

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 School District ^{No.} #28
and/or common Ramsey Town Hall

2. Location

street & number 14100 St. Francis Blvd. N.W. not for publication
city, town Anoka ^{me} vicinity of 8th congressional district
state Minnesota code 22 county Anoka code 003

3. Classification

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public | <input type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> educational |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> other: vacant |

4. Owner of Property

name Anoka County
street & number Anoka County Courthouse - 325 East Main Street
city, town Anoka vicinity of Minnesota state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anoka County Courthouse
street & number _____
city, town Anoka vicinity of Minnesota state

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Statewide Survey of Historic
title Resources has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date 1978, 1979 federal state county local
depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society -- 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House
city, town St. Paul vicinity of Minnesota state

7. Description

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Ramsey Town Hall, constructed in 1892 as a single-room school house, is located on St. Francis Boulevard, two miles north of Anoka.

This simple, rectangular-shaped building is constructed of buff colored brick, presumably manufactured at the Kelsey Brickyard. The low pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. (It is assumed that wood shingles originally covered the roof.)

The front facade of the building, which faces on St. Francis Boulevard, is composed of a centrally located doorway with flanking windows. The original door frame, which is partially block-in with plywood, was composed of a pair of doors. Decorative brick arches cap the door and windows. This decorative brickwork is repeated around a circular opening directly above the front entry. The north and south facades of the building contain three windows, each capped with decorative segmental brick arches. The west, or rear, facade of the building is composed of an exterior brick chimney flanked by two large windows. These windows, which have been filled-in with asphalt brick, are also capped with decorative segmental brick arches. A concrete belt course, presumably installed to prevent water damage to the building, is not original.

The interior of the building contains an entry hall, one large classroom, two cloak rooms (one cloak room has been converted into a kitchen), and a stairway to a partial basement (originally a small closet). The classroom has a pressed metal ceiling and a number of original chalk boards, now painted yellow. The interior walls of the classroom have been covered with fiber board.

A committee of the Anoka County Historical Society is currently conducting extensive research in preparation for the restoration of the building.

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 checked="" 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 1892 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Ramsey Town Hall, constructed in 1892 as School #28 (to replace an earlier frame school house), is significant for its historic association with Anoka County's second major period of public building construction. During the 1880s and 1890s the rapid growth of the county's population outside of the city of Anoka created the need for the construction of rural public buildings such as schools and town halls. Numerous one-room schools, such as this building, were constructed to provide educational needs and to replace earlier less substantial schools. This building represents the best preserved nineteenth century rural public building in Anoka County.

Architecturally, the building represents one of a handful of brick buildings constructed in the county. Its proximity to the Kelsey Brickyard, which manufactured high quality, buff-colored brick from 1880 to 1897, indicates that the school was constructed of Kelsey brick. It is additionally significant for the excellence of its craftsmanship and detailing.

The acquisition of this building by the county, and its imminent restoration by the Anoka County Historical Society, insures its future use by the public.

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Anoka

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A

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| Zone | | | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | |

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| Zone | | | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification

See attached continuation sheet

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 Lynne VanBrocklin Spaeth

organization Minnesota Historical Society

date March 1979

street & number 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House

contact Dennis Gimmestad
telephone (612) 296-9545

city or town

state

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 11/1/79

For HCRS use only

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

Sally G. Oldha
Keeper of the National Register

date 12/27/79

Attest: Kristin O'Connell

date 12/26/79

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| RECEIVED | NOV 06 1979 |
| DATE ENTERED | 27 |

School District #28

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 1

Verbal Boundary Description:

Township 32, Range 25, Section 25. Th. pt. of lot 3 & of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 25-32-25 des. as fol: Com. at the SW cor. of said Lot 3; th. W. on the S. line of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 5 rods; th. N. 12 rods; th. E. & parallel with the S. line of said SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ about 16 rods to the center of the St. Francis Road, so-called th. SE'ly along the center of the St. Francis Road to a pt. where the S. line of said lot 3 crosses said St. Francis Rd. th. W. on the S. line of said Lot 3 to the pt. of beg. Cont. about 204 sq. rods of land.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

**Note: These changes apply to
School District No. 28 in Anoka
County, Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 79001188

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Anoka

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): District School No. 28

CITY: Ramsey

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS:

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date