

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Minnesota
COUNTY:	Crow Wing
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE:	JUL 17 1974

1. NAME

COMMON: Brainerd Water Tower

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Washington at Sixth Street

CITY OR TOWN: Brainerd CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 7th

STATE: Minnesota CODE: 22 COUNTY: Crow Wing CODE: 035

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Vacant</u>
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: City of Brainerd

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Brainerd STATE: Minnesota CODE: 22

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER: Crow Wing County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Brainerd STATE: Minnesota CODE: 22

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic Sites Survey

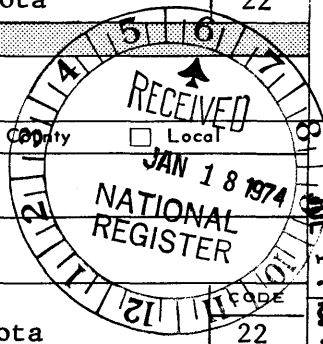
DATE OF SURVEY: 1972 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Minnesota Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER: Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul STATE: Minnesota

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Minnesota

COUNTY: Crow Wing

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

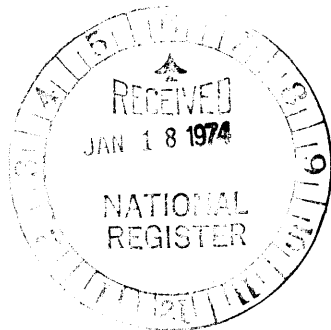
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Brainerd Water Tower is 141 feet high from footing to top of roof, has a 40 foot diameter bowl, and a 28 foot diameter riser. The entire structure is of reinforced poured-in-place concrete. Early reports suggest the structure was poured monolithically although close study of photographs taken at various times during construction show cold or construction joints.

The tower was designed to hold three hundred thousand gallons of water for municipal use. Construction of the tower was accomplished in conjunction with a new water pumping station and wells along with many improvements to the city water system.

In 1928, the tank developed major leaks through construction and cold joints and an 8 ply membrane liner was installed in the interior of the tank. This was protected by a 4" course of hard brick from the floor of the tank to within 6" of the roof line. In the late 1940's the roof had deteriorated to the point that serious leaking was being experienced. This was repaired by patching the roof and placing a 6" zonolite filler in the gutter line at the upper rim of the tank. A 4 ply membrane roof was placed over the concrete roof and is in place presently.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1918-1921**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

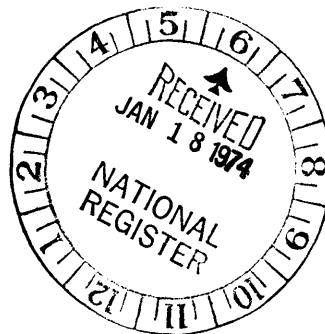
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Brainerd's concrete water tower, believed the first of its kind in the United States for municipal water storage use, was built according to a design by St. Paul Engineer L.P. Wolff in 1918-1921. It is illustrative of an innovative use of concrete for the purposes of municipal water storage and fire protection. At the time of its completion, Brainerd was said to have one of the most modern and efficient municipal water systems in the state.

The tower was constructed for the Water and Light Commission and was used continuously until 1958 when new and larger facilities were constructed. In 1968 the tower and property were turned over to the Brainerd City Council.

This unique and imposing structure has long been one of the most widely known landmarks in northern Minnesota. A drawing of the tower is used as letterhead for city stationery for Brainerd and intentions are that it be preserved as a focal point for future historical interpretation of the Brainerd area.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brainerd City Records

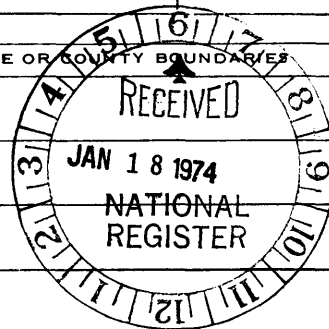
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		46 ° 21 ' 30 "	94 ° 11 ' 59 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

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



NO
LTM
CD

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Charles W. Nelson, Supervisor, Survey and Planning

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Historical Society DATE: 1/14/74

STREET AND NUMBER: Building 25, Fort Snelling

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

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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
Russell W. Fridley

Title: Director

Date: January 16, 1974

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

[Signature]
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 2/17/74

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 7-16-74