

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

For HCRS use only  
received JUN 17 1980  
date entered NOV 25 1980

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

**1. Name**

historic Eveleth Recreation Building

and/or common Arrow Shirt Factory

**2. Location**

street & number Off U.S. 53 \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Eveleth \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 8th District

state Minnesota code 22 county St. Louis code 137

**3. Classification**

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

name City of Eveleth

street & number Eveleth City Hall

city, town Eveleth \_\_\_ vicinity of state Minnesota

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Louis County Court House

street & number

city, town Duluth state Minnesota

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_ yes  no

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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

The Eveleth Recreation building now the Arrow Shirt Factory is an imposing brick structure the front facade of which extends the length of a city block. This facade is symmetrical in design having a six bay central portion flanked by projecting pavilions. The bays and corners of the pavilions are defined by pilaster strips with stone capitals. The pavilions serve as locations for the entrances to the building. Each entrance is approximately two stories in height and crowned by a semicircular arch. The foundation of the building is stone. A trussed hip roof is concealed from view by a low parapet which extends the perimeter of the building.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1918

Builder/Architect

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The recreation building was built in 1918 during the Progressive Era. The shirt factory was instituted in the 1930s. The significance of the transition is that the balancing of the male and female parts of the population led to underemployment among women living on the Iron Range. The sexual imbalance was a common characteristic in all iron mining regions, and individual communities. In order to bolster the traditionally weak nonmining sector of the Iron Range economy and to provide employment for women seeking work, the city of Eveleth (like other Range cities including Virginia) made the recreational facility available to a shirt manufacturing firm. The recreation center was built during a period of progressive agitation for better public facilities for the workingclass population to improve their opportunities for physical development. The construction of the facility came at a time when local government still had an important source of revenue in the taxation of local mining operations. The building is still in use as a shirt factory and still fills the need for which it was converted.

Notably, the building was the scene of numerous games of the National Hockey League when Eveleth was a member of that league. Ice for the hockey rink was laid on paper over sawdust. The building was refrigerated by the simple process of opening exterior windows. Curling, another major winter sport on the Iron Range, was played on the first, ice-covered floor. The building is significant, therefore, both as an important expression of public support for recreational facilities and as a reflection of significant developments in the economy of the Iron Range.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Joseph Stipanovich, Report of the Iron Range Historical-Cultural Survey (1979).

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Eveleth, Minn., -St. Louis Co. **UTM NOT VERIFIED** 7.5

UMT References

**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

A	<u>1</u> <u>5</u>	<u>5</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	<u>5</u> <u>2</u> <u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>6</u> <u>8</u> <u>0</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

## Verbal boundary description and justification

The Eveleth Recreation Building is located on part of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 31 T58 R17, lands of the City of Eveleth.

## 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 Charles Skrief, Director, State Historic Preservation Office

organization Minnesota Historical Society date September 10, 1979

street & number 240 Summit Avenue telephone 612-296-9070

city or town 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Russell W. Fridley  
Russell W. Fridley  
title State Historic Preservation Officer date 6/10/80

For HCERS use only

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

W. Ray Luce date 11/25/80  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Linda McClelland date 11-24-80  
Kristin O'Connell  
Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
NOV 17 1980
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED NOV 25 1980

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

Eveleth Recreation Building, Eveleth, MN. - St. Louis County

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 1

Legal Description

Part of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  beginning at the intersection of the Northerly line of Garfield Street and the Westerly line of Adams Avenue, running thence Northerly 256 feet; thence Westerly 125 feet; thence Southerly 256 feet; thence Easterly 125 feet to the point of beginning. Section 31, Township 58 Range 17; Lands in the City of Eveleth.