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United States Department of Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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 Boller, W.H., Meat Market and Residence

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number <u>705 South Water Street</u> <u>N/A</u> not for publication

city or town Village of Lomira N/A vicinity

state <u>Wisconsin</u> code <u>WI</u> county <u>Dodge</u> code <u>027</u> zip code <u>53048</u>

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this <u>x</u> nomination <u>request for determination of eligibility</u> 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 <u>x</u> meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally <u>statewide x locally</u>. (<u>See continuation sheet for additional</u> comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title State Historic Preservation Officer-WI

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 certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

7/8/94

Boller Meat Market and Residence	Dodge County, Wisconsin
Name of Property	County and State
4. National Park Service Certi:	fication
I hereby certify that the property is 	s: Signature of the Keeper Date of Action r. John H. Beall & . (9.94 Entered in the
5. Classification	
Ownership of Category of Property (check Property (Check as many boxes as only one box) apply)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include listed resources within the count)
<pre>x privatex building(s) public-localdistrict public-statesite public-federalstructure object</pre>	ContributingNoncontributing10buildings00sites00structures00objects10Total
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)	Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
N/A	0
6. Function or Use	
Historic Functions	Current Functions
	(Enter categories from instructions)
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE: Specialty</u> store	VACANT/NOT IN USE
DOMESTIC: Multiple dwelling	
7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals	Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundation <u>CONCRETE</u> walls <u>BRICK</u>
	roof ASPHALT other WOOD
Narrative Description	

,

,

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

Boller Meat Market and Residence Name of Property

Dodge County, Wisconsin County and State

8. Statement of Significance Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ____ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- X 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.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ____ B removed from its original location.
- ____ C a birthplace or grave.
- ____ D a cemetery.
- ____ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

____ F a commemorative property.

____ G less than 50 years of age achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of	Significance
(Enter cate	gories from
instruction	
Architectur	e

Period of Significance

1913

Significant Dates

1913

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

<u>N/A</u>

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Boller Meat Market and Residence	Dodge County, Wisconsin		
Name of Property	County and State		
Previous Documentation on File (NPS): <u>x</u> preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark	Primary location of additional data: X State Historic Preservation Office Other State Agency Federal Agency Local government University Other Name of repository: WI Inventory of Historic Places		
recorded by Historic American Building			
10. Geographical Data			

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>3/8/3/7/4/0</u> Easting	<u>4/8/2/7/2/7/0</u> Northing	3	/ Zone	<u>/////</u> Easting	<u>/////</u> Northing
2	<u>/////</u> Easting	<u>//////</u> Northing	4	Zone	<u>/////</u> Easting see continuat	////// Northing tion sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title _	Elizabeth 1	L. Miller,	Consultan	t (608-233-5	942) for
organizatior	n <u>James L</u> a	ahr		date	2-12-1994
street & num	ber <u>6135 (</u>	O'Connell	Street	telephone	414-966-2929
city or town	<u>Hartford</u>		state	WI zip cod	e <u>53027</u>

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)

Boller Meat Market and Residence Name of Property

Property Owner

Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name James Lahr

street & number	_6135 O'Conne	ll Street	telephone (114)966-2929
city or town <u>Ha</u>	artford	state <u>WI</u>	zip code	e <u>53027</u>

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 <u>et seq</u>.).

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.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>7</u> Page <u>1</u>

Boller Meat Market and Residence Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin

Introduction

The William H. Boller Meat Market and Residence (Boller Building) stands at 705 South Water Street in Lomira. The Boller Building was erected in 1913, and is a two story load-bearing cream brick commercial vernacular structure. Behind the brick parapet, there is a shed roof. The basement is poured concrete. There is a onestory flat roofed, non-contributing concrete block addition to the rear (west) of the main block that was built 1953. In the north half of the building, each floor is divided into a front (east) room and a back room. There was a meat market on the first floor, and a small apartment on the second floor. The building's owner lived in the south section, where there is a kitchen, parlor, and a dining room on the first floor; and three bedrooms and a bath on the second floor. The Boller Building has been vacant since about 1990, but is structurally sound. The south section is in good condition, while the north section, gutted by fire c.1985, is in poor condition.

Description

The Boller Building is a two story commercial vernacular structure built in 1913.¹ It is ell-shaped in plan and measures 44 feet north-south (along South Water Street), 40 feet east-west along the north wall and 32 feet along the south wall. The Market is of load-bearing cream brick construction in common bond on a raised poured concrete basement. The basement has been stuccoed over. The building has a shed roof with rolled roofing. Most of the original windows are intact, although a few are broken or missing and boarded. The remaining first and second floor windows are wood double hung sash in a one-over-one configuration. Those in the basement are multipane hoppers. All of the windows have limestone sills, and a limestone water table wraps around the building.

Four brick pilasters divide the east (front) facade into three unequal recessed bays. A wide flight of concrete steps leads up to the main entrance, which is deeply recessed in the center bay. A wide piece of corrugated sheet metal shelters the entrance. This

¹Datestone on front of building.

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Boller Meat Market and Residence Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin

alteration postdates 1975.² It does not affect the integrity of the Boller Building, and will be removed by the current owner in 1994. The main entrance is composed of three similar paneled wood and glass doors, each surmounted by a two pane transom. The northern door, which opens into the first floor commercial space, is flanked by narrow sidelights. Through the central door is a stairhall providing direct access to the second floor apartment. The southern door opens into the first floor vestibule of the building owner's living space. In the northern bay on the first floor, the single pane display window and five light transom have been blocked. The transom is intact beneath a strip of sheet metal. The display window will be replaced. There is a group of four windows in the southern bay. At the second floor, there are two windows in the central bay, and a set of paired ones in each flanking bay. Above the second floor there is compound brick corbelling, surmounted by a classical metal cornice, and a stepped parapet with a limestone coping. In the center of the parapet there is a date stone with raised lettering reading: "*1913* W.H. BOLLER." The metal cornice and the parapet with coping wrap halfway around each of the north and south facades of the building.

On the first floor of the north facade there is an opening for a single door (boarded), a short high window (boarded) and a fullsize window. At the second floor there is a pair of windows, flanked by single windows. Below the paired windows is a projecting metal bar, said to have had a hook on it at one time for hanging sides of beef and other animal carcasses. Where the stone coping and metal cornice end, the parapet is lower, and capped with a tile coping. Toward the west end of this facade, there is a chimney with a stone cap.

The south facade is similar to the north facade, except that there are regularly distributed windows on each floor, four at the first and three at the second.

The first floor on the west facade is largely obscured by a one story rectangular addition. The addition will be described below.

²Mrs. Joseph Bauman, building owner from 1946 until 1975. Interview, January 25, 1994.

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Boller Meat Market and Residence Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin

The northern end of the original block projects slightly. There is a chimney (which vents the basement smokehouse) with a stone cap where the north and south sections meet. There is a narrow space between the south section and the addition. At the first floor in the south section, there is a single door and a shed roofed portico, with shortened posts resting on the addition. There is a single door above the portico, and three irregularly distributed windows at the second floor.

The addition to the rear (west) of the original building is attached only to the commercial (north) section. The addition is rectangular and measures 44 feet north-south, and 17 feet eastwest. Erected in 1953,³ the addition is of exposed concrete block on a concrete slab foundation. It has a flat, built up roof and a low, concrete capped parapet. The north end of the addition is slightly taller than the south end. There are no openings on the north facade. On the south facade there are two garage doors, sized for cars, and a stepped parapet. Near the center of the west facade there is a single door. There are two metal double hung sash windows in a two-over-two configuration on either side of the door.

On the interior, the commercial space (first floor) housed a meat market from 1913 until at least 1976. This space was divided into two rooms, a front (east) and a back room (see plan attached). There was a large display case and counter, with a butcher block behind it, in the front room. The back room was used as cold storage. A door in the rear wall of the back room opens into the addition, where there is a large meat locker; slaughtering was done in this space. Prior to the construction of the addition in 1953, slaughtering was done off-site. On the second floor, completely gutted by the c.1985 fire, there was an apartment. The apartment was also divided into two large rooms, front (east) and back. The kitchen took up part of the back room. There was a small bath south of the back room.

The first floor plan of the south section consists of a kitchen, a front parlor and a dining room (see plan attached). A wide flat

³Village of Lomira Tax Rolls.

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Boller Meat Market and Residence Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin

arch separates the parlor from the dining room, and is inset with short bookcases which screen the rooms from each other. There is a large built-in cabinet in the dining room. In the southwest corner of this section, there is a plain wood dogleg stair rising to the second floor. This stair was built after 1975,⁴ in what was probably a small parlor. Upstairs, there is a central hall with three bedrooms and a bathroom opening off of it. The dogleg stair comes up through the floor of what was probably a fourth bedroom. Originally, the building owners shared the central stair with the apartment dweller.⁵ The door which opened into that stairhall was boarded over when the dogleg stair was built; the central stair is now inaccessible from inside the first floor of the owner's living quarters.

In the west end of the basement there is a large room where sausage was processed, a small furnace room and a small smokehouse. In the east end is a workshop for the building's owner and a small room where sawdust, used to fuel the smokehouse, was kept.⁶

The floors are finished with narrow wood boards throughout the building, although there is some linoleum in the owner's living quarters, and the basement floor is poured concrete. Most of the walls and ceilings appear to have been plastered originally. There is now some paneling and acoustical tile in the owner's living space. The c.1985 fire destroyed the wall and ceiling finishes in the second floor apartment. The doors are original, wood paneled ones with simple hardware. All of the woodwork has simple Craftsman lines. The first floor woodwork is dark; on the second floor it has been painted white.

The alterations that have been made to the Boller Building are minimal and do not affect the integrity of the building. The exterior of the original block is completely intact. The concrete

⁵Ibid.

⁶Gordon Zimmerman, employee at Bauman's Meat Market during the 1950s. Interview, January 19, 1994.

⁴Mrs. Joseph Bauman.

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Boller Meat Market and Residence Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin

block addition is set to the rear of the original block, is not visible from the street, and only connects to the north end of the building. The interior plan is unchanged, and the commercial space as well as the owner's living quarters retain good integrity.

The Boller Building stands on the west side of South Water Street between Main and Church Streets in the village of Lomira. Freestanding commercial buildings lie north of the building. There is no concentrated business district, with contiguous buildings, in Lomira. South of the Boller Building is a predominantly residential area, with late nineteenth and early twentieth century frame vernacular houses. To the east there are several two story modern apartment buildings. West of the building is the Lomira Feed Supply complex. The railroad tracks of the Soo Line (originally the Wisconsin Central Railroad) lie beyond the Lomira Feed Supply.

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Boller Meat Market and Residence Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin

Summary

The W.H. Boller Meat Market and Residence (Boller Building) is architecturally significant at the local level under National Register criterion C. It is the only brick commercial vernacular building in Lomira, one of only two masonry commercial buildings in the village, and retains excellent integrity. It also represents an unusual and late example of what is usually an early settlement era building type, a commercial building with attached residence.

Historical Context

The Village of Lomira is located in Lomira Township in northeastern Dodge County. Dodge County was formed in 1844, the same year that the first European-American pioneers came to farm in the Lomira area. At that time, the rolling topography was heavily forested. The earliest settlers came from New York state, and included John Foltz (1844), Samuel Kinyon (1844), DeWitt Collins (1846) and Warren Marston (1847). German immigrants began arriving in 1847. John Schwartz was the first of many Prussians from Brandenburg to settle in Lomira Township. By the late 1840s, a tiny agricultural support community had sprung up in what is now the village of Lomira. At first called Springfield, the name was changed to Lomira in 1849, when a post office was established there.⁷

The Yellowstone Trail, a busy stage coach route between Milwaukee and Fond du Lac, ran through the community of Lomira along what is now Milwaukee Street (Highway 175). Every day, two coaches stopped over at the Richard Schoonover Hotel. This provided a boost for Lomira's earliest commercial development, which took place along Milwaukee Street. The arrival of the Wisconsin Central Railroad on Oct. 7, 1871 brought greater prosperity to Lomira. Hotels, saloons, feed mills, saw mills, general stores and homes were built along the tracks, which ran east of the Milwaukee Street commercial area.⁸

⁸Ibid., p. 46.

⁷Lomira: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow, (Lomira: n.p., 1976), p. 2.

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Boller Meat Market and Residence Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin

Lomira incorporated as a village in 1899. The petition for incorporation, dated March 24, 1899, enumerated 520 acres of land and 433 citizens.⁹ The population was almost exclusively made up of Brandenburg Prussians.¹⁰

By 1913, the population of the village had risen to 530.¹¹ That year, William H. Boller had the brick commercial building on South Water Street erected. The builder is unknown. There were two contractors in Lomira at the time; Herman Unterth and Emil Schultz. There were no masons in business in Lomira in 1913. However, Jagow & Dahlman, listed as operating a grain elevator and coalyard in 1913, apparently billed themselves as masons in 1911 (and grocers in 1915).¹² Whether any of these local men were involved in the construction of the Boller Building is unclear.

William H. Boller (1878-?) was born in Wisconsin. In 1906, he purchased the north half of the present lot from Philip J. Strobel. That half lot had a building on it that had been built in 1901. It was probably frame. At that time the south half of the lot was owned by Herman Tolzman, who had also built a store building on the site in 1901. Boller purchased Tolzman's property in 1913, demolished both existing structures, and built his brick building.¹³ Boller sold to John Kiefer in 1933. In 1946, Joseph Bauman purchased the building. James Kahut bought the property from

⁹Ibid., p. 16.

¹⁰R.G. Thwaites, "Preliminary Notes on the Distribution of Foreign Groups in Wisconsin," <u>1890 Annual Report of the State</u> <u>Historical Society of Wisconsin</u>, pp. 58-59.

¹¹Homer Bishop Hubbell, <u>Dodge County, Wisconsin: Past and</u> <u>Present</u>, (Chicago: S.J. Clarke, 1913), p. 397.

¹²Polk's Wisconsin State Gazetteer, (Detroit: R.L. Polk Company, 1911; 1913; 1915).

¹³Tax rolls, Village of Lomira, 1900 through 1915; and <u>Plat</u> <u>Book of Dodge County, Wisconsin</u>, (Des Moines, Iowa: North West Publishing Company, 1910), pp. 76-77.

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Boller Meat Market and Residence Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin

Bauman in 1975. Both Kiefer and Kahut operated a meat market in the building. On February 5, 1976, the Boller Building was damaged by fire. It was apparently repaired and reopened briefly as a meat market. A second fire, c.1985, ended the building's commercial use. The building has been vacant since about 1990. The current owner, James Lahr, purchased the property in 1993. Lahr will convert the Boller Building into a duplex.

Architecture

The W.H. Boller Meat Market and Residence (Boller Building) is architecturally significant at the local level under National Register criterion C. It represents an unusual and late example of what is usually an early settlement era building type, a commercial building with attached residence. It is also one of only two masonry commercial buildings in the Lomira, and retains excellent integrity.

According to <u>Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin</u> (Wyatt), commercial vernacular buildings were built throughout the state in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. These buildings generally have ground story shops and upper floor apartments, and show little decoration apart from brick corbelling and/or wood or metal cornices.¹⁴

The CRMP does not address the commercial unit with attached residence building type. In the nineteenth century, as pioneers moved westward across the United States, this type of building was commonly built in the first few years of a new community's existence. This building type was generally composed of a small one-story frame structure, often with a false front, facing the main street; and a small frame residence attached either to the side or the rear of the commercial unit. When attached to the side, the house was usually set back from the street. These early commercial/residential structures were quickly replaced, for several reasons. First, as the value of real estate fronting the

¹⁴Barbara L. Wyatt, editor. <u>Cultural Resources Management in</u> <u>Wisconsin</u>, (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986), vol. 2, p. 3-10.

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Boller Meat Market and Residence Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin

main commercial street increased, there was great financial incentive to line the street with commercial buildings. Typically, each new building almost completely covered its lot. Second, as the new community matured, businessmen and citizens wanted to present an appearance of permanence and stability. This was usually achieved by building 2- and 3-story brick commercial blocks, with storefronts on the first floor, and apartment(s) upstairs. The owner usually did not live in the building. Masonry had the added advantage of being relatively fireproof. Manv communities suffered fires that devastated their frame commercial districts, and so rebuilt in brick. Third, businessmen and citizens wanted to present a stylish, cosmopolitan appearance. After the Civil War, technological advances in such things as cast iron (storefronts, stairs, balconies and so on) and plate glass; a transportation network that could bring building materials from all over the country; and the widespread availability of illustrated architectural pattern books and periodicals made it possible for every small town in America to build relatively up-to-date commercial blocks.¹⁵

Occasionally, examples of the commercial unit with attached residence building type are found. Usually, these survivors of the early settlement era are found in small towns, like Lomira, which have grown or changed very little over time. There are three examples of this building type in Lomira. Two are frame examples, built between 1890 and 1910, very late for this type of building in a community that was over 40 years old at the time. The first is located on Railroad Avenue. It conforms to the traditional early examples of this type, with its parapeted commercial north half, and its front gabled residential south half. The integrity of the Railroad Avenue building has been compromised with the addition of aluminum siding and some replacement windows. The second frame example is on Water Street north of the Boller Building. The Water Street building has been altered with aluminum siding and replacement windows. As in the Boller Building, the Water Street building's commercial unit and its attached residence have been unified under one roof. Each appears to be a single building, but

¹⁵Carole Rifkind, <u>Main Street: The Face of Urban America</u>, (New York: Harper and Row, 1977), pp. 6-72.

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Boller Meat Market and Residence Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin

functions as a single family house (or perhaps, a rowhouse) The visual attached side-by-side to a commercial apartment. distinction between the first floor residential space, and the commercial space, is very minor in the Water Street building. In the Boller Building, the first floor window configuration provides the only clue to the difference in uses. No other examples of this form of a commercial unit with attached residence, unified side-byside in a single building, have yet been identified. It seems likely that this form was developed by a local builder, perhaps Herman Unterth or Emil Schultz. The Boller Building is an intact and late example of the commercial unit with attached residence building type, and represents an unusual variation within that building type.

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The Boller Building is also the only brick commercial building in the village of Lomira. There are several two story frame vernacular commercial buildings in Lomira, but none of them retains very good integrity. All of them have been clad with aluminum or asphalt siding, and most have replacement windows. There are two small one story brick railroad buildings. Both have fair to good integrity; the depot was built in 1903. Aside from the Boller Building, the only other masonry commercial building is the Schmid Grocery on Main Street. Built in 1908, it is a two story vernacular building of hand cast concrete block. It has no ornament, but is larger than the Boller Building. The integrity of the Schmid Grocery has been severely compromised by unsympathetic additions to the front and side of the building, and the installation of replacement windows in reduced openings. The Boller Building is Lomira's most intact and most substantial commercial building from the historic period. Further, no other commercial building in the village has any ornamentation at all.

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Boller Meat Market and Residence Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin

<u>References</u>

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Boller Meat Market and Residence Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin

Verbal Boundary Description

The W.H. Boller Meat Market and Residence is located in the Village of Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin and is legally described as follows: Lot 1, Block A, Original Plat of Lomira.

Verbal Boundary Justification

This property includes the entire parcel that is historically associated with the W.H. Boller Meat Market and Residence.

NPS Form 10-900-a (Rev. 8-86) Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 3/87) United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet Boller Meat Market and Residence photos Section ____ Page _1___ Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin Photo 1 of 7 W.H. Boller Meat Market and Residence Lomira, Dodge County, WI Photo by Elizabeth L. Miller, January 1994 Negative on file at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin East (front) and south facades The information is the same as the above for the following photos, except as noted: Photo 2 of 7 East and north facades Photo 3 of 7 West (rear) and south facades Photo 4 of 7 West and north facades Photo 5 of 7 View of interior first floor residential section, looking northwest Photo 6 of 7 View of interior second floor above meat market, looking east Photo 7 of 7 View of typical second floor bedroom

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BOLLER MEAT MARKET AND RESIDENCE 705 South Water Street Lomira, Dodge County, WI



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