

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

For NCRS use only
received JAN 5 1982
date entered FEB 4 1982

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

1. Name

historic Shirt Factory

and/or common Old Recreation Building

2. Location

street & number 305 So. 1st St. ___ not for publication

city, town Virginia ___ vicinity of congressional district 8th District

state Minnesota code 22 county St. Louis code 137

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name City of Virginia

street & number City Hall

city, town Virginia ___ vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Louis County Court House

street & number

city, town Duluth state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

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 shirt factory is large 250' x 114' and is constructed of shaded red brick. There is an arched roof over most of the structure. About 60' of the structure near 3rd Avenue is 20' narrower than the rest. The main entrance, consisting of three doors, is in this portion and faces the street. It is capped by an ornate canopy. There is an ornamental strip of white masonry the full length of the building. This is the base of the decorative arches made from the arrangement of the bricks. Arched windows fit into these brick arches. Under each arch is a small square window. Under the white strip is another set of windows.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1923

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The recreation building was built in 1923 and used as a curling rink and hockey rink until 1947 when the building was converted to a shirt factory. The significance of the transition is that the balancing of the male and female parts of the population led to underemployment among women living on the Iron Range. In order to bolster the traditionally weak nonmining sector of the Iron Range economy and to provide employment for the women seeking work, the city made the facility available to a shirt manufacturing firm. The entertainment structure was built during the Progressive period when efforts were made by various social welfare agencies to bolster the opportunities for physical development among the mining populations of the country, and the construction of the facility came at a time preceding the loss of revenues to the state authority resulting from the taxation of local mining properties. The emphasis upon ice rink sports such as hockey and iceskating and curling cannot be explained from the traditional sports involvement of the majority of the population although significant elements among the city's elites did have such traditions.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Joseph Stipanovich, Report of the Iron Range Historical-Cultural Survey (1979).

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 1 acre

Quadrangle name Virginia, Minn.

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A

1	5
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5	3	4	9	9	0
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Verbal boundary description and justification

The shirt factory is located on Lots 23 to 31, Block 25, Original Plat, Virginia, Minnesota.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charles Skrief, Director, State Historic Preservation Office

organization Minnesota Historical Society date September 10, 1979

street & number 240 Summit Avenue telephone 612-296-9070

city or town St. Paul state Minnesota

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 12/23/81

For HCRS use only

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

William H. Barron date 2/9/82
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Linda McCullough date 2/4/82
Chief of Registration