

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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7. Description (continued)

shingled roof, and from the northwest slope of the intersecting gable to the rear. Windows in both brick and half-timbered stories occur randomly throughout, usually doubled and tripled. Picturesque bays with leaded casements occur on the second story of the front facade, and in bracketed overhangs on the first and second stories over the rear court. The English flavor is strongest in the rear, where an open porch-cloister and a variety of window units and overhangs suggest a fragment of a Tudor village. The dark oak interior includes an intercom system composed of one and one-half inch piping in the walls.

The E. K. Schuetz House (1922), 930 Franklin Street, Wausau Map 2, G  
Mr. and Mrs. John Schofneman *Correction: letter of 2/28/80* Acreage: 0.578  
930 Franklin Street  
Wausau, WI 54401

The C. H. Wegner House (1922-1924), 906 Grant Street, Wausau Map 2, E  
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Karrells Acreage: 0.443  
906 Grant Street  
Wausau, WI 54401

The E. K. Schuetz and C. H. Wegner Houses are the most regular of the Eschweiler residences. More modest than the other Wausau homes, both are Neo-Colonial, two-story plus attic gable-roof houses. Each has a small, gable-roof porch with simple columns at the center front entrance. The Schuetz House is sheathed with clapboards. The multi-paned, double-hung windows on all facades are enclosed by louvred shutters. Tall, exterior brick chimney stacks rise from both gable ends between quarter round windows in the attic. A large addition at the northeast corner was located in opposition to a similar original extension at the northwest corner; both are two-story and clapboarded, and fenestrated identically to the main rectangular mass. The Palladian motif of the front porch achieved by doubling columns to either side of the semi-circular center arch is repeated in the semi-circular transom and sidelights around the front door itself. Inside, rooms are regularly-disposed to either side of the center hall and stairway, in the colonial manner. Interior distinctions include a finely-carved wood mantel around the living room fireplace, and the handsome open dog-leg stair. The kitchen and second-story rooms have been remodeled.

The C. H. Wegner House shares many features of the Schuetz residence. As previously mentioned, it, too, is a five-part, two-story plus attic Colonial design. The stairway in the center hall is also a dog-leg type, with a similar open balustrade.

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8. Significance (continued)

DAVID CLARK EVEREST

Members of the Wausau Group were involved in the construction of a dam across the Wisconsin River at Rothschild to power the Marathon Mills Paper Company. At its first meeting in 1909, the company appointed David Clark Everest of Pine Grove, Michigan as general manager. During his forty-six-year career with Marathon Paper, Everest was associated with further expansion and development of the paper industry, including the purchase of the D. J. Murray Manufacturing Company in 1921, and the establishment of industrial insurance firms. He and other Wausau Group members also became the civic and social leaders of the Wausau community through their membership in local clubs and organizations.<sup>8</sup>

E. K. SCHUETZ

With a partnership that included Karl Mathie and others, E. K. Schuetz of Wausau helped found the Wausau Motor Parts Company in October, 1923. Its machinery and inventory transported from the Menominee Piston Ring Company in Michigan, the firm was part of the enlargement of the area's industrial scene in the 1920s.<sup>9</sup> Schuetz was the son-in-law of C. F. Dunbar (of the C. F. Dunbar House), whose property adjoins his to the rear.

C. H. WEGNER

C. H. Wegner (of the Wegner House) was a "well-known man in Wausau."<sup>10</sup> A German immigrant, he was a prominent merchant who owned a dry goods and general merchandise store in Wausau.

CLAIRE B. BIRD

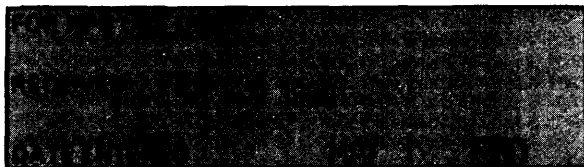
Claire B. Bird was a lawyer, politician, and judge, and practiced law in Wausau before and after his tenure as State Senator from 1918-23. A conservative Republican, he was elected president of the Wisconsin Bar Association from 1913-14, and served as circuit judge of the sixteenth judicial circuit from 1940-42. In addition to his distinctions in the legal area, Bird was active in a number of fraternal organizations in Wausau.<sup>11</sup>

At the time that it was commissioned, the roll of membership in the First Universalist Church read like a Who's Who in Marathon County. Karl Mathie was president of the board of directors; C. H. Wegner was a trustee. Cyrus C. Yawkey, who was a member

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8. Significance (continued)

of the congregation and the premier lumberman in Wisconsin at the time,<sup>12</sup> 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.

<sup>1</sup>Architectural Archives, Milwaukee Public Library, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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

<sup>3</sup>Ibid.

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

<sup>5</sup>Howard 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.

<sup>6</sup>Ibid., p. 32.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid., p. 33.

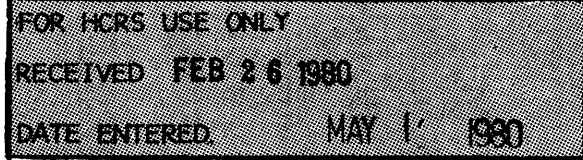
<sup>8</sup>Ibid., p. 114.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid., p. 117.

<sup>10</sup>Walking Tour of Historical Homes, Wausau, Wisconsin 1872-1972, Wausau Chamber of Commerce.

<sup>11</sup>Dictionary 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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10. Geographical Data

UTM References - Map #3

- a. 16/291330/4981400
- c. 16/290770/4981210

- b. 16/291320/4981190
- d. 16/290800/4981410

Verbal boundary descriptions: 1. Joseph Dessert Library: NW 1/2 of Lots 13 & 14, Block 2, City of Mosinee; 2. Karl Mathie House: Government Lot 2 & 3 of Section 29-27-07 NW of Wisconsin River, SE of Water Street, NE of extended line between lots 4 & 5, Block 3 of City of Mosinee; 3. First Universalist Church: Lots 1 & 2 and West 4 feet of Lot 3 in Block 8 of Stewart, Manson, & Hinton's Addition to the City of Wausau, Marathon County, Wis.; 4. Marathon County Fairground: NW NW Section 35 and 29N R7E NE NE of Section 35 and 29 and R7E; 5. C. B. Bird House: NW SE Section 25 and 29N R7E; 6. C. H. Wegner House: W 1/2 of Lot 18, all of Lots 19 & 20, Block 2 of the A. Warren, Jr. East Addition to the City of Wausau; 7. E. K. Schuetz House: NW 1/4 SE 1/4, Section 25-29-07 S 1/2 of: commencing 450 feet E of SE corner of Lot 5, Block 1 of Dunbar & Parthers First Addition, E to the W line of 10th Street, N to S line of McIndoe Street, W along said street to a point due N of the beginning, S to the beginning; 8. D. C. Everest House: Lot A of Highland Park Addition to Wausau (According to Plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 7, Page 35, Public Records of Marathon County, Wisconsin, said Lot lying in and comprising a Part of the NE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 25, T29N, R7E); 9. C. F. Dunbar House: Part of NW 1/4 of SE 1/4, Section 25-29-07. N 1/2 of: commencing 450 feet E of SE corner of Lot 5, Block 1 of Dunbar & Parther's First Addition to the City of Wausau, Marathon County, Wisconsin, E to the S line of McIndoe Street, W along said street to a point due N of the beginning, S of the beginning.

11. Form Prepared By

Diane H. Filipowicz, Architectural Historian, Historic Preservation Division	
State Historical Society of Wisconsin	December 1979
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Madison	Wisconsin 53706