

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **AUG 20 1984**

date entered **SEP 20 1984**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Hamm Brewing Company Beer Depot

and/or common Valley Dairy Company

2. Location

street & number 401 DeMers Avenue N/A not for publication

city, town East Grand Forks N/A vicinity of

state Minnesota code 22 county Polk code 119

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<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 type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Valdak Corporation

street & number P.O. Box 100

city, town Grand Forks N/A vicinity of state North Dakota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Polk County Courthouse - Registrar of Deeds

street & number 600 North Broadway Ave.

city, town Crookston 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 Minn. Historical Society - Ft. Snelling History Center

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 <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

OS 132
Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The 50' by 120' Hamm's Beer Depot consists of three sections: two-story east and west sections flank a central, one-story section. The symmetrically designed structure is on a corner site. Street facades are faced in red brick. The remainder is built of less expensive and unadorned yellow brick. The warehouse faces DeMers Avenue and backs up to a spur track of the former Northern Pacific Railroad.

A flat, parapeted roof is broken by a pediment projection centered in the one-story section. A simple metal cornice surmounts a decorated frieze of raised brick panels. A chimney stack projects above the two-story roof of the west section.

Raised brickwork is used for belt-coursing at the first and second floor levels and for decorative panels on the west side facade. The Hamm's logo, an eagle in a circle decorated with barley and hops, is carved in red sandstone and appears in the central pediment gable and at the southwest corner of the warehouse facing Fourth Street. The latter logo retains vestiges of its original polychrome paint; the former is deteriorated and is missing its carved keystone.

Two of the original rectangular windows are bricked over. The remainder are filled with glass blocks. An awning once covered the two central windows on the west side first floor. Several single entries and loading doors are seen in the warehouse. At some date after 1926, a single-bay garage was added to the building's east side. In 1977 the interior was remodeled, but warehouse and office functions were retained.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1907 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Hamm's Beer Depot at East Grand Forks is a rare surviving industrial structure associated with the regional growth of a Minnesota brewery. The large and impressive brick structure - one of the most substantial such warehouses known to have been built in the state - is significant architecturally and as a reminder of the expansion of regional and national brands of beer after the turn-of-the-century. The growth of an extensive rail network in the latter decades of the nineteenth century and the introduction of refrigerated railroad cars allowed large brewers to ship beer to a large market. Agencies, commonly called beer depots and owned by the breweries, were opened in many towns. These ranged from small trackside icehouses to substantial office-warehouse combinations. The Hamm's Brewing Company of St. Paul opened an East Grand Forks cold-storage plant in 1890. This was soon outgrown, and they relocated to a larger frame depot in 1897. In 1907 they enlarged their operations into the brick building on the corner of DeMers and Fourth. In 1909 it was one of six beer depots lined up along DeMers Avenue. The \$24,000 building was the largest, the only brick structure, and the nicest. It remains the only substantially unaltered and recognizable of the warehouses today. The building housed offices and a storage capacity for twenty carloads of beer. Today it is the office and warehouse of a dairy products distributor.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Anderson, Will. The Beer Book: An Illustrated Guide to American Breweri-
ana. Pyne Press, Princeton, N.J., 1973.
- Britton, Robert A. "The Brewery in Minnesota Communities," paper presen-
ted at M.H.S. annual meeting, 1980.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Grand Forks, N.D. - Minn.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A	<u>14</u>	<u>647580</u>	<u>5310200</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

see continuation sheet

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Thomas Harvey, Contract Historian

organization N/A

date 13 December 1983

street & number 1916 Drew Ave. S.

telephone (612) 920-6917

city or town Minneapolis

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

Russell W. Fridley

title Russell W. Fridley
State Historic Preservation Officer

date

8/13/84

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

Entered in the
National Register

date

9-20-84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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Hamm Brewing Company Beer Depot, East Grand Forks, Polk County, MN

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Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

From the north corner of DeMers Avenue and 4th Street thence northeasterly 125 feet along the northwesterly curb line of DeMers Avenue; thence northwesterly 60 feet to spur tracks; thence southwesterly 125 feet along the southeasterly edge of said tracks to northeasterly curb line of 4th Street; thence southeasterly 60 feet along northeasterly curb line of 4th Street to point of beginning.