



## 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 Kappel Wagon Works is located on the south side of West Third Street between Plum and Potter Streets, on the eastern edge of Red Wing's commercial district. Just past Kappel's the street turns north, becoming U.S. No. 63, and crosses the Mississippi River into Wisconsin. The building stands out from its surroundings as the only surviving commercial building from Red Wing's early days on this edge of town.

The building is a three story rectangular brick commercial building with brick coursework separating the first floor from the top two floors and more decorative brickwork forming the cornice. Brick pilasters at the corners of the building and between the windows separate the six bays on the street facade. The windows on the upper two floors are arched with stone keystones and sills. The window openings on these floors have been covered over with fireproof synthetic board. The first floor facade is comprised of arched window and door openings extending from the street level to the ornamental brickwork separating the first and second floors. The building is symmetrical with a doorway in the center of each half flanked by large windows. The original windows are largely intact: the lower panes of three of them have been partially boarded over. The doorways have been altered, but the arched openings remain. The building has been relatively well maintained, and a great deal of the original design has been retained.

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input 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 1875

Builder/Architect

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Kappel Wagon Works is significant as a rare surviving example of one of Red Wing's vanished businesses. Small manufacturing businesses such as Kappel's were prominent among Red Wing's early businesses and played an important role in the town's commercial development. Architecturally, the building retains a significant degree of original design integrity.

Wagon manufactories flourished in Red Wing from the early days -- some dozen firms were engaged in the wagon making business at various times in Red Wing's history. Kappel's was one of the largest of these businesses and longest surviving. It was founded in 1865 by Michael and John Kappel, brothers who came to Red Wing in the early 1860s. The original building was torn down in 1875 and replaced by the present structure. A local furniture store owns the building and uses the upper two floors for furniture storage. A bottled gas company occupies the first floor.

The building today retains a significant degree of its 1875 appearance: the changes that have been made to the exterior of the building are easily reversible. This may be due in part to its location on the eastern edge of Red Wing's commercial district. Unlike most of Red Wing's downtown commercial buildings, Kappel's has not experienced a succession of modernization efforts. Recognition of the building is additionally important because the area in which it is located has been designated for development.

PLEASE NOTE: The manuscript for this nomination was prepared before the one paragraph limit for significance statements was stipulated.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

- Angell, Madeline, Red Wing, Minnesota: Saga of a River Town, Minneapolis, Minnesota: Dillon Press, 1977.
- History of Goodhue County, Red Wing: Wood, Alley & Co., 1878.
- Goodhue County's First Hundred Years, taken from Red Wing Daily Republican Eagle, July 7, 1954, Centennial Edition, Goodhue County Historical Society, 1972.
- Red Wing City Directory, 1876.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Red Wing

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

A 

1	5
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5	3	7	1	4	0
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4	9	3	4	6	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

WLY 10 feet of Lot 8, Block 26, original town; Part of Lot 9, Block 26: Beginning at NE corner of lot thence WLY along 3rd Street 40 feet, thence SLY 76 feet, thence ELY 40 feet to ELY line of lot, thence NLY 76 feet to beginning.

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

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Britta Bloomberg

organization Minnesota Historical Society date April 1979

street & number 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House telephone 296-0101 (612)

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Russell W. Fridley

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 9/19/79

For HCRS use only

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

Carol O'Shall date 11-14-79  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Kristin O'Connell date 11/5/79

Chief of Registration