

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED APR 14 1980  
DATE ENTERED JUN 3 1980

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 St. Croix Boom Company House and Barn

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER NE of Stillwater at

9666 North St. Croix Trail

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

Stillwater

VICINITY OF

First

STATE

Minnesota

CODE  
22

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
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

James Prosser

STREET & NUMBER

9666 North St. Croix Trail

CITY, TOWN

Stillwater

VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

14900 North 61st Street

CITY, TOWN

Stillwater

STATE

Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

St. Croix National Scenic Riverway Survey of Historic Structures

DATE

June 1976

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society, Bldg. 25 Fort Snelling

CITY, TOWN

Minneapolis

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 St. Croix Boom Company House is located adjacent to the St. Croix Boom Site, two miles north of Stillwater on the St. Croix River. The house is a two-storey building, sided in clapboard and set on a stone foundation. The original house built in 1885 had a rectangular plan, but additions have since been made to the west and south. • The cross gable roof has been modified by the addition of a large dormer on the west side (rear) of the building. The three original gables are decorated with spindlework in the shape of a spoke wheel. The one-storey, wrap-around porch is balustraded and has decorated pediments above the two entrances. The eastern portion of the porch has been screened in.

The barn is a 1½ storey building of rectangular plan with clapboard siding. It has a center gable roof with spindlework matching that of the house on the side gables. A cupola/vent sits atop the center gable.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1885

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The St. Croix Boom Company House was the home of W.F. (Frank) McGray, superintendent of the St. Croix Boom Company for 34 years. It is located adjacent to the St. Croix Boom Site which is a National Historic Landmark. Along with its barn, the house is the only known extant building directly associated with the Croix Boom Company.

The St. Croix Boom Company built a boom in 1856 two miles above Stillwater, Minnesota on the St. Croix River for the sorting and rafting of lumber cut by the valley's many lumber companies. The St. Croix Boom Company closed down in 1914 after 57 years of continuous operation. Frank McGray is reported to have sent the first log through the boom in 1856, and on June 12, 1914, it was he who hitched the last log to go through.

McGray entered the employ of the St. Croix Boom Company in 1856 and in 1871 was made superintendent or boom master. He lived on a farm across the river in Wisconsin until 1885 at which time appears that the company built a residence for him and his family on company property above the boom site. McGray retired from the company in 1905 at the age of 71. He had purchased his residence from the St. Croix Boom Company in 1895 and continued to live in it after his retirement until 1919 when he sold the property. Several families have owned the house since McGray sold it, the present owners having bought it in 1955.



Property St. Croix Boom Company House and Barn  
State Minn. (Washington) Working Number 5.1.79. 947

**TECHNICAL**  
Photos 2  
Maps 1

F. R. sign., date  
level

**CONTROL**  
pl  
5.3.79  
**HISTORIAN**

Return for technical ~~of~~ corrections **ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

Determined eligible

3/13/79

Bralham  
5.14.79

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_  
Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

**BRANCH CHIEF**

**KEEPER**

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Register Entry \_\_\_\_\_

Send-back 7.27.79  
Re-submit 4.14.80

Entered \_\_\_\_\_

INT:2106-74

Property St. Croix Boom Company House and Barn 2nd Control

State MN - Washington Working Number 5.1.79.0947

**TECHNICAL**

**CONTROL**

Photos 2  
Maps 1

**HISTORIAN**

*Architecturally, a good unaltered example of rural Eastlake house and barn. Historically, it is significant for its association with the St Croix Boom Company, which operated a boom & log ~~terminal~~ area on St. Croix River from 1856-1914 (site of boom was D.H.L.). It was Company home of boom supt. W.F. McGray 1865-1919. Accept R. J. Flint 5/30/80*  
DOS. 1979

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_  
Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

**BRANCH CHIEF**

**KEEPER**

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_ Send-back \_\_\_\_\_ Entered JUN 3 1980  
Federal Register Entry 2.81 Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_



St. Croix Boom Company House and Barn  
Stillwater, Minnesota JUN 3 1980  
(Vicinity of)

Liza Nagle

*Wash, co.*

Minnesota Historical Society  
690 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN  
May 7, 1976

North (front) and West facades of  
barn

01578/6

MAY 1 1979

*1/2*

01578  
6

FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE  
MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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St. Croix Boom Company House and Barn  
Stillwater, Minnesota

(Vicinity of)

JUN 3 1980

Liza Nagle

*Washington Co.*

Minnesota Historical Society

690 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN

May 7, 1976

East (front) and South facades of  
house

01578/5

MAY 1 1979

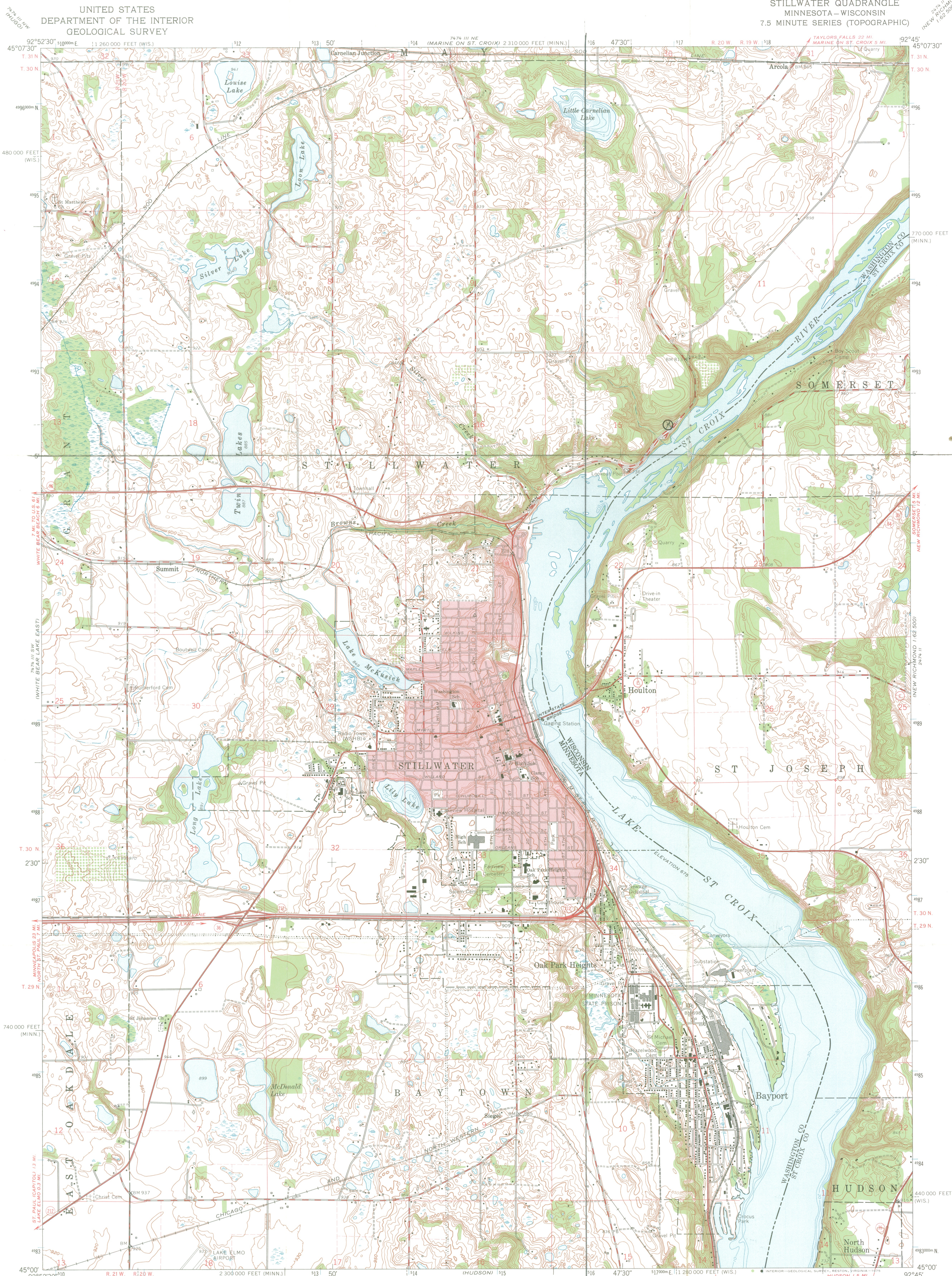
2/2

01578  
5

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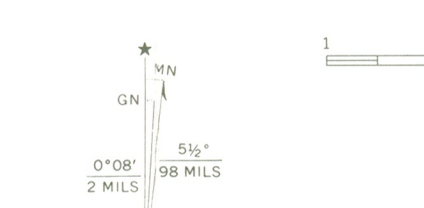
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STILLWATER QUADRANGLE  
MINNESOTA - WISCONSIN  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



St. Croix Boom Company House and Barn  
Stillwater, Minnesota  
(vicinity of)  
UTM Reference  
15 - 516940 - 4992360

Mapped, 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-metre 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  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

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

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND BY THE WISCONSIN GEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY, MADISON, WISCONSIN 53706  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

STILLWATER, MINN. - WIS.  
N4500—W9245/7.5  
PHOTOINSPECTED 1972  
1967  
AMS 7474 III SE—SERIES V872





# MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

690 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101 • 612-296-2747

3 March 1980

Ms. Carol Schull  
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
440 G Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Ms. Schull:

Enclosed are six nominations for the St. Croix Scenic Riverway area. These nominations were previously submitted through the National Parks Service but because the Parks Service does not actually own the properties they are being resubmitted through the Minnesota SHPO. The Pest House, Croixsyde, the John Copas House, the St. Croix Boom Company House and Barn have previously been determined eligible by the HCRS.

Please direct any questions concerning these nominations to Dennis Gimmestad at (612) 296-9545.

Sincerely,

Russell W. Fridley  
State Historic Preservation Officer

RWF/fr  
Encl.

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MINNESOTA

Date Entered JUN 3 1980

Name

Location

St. Croix Boom Company House and Barn

Stillwater vicinity  
Washington County

Croixsyde

Stillwater vicinity  
Washington County

Also Notified

Honorable Rudy Boschwitz  
Honorable David Durenberger  
Honorable Albert H. Quie

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

NR Byers/mjd 6/10/80

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.