

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: North Dakota
COUNTY: Cass
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE FEB 13 1975

1. NAME

COMMON:
N. P. Depot

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Northern Pacific Railway Depot *Use*

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
701 Main Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Fargo

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
1

STATE: **North Dakota** CODE: **38** COUNTY: **Cass** CODE: **017**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>youth center</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Comments			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Fargo

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall (201 North 4th Street)

CITY OR TOWN:
Fargo

STATE:
North Dakota CODE: **38**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Cass County Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 2806

CITY OR TOWN:
Fargo

STATE:
North Dakota CODE: **38**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Plat of the Town of Fargo, Dakota Territory

DATE OF SURVEY: **10/18/1873** Federal State County Local

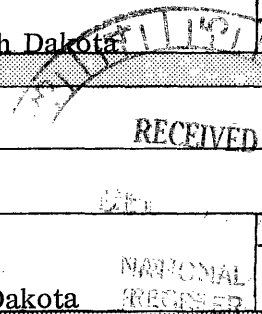
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Cass County Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 2806

CITY OR TOWN:
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)			(Check One)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered			<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		
			<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

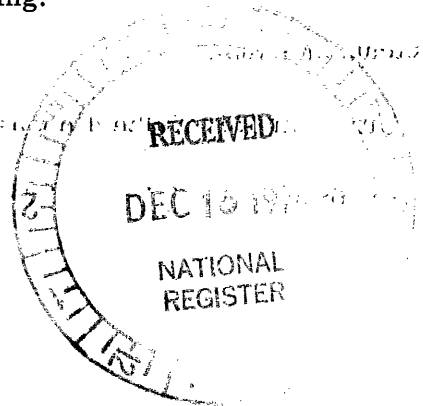
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located in the heart of Fargo's old downtown business district, the overall size of the depot is forty-four feet by two hundred feet in plan. Conceptually, the building is divided into three plan components: a central two-story portion originally housed ticket sales, toilets, men's and women's lounges, and office space; to the east of this central portion is a large waiting room given enclosure by open steel and timber trusses carrying a wood deck; to the west of the central portion is a single story baggage room spanned with large timber trusses. The most dramatic interior space is the waiting room, large in volume with hardwood floor and georgia pine ceiling, and highlighted by a large and decorative brick fireplace. The intimately scaled women's lounge with oriel windows and fireplace serves to provide a spatial contrast to the large waiting area.

The exterior is compact in form with a heavily bracketed roof extending beyond the exterior walls and overhanging the platform to lend a strong sense of protection. The roof was originally covered with red tile. The exterior walls are of dark brown brick accented by the contrasting company logo and strongly articulated windows and door openings.

In recent years, the depot has been used by the city of Fargo as a youth center and several changes of decor have been made, including the addition of carpeting to cover the hardwood floor in the former waiting room area, the placement of wood paneling on some walls and the construction of temporary partitions in various parts of the building.

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6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1898

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former Northern Pacific Railway depot at Fargo, North Dakota is more than simply a fine example of the grand railroad stations built in "turn of the century" America during the heyday of railroad influence and prominence in the Mid-west. It is a dichotomous statement expressing both the confidence of the railroads in the potential of the West and the importance of the railroads to the West.

Designed by Cass Gilbert during the period in which he was establishing a career that would earn him international recognition, the depot's direct, bold and friendly architectural form shows the influence of H. H. Richardson's mature work on the young Gilbert. As is true of many of Richardson's suburban stations, Gilbert's Fargo depot exudes a sense of shelter and protection.

Cass Gilbert (1858-1934) was born in Zanesville, Ohio and educated in St. Paul, Minnesota. Following several years of architectural training as an apprentice in a St. Paul firm, the completion of a special course at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and several months of European study, Gilbert became the personal assistant of Stanford White (McKim, Mead and White, New York). In 1882 Gilbert opened a practice in St. Paul where in 1896 he won an open competition to secure the commission for the Minnesota State Capitol building, the successful completion of which earned him wide recognition. Following additional successes, including his winning of the design competition for the New York Custom House (1905), Gilbert moved his offices to New York where his practice steadily increased and resulted in many noteworthy public buildings including the sixty-six story Woolworth building (Manhattan); Festival Hall and Art Building (St. Louis, 1904); Ives Memorial Library (New Haven, 1905); Central Public Library (St. Louis, 1908-12); Detroit Public Library (1914); Arkansas State Capitol (1912); Waterbury City Hall (1913); U. S. Treasury Annex (Washington, D. C., 1918); Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank (1924); U. S. Chamber of Commerce (Washington, D. C., 1925); New York Life Insurance Building (1925-28); Prudential Life Insurance Company's Gibraltar Building (Newark, 1927); U. S. Legation Building (Toronto, 1928); West Virginia State Capitol (1928-32); the Supreme Court Building in Washington (1933-35) and the

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Withey, Henry F. and Elsie Rathburn, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased) New York Publishing Co., Los Angeles, 1956 pp. 233-235.
Fargo Forum, November 10, 1898, "The Northern Pacific Depot Is Just What the Doctor Ordered."

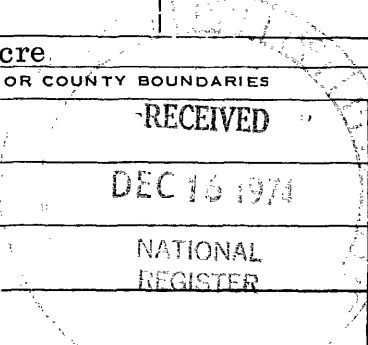
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		46 ° 52 ' 29 "	96 ° 47 ' 21 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than 1 acre.

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



NO
 UTM
 CO

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Walter L. Bailey - Historic Preservation Planner

ORGANIZATION: State Historical Society of North Dakota DATE: 10-29-74

STREET AND NUMBER: Liberty Memorial Building

CITY OR TOWN: Bismarck STATE: North Dakota CODE: 38

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Jane E. Sherry</u></p> <p>Title <u>N.D. S.H.P.O.</u></p> <p>Date <u>Nov 19, 1974</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>2/15/75</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>2-11-75</u></p>
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
North Dakota	
COUNTY	
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8 Significance (continued page 2)

Federal Court House in New York, these last two completed after his death in 1934. The Northern Pacific railway depot in Fargo marks a definite point in his outstanding career.

Of the significance of this depot to Fargo, the following quote from the November 10, 1898 issue of the Fargo Forum clearly expresses the public attitude, "The new depot is certain the pride of Fargo. The N. P. is receiving the praise of the citizens on all sides for the enterprize they showed in putting the building here. The value of the new building to the traveling public is great, but the fact that the company would expend so much money in Fargo is of greater importance, as it shows the confidence of the road in Fargo and gives outsiders a hundred per cent higher estimation of the city. Those who have traveled over the different roads to the coast say this is the neatest depot along any line from Chicago west. On the N. P. the depot at Spokane cost more money but the officials like the plans and convenience of the Fargo building better."

