

PH 035 5470

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 6 1976
DATE ENTERED APR 18 1977

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 ****** Wyer-Pearce House
AND/OR COMMON
Wyer-Pearce House

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 201 Mill Street
CITY, TOWN Excelsior VICINITY OF Fifth
STATE Minnesota CODE 27 COUNTY Hennepin CODE 053

CLASSIFICATION

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

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME F.A. Pearce Corporation (Fred A. Pearce)
STREET & NUMBER 241 Mill Street
CITY, TOWN Excelsior VICINITY OF STATE Minnesota

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Registry of Deeds/Hennepin County Government Center
STREET & NUMBER Fifth Street at Third Avenue South
CITY, TOWN Minneapolis STATE Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Statewide Historic Sites Survey
DATE 1972 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Minnesota Historical Society - Building 25, Fort Snelling
CITY, TOWN St. Paul STATE Minnesota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED (exterior)	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED (interior)	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wyer-Pearce House is situated on a prominent one and one-half acre triangular site at the intersection of Mill and Lake Streets in Excelsior. The elevation of the site is such that an excellent view is provided from the house of St. Albans Bay of Lake Minnetonka; prior to the construction of Lake Street, the original property was uninterrupted to the beach.

The house is a well-preserved example of the Eastlake mode of Victorian residential architecture. It is two storeys in height with full basement and attic. Massing is irregular, enhanced by full-front wrap-around porch, multiple gables, and projecting bays. The structure is of wood frame sheathed in narrow-lap clapboard. Shingles, stickwork, and occasional spindlework decorate major as well as dormer gables.

The primary focus of the design is oriented toward the Mill/Lake street intersection. It is this facade which boasts a full front bracketed and spindled open porch on the first floor with a smaller porch of similar design on the second floor (off of the master bedroom). Columns are lathe-turned; affixed to these are scroll-sawn brackets with turned pendants. Portiers of spindlework adorn the entire length of both porches. The corner of this facade is accentuated by a rectangular tower which rises through two storeys to be terminated in a dormered pyramidal roof.

The entire exterior of the Wyer-Pearce House is now painted a monochrome white; however early photographic evidence indicates an original complex polychromatic treatment.

The interior of the house has been slightly altered to provide for conversion to a duplex early in the century when the house ceased to function as a summer "cottage". Most radical of these alterations prior to conversion to a duplex) is the removal of a major section of a triangular fireplace arrangement in the hall-parlor-sitting room wall (only the fireplace in the parlor remains). The original hall has been sealed-off from the first floor to provide access to the second floor apartment. The second floor, however, has retained original room arrangement and decorative treatment in floors and mouldings.

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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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 ca. 1880

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wyer-Pearce House is significant as the largest and best preserved of the ca.1880 summer cottages in the Excelsior area to be executed in the East-lake mode. It is representative of the late nineteenth century orientation of upper-class residents of the Minneapolis-Saint Paul area to weekend and summer leisure in the nearby lakes region to the west of the cities. The house has been recognized as a local "landmark" by the Excelsior-Lake Minnetonka Historical Society.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Clark letter, 1873
 A.S. Dimond, newspaper-Lake Minnetonka, NORTHWEST TOURIST, 1876-1880s (1894)
 Ruth Mann (Huntington) letter
 Mary T. Hale, "Exc. of Lake Minnetonka, Some History and Some Memories" Ruth Wyer Greer Diary
 Photos of 1890s Wyer Lodge, property of Jane Nielsen (daughter of Ruth Wyer Greer)
 Francesca Schaefer Winston, "Excelsior" written for Lake Minnetonka Garden Club

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 1/2 acres
 UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>1,5</u>	<u>4,5,5</u>	<u>6,0,0</u>	<u>4,9</u>	<u>7,1</u>	<u>9,7,0</u>	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				
C							D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot 13 of Galpin's Addition to Excelsior (Southeast corner of Mill Street and Lake Street)

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 W. Nelson, Architectural Historian / Kari Rice, Corresponding Secretary

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Minnesota Historical Society / Excelsior-Lake Minnetonka Historical Society

10 September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Building 25, Fort Snelling / Box 305

612-726-1171

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

St. Paul / Excelsior

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. Freilley

TITLE

SHPO

DATE

11/29/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

CHIEF DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

4/18/77

ATTEST:

Charles W. Nelson

DATE

3.18.77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Wyer, Allemarinda and James, House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MINNESOTA, Hennepin

DATE RECEIVED: 10/16/06 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/29/06
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 77000735

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

~~Additional Documentation Accepted~~

RECOM./CRITERIA

REVIEWER

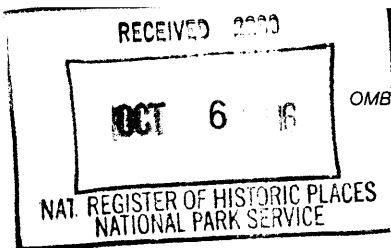
TELEPHONE

DISCIPLINE

DATE

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Wyer, Allemarinda and James, House

Name of property

Hennepin County, MN

County and State

Section 1 Page 1

Reference Number: 77000735


State: MN

County: Hennepin

Resource Name (Historic): Wyer, Allemarinda and James, House

Location, Street & Number: 201 Mill Street, Excelsior

Comments: This is the correct historic name.


Britta L. Bloomberg
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

10/10/06
Date