Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

2

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

# 66 BATA SHEET

APR 1 2 1978 RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Minnesota

MAY \_\_\_\_1978

	TYPE ALL ENTRIES COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS					
NAME						
HISTORIC	Scriver Bloc	k Building				
AND/OR COMMON						
LOCATION			· · · · ·			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

**STREET & NUMBER** Bridge Square and Division Street NOT FOR PUBLICATION CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Northfield First VICINITY OF STATE CODE COUNTY CODE 131 22 Rice Minnesota

# **3** CLASSIFICATION

0.1 TT 0.0 DV	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	XPUBLIC		AGRICULTURE	XMUSEUM
EUILDING(S)	PRIVATE			PARK
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	XPRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
 OBJECT		X_YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
		NO	MILITARY	OTHER:

# **4** OWNER OF PROPERTY

St. Paul

NAME			·	J
	Northfield Historical Society			
STREET & NUMBER				
	Box 372			
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
	Northfield VICINITY OF		Minnesota	
<b>5</b> LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	ſ		
COURTHOUSE.				
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, E	<sup>IC.</sup> Register of Deeds, Rice Cou	nty Courthouse		
STREET & NUMBER				
	218 N.W. 3rd Street			
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
	Faribault		Minnesota	-
6 REPRESEN'	<b>FATION IN EXISTING SU</b>	RVEYS		
TITLE				
	Statewide Historic Survey			
DATE	1070			
	1973	FEDERAL X_STATECOUN		
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS	Minnesota Historical Societ	y - Building 25, For	t Snelling	
CITY, TOWN			STATE	

# 7' DESCRIPTION

CON	DITION	CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
EXCELLENT X_GOOD FAIR	DETERIORATED RUINS UNEXPOSED	UNALTERED	X_ORIGINAL SITE MOVED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Scriver Block Building is a two-story structure with a full basement. The building is 55 feet wide and 88 feet long. The exterior walls of the building are of Platteville limestone, two feet thick. Dressed limestone was used over arched windows and doors and for corner pilasters. Cast iron columns were used at the store front entrances facing Bridge Square and Division Street.

Originally the building had a flat tin roof with a bracketed cornice. However, a sloping roof was installed ca.1888 and the cornices modified at that time. The original tin roof may still be seen in the attic space.

Original stone windows on the first floor were divided into four panels with Gothic tracery above in an arched opening. In later alterations these were replaced with small square panes over a single large sheet of glass. Second floor windows were two over two light double hung sash with arched openings.

A steel stair leading to the second floor offices has been removed from the Division Street facade. However, the stair has been preserved and reinstalled at the rear of the building for access to the second floor porch.

The exterior of the building has been altered with the addition of stucco over the original stone walls and brick trim at window openings. However, the original stonework is intact under the stucco. The northwest corner of the building (currently occupied by the Chamber of Commerce) retains its original appearance with stone walls and dressed limestone trim over the arched window openings.

The first floor of the building has always been devoted to commercial use. Original occupants included a hardware store, dry goods store and a bank. The second floor was originally used for professional offices including several s attorneys and a dentist. Today these spaces have been converted to residential apartments. The basement of the building was largely devoted to storage with the exception of a barber shop in the northwest corner, now a basement meeting room.

## **8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD	AR AR	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART		MUSIC	THEATER
<u>X</u> 1800-1899	XCOMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	:		
SPECIFIC DAT	ES ca.1867	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT Unknown	

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Scriver Building was erected about 1867 on the site of Northfield's earliest store. Facing Bridge Square, the building is one of the major structures in the center of the Northfield business district. Unlike the simple, falsefront, wood structures that surrounded Bridge Square in the 1870s, the Scriver Building gave an impression of permanence and stability in the still-young (10 years) community of Northfield.

Its original occupants included Hiram Scriver, one of the town's first merchants, who operated a hardware store in the building for many years; Lee & Hitchcock, a dry goods store; and a little later the First National Bank.

It was the presence of the First National Bank which gave the Scriver Building its major place in history when the James-Younger gang attempted to rob the bank on September 7, 1876. The attempt was an infamous failure. Joseph Lee Heywood, the bank's cashier and a man of courage and integrity, refused to open the vault and was killed on the sopt. But the citizens of Northfield took immediate action to protect both their lives and property, and within seven minutes a gun battle had taken care of two of the robbers and one of their horses, while two more of their horses had fled. The posse which followed the remainder of the gang out of town captured most of the gang in the ensuing weeks. The Younger brothers were imprisoned in the Stillwater penitentiary, while the James brothers escaped back to their home territory in Missouri. Nonetheless, historians have since marked the attempted raid of the Northfield bank and the brave response of the Northfield citizens as the beginning of the end of the era of the Western desperadoes.

The First National Bank moved to the front of the building in 1878 to occupy the space which had been Lee & Hitchcock's dry good store. In 1893 the bank moved again to its present location across Bridge Square. The Northfield Post Office immediately occupied the space vacated by the bank and continued in this location for the next 30 years.

Hiram Scriver, who built the building played an important role in Northfield history. He was elected as the first mayor of Northfield in 1875 and was one of the founders of Carleton College in Northfield serving on its first board of trustees in 1866.

The Scriver Building is currently being restored to its appearance at the time of the James-Younger gang raid in 1876 by the Northfield Historical Society.

### 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Yesterday Now, the Birth of a Museum, Northfield Historical Society, 1975. Huntington, George, Robber and Hero, Minneapolis, Christian Way Publishing Company, 1895. Nutting, Elizabeth, The Story of the First National Bank of Northfield, Minnesota, 1955. Rice County Journal, 1872-1883.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA	
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.11 acres	
UTM REFERENCES	
487	
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION	
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING S	TATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
STATE CODE COUNTY	CODE
STATE CODE COUNTY	CODE
<b>II</b> FORM PREPARED BY	
NAME / TITLE	
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Foster W. Dunwiddie ORGANIZATION	DATE
Miller-Dunwiddie Architects, Inc.	May 27, 1977
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
7913 Southtown Center	612-884-8421
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Minneapolis	Minnesota 55431
<b>12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER C</b>	
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WIT	HIN THE STATE IS:
NATIONAL STATE	
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preser	
hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that	it it has been evaluated according to the
criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.	(+ 10
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE	$+$ $ //_{-}$
TITLE Russell W. Fridley	Trackly
TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer	DATE 3/29/78
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPURTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL RE	GISTER
the In At-	-1.7~e
Wm//lul/	DATE J/S 28
ATTEST	CEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
<u>varance</u> (or	DATE 5/4/28
Allower of the WATTONNE TO COLUMN	