

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Minnesota	
COUNTY: Goodhue	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 4 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Frontenac

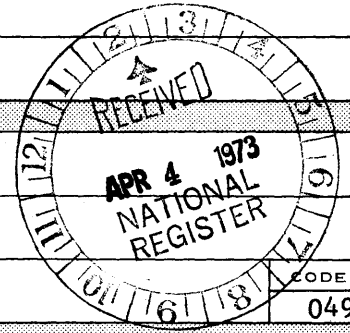
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Old Frontenac Historic District

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Florence Township

CITY OR TOWN:
Old Frontenac

STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **23** COUNTY: **Goodhue** CODE: **049**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> No: Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Institutional (Church camp)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
Multiple - private

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Registrar of Deeds, Goodhue County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

Red Wing Minnesota 23

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **120 acres**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic Sites Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Minnesota Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
690 Cedar Street

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

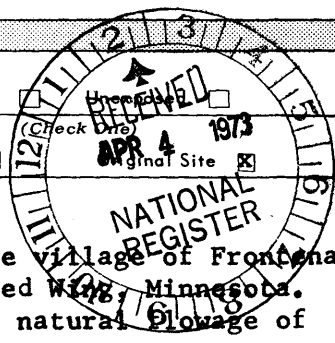
St. Paul Minnesota 23

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Minnesota**
COUNTY: **Goodhue**
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7. DESCRIPTION

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



DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Old Frontenac Historic District is located in the village of Frontenac, situated approximately ten miles east of the city of Red Wing, Minnesota. Frontenac is located on the west bank of Lake Pepin, a natural flowage of the Mississippi River.

Old Frontenac Historic District rests on three levels or plateaus of land. The first level is the old levee and resort area, now the site of the Methodist Campus. The second level encompasses the largest area, running roughly four blocks back from the seventy foot bluff known as Valhalla Terrace. This level now contains most of the remaining historic buildings. The third level comprises another twenty foot rise starting at Wakondiota Park at the westernmost edge of the village and extending approximately three miles across the prairie west of the village to the distant high bluffs. Within the district, the third level contains only one remaining historic building, that of the old board and batten Episcopal Church.

Old Frontenac Historic District is bounded on the north by Waconia Avenue, on the west by Westervelt Avenue, on the south by Winona Avenue, and on the east by Lake Avenue with the inclusion of the Methodist Campus area.

Old Frontenac Historic District contains frontier adaptations of the important architectural styles of the pre-Civil War and early post Civil War periods, with examples representing the French Colonial, the Greek Revival and Georgian. All buildings with the exception of one, "Greystone" were executed in wood with either vertical board and batten or clapboard siding.

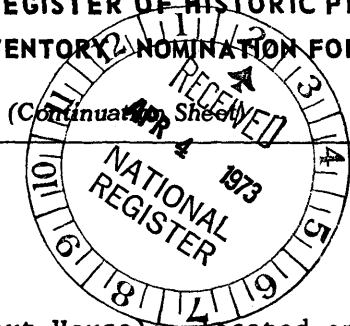
The village remains a living example of early midwestern, mid-19th century town planning and architectural design.

1. Locust Lodge (Westervelt House): located on block number 22 on Garrard Avenue on the second level. It was constructed c. 1854 in the Greek Revival style and its doors, window frames and majority of woodwork were shipped by steamboat from Cincinnati, Ohio. The stones for the foundation were salvaged from one of the buildings from the old trading post. The building is unaltered from its original design and in good condition.
2. St. Hubert's Lodge (Israel Garrard House): located on block number 21 on Garrard Avenue on the second level. It was constructed in 1855 by the co-founder of the settlement, designed in the old French Colonial style, as demonstrated by the vertical white hand hewn board and batten and the wide gallery across the facade. The house had been subject to enlargement from six to seventeen rooms by the original owner, but has been kept unaltered and intact since his death in 1901. The interior is furnished with period objects, many of which have been handed down from the original owner. The structure is in generally good state of repair.

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7. Description

3. Greystone (The Grout House): located on Garrard Avenue on block number 24, lot number 1, it was constructed in 1860 by local craftsmen. The "Grout House" was so named because of the unusual method of construction whereby grout was poured into forms to create the exterior walls. The basement walls have been measured at 25 inches thick and the upper walls are sixteen inches thick. The exterior of the house has been unaltered since it was originally constructed and it is in generally good state of repair. It is the only major house in the district which was not constructed of wood.

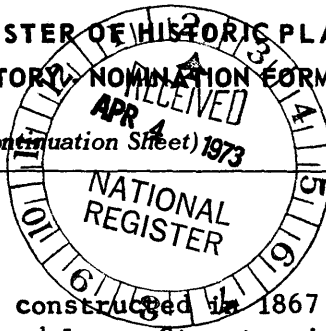
4. The "Pavilion": located on Wood Street on block number 36, lot numbers 1 and 2, it was originally located on block number 1 at the old levee. It was built in the late 1850s by Engellurt Haller and Kasper Koch, two of the more prominent resident craftsmen. It was moved to its present location in 1868 and so thereafter converted into a private residence. The building, a large two story gable roofed structures, originally served as a combination general store and saloon; the saloon having its own separate entrance along the left side. Wood detailing located in the doorways, gable ends and window trimming remain as excellent examples of early village craftsmanship, and the original exterior is intact as far as present records can be interpreted. It is however, suffering from poor maintenance and its condition would be judged fair to poor.

5. Frontenac Inn: located on block number 2 at the old levee (now within the Methodist Campus). It was constructed c. 1859; the original use being a grain warehouse. It stood three stories high, dimensions being 30 x 50 feet and appearing much the same as it does now from the lake or east side. Henry Hunecke, another of the original craftsmen brought to the settlement by Israel Garrard, constructed on site by hand, the doors, wainscoting, window and door frames. When the structure was converted into the Lake Side Hotel, a large two story addition, 30 x 70 feet, was added to the back or west side. This took place in the late 1860s and enlarged the hotel capacity to thirty rooms. Also somewhere before the turn of the century, the two story porch was expanded to twice its original size and has remained unaltered since. The only alteration to take place since the building ceased to function as a public hotel in the 1930s is the causeway constructed by the Methodist Campus to connect to another building located south of the hotel. The structure is kept in reasonably good condition.

6. Dakota Cottage: constructed in 1862 by local craftsmen, its architecture reflects the influences of the Southern Georgian style with the large two story exterior veranda and large open central hallway and staircase. It fronts on Garrard Avenue, located in block number 17 on lots numbers 3 and 4. It has remained unaltered from the date of construction and it is kept in good condition by the present private owners.

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7. Description

7. Joseph Weich House: constructed in 1867 by John Weich, it is located at the corner of Summer and Leroy Streets, in block number 37 on lot number 6. The simple Greek Revival house reflects the eastern and southern architectural detailing mastered by the craftsmen brought to Frontenac by Israel Garrard. It is in very good condition.

8. Christ Episcopal Church: located on Cathcart Street in block number 50 on lot number 1, it was constructed by local craftsmen in 1868, under the supervision of Henry Hunecke and General Nathaniel Collins McLean, step-brother of the Garrards. It is a simple board and batten church executed in the Gothic style popular in the 1860s. The interior is reflective with its simple brown stained wood paneling. The original stained glass windows have been preserved and the building is unaltered except for an enlarged altar and the replacement of kerosene lighting with electric. It is in very good condition.

9. Engelbert Haller House: located on Wood Street in block number 20 on lot number 14, its construction date is uncertain, although it appears to predate the 1870s. It, like the Joseph Weich House, reflects the high level of craftsmanship practiced in Frontenac with simply articulated Greek Revival style and architectural detailing, although its gable orientation and its symmetrical facade more closely reflect colonial architecture of New England than the other residences located in Frontenac. The building is unaltered and has been maintained in very good condition.

10. Winona Cottage: located on Garrard Avenue in block number 19 on lots numbers 3 and 4, it was constructed in 1889 by local craftsmen under the direction of Israel Garrard. The original house was designed in the Greek Revival style with Georgian overtones reflected by the symmetrical facade and the two story veranda. A growing family, however, demanded alterations and the original owners were forced to expand the structure as it appears today. The house has since been kept unaltered and in very good condition. Many of the furnishings are original and augmented by an extensive antique collection passed on to the present owners.

11. Old Frontenac Cemetery: located on the very south end of Old Frontenac Historic District, it contains the names of many of the early prominent people of the village. Its most unique feature is the circular arrangement of the Garrard family gravestones.

12. Old Frontenac Parks: located within the Old Frontenac Historic District are the original four parks named and platted in the old Westervelt town plan. They are: Valhalla Park (actually two parks) located on the bluff between Lake and Garrard Avenues; Wakondiota Park located between Van Blarcum and Cathcart Streets from Faribault Street to Ludlow Avenue (the original park however was only located from Barton to Graham Streets); and

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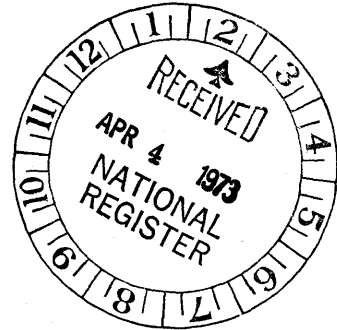
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7. Description

finally an unnamed park located in block number 23. All have been kept in a semi-primitive condition throughout the history of the village.



8. SIGNIFICANCE

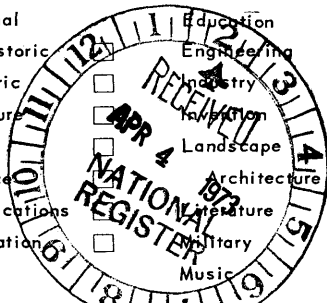
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1854, 1857, 1858, 1867, 1871**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Although the history of white settlement began with James "Bully" Wells, an Indian trader and territorial legislator, who maintained a trading post at the site in the 1830s and 40s, the history of urban settlement begins with the village of Frontenac, developed as an outgrowth of the land holdings of two families, the Westervelts and more importantly the Garrards.

In 1852 Bully Wells transferred his holdings to Evert V. Westervelt, a Dutch immigrant and trader, who maintained the post until the arrival in 1854 of Israel and Lewis Garrard. The Garrard brothers were not settlers or land speculators, but rather southern gentlemen on a hunting excursion in the Mississippi Valley. They were from the prominent Garrard family of Cincinnati, Ohio. Their father James Garrard, was twice governor of Kentucky and their maternal grandfather Israel Ludlow was one of the original founders of the town site of Cincinnati.

Lewis remained at the trading post then known as Waconia, for only a few months but Israel decided to stay and establish a permanent hunting retreat and in 1855 with Westervelt's approval he constructed St. Hubert's Lodge.

The west bank of the river in the area after 1852 was set aside as a "half-breed" tract and was still not officially open to white settlement. When this changed in 1857, Garrard and Westervelt purchased with "half-breed" script over 4000 acres of land from two women of mixed race. They were Jane Wells, wife of Bully, and Elizabeth Faribault, wife of Alexander Faribault and daughter-in-law of prominent Minnesota fur trader, Jean Baptiste Faribault. From this large tract they set aside 320 acres for the town site of Westervelt. All land holdings were equally divided between the two men.

In 1858, Westervelt sold half of his holdings to Lewis Garrard and Israel sold half of his to another brother Kenner Garrard. By joint agreement on September 13, 1859, the village name was changed to Frontenac, after a 17th century French governor of Canada. Soon after Westervelt sold his remaining holdings to Israel, although he continued to be active in village affairs until his death in 1888. This year marked the start of the first era of Frontenac that as an extensive baronial estate for the Garrard family.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Gopher Reader, "Old Frontenac", Evelyn Wendler Nelson, 1958.
A History of Goodhue County, C. A. Rasmussen, 1935, pp. 146-50, p. 225.
History of Goodhue County, Minnesota, Franklin Curtiss-Wedge, ed., 1909, pp. 171-79.
Minnesota History, "The Garrard Family in Frontenac", Frances Densmore, March, 1933, pp. 31-43.
"A Glimpse of Historic Frontenac", prepared by Margaret Webster for Red Wing Art Association, 1954.

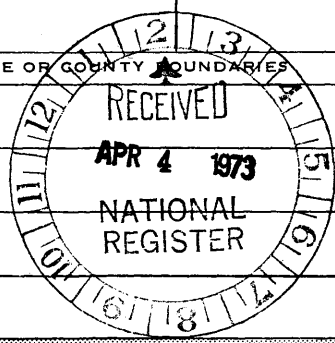
NW 15/552686/4931000
 NW 15/553700/4931000
 SE 15/553740/4929000
 SW 15/552700/4929000

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 ONE ACRE				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	44°	32 ³¹ '	12 ⁵⁴ "	92°	20'	13"			
NE	44°	32'	12"	92°	19'	25"			
SE	44°	30'	54"	92°	20'	13"			
SW	44°	30'	54"	92°	19'	25"			

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Thomas Lutz, Survey & Planning (Approved: Charles W. Nelson)

ORGANIZATION: **Minnesota Historical Society** DATE: **March 21, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:
690 Cedar Street

CITY OR TOWN: **St. Paul** STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **23**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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:

National State Local

Name: Russell W. Fridley
 Title: Director, Minnesota Historical Society
 Date: 3-27-73

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robertus Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/4/73

ATTEST:
St. Paul
 Keeper of the National Register
 Date: 5/30/73

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8. Significance

From 1858-62, the Garrards extensively developed the village. Israel Garrard sent away to Cincinnati for German, Swiss and Scandinavian craftsmen who would construct the village. Greystone and Dakota Cottage were constructed, as well as a saw mill, brewery, grain warehouse and saloon-general store at the lower level. In 1861 Mrs. Sara McLean, mother of the Garrards, and recent widow of Supreme Court Justice, John McLean moved to the village from Cincinnati.

Progress stopped however during the Civil War as Israel and another brother Jephtha outfitted their own regiments, the "7th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry" and the "6th Independent Ohio Cavalry", respectively, for the Union Army. They along with Kenner Garrard returned after the war as generals. Also to accompany the Garrards was a step-brother, General Nathaniel Collins McLean who had served under Generals McCellan, Burnside, and Heaker, and who was with General Sherman at Appomattox for Lee's surrender. He made Frontenac his home after the war.

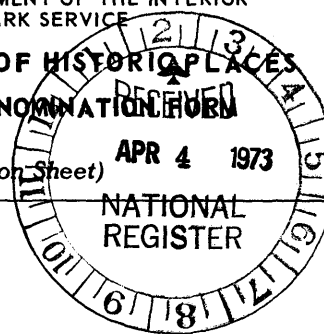
It was during the Post War era that Frontenac, under the close direction of General Israel Garrard, began to evolve into the exclusive vacation community that has since made the village unique. In 1867 the grain warehouse was converted into a resort hotel and four cottages from the second level were moved down to the levee to add additional rooms. The saloon-general store, or "pavilion" as it was known was removed to its present location on Wood Street and soon thereafter converted into a private residence. The resort, then known as "Lake Side" provided horse racing, and hunting, fishing and sailing excursions. Vacationers came by steamboat from as far as St. Louis, Memphis and New Orleans.

In 1871 a major crisis developed as to the future role of Frontenac. The village stood in the path of the approaching railroad which if allowed to pass through would greatly change the economic development as well as the unique natural character of the village. Deciding that preserving the natural beauty of the site was worth more personally than reaping the benefits of an expected economic boom, Israel Garrard chose to donate a tract of land for a right-of-way three miles to the southwest, knowing full well of its effect upon the economic viability of the village. Consequently, the mercantile activity of the area shifted to the new village at the railroad, now known as Frontenac Station.

Frontenac remained until the 1930s, thirty years after the death of Israel Garrard, a viable resort community, in its heyday, attracting such notables and close associates of Israel Garrard as: author, Captain Charles King; actor, Joseph Jefferson; landscape artist and naturalist, Alexis Jean Fournier; actress Marie Dressler; and architects Christopher Grant LaForge and George L. Hines. LaForge and Hines, incidently, were later to join

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8. Significance

talents in the design of St. John's the Divine in New York City for which native yellow sandstone was used; cut at the Frontenac Stone Quarry.

Old Frontenac Historic District is historically significant because it is a completely intact, unencroached example of a bygone era and lifestyle. Lacking the modern amenities such as street lights, sidewalks, gas stations, it is an unusually well preserved representation of early town planning and urban form. It is Minnesota's best preserved link to an element of its early cultural heritage; that derived from the southern lifestyle in the Ohio River Valley existing before the Civil War. The village as a resort community predates by twenty years the era of the great resorts of the 1880s and 90s. One decision, the location of the railroad, by one man, Israel Garrard, allowed this to be preserved for our benefit today.

1. Locust Lodge (Westervelt House): because it was constructed by Evert V. Westervelt, and is the oldest remaining building in Frontenac, it is a living link to the pre-settlement days of the late fur trading era (1840s). It also marks the birth of Frontenac as a community of worth.

2. St. Hubert's Lodge (Israel Garrard House): the home of the man who forged the future of Frontenac, it stands today as the most well known and important historic building in the village.

Of literary significance is the name of the author, Captain Charles King, a frequent guest of Israel Garrard, who wrote From the Ranks and The Colonel's Daughter while staying at the lodge. The desk and silver inkstand that he used are still kept in the room he occupied.

3. Greystone (The Grout House): the first recorded residence in Frontenac of Dr. Lewis Garrard.

4. The "Pavilion": served as the focus of early mercantile activity at its original location at the levee. Its subsequent relocation and conversion into a private residence is characteristic of the transformation of the levee area into the extensive resort facilities that took place in the late 1860s. The building is one of two surviving examples of the early enterprising pre-resort era of Frontenac.

5. Frontenac Inn: served the old levee area as a grain warehouse, its conversion in 1867 signaled the beginning of Frontenac's new role as an important Upper Mississippi River vacation and resort town, attracting wealthy patrons from the important river centers as far away as New Orleans. The building, converted into a hotel and dining room, continued to serve as the hub of the resort long after the passing of the steamboat era. It was known as the Lake Side Hotel from 1868-1907 when ownership was transferred to Miss Celestine M. Schaller who operated it under the name of the Frontenac

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8. Significance

Inn until its closure and transfer to the Methodist Campus in 1939. It is the only structure to serve different but integral functions in both the pre and post Civil War eras of Frontenac.

6. Dakota Cottage: constructed in 1862 for Dr. Lewis Garrard, his new bride, and his mother, Sara Ludlow Garrard McLean, recent widow of Supreme Court Justice, John McLean. It is the third of the great Garrard houses to be constructed in Frontenac and marks the beginning of the influence of the McLean family in Frontenac.

7. John Weich House: built by its first owner John Weich, it later passed into the hands of other prominent village craftsmen, Gottfried Schennach and Joseph Bremer. Its beautifully executed Greek Revival style has made it one of the most distinguished of the early craftsmen's houses in Frontenac.

8. Christ Episcopal Church: the church was constructed through the financial support of General McLean, and it marks the height of influence of the famous McLean family in Frontenac affairs. General McLean was the lay leader of the congregation until a permanent pastor was found and his son, Lars McLean was the first to be buried in the adjacent church cemetery. The church, along with St. Hubert's and Locust Lodge stand out as the most well known of the Frontenac landmarks.

9. Engelbert Haller House: original home of the builder of the pavilion and many other structures throughout Frontenac, it is along with the Joseph Weich House the finest remaining example of a typical home constructed by the highly talented craftsmen brought to Frontenac by Israel Garrard to construct his village.

10. Winona Cottage: was constructed for George Wood Garrard, son of Israel Garrard and his wife as a wedding present and is the only house built in Frontenac specifically for a Garrard child. It is the fourth and last of the great Garrard houses and is the only home to remain in the ownership of a Garrard descendant. It is now owned by George Garrard's daughter, Mrs. Catherine Garrard McMahon, wife of retired Vice-Admiral Frederick McMahon.

11. Old Frontenac Cemetery: the grave site of most of the early prominent pioneers of the village, it contains the markers for Israel Garrard and his wife Kate, all of the sons of Lewis Garrard including George Wood Garrard, and such prominent community names as Bremer, Steffenhagen, Haller, and Hunecke.

12. Old Frontenac Parks: originally allotted in the old Westervelt town site plat, it represents the influence of town square and green space planning reflective of the eastern states. They are significant because they have remained relatively unchanged, both in location and condition, due not only

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8. Significance

to the town's unusual history but also due to the residents commitment to community open space. They, as well as the entire village, remain as the unique living example of mid-19th century town planning.



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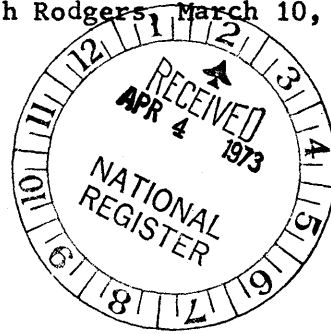
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9. Major Bibliographical References

History of Frontenac, F. L. Smith, 1951, pp. 20-21.

Winona Sunday News, "A Visit to Old Frontenac", Ruth Rodgers, March 10, 1968.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper *Helene Lynn*
1/19/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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**Note: These changes apply to
Old Frontenac Historic District in
Goodhue County, Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 73000978

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Goodhue

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):

CITY:

VICINITY OF: Red Wing

ADDRESS:

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date