

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JAN 5 1977  
DATE ENTERED JUL 13 1977

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

\*\* Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Freight House and Depot

AND/OR COMMON

Stillwater Depot

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

233-335 Water Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Stillwater

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Minnesota

CODE

27

COUNTY

Washington

CODE

163

**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
- OTHER: **undergoing rehabilitation**

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Peter Nelson Hall

STREET & NUMBER

888 Butler Square, 100 North 6th Street

CITY, TOWN

Minneapolis

VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota 55802

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

14900 North 61st Street - Oak Park Heights

CITY, TOWN

Stillwater

STATE

Minnesota

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Minnesota Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1976

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY 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 Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Freight House and Depot is located on a one acre parcel of land overlooking the St. Croix River on the eastern fringe of Stillwater. (The St. Croix River has recently received National Scenic Riverway designation preserving the waterfront between the depot and the river.)

The freight house and depot, built in 1883, is a simple vernacular building. Exterior ornamentation consists of a series of arched doors and windows on both sides of the building. Constructed of limestone and brick the building measures 200 feet by 40 feet. The limestone foundation walls measure approximately two feet thick. The brick bearing walls are eighteen inches thick and thirty feet high. (The limestone was quarried in the nearby North Quarry.)

The interior of the building is divided into two sections. The floor planking is four inches wide and one inch thick clear maple from the islands and shoreline immediately north of Stillwater. The truss system is of heavy timber construction. The basement is heavy timber mill construction. The timbers are fir and are of clear grain.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1883 - present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Freight House and Depot is significant under the themes of Commerce, Communication, Engineering, and Transportation.

From the date of its construction in 1883 until recently the commerce of Stillwater centered on the railroads -- the freight house and depot served virtually every commercial interest in the city. Nearly all goods and materials arrived by or were shipped by rail. Products locally produced were sent by rail throughout the nation.

During the period from 1883 until the 1920s the freight house and depot housed a telegraph office and a railroad Express Agency office. These offices served the majority of Stillwater's communication needs for a number of years. The glass insulators and wooden pegs connecting the telegraph lines to the building and distributing them inside have been preserved as have the telegraph and ticket windows.

The mill construction and truss system of the building are significant as examples of wood structural engineering. The first map of Stillwater (1848) indicates that the present site of the building was once Lake St. Croix. Therefore, the building required elaborately engineered pilings to support the tremendous weight of the limestone foundation and brick walls.

One of the most interesting features of the building was its dual use -- passenger and freight. The building served as a freight house and passenger depot until 1955. It is the last 19th century freight house and depot standing in Stillwater.

The exterior of the building has been recently cleaned and the interior is currently undergoing rehabilitation/preservation for an adaptive use.



Duplicate

77000773

WASO Form - 177  
("R" June 1984)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Freight House & Depot  
Washington Co., MN

Working No. \_\_\_\_\_

Fed. Reg. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Due: \_\_\_\_\_

Action:  ACCEPT 7/13/77

RETURN \_\_\_\_\_

REJECT \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Discipline \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for:  technical corrections cited below  
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

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

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection





FREIGHT HOUSE AND DEPOT

Stillwater, Minn.

JAN 5 1977

Charles W. Nelson

Minnesota Historical Society

690 Cedar St. St. Paul, Minn.

1976 Washington Co, Minn.

Perspective view from Southeast

19A/01633

DoE JUL 13 1977

1 of 3

*Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul  
Freight House and Depot*

01633  
19a

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



FREIGHT HOUSE AND DEPOT

Stillwater, Minn.

Charles W. Nelson

IAN 5 1977

Minnesota Historical Society

690 Cedar St. St. Paul, Minn.

1976

Interior of Freight house

15A/01633

JUL 13 1977

243

01633  
15a

NPS Number 7/13/77  
Title: Chicago, Milwaukee and  
St. Paul Freight House and  
Loc. Depot  
Washington Co., Minn.

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FREIGHT HOUSE AND DEPOT

Stillwater, Minn.

Charles W. Nelson

Minnesota Historical Society

690 Cedar St. St. Paul, Minn.

1976

Detail of mill construction in  
cellar

14A/01633

<sup>Doc</sup>  
JUL 13 1977

343

NPS Number

7/13/77

Title

Chicago, Milwaukee and  
St. Paul Freight House & Depot

Loc.

Washington Co., Minn.

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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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	JAN 5 1977
DATE ENTERED	JUL 13 1977

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Freight House and Depot

AND/OR COMMON

Stillwater Depot

**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN

Stillwater

\_\_\_VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Washington

STATE

Minnesota

**3 MAP REFERENCE**

SOURCE

USGS, Stillwater Quadrangle, Minnesota-Wisconsin,

SCALE

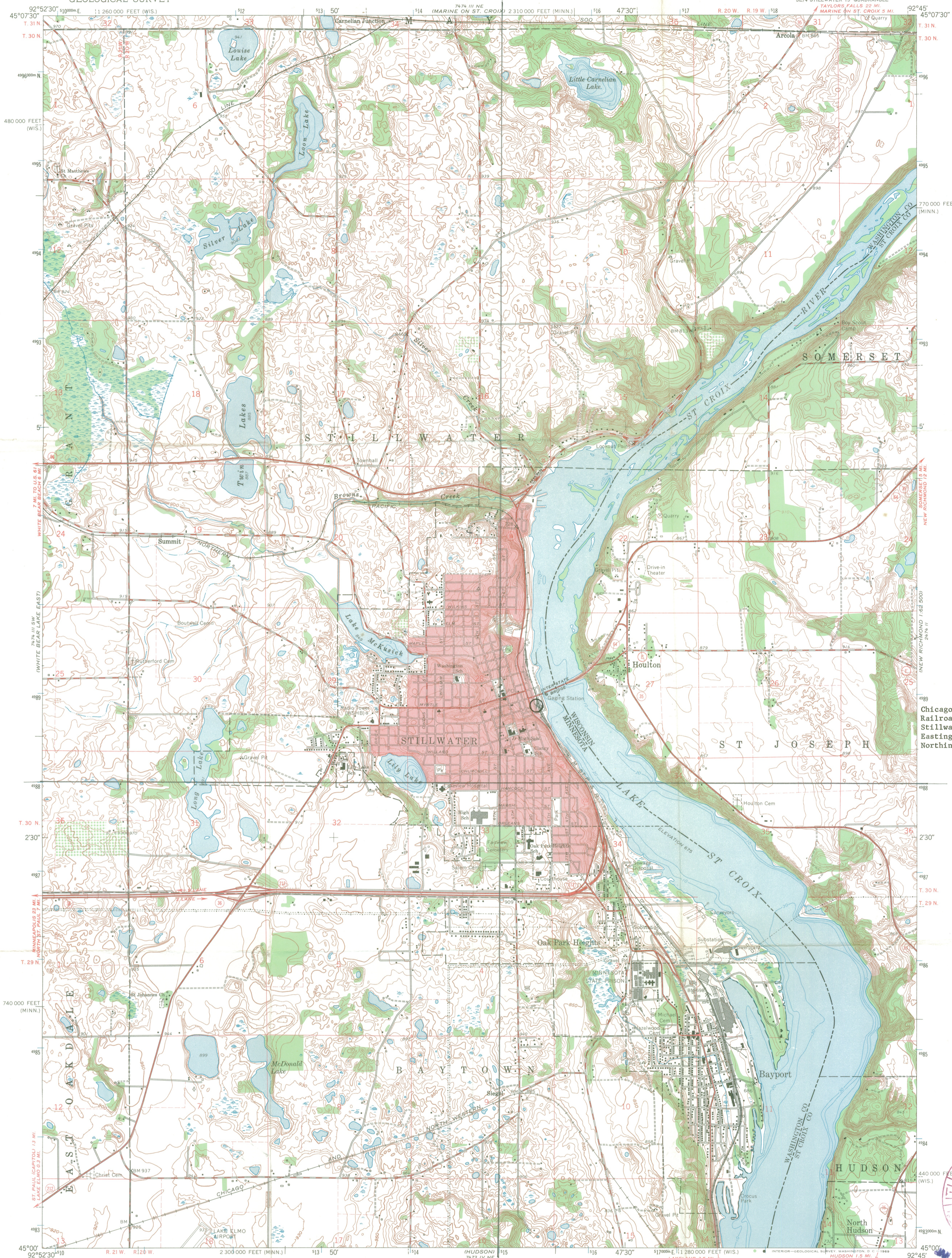
7.5

DATE 1967

**4 REQUIREMENTS**

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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



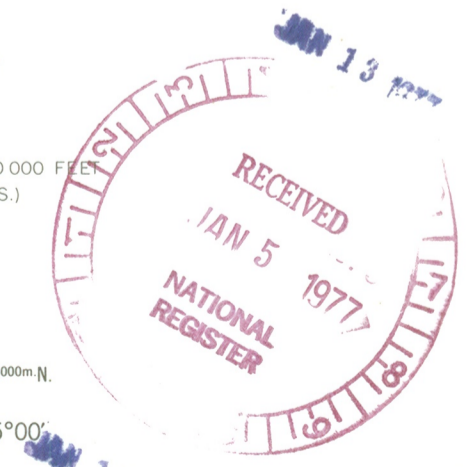
Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul  
Railroad Freight House and Depot  
Stillwater, Minnesota  
Easting 15/515420  
Northing 15/498880

Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
in cooperation with Minnesota Department of Administration  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1949 and planetable surveys 1946. Revised 1967  
Depth curves compiled from charts furnished by  
Minnesota Department of Conservation  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grids based on Minnesota coordinate system, south zone,  
and Wisconsin coordinate system, central zone.  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 15, shown in blue  
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

SCALE 1:24,000  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242  
AND BY THE WISCONSIN GEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY, MADISON, WISCONSIN 53706  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———  
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———  
○ State Route

STILLWATER, MINN. - WIS.  
SE/4 STILLWATER 15 QUADRANGLE  
N4500 - W9245/7.5  
1967  
AMS 7474 III SE - SERIES V872



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MINNESOTA

Date Entered JUL 13 1977

Name

Location

Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul  
Freight House and Depot

Stillwater  
Washington County

Also Notified

Hon. Hubert H. Humphrey  
Hon. Wendell R. Anderson  
Hon. Albert H. Quie

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: April 8, 1977  
 Reviewer INITIALS: LEBOVIC  
 NR DOE JUL 13 1977

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Freight House and Depot  
 OTHER NAMES: Stillwater Depot

## LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER 233-335 Water Street

CITY, TOWN Stillwater

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1st

STATE Minnesota 27

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Wash- code 163  
ington

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:

<u>INTERIOR</u>	<u>EXTERIOR</u>	<u>ENVIRONS</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-1	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-2	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-3
<input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 4	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 5	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 6
<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 7	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable - 9

Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION -	<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	<input type="checkbox"/> Reconstructed	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
		<input type="checkbox"/> Unexcavated	<input type="checkbox"/> Excavated	

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- Railroad depot

now- vacant

## SIGNIFICANCE:

- |   |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION                  | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC    | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS              | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW/Gov't/politics     | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE                   | <input type="checkbox"/> health         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE            | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION              | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN       | <input type="checkbox"/> recreation     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION | <input type="checkbox"/> settlement     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ART                    | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)           | <input type="checkbox"/> socio/cultural |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE    | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             |  | <input type="checkbox"/> urban & commun |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS         | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    |  | <input type="checkbox"/> planning       |

## Claims

"first" YES NO

"oldest" YES NO

"only" YES NO

**ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:**

architect/m.builder:

landscape/garden designer:

interior decorator:

engineer:

artist/artisan:

builder/contractor:

**ETHNIC GROUP:**

**NAMES:**

(label role  
&  
appropriate date)

personal

events

institutional

**DATES:**

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): *1883*

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)

*/*

**COMMENTS:** (include architectural information here)

*BRICK, GABLE, RECTANGULAR, STEPPED CORNICE, RIDGE CHIMNEYS,  
ROW ARCHED WINDOWS*

**SIGNIFICANCE:** (maximum two sentences)

*Freight house + depot served virtually every commercial  
interest in the city. Last such <sup>19<sup>th</sup> c.</sup> structure in Still-  
water*