

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received FEB 28 1984
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic N/A
and/or common The Historic Resources of Kaukauna ^{MRP} (Partial Inventory: Historic and Architectural Properties excluding industrial, engineering, and archeological properties)

2. Location

street & number See individual intensive survey forms not for publication
city, town Kaukauna vicinity of
state Wisconsin code 55 county Outagamie code 087

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

Multiple Resources NA

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership (See individual intensive survey forms)
street & number NA (See individual intensive survey forms)
city, town Kaukauna vicinity of NA state Wisconsin

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Outagamie County Courthouse
street & number 410 South Walnut
city, town Appleton state Wisconsin 54911

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1973, 1977, 1982-83 federal state county local
depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin
city, town Madison state Wisconsin 53706

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

General Physical Description

Located in the northeastern portion of Wisconsin in Outagamie County, the City of Kaukauna is divided into north and south sides by the Fox River. Historically, the north side of the City was the first to be settled, with Dominick Ducharme's land deed of 1793 encompassing the present north side commercial district and the residential areas to the north and east of it. Ducharme's claim ran on a line perpendicular to the river rather than on a north-south grid. DeLanglade Street, Hwy. 55 as it enters the north edge of the City, approximately bisects the Ducharme Claim which ran far out into the country on a NW-SE axis. Division, Tobacnoir, Ducharme, and other streets nearby also show the direction of the earliest French claim, with the Grignon Home and Grignon Park at its base on the river. The Ducharme-Grignon trading post was located so that it could be reached from the river just below the wild rapids of the Thousand Islands area.

Comparisons of 1832, 1886, and 1983 Kaukauna maps show that George Lawe preserved the "diagonal" French claim in his 1850 plat of about 17 blocks of Kaukauna's north side. The French-oriented streets prevail on much of the north side and in the south side commercial district. On the NW side of the north bank, the streets on the old French grid curve into the later 1840's claims of the Diedrich (Dutch) and Black (Yankee) families, which are on the traditional American north-south axis, platted later than the City center.

On the south side, the once populous Stockbridge Indian settlement of over 200 people has disappeared, but Buchanan Road points to the center of its 1822-32 busy riverfront, for in those days Buchanan Road ran down to the mouth of Konkapot Creek and was a main street of the Stockbridge settlement called Statesburg. The four-block diagonal portion of State Street on the west side originally continued downtown to the mission of Rev. Jesse Miner below Miner Street on the riverbank. Beaulieu Hill and the neighborhood along Konkapot Creek and Cleveland Avenue also began to be settled in the early French and Indian period, according to the 1832 Statesburg Map.

The coming of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad to Kaukauna's north side in 1862 made a visible mark only in the naming of Depot Street, where the first depot was located. On the south side, however, the Milwaukee Lakeshore and Western created the Village of Ledyard when it relocated its district office from Manitowoc to Kaukauna's south side in the early 1880's. First Street was vacated and the railroad yards sprang up in "Little Manitowoc" where the city offices are now located. The south central area was developed with company housing for the railroad workers and became known as "Yankee Hill" as about 200 Yankee families moved into south Kaukauna in the late 1800's.

Another neighborhood of "company homes" was located on the north side in the area of Tobacnoir and Ducharme Streets. In the late 1800's Thilmany Paper Company built homes which it rented to its employees. All the houses were painted white, giving the neighborhood the nickname "White City". These and other sidelights of Kaukauna lore were discussed in a recent Post-Crescent article of February 13, 1983, under the heading, "But Where In Kaukauna".

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In between the north and south sides of Kaukauna are four islands in the river and part of the north bank cut off by the 1856 navigation canal. Industrial development boomed on the river after 1880 with the creation of the Kaukauna water power canal and the Milwaukee Lakeshore and Western Railroad. A roller rink (now destroyed) on the large island No. 4 approximately where the present high school is located served as a valuable meeting place for north and south residents in 1883-84. Formal discussions by the industrial developers led to the creation of the Village of Ledyard on the south side in 1884; informal discussions at the roller rink led to popular support for the inclusion of Ledyard in the City of Kaukauna in 1885. Municipal services began to be congregated on or near island No. 4 beginning with the Carnegie Library in 1905. On the canal bank, Thilmany Pulp and Paper Company gradually swallowed up three other mill properties on the road to its present status as the second largest employer of Outagamie County. A more complete analysis of Kaukauna's centralized development may be found under M.A. Raught's "Early History of Kaukauna" section of The History of the Streets of Kaukauna.

The north side commercial district grew up around the trading post of George Lawe, who platted the townsite of Kaukauna all on the north side in 1850. The north side shopping district failed in the late 1850's and many stores were physically moved out of town when the canal boom fizzled, according to the county history. The north side experienced modest growth in the 1860's and 1870's until the south side railroad boom ignited the entire community. The impact of the development of water power canals and the south side railroad yards can be seen in the difference between the 1880 and 1890 census reports: in 1880 the Town of Kaukauna had a population of 2,235 but the unincorporated population centers, the villages of Kaukauna and neighboring Sniderville population were 50 and 30 respectively. The 1890 Census lists the Town of Kaukauna at 1,728 and the City of Kaukauna at 4,667, with just over half the population on the newly developed south side.

In the descriptive statements which follow, as well as in the Statement of Significance, sites are indicated by their historic (preferred) name, their current street address, and by map code.

Architectural Resources

Kaukauna's building stock is composed primarily of residential structures (about 70% of the City's buildings) followed by about 10% industrial, 10% commercial and 10% civic, educational, and ecclesiastical. The architecture of Kaukauna reflects both the resources of the surrounding area as well as the major architectural styles of the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries. Trenton or Galena limestone found in the Fox River Valley provided the material and impetus for building and an abundance of excellent sand and clay in the area made a fine quality brick. As a result of these quality local materials, a number of distinctive masonry buildings were erected in Kaukauna during the late nineteenth century. Messrs. Hamilton and Phelps were the first to engage in the booming stone quarry business, commencing their work in 1879.

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A number of professional architects worked in the city including Phillip Dean, Appleton (The Nicolet Public School, 109 E. Eighth Street); The Smith Brothers, South Kaukauna (Merritt Black House, 104 River Road); Claude and Starck, Madison (Free Public Library of Kaukauna, 111 Main Avenue; and Van Ryn and DeGelleke, Milwaukee (Stribley residence, 705 Wisconsin Avenue).

Most of the buildings were constructed by owners or local contractors. Commercial buildings often displayed the names of these owners as well as the dates of construction. The Lindauer-Rupert Block ("Lindauer" appears on the building; 137-141 E. Second St., OU-16/30) was built in 1895 by Luther Lindauer and his partner Rupert. Lindauer concomitantly owned the Kaukauna Stone Company and the Kaukauna Brick Yard. Materials from these places were used to construct the building. Julius Martens built his place of business at 124-128 E. Third St. (OU-16/19). The structure has an unusually elaborate upper story with excellent integrity. Julius Kuehn, the City's first blacksmith, erected his shop at 148-152 E. Second Street in 1889. During the 1920's, Mr. Fargo built his new furniture store and funeral parlor at 172-176 West Wisconsin Avenue (OU-17/24).

Many residential structures in Kaukauna provide good examples of the major architectural styles. The Grignon House (NRHP 1982), built in 1837, represents the City's only Greek Revival building. Since most of the City's growth occurred forty years after the Grignon House, there are no residential structures designed in the Gothic Revival mode—a popular style during the 1840's, 50's, and 60's. However, ecclesiastical architecture continued to be influenced by Gothic design as seen in St. Mary's Catholic Church (309 Desnoyer Street) and Holy Cross Church (119 W. Seventh Street). The Captain Meade House at 309 E. Division (OU-1/11A) is an example of a picturesque Victorian style with three story tower. Characterized by a complex plan and irregular massing including turrets, porches, and wings, examples of Queen Anne architecture predominate this multiple resource nomination. The house at 1018 Sullivan Avenue (OU-16/7; the Klein House) and 714 Grignon Street (the Brokaw House; OU-21/18) are representative of frame Queen Anne architecture while the Black House, 104 River Road (OU-17/4), displays a masonry exterior. The ubiquitous presence of the Bungalow is the result of nearly 80 years of building in this style. The St. Andrews house, 320 Dixon Street (OU-11/30), is a quintessential bungalow with exposed structural members for decoration, stucco exterior, upper floor dormer, and open porch.

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The Revival of Romanesque architecture influenced the designs of both commercial buildings (The Lindauer and Rupert Block, OU-16/30, and the Kaukauna Hardware Store, OU-16/27) as well as educational buildings including the Nicolet Public School (OU-16/10). Nicolet is especially representative of this style, displaying a large tower with cone shaped roof, brick corbelling, and a massive masonry exterior.

Prairie School architecture is also represented in Kaukauna. The Carnegie-funded Library (OU-17/31) designed by Claude and Starck, has decorative half-timbering and wide overhanging eaves with brackets. "Revivalism" continued during the Twentieth Century. Often elements from various styles were incorporated into a single building. Although the Stribley House at 705 West Wisconsin Avenue (OU-17/3) has a Colonial Revival porch, its steeply pitched "barrel tile" roof is also reminiscent of "Mediterranean" architecture. Fargo Furniture, 172-176 West Wisconsin Avenue (OU-17/24) is an excellent example of Twentieth Century Classical Revival architecture characterized by its regular placement of fenestration and classical features, such as decorative pilasters and crowning balustrade.

Survey Methodology

The City of Kaukauna received a survey and planning grant in 1982 from the Historic Preservation Division of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. This grant provided for an intensive architectural/historical survey of the City's resources and the preparation of a multiple resource nomination. Brian Peterson, Director of the Community Development Department of Kaukauna, acted as Project Director. Melanie Betz, Principal Investigator and Architectural Historian, conducted the survey and completed the nomination. Carolyn Kellogg, Project Historian, and Rebecca Helland, Research Assistant, prepared the thematic studies and assisted with the research. Susan Duda, Executive Secretary for the Community Development Department, served as typist during the project.

The first phase of the project began with updating the previous reconnaissance survey. Conducted in November of 1977 by the Historic Preservation Division, this reconnaissance or windshield survey yielded about 55 sites of historical or architectural interest. Each site identified in the original survey was re-checked during the 1982 survey to determine any alterations made (including demolition) in the intervening period. Those buildings which had been altered were noted and then re-photographed. The initial reconnaissance survey as well as the updated survey identified extant industrial or engineering properties of historical interest. However, because resources associated with the Fox Valley paper and water power industries are properly evaluated in a regional context, the 1982 intensive survey did not attempt to determine National Register eligibility for those properties. Regionally based surveys--including the Outagamie County Industrial Survey, sponsored by the State Historical Society in 1981--have already begun an investigation of significant industrial/engineering structures in the Fox Valley, but further research is needed to identified eligible properties associated with industrial themes in the Valley.

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In order to compare similar building types and establish potential historic districts, Kaukauna was surveyed in sections based on geographical location. Since the City is relatively small (with a population under 12,000), only three major sections were established: the north and south business districts; the older residential areas which included religious and educational buildings; and finally, the areas beyond the older sections which included farmsteads and newer subdivisions. The Principal Investigator identified about 55 additional sites during the 1982 survey. The new sites included several vernacular structures - both commercial and residential - that retained their original integrity despite their modest sizes. The later survey also included a few additional Bungalows, a building type often overlooked in the previous survey. The Principal Investigator then made inventory cards and took photographs of all the buildings added to the reconnaissance survey.

The next phase of the project focused on re-examining a potential historic district roughly outlined in the field. This area would have included Second Street between Main Street and Crooks Avenue. However, the Principal Investigator and the Historic Preservation Division decided that the area did not possess sufficient integrity to be considered a historic district.

With the initial field work completed, the Project Historians and the Principal Investigator began in-depth research on the buildings that appeared on the survey. The Historians researched the historical themes important to the development of Kaukauna. The Principal Investigator examined the prevalent architectural styles in the City as well as the significant architects and builders. The Researchers consulted several different institutions to obtain information for their studies including the Kaukauna Public Library, the Lawrence University Library, the Archives and Library of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, The Kaukauna Times newspaper, and the Outagamie County Historical Society. Sanborn Perris Maps, Birds-Eye-View Maps, City Tax Rolls, City Directories, old newspaper articles and photographs, and several publications including The Lion of the Fox Valley (1891) provided invaluable information for the study. The material compiled by the researchers was then used to complete the intensive survey forms and report. The Principal Investigator was also responsible for recording (by special coding) the site locations onto a mylar map.

The final phase of the project consisted of identifying the most significant properties on the survey for inclusion in a multiple resource nomination. Using National Register criteria, the Principal Investigator and Historians determined properties to be potentially eligible.

Archaeological Surveys

Since the archaeological resources of the City of Kaukauna have not been comprehensively surveyed, no archaeological resources have been included in this nomination.

Engineering and Industrial Structures Survey: Although several industrial properties in Kaukauna have been important to the city's history, a comprehensive survey of those sites has not been completed. Engineering sites associated with the development of locks, dams, canals, and other water power resources have not been comprehensively surveyed or evaluated for National Register eligibility.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
Period of significance:				-associated with
Specific dates	1884-1928	Builder/Architect (see survey forms)		significant individual
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)				-associated with the development of a localit:

Introduction

Kaukauna has, from earliest times, been influenced by its strategic location at the foot of the wildest stretch of rapids on the lower Fox River, an area prehistorically suited for a portage and historically developed for its water power. Settlement began in the French and Indian period 1790-1839, but the withdrawal of the Stockbridge Indians from the south side settlement of Statesburg left only a handful of farmer-traders to great American territorial status. Canal building activities bolstered Yankee settlement in the 1850's, but the canal boom was brief and the north side business district it engendered faltered before the advent of the railroad in the 1860's. The Chicago and Northwestern Railroad's north side line encouraged local industry such as flour milling and lumber products by providing access to the Chicago and Milwaukee markets in the 1860's and '70's, but before 1880 the north side remained a modest settlement and the south side had reverted to scattered farms. The second railroad boom of the 1880's brought in Irish and German workers who created the south side Village of Ledyard. In 1885 the Village of Ledyard, south side, joined with the north side townsite of Kaukauna to form the City of Kaukauna. The 1880's railroad developments coincided with the creation of new water power canals to supply Kaukauna industry. The men who built the railroads and power canals stayed to create the paper industry, and the Fox River found work in a new kind of plant, making hydroelectric power.

Fourteen individual properties have been included in the nomination selected for architectural and/or historical significance. Areas of historical significance include properties contributing to the development of the community, properties associated with significant people, and properties associated with the development of agriculture and commerce.

Historical Development

In the French and Indian period of Kaukauna's development (1790 to 1839) Kaukauna was settled by French-Canadian farmers/fur traders and Stockbridge Indians. Kaukauna's first settler was Dominick Ducharme, who built a log house at "Cacalin" in 1790 and obtained perha the first land deed in present Wisconsin from the Menominee Indians in 1793. At the time of Ducharme's arrival, 1,500 Native Americans lived in a village at Kaukauna whose name loosely translates as "fishing hole" or "place where the fish stop".¹

The Ducharme property was divided between the Grignon family, who established a trading post on that portion of the land containing the original Ducharme cabin in the early 1800's, and the Lawe family to whom most of the present northside downtown was deeded.² Two structures remain associated with the early fur traders: the Charles A. Grignon Home dated 1837-38, already listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and the George W. Lawe House, circa 1860, which does not retain sufficient architectural integrity to be eligible for the National Register.

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A major Stockbridge Indian settlement on the south side, 1822 to 1832, numbered 225 New York Indians who had adopted American customs, lived in log cabins, raised corn, wheat, and livestock. A Grignon sawmill and grist mill of 1816 and a Stockbridge sawmill of the 1820's have disappeared, but a home at 1507 Cleveland Avenue is reportedly built from the remains of the Stockbridge sawmill. Unfortunately the building has lost architectural integrity.³

The buildings associated with the canal boom of the 1850's and the advent of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad and heavy industry in the 1860's and '70's have been greatly altered in their architecture or have been destroyed. The structures nominated will reflect a later period of Kaukauna's growth associated with the development of the north side commercial district, south side commercial district, water power canals, and the Milwaukee Lakeshore & Western Railroad district yards, leading to the development of the City of Kaukauna as a modern industrial community.

Two Catholic churches, representative of the strongly Catholic majority of Kaukauna's citizens from pioneer days to the present, played an outsized role in the development of community spirit. Holy Cross (OU-17/19), the original pioneer Catholic congregation, is represented in its 1914 church built after the first church was destroyed by fire. Holy Cross helped to build a sense of community on the north side, gathering in the farming and commercial families who had previously had to attend services and hold discussions in local homes or at a church upriver at Little Chute. From 1873 onward the members of Holy Cross, including such pioneer stalwarts as the Grignon family, played leading roles in the development of the north side Kaukauna community.⁴ The south side church, St. Mary's (OU-16/11), the church built by the railroad, reflected the boom which followed the relocation of the district office and yards from Manitowoc to south Kaukauna in the early 1880's. Its heavily European flavor, reminiscent of German or French cathedrals, appealed to the German and Irish workers who simultaneously built water power canals, the railroad yards, mills, and south side homes. St. Mary's, built in 1898, is now the oldest remaining Kaukauna church, but is nominated chiefly for its outstanding architecture.⁵ The pioneer Lutheran Church, Trinity, also well reflects the German and Dutch agricultural and industrial pioneers, but the structure has lost architectural integrity through a recent remodeling of the facade.

Two homes of interesting local leaders, built in the mid-1880's, reflect the coming to maturity of Kaukauna's industrial and commercial communities. The Mathew Meade home, 309 Division Street (OU-23/10), overlooks the Meade and Edwards Water Power Canal among the islands of the Fox River which this regional land and river developer owned and brought to productivity.⁵ The Norman Brokaw home, 714 Grignon Street (OU-21/18), also rises on the north bank of the river above the site of the pioneer pulp mill in which this regionally important paper industrialist introduced ground wood and sulphite to an industry which previously had made pulp from rags and straw.⁶

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The combination of water power and a water supply for the new paper industry and the development of Kaukauna as a major railroad center in the 1880's led to continuing prosperity and commercial development in the 1890's. On the booming south side, stores and office buildings turned the sleepy farmland of 1879 into a major commercial district by 1899. The 1889 Kaukauna Hardware Store at 152 East Second Street (OU-16/27) is one of the older south side structures to retain its integrity, and it was joined in the 1890's by two landmarks, the Central Block at 106 East Second Street which has unfortunately been drastically remodeled and the handsome Lindauer-Rupert Block of 1895 (OU-16/30) more recently known as the Elk's Club building. The Lindauer-Rupert Block represents a significant achievement in the use of native building materials and also embodies the community pride in the new business center. Luther Lindauer, its creator, was a pioneer developer of the building materials industry in the Kaukauna area, and his downtown office building was a monument to enlighten self-advertising.⁹ Another significant structure of the period is the J.J. Martens Building at 128 East Third Street (OU-16/19), a classic example of the "farmers' store" appealing with fancy crockery and dry goods to the rural trade. Martens' store was a community center and the hub of political, commercial, and "booster" activities of this dynamic Kaukauna leading citizen.¹⁰

On the north side the 1890's brought prosperity to the second generation of the pioneer Black family, among the first to pay with gold for farm land in Wisconsin Territorial Kaukauna. In the second generation, the City grew around the family farm and the Blacks turned to developing stoneworks, real estate, and a prominent insurance business, with the "Black Castle" at 104 River Street (OU-17/4) as a new north side landmark.¹¹ The Fargo Furniture Store continued its 1890 home furnishings and funeral home services on the north side into the Twentieth Century with a handsome new structure erected in 1928 at 172 West Wisconsin Avenue (OU-17/24).¹²

In municipal services, the 1890's saw reorganization of local governmental agencies to better serve the growing community. Nicolet School (OU-16/10) on the south side and Park School (OU-17/10) on the north side emerged as twin elementary schools.

The location of the Carnegie Library (OU-17/31), Kaukauna's first public library building, on the island between north and south started a new trend in 1905. To the satisfaction of both north and south, the Municipal Building, new high school, and the post office followed the library to the central location in the early 1900's.¹³

Underlying the growth in homes, stores, churches, schools, and municipal buildings was the continuing success story of Kaukauna industry. In the 1880's and 1890's the Thilmany Mill (OU-13/14A-13/19A) grew from an experimental plant for making butter and grocer plates to a successful and diverse paper company. When Thilmany retired and returned to Germany in 1901, his able assistant Charles Stribley and M.A. Wertheimer continued to bring major innovations into the paper industry through the work of the Thilmany Mill with lightweight machine-glazed paper, impressed designs, and waxing and decorating machines. The Thilmany Pulp and Paper Company, not included in this nomination pending further research, and the Charles Stribley home at 705 West Wisconsin Avenue (OU-17/3), nominated for its architecture, reflect the exciting beginnings of the Fox Valley paper industry.¹⁴

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Two other German-American families contributed to Kaukauna's industrial growth in the late 1890's with the development of Kaukauna's first dairy and several large breweries. The Klein family, whose home farm embraced much of the City's original southwest side, took milk production a step further in the 1880's and 1890's by creating a door-to-door milk service, with milk dipped from a can on a horse-drawn wagon to the customers' containers (using a pint or quart dipper on request). The Klein farmhouse at 1018 Sullivan Avenue (OU-16/7) today best represents the structures associated with this business venture.¹⁵

The Helf family developed a popular brewing industry on both the south and north sides in the late 1800's, with the help of financiers such as Humphrey Pierce of Appleton and John Brill of Kaukauna. The north side Helf Brewery is the last remaining building of the once successful local industry, located at 724 Desnoyer Street (OU-11/15). In the early 1900's this brewery was taken over by the Regenfuss family, and during the Depression of the 1930's it was called the "Electric City Brewing Company".¹⁶ Unfortunately, the remaining structure does not possess sufficient integrity or significance to convey the brewing industry. Kaukauna received the nickname "Electric City" due to its development of hydroelectric power. The first of the municipal hydroelectric utility buildings, built by the Green Bay and Mississippi Canal Company in 1907, was the Old Badger Plant at 777 Island Street (OU-GG/4). Old Badger was built in the ruins of a paper mill created by H.A. Frambach, Kaukauna's first Mayor, and was taken over by the City from the canal company after the creation of a municipal electric utility in 1912. By 1947 the City operated four hydroelectric plants, creating energy to serve the Villages of Little Chute and Combined Locks, 66 miles of surrounding farmland, and the City of Kaukauna itself. With this penultimate development of the water power which had marked the use of its natural resources, creating a model municipal utility to serve modern industrial, commercial, and private needs.¹⁷ Further research is needed to establish which extant properties associated with water power in Kaukauna are eligible for the National Register.

Resources Included in the Nomination

Of the fourteen sites, three are nominated solely for history, ~~seven~~ for architecture, and ~~four~~ for both history and architecture. The types of structures nominated offer a varied cross-section of Kaukauna's building stock. The fourteen properties include six residences, four commercial buildings, two churches, one school, and one library.

The nominated properties represent the prevalent architectural styles of the late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries including Romanesque Revival, Gothic Revival, Italian Villa, Queen Anne, Prairie School, Bungalow, and Classical Revival.

Although one potential historic district was outlined during the field survey (East Second Street between Main Avenue and Crooks Avenue), the Principal Investigator decided that the area did not possess sufficient integrity to constitute a historic district.

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Planning, Preservation, and Restoration Activities

The historic preservation survey and planning project which includes the intensive survey of Kaukauna's historic and architectural resources and this multiple resource nomination was initiated by the staff of the City of Kaukauna's Community Development Department in order to inventory, document, and nominate the community's historically and architecturally significant properties. In addition, the project also provided for an architectural consultant, Robert Hartmann, to prepare conceptual drawings of Kaukauna's commercial buildings.

The final phase of this project includes the preparation of a walking tour booklet which will be available at the Outagamie County Historical Society, the Kaukauna Public Library, and the Community Development Department of Kaukauna. It is hoped that this publication will increase the community's awareness of its architectural and historical heritage.

The entire intensive survey, including the report, the intensive survey forms and photographs will be on file in the Community Development Department located in the Municipal Services Building, Kaukauna. The Preservation Division of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, will also retain the complete survey.

Significance: Agriculture

The Klein Dairy Farmhouse, 1018 Sullivan Avenue (OU-16/7), is the surviving farmhouse of the first dairy in Kaukauna. It also represents three generations of agriculture-related industry on the part of one of Kaukauna's pioneer German-American families.

For more information, please refer to the intensive survey forms.

Significance: Architecture

The architectural resources included in the multiple resource nomination represent types, periods, and methods of construction and record the progression of architectural styles in Kaukauna from the 1880's to the 1920's. Two residential properties nominated to the National Register exemplify Queen Anne architecture including the Klein Farmhouse, 1018 Sullivan Avenue and the Merritt Black house, 104 River Street.

The best example of Kaukauna's ubiquitous Bungalow style is the house located at 320 Dixon Street (OU-11/30), known as the Frank St. Andrews house. A much larger house from the early twentieth century, combining Romanesque and Craftsman period elements is the Stribley house, 705 W. Wisconsin Avenue. Its rich interior displays oak and cherry trim, an elegant carved fireplace and marble thresholds.

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The Lindauer and Rupert Block, 137-141 E. Second Street, and the Kuehn Blacksmith Shop, 148-152 E. Second Street, are good examples of Kaukauna's prevalent commercial Romanesque Revival architecture. With its unusually elaborate upper story, the Martens Building (1901) (OU-16/19), located at 124-128 E. Third Street, is one of the key architectural landmarks of Kaukauna's southside business districts. The Fargo Furniture Store (OU-17/24), built in 1928, is the best and most intact example of Twentieth Century Classical Revival architecture located at 172-176 W. Wisconsin Avenue.

The Nicolet Public School (OU-16/10), 109 E. Eighth Street, was designed by Phillip Dean, a prominent local architect. An example of Romanesque Revival architecture, the school is the only known example of Dean's work still standing in Kaukauna today.

Holy Cross Church (OU-17/9), 309 Desnoyer Street, is a locally significant example of transitional Romanesque Gothic design. St. Mary's Catholic Church (OU-16/11), 119 W. Seventh Street, is a good example of late Nineteenth Century Gothic Revival ecclesiastical architecture.

For more information, please refer to the "Architectural Resources" portion of Item #7 and the individual intensive survey forms.

Significance: Commerce

The Martens Building (OU-16/19), 124-128 E. Third Street, best reflects the activities of Julius Martens, a community "booster" who organized the first successful Kaukauna Farmer's market or "Pig Fair" in 1908. The Lindauer & Rupert Block, 137-141 E. Second Street is significant for its association with the growth of Kaukauna's South side business district in the late nineteenth century.

For more information, please refer to the intensive survey forms.

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Significance: Associated with Significant Individual

The house at 309 Division Street (OU-1/11A) is associated with Captain Mathew J. Meade, an important land and water power developer in the Fox Valley and political leader of Wisconsin territory and State. The house at 714 Grignon Street (OU-21/18) is associated with Norman Brokaw, a pioneer papermaker of regional importance.

For more information, please refer to the intensive survey forms.

Significance: Associated with the Development of a Locality

The Carnegie-funded Free Public Library of Kaukauna, 111 Main Avenue, designed by the Madison architectural firm Claude and Starck, set a pattern for centralizing municipal facilities which was continued with the municipal building, the high school, and the post office. Although it has suffered some loss of integrity with its modern additions, the library still embodies community pride and enthusiasm.

St. Mary's Catholic Church, 119 W. Seventh Street, is historically significant as the focal point of the southside Community of Ledyard.

The Lindauer-Rupert Block, 137-141 E. Second Street, reflects the growth of Kaukauna's south side business districts and the career of one of its most energetic citizens.

For more information, please refer to the intensive survey forms.

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Engineering Resources and Industrial Properties:

Since the scope of the Kaukauna Intensive Survey and this multiple resource nomination did not include a comprehensive study of sites significant to engineering, no locks, dams, or canals have been included in this nomination. Likewise, while historically important industrial sites still exist, no comprehensive survey has assessed their eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Archaeological Resources

The scope of the Kaukauna Intensive Survey and this multiple resource nomination was limited only to a partial inventory of the City's historic and architectural resources. Since this excluded archaeology, no sites have been included in this nomination.

References for Historical Development

- ¹The Lion of the Fox River Valley, (Title page missing, believed to have been compiled by Kaukauna Sun, 1891) p. 6; also see The History of the Streets of Kaukauna, compiled by Dr. H.B. Tanner, 1929, published by the Kaukauna Times Printing Co., Kaukauna, Wis., pp. 30-31.
- ²Lion of the Fox River Valley, p. 7.
- ³History of the Streets of Kaukauna, pp. 3 and 56; also see The Post-Crescent, February 13, 1983, "But Where in Kaukauna?" by Jim Flasch.
- ⁴A History of the Catholic Church in Kaukauna, by Sister Mary Celestine, O.S.F., undated ms. in collection of Outagamie County Historical Society, Inc., ca. 1975, pp. 2-3.
- ⁵History of Outagamie County, Wisconsin, Thomas H. Ryan, Goodspeed Historical Association, Chicago, 1911, p. 580.
- ⁶Lion of the Fox River Valley, pp. 65-66; also see Commemorative Biographical Record of the Fox River Valley, Counties of Brown, Outagamie, and Winnebago, J.H. Beers and Co., Chicago, 1895, Wilson Humphrey & Co., p. 560.
- ⁷Commemorative Biographical Record of the Fox River Valley, p. 512.
- ⁸History of the Streets of Kaukauna, pp. 58-68.
- ⁹Commemorative Biographical Record of the Fox River Valley, p. 498.
- ¹⁰History of Outagamie County, pp. 1063-64.
- ¹¹Commemorative Biographical Record, p. 508.
- ¹²The Kaukauna Times, "New Fargo's Store Kaukauna's Biggest," April 24, 1928.

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- ¹³Kaukauna 175th Jubilee Album, 1965, pp. 29-30.
- ¹⁴A History of Thilmany Pulp & Paper Company, "A Measure of Success", pamphlet printed by Thilmany Pulp and Paper Co., 1977, pp. 2-3.
- ¹⁵History of the Streets of Kaukauna, p. 15.
- ¹⁶Wisconsin Breweries & Their Bottles, Wayne L. Kroll, 1972, pp. 23-24; also see Badger Breweries Past & Present, Wayne L. Kroll, 1976, p. 37.
- ¹⁷Lion of the Fox River Valley, pp. 63-65; also see Kaukauna 175th Jubilee Album, pp. 40-50.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property see survey forms

Quadrangle name see survey forms

Quadrangle scale see Survey forms

UTM References (see survey forms)

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Verbal boundary description and justification

All nominated properties are contained within the corporate limits of the City of Kaukauna as they existed in May, 1983. For specific boundary descriptions and justifications, see individual survey forms.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Melanie A. Betz/Principal Investigator; Carolyn Kellogg/Principal Historian; Becky Helland/Principal Researcher
 organization City of Kaukauna date May, 1983

street & number 201 West Second Street telephone (414) 766-4682

city or town Kaukauna state Wisconsin

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is: See Intensive Survey Forms

national state 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 [Signature]
 title DIRECTOR, HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION date FEB. 23, 1984

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is Included in the National Register

See Continuation Sheet for listings date _____
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Kaukauna Multiple Resource Area
State Outagamie County, WISCONSIN

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Black, Merritt, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Delores Byers 3-29-84

Attest _____

2. Brokaw, Norman, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Delores Byers 3-29-84

Attest _____

3. Fargo's Furniture Store

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Delores Byers 3-29-84

Attest _____

4. Free Public Library of
Kaukauna

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Delores Byers 3-29-84

Attest _____

5. Holy Cross Church

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Delores Byers 3-29-84

Attest _____

6. Klein Dairy Farmhouse

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Delores Byers 3-29-84

Attest _____

7. Kuehn Blacksmith Shop-
Hardware Store

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Delores Byers 3-29-84

Attest _____

8. Lindauer and Rupert
Block

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Delores Byers 3-29-84

Attest _____

9. Martens, Julius J., Company
Building

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Delores Byers 3-29-84

Attest _____

10. Meade, Capt. Matthew J., House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Delores Byers 3-29-84

Attest _____

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Item number

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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Kaukauna Multiple Resource Area
State Outagamie County, WISCONSIN

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 11. | Nicolet Public School | Entered in the
National Register | for
Keeper | <u>Melous Byers</u> | <u>3-29-84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 12. | St. Andrews, Frank, House | Entered in the
National Register | for
Keeper | <u>Melous Byers</u> | <u>3-29-84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 13. | St. Mary's Catholic Church | Entered in the
National Register | for
Keeper | <u>Melous Byers</u> | <u>3-29-84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 14. | Stribley, Charles W., House | Entered in the
National Register | for
Keeper | <u>Melous Byers</u> | <u>3-29-84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 15. | | | Keeper | _____ | _____ |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 16. | | | Keeper | _____ | _____ |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 17. | | | Keeper | _____ | _____ |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 18. | | | Keeper | _____ | _____ |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 19. | | | Keeper | _____ | _____ |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 20. | | | Keeper | _____ | _____ |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |