

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



Eschweiler Thematic Resources of Marathon County, Wisconsin

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7. Description (continued)

A series of four steep gable dormers filled with curved braces are set into the roof of the link above the second story level. Windows underneath light the parish meeting hall, a large room with a trussed ceiling and a balcony over the east end. Windows throughout the sitting room below and in the offices of the parish house are leaded. Heavy, handsome oak beams support the ceiling of the large sitting-reception room on the ground floor of the parish house. Minimal alterations to the original fabric of the building inside and out are imperceptible.

Marathon County Fairgrounds (1921), Stewart Avenue, Wausau
Dwayne Corbin, Director of Parks
Marathon County Courthouse
Forest Street
Wausau, WI 54401

Map 3
Acreage: 6.2

Eschweiler buildings at the Marathon County Fairgrounds on Stewart Avenue in Wausau include two, two-stage octagonal stock judging pavilions with barns, and the covered grandstand. The painted, concrete pavilions have windowed octagonal clerestories and short, octagonal lanterns. The main drum of the larger building has two stories of multi-paned hopper windows, and is fronted by a long, bracketed canopy. Closed ranges extending to the south, east, and northwest are covered by gable roofs; a single paneled garage door in each gable end is set within a large round arch. Interconnected with pens, the barns are long, low concrete buildings with glazed monitor roofs. All roofs are composition shingle. The interior ranges of the barns are entered through paired cross-buck doors on the ends. The grandstands to the west consist of a single rise of wood and metal bleachers set on the concrete stand, with an arcaded steel-frame canopy overhead. Any slight alterations to the Fairgrounds buildings have been the result of routine maintenance.

The C. B. Bird House (1922), 522 McIndoe Street, Wausau
Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Gajewski
522 McIndoe Street
Wausau, WI 54401

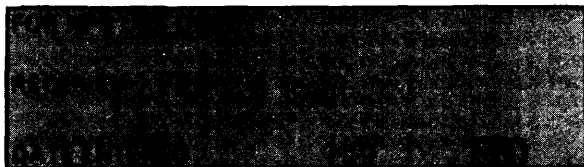
Map 2, C
Acreage: 0.157

The C. B. Bird House in Wausau is a Revival-style design executed by Eschweiler himself before his sons entered the firm. The large, two-story plus attic half-timbered residence is T-shaped with a "court" in the rear northwest angle of the house near the garage. The Tudor character of the house is concentrated in timbering of the two upper stories in the steep gable ends; a small gabled canopy fronting the open, southwestern corner porch gives a Tudor touch to the front. Corbelled brick chimneys rise from the southeast (front) and northwest (rear) slopes of the

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8. Significance (continued)

of the congregation and the premier lumberman in Wisconsin at the time,¹² paid for construction and furnishing of the parish house and parsonage. Other well-known citizen who belonged to the church at the time were E. A. Gooding (president of the Wisconsin Box Company), Frank Kelley (president of Wausau Novelty Company), W. B. Scholfield (president of the Wausau Box Company, and a later owner of the C. H. Wegner House), and A. S. Kreutzer (a Wisconsin state senator).

Social Activity

The Joseph Dessert Library and Marathon County Fairgrounds have additional significance as sites of social activity in their respective communities. The public-spirited manner in which Dessert endowed the library carried over into its use throughout the years as a center of social and educational activity. Plays and small entertainments were held in the second-story auditorium. Library usage continues downstairs to this day in a setting essentially unchanged since its construction. The scene of yearly county fairs, the Fairgrounds are closely allied with regional identity and agricultural activity in the area. Set apart from the city in a park setting, the grounds are given an added festive emphasis. Rarely are such areas so well-tended and preserved.

¹Architectural Archives, Milwaukee Public Library, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

²Richard S. Davis, Fifty Years of Architecture - The House of Eschweiler, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1943, unpagued.

³Ibid.

⁴Mark A. Latus and Mary Ellen Young, Downtown Milwaukee, Copyright 1978, Milwaukee Landmarks Commission.

⁵Howard R. Klueter and James J. Lorence, Woodlot and Ballot Box, Marathon County in the Twentieth Century, Copyright 1977, Marathon County Historical Society, Wausau, Wisconsin, Worzalla Publishing Company, Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

⁶Ibid., p. 32.

⁷Ibid., p. 33.

⁸Ibid., p. 114.

⁹Ibid., p. 117.

¹⁰Walking Tour of Historical Homes, Wausau, Wisconsin 1872-1972, Wausau Chamber of Commerce.

¹¹Dictionary of Wisconsin Biography, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, 1960, p. 36; M. M. Quafe, Wisconsin: Its History and Its People, S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, Chicago, Illinois, 1924.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Addendum: Social Activity

The Joseph Dessert Library and the Marathon County Fairgrounds have additional significance as sites of social activity in their respective communities. The public-spirited manner in which Dessert endowed the library carried over into its use throughout the years as a center of social and cultural activity, to a degree characteristic of a town hall or community center. Plays and small entertainments were often held in the second-floor auditorium. Library usage continues downstairs to this day in a setting essentially unchanged since its construction.

The scene of yearly county fairs, the Fairgrounds are closely allied with regional identity and agricultural activity in the area. Set apart from the city in a park setting, the grounds are given an added festive emphasis. Rarely are such areas so well-tended and preserved.

¹²Ibid., p. 47. Yawkey founded Yawkey & Lee Lumber Company in 1889, was president of the Hazelhurst & Southeastern Railway Company and the Yawkey-Bissell Lumber Company, vice-president of the Wisconsin Box Company, first president of the Marathon Paper Mills Company in 1909, and in 1912 was elected vice-president of Wausau Paper Mills Company in Brokau, Wisconsin.

