

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JUL 18 1985  
date entered AUG 15 1985

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

1. Name

historic Merton S. Goodnow House

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 446 South Main Street N/A not for publication

city, town Hutchinson N/A vicinity of

state Minnesota code 22 county McLeod code 085

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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object			<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Harold C. Odegaard

street & number 446 South Main Street

city, town Hutchinson N/A vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. McLeod County Courthouse

street & number 830 11th Street East

city, town Glencoe 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 - Fort Snelling History Center

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date N/A

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

The Merton S. Goodnow House is a Prairie Style residence built in Hutchinson, Minnesota in 1913. The one-and-a-half-story brick and stucco house is sited on a large corner lot surrounded on two sides by a concrete retaining wall. The walls of the first floor consist of dark brown brick, rising from a poured concrete foundation. The upper story is stucco, tinted a pale yellow. A medium pitched cross-gabled roof completes the house with dramatic beams projecting from the wide overhanging eaves.

A one story sun porch, glazed on three sides and trimmed with stained cypress, projects from the front facade. The windows extend into the low pitched gable roof and beams again project from the eaves. The south (side) elevation consists of a projecting wing containing the entry with a Richardsonian arch. Panels of leaded glass in the entry door display the original owner's initial "G". Two dormers interrupt the roof line of this elevation. The entire house is banded with a brick belt course connecting all first floor windows while the double hung windows of the upper floor are trimmed with brick.

The interior contains the original wood trim, massive living room fireplace and finely leaded glass bookcases.

The most notable change made to the Goodnow House was the addition of a concrete block garage to the rear. Although an original sun porch was removed to accommodate this addition, the color and gabled roof of the garage match those of the house. A detached garage is also located on the property. Although built sometime after 1928, the structure was designed in the Prairie Style.

## 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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1913 **Builder/Architect** Purcell, Feick, and Elmslie \*

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Merton S. Goodnow House is a fine example of Prairie School architecture designed by the noted firm of Purcell and Elmslie. Purcell and Elmslie's practice was a direct successor of Louis Sullivan's and in a sense it was a continuation of it. George Elmslie had been employed by Sullivan for 20 years, became his chief draftsman and designed most of the ornamentation which graced Sullivan's buildings. William Purcell was also briefly employed in Sullivan's office. In 1909 Elmslie left Sullivan to join Purcell in what became the single most important firm within the Prairie School. Until the dissolution of the partnership a dozen years later, the firm enjoyed a large and diversified practice bearing all the unmistakable characteristics of the Prairie Style.

The Goodnow House typifies the firm's early years in which inexpensive houses for small city lots characterized their designs. The houses were distinguished by simple massing, compact plans and, if possible, the use of inexpensive materials. Inspiration for these homes came from Frank Lloyd Wright's "Fire-proof House for \$5,000", published by the Ladies' Home Journal in 1907. The Goodnow House is characteristic of Purcell and Elmslie's residential designs with two stories, a gabled roof, tinted stucco and grouped windows. The massing is unified by string courses, extended beams and boldly overhanging roofs which co-exist with the interplay of horizontals and verticals. Typical of Purcell and Elmslie was the use of both brick and stucco on the exterior. The living room and dining room are opened as a single space which pivots around the fireplace. This was a highly sophisticated spatial arrangement maximizing the sense of space in a restricted area. This arrangement was continually refined by Purcell and Elmslie in their residential work.

The firm's later years were mainly occupied with banks, public buildings and industrial designs. Yet, their designs continued to share an exemplary concern for how a building worked. By subtle manipulation of interior space they created an environment which was efficient and pleasant in which to be. The Goodnow House remains an outstanding and well preserved example of Purcell and Elmslie's successful collaboration. It is one of approximately twenty-five existing homes designed by the firm in Minnesota. Yet, considering the national prominence of Purcell and Elmslie, the house achieves particular significance in its rural Minnesota location. The Goodnow House is not only a notable example of the Prairie Style but a local architectural landmark in the town of Hutchinson.

\*[Purcell is credited with the plans. Feick left the firm the year the house was designed.]

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

The Prairie School, by H. Allen Brooks, University of Toronto, 1972.  
Land Records, McLeod County. History of McLeod County, Franklyn-Curtiss-Wedge, 1917.  
The Western Architect, July 1915. Specifications for a brick dwelling for Mr. Merton S. Goodnow, June 9, 1913, Office of Purcell, Feick & Elmslie, Mpls.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Hutchinson

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	5	3	9	1	8	6	0	4	9	7	1	0	6	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

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D 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 6 & 7, Block 51 - Original Town of Hutchinson.

### 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 James A. Sazevich (Rolf Anderson, Editor)

organization The House Detective

date November 15, 1983

street & number 454 N. Smith Avenue

telephone (612) 222-8160

city or town St. Paul

state Minnesota 55102

## 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*

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date

6/27/85

### For NPS use only

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

*for Melvyn Byer*  
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date

8-15-85

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration