

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

MAR 10 1977

DATE ENTERED

AUG 29 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Dr. Ward Beebe House

AND/OR COMMON

Dr. Ward Beebe House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

2022 Summit Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

VICINITY OF

4th

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Minnesota

CODE
22COUNTY
RamseyCODE
123

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☒ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dr. and Mrs. James R. Little

STREET & NUMBER

2022 Summit Avenue

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Ramsey County Courthouse - Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

15 West Kellogg Blvd.

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Minnesota Statewide Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1974

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society, Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ward Beebe House is situated on a narrow, wooded lot at the intersection of the southern terminus of Wilder Street with Summit Avenue in St. Paul. Constructed in 1912 according to designs of Minneapolis architects Purcell, Feick, and Elmslie, this small residence is a well-preserved example of the Prairie School mode popularized by Frank Lloyd Wright. It is two storeys in height, capped by a deeply sweeping gabled roof. The entire wall surfaces are sheathed in pigmented stucco; the roof is of creosote-treated shingles. Window and door surrounds and casements are of both oak and cypress which is oiled and stained dark.

The Summit Avenue facade (north) is incorporated within the gable. The entry is located within a small "el" which also houses the staircase. An incised panel with organic motif is affixed to the corner of the "el" immediately to the right of the doorway. Windows on this facade are arranged in horizontal bands of narrow, vertical casements. Those on the first storey are shielded by diminutive cornices and wrap around each corner to create an unbroken perspective view from within. The windows on the second storey are centrally placed within the facade and comprise a band of six narrow casements. A semi-circular arched window marks the third (or attic) level.

The west facade is essentially symmetrical in arrangement with a three-part window grouping incorporated within a small gable at the second level; the center window of this grouping is an oriel which opens onto a small balcony. The first storey has a low open porch with a broad-eaved roof. To the rear (south) is an attached garage with space for two automobiles. A small sleeping porch at the second storey opens from the master bedroom.

The interior of the Beebe House is simple in plan and decor; although typical of Prairie School taste. A large fireplace/chimney mass constitutes the central element in the plan. Entry is made through a low vestibule to the right of which a short flight of stairs leads into the living room. This room comprises the entire length of the north facade. The east wall of the living room is devoted to bookcases and built-in radiator cabinets; all woodwork is of dark-stained quarter-sawn oak. The fireplace/chimney is of sienna-colored roman brick laid with three-eighths-inch mortar joints. The hearth and trim around the built-in flower box between the living room and dining room is of buff-colored stone. This feature provides an unobstructed view from the living room into the dining room. Along the west wall is a bank of floor-length casement windows which open onto the porch. Also in the dining room is a massive sideboard of oak which is finished in a similar fashion to the bookcases and other woodwork in the living room.

A small kitchen is also located on the first floor and is linked to the dining room via a pantry. Cabinets in kitchen and pantry are also of oak, however, these have been painted.

The second floor contains three bedrooms and a bathroom. The master bedroom is arranged as a suite with bed-chamber, dressing room and sleeping porch. There is also a bedroom and general-purpose room on the attic level.

The Dr. Ward Beebe House remains in an excellent state of maintenance and preservation. The only alteration to the original design integrity has been the removal of several light fixtures and sconces in the living room, this done by the present owners.

I doubt that garage is original - Lebowich 5.10.77

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☐ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☒ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1912

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Gray Purcell
George G. Elmslie

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The house designed for Dr. Ward Beebe of St. Paul in 1912 by the architectural firm of Purcell and Elmslie and built at 2022 Summit Avenue is an example of the "Prairie School" style of architecture and expresses the influence of the Sullivan-Wright tradition of architecture.

Purcell and Elmslie were pioneers of the modern movement in architecture. George G. Elmslie worked for the noted Chicago architect, Louis Sullivan, from 1893 to 1909. William Gray Purcell, who had grown up near Frank Lloyd Wright in a Chicago suburb, worked in Sullivan's Chicago office during 1903. The two men formed a partnership in 1909 and established an office in Minneapolis.

Elmslie's strength was his imaginative floor plans; Purcell's, the relationship of structure to site. The house they designed for Ward Beebe is one of several houses they built in Minneapolis and St. Paul and is typical of their endeavors in domestic architecture, the designing of inexpensive homes for ordinary people. An excellent example of their original work, the house has not been outmoded by changes in fashion or in building technology and represents one of the early functional solutions to the problems of housing.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Donald R. Torbert in Purcell and Elmslie, Architects, March, 1953; Prairie School Press
by David Gebhart, January, 1965, p.96
A History of the Arts in Minnesota, William Van O'Connor, ed., University of Minnesota
Press, 1958, p.50.
The Twin Cities, by Carol Ryrie Brink. Macmillan Publishing Co., 1961, p.173.
The Prairie School-Frank Lloyd Wright, H. Allen Brooks, University of Toronto Press,
1972, pp. 217-19 (see continuation sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 485380 491761220
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia B. Kunz, Executive Director

ORGANIZATION

Ramsey County Historical Society

STREET & NUMBER

2097 Larpenteur West

CITY OR TOWN

St. Paul

DATE

12 January 1977

TELEPHONE

612-646-8629

STATE

Minnesota

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Russell W. Fridley
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 2/22/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 10 1977

DATE ENTERED AUG 29 1977

CONTINUATION SHEET Dr. Ward Beebe Hse. ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

The Twin Cities Perceived, Jean Adams Ervin. University of Minnesota Press, 1976,
p. 42.

Historic St. Paul Buildings, H.F. Koeper, A.I.A., St. Paul City Planning Board,
1964, pp. 88-9.

Property Beebe Dr. Ward, House

State Minn.

Working Number 3.10.77.410

77000762
~~Beebe~~
Ramsay

TECHNICAL

Photos 6
Maps 1

CONTROL

OK ^{pl} 3.11.77

HISTORIAN

accept
B. Brown
5/12/77

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

accept
L. Bowich
5.10.77

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

accept
Cole
6-22-77

BRANCH CHIEF

Thurman
8-23-77

KEEPER

W
8/29/77

National Register Write-up _____

Federal Register Entry _____

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered AUG 29 1977

INT:2106-74



Ramsey County
Dr. Ward Beebe House
2022 Summit Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota
Charles W. Nelson
1977

#1 of 6
AUG 29 1977

Minnesota Historical Society, 690
Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota
North perspective
5/01743

MAR 10 1977

01743
5
FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE
MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
THIS PHOTOGRAPH IS FOR REFERENCE USE
ONLY. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR
SOLD WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION.

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Dr. Ward Beebe
2022 Summit Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota
Charles W. Nelson
1977
Minnesota Historical Society, 690
Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minn.
Interior - entrance hall
01741/19

AUG 29 1977

#2 of 6
Ramsey County

MAR 10 1977

01741
19

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01741
17

Dr. Ward Beebe House
2022 Summit Avenue AUG 29 1977
St. Paul, Minnesota
Charles W. Nelson MAR 10 1977
1977 Ramsey County
Minnesota Historical Society,
690 Cedar St., St. Paul, Minn.
Interior - Living room
01741/17 #3 of 6

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01743
11

Dr. Ward Beebe House
2022 Summit Avenue Ramsey Co.
St. Paul, Minnesota
Charles W. Nelson AUG 29 1977
1977 #4066
Minnesota Historical Society, 690
Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota
Northwest perspective MAR 10 1977
8/01743

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Dr. Ward Beebe House
2022 Summit Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota
Charles W. Nelson
1977

AUG 29 1977

MAR 10 1977

Ramsey County
Minnesota Historical Society, 690
Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota
Southwest perspective
11/01743

506

01743
8
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Ramsey County
Dr. Ward Beebe House

2022 Summit Avenue

St. Paul, Minnesota

Charles W. Nelson AUG 29 1977

1977 Minnesota Historical Society, 690

Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota

Detail - NE perspective

3/01743

MAR 10 1977

01743
3
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 10 1977

DATE ENTERED AUG 29 1977

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Dr. Ward Beebe House

AND/OR COMMON

Dr. Ward Beebe House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

___ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Ramsey

STATE

Minnesota

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

St. Paul West Quadrangle, Minnesota

SCALE

7.5

DATE 1967 Photorevised 1972

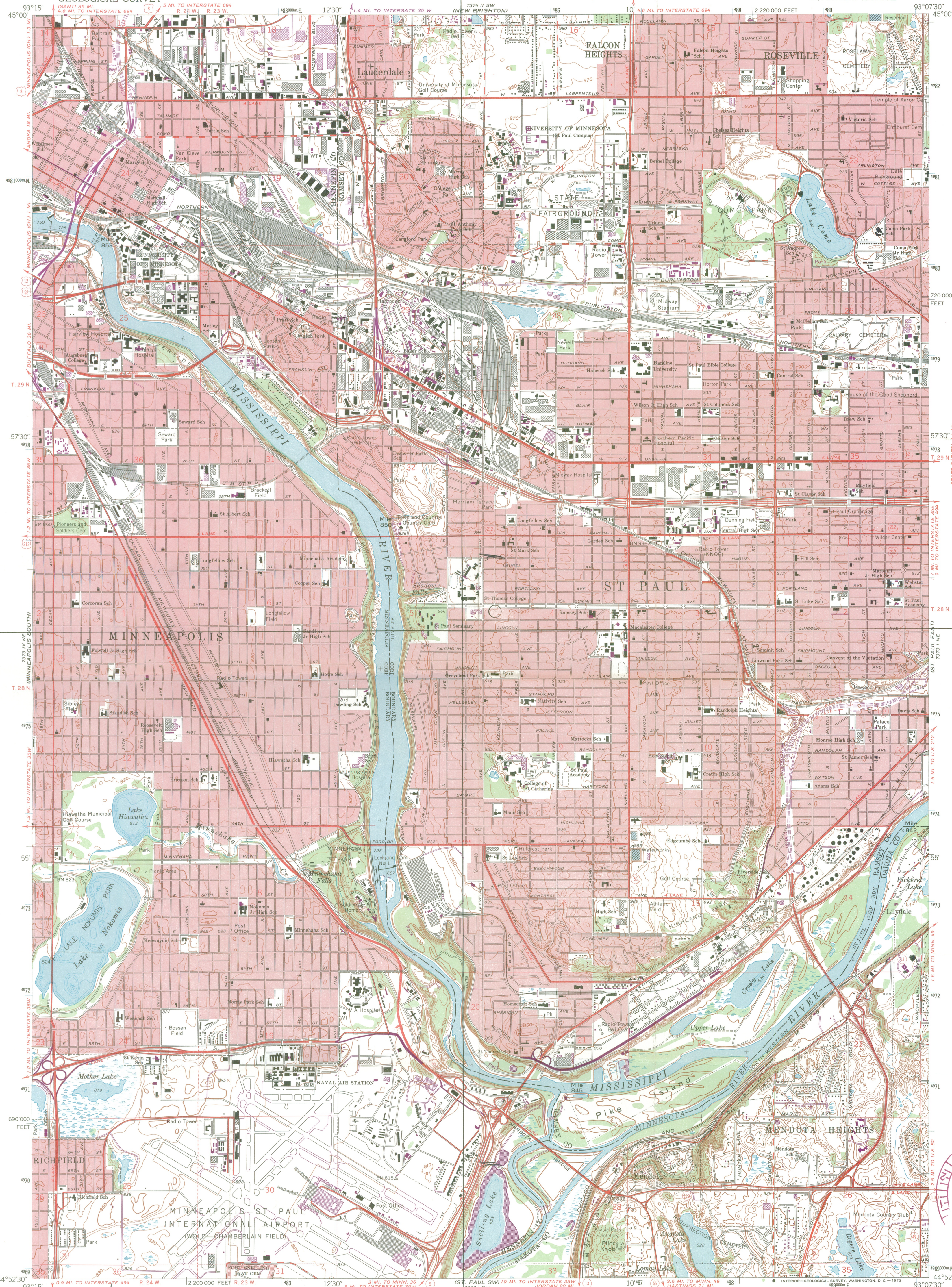
4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

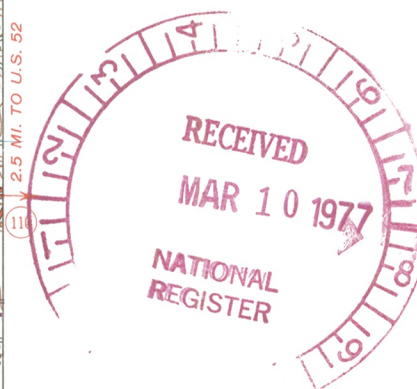
1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

ST. PAUL WEST QUADRANGLE
MINNESOTA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NW/4 ST. PAUL 15' QUADRANGLE



Dr. Ward Beebe House
St. Paul, Minnesota
UTM References
15/485380/4976220



AUG 29 1977-06E

Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

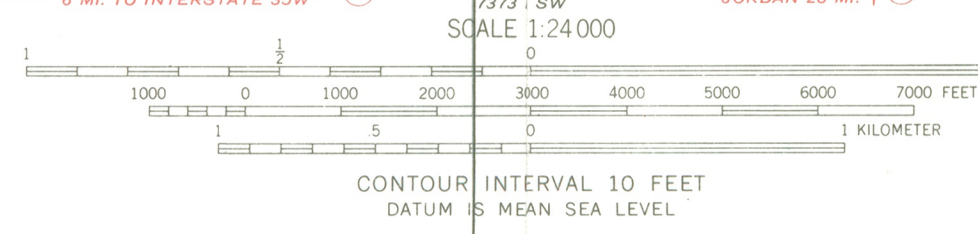
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1947 and planimetric surveys 1951. Revision from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1967

Hydrography compiled from information furnished by Minnesota Department of Conservation

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum 10,000-foot grid based on Minnesota coordinate system, south zone 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

Dotted land lines established by private survey



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

ST. PAUL WEST, MINN.
NW/4 ST. PAUL 15' QUADRANGLE
N4452.5—W9307.5/7.5

1967
PHOTOREVISED 1972
AMS 7373 1 NW—SERIES V872

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1972. This information not field checked

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MINNESOTA

Date Entered AUG 29 1977

Name

Beebe, Dr. Ward, House

Location

St. Paul
Ramsey County

Also Notified

Hon. Hubert H. Humphrey
Hon. Wendell R. Anderson
Hon. Bruce F. Vento

Regional Director, Midwest
Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Russell W. Fridley
Director, Minnesota Historical Society
690 Cedar Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 5.10.77
Reviewer INITIALS:

NR DOE

AUG 29 1977

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Beebe, Dr. Ward, House

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER

2022 Summit Ave.

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4th

STATE

Minnesota

27

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

code

Ramsey

123

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE)

N. ATLANTIC

MID ATLANTIC

SOUTHEAST

MIDWEST

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN

WEST

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR

☒ Substantially intact-1

☐ unknown - 4

☐ not applicable - 7

EXTERIOR

☒ Substantially intact-2

☐ unknown - 5

☐ not applicable - 8

ENVIRONS

☐ Substantially intact-3

☐ unknown - 6

☐ Not applicable-9

☐ Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION -

☒ EXCELLENT

☐ GOOD

☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED

☐ RUINS

☐ UNEXPOSED

☐ Unexcavated

☐ UNALTERED

☐ ALTERED

☐ Reconstructed

☐ Excavated

☐ ORIGINAL SITE

☐ MOVED

☐ Unknown

ACCESS -

Yes-restricted

Yes-unrestricted

No access

Unknown

historic district?

YES

NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT?

YES

NO

IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK?

YES

NO

IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE:

YES

NO

Saved?

YES

NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then-

residence

now-

residence

SIGNIFICANCE:

☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC

☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC

☐ AGRICULTURE

☒ ARCHITECTURE

☐ ART

☐ COMMERCE

☐ COMMUNICATIONS

☐ CONSERVATION

☐ ECONOMICS

☐ EDUCATION

☐ ENGINEERING

☐ EXPLORATION

☐ INDUSTRY

☐ INVENTION

☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

☐ LAW/Gov't/politics

☐ LITERATURE

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSIC

☐ PHILOSOPHY

☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

☐ RELIGION

☐ SCIENCE

☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)

☐ entertainment

☐ health

☐ recreation

☐ settlement

☐ socio/cultural

☐ urban & commun

planning

Claims

"first"

YES

NO

"oldest"

YES

NO

"only"

YES

NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: *Prairie Style*

architect/m.builder: Purcell and Elmslie

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

personal

(label role

&

appropriate date)

events

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1912

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre) less than 1 acre

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

*perpendicular
stuccoed frame, 2 story rectangular, projections of one or two stories,
gable, ribbon windows, rear attached garage*

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

example of Prairie School by Purcell and Elmslie.