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**

0

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How 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 Roosevelt Terrace
other names/site number N/A
2. Location
street & number 1700-1714 (even) North 21st Street and 2105-2109 (odd) Ogden Avenue N/A not for publication city or town Superior N/A Vicinity state Wisconsin Code WI County Douglas code 031 zip code 54880
3. State/Federal Agency Certification
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant _ nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)  Signature of certifying official/Title  Date
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

Roosevelt Terrace		Douglas County	Wisconsin
Name of Property		County and State	
4. National Park Service	ce Certification		
I hereby certify that the property is:  See continuation sheet determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet See continuation sheet determined not eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.	Edso	n H. Beall	1.12.05
removed from the National Register.	·		
other, (explain:)	Lu		
	Signature of th	e Keeper	Date of Action
5. Classification			
Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within (Do not include previously liste in the count)	
X Private	X building(s)		tributing
public-local	District	11 build	ings
public-State	Structure	sites	
public-Federal	Site	struct	
	Object	objec 11 0 Total	ıs
Name of related multiple pro (Enter "N/A" if property not p listing. N/A		Number of contributing resou is previously listed in the Nati	
6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instru Domestic/Multiple Dwelling	ctions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Domestic/Multiple Dwelling	
7. Description			
Architectural Classification		Materials	
(Enter categories from instru		(Enter categories from instructions)	
Late Victorian/Romanesque	······································	Foundation Stone	
Zato victoriais itoriaisosque		walls Brick	
		Stone	
		roof Asphalt	
		Other: Iron	
			<del></del>

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

Roosevelt Terrace	Douglas County	Wisconsin
Name of Property	County and State	

# 8. Statement of Significance

(Marl	icable National Register Criteria k "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria fying the property for the National Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
_ A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	Architecture
_ B	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
<u>X</u> 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.	Period of Significance  1890
_D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	Significant Dates
	ria Considerations "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	
Prope	rty is:	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)
_ A	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	N/A
_B	removed from its original location.	
_ C	a birthplace or grave.	Cultural Affiliation
_ D	a cemetery.	N/A
_ E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
_ F	a commemorative property.	Architect/Builder
_ G	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Wirth, Carl

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

Roosevelt 7	`егтасе		Do	uglas	Wisconsin
ame of P	roperty		Cou	nty and State	
Major	· Bibliographic	References			
te the b	ooks, articles, and ot	ther sources used in preparing thi	s form on one or n	ore continuation	sheets.)
		File (National Park Service):	Prima	ry location of ad	ditional data:
	inary determination			Historic Preserv	ation Office
	(36 CFR 67) has be		_	r State Agency	
-	usly listed in the Na	tional		ral Agency Il government	
Regist	er usly determined elig	rible by		ersity	
	ational Register	in the state of th	Othe	•	
	ated a National Hist	oric	- tile	Name of reposit	ory:
landm				Superior Public	
		rican Buildings Survey #			•
record	ed by Historic Amer	rican Engineering Record #			
reage of		nan one acre			
reage of	Property Less th	nan one acre onal UTM references on a contin	uation sheet.)		
reage of	Property Less the rences (Place addition 568568	onal UTM references on a contin	3		
reage of	Property Less the Property Les	onal UTM references on a contin	ŕ	Easting	Northing
reage of Refe	Property Less the Property Less the Property Service addition of the Property Service	onal UTM references on a contin  5173692  Northing	3 Zone		
reage of	Property Less the Property Less the Property Service addition of the Property Service	onal UTM references on a contin	Zone 4 Zone	Easting	Northing
reage of Refe	Property Less the Property Less the Property Service addition of the Property Service	onal UTM references on a contin  5173692  Northing	Zone 4 Zone		Northing
reage of M Refe	Property Less the Property Less the Property Service addition of the Property Service	onal UTM references on a contin  5173692  Northing	Zone 4 Zone	Easting	Northing
reage of TM Refe	Property Less the rences (Place addition   568568 e Easting e Easting	onal UTM references on a contin  5173692  Northing	Zone  Zone  Zone  See Con	Easting ntinuation She	Northing
TM Refe  15 Zon Zon	Property Less the rences (Place addition 568568) E Easting E Easting E Easting	5173692 Northing  Northing  (Describe the boundaries of the part o	Zone  4 Zone See Controperty on a continuous	Easting ntinuation She	Northing
TM Refe  15 Zon Zon	Property Less the rences (Place addition 568568) E Easting E Easting E Easting	5173692 Northing Northing	Zone  4 Zone See Controperty on a continuous	Easting ntinuation She	Northing
TM Refe  15 Zon Zon	Property Less the rences (Place addition 568568) E Easting E Easting E Easting	5173692 Northing  Northing  (Describe the boundaries of the part o	Zone  4 Zone See Controperty on a continuous	Easting ntinuation She	Northing
TM Refe  15 Zon Zon rbal Bou	Property Less the rences (Place addition 568568) E Easting E Easting E Easting	5173692 Northing  Northing  (Describe the boundaries of the part o	Zone  4 Zone See Controperty on a continuous	Easting ntinuation She	Northing
Zon Zon Thal Boundary	Property Less the rences (Place addition 1985)  568568  E Easting  E Easting  Indary Description  Justification (Explain 1985)	5173692  Northing  Northing  (Describe the boundaries of the pain why the boundaries were selected.)	Zone  4 Zone See Controperty on a continuous	Easting ntinuation She	Northing
Zon  Zon  Zon  Zon  Zon  Zon  zon  Zon  zon	Property Less the rences (Place addition 1985)  568568  E Easting  E Easting  Indary Description  Justification (Explain Prepared By  Debra K	5173692  Northing  Northing  (Describe the boundaries of the pain why the boundaries were selected.)	Zone  4 Zone See Controperty on a continuous	Easting Intinuation She Inuation sheet) Ion sheet)	Northing et
Zon Zon Thal Boundary	Property Less the rences (Place addition 1988)  568568 E Easting  E Easting  Indary Description  Justification (Explain 1989)  Prepared By  Debra Kation	5173692  Northing  Northing  (Describe the boundaries of the pain why the boundaries were selected.)	Zone  4 Zone See Controperty on a continuous	Easting ntinuation She	Northing

Roosevelt Terrace Douglas County Wisconsin
Name of Property County and State

#### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### **Continuation Sheets**

Maps

A 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

various

organization street&number

city or town

.

state

WI

Date Telephone zip code

at a di National Distriction of the Cartinal Distriction o

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

Section	7	Page	1
Section		1 age	

Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin

Roosevelt Terrace is an imposing three story, L-shaped, eleven unit townhouse built in 1890 and constructed of brick in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. The L-shaped plan was designed with a symmetrical front, or primary, façade and an asymmetrical secondary façade. It is situated on a raised rusticated stone foundation with an angled water table. The principal facade appears as eight individual units with distinctive fenestration and ornamentation. The secondary façade appears as three individual units with similar fenestration and ornamentation as seen on the primary facade. A metal cornice is at the roofline, which displays decorative brickwork. The walls are brick with sandstone courses and sandstone detail at the window sills, lintels and mullions. The primary entrance of each townhouse is contained under either a single or shared portico comprised of a massive brick arch embellished with a variety of decorative details, such as round pilasters, conical caps, balustrades, and decorative brickwork. The window arrangement decreases in size with the first floor containing large windows with massive lintels and sills and smaller openings on the second and third story. The rear access of each townhouse leads to a shared common courtyard area contained along the southern and western portion of the building and is delineated by the L-shaped plan of the building. A modern wood fence encloses the courtyard. The property is in good condition. Deterioration is evident at the windows, the stone ornamentation and the stairs. The townhouse located at 1708 21st Ave. was altered apparently around 1920; the portico has been enclosed with glass to create a porch that can be accessed from the interior only. Roosevelt Terrace is located in an urban setting south of the downtown business district of Superior, Wisconsin. The grand style of Roosevelt Terrace reflects the prosperity of the late 1880s in Superior, Wisconsin and was designed by prominent local architect, Carl Wirth,

The north façade extends along 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue and is considered as the primary façade of the building. Eight of the 11 townhouses (1700-1714, 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue) have an entrance on this façade. The symmetrical façade is comprised of a massive central three-arch entrance. Two single arch entrances are positioned at each end of this façade. The center portion of the building (1706 and 1708 21<sup>st</sup> Ave.) projects forward and is defined by the massive stone three-arch entrance. A shared flight of stairs is positioned under the central arch and the adjoining arches create a porch space for each unit. The arches contain decorative brick panels, rounded pilasters with conical caps or "torches," each carved with a unique pattern of faces or leaves. Contained under the arch is a decorative oxidized iron railing. The units at the east and west ends (1700 and 1714 21<sup>st</sup> Ave.) exhibit a single arch under a two-story bay with patterned brick panels and are capped with balustrades and are trimmed in heavy stone. This arched entrance includes attached columns capped with carved stone finials and is accessed by heavy sandstone stairs. Each bay contains upper and lower 2/2 double hung transom windows with massive stone sills and lintels. The portico is flanked on the first story by decorative side by side double hung windows separated by an ornamental stone colonette with a cushion capital. The adjacent entrances at

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

#### United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	7	Page	2
Section	/	Page	

Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin

1702-1704 21<sup>st</sup> Ave. and 1710-1712 21<sup>st</sup> Ave. are each positioned within a shared single arch portico accessed by a single flight of sandstone steps with a stone divider delineating each entrance. Second story windows are paired double-hung and extend the length of the building in a symmetrical fashion. Similarly, the third story windows have the same configuration; however, they have a round, brick arch design and were originally 1/1 sash with thin stone sills. All of the windows appear to have been replaced various times over the building's history. The roofline consists of an articulated cornice below a display of patterned brick and completed with a metal cornice at the roof edge. Stone courses occur at the transom line and at mid-window on the third level.

The east façade contains an arched entrance providing access to 2109 and 2107 Ogden Avenue and an arched entrance to 2105 Ogden Avenue. These entrance bays are configured in a similar fashion as those on the north, or primary, façade and are ornamented with patterned brick panels and are capped with balustrades and trimmed in heavy stone. The bays contain upper and lower 2/2 transom windows with stone sills and lentils. Stone courses are positioned at the sill, at mid-window and at the arch of the windows on the third story. The second story contains a row of 1/1 double hung windows, none of which appear to be original, with heavy stone sills and lintels. The third story contains a row of archtopped windows with stone sills, none of which appear to be original. A flight of stone stairs with a stone railing and patterned brick panels is situated parallel to the building and provides access to both 2109 and 2107 Ogden Avenue. A stone half-wall perpendicular to the facade separates each private entrance below the arch. A single large window flanks each side of the entrance. Contained under the arch is an iron railing fashioned in the same manner as those on the primary façade. At the north end of the building a portion of the building projects forward and contains the arched entrance to 2105 Ogden. The northern portion of the façade is recessed to the same plane as the southern portion and contains a stylized chimney flue with an inserted decorative plaque topped with a fanned brick arch positioned between the first level window sills and stone course. Between the second and third level stone courses is decorative brickwork; two stepped quoins are located at the second level stone course.

The south facade of the building, along with the southern portion of the western façade, forms an L-shape and provides the rear access of each townhouse that leads to a courtyard situated on the southwest portion of the property. It is comprised of a sandstone foundation with a water table, is faced with yellow brick and has exterior chimney flues and metal fire escapes. Single-story, T-shaped structures provide access for each of the two units that share a portico on either Ogden Avenue or 21<sup>st</sup> Street. These structures consist of a small flight of stairs leading to a single door under an arched brick header which is flanked by an elongated vertical 1/1 light window. A large window with an arched header is positioned on the perpendicular walls. The original stairs at each entrance appear to have been replaced with wood stairs. It is unknown what the original stairs were constructed of or when

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

#### United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	7	Page	3
Section		1 450	_

Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin

they were replaced. The fenestration on this façade consists of long vertical windows with arched brick hoods.

The northern portion of the west façade is relatively void of the ornamentation and fenestration found on the north, south, and east facades. One window is positioned near the south end of the building. The original glass appears to have been replaced with a side by side window with a thin stone sill. A second window is positioned near the north end of the building and is configured with a stone sill and an arched brick 2-tier header. A metal fire escape is situated on this façade.

At the time Roosevelt Terrace was built, an unattached heating plant with a sixty-foot chimney was constructed on the southwest corner of the courtyard. In 1982 the heating plant suffered a fire and was subsequently razed. This forced each townhouse to incorporate individual units for hot water and heating.

The interior of each townhouse is fairly consistent. Inside the front entrance is a small vestibule leading to the main reception room. Here the main stairway rises to the third story, terminating under a grand skylight. Past the stairway on the first floor are the drawing room, dining room, butler pantry and kitchen. The interior is complemented with built-in cabinets and bookshelves, pocket doors, and ornate wood and tile open fireplaces. The woodwork on this floor is quarter-sawn polished oak and cherry. The second floor was designed for sleeping rooms with a fireplace located in the bedroom facing the primary or secondary facade. The bathroom on this floor is constructed of white tile, porcelain tub and basin with polished nickel fittings. The third floor is devoted to sleeping rooms and formerly for servants' quarters. Like the second floor, it is finished in Georgia Pine. In the basement were the laundry, coal and woodsheds, which are now outfitted with the furnace and water heater. Each unit was equipped with electric bells and speaking tubes.

Overall, the building retains the architectural integrity of its most significant architectural features such as balustrades, arches, bays, stone courses, patterned panels, and porticos. Roosevelt Terrace remains an excellent example of the architecture of Carl Wirth and still exudes the grandeur of the time it was built. Due to an apparent deferment of maintenance and the progression of deterioration, repairs to the stone and brick are needed. Many of the original windows have been replaced with styles that do not conform to the original or have window openings that have been boarded up. However, these alterations do not have a significant effect on the building's architectural integrity.

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	8	Page	1
50001		~ ~ 5	

Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin

The Roosevelt Terrace was built in 1890 and designed by local architect Carl Wirth. The period of significance corresponds to the year of construction. Roosevelt Terrace meets National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an example of Richardsonian Romanesque architecture in the city of Superior. The resource is also significant as an example of a multi-unit townhouse design, a rare property type in Wisconsin.

James Roosevelt purchased the land at the corner of Ogden Avenue and 21<sup>st</sup> Street in Superior in 1890 and financed the building of this row house to provide upscale housing for the developing city during its boom era between 1888 and 1892. It was built by the Land and River Improvement Company of New York, which was responsible for building many of Superior's finest commercial buildings during the boom period.

James Roosevelt and other investors at the time believed that Superior was going to be the next Chicago because of the many booming industries in the area. A railroad line to Superior was built in the mid-1800's and the natural canal in Superior on Lake Superior was becoming a very active waterway. The first grain elevator in Superior was built in 1886 by the Great Northern railway. Shipments of iron ore from Northern Minnesota and lumber from Northern Wisconsin were in demand across the country, making Superior a place where money could be made for any interested investor. James Roosevelt was one of these investors and businessmen who came to Superior and he invested heavily in the area. In addition to financing the design and construction of the Roosevelt Terrace, Roosevelt was also instrumental in establishing the West Superior Iron and Steel Company in the Billings Park area of Superior.

The Land and River Improvement Company, founded in 1883, was funded by Gen. John H. Hammond and is another example of east coast money that fueled the unprecedented growth during Superior's boom era and is also representative of the confidence held by eastern financiers who believed that Superior would be the next Chicago. Most of the speculative commercial buildings were built by this company and many bear names of the origin of the financing (e.g.; Roosevelt Terrace, New York Building, Empire Block also known as Boston Block). "The Company definitely built Superior," said Kathy Laakso, director of the Douglas County Historical Society.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Superior Telegram, September 9, 1891, p.5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Evening Telegram, December 12, 1944.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Evening Telegram, April 17, 1950.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Duluth News Tribune, December 18, 2003, p. 6A

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 2

Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin

Roosevelt Terrace Condominiums was erected at the height of Superior's economic boom at a cost of \$85,000.<sup>5</sup> More than a decade later, responding to the economic difficulties after the financial panic of 1895, the units and lots were sold at a substantial loss. A newspaper article of 1905 advertised the sale of the units: "These houses which cost to exceed \$9,000.00 each, and which do not need \$1.00 worth of repairs, we are able to offer to you, while they last, from \$3,000.00 to \$3,500.00 each on terms to suit you and throw the lot in, excepting the one on the corner of Ogden and 21<sup>st</sup> St., which we hold at \$4,250.00".

#### **ARCHITECTURE**

The Romanesque Revival Style of Architecture was introduced on the East Coast in the 1840s and came to Wisconsin around 1855. The style's later interpretation by H.H. Richardson came to influence Wisconsin's architecture in the 1880s and 1890s. While both examples use round arched elements, the latter style is defined by its masonry construction, massiveness, and simplicity of form. Roosevelt Terrace is characterized by its magnificent arches and porticoes. There are a total of seven grand arches on the 21<sup>st</sup> Street side of the building and two on the Ogden Avenue side, each with a staircase and curved, concrete banisters leading up to it. Set deep behind these arches is a porch and one or two doorways that bring residents into each of the eleven units within the Roosevelt Terrace. In addition to the entryway arches, arched openings are seen again above each of the third floor windows. On each end of the 21<sup>st</sup> Street side of the building, the primary facade, there are porticoes, which provide a balcony to the units. There are also two much smaller balconies on the Ogden Avenue side of the building.

The building was built using a mix of stone and brick, characteristic of the Richardsonian Romanesque architecture that was popular during the time this building was constructed. The 21<sup>st</sup> Street and Ogden Avenue sides of the structure showcases red sandstone and brick, while the back and south side of the building were built using a light brown brick.

Roosevelt Terrace is a prominent townhouse block in Superior. It is an outstanding example of high-style residential living aimed at the more prosperous buyer during Superior's boom period. It was advertised as being a "most desirable residence location" and an "exemplar of modern elegance" and "are not only the finest in Superior, but they are as fine as any that can be built anywhere". At the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Superior Telegram, September 11, 1891, p.5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Superior Telegram, June 27, 1905.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Evening Telegram, June 28, 1895, p. 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Superior Telegram, September 11, 1891, p 5, col.2.

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	8	Page	3
Section	U	I ago	

Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin

time the Roosevelt Terrace was built it was equipped with the most modern technology including electric bells and speaking tubes to and from each of the units, plumbing with running water, and a common plant built away from the structure run by coal that provided heat to each of the units.

The architect of the Roosevelt Terrace, Carl Wirth, was a German immigrant who lived in Superior and in Duluth, Minnesota during much of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Wirth arrived in Superior in 1880 and later moved to Duluth. He also lived for a time in Fort William, Ontario, Canada, but returned to Superior in August of 1914 due to the anti-German sentiment in Ontario during WWI. While living in Ontario Wirth returned to the Superior area regularly to work on other projects, including a trip in March of 1914 during which he worked on the development of other building projects in Superior. During this trip Wirth made a quote to the Superior Telegram newspaper in which he said, "There are indications of prosperity here that were not apparent when I left the city. The people have awakened and are now up and doing something". Carl Wirth died of pneumonia at St. Mary's Hospital in Duluth in 1928 at the age of age 74.

In addition to Roosevelt Terrace, Wirth designed many other properties in Superior, Wisconsin and the neighboring city of Duluth, Minnesota, using the Romanesque style of architecture seen in the Roosevelt Terrace. Two of the buildings have been listed on the National Register of Historical Places, the first being the Empire Block, also known as the Boston Block, which was added to the register in 1985. This building has been greatly altered leaving little of the original architecture in order. The only recognizable hints of Wirth's original design are the arches above the remaining doorways on the lower floor, some of the sandstone and red brick throughout the building, and the decorated pillars between each of the windows on the upper floor of the building. The second listed building is the Wernyss Building, which was also added in 1985, but no longer exists. Wirth also designed the Lorring Terrace apartments and the Ross home at 1708 Ogden Ave, both in Superior. His designs showed his appeal for the Romanesque style and his preferential use of sandstone.

The availability of stone in northern Wisconsin and the period of significant growth made the Romanesque styles especially popular in Superior. The style was applied to residential, commercial and civic buildings. The Trade and Commerce Building (NRHP, 5/8/79) is an especially fine example of the influence of the architecture of H.H. Richardson on the architecture of Superior. Heavily rusticated, massive and with large arched openings, this 1890 building was designed by St. Paul architect Clarence Johnson.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Superior Telegram, August 10, 1914, p.3, sec. 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Superior Telegram, March 5, 1914, p.3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Duluth Herald, November 19, 1928.

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 4

Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin

Roosevelt Terrace is further significant as an example of a property type, the multi unit townhouse. This urban architectural form is rarely found in Wisconsin and reflects Superior's aspirations of becoming a major shipping and commercial center in the Midwest.

Charles Bulfinch introduced the designed townhouse unit to the United States in Boston in 1793 with the construction of the Tontine Crescent. Based on the planned squares and crescents of Europe, it featured multiple housing units unified by an overall design. By the end of the eighteenth century the row house found popularity in America's largest cities. In Wisconsin, most of these units were found in Milwaukee, the state's largest city. However, even here, the preference remained the detached house and continued to be the norm because of the affordability and abundance of single family homes. In the late nineteenth century, examples of the row house type were constructed in Milwaukee as middle class or higher end residences. These were designed by noted architects, such as the Queen Anne style Starke Row of 1897, designed by Henry Koch, or Friedman Row built in 1891 to the designs of W.A. Holbrook.

The plan of Roosevelt Terrace reflects the common floorplan of this type that uses the spinal organization of the rectangular plan. To take advantage of available window openings, the primary room of the first floor is located facing the street. A skylight over the staircase brings additional light into the interior. The kitchen, while no longer relegated to a basement as in earlier examples, here is attached to the back of each unit. The upper floors housed the bedrooms for the family and the staff.

In conclusion, the Roosevelt Terrace is significant as a local example of late 19<sup>th</sup> century Romanesque Revival architecture applied to a residential property in Superior and as an upscale townhome building type constructed during the prosperous boom period between 1882 and 1892. Designed by local architect, Carl Wirth, the design unified 11 units into a single architectural composition. Wirth employed elements of the Richardsonian Romanesque to add visual interest to the composition with the heavy, arched entrance porches, stone window surrounds and arched window openings of the third floor. Roosevelt Terrace also represents the planned unit rowhouse development, a rare property type in Wisconsin. While the units have had some monor alterations, Roosevelt Terrace retains a high level of integrity overall.

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 1

Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

"Canadians Are Feeling Better". The Evening Telegram. 10 Aug., 1914: p. 3, c. 4

"Carl Wirth Dies at Duluth Hospital". <u>Duluth Herald</u>. 19 Nov., 1928.

"Roosevelt Terrace Co". The Evening Telegram. June 28, 1895, p. 4.

"Carl Wirth May Build". The Evening Telegram. 5 March, 1914, p. 3.

City of Superior Building Inspection Office. Documentation of Building Permits Issued for the Roosevelt Terrace.

"Elder Roosevelt Was Busy Figure in Boom Days of City's Growth". The Evening Telegram. 12 Dec. 1944: p. 4, c. 2.

"Former Wisconsinite Edits Roosevelt Era in Superior". The Evening Telegram. 17 April, 1950.

Historic Preservation Division: State Historical Society of Wisconsin. <u>Cultural Resource Management</u> in Wisconsin, Volume 2. June 1986.

Eubank, Nancy. "The Zenith City of the Unsalted Sea: Duluth Historic Contexts Study". Duluth Heritage Preservation Commission. August 1991.

For more information concerning properties listed on the National Register of Historical Places in Douglas County go to: http://nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/WI/Douglas/state.html

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

#### United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	10	Page	1

Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin

#### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of Roosevelt Terrace corresponds with the legal description of the parcel: Lots 1-7 inclusive, Block 209, West Superior Ninth Division and Lot 5, Block 1, Merriam Park Addition to West Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin

#### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

Roosevelt Terrace is confined to less than one city block (see attached map). This is the property historically associated with the resource.

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

Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin

Photo 1 of 12
Roosevelt Terrace
1708 N. 21<sup>st</sup> St.
Superior, Douglas County, WI
Photo by Paul Kellner, November 2001
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
View looking northeast

Photo 2 of 12
Roosevelt Terrace
1708 N. 21<sup>st</sup> St.
Superior, Douglas County, WI
Photo by Paul Kellner, November 2001
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
View looking southeast

Photo 3 of 12
Roosevelt Terrace
1708 N. 21<sup>st</sup> St.
Superior, Douglas County, WI
Photo by Paul Kellner, November 2001
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
View looking east

Photo 4 of 12
Roosevelt Terrace
1708 N. 21<sup>st</sup> St.
Superior, Douglas County, WI
Photo by Paul Kellner, November 2001
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
View looking north

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 2

Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin

Photo 5 of 12
Roosevelt Terrace
1710 N. 21<sup>st</sup> St.
Superior, Douglas County, WI
Photo by Paul Kellner, November 2001
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
View looking west

Photo 6 of 12
Roosevelt Terrace
1710 N. 21<sup>st</sup> St.
Superior, Douglas County, WI
Photo by Paul Kellner, November 2001
Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin
View looking northwest

Photo 7 of 12 Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, WI Photo by Paul Kellner, November 2001 Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin View looking northeast

Photo 8 of 12 Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, WI Photo by Paul Kellner, November 2001 Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin View looking northeast

Photo 9 of 12 Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, WI Photo by Paul Kellner, October 2002 Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin View looking south

Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

### United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

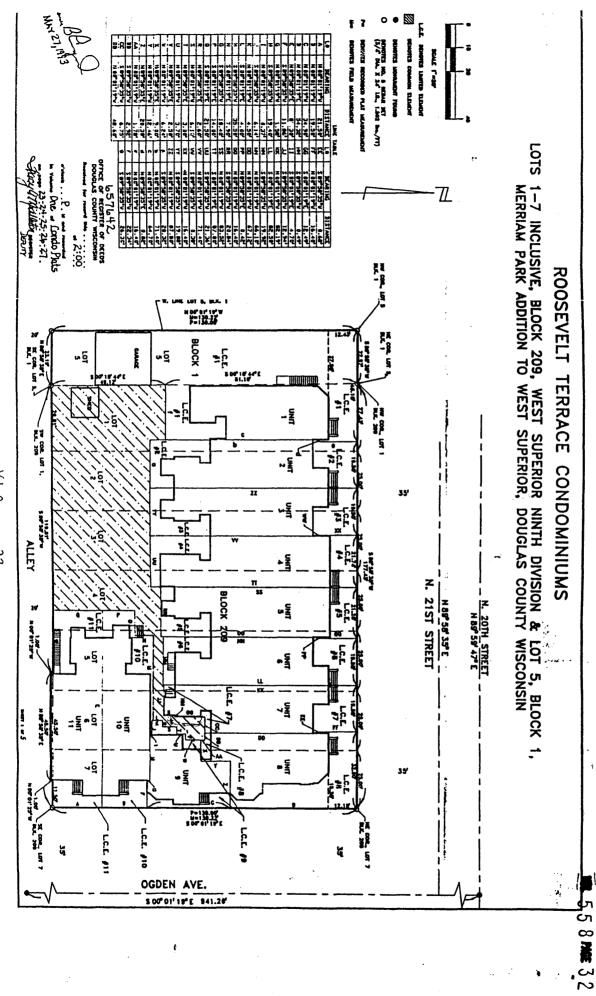
Section photos Page 3

Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, Wisconsin

Photo 10 of 12 Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, WI Photo by Paul Kellner, October 2002 Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin View looking southwest

Photo 11 of 12 Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, WI Photo by Paul Kellner, October 2002 Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin View looking west

Photo 12 of 12 Roosevelt Terrace Superior, Douglas County, WI Photo by Paul Kellner, October 2002 Neg. at State Historical Society of Wisconsin View looking southeast



SUPERIOR, DOUGLAS COUNTY WISCONSIN

ROOSEVELT TERRACE