

City, Village or Town: Eau Claire		County: Eau Claire	Surveyor: J. Schuh	Date: 2/15/84	Street S. Barstow Street Number 6-10
Street Address: 6-10 S. Barstow Street		USGS Quad and UTM Reference: Eau Claire West		Acreage: less than one acre	
Current Name & Use: Fering's Interiors, Ltd.		Current Owner: R. Wesley Fering (Peter Sather is in process of purchasing under land contract)			
Film Roll No.	Affix Contact Prints		Current Owner's Address: 6 S. Barstow Street		
Negative No.			Legal Description: See continuation sheet		
Facade Orient. E					

Original Name & Use: (Eau Claire MRA)	Source	Previous Owners	Dates	Uses	Source
Kline's Department Store	B	O & D Realty Co.	4-30-1925 to 3-6-1936	Building leased by Julius Kline	A
Dates of Construction /Alteration 1926 (alterations 1959, 1979)	Source D, E, F	O & D Realty Co.	3-7-1936	Leased by Fashion Clothing Store	A
Architect and/or Builder: Charles Pear, Architect	Source D	Ferings Ltd. Inc.	1-14-1977	Vacant Gifts and Furniture	C A

<p>3 Architectural Significance</p> <input type="radio"/> Represents work of a master <input type="radio"/> Possesses high artistic values <input checked="" type="radio"/> Represents a type, period, or method of construction <input type="radio"/> Engineering <input type="radio"/> None	<p>4 Historical Significance</p> <input type="radio"/> Assoc. with lives of significant persons <input type="radio"/> Assoc. with significant historical events <input type="radio"/> Assoc. with development of a locality <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ <input checked="" type="radio"/> None Period of significance: _____
<p>Architectural Description and Significance: See continuation sheet</p>	<p>Historical Background and Significance: NOTE: The original ten year lease agreement between O & D Realty Co. and Julius Kline dated April 30, 1925, stated that the building was to be constructed (Source A). Sidney Kline was listed as the proprietor of Kline's and he was listed as a resident at the Hotel Eau Claire (Source B). Kline's Department Store was in operation until 1936 when the Fashion Clothing Store obtained the lease to the building. The structure was then vacant from 1973 to 1976. From 1977 to the present Ferings, a gift and furniture store, has occupied the building.</p>
Interior visited? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	

<p>5 Sources of Information (Reference to Above)</p> <p>A Abstract of title held by R. Wesley Fering</p> <p>B 1926 Eau Claire City Directory</p> <p>C 1973 to 1976 Eau Claire city directories December 1926 article from Eau Claire Leader located in site file at Eau Claire Library</p> <p>D City Building Permit index card</p> <p>E Peter Sather (occupant of building in 1979)</p>	<p>6 Representation in Previous Surveys</p> <input type="radio"/> HABS <input type="radio"/> LDMK <input checked="" type="radio"/> WIHP <input type="radio"/> NRHP <input type="radio"/> other: _____
	<p>7 Condition</p> <input type="radio"/> excellent <input checked="" type="radio"/> good <input type="radio"/> fair <input type="radio"/> poor <input type="radio"/> ruins
	<p>8 District:</p> <input type="radio"/> pivotal <input type="radio"/> contributing <input type="radio"/> non-contributing
	<p>9 Opinion of National Register Eligibility</p> date: 2-15-84 initials: jps <input checked="" type="radio"/> eligible <input type="radio"/> not eligible <input type="radio"/> unknown <input type="radio"/> national <input type="radio"/> state <input checked="" type="radio"/> local JUN 14 1984

ARCHITECTURAL STATEMENT

Description: This brick building, located on S. Barstow Street, the City's main commercial thoroughfare, represents a fine example of Commercial Period Gothic architecture from the 1920's. The two-story structure is faced with terra cotta glazed tiles of cream and light turquoise color (this is the accenting hue). Dominating the upper portion of the facade are two slightly projecting pavilions which rise above the roofline to form stepped parapets. The main roofline consists of a one-half gable clay tile roof, in the Spanish or Mediterranean style. Overt Gothic details (trefoils and quatre foils) accent this upper area.

Prior to alteration, the band of upper facade windows consisted of seven double-hung windows, in which the upper sashes were divided into eighteen panes, and the lower sashes contained a single plate of glass. Located below the pavilions were two sets of stationary windows, with each set having forty-two panes the same size as those in the upper double-hung sash. The transom window, consisting of opaque leaded glass squares, extended the full width of the building facade from pier to pier. At the ground level, three recessed entrances with flanking display windows were featured (see 1926 photo). A similar building, the Hobbs Realty Company, designed by local architect, E. J. Hancock, is located at 403 S. Barstow Street (it currently houses Schmitt Music Center). This three-story building also faced with terra cotta tiles features an abbreviated parapet that marks the top of the structure and is ornamented by trefoils. Piers which divide the upper facade windows give the building a vertical orientation. This building has also been altered on the lower level with metal siding and modern display windows.

The only remaining original interior feature is the embossed metal ceiling located on the second floor showing minimal alteration or damage. Interior soffits have been sensitively added, which enclose non-original heat ducts. The original appearance of other interior features are unknown.

Alterations to the building exterior have been made on three separate occasions. The upper portion of the raised letters of the Kline's sign (located above the transom window area) have been chiseled flush with the original terra cotta facing to allow the black metal panels (covering the transom window area) to fit tightly to the building. The center entrance was eliminated with the installation of display windows and bulk head. These alterations and the wrought iron fire escape, which serves the second floor, were added prior to 1958. (See photograph from the City Assessor's card dated 1958.)

Reconstruction of the building entrances, display windows, six-foot overhanging aluminum awning, and the covering of piers and bulk heads with metal panels were added in 1959 (see building permit index card). The metal panels have a baked enamel finish which simulates granite.

All windows in the second story facade were replaced with single pane glazing (including aluminum framing and panels) following fire damage in April, 1979. The fire damage resulted when the heat from a building fire across the street blew out all glass in the Fering's building facade.

KLINE'S DEPARTMENT STORE (6-10 S. Barstow Street)
Intensive Survey Form-Continuation Sheet (2)

Significance: The former Kline's (National) Department Store (Source B), 6-10 S. Barstow Street, locally significant for its commercial period Gothic architecture, was designed by Charles A. Pear, Architect, (Source D), who resided in Eau Claire from 1923-1929 (Source G). Unequaled by the smaller, less ornate Hobbs Realty Company Building located at 403 S. Barstow Street, the Kline's Department Store is the City's best example of this 1920s style of architecture. Similarities between these buildings include glazed terra cotta tile facing, trefoils, location in the central business district, and the 1926 date of construction (Source D). Upper areas of the Kline Building consist of a pent clay tile roof, two slightly projecting pavilions which rise above the roofline to form stepped parapets and trefoils and quatre foils of overt Gothic detail. The simplicity of the former lower facade displays another characteristic of the commercial period Gothic style. Although altered to some extent, this property continues to be a prominent feature in the City's main commercial district and maintains the majority of its original architectural quality, distinction and significance.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

A piece of land described as follows: commencing at a point on the west line of Barstow Street 47 3/4 feet northerly from the north east corner of Lot 4 Block 58 thence westerly 102 1/2 feet parallel with north line of Lots 2-3-4 Block. 58 thence northerly parallel with west line of Barstow Street 57 feet thence easterly parallel with south line of Block 58 to west line of Barstow Street thence southerly along line of said street to point of beginning Village of Eau Claire.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION (cont'd.):

G 1923 - 1929 Eau Claire City Directories