

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 3 1976
DATE ENTERED	JUN 7 1974

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

Sheldon, Theodore B., House

AND/OR COMMON

Sheldon, Theodore B., House

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

805 West Fourth Street

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Red Wing

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Minnesota

CODE

27

COUNTY

Goodhue

CODE

049

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- ___ DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- ___ STRUCTURE
- ___ SITE
- ___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- ___ PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- ___ BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- ___ IN PROCESS
- ___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- ___ UNOCCUPIED
- ___ WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- ___ YES: UNRESTRICTED
- ___ NO

PRESENT USE

- ___ AGRICULTURE
- ___ COMMERCIAL
- ___ EDUCATIONAL
- ___ ENTERTAINMENT
- ___ GOVERNMENT
- ___ INDUSTRIAL
- ___ MILITARY
- ___ MUSEUM
- ___ PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ___ RELIGIOUS
- ___ SCIENTIFIC
- ___ TRANSPORTATION
- ___ OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

D. Jeffrey and Kristi A. Smith/Jerry D. Gurley

STREET & NUMBER

805 West Fourth Street / 805 West Fourth Street

CITY, TOWN

Red Wing / Red Wing VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Registry of Deeds - Goodhue County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

East Avenue and West Fifth Street

CITY, TOWN

Red Wing

STATE

Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1973

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society - Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Theodore B. Sheldon House occupies a prominent northwest corner lot at the intersection of West 4th and Fulton Streets in Red Wing, Minnesota. The original house and carriage barn were constructed of yellow brick on limestone foundations in 1875. Although both buildings have been substantially altered, original locations, general massing, and, in the case of the house, interior integrity remain.

Prior to removal of the third storey slate-shingled mansard portion, the Sheldon House was an excellent example of the French Second Empire style in residential architecture. (The removal of the mansard occurred in 1958). The first and second storey exteriors have survived in the 1875 form with minor alterations.

The Fourth Street facade (front) is dominated by a projecting towered pavillion formerly four storeys in height (the removal of the mansard has reduced this to three). In this portion, also, is the only surviving portion of the projecting bracketted cornice which formerly circumscribed the building between the second storey and the mansard. A similar, although diminutive, brachetted cornice treatment is found on front and rear porches and bay windows. All other windows and doors are surmounted by prominent flat arched cast stone hoods. Original wrought iron filligree cresting from the curb of the mansard has been retained and placed on the present parapets.

The brick carriage barn was substantially altered for use as a duplex residence in 1946. Original spacing of doors and windows have been changed and the bracketted cornice has been removed. The entire building has been stuccoed. None of the original interior remains.

The interior arrangement of the Sheldon House is comprised of a total of thirteen rooms: seven rooms on the first floor and six rooms on the second floor. The plan is typical of the French Second Empire mode in that all major rooms open from a central stair-hall. Each floor contains approximately 3000 square feet of living space.

One enters the first floor stair hall through two sets of walnut double doors, the exterior set being solid and wood panelled and the interior set having large panels of etched glass. (The woodwork in the major rooms and hall is of walnut). The left half of the hall is devoted to a grand staircase of twenty-one steps. The walnut hewed post supports a lamp and is Eastlake in design with incised geometric decoration and inset butternut panels. To the immediate right at the foot of the stairs is the parlor which is entered through a set of sliding doors. To the immediate left and directly across the hall from the parlor is the sitting room. This room is entered through a set of hinged doors. To the rear of the parlor is the dining room and to the rear of the sitting room is the music room. Each of these four rooms have fireplaces with marble mantels of individual design and coloration.

The ceilings in the parlor, sitting room, dining room, music room, and hall are embellished with elaborate plaster work cornices, arches, brackets, and centre-flowers. These remain in an excellent state of preservation.

Floors were formerly covered by floral-design Brussels carpeting custom-installed in accordance with individual room sizes. When the carpeting became extremely worn, it was removed, exposing an unfinished five-inchwide fir planking. Carpeting has not been replaced and the fir flooring has been painted. The dining room is the only room in which a finished oak parquetry floor was installed. All other floors were originally meant either for carpeting or to be painted.

(see continuation sheet)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 3 1976
DATE ENTERED	JUN 7 1974

CONTINUATION SHEET Sheldon, Theodore ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

The rear one-third of the first floor is devoted to service functions such as kitchen, summer kitchen, pantry and servants dining room. The pantry has been converted in recent years to a bathroom.

The arrangement of rooms on the second floor is similar to that on the first floor. Above the parlor, sitting room, and music room are three bedrooms, each with individual fireplaces with marble mantels. Above the dining room is the upstairs billiard room. This room has no fireplace, but rather was equipped with a parlor-stove. The rear portion of the house is devoted to two servants' chambers.

In general, the T.B. Sheldon House is in sound structural condition and the interior finishings are in a good state of preservation. The present owner, D. Jeffrey Smith, an architect, plans to reconstruct the third-storey mansard portion in the near future, in order to complete the total exterior restoration.

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/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES Constructed 1875

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Theodore B. Sheldon was one of the "pioneers" of Red Wing, Minnesota. Red Wing was first settled in 1852. T.B. Sheldon arrived only four years later in the autumn of 1856 and became one of the most prominent citizens of the city within a few years.

He was born in Massachusetts on January 31, 1820 at Bernardston, near the village of Northfield. He started work at the age of twelve in a woolen mill at Greenfield, Massachusetts. In 1840 he was employed by a cutlery manufacturer, then went on to Springfield, Massachusetts, where he obtained a situation with a tool and lock manufacturing company, and later worked in Connecticut and Vermont in a gun and rifle factory.

Sheldon arrived in Red Wing in 1856 with a large wave of immigration from the other states and Europe. He went into the mercantile business with Jesse McIntire and established the principle store in Red Wing in 1858. In 1860 he sold out to his partner, Jesse McIntire, built a warehouse and went into the grain business with one of his clerks, E.H. Blodgett, as a partner. Going into the grain business was a wise move for Sheldon. In the early 1870s Red Wing had the largest primary wheat market in the United States. Even in 1877, when the boom was over, the area still raised 4 million bushels.

Being a grain dealer was only one of Theodore B. Sheldon's enterprises. Transportation was a main interest of his. When ferry flat boats came into use in 1866, Sheldon held the charter along with William Howe. In 1877 Sheldon was one of the incorporators of the Red Wing and Trenton Transit Company which was organized to build a turnpike road and operate ferries between Red Wing and the Wisconsin mainland. His transportation interests also included being the agent for the Milwaukee Road until the line was completed from St. Paul to LaCrosse.

Sheldon's third prime interest was the banking business. He was president of the First National Bank, chartered in September, 1865, the Goodhue County Savings Bank (1874) and vice president of the Goodhue County National Bank (1878) which was constructed in connection with the former institution. (The Goodhue County National Bank is still functioning well in downtown Red Wing.)

In addition to the above mentioned interests, Sheldon was one of the major movers in the Minnesota Stoneware company, the Red Wing Gas, Light and Power Company, the Red Wing Furniture Company, and also the Duluth, Red Wing and Southern Railway Company, all of which he was president. He was vice president of the LaGrange Mills and the Red Wing, Duluth and Sioux City Construction Company and stockholder or director of many other enterprises.

(see continuation sheet)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

HISTORY OF GOODHUE COUNTY, MINNESOTA Curtiss-Wedge
 HISTORY OF THE CITY OF RED WING Rasmussen
 SCRAPBOOK OF MRS. ISABELLA STERLING Red Wing Historical Society

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A | 1,5 | 5,3,5,8,5,0 | 4,9,3,4,0,5,0

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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

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

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

D. Jeffrey Smith, Architect/Charles W. Nelson, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Hodne-Stageberg Partners/Minnesota Historical Society

DATE

24 February 1976

STREET & NUMBER

116 East 22nd Street/Building 25, Fort Snelling

TELEPHONE

612-871-1700/612-726-1171

CITY OR TOWN

Minneapolis/St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota/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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Russell W. Fridley

TITLE
 Russell W. Fridley
 State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 4-30-76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 6/9/76

ATTEST:
 [Signature]
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 5-28-76

RBR for WJM 5/28/76

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAY 3 1978
DATE ENTERED	JUN 7 1974

CONTINUATION SHEET Sheldon, Theodore ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

T.B. Sheldon was also involved in civic affairs. From 1861 to 1868 while the Red Wing Township was still in existence he served as one of the supervisors and was chairman for several years. After the reorganization of the city he served as a member of the council.

When Theodore B. Sheldon passed away at the age of 80, in the year of 1900, he willed one-half of his estate to the City for civic purposes. His wife Annie L. Sheldon was one of the trustees to determine how the bequest of her husband should be spent to best benefit the city. In 1902 the trustees decided to build the T.B. Sheldon Memorial Auditorium. The Auditorium, having been completed at a cost of \$80,000 was opened in October of 1904. The Memorial Auditorium still serves the people of Red Wing today.