

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JAN 13 1978

DATE ENTERED

MAY 5 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Foley-Brower-Bohmer House

AND/OR COMMON

Bohmer, Donald J., House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

385 Third Avenue South

—NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

St. Cloud

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Minnesota

CODE

22

COUNTY

Stearns

CODE

145

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

 DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

 OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO

PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Donald J. Bohmer

STREET & NUMBER

385 Third Avenue South

CITY, TOWN

St. Cloud

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Stearns County Courthouse - Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

St. Cloud

STATE

Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1976

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society - Building 25, Fort Snelling

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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Foley-Brower-Bohmer House is situated on a large wooded lot several blocks south of the central business district of St. Cloud. Formerly residential, the area in which the house is located has changed to a multi-use area because of the expansion of nearby St. Cloud State University.

The three storey brick residence was commissioned by lumberman-industrialist Timothy Foley in April of 1889. The architect was A.E. Hussey. Construction began in May of that year under the direction of contractor J.S. McCleary of Minneapolis. The building was completed in February of 1890 at a total cost of \$13,000.

Stylistically, the residence is representative of the brick mode of the Richardsonian Romanesque style, popular in Minnesota during the 1880s and 1890s. Set on a foundation of rusticated local St. Cloud grey granite, the primary materials of construction consist of Saint Louis red pressed brick, red sandstone for lintels, sills, and carved panels, and wood frame interior structural system. The plan is irregular; projecting bays and porches, gables with stone copings and carved finials, fluted chimneys, and a round tower with conical roof contribute to the picturesque quality of the design. Walls are punctuated with a large number of windows, a number of which are either stained glass or curved glass.

Four alterations are evident on the exterior. The major alteration was the removal of a full-front spindlework porch on the front of the house in approximately 1945; the deck and brick column basis remain, however, as an open patio. One of the five chimneys was removed from the roofline with the sealing of one of the two fireplaces in the living room. A second-storey sleeping porch was added above the rear kitchen porch (west). Finally, the original slate roof has been replaced with asphalt composition shingles. With the exception of the removal of the front porch, however, these alterations are minor and have not altered the overall integrity of the design. The house has been excellently maintained.

On the interior, the first floor consists of a large hallway, living room, dining room, kitchen, and small bathroom. The hallway is finished in carved golden oak; a fireplace of brass and copper with oak mantel and tile hearth is situated in the northwest corner adjacent to the staircase. A double sliding door provides access to the living room from the hallway. This room is a large space created by the removal of a wall (and set of sliding doors) which formerly separated the parlor from the library. One of the fireplaces in the living room has been sealed and the mantel removed; the other fireplace retains its original mantel which is surmounted by an arched stained glass window. Woodwork is of cherry.

The dining room is finished in white oak and boasts an elaborate parquetry floor. This room also has an ornately carved mantel and stained glass windows. To the rear of the dining room is the kitchen area; this is also finished in oak. The former pantry has been converted into a bathroom.

(see continuation sheet)

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Foley-Brower-Bohmer House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

The second floor consists of five bedrooms and a bathroom. Woodwork throughout the second floor is of golden oak similar to that found in the hallway. Two staircases provide access to this floor. Two of the bedrooms have fireplaces.

The third floor is primarily devoted to a large attic with a finished floor which may have been intended for dancing or other social activities. A small room off the attic is designated as the maid's quarters.

In general, the Foley-Brower-Bohmer House is a well preserved example of the Richardsonian mansion-type house constructed during the later years of the nineteenth century in St. Cloud. Other such residences in the St. Cloud area have either been extensively altered in appearance or use or have been demolished. This residence is one of the last remaining examples of its type to continue as a private residence.

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/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 type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1889

BUILDER/ARCHITECT A.E. Hussey
Builder J.S. McCleary

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Foley-Brower-Bohmer House is an excellent example of the Richardsonian Romanesque mode of architectural design as applied to large-scale residences during the latter part of the nineteenth century. Constructed for Timothy Foley in 1889 according to designs by architect A.E. Hussey, this structure is the only Richardsonian residence in the St. Cloud area to retain a substantial degree of original design integrity and continue to function as a single-family private residence.

Timothy Foley was one of four brothers who controlled a substantial lumber industry and sizeable railway interests during the latter part of the nineteenth century. The Foley brothers operated mills in Foley (named for the family), St. Cloud, Foreston, and Milaca; they also formed a construction company which was integral in the development of railroad lines throughout central Minnesota and the northwest. The house in St. Cloud was occupied by Timothy Foley from 1890 to 1895. After that date his brother, Thomas, occupied it until 1902.

In 1902, Ripley B. Brower, a prominent lawyer and politician in St. Cloud, purchased the house as his residence. He had opened a law office in St. Cloud in 1891, was a Republican elected State Senator in 1898, which office he held until 1905, and was city attorney for St. Cloud from 1916 through 1928. He resided in the house until 1923.

In 1923, William J. Bohmer, proprietor of the Melrose Granite Company, purchased the house from Brower. The granite company, with headquarters in St. Cloud, was reputed in the 1920s to be one of the largest granite producing plants in the United States. In 1927, Bohmer became director of the American National Bank of St. Cloud. He established the Bohmer Investment Company in 1931, and was also a director of the St. Cloud Chamber of Commerce.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beck, Catherine and Gove, Gertrude, St. Cloud, Minnesota Houses from Log Cabin to Mobile Homes, 1855-1973, n.p., n.p., 1973.

Burnquist, Joseph A. Minnesota and it's People, 4 Vol., Chicago: The S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1924.

Christianson, Theodore, Minnesota, A History of the State and it's People, 4 vol. n.p., The American Historical Society, 1935.

St. Cloud Daily Times, April 4, 1889, December 26, 1889, April 20, 1950, February 12, 1960.

Deed Records, Stearns County Registry of Deeds, 1887-1946.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 2

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 5	4 1 0 0 8 0	5 0 4 5 2 5 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Charles W. Nelson, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Minnesota Historical Society

DATE

8 November 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Building 25, Fort Snelling

TELEPHONE

612-726-1171

CITY OR TOWN

St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL X

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

1/10/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 5-15-78
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST

W. Whitely
Walter W. Cole

DATE

4-26-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER