

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Norway Temperance Hall

other names/site number _____

Name of Multiple Property Listing _____

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing) N/A

2. Location

street & number E. 2631st Rd & N. 3650th Rd

city or town Sheridan

state Illinois

county LaSalle

zip code 60551

☐

not for publication

☒

vicinity

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: ___ **national** ___ **statewide** ___ **local**

Applicable National Register Criteria: ___ **A** ___ **B** ___ **C** ___ **D**

Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Illinois Department of Natural Resources - SHPO

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Norway Temperance Hall
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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		site
		structure
		object
1		Total

**Number of contributing resources
previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social: Meeting Hall

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Vacant / Not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Other: Gable front

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)
foundation: Concrete
walls: Hollow clay tile

roof: Metal
other: _____
: _____

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity).

Summary Paragraph

The Norway Temperance Hall, built in 1909, is in the Village of Norway, a small unincorporated community located five miles south of Sheridan, Illinois, in LaSalle County. The one-story, pedimented gable-front building is constructed of unreinforced, hollow clay orange tiles set on a cast-in-place concrete exposed foundation. The tiles are laid in a running bond, and the corners and top and bottom rows of tile are emphasized by a slightly darker color of tile. The roof is clad with corrugated metal panels and has a low to moderate pitch. The front gable end is clad with staggered course, wooden shingles and the rear gable end is clapboard. The windows are covered with corrugated metal or fiberglass panels for protection. The nomination consists of one building, the hall, which has sufficient integrity for listing in the National Register.

Narrative Description

Norway Temperance Hall is situated at the southwest corner of E. 2631st Road and N. 3650th Road, one block east of Cleng Peerson Memorial Highway [IL Route 71]. The building faces east and is setback from the street about twenty feet. The grassy lot has a gravel drive located between the Hall and the adjacent building, otherwise it is devoid of plantings or hardscape.

The façade is divided into three bays, with a central entrance flanked by windows. The three-paneled, double wooden entrance doors have plywood in the upper half in place of glazing. The windows are topped with transoms. Remnants of a shed roof with shingled ends are above the entrance. A small concrete stoop, measuring approximately 6' x 10' is before the doorway. The most decorative feature is the diamond-shaped window with a keystone, located beneath the gable's peak.

The north and south elevations are identical and have four large, wooden, 2-over-2, double-hung windows with transoms. Additional fixed windows are located in the foundation walls. The west, or rear elevation has paneled double doors on the northwest wall. The southeast corner has four-paneled double doors below grade, which open onto the cellar. To the north of the doors are two fixed windows in the foundation walls.

The interior primarily consists of a vestibule and a large room that served as a multi-purpose hall. It has a raised stage along the back (west) wall. Ancillary spaces in the entryway (east end) include the former ticket office, complete with ticket window on the south wall and cloak room on the northside. The vestibule has double doors that open onto the main hall. A small balcony is located above the vestibule and accessed by a steep stairway on the south wall of the hall. The rectangular stage opening consists of a canted plaster proscenium. The apron has wood wainscoting. On each side of the stage is a four-paneled door. The south door (stage left) leads to the stairs descending to the dining room below. The north door (stage right) leads to stairs that either go up to the stage or down to the dining room. The back wall has a double door to the outside.

The hall has a full basement that served as the dining room, off of which is a small, lower basement that served as the kitchen. The cellar entrance and two windows are on the west wall and a third window is on the south wall. The entrance to the kitchen is on the east wall, through a wood paneled door. A pass-

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through window between the kitchen and dining room is also on the east wall. The kitchen ceiling features exposed 12x12 support beams. The kitchen sink's pipes connected to an external cistern that was fed by rainwater. A coal room is next to the furnace. The crawlspace below the remainder of the building is accessed off of the kitchen.

All interior spaces, excluding the crawlspace, were finished historically with plaster that had been painted or wallpapered. The primary hall space was finished with pressed metal ceiling panels affixed directly to the ceiling joists. The ceilings in the vestibule are beadboard. The upper level, balcony, and stage have wood flooring.

Norway Temperance Hall has sufficient integrity for listing in the National Register. The property has not received any alterations or additions since its original construction. It has lost some features due to neglect, the most notable being the small shed roof and pillars on the façade and exterior steps outside the back door. The plaster walls and pressed metal ceiling have also experienced deterioration and there are cracks in the foundation and along the mortar joints in the walls. The building has been vacant for years and was used for storage. Currently, the building has no functional utilities. The building is unheated and has no other plumbing fixtures. It had electricity at one time, based on remnant, corded light fixtures at the primary hall space; evidence of historic stage lighting; and fuse boxes (located on the east wall of the balcony). The building had been served by gas (probably propane), as an early gas stove is located in the former basement kitchen.

While the building is in need of repair, it retains its original materials, floorplan, and features that identify its historic use as a meeting space and community center.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social History
Entertainment/Recreation

Period of Significance

1909-1956

Significant Dates

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- ☐ A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

Architect/Builder

George Wortman, builder

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

The Norway Temperance Hall is locally significant under Criterion A for Social History due to its role in the local expression of the temperance movement, which was an important influence on cultural development across the nation during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It is also significant for Entertainment and Recreation, providing a venue for the social, cultural, and educational needs of the area. Built in 1909, the period of significance extends until 1956, when the Norway Temperance Association (NTA) sold the property.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Historic Context: The Temperance Movement

Long considered to be healthful in moderation, the consumption of alcohol has been a part of human culture for millennia, as has the recognition that over-consumption could cause problems. In the United States, per-capita consumption was so high by 1830 (three times as much as is consumed today) that the connection between drunkenness and various social ills was painfully obvious. The effects on home life, including in rural areas, became an overriding concern of women looking to improve social and economic conditions for their families. By the mid-19th century, temperance societies, often religious, emerged in the U.S. and Britain, initially promoting moderation but later calling for complete abstinence. The national focus on temperance resulted in the founding of the Prohibition Party in 1869, making it the third oldest national party in the U.S. The Prohibition Party accepted women as members and pushed for a national ban on alcohol. Five years later, in 1874, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union began organizing local "Unions" to foster social and ultimately political activity promoting abstinence. Both organizations focused on education and prevention efforts, encouraging women to take social and political action. After 1898, the Anti-Saloon League, led by Wayne Wheeler, became the leading prohibition lobby. He is credited as the first to use "pressure politics" and published anti-liquor materials via the League's American Issue Publishing Company.

Supported by diverse groups—feminists, anti-immigration advocates, and progressives—the temperance movement capitalized on urbanization, industrialization, women's rights, and World War I sentiments. The Eighteenth Amendment, passed in 1917 and effective in 1920, banned alcohol manufacture, sale, and transportation. However, widespread illegal alcohol production, bootlegging, and organized crime undermined Prohibition, making it unsustainable. The Twenty-First Amendment repealed it in 1933, legalizing alcohol once again.

Various state laws in Illinois affecting the sale of alcohol were passed and repealed during the late 1800s. In LaSalle County, newspapers reported on the issue of alcohol consumption among local Norwegians as early as 1873. By the 1880s, newspaper reports of various incidents involving intoxication on the part of the perpetrators included vandalism and other disturbances, like a drunken riot resulting in property damage, broken windows, and threats to lives. Other reports included violent fights during a wedding celebration and an altercation where several boys were stabbed. Situations like these had earlier prompted the organization of the Norway Red Ribbon Club in the fall of 1878. The local Red Ribbon Clubs encouraged members to pledge to abstain from alcohol and promote temperance, and the Norway club began with 230 members who had taken that pledge. In 1880, the club constructed a one-story building directly across from the Norway Methodist Church. At a cost of \$327, the new building had a seating capacity of two hundred. A significant number of temperance supporters from the surrounding area attended the dedication event.

That building served its purpose well, but almost 30 years later, the need for a new facility was obvious. Proceeds from a play performed at the 1880 hall on February 4, 1909, totaled \$194 and funded the construction of the current Temperance Hall a block west of the church. The Daily Republican Times of Ottawa reported on March 25, 1909, that the new building would be constructed "with materials from the Pioneer plant in Ottawa. Thirty-two teams and as many wagons, owned by residents in the vicinity of Norway, came to

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Ottawa and hauled the building material. . . .” Even the construction of Temperance Hall was marked by the coming together of the area residents for the good of the community.

Temperance Hall: Social History, Entertainment and Recreation

The new Temperance Hall was constructed under the leadership of Rev. C. W. Hanson of the Norway Methodist Church and dedicated on October 31, 1909. Events celebrating the opening of the new building anticipated those which would be held there for the next half century. The afternoon session included musical performances by the NTA orchestra and the NTA octette, a prayer by Rev. F. C. Norman, a piano solo by Lillian Hanson, and an address by Rev. H. Moser. The evening session included a prayer by Rev. Hanson and a dedicatory address by Rev. O. A. Mortvedt, followed by supper in the dining room from 3-7 pm.

The social and recreational activities that took place in Temperance Hall over the years included sporting events, fundraisers, dances, and musical and dramatic entertainments. Members of the NTA shared their talents, in frequent musical performances for example, during their meetings. Norway’s basketball team played their home games at Temperance Hall against visiting teams from other localities. Plays and other entertainments were held at the hall, which became the primary gathering place for the residents of Norway and the surrounding areas. Examples of these activities included a masquerade roller-skating party (1917); parties for local celebrities, such as the farewell party for Si Johnson who departed to join the Cincinnati Reds baseball team (1930); and school graduations, which provided a single venue in which all ten area one-room schools would gather. Events such as these marked the beginning of efforts toward school consolidation and educational improvements throughout the area. Other activities included dinners for the NTA and other organizations, 4-H Club meetings, and meetings of various associations and cooperatives, such as those addressing Rural Electric and Soil Conservation needs.

Temperance Hall became the first choice for celebrations, such as the 100th anniversaries of the arrival of the “Sloopers,” the original Norwegian immigrants to the US in 1825, and Cleng Peerson’s founding the Fox River Settlement, which became the village of Norway. The building also hosted events honoring the Norway Centennial. The hall was regularly booked for holiday parties and celebrations by area churches and social organizations for over 50 years.

Regular meetings of the Norway Temperance Association continued until 1956, when the organization was dissolved, and the building was sold. The proceeds from the sale were evenly distributed among the three local churches: Fox River Lutheran, Norway Methodist, and the Latter-Day Saints.

Temperance Hall is a good candidate for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Today it stands as a reminder of the NTA and its goals. As such, it embodies the connection between the desire to improve local social and cultural life and the tenets of national organizations including the Woman’s Christian Temperance Union, the Progressive Party, and the Anti-Saloon League. These movements’ influence at the national, state, and local levels lead ultimately to Prohibition at the federal level, an experiment in social change that was ultimately reversed. In Norway, Illinois, however, the NTA’s actions to improve the quality of life in the village and its surrounds are clear. Since the NTA’s founding in 1878, the social and cultural life of the area’s citizens was shaped and improved by the programming held first at the 1880 hall, then at the current Temperance Hall, constructed over a century ago. Educational, recreational, cultural, and social activities sponsored not only by the NTA, but by any person or organization in the area needing a venue for their performance, lecture, dinner, or celebration found their way to Temperance Hall, making it perhaps the most important venue for social and recreational activities in the area. The historic role of Temperance Hall in the larger community makes its significance in the areas of Social History and Entertainment and Recreation clear, and it retains sufficient integrity to convey its importance.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

- "About our Party." *The Prohibition Party*. <https://www.prohibitionparty.org/> (accessed June 16, 2025).
- Campbell, Alice W. "The Temperance Movement." 2024. *Social Welfare History Project*.
<https://socialwelfare.library.vcu.edu/religious/the-temperance-movement/> (accessed June 16, 2025).
- Daily Republican Times*. 1903-1967. Reddick Public Library District.
<https://reddick.historyarchives.online/home> (accessed February 13, 2024).
- Jones, C. H. "Temperance in Towanda." 2008. *Department of History, Illinois State University*.
https://history.illinoisstate.edu/downloads/Vignette_Temperance_.pdf (accessed June 16, 2025).
- Meeting Minutes. Norway Temperance Association. 1910-1956. The Norsk Museum Collection.
- Norvell, Mathew. "The Illinois WCTU and Suffrage." 2019. *Suffrage 2020 Illinois*.
<https://suffrage2020illinois.org/2020/04/12/the-illinois-wctu-and-suffrage/> (accessed June 16, 2025).
- "Ottawa Product Shipped to Canada." *The Daily Republican Times*. March 25, 1909. Reddick Public Library District. <https://reddick.historyarchives.online/home> (accessed June 16, 2025).
- Ottawa Republican*. 1852-1890. Reddick Public Library District. <https://reddick.historyarchives.online/home> (accessed November 3, 2016).
- Ottawa Republican Times*. 1890-1916. Reddick Public Library District.
<https://reddick.historyarchives.online/home> (accessed January 12, 2024).

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has
been
requested)
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than 1

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>41.463503°</u> Latitude	<u>-88.666926°</u> Longitude	3	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude
2	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude	4	_____ Latitude	_____ Longitude

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property is located in lot one [1] in the county clerk's subdivision of the northeast one quarter of the southeast one quarter of section 33, township 35 north, range 5 east of the third principal meridian as per plat thereof recorded in book "G" of plats at page 39 in the recorder's office of LaSalle county, Illinois; said lot further known and described as lot one [1] in Tosseland's addition to Norway as per plat thereof in survey's record "B" at page 186 in the recorder's office of LaSalle county, Illinois, situated in the county of LaSalle and state of Illinois; excepting therefrom the portion of said lot conveyed to the state of Illinois by the Norway Temperance Association, a corporation, which deed is dated June 23, 1934, and recorded December 13, 1934, as document no. 273856 in book 725 on page 76 in the recorder's office of LaSalle County, Illinois, and further subject to any easements granted or conveyances made for public road purposes.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nomination includes the building and the current property boundaries.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>David Johnson, Board President</u>	date	<u>4/27/2025</u>
organization	<u>Norwegian Center Inc. [Norsk Museum]</u>	telephone	<u>815-343-5070</u>
street & number	<u>415 Lewis St.</u>	email	<u>David7dog@yahoo.com</u>
city or town	<u>Marseilles</u>	state	<u>IL</u> zip code <u>61341</u>

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures)

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GIS Location Map



Norway Temperance Hall
E. 2631st Rd & N. 3650th Rd
LaSalle County, Illinois

Latitude: 41.463503°
Longitude: -88.666926°

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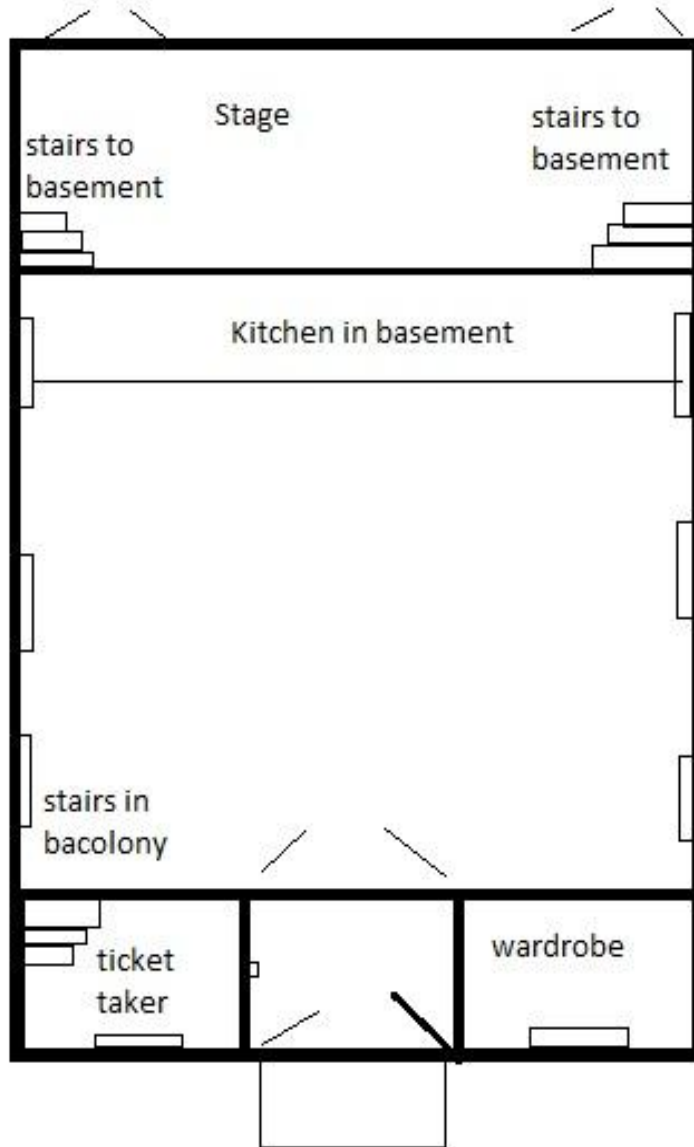
Local Location Map



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Floor Plans



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Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property:	<u>Norway Temperance Association</u>		
City or Vicinity:	<u>Village of Norway [Sheridan]</u>		
County:	<u>LaSalle</u>	State:	<u>Illinois</u>
Photographer:	<u>David Johnson</u>		
Date Photographed:	<u>6-15-2024</u>		

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo 1 of 18: **NTA balcony**



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2 of 18: NTA dining room looking east



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3 of 18: NTA dining room looking west



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4 of 18: NTA outside front looking east



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5 of 18: NTA kitchen and crawl space entrance



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6 of 18: NTA kitchen looking east



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7 of 18: NTA kitchen looking west



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8 of 18: NTA main floor looking toward the stage



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9 of 18: NTA main floor from the balcony



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10 of 18: NTA outside view looking north



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11 of 18: NTA outside rear view



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12 of 18: NTA outside NW view



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13 of 18: NTA outside NW view from west



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14 of 18: NTA outside view from west



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15 of 18: NTA stage floor looking west



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16 of 18: NTA stage floor looking east



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17 of 18: NTA stage floor looking front



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18 of 18: NTA front entrance ticket window



Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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List of Figures

(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all documents should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.)

Figure 1: NTA 1938 outside view



Figure 2: NTA 1895 year-book

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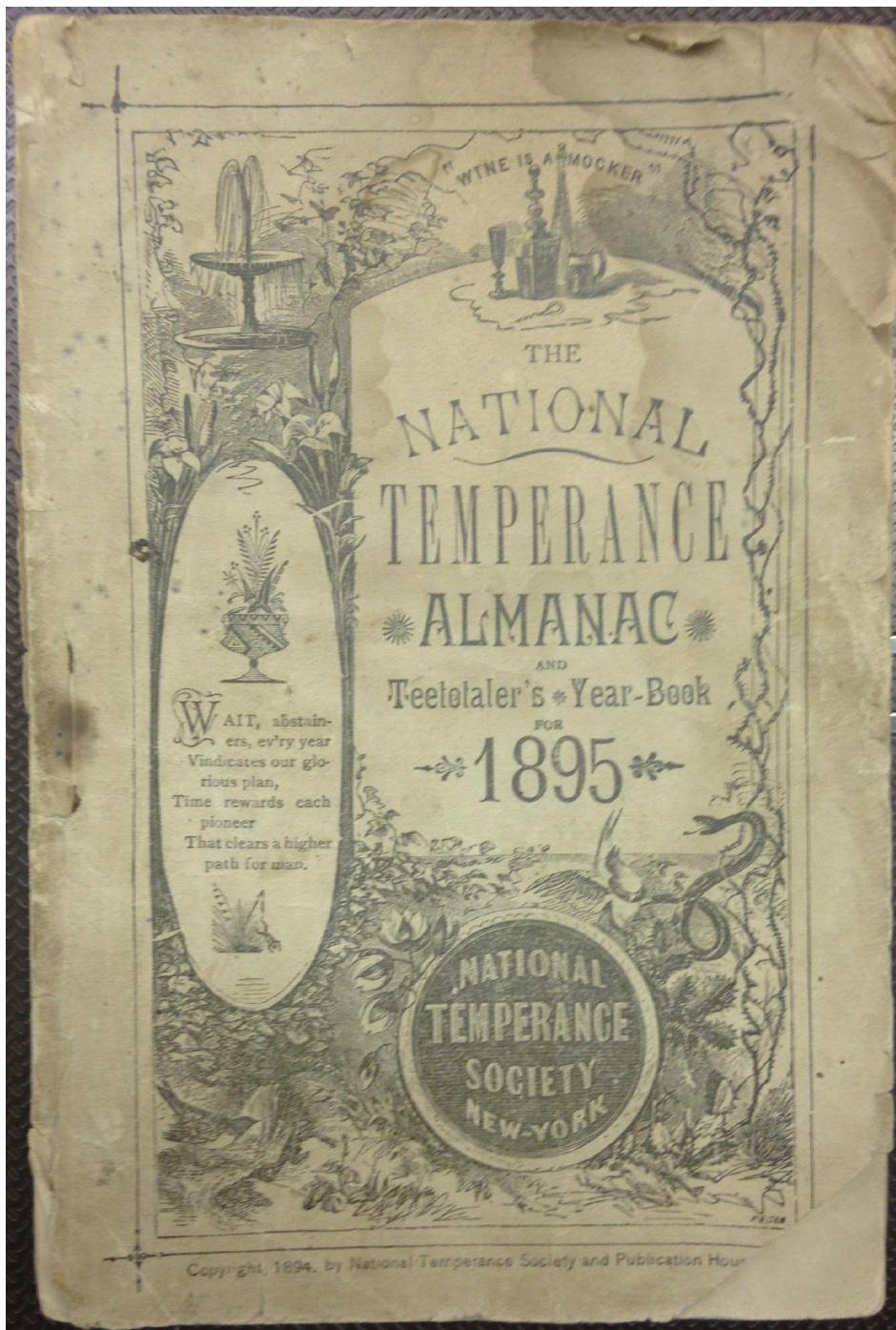


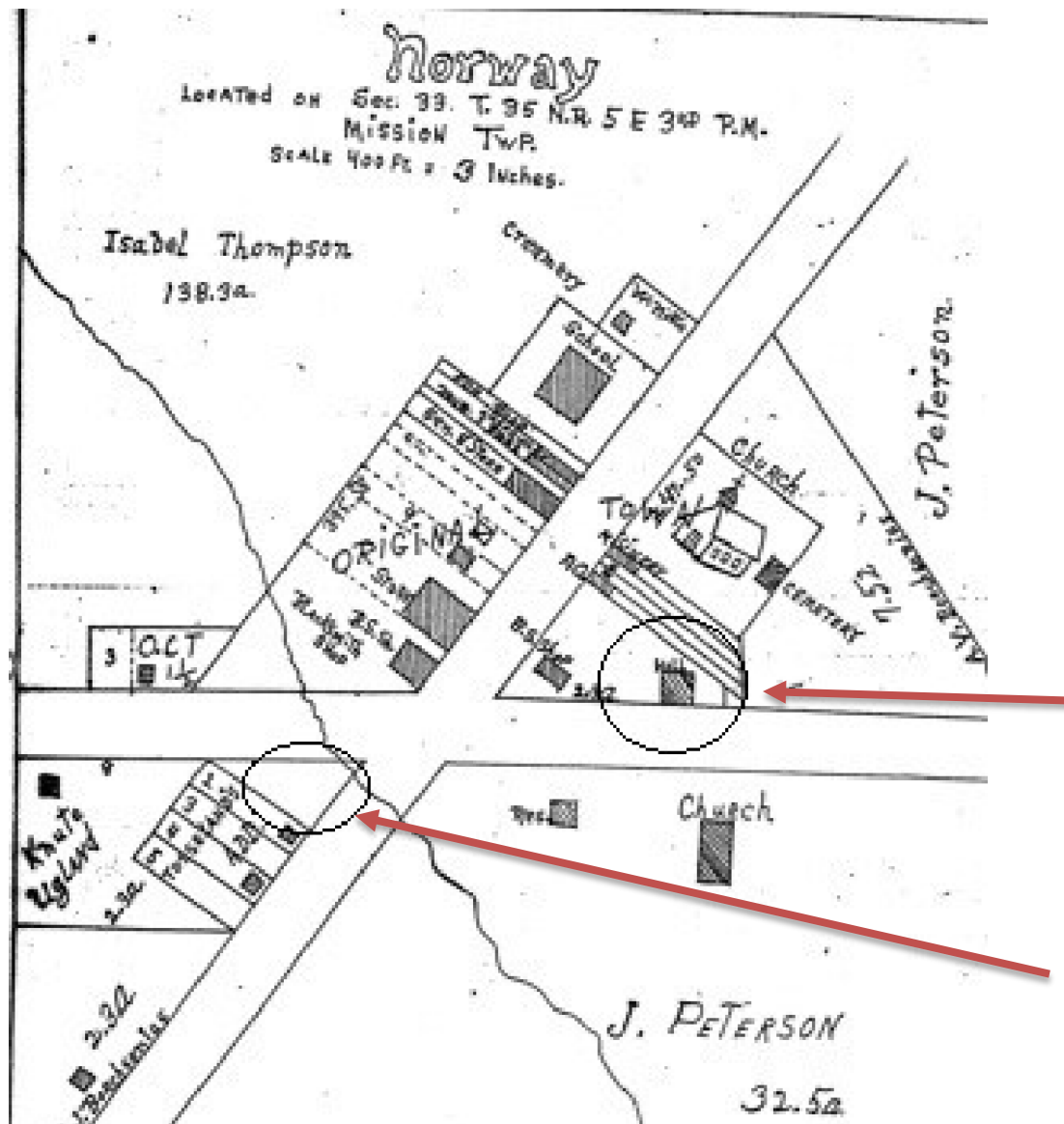
Figure 3: 1892 Map of Norway, Illinois, showing the location of the original NTA and the current location.

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Original
1880

Current
location

Owner and Local Elected Official Notification Information

The State Historic Preservation Office is federally required to notify the property owner(s), as well as the chief elected officials of the county and municipal political jurisdiction in which the property is located. Please make sure the information is current.

Name & Address of Property Owner. If there are multiple owners, you may need to send a separate spreadsheet:

Norwegian Center Inc.
Board members:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| • Dave Johnson [President] | 415 Lewis St. Marseilles, IL 61341 |
| • Rich Gunderson [Treasurer] | 3907 E 1553 rd Rd Earlville, IL 60518-6063 |
| • Lynnette Johnson [Membership] | 426 Cole St. Marseilles, IL 61341 |
| • Rob Borchsenius | PO Box 451 Sheridan, IL 60551-0451 |
| • Steve Tanda | 1400 Lancaster Av Saint Charles, IL 60174-3322 |
| • Laurie Gage | 2490 N 23 rd Rd Marseilles, IL 61341 |
| • Ed Hatteberg | 959 N Brainard St. Naperville, IL 60563 |

Name & Address of Chief Elected Official of Municipality (Mayor/ Village President):

The Sheridan City Mayor's Office, led by Mayor Rich Bridger
115 N ROBINSON St
Sheridan, Illinois, 60551

Name & Address of County Board Chairperson:

Don Jensen
Etna Road Complex
707 E Etna Road
Ottawa, IL 61350