

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Minnesota	
COUNTY: Brown	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
FEB 23 1972	

1. NAME

COMMON:
Kiesling House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
227 N. Minnesota Street 220 N. MINNESOTA per attached letter

CITY OR TOWN:
New Ulm

STATE: Minnesota CODE: 27 COUNTY: Brown CODE: 015

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) vacated dwelling

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of New Ulm

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 355

CITY OR TOWN:
New Ulm

STATE:
Minnesota

CODE:
27

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Brown County Courthouse--Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
New Ulm

STATE:
Minnesota

CODE:
27

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Kiesling House is a white two story wood-frame dwelling constructed prior to 1862. Exterior building materials consist of four inch fir or pine clap board fastened to the frame by four inch cut square nails. The roofing material is sheet metal over lumber and 2x6 rafters with enclosed eaves. The windows are double hung. The original structure is 19'x22' having a height at the peak of 17'6". A chimney of mortar and brick extends a few inches above the dwelling and is located on the south section of the roof. Two one story additions have increased the exterior dimensions of the structure to 26'x36'. The first addition is a wood frame screened porch on the south side of the building. The second addition has a stucco exterior and consists of two rooms used as a kitchen and dining room. This addition is on the east or rear side of the lot.

The interior of the original house consists of three basic rooms on the first floor and two on the second. A remodeled open staircase is located along the north side of the large room immediately inside the front entrance accessible from Minnesota Street. All ground floors of the original structure are 2½ inch oak tongue-in-groove. Walls and ceilings are lath and plaster covered with wall paper and painted various pastel colors. The large front room is 17'6" x 13'. The other two rooms on the first floor of the original structure are 10' x 7'6" and 7' x 7½', the smaller being used as a bathroom. Fixtures in the original three rooms have all been added since the house was built and include drop cord electric lighting, steam radiators and bathroom fixtures. All ceilings on the first floor original dwelling are 7'8" high.

The second floor consists of two large rooms located adjacent to the staircase and a small hall. Each room has a window along the south wall. Maximum ceiling height is 6'10" dropping away to 4'10" along the east and west walls of the second story.

A celler approximately 10' x 10' lies beneath the original house and is accessible through the kitchen addition.

The house is deteriorating and requires attention within the near future if it is to be preserved. The clapboard siding has rotted away in some places. The interior floors are badly warped indicating the possibility of a sagging foundation.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Kiesling House is one of the few existing dwellings built within the first decade of the founding of New Ulm in the early 1850's. It is the only wood frame structure known to be remaining on its original site. The outstanding significance of the building is its association with the Sioux Indian War of 1862. It served as a defensive outpost against the attacking Indians and is one of the few remaining structures associated with the Sioux War remaining in the state.

The structure, located on the first plateau south of the Minnesota River, has been surrounded by the central business district of the community and is easily accessible from its main street. If restored, it is the ambition of local interests to create a small park on the front section of the lot serving as a resting place and pleasant access route to the Kiesling House. It is also the desire of various officials to adapt the Kiesling House to a useful service while preserving its historic integrity. Because of the natural terrain of the lot it is possible to have two levels of access to the house. Quarters created below the dwelling could be utilized from the rear of the lot without destroying the access or view of the Kiesling House from Minnesota Street. It would be possible then to quarter in such a facility some interested organization which would be the custodians of the historic site above.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Biographical files of the Historical Museum of New Ulm
 "Charles E. Flandrau and the Defence of New Ulm", Brown County Historical
 Society, New Ulm, Minnesota. 1962.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		44° 18' 32"	94° 27' 04"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

NTM
 15/383520
 4907830
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 1 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Tom Bredeson, Survey and Planning

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Historical Society DATE: 1/14/71

STREET AND NUMBER:
Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul STATE: Minnesota CODE: 27

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Russell W. Fridley</u></p> <p>Title <u>Director, Minn. Historical Society</u></p> <p>Date <u>January 22, 1971</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Ann A. Connolly</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>FEB 23 1972</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>M Bradford</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>February 15, 1972</u></p>
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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7. Description: Based on information from Mr. L. Johnson of the Minnesota Historical Society concerning buildings of similar vintage, windows in the Kiesling House appear to be original with sash details of pegged wood. The roof appears to have original shingles beneath a metal sheeting which was added in the 1890's. Door frames are original but doors have been replaced. The chimney appears to be original from the top to the ceiling of the first floor. The part of the chimney which once extended below the ceiling of the first floor has been removed. Framing materials are original as is the lap siding. Sheeting of rough sawn cottonwood and brick infill as well as animal hair plaster are original.

8. Statement of Significance:

Specific role of building during the uprising: During the second battle of New Ulm on Saturday, August 23, 1862, the house located near the northeast perimeter of the barricaded area was filled with hay ready for the torch in case it had to be abandoned. Although no specific historical evidence currently available documents whether or not the house was utilized by the defenders under Charles Flandrau during the fighting, it is likely that the house was on or near the barricade line and may have sheltered some defenders during the heaviest fighting which claimed 34 dead and 60 wounded.

Tangible reminder of the war in New Ulm: Due to the extensive losses caused by fires set during the fighting which destroyed 190 structures in New Ulm only a very few pre-uprising buildings remain. The Kiesling House and Post Office building remain at their original locations. One or two other buildings of the period have been moved from their original locations. In the case of the Kiesling House, the City is fortunate in having possession of the house through a donation. The New Ulm Battery is maintained by the City and staffed by community volunteers.

Brief explanation of the uprising: On August 17, 1862 four Wahpaton Dakotas of the Lower Sioux Agency encountered a group of settlers while hunting near Acton Township in Western Meeker County, killing five. The Acton incident is generally cited as being the catalyst in the uprising which eventually took an estimated 357 civilian lives. Causes for the hostilities are varied and complex and involve federal treaties, unstable frontier conditions caused by large influxes of settlers, relocation of the Indian Nation, annuity payments and general dissatisfaction among some bands and their leaders as to their plight. Ultimately, parties of Dakota otherwise named Sioux under Chiefs Little Crow, Big Eagle, Mankato, Shakopee, Red Middle Voice and others engaged settlers in South Central and Southwestern Minnesota in a series of hostilities. The incidents began August 18, 1862, at the Lower Agency near Redwood Falls which was composed of a small settlement of traders' stores, and various government buildings overlooking the

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8. Statement of Significance: (continued)

Minnesota River. Fighting quickly spread throughout the Minnesota River Valley from the Redwood Ferry to New Ulm with the greatest loss of life occurring when settlers were killed in the various townships. On August 19, still somewhat disorganized and leaderless, young and enthusiastic braves by-passed Fort Ridgely located between the Lower Agency and New Ulm mounted a weak offensive of about one hundred men on New Ulm which was repulsed by townspeople and reinforcements from St. Peter who arrived toward the end of the fighting. On August 20, Chief Little Crow was able to assume command of a larger fighting force and mount an assault on Fort Ridgely which was the immediate refuge of an estimated 250 settlers from adjacent homesteads and trading stores. Word had been dispatched from the Fort asking for assistance from St. Peter, Fort Snelling and the Governor some 125 miles to the northeast. Troop strength throughout Minnesota was minimal because of the Civil War and the Sioux, aware of this, feeling confident about their triumphs at the Lower Agency and throughout the townships did not move immediately on the Fort. As a result reinforcements from St. Peter arrived before the battle began on August 20. The Fort withstood the first day's attack using all available fire power and howitzer artillery. The Sioux withdrew after nightfall. Heavy rain and apprehension of the howitzer shells is cited as deterring the Indians from pressing the battle on the 21st giving the defenders a day to recoup. The fighting resumed the next afternoon with an estimated eight hundred warriors led by Little Crow. The artillery again was credited with repulsing the assault. Fort Ridgely remained apprehensive until five days later when additional reinforcements from St. Paul arrived and evacuation began.

On August 23, the main fighting force of some 650 Sioux attacked New Ulm under the leadership of Mankato, Wabasha and Big Eagle. The community had utilized the three days since the first battle to seek reinforcements from St. Peter, organize its defenses and prepare for the fighting which raged throughout the day. Once again the Sioux were repulsed and withdrew that night appearing only briefly the next day.

The successful defense of Fort Ridgely and New Ulm marked the end of the first phase of the uprising. Additional and often bloody battles continued thereafter as the military attempted to subdue the hostile Sioux who were eventually pushed out of the Minnesota River Valley area into the Dakotas and Montana where several battles occurred including one at Killdeer Mountain which scattered the Sioux on July 28, 1864.

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COUNTY	
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FEB 23 1972	

(Number all entries)

9. Bibliography

Russell W. Fridley, Leota M. Kellett and June D. Homquist, Charles E. Flandrau and The Defense of New Ulm (New Ulm: The Brown County Historical Society, 1962).

Kenneth Carley, The Sioux Uprising of 1862, (St. Paul: The Minnesota Historical Society, 1961).

Louis H. Roddis, The Indian Wars of Minnesota (Cedar Rapids: The Torch Press, 1956).

MAP CITY NEW ULM

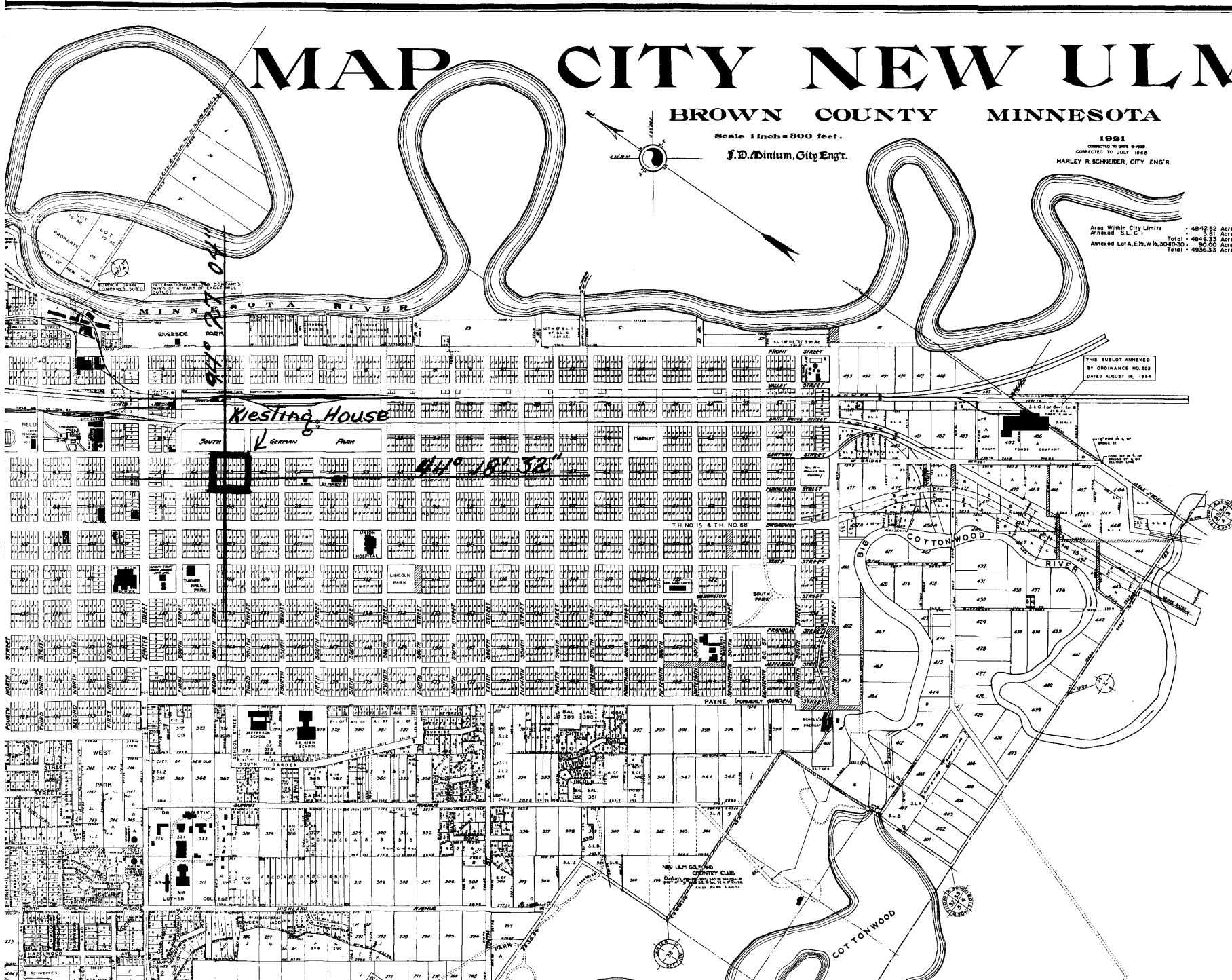
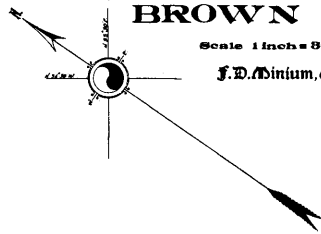
BROWN COUNTY MINNESOTA

Scale 1 inch = 800 feet.

F. D. Minium, City Eng'r.

1901
CORRECTED TO DATE 9-1-1908
CORRECTED TO JULY 1908
HARLEY R. SCHNEIDER, CITY ENGR.

Area Within City Limits - 4642.52 Acres - 7570 Sq. Mi.
Annexed S.E. Ch. - 1.87 Acres - 0.006 Sq. Mi.
Total - 4644.39 Acres - 7576.56 Sq. Mi.
Annexed Lot A, E.H. W.H. 3001030 - 80.00 Acres - 0.141 Sq. Mi.
Total - 4936.33 Acres - 7717.56 Sq. Mi.



Kiesting House

449-181-52

187-04

THIS SUBLOT ANNEXED
BY ORDINANCE NO. 832
DATED AUGUST 11, 1894.

T.H. NO 15 & T.H. NO 68

PAYNE FORMERLY GREENWAY

NEW ULM GOLF AND
COUNTRY CLUB

COTTONWOOD RIVER

COTTONWOOD

MINNESOTA RIVER

WEST PARK

LUTHER COLLEGE

NEW ULM COLLEGE

Form 10-301
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Minnesota	
COUNTY Brown	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER FEB 23 1972	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Kiesling House			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 227 N. Minnesota Street			
CITY OR TOWN: New Ulm			
STATE: Minnesota	CODE 27	COUNTY: Brown	CODE 015
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: City of New Ulm			
SCALE: 1"=300'			
DATE: 1921			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Helene Lyman
11/19/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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**Note: These changes apply to
Kiesling House in Brown County,
Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 72000674

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Brown

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Kiesling, Frederick W., House

CITY:

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS:

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date