Form 10-300 (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE:	
Minnesota	
COUNTY:	-
Lac qui Parle	

FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE

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			MAR 1 4 1973	
- NAME				
$\mathcal{N}$	**********	181	19/	
Camp Release State Memorial	wayside		10	
Camp Release Site	/	DECE	WED .	
LOCATION		G RUM	1913	$\mathbf{H}$
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CITY OR TOWN:		19.7 141	EGIST	
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Minnesota 23	Lac qui	Parle C	0	73
- CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY		STATUS	ACCESSIBL	- 1
(Check One)			TO THE PUB	LIC
District Building Public Delic Acquisition:	:	Occupied	Yes:	
Site X Structure Private In Process		Jnoccupied	Restricted	X
Object Both Being Considere	ed 🗌 🛭	Preservation work	Unrestricted	
		in progress [	□ No:	
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
Agricultural Government Park	X Trans	sportation	Comments	
Commercial Industrial Private Residence		(Specify)		
Educational Military Religious		(0)		
Entertainment Museum Scientific				
. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER OF FROFER I				
State of Minnesota				
State of Minnesota  STREET AND NUMBER:				
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7.	DESCRIPTION												
	CONDITION	(Check One)											
	CONDITION	Excellent 🗌	Good	X	Fair 🔲	Deterior	ated 🗌	Ruins 🔲	Unexposed 📋				
	INTEGRITY		(Ch	eck O	ne)			(Che	eck One)				
	INTEGRIT	Altered	X		Unaltered 🔲		Мо	ved 🗌	Original Site 🕱				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The area designated as Camp Release Memorial Wayside consists of about seventeen acres on a shady elevated plateau near the confluence of the Minnesota and Chippewa Rivers. A fifty-foot monument of Minnesota granite stands at the northern edge of what was once Colonel Sibley's parade ground. A short distance south of the marker may be seen traces of the camp's entrenchments, running from the northeast part of the park toward the southwest.



Form 10-300a (July 1969)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	<del></del>
Minnesota	
COUNTY	
Lac qui Parle	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 14	973

(Number all entries)

## 7. Description

Camp Release was made up of the tents and wagons of Colonel Sibley's soldiers. In addition there were, at the time of surrender, about 150 Indian lodges housing some 1,200 souls.

Portions of the area have been cultivated and some alteration took place with the installation of the wayside.

This site is being nominated because of its important association with the Sioux War of 1862 and not because of any archaeological potential.



SIGNIFICANCE							
PERIOD (Check One or Mo	ore as Ap	ppropriate)					
Pre-Columbian		16th Centur	у 🗌	18th Centur	у 🔲	20th Century	
15th Century		17th Centur	гу 🗆	19th Centur	у 🕱		
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Ap	plicable	and Known) 1	.862	_			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE	(Check	One or More as	Appropriate	)			
Abor iginal		Education		Political		Urban Planning	
Prehistoric		Engineering		Religion/Phi-		Other (Specify)	
Historic		Industry		losophy			
Agriculture		Invention		Science			
Art		Landscape		Sculpture			
Commerce		Architecture		Social/Human-	*		
Communications		Literature		itarian			
Conservation		Military	*	Theater			
		Music		Transportation			<del></del>

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

During the first eight years after the signing of the Treaty of the Traverse des Sioux in 1851, many pressures were put upon the Dakota Indians by the government, traders, and the white settlers. These pressures mounted and finally climaxed in the Indians' futile attempt to reclaim their land and their traditional way of life, the Sioux War of 1862.

Following the crippling defeat of the Dakota at the final battle of Wood Lake, most of the hostile bands and many of the formerly friendly Indians who feared retribution, gathered their families and took refuge on the plains to the west. Those who stayed behind handed over to General Henry H. Sibley at Camp Release 269 white captives whom they had protected at Chief Red Iron's Village.

The job of deciding the guilt of the surrendered and captured Indians was undertaken by a commission of military officers at Camp Release. On September 27, 1862, many of the released whites were taken to Fort Ridgely and the settlements farther east; some stayed at Camp Release to testify at the Indian trials scheduled to commence the following day. After about 120 cases had been heard, the 2,000 prisoners were taken to the Lower Sioux Agency where the trials resumed in a trader's log kitchen.

The site of Camp Release was purchased by the state in 1889 and became the first unit in Minnesota's state park system.



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Carley, Kenneth, The Sioux Uprising of 1862, Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, 1961.

Holmquist, June D., and Jean Brookins, Minnesota's Major Historic Sites, Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, 1972, pp. 128-29.

Folwell, William Watts, <u>History of Minnesota</u>, Vol II, Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul, 1924.

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA - LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES														
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