# District Survey Form

**1 DISTRICT**
Anderson Dock Historic District

**CITY**
Ephraim

**COUNTY**
Door

**SURVEYOR**
Claudette Stager

**SURVEY**
SHSW STAFF

**DATE**
August, 1984

**FILM ROLLS/NEGATIVES**
DR 31/6, DR 31/7, DR 31/8, DR 32/29, DR 31/5, DR 31/9

**STREETS:**
- Anderson Lane
- North Water Street

**STREETS:**
- NUMBERS:
  - Anderson Lane: 3065, 3081
  - North Water Street: 10123

## 2 BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Anderson Dock Historic District is an irregularly shaped district located at the intersection of Anderson Lane and North Water Street. The boundary is as follows: Beginning at the southeast corner of the property at 3081 Anderson Lane the boundary moves west to the shore of Green Bay; the boundary then follows the shoreline in a northerly direction to the southeast corner of the dock; the boundary continues in a westerly direction to the southwest corner of the dock; the boundary then moves north to the northwest corner of the dock; the boundary continues in an easterly direction to the shoreline; the boundary then moves north along the shore 60 feet; the boundary then moves east to North Water Street; the boundary continues south to the northeast corner of the property at See Continuation Sheet No. 1.

## 3 BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Anderson Dock District is a distinct element within the Village of Ephraim. Located on the shoreline and extending west to the dock, the six buildings that comprise the district are linked by their original commercial usage and association with Aaslag Anderson. The waters of Green Bay provide much of the boundary, surrounding the dock and bordering the icehouse and store on the west. To the north and south are newer residences. On the east, the district is bounded by woods and meadows, then newer residences.

## 4 SOURCES OF INFORMATION
See Continuation Sheet

A. On Building.

B. Naess, H.S., unpublished "Introduction" (Cont.)
   "Ephraim Historic Walk" pamphlet


D. Iverson, A.M. "A Brief Account of the Activity (Its Commencement (Cont.)
   Bolt, O.C.,"Partial Record of Ephraim Foundation Historical Efforts"

E. (Cont.)

## 5 MAP REFERENCE

- Acreage: 2.15 acres.
- USGS quad: Ephraim Quadrangle
- Scale: 1:24,000

**UIM references:**
| A. | 16-486450-50007 |
| B. | 16-486460-50007 |
| C. | 16-486540-50007 |
| D. | 16-486520-50007 |
| E. | 16-486480-50007 |
| F. | 16-486500-50007 |

## 6 OPINION OF NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY

- Date: August, 1984
- Initials: cs

- [x] eligible
- [ ] not eligible
- [ ] unknown
- [ ] national
- [ ] state
- [x] local
Anderson Dock Historic District

Boundary Description continued

3081 Anderson Lane; the boundary moves in an easterly direction approximately 140 feet; the boundary continues north approximately 115 feet; then the boundary moves east approximately 75 feet; the boundary continues south to North Water Street; the boundary moves in a northwesterly direction until across from the northeast corner of the property at 3065 Anderson Lane; the boundary continues south to the southeast corner of the same property; the boundary moves west to the southwest corner of the same property; the boundary continues north until across from the southeast corner of the property at 3081 Anderson Lane; the boundary moves west to the point of real beginning.

Sources of Information continued

B. to Reverend Andreas M. Iverson's memoirs. In the possession of Reverend J. Groenfeldt, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.
D. and Continuation since 1849) of the Evangelical Moravian Church among the Scandinavians in Wisconsin". (Written between 1896-1899 and translated from the Norwegian by Jno. Boler, 1929). Located at the Door County Library, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.
E. (September 17, 1981). In the possession of O.C. Bolt, Appleton and Ephraim, Wisconsin.
H. Ephraim Foundation, "Ephraim, A Village of Values".
I. Door County Advocate, September 27, 1966.
J. Door County News, June 29, 1919.
K. Door County Advocate, June 20, 1896.
R. Door County Advocate, April 22, 1915.
S. Photograph located at Anderson Store, Ephraim, Wisconsin.
Located at the intersection of North Water Street and Anderson Lane and extending west to the manmade dock, the Anderson Dock Historic District contains five functional buildings with little ornamentation and Anderson's residence. The dock itself does not contribute to the district; it lost its original integrity through alterations. The store, built around 1858, is a 1½ story clapboard building with gable roof and one story extensions with shed roofs located on both east and west sides. Rectangular in plan, and supported by a limestone foundation, the facade of the store is delineated by two large nine pane picture windows and centrally located double doors. Molded panels ornament the doors and the space below the windows. A front second story window and those on the rear of the building are 6/6 sashes. The one story extensions both have doors and the west extension has a six pane picture window, not original to the building (S, T). A hip roof front porch is supported by three roughly hewn log columns, also not original to the building (S). A c.1880 photo shows the store with both extensions and a porch supported by plain columns (S).

The interior of the central section of the store has narrow board flooring and ceilings, although the south part of the ceiling has been dropped and covered with acoustical tile. Plain wooden shelves line the east and west walls and a large cast iron stove rests in the middle of the floor. Stairs in the south lead to an attic used for storage. The east and west extensions, originally used for storage, now contain museum displays. The east extension reveals exposed rafters and clapboard siding on the interior wall, suggesting that this was probably an early addition to the building. The west side interior has been altered with paneling. Overall the store retained its integrity.

The warehouse, probably built or rebuilt around 1880 after a fire, is located at the western end of the dock. It is a rectangular structure of one story with a bowed gable roof surfaced with wood shingles. The solid walls are broken by multi-pane windows and barn doors. Painted deep red, the building is covered with carved or painted signatures of ship passengers and boaters, a local tradition. The west side has a hip roof dormer with 6/6 windows. The interior of the warehouse has a concrete floor, boards covering the walls and part of the west part sectioned off. Exposed beams and rafters are visible parts of the interior roof structure. A winch or pulley-like device remains near the first story level in the northeast section of the building, a reminder of when the building was used as a warehouse.

The former storage shed and gas station, located north of the store, is a 1½ story rectangular structure with board siding and a 6/6 window. West of this the one story icehouse, in poor condition, has studs showing on the exterior and a gable roof covered with asbestos over the original wood shingles. Unlike many icehouses built with insulated double walls, this one, located in a shady spot on the shore, had sawdust strewn about inside for insulation (O). A memorial pole and commemorative marker are located within the district. Constructed in 1968 and 1972, respectively, both are non-contributing elements in the district, as is a new garage.

Anderson's house, located southeast of the store, is a two story residence constructed partially of logs. Now covered with clapboard, the south side of the house is ornamented with exaggerated hood molds over arched windows. The north section of the house was altered in around 1919. Anderson's two story board and batten barn is situated northeast of the house.

See Continuation Sheet No. 2
The store, shed, and icehouse are all located close together near the shoreline, although a fence, shrubs, and trees obscure the view of the icehouse. The warehouse is located on the dock, west of these buildings. Anderson's house and barn are situated east of the commercial complex (across North Water Street). The house is near the highway and has a neatly landscaped yard while the barn, approximately 150 feet from the road, is surrounded by meadows and woods.
Areas of significance

architecture: __________________ history: Commerce

Period of significance: c.1858-1932

Historical development and statement of significance.

Historical Background

The first permanent commercial enterprise in Ephraim was Aaslag Anderson's general store and warehouse located on the dock built in 1858 by Anderson and Peter Peterson, just five years after the village was founded. Aaslag and his brother Halvor emigrated from Norway to the United States in 1848 or 1849 (N, O) and while in Milwaukee they met Peterson, a fellow Norwegian, and traveled with him to Michigan, working as millwrights in the Upper Peninsula. A chance meeting with Reverend Andreas Iverson, the Moravian pastor and community leader in Ephraim, brought first Peterson and then the Andersons to the village.

Peterson and Anderson purchased 150 acres of land from the congregation. The land had a half mile shoreline frontage and the sale was made only with the stipulation that they build a dock and that everyone in the village would be able to use (B, E, D, G). First the dock was built, followed by a general store and warehouse, probably both within the year. Peterson soon relinquished his share of the operation.

The dock, warehouse and store solved the community's problems with shipping. Until this time the Moravian settlement had survived by subsistence farming, fishing, and cutting cedar posts and cordwood. But without docking facilities, products like logs were stored on the shore, making it difficult to load ships. The completion of the dock and warehouse made storing and shipping easier. Merchandise was brought in and fish and lumber were shipped to Green Bay or Marinette (Q). The warehouse also stored farm and orchard produce and much later was used as an improvised movie theater (H). The dock was used for local farmers markets around 1919 (J). The store provided nearby county residents with products they could not make themselves; cash and barter were acceptable means of payment (G).

In operation until 1958, the store and the rest of the complex, shifted focus in the late nineteenth century from providing staple merchandise to becoming a focal point of community activity as Ephraim developed into a resort center. First schooners and later steamboats arrived laden with passengers and their trunks. No rail lines came as far north as Ephraim and until the automobile became a popular and inexpensive means of travel, ships from the Goodrich and Hart lines of Chicago conveyed vacationers to Ephraim every spring and summer. The last ship to bring summer passengers into the village was in 1932 (F). Anderson's store provided a travelers aid service, was the Goodrich lines local office and housed the Western Union line for northern Door County (I).

In addition to the warehouse and store, Anderson was proprietor of a cheese factory located east of the store (gone) and an ice business located northwest of the store. The icehouse, included in the nomination, is no longer used (K, L). A shed just north of the store was first used for extra warehouse space and later as a gas station. Anderson built his own residence and a barn east of the commercial complex.

The dock, while possibly containing some of the nineteenth century planking on the west and north sides, is not original and does not contribute to the district.

See Continuation Sheet No. 3
Storms, shifting shorelines, and improved technology have necessitated much of the being filled in and otherwise altered, as it continues to be altered today. The dock now appears more as an extension of the land than a separate structure. In 1880, all or part of the warehouse and part of the dock were destroyed by fire and rebuilt soon thereafter, dating the warehouse more accurately from 1880 than 1858 (F, G). The warehouse was also enlarged around the turn of the century (F).

The Anderson family sold the dock, warehouse and right of way to the village of Ephraim around 1951. The Ephraim Foundation, a non-profit organization interested in serving the village's history, restored the building and obtained a long term lease from the village. The foundation, in turn, sublets the warehouse for use as an art gallery (C, F). In 1967 the Ephraim Foundation restored the Anderson store (M) after it had been used as a shop and summer cottage (P). The store is also owned by the village but the icehouse and shed are privately owned, as is the house. The Anderson barn is owned by the Ephraim Foundation.

Area of Historic Significance: Commerce

The Anderson Dock Historic District has local historical significance because of its association with the early commercial development of Ephraim. The dock complex was instrumental to the shipping of local products in the first years of village life. The important role of these buildings spanned almost 80 years, from the nineteenth century when lumber, fish, and staple goods were the principal products found in the store and warehouse until the 1930's when summer tourism, now the economic backbone of Ephraim, provided most of the economic and social activity on the dock. The dock and adjacent buildings were the only facilities capable of servicing the large passenger boats in Ephraim (R). Restored in 1952 (warehouse) and 1967 (store) by permanent summer residents with private and puble funds because the area was "vital to the historic integrity of the village"(M), the Anderson Dock Historic District is the best representation of a commercial center in the village.

Although the Village Hall at 9996 South Water Street is also included in the nomination as historically significant for its role as an important center of village activity from 1927-1934, it represents a different time span than the dock. Ship passenger travel was slowed or at a stop when the village hall was built and the hall represents a permanent and year round center associated with the village's development while the dock, warehouse, and store in their capacity as a center of community activity are still more closely aligned with commerce and tourism.
Property
Anderson store, warehouse and dock
Anderson icehouse and shed
Owner
Village of Ephraim
Henry Anderson
Howard Christeson
Address
Ephraim, Wisconsin 54211
500 Lakeshore Drive
Madison, WI 53711
900 Lakeshore Drive
Chicago, IL 60611
The Anderson Barn
Ephraim Foundation
Address
Ephraim, Wisconsin 54211
Howard Christeson
Henry Anderson
Ephraim, Wisconsin 54211
Village of Ephraim
Owner
Anderson Icehouse and Shed
Anderson Store, Warehouse and Dock
Property
INVENTORY FORM FOR NOMINATED PROPERTIES

Name of property; Aaslag Anderson House (Anderson Workbench)
Owner; Howard Christenson
Address; 3065 Anderson Lane
City; Ephraim
Owner's address: 900 Lakeshore Drive
County: Door
Chicago, IL 60611

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

160 NRHP Certification (date)
________ Listed in NRHP (LI)
________ Determined eligible in DOE process (DD)
________ Determined eligible in nomination process (DN)
________ Additional documentation added to nomination (AD)
________ Boundary increased (BI)
____________ Boundary Decreased (BD)
______ Delisted (DL)

170 Thematic or Multiple Resource Nomination Name (code)
Multiple Resources of Ephraim

180 NRHP List Name Anderson Dock Historic District

190 Level of Significance
___ national (NA)
___ state (ST)
__S_ local (LO)

200 District Classification
___ pivotal (P)
_ J_ contributing (C)
___ non-contributing (NC)

210 Criteria Considerations
___ event (A)
___ person (B)
___ architectue/engineering (C)
__ information potential (D)

215 Criteria Considerations
___ religious property (A)
___ moved property (B)
___ birthplace or grave (C)
___ cemetery (D)
___ reconstructed property (E)
___ commemorative property (F)
___ less than 50 years old (G)

220 Area of Significance (code)
Commerce

230 Period of Significance
1858-1932

340 Review Board Date
1988-1992

230 Period of Significance
1858-1932

340 Review Board Date
1988-1992

INVENTORY FORM FOR NOMINATED PROPERTIES

Chicago, IL 60611

Owner's address: 900 Lakeshore Drive
Name of property: Aaslag Anderson House (Anderson Workbench)
Owner: Howard Christenson
**INVENTORY FORM FOR NOMINATED PROPERTIES**

**Anderson Barn Owner:** Ephraim Foundation

**Address:** Anderson Lane

**City:** Ephraim

**County:** Door

**Owner's address:**

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<th>Name of Property</th>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>County</th>
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<td>Anderson Barn</td>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>Ephraim</td>
<td>Door</td>
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**Address:** Ephraim, WI 54211

**NRHP List Name:** Anderson Dock Historic District

**Level of Significance:**
- **national (NA)**
- **state (ST)**
- **local (LO)**

**Period of Significance:** 1858-1932

**Area of Significance (code):**

- Commerce __ __ __

**Criteria Considerations:**

- Religious property (A)
- Moved property (B)
- Birthplace or grave (C)
- Cemetery (D)
- Architectural/Engineering Property (E)
- Commercial Property (F)
- Reconstruction Property (G)
- Event (H)

**Review Board Date:** 1858-1932

**Verbal Boundary Description:**

- Non-contributing (NC)
- Contributing (C)
- Pivotal (P)
- Contributing (C)
- Local (LO)
- State (ST)
- National (NA)

**Additional documentation added to nomination (AD):**

**Boundary Increased (BI):**

**Boundary Decreased (BD):**

**Delisted (DL):**

**Listed in NRHP (LI):**

**Review Board Date:** 1858-1932

**U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Quadrangle:**

**UTM Coordinates:**

**Listed Acreage:**

**Registration Information:**

**Reg. No.:**

**District Classfication:**

- National (NA)
- State (ST)
- Local (LO)

**Applicable Criteria:**

- Event (A)
- Person (B)
- Architectural/Engineering Property (C)
- Commercial Property (F)
- Religious Property (A)
- Moved Property (B)
- Birthplace or grave (C)
- Cemetery (D)
- Architectural/Engineering Property (E)
- Commercial Property (F)
- Reconstruction Property (G)
- Event (H)

**Certification (date):**

- National (NA)
- State (ST)
- Local (LO)

**Comprehensive Inventory System:**

**Additional documentation added to nomination (AD):**

**Boundary Increased (BI):**

**Boundary Decreased (BD):**

**Delisted (DL):**

**Listed in NRHP (LI):**

**Review Board Date:** 1858-1932

**U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Quadrangle:**

**UTM Coordinates:**

**Listed Acreage:**

**Registration Information:**

**Reg. No.:**

**District Classfication:**

- National (NA)
- State (ST)
- Local (LO)

**Applicable Criteria:**

- Event (A)
- Person (B)
- Architectural/Engineering Property (C)
- Commercial Property (F)
- Religious Property (A)
- Moved Property (B)
- Birthplace or grave (C)
- Cemetery (D)
- Architectural/Engineering Property (E)
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- Reconstruction Property (G)
- Event (H)

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INVENTORY FORM FOR NOMINATED PROPERTIES

Name of property: Anderson Icehouse and Shed
Owner: Henry Anderson
Address: 10123 North Water Street; 3084 Anderson Lane
Owner's address: 5101 Coney Weston Place
City: Ephraim
County: Door
Name of property: Anderson Icehouse and Shed

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

NRHP Certification (date) __________
Listed in NRHP (LI) __________
Determined eligible in DOE process (DE) __________
Determined eligible in nomination process (DN) __________
Additional documentation added to nomination (AD) __________
Boundary increased (BI) __________
Boundary Decreased (BD) __________
Delisted (DL) __________

Thematic or Multiple Resource Nomination Name (code) __________
Multiple Resources of Ephraim __________

Level of Significance
___ national (NA)
___ state (ST)
___ local (LO)

District Classification
___ pivotal (P)
___ contributing (C)
___ non-contributing (NC)

Applicable Criteria
___ event (A)
___ person (P)
___ architect/engineering (C)
___ information potential (D)

Criteria Considerations
___ religious property (R)
___ moved property (M)
___ birthplace or grave (B)
___ cemetery (C)
___ reconstructed property (C)
___ commemorative property (C)
___ less than 50 years old (L)

Area of Significance (code)

Period of Significance
1858-1932

Review Board Date
1992

Commercial

Verbal Boundary Description __________

W, C, and E UTM Coordinates (format: W999999E999999)
see HD form

Listed Acreage __________

NRHP, NRHP Historic District __________

Madison, WI 53711
Owner's address: 5101 Coney Weston Place
Owner: Henry Anderson

INVENTORY FORM FOR NOMINATED PROPERTIES