

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received MAR 25 1982

date entered APR 22 1982

## 1. Name

historic Butler, Pierce and Walter, House

and/or common N/A

## 2. Location

street & number 1345 & 1347 Summit Avenue N/A not for publication

city, town St. Paul N/A vicinity of congressional district 4th

state Minnesota code 22 county Ramsey code 123

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture <u>  </u> museum
<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial <u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational <u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment <u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government <u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial <u>  </u> transportation
	<u>N/A</u>	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<u>  </u> military <u>  </u> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Bert A. Notch Malka & Ernest Goodman

street & number 1345 Summit Ave. 1045 Davern Ave.

city, town St. Paul, Minn.    vicinity of St. Paul state Minn. 55116

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Ramsey County Courthouse

street & number 15 West Kellogg

city, town St. Paul state Minn.

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible?    yes    ☒ no

date N/A N/A    federal    state    county    local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

## 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 Pierce and Walter Butler Residence is an imposing three-story red brick double house, situated at the northwest corner of Summit and Hamline Avenues, in St. Paul. The height of the structure is accentuated by its setting on a raised lot, a high multiple gable-hip roof, and soaring Flemish-type coped gables. Erected by Butler Brothers Construction Company (of which Walter Butler was chairman of the board) in 1900, according to designs by St. Paul architect Clarence H. Johnston, the residence is exemplary of the trend toward the Medieval and Renaissance Revival styles popular at the turn of the century.

The Butler residence is essentially square in plan and is divided longitudinally in a north-south manner as to allow both front entries to face onto Summit Avenue. Each entry is shielded by a colonaded portico with semicircular arches and balustradelike parapet. The primary distinguishing architectural features are the six Flemish gables: two facing Summit Avenue and two facing Hamline Avenue. The gables nearest the Summit-Hamline intersection are taller than the other two, however, detailing is similar. Each is arranged to allow three steps, finial, and a catenary curve ending at a hooded peak. The copings are of a red stone to compliment the brick.

The entire third floor of the Butler Residence is contained within the roof. Several small dormers and two large chimneys provide the only interruption to what otherwise would be an unbroken expanse of roof and a dominant element in the design.

The Butler Residence is in an excellent state of preservation on both exterior and interior. Original hand-carved quarter-sawn woodwork on the main floor survives intact as does the mahogany woodwork in the former third floor ballroom. It continues to serve as private residences.

## 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1900 **Builder/Architect** Clarence H. Johnston

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)** Builder: Butler Brothers Construction

The Pierce and Walter Butler residence is significant for its association with Pierce Butler, Ramsey County Attorney and United States Supreme Court Justice, and Walter Butler, one of the Midwest's best known building contractors; and as one of the more visually distinctive residences on St. Paul's Summit Avenue. Pierce Butler, born in 1866 in Waterford, Minnesota, graduated from Carleton College and moved to St. Paul in 1892. In 1900, Pierce, with his brother Walter, constructed a double residence at 1345-1347 Summit Avenue. In 1923, Pierce was appointed to the U. S. Supreme Court by President Harding, serving until his death in 1939. Walter Butler, born in 1858, moved to St. Paul to become Chairman of the Board of the family construction firm which (associated with the Ryan Co.) constructed the Minnesota State Capitol and numerous structures located throughout the Midwest. Walter is noted in particular for directing the 1907-1909 construction of the Detroit River Railroad Tunnel, the first subaqueous tunnel linking Detroit, Michigan with Windsor, Ontario. In addition, the firm was a pioneer in the development of the iron mining industry in Minnesota. Their achievements in the areas of mining innovations and improved employee relations stimulated investment and development of Minnesota's Mesabi Range for over four decades. Pierce and Walter Butler's architecturally impressive residence reflects the inherent imagination and cooperative spirit of the Butler Brothers which made them leaders in the fields of law, business, and industry.

Bolf, Peter. "The Pioneering Butlers," in Iron Range Historical Society Range History, Vol. 4 (December, 1979).

UTM NOT VERIFIED  
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bolf, Peter. "The Pioneering Butlers," in Iron Range Historical Society  
Range History. Vol. 4 (December, 1979).

## 10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name St. Paul West Quad.

Quadrangle scale 7.5

### UMT References

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 14, Block 1, Boulevard Addition Number Three, City of St. Paul.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
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state	N/A	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charles Nelson, Historical Architect/  
Susan Roth, Research Historian

organization Minnesota Historical Society

date March 1981

street & number 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House

telephone (612) 296-9073/296-0102

city or town St. Paul

state Minnesota

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

     national   X   state      local

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

### State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Russell W. Fridley  
State Historic Preservation Officer

date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date

for *Silvius Boyer*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

82004625

Property: Butler, Pierce and Walter, House  
State, County: MN, Ramsey  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Working No. 3-25-82-1000  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-1-83  
Date Due: 4/22/82 / 5-9-82  
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 4/22/82

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

Entered in the  
National Register  
photos \_\_\_\_\_  
maps ☒

☐ RETURN  
☐ REJECT

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		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

## **8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- \_\_\_\_\_ summary paragraph
- \_\_\_\_\_ completeness
- \_\_\_\_\_ clarity
- \_\_\_\_\_ applicable criteria
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of areas checked
- \_\_\_\_\_ relating significance to the resource
- \_\_\_\_\_ context
- \_\_\_\_\_ relationship of integrity to significance
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of exception
- \_\_\_\_\_ other

## **9. Major Bibliographical References**

## **10. Geographical Data**

Acres of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT References

Verbal boundary description and justification

## **11. Form Prepared By**

## **12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Title

Date

## **13. Other**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Maps
- \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 202 272-35

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

Owner notification procedure for Pierce and Walter Butler House  
1345-1347 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, Ramsey County

The two owners of the Pierce and Walter Butler House located on 1345-1347 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota, were mailed owner consent notices. Their response consisted of the Preservation Office receiving one signed waiver from the owner of 1345 Summit Avenue and no objection (Pending 30 day waiting period) from the 1347 Summit Avenue owner.



04679  
11

Pierce & Walter Butler House  
1345-1347 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN; Ramsey County  
Susan Roth  
1981  
Minnesota Historical Society, 690  
Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55101  
Northwest  
04679/11

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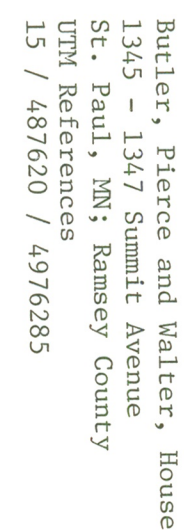
Pierce & Walter Butler House  
1347 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN; Ramsey County  
Susan Roth  
1981  
Minnesota Historical Society, 690  
Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55101  
Northeast  
04679/13

04679  
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ST. PAUL WEST QUADRANGLE  
MINNESOTA  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
NW/4 ST. PAUL 15' QUADRANGLE



Mr. Russell W. Fridley  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
240 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

Dear Mr. Fridley:

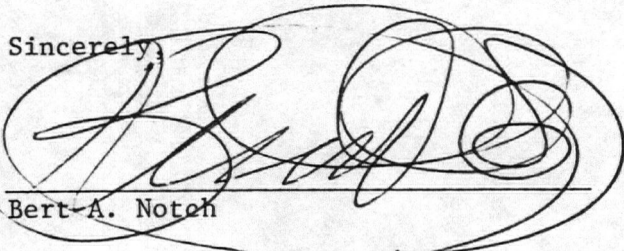
This will confirm that I am fully aware of the effects of listing a property in the National Register of Historic Places. I recognize that, under the National Historic Preservation Act, I am entitled to object to the proposed listing of my property by a notarized, written statement. If I am the sole owner and I object, my property will not be listed. If there are multiple owners of this property and a majority of the owners object, the property will not be listed.

Following is the address of my property:

Pierce and Walter Butler House  
1345 Summit Avenue  
St. Paul, MN

I hereby waive my right to object to the proposed listing and notify you that I request that my property be listed in the National Register at the earliest possible date.

Sincerely,



Bert A. Notch

10/18/81  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

STATE    MINNESOTA

Date Entered                      APRIL 22, 1982

Name

Location

Lake Benton Opera House and  
Kimball Building

Lake Benton  
Lincoln County

Butler, Pierce and Walter, House

St. Paul  
Ramsey County

Notified

Honorable Richard M. Nolan  
Honorable Bruce F. Vento  
Honorable David F. Durenberger  
Honorable Ruby Boschwitz

Midwest Regional Office, NPS

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