

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Minnesota
COUNTY: Nicollet
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

MAY 1 9 1975

1. NAME

COMMON: Nicollet House Hotel
AND/OR HISTORIC: Nicollet House

2. LOCATION

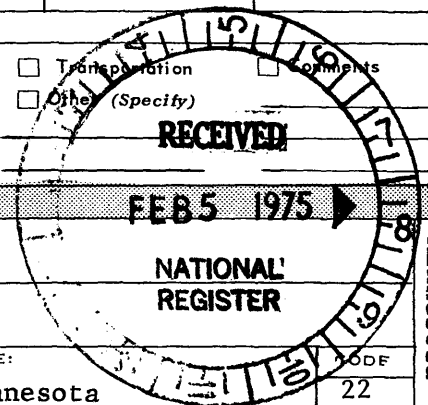
STREET AND NUMBER: Corner of Minnesota Ave. and Park Row			
CITY OR TOWN: St. Peter		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 2nd	
STATE Minnesota	CODE	COUNTY: Nicollet	CODE 103

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: William G. Annexstad		
STREET AND NUMBER: 203 West Park Row		
CITY OR TOWN: St. Peter	STATE: Minnesota	CODE 22



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Nicollet County Courthouse		
STREET AND NUMBER: So. Minnesota Ave.		
CITY OR TOWN: St. Peter	STATE: Minnesota	CODE 22

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Statewide Historic Sites Survey			
DATE OF SURVEY: March, 1974	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Minnesota Historical Society			
STREET AND NUMBER: Building 25, Fort Snelling			
CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul,	STATE: Minnesota	CODE 22	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Minnesota
COUNTY: Nicollet
ENTRY NUMBER 2 1975
DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Nicollet House Hotel is located on the corner of Minnesota Avenue (St. Peter's main thoroughfare) and Park Row. It is an imposing and elegant three story brick building executed in the Italianate mode. It has retained original facade details such as the arched storefronts on the ground level, the bracketed wooden arch types, and a bracketed wooden cornice surmounted by a centrally located pedimental roof comb. The building measures 45' x 120' with a wing 22' x 58'.

The ground level of the Minnesota Avenue facade is partitioned into two sections for commercial enterprise. The tripartite main entrance to the hotel is centrally located in the Park Row facade. It is surmounted by a triangular pediment at roof level. The only decorative brick treatment on either facade is in the form of pilaster strips at corners and flanking the hotel entrance bay.

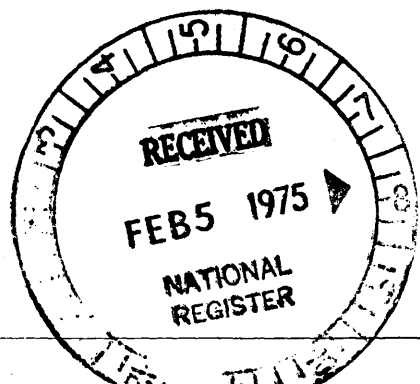
The interior of the hotel originally occupied four levels (basement included). The basement was devoted to a billiard room, barbershop and storage cellar. Ceilings in this space are ten feet in height. The first floor (ground level) as previously mentioned is divided into two stores on the Minnesota Avenue side. The main entrance to the Hotel opens into a large hallway containing office and staircase to the second floor. Across from the office is the original dining room; this room separates the main entrance from a smaller portal which served as a "Ladies' Entrance". The reception room is nearly fifty feet square and is lighted from both sides, making it a bright and cheerful space. Back of this, in the wing, is the kitchen with adjoining pantry. The ground floor height is fourteen feet from floor to ceiling.

The second floor is divided by a long hall eight feet in width. Immediately at the top of the staircase is a large room directly above the entrance which is designated as the "gentlemen's parlor". In the front corner is the "ladies' parlor" which consists of two rooms linked by a graceful arch. The remaining rooms on the second floor are made in suites such that they may be used singly or for families. Ceiling height of this floor is twelve feet.

The third floor is also divided by a long hall eight feet in width. On each side of this hall are individual sleeping rooms, the smallest of which is ten feet by fifteen feet. Ceiling height is ten feet.

Originally the hotel was fitted with an independent water tank system and piping for gas lighting. The cost without furnishing was about \$30,000 at completion in 1873. The architectural design is attributed to Saint Paul architect, Edward P. Bassford.

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2. 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) **1873-1974**

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 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 Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1872 a group of St. Peter citizens organized a stock company known as the St. Peter Hotel Company in order to raise money for a hotel. St. Peter, at this time, was a thriving river town on the route of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway. The town did not have a suitable hotel to house many of the travelers who added to the economic and commercial prosperity of St. Peter.

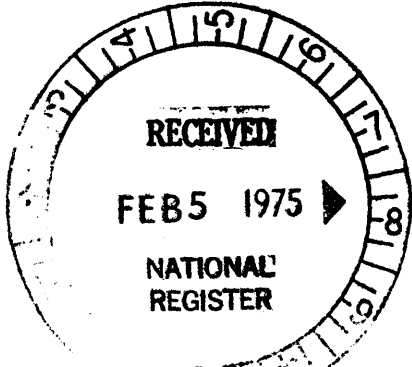
Once a sufficient amount of money was raised, the Company, headed by Mayor Albert Knight, contracted one of St. Paul's leading architects, Edward P. Bassford, to design a hotel. Bassford designed a splendid forty room hotel which became the pride of St. Peter. The Nicollet House was officially opened in September of 1873. In 1873 there were but three cities in Minnesota which could boast of as fine a hotel as the Nicollet House, namely, St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Rochester. Among the famous guests recorded in the Nicollet House register are: Jesse James, William Jennings Bryan, and Governor John A. Johnson.

The Nicollet House Hotel is the most interesting building in the St. Peter business district and certainly the oldest and best preserved. It stands as a monument to the public spirit and enterprise of a stock company of the citizens of St. Peter.

The hotel ceased operating in October of 1974. For decades the Nicollet House had been a popular stop for on-the-road travelers for the best food in the Minnesota River Valley, and earlier, for both lodging and meals. Once, it was the heartbeat of the city which gave Minnesota five governors.

Many St. Peter citizens, including the Nicollet County Historical Society are interested in preserving the historical hotel.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Gresham, William G., History of Nicollet and LeSueur Counties, Minnesota, Vol. I., (Indianapolis: 1916).

Johnson, Ron D., "Minnesota's Historic Hotels", Minnesota Motorist, August, 1974.

Records of the Nicollet County Historical Society.

St. Paul Evening Journal -- April 30, 1873.

St. Peter Tribune -- March 13, 1873, April 9, 23, 30, 1873, August 23, 1873, September 10, 1873.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

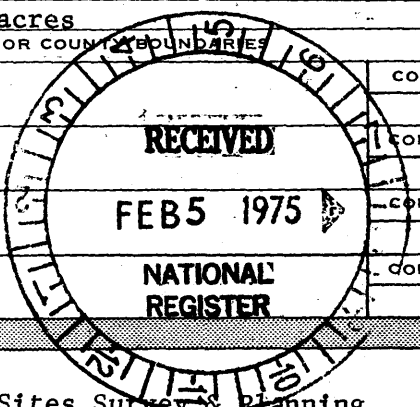
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0	0		44° 19' 32"	93° 51' 23"	
NE	0	0				
SE	0	0				
SW	0	0				

15/423750
4908240

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **less than 2 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Lynne VanBrocklin and Charles Nelson, Historic Sites Survey & Planning**

ORGANIZATION: **Minnesota Historical Society** DATE: **12 December 74**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Building 25, Fort Snelling**

CITY OR TOWN: **Saint Paul, Minnesota** STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **13784**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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:

National State Local

Name Russell W. Fridley
 Title Russell W. Fridley
 State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 1/12/75

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

Ernest A. Connelley
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 5/12/75

ATTEST:
Ronald M. Greenberg
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 5/19/75