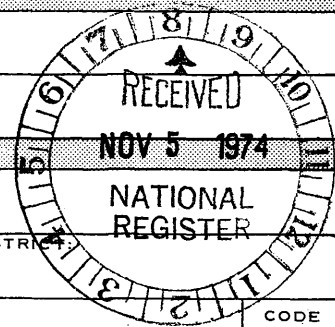


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: **Minnesota**
 COUNTY: **Ramsey**
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE: **DEC 19 1974**



1. NAME

COMMON: **The McColl Building**
 AND/OR HISTORIC: **Merchants National Bank Building**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **366-368 Jackson Street**
 CITY OR TOWN: **St. Paul** CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: **4th**
 STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **22** COUNTY: **Ramsey** CODE: **123**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input 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) Business Offices

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **Norman B. Mears Investment**
 STREET AND NUMBER: **First National Bank Building -- Robert and Fourth Streets**
 CITY OR TOWN: **St. Paul** STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **22**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Ramsey County Courthouse**
 STREET AND NUMBER: **15 West Kellogg Blvd.**
 CITY OR TOWN: **St. Paul** STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **22**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **Statewide Historic Sites Survey/Historic St. Paul Buildings Survey**
 DATE OF SURVEY: **1973/1964** Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **Minnesota Historical Society**
 STREET AND NUMBER: **Building 25, Fort Snelling**
 CITY OR TOWN: **St. Paul** STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **22**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Minnesota**
 COUNTY: **Ramsey**
 ENTRY NUMBER: **DEC**
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input 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

The Merchant's National Bank is a four story, combination stone bearing wall and steel frame commercial structure. Built in 1892, the first floor was designed as a banking facility with office space available on the top three floors and accessible from the staircase leading from the first floor lobby.

Architecturally, the building is a well articulated example of Romanesque design. The front (west) and side (south) elevation, which are the only two elevations with any architectural detailing, are well organized complimentation of glass and stone masonry surfaces. Each verticle bank of windows is divided by a turret extending above the roof line. The windows are of arched design at the bottom and top levels, with the bottom window being designed in such a manner as to make the first two floors appear as one. The overall effect is to create the appearance of an extremely well proportioned, three story building.

The most distinctive feature of the exterior is its ornate appearance, characterized by the careful utilization of rough, carved and polished stone. Built on a granite base, local rusticated red sandstone faces the exterior with polished stone columns and carved stone lintels detailing the window openings. Carved stone is also utilized along the upper cornice line. Consequently, the overall result is the creation of an extremely attractive and highly textured exterior facade.

The building is presently used almost entirely as an office structure. The entry lobby along with the exterior elevations have undergone very little alteration and the only major change being the recent remodeling of the basement into a restaurant.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input 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) 1892-present

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McColl Building, located at Fifth and Jackson Streets in St. Paul, was built in 1892 according to the design of Edward P. Bassford. Originally, this building housed the old Merchants National Bank Building and law offices. The history of the bank dates back to 1872 when it opened for business in the old St. Paul Press building.

The financial institution was founded by some of the most prestigious business and industrial leaders in St. Paul. The name of the institution symbolized the majority of those gentlemen who represented the city's wholesale and retail mercantiling industry; this industry was responsible for the growth of St. Paul into one of the major urban centers in 19th century upper midwest America.

By 1880 the Merchants National Bank had doubled its capital to one million dollars, and had two hundred thousand dollars of surplus. The space that the bank occupied in 1890 was no longer adequate, and the directors decided to erect a suitable building. A site convenient to the wholesale district on the northeast corner of Fifth and Jackson Streets was purchased for seventy thousand dollars. There the bank erected this building, costing approximately one hundred seventy thousand dollars. The bank building was the center of some of the major financial transactions of the Northwest's development at the turn of the century.

The law offices of many nationally eminent legal figures who practiced in the era when St. Paul was playing an important national role in the law were located in the McColl Building. It was here that Cushman Kellogg Davis, governor, United States Senator, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and scholar practiced in partnership with Cordenio A. Severance, one time president of the American Bar Association, and with Frank B. Kellogg, later United States Senator, ambassador to Great Britain, Secretary of State and Justice of the World Court. Here also practiced the firm of Butler and Mitchell. Pierce Butler went on to the United States Supreme Court and William D. Mitchell to the solicitor generalship of the United States.

In the spring of 1967 the McColl Building was threatened by demolition. Threatened demolition was due to a proposed plan to widen the east side of Jackson Street by twelve feet and the north side of Fifth Street by fifteen feet, to accommodate the desired number of traffic and turning lanes at the intersection where the McColl Building stands. At this time architects and historians presented a strong defense to preserve the building. They considered the four story red sandstone

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(see continuation sheet)

HB
15/492980
/4977000

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Donovan, Frank Pierce and Cushing, F. Wright, The First Through a Century: A History of the First National Bank of St. Paul, St. Paul, 1954

Koeper, H. F., Historic St. Paul Buildings, St. Paul, 1964

Miller, F. C., Saint Paul: Location-Development-Opportunities, St. Paul, 1928

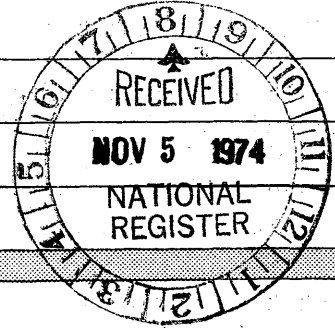
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"	44° 56' 47"	93° 07' 55"	
NE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"	see continuation sheet for correction		
SE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"			
SW	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"			

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



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Lynne VanBrocklin and Thomas J. Lutz

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Historical Society DATE: 10/15/74

STREET AND NUMBER: Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul STATE: Minnesota CODE: 22

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 type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Russell W. Fridley</u> Russell W. Fridley, Director</p> <p>Title <u>Minnesota Historical Society</u></p> <p>Date <u>October 31, 1974</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>A. R. Montrose</u> Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>12/19/74</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>W. H. Mumford</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>12-18-74</u></p>

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Minnesota	
COUNTY Ramsey	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	DEC 19 1974

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

structure, at the lower end of the loop where St. Paul history began, to be a prime example of what the city was like in the late 19th century. Weighing downtown traffic needs against St. Paul's historical values, the St. Paul City Council members decided to save the building.

The McColl Building is one of the last remaining examples of those massive red stone Romanesque structures which so typified the prosperous, growing St. Paul in its great era of expansion following the completion of the Northern Pacific to the Coast in the 1880s. It is the only structure to remind generations to come of old Jackson Street, once one of the busier arteries in downtown St. Paul, and it is truly one of the most beautiful of St. Paul's old business houses.



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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Minnesota	
COUNTY	
Ramsey	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	DEC 19 1974

(Number all entries)

10. Geographical Data

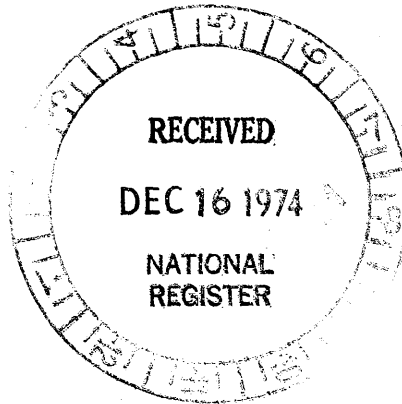
Latitude

44° 56' 54"

Longitude

93° 05' 42"

21



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

**Note: These changes apply to
McColl Building in Ramsey County,
Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 74001036

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Ramsey

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Merchants National Bank

CITY:

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS:

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date