

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received DEC 12 1983  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Winona & St. Peter Railroad Freight House

and/or common Chicago Northwestern Railroad Freight House

**2. Location**

street & number Front and Center Streets, N/A not for publication

city, town Winona N/A vicinity of

state Minnesota code 22 county Winona code 169

**3. Classification**

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name John R. Nankivil

street & number 1338 Wincrest

city, town Winona N/A vicinity of state Minnesota 55987

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder's Office, Winona County Courthouse

street & number West Fourth Street

city, town Winona state Minnesota

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Statewide Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1981  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society -- Fort Snelling History Center

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota

# 7. Description

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

## Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The freight building of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad in Winona is 272 feet long by 40 feet wide. It was built as a one story warehouse, with a 1600 square foot office area above the west end of the storage floor.

The Freight House was originally constructed of one foot thick brick exterior bearing walls with a wood post and beam interior structure. The posts and beams divided the building into 16 foot bays. The interior wood system has since been replaced (1960-63) with steel. The building is set on a high limestone foundation to bring it up to railroad car floor height to allow for easy loading and unloading of goods.

The office area is a simple two story 40 foot by 40 foot square section with a wood bay window on the Center Street facade. The bay is not original to the initial 1882 construction, but was executed early in the building's lifetime.

Most of the windows in the building have been removed and the openings boarded over. The original loading doors have been removed and most of the arched openings filled in with concrete block and provided with small windows.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1882-83      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Winona & St. Peter Freight House is a significant remnant of Winona's and southeastern Minnesota's railroad history. This building is the last freight structure standing in the city that was a part of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad. It was a railroad office and freight house for the Winona & St. Peter (Chicago & Northwestern) from 1883 to 1961 when it was acquired by the Peerless Chain Company for use in its production operations. The Winona & St. Peter Railroad was chartered in 1861 by a group of Winona business and civic leaders. By 1866 the railroad was completed to Owatonna connecting with the Minnesota Central Railroad.

In 1867 the Winona & St. Peter Railroad was sold to the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. The original name of the railroad was retained, however, until 1901. In 1870 this railroad was the longest in the state when its tracks were built across the Minnesota River at St. Peter.

The Winona & St. Peter Railroad was also a major element in the development and growth of the City of Winona. The expansion of industry in the city depended on the establishment of a viable market area around the city or hinterland. Towns grew up along the railroads right of way across Minnesota and into Dakota Territory. Winona sawmills and grain millers sent agent to these towns to establish branch outlets for the sale of manufactured goods from the city and to purchase wheat from farmers along the railroad. Between 1880 and the turn of the century, the growth of Winona's influence was directly related to the expansion and development of its hinterland - a hinterland that depended on the railroad.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Descriptive Catalogue of Towns Along the Line of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad  
by Charles E. Simmons, Land Commissioner (no date).

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Winona West Quad

Quadrangle scale 7.5

### UTM References

A 

1	5	6	0	9	3	5	0	4	8	7	8	5	5	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 1,2,3,4,5, Block 10 ExRROP, Winona.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mark McKechnie, President/Charles W. Nelson, Historical Architect  
Minnesota Historical Society

organization Mark McKechnie, Architect/ Society date November 3, 1982

street & number 314 West Avenue/Fort Snelling History Center telephone 612-388-6382/612-726-1171

city or town Red Wing/St. Paul state Minnesota 55066/55111

# 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Russell W. Fridley  
title Russell W. Fridley State Historic Preservation Officer date 11/30/83

### For NPS use only

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

J. Allouez Byers Entered in the National Register date 1/12/84  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief of Registration