

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAY 3 1976
DATE ENTERED JUN 7 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC *wh*
R.D. Hubbard/House
AND/OR COMMON
R.D. Hubbard House/Blue Earth County Historical Society Museum

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
606 South Broad Street
CITY, TOWN
Mankato
STATE
Minnesota
VICINITY OF
Second
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Second
COUNTY CODE
Blue Earth 013

CLASSIFICATION

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL | <input type="checkbox"/> PARK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: |

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
City of Mankato
STREET & NUMBER
City Hall
CITY, TOWN
Mankato
STATE
Minnesota

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Registry of Deeds - Blue Earth County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
204 South Fifth Street
CITY, TOWN
Mankato
STATE
Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Statewide Historic Sites Survey
DATE
1972
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Building 25, Fort Snelling - Minnesota Historical Society
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 1905 | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Rensselaer D. Hubbard bought property at 606 South Broad Street in Mankato early in 1871, and constructed his home, which was finished in the fall of 1871. A newspaper of the day called it the "handsomest" home in Mankato.

It was built of brick on a basement of cut stone in a variation of the French 2nd Empire style. The house is two stories high plus a mansard roof which forms another story. The roof is of polychrome slate. The front foyer contains outside and inside doors, the latter fitted with ground and figured plate glass.

The interior woodwork is of carved native cherry, walnut and oak. There are three marble fireplaces (in the parlor, the dining room and a bedroom - now the Museum Library -) which Mr. Hubbard bought at the Thieves Market in New Orleans after the Civil War forced plantation owners to sell appurtenances from their homes in order to support themselves. One fireplace is of white Brazilian onyx and Italian black marble; another is of Spanish marble; the third is of Georgian marble.

The dining room contains a signed Tiffany lamp shade; the parlor, dining room and a bedroom (library) have colored art glass windows.

In 1905 Bradstreet's of Minneapolis was employed to redecorate the downstairs. It is believed that at this time, the silk wallpaper in the two parlors and the wool tapestry on the wall of the dining room and the cherry panelling in the dining room were installed, and the Tiffany shade added. The work was rushed to completion so that Mr. Hubbard's funeral (he died in Chicago on August 29, 1905) could be held at his house.

Hot and cold running water was installed in the upstairs bathroom with an elaborate system of cisterns and pumps.

The grounds were extensive; a Carriage House was built on the property in 1890. A street has been laid through the property separating the Hubbard House from its Carriage House. The City of Mankato plans to move the Carriage House to a location beside and to the rear of the Hubbard House, thus re-uniting the Hubbard House with its Carriage House. The City has purchased land for this purpose which will be appropriately landscaped as a City park. The Carriage House will be completely restored to house the Museum's extensive collection of horse drawn vehicles.

The Hubbard House is currently in use as a Museum, although plans call for exhibits and storage of artifacts to be moved from the house when a new museum building can be acquired. It will then be restored as a Victorian mansion.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES 1871, 1905

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Silas Barnard (builder)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

R.D. Hubbard was one of the leading businessmen in the development of Mankato. He and his partner, George Palmer, organized several businesses which, although presently under other ownership, are still in operation. Their major business was the Hubbard Milling Company. Descendants of George Palmer still manage the company.

The house built by R.D. Hubbard is typical of that built by a wealthy industrialist, and was designed to show a gracious style of living of that period. That such an elaborate house could be constructed in 1871, just 19 years after the founding of the town of Mankato, demonstrates the enterprise and ambition of Mr. Hubbard as well as the rapid growth of the community. The use of locally made brick and locally quarried stone for foundations and ornate frames of stone around the windows, further enhances the house. Lumber used in the house came from local mills.

The Hubbard House is one of the oldest remaining examples of the 19th century mansion in the area and evidence of its local architectural influence can be seen in details of many homes in the neighborhood.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

see continuation sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1

UTM REFERENCES

| | | | |
|---|------|-------------|---------------|
| A | 1 5 | 4 1 9 6 5 0 | 4 8 9 0 2 5 0 |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|
| B | | | |
| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Hubbard House is situated on the northwest corner lot at the intersection of Warren and Broad Streets in Mankato

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

Marcia T. Schuster, Museum Director/Charles W. Nelson, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Blue Earth County Historical Society/Minnesota Historical Society 23 February 1976

STREET & NUMBER

606 South Broad Street/Building 25, Fort Snelling

TELEPHONE

612-726-1171

CITY OR TOWN

Mankato/St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

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

TITLE Russell W. Fridley
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 4-30-76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Charles E. Brown

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 6/9/76

DATE 5.28.76

RECEIVED FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

REC for WJM 5/28/76

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 3 1976

DATE ENTERED

JUN 7 1974

CONTINUATION SHEET R.D. Hubbard Hse. ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Books

- Hughes, Thomas. History of Blue Earth County. Chicago: Middle West Publishing Company, 1909.
- Heill, Rev. Edward D. History of the Minnesota Valley. Minneapolis: North Star Publishing Company, 1882.
- Semi-Centennial of Mankato. Mankato: Free Press, 1902.

Interviews

- Mrs. Carl (Shirley) Broden, Curator of Blue Earth County Historical Society, May 28, 1968.

County Archival Records

- Abstracts. Vol. H, p. 175. Vol. O, p. 244. Vol. O, p. 713. Vol. S, p. 790. Vol. 7, p. 421. Vol. 25, p. 16. Vol. 140, p. 420. Vol. 142, p. 230. Register of Deeds Office, Blue Earth County Courthouse, Mankato, Minnesota.
- Mortgages. Vol. M, p. 415. Vol. O, p. 553. Vol. 4, p. 615. Vol. 6, p. 168. Vol. 45, p. 27. Vol. 41, p. 415. Vol. 48, p. 62, Vol. 123, p. 432. Register of Deeds Office, Blue Earth County Courthouse, Mankato, Minnesota.
- Probate Records. Vol. 25, p. 354. Register of Deeds Office, Blue Earth County Courthouse, Mankato, Minnesota. Microfilm File 119, Clerk of Probate Court Office, Blue Earth County Courthouse, Mankato, Minnesota.

Manuscripts

- Heckel, Rosemary, to Broden, Shirley, August 28, 1967, "Hubbard File," Blue Earth County Historical Society, Mankato, Minnesota.
- Hubbard, Joy, to Riechter, Esther. March 8, 1938, "Hubbard File," Blue Earth Historical Society, Mankato, Minnesota.

Miscellaneous

- Undated Note. Re: Platting of Warren's Addition to Mankato, Minnesota. "Hubbard File," Blue Earth County Historical Society, Mankato.

Newspapers

- Mankato Free Press, 1905, 1934, 1938.
- Mankato Weekly Record, 1866, 1871.
- Mankato Weekly Review, 1871-72, 1881.
- Mankato Weekly Union, 1870-71.
- St. Paul Pioneer Press, 1905.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

**Note: These changes apply to
Hubbard, R.D., House in Blue Earth
County, Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 76001047

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Blue Earth

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Hubbard, Renesselaer D., House

CITY:

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS:

CERTIFICATION DATE: 06/07/76

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS: Please double check date of property's listing on the Register.

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date