

MAR 2 1982

HISTORIC NAME: Lord, Drew H., House

COUNTY: Rice

CURRENT NAME:

CITY/TWP.: Northfield

LEGAL DESC.: Block 15, lots 9-10, Original Town

ADDRESS:

201 East 3rd

CLASSIFICATION:	CONDITION:	SIGNIFICANCE:	THEME/S:
Building <u>X</u>	Excellent <u>X</u>	Local <u>X</u>	Primary <u>Commerce</u>
Structure _____	Good _____	State _____	Secondary <u>Architecture</u>
Object _____	Fair _____	National _____	Others _____
District _____	Deteriorated _____		

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Yes \_\_\_ No X Restricted \_\_\_

PRESENT USE:

VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD: Yes X No \_\_\_OCCUPIED: Yes X No \_\_\_

Residence

DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1887

ORIGINAL USE:

Residence

ORIGINAL OWNER: Drew H. Lord

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: - D.H. Lord

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Swenson  
201 East 3rd  
Northfield, MN 55057ACREAGE: Less than one acre XLOCAL CONTACT/ORG.: Northfield Historical Society,  
408 Division Street, Northfield, MN 55057

UTM REFERENCE:

Northfield Quad. 7.5

FORM PREPARED BY: Britta Bloomberg

15 / 487450 / 4922490

DATE: March 1981

## DESCRIPTION:

The Drew H. Lord House occupies a high wooded lot on the northeast corner of Third and Washington Streets. The house is on the edge of a large residential neighborhood, two blocks southwest of the Carleton College campus and a block east of downtown Northfield.

The two story frame house was constructed in 1887 by Northfield's local builder, Drew H. Lord, at a cost of \$5,000. The house features design elements of the Eastlake style and is characterized by its asymmetrical assemblage of forms which include assorted bays, dormers, porches, and a three story tower. Most windows are rectilinear with simple framing; a large first story window on the south facade features an ornamental hood. A two story bay is located on the east facade and a one story bay is on the west facade. One story screened porches are located at the southwest and northeast corners, and original turned posts and brackets remain intact behind the screen panels. An enclosed porch is located at the northwest corner. The tower at the southwest corner features a dentillated cornice and a bellcast mansard roof sheathed with patterned shingles. A one story section (formerly the kitchen) is located at the rear (north). A truncated hip roof caps the building, broken by triangular dormers on the south, west, and east and a brick chimney at the rear. Decorated bargeboards, half round windows with ornamental framing, and patterned shingles are featured in the dormers. The structure is sheathed with narrow clapboard siding; narrow bands of vertical siding provide surface variety in the skirting and fascia.

Exterior alterations are limited to the screening of the south and east porches, the enclosure of the west porch (c.1974), and the removal of the modillion blocks from the cornice (c.1960). The interior is also well preserved.

The original carriage house, located northeast of the house, and in use as a garage, is included in the nomination. The structure is clapboard sided and capped by a wood shingled hip roof with gable.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Drew H. Lord House is primarily significant as the home of one of Northfield's leading builders and businessmen, who was instrumentally linked to Northfield's late nineteenth century expansion and the built environment of that period. The house is significant architecturally as a locally distinctive residence utilizing the popular Eastlake design features and representative of the success achievable by a prominent local builder. Drew H. Lord first came to Northfield in 1873 and was employed as millwright at the Ames Mill. Soon thereafter, during a period of increased prosperity and significant building activity in the community, Lord established a building and contracting business.

(see continuation sheet)

Significance - continued

His firm was the principal builder for many notable structures in town, including Goodsell Observatory (1886) and Scoville Memorial Library (1896) at Carleton College, Steensland Library (1902) at St. Olaf College, the Nutting-Phillips Building (1887-now the First National Bank) in downtown Northfield, and much of Northfield's late nineteenth and early twentieth century housing stock. Lord constructed his home on Third and Washington, overlooking downtown Northfield, in 1887. The house served both as a private residence and as rental units for Carleton students. Lord resided in the house until his death in 1911. The locally distinctive dwelling is a reflection of the success achieved by a leading local builder and a representative of the many residential structures constructed by a man more widely known for his associations with public buildings.

Bibliography:

Directory of Names and Business Firms of Northfield, Minnesota, Northfield, 1894.  
Northfield News, October 14, 1911; September 18, 1975.