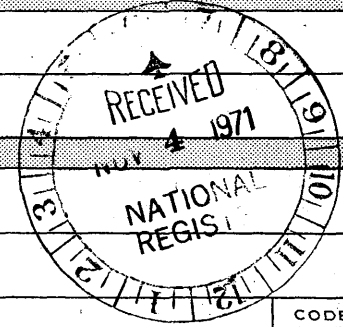


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Minnesota	
COUNTY: Ramsey	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER FEB 23 1972	DATE



1. NAME

COMMON:
Minnesota State Capitol

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Aurora between Cedar and Park

CITY OR TOWN:
St. Paul

STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **55101** COUNTY: **Ramsey** CODE: **27**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Public Acquisition: <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
State of Minnesota

STREET AND NUMBER:
Aurora between Cedar and Park

CITY OR TOWN: **St. Paul** STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **55101** COUNTY: **27**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Ramsey County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
15 West Kellogg Boulevard

CITY OR TOWN: **St. Paul** STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **55101** COUNTY: **27**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic St. Paul Building

DATE OF SURVEY: **1964** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
St. Paul City Planning Board

STREET AND NUMBER:
15 West Kellogg Boulevard

CITY OR TOWN: **St. Paul** STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **55101** COUNTY: **27**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Minnesota**

COUNTY: **Ramsey**

ENTRY NUMBER: **FFR 23 1972**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Minnesota State Capitol building stands on a hill just north of the St. Paul business district. The building faces south, toward the Mississippi River, and overlooks a beautifully landscaped mall.

The Captiol is a rectangular building 433'x120', with a central wing at the north or rear measuring approximately 106'x108'. It is constructed of greyish-white Georgia marble supported by a structure of steel; the foundation, broad terraces, exterior ballustrades and steps are of grey Minnesota granite. The simple rustication of the basement and first floors together with the marked storiation between the first and second floors set the lower portion apart, forming a base for the Corinthian proportions of the floors above. Flattened glass domes add interest to the roof line near the end of each wing.

The south or front elevation has a central prostyle portico comprised of three arched doorways, above which is an open loggia extending through the third story. The entablature supported by the columns of the loggia is decorated with six statues representing the virtues of wisdom, courage, bounty, truth, integrity, and prudence. Above the entablature rises a square pedestal crowned by a gilded quadriga entitled "The Progress of the State".

Directly behind the quadriga and ascending from the Capitol's center is the self-supported marble dome, 89 feet in diameter. The dome is surrounded by pairs of Corinthian columns, each supporting the statue of an eagle, and is interrupted by pedimented windows. The columned circular lantern is topped by a gold ball.

Sixteen varieties of marble, both domestic and European, as well as polished Kasota limestone and granite from Minnesota are used in the Capitol interior. Ceilings and wall panels are hand painted with arabesques representing the various fruits, grains, and vegetables grown in the state. The dominant colors are ivory, gold, blue and rose.

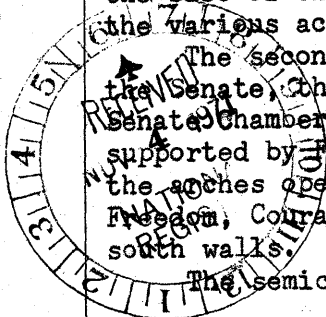
Upon entering the Capitol one is immediately confronted with the heavy marble piers and arches of the rotunda and the large glass star in a framework of brass inserted in the limestone and marble floor directly under the dome. A marble ballustrade highlights the second floor rotunda. The dome is a great blue and gold vault with an Austrian beaded glass electrolier six feet in diameter suspended from its center. Four murals showing the "Civilization of the Northwest" decorate the pendentives.

The grand stairwells to the east and west of the rotunda are executed in combinations of marble and lighted by superb vaulted skylights. Eighteen columns of Italian marble surround each second floor stairwell. High up in the base of the skylight vaults over the stairwells twelve lunettes symbolize the various activities and industries of the state.

The second or "grand floor" of the Capitol contains the chambers of the Senate, the House of Representatives and the Supreme Court. The square Senate Chamber in the west wing is lighted with a dome. The cornice is supported by french marble columns in a dull pink. Pendentives between the arches opening to the spectators gallery are decorated with figures of Freedom, Courage, Justice, and Equality. Lunettes decorate the north and south walls.

The semicircular House Chamber in the north wing has a half dome

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1896-1905 (Construction years)**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Minnesota State Capitol building has been a silent witness to the unfolding of the state's political history since the 34th Legislature convened there nearly nine years after ground breaking ceremonies on May 6, 1896. An excellent example of Classic Revival architecture, the Capitol is clearly the most perfectly executed monumental public building in the entire state. This gleaming white marble structure boasts the largest self-supporting marble dome in the world.

The Capitol was the first building of such size and importance designed by Cass Gilbert, and it is obvious to the most casual observer that Gilbert's professional integrity and high regard for the standards set by the great buildings in architectural history prevented him from sacrificing quality and craftsmanship in favor of economy. Gilbert and the other artists engaged to decorate the structure-- Daniel Chester French, John LaFarge, Elmer Garsey, Edwin H. Blashfield, and Edward Simmons made up a Board of Design, which insured that the final result of their efforts would be harmonious and of the utmost quality. To Gilbert there was "...nothing more worthless than bad art." The paintings and sculpture are all timeless works of art and the artists won the highest recognition for their work. The painting entitled "The Battle of Nashville" by Howard Pyle, located on the north wall of the Governor's Reception Room, is considered by many art critics the greatest war painting of its time.

A tour of the Minnesota State Capitol is truly one of the most worthwhile educational experiences available to the public. Adults and children alike learn of the political history of the state as well as present political procedure by touring the rooms where the laws are made and judged. In addition they receive a lesson in eclectic architecture and study the masterpieces of famous artists, many of whose works decorate our national buildings and monuments in Washington D.C.

Cass Gilbert believed that "...unless a work stands the test of time, its merit is doubtful." The merit of the Minnesota State Capitol is evident after 66 years of service to the people.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Gauthier, Julie C., The Minnesota Capitol Official Guide and History State of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota (editions of 1908, 1939, 1963).
 Gilbert, Cass, Reminiscences and Addresses, Julia Finch Gilbert Publisher, New York, 1935.
 Hoffmeyer, Albert L., "The Minnesota State Capitol", Northwest Architect, May-June, 1969.
 Jones, Robert A., "Cass Gilbert: Forgotten Giant", Northwest Architect, November-December, 1959.
The Capitol of Minnesota, Historical And Descriptive, B.F. Forester

15/49/1980/4977780

UTM 22T WNW
1-31-77

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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	° ' "	° ' "		44° 57' 05"	93° 06' 18"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **one acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Brooks Cavin, A.I.A.**

ORGANIZATION: **Minneapolis Institute of Architects** DATE: **10-27-71**

STREET AND NUMBER: **117 Main Street SE.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Minneapolis** STATE: **Minnesota 55414** CODE: **27**

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 Director, Minnesota Historical Society

Date _____

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

Ann A. Connelly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

FEB 23 1972

Date _____

ATTEST: William M. [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

FEB 11 1972

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Minnesota	
COUNTY Ramsey	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 23 1972

(Number all entries)

7. Description (continued)

ceiling penetrated by five great arches opening into spectator galleries. It is lighted by an elaborate skylight surrounded by a broad frieze. The walls, originally painted a dull green, are now covered with a red wallpaper.

The Supreme Court Chamber in the east wing resembles the Senate Chamber in shape and is also lighted with a dome. The Justices' bench opposite the door is backed by four Ionic columns of white Vermont marble. Recessed lunettes at the upper portions of the walls contain paintings with appropriate themes.

Other rooms on the second floor include the Senate and House retiring rooms and the Justices' consultation room, all elaborately decorated. The Senate room is done in red marble, mahogany and gold, the House room resembles a 16th century French or Italian chateau, and the Justices' consultation room is a copy of the room in Independence Hall where the Declaration of Independence was signed.

The Governor's Reception Room is the most elaborate in the Capitol. The woodwork is dark white oak from Minnesota intricately decorated with ornaments of plaster covered with a dull gold, and the ceiling and cornice are patterned with dull gold leaf. The original mahogany furniture has been replaced with traditional furniture which fits the room's grandeur.

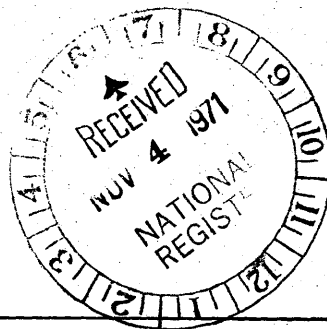
The remainder of the rooms on the first and third floors are state offices. The ground floor contains various committee rooms.

The Capitol has seen no exterior alteration and very little interior alteration since its construction. Between the 1967 and 1969 Legislative sessions many offices were paneled and modernized with complete disregard for the original spirit of the interior design. Fortunately, most of the indiscretions are found in private state offices which are not open to the general public. Modern elevators have been installed and successive remodelings on the ground level have somewhat changed its original appearance.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Publisher, St. Paul, Minnesota, 1905.

The Western Architect, Minnesota State Capitol Number, Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul, New York, October, 1905.

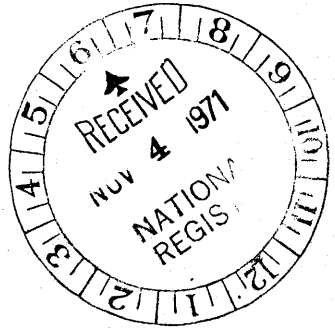
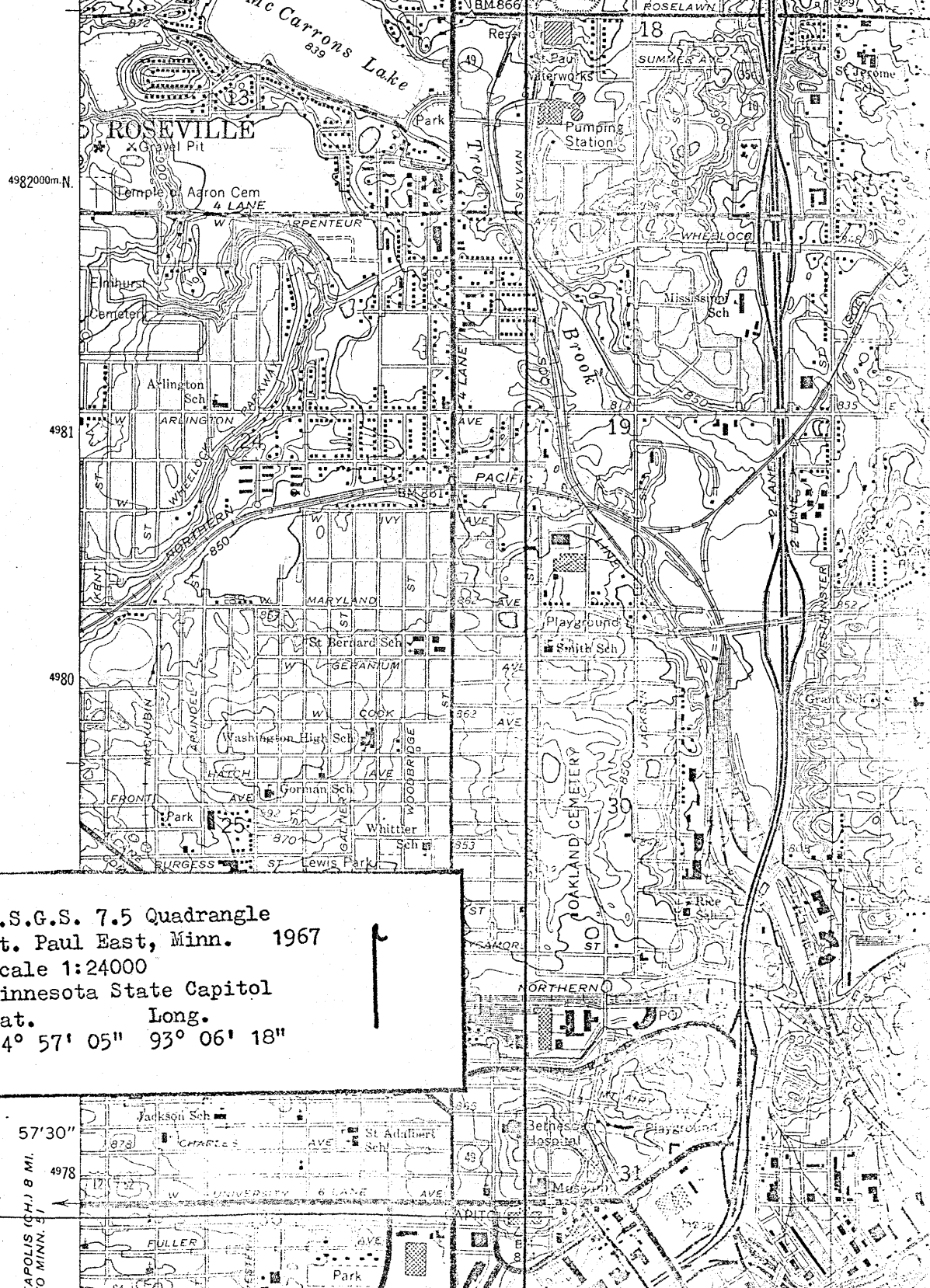


237 1/2 SW
(NEW BRIGTON)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

93°06'18"

93°07'30" R. 23 W. 491000m.E. 11 MI. TO U.S. 8 0.5 MI. TO MINN. 36 R. 22 W. 2.5 MI. TO INTERSTA. 493 5'



U.S.G.S. 7.5 Quadrangle
St. Paul East, Minn. 1967
Scale 1:24000
Minnesota State Capitol
Lat. Long.
44° 57' 05" 93° 06' 18"

57'30"
4978
44°57'05"

ST. PAUL (CH.) 8 MI. TO MINN. 36

Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Minnesota	
COUNTY Ramsey	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 23 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Minnesota State Capitol			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Aurora between Cedar and Park			
CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul			
STATE: Minnesota	CODE 55101	COUNTY: Ramsey	CODE 123
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7.5 Quadrangle St. Paul East, Minnesota			
SCALE: 1:24000			
DATE: 1967			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

