

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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

For HCRS use only

received SEP 13 1982

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Rudolf Hotel

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Central Avenue and ^{2nd} Second Street _____ not for publication

city, town Valley City _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 1

state North Dakota code 38 county Barnes code 003

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Northwestern National Bank and Fidelity Savings and Loan Association

street & number 136 Central Avenue North and 149 Fourth Street North

city, town Valley City _____ vicinity of _____ state North Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Barnes County Courthouse

street & number N/A

city, town Valley City _____ state North Dakota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes no

date N/A _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A _____ state N/A

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<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		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Rudolf Hotel, as originally built in 1907, is three stories high, with a frontage of 100 feet on Central Avenue South on the west and 100 feet on Second Street Southeast on the south. The exterior brick walls and interior brick light well act as bearing walls with additional interior framework of cast iron columns and steel beams on the main floor, which change to composite wood columns and beams on the upper two floors. Floors consist of wood floor joists with all interior walls of wood studs, lath, and plaster.

The brick on the first floor of the south facade and west 50 feet of the west facade, which was originally left exposed, has been painted white. A storm sash and shutters have been added to the double-hung windows on the first floor of the south facade. The original hotel entrance, located near the center of the west facade, consisted of double wood and glass panel doors, double transom panes, and side lights, which have since been replaced by an aluminum door frame with about one-third of the transom area infilled with a metal panel. The north 50 feet of the first floor on the west facade was originally retail space in which full height glazing in wood frame was utilized. Original framing has been removed from the openings and replaced with a metal fascia approximately one-half the height of the opening with the lower half infilled with wood frame walls and reduced glazing.

Wrapping around the southwest corner of the hotel extended a 100 foot colonnade featuring a row of nine Tuscan columns, which was removed in 1967. The fascia at the roof of the colonnade appeared to be painted galvanized metal similar to that used at the cornice of the building. A rail along the top of the colonnade was constructed of wood square columns and balusters.

On the south and west facade the brick corbels between the first and second floors, with the corbelling capped with a stone ledge, again painted white. Brick pilasters extend from this stone band to a painted galvanized metal cornice. Fluting in the pilasters is accomplished through the use of rounded brick set in a stack bond. Stone capitals are utilized at the top of these pilasters. Double-hung wood windows penetrate the upper floors and window heads at the second story are a flat brick arch, and at the third story a band of stone continues above the windows between the pilasters. A parapet with recessed brick rectangular panels and square pilasters caps the hotel.

The east and north elevations consist of common brick full height. A one-story concrete block boiler plant was added in 1975 along the east side, effectively covering the first floor windows. The second and third floor east elevation window heads are brick arches. Minor brick repair of the parapet wall and chimney has occurred on the east with the north elevation relatively untouched.

Circa 1928 the Rudolf Hotel expanded into the 1909 building immediately to the north. The exterior brick walls are load bearing in this building, along with a masonry wall down the center of the east-west axis at the basement and first floor level. At the second floor this central wall changes to a wood stud wall extending through to the roof truss. Floors in the building consist of wood floor joists and wood flooring. The first floor on the west elevation was originally glazed full height; however, this has since been covered by metal and wood store fronts similar to the original Rudolf Hotel building. The openings at these retail levels are spanned with steel beams which are supported by cast iron columns.

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

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

In the 1909 building, a stairway originally extended to the second floor at the center interior columns, but was removed during the hotel conversion. The second and third floor finishes are similar to the Rudolf Hotel; however some differences in the exterior do occur. The windows on the third floor and on the south half of the second floor are double units instead of single, and the parapet walls curves instead of having square edges. The north, east, and south walls of this building are constructed of common birck with three levels of windows, all of which have arched heads. The east wall has been stuccoed and is in need of repair.

The first floor interior of the Rudolf Hotel has been substantially remodeled from its original appearance, which includes some new partition walls and new room finishes. The building formerly featured a skylight space in the center light well, which once served as the hotel's main lobby. The southwest corner served as the main dining room and the kitchen was located at the south central portion of the building. Located along the southeast and center of the building was one of the hotel's two bars. The hotel still features an original central wood stair extending to the second and third floor sleeping rooms as well as down to the basement, where the second bar and dance parlor were located. In addition to the bar in the basement, it housed the laundry, boiler plant, workroom, and small sleeping rooms. The hotel rooms, with simple plaster finishes, have not been substantially altered. The first floor areas along the north half of the Rudolf Hotel and 1909 addition have housed various types of retail outlets over the years.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1907 and 1909 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Valley City business district has been dominated by the Rudolf Hotel over the past 75 years. The hotel was opened on Independence Day, July 4, 1907, by Rudolph Giselius, a prominent city businessman. The name Rudolf was taken from the developer's first name, Rudolph, but the last two letters were changed for ease of spelling. Over the years many famous guests were entertained at the Rudolf Hotel, including Teddy Roosevelt, William Jennings Bryan, J.C. Penny, Madame Schumann-Heinck, Anna Case, and Billy Sunday.

Valley City service clubs and businesses have made their homes in the hotel, which included the Lions, Rotary, and Kiwanis Clubs. Businesses included the KOVC Radio Station, a chiropractor and the office of Dr. Hulett, who carried out his practice there.

Mr. Giselius promoted numerous community projects, and one of his favorites was to employ college men at the hotel and pay their tuition. Giselius started construction on the hotel in 1905 and owned it until his death in 1944. Upon completion of the south portion of the hotel in 1907, Giselius started planning a 50 foot addition to the north, which after its construction in 1909, housed a billiard hall and retail shops on the main floor, six offices and apartments on the second floor, and hotel rooms on the third floor.

The hotel business was sold in 1918 to Mr. Sampson, but Giselius re-purchased it in 1920. In 1930 the business was sold to Rowekamp and McKenzie, who returned in after operating the hotel for three years. Oscar Fode of Jamestown, North Dakota bought the building and business after Giselius's death in 1944 and, later the same year, sold the business to Howard Brier of Valley City. John Lord and David Anderson of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota purchased the hotel building and operations in 1966. From 1970 to 1975 Vincent Zacharias operated the hotel, and from 1975 to 1978 Don Sandbothe was in charge of the business. The Northwestern National Bank and Fidelity Savings and Loan Association received the building from Sandbothe in 1978 and closed the hotel.

In 1928 a fire damaged the north portion of the hotel, but with no injuries. This portion of the hotel was then remodeled, with Gilbert Horton from Jamestown, North Dakota as architect. A storm in 1940 sent the huge KOVC transmitting tower located on the roof crashing into a room, but again no one was injured.

Directed by changing economic conditions, the hotel has not operated for three years. Stanley Ryan, George Gaukler, and Norman Triebwasser are planning a substantial rehabilitation of the Rudolf Hotel, including conversion of the transient room to apartments. Their goal is to restore the viability of a commercial enterprise and ensure the continued existence of an architectural and historical landmark that is the only remaining hotel in Valley City, North Dakota.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Hazel Gronbeck, daughter of Rudolph Giselius, personal interview, April 8, 1982.
Valley City Times Record,

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than 1 acre.

Quadrangle name Valley City West

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	4	5	7	5	9	5	0	5	1	9	6	8	2	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

Zone				Easting				Northing						

E

Zone				Easting				Northing						

F

Zone				Easting				Northing						

G

Zone				Easting				Northing						

H

Zone				Easting				Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 15, 16, 17, and 18 of Block 23 of the Original Townsite, Valley City, North Dakota.

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

state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
-------	-----	------	-----	--------	-----	------	-----

state		code		county		code	
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Norman E. Triebwasser, Architect

organization Norman E. Triebwasser & Associates

date April, 1982

street & number Suite 416, Black Building

telephone (701) 232-3271

city or town Fargo

state North Dakota

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national 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 James E. Sherry

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date August 17, 1982

For HCRS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Substantive Review

Rudolf Hotel
Barnes County
NORTH DAKOTA

Working No. 9/13/82-2513

Fed. Reg. Date: _____
Date Due: 10/14/82-10/28/82

Action: ACCEPT
 RETURN 10/22/82
 REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

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

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*no architectural statement of significance
insufficient context for evaluating historical significance.*

Recom./Criteria Return
Reviewer Brodbeck
Discipline Historian
Date 10/22/82
 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

alterations are discussed, but not integrity

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

Although there is a history of the hotel's ownership and use, here is ^{specific} explanation of the hotel's significance. What makes this building architecturally significant? What was the hotel's significant role in the city's commercial development—did it provide a unique service for service clubs meeting here, or were there other meeting places, too? How did the hotel's popularity, reputation, use, etc. compare of other hotels?

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____
Quadrangle name _____
UMT 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 Beth Grosvenor Date 10/30/82 Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only
received 12/27/82
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Rudolf Hotel

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Central Ave. and 2nd St. SE _____ not for publication

city, town Valley City _____ vicinity of

state North Dakota code 38 county Barnes code 003

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Northwestern National Bank and Fidelity Savings and Loan Association

street & number 136 Central Ave. N. and 149 4th St. N.

city, town Valley City _____ vicinity of state North Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Barnes County Courthouse

street & number N/A

city, town Valley City _____ state North Dakota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes no

date 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 Rudolf Hotel, built in a Classical Revival style in 1907, is a three-story brick structure, with a frontage of 100 feet on Central Avenue South on the west and 100 feet on Second Street Southeast on the south. Red pressed face brick was used on the two street facades with a soft, yellow brick on the two alley elevations. The exterior brick walls and interior brick light well act as bearing walls with additional interior framework of cast iron columns and steel beams on the main floor, which change to composite wood columns and beams on the upper two floors. Floors consist of wood floor joists with all interior walls of wood studs, lath, and plaster.

On the south and west facade the brick corbels between the first and second floors, with the corbelling capped with a stone ledge. Brick Doric pilasters extend vertically two stories from this stone band and are terminated by stone capitals which support a wide painted metal cornice. Fluting in the pilasters is accomplished through the use of rounded brick set in a stack bond. Double-hung wood windows penetrate the upper floors and window heads at the second story are a flat brick arch, and at the third story a band of stone continues above the windows between the pilasters. A line of brick dentils is located above the stone banding and the dentils are repeated at the top of the metal cornice. A parapet with recessed brick rectangular panels, square pilasters, and stone coping caps the hotel.

The east and north elevations consist of common brick full height. A one-story concrete block boiler plant was added in 1975 along the east side, effectively covering the first floor windows. The second and third floor east elevation window heads are brick arches. Minor brick repair of the parapet wall and chimney has occurred on the east with the north elevation relatively untouched.

The stone ledge and brick on the first floor of the south facade and west 50 feet of the west facade, which was originally left exposed, has been painted white. A storm sash and shutters have been added to the double-hung windows on the first floor of the south facade. The original hotel entrance, located near the center of the west facade, consisted of double wood and glass panel doors, double transom panes, and side lights, have since been replaced by an aluminum door frame with about one-third of the transom area infilled with a metal panel. The north 50 feet of the first floor on the west facade was originally retail space in which the original framing has been removed from the openings and replaced with a metal fascia approximately one-half the height of the opening with the lower half infilled with wood frame walls and reduced glazing.

Wrapping around the southwest corner of the hotel extended a 100 foot colonnade featuring a row of nine Tuscan columns, which was removed in 1967. The fascia at the roof of the colonnade appeared to be painted metal similar to that used at the cornice of the building. A rail along the top of the colonnade was constructed of wood square columns and balusters.

Circa 1928 the Rudolf Hotel expanded into the 1909 building immediately to the north. The exterior red brick walls, which match the original hotel, are load bearing in this building, along with a masonry wall down the center of the east-west axis at the basement and first floor level. At the second floor this central wall changes to a wood stud wall extending

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

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date entered

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through to the roof truss. Floors in the building consist of wood floor joists and wood flooring. The first floor on the west elevation was originally glazed full height; however, this has since been covered by metal and wood store fronts similar to the original Rudolf Hotel building. The openings at these retail levels are spanned with steel beams which are supported by cast iron columns.

In the 1909 building, a stairway originally extended to the second floor at the center interior columns, but was removed during the hotel conversion. The second and third floor finishes are similar to the Rudolf Hotel; however some differences in the exterior do occur. The windows on the third floor and on the south half of the second floor are paired units and the parapet top is curved. Ionic square pilasters visually support a dentilled metal cornice. The north, east, and south walls of this building are constructed of common brick with three levels of windows, all of which have arched heads. The east wall has been stuccoed and is in need of repair.

The first floor interior of the Rudolf Hotel has been substantially remodeled from its original appearance, which includes some new partition walls and new room finishes. The building formerly featured a skylight space in the center light well, which once served as the hotel's main lobby. The southwest corner served as the main dining room and the kitchen was located at the south central portion of the building. Located along the southeast and center of the building was one of the hotel's two bars. The hotel still features an original central wood stair extending to the second and third floor sleeping rooms as well as down to the basement, where the second bar and dance parlor were located. In addition to the bar in the basement, it housed the laundry, boiler plant, workroom, and small sleeping rooms. The hotel rooms, with simple plaster finishes, have not been substantially altered. The first floor areas along the north half of the Rudolf Hotel and 1909 addition have housed various types of retail outlets over the years.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1907 and 1909

Builder/Architect

John W. Ross

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Rudolf Hotel is significant for a number of reasons: 1.) For its association with Rudolph Giselius, who built the hotel and operated it for thirty-seven years, 2.) As an example of the work of John W. Ross, a prominent Grand Forks, North Dakota architect, who designed the hotel in a Classical Revival style, 3.) As the oldest hotel in Valley City, and 4.) For its role in Valley City's business and social community. Three stories high, the hotel firmly anchors the southern end of Valley City's business district, and although some alterations have occurred over the years, the hotel retains most of its architectural integrity.

When the Rudolf Hotel was built in 1907, Valley City was a small community of 5,000 people and featured over five hotels. Rudolph Giselius saw a future in the growing town and was determined to build a hotel that would be a credit to Valley City. Giselius commissioned architect John W. Ross to design what would become a first class hotel.

Giselius was a Swedish immigrant who worked as a lumber camp cook in Minnesota until 1896 when he moved to Valley City. Beginning as a cook at the City Restaurant he worked his way up to owner of the business by 1900. He then devoted the rest of his life to the hotel business and also to civic enterprises. He was such a driving force in the North Dakota Hotel Association, that he was referred to as the "Dean of North Dakota Hotel Men."¹ Giselius' community activities included membership in the Elks Lodge and the Knights of Pythias. One of his philanthropical interests was the promotion of college education; he would regularly employ local college men and in return pay their tuition.

Giselius' selection of John W. Ross as architect ensured that a finely detailed building would be designed. Ross, a well-known North Dakota architect, had designed numerous public and commercial structures in Grand Forks from 1880-1914. His designs included the Grand Forks City Hall (National Register 1982) and the Grand Forks Woolen Mill (National Register 1982). He also designed other North Dakota buildings including school houses, courthouses (Wells County Courthouse, Fessenden, National Register 1976), and city halls. One of his finest achievements was the striking St. Stanislaus Catholic Church in Warsaw, North Dakota (National Register 1979). In 1917, he was said to have been the "leading architect of the northwest."²

When construction began on the hotel, delays and other problems occurred. The cement mortar in the stone foundation crumbled to the touch, necessitating the removal and reconstruction of the entire basement. Although this problem was remedied, work could not begin on the superstructure because a freight blockade in February 1907 halted the shipment of materials. Common brick shipments stopped at Staples, Minnesota while pressed brick and structural iron stopped at St. Paul, Minnesota.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than 1 acre.

Quadrangle name Valley City West

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	4	5	7	5	9	5	0	5	1	9	6	8	2	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing							

C

Zone				Easting				Northing							

D

Zone				Easting				Northing							

E

Zone				Easting				Northing							

F

Zone				Easting				Northing							

G

Zone				Easting				Northing							

H

Zone				Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 15, 16, 17, and 18 of Block 23 of the Original Townsite, Valley City, North Dakota.

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bonnie J. Halda, Historical Architect
Norman E. Triebwasser, Architect
 organization State Historical Society of North Dakota date December, 1982
Norman E. Triebwasser & Associates, date April, 1982
 street & number North Dakota Heritage Center telephone (701)224-2672
Suite 416, Black Building telephone (701)232-3271
 city or town Bismarck state North Dakota
Fargo state North Dakota

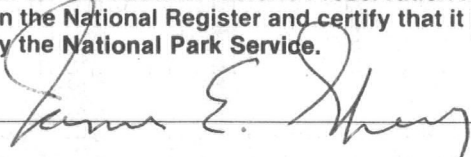
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national 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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota) date December 16, 1982

For NPS use only

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

John M. Anderson
 Keeper of the National Register

date 2/10/83

Attest: *Patrick Anders*
 Chief of Registration

date 2/10/83

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

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received 1/27/82

date entered

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By March freight was once again moving and Valley City contractor M. Madson begun work in earnest. Giselius wished to finish the hotel in time for the Barnes County Fair in July, an event that drew a great number of people to Valley City. Utilizing double work crews, construction was rushed throughout the spring of 1907. In June of that year, Giselius purchased furniture in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota and four train carloads of furnishings arrived in Valley City the beginning of July, just in time to be installed before the fair.

The 85 room hotel was opened for business in July, 1907 while work remained to be done in the restaurant area. Hotel guests proclaimed it as the "peer of any hotel in the state."³ When the hotel dining room was open for meals in August, each meal averaged 50-60 guests, proving the hotel was a welcome addition to the city.

A formal grand opening celebration was held in October, 1907. The Valley City Times-Record declared the Rudolf Hotel "one of the finest hotels in the state."⁴ The good business to date proved Giselius was right in his belief that Valley City would support another hotel. At a cost of more than \$80,000.00, Giselius erected a hotel that had such features as 40 rooms with private baths, hot and cold water, a sophisticated telephone system that enabled guests to call long distance from their rooms, a barbership, billard and pool room, and four sample rooms for travelling salesmen.

After the hotel's initial opening in 1907, Giselius enjoyed a steady and profitable business. Giselius constructed an addition to the north in 1909 for retail, office, and hotel needs, and with an expanding business, in 1928 converted the annex's top two floors into hotel rooms connected to the original building.

The Rudolf Hotel provided needed meeting space for organizations over the years such as the Lions Club, Rotary Club, and Kiwanis. Businesses have also found a home at the hotel, including, at one time, the KOVC radio station with its large tower located on the roof. Liquor establishments (at one time the hotel featured two), a dance hall, recreation center, restaurant, and cafe were all located in the Rudolf Hotel, making it a hub of social activity throughout the years.

While other Valley City hotels were being razed, including the well-known Kindred Hotel, the Rudolf Hotel continued to prosper. Giselius was definitely the guiding force behind the hotel, and after his death in 1944 the business passed through several hands: Oscar Fode of Jamestown, North Dakota owned the hotel for a year, Howard Brier of Valley City then owned it from 1945-1966, John Lord and David Anderson of Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota from 1966-1970, Vincent Zacharias from 1970-1975, and finally Dan Sandbothe from 1975 until the business closed its doors in 1977.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received

12/07/82

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 3

Abandoned since 1977, the hotel will now be rehabilitated for use as elderly housing. A major goal is to restore the viability of a commercial enterprise that played a role in downtown Valley City for seventy-five years.

- 1 Valley City Times-Record, December 26, 1944.
- 2 Lounsberry, North Dakota History, page 835.
- 3 Valley City Times-Record, July 11, 1907.
- 4 Valley City Times-Record, October 17, 1907.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received 12/27/82

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 4

Hazel Gronbeck, daughter of Rudolph Giselius, personal interview, April 8, 1982.

Lounsberry, Clement, North Dakota History, Volume 3, Chicago, Illinois,
S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1917, pp 834-835.

North Dakota Magazine, June 1907.

North Dakota Patriot, August 15, 1907.

Valley City Times-Record, April 20, 1905.
February 14, 1907.
March 7, 1907.
March 14, 1907
April 4, 1907.
April 11, 1907.
April 25, 1907.
May 9, 1907.
May 16, 1907.
May 23, 1907.
June 11, 1907.
July 4, 1907.
July 11, 1907.
July 18, 1907
July 25, 1907.
August 8, 1907.
August 15, 1907.
October 17, 1907.
December 26, 1944.
July 14, 1976.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Substantive Review

NOT SENT

Rudolf Hotel.

N.D., Barnes

Delores: The USGS Map arrived by mail - we have listed this property

Working No. 9.13.82 - 2513

Fed. Reg. Date:

Date Due: 2/10/83

Action: ACCEPT

RETURN

REJECT

Federal Agency:

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

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

on resubmission this is a stronger statement of significance, however they still have not justified its architectural significance - there is no USGS map included, so this must be returned

Recom. / Criteria Return

Reviewer Patrick Anderson

Discipline Historian

Date 2/10/83

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 _____ Area 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
- The Hotel is nominated for architectural significance, yet other than mentioning that it was built in a Classical Revival style, there is no attempt to explain its architectural significance - please provide the local architectural context for this style of arch. from the time period - are there other examples in the town? How does the quality of arch. styling of this building compare to other extant examples? How does it compare in degree of integrity of original stylistic features? How many of the other historic hotels in town remain?*

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Address of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USGS Reference _____

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 *over not resubmit USGS map*

Photographs *please resubmit the USGS map*

Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Patrick Andrews

Signed Bruce Mac Dargatz

Date 2/10/83

Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

SUBSTANTIVE Review

*Rudolf Hotel
ND, Barnes*

Substantive Review

Working No. 9.13.82-2513
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84
Date Due: 2/10/83
Action: ACCEPT 2/10/83
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

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

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

on resubmission this is a stronger statement of significance - it justifies the building as significant as the town's first "Grand Hotel"

Recom. / Criteria Accept A&C
Reviewer Retuik Andrews
Discipline Historian
Date 2/10/83
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"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
		<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

8. Significance

Period _____ Area 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

Address of nominated property _____

Geographic name _____

USIT 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: 202 272-3500



Rudolf Hotel
Central Avenue and Second Street
Valley City, ND

Photo credit: Bonnie J. Halda

Date of photo June, 1982

Location of negative: State Historical Society of North Dakota
North Dakota Heritage Center
Bismarck, ND 58505

View from west, southwest.

SEP 13 1982

Photo 1 of 7



Zac's
RUDOLF HOTEL
CAFE
LOUNGE
Zacs OFF SALE

MILLIE'S
beaute salon

Hotel Rudolf

2ND ST SW

Rudolf Hotel
Central Avenue and Second Street
Valley City, ND

Photo credit: Bonnie J. Halda

Date of photo: June, 1982

Location of negative: State Historical Society of North Dakota
North Dakota Heritage Center
Bismarck, ND 58505

West facade.

Photo 2 of 7

SEP 13 1982



Zac's
RUDOLF HOTEL
CAFE LOUNGE
Zac's OFF SALE

COFFEE SHOP LOUNGE

CENTRAL AVE.

Rudolf Hotel
Central Avenue and Second Street
Valley City, ND

Photo credit: Bonnie J. Halda

Date of photo: June, 1982

Location of negative: State Historical Society of North Dakota
North Dakota Heritage Center
Bismarck, ND 58505

View from south, southwest.

SEP 13 1982

Photo 3 of 7



Rudolf Hotel
Central Avenue and Second Street
Valley City, ND

Photo credit: Bonnie J. Halda

Date of photo: June, 1982

Location of negative: State Historical Society of North Dakota
North Dakota Heritage Center
Bismarck, ND 58505

View from southeast

SEP 13 1982

Photo 4 of 7



Rudolf Hotel
Central Avenue and Second Street
Valley City, ND

Photo credit: Bonnie J. Halda

Date of photo: June, 1982

Location of negative: State Historical Society of North Dakota
North Dakota Heritage Center
Bismarck, ND 58505

East elevation.

SEP 13 1992

Photo 5 of 7



Rudolf Hotel
Central Avenue and Second Street
Valley City, ND

Photo credit: Unknown
Date of photo: Circa 1930
Location of negative: State Historical Society of North Dakota
North Dakota Heritage Center
Bismarck, ND 58505

View from southwest.

SFP 13 1982

Photo 6 of 7



Rudolf Hotel
Central Avenue and Second Street
Valley City, ND

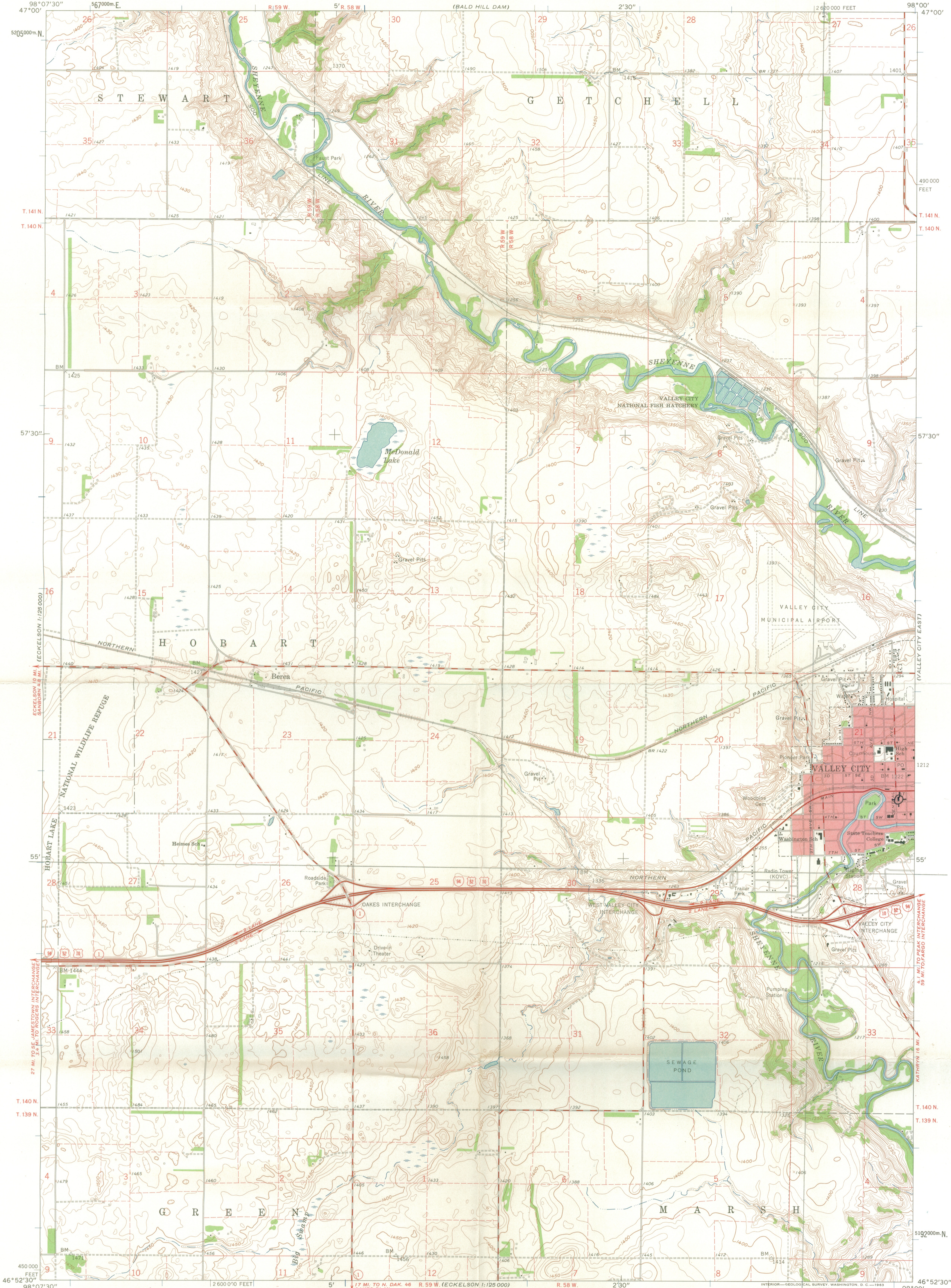
Photo credit: Unknown

Date of photo: Spring, 1907

Location of negative: State Historical Society of North Dakota
North Dakota Heritage Center
Bismarck, ND 58505

View from southwest during construction.

Photo 7 of 7



Rudolf Hotel
Z 14
E 575 950
N 5196 820
SFP 13 1982

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

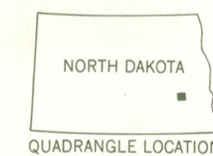
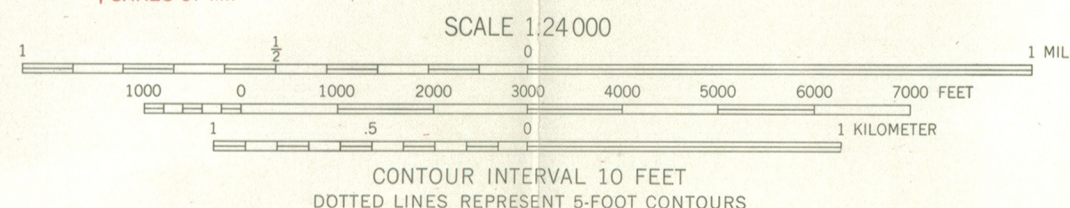
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1959. Field checked 1961

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American Datum
10,000-foot grid based on North Dakota coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 14, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

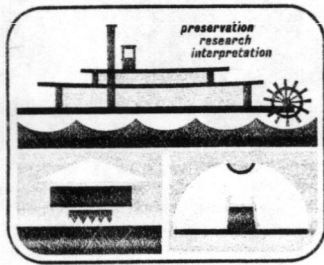
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

APPROXIMATE MEAN
DECLINATION, 1961



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
○ Interstate Route ○ U. S. Route ○ State Route

VALLEY CITY WEST, N. DAK.
N4652.5—W9800/7.5



State Historical Society

of north dakota (STATE HISTORICAL BOARD)

NORTH DAKOTA HERITAGE CENTER, BISMARCK, N.D. 58505
TELEPHONE 701-224-2666

September 1, 1982

Ms. Carol Shull
Acting Keeper of the National Register
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
United States Department of the Interior
440 G Street - Pension Building
DOI
W434
Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find 15 completed and documented forms nominating 65 properties to the National Register of Historic Places. The properties are identified as follows:

Grand Forks Multiple Resource (35 properties)	St. John's Lutheran Church
Casselton Commercial District (17 properties)	(rural Galchutt)
Fargo Theatre (Fargo)	St. James Catholic Church
✓ Rudolf Hotel (Valley City)	(Jamestown)
Sentinel Butte School (Sentinel Butte)	Johannes Goldade House (rural Linton)
Union National Bank (Minot)	Holy Trinity Ukrainian Church (Wilton)
St. Mary's Academy (Devils Lake)	Remington Block (Bismarck)
Hotel Berry (Velva)	E.G. Patterson Building (Bismarck)
	Bismarck Tribune Building (Bismarck)

The properties have been reviewed by the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Review Board, who after reviewing the historical, architectural, and archeological facts pertaining to the properties and after applying the criteria for eligibility to them, unanimously agreed that the criteria were met and recommended that the properties be nominated.

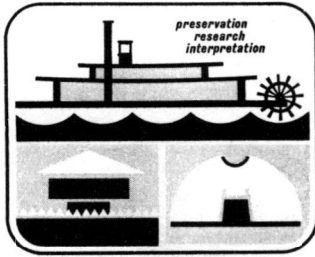
The owner of the properties have been notified by letter of the proposed nomination action and have been invited to comment. Copies of all responses are included with the nomination forms or will be forwarded to your office.

Sincerely,

Bonnie J. Halda
Historical Architect

BJH/je
Enclosure





State Historical Society

of North Dakota (State Historical Board)

North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck, N.D. 58505

Telephone 701-224-2666

December 17, 1982

Beth Grosvenor, Historian
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Ms. Grosvenor:

Enclosed is the revised nomination for the Rudolf Hotel in Valley City, North Dakota. This nomination was returned with your comments and it has been correct and revised.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (701) 224-2672 if you have any questions about the revision.

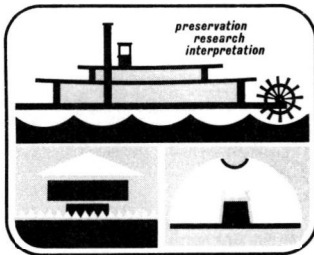
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bonnie J. Halda". The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with a large initial "B".

Bonnie J. Halda
Historical Architect

Encl.





State Historical Society

of North Dakota (State Historical Board)

North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck, N.D. 58505

Telephone 701-224-2666

February 4, 1983

Beth Grosvenor, Historian
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Ms. Grosvenor:

Enclosed is the USGS map for the Rudolf Hotel in Valley City, North Dakota. I omitted the map from the revised nomination I submitted to you on December 17, 1983.

I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bonnie J. Halda".

Bonnie J. Halda
Historical Architect

BJH/je
Enclosure

