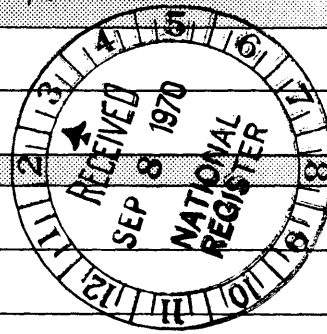


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| STATE: Minnesota | |
| COUNTY: Nicollet | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER 70.11.27.0028 | DATE 11/26/70 |



1. NAME

COMMON:
E. St. Julien Cox House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
500 North Washington Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
St. Peter

STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **56082** COUNTY: **Nicollet** CODE: **103**

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress | Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Comments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious | Preservation work in progress. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | | |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Nicollet County Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
Grace and Third

CITY OR TOWN: **St. Peter** STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **22**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Register of Deeds, Nicollet County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
501 So. Minnesota Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: **St. Peter** STATE: **Minnesota** CODE: **27**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Minnesota**

COUNTY: **Nicollet**

ENTRY NUMBER: **70.11.27.0028**

DATE: **11/26/70**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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 Eugene Saint Julien Cox House was built in 1871 according to the specifications of its original owner. The house is reminiscent of neo-Gothic architecture, with a prominent towered cupola from which Judge Cox could observe the activities of his neighbors and the serene beauty of the community. The architectural style of the house distinguishes it from others in the community; in this sense, the house is an accurate reflection of the man who built it.

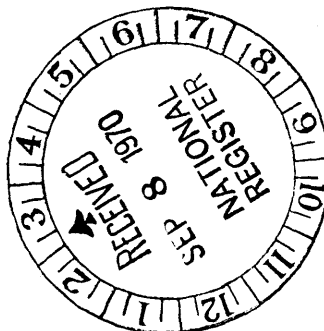
The exterior design includes many examples of artistic carvings common to Gothic structures. The east and west exposures of the house illustrate elaborate pinnacles, finials, and bargeboards with cusped traceries. Each of the windows is surrounded by a hood mold. A distinguishing feature of this design, so obvious to the visitor to the Cox House, is the roofs which extend beyond the outside walls. Marked shadows cast by the eaves and ornamental bargeboards result from such design, creating an interesting visual effect to the observer.

All partitions within the house that do not conform to the original specifications have been removed. There are six rooms on the ground floor and four on the upper story. Semi-circular stairways connect each floor; there is a ladder from the upper story to the towered cupola. The structure is sound except for the porch and the southeast corner of the dining room, which will be stabilized during restoration. It may be necessary to remove the hardwood floors and carpet to conform to nineteenth century original pine. Heating and wiring will be replaced and hidden in order to meet code requirements and insure authenticity.

All but the south one-hundred feet of property have been sold for residential lots. This has resulted in moving the carriage house so as to remain on the present property. The original wood shingles have been replaced with composition shingle. There is evidence of a large cistern on the property which will be reconstructed; the original outhouses have long since disappeared.

The Saint Julien Cox House is one of a very few remaining examples of neo-Gothic architecture in Minnesota. It is a landmark structure in its community, reflecting distinctive characteristics of an architectural type in the latter half of the nineteenth century. Similarly, the house is associated with an individual whose life and works contributed to the broad patterns of history and development in Nicollet County.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

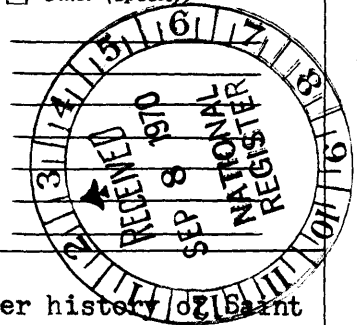
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1871

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 | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The most exciting and colorful character in the frontier history of Saint Peter is its first mayor, Eugene Saint Julien Cox. A lawyer by training, he first practiced law in Wisconsin, coming to Saint Peter in 1857. His genteel manners, eastern style of dress and an obvious accent distinguished him among the townspeople as a man of consequence. The Cox name was to stand out in a town whose fur trade background was just beginning to give way to the commerce of the Yankee trader and the plow of the Ohio Valley farmer.

Cox served as an officer in the Civil War and was home on leave during August 1862 when the Sioux Indians made their last desperate attempt to reclaim the land they ceded to the white man in 1851. Cox was selected to lead some two hundred volunteers to the rescue of New Ulm and guide the homeless refugees to Mankato and Saint Peter.

After the war he returned to Saint Peter where he was elected the town's first mayor, and served in the State Legislature. Cox contended for a seat in Congress but was defeated. In 1878 he was appointed a district judge and in this capacity created a legend that remains extant. Saint Peter would not soon forget the judge who sent a defendant out for beer and then shared it with him before finding him guilty. Lawyers could easily lose their senses of humor after presenting a well-documented summary, only to find the judge asleep with his head on the bench.

When it became apparent he could no longer keep his seat in the courts of law, Cox faced the legislature in a spectacular impeachment trial that lasted for half a year. Even his best friends could not defend the judge against charges of drunkenness and negligence of duty. He was found guilty in 1882, but nine years later the Minnesota legislature reversed its findings, absolving Cox, officially, of all charges.

The life of Eugene Saint Julien Cox is correlated with the history and development of Nicollet County and the city of Saint Peter. His life reflects the accomplishments of dedicated pioneers who established our heritage while reminding each of us of the frailties and shortcomings of the human spirit.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kennedy, Roger, Minnesota Houses, Minneapolis, 1967, Dillon Press pp.122-123.
 Peat, Wilbur D., Indiana Houses, Indianapolis, 1962, Indiana Historical Society, pp. 85-90.

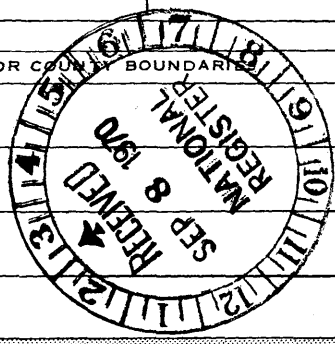
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | 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 | ° ' " | ° ' " | | 44° 19' 55" | 93° 57' 39.8" | |
| NE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2 acres.**

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

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Thomas Bredeson, Survey and Planning

ORGANIZATION: **Minnesota Historical Society** DATE: **August 3, 1970**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Building 25, Fort Snelling

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

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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. Fudley*
 Title: **Director, Minnesota Historical Society**
 Date: _____

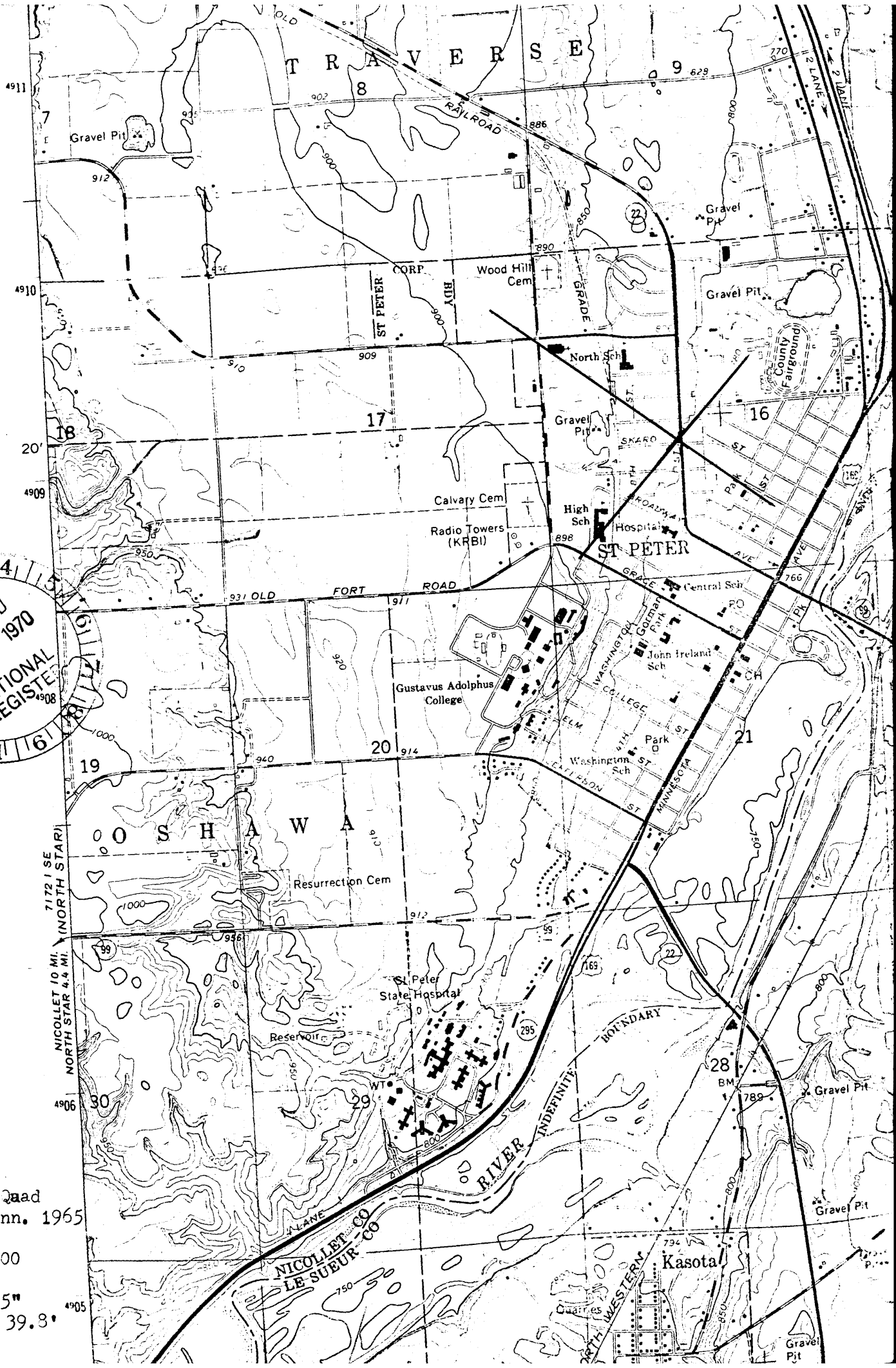
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest Allen Connolly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 NOV 20 1970

Date: _____

ATTEST:
William J. Huntington
 Keeper of The National Register
 OCT 1970

Date: _____



U.S.G.S. 7.5 Quad
St. Peter, Minn. 1965
Cox House
Scale: 1;24000

Lat. 44° 19' 55"
Long. 93° 57' 39.8"

Form 10-301
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

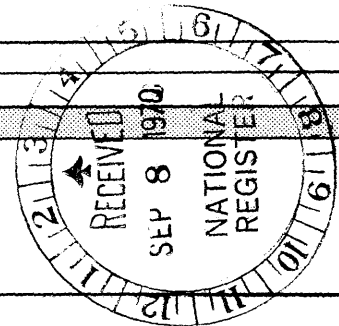
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| STATE Minnesota | |
| COUNTY Nicollet | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER 70.11.27.0038 | DATE 7/12/70 |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

| | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. NAME | | | |
| COMMON: E. St. Julien Cox House | | | |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: | | | |
| 2. LOCATION | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: 500 North Washington Avenue | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: St. Peter | | | |
| STATE: Minnesota | CODE 22 | COUNTY: Nicollet | CODE 103 |
| 3. MAP REFERENCE | | | |
| SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle | | | |
| SCALE: 1:24,000 | | | |
| DATE: 1965 | | | |
| 4. REQUIREMENTS | | | |
| TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS | | | |
| 1. Property boundaries where required. | | | |
| 2. North arrow. | | | |
| 3. Latitude and longitude reference. | | | |



Mines

Site
Cox, E. St. Julien, House

Entered
11/20/70
Nicollet County

Site is accessible to Public.

Restoration has been carried on and site is now open to the public.

