United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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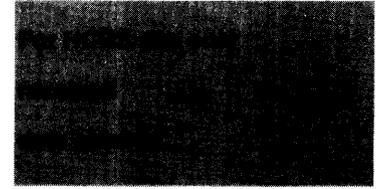
1. Name

historic   Hotel Thompson

and/or common   Hotel Thompson

2. Location

street & number   300–310 10th Street   N/A not for publication

city, town   Worthington   N/A vicinity of   ~~congressional district~~

state   Minnesota   **code** 22   **county** Nobles   **code**   105

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	_X_ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
_X_ building(s)	_X_ private	___ unoccupied	_X_ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	N/A in process	_X_ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name   BHJ Investments, Inc. % Burton Broste

street & number   705 May Street

city, town   Worthington   N/A vicinity of   **state** Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.   Registry of Deeds - Nobles County Courthouse

street & number   N/A

city, town   Worthington   **state** Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Historic Sites Survey   **has this property been determined elegible?** ___ yes _X_ no

date   1978   ___ federal _X_ state ___ county ___ local

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

city, town   St. Paul   **state** Minnesota

7. Description

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Hotel Thompson is situated on the northwest corner of Third Avenue and Tenth Street in Worthington, Minnesota. Designed by architect W. E. E. Greene, the building features elements of the Georgian Revival style. The three storey brick structure measures 118 feet along Tenth Street and 140 feet along Third Avenue. At the time of its opening in March, 1912, the hotel featured 75 guest rooms, a dining room considered the finest in the southwestern portion of the state, and space for several commercial tenants, including a moving picture theatre.

The visual effect of the hotel's primary facade is of two individual buildings joined by a one storey portico featuring a pedimented gable. The entry is separated into three areas by metal columns on glazed brick piers. Outer sections lead to commercial shops located below grade. The center portion, one-half level above grade, leads to the hotel lobby and adjacent shops accessible from the entry landing through private entrances. Above the center entry the actual U shape of the building creates light and air circulation for hotel facilities. The facade terminates in paired low gable pediments with oculus windows and dentilated metal cornice.

Windows are rectangular, double hung sash set into wooden frames. Shaped lintels executed in tan colored brick are flush with the wall surface.

The ground floor level has been altered over the years to accommodate commercial tenants. A secondary entrance located on the east facade has retained the original stamped metal ceiling.

The hotel lobby interior is substantially intact, retaining original architectural features including an elaborate pressed metal ceiling, oak millwork and wainscoating, ceramic tile flooring and a portion of the original lobby counter.

8. Significance

Specific dates 1911-12   ~~Builder~~/Architect   W. E. E. Greene

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Hotel Thompson is significant as a testimonial to the commercial confidence and economic potential which Worthington entrepreneur Peter Thompson visualized for this small town in southwestern Minnesota. It was Thompson's energy and faith in the town's future which encouraged him, at the age of seventy-one, to begin construction on what remains the largest commercial structure in the town. From its opening in March, 1912, until it closed in 1975, it enjoyed the reputation as one of the largest and finest hotels in the southwestern portion of the state.

Peter Thompson arrived in Worthington, in 1871, purchasing the first three lots in the newly surveyed town. The following year he built the city's first commercial building. From that time, until his death in 1927, Thompson was active in numerous business enterprises including mercantile, grain, agriculture machinery sales, banking, publishing and real estate. He founded the first title abstract office in Nobles County, preparing a set of abstract books in 1870 which he continued to update until he had the most elaborate set in the county. He established the Worthington Globe Printing office and was co-founder of the Nobles County Bank. He held numerous public offices including serving as the city's first treasurer and two terms on the city council. Thompson also helped establish the Swedish Lutheran Church where he served as deacon for over 40 years.

In 1910, Thompson responded to the community's need for a large hotel that would serve the needs of the town as well as the surrounding southwestern area of the state. Thompson obtained the services of W. E. E. Greene to draw plans for the hotel. Greene was an established architect and contractor in Luverne, Minnesota. A native of Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, Greene arrived in Luverne in 1891 where he established a drafting and contracting firm. Many of Luverne's principal buildings including the Manitou Hotel, Carnegie Library and the county jail, as well as buildings located in Jackson, Minnesota, were executed under Greene's direction.

The Hotel Thompson opened on March 4, 1912. Total cost of construction approached $80,000.00. At the time of the hotel's opening it featured 75 rooms with modern facilities, and included banquet and restaurant facilities, as well as space for several commercial businesses.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet - page 1

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property __Less than one__

Quadrangle name __Worthington South__   Quadrangle scale __7.5__

UMT References

A | 1,5 | 2,9,0 5,2,0 | 4,8,3,2,7,4,0 |
Zone   Easting   Northing

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Zone   Easting   Northing

C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

E | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

G | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification   Lots 12, 13, 14 and 15 and the southeast 1/2 of the alley between lots 11 and 12 and also the alley between lots 13 and 14 all in Block 14 in the city of Worthington.

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   Camille Kudzia   Historical/Preservation Consultant

organization   N/A   date   July, 1983

street & number   2110 24th Avenue South   telephone   (612) 338-6123

city or town   Minneapolis   state   Minnesota

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national   ____ state   _X_ 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature   _Russell W. Fridley_

Russell W. Fridley
title   State Historic Preservation Officer   date   1/11/84

For HCRS use only
   I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register   date   2/16/84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Hotel Thompson, Worthington, Nobles County, MN

CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

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