

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

 RECEIVED APR 28 1975  
 DATE ENTERED JUN 5 1975

## 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

Lauer Flats

AND/OR COMMON

Lauer Flats

### 2 LOCATION

STREET &amp; NUMBER

226 Western Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Saint Paul

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4th

STATE

Minnesota

CODE

27

COUNTY

Ramsey

CODE

123

### 3 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  
 COMMERCIAL  
 EDUCATIONAL  
 ENTERTAINMENT  
 GOVERNMENT  
 INDUSTRIAL  
 MILITARY  
 MUSEUM  
 PARK  
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
 RELIGIOUS  
 SCIENTIFIC  
 TRANSPORTATION  
 OTHER:

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Robert Neubauer/Wayne Nielsen

STREET &amp; NUMBER

1231 East Shryer/369 Michigan Street

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul/St. Paul VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Registry of Deeds, Ramsey County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

15 West Kellogg Blvd.

CITY, TOWN

Saint Paul

STATE

Minnesota

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1972

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY, TOWN

Saint 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

The Lauer Flats occupy a full-block frontage on Western Avenue between Michigan Street and St. Clair in Saint Paul. The building is three storeys in height set on a half basement. Street facades are of finished, but uncarved, Mankato stone, however the rear facade is of rough, random coursed limestone. Ornamental ironwork in filigree balcony balustrades and pressed cornice are the only decorative elements on an otherwise simple and restrained Italianate design. Walls are slightly recessed behind simple bays, window surrounds and pilaster strips which define units in groupings of two. Symmetry is a strong design characteristic throughout as is noted in north and south facades where blank windows on the exterior of a chimney serve as a design element to spatially balance real windows.

The Lauer Flats originally consisted of fourteen dwelling units divided into groups of two. The lower unit occupied the half basement and first storey; the upper unit occupied the second and third storeys. Each had a private entrance, above which were transoms with painted gilt numerals.

The exterior has remained virtually unaltered since the time of construction in 1887. Some deterioration is noticeable on the stone balconies, wooden window and door mouldings and the pressed iron cornice. The three storey wooden rear porch is in need of replacement in the near future. Most change has occurred to the interior of the building. There are presently twenty dwelling units in the building, most of which are poorly maintained. Basement space which formerly served as kitchen and service area has been converted into apartments. Deterioration of the general neighborhood fabric has further contributed to the lack of pride in upkeep given to the building by both residents and owners.

# 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 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      1887

BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Contractors:  
Henry and Charles Lauer

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lauer Flats, designed and constructed by stone contractors Henry and Charles Lauer in 1887, is an excellent example of precision stone craftsmanship in which elegance is achieved through restraint. Similar buildings of this type and period show tendencies toward a reliance on design through applied ornamentation, whereas the Lauer Flats derives near-total design quality through the integrity of materials which compose the fabric of the building.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Koepfer, H.F., Historic St. Paul Buildings, 1964

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,5	49,09,10	4,917,514,4,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Charles W. Nelson, Survey and Planning

ORGANIZATION

Minnesota Historical Society

DATE

24 February 1975

STREET & NUMBER

Building 25, Fort Snelling

TELEPHONE

612-726-1171

CITY OR TOWN

Saint 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

Russell W. Fridley  
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

3/28/75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DATE

6/5/75

JUN 4 1975