

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0688738

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 1 1978
DATE ENTERED DEC 22 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Hilgen and Wittenberg Woolen Mill
AND/OR COMMON
Cedar Creek Settlement

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
~~N70 W6340~~ Bridge Road
CITY, TOWN
Cedarburg
STATE
Wisconsin
VICINITY OF
Ninth
COUNTY
Ozaukee
CODE
55
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Ninth
NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CODE
089

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
James B. Pape
STREET & NUMBER
5406 Highway 60
CITY, TOWN
Grafton
STATE
Wisconsin 53024
Public Court Street

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Register of Deeds
STREET & NUMBER
Ozaukee County Courthouse
CITY, TOWN
Port Washington
STATE
Wisconsin 53074

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places
DATE
1975
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
State Historical Society of Wisconsin
CITY, TOWN
Madison
STATE
Wisconsin 53706
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hilgen and Wittenberg Woolen Mills is a complex of limestone buildings on the west bank of Cedar Creek, bounded by Bridge Street on the south and Washington Avenue and Sheboygan Street on the west. The dye house, which is included in this nomination, stands on the bank of the creek across Bridge Street from the main mill building. (Refer to hand-drawn map.)

The mill complex retains much of the appearance it had in 1907, when the last expansion occurred. All of its historic stone buildings survive; the oldest date from 1864-65. Three or four less substantial frame storage buildings which stood in the complex, and a warehouse which stood on the opposite side of the creek, have disappeared. The historic appearance of the complex has been maintained by the present owners. Changes visible from the street are limited to a parking area for the mill buildings and signs identifying the present uses of the buildings. Paving stones are still visible in the alley between the main mill and the mill office, the two oldest buildings in the complex.

Since the mill closed in 1968 the interiors of most of the buildings in the complex have been modified to suit the needs of their new occupants. For the most part, this alteration was restricted to removal of what machinery and other mill material was left behind after the mill closing and to the partitioning of the buildings into spaces suitable for small shops, restaurants, etc. Modern wiring, plumbing, and other mechanical systems have been added where needed. Original flooring and windows have been retained, however, and overall the renovation has sought to retain the historic feeling of the mill buildings by leaving as much historic structural fabric exposed as possible. A few pulleys and drive mechanisms, as well as historic water softening tanks, survive in the main mill building.

Individual buildings in the complex are as follows:

Mill office, store, and warehouses (a, d, and e). The front portion of this building (a) is one of two buildings which comprised the original mill complex. Historically it contained the mill office, store, and warehouse space. The original portion is a two-and-one-half-story Greek Revival building with a pitched roof. It is constructed of coursed blue-grey dolomite limestone rubble bonded together with yellowish mortar. Quoins, sills, and voisoirs are of dressed and fitted limestone. As shown in the diagram, the building is not square. The west and south facades are oriented to face Washington Avenue and Bridge Street; the angle between the two facades is approximately 104 degrees. A heavy Greek Revival cornice is returned in the gable (east and west) ends of the building. The main (south) facade is six bays wide and symmetrically arranged. Doorways with double doors and transom lights are in the second and fifth bays. First-floor windows in the main facade are wider than other windows in the building and contain nine panes each. Other windows are six-over-six double-hung sash. All windows and doorways in the building are slightly arched. The original portion of the building is three bays deep.

Some time before 1882, a building containing two warehouses (d and e) was added to the rear of the original office. This addition is two stories high and seven bays

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1864-65 and after BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hilgen and Wittenberg Woolen Mill in Cedarburg is significant to the commercial, industrial, and economic history of Wisconsin as an early and substantial woolen factory in a good state of preservation. As such it is an important artifact of the economic diversification which the state experienced during the Civil War era and after. The mill reflects the economic development of Wisconsin from a frontier agrarian region into a region capable of producing manufactured goods for market. The mill is also significant to the history of the Cedarburg area as one of the key nineteenth-century industrial plants in the small German city. Its scale and level of sophistication reflects Cedarburg's prosperity as well as the keenness with which it devoted its energy to industry at an early stage of its development. Moreover, the mill is significant to the architectural history of the area as a well preserved example of middle and late-nineteenth-century industrial architecture, in a small-town context and rendered in indigenous materials.

History

In 1864, Frederick Hilgen, his sons-in-law Dietrich Wittenberg, and Joseph Trottman planned construction of the woolen mill on Cedar Creek at what was then the north edge of town. Hilgen is credited with much of the early development of Cedarburg.¹ In 1845 he built the first grist mill there, and in 1855 he and William Schroeder replaced it with the large stone mill known as the Cedarburg Mill (NRHP 1973); Hilgen also took a leading role in several other industrial enterprises in the growing city.

Hilgen, Wittenberg, and Trottman's plan for a woolen mill came in response to state-wide and national economic conditions which were triggered in large part by the Civil War. The secession of the South and her subsequent destruction left the Union bereft of its supply of cotton; this contributed to an unusually high demand for other fibers. Wisconsin farmers responded by increasing production of wool and flax, and factories like this mill appeared, aiming at the manufacture of woolens and linens and at capitalizing on the wartime and post-war demand. Fiber and cloth production became important elements in the maturation of the Wisconsin economy by facilitating the state's transition from extensive wheat agriculture. In 1859 fifteen woolen mills in the state produced only a few hundred thousand pounds of finished product; in 1871 fifty-four mills produced more than one-and-one-half-million pounds.²

In 1865 construction of Hilgen, Wittenberg, and Trottman's mill was completed at a cost of some \$30,000. The complex then consisted of two limestone buildings fitted out with the most up-to-date equipment available and powered by turbines harnessed to Cedar Creek. In its early years the mill produced a variety of woolen goods including

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.1

QUADRANGLE NAME Cedarburg, Wisconsin

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A | 1,6 | 4,1,9 | 8,3,0 | 4,7 | 9,4 | 5,3,0 |

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

E | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

G | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David Donath, Historian

ORGANIZATION

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

July 1978

STREET & NUMBER

816 State Street

TELEPHONE

608/262-3390

CITY OR TOWN

Madison

STATE

Wisconsin 53706

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Richard M. Muey

TITLE Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

10/20/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

for Charles A. ...
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

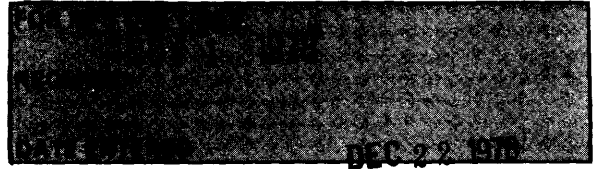
DATE 12-22-78

ATTEST: *Kathy B. Franklin*
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 12-18-78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 1

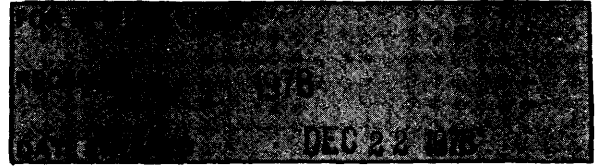
OWNER OF PROPERTY (continued)

Oscar Vogelpohl
W63 N706 Washington Avenue
Cedarburg, Wisconsin 53012

Bert Kultgen
W63 N696 Washington Avenue
Cedarburg, Wisconsin 53012

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

deep. It is of limestone masonry similar to that of the original office, has similarly designed windows and doorways, and blends well with the older building. The addition is flat-roofed and continues the trapezoidal plan of the older portion, its east and west facades being flush with the east and west facades of the office building. Since 1971 a small limestone addition has been made to the north end of the addition to provide a formal entrance to the restaurant which now occupies the warehouse. Because of its location, the modification has little effect on the overall appearance of the historic building.

Main mill (b, c, and f). The original portion of this building is the northernmost section (b). Its dimensions can be seen in the exterior masonry and in the interior framing. Originally it was a two-and-one-half-story structure with a full basement. Gables were in the east and west ends, and the building had a steeply pitched roof with five dormers on a side and a wooden cupola. Masonry is virtually identical to that of the original office. Windows, however, are flat-arched, with dressed blocks similar to the voussoirs in the office building forming the arch. The original building was three bays wide and ten bays long. Windows are twelve-over-eight double-hung sash. The east end of this original portion sits over what used to be the flume. Turbines are reportedly still in their tubs, although the tubs have been filled in with gravel and covered over with concrete.

Some time before 1882, a two-story flat-roofed limestone addition (c) was made to the southeast end of the original mill. Masonry is similar to that of the older portion of the mill. Windows, too, are similar, although those in the addition have the shallow arch found in the mill office building.

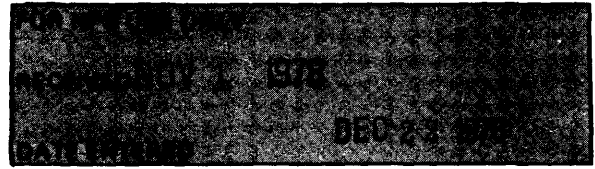
Later in the century, a similar addition filled in the area south of the original portion and west of the first addition (f). A visual inspection of the masonry reveals that this addition had a slightly pitched roof with gables in the east and west ends. The addition was four bays wide and six bays long.

In 1907, a full third story was added to the entire main mill building. Again the original type of masonry was employed, with the familiar dressed quoins, sills, and voussoirs. A slightly pitched roof was placed on the structure; the east and west ends remained the gable ends.

During the period that the mill operated, the upper floors were used for carding, spinning, cording, weaving, and finishing, while the basement was used for washing and dyeing. Some time in the late nineteenth century a tunnel was dug to connect the basement of the first mill addition to a dyehouse on the other side of Bridge Street.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Powerhouses (g, h, and i). In 1896 the mill added steam power to augment its turbines. A one-and-one-half-story limestone boilerhouse (g) and a two-story limestone enginehouse (h) were built at that time. The masonry of both was similar to that of the rest of the complex. Some time before 1927, the boilerhouse was expanded to two full stories. Windows in the boilerhouse are six-over-six sash, similar to those of the rest of the complex. They are surmounted by brick rather than stone arches, however.

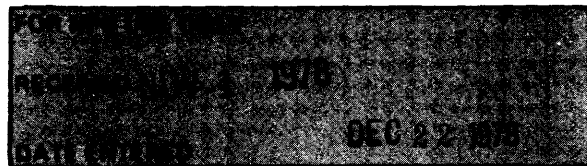
Some time between 1910 and 1927 the enginehouse was joined to the main mill by a two-story limestone structure, again of construction similar to that of the rest of the complex.

Frame building (j). A plain single-story frame building stands to the north of the mill office and warehouse building. This location is the site of the nineteenth-century mill coachhouse, and the building may indeed be that coachhouse, although altered. The building presently is sided with dark brown board and batten.

Dye house (k). Some time before 1893, a dye house was built on the bank of Cedar Creek, across Bridge Road from the main mill. The first, or basement, story of the mill is cut into the bank and is of limestone rubble construction. This story is connected to the basement of the main mill by a tunnel which still exists although it is now partially filled in with gravel. The second story is of frame construction. The creek side of the building is profusely fenestrated with large multi-paned windows. The dye house has a slightly pitched roof with its ridge running north and south.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

yarns, flannels, blankets, and mackinaws. Soon after the mill began operation, Trottman sold out to Hilgen. In 1872 the mill was incorporated as the Cedarburg Woolen Mill with Dietrich Wittenberg as president.³

Through the latter part of the nineteenth century, the mill flourished. During the 1860's stone additions were made to both mill buildings and a warehouse was built on the opposite side of Cedar Creek. In 1880 the company built a branch factory in Grafton for the production of worsteds. By 1893 the Cedarburg Woolen Mill complex consisted of twelve buildings including the factory, mill store and offices, shipping department, coachhouse, warehouses on both sides of the creek, a bleach house, and a dye house on the bank of the creek across Bridge Street and connected to the factory basement by a tunnel which ran under the road. By 1896 mill production had grown to demand more power than Cedar Creek could supply, and the company installed steam power; the following year a direct-current generator electrified both the mill complex and the owners' houses. At this time the mill employed eighty to one hundred people and sold to wholesalers and distributors in Milwaukee, Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Louis, and elsewhere in the Midwest. With the exception of a lapse during the Great Depression, the mill operated through 1968. Until its closing it remained under the ownership of the Wittenberg family.

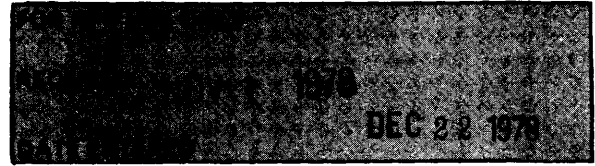
Architecture

The Hilgen and Wittenberg Mill is a good Wisconsin example of vernacular nineteenth-century industrial architecture. It ranks with Hilgen and Schroeder's Cedarburg grist mill (NRHP 1973) as a sample of the "distinctly local variety of limestone building developed in Cedarburg during the middle 19th century," which Richard Perrin identified in his study, Historic Wisconsin Buildings: A Survey of Pioneer Architecture, 1835-1870.⁴ Like other buildings of this Cedarburg type, the woolen mill was built by unknown stonemasons and carpenters who utilized the excellent quality local blue-grey dolomite limestone and locally-harvested hardwood framing members to create substantial structures of handsome appearance and of durability. The exterior appearance of the mill complex is relatively unaltered from its heyday as an operating woolen mill.

The mill complex is now being adaptively reused as a winery and a collection of shops and restaurants. The present owners are sensitive to the historic fabric of the complex. They view its historic appearance as a major asset in attracting customers, many of them tourists. Thus, the old woolen mill complex has become an important focus for a town very conscious of its rich historical heritage.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



CONTINUATION SHEET

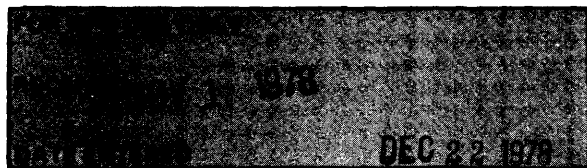
ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Footnotes

1. Cedarburg History: Legend and Lore (Cedarburg, Wis., 1976), 38-42 and elsewhere.
2. Frederick Merk, Economic History of Wisconsin during the Civil War Decade (Madison, 1916), 155.
3. Cedarburg History, 57-58.
4. (Milwaukee, 1962), 80.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

See
below PAGE

Item 9: MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cedarburg History: Legend and Lore. Cedarburg, Wis., 1976

Cedarburg News. Graphic, April 12, 1893.

"Cedarburg, Wis. 1892." n.p., 1892.

Early History of Ozaukee County, Wisconsin. n.p., 1967

"German Pioneer Letters." Wisconsin Magazine of History, XVI, June 1933.

History of Ozaukee and Washington Counties. Chicago, 1881.

Pape, James. Interview, July 3, 1978.

Sanborn and Perris Insurance Maps. Chicago, 1893, 1900, 1910, 1927.

Wellge, H. and J. Bach. "Cedarburg, Wisconsin." Milwaukee, n.d. [1882].

Wittenberg, Carl. Interview with James Pape. December 15, 1977.

Item 11: FORM PREPARED BY, continued:

James B. Pape

Owner

N70 W6340 Bridge Road

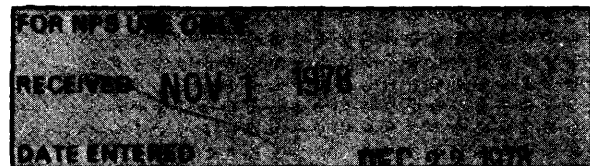
Cedarburg

December, 1977

414/377-8020

Wisconsin 53012

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



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

CONTINUATION SHEET

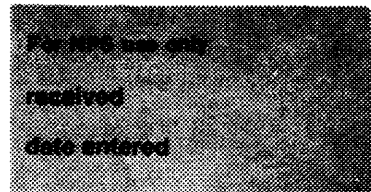
ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at the center of the intersection of E. Bridge Street and N. Washington Avenue and running in a northnorthwesterly direction along the center of N. Washington Avenue to the intersection of N. Sheboygan Street, thence along the center of N. Sheboygan Street 95.7 feet, thence in an eastsoutheasterly direction paralleling the stone and concrete wall 153.8 feet to the west bank of Cedar Creek, thence following the west bank of Cedar Creek to the center of the E. Bridge Street bridge, thence in a straight line 94 feet in a southsoutheasterly direction to a point on the west bank of Cedar Creek, thence due west 48 feet, thence due north to the center of E. Bridge Street, and thence west along the center of E. Bridge Street to the point of beginning.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

PROPERTY NAME Hilgen and Wittenberg Mill

7	8	0	0	0	1	2	4
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REFERENCE NUMBER

W	I
---	---

STATE

0	8	9
---	---	---

COUNTY CODE

Correct street address is N70 W6340 Bridge Rd.

2/13/86

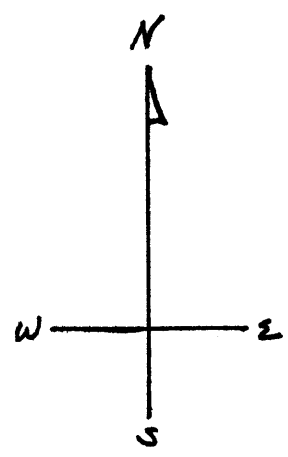
SIGNED, SHPO OR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

DATE

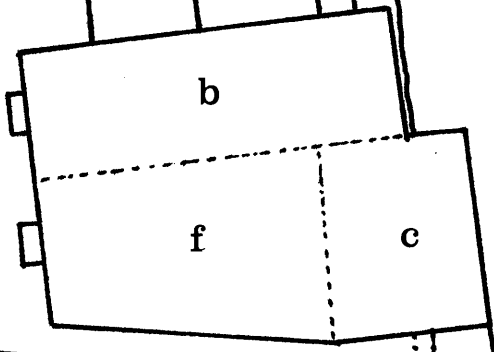
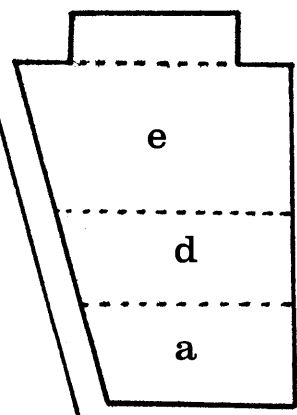
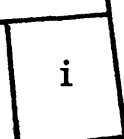
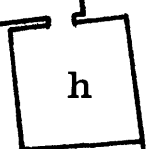
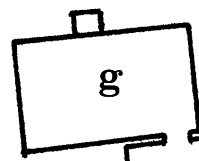
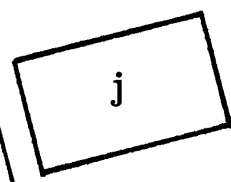
SHEBOYGAN STREET



HILGEN & NATHAN BERG REGISTER
WOOLEN MILL
CEDARBURG, OZAUKEE CO.



WASHINGTON AVENUE



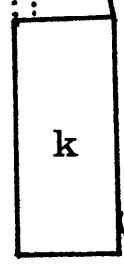
dam

SLUICE

CEDAR CREEK →

BRIDGE STREET

tunnel



scale: 1 inch = 50 feet