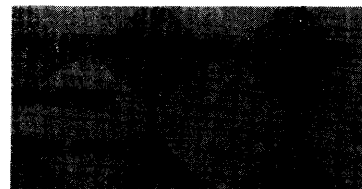


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

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



**1. Name**

historic Willey, Malcom<sup>1</sup>, House

and/or common Glanzer, Harvey, Residence

**2. Location**

street & number 255 Bedford Street<sup>SE</sup> Southeast N/A not for publication

city, town Minneapolis N/A vicinity of congressional district Fifth

state Minnesota code 22 county Hennepin code 053

**3. Classification**

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name Harvey W. Glanzer

street & number 255 Bedford Street Southeast

city, town Minneapolis N/A vicinity of state Minnesota

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds, Hennepin County Government Center

street & number 300 South 6th Street

city, town Minneapolis state Minnesota

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Statewide Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1974  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society, 240 Summit Avenue - Hill House

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota

---

## 7. Description

---

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

---

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Willey House at 255 Bedford Street Southeast in Minneapolis is situated on a long and narrow corner lot. It lies on a slight ridge such that, originally, a view was afforded of downtown Minneapolis and the Mississippi River Valley. However, a freeway sound barrier now obstructs the intended view defeating the original design focus. The Prairie School style residence was designed to "turn its back" on the neighboring house to the rear. This side comprises a solid brick wall penetrated only by small slit windows in the hall portion of the house. A massive chimney projects above the strong horizontal line of the wood-shingled roof.

The building materials throughout are Milwaukee sewer brick and unstained wood. (The exterior wood surfaces have been painted a neutral grey.) Mortar in vertical brick joints is colored red-brown to add to the effect of horizontality as conveyed by narrow bands of brick. Windows on the primary facade are floor-to-ceiling casements which may be opened to allow easy flow between the terrace and interior.

The house is essentially comprised of three sections. The western(left) wing is a single car garage which opens on street level but is one-storey lower than the ground floor. Above is a small attic space. The central portion houses kitchen and living room. Windows in a raised gable provide lighting into the kitchen, which is a low-ceilinged space. In contrast, the living room is a one and one-half storey height. All spaces are visually linked with no use of doors or walls to separate functions in the central core. The living room is highlighted by a massive chimney with large fireplace.

The east wing is reached through a low narrow hall with slit windows. Bookcases line the walls. This portion of the house is devoted to private functions such as bedrooms and bathroom. The master bedroom has a pitched ceiling and has floor-to-ceiling casement windows opening onto the brick terrace.

Throughout, great emphasis is placed on inter-play of spaces and the effects of natural lighting. Oriented toward the south and west, all major rooms are afforded large windows and access to the exterior. Conscious effort has been made to preserve the natural setting and architectural character of the original design although effects of weather and climate are evident on both brick and wood.

# 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1934 ~~XXXXXX~~ **Architect** Frank Lloyd Wright

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Willey House is Minnesota's most significant Frank Lloyd Wright design of the Depression years. In 1934, Wright designed the house for Malcom Willey, an administrator at the University of Minnesota. The Willey house pioneers in the development of the small house while emphasizing interplay of spaced, orientation to site, and utilization of natural light. It is one of his early designs to incorporate many "built-ins" and to eliminate unnecessary ornament while taking its primary quality from expert use of natural materials, both interior and exterior. The design of the house predicted Wright's mature "Usonian House" of the later 1930's such as the Herbert Jacobs House (Wisconsin) of 1937. The Willey House continues to be preserved and occupied by owners who have recognized its design quality with high respect. The house has been recognized by the University of Minnesota School of Architecture and by the Minneapolis Planning Commission as one of Wright's finest "small houses" in Minnesota.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Minnesota Historical Society. National Register of Historic Places - Inventory Nomination Form, "Willey, Malcom, House". Prepared by Charles Nelson, 1974.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name St. Paul West

Quadrangle scale 7.5

### UMT References

A 

1	5	4	8	3	5	8	0	4	9	7	8	4	4	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

Lot 18 Block 1 Watson's Prospect Place Addition to Minneapolis.

### 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 N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charles Nelson, Minnesota Historical Society/ Camille Kudzia

organization City of Minneapolis  
Heritage Preservation Commission

date August, 1981

street & number 210 City Hall

telephone 612-348-6655

city or town Minneapolis

state Minnesota

# 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

*Russell W. Fridley*  
date 1/20/84

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

2/23/84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration