

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

1

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Minnesota</b>
COUNTY: <b>Ramsey</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>DEC 16 1974</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Minnesota State Ceremonial Building**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Irvine (Horace Hills) House**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1006 Summit Avenue**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**St. Paul**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**Fourth**

STATE:  
**Minnesota**

CODE:  
**22**

COUNTY:  
**Ramsey**

CODE:  
**123**

**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"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	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 checked="" 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:  
**State of Minnesota - Department of Administration**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Administration Building**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**St. Paul**

STATE:  
**Minnesota**

CODE:  
**22**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

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

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**City Hall, 15 W. Kellogg Blvd.**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**St. Paul**

STATE:  
**Minnesota**

CODE:  
**22**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Minnesota Historical Society Statewide Survey**

DATE OF SURVEY: **April 1974**     Federal     State

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Minnesota Historical Society**

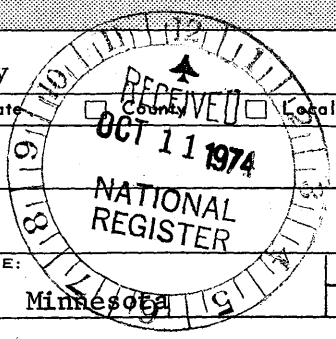
STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Building 25, Fort Snelling**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**St. Paul**

STATE:  
**Minnesota**

CODE:  
**22**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



DEC 16 1974

STATE: <b>Minnesota</b>
COUNTY: <b>Ramsey</b>
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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 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 Minnesota State Ceremonial Building is an impressive three story structure, built of stone and red brick in the English Tudor style of architecture. This mansion was designed, in 1910, by William Channing Whitney, for the wealthy lumberman and attorney, Horace Hills Irvine. Whitney was a leading Minneapolis and St. Paul residential architect from 1895-1915. The majority of his houses were designed in either the Tudor or Italian Renaissance mode. The mansion is located at 1006 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, approximately two and one half miles from the State Capitol. The mansion contains twenty rooms, besides porches, pantries, closets, bathrooms, and various service areas.

The reception hall is entered through a set of double doors. The outer doors are covered with iron grillwork. The inner doors have panels of frosted glass and stained glass in a flower and leaf design. A sunken solarium with white stone ashlar walls and a soft green beamed ceiling connects with the reception hall and faces the formal garden to the rear of the residence. The most noticeable feature of this room is the circular rug at the center of the room designed with the state motto -- "L'Etoile du Nord."

The drawing room, which is the largest room in the residence, is to the left of the reception hall. This room, which extends from the front to the back of the residence, is panelled in dark African mahogany. As in all of the rooms throughout the mansion the drawing room is decorated in blue and gold, Minnesota's official colors, and moss green. A black marble fireplace with intricately carved paneling above the mantle dominates this room. On the opposite wall is an antique breakfront given by the Dayton family. Dresden figurines are displayed on its illuminated shelves. Off the drawing room is a porch with a brown tile floor, bamboo shades and furniture upholstered in shades of yellow.

To the right of the reception hall are the dining room, the library, and the four room kitchen area. The dining room is panelled with Circassian walnut, has an unusual vaulted ceiling of molded plaster and a massive stone fireplace. The library, which serves as the governor's at home office and staff meeting room, contains a library desk which is a reproduction of Lafayette's gift to George Washington upon his inauguration. Above the fireplace hangs a painting by Minnesota wildlife artist, Frances Jacques.

A grand staircase with a balcony landing leads to the second floor of the mansion. The staircase is constructed of bleached oak in the Tudor motif. On the landing is a magnificent grandfather clock with a traditional moon dial. The clock was donated by the Pillsbury family. On the second floor are six bedrooms, as well as two porches, a dressing room, closets, and baths. A guest bedroom to the left of the staircase contains furniture which was part of the original Irvine family furnishings, including an antique Jacobean table and a 15th century carved wood chest. The large guest bedroom, which served as the master bedroom for the Rolvaags and the Levanders, has off-white walls and carpet, and contains an imported Louis XV fireplace.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1911

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input 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/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 checked="" 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 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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

In 1965 the state was given the former home of Horace Hills Irvine, influential St. Paul attorney and lumberman at the turn of the century. The presentation was made by Irvine's daughters, Mrs. Olivia Irvine Dodge and Mrs. Clotilde Irvine Moles. Built of stone and red brick in 1911, this English Tudor mansion is Minnesota's first executive residence. This mansion was designed by William Channing Whitney, leading Minneapolis and St. Paul residential architect from 1895-1915. Previously, visiting dignitaries have always been given lodging in hotels, and state receptions have taken place in public ballrooms, hotel suites, or in the capitol building. Prior to 1965, each of the Governor's families occupied their own home or found temporary quarters in the capital city.

Of the fifty states, forty-one had established residences for their governors before Minnesota did. The first was North Carolina, which provided an official dwelling in 1770, while it was still a British colony. In 1810, Georgia became the second state to have a Governor's mansion. Other states followed slowly, and by 1900 fifteen states owned executive residences. Since then the number has increased steadily.

Representative William J. O'Brien of St. Paul was instrumental in providing an official dwelling for the Governor of Minnesota. Early in 1965 he heard that this mansion at 1006 Summit Avenue in St. Paul was for sale. At the suggestion of Representative O'Brien the two Irvine daughters offered the house to the state as a memorial to their parents.

The next step was for the legislature to pass a bill accepting the property, stating how it should be used, and appropriating money to refurbish the house and to maintain it. Representative O'Brien and Donald D. Wozniak were the main authors of the bill presented in the House of Representatives.

The original bill stipulated that the mansion was to be an official residence for the Governor, its use to be considered an addition to his salary. This approach had to be altered, for the state constitution states that any "senator or representative who votes an increase in pay for an office may not run for that office while he is a legislator." The bill was reworded to state that the residence would be for "official public use and ceremonial state functions." The fact that the Governor resides there was called "incidental", for he does so only "because the official use and ceremonial functions that will be carried on in such a building are essential to the proper function of the chief executive....."

#13  
15/4976200  
488750

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Castle, Henry A., History of St. Paul and Vicinity, Chicago, 1912.  
 Gopher Historian -- Spring, 1966  
 Levander, Iantha, ed., Where Your Governors Live, St. Paul, 1969.

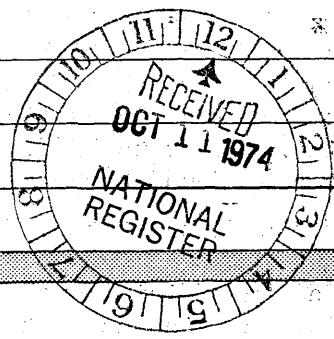
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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 0	0 0 0		44 0 56	93 0 08	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0		28 0 00	35 0 00	
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 1 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Lynne VanBrocklin, Survey Specialist

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Historical Society DATE: -9/12/74

STREET AND NUMBER: Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul STATE: Minnesota CODE: 22

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: Minnesota Historical Society  
 Date: October 7, 1974

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

Ad. W. [Signature]  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 12/16/74

ATTEST:

Atty. George T. Emery  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: Dec 12, 1974

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Minnesota	
COUNTY Ramsey	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	DEC 16 1974

(Number all entries)

**7. Description**

When Governor Wendell R. Anderson and his family moved into the residence, January of 1971, a partition was added in the second floor hall to separate family sleeping areas from the more formal part of the house. A small kitchenette and nursery were added on the third floor.

Only minor alterations have been made in the lifetime of the house. These alterations have not altered the integrity of the mansion.

**8. Significance**

When the Minnesota legislature accepted the mansion they designated it as the State Ceremonial Building to be maintained by the Commissioner of Administration. In 1965 money was set aside by the legislature for major remodeling and structural improvements to take place over a two year period. The mansion was furnished with articles from a variety of sources. The donors of the house left several large pieces of furniture in the rooms, a committee borrowed furniture for the house from the Minnesota Historical Society, Fine Arts groups, from antique dealers, and friends.

Governor Karl F. Rolvaag and his family were the first official occupants of the residence in 1965. They entertained Crown Prince Harald of Norway as their first guest on October 1, 1965. In February of 1967 Governor Harold Levander and his family moved into the mansion. With an appropriation from the legislature, the mansion was redecorated and refurnished in a formal yet comfortable manner. Governor Wendell R. Anderson and his family now occupy the residence.

The residence is open to the public for scheduled tours. By special appointment state-wide organizations have made use of the residence.

