

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED MAR 2 1977

DATE ENTERED SEP 15 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

St. James Hotel

AND/OR COMMON

St. James Hotel

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Bush and Main Streets

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Red Wing

VICINITY OF

First

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Minnesota

CODE

27

COUNTY

Goodhue

CODE

049

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Arthur Lillyblad

STREET & NUMBER

St. James Hotel

CITY, TOWN

Red Wing

VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Goodhue County Courthouse - Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Red Wing

STATE

Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Minnesota Statewide Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1973

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

Labovich
5.3.77

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Saint James Hotel is situated on a prominent corner lot at the intersection of Main and Bush Streets in the central business district of Red Wing, Minnesota. Erected at a cost of \$60,000 in 1874, the structure consists of two wings arranged in an "L", both of which are four storeys in height and set on a high basement. The basement is constructed of cut limestone blocks and the four storeys above are of red brick. Stylistically, the hotel is of the Italianate mode. The Main Street facade comprises six bays divided into groups of two by brick pilasters which run through the four storeys. The Bush Street facade comprises twelve bays divided into two groups of two bays and two groups of four bays; the original entry to the hotel is incorporated within the rear two-bay grouping. The entire sixty by one hundred-thirty foot perimeter is crowned by a bracketted cornice; diminutive pediments mark the entry bays. The wing measures thirty-two by thirty-three feet.

The exterior facades remain in near original condition with the exception of an incompatible attached storefront at the Main/Bush Street corner. Originally, the Main Street facade was divided into three storefronts with the entry to the hotel on Bush Street; this entry is incorporated within a three-arch loggia. The simple columned portico has been removed as has a frame balcony/promenade on the rear (river-side) of the hotel. The wing has retained total integrity.

On the interior, the hotel consists of seventy-two rooms divided into a combination of suites and single rooms. Originally all were carpeted with Brussels, however none remains. Likewise, all rooms were furnished in the vogues of the period; scattered pieces are distributed throughout the building. The structural system of the interior is of wood attached to the exterior brick bearing walls. Plaster on lath walls and ceilings have been covered with a variety of patterns of pressed metal sheathing in public spaces such as halls, lobby, dining rooms, and parlor. (According to the owner, this pressed metal sheathing was installed early in the twentieth century to cover plaster which had begun to show cracking and effects of wear and tear.) Original woodwork has been retained throughout.

Originally the basement contained a barber shop, billiard room, bath rooms, and the steam heating plant. The hotel is still heated by steam supplied by a huge boiler. The remaining portions of the basement are used today only for storage.

On the first floor are the lobby office, three dining rooms of varying sizes, parlor or reading room, baggage and storage rooms, and kitchen facilities. One of the dining rooms formerly functioned as a salesmens' sample room. Of the original three storefront businesses which occupied the Main Street portion of the first floor, two of the areas serve as a restaurant/grill and bar. The central portion, which is the location of the original hotel bar has been made into a spacious hallway which opens into the lobby. The original walnut registration desk has been covered with a plywood sheathing in a ca. W.W. II attempt at modernization. A gracious formal staircase with walnut newell and turned balusters rises from the lobby to the second floor.

Second, third, and fourth floors are bisected longitudinally by wide hallways; the staircase provides access to these hallways at mid-point. A secondary access is provided by a cage-type elevator directly across the hallway from the staircase. Rooms on these floors are in the forms of single sleeping rooms or suites. All rooms are provided with thimbles to chimneys for auxiliary parlor stoves. The suite are comprised of two rooms separated by double doors. Each room is provided with

(see continuation sheet)

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a separate access door to the hallway. Around the turn of the century, each suite was outfitted with a bathroom, requiring the conversion of one room for this function; original hardware, mouldings, and doors remain.

The Saint James Hotel remains in a good state of preservation, and through only minor alterations has been able to serve the community of Red Wing for over one hundred years. As travel and accommodation facilities along the river towns improved, occupancy of the hotel has dwindled, however, accommodations are still provided to travelers and visitors to nearby recreation areas. The restaurant and dining facilities today provide the primary substance of the hotel operation.

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 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 1874

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Brink, Williams and Company

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed in 1874 and serving the Red Wing area continuously since completion, the Saint James Hotel is recognized as one of the last remaining large "river town" hotels along the Mississippi River in Minnesota. Early in its existence it was considered one of the most elaborate such hotels which catered primarily to tourists and business clientele prior to the turn of the century when Red Wing was a major commercial center and stopping point for steamboat traffic. Further, the Saint James Hotel is the only such large hotel executed in the popular Italianate mode to have survived in a relatively unaltered state. It remains today as a major architectural landmark within the central business district of Red Wing and is representative of the once thriving role this community played in the early history of Minnesota.

