

MINNESOTA HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

71030670

HISTORIC NAME: Kasota Town Hall

COUNTY: LeSueur

CURRENT NAME:

CITY/TWP.: Kasota

LEGAL DESC.: Ely 100 ft. of lot 6, block 33

ADDRESS: Hill and Rice Streets

CLASSIFICATION:	CONDITION:	SIGNIFICANCE:	THEME/S:
Building <u>X</u>	Excellent _____	Local <u>X</u>	Primary <u>Politics/Government</u>
Structure _____	Good <u>X</u>	State _____	Secondary _____
Object _____	Fair _____	National _____	Others _____
District _____	Deteriorated _____		

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Yes ___ No ___ Restricted X

PRESENT USE:

VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD: Yes X No ___

Township Hall

OCCUPIED: Yes X No ___

DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1889

ORIGINAL USE: Township hall

ORIGINAL OWNER:

ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Kasota Township
St. Peter, MN 56082ACREAGE: Less than one acre XLOCAL CONTACT/ORG.: LeSueur County Historical Society
Elysian, MN 56028

UTM REFERENCE:

St. Peter Quad.

FORM PREPARED BY: Britta Bloomberg

15 / 423010 / 4904585

DATE: August, 1980

DESCRIPTION:

The 1889 Kasota Township Hall is located on the northwest corner of Hill and Rice Streets in a predominantly residential area of the city of Kasota.

The one story red brick building is reminiscent of the commercial Queen Anne style. It features an angled entry sheltering a transomed recessed doorway. A stone name and date plate is located above the entry. Regularly spaced window and door openings are set in segmental arches with keystones and springings of Kasota stone. The corbelled cornice is punctuated by regularly spaced brick units extending downward (themselves corbelled) and is capped by a brick parapet. The building sits on a stone foundation with a dominant stone water table.

The building's exterior integrity is outstanding. The interior has been remodeled. The building continues to serve as Kasota Township's Hall and is used by other local groups as well.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Kasota Township Hall is significant as a distinctive small public building constructed during the late nineteenth century to meet the public needs of township residents. The location of a township hall in a city and in a substantial building constructed expressly as a township hall is somewhat unusual. Often, a rural school in a township doubled as a school and town hall; after the consolidation of Minnesota rural schools, one school was frequently retained by a township to serve as the town hall. The norm, then, is to find township halls in former rural school buildings located in the rural countryside. The Kasota Township Hall was constructed in 1889 at a time when Kasota Township was particularly prosperous, boasting some of the finest roads and bridges in the county and substantial milling and quarrying industry as well. The site chosen was within the platted area of Kasota, then an unincorporated village part of the same governmental unit as the township. The town incorporated a year later (1890) and built the Kasota Village Hall

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SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

in 1898, a block away from the Township Hall. The resultant arrangement of the Township Hall in close proximity to the municipal building provides a visual representation of the development and continuity of township and small city government in rural Minnesota. The 1889 building serves the same function today that it has always served, providing a locus for township government and public meeting space for other local groups.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Gresham, William G., ed., History of Nicollet and LeSueur Counties, Minnesota, 2 vols. Indianapolis: B.F. Bowen, 1916.

Kasota : a Historical Perspective, Kasota Bicentennial Project, Mankato, Minnesota, 1976.

Neill, Edward D., History of the Minnesota Valley, Minneapolis: North Star Publishing Co., 1882.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Melvin Lynn
1/19/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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**Note: These changes apply to
Kasota Town Hall in LeSueur County,
Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 81000679

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: LeSueur

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Kasota Township Hall

CITY:

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS:

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date