

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

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

For NPS use only
received **MAR 27 1986**
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Freund Store

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number County Highway 7 N/A not for publication

city, town Adams Township vicinity of Adams

state Minnesota code 22 county Mower code 099

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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	<u>N/A</u> <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

4. Owner of Property

name Catherine Freund, et. al.

street & number N/A

city, town Adams N/A vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Mower County Court House

street & number N/A

city, town Austin state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society—Ft. Snelling History Center

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u> N/A </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	(slightly)		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Freund store and house site on the east side of State Road #5 in Johnsborg. It is one of the principle buildings in Johnsborg, the others of which are the St. John the Baptist church, school and rectory immediately to the north of the Freund store. These buildings constitute the center of Johnsborg.

The house and store are wood frame structures attached to form an El, with the house set back on the south side of the store parallel with the street. The store is two tall stories with a hipped roof and a front facing narrow facade; the house attached below the eave line of the store is two shorter stories tall with a hipped roof with the long rectangular side of the house facing the street. Ther store and house both have symmetrical front facades. Both are sheathed in 4"-wide clapboards, and have cornerboards, corniced window moldings, a wide frieze with paired brackets, and a sandstone foundation. The house has 1-over-1 double-hung wooden windows; the store, 2-over-2.

The complex is in virtually original condition. The storefront is intact as built with fluted corner pilasters with wooden finials up to the top of the first floor, and intact original display windows and storms. The central angled entry of the store is enclosed below the glass transom in wooded storm protection panels original, or almost so, to the building. The front porch of the store consists of a platform which extends to the sidewalk. The house has two pairs of windows on both floors on the north and south ends of the front facade. It is fully attached to the store on the north. At the first floor is a central door leading onto a wooden small porch/portico.

The interior of the store has a high wooded ceiling, original display cases in oak, and tongue and groove wainscotting. The back bar in the rear of the store came from the first saloon and store owned by the Freunds and built in 1880 on the lot immediately south of the store and house. Above the store is a hall for social gatherings.

Only two evident changes have occurred to the store and house over the years. A south outside stairway leading to the second story hall has been removed. The door at the top has been clapboarded over, but its configuration can still be seen. The house used to have a full and open porch with a shed roof and turned porch columns running along the east side of the first floor. It has been replaced with a smaller entry portico with a front-facing gable. Otherwise the two joined buildings are in original condition.

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The Freund Store nomination contains
1 contributing 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1895

Builder/Architect Peter Freund

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Freund house and store is significant as the leading and oldest commercial establishment in Johnsburg. With its upstairs hall and downstairs store, it was the social and commercial center of the community for 87 years until 1967 when the store closed. The current store and house built in 1895, replaced the Freund's first store and saloon, built by Peter Freund and his wife in 1880 on the lot immediately to the south. During its operation, the store drew customers from the surrounding area of southern Minnesota and Mitchell County, Iowa. The Freund's were closely identified with the German Catholic community which settled around Johnsburg.

Peter and Christina Freund moved to Johnsburg in 1880 and built a general store and saloon, which they replaced with the present store and house immediately to the north of the first one in 1895. Peter and Christina moved into the new house and ran a general merchandizing operation from the store until Prohibition forced a closing of the old saloon and it was razed in the 1920s. In 1909, John S. Freund, Peter's son, was one of three carpenters who helped to build the new St. John the Baptist rectory next door. During Prohibition, John traveled to Blooming Prairie in Steele County to buy beer for the German customers around Johnsburg. Mower County then was a dry county.

After Peter Freund died in 1904, his three sons operated the saloon and store until John S. became sole owner in 1918. Christina died in 1923, and John S. and Catherine Freund, his wife, operated the store. They saw the arrival of the automobile and the coming of electricity, which meant that ice for the groceries no longer had to be cut on the river and stored in the ice house behind the store. During the 1920s, John's son, Isadore, enclosed a truck and delivered groceries, dry goods, and supplies to his customers in the surrounding area.

Isadore and his wife moved into the house in 1926 when they were married. In 1933 when Prohibition came to an end, the Freunds decided to use the back part of the store for a bar area. The bar from the old saloon that was torn down in the '20s was installed and is there today. John S. Freund was murdered by three robbers in 1934 and the operation of the store passed to his son, Isadore. Isadore and his wife, Catherine, operated the store with help from their children from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., and, later, with help from other family members and friends. The store closed on November 5, 1967, and Isadore died in 1968.

From 1895 until 1967, the Freund store was the most popular social spot in Johnsburg and the surrounding area. People gathered there to visit after masses on Sunday mornings at John the Baptist Church next door. Fathers

9. Major Bibliographical References

Curtiss-Wedge, Franklyn, ed. The History of Mower County. (Chicago: H. C. Cooper & Co., 1911), p. 492.

Johnsburg 1859-1984. (1984, n.p.), pp. 43-50, 57.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 2.64 acres

Quadrangle name Rose Creek, Minn. 1982

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A 15 518645 4816740
 Zone Easting Northing

B
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

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 Dr. Norene A. Roberts

organization Historical Research, Inc.

date July 18, 1985

street & number 5535 Richmond Curve

telephone (612) 929-2921

city or town Minneapolis

state Minnesota 55410

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 State Historic Preservation Officer

date 3/18/86

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
 National Register

date 4/24/86

Jean M. McPherson
 Keeper of the National Register

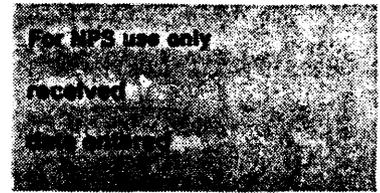
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Freund Store, Mower County, Minnesota
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played cards and waited to pick up their children from the parish school adjacent to the store. The multi-purpose hall on the second floor was a popular gathering place for the community. Plays were performed there and the original stage curtain still hangs in the hall above. Professional troupes from the Twin Cities would come down on occasion to entertain everyone between Adams, Minnesota and Stacyville, Iowa. The Irish Sodality groups performed plays there. Over the years, the hall also was used for parties, weddings, dances, band performances and church dinners. The dances shook the hall floor so badly in the late 1930s that dances were sometimes moved to bowery floors south of the store. Movies were shown for several years outside on the south wall of the store. The store is well-remembered as the social hub of the entire area.

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Geographical Data

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Commencing at a point on the east line of Section 32, T 101, North, Range 16 West 40 rods south of the northeast corner of the southeast quarter being at the southeast corner of the Catholic Church property; thence running west 40 rods, thence south 12 rods, thence east 40 rods to the east line of said Section 32, thence north along said Section 32 a distance of 12 rods to the place of beginning excepting the north 2 rods of the west 28½ rods thereof.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Melvin Lyman
11/19/89

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**Note: These changes apply to
Freund Store in Mower County,
Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 86000867

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Mower

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):

CITY:

VICINITY OF: Adams

ADDRESS: Co. Hwy. 7

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date