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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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 Winona & St. Peter Engine House

and/or common Chicago Northwestern Railroad Engine House

**2. Location**

street & number 75 Gould Street N/A not for publication

city, town Winona N/A vicinity of ~~congressional district~~ N/A

state Minnesota code 22 county Winona code 089

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Vacant

**4. Owner of Property**

name Leo G. Grebner/G & G Blends

street & number 1500 East 79th Street, Suite 108

city, town Minneapolis N/A vicinity of state Minnesota

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder's Office, Winona County Courthouse

street & number West Fourth Street

city, town Winona state Minnesota

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Statewide Survey of Historic Resources has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1981  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society - Ft. Snelling History Center

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota

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## 7. Description

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**Condition** excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moveddate N/A

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Winona & St. Peter Railroad Engine works was originally a complex of buildings that included two half Round Houses, the Engine House and several large sheds and outbuildings. Today all but the Engine House are gone.

That building, however, looks remarkably close to what it looked like originally. It is approximately 310 ft. x 94 ft., 30 to 40 ft. high. The structure remains essentially unaltered since its construction. Windows and doors have been removed, and the openings filled with concrete block. One new large opening has been cut into the East side and is now filled with concrete block. A Boiler Room has been demolished and the opening sealed. The West side has seen the addition of a small concrete block shed and a loading dock for the present owners.

The enclosed pictures really tell an interesting story. The numerous and high windows on the outside walls shed much needed light into the interior of the building for the workmen. Through the prominent arches on the west side, the finished engine would roll out onto the trackage of the Winona & St. Peter system. The large expanses of structure on the interior gave the building much needed flexibility.

# 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 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 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**      c. 1890      **Builder/Architect**      Unknown

**Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)**

75 Gould St. Winona, Minnesota Engine House (also known as Motive Barn) of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad (formerly the Winona & St. Peter Railroad)

The engine house was built between 1884 and 1893. Probably around 1890. The architect and builder have not been identified. The search for this information and the date of construction is continuing.

The building was used as an engine repair shop from its construction until the Chicago & Northwestern suspended its shop operations here. The building was sold to W.A. Hodgins Transfer & Storage Co. in 1965 and was used as a warehouse. It has since been sold and is presently a warehouse. The exterior of the building is essentially the same as it was when constructed. A boiler shop on the east side of the building has been removed.

This building was the office and engine shop of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad's shop operations in Winona, Minnesota. A complex that at one time included two roundhouses, a car shop, and a number of smaller buildings. This building housed the engine repair shops of the Winona & St. Peter Railroad that provided for the maintenance and repair of the steam engines of the C&NW until it was converted in 1953 to handle diesel engines that replaced them.

The Winona & St. Peter Railroad was founded in 1861 by a group of Winona business and civic leaders just five years after the incorporation of the city. By 1866 the railroad was completed to Owatonna connecting with the Minnesota Central Railroad the mainline from Minneapolis-St. Paul to Chicago. There was at that time no direct route from Winona to the Twin Cities. In 1867 the Winona & St. Peter Railroad was sold to the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad. The original name of the railroad was retained, however, until June 7, 1900 when it became the Winona & St. Peter Division of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad.

The Chicago & Northwestern and the Winona & St. Peter Railroads played a significant role in the history of Winona and in the growth and development of southern Minnesota. The expansion of the city of Winona and its industries depended on the development of a hinterland that would provide the market for goods produced in the city. The growth of the city depended also on the agricultural products produced on the broad plains of southern Minnesota and eastern South Dakota. Winona was a major shipping point for agricultural products as well as a thriving industrial city between 1870 and the turn of the century. The creation of Winona's hinterland was initiated by the Winona & St. Peter Railroad and later completed by the Chicago & Northwestern. Towns grew along

(see continuation sheet)

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1.36 acres

Quadrangle name Winona West Quad.

Quadrangle scale 7.5

### UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>5</u>	<u>6</u> <u>0</u> <u>6</u> <u>6</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>8</u> <u>7</u> <u>8</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Tax Parcel: #32-320-1990

Legal Description: PAR SW qtr, NE qtr, sec. 2], commencing NW corner blk 15 curving N on ext. E Gould St., 385' to beginning right 88° 84' 20" left 90°, 384.6' left. 90° 255.1' left 90° 350.6', left 45° 48.08', left 45° 136.7' to beginning.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
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state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mark McKechnie, President

organization Mark McKechnie Architect date April 13, 1983

street & number 2025 West Main Street telephone 612-388-1555

city or town Red Wing state 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

title Russell W. Fridley  
State Historic Preservation Officer

date 12/7/83

For NPS use only

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

*for* Beth Croover  
Keeper of the National Register

date 1/26/84

Attest:  
Chief of Registration

date

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

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Winona & St. Peter Engine House, Winona, Winona County, MN

Continuation sheet

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the railroads' right of way across the state of Minnesota and into Dakota Territory. Winona businessmen established branch lumber yards and grain storage facilities in the towns along the railroad. Wheat and other agricultural products were purchased from the farmers for shipment to Winona and the East. Manufactured products from the city were sold in these branch outlets. The enterprise that occurred along the railroad provided for the rapid growth of Winona in population, wealth, and influence. Between 1860 and 1890 Winona was the third largest city in Minnesota, its influence however, outdistanced its size. Winona produced an unusual number of leaders in politics, business, education, and the church. For example senators and members of the President's cabinet, governors and judges; founders of the Weyerhaeuser empire; the organizer of the National Educational Association; and the founder of the Wisconsin Synod of the Lutheran Church.

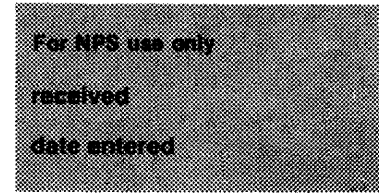
The building at 75 Gould St. is significant because of the part it played in the lives of the ordinary people of Winona. The Winona railroad shops on the West side of the city was a major employer. The number of people working at the C&NW shops varied from a low of forty-nine to over five hundred. The average was approximately two hundred employees. The shops employed large numbers of workers from Winona's East side. Residents recall "double-header" street cars that brought the workers from the German and Polish neighborhoods of the city to the shops. Residents also recall the sight of large numbers of workingmen who rode their bikes to work up Broadway in the morning and returned along the same path to the East side at night. According to these eyewitnesses the sight of these bicycling workingmen stretching across the widest street in town is among their fondest memories of Winona in the early years of this century.

The building at 75 Gould St. the old Chicago & Northwestern Engine Shop is the sole surviving structure of the railroad shops complex that were a historically significant factor in the history of this city for almost a century. The Winona & St. Peter shops were established in 1866, the first steam locomotive was repaired in 1886 and the engine shop continued in operation until 1956.

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Winona & St. Peter Engine House, Winona, Winona County, MN



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Gary F. Browne, "Railroads: Terminals and Nexus Points in the Upper Mississippi River Valley" in John S. Wozniak, F.S.C. (ed) Historic Lifestyles on the Upper Mississippi River (Washington: University Press of America, 1983).

William L. Crozier, "A Social History of Winona, Minnesota 1880-1905", Ph.D. dissertation, University of Nebraska, 1976.

C.M. Foote and J.W. Henion, Plat Book of Winona County, Minnesota, 1894 (C.M. Foote & Co. Publishers, 1894).

Franklyn Curtis-Wedge, History of Winona County Vols. I & II (Chicago: H.C. Cooper & Co. Publishers, 1913).

Winona City Directories 1885-1920.

Winona County Historical Society, Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Collection.

Winona County Recorder's Office, Plats and Land Records.

Winona Daily News 19 November 1955

Winona Republican Herald January 1901.

Interviews:

Leo Brom

Mrs. George Leonhart

C.J. Vincent

Frank Whetstone