

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received APR - 6 1983  
date entered

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

**1. Name**

historic Waconia City Hall

and/or common Same as above

**2. Location**

street & number 9 <sup>1st St</sup> ~~West First Street~~ N/A not for publication

city, town Waconia N/A vicinity of

state Minnesota code 22 county Carver code 019

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: (vacant)

**4. Owner of Property**

name City of Waconia

street & number 233 South Olive Street

city, town Waconia N/A vicinity of state Minnesota

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Carver County Courthouse

street & number 600 East 4th

city, town Chaska, state Minnesota

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Minnesota Historical Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1975  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society

city, town Fort Snelling History Center, St. Paul state MN

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input 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	date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			N/A

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

Messrs. Osterfeld and Wortmann completed construction of the Waconia City Hall in December, 1909 at a cost of \$12,215.

The New City Hall building designed for Waconia by Architect, Charles Sedgwick, is rectangular in plan, 50 feet wide and 100 feet deep, and two stories high, with a full basement under the entire building. The exterior facade of the building is executed in red Menominee brick.

The first floor originally contained one large room in front (north) to accommodate fire engine apparatus, and a main corner (northeast) entrance with a wide staircase leading to the basement and second story. At the rear of the engine room and reaching from the (east) side was a large room for council chambers, a lodge room and two fire-proof cell rooms. The second story contained a large public hall that accommodated an audience of five-hundred. At the further (south) end of the hall was a stage with a handsome proscenium arch and dressing rooms to either side complete with a rear stairway exit. Finally, the basement comprised a large dining room, kitchen and pantry. Also located in the basement was a large emergency cistern to supply water for the fire engines, a storage area and heating apparatus.

Prominent architectural features included the (northeast) corner tower rising 20 feet above the main roof finished with a handsome gabled roof and steel flag staff. The tower was open to all sides to accommodate a fire bell. Surpassing the tower in significance was the front of the building with its attractive Romanesque arches on the building entrances and second story windows, capped by an entablature upon which is carved "City Hall".

In 1952, with the completion of the new fire station, the City Council commissioned Architect, Edward F. Wirtz of New Ulm, Minnesota to design a new front facade and first floor plan to enable the City to more efficiently utilize the space left vacant by the move of the fire department.

The remodeling called for filling in the first level arches and the removal of the brick veneer to accommodate the construction of entry canopies. The upper-most portions of the second story window arches were also filled-in at this time and new windows installed. Interior improvements made included the creation of several offices in the space once occupied by the fire department.

The alterations made in 1952 remain to this day, however, close examination of the structure indicates that the arches and key stones are intact beneath the 1952 face brick. Evidence of this is attached.

### Rehabilitation Program

The City of Waconia through its Housing and Redevelopment Authority has commissioned the firm of Redevelopment Resources, Inc. in cooperation with Ankeny, Kell and Associates, Architects to undertake a rehabilitation program that will ultimately remove the 1952 front facade modifications and restore it to its original appearance circa. 1909.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1909 **Builder/Architect** Charles Sedgwick

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Waconia City Hall served as a center of community activity from 1909, when it was first occupied, until its vacation in 1976.

In addition to housing the village offices and fire department, the Waconia City Hall was home to the library and the senior citizens center. Perhaps the most significant social functions were those that took place in the cavernous public hall located on the second level. Such activities included fine plays and dances and most notably, the firemen's annual masquerade ball, where a good time was had by all.

Beyond the social significance of the Waconia City Hall, its architecture and appurtenances were also unique to Waconia. The tower bell that served as a beacon to all in times of emergency and as a warning to the young that curfew was near; the Romanesque arches and the Menominee brick are all the last of their kind in Waconia.

The Waconia City Hall continues to serve as a reminder to the community of its political, social and cultural heritage.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Carver County Historical Society

Waconia Patriot Newspaper - Issues: Dec. 21, 1909, Dec. 24, 1909, Jan. 21, 1910  
Jan. 28, 1910, March 10, 1910

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Waconia Quad, Minnesota

Quadrangle scale 7.5

### UTM References

A 

1	5	4	3	7	8	6	0	4	9	6	6	2	8	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

E 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

F 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

G 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

H 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Northerly 100' of Lot 10 & 11, Block 16  
Waconia, MN.

### 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 Thomas C. McElveen, Executive Director

organization Housing & Redevelopment Authority of Waconia date September 15, 1982

street & number 233 South Olive Street

telephone (612) 448-5215

city or town Waconia

state MN

## 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

*3/31/83*  
3/31/83

### For NPS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

date

*5/9/83*  
5/9/83

*John Selmer Byers*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration