

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUL 12 1978
DATE ENTERED NOV 28 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

NAME

HISTORIC

Lightkeeper's House

AND/OR COMMON

Lightkeeper's House/Cook County Historical Museum

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

As 4561

Lot 3 and 4, Block 30 in Village Plat NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Grand Marais VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Eighth

STATE

Minnesota

CODE

22

COUNTY

Cook

CODE

031 ✓

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Cook County ✓

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Grand Marais VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Cook County Courthouse -- Assessors Office

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Grand Marais

STATE

Minnesota

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Minnesota Historical Sites Survey

DATE

February 20, 1970

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society - Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Constructed in 1896, the Lightkeeper's House in Grand Marais is representative of the two story vernacular frame residence often labeled a "mechanics cottage". Where ornament is employed, it is usually undistinguished and sparse. The ornament on the Lightkeeper's House is a sawtooth pattern of shingles covering the entire second story and entrance portico. The first story is covered in a narrow-lap clapboard; corners are finished by a narrow strip of wood in lieu of a pilaster strip.

The Lightkeeper's House is essentially rectangular in plan, broken only by a slightly projecting bay at the center of the longitudinal axis. The gable roof is sheathed with slate laid in a diamond pattern. The foundation is of concrete faced with a brick veneer.

The Lightkeeper's House presently serves as an historic house museum and the headquarters for the Cook County Historical Society. It is well preserved.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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 1896

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lightkeeper's House in Grand Marais, although unimposing architecturally, is a significant survivor of the settlement along Minnesota's north shore during the last decades of the nineteenth century. Further, it is indicative of the dependence of communities such as Grand Marais on Lake Superior.

Lighthouses were established along the shoreline between Duluth and the Canadian border during the second half of the nineteenth century. As in the case of Split Rock Lighthouse, these lighthouses were placed in rugged location to mark dangerous reefs. Others, in Two Harbors and Grand Marais marked places of refuge. The first lighthouse in Grand Marais was established in 1884. Although reference is made to a lighthouse keeper's dwelling as early as 1886, the building in question dates from 1896.

Today, the Lightkeeper's House serves Cook County as the headquarters and museum for the county historical society. Exhibits have been placed in the building which depict settlement of the north shore, transportation on Lake Superior, and the significant contribution of the fishing industry to this region of Minnesota.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Records and Files - Cook County Historical Society, Grand Marais, Minnesota

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	5
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6	9	9	9	4	0
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5	2	9	1	6	4	0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Charles W. Nelson, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Minnesota Historical Society

DATE

11 May 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Building 25, Fort Snelling

TELEPHONE

612-726-1171

CITY OR TOWN

St. Paul

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Russell W. Fridley

TITLE Russell W. Fridley
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

6/6/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles A. ...
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

4-28-78

ATTEST *Kathy B. Frankton*
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11/20/78

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Melvin Lynn
11/19/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

**Note: These changes apply to
Lightkeeper's House in Cook County,
Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 78001528

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Cook

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):

CITY:

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS: 12 S. Broadway

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

**Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer**

JUN 17 1988

Date