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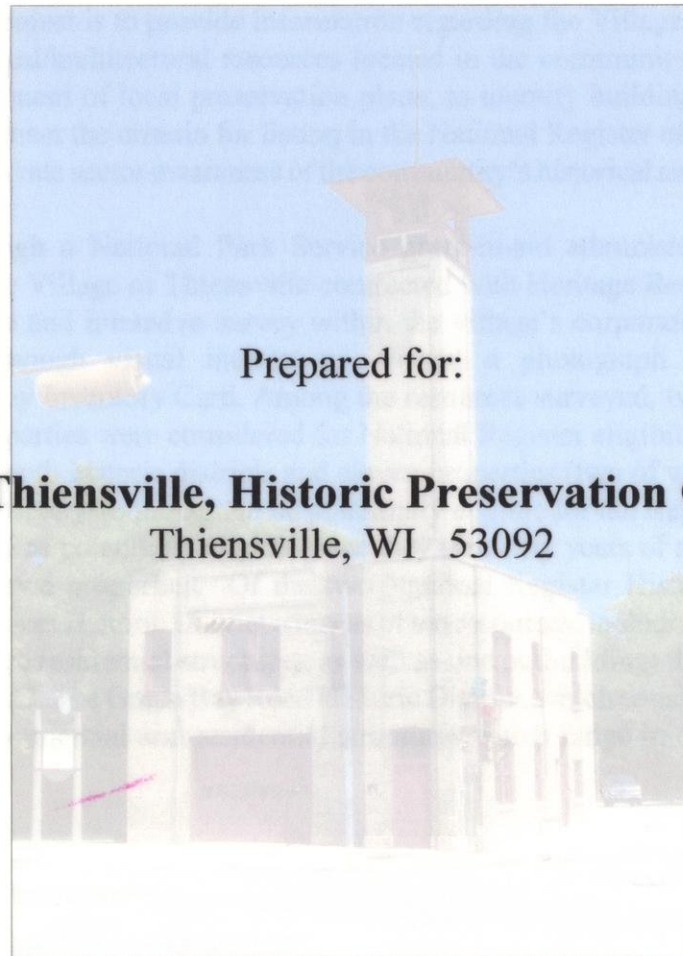
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**HISTORICAL/ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY**  
**• Village of Thiensville, Ozaukee County •**



Prepared for:

**Village of Thiensville, Historic Preservation Commission**  
Thiensville, WI 53092

Prepared by:

**HERITAGE RESEARCH, Ltd.**  
Historical/Environmental Consultants  
15 • July • 2003

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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this project is to provide information regarding the Village of Thiensville with the context of the historical/architectural resources located in the community. This material may be useful in the development of local preservation plans; to identify buildings, structures, sites and historic districts that meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; and to increase public and private sector awareness of the community's historical and architectural heritage.

Funded in part through a National Park Service grant-in-aid administered by the Wisconsin Historical Society, the Village of Thiensville contracted with Heritage Research, Ltd., to conduct both a reconnaissance and intensive survey within the village's corporate limits. A total of 161 properties offered enough visual interest to warrant a photograph and preparation of a Reconnaissance Survey Inventory Card. Among the resources surveyed, two historic districts and fifteen individual properties were considered for National Register eligibility and are discussed in this report. Of these, both historic districts and eleven properties (two of which are located within one of the historic districts) are thought to be potentially eligible for the Register. Of the remaining four, two are regarded as potentially eligible once they turn fifty years of age and further research is recommended for two properties. Of the two National Register Historic Districts that were identified, the Main Street Historic District consists of ten resources, including five commercial, one governmental and three residential structures, as well as one outbuilding; the dates for all of which range from 1895 to 1927. The Green Bay Road Historic District, which consists of eleven properties, also includes both commercial and residential structures which range in date from circa 1884 to 1929.

**VILLAGE OF THIENSVILLE**

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Chapter 1:	Introduction and Survey Methodology	1
Chapter 2:	Historical Development of Thiensville	3
Chapter 3:	Notable Persons	7
	Associated Resources	14
Chapter 4:	Agriculture	15
	Associated Resources	16
Chapter 5:	Government & Politics	18
	Associated Resources	20
Chapter 6:	Commerce & Industry	21
	Associated Resources	24
Chapter 7:	Architecture	25
	Associated Resources	34
Chapter 8:	Architects, Builders, Carpenters & Contractors	39
	Associated Resources	48
Chapter 9:	Arts, Culture, Entertainment & Recreation	50
	Associated Resources	52
Chapter 10:	Transportation	53
	Associated Resources	54
Chapter 11:	Education	55
	Associated Resources	56

*Historical and Architectural Resources Survey*  
*Village of Thiensville*

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Page iv

Chapter 12: Religion	57
Associated Resources	58
Chapter 13: Medical History	59
Associated Resources	60
Chapter 14: Recommendations	62
Bibliography/References Consulted	79
Appendix A: Survey Inventory	84
Appendix B: National Register Listed/Eligible/Ineligible Properties	89
Appendix C: Locally Designated Landmarks in Thiensville	90
Appendix D: Main Street Historic District (Resource List and Map)	93
Appendix E: Green Bay Road Historic District (Resource List and Map)	95
Appendix F: National Register Criteria	97

## CHAPTER 1

### Introduction and Survey Methodology

In 2002, the Village of Thiensville applied for, and received, an historic preservation grant-in-aid from the National Park Service--a grant administered by the Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS). The objective was to survey the architectural and historical resources within the village's corporate limits and identify those that were potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Consequently, Heritage Research, Ltd., an historical/environmental consulting firm in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, was contracted to conduct an intensive survey of the village. The major products of the effort were to consist of an Intensive Survey Report that provides the following: (1) a chronicle of the historical development of Thiensville, focusing upon themes that were embodied in the village's extant historical and architectural resources; (2) insight into which resources--either as individual structures or as historic districts--*might* offer potential for listing on the National Register of Historic Places; (3) completed Reconnaissance Survey cards for all structures offering some degree of interest; and (4) an inventory of all resources observed in the project area. Following the conclusion of the survey effort, two National Register nominations will be prepared by Heritage Research, Ltd.

This document constitutes the Intensive Survey Report. By identifying buildings, structures, sites, districts and objects which meet the criteria for listing on the National Register, preservation priorities and concerns can be recognized and subsequently incorporated into the village's planning process. Additionally, survey results can increase public and private sector awareness of Thiensville's historical and architectural heritage, as well as promote the need to preserve that heritage.

In order to appreciate the methodology behind the survey effort, it is necessary to define the roles of various participants in the project. Mr. Ronald Heinritz, Member of Thiensville's Historic Preservation Commission, represented the village and its interests as director for the survey subgrant. John N. Vogel, Ph.D., Senior Historian and President of Heritage Research, Ltd., (HRL), served as the HRL Project Director, while Traci E. Schnell, M.A., Architectural Historian, served as the Project Manager and Principal Investigator. As well, Brian J. Faltinson, M.A., served as the Project Historian and Gayle Kiszely, M.A., assisted with data entry and survey card production.

A public meeting was held in December 2002 to launch the project. Press releases were issued to area newspapers, including the *Thiensville Reporter* and the *Cedarburg News-Graphic*, seeking historical and/or resource-related input from area residents. In addition, HRL studied the Wisconsin Architecture & History Inventory at the WHS to learn if any village properties had already been surveyed. All of this preliminary work helped to facilitate actual fieldwork in January, April & May 2003. During that time, all properties in the village were inspected, while 161 select properties were inventoried and photographed. This included twenty-seven properties that had been identified



previously and listed among the WHS files; the remainder constitutes sites recorded for the first time.<sup>1</sup>

Reconnaissance Survey Cards, complete with photographs, were then prepared for those resources. The original cards were delivered to the WHS for inclusion in the Wisconsin Architecture & History Inventory, while copies were made available to the Village of Thiensville.

Because no resource exists in a vacuum, gaining a basic understanding of Thiensville's history was imperative before launching into site-specific research. General contextual research established the historical evolution of the village, from its beginnings as a fledgling community to one that is now increasingly affected by suburbanization. Historical context and property-specific research material was compiled from various repositories and institutions. Particularly helpful were the Mequon Historical Society and the Weyenberg Library in Mequon, Wisconsin, and the Ozaukee County Historical Society in Cedarburg, Wisconsin. Individuals who made significant contributions to this effort include longtime Thiensville residents Jerry Egelhoff, Mrs. Gertrude Giesfeldt and Ruth Hatzinger, as well as Dawn Holyoke and Harold Schnell. Mrs. Giesfeldt was the primary source of information for the historic name on the survey cards, while tax rolls confirmed that information in most cases.

Once the fieldwork and property-specific research efforts were completed, HRL staff incorporated it into the general historical background and thematic chapters of the Intensive Survey Report as appropriate, and then formulated its recommendations. Of the 161 properties inventoried and photographed, two historic districts and fifteen individual properties were thought to offer a sufficient degree of historical intrigue and/or architectural integrity to suggest *potential* for listing on the National Register. And of those, both historic districts and fifteen properties (two of which are located within one of the historic districts) were subsequently determined to be eligible for the Register. Of the remaining four properties, two are regarded as potentially eligible once they turn fifty years of age and further research is recommended for the final two properties. These findings were offered on 20 May 2003 to the Historic Preservation Commission in a narrated slide presentation, as well as at a second public meeting scheduled for September 2003. Those results are elaborated upon, and formally presented to the Preservation Commission in this report.

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<sup>1</sup>The Architecture & History Inventory (AHI) includes twenty-seven previously surveyed properties, four of which are no longer extant. They include 201-103 Green Bay Road, 205 Green Bay Road, the Pigeon Creek Bridge and the Bike Trail Bridge.

## CHAPTER 2

### Historical Development of Thiensville

The Village of Thiensville is situated in the historic Town of Mequon in southern Ozaukee County. The community primarily is on the west bank of the Milwaukee River, a region that was historically filled with oak, maple, beechwood and birch forests, and was transformed over time into a rich agricultural area.<sup>2</sup>

The first inhabitants of what would become the Village of Thiensville were Indians who had a small village at the confluence of the Milwaukee River and Pigeon Creek. The area was inhabited by the Sac, Fox, Pottawatomie and Menomonee tribes, who were drawn to the area's rich sources of game and fish, as well as the close proximity of Lake Michigan. In 1831, the first of a series of treaties began to turn the area over to white settlement and the process was completed in 1838 when the Indians had completely turned over their land rights.<sup>3</sup>

Beginning in 1832, the federal government surveyed the Green Bay Road from Milwaukee to Fort Howard (Green Bay) and it was completed through the Town of Mequon between 1836 and 1839. Within the town, the crude trail primarily ran along the Milwaukee River. Also during this period, the federal government surveyed the Town of Mequon. Between 1834 and 1836, the area was surveyed by John Weston and a Mr. Brink and Mr. Follett. The first known settlement occurred in the mid 1830s when a small group of settlers set up a cluster of shanties where Pigeon Creek joined the Milwaukee River. Soon thereafter, John Weston purchased the quarter section of land that would eventually become the Village of Thiensville. By 1840, Weston was the area's postmaster and operated out of his log cabin.<sup>4</sup>

During this period, Peter Turck set up a sawmill along the Milwaukee River; however, it was a later mill that served as the catalyst for the formation of the Village of Thiensville. In 1842, John Henry Thien purchased Weston's land. Thien had emigrated from the Saxony region of Germany to Milwaukee the previous year. Soon after purchasing Weston's property, Thien constructed a substantial two-and-half-story, stone flour mill to provide for the township's growing farming population. Thien paid a substantial Indian labor force to construct a dam on the Milwaukee River, dig a millrace, as well as construct the mill and tailrace. The settlement that emerged took the name of Thiensville, although the local post office was known as Mequon River for many years. Thien

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<sup>2</sup>Walter D. Corrigan, Sr., *History of the Town of Mequon, Ozaukee County, Wisconsin* (Cedarburg, WI: Cedarburg News Print, n.d.), 7.

<sup>3</sup>Corrigan, Sr., *History of the Town of Mequon*, 7.

<sup>4</sup>Corrigan, Sr., *History of the Town of Mequon*, 8; Gretchen Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville* (Cedarburg, WI: News Graphic, Inc., 1976), 2.

charged local farmer's one-half of the flour produced and then sold his share in Milwaukee. Thien died in 1863 and his son Henry John Thien took over the mill.<sup>5</sup>

In 1871, the Wisconsin Central Railway completed a line to Thiensville and the community continued its evolution as an agricultural support center that supported the farmers of the Town of Mequon. Farmers utilized the rail line to ship wheat, flour and other farm produce. Economic life continued to revolve around Thien's mill, which was replaced in 1876 with a five-story, stone structure after a fire destroyed the original facility in 1874. By 1879, the settlement had a population of 150 and was served by a three general stores, a pair of hotels, saloons and shoemakers. Other businesses included Thien's flour mill, an agricultural implement maker, brewer, harnessmaker, physician, blacksmith, tinsmith, as well as a lumber yard.<sup>6</sup>

At the turn of the century, Thiensville remained a tight-knit cluster of residences and businesses located near the Milwaukee River. During this period, the community's population hovered between 250 and 300 people and the economy had diversified since the 1870s. In addition to the previously mentioned enterprises, Thiensville had become home to several meat markets, carpentry shops and wagonmakers. A barber, real estate agent and undertaker had also opened up business. And finally, local farmers benefitted from the opening of a grain elevator. In 1907, The Milwaukee Northern Railway completed an electric interurban line from Milwaukee to Port Washington through Thiensville. This would later become a line within The Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light Company system. The initial stages of suburbanization were the result as Milwaukee commuters began to take up residence in Thiensville, as well as the surrounding Town of Mequon. However, in the early days of the interurban, the line brought many weekend vacationers from Milwaukee to Thiensville to enjoy recreational activities offered by the Milwaukee River and surrounding tracts of woods. Many of these vacationers stayed at Thiensville's local hotels or constructed summer cottages.<sup>7</sup>

By 1910, the local economy had evolved to a point that a bank was needed. As a result, John F. Nieman, Otto Bublitz and D.M. Rosenheimer founded the Thiensville State Bank, which soon after opening had deposits in excess of \$12,000. Other businesses in the community reflected the village's role as a thriving agricultural support center and included five saloons, four hotels, blacksmiths and general stores, three agricultural implement dealers, meat markets and carpenters, as well as a pair of harness makers and physicians. Thiensville also enjoyed the services of the

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<sup>5</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 14, 16-18, 54.

<sup>6</sup>*History of the Town of Mequon*, 23; *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1879* (Milwaukee: William Hogg, 1879), 485.

<sup>7</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 4-9, 36, 134; *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1895-1896], 1023; [1903-1904], 1150; Joseph M. Canfield, *TM: The Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light Company* (Chicago: Gregg-Moore Lithographic Company, 1972), 294-300.

Thiensville Flour Mill, a lumberyard, shoemaker, hardware store, wagonmaker and barber.<sup>8</sup>

On 23 July 1910, five local citizens--Reinhold Gerlach, Louis Kieker, Otto Bublitz, P.J. Kroehnke and John E. Mueller--filed a petition for incorporating Thiensville as a village. The proposed incorporation boundary included 599 acres and 289 people. On 11 October 1910, the election was held at Holnagel's Hall and the residents voted 48 to 28 in favor of incorporation. The election of officials occurred on 29 November and John F. Gierach was elected as the village's first president. In 1913, the Thiensville Fire Department donated \$1,000 and a plot of land at the corner of Green Bay Road and Main Street for the construction of a village hall and fire building. In 1920, Thiensville's population was recorded at 334.<sup>9</sup>

After World War I, the village experience one of its fastest periods of growth by growing nearly 35 percent in a seven-year period. In 1927, Thiensville's population numbered 405. The community's business climate had changed somewhat with the addition of an automobile garage, concrete company and ice cream parlor. Also, due to Prohibition, two soft drink merchants replaced the several saloons that had once operated. Other significant events in Thiensville during the 1920s were the creation of its first park when the Thiensville Athletic Association purchased a fourteen-acre tract adjacent to the Milwaukee River. The park was the site of many civic events and has undergone significant improvements over the years. The other major occurrence was the emergence of the village's largest industry--the Gilbert Shoe Company--which operated out of the former Van Buren School building. The structure was first owned by the Allen-Spiegel Shoe Company of Belgium, Wisconsin; however, in 1926, A.P. Gilbert purchased the building. The firm employed two-hundred people throughout much of its history and operated until 1978.<sup>10</sup>

After World War II, suburbanization of Thiensville escalated rapidly after the village installed sanitary sewer lines and a sewage treatment plant in 1946. The immediate result was the platting of the Riverview Drive, Highland Home and Park Crest subdivisions in 1946. Two years later, the Alta Loma subdivision and the Village Heights development were created. These were joined by the Rio Vista tract in 1952 and Bel Aire Heights and Century Estates two years later. Another major development known as Laurel Acres was platted in 1955. Also during this time, the surrounding Town of Mequon experienced tremendous suburbanization and incorporated as a city in 1957, an action that permanently fixed Thiensville's municipal boundaries. As a result of suburbanization, Thiensville gradually lost many of its farm-related businesses. In fact, the historic flour mill complex was torn down in 1956. In 1970, the village's population had reached 3,182, while the City of Mequon numbered over 12,000. In order to meet the demands of this growing population, many

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<sup>8</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 82; *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1909-1910], 1237.

<sup>9</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 72-74; *State of Wisconsin Bluebook, 1929* (Madison, WI: State of Wisconsin, 1929), 634.

<sup>10</sup>*Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1927-1928], 982; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 100-06.

municipal services were initiated or expanded and a new village hall was constructed in 1974. During this entire period, Thiensville has evolved from a quiet village focused on supporting local agriculture to a thriving, rapidly growing suburban community.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>11</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 22, 77-81; *State of Wisconsin Bluebook, 1971* (Madison, WI: State of Wisconsin, 1971), 218.

## CHAPTER 3

### Notable Persons

Every farmer and merchant who lived in the Thiensville area over the years played a role in its development. Yet there were several people who, by virtue of their longevity or activity in the community, made particularly significant or interesting contributions. Over the years, they provided the vision and leadership to guide Thiensville from the nineteenth and into the twentieth century.

#### **John Bublitz (1851-1932):**

Born in 1851, John Bublitz was the son of Carl and Louise (Voelz) Bublitz. In 1875, John married Juliana Bruss and together they had seven children. Juliana died in 1899 and later that same year he remarried to Clara Mueller. John first worked at the family-owned, steam-powered sawmill (located on Highland Road, just west of Green Bay Road), as well ran a farm where he bred fine cattle. In 1896, he constructed a general store at **121-123 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/13<sup>12</sup>) and operated it with his son Otto; it was known as John Bublitz & Son. In circa 1910, John retired and Oscar joined the business which was then known as Bublitz Bros., General Merchants.<sup>13</sup>

#### **Oscar Bublitz (1882-1956):**

Oscar was born in 1882, the son of John and Juliana (Bruss) Bublitz. Initially, Oscar worked in the family's general store at **121-123 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/13); however, he went on to attend Concordia College and then worked at Steinmeyer's, a large dry goods store in Milwaukee. After his father John retired in circa 1910, Oscar joined Otto in the grocery business and it was renamed Bublitz Bros., General Merchants. In 1913, Oscar married Jeanette Koenig. Three years later, Oscar purchased brother Otto's interest in the store and built the new grocery store structure at **101 N. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/11) in 1920. At one point, Oscar held the position of Village Treasurer. He retired in 1955 and died the following year.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>12</sup>The photo code number that is listed after each address refers to the roll number and frame number of the photograph taken for each of the surveyed properties. In most cases the photo code and the map code are the same; however, in cases where there is more than one photo per property, the map code is generally the lowest number of the photo codes; however, please check Appendix A, the Survey Inventory, for the correct map code number.

<sup>13</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 4-5; *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1909-1910], 1237; [1919-1920], 1182; Bublitz Family, Genealogical and biographical information, In possession of Dawn Holyoke, great-granddaughter of Otto Bublitz, Thiensville, WI.

<sup>14</sup>Change of Ownership Notice, Thiensville Memorabilia Book, Located in the Mequon Historical Society, Mequon, WI; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 4-5.

**Otto Bublitz (1876-1958):**

Otto was the eldest of seven children born to John and Juliana (Bruss) Bublitz. Otto reportedly left the family farm at the age of seventeen and went to work at Thiermann's Store (formerly Zimmermann's) at **146 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/20). In addition to helping keep the store, Otto cared for the Thiermann's stock. With board, he earned \$96.00/year for his duties. After attending Milwaukee Business College, Otto came back to Thiensville and in 1896 went into the grocery business with his father at **121-123 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/13), which was known as John Bublitz & Son. In 1900, Otto married Helen (Ella) Kieker and together they had two children, Roy and Mabel. After Helen died, he married Ida Fishback. In 1907, Otto purchased the Queen Anne style residence at **116-122 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/11) from August & Minnie Maas, the house of which remained in the Bublitz family until 1989. Otto was one of the three men that were instrumental in the 1910 establishment of the Thiensville State Bank at **136 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/21) and he was on the board of directors for forty-six years. Also in 1910, he was one of five men to petition for the incorporation of the Village of Thiensville and he was the census enumerator that year. In 1913, Otto built the commercial structure at **106-108 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/14) as an investment property; he retained ownership of the building until circa 1955. In 1916, Otto sold his interest in the firm of Bublitz Bros., General Merchants, to his brother Oscar. Otto then worked as a car salesman during World War II and later as a machine operator at the Nieman Canning Company. He was also involved in real estate and was one of the investors of the Thiensville Realty Company. The business purchased the Ellenbecker, Alten and Kopp farms (from Mequon Road north to approximately Buntrock Avenue) and either sold off the empty parcels or built homes themselves and then subsequently sold the land. At one point, Otto also served as the Supervisor of the Village Board, as well as the treasurer of the School Board.<sup>15</sup>

**Walter Bublitz (1889 -1943):**

Born in 1889, Walter was the youngest of seven children born to John and Juliana (Bruss) Bublitz. He attended grade school in Thiensville and high school in Cedarburg. After attending Marquette's School of Engineering, and becoming a licensed electrical engineer, Walter worked for the Filter Manufacturing plant in Milwaukee. While laid off from the job, he learned the barber trade. He then bought into the furniture and undertaking business which was run by L.F. Bartelt & Walter Kirmsse and operated out of his brother Otto's investment property at **106-108 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/14). He then learned the furniture business and became a licensed embalmer and funeral director. In 1920, Walter erected the Craftsman-influenced home at **127 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/12); however, he and his wife Josephine (Steffen) and daughter Ruth lived there for just three years and then moved into the living quarters above the funeral home. In January 1928, Bartelt joined Schmidt in the funeral business in Milwaukee and the firm name was changed to Walter A. Bublitz Inc. In

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<sup>15</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 4-5, 72, 82; Bublitz family, genealogical and biographical information.

1940, Walter built the house at **218 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 80/19); he died in 1943.<sup>16</sup>

**William Carbys (1826-1891):**

Born in Cologne, Germany, William Carbys settled in Thiensville in 1856 and was instrumental in the village's early educational and cultural development. He organized a singing society and drama club within few years of his arrival, both of which staged many performances within the community. He also served on the local board of education for twenty-five years. Carbys operated a wine and spirit shop in Thiensville between at least 1876 and 1884. He also was elected to a term in the Wisconsin State Assembly in 1876. Carbys served as the local postmaster in 1878 to 1885 and from 1889 until his death in 1891. Carbys home was located at 200 Green Bay Road. It was razed in 1962 to make way for the Thiensville State Bank building.<sup>17</sup>

**Dr. A. H. C. Carthaus (Unknown-1961):**

For at least a time, Dr. Carthaus had his office in the Thiensville State Bank at **118 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/8) and was associated with Dr. Marshall B. Kaller. Dr. Carthaus lived at **101 Ellenbecker Road** (Photo Code 82/2) until his death in 1961. In addition to his medical duties, Dr. Carthaus also served as a director of the Thiensville State Bank since 1916 and held the position of vice president of the institution for six years until becoming the president in 1944 (a position he held until his death). Dr. Carthaus was also elected village president in 1935.<sup>18</sup>

**John F. Gierach (1864-1942):**

John F. Gierach was the youngest son of Georg and Charlotte Gierach, and, at the age of sixteen, began an apprenticeship with master blacksmith August Bohrtz in Cedarburg. In 1889, Gierach purchased a small home and an existing smithy business in Thiensville. That same year, John married Augusta Krueger; together they had five children. In 1895, Gierach built his home at **153-155 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/18), just south of his blacksmith shop. Between 1910 and 1913, the blacksmith shop was rebuilt/remodeled to its current appearance for use as a grocery store, which is located at **157 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 76/4) Gierach served as the first president

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<sup>16</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 4-5; Newsbrief (re: firm name change) *Cedarburg News*, 18 January 1928; Bublitz family, genealogical and biographical information; Abstract of title for 127 S. Main Street, In possession of current owner Madaline Reddy, Thiensville, WI.

<sup>17</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 40; Don O. Miller, "Postal History & Memorabilia: Thiensville-Mequon, 1837-1983," Scrapbook located at the Mequon Historical Society, Mequon, WI; *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1876-1877], 412; [1884-1885], 729.

<sup>18</sup>Announcement, re: Dr. Kaller and Dr. A.H.C. Carthaus (undated), located in the Thiensville Memorabilia Album, Mequon Historical Society, Mequon, WI; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 75, 84; Jerry Egelhoff, Longtime resident and businessman in Thiensville, Conversation with Traci E. Schnell, 17 May 2003.



of Thiensville after the Village was incorporated in 1910. He died on 20 December 1942.<sup>19</sup>

**A.P. Gilbert (Dates Unknown):**

In 1926, A.P. Gilbert and his wife Rose began the Gilbert Shoe Company, which was Thiensville's largest industry for over fifty years. Operating in the former Van Buren School located at **228 Elm Street** (Photo Codes 77/3, 77/4, 79/22), the Gilbert Shoe Company manufactured children's shoes under the brand name Kali-Sten-Iks. Gilbert sold the business to Robert W. Kasten, Sr., in 1966 and later moved to Florida. While living in Thiensville, Gilbert first erected a "beauty bungalow" near the corner of **STH 57 & CTH M** (now Freistadt Road/no longer extant). However, within just ten years, likely due to the prosperity of the shoe company, Gilbert erected the estate-like, Neoclassical Revival style home at **503 Bel Aire Court** (Photo Codes 79/9, 79/10). After a short time, the Gilberts moved to a home near the Ozaukee Country Club and then moved again to a brick home on Green Bay Road, just south of Mequon Road.<sup>20</sup>

**Otto Hadler (1867-1940):**

Born in the Town of Mequon (within the present-day Village of Thiensville) in 1867, Otto Hadler reportedly learned the harness trade from Thiensville resident Mr. Geidel. In 1893, he purchased both the home and harness shop of Ernst Geidel at **171-175 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 78/23, 78/24). A historic photograph notes that this structure featured a parapet front and was sheathed with shiplap siding. In 1915, the *Cedarburg News* reported that Otto purchased a five-passenger Overland touring car and he also accepted the Overland agency. Interestingly, while the popularity of the automobile reduced the market for horse-related businesses in Thiensville, Hadler's harness operation thrived for many years. In fact, in 1929, he built a new building which housed both his harness business, as well as his son's printing business at the location of his previous harness shop--**177 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 78/21, 83/22). His son Bernard took over the business upon Otto's death in 1940. The home located just north of the former harness and printing shop at **183-185 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/11) was also a Hadler family residence.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>19</sup>Harold Schnell, Owner of 153-155 Green Bay Road, Correspondence to Traci E. Schnell dated 7 January 2003, Letter on file at Heritage Research, Ltd., Menomonee Falls, WI; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 6, 7 (historic photo); *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1909-1910], 1237; Sanborn Map Company, *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps--Thiensville, Wis.* (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1913).

<sup>20</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 104-05; "Kasten's Shoe Firm Closes its Doors, Unnamed newspaper dated 22 July 1978 and located in Mequon-Thiensville Files, Ozaukee County Historical Society; Thiensville newsbrief (Re: Gilbert buys Boesch property), *Cedarburg News*, 29 June 1927; Thiensville newsbrief (Re: Gilbert residence completed), *Cedarburg News*, 5 October 1927; Tax rolls, Village of Thiensville, 1911-1965, Located at the Ozaukee County Courthouse, Port Washington, WI; Egelhoff, Conversation with Schnell; Mrs. Gertrude Giesfeldt, Longtime Thiensville resident and granddaughter of Frederick Memmler, Conversation with Traci E. Schnell, 20 May 2003.

<sup>21</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 6, 7 (historic photo); Tax rolls, Town of Mequon, 1849-1910, Located at the Mequon Historical Society, Mequon, WI; John Sitkiewitz, "History of Thiensville," Unpublished manuscript located at the Mequon Historical Society, Mequon, WI. The Sitkiewitz and Mohr accounts of Hadlers training and the location

**Louis G. Kieker, Jr. (1880-1941):**

Louis G. Jr. was the son of Louis and Caroline (Stellwegen) Kieker, who operated a farm in Mequon. In 1897, the elder Kieker sold the farm and purchased the Thiensville Hotel at **109 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 76/9). The senior Kieker passed away in 1904. His youngest son Louis was born in 1880 and graduated from the State Teachers College in Oshkosh in 1898. Shortly after marrying Amanda Jaeger in 1908, he is believed to have built the home at **117-119 Kieker Road** (Photo Code 82/1). In addition to being one of the five residents to petition for Thiensville's incorporation as a village, Kieker was an original board member of the Thiensville State Bank, he served as the village postmaster from 1914-1918 and was involved in the Thiensville Realty Co. Between 1921 and 1924, Kieker purchased the Thiensville Hotel from William Selle, moved into the tavern building and operated it until his death in 1941. Kieker's political activities include service as the Town of Mequon Board Chairman, an Ozaukee County Supervisor, clerk of the Thiensville School Board, as well as being elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly in 1929, where he served until 1931.<sup>22</sup>

**Peter J. Kroehnke (1844-1914):**

Peter J. Kroehnke was born in Holstein, Germany, in 1844 and immigrated to the United States in 1864 where he settled in New Holstein, Wisconsin. He then operated a mercantile business and cheese factory in Gravesville, Wisconsin, before purchasing the Thiensville Mill (original mill building no longer extant) at **122 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 75/2, 77/23, 77/24) from Henry John Thien in 1895 and operated it until 1912. He specialized in milling a high-grade rye flour that was extremely popular in Milwaukee. He also served as the village postmaster from 1900 to 1914. Originally located at 118 Green Bay Road (where the 1930 Thiensville State Bank now stands), Kroehnke's home, which was built in 1897, was moved to its current location at **106-108 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 75/4, 75/5) in 1929.<sup>23</sup>

**Frederich G. Memmler (Dates Unknown):**

Fred Memmler and his family moved to Thiensville from Cedarburg in 1879 after running the

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of the Geidel shop differ. However, the 1892 plat map indicates that Geidel did indeed own a parcel of land on the west side of Green Bay Road and that a harness shop was located there as well. Tax records also confirm the Geidel property ownership. Tax rolls, Town of Mequon, 1889-1910; Giesfeldt, Conversation with Schnell.

<sup>22</sup>Obituary for Louis C. Kieker, *Cedarburg News*, 7 December 1904, Located in Names Files, Ozaukee County Historical Society; *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1901-1902], 1060; [1909-1910], 1237; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 72, 141; Grand Opening Announcement for Jack Kurtz's Tavern, 31 July 1941, Clipping Located in Thiensville Memorabilia Book; John G. Gregory, *Southeastern Wisconsin: A History of Old Milwaukee County* 4 vols. (Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1932), Vol. 3, 83.

<sup>23</sup>*History of Northern Wisconsin* (Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1881), 184; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 18-20.

Thiensville mill at **122 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 75/2, 77/23, 77/24) with Henry Thien since circa 1863. Memmler divested himself of his mill interest in 1886 and he and his wife Maria--who was known for her exemplary cooking--went into the hotel business. Formerly located along the west side of Green Bay Road just north of the Thiensville Hotel, the first portion of the three-story Memmler Hotel was built in 1886 and incorporated an existing residence. A dining room was added between 1892 and 1893, as well as a ladies' sitting room and twenty-five sleeping rooms. In 1911, the hotel was sold to Gerhard Aussem; the structure was razed in 1963.<sup>24</sup>

**Henry Mohrhusen, Sr. (Dates Unknown):**

Henry Mohrhusen, Sr. purchased the first Thiensville Fireman's Hall in 1895 and converted it into a saloon and residence. After he retired from the saloon business in 1910, Mohrhusen constructed a home located at **120 Riverview Drive** (Photo Codes 78/16, 78/17). His son Henry, Jr. was a barber and employee of the Milwaukee Northern Railroad (interurban).<sup>25</sup>

**Henry John Thien (1839-Unknown):**

Son of John Henry Thien, Henry John Thien took over the Thiensville Mill after the death of his father in 1863. After a fire destroyed the original facility, he constructed a larger mill structure in 1876 that was a village landmark until it was razed in 1956. An ancillary mill structure--reportedly a stable--which was built in 1867 remains located at **130 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/24). It is believed that a portion of the original mill's foundation is also still intact at **122 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/2). As well, the original millrace still runs beneath 122 Green Bay Road (Photo Code 75/23). Thien sold the mill to Peter Kroehnke in 1895. A photograph in the Mequon Historical Society collection notes the home at **219 Elm Street** (Photo Code 83/24) as the Thien and, later the Thiermann cottage.<sup>26</sup>

**John Henry Thien (Unknown-1863):**

Considered to be the founder of Thiensville, John Henry Thien was a German immigrant who in 1842 purchased the land of John Weston, who was one of the area's first settlers. After constructing a home at **219 Elm Street** (Photo Code 83/24) in circa 1842, Thien soon constructed a large mill on the Milwaukee River that served the area's growing number of wheat farmers (located at 122 Green Bay Road--the foundation of which still remains). Thien's mill attracted other businesses and the Thiensville settlement emerged. In addition to operating the mill, Thien organized a volunteer fire

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<sup>24</sup>Ibid., 18, 35-39; The hotel was noted as "nearly done" in a newsbrief in the 31 May 1893 edition of the *Cedarburg News*.

<sup>25</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 24; *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1907-1908], 1250; Obituary for Henry Mohrhusen, Jr., *Cedarburg News*, 18 November 1914.

<sup>26</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 18-19; Thiensville Photo Album.

department that operated out of Fireman's Hall located at 162 Green Bay Road (no longer extant) until it moved into the 1914 Fire Station & Village Hall located at 101 Green Bay Road. Thien was also extremely active in the local affairs of Thiensville and either organized or participated in many of its early social and cultural organizations.<sup>27</sup>

**Edwin Wiese (1892-1938):**

Edwin Wiese was born in Fredonia, Wisconsin, on 28 April 1892. After attending primary school in Fredonia, he spent one year at the Cedarburg High School. At the age of seventeen, he accepted a position with the Random Lake State Bank and, in 1914, he became the cashier at the Thiensville State Bank located at **136 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/21). At the time of his death, he was the vice president of the bank. Wiese was also a director of the Ozaukee Finance Company, as well as the Gilbert Shoe Company. He served as the first president of the local rotary club and the treasurer of the local Red Cross chapter. Wiese also did much to improve the Thiensville school system, for which he was the treasurer. In 1914, Wiese married Elsie Klug of Random Lake and in 1918, they built the house at **103 Ellenbecker Road** (Photo Code 80/22), in which they raised three children.<sup>28</sup>

**Adolph Zimmermann (1814-1891):**

Born in Saxony in 1814, Adolph Zimmermann arrived in the Thiensville in 1839 and was among the first German immigrants to settle in what was then Washington County. In 1857, Zimmermann along with William Opitz founded the Mequon Brewery. Zimmermann operated the brewery until leasing it to Francis and August Gerlach in 1876. Active in politics, Zimmermann served a total of twelve years as the Thiensville postmaster and served seventeen years as chairman of the Town of Mequon Board, as well as sitting on the Ozaukee County Board for nine years. Besides being a Justice of the Peace for thirty years, Zimmermann was also elected to the Wisconsin State Legislature four times (1853, 1870, 1873, 1874).<sup>29</sup>

**William Zimmermann (1823-1878):**

Born in Germany in 1823, William Zimmermann immigrated to the United States in 1846 and settled in Thiensville. In circa 1860, he constructed a residence and the village's first general store, which is located at **146 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/20). He also served as postmaster from 1861-

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<sup>27</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 14-15, 18.

<sup>28</sup>Edwin Wiese, Obituary, *Cedarburg News*, 21 September 1938; Gregory, *Southeastern Wisconsin*, Vol. 3, 195-96.

<sup>29</sup>"Death of Hon. A. Zimmermann," *Cedarburg News*, 22 July 1891; *History of Washington and Ozaukee Counties, Wisconsin* (Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1881), 756-57.

1867 and from 1869-1878, with the post office located in his store during his tenure.<sup>30</sup>

**Associated Resources:**

The following extant resources identified as a result of the current survey are associated with Thiensville's list of notable persons:

<b><u>Property (Historic/current name)</u></b>	<b><u>Address/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>
A.P. Gilbert Residence	503 Bel Aire Court	79/9, 79/10
Dr. A.H.C. Carthaus Residence and Office	101 Ellenbecker Road	82/2
Edwin Wiese Residence	103 Ellenbecker Road	80/22
Thien/Thiermann Cottage	219 Elm Street	83/24
Van Buren School/Gilbert Shoe Co.	228 Elm Street	77/3, 77/4, 79/22
Peter J. Kroehnke Residence	106-108 Green Bay Road	75/4, 75/5
Thiensville Hotel	109 Green Bay Road	76/9
Dr. A. H. C. Carthaus Office	118 Green Bay Road	75/8
Thiensville Mill (foundation and millrace)	122 Green Bay Road	75/2, 77/23
Thiensville Mill stable building	130 Green Bay Road	77/24
John F. Gierach Residence	153-155 Green Bay Road	77/18
John F. Gierach Blacksmith/Grocery Store	157 Green Bay Road	76/4
Geidel/Hadler Residence	171-175 Green Bay Road	78/23, 78/24
Otto Hadler Harness & Printing Shop	177 Green Bay Road	78/21, 83/22
Louis Kieker Jr. Residence	117-119 Kieker Road	82/1
Oscar Bublitz General Merchandise	101 N. Main Street	76/11
Otto Bublitz Investment Property	106-108 S. Main Street	75/14, 75/15
Maas-Bublitz Residence	116-122 S. Main Street	75/11
John Bublitz & Sons General Store	121-123 S. Main Street	76/13
Walter Bublitz Residence	127 S. Main Street	76/12
Henry Mohrhusen, Sr., Residence	120 Riverview Drive	78/16, 78/17
Walter Bublitz Residence	218 Riverview Drive	80/19

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<sup>30</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 27-29, 34.

## CHAPTER 4

### Agriculture

Ozaukee County in general and the Town of Mequon in particular share an agricultural heritage similar to that of all of southeastern Wisconsin. The primary focus of the region's first settlers was agriculture. As previously mentioned, development within the county was rapid and, by 1850, the area (which was part of Washington County until 1853) boasted 4.1 percent (42,963 acres) of Wisconsin's cultivated farmland. That amount grew quickly and, by 1870, the county reached an agricultural highpoint with 1,921 farms occupying over 133,294 acres. While the number of farms declined slightly, farm acreage continued to increase, reaching a peak of 141,233 in 1890, before dropping to 138,993 acres and 1,479 farms by 1945. [Note that the total acreage of Ozaukee County is 148,480.]<sup>31</sup>

Wheat was the first major cash crop in the rich agricultural region of southern Ozaukee County. In 1850, Washington County had 123,806 acres devoted to wheat production. As an independent county in 1870, Ozaukee County farmers grew 22,610 acres. But the area's wheat boom declined as rapidly as it developed; the number of acres planted in wheat dropped to 11,987 by 1890, and continued to fall to 710 in 1910.<sup>32</sup>

As wheat production declined, the area's farmers shifted their focus to raising livestock and dairy farming. Pigs and hogs were among the first forms of livestock to be raised in the region. There were 5,820 swine present in 1870, a number that jumped to 10,113 by 1910 before falling slightly to 9,840 by 1945. Sheep were raised in the mid-nineteenth century within the county. From 5,482 in 1850, the number of sheep declined significantly to 1,205 in 1910. Cattle also proliferated in the county. There were 9,320 head of cattle present in 1870, a number that steadily increased to 19,214 in 1890, 26,285 in 1910, and 30,373 in 1945. According to state business gazetteers, farmers in the Thiensville area usually possessed cattle from the Holstein breeds.<sup>33</sup>

The growing number of livestock found in Ozaukee County and the Town of Mequon required that feed crops be raised, of which corn, oats and hay were most important. Corn acreage, which was only 853 in 1870, but grew to 3,226 in 1890 and to 17,023 by 1945. Similarly, oat acreage expanded from 7,448 in 1870 to 14,384 in 1890 and to 27,967 in 1945. Hay acreage also grew consistently

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<sup>31</sup>United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of the Census (USDI/BC), *An Appendix to the Seventh Census of the United States, 1850* (Washington, D.C.: Robert Armstrong, Public Printer, 1853); *A Century of Wisconsin Agriculture, 1848-1948* (Madison, WI: Wisconsin Crop & Livestock Service, 1948), 87.

<sup>32</sup>*A Century of Wisconsin Agriculture*, 90.

<sup>33</sup>*Ibid.*, 104-05; *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1927-1928], 982.

throughout the period. It rose from 9,625 in 1870 to 24,544 in 1890 and to 30,104 in 1945.<sup>34</sup>

The evolving emphasis on dairy production in Ozaukee County was evident by 1885, when factories were collectively producing over 597,087 pounds of butter, a number that increased significantly and reached 815,184 in 1895 before falling to 520,633 in 1940. Cheese production included 1,044,867 pounds in 1885. It increased even more dramatically, and reached 4,283,491 pounds in 1925 before slipping to 3,584,700 in 1947. As a result of post-World War II suburbanization, formerly rural tracts have been annexed by the Village of Thiensville and, as a result, the only example of a nineteenth century farmhouse with an extant barn exists at **623-625 N. Main Street** (Photo Codes 82/13, 82/14).<sup>35</sup>

Naturally, these early farms required mills, creameries and cheese factories in order to process their crop and animal products. Since wheat was the first major crop grown in the area, flour mills were the first processing facilities developed. The first flour mill in Thiensville was built by John Henry Thien in 1842 and it served as a catalyst for area settlement. It was replaced in 1876 when the original structure burned down; however, an ancillary mill building/stable remains intact at **130 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/24). The original foundation and the millrace also remain at **122 Green Bay Road** (Photos 75/2, 77/23). By 1884, August Kaul operated a cheese factory in Thiensville. However, business directories indicated that by 1895, Louis Wagner ran a cheese and pickle factory out of his general store until at least 1903. Other agriculturally related businesses in Thiensville included an agricultural implements store run by the Flynn family from at least 1879 to 1909 and by A. Raloff, Jr. from 1911 to at least 1921 (the latter of which was located at the southeast corner of Green Bay Road and Riverview Drive); Nic Wilson's grain elevator which was built in 1894; the Thiensville Creamery Company of the 1910s and 1920s and the Luick Ice Cream Company, which processed 37,800 pounds of milk a day during the 1910s and 1920s.<sup>36</sup>

### **Associated Resources:**

The following extant resources identified as a result of the current survey are associated with Thiensville's agricultural history:

<b><u>Property (Historic/current name)</u></b>	<b><u>Address/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>
Smokehouse	514-516 E. Freistadt Road	83/6
Thiensville Mill (foundation and millrace)	122 Green Bay Road	75/2, 77/23
Thiensville Mill stable building	130 Green Bay Road	77/24

<sup>34</sup>*A Century of Wisconsin Agriculture*, 89, 91.

<sup>35</sup>*Ibid.*, 110-11.

<sup>36</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 9 (historic photo of A. Raloff Implements), 16-17; *Wisconsin State Gazetteer & Business Directory* [1884-1885], 749; [1895-1896], 1022-23; [1901-1902], 1060; [1903-1904], 1150; [1907-1908], 1249-50; [1924-1925], 1273; Photo #1019, Photo Album #1; Luick Ice Cream Company Advertisement, Thiensville Memorabilia Album; Newsbrief, *Cedarburg News*, 19 September 1894.

Farmhouse and Barn  
Smokehouse

621-625 N. Main Street  
192 S. Main Street

82/13, 82/14  
84/8



## CHAPTER 5

### Government & Politics

The historic evolution of Thiensville has been directly impacted by two governmental entities: the post office and the village itself.

Postal service existed in the Thiensville area as early as 1840 when John Weston operated a post office out of his cabin. It was named Mequon River, a name it retained into the 1880s before the name was changed to Thiensville. As the Thiensville settlement evolved in the nineteenth century it had a number of postmasters who operated post offices in a variety of places. Generally, the postmaster was a shop owner who conducted postal affairs in a corner of the business. Many of Thiensville's more notable citizens have served in the position. The owner of the community's first general store, William Zimmermann, served as postmaster from 1861 to 1867 and from 1869 to 1878. He operated the post office in his general store located at **146 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/20), where it remained until 1893. The post office was then moved into the old Thiensville Fireman's Hall/Mohrhusen's Saloon (circa 1893 until 1901), after which it returned to the Zimmermann general store, which was then owned by Thiermanns. Thereafter the post office occupied the commercial building at **140 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/18) during the 1910s and what was originally known as the John Bublitz & Sons Grocery Store (then known as Mollier's Grocery Store) until 1922 at **121-123 S. Main Street** (Photo code 76/13). In 1933, the post office located at 102 N. Main Street caught on fire and the postmaster John M. Albers was killed. The facility was then opened at **161 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 83/23), where it remained until it was moved to the former Hein's billiard hall at **159-163 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/16) in 1950. The area's increasing population placed a tremendous demand on this facility and, as a result, the U.S. Postal Service constructed a post office building at **170 Green Bay Avenue** (Photo Code 77/14) in 1960. In 1975, a new post office was built at 124 W. Freistadt Road.<sup>37</sup>

Regarding the development of local government, Thiensville was incorporated as a village in 1910. Prior to that time, the settlement operated under the Town of Mequon's jurisdiction, which held many of its meetings at the Van Buren School located at **228 Elm Street** (Photo Codes 77/3). The first officers of the village included John F. Gierach, Village President and August Thiermann, Village Clerk. The first village board members consisted of Reinhold Gerlach, Albert Heidel, Andrew Hilger, Frank Seifert, Louis A. Staudy and Leo Wilson. Meetings were held at Holnagel's Hall until the volunteer fire department donated \$1,000 and a plot of land at **101 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/13) for the construction of a village hall and fire station building in 1913. Completed in 1914, the building was designed by Milwaukee architect Byron S. Scheiderer and cost

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<sup>37</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 2; Newsbrief (re: post office move), *Cedarburg News*, 26 December 1900 and 9 January 1901; Miller, "Postal History & Memorabilia;" "Welcome Dedication and Open House Thiensville-Mequon Post Office," Brochure dated 9 October 1960 located in Mequon-Thiensville Files, Ozaukee County Historical Society.

\$4,400. One of the first efforts by the village government was improving its streets. A road grader was among the village's first purchases and the village paid local men twenty cents an hour for working on local road improvements. The village initiated the installation of concrete curbing in 1913. Public safety was also a priority in Thiensville in that as early as 1914, the village authorized a Village Marshall to ensure ordinances were followed. In 1934, the village accepted a donation from the Thiensville Athletic Association of an athletic field by the Milwaukee River that became the Village Park. The role of the village government grew significantly after World War II due to increased suburbanization. In 1946, construction began on a storm sewer system and sewage treatment plant, which was constructed by the J.N. Toeller & Sons Company. These improvements served as a catalyst for the development of a number of subdivisions over the next decade until the Town of Mequon incorporated as a city in 1957. The growing population required an upgrade in services and a formal police department was created in 1965. Its offices were located in the combined fire station/village hall, which by that time it was becoming apparent that the building could no longer support the village government. In 1974, a new facility designed by Schuett Erdmann Associates--Architects III was constructed at 250 Elm Street.<sup>38</sup>

Not all civic activities in Thiensville were sponsored by governmental entities. During the nineteenth century, other civil activities within Thiensville were conducted on an informal or volunteer basis. The earliest institution was the organization of the volunteer Thiensville Fire Engine Company by John Henry Thien in 1857. The company bought its first piece of equipment, a horse-drawn handpumper, three years later. The first fire hall was located at 162 Green Bay Road (no longer extant). The fire department joined with the village to construct the combined fire station-village hall at **101 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/13); however, the department was not part of the village government until 1933.<sup>39</sup>

A second significant volunteer organization was the establishment of the Mequon-Thiensville Library, which began in 1953 with a private donation of 650 books. These books were organized by various community groups, who also petitioned the Town of Mequon and Village of Thiensville for the creation of a joint library. Completely staffed by volunteers, a library was opened in a portion of **184-188 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/21) under the sponsorship of the Mequon-Thiensville Library Association. The library eventually expanded to occupy the entire building. In 1969, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Weyenberg donated money to construct a new library building located in Mequon, just south of the Thiensville village limits. The 15,000 square foot facility was designed by the firm Kloppenberg & Kloppenberg and was completed in 1971.<sup>40</sup>

Other major services in Thiensville have been provided by private companies. The first telephone in the village existed in the home of Dr. Henry Albers. The first switchboard was located in the old

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<sup>38</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 24-25, 72-79, 119.

<sup>39</sup>*Ibid.*, 54-55.

<sup>40</sup>*Ibid.*, 107-11.

Fireman's Hall, which by that time operated as Mohrhusen's Saloon. By this time the Ozaukee-Washington Telephone Company had organized to provide local service. By circa 1908, the company's Thiensville switchboard was in the John F. Gierach home located at **153-155 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/18), where it remained until the local system was converted to dial in 1941.<sup>41</sup>

**Associated Resources:**

The following extant resources identified as a result of the current survey are associated with Thiensville's governmental and political history:

<b><u>Property (Historic/current name)</u></b>	<b><u>Address/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>
Van Buren School/Gilbert Shoe Co.	228 Elm Street	77/3, 77/4, 79/22
Thiensville Fire Station and Village Hall	101 Green Bay Road	75/13
Thiensville Post Office (ca. 1861-1893; 1901-ca. 1913)	146 Green Bay Road	77/20
Ozaukee-Washington Telephone Company Switchboard Office	153-155 Green Bay Road	77/18
Hilger Hardware/Thiensville Post Office (ca. 1933-1950)	161 Green Bay Road	83/23
Thiensville Post Office (1960-1975)	170 Green Bay Road	77/14
Thiensville Post Office (ca. 1918-1922)	121-123 S. Main Street	76/13
Duwe Wagon Works/Store (P.O. from ca. 1914-1917)	140 S. Main Street	75/18
Hein's Billiard Hall ( P.O. from ca. 1950-1959)	159-163 S. Main Street	76/16
Mequon-Thiensville Library	184-188 S. Main Street	75/21

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<sup>41</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 69-70; Harold Schnell, Correspondence with Schnell; Melissa Phaneuf, "Landmark Reveals a Thiensville Mystery," *Cedarburg News-Graphic*, 24 May 2001.

## CHAPTER 6

### COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

From its earliest days when it consisted largely of a mill, to its smattering of stores and inclusion along the Green Bay Road and a railroad, Thiensville evolved as an agricultural support center. As it grew, Thiensville emerged as a “village.” This represents one of the four basic categories of trade centers stemming from the so-called Central Place Theory, which German geographer Walter Christaller developed during the 1930s. Briefly explained, the theory maintains that a large central place “provides the hinterland with goods and services that are of high cost whereas low cost necessities would be supplied by local markets in the hinterland.” This division in trade function reflects a hierarchy among central places, which is based upon specific business offerings in a community. There are essentially eight levels, ranging from the lowest level of “Hamlet” to the highest, referred to as “Metropolitan Wholesale Retail.” These, in turn, can be roughly correlated to the four familiar locality classifications of hamlet, village, town and city.<sup>42</sup>

As a village, Thiensville has historically represented the second lowest “rung” on the Central Place ladder. According to the theory, a village typically can range from 115 to 1,415 residents and offers more commercial sales and services than a hamlet. For instance, a village features at least ten retail/service establishments. Aside from including the general store, tavern and gas station common in a hamlet, a village must provide four other sales-oriented enterprises such as a car/farm implement dealership, lumber yard, hardware store or feed mill. There are at least three service-oriented businesses, ranging from a bank to a post office. Nevertheless, a village is an “incomplete trade center,” since professional services (including medical and dental) are not extensive, often limited to villages with populations over six hundred. Other structures found in a village include churches and schools, while a high school is almost standard. Rail service is likely evident. As one source concluded, a village represents a “significant center for goods and services most frequently demanded by rural people.”<sup>43</sup>

In general, Thiensville historically has met most of the above criteria of a central place village. Indeed, the village emerged around John Henry Thien’s mill and it soon became the most significant settlement in the Town of Mequon. Several other businesses to include William Zimmermann’s general store **146 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/20) emerged around the mill in the 1840s and 1850s. Thien’s mill and the other businesses served the growing number of farmers in the Town of Mequon and travelers on the Green Bay Road. Little information regarding the commercial

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<sup>42</sup>John E. Brush, “The Hierarchy of Central Places in Southwestern Wisconsin,” *Geographical Review* 43 (1953):380, 386; “Central Place Theory in Australia,” Website designated under Central Place Theory, MelbPage, ILM, accessed 2 April 1998 (includes direct quotation): Ingolf Vogeler, et. al., *Wisconsin: A Geography* (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1986), 157-59.

<sup>43</sup>Quote in Brush, “Hierarchy of Central Places, 385-86.

development of Thiensville during the 1850s and 1860s exists. However, in 1853, a state-wide depression caused by railroad speculation retarded business growth throughout the state and it most likely included Thiensville. It was not until the Civil War that significant positive growth again occurred within Wisconsin.<sup>44</sup>

In 1871, the Wisconsin Central Railway completed a line through Thiensville that connected Milwaukee with Green Bay. While never more than a small railroad stop, the completion of the railroad did spark significant commercial growth within Thiensville because it improved farmers' access to Milwaukee markets. The majority of these businesses emerged on either Green Bay Road or Main Street, which are the general locations of the **Main Street Historic District** and the **Green Bay Road Historic District** (See Appendices D and E for listings of each historic district). Meanwhile, by 1876, the community possessed at least twenty businesses. Besides the standard general stores and smithies, local citizens benefitted from two hotels, brewery, shoemaker, cooper's shop, lumber yard, as well as the services of a physician. Also in 1876, Henry John Thien rebuilt his father's mill, of which a former stable building exists at **130 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/24) since the original structure burned.<sup>45</sup>

During the 1890s, Thiensville continued to expand its role as an agricultural support center. Agriculturally oriented businesses included five blacksmith shops, a pair of farm implement dealers, two harness shops and a grain elevator. Such businesses within Thiensville included John Gierach's Blacksmith Shop/Grocery Store at **157 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 76/4), the John Bublitz & Son General Store located at **121-123 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/13), as well as four hotels, four saloons and two other general stores. Meanwhile, limited processing industries also existed in Thiensville during this period. In addition to the flour mill, which was run by Peter Kroehnke, the community profited from a pair of pickle factories, a brewery, a cheese factory, as well as a sawmill operated by John Bublitz.<sup>46</sup>

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Thiensville's commercial climate mildly benefitted from tourism and recreation along the Milwaukee River. Only a short railroad or interurban ride from Milwaukee, Thiensville was a popular location for fishing, boating and other natural pursuits. While some of the tourists had cottages on the river, others stayed at the local hotels which include the former Thiensville Hotel located at **109 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 76/9), Hollnagel's Park Hotel at **166 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 77/15, 77/17), and the Commercial House Hotel at **105 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/10). In addition, the tourists as well as the locals likely patronized the Thiensville Recreation Parlor at **128-130 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/17), as well as Hein's Billiard Hall at **159-163 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/16), the

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<sup>44</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 1-3.

<sup>45</sup>*Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1876-1877], 412.

<sup>46</sup>*Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1895-1896], 1022-23; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 4-12.

latter two of which were built in 1927.<sup>47</sup>

In order to support the local business climate, three men--Otto Bublitz, John F. Nieman and D.M. Rosenheimer--saw fit to organize a banking institution in 1910. With Nieman as president and local lumber yard owner Charles A. Maas as vice president, a new banking institution was built that year at **136 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/21). By 1929, it became apparent that the banking facility was too small and, by the following year, the Art Deco style bank building was completed at **118 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/8).

The changing technology of the twentieth century had a significant impact upon Thiensville's business community. While common businesses such as general stores, grocers and meat markets remained, the rising popularity of the automobile decreased the number of horse-related industries such as blacksmith and harness shops within the village; however, Otto Hadler maintained his harness business at **177 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 78/21, 83/22) as late as 1940. In their place emerged a number of service stations, automobile dealerships and garages. The first known garage was in operation by 1919 and was owned by T. H. Wegmann. By 1924, the Thiensville Garage at 138 S. Main Street (no longer extant) sold Mobil brand gasoline and Buick automobiles. A notable extant example of a service station from this period is the Frank Oil Company Gas Station at **185 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/19).<sup>48</sup>

Industry also continued to emerge in Thiensville in the early twentieth century. By no later than 1919, Arthur Zancig's A-Z Metal Works at **180 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/19) was manufacturing radiators and, in 1926, the village's most notable industry--the Gilbert Shoe Company--began production in the former Van Buren School located at **228 Elm Street** (Photo Codes 77/3, 77/4, 79/22). Organized by A.P. and Rose Gilbert, the Gilbert Shoe Company manufactured children's shoes under the brand name Kali-Sten-Iks, which was a name that fit Gilbert's marketing of the shoe as one that would properly develop the muscles of a child's foot. With an initial workforce of fifteen, the Gilbert Shoe Company had an daily production of 300 pair, which increased to 1,200 pair by 1929. The company remained strong during the Great Depression and provided consistent employment for 200. The company's height was during the 1950s when it made 1,800 pairs a day with a staff of 250, which resulted in the construction of multiple additions to the Thiensville facility, as well as opening a branch factory in Campbellsport. In 1966, Gilbert sold the company to Robert W. Kasten, Sr. Business slowly declined throughout the 1970s due to foreign competition. Eventually, the Campbellsport plant was closed in the early 1970s while the Thiensville factory closed in 1978.<sup>49</sup>

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<sup>47</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 136-43; Photo #424, Album #1.

<sup>48</sup>*Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1919-1920], 1182; [1927-1928], 982; Photo #463, Album #1; Photo #1245, Album #3.

<sup>49</sup>*Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1919-1920], 1182; [1921-1922], 1222; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 104-106; "Kasten's Shoe Firm Closes its Doors," Unnamed newspaper 22 July 1978, Located in Mequon-Thiensville Files, Ozaukee County Historical Society, Cedarburg, WI.

**Associated Resources:**

The following extant resources identified as a result of the current survey are associated with Thiensville's commerce and industry:

<b><u>Property (Historic/current name)</u></b>	<b><u>Address/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>
Riemer Residence/Riemer-Hatzinger Funeral Home	107 W. Buntrock Avenue	83/15
Thiensville Hotel	109 Green Bay Road	76/9
Thiensville State Bank II	118 Green Bay Road	75/8
Thiensville State Bank I	136 Green Bay Road	77/21
William Zimmerman Store	146 Green Bay Road	77/20
Gierach Blacksmith/Grocery Store	157 Green Bay Road	76/4
Andrew Hilger Hardware Store	161 Green Bay Road	83/23
Hollnagel's Park Hotel	166 Green Bay Road	77/15, 77/17
Hadler Harness & Printing shop	177 Green Bay Road	78/21, 83/22
Thiensville State Bank III	200 Green Bay Road	77/9
Oscar Bublitz General Merchandise	101 N. Main Street	76/11
Ozaukee Medical Center	407 N. Main Street	82/24
Dr. Robert Jacobs Professional Building	413 N. Main Street	82/23
Residence/Funeral home	423 N. Main Street	82/20, 84/11
Commercial House Hotel	105 S. Main Street	76/10
Otto Bublitz Investment Property/ L.F. Bartelt Furniture & Undertaking	106-108 S. Main Street	75/14, 75/15
John Bublitz & Son General Store	121-123 S. Main Street	76/13
Thiensville Recreation Parlor	128-130 S. Main Street	75/17
Thiensville Lumber Yard	133 S. Main Street	76/14, 76/15
Former wagon shop/Store/Loppnow Drug Store I	140 S. Main Street	75/18
Hein's Billiard Hall	159-163 S. Main Street	76/16
Loppnow Drug Store II	174 S. Main Street	75/20
Frank Oil Co. gas station	185 S. Main Street	76/19
Kenneth Clemence, D.D.S. Professional Building	195-199 S. Main Street	76/20

The following extant resources, identified as a result of the current survey, are associated with Thiensville's industry:

<b><u>Property (Historic/current name)</u></b>	<b><u>Address/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>
Van Buren School/Gilbert Shoe Company	228 Elm Street	77/3, 77/4, 79/22
Thiensville Mill (foundation and millrace)	122 Green Bay Road	75/2, 77/23
Thiensville Mill Stable Building	130 Green Bay Road	77/24
Gierach Blacksmith/Grocery Store	157 Green Bay Road	76/4
Hadler Harness & Printing shop	177 Green Bay Road	78/21, 83/22
A-Z Metal Works	180 S. Main Street	75/19

## CHAPTER 7

### Architecture

While Thiensville has a few architect-designed structures, most buildings were constructed by local builders and carpenters. As can be seen in the business district, most structures reflect the commercial vernacular style, which means they incorporate necessary standard features such as storefront windows, but without the characteristic detailing of a specific style. Construction materials chosen for commercial buildings were generally based on the availability of those materials, which one might have been in vogue at that time period, as well as the amount of money available to the patron. Thiensville's commercial center, which was largely built between the 1890s and the 1930s, features mostly frame buildings; however, a few substantial brick examples do exist.

By no later than 1921, the Concrete Products Company established itself along the west side of the railroad tracks--directly west of Grand Avenue in Thiensville (no longer extant). The firm appears to have been somewhat short-lived; however, it was still in business in 1929. Despite the company's existence, very few structures in Thiensville are of complete concrete block construction; however, a vast number feature concrete block foundations. The only residential example of all-concrete block construction is the 1925 Freiderich Residence located at **343 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 80/2). While the residence of Oswald Liebscher at **231 Riverview Drive** is frame, the adjacent garage (Photo Code 79/21) is rusticated concrete block construction. And finally, the one-story, 1928 wing of the Gilbert Shoe Company at **228 Elm Street** (Photo Code 77/4), as well as the free-standing building (Photo Code 79/22) to the east are also of complete concrete construction.<sup>50</sup>

#### Architectural Styles

A chronological examination of Thiensville's architecture reveals that from the 1860s through the 1960s, a number of the significant period styles are represented in the village. While some examples are pure representations of the styles, the majority are perhaps more appropriately considered *interpretations*.

##### •Greek Revival

The Greek Revival style, which was popular in the state between the 1830s and the 1870s, is typified by overall symmetry, a wide frieze, gable end returns, multiple-light fenestration and a classical porch entry that often incorporates a transom and sidelights within a wooden surround. Thiensville's only example of a Greek Revival style home is the William Pomplitz Residence located at **225 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 80/16). Cited as one of the older homes in Thiensville and likely built

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<sup>50</sup>Sanborn Map Company, *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps--Thiensville, Wis.*, 1929; *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1921-1922], 1221.



in circa 1870, the side-gabled home does feature gable end returns and sidelights flanking the doorway. However, the home has been altered by the following: the application of vinyl siding, the addition of a one-story solarium to the east, as well as the circa-1920s porch along the front.

•Queen Anne

Briefly summarized, Queen Anne architecture is a late-Victorian era building style characterized by an irregular plan, often evident through asymmetrical walls. A combination of various building materials ranging from shingles, clapboard and brick may be used on one structure, while typical details include large porches or verandas, turrets, bay windows and decorative patterns, such as fish-scale and diamond shingles. The Queen Anne style was popular in Wisconsin between 1880 and 1910. A very large and fairly intact example of the style is located at **116-122 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/11). Built in circa 1898 by August Maas and later owned by the Bublitz family, this house features original clapboard siding, decorative shinglework, cutaway corners, carved wooden brackets and a significantly large, wraparound porch with turned post supports and a spindlework frieze. This residence is included in the **Main Street Historic District** (see Appendix D for a map). A series of Queen Anne residences are also located along the 100 block of Green Bay Road--another area which is considered eligible for the National Register. They include the William Hoeft Residence (circa 1889) at **151 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 76/6), the John F. Gierach Residence (1895) at **153-155 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/18) and the Geidel-Hadler home (circa 1884) at **171-175 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 78/23, 78/24). All three of the Green Bay Road examples are more vernacular interpretations of the higher style; however, they all include original siding, decorative shinglework and spindlework porches. Another Queen Anne example is the home at **422 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 79/15, 79/16). Constructed in circa 1885, this home retains a fair amount of integrity, including original clapboard sheathing, shinglework and modest porch detail; however, a large, three-car garage is attached to the northeast corner of the house.

•Boomtown

Boomtown structures, which were built for commercial use between 1870 and the 1910s, are generally simple rectangular block, frame buildings with false fronts. If fully intact, these one- or two-story buildings are sheathed with clapboard and feature storefront windows. Thiensville has just one example of a boomtown structure--the A-Z Metal Works at **180 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/19). Historic photographs indicate that the Otto Bublitz Investment Property/L.F. Bartelt Furniture Store and Undertaking at **106-108 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/14) originally featured a boomtown front.

•Colonial Revival

Developed at the turn-of-the-twentieth century (circa 1895 to 1920), the Colonial Revival style is based on a revived interest in the past motifs of both the Georgian and Federal styles. Colonial characteristics, including large, classical porches, gables, pediments and dentils, were often incorporated into Queen Anne style houses. This brought them more "up-to-date," while still

inherently focused on the past. Indeed, other examples featured the more “formal” application of the motifs and those homes were more symmetrical in shape such as their Georgian and Federal predecessors. Although certainly more vernacular in interpretation, the Henry Mohrhusen, Sr. Residence at **120 Riverview Drive** (Photo Codes 78/16, 78/17) and the Louis Kieker, Jr. Residence at **117-119 Kieker Road** (Photo Code 82/1) are Colonial Revival in style. Each features a gambrel-shaped wall dormer on three sides, a two-story porch and original, narrow clapboard sheathing. The Mohrhusen example was built in 1908 and exhibits a Palladian window in the peak of the primary (south) facade and original, wooden-column porch supports and wooden shingles on the roof. The Kieker Road house, built in circa 1910, features shinglework in the peaks, rectilinear porch supports and dentilwork along the frieze/cornice of the porch.

Two homes along Green Bay Road exhibit well the transition from the Queen Anne to the Colonial Revival style and include the Andrew Hilger Residence at **163 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 76/2), and the Jaeger-Schaefer Residence at **165-169 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 76/1). Built between 1903 and 1904, each features elements of both the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles.

- Neoclassical

Three examples of the Neoclassical style are located in Thiensville; one in the commercial district, as well as two residential examples. This return to classicism was a result of the Chicago World’s Columbian Exposition on 1893. Elements of the style most often include a symmetrical facade, monumental columns, blind parapets and other classically derived, ornamental sculpture. The Neoclassical style was often used for public, institutional and commercial structures and most often for banking institutions. Indeed, the 1910 Thiensville State Bank located at **136 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/21) reflects the tenets of the style and features a classically designed entrance comprised of large brick piers that support a wide entablature and a projecting cornice. A large window is situated to the left of the entry and is topped with a stone lintel comprised of voussoirs. A parapet lines the top of the structure. The first of the two residential examples of the style was erected in 1937 by A.P. Gilbert at **503 BelAire Court** (Photo Code 79/9, 79/10). The Lannon stone-clad house features a large, two-story portico with six Doric column supports, as well as a classically detailed entrance and multiple-light, sash windows. Approximately two years later, Carl Blume altered his original, circa-1954 Greek Revival residence at **417 N. Main Street** (Photo Code 82/22) to a Neoclassical example by the addition of a two-story portico.

- Craftsman

In 1888, the English Arts and Crafts Exhibition Society was formed by a group of artisans and architects as a reaction against the standardization and industrialization of the products of their respective professions. The Craftsman style was a descendant of the Arts and Crafts movement and was propagated by Gustav Stickley in New York. The Craftsman style was popular from approximately the turn-of-the-century to 1920 and examples in Wisconsin resemble oversized bungalows. Primary characteristics of the style include stucco or brick surfaces, multiple-pane windows and a sunporch, with overall references of medieval flavor. Gabled dormers and decorative

brackets or rafters generally accent the roof. Thiensville examples of the Craftsman style are again more vernacular in flavor. Indeed, despite its aluminum sheathing, the house at **102-104 S. Orchard Avenue** (Photo Code 82/5), exhibits exposed rafter tails as well as leaded or incised glass designs in the windows. Two additional examples of the style are located on Freistadt Road. The smaller of the two, located at **343 E. Freistadt Road** (Photo Code 81/9), features original siding, multiple-light windows and exposed rafter tails. And although Craftsman homes are generally under two stories in height, the two-story home at **309-311 E. Freistadt Road** (Photo Code 81/6) features exposed rafter tails, a wooden bargeboard and a carved wooden railing along the first and second levels. Note that this railing design is similar to that on the Oswald Liebscher Residence at **231 Elm Street** (Photo Codes 79/21, 79/23), as well as that found on the Eugene Milbrath Residence at **105-107 Kieker Road** (Photo Code 80/24; railing temporarily removed at time of photo)--both of which are bungalows and likely employ Craftsman style elements on the interior. Finally, the Oscar Bublitz Grocery Store, located at **101 N. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/1) features modest characteristics of the Craftsman style including overhanging eaves and decorative wooden brackets. As a point of interest, this structure was constructed at a cost of just over \$22,500, and was built with what were considered modern techniques and conveniences including a poured concrete foundation, iron beam construction, as well as a central vacuum system in the second-floor living quarters.<sup>51</sup>

•Bungalow

The bungalow, which is perhaps more a form than a style, became popular in Wisconsin between 1910 and 1940. Characterized as an economical dwelling with simple lines, the bungalow typically rises one-and-one-half stories and features a wide, projecting roof, often low-pitched and featuring a dormer window. The roof, which oftentimes features exposed rafter tails, allows for large, facade-length porches, which may be enclosed. Clapboard siding is usually predominant; however, stucco and brick are also commonly used. Woodwork, including carved knee braces and brackets, tends to be plain but solid. While stylistic elaborations of the form exist in other areas of the state, bungalows in Thiensville are generally simple in their design. Numerous mail-order catalogues of the period featured varied plans that could be obtained cheaply and then executed by a local builder. The village includes a number of bungalows, many of which retain a good degree of integrity. Two notable examples that appear to have possibly been executed by the same builder are the 1915 Oswald Liebscher Residence at **231 Elm Street** (Photo Codes 79/21, 79/23) and the circa-1920, Eugene Milbrath Residence at **105-107 Kieker Road** (Photo Code 80/24). Although differing in size, the general proportions are similar on both houses. Another notable bungalow is the Seifert Residence located at **423 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 78/6). This circa-1924, clapboard-sheathed example features knee bracing beneath the eaves and a jerkin head (or clipped gable) dormer with shingle sheathing. A pair of nearly identical, somewhat modest brick bungalows are situated at **123 and 125 Grand Avenue** (Photo Codes, 78/3, 78/4, respectively). Finally, the circa-1930 bungalow--the George Henning Residence--located at **314 N. Main Street** (Photo Code 79/5) is constructed of

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<sup>51</sup>Cost and construction information regarding the Oscar Bublitz Grocery Store was gleaned from the Bublitz family, genealogical and biographical information.

brick, features original fenestration and exhibits clipped gables.

•Period Revival Styles

Period Revival styles, which range in time from the turn-of-the-twentieth century to the 1940s (with particular emphasis in the 1920s), are based on past motifs and styles. Using a variety of historical elements, architects and/or builders of the 1920s could combine those elements to make his or her own interpretation of the style. In turn, they could advertise their versatility in order to please a broader clientele. Thiensville features a variety of Period Revival styles that are discussed below.

Similar to the Colonial Revival era from 1895 to 1920, the later *Period Colonial Revival* style is largely based on the classicism of both the Georgian and Federal styles. However, it is considered to be less formal than its predecessors. Structures in this style will generally display overall symmetry, a gabled roof with dormers and modest classical ornamentation that includes dentils, pilasters and shutters. A good example of this style is the Arthur Baaska Residence located at **222 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 83/2). Although somewhat austere in its presence, the circa-1940 home features overall symmetry, multiple-light sash windows and a classically detailed doorway. Similar in design and erected in 1952, the Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Parsonage located at **245 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/22) is another good example of the style. Two additional Period Colonial Revival examples built in the early 1940s are located next door to each other at **213 and 225 Elm Street** (Photo Codes 77/2 and 79/24, respectively).

The *Period Georgian Revival* style is typified by formal symmetrical facades, rectangular plans, multiple-light windows and hipped roofs. Again, classical detailing embellishes the exterior in the form of classical columns, denticulated cornices, fanlights and/or sidelights and Palladian windows. Although somewhat restrained in its appearance, the former Grand Avenue Graded School at **116 Grand Avenue** (Photo Codes 78/2, 83/3) features overall symmetry, a grand central entrance which includes two fanlight windows, as well as classically derived detailing around the doorway including fluted pilasters. Built in 1923, this is Thiensville's only example of the Period Georgian Revival style.

Based largely on medieval antecedents, the *Period Tudor Revival* style can be distinguished in part by the use of half-timber work and stucco; however, all brick examples are also very common. The style also will generally feature multiple-light windows, stone trim and steeply pitched gables and a dominant chimney. Thiensville features two excellent examples; the first of which is the larger, estate-like home of James F. Wood at **402 E. Freistadt Road** (Photo Codes 81/11, 81/12). Covered with limestone, a smaller but equally intact example is the Charles Parske Residence at **231 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 80/14). This had been noted as a possible catalogue house; however, a photo or entry which resembles this home has yet to be discovered. Additional smaller examples that also can be typified as Cape Cod style homes and were built between 1936 and 1938 include the Joseph Anzia Residence at **129 Grand Avenue** (Photo Code 78/5), the Wolfram Residence at **217 Riverview** (Photo Code 80/20) and the Peter Hilgen Residence at **317 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 80/7). Finally, a non-residential example of the Tudor Revival style of architecture is the Frank Oil

Co. gas station at **185 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/19). Despite the addition of the large service bay, the steeply pitched gable and the brick chimney remain evident.

- Art Deco

The Art Deco style, which was popular between 1925 and 1945, is characterized by clean and rectilinear appearances and has either no ornamentation or ornamentation of a purely geometric character. Thiensville features a singular example of the Art Deco style at **118 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/8). The 1930 Thiensville State Bank was built to replace the smaller, Neoclassically styled bank structure to the south on Green Bay Road. Elements of the style exhibited on the structure include the following; an overall emphasis on verticality; a low-relief, incised zig-zag ornament along the top, a metal, geometrically designed grate at the center and overall stone trim.

- Cape Cod, Ranch and Minimal Traditional Houses

The remaining common types of homes built in Thiensville after 1940 and into the 1960s are still considered by many to be “modern.” Nevertheless, many of these have reached the fifty-year threshold necessary to be considered eligible for the National Register. Although homes generally termed “Cape Cod” can pre-date the 1940s, a substantial number of this “type” were erected between the 1940s and 1950s. The concept of the ranch house was born as early as 1925. But it was not until the 1940s that a group of West Coast architects formalized what became the Western Ranch House. Both house styles/forms are essentially modest in size and have little ornamentation; however, Period Revival styles are often incorporated into the exterior of Cape Cod examples. Ranch homes, on the other hand, are strictly rectilinear in design and most often feature a hipped roof and an attached garage. Finally, those homes which do not fall under the two previously described types, but were constructed during this period, have been termed “minimal traditional.” These homes are generally rectangular in shape, are slightly larger than the standard Cape Cod home, and often feature a dominant chimney.

After World War II, suburbanization of Thiensville escalated rapidly after the village installed sanitary sewer lines and a sewage treatment plant in 1946. A number of subdivisions were platted thereafter and the population of Thiensville rose significantly. Therefore, it is not surprising that there are a high number of Cape Cod, Ranch and Minimal Traditional homes located in the northeastern and western portions of the village. Examples of the most simplistic of Cape Cod homes are located at **206 Elm Street** (Photo Code 77/6) and **230 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 80/15). Each are side-gabled in form, feature a central entrance and are sheathed with wide siding. As noted above in the Period Revival discussion, many Cape Cods can take on the Revival styles. In addition to the examples noted above, the 1939 Theodore Rossin home at **338 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 80/3), as well as the 1951 residence at **119 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 78/15) are good examples of Period Colonial Revival style, Cape Cod residences.

A curious pair of duplex ranch homes built in 1944 are located at **605-607** and **609-611 N. Main Street** (Photo Codes, 82/17, 82/18, respectively). Built in 1944, the duplexes appear to retain their

original sheathing materials of stone veneer and asphalt shingles, as well as their horizontal-pane, sash windows. An intact brick example is located at **300 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 80/12). And a number of stone veneer ranches are found throughout the village, with good examples located at **407 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 84/22), **503 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 84/19) and **423 N. Main Street** (Photo Codes 82/20, 85/3). Despite the funeral home addition to the latter example (Photo Code 84/11), the N. Main Street ranch retains its original horizontal-pane, sash windows and features an attractively designed rear facade of alternating solid stone walls and glass, as well as curved, stone retaining walls.

Finally, examples of Minimal Traditional homes include the Walter Bublitz Residence at **218 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 80/19), the Max Colegrove Residence at **326 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 83/1) and the home at **410 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 81/21). Each are slightly larger than a traditional Cape Cod home and exhibit a bit more styling than is typical the Cape Cod or ranch homes.

•Harnischfeger Pre-Fab Housing

The Village Heights subdivision was platted in the area bounded by Buntrock Avenue on the west, and along both N. Highland and N. Orchard Avenues. The essentially ranch-style homes along both N. Highland and N. Orchard Avenues are reportedly Harnischfeger Pre-Fab Housing, which was produced by the Harnischfeger Corporation of Milwaukee. Although all of the homes are certainly identifiable as pre-fab examples, only a few of them still retain enough integrity for survey and they include the following: **100 N. Highland Avenue** (Photo Code 83/21); **102 N. Highland Avenue** (Photo Code 83/20); **113 N. Highland Avenue** (Photo Code 83/19); and **113 N. Orchard Avenue** (Photo Code 83/18). All four homes, which are noted as having been built in 1952, still exhibit a majority their original sheathing, windows and shutters.<sup>52</sup>

•Contemporary

While still considered by some not to be “historic,” many of the structures built in the 1950s through the 1970s are slowly coming of age. Since these structures are still too “young” to have been appropriately categorized for their stylistic features, they are vaguely grouped and termed contemporary. Materials utilized for their construction are still considered modern but not necessarily innovative. The two best examples of a contemporary or “modern” styled commercial structure in Thiensville include the Ozaukee Medical Center at **407 N. Main Street** (Photo Code 82/24) and the Kenneth Clemence, D.D.S., Professional Building at **195-199 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/20). Built between 1963 and 1964, the medical center is largely devoid of ornamentation beyond the patterned brickwork wall along the primary (east) facade. An interesting contrast is

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<sup>52</sup>Tax assessor’s records, Village of Thiensville, Available at the Thiensville Municipal Center, Thiensville, WI; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 77. The Mequon Historical Society indicates that they do have a file with information on the Harnischfeger Homes; however, it could not be located at the time of survey. Don and Beverly Silldorff, President of the Mequon Historical Society, Conversation with Traci Schnell, June-July 2003.

produced by resting the low-pitched, gabled roof upon a glass-topped, brick wall. Likewise, the circa-1960 professional building on S. Main Street also employs solids and voids of stone and glass to produce clean, modern lines.

Thiensville features a number of striking contemporary residential designs, three of which are significantly notable. Two are located in the Century Estates Subdivision north of Freistadt Road. The earlier of the two, located at **401 Madero Drive** (Photo Code 83/8), dates to 1955 and was built by the Century Land Co., Inc.; the first owner of which is noted as Martin E. Miller. The home features floor-to-ceiling windows, a combination of both flat and steeply pitched roof lines, as well as a dominant chimney. Located just around the corner from the Madero Drive example is the Frank D. Buffoni Residence at **617 Sunny Lane** (Photo Code 83/7). Interestingly, this 1964 home features the basic design elements--contrasting brick and glass--similar to that found on the previously discussed Ozaukee Medical Center. A third modern example is the Donald Neske Residence at **206 E. Freistadt Road** (Photo Code 81/4). Although windows were added to the primary (south) facade of this home in 1986, the window lines are in keeping with the home's circa 1956 flat-roof design, as well as its original board-and-batten sheathing.

•Vernacular

In addition to the aforementioned styles, a wide range of vernacular residential and commercial architecture emerged in Thiensville. This form of local interpretation and expression reflects distinct types that fall under no specific stylistic category. Many examples are illustrative of various levels of preservation that can be found throughout Thiensville. Most were built between the mid- to late-1880s through the early 1900s; however, vernacular forms suggestive of the Bungalow style were not uncommon during the 1910s and 1920s (see Bungalow discussion above).

The most frequently found vernacular forms in Thiensville are the front gable, side gable and the gabled ell. These examples vary from two-and-one-half stories and may or may not have a front porch. Good examples of an intact, front-gabled residence include the Walter Rowe home (later the St. Cecilia Rectory) at **105 S. Orchard Street** (Photo Code 82/10) and the John Heidel Residence at **316 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 80/9)--both of which are similar in design. An example of a side-gabled structure is Hein's Billiard Hall at **159-163 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/16), as well as the circa 1857 Henry Kolwey Residence at **192 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/22, 84/8).<sup>53</sup>

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<sup>53</sup>The Kolwey Property, currently known as Fiddleheads Café, was a property for which clarification of its history was requested by the Thiensville Historic Preservation Commission. While still not completely clarified, it has been determined that a structure was built on the 192 S. Main Street site between 1856 and 1857 by Henry Kolwey. The 1860 census indicates that Kolwey, a master shoemaker, his wife Anna, four children and four shoemakers resided at that location. Between 1864 and 1865, Kolwey sold the property to Ferdinand Duwe and William Mueller. By 1867, the 10-acre property was divided into a 4.20-acre parcel that was owned by Duwe and a 5.80-acre which was retained by Mueller. According to land valuations, the former Kolwey home was located on the 5.80-acre Mueller parcel. Mueller's wife Caroline retained the property until sometime between 1910 and 1920, when she is believed to have passed away. However, slightly conflicting information passed on by the Duwe-Maas family suggests that the Fiddleheads structure was the original Duwe family residence. A typed manuscript of the Duwe-Maas family reads, "the original Duwe home,

Although slightly altered by the addition of the porch enclosure, the former farmhouse at **522 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 79/17) is a good example of a gabled ell form.

Commercial structures erected between 1900 and circa 1940 were essentially vernacular in their design. While they may have used elements of a particular style, they generally lack ornamentation. Indeed, the Otto Bublitz Investment Property/L.F. Bartelt Furniture & Undertaking building at **106-108 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/14) features a Palladian window in its peak--an element of the Colonial Revival style--it remains an example of the vernacular. Another intact vernacular commercial building is the Otto Hadler Harness & Printing Shop at **177 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 78/21, 83/22). Constructed of brick, the structure features a stepped false parapet but has no other ornamentation.

Likely the most prominent vernacular structure in the village is the Thiensville Fire Station and Village Hall located at **101 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/13). This strictly utilitarian structure, built in 1914, features a cream city brick exterior and a 60-foot hose drying tower. Although unremarkable for its architectural styling, the former fire station is notable for its long-time association with the municipal development of the village. Another vernacular structure of note is the former Van Buren School/Gilbert Shoe Company building at **228 Elm Street** (Photo Codes 77/3, 77/4, 79/22). Again, while not notable for its architectural appearance, the fieldstone and brick-constructed Gilbert Shoe Company was a major industry in Thiensville and employed many area workers from 1926 until its closing in 1978.

Also included in the "vernacular" category are those homes or buildings that may have originally featured stylistic elements; however, due to remodelings and/or additions, they have no longer retain the characteristics of any particular style. For example, the former Park Hotel located at **166 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 77/15, 77/17) was originally a Queen Anne style building; however, due to remodelings, the only Queen Anne element that remains intact is the shinglework in the gable peaks. As well, the former Maas Residence at **167 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/17) was no doubt much more ornate and an example of the Queen Anne style. However, due to remodelings, the siding and windows have been replaced and the original porch removed.

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purchased in 1856, was moved to the south end of the property and is still located at 192 S. Main Street." That information could be interpreted in a variety of ways and tax record information does somewhat conflict with this statement. "Duwe-Maas Family History," Typed manuscript by Harvey Maas, 1991, page 16, On file at the Mequon Historical Society; Tax Rolls, Town of Mequon, 1849-1910; U.S. Census (1860).



**Associated Resources:**

The following extant resources identified as a result of the current survey are associated with architectural styles:

**•GREEK REVIVAL**

<b><u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u></b>	<b><u>Address/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>
William Pomplitz Residence	225 Riverview Drive	80/16

**•QUEEN ANNE**

<b><u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u></b>	<b><u>Address/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>
Private Residence	418 E. Freistadt Road	81/15
Private Residence	422 Green Bay Road	79/15, 79/16
Commercial House Hotel	105 S. Main Street	76/10
Maas-Bublitz Residence	116-122 S. Main Street	75/11
Louis Staudy Residence	149 Green Bay Road	76/7
William Hoeft Residence	151 Green Bay Road	76/6
John F. Gierach Residence	153-155 Green Bay Road	77/18
Louise Rosenthal Residence	154 Green Bay Road	77/7, 77/19
Geidel-Hadler Residence	171-175 Green Bay Road	78/23, 78/24
Riemer-Gerlach Residence	193-195 Green Bay Road	78/18, 78/19

**•BOOMTOWN**

<b><u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u></b>	<b><u>Address/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>
A-Z Metal Works	180 S. Main Street	75/19

**•COLONIAL REVIVAL**

<b><u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u></b>	<b><u>Address/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>
Louis Kieker, Jr. Residence	117-119 Kieker Road	82/1
Andrew Hilger Residence	163 Green Bay Road	76/2
Jaeger-Schaefer Residence	165-169 Green Bay Road	76/1
Henry Mohrhusen, Sr. Residence	120 Riverview Drive	78/16, 78/17

**•NEOCLASSICAL**

<b><u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u></b>	<b><u>Address/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>
A.P. & Rose Gilbert Residence	503 Bel Aire Court	79/9, 79/10
Thiensville State Bank I	136 Green Bay Road	77/21
Blaeser-Blume Residence	417 N. Main Street	82/21, 82/22

•CRAFTSMAN

<u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u>	<u>Address/Location</u>	<u>Photo Code</u>
Ervin Reimer Residence/Reimer-Hatzinger Funeral Home	107 W. Buntrock Avenue	83/15
Edwin Weise Residence	103 Ellenbecker Road	80/22
Private Residence	309-311 E. Freistadt Road	81/6
Private Residence	343 E. Freistadt Road	81/9
Oscar Bublitz Grocery Store	101 N. Main Street	76/11
Edwin Radtke Residence	410-412 N. Main Street	79/4
Private Residence	102-104 S. Orchard Avenue	82/5

•BUNGALOW

<u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u>	<u>Address/Location</u>	<u>Photo Code</u>
Matthew Linden Residence	300 W. Buntrock Avenue	80/21
Peter Ellenbecker Residence	112-114 Ellenbecker Road	83/14
Oswald Liebscher Residence	231 Elm Street	79/21, 79/23
Private Residence	123 Grand Avenue	78/3
Private Residence	125 Grand Avenue	78/4
Private Residence	184 Green Bay Road	77/13
Appolonia Beaubian Residence	232 Green Bay Road	81/1
Fredrich Residence	246 Green Bay Road	81/2
Seifert Residence	423 Green Bay Road	78/6
Eugene Milbrath Residence	105-107 Kieker Road	80/24
George Henning Residence	314 N. Main Street	79/5
William Brunner Residence	414 N. Main Street	84/12
Matthew Linden Residence	313 Riverview Drive	80/11
Klauck Residence	320 Riverview Drive	80/8
Arno Staudy Residence	339-341 Riverview Drive	80/1
Friedrich Residence	343 Riverview Drive	80/2

•PERIOD REVIVAL STYLES

<u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u>	<u>Address/Location</u>	<u>Photo Code</u>
St. Cecilia's Catholic Church (Neo-Gothic Revival)	138 W. Buntrock Avenue	79/2, 82/4
Dr. A.H.C. Carthaus Residence and Office (Dutch Col. Rev.)	101 Ellenbecker Road	82/2
Pipkorn Residence (Colonial Revival)	225 Elm Street	79/24
Private Residence (Colonial Revival)	213 Elm Street	77/2
Arthur & Adele Krueger Residence(Period Revival)	344 E. Freistadt Road	81/7
James F. Wood Residence (Tudor Revival)	402 E. Freistadt Road	81/11, 81/12
Grand Avenue Grade School (Georgian Revival)	116 Grand Avenue	83/3, 78/2
Joseph Anzia Residence (Tudor Revival)	129 Grand Avenue	78/5
Thiensville State Bank (Colonial Revival)	200 Green Bay Road	77/9
Ben Luedtke Residence (Dutch Colonial Revival)	243-245 Green Bay Road	83/10
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Parsonage (Tudor Revival)	303 Green Bay Road	78/7, 78/9, 78/10
Thiensville Recreation Parlor (Period Revival)	128-130 S. Main Street	75/17
Mequon-Thiensville Library (Colonial Revival)	184-188 S. Main Street	75/21
Frank Oil Company Gas Station & Garage (Tudor Revival)	185 S. Main Street	76/19
Clarence Ollrogge Residence (Colonial Revival)	210 S. Main Street	75/23

Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Parsonage (Colonial Revival)	245 S. Main Street	76/22
Private Residence (Tudor Revival)	217 Riverview Drive	80/20
Arthur Baaska Residence (Colonial Revival)	222 Riverview Drive	83/2
Louis Sitkiewitz Residence (Tudor Revival)	224 Riverview Drive	80/17
Charles Parske Residence (Tudor Revival)	231 Riverview Drive	80/14
Wessel Residence (Tudor Revival)	333 Riverview Drive	80/5
Private Residence (Dutch Colonial Revival)	205 West Street	83/13

**•ART DECO**

<u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u>	<u>Address/Location</u>	<u>Photo Code</u>
Thiensville State Bank II	118 Green Bay Road	75/8

**•CAPE COD, MINIMAL TRADITIONAL & RANCH HOUSES<sup>54</sup>**

<u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u>	<u>Address/Location</u>	<u>Photo Code</u>
Private Residence (Cape Cod)	206 Elm Street	77/6
Conrad Plautz Residence (Cape Cod)	239 Elm Street	79/20
Private Residence (Cape Cod)	408 E. Freistadt Road	81/13
Private Residence (Cape Cod)	410 E. Freistadt Road	81/14
Private Residence (Ranch)	306 Grand Avenue	83/4
Private Residence (Ranch)	327 Grand Avenue	83/5
Carl Wiese Residence (Cape Cod)	239 Green Bay Road	78/13
Private Residence (Cape Cod)	206 Heidel Road	79/19
Private Residence (Harnischfeger/Ranch)	100 N. Highland Avenue	83/21
Private Residence (Harnischfeger/Ranch)	102 N. Highland Avenue	83/20
Private Residence (Harnischfeger/Ranch)	113 N. Highland Avenue	83/19
Private Residence (Ranch)	417 Madero Drive	83/9
Private Residence/Funeral Home (Ranch)	423 N. Main Street	84/11, 82/20, 85/3
Private Residence (Harnischfeger/Ranch)	113 N. Orchard Avenue	83/18
Private Residence (Ranch)	112 S. Orchard Avenue	82/6
Private Residence (Minimal Traditional)	113 S. Orchard Avenue	82/9
Private Residence (Ranch)	115 S. Orchard Avenue	82/7
Private Residence (Cape Cod)	204 S. Orchard Avenue	83/11
Private Residence (Ranch)	204 Park Crest Drive	81/19
Private Residence (Ranch)	222 Park Crest Drive	81/18
Private Residence (Ranch)	230 Park Crest Drive	81/17
Private Residence (Cape Cod)	119 Riverview Drive	78/15
Bublitz-Hatzinger Residence (Minimal Traditional)	218 Riverview Drive	80/19
Private Residence (Cape Cod)	230 Riverview Drive	80/15
Private Residence (Ranch)	300 Riverview Drive	80/12
Hadler Residence (Cape Cod)	310 Riverview Drive	80/10
Peter Hilgen Residence (Cape Cod)	317 Riverview Drive	80/7
Max Colgrove Residence (Minimal Traditional)	326 Riverview Drive	83/1

<sup>54</sup>There are a large number of minimal traditional, cape cod and ranch homes in Thiensville. No survey parameters have yet to be developed regarding these “newer” housing types. As a result, the examples chosen for this survey were entirely to the discretion of the surveyor. Therefore, there may be more such homes that may be determined as surveyable in the future.

Theodore Rossin Residence (Cape Cod)	338 Riverview Drive	80/3
Private Residence (Ranch)	355 Riverview Drive	81/22
Private Residence (Ranch)	407 Riverview Drive	84/22
Private Residence (Minimal Traditional)	410 Riverview Drive	81/21
Private Residence (Ranch)	503 Riverview Drive	84/19
Private Residence (Ranch)	603 Riverview Drive	84/17

**•CONTEMPORARY**

<u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u>	<u>Address/Location</u>	<u>Photo Code</u>
St. Cecilia's Catholic Church II	238 W. Buntrock Avenue	83/17
Private Residence	206 E. Freistadt Road	81/4
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church	303 Green Bay Road	78/7, 78/9, 78/10
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Fellowship Hall	303 Green Bay Road	78/7, 78/9, 78/10
Century Land Co./Martin E. Miller Residence	401 Madero Drive	83/8
Ozaukee Medical Center	407 N. Main Street	82/24
Dr. Robert Jacobs Professional Building	412 N. Main Street	82/23
Kenneth Clemence, D.D.S., Professional Building	195-199 S. Main Street	76/20
St. Cecilia's Catholic School	116 N. Orchard Street	83/16
Century Land Co./Frank D. Buffoni Residence	617 Sunny Lane	83/7
Private Residence	311 Washington Court	85/13

**•VERNACULAR<sup>55</sup>**

<u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u>	<u>Address/Location</u>	<u>Photo Code</u>
Charles Troxel Residence	113 W. Buntrock Avenue	75/9
Thien/Thiermann Cottage	219 Elm Street	83/24
Van Buren School/Gilbert Shoe Company	228 Elm Street	77/3, 77/4, 79/22
Thiensville Park Pavilions	East end of Elm Street	85/23-24
Albert Heidel Farmhouse (Gabled Ell)	514-516 E. Freistadt Road	79/8, 83/6
Private Residence (Side gable)	109 Grand Avenue	79/6
Thiensville Fire Station and Village Hall	101 Green Bay Road	75/13
Peter J. Kroehnke Residence (Gabled Ell)	106-108 Green Bay Road	75/4, 75/5
Thiensville Hotel	109 Green Bay Road	76/9
Thiensville Mill	122 Green Bay Road	75/2, 77/23
Thiensville Mill stable building	130 Green Bay Road	77/24
William Zimmermann General Store & Residence	146 Green Bay Road	77/20
John Gierach Blacksmith Shop/Grocery Store	157 Green Bay Road	76/4
Thiensville Post Office/A. Hilger Hardware Store	161 Green Bay Road	83/23
Park Hotel (Side gable)	166 Green Bay Road	77/15, 77/17
Otto Hadler Harness & Printing Shop	177 Green Bay Road	78/21, 83/22
Hadler Family Residence	183-185 Green Bay Road	77/11
Gottlieb Haas Residence (Front gable)	186 Green Bay Road	77/12
Christian Ruck Residence	192 Green Bay Road	77/10
William Goltermann Residence	302 Green Bay Road	81/3
Seifert Residence (Gabled Ell)	522 Green Bay Road	79/17

<sup>55</sup>If a distinct form or type could be assigned to the following structures, the term follows the resource name in parentheses.

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Ehlers Residence	640 Green Bay Road	78/18
Private Residence (Side gable)	615 N. Main Street	82/16
Private Residence (Front gable)	623-625 N. Main Street	82/13, 82/14
Otto Bublitz/L.F. Bartelt Furniture Store (Front gable)	106-108 S. Main Street	75/14, 75/15
John Bublitz & Son Grocery Store (Front gable)	121-123 S. Main Street	76/13
Walter Bublitz Residence (Front gable)	127 S. Main Street	76/12
Thiensville Lumber Co.	133 S. Main Street	76/14, 76/15
Duwe Lumber Co. Building/Store (Side gable)	140 S. Main Street	75/18
Hein's Billiard Hall (side gable)	159-163 S. Main Street	76/16
Maas Residence	167 S. Main Street	76/17
Loppnow Drug Store	174 S. Main Street	75/20
Albert Selle Residence (Front gable)	177-179 S. Main Street	76/8
Henry Kolwey Residence (Side gable)	192 S. Main Street	75/22, 84/8
Private Residence (Gabled ell)	226 S. Main Street	75/24
Walter Rowe Residence (Front gable)	105 S. Orchard Avenue	82/10
John Heidel Residence (Front gable)	316 Riverview Drive	80/9
Ernst Memmler Residence (Front gable)	334 Riverview Drive	80/4
Private Residence (Side gable)	351 Riverview Drive	81/23

## CHAPTER 8

### Architects, Builders, Carpenters & Contractors

#### Overview

A discussion of the architects, builders, carpenters and contractors who practiced from the 1880s through the 1950s is somewhat limited due to a lack of documentation. There are no known Thiensville directories prior to the 1950s. Wisconsin State Gazetteers noted a few builders names; however, all had been previously identified. Therefore, newspaper briefs, which indicated who hired whom to build a house proved to be most helpful. However, in many cases, while the name of the home or building owner is noted--as is its progress--the builder is not mentioned. Additional resources, such as the 1976 *History of Thiensville*, as well as the records at the Wisconsin Architectural Archive in Milwaukee aided in supplying information from the 1930s to the present.

A history sketch by John Sitkiewitz indicates that the earliest known carpenter was a Mr. Schnuckel. He also notes that in 1880, Thiensville possessed approximately fifty residences. Based on the extant resources in the village, a fairly significant period of building occurred in the mid- to late-1880s through the mid-1890s. Names of builders during that period included Fred Linden, Fred Gierach and Henry Alfke. Between 1914 and 1915, the *Cedarburg News* notes for Thiensville reported a fair amount of residential construction; however, only one or two of the newsbriefs cite a builder or carpenter. Another building boom seemingly occurred between 1927 and 1928. An August newsbrief reads: "The village at present has a healthy appearance in every respect. There are no vacant houses. Seven or eight houses are going up in all parts of the limits in the village and we know of several others who will start building before the snow flies." Again in February, the paper notes, "There are not less than a dozen new homes which we know are going up in early spring." The same edition vaguely discusses "rumors" concerning business-related construction in the village.<sup>56</sup>

The following outlines the known architects, builders, contractors, etc. of Thiensville.

#### Architects/Firms

- Robert Boerner (Landscape Architect, Cedarburg, WI)

In 1933, after the village acquired what is now known as Village Park, located at the **east end of Elm Street** (Photo Codes 85/14-15, 85/19-20, 85/22-24), Robert Boerner was hired by the Village of Thiensville to design its layout. Boerner was the brother of Alfred Boerner,

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<sup>56</sup>John Sitkiewitz, "History of Thiensville," n.p., Unpublished manuscript located at the Mequon Historical Society, Mequon, WI; Newsbriefs, *Cedarburg News* (re: Rosenthal Residence), 19 March 1890; *Cedarburg News* (re: A.H. Albers Residence), 19 September 1894; *Cedarburg News* (re: development) 3 August 1927 and 8 February 1928; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 4.

who was employed with the Milwaukee Park Commission and designed Whitnall Park in Milwaukee. In 1913, a number of Boerner family members organized the Cedar Hedge Farm Association, which raised and sold cut flowers and nursery stock. Robert's uncle Albert managed the business and also provided landscaping services. Considered to be poorly managed by Albert, Cedar Hedge eked out a modest existence until it was sold in the early 1930s. Robert is cited as having designed a number of parks in Wisconsin and his fee for the Thiensville project is recorded as a mere \$250.<sup>57</sup>

•Kirchoff & Rose

- Brimeyer, Grellinger & Rose Associates
- Grellinger & Rose (all Milwaukee, WI)

In 1940, Kirchoff & Rose designed St. Cecilia's Church, located at **138 W. Buntrock Avenue** (Photo Code 82/4). The firm of Kirchoff and Rose was established in 1894, by Charles Kirchoff, Jr. and Thomas L. Rose. Kirchoff, Jr., the son of Charles, Sr. who was a contractor and carpenter by trade, was born in Milwaukee on 22 July 1856. Following primary and secondary education in both public and private institutions, including the German-English Academy, he learned his father's occupation and also attended night school. Following two years of architectural studies in both Boston and New York City, Charles, Jr. returned to Milwaukee and joined Henry Messmer in a partnership that lasted until the establishment of Kirchoff & Rose in 1894. Aside from the architectural practice, Charles, Jr. also taught drafting and design classes in Milwaukee public high schools. Kirchoff died in 1915 at the age of sixty-three.<sup>58</sup>

Partner Thomas L. Rose was born in New York City in 1868. After received primary and secondary education at public institutions, Rose studied architecture under James J. Egan, a leading architect in New York City. Eventually, Rose took over Egan's office until he moved to Milwaukee, and in 1897, he took a partnership in Kirchoff & Rose. He died in 1940 at the age of seventy-two. As a firm, Kirchoff & Rose designed many buildings and hotels for Jos. Schlitz Brewing Company, including its first Palm Garden in Milwaukee. The firm also designed a number of churches, commercial blocks and private residences throughout Wisconsin and the upper Midwest. The Second Ward Savings Bank (now the Milwaukee County Historical Society) at 910 North 3rd Street was designed by the firm.<sup>59</sup>

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<sup>57</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 100; A. Richard Boerner, "C. Friedrich Boerner and his Family" (1989), 23, 25-26, Located at the Ozaukee County Historical Society, Cedarburg, WI.

<sup>58</sup>Andrew J. Aikens and Lewis A. Proctor, *Men of Progress, Wisconsin* (Milwaukee: Evening Wisconsin Co., 1897), 566-67; Gregory, *History of Milwaukee*, Vol. 4, 501-02.

<sup>59</sup>Aikens and Proctor, *Men of Progress*, 566-67; Gregory, *History of Milwaukee*, Vol. IV, 501-02; *Milwaukee of To-Day: The Cream City of the Lakes* (Milwaukee: Phoenix Pub. Co., 1890 [?]), 152.

Born in 1890, Roger was the son of Charles Jr. and Emilie (Sarner) Kirchoff. After attending Milwaukee public primary school and graduating from West Division High School in 1908, Roger enrolled in the architecture program at the University of Illinois. From 1913 to 1916, he practiced the field of architecture in New York City and returned to join Thomas Rose in order to continue the Kirchoff & Rose partnership, following his father's death. However, shortly after his return, Kirchoff was obligated to serve in the army until his honorable discharge in 1919. Following his return home, he married Agnes Olson and rejoined Rose in the practice of architecture.<sup>60</sup>

Brimeyer, Grellinger & Rose became the successor firm to Kirchoff & Rose in 1938 and was comprised of Ferdinand Brimeyer, Alvin Edward Grellinger and Frances John Rose. No biographical information was found on Brimeyer. Alvin Grellinger was born in Milwaukee on 21 March 1904 and graduated from the Wisconsin State College in 1922. After working as a draftsman for Kirchoff & Rose from 1925 to 1929, he went back to school and graduated from the University of Illinois in 1932. After a fellowship in Europe, he joined the Wisconsin State Planning Board for a year and, in 1936, returned as a draftsman at Kirchoff & Rose. In 1938, he, Brimeyer & Rose reorganized the firm, which continued through 1954. Partner Frances John Rose was born in Milwaukee on 6 September 1907 and, like Grellinger, graduated from the University of Illinois in 1932. He also worked as a draftsman at his father's firm (Kirchoff & Rose) from 1926-1927 and again from 1932 to 1938, until reorganizing the firm and changing the name. In 1948, Brimeyer, Grellinger & Rose designed the C.J. Grobben Residence, which is noted as being located at 217 Vernon Avenue in Thiensville; however, following field review, the address is incorrect. That same year, the firm completed the Schlitz Bottle House in Milwaukee and, two years later, the Schlitz Brew House. Shortly after reorganizing the firm as Grellinger & Rose, they designed the St. Cecilia Church School Addition at **116 N. Orchard Street** (Photo Code 83/16) in 1955, as well as the third iteration of the Thiensville State Bank in 1963, which is located at **200 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/9).<sup>61</sup>

• Willis & Lillian Leenhouts (Milwaukee, WI)

Husband and wife team, Willis and Lillian Leenhouts designed the Lawrence Lehman Residence at 413 Riverview Drive (no photo is included as the home does not meet survey criteria). Lillian Scott Leenhouts was born in South Milwaukee on 2 June 1911 and attended

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<sup>60</sup>Aikens and Proctor, *Men of Progress*, 566-67; Gregory, *History of Milwaukee*, Vol. IV, 501-02.

<sup>61</sup>George S. Koyl, ed., *American Architects Directory* (New York: R.R. Bowker Co., 1955); Kirchoff & Rose, "St. Cecilia's Church," 1940; Grellinger & Rose, "Plan for St. Cecilia's School," 1955; Brimeyer, Grellinger & Rose, "C.J. Grobben Residence," 1948, All original plans on file at the Wisconsin Architectural Archive, Located in the Milwaukee Public (Central) Library, Second Floor, West Wing, Milwaukee, WI. The 1952 Thiensville city directory notes a Chet Grobben located on Mequon Road--which would now be located in the City of Mequon. The 1948 Grobben Residence may also have been an unexecuted design. *Thiensville Telephone Directory* (1952).



the Layton School of Art from 1929 to 1932, the University of Illinois from 1932-1933 and then graduated with a B.S. in Architecture from the University of Michigan in 1936. She worked as a draftsman for Milwaukee architect Harry Bogner from 1936 to 1942. After working for three other firms in the course of two years, she married Willis Leenhouts in 1943 and they established the firm of Willis & Lillian Leenhouts in 1945. Willis Leenhouts was born in Milwaukee on 2 May 1902 and attended the University of Wisconsin Extension and then graduated from Columbia University in New York. After working as a draftsman for the Milwaukee School Board, then as an apprentice for Scott & Mayer, he became the chief draftsman at Leenhouts & Guthrie. From 1928 to 1931 he was a partner with Leenhouts, Guthrie and Leenhouts. For the next fifteen years he worked at various firms until joining his wife in practice. Local principle works of the pair include the Roundy Memorial Baptist Church in Milwaukee (1951), the Ted Friedlander Residence in Fox Point (1952), the South Milwaukee Methodist Church and the F. Dohmen Residence in the former Town of Mequon (both in 1955). Lillian passed away on 22 February 1990, while Willis died on 13 February 1992.<sup>62</sup>

•A. Moorman & Company (St. Paul, Minnesota)

A. Moorman & Company of St. Paul, Minnesota, was responsible for the design of the 2nd State Bank of Thiensville, located at **118 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/8). Born in 1860, Albert Moorman emigrated with his family from Germany in 1864. He attended the public schools in Chicago and, by the age of twelve, he became an apprentice woodcarver. He is noted to have done wood carving work on the Iowa State Capitol. After moving to St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1905, Moorman established a furniture company. This work evolved into the design of banking fixtures and interiors, which led to the overall exterior design of small banking facilities in the Midwest by no later than 1914. A. Moorman & Company was noted as “one of the most successful designers of small-town banks in the region,” and, at one time, they held nearly a third of the business of the Northwestern National Bancorporation. The firms more notable works include the 1927 remodeling of Louis H. Sullivan’s National Farmers Bank of Owatonna, Minnesota, as well as the National Register-listed State Bank of Townsend in Townsend, Montana. Prior to 1920, the firm designed no less than fourteen banks in small towns in the State of Wisconsin, including Mellen, Rice Lake and Somerset. Moorman died on 20 April 1927 and his sons Frank and Al, as well as partners E.A. Tyler and Kindy C. Wright, continued the practice, moving the office to Minneapolis in 1929. The firm closed in the late-1970s.<sup>63</sup>

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<sup>62</sup>Koyl, ed., *American Architects Directory*, 325; Leenhouts & Leenhouts, “Lawrence Lehman Residence,” original plans, 1958, at WAA.

<sup>63</sup>Biographical Sketch of Albert Moorman, located on the website for the Northwest Architectural Archives, University of Minnesota, accessed on 3 January 2003 at <http://special.lib.umn.edu/findaid/html/mss/nwaa0075.html>; Biographical information on Albert’s son Frank Severing Moorman is included in Koyl, ed., *American Architects Directory* (1955), 389; A partial list of Moorman & Company-designed banks and their locations was provided by the

•North Shore Engineering Company (Milwaukee, WI)

No information was located regarding the North Shore Engineering Company; however, this firm is noted as having designed the 1910 State Bank of Thiensville which is located at **136 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/21).<sup>64</sup>

•Harry Ollrogge

Harry Ollrogge, was responsible for the design of his brother Harry's residence at **210 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/23) in 1946, as well as the wing addition to the south in 1950. Three years later, Ollrogge designed the remodel of the Riemer residence, located at **107 W. Buntrock Avenue** (Photo Code 83/15), for use as the Riemer & Hatzinger Funeral Home in 1949. Ollrogge was born in Milwaukee on 19 August 1907. After attending the University of Wisconsin Extension Division, he worked as a draftsman with William J. Kozick from 1924 to 1926, the Milwaukee firm of Peacock & Frank from 1926 to 1936, before establishing his own practice of Harry A. Ollrogge. Ollrogge did primarily residential, religious and educational structures; two known works of Ollrogge which are located in Milwaukee include the Emmanuel Lutheran Church for the Deaf (1964) at 4328 W. North Avenue and the Bluemound Baptist Church (1949) at 120 N. 73rd Street. Harry was a resident of the Village of Thiensville when he passed away on 13 April 1996.<sup>65</sup>

•Byron S. Scheiderer

In 1913, Milwaukee architect was hired to design the Thiensville Fire Station and Village Hall, which stands at **101 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/13). Scheiderer lived on Holton Avenue and had an office on Wisconsin Avenue in Milwaukee. The only other two known products of Scheiderer include the Ellenbecker Bros. Building at 517 E. North Avenue, Milwaukee, which was built in 1914, as well as the 1916 bungalow residence located at 2424 N. Buffum Street, also in Milwaukee.<sup>66</sup>

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State Historic Preservation Office of Montana, Copy on file at Heritage Research, Ltd., Menomonee Falls, WI.

<sup>64</sup>A review of the 1909-1912 Milwaukee City Directories revealed that the North Shore Engineering Company was not listed in the alphabetical listing, *Wright's Milwaukee City Directory* (Kansas City, MO: Wright Directory Co., 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912).

<sup>65</sup>Koyl, ed., *American Architects Directory*, 412; Harry Ollrogge, "Clarence C. Ollrogge Residence and Additions," Original plans, 1946; Ollrogge, "Riemer & Hatzinger Funeral Home Alterations," Original plans, 1949, at WAA.

<sup>66</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 56; *Wright's Milwaukee City Directory* (1916); Architecture & History Inventory, Maintained by the Wisconsin Historical Society, Accessed online at [www.wisconsinhistory.org/ahi/welcome.asp](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/ahi/welcome.asp); Byron S. Scheiderer, Original plans for 2424 N. Buffum Street, In possession of current owner Steven P. Swetlik, Milwaukee, WI.

• Alfred H. Siewert

Alfred Siewert designed the first Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church (no longer extant), as well as the first addition to the same church in 1940, located at 303 Green Bay Road. Alfred Siewert was born on 21 July 1899 in the Town of Trenton, near the City of West Bend. He and his parents, Theodore Siewert and Anna Roeber, moved to Milwaukee in 1910 and attended Lutheran High School. Instead of formal training, Siewert apprenticed with Milwaukee architect, Fred Graf. He would later work for the Chicago firm of Perkins, Fellows & Hamilton and then the Manitowoc partnership of Smith & Reynolds. He returned to Milwaukee in the fall of 1923 and opened an office at 3601 W. North Avenue. He became an officially licensed architect in the State of Wisconsin in approximately 1930. Siewert would move to various locations along North Avenue, eventually moving his practice to his home at 9516 W. North Avenue in Wauwatosa in 1978.<sup>67</sup>

• Steffen & Kemp (Milwaukee, WI)

Comprised of Raymond O. Steffen and Thomas Lewis Kemp, the firm of Steffen & Kemp designed the 1958 Grace Lutheran Church located at **303 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 78/9, 78/10). Steffen was born in Milwaukee on 20 November 1900 and, by no later than 1923, was working as a draftsman for Milwaukee architect Henry J. Rotier. He then moved to the firm of Hugo V. Miller before establishing his own company--R.O. Steffen, Inc., in 1928. He maintained his own firm until partnering with Thomas Kemp in 1945. Kemp was born in Milwaukee on 2 October 1914. He worked as a draftsman for Milwaukee architect Thomas Van Alyea from 1932 to 1936, while also attending the University of Wisconsin Extension Division from 1934 to 1937. He then was educated with the Beaux Arts Sketch Club between 1937 and 1938. In 1945, Steffen & Kemp became partners and established an office at 7218 W. North Avenue in Wauwatosa. Steffen & Kemp designed a significant number of churches in the Milwaukee area and beyond. In fact, the Wisconsin Architectural Archive retains a list that covers the firm's work from 1950 to 1969, which notes over 150 church designs.<sup>68</sup>

• Edgar A. Stubenrauch & Associates (Sheboygan, WI)

Edgar A. Stubenrauch was born in Sheboygan on 9 July 1894 and attended the University of Illinois and the University of London. After working as an architect in the Wisconsin State Architects Office, he established his own firm in 1921. Although Stubenrauch did a significant amount of work in the Sheboygan area, he is also responsible for at least five buildings (dated 1941-1955) on the former Concordia College Campus in Milwaukee. In

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<sup>67</sup>Alfred Siewert, Interview by Alyn W. Hess, 28 March 1978, Typed interview on file at the WAA.

<sup>68</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 93; Steffen & Kemp file, Located at the WAA; Koysl, ed., *American Architects Directory*, 294.

1965, the firm designed the attached fellowship hall of Grace Lutheran Church at **303 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 78/7), which was completed in November 1966. Stubenrauch passed away on 20 July 1988, at the age of ninety-four.<sup>69</sup>

•Thern Associates (Waupaca, WI)

After the original 1931 Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church was razed in 1974, the firm of Thern Associates were awarded the design contract for the current church at **247 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/24). No information could be found on the architectural firm.<sup>70</sup>

In addition to the aforementioned architects and plans/drawings, the following plans are on file at the Wisconsin Architectural Archive:

- (1) Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church Remodel (1962)  
247 S. Main Street  
Eschweiler, Eschweiler & Sielaff
- (2) Dr. T.D. Elbe Office (Undated; circa 1943)  
143 Green Bay Road  
Roger Sutherland
- (3) Municipal Center (1973)  
250 Elm Street  
Architects III
- (4) School Addition (1986)  
116 Grand Avenue  
Ebling, Plunkett & Keymar
- (5) Mr. and Mrs. Richard Peregrine Residence (proposed 1965)  
N. Madrid & W. Heidel Road  
Koerner & Assoc.
- (6) Dr. Robert Jacobs Professional Building (1966)  
413 N. Main Street  
(William) Losch- (Charles) Haeuser
- (7) William Maskrey Addition (1982) NOT EXECUTED  
617 Sunny Lane  
Architecture 360
- (8) Lumber Co.--storage building (1949)  
133 S. Main Street  
Ray O. Dieterich

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<sup>69</sup>Mohr, ed. *History of Thiensville*, 96.

<sup>70</sup>Ibid.

\*\*Finally, a 2000 publication notes that two homes in Thiensville were designed by Russell Barr Williamson. However, following further investigation, these homes were constructed in the Thiensville vicinity--prior to the establishment of the City of Mequon and are now located within the City of Mequon.<sup>71</sup>

### **Builders, Contractors & Carpenters**

#### •Henry Alfke

The 1892 directory of the Ozaukee County Plat Book notes Henry Alfke as the bricklayer and builder of the Dr. A. H. Albers Residence, which was formerly located at 213 S. Main Street (no longer extant). While Alfke may have laid the brick for the home, a newsbrief in the *Cedarburg News* identifies Linden and Gerlach as the home's builders.<sup>72</sup>

#### •Charles Gierach

The 1909-10 *Wisconsin State Gazetteer* lists Charles Gierach as a carpenter; however, no buildings have been identified as the work of Gierach.

#### •Frederick Gierach

The 1892 directory in the Ozaukee County Plat Book notes Frederick Gierach as a carpenter and a house mover. Indeed, F. Gierach is noted as the builder for the Louise Rosenthal Residence at **154 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 77/7, 77/19).<sup>73</sup>

#### •Fred and Matthew Linden (Thiensville, WI)

Fred Linden was born in 1859 and is believed to have lived in Thiensville for much of his life. He is also noted as the second person in Thiensville to purchase an automobile. *Wisconsin State Gazetteers* do note that Linden was a local carpenter; however, only during the period between 1901 and 1910. The earliest recorded structure that Fred Linden constructed was the Dr. A. H. Albers Residence, which was formerly located 213 S. Main Street. Linden and Gerlach (Gierach?) were noted as the builders of the 1894 home. The following year, Fred constructed the John F. Gierach Residence at **153-155 Green Bay Road**

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<sup>71</sup>*Russell Barr Williamson, Architect: A Collection*, Comp. By his granddaughter and Russell Barr Williamson Jr. (Hot Springs, NC: The Barr Brand, 2000), 133.

<sup>72</sup>*Plat Book of Washington & Ozaukee County, Wisconsin* (Minneapolis: C.M. Foote & Co., 1892); Newsbrief (Dr. A.H. Albers Residence), *Cedarburg News*, 19 September 1894; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 4.

<sup>73</sup>*Plat Book of Washington & Ozaukee County*; Newsbrief (re: Rosenthal Residence), *Cedarburg News*, 19 March 1890.

(Photo Code 77/18) and, in 1896, he erected the John Bublitz & Son General Store at **121-123 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/13). Linden died in 1933, at the age of seventy-three. Although it has not been confirmed, Linden's home is suspected to be 301 Riverview Drive (not surveyed due to additions/alterations). Linden's son Matthew was also a builder and is noted as having constructed the circa 1915 bungalow at **300 W. Buntrock Avenue** (Photo Code 80/21), as well as the circa 1921 bungalow at **313 Riverview Drive** (Photo Code 80/11).<sup>74</sup>

•John Luedtke (location unknown)

Although no biographical or locational information is known regarding John Luedtke, the *Cedarburg News* notes that he was the carpenter contractor for the first residence erected by the Thiensville Realty Company in September 1914. Also within September of that year, Luedtke was recognized as the builder of the Charles Troxel Residence at **113 W. Buntrock Avenue** (Photo Code 75/9).<sup>75</sup>

•Frederich G. Memmler (Cedarburg and Thiensville, WI)

Frederich Memmler was noted as a builder and contractor when he came from Cedarburg to Thiensville in 1879 to take over operations of the Thiensville mill with Henry Thien/Thiermann. While no buildings have been identified as the work of Memmler, it is possible that he may have been responsible for the 1886 and 1892-1893 construction of the former Memmler Hotel, which was located along the west side of Green Bay Road, across from the mill (no longer extant).<sup>76</sup>

•John E. Mueller (Thiensville, WI)

Little biographical information is known regarding John E. Mueller. Like Fred Linden above, Mueller is only cited in the *Wisconsin State Gazetteers* between 1901 and 1910. He is first listed as an architect and carpenter, while later gazetteers list him only as a carpenter. A 1915 plat map notes that Mueller's carpenter shop was formerly located along the west side of N. Main Street, just north of Riverview Drive. Mueller is known to have erected the Oswald Liebscher Residence at **231 Elm Street** (Photo Codes 79/21, 79/23) in 1915. Later that same

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<sup>74</sup>*Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1901-02], 1060; [1903-04], 1150; [1907-08], 1250; [1909-10], 1237; Sitkiewitz, *History of Thiensville*; Birth and death dates gleaned from Linden's tombstone, Opitz Cemetery, Mequon, WI; Newsbrief (re: A.H. Albers Residence), *Cedarburg News*, 19 September 1894; Newsbrief (re: Gierach Residence), *Cedarburg News*, 3 April 1895; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 4, 86; Information regarding Matthew Linden was provided by Mrs. Gertrude Giesfeldt, Conversation with Schnell.

<sup>75</sup>Newsbrief (re: Thiensville Realty Residence) and (re: Charles Troxel Residence), *Cedarburg News*, 9 September and 30 September 1914, respectively.

<sup>76</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 35.

year, the *Cedarburg News* also notes that he was awarded the contract for the Otto Lau House--location unknown. Perhaps a misspelling, a John *Miller* is cited as having built the 1922 Pigeon Creek Bridge (no longer extant). Mueller was also active in the community as he was one of the five men to work to incorporate the Village of Thiensville in 1910 and he was elected village president in 1912.<sup>77</sup>

•John Vollmar (Cedarburg, WI)

Although designed by Byron S. Scheiderer, the Thiensville Fire Station and Village Hall at **101 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/13) was constructed by John Vollmar of Cedarburg. No biographical information is known about Vollmar; however, he, in conjunction with a Mr. Wurthmann, were awarded the contract to build the Ozaukee County Courthouse in Port Washington, Wisconsin, in 1901. And, although the exact location is unknown, Vollmar is noted as the mason for the first residence erected by the Thiensville Realty Company.<sup>78</sup>

Associated Resources:

The following extant resources identified as a result of the current survey are associated with Thiensville's architects, builders, carpenters and contractors:

(Please note that architects' and/or builders' and contractors' names are noted in parentheses after the building name. Note that this is not an exhaustive list; it is based on both primary and secondary sources, including newspaper accounts.)

<u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u>	<u>Address/Location</u>	<u>Photo Code</u>
Riemer-Hatzinger Funeral Home (alts.; Harry Ollrogge)	107 W. Buntrock Avenue	83/15
Charles Troxel Residence (John Luedtke)	113 W. Buntrock Avenue	75/9
St. Cecilia's Catholic Church (Kirchoff & Rose)	138 W. Buntrock Avenue	82/4
Matthew Linden Residence (Matthew Linden)	300 W. Buntrock Avenue	80/21
Oswald Liebscher Residence (John E. Mueller)	231 Elm Street	79/21, 79/23
Village Park (Robert Boerner)	East End of Elm Street	85/14-15, 85/19-20, 85/22-24
Thiensville State Graded School Addition (Ebling, Plunkett & Keymar)	116 Grand Avenue	78/2
Thiensville Fire Station and Village Hall (Byron Scheiderer/architect and John Vollmar/contractor)	101 Green Bay Road	75/13
Thiensville State Bank II (A. Moorman & Co.)	118 Green Bay Road	75/8
Thiensville State Bank I (North Shore Engineering)	136 Green Bay Road	77/21
Dr. T.D. Elbe Office (Sutherland)	143 Green Bay Road	84/6
John F. Gierach Residence (Fred Linden)	153-155 Green Bay Road	77/18

<sup>77</sup>*Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1901-02], 1060; [1903-04], 1150; [1907-08], 1250; [1909-10], 1237; Sitkiewitz, *History of Thiensville*; Newsbrief (re: Liebscher Residence), *Cedarburg News*, 31 March 1915; Newsbrief (re: Otto Lau Residence), *Cedarburg News*, 25 August 1915; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 72-73; *Plat Book of Washington & Ozaukee County, Wisconsin* (Des Moines, IA: Northwest Publishing Co., 1915).

<sup>78</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 56; Newsbrief (re: Ozaukee County Courthouse), *Cedarburg News*, 27 February 1901; Newsbrief (re: Thiensville Realty Co. Residence), *Cedarburg News*, 9 September 1914.

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Louise Rosenthal Residence (Fred Gierach)	154 Green Bay Road	77/7, 77/19
Thiensville State Bank III (Grellinger & Rose)	200 Green Bay Road	77/9
Grace Lutheran Church (Steffen & Kemp)	303 Green Bay Road	78/7, 78/9, 78/10
Grace Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall (Edgar A. Stubenrauch & Associates)	303 Green Bay Road	78/7, 78/9, 78/10
Dr. Robert Jacobs Professional Building (Losch-Haeuser)	413 N. Main Street	82/23
John Bublitz & Sons General Store (Fred Linden)	121-123 S. Main Street	76/13
Lumber Co. Storage Building (Dieterich)	133 S. Main Street	76/14
Clarence Ollrogge Residence and Addition (H. Ollrogge)	210 S. Main Street	75/23
Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church (Thern Associates)	247 S. Main Street	76/24
St. Cecilia Church School Addition (Grellinger & Rose)	116 N. Orchard Street	83/16
Matthew Linden Residence (Matthew Linden)	313 Riverview Drive	80/11
William Maskrey Addition (Architecture 360)	617 Sunny Lane	83/7



## CHAPTER 9

### Arts, Culture, Entertainment & Recreation

Research uncovered only passing references to benevolent and fraternal organizations, such as the Masons, involved in the cultural and social fabric of Thiensville. However, the village's citizens have enjoyed a variety of both formal and informal social activities throughout the village's history. Like most settlements in southeastern Wisconsin in the 1840s and 1850s, the tavern was the center of local entertainment. Unlike their modern counterparts, taverns of this period were hotels and inns established as wayside stops for travelers along primitive roads such as the Green Bay Road that connected Milwaukee with Green Bay. The early tavern offered food and shelter and served as a sort of communications hub for exchanging regional news. In conjunction with these roles, the tavern was also regarded as the social center of a pioneer community and, therefore, staged a variety of social activities such as concerts, political activities, local elections and religious services. Because of the tavern's prominence in the social life of a community, the establishment's proprietor usually wielded substantial influence in local matters. While no early taverns are known to be extant in Thiensville, the Town of Mequon Board granted a tavern license to John Henry Thien in 1844.<sup>79</sup>

Thien and William Carbys, another German immigrant, organized or were members of a number of social groups in the Thiensville area. These included the Free Thinker's Society, singing and dramatics clubs and a Grange chapter. These and other clubs were reflective of the cultural and ideological nature of many of the German immigrants who settled the Thiensville area. Indeed, many of these social activities revolved around education and many social activities such as plays, concerts, card parties and dinners were held at the Van Buren School located at **228 Elm Street** (Photo Code 77/3). Many of these activities also occurred at the State Graded School and at the village's various hotels and saloons.<sup>80</sup>

Thiensville's location along a scenic stretch of the Milwaukee River created a small tourism industry in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Tourists from Milwaukee would either take the train or interurban and enjoy fishing, boating and other natural pursuits. Indeed, a 1915 newsbrief from the *Cedarburg News* reads,

That Thiensville is a well known summer resort is shown by the number of people building summer

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<sup>79</sup>“Early Taverns and Stages Are Vividly Described By Lacher, *Waukesha Daily Freeman*, 75th Anniversary Edition, May 1934, 90-91; “Pioneer Taverns,” in *Waukesha County 125th Jubilee Souvenir Album Program Book*, ed. Elizabeth Faulkner Nolan (Waukesha, WI: s.n., 1959), 29, 31; Ellen D. Langill and Jean Penn Loerke, eds., *From Farmland to Freeways: A History of Waukesha County, Wisconsin* (Waukesha, WI: Waukesha County Historical Society, 1984), 431-32; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 3.

<sup>80</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 14-15, 40-45. A scrapbook entitled “Thiensville Memorabilia” at the Mequon Historical Society possesses a number of playbills, programs and advertisements for various community activities and events at locations throughout Thiensville.

cottages on the upper Milwaukee River. Good hotel accommodations and good transportation combined with the well known beauty of the village, tend to make Thiensville one of the most popular resorts of the state.<sup>81</sup>

While many did build summer cottages, significant numbers of these tourists would stay at the village's hotels including the popular Memmler's Hotel, which was constructed in 1886 (and added on to between 1892-93) by Frederick G. Memmler. In 1910, it was purchased by Gerhard Aussem and the building was known as the Hotel Aussem for a number of years. Although a fondly remembered landmark, the building fell into disrepair and was razed in 1963. Thiensville's other hotels were also extremely popular with tourists and extant examples include the Thiensville Hotel at **109 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 76/9), the Park Hotel at **166 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 77/15, 77/17), as well as the Commercial House Hotel located at **105 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/10). Other commercial businesses like bowling alleys, billiard halls as well as the Star Movie Theater in Henry Mohrhusen's saloon in 1914 opened in Thiensville to provide both tourists and locals with entertainment. Extant examples currently include the Thiensville Recreation Parlor at **128-130 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/17) and Hein's Billiard Hall located **159-163 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/16)--both of which were built in 1927.<sup>82</sup>

The most notable extant resource concerning Thiensville's recreational evolution is Village Park located at the **east end of Elm Street** (Photo Codes 85/14-15, 85/19-20, 85/22-24), which is a tract of land that had a recreational focus long before it was owned by the village. At the turn of the twentieth century, Max Poeltzig moored a number of boats at the site that he rented to tourists. In 1923, the Thiensville Athletic Association organized to construct a baseball field and sought to obtain Poeltzig's fourteen-acre parcel, which he sold for \$4,800. The association raised funds by conducting a series of carnivals, picnics, dances and card parties at the former Park Hotel--what was then called Thiensville Gardens--located at **166 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 77/15, 77/17), as well as other hotels. The association developed a number improvements to the park to include an athletic field, grand stand and parking lot. In 1933, the village government obtained the park and, in 1935, hired local landscape architect Robert Boerner to landscape the facility. Many local organizations have held activities at the park and some have sponsored improvement projects. Most notably, the Thiensville Fire Department sponsored the construction of a pair of stone pavilions in 1956.<sup>83</sup>

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<sup>81</sup>Newsbrief (re: Thiensville tourism), *Cedarburg News*, 21 July 1915.

<sup>82</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 35-39; Newsbriefs, *Cedarburg News*, 17 March 1914.

<sup>83</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 100-03.

**Associated Resources:**

The following extant resources identified as a result of the current survey are associated with Thiensville's artistic, cultural, entertainment and recreation history:

<b><u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u></b>	<b><u>Address/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>
Van Buren School	228 Elm Street	77/3, 77/4, 79/22
Village Park	East end of Elm Street	85/14-15, 85/19-20, 85/22-24
Thiensville Hotel	109 Green Bay Road	76/9
Hollnagel's Park Hotel	166 Green Bay Road	77/15, 77/17
Commercial House Hotel	105 S. Main Street	76/10
Thiensville Recreation Parlor	128-130 S. Main Street	75/17
Hein's Billiard Hall	159-163 S. Main Street	76/16

## CHAPTER 10

### Transportation

#### Railroad and Interurban Service

Railroad service arrived in Thiensville in 1871 when the Wisconsin Central Railway completed a line that connected Milwaukee and Green Bay. The line allowed Thiensville to continue its evolution as an agricultural support center that supported the farmers of the Town of Mequon. Farmers utilized the rail line to ship wheat, flour and other farm produce. These items were shipped from a one-story, wood-frame depot that was destroyed in 1965 in a derailment accident. Businesses such as the Duwe-Zimmermann and later known as the Maas lumber yard, as well as Nic Wilson's grain elevator (no longer extant) also located at the railroad to take advantage of the service. Livestock also were shipped from Thiensville. While the railroad no longer stops in village, the rail line remains operational and a fairly substantial railroad trestle remain intact in the **northwest quadrant of the community** (Photo Code 85/8).<sup>84</sup>

In 1907, The Milwaukee Northern Railway completed an electric interurban line from Milwaukee to Port Washington through Thiensville. This would later become a line within The Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light Company system. The initial stages of suburbanization were the result as Milwaukee commuters began to take up residence in Thiensville, as well as the surrounding Town of Mequon. However, in the early days of the interurban, the line brought many weekend vacationers from Milwaukee to Thiensville to enjoy recreational activities offered by the Milwaukee River and surrounding tracts of woods. Many of these vacationers stayed at Thiensville's local hotels. The interurban also served Thiensville by carrying milk to Milwaukee. Milk cans sitting on the interurban depot's loading platform on Buntrock Avenue were a common sight. As well, the Gilbert Shoe Company shipped their shoes to various locations through the country via the interurban line. Service ended in 1948 and the tracks were removed. Today, the remains of the line exists as part of the **Ozaukee Interurban Trail** (Photo Code 85/10).<sup>85</sup>

#### Highways

Beginning in 1832, the federal government surveyed the Green Bay Road from Milwaukee to Fort Howard (Green Bay) and it was completed through the Town of Mequon between 1836 and 1839.

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<sup>84</sup>*History of the Town of Mequon*, 23; *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1879], 485; Photo #1019, Photo Album #1. The Wisconsin Central Railway would later be known as the Wisconsin & Northern Railroad. The latter line would eventually be acquired by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, which was finally known as the Milwaukee Road.

<sup>85</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 4-9, 36, 134; *Polk's Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory*, [1895-1896], 1022-23; [1903-04], 1150; Canfield, *TM: The Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light Company*, 294-300, 322-24; Photos #179 and #502, Photo Album #1. In 2002, an interurban bridge crossing Pigeon Creek was replaced with a new structure as part of the improvement of the Ozaukee Interurban Trail.

Within the town, the crude trail primarily ran along the Milwaukee River. Also during this period, the federal government surveyed the Town of Mequon. By the 1850s, plank roads were popular in Wisconsin and one such example connected Thiensville with both Cedarburg and Milwaukee. The advent of railroads ended the phenomenon. Other roads were maintained at the local level. During the 1800s, the Town of Mequon undertook limited road and bridge projects. As early as 1851, the town board paid \$129 to John Henry Thien to replace a bridge crossing Pigeon Creek. Despite these early efforts, road transportation generally remained poor during the nineteenth century.<sup>86</sup>

Beginning after the turn of the century, the rising popularity of the automobile changed the makeup of Thiensville's business community. Serious improvements to area roads did not occur until the passage of the Federal Road Aid Act of 1916, which assisted states in highway development. In compliance with the act, Wisconsin formally created a 5,000 mile-long trunk highway system in 1917, which was under construction as early as 1915. Included in this initial system was STH 57, which ran through the commercial district of Thiensville. STH 57 continues to link Milwaukee with Cedarburg and was paved through Thiensville in 1915. A second major roadway emerged south of Thiensville and was known as CTH S (Mequon Road), it was paved as early as 1930. A significant number of automobiles utilized these and other early roads and, therefore, a number of specialized businesses opened to cater to the needs of the automobile. According to state business directories, T.H. Wegmann operated a garage in 1919 and by 1921 had competition from Walter W. Rowe. A notable service station/garage that emerged during this period was the Tudor Revival-style, Frank Oil Company located at **185 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/19).<sup>87</sup>

### **Associated Resources:**

The following extant resources identified as a result of the current survey are associated with Thiensville's transportation history:

<b><u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u></b>	<b><u>Address/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>
Ozaukee Interurban Trail	Parallel to Main Street, to the west	85/10
Railroad trestle	Northwest quadrant of village	85/8
Culvert	E. Freistadt Road & Vernon Avenue	81/5
Frank Oil Company	185 S. Main Street	76/19

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<sup>86</sup>Corrigan, Sr., *History of the Town of Mequon*, 8; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 2-3, 134.

<sup>87</sup>1920 *Official Map of the State Trunk Highway System of Wisconsin* (Madison, WI: Wisconsin Highway Commission, 1920); *Official Highway Map of Wisconsin* (Madison, WI: Secretary of State, 1925); *Map Showing State and Federal Highway Routes* (Madison, WI: Wisconsin Highway Commission, 1930); *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1919-1920], 1132; [1927-1928], 982; Photos #463, #1173 and #1174, Photo Album #1; Photos #712 and #1245, Located in Photo Album #2, Mequon Historical Society, Mequon, WI; "Better Roads," Material online located at [www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/history/betterroads.htm](http://www.co.ozaukee.wi.us/history/betterroads.htm), Accessed on 30 April 2003; Newsbrief, *Cedarburg News*, 22 September 1915.

## CHAPTER 11

### Education

To appreciate educational developments in Thiensville, it is helpful first to trace the evolution of public education at the state- and county-wide levels.

Wisconsin's 1848 constitution included provisions for the establishment of a free public school system. However, in the mid-nineteenth century, the state's educational system as a whole remained somewhat rudimentary at best. The average rural school was a small, frame structure equipped with a woodstove, wash pails and a handful of benches or desks; depending on the locale, equipment as basic as maps and blackboards often were scarce. The curricula typically included spelling, reading, writing, grammar and arithmetic. As the state became more heavily settled, higher standards were imposed. An 1861 law created the office of County Superintendent of Schools, responsible for coordinating the activities of county schools. The following year, a standard method of certifying teachers at the county level was adopted. County superintendents also held Teacher Institutes each summer to provide teachers with the opportunity to upgrade their skills. The state's first compulsory attendance law was passed in 1879, although it was unevenly enforced. During the decade, public high schools also began to be established as a wider variety of academic subjects were taught, including algebra, astronomy, botany and geology.<sup>88</sup>

After the beginning of the twentieth century, consolidation and centralization of schools became issues of increasing urgency, due to the disparity on the quality of instruction in urban versus rural districts. Fueled by the reformist Progressive Movement, the professionalization of the teaching corps also picked up the pace through the early decades of the twentieth century. Normal schools multiplied and districts began to emphasize the retention of trained teachers with years of experience as a worthwhile investment of still-limited funds. In Ozaukee County, many school districts responded to increasing educational pressures by constructing new, graded facilities that incorporated the most modern design elements available. Its districts also began to offer vocational, agricultural and home economic education programs reflective of contemporary teaching theories.<sup>89</sup>

Formal education began in Thiensville as early as 1844 with the founding of Van Buren School District #3. Early school meetings were held in the home of John Henry Thien, as well as the schoolhouse. As the area's population increased, a larger facility was needed and in 1866, a two-story, stone school building located at **228 Elm Street** (Photo Codes 77/3) was built. By 1904, the district had outgrown the facility and a large addition was constructed as a residence for the principal on the first floor and a third department on the upper level. The district also was renamed Mequon-Thiensville Joint School District #3. In 1922, the citizens of Thiensville passed a \$35,000 bond issue

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<sup>88</sup>Langill and Loerke, eds., *From Farmland to Freeways*, 275-93.

<sup>89</sup>*Ibid.*, 293-315; School Files--Mequon & Thiensville Binder, Ozaukee County Historical Society.

to construct the Thiensville State Graded School at **116 Grand Avenue** (Photo Code 83/3), which was opened for the 1923-1924 school year. In addition to classrooms, the facility contained a playroom that was used for many school and community activities such as scout meetings, gym classes, card parties and various club meetings. By the 1950s, suburbanization, an increase in district size and a state school consolidation law required the construction of an eight-room addition in 1952 and four-room addition in 1956. The former Grand Avenue School is now utilized as an apartment building (Photo Code 78/22). Also, the fourteen-room Wilson Avenue School in Mequon was built in 1958 to meet the needs of rising enrollment. During the 1960s, several of the small, rural districts in northern Mequon were added to District #3 and the Steffen Middle School also in Mequon was built in 1965. In 1972, the elementary and high school districts in the Mequon-Thiensville area combined to form a single K-12 district that was eventually called the Mequon-Thiensville School District.<sup>90</sup>

Thiensville also has been served by two parochial schools. In 1930, the Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church organized an elementary school that held its first classes in a dance hall in Mequon until the parish's first church building was finished in 1931 (no longer extant). Eventually, the school outgrew its church quarters and occupied the old Thoreau School on Mequon Road. In 1961, the congregation constructed a school at 110 Division Street, which received a large addition in 1967 that allowed for kindergarten instruction. In 1976, the school employed four teachers and had an enrollment of 120. Meanwhile, the second parochial elementary school organized in Thiensville was the sponsored by St. Cecilia's Catholic Church. Classes were first held in 1956 and the St. Cecilia Catholic School at **116 N. Orchard Street** (Photo Code 83/16) opened the next year. The original facility contained six classrooms and a gymnasium, and a large addition constructed in 1963. In 1976, St. Cecilia's had an enrollment of 227 students and employed eight teachers.<sup>91</sup>

Associated Resources:

The following resources identified as a result of the current survey are associated with Thiensville's educational history:

<u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u>	<u>Address/Location</u>	<u>Photo Code</u>
Van Buren School/Gilbert Shoe Co.	228 Elm Street	77/3, 77/4, 79/22
Thiensville State Graded School	116 Grand Avenue	78/2, 83/3
St. Cecilia Catholic School	116 N. Orchard Street	83/16

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<sup>90</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 40-53; Newsbrief (re: school addition), *Cedarburg News*, 13 July and 3 August 1904; School Files--Mequon & Thiensville Binder. A high school has never existed in Thiensville. Beginning in 1959, Thiensville students began attending the newly constructed Homestead High School in Mequon. Prior to that time, most of the village's high school students traveled to Cedarburg to attend class.

<sup>91</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 90-92, 99.

## CHAPTER 12

### Religion

The Village of Thiensville has a unique religious history in that it was not until 1919 that the first formal church building was constructed. In fact, the community during the nineteenth century was known as “The Churchless Town.” Many of the area’s first settlers, including John Henry Thien, identified with a German intellectual movement that was distrustful of organized religion. This movement eventually culminated with a failed 1848 revolution that served as a catalyst for German settlement in Wisconsin. While no church congregations or facilities existed in Thiensville during the nineteenth century, worship services frequently occurred in private homes with the first service occurring in 1838 in the home of Isaac Bigelow. It was conducted by Reverend Hiram W. Frink, who was a traveling Methodist minister.<sup>92</sup>

By 1919, twenty-two families petitioned the Milwaukee Archdiocese of the Roman Catholic Church for admission as a mission church. Land at the northeast corner of Wisconsin and Orchard streets was donated by Peter and Josephine Ellenbecker and a pre-fab, frame church was “put together” and placed on the foundation on 24 October 1919. Named St. Cecilia Catholic Church, the first service in the building occurred on 23 November 1919. The congregation grew and it received parish status in 1926 and constructed a larger facility designed by the Milwaukee architectural firm of Kirchoff & Rose, located at **138 W. Buntrock Avenue** (Photo Code 82/4) that was dedicated on 22 June 1940. Six years later, St. Cecilia’s received its first resident pastor, Reverend Peter Bronner. The first rectory, which was used for only a short time, was located on W. Freistadt Road, just west of N. Main Street (no longer extant), while the Walter Rowe Residence at **105 S. Orchard Street** (Photo Code 82/10) was utilized from the late 1940s to 1961, when it was moved to the former home of Dr. A.H.C. Carthaus at **101 Ellenbecker Road** (Photo Code 82/2). In 1955, St. Cecilia’s organized a Catholic elementary school located at **116 N. Orchard Street** (Photo Code 83/16). It consisted of six classrooms, a gymnasium and a living area for the three nuns that were the teachers. In 1961, the convent portion of the school was moved to a Cape Cod-style residence located at 121 Ellenbecker Road. Two years later, a large addition for both the church and the school was constructed (Photo Code 83/17). By 1976, St. Cecilia’s had a membership of approximately eight hundred.<sup>93</sup>

The second church to organize in Thiensville was Grace Lutheran Church. In the early twentieth century, non-German Lutherans in Thiensville traveled to Cedarburg for church services held in English; however by 1927, the group desired a Sunday school in Thiensville, which was held at the Fire Station and Village Hall at **101 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/13). The next year, local residents decided to create their own congregation in Thiensville. Land was purchased at the

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<sup>92</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 14, 86.

<sup>93</sup>Ibid., 86-91.



southwest corner of Green Bay Road and Grand Avenue. Services were held by Reverend Walter H. Behrens in the new building on 5 May 1929. Meanwhile, Behrens lived in a parsonage constructed at **333 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 78/8) in 1931. The tremendous post-World War II growth of Thiensville placed tremendous demands on the original church and a new structure was built in 1958 at **303 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 78/9, 78/10). A large addition was constructed in 1965 (Photo Code 78/7) and the congregation boasted 708 members in 1976.<sup>94</sup>

The third congregation to form in Thiensville was the Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, which organized in 1931 as part of the Wisconsin Synod. The twenty-seven member congregation erected a church building at 247 South Main Street in 1931, which also had classrooms for the group's elementary school. In 1952, a parsonage was built at **245 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/22) and a new school building located at 110 Division Street was constructed in 1961. Suburbanization swelled the ranks of the congregation and in 1974 the original church building was razed to make way for a new structure at **247 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/24). The new facility allowed the congregation to serve its membership of 750.<sup>95</sup>

### **Associated Resources:**

The following extant resources identified as a result of the current survey are associated with Thiensville's religious history.

<b><u>Property (Historic/Current Name)</u></b>	<b><u>Address/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>
St. Cecilia Catholic Church (1940)	138 W. Buntrock Avenue	82/4
St. Cecilia Catholic Church (1964)	138 W. Buntrock Avenue	79/2
Dr. A.H.C. Carthaus Res./St. Cecilia Rectory III	101 Ellenbecker Road	82/2
Thiensville Fire Station and Village Hall	101 Green Bay Road	75/13
Grace Lutheran Church II	303 Green Bay Road	78/7, 78/9, 78/10
Grace Lutheran Parsonage	333 Green Bay Road	78/8
Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Parsonage	245 S. Main Street	76/22
Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church	247 S. Main Street	76/24
St. Cecilia Catholic School	116 N. Orchard Street	83/16
Walter Rowe Residence/St. Cecilia Rectory II	105 S. Orchard Street	82/10

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<sup>94</sup>Ibid., 92-96.

<sup>95</sup>Ibid., 96-99.

## CHAPTER 13

### Medical History

While inns, general stores and blacksmith shops were the first businesses established in a new settlement, medical service, even if rudimentary, usually followed within a brief period of time. Thiensville was no exception. The first doctor reported to have practiced in the fledgling community was Ferdinand Rosenthal, who practiced in Thiensville from 1855 until at least 1879. The village's next known doctor was Dr. A. Henry Albers, who was in practice by no later than 1892 and continued until at least 1915. His home-office, which was later known as Stemmler's White Coach Inn, was located at 213 S. Main Street; however, it was razed in 1997. Several other physicians operated in Thiensville for periods of time during the early twentieth century. These include Dr. A. W. Ladwig (1901), Dr. A.H.C. Carthaus (1914-1961) and Dr. G.F. Kenney (circa 1909-1915), the latter of whom sold his practice to a Dr. R.C. Pheil from Antigo and went back to school to become a specialist. Dr. Kenney and his wife lived for a time in the Maas-Bublitz Residence at **116-122 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/11) and he also had an office there. They then briefly resided at the former Peter Kroehnke Residence at **106-108 Green Bay Road** (Photo Codes 75/4, 75/5), while Dr. Pheil reportedly moved into a new home built by the Thiensville Realty Company in 1915 (location unknown). Dr. Carthaus lived at **101 Ellenbecker Road** (Photo Code 82/2) and he operated his office out of the home; however, he later had an office in the Thiensville State Bank at **118 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/8) and was associated with Dr. Marshall B. Kaller. In addition to his medical duties, Dr. Carthaus also served as a director of the Thiensville State Bank since 1916 and held the position of vice president of the institution for six years until becoming the president in 1944. He was also elected village president in 1935. An undated announcement notes the opening of the office of Dr. E.P. Weber, physician and surgeon; however, the location is unknown. After World War II, physician's practicing in Thiensville were Dr. Herbert Scholz and Dr. T.D. Elbe, the latter of whom constructed his medical office at **143 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 84/6) in 1948. Elbe retired in 1985. Between 1963 and 1964, the Ozaukee Medical Center was constructed at **407 N. Main Street** (Photo Code 82/24). No less than four physicians worked out of the structure and include Drs. Herman Murray, Alvin Kurzon, Edward Levy and Morris Meister.<sup>96</sup>

Other medical services in Thiensville included those offered by pharmacists and dentists. In 1915,

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<sup>96</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 4, 75; John Sitkiewitz, "History of Thiensville;" *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1901-1902], 1060; [1909-1910], 1237; [1915-1916], 1092; [1927-1928], 982; *Thiensville Telephone Directory* (N.p.: Wisconsin Telephone Company, 1952), 49, In possession of Diane Robertson, Thiensville, WI; Newsbriefs, *Cedarburg News*, (re: Kenney to Pheil and back to school) 7 April 1915; (re: Pheil's residence) 14 April 1915; (re: Dr. Pheil) 5 May 1915; and (re: Kenney moved to Milwaukee) 29 September 1915; Various announcements, re: Dr. Kaller and Dr. A.H.C. Carthaus (undated), Dr. D.M. Goodsett (20 October 1923), Dr. E.P. Weber (undated), Found in the Thiensville Memorabilia Book, n.p.; *Thiensville Telephone Book* (1966, 1970); Mrs. Gertrude Giesfeldt offered that she remembered that Dr. Kenney had an office in the former Maas-Bublitz Residence at 116-122 S. Main Street, Giesfeldt, Conversation with Schnell.

Paul Seyfert took over his father's general store and expanded it by offering pharmacy services. A graduate of the University of Illinois' Pharmacy program in 1906, Seyfert operated the combination general and drugstore until he retired in 1962. A second drug store in Thiensville was operated by Lester Loppnow. It initially was located at **140 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/18) in 1939; however, Loppnow constructed a new building at **174 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/20) in 1947. Meanwhile, the first known dentist in Thiensville was a Dr. Keyes, who had a practice in Milwaukee and had opened an office in Nic Wilson's hotel, the Commercial House, at **105 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/10). Dr. Keyes came to Thiensville on Mondays. The next known dentist was Dr. Hudson, who practiced in the village by no later than 1913 until at least 1920. A dentist sign on a 1913 postcard view of the Maas-Bublitz Residence at **116-122 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/11) suggests that not only did Dr. Hudson reside in the home, but he also practiced dentistry there for at least a time. In 1923, an announcement cites the opening of the dental office of Dr. D.M. Goodsett in the Bublitz Investment Property/L.F. Bartelt Co. building at **106-108 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/14). Dr. Goodsett also had a practice at 2650 W. Fond du Lac Avenue in Milwaukee and had office hours in Thiensville on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Between approximately 1950 and 1975, Dr. George H. Witte operated a dental practice in the former Haas Residence at **186 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/12) while living in the adjacent house at **184 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 77/13). Finally, in 1960, Kenneth Clemence, D.D.S., erected the professional building at **195-199 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/20).<sup>97</sup>

#### **Associated Resources:**

The following extant resources identified as a result of the current survey are associated with Thiensville's medical history:

<u>Property (Historic/Current name)</u>	<u>Address/Location</u>	<u>Photo Code</u>
Dr. A.H.C. Carthaus Residence and office	101 Ellenbecker Road	82/2
Peter Kroehnke Residence (rented by Dr. Kenney)	106-108 Green Bay Road	75/4, 75/5
Thiensville State Bank II (offices of Dr. Carthaus and Dr. Marshall B. Kaller)	118 Green Bay Road	75/8
Dr. T.D. Elbe Office	143 Green Bay Road	84/6
Dr. George Witte office and residence	184-186 Green Bay Road	77/13, 77/12
Ozaukee Medical Center	407 N. Main Street	82/24
Dr. Robert Jacobs Professional Building	413 N. Main Street	82/23
Commercial House Hotel (Office of Dr. Keyes)	105 S. Main Street	76/10

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<sup>97</sup>*Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1913-1914], 1068; [1919-1920], 1182; Obituary for Paul Seyfert, Unnamed newspaper dated 21 May 1965 located in Names Files, Ozaukee County Historical Society; *Thiensville Telephone Directory* (March 1952), 19; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 9-10, 127-28; Advertisement for Dr. D.M. Goodsett, Located in the 1935 Program for "Here Comes Charlie," Thiensville Memorabilia Book; Newsbrief (re: Dr. Keyes), *Cedarburg News*, 12 October 1904; Historic postcard view (Maas-Bublitz Residence), dated 1913, In possession of Dawn Holyoke, Great Granddaughter of Otto Bublitz, Thiensville, WI.

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Otto Bublitz Investment Property (Office of Dr. D.M. Goodsett, dentist)	106-108 S. Main Street	75/14, 75/15
Maas-Bublitz Residence (Rented by Drs. Hudson, Kenney and Kaller)	116-122 S. Main Street	75/11
Lopnow Drug Store I	140 S. Main Street	75/18
Lopnow Drug Store II	174 S. Main Street	75/20
Kenneth Clemence, D.D.S., Professional Building	195-199 S. Main Street	76/20

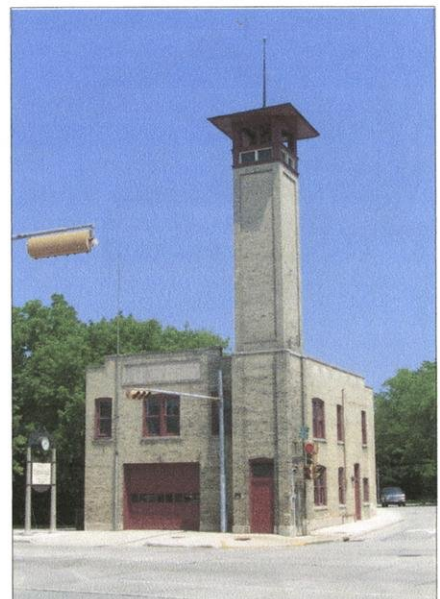
## CHAPTER 14

### Recommendations

Of the 161 properties inventoried and photographed, fifteen were thought to offer a sufficient degree of historical intrigue and/or architectural integrity to suggest potential for listing on the National Register. A discussion of each of those fifteen resources, as well as two historic districts, along with a recommendation regarding Register eligibility, follows:

Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
Main Street Historic District	See Appendix D	Potentially Eligible

The Main Street Historic District includes a total of ten structures; all of which are considered to be contributing. The district, which dates from 1895-1927, includes five commercial structures, a municipal building, three residences, as well as an outbuilding--five structures of which were associated with the locally prominent Bublitz family. The resources include the following: the Thiensville Fire Station/Village Hall located at **101 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/13) ; the Oscar J. Bublitz Grocery Store at **101 N. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/11); the Riemer Residence at **107 W. Buntrock Avenue** (Photo Code 83/15); the Commercial House Hotel located at **105 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/10); the Otto Bublitz Investment Property/L.F. Bartelt Furniture Store & Undertaking at **106-108 S. Main Street** (Photo Codes 75/14, 75/15); the Maas-Bublitz Residence at **116-122 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/11); the John Bublitz & Son General Store at **121-123 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/13); the Walter Bublitz Residence at **127 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 76/12); and the Thiensville Recreation Parlor at **128-130 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/17). The district is considered eligible under Criterion A, for its association with the development of the Village of Thiensville in general, as well under Criterion B, regarding the Bublitz family, and the contributions they made to the commercial development of the area.



**Figure 1:** 101 Green Bay Road. Map Code 75/13.

Of the aforementioned structures, two are also thought to be individually eligible for the Register. Constructed in 1914, the Thiensville Fire Station and Village Hall at **101 Green Bay Road** (Photo Code 75/13) served the community of Thiensville as its municipal center from 1914 until the new village facility was completed in 1974. Featuring a cream brick exterior, the largely vernacular, former fire station and village hall retains a significant degree of integrity and stands as a testament to the development of the village government. Therefore, the structure is considered eligible for the Register under Criterion A. The second structure, the former Thiensville Recreation Parlor, located



**Figure 2:** 101 N. Main Street. Map Code 76/11.



**Figure 3:** 107 W. Buntrock Avenue. Map Code 83/15.



**Figure 4:** 105 S. Main Street. Map Code 76/10.



**Figure 5:** 106-108 S. Main Street. Map Code 75/14.



**Figure 6:** 106-108 S. Main Street. Map Code 75/15.



**Figure 7:** 116-122 S. Main Street. Map Code 75/11.

at **128-130 S. Main Street** (Photo Code 75/17), is a fine example of a first-quarter century commercial building which retains an excellent degree of integrity and is considered eligible under Criterion C. The grand opening for the business, which included a bowling alley, was held on 14

May 1927. Paul Gruenwald was the owner/proprietor, while Elmer Hensel served as manager. By no later than 1935, it was purchased by Ervin Riemer. Although the structure has changed hands over the years, it continues to serve as a tavern today and is now known as Remington's River Inn.



**Figure 8:** 121-123 S. Main Street. Map Code 76/13.



**Figure 9:** 127 S. Main Street. Map Code 76/12.



**Figure 10:** 128-130 S. Main Street. Map Code 75/17.

Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
Green Bay Road Historic District	See Appendix E	Potentially Eligible

The Green Bay Road Historic District consists of eleven resources and extends from 149 to 193-195 Green Bay Road. It occupies the west side of the street (see the complete list of addresses and the district map in Appendix E). The district dates from circa 1884 to 1929 and includes some of the commercial structures along Green Bay Road, as well as the homes of many of the local business owners. Specifically included are eight residences and three commercial buildings. One of the eleven resources is non-contributing (however, after rehabilitation, it could be reconsidered). The Green Bay Road Historic District is thought eligible for the Register under Criterion C as a fine collection of late-nineteenth and early twentieth century, commercial and residential architecture in the Village of Thiensville.



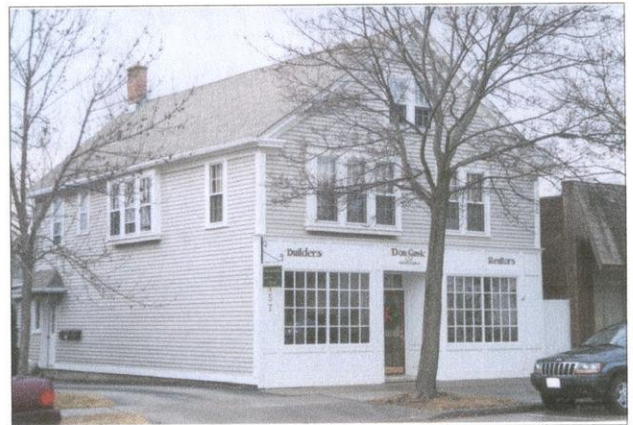
**Figure 11:** 149 Green Bay Road. Map Code 76/7.



**Figure 12:** 151 Green Bay Road. Map Code 76/6.



**Figure 13:** 153-155 Green Bay Road. Map Code 77/18.



**Figure 14:** 157 Green Bay Road. Map Code 76/4.



**Figure 15:** 161 Green Bay Road. Map Code 83/23.



**Figure 16:** 163 Green Bay Road. Map Code 76/2.





**Figure 17:** 165-169 Green Bay Road. Map Code 76/1.



**Figure 18:** 171-175 Green Bay Road. Map Code 78/24.



**Figure 19:** 177 Green Bay Road. Map Code 78/22.



**Figure 20:** 183-185 Green Bay Road. Map Code 77/11.



**Figure 21:** 193-195 Green Bay Road. Map Code 78/20.

Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
503 Bel Aire Court (aka 503 Freistadt Rd.)	79/9	Potentially Eligible

Built in 1937, this Neoclassical Revival style residence is sheathed largely with Lannon stone and occupies the entire south parcel of Bel Aire Court. The main, side-gabled block is dominated by a two-story portico consisting of a series of six Doric columns. The central entrance is set within a segmentally arched opening and features a transom and sidelights. Rectangular double-hung windows are regularly placed along both the first and second floors. A series of three gabled roof dormers line the north slope of the roof. Moving east, the second, side-gabled block features a central door that is flanked by a single sash window to either side. Finally, the two-story, front-gabled garage anchors the house on the east and consists of a Lannon stone-sheathed first floor, while the upper level is covered with clapboard. A pair of segmentally arched openings house a pair of overhead garage doors, while the second floor carries a pair of multiple-light sash windows.



Figure 22: 503 Bel Aire Court. Map Code 79/9.

After living in a fairly modest bungalow on Green Bay Road (no longer extant), this house was constructed by A.P. Gilbert in 1937. Gilbert was the president of the Gilbert Shoe Company (located at 228 Elm Street), which was begun in 1926 (see discussion for the Gilbert Shoe Company located at 228 Elm Street) . Local rumors suggest that Mrs. Gilbert did not like the home and they moved to a smaller home within a short period of time. The next owners were P. Lewis and Claire Bajus. Following the death of her husband, Claire remained at the home until at least 1965. No information could be found regarding the Bajus family.<sup>98</sup>

The former A.P. Gilbert Residence is an excellent example of a Neoclassically designed residence and is considered to be eligible for the Register under Criterion C.

Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
East End of Elm Street (Village Park)	85/15	Further study needed

Located along the Milwaukee River, the Thiensville Village Park was formally established in 1933, after the village purchased the tract from the Thiensville Athletic Association. Two years later, landscape architect Robert Boerner was hired to design the landscaping of the park. In 1956, the stone-sheathed, enclosed beverage and refreshment pavilions were constructed under the sponsorship of the Thiensville Fire Department. In 1970, the open refreshment stand was constructed adjacent

<sup>98</sup>Tax rolls, Village of Thiensville, 1910-1965, On file at the Ozaukee County Courthouse, Port Washington, WI; Egelhoff, Conversation with Schnell.

to the baseball field. Additional physical elements in the park include a barbeque (just east of the open refreshment stand), two tennis courts, a concrete block restroom facility, two parking lots, a stone marker, wooden signage, pathways and general landscaping/foliage.<sup>99</sup>

Robert Boerner was the brother of Alfred Boerner, who was employed with the Milwaukee Park Commission and designed Whitnall Park in Milwaukee. In 1913, a number of Boerner family members organized the Cedar Hedge Farm Association, which raised and sold cut flowers and nursery stock. Robert's uncle Albert managed the business and also provided landscaping services. Considered to be poorly managed by Albert, Cedar Hedge eked out a modest existence until it was sold in the early 1930s. Robert is cited as having designed a number of parks in Wisconsin and his fee for the Thiensville project is recorded as a mere \$250.<sup>100</sup>

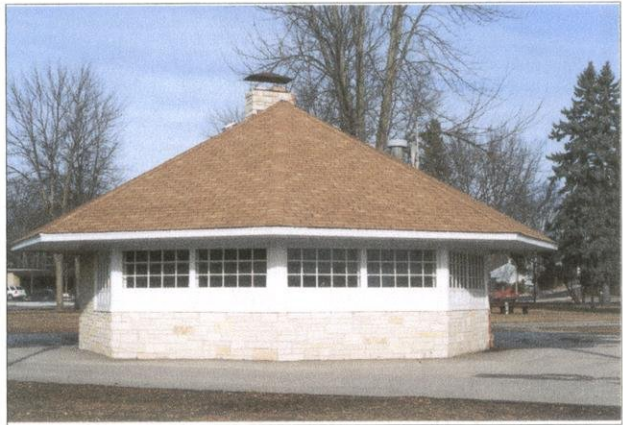


Figure 23: East end of Elm Street. Map Code 85/15.

Original landscaping plans for the park could not be located. It is apparent that a variety of modern structures have been installed in the park; however, the landscaping of the park--including walkways and tree plantings--appears to be intact. However, further study needs to be done in order to confirm that this is indeed the case. Hence, until a historic photograph or landscape plan are located, the eligibility of this park is pending.

Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
231 Elm Street	79/21	Potentially Eligible

Built in 1915, this bungalow residence rises from a rock-faced concrete foundation and is sheathed with wood siding. Oriented to the west, as opposed to the adjacent roadway, the home features an open porch that is created by the overhang of the structure's roof. Simple wooden columns support the roof, which features a shed-roof dormer and a small, upper-level porch. The wooden porch balustrade of both the first and upper levels features an open craftsman-influenced design. The primary entrance with flanking sidelights is centered between two pair of sash windows. The upper level features a decorative porch roof with wooden eave trim. A central door and multiple-light fenestration lines the second level. Windows throughout the remainder of the home are one-over-one-light examples.

After purchasing the subject property in 1913, Oswald Liebscher had the subject house constructed

<sup>99</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 100, 102.

<sup>100</sup>Ibid., 100; Boerner, "C. Friedrich Boerner and his Family" (1989), 23, 25-26.

in 1915. Indeed, the 10 March 1915 edition of the *Cedarburg News* reads “O. Liebscher intends to erect a fine residence on his property this spring.” The contract was awarded to J. Mueller at the end of March and the home is noted as completed (and painted white) on 29 September 1915. Son of a miller, Liebscher was born in Germany and came to the United States in 1895. After working in the milling business in Theresa, Mayville and then Kewaskum, he responded to an ad for a miller at the Thiensville Mill and he and his wife Martha moved to the village in 1901. On 1 May 1912, P. J. Kroehnke sold the mill to Liebscher and Julius W.



Figure 24: 231 Elm Street. Map Code 79/21.

Schaefer, the latter of which was a school teacher at Mequon’s Thoreau Graded School. Liebscher served as president, while Schaefer was secretary/treasurer. They ran the mill until 1944; Liebscher was noted as the mill’s last full-time miller. The house was later passed on to Liebscher’s son Theodore, who served as Village President from 1945 to 1955 and again from 1961 to 1967.<sup>101</sup>

The Oswald Liebscher Residence is a fine example of an early bungalow built by local architect/builder John E. Mueller. The home features an attractive wooden balustrade on both the first and second levels, as well as wooden roof trim. The home is a highly intact example of the type of homes that were built shortly after Thiensville became a village and is considered eligible for the National Register under Criterion C.

Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
228 Elm Street	77/3	Potentially Eligible

This structure is comprised of at least four main periods of construction. The original 1866 school building portion of the factory is constructed of coursed fieldstone and consists of a row of three, brick-trimmed, round-arched window openings along each of the two floors. In 1904, while still functioning as a schoolhouse, a brick block was added to the east and features segmentally arched window openings. Another brick block (date of construction unknown) extends to the west of the original block and exhibits rectangular, brick-trimmed fenestration. By no later than 1929, a one-story wing, also with rectangular windows, was added to the east. At an unknown date, this wing was extended further east. Finally, a free-standing, one-story, rusticated concrete block building stands

<sup>101</sup>Tax rolls, Village of Thiensville, 1911-1965; *Wisconsin State Gazetteer and Business Directory* [1913-14], 1068; Thiensville Memorabilia Book, n.p.; Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 20-21; Newsbriefs (re: Liebscher residence) *Cedarburg News*, 10 March 1915, 31 March 1915, 29 September 1915; Current owner Olga LaCroix, noted that the name John Mueller was etched into the house, Conversation with Traci E. Schnell, 2 July 2003.

at the east end of the larger building. Nearly all windows are multiple-light sash types.<sup>102</sup>

After purchasing the former Van Buren School building from the Allen-Spiegel Shoe Co., A.P. and Rose Gilbert began manufacturing children's shoes under the name of Kali-Sten-Iks. The name fit Gilbert's marketing of the shoe as one that would properly develop the muscles of a child's foot. With an initial workforce of fifteen, the firm had a daily production of 300 pair, which increased to 1,200 pair by 1929. The company remained strong during the Great Depression and provided consistent employment for 200. The company's height was during the 1950s when it made 1,800 pairs a day with a staff of 250, which resulted in the large one-story addition to the east.



Figure 25: 228 Elm Street. Map Code 77/3.

The firm opened a branch factory in Campbellsport. In 1966, Gilbert sold the company to Robert W. Kasten, Sr. Business slowly declined throughout the 1970s due to foreign competition. Eventually the Campbellsport plant was closed in the early 1970s, while the Thiensville factory closed in 1978. The structure is currently used as a storage facility. At this time, the property is for sale and plans are to raze the structure and construct new condominiums.<sup>103</sup>

The Gilbert Shoe Company offered the Village of Thiensville a long-lasting industry that provided many of its citizens employment. Standing as a testament to Thiensville's most significant and long-lasting industry, the former Gilbert Shoe Company is considered eligible for the National Register under Criterion A.

Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
344 E. Freistadt Road	81/7	Potentially eligible

Oriented to the south, this 1939 Period Revival style house is topped with a hipped roof and is completely sheathed with limestone. The primary facade is symmetrical in design and features shaped wing walls at both the east and west sides. An enclosed, rectangular entry projects from the center of the south facade and carries a round-arched doorway with a cut limestone surround. A tripartite window grouping topped with a segmental arch, stone header is located to either side of the

<sup>102</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 40; Newsbrief (re: school addition), *Cedarburg News*, 13 July and 3 August 1904; Sanborn Map Company, *Fire Insurance Map of Thiensville, Wis.* (1929); Historic Photograph, Gilbert Shoe Company, undated, In possession of the Thiensville Historic Preservation Commission. Handwritten information at the bottom of the photograph reads, "First Addition to "Kali-Sten-Iks" factory."

<sup>103</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 104-106; "Kasten's Shoe Firm Closes its Doors," Unnamed newspaper 22 July 1978.

entrance. The second floor features two pair of rectangular, multiple-light sash openings separated by a smaller, multiple-light pair at the center. A decorative iron gate lines the property along the adjacent Freistadt Road.

This house was built in 1939 by Arthur & Adele E. Krueger. No further information could be found regarding the Kruegers.<sup>104</sup>

The Krueger Residence is a fine example of a Period Revival style residence with little alteration; therefore it is considered eligible under Criterion C.



Figure 26: 344 E. Friestadt Road. Map Code 81/7.

Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
402 E. Freistadt Road	81/11	Potentially Eligible

This 1938 Period Tudor Revival style house is fronted by a pair of stone driveway markers and surrounded by a metal fence obscured by bushes. The main block of the two-story home is essentially side-gabled, while a front-gabled wing anchors the house at the east end. This front gabled wing carries a paired grouping of multiple-light sash windows, while the upper floor features a similar paired group. A projecting entrance gable partially obscures the front-facing wing, as well as the side-gabled portion and carries a round-arched doorway. The wall space to the west of the entrance carries a pair of six-over-nine-light windows. A shed-roof dormer with false half-timbering extends from the second level of the side-gabled section and carries a pair of sash windows. A one-story, polygonal wing comprised largely of windows extends from both the east and west ends of the home.



Figure 27: 402 E. Freistadt Road. Map Code 81/11.

<sup>104</sup>Tax rolls, Village of Thiensville, 1911-1965; *Thiensville Telephone Directory* (1952); Per local resident Jerry Egelhoff, Arthur Krueger was either associated with the Gilbert Shoe factory or the Thiensville State Bank. Following Arthur's death, Adele (or Adela) remained at the home until at least the early 1960s, Egelhoff, Conversation with Schnell. The Social Security Death Index (SSDI) lists that Adele was born on 4 February 1902 and passed away on 2 July 1992, SSDI, Accessed on 6 June 2003 at [www.ssdigenealogy.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/ssdi.cgi](http://www.ssdigenealogy.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/ssdi.cgi). Due to time constraints, the obituary could not be located for information.

James F. Wood built this house in 1938. Wood and his wife came to Thiensville no later than 1927; James was the superintendent of the Gilbert Shoe Co., while his wife was in charge of the stitching room. After living in the “Maas house” for a time, the Woods’ eventually had the Freistadt Road home built. No further information could be found regarding the Woods family.<sup>105</sup>

The subject home is a fine example of the Tudor Revival style of architecture with little to no alteration. Therefore, the James F. Wood Residence is considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C.

Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
118 Green Bay Road	75/8	Potentially Eligible

This two-story, Art Deco style banking facility was built between 1929 and 1930. Faced with orange-toned brick, the primary (north) facade features sandstone trim around the entrance, windows and along the cornice. Incised vertical lines and stepped surfaces provide the bulk of the building’s ornamentation; however, an incised zig-zag design appears along the top of the structure. Despite window alterations and that of the first-floor doorway, the structure remains largely intact.



Figure 28: 118 Green Bay Road. Map Code 75/8.

After twenty years at 136 Green Bay Road (see discussion below for historical information on 136 Green Bay Road), the Thiensville State Bank chose to relocate approximately one-half block to the south in a new and larger, two-story banking facility designed by Albert Moorman & Company of St. Paul, Minnesota. Born in Germany in 1860, Moorman immigrated to the United States with his family in 1864. After serving as an apprentice to a woodcarver, he moved to St. Paul in 1905 and established a furniture company. This work evolved into the design of banking fixtures and interiors, which led to the overall exterior design of small banking facilities in the Midwest by no later than 1914. A. Moorman & Company was noted as “one of the most successful designers of small-town banks in the region.” The Thiensville State Bank operated out of this facility until the new bank was built at 200 Green Bay Road in 1963. The structure currently houses a number of businesses.<sup>106</sup>

Despite fenestration updates, the second iteration of the Thiensville State Bank is an excellent example of the Art Deco style of architecture and is therefore considered eligible under Criterion C.

<sup>105</sup>Newsbrief (re: James Wood) *Cedarburg News*, 5 October 1927; Egelhoff, Conversation with Schnell.

<sup>106</sup>Biographical sketch of Albert Moorman, located on the website for the Northwest Architectural Archives.

Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
136 Green Bay Road	77/21	Potentially eligible

Constructed of brick, this small, one-story banking facility is Neoclassical in style and features a brick parapet with a wooden (or metal) cornice. Oriented to the west, the entrance is outlined by a pair of brick piers that are topped with a wooden (or metal) entablature. A modern, metal-and-glass door rests between the piers. A large, multiple-light window occupies the remaining wall space of the primary face and is topped with a segmentally arched, stone lintel. A burglar alarm is located prominently at the center of the window lintel. Windows along the north and south facades are segmentally arched. In the mid-1920s, a small, one-story addition was made at the rear of the building.

The Thiensville State Bank was organized in 1910 by John F. Nieman, Otto Bublitz and D.M. Rosenheimer. Rosenheimer reportedly had experience in organizing banks in Wisconsin, while both Nieman and Bublitz were area businessmen. Officers of the bank included Nieman as president; Charles Maas as vice president and Rosenheimer as cashier. Bublitz and Louis Kieker served as the first directors. Peter J. Kroehnke sold the subject parcel to the bank in September 1910 and the North Shore Engineering Company was hired to design the facility. The bank received its certification on 28 December of that year and the Memmler family was the first to obtain an account. By the end of that month, the bank had deposits amounting to over \$12,000. The first and perhaps only bank robbery in this building occurred in the Winter of 1923. Between 1925 and 1930, the number of deposits had grown to over \$100,000 and, because of the increasing number of patrons, the bank needed to expand their facilities. In 1929, a new bank was constructed one-half block to the south at 118 Green Bay Road. Since 1929, the subject structure has been the home of the Ozaukee Insurance Agency.<sup>107</sup>



Figure 29: 136 Green Bay Road. Map Code 77/21.

No evidence was found to suggest eligibility under Criterion B. Regarding Criterion A, the bank did provide a financial support system for the burgeoning community of Thiensville. In addition, the bank is a fine and intact example of the Neoclassical style of architecture. Except for the installation of a modern glass door and the small rear addition, little has been done to alter the building's exterior appearance. Therefore, the bank is also eligible under Criterion C.

<sup>107</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 82.



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Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
105-107 Kieker Road	80/24	Potentially Eligible

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Oriented to the east, this one-and-one-half story bungalow is sheathed with clapboard, while the porch piers and wall are concrete. The entrance is located right of center and is flanked by sidelights; a picture window occupies the left half of the wall space. The upper level features a shed-roof dormer with exposed eaves. Two pair of multiple-light sash windows occupy the dormer, while the upper-level porch features a Craftsman-inspired railing (railing was temporarily removed at the time of the photo). Windows throughout the remainder of the home are largely regularly placed and consist of sash examples.



Figure 30: 105-107 Kieker Road. Map Code 80/24.

This bungalow was built in circa 1920 by Eugene Milbrath. No further information could be found regarding the Milbraths.<sup>108</sup>

The former Eugene Milbrath Residence is a highly intact example of a bungalow in the Village of Thiensville and is considered eligible for the Register under Criterion C.

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Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
417 N. Main Street	82/21	Further Research Needed

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This two-story, former Greek Revival style residence is believed to have been constructed between 1856 and 1857. The home features 33-inch thick, stone walls that have been covered with stucco. Both the attic and the basement feature hand-hewn beams; adobe clay and animal fiber/horse & pig hair has been used as insulation material. The main block rises two stories and is oriented on a north/south axis. A one-story, circa-1950s sunroom extends from the main block to the south, while a circa late-1960s, one-story, 35-foot living room wing extends from the rear. A two-story portico



Figure 31: 417 N. Main Street. Map Code 82/21.

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<sup>108</sup>The Social Security Death Index (SSDI) notes that Eugene Milbrath was born on 16 October 1888 and died in August 1979, SSDI, Accessed on 5 June 2003. Due to time constraints, the obituary could not be located.

comprised of a full pediment supported by four fluted columns extends from the front (west) facade of the home. This was added in circa 1939 and transformed the former Greek Revival-style home into a Neoclassical style residence. Windows throughout the main block of the house are multiple-light examples. Regarding the interior, the first floor consists of four rooms, the sunroom and a bathroom, while the upper level contains three bedrooms and a bathroom. A barn was previously located on the property, but was razed in the late 1930s.

The first recorded land purchase for this property was in 1839 by Charlotte Horton Crawford; however, based on tax rolls, the date of construction for the home is believed to be circa 1856-1857 by Henry Blaeser (Blazer). The 1870 census indicates that Blaeser, born in 1817 in Hesse, Germany, was married and had six children. In October of that year, Blaeser sold the property to Gerhard Koopmann; Koopmann retained the property until 1906. Little information is known regarding subsequent owners until Carl J. Blume, principal of the Thiensville School, purchased the home in the mid- to late-1930s. It is said that he never lived in the home, but it was he who reportedly erected the portico in 1939. The pillars were reportedly recovered from a razed mansion/building in Milwaukee and Blume reportedly paid \$25 per pillar.<sup>109</sup> The story that has been passed on is that the Blumes admired Franklin Delano Roosevelt's "Little White House" residence in Georgia and built the portico to resemble that home. The current owner, Mrs. Bayley, purchased the home in 1964 with her late husband Richard. The Bayleys were responsible for the construction of the 35-foot living room addition to the rear. The house is currently utilized as a residence for Mrs. Bayley, as well as a gift shop named Bayleywick Gifts.<sup>110</sup>

Although noted as one of the earliest homes built in Thiensville and originally Greek Revival in design, the subject house was considered for eligibility as a Neoclassical example of architecture. However, following comparison to the Neoclassically styled, 1937 A.P. Gilbert Residence at 503 BelAire Court, it is immediately apparent that this example is not as pure. Indeed, the Neoclassical front was added in 1939 and the sunroom to the south was added in the 1950s. And, although not visible from the front, a large living room addition with modern sheathing and fenestration was added in the 1960s. Based on the alterations and in comparison to the A.P. Gilbert Residence, the Blaeser-Blume Residence is not considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places

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<sup>109</sup>In 1987, Richard Bayley, filled out a National Register Nomination Questionnaire in which he indicated that he was told the pillars were from the County Emergency Hospital at 24th Street & Wisconsin Avenue in Milwaukee (which Bayley refers to as the Schandein emergency hospital). According to the National Register Nomination from 1985 (as related over the phone by nomination author Carlen Hatala), the existing columns of the Milwaukee County Emergency Hospital are constructed of cast stone and there are no known columns missing from the building. Due to time constraints, no further research could be done to determine if the former hospital is indeed missing any pillars. National Register Nomination Questionnaire, Blaeser Property (417 N. Main Street), Prepared by (the late) Richard Bayley, 1987, Copy on file at Heritage Research, Ltd., Menomonee Falls, WI; Ms. Carlen Hatala, Preservation Planner for the City of Milwaukee, Conversation with Traci E. Schnell, 22 July 2003.

<sup>110</sup>Mohr, ed., *History of Thiensville*, 124; Mrs. Richard Bayley, Conversation with Traci E. Schnell, 2 June 2003. Mrs. Bayley indicated that she does have the abstract of title in her possession; however, she does not know its current location.

under Criterion C. However, the home is certainly one of the earliest Thiensville-area homes and the current owner indicated that it may have served for a time as a stagecoach stop. Further research is necessary to determine the validity of that possibility, as well as to complete the full chain of title for the home so that both Criterion A and B are fully investigated.

Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
231 Riverview Drive	80/14	Potentially Eligible

Sheathed with brick, this one-and-one-half story, Period Tudor Revival home was built in 1929. Perfectly symmetrical in design, the home features a central, round-arched entrance trimmed with limestone which carries a modestly recessed wood-and-glass door. A slightly flared, gabled wall dormer rests to either side of the entry and each features a large, tripartite window grouping featuring diamond-shaped, leaded glass. A shed-roof dormer is situated at the center of the north slope of the roof and carries a pair of multiple-light windows fronted by a flower box. A brick garage unit is located to the east of the house; the westernmost of which is original to the home. The eastern portion was recently constructed; however, great care was taken in order to match the original unit. The new garage was designed by Hoffman Builders of Mequon and built by Lloyd Termott of Cedarburg. The interior retains much of its original detailing and fixtures; however, the upper level, which originally consisted of just two bedrooms was further divided to accommodate a third bedroom.<sup>111</sup>



Figure 32: 231 Riverview Drive. Map Code 80/14.

Charles and Edith Parske constructed this residence in 1929. Little is known about the Parskes other than Charles was reportedly a professor at a college in Milwaukee. The Parskes had no children and they reportedly lived in the home themselves for only a short time; however, they rented the home for some time. The Jensens purchased the home from Edith Parske and resided in the home until selling to the Reillys, the current owners. Mr. Jensen was the head actuary at Northwestern Mutual Life.<sup>112</sup>

The subject house has been identified as a possible catalogue design; however, it has not since been matched to any known printed design. Despite that supposition, the subject residence is a fine

<sup>111</sup>Mrs. James Reilly, Current owner of 231 Riverview Drive, Conversation with Traci E. Schnell, 1 July 2003.

<sup>112</sup>Tax rolls, Village of Thiensville, 1911-1965; Giesfeldt, Conversation with Schnell (provided that Mr. Parske was a professor); Ruth Hatzinger, Longtime resident of Thiensville, Conversation with Traci E. Schnell, 2 June 2003 (thought that Parske was a carpenter). Reilly, Conversation with Schnell.

example of the Period Tudor Revival style of architecture and is considered eligible for the Register under Criterion C.

**\*The following two houses are considered to be potentially eligible when they turn 50 years old.**

Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
401 Madero Drive	83/8	Potentially Eligible

This 1955, Contemporary-style residence features stone veneer sheathing and large expanses of windows. A dominant chimney anchors the house to the rear and from it extends a steeply pitched roofline. A shed-roof dormer pierced with a bank of rectangular windows rises from the roofline to the east. Floor-to-ceiling windows occupy the southeast corner of the home and provide an interesting contrast with the heavy stone sheathing and massive chimney.



Figure 33: 401 Madero Drive. Map Code 83/8.

Constructed in 1955, this home was built by the Century Land Co., Inc. and the first owner is noted as Val R. Lujack. However, the first person believed to have resided in the home was Martin E. Miller, who lived there into the 1960s. This home, as well as at least two other homes in the immediate vicinity were a part of the 1955 Parade of Homes. No further information could be found.<sup>113</sup>

Just under fifty years old, the subject residence is an excellent example of a Contemporary-style residence that appears to remain completely intact. Therefore, providing that no alterations are made in the next two years, the subject residence is believed to be eligible under Criterion C.

Address	Map Code	NRHP Evaluation
617 Sunny Lane	83/7	Potentially eligible

Just one story in height, this Contemporary-style residence features living quarters of brick and stone to the east, while a glass breezeway extends to the west to attach to a brick garage.

Built in 1964, this house was erected by the Century Land Co., Inc., with Jordan-Jefferson Inc. noted as the first owner. However, the first person to reside in the home was Frank D. Buffoni, who lived

<sup>113</sup>Pat Lawrence, Longtime resident of Thiensville, Conversation with Traci E. Schnell, 9 July 2003; Tax rolls, Village of Thiensville, 1911-1965.

there for only a short time. The next owner was the Neubauer family, who sold the home to current owner William Maskrey in 1978. In 1982, the Maskreys hired Architecture 360 to add a fourth bedroom; however, the plans were never executed.<sup>114</sup>

Just under forty years old, the subject residence is a very good example of a Contemporary-style residence that appears to remain completely intact. Therefore, providing that no alterations are made in the next ten years, the subject residence is believed to be eligible under Criterion C.



**Figure 34:** 617 Sunny Lane. Map Code 83/7.

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<sup>114</sup>Tax rolls, Village of Thiensville, 1911-1965; Architecture 360, Additions and alterations for the William Maskrey Residence, 1982 (Unexecuted); William Maskrey, Current owner of 617 Sunny Lane, Conversation with Traci E. Schnell, 7 July 2003.

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**APPENDIX A**

**Survey Inventory**

<b><u>Address</u></b>	<b><u>Type of Resource</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>	<b><u>Map Code</u></b>
503 Bel Aire Drive (2 cards)	Residential	79/9, 79/10	79/10
107 W. Buntrock Avenue	Residential/Commercial	83/15	83/15
109-113 W. Buntrock Avenue	Residential	75/9	75/9
138 W. Buntrock Avenue (2 cards)	Religious	82/4, 83/17	82/4
300 W. Buntrock Avenue	Residential	80/21	80/21
101 Ellenbecker Road	Residential/Religious	82/2	82/2
103 Ellenbecker Road	Residential	80/22	80/22
112-114 Ellenbecker Road	Residential	83/14	83/14
206 Elm Street	Residential	77/6	77/6
213 Elm Street	Residential	77/2	77/2
219 Elm Street	Residential	83/24	83/24
225 Elm Street	Residential	79/24	79/24
228 Elm Street (3 cards)	Educational/Industry	77/3, 77/4, 79/22	77/4
231 Elm Street (2 cards)	Residential	79/21, 79/23	79/23
239 Elm Street	Residential	79/20	79/20
End of Elm Street (7 cards)	Recreational	85/14-15, 85/19-20, 85/22-24	85/15
206 E. Freistadt Road	Residential	81/4	81/4
E. Freistadt Road & Vernon Avenue	Transportation	81/5	81/5
309-311 E. Freistadt Road	Residential	81/6	81/6
343 E. Freistadt Road	Residential	81/9	81/9
344 E. Freistadt Road (2 cards)	Residential	81/7, 81/10	81/7
402 E. Freistadt Road (2 cards)	Residential	81/11, 81/12	81/12
408 E. Freistadt Road	Residential	81/13	81/13
410 E. Freistadt Road	Residential	81/14	81/14
418 E. Freistadt Road	Residential	81/15	81/15
514-516 E. Freistadt Road (2 cards)	Residential	79/8, 83/6	79/8
122 W. Freistadt Road	Residential	85/2	85/2
109 Grand Avenue	Residential	79/6	79/6
116 Grand Avenue (2 cards)	Educational/Residential	78/2, 83/3	83/3

<u>Address</u>	<u>Type of Resource</u>	<u>Photo Code</u>	<u>Map Code</u>
123 Grand Avenue	Residential	78/3	78/3
125 Grand Avenue	Residential	78/4	78/4
129 Grand Avenue	Residential	78/5	78/5
306 Grand Avenue	Residential	83/4	83/4
327 Grand Avenue	Residential	83/5	83/5
101 Green Bay Road	Municipal	75/13	75/13
Green Bay Road at Creek (lighting on bridge culvert/walls)	Municipal/Transportation	75/6	75/6
106-108 Green Bay Road (2 cards)	Residential	75/4, 75/5	75/5
113 Green Bay Road	Commercial/Recreational	76/9	76/9
118 Green Bay Road	Commercial	75/8	75/8
Ca. 120 Green Bay Road	Marker	75/1	75/1
122 Green Bay Road (2 cards)	Industrial/Agricultural	75/2, 77/23	75/2
130 Green Bay Road	Industrial/Agricultural	77/24	77/24
136 Green Bay Road	Commercial	77/21	77/21
143 Green Bay Road	Commercial/Medical	84/6	84/6
146 Green Bay Road	Commercial	77/20	77/20
149 Green Bay Road	Residential	76/7	76/7
151 Green Bay Road	Residential	76/6	76/6
153-155 Green Bay Road	Residential/Municipal	77/18	77/18
154 Green Bay Road (2 cards)	Residential	77/7, 77/19	77/19
157 Green Bay Road	Industrial/Commercial	76/4	76/4
161 Green Bay Road	Commercial	83/23	83/23
163 Green Bay Road	Residential	76/2	76/2
165-169 Green Bay Road	Residential	76/1	76/1
166 Green Bay Road (2 cards)	Commercial	77/15, 77/17	77/15
170 Green Bay Road	Governmental	77/14	77/14
171-175 Green Bay Road (2 cards)	Residential	78/23, 78/24	78/24
177 Green Bay Road (2 cards)	Commercial	78/22, 83/22	78/22
183-185 Green Bay Road	Residential	77/11	77/11
184 Green Bay Road	Residential	77/13	77/13
186 Green Bay Road	Residential/Commercial	77/12	77/12
192 Green Bay Road	Residential	77/10	77/10
193-195 Green Bay Road (3 cards)	Residential	78/18, 78/19, 78/20	78/20
200 Green Bay Road	Commercial	77/9	77/9
West side of Green Bay Road (lighting on bridge/culvert walls)	Municipal/Transportation	78/14	78/14
232 Green Bay Road	Residential	81/1	81/1

<b><u>Address</u></b>	<b><u>Type of Resource</u></b>	<b><u>Photo Code</u></b>	<b><u>Map Code</u></b>
239 Green Bay Road	Residential	78/13	78/13
243-245 Green Bay Road	Residential	83/10	83/10
246 Green Bay Road	Residential	81/2	81/2
302 Green Bay Road	Residential	81/3	81/3
303 Green Bay Road (3 cards)	Religious	78/7, 78/9, 78/10	78/9
333 Green Bay Road	Religious	78/8	78/8
422 Green Bay Road (2 cards)	Residential	79/15, 79/16	79/15
423 Green Bay Road	Residential	78/6	78/6
522 Green Bay Road	Residential	79/17	79/17
640 Green Bay Road	Residential	78/18	78/18
206 Heidel Road	Residential	79/19	79/19
100 N. Highland Avenue	Residential	83/21	83/21
102 N. Highland Avenue	Residential	83/20	83/20
113 N. Highland Avenue	Residential	83/19	83/19
105-107 Kieker Road	Residential	80/24	80/24
117-119 Kieker Road	Residential	82/1	82/1
401 Madero Drive	Residential	83/8	83/8
417 Madero Drive	Residential	83/9	83/9
101 N. Main Street	Commercial	76/11	76/11
314 N. Main Street	Residential	79/5	79/5
407 N. Main Street	Medical	82/24	82/24
410-412 N. Main Street	Residential	79/4	79/4
413 N. Main Street	Medical	82/23	82/23
414 N. Main Street	Residential	84/12	84/12
417 N. Main Street (2 cards)	Residential	82/21, 82/22	82/22
423 N. Main Street (3 cards)	Residential/Commercial	82/20, 84/11, 85/3	82/20
605-607 N. Main Street	Residential	82/17	82/17
609-611 N. Main Street	Residential	82/18	82/18
615 N. Main Street	Residential	82/16	82/16
623-625 N. Main Street (2 cards)	Agricultural	82/13, 82/14	82/13
105 S. Main Street	Commercial	76/10	76/10
106-108 S. Main Street (2 cards)	Commercial	75/14, 75/15	75/14
116-122 S. Main Street	Residential	75/11	75/11
121-123 S. Main Street	Commercial	76/13	76/13
127 S. Main Street	Residential	76/12	76/12

<u>Address</u>	<u>Type of Resource</u>	<u>Photo Code</u>	<u>Map Code</u>
128-130 S. Main Street	Commercial	75/17	75/17
133 S. Main Street (2 cards)	Commercial	76/14, 76/15	76/15
140 S. Main Street	Commercial	75/18	75/18
159-163 S. Main Street	Commercial	76/16	76/16
167 S. Main Street	Residential	76/17	76/17
174 S. Main Street	Commercial	75/20	75/20
177-179 S. Main Street	Residential	76/8	76/8
180 S. Main Street	Industrial	75/19	75/19
184-188 S. Main Street	Municipal	75/21	75/21
185 S. Main Street	Transportation	76/19	76/19
192 S. Main Street (2 cards)	Residential	75/22, 84/8	75/22
195-199 S. Main Street	Commercial	76/20	76/20
210 S. Main Street	Residential	75/23	75/23
226 S. Main Street	Residential	75/24	75/24
245 S. Main Street	Religious	76/22	76/22
247 S. Main Street	Religious	76/24	76/24
Ca. 250 S. Main Street	Historical Marker	76/23	76/23
113 N. Orchard Street	Residential	83/18	83/18
116 N. Orchard Street	Educational	83/16	83/16
102-104 S. Orchard Street	Residential	82/5	82/5
105 S. Orchard Street	Residential	82/10	82/10
112 S. Orchard Street	Residential	82/6	82/6
113 S. Orchard Street	Residential	82/9	82/9
115 S. Orchard Street	Residential	82/7	82/7
204 S. Orchard Street	Residential	83/11	83/11
204 Park Crest Drive	Residential	81/19	81/19
222 Park Crest Drive	Residential	81/18	81/18
230 Park Crest Drive	Residential	81/17	81/17
119 Riverview Drive	Residential	78/15	78/15
120 Riverview Drive (2 cards)	Residential	78/17, 78/16	78/17
217 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/20	80/20
218 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/19	80/19
222 Riverview Drive	Residential	83/2	83/2
224 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/17	80/17
225 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/16	80/16
230 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/15	80/15
231 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/14	80/14

<u>Address</u>	<u>Type of Resource</u>	<u>Photo Code</u>	<u>Map Code</u>
300 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/12	80/12
310 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/10	80/10
313 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/11	80/11
316 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/9	80/9
317 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/7	80/7
320 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/8	80/8
326 Riverview Drive	Residential	83/1	83/1
333 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/5	80/5
334 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/4	80/4
338 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/3	80/3
339-341 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/1	80/1
343 Riverview Drive	Residential	80/2	80/2
351-353 Riverview Drive	Residential	81/23	81/23
355 Riverview Drive	Residential	81/22	81/22
359 Riverview Drive	Residential	84/23	84/23
407 Riverview Drive	Residential	84/22	84/22
410 Riverview Drive	Residential	81/21	81/21
503 Riverview Drive	Residential	84/19	84/19
603 Riverview Drive	Residential	84/17	84/17
617 Sunny Lane	Residential	83/7	83/7
311 Washington Court	Residential	85/13	85/13
205 West Street	Residential	83/13	83/13
<u>Miscellaneous</u>			
RR trestle	Transportation	85/8	85/8
Former interurban line/bike path	Transportation	85/10	85/10

**APPENDIX B**

**National Register Listed/Eligible/Ineligible Properties in Thiensville**

• Properties Currently Listed on the National Register of Historic Places

NONE

• Properties That Have Been Previously Determined *Eligible* for the National Register of Historic Places

<u>Site/Property Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date of DOE</u>
Thiensville Historic District	Main Street & Green Bay Road	April 1986

• Properties That Have Been Previously Determined *Ineligible* for the National Register of Historic Places

NONE



**APPENDIX C**

**Village of Thiensville Local Landmarks/Historical Buildings and Sites<sup>115</sup>**

107 W. Buntrock Avenue  
113 W. Buntrock Avenue  
115 W. Buntrock Avenue, site of former CMSTP&P Station  
118 W. Buntrock Avenue, site of former Milwaukee Electric Rail Station  
123 W. Buntrock Avenue, site of former Wilson Grain Elevator  
138 W. Buntrock Avenue, site of first church in village

206 Elm Street  
213 Elm Street  
214 (now 228) Elm Street, Van Buren School/Gilbert Shoe Company  
217 Elm Street  
217A Elm Street  
219 Elm Street  
223 Elm Street  
225 Elm Street  
231 Elm Street

101 Green Bay Road, former Village Hall and Firehouse  
106-108 Green Bay Road, former Kroehnke Residence  
113 Green Bay Road, former Thiensville House Hotel  
118 Green Bay Road, site of original Thien home  
119-125-131 Green Bay Road, site of former Memmler Hotel  
122 Green Bay Road, site of former mill  
130 Green Bay Road  
136 Green Bay Road, site of first bank  
139-141 Green Bay Road  
143 Green Bay Road  
144-146 Green Bay Road, former Zimmerman General Store and Residence  
149 Green Bay Road  
150 Green Bay Road  
151 Green Bay Road  
153-155 Green Bay Road, site of first telephone exchange  
154 Green Bay Road  
154-156 Green Bay Road

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<sup>115</sup>The listed addresses were deemed Village of Thiensville Historic Sites following a public hearing on 22 February 1994, by Resolution 1992-17 (21 September 1992). Addresses in the list were altered to match existing addresses when appropriate. Citations following the address were taken directly from the ordinance unless incorrect.

- 157-159 Green Bay Road, Site of Gierach Blacksmith Shop
  - 161 Green Bay Road
  - 162 Green Bay Road, site of Fireman's Hall
  - 163 Green Bay Road
  - 165 Green Bay Road
  - 166 Green Bay Road
  - 169 Green Bay Road
  - 170 Green Bay Road, site of former Thiensville Park and first U.S. post office built exclusively as a post office in Thiensville
  - 171-175 Green Bay Road
  - 177 Green Bay Road, former Hadler's Harness Shop
  - 183-185 Green Bay Road
  - 184-186 Green Bay Road, former residence and business of Henry Mohrhusen
  - 192 Green Bay Road
  - 193-195 Green Bay Road
  - 200 Green Bay Road, site of former residence of pioneer William Carbys
- 
- 101 N. Main Street, former Oscar Bublitz General Store
  - 417 N. Main Street, Blaser Residence
- 
- 105 S. Main Street, former Commercial House Hotel
  - 106-108 S. Main Street, former Bartelt Funeral Home
  - 116-122 S. Main Street, former Maas House
  - 121-123 S. Main Street, former John Bublitz General Store
  - 127 S. Main Street
  - 128-130 S. Main Street
  - 133 S. Main Street, former Thiensville Lumber Company
  - 140 S. Main Street
  - 159-163 S. Main Street
  - 164 S. Main Street
  - 167 S. Main Street
  - 174 S. Main Street
  - 175 S. Main Street
  - 177-179 S. Main Street
  - 178-182 S. Main Street
  - 184 S. Main Street
  - 185 S. Main Street
  - 188 S. Main Street
  - 190 S. Main Street
  - 192 S. Main Street
  - 195-199 S. Main Street
  - 210 S. Main Street
  - 213 S. Main Street, site of residence of Thiensville physician, Dr. Albers

226 S. Main Street

**APPENDIX D**

**Main Street Historic District (1895-1927)**

Property Inventory:

\*C = Contributing; NC = Non-Contributing

\*\*indicates those buildings considered individually eligible

<u>Address</u>	<u>Name of Property (Date)</u>	<u>Map Code</u>	<u>Status*</u>
107 W. Buntrock Avenue	Riemer Residence (1915)	83/15	C
101 Green Bay Road	Thiensville Fire Station and Village Hall (1914) **	75/13	C
101 N. Main Street	Oscar Bublitz Grocery Store (1920)	76/11	C
105 S. Main Street	Commercial House Hotel (1895)	76/10	C
106-108 S. Main Street	Otto Bublitz Investment Property/ L.F. Bartelt Co. (1913)	75/14	C
	Garage/Carriage shed (Ca. 1920)	75/14	C
116-122 S. Main Street	Maas-Bublitz Residence (1898)	75/11	C
121-123 S. Main Street	John Bublitz & Son General Store (1896)	76/13	C
127 S. Main Street	Walter Bublitz Residence (1920)	76/12	C
128-130 S. Main Street	Thiensville Recreation Parlor (1927)**	75/17	C

SEE PAGE 94 FOR A MAP OF THE MAIN STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT.

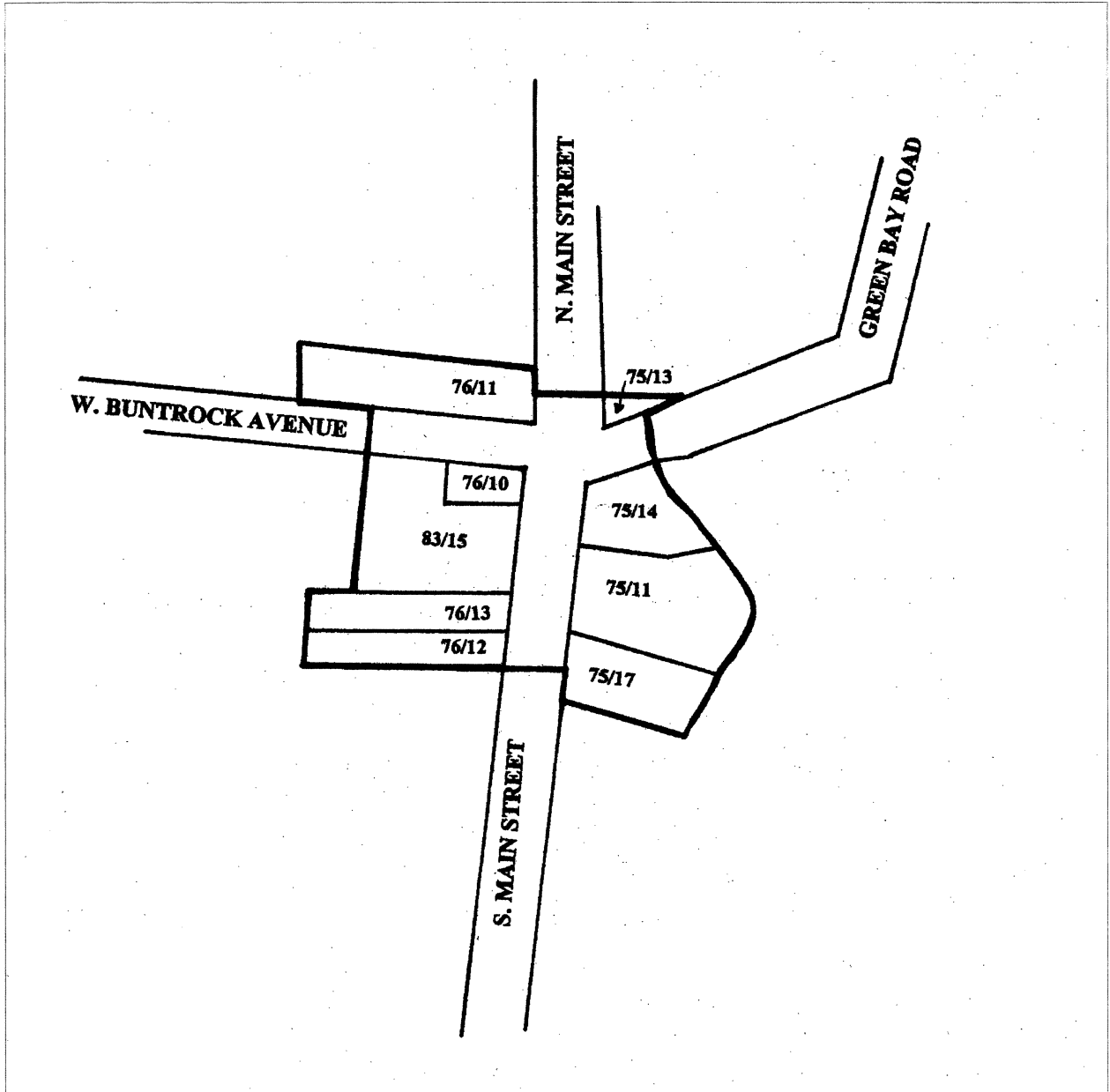


Figure 35: Main Street Historic District.

**APPENDIX E**

**Green Bay Road Historic District (Ca. 1884-1929)**

Property Inventory:

(\*C = Contributing; NC = Non-Contributing)

<u>Address</u>	<u>Name of Property (Date)</u>	<u>Map Code</u>	<u>Status*</u>
149 Green Bay Road	Louis & Pauline Staudy Residence (1909)	76/7	C
151 Green Bay Road	William Hoeft Residence (Ca. 1889)	76/6	C
153-155 Green Bay Road	John F. Gierach Residence (1895)	77/18	C
157 Green Bay Road	John Gierach Blacksmith/ Grocery Shop (1889/ca. 1913)	76/4	C
161 Green Bay Road	Post Office/Andrew Hilger Hardware (1895/alts. 1960s)	83/23	NC
163 Green Bay Road	Andrew Hilger House (Ca. 1903)	76/2	C
165-169 Green Bay Road	Jaeger-Schaefer Residence (1904)	76/1	C
171-175 Green Bay Road	Geidel-Hadler Residence (Ca. 1884) Outbuilding (1954)	78/24 78/24	C NC
177 Green Bay Road	Hadler Harness & Printing Shop (1929)	78/22	C
183-185 Green Bay Road	Hadler Family Residence (Ca. 1912)	77/11	C
193-195 Green Bay Road	Riemer-Gerlach Residence (1897-1898) Outbuilding (Ca. 1898)	78/20 78/20	C C

SEE PAGE 96 FOR A MAP OF THE GREEN BAY ROAD HISTORIC DISTRICT.

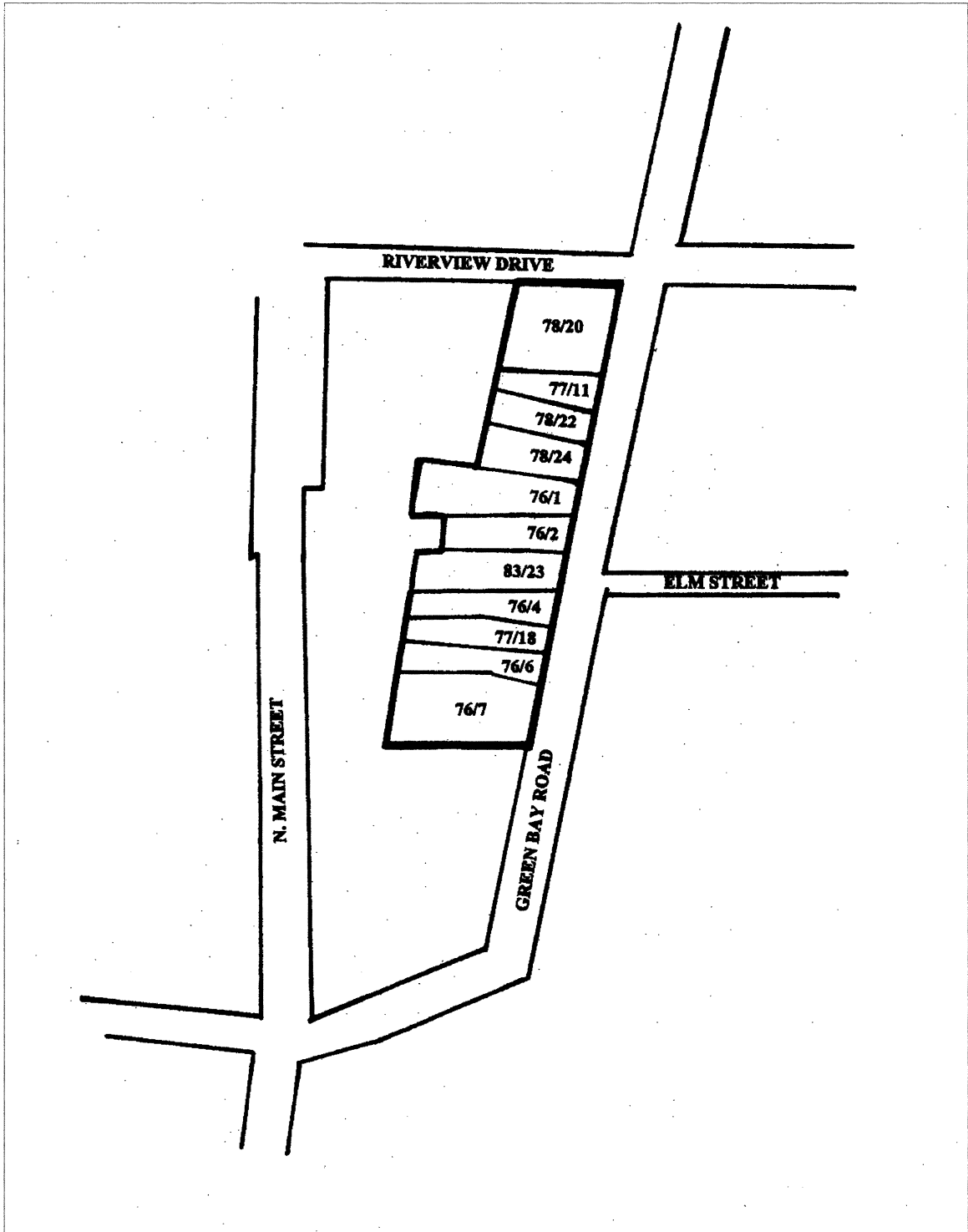


Figure 36: Green Bay Road Historic District.

## APPENDIX F

### THE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

**Criteria:** The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

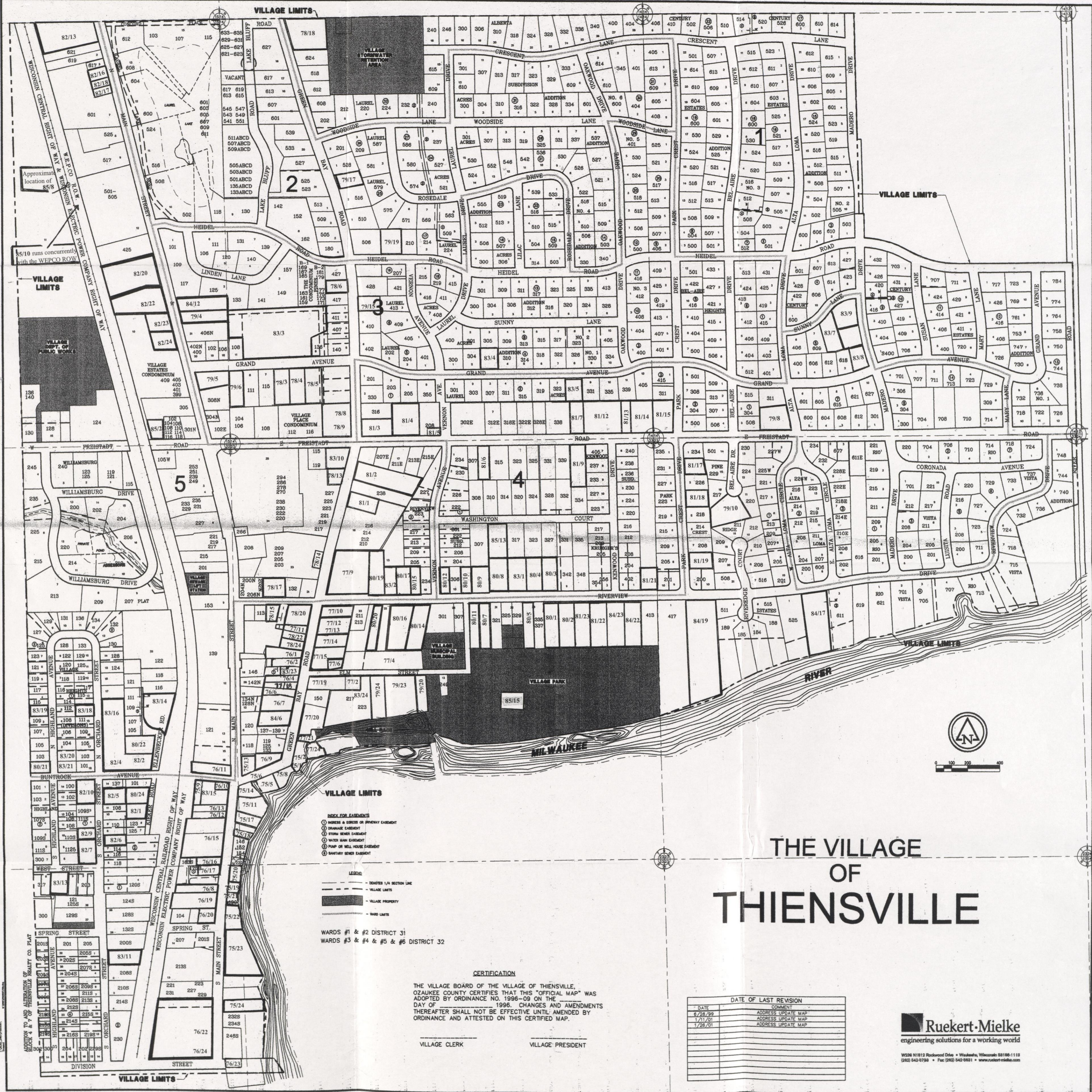
**Criteria Considerations:** Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- A. A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- B. A building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
- C. A birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life; or
- D. A cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or
- E. A reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or
- F. A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own historical significance; or
- G. A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.

National Register Criteria, as taken from National Register Bulletin 16A (1991), page 37.



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VILLAGE LIMITS

VILLAGE LIMITS

VILLAGE LIMITS

VILLAGE LIMITS

# THE VILLAGE OF THIENSVILLE

- INDEX FOR EASEMENTS**
- ① WOODS & LOGS OR BRUSHY EASEMENT
  - ② DRAINAGE EASEMENT
  - ③ STORM SEWER EASEMENT
  - ④ WATER MAIN EASEMENT
  - ⑤ PUMP OR WELL HOUSE EASEMENT
  - ⑥ SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT

- LEGEND**
- DOTTED 1/4 SECTION LINE
  - VILLAGE LIMITS
  - VILLAGE PROPERTY
  - WARD LIMITS

WARDS #1 & #2 DISTRICT 31  
WARDS #3 & #4 & #5 & #6 DISTRICT 32

**CERTIFICATION**

THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF THIENSVILLE, OZAUKEE COUNTY CERTIFIES THAT THIS "OFFICIAL MAP" WAS ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 1998-09 ON THE DAY OF 1998. CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS THEREAFTER SHALL NOT BE EFFECTIVE UNTIL AMENDED BY ORDINANCE AND ATTESTED ON THIS CERTIFIED MAP.


VILLAGE CLERK \_\_\_\_\_ VILLAGE PRESIDENT \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF LAST REVISION	
DATE	COMMENT
6/28/99	ADDRESS UPDATE MAP
1/31/01	ADDRESS UPDATE MAP
1/28/01	ADDRESS UPDATE MAP

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