

MINNESOTA HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

MAR 15 1982

HISTORIC NAME: Walker, (Hiram), and Valentine (Roswell H. House) COUNTY: Fillmore
 CURRENT NAME: Hall, William, Residence CITY/TWP.: Rushford City
 LEGAL DESC.: The nominated property includes the south half of Outlot 4, ne $\frac{1}{4}$, ne $\frac{1}{4}$, sec. 14, T 104, R 8. ADDRESS: 504 High Street
 Rushford City

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

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Yes ___ No X Restricted ___ PRESENT USE: Residence
 VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD: Yes X No ___
 OCCUPIED: Yes X No ___

DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1859-61 ORIGINAL USE: Residence
 ORIGINAL OWNER: Walker & Valentine ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: William B. Hall 504 High Street Rushford, MN 55971	ACREAGE: Less than one acre <u>X</u>
LOCAL CONTACT/CRG.: Fillmore County Historical Society, Box 193, Preston, MN 55965	UTM REFERENCE: Rushford West Quad 15 / 600140 / 4851920
FORM PREPARED BY: Robert M. Frame III, Ph.D.	
DATE: February 6, 1981	

DESCRIPTION:
 Located across Rush Creek from the Rushford City Mill, the Walker & Valentine House is a simple stone structure of classical proportions and massing. It is characterized by a square, two-story, central section with hipped roof and central chimney, flanked on the north and south by smaller, one story square wings, also with hipped roofs. It is constructed of random coursed ashlar stone. The house was originally designed for two families, the Walkers and the Valentines. Fenestration and internal structure follow this intention. There are two primary entrances, one in each wing. The primary (west) facade of the central section has no doors and four pairs of windows, floor-to-ceiling four-over-four double-hung sash at the first story and one-over-one at the second story. Windows are also paired on the east facade and irregularly spaced elsewhere. Open wooden porches extend across the entire front of the house and small wood frame additions are located at the rear of the wings. The house has been converted to single family use.

SIGNIFICANCE:
 The Walker & Valentine House is significant for its association with two of Rushford's founders who also were early industrial entrepreneurs. In addition, it is notable for its use of local stone, a common building material in Rushford. Hiram Walker and Roswell H. Valentine were important in the early history of the community, both having signed the 1854 resolution naming the village. Walker built the first grist and saw mills in Rushford about 1854-55, and in 1856 became one of the town proprietors. In 1857 he constructed a larger flour mill and was soon joined in ownership by Valentine. Shortly thereafter the two built the present stone house across Rush Creek from their mill building. Much later in its history, the house was used as a parsonage by the Rushford Lutheran Church and continues to be known locally as the Lutheran Parsonage. It is again in private ownership and the present owner is committed to its preservation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:
 Hall, William B. Interview, January 9, 1981.
 Modern Priscillas. Rushford Centennial, 1854-1954. Rushford, no date.