

PH0503878

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED
SEP 15 1977
JAN 31 1978

**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

Ramsey County Sheriff's Residence

AND/OR COMMON

Lake Region Heritage Center

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

420 Sixth Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Devils Lake

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

North Dakota

VICINITY OF

CODE
38

COUNTY
Ramsey

CODE
071

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Ramsey County

STREET & NUMBER

Ramsey County Courthouse, 520 Fourth Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Devils Lake

VICINITY OF

STATE
North Dakota 58301

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Ramsey County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

520 Fourth Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Devils Lake

STATE
North Dakota 58301

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

North Dakota Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1974

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historical Society of North Dakota
Liberty Memorial Building

CITY, TOWN

Bismarck

STATE
North Dakota 58505

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The former Ramsey County Sheriff's Residence is a 2-story structure with an attic and a raised basement of rock-faced ashlar limestone blocks. The face brick, style # 174 of the Dickinson Fire and Pressed Brick Company (now the Hebron Brick Company), is a dark brown with mottled black. Tall stone-capped chimneys are on the south, east, and west slopes of the hipped roof, which also carries on the latter two slopes gabled dormers with returns. A wooden cornice styled with dentils and modillions terminates the eaves on all elevations and is interrupted on the front and rear by pediments. Brick quoins define the corners of the building and extend the lines of the facade pediment downward to form a pavilion effect for the entrance. Sheltering the latter is a portico with six Roman Doric columns supporting a wooden entablature surmounted by a balustrade. (A similar but smaller and simpler portico is at the entrance on the east elevation.) A stone porch extends almost the full length of the facade, flanking the portico, and is enclosed by a galvanized iron latticework in a circular motif. Additional stonework is in the belt course and the jack arches with elaborate keystoneing above the door and window openings. The diversity of the configuration of the windows, including single, double, triple, bow, and oculus, is a factor in the building's overall design effectiveness.

The south elevation is a solid brick face erected after the 1974 demolition of an adjoining 2-story brick jail. The latter was less elaborately finished than the residence, without cornice and stone trim and with a plain facade. The original interior included a large vault, a food box which opened into the kitchen of the residence, a downstairs bath, eight cells, two women's cells with bath, a cell for the insane, another for juveniles, and a jailor's room. The foundation of the former jail has been covered with concrete, providing a patio accessible from the residence by a door at the west end of the south elevation.

The first floor of the residence, in the process of being furnished to type, contains an entrance hall flanked by double parlors, sitting room, bath, dining room, pantry, and kitchen (the latter with pump still in place at the sink). The repainted walls and ceilings of the interior are plaster, the refinished floors are hardwood, and trim such as door casings with cornice headings and sliding doors between the west parlor and the hall is maple. An enclosed stairway and closet built on the west wall of the west parlor have been removed, thus returning the room to its original design. A screen of Ionic columns separates the east parlor from the hall, and both parlors have brick mantelpieces.

A half-turn stair with landing, turned balusters, and carved newel posts enriched with urns and rosettes leads to the second floor. There the layout consists of five bedrooms (one with a laundry chute to the basement), a bath with original fixtures and vertical board wainscoting, and a hallway with a linen cabinet featuring paneled doors and brass drawer pulls. Exhibits, in addition to bedroom period furnishings, are a country store and a dental office dating from the early twentieth century. The attic, which is unfinished and presently undergoing renovation, including the installation of new window sash, will be used for additional display areas such as a rural church

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interior. A metal door in the south wall once connected the house to the former jail. The finished basement is divided into a hallway and rooms with brick and wood-sheathed walls and concrete floors; doorways are surmounted by brick segmental arches. Although repair work is still required in the basement, exhibits already in place are a 1-room school, agricultural implements, and laundry equipment, including a handpowered washing machine and an early electric model.

The former sheriff's residence occupies block 19 of the original townsite of Devils Lake, along with the Ramsey County Courthouse on the west and a city office building on the south. On the east is a parking lot, and the residence fronts on Sixth Street. The grounds are limited and planted in grass, a flower bed, and trees on the north and east.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	1909-1911	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	William D. Gillespie (Architect) Dinnie Brothers (Builder)
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former Ramsey County Sheriff's Residence, a well-preserved example of Georgian Revival architecture, is significant for its original long-term use as the official residence of the sheriffs of Ramsey County. Since 1974 it has served as a center for activities which promote and preserve the cultural legacy of the surrounding region.

The former Ramsey County Sheriff's Residence was designed by William D. Gillespie of Haxby and Gillespie, Fargo, and erected by Dinnie Brothers of Grand Forks, general contractors and builders. A 2-story brick jail originally adjoined the residence on the south, its facade facing west, and the combined cost of both buildings was approximately \$40,000. During construction, a 126-foot deep well was dug near the southwest corner of the house, one of six such water sources in the city but the only one which provided water fit for drinking and cooking. Operated for decades by a hand pump, the well was electrified with an automatic pumping system in 1952. (Since 1961 water for the city of Devils Lake has been piped in from a well in Warwick, 20 miles south.)

During 1917-1918, the sheriff's residence was a "home away from home" for young men of Ramsey County staying overnight before departing Devils Lake for service in World War I. Their families were also accommodated when weather and road conditions dictated. Presumably the only use other than residential to which the building was put prior to 1974 occurred in 1951, when three second-floor bedrooms on the north side were occupied as offices by the Ramsey County Extension Agent, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The following sheriffs with their families lived in the residence as indicated:

- John McLean..... 1911-1914
- Martin Olson 1915-1918
- E.O. Elliott 1919-1923
- Dr. D.J. Rutten 1923-1926
- E.F. Routier 1927-1928
- John McLean 1929-1930
- Tom Regan 1931-1934
- Bert Smutz 1935-1938
- Archie Chisholm 1939-1942
- Bert Smutz 1943-1946
- Frank Frye 1947-1950
- Ray Belford 1951-1958
- Frank Novacek 1959-1966
- Bert Roed 1969-1974

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Goulding, Douglas. Grand Forks, North Dakota. Draft of National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form: "Ramsey County Sheriff's Residence." December 13, 1975. Lake Region Heritage Center, Inc. Scrapbook compiled by Martha M. Peterson. Maddox, Dawn. Personal inspection, April 25, 1977.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES Not available because blue UTM grid tick marks not included on USGS map.
Longitude: 98 51' 32" Latitude: 48 06' 48.7"

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Dawn Maddox, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

State Historical Society of North Dakota

DATE

March 31, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Liberty Memorial Building

TELEPHONE

701-224-2666

CITY OR TOWN

Bismarck

STATE

North Dakota 58505

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

James E. Sherry

TITLE

N.D. State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

May 2, 1977

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Tom Minter

DATE

1/3/78

DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST

Charles Murray

DATE

1-25-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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In April, 1974, when the sheriff's residence and the jail were scheduled to be razed, approximately 800 concerned citizens reacted with a letter-writing and petition campaign which persuaded a reluctant Ramsey County Board of Commissioners to spare the residence (the jail was subsequently demolished by United Crane Rental, Grand Forks). A newly chartered public, non-profit corporation, the Lake Region Heritage Center, Inc., then leased the building as its headquarters for \$1.00 a year, receiving endorsement for the project from the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration. In a grant request to the North Dakota Bicentennial Commission, the center stated the following as its objectives:

Know and appreciate the past by sponsoring permanent displays of antiques and art; lectures by local and guest speakers; a library of old and current books; homemaking skills demonstrations such as spinning, quilting, butter churning, etc.; and activities involving language, music, drama, folklore, art and dance.

Grasp the meaning of the present by maintaining an art gallery of old and current drawings, paintings, and photographs, and assisting students in writing historical papers.

Look forward to the future with imagination and planning.

In 1974 and again in 1975, grants of \$3,000 were awarded the center by the North Dakota Bicentennial Commission to partially fund the cost (\$8,080) of refacing the south wall after removal of the jail. The contract was awarded to Michael Kurtz Construction Company in September, 1974.

In the same month, the center arranged with the State Historical Society of North Dakota to display items from the latter's Carl Smith Collection, marking the first time the society had entered into such an agreement with a private museum. Under the terms, about 500 articles, including nearly complete room exhibits of kitchen, dining room, country store, and early dentist's office, were transferred to the center from the North Dakota State School for the Deaf, where Carl Smith had served for many years as superintendent.