

MINNESOTA HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

HISTORIC NAME: William F. Gieske House

COUNTY: Lyon

CURRENT NAME:

CITY/TWP.: Marshall

LEGAL DESC.: Lot Nineteen (19) of Auditor's Plat No. 1 of the City of Marshall, Minnesota, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Register of Deeds in and for Lyon County, Minnesota. Said lot described by metes and bounds (Cont. on next page)

ADDRESS: 601 West Lyon Marshall, MN 56258

CLASSIFICATION:	CONDITION:	SIGNIFICANCE:	THEME/S:
Building <u>X</u>	Excellent <u>X</u>	Local <u>X</u>	Primary <u>Industry</u>
Structure _____	Good _____	State _____	Secondary <u>Architecture</u>
Object _____	Fair _____	National _____	Others _____
District _____	Deteriorated _____		

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Yes ___ No X Restricted ___
 VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD: Yes X No ___
 OCCUPIED: Yes X No ___

PRESENT USE:
Residential

DATE CONSTRUCTED: CA 1900-1905

ORIGINAL USE: private residence

ORIGINAL OWNER: William F. Gieske

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Clara Gervais
601 West Lyon St., Marshall, MN

ACREAGE: Less than one acre X

LOCAL CONTACT/ORG.: Lyon County Historical Society Courthouse
Marshall, MN

UTM REFERENCE:
Marshall Quad.

FORM PREPARED BY: Susan Roth
DATE: December 1980

15/277780/492560

DESCRIPTION:

The William F. Gieske House, built ca 1900-1905, is located on a large wooded corner lot at the intersection of Lyon and 6th streets in Marshall. The 2½ story building of irregular plan has a gable-hip roofline and displays elements that are reminiscent of the Stick Style. Decorative elements include hammerbeams in the gables, "half-timbered" divisions in the clapboard siding, exposed Craftsman style rafter tails and brackets, projecting polygonal bay, and cedar shingled roof with metal ridges and finials. The enclosed wrap-around porch includes dentils, simple arches, turned knob decorations and an ornamental pediment over the entrance. Located southwest of the house is a 1½ story carriage barn with simple Craftsman detailing. The barn has been stuccoed and remodeled into apartments.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The William F. Gieske House is significant for its association with William F. Gieske, a developer and president of the Marshall Milling Co., one of the region's most important milling complexes, and as one of the most visually distinctive residences in Marshall. William F. Gieske was born into a milling family in the early southern Minnesota community of New Ulm in 1869. After completing his education he entered the office of the nearby Sleepy Eye Milling Company, which his father (William Gieske, Sr.) had founded in 1884. In May 1892, the Sleepy Eye Co. acquired a small mill in Marshall, located further west on the same rail line, and William F. Gieske assumed charge of operations. In 1893 the Mill was incorporated and became the Marshall Milling Company. Business was conducted on a small scale until 1905 when, under Gieske's direction, a six story brick mill (extant but severely modified) was constructed at a cost of \$100,000, and Marshall became the major milling center for agricultural southwest Minnesota. Gieske served as an officer of the company until 1914 and took an active roll in the commercial development of Marshall - until his death in 1931. The Gieske House, located two blocks from the mill, remains as a visible link to Marshall's early milling industry and as an architecturally distinctive residence.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- "Last Rites Held for William F. Gieske," Marshall News Messenger, 6 March 1931, p. 2.
- Marshall, Minnesota. Minneapolis: Wall & Haines, December 1900.
- Rose, Arthur P. An Illustrated History of Lyon County, Minnesota. Marshall: Northern History Publishing Company, 1912.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION - Cont.

as follows:

Beginning at the point of intersection of the northwest line of Sixth Street with the southwest line of Lyon Street, in said City of Marshall; running thence southwest along the northwesterly line of Sixth Street, a distance of 132 feet; thence in a northwesterly direction at right angles to said street line a distance of 154 feet; thence in a northeasterly direction a distance of 132 feet to the southwest line of said Lyon Street; thence southeasterly along said street line to the point of beginning.

