practical purpose. It is rare that such a complex, with so specialized a function and so little-used, survives in essentially original exterior condition

Association with Prominent Citizens

Located near swift rapids at the junction of two of the largest tributaries of the Wisconsin River, the Wausau-Mosinee area was a natural focal point for industry in the region. The river system's drainage basin includes about 21% of the state,⁵ making it a significant transportation link in logging operations. It is logical, then, that the area would become the home of a number of prominent leaders in Wisconsin industry, government, and commerce. With their association with significant figures in the central area of the state, as well as their kinship as Eschweiler designs, the nominated properties are doubly significant.

JOSEPH DESSERT

Joseph Dessert, donor of the Mosinee library, worked in the lumbering industry in Quebec before coming to the area in 1844. In 1849 he and three partners purchased the saw mill in which they had been working. By 1859, Dessert was sole owner of the mill and its power source at Little Bull Falls, which was renamed Mosinee at his suggestion.⁶ In the next forty years, Dessert did much to advance logging operations and technology, and built his company into the most productive lumbering concern outside the Wausau-Scholfield area. As part of the "...genuine spirit of cooperation between the parent company and the dependent community" of Mosinee, and Dessert's "...active interest in enriching the quality of his employees' lives,"⁷ Dessert sponsored the construction of the library named in his honor. Dessert himself appointed a board of trustees and financed the purchase of new books and maintenance expenses for the next several years.

KARL MATHIE

Karl Mathie was imported from the Watab Pulp and Paper Company of Sartell, Minnesota, by the Wausau Group, an entrepreneurial committee of heads of Marathon County timber concerns, to direct the Wausau Sulphate Fibre Company in 1910. The paper mill was located on the Little Bull Falls in Mosinee where Dessert's earlier operation had been. With the arrival of the mill, a new surge of prosperity hit Mosinee in the 1920s, causing a boom in population and in building and village improvements. Norman S. Stone, who owned the Mathie House from 1929-69, was a president of the same firm renamed the Mosinee Paper Company.

(continued)

