

Form No. 10-301  
Rev. 7-72

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

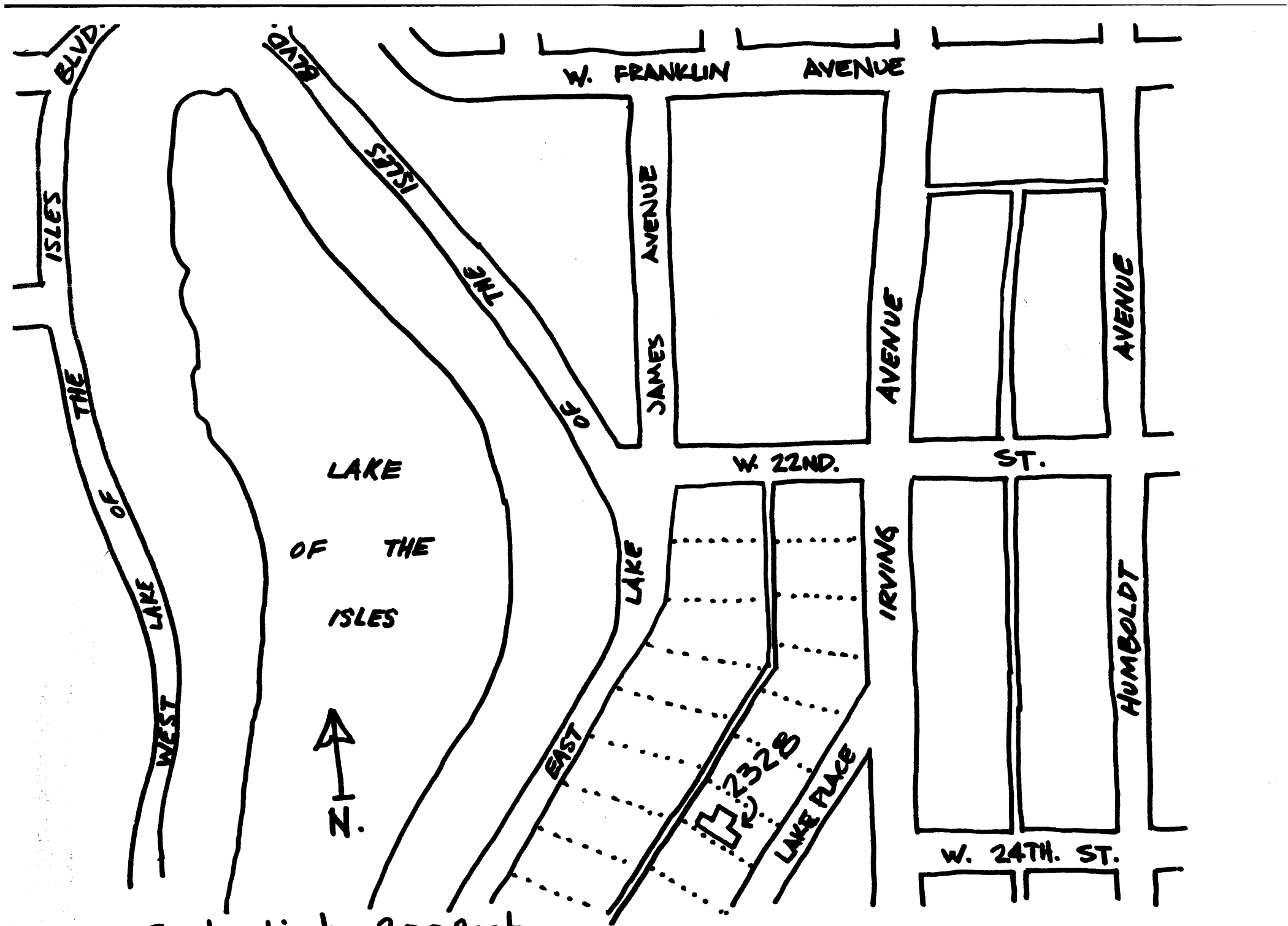
*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

STATE Minnesota	
COUNTY Hennepin	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER OCT 29 1974	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

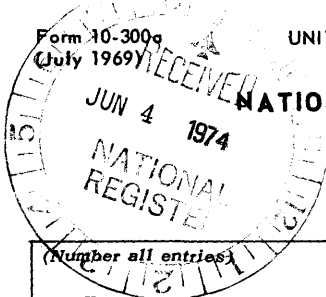
<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON:		Cutts, Anson B., Residence	
AND/OR HISTORIC:		Purcell, Wm. G., House (Purcell, Edna., House)	
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: 2328 Lake Place			
CITY OR TOWN: Minneapolis			
STATE: Minnesota	CODE 22	COUNTY: Hennepin	CODE 053
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE: Minneapolis City Plat...Plate 7A (sketch made from plat)			
SCALE: 1 inch = 200 feet			
DATE: 1972 update			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

INT: 155-72



Scale: 1 inch = 200 feet.

SE. Portion of Mpls. MUP Trite 7A [S-1/4. Sec 28 E. 1/2. N-1/4. Sec 23. T29. R24



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Minnesota	
COUNTY	
Hennepin	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	OCT 29 1974

(Number all entries)

7. Description (cont.)

so that it might better enjoy the view of the lake to the rear. In addition to the living room windows and the French door which leads to the porch, light is provided by a series of casement windows to the south side of the room. Entrance to the kitchen is around the corner from the dining room where the stairs ascend to the landing and then to the second floor. Because the living room and dining room are visually one, it was felt by the architects that the noises of the kitchen needed to be eliminated from the other rooms. Two doors, one a swinging door, the other a sliding door, have been provided. The sliding door is operated by a foot button in the floor. All of the lights in the house are so wired that they can be turned on by a single switch in the master bedroom.

Three bedrooms and a maid's room are located on the second floor. The door and stair to the maid's room are off the stairway landing. A tent ceiling covers the hall and the master bedroom; ceilings in the remaining bedrooms are flat. Two of the upstairs rooms are treated as a single unit; separation is obtained by a series of folding Japanese grass cloth panels. Soon after the house was built, the front space of this room was used as a child's room; a built-in bed and a pair of narrow little windows were added so that the person sleeping in the bed could feel that he was outside.

All of the exterior facades were treated as three-dimensional abstract patterns - patterns which were the result of the design of the interior space, not a form arbitrarily placed on the building. In front, the projecting chimney mass breaks up the upper section of the house, and below, the projecting living room mass pulls the building down to the ground. A stenciled pattern is used as a band of decoration just below the eaves and sawed work occurs on the projecting beams which extend out from the entrance.

A number of pieces of furniture: chairs, tables, and desks, curtains and table covers were designed for the house. The furniture was designed by Elmslie and the decoration on the woven material by Purcell's wife. More than any other single factor, it is the feeling and the quality of space in the living, dining, and hall areas which distinguished this house.

9. Major Bibliographic References (cont.)

Torbert, Donald R., Significant Architecture in the History of Minneapolis. A report of the Minneapolis Urban Design Study, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1969.  
Walker Art Center, "Purcell and Elmslie-Architects", a catalogue of an exhibition, Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 1953.

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

The Architecture of Purcell and Elmslie, A Special Issue from Prairie School Press, Chicago, Original Publication: "Western Architect", January 1915, Vol. 21. No. 1, Plate 6 (Upper), Plates 7-9, Plate 12 (Center)  
 Gebbard, David, "Purcell and Elmslie", Thesis 1957, Vol. III, Section II, pp. 198-98.  
 Kennedy, Roger, Minnesota Houses: An Architectural and Historical View, Dillon Press, Minneapolis, Minnesota 1967, p. 252.  
 Purcell, Wm., "Own House Notes", 1913, University of Minnesota, Manuscripts Collections.

(see continuation sheet)

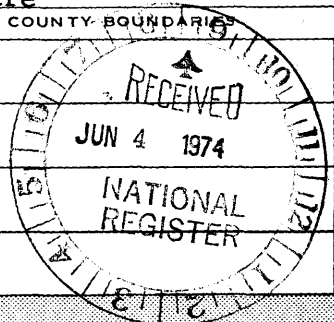
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . .	0 . .		44° 57' 33"	93° 18' 02"	
NE	0 . .	0 . .				
SE	0 . .	0 . .				
SW	0 . .	0 . .				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 1 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



15/47886  
488.00

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Charles W. Nelson, Supervisor, Historic Sites Survey and Planning

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Historical Society DATE: 15 March 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY OR TOWN: Saint Paul STATE: Minnesota CODE: 22

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: Russell W. Fridley  
Russell W. Fridley, Director

Title: Minnesota Historical Society

Date: 5.29.74

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

[Signature]  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 10/29/74

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 10-22-74

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1913

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                      |  |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |                                      |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Prairie School buildings of such men as Louis Sullivan, Frank Lloyd Wright, Walter Burley Griffin, George Grant Elmslie and William Gray Purcell in the last decade of the nineteenth century and the first two decades of the twentieth century are midwestern America's most significant contribution to the development of modern architecture. Both Purcell and Elmslie were strongly influenced by the work of Sullivan and Wright, through Elmslie's sixteen years of association with Sullivan's firm, and with Purcell's more brief association with Sullivan and his early knowledge and appreciation of Wright's buildings in his boyhood home community of Oak Park, Illinois. The designs of the Minneapolis based firm of Purcell and Elmslie, while showing the strong influence of those associations are nonetheless unique in innovative interpretation of architectural form, and there is a justified recognition of the firm's contribution to the concept of "organic" architecture. The firm's most successful work was in the fields of small bank buildings and residences. Of these residences, the Purcell house, is generally considered the most outstanding. Donald R. Torbert, in his Significant Architecture in the History of Minneapolis, states that "The interior spaces in the Lake Place residence merit comparison with the best of Wright's work...". David Gebbard writes in his foreword to the Walker Art Center's catalogue of their work, "the most outstanding house done by the firm was Purcell's own in Minneapolis built in 1913. If one were to search for a significant example of modern architecture, he would surely find it in this house, with the artful flow of space, its superbly proportioned great room with its raised dining room, and even its little-known peek-a-boo windows." The Purcell house is, therefore, a recognized excellent example of the firm's Prairie School domestic architectural design.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The site upon which the house stands is a small fifty by one-hundred and fifty foot city lot. On the street front there is no outstanding view, but because of the elevation of the property at the rear, there is a view of Lake-of-the-Isles. The property's only visual asset is this view. On either side are high undistinguished late nineteenth century houses placed close to their property lines. The architects placed the dwelling to the rear of the property so that it enjoys an open view and passage of air from neighboring rear yards. The neighboring houses in turn have a view over the front yard. The front and rear side walks and steps are at the side of the lot so that a small grass and garden area becomes one large space. In front of the living room windows are a low sunken garden area and a ten by fifteen foot pool with a fountain positioned to serve as the focal point from these windows.

[Inside, the entrance porch and entrance hall are at one side of the building.] The living room wing projects out to the front. On entering the hall, one can either descend four steps into the sunken living room or go up four steps to the dining balcony which overlooks and becomes part of the living space. The vestibule space also gives entrance to the rear hall and kitchen and to a lavatory and coat closet. The entrance area is secluded, but is at the same time a part of the living-dining space because of the continuity of wall and ceiling surfaces. The living room is two feet below the exterior ground level and its front is a glass bay of leaded windows, patterned in simple geometric shapes. The use of patterned glass in this case aids in preventing one's view from travelling far beyond the limits of the front yard with its flower beds and pool. A built-in seat below the windows places a person seated there on eye level with the flowers and plants of the exterior flower beds. In the southwest corner of the living room, partially enclosed by the balcony, is a small study area lighted by narrow horizontal window. Glass doored bookcases located in front of the balcony repeat the same leaded patterns as the exterior windows.

The design of the fireplace and fireplace wall is one of the most interesting of the various solutions which the architects had devised. The lower section of the wall is covered with narrow Roman brick; the cement joints were raked quite deep and filled with open glass with a film of gold leaf. There is a horizontal slab of raindrop sand stone directly above the firebox. The slab is flush with the brick and upper wall surface. The surface above the firebox is of plaster upon which there is a delicate patterning of wood. On the plaster surface is a painting by Charles Livingston Bull. The intricate wood pattern together with the painting produces the feeling of another window in the room. Although the painting conveys some feeling of depth, it is basically two-dimensional in character.

The raised dining room to the rear becomes a segment of the larger room by the continuation of wall surface, by the use of the great living room windows as a major light source, and by the use of a "tent" ceiling. The ceiling, more than any other factor, helps to visually connect the two areas. The dining room is raised above the living room and hall area

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Minnesota
COUNTY:	Hennepin
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	OCT 29 1974

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
CUTTS, Anson B., Residence

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Purcell, William Gray, House (also Purcell, Edna S., House)

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
2328 Lake Place

CITY OR TOWN:  
Minneapolis

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
5th

STATE:  
Minnesota

CODE:  
22

COUNTY:  
Hennepin

CODE:  
053

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

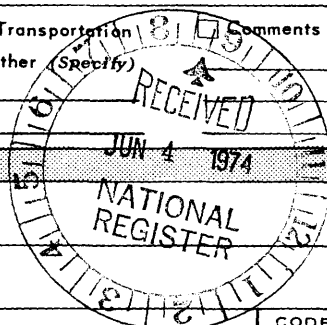
OWNER'S NAME:  
Anson B. Cutts

STREET AND NUMBER:  
2328 Lake Place

CITY OR TOWN:  
Minneapolis

STATE:  
Minnesota

CODE:  
22



**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Registry of Deeds, Hennepin County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
3rd Avenue South and 4th Street South

CITY OR TOWN:  
Minneapolis

STATE:  
Minnesota

CODE:  
22

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Statewide Historic Sites Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1974  
 Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Minnesota Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY OR TOWN:  
Saint Paul

STATE:  
Minnesota

CODE:  
22

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	Minnesota
COUNTY:	Hennepin
ENTRY NUMBER	OCT 29 1974
DATE	

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