Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

PH\$366447

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

St. Paul

TA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 2 1977

DATE ENTERED

SEP 1 5 1977

SEE I	NSTRUCTIONS IN <i>HOW T</i> TYPE ALL ENTRIES (			3
1 NAME				
HISTORIC	St. James Hotel			
AND/OR COMMON	be, dames notes			
	St. James Hotel			
LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER				
	Bush and Main S	treets	NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	ICT
	Red Wing	VICINITY OF	First	
STATE	Minnesota	CODE 27	COUNTY Goodhue	CODE 049
07 1 007777 0		21	Goodhae	043
CLASSIFIC	ATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	XPRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	<u>X</u> COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
• 1	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
		NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
OWNER OF	PROPERTY			
NAME				
NAME	Arthur Lillybla	d	· ,	
STREET & NUMBER				
	St. James Hotel			
CITY, TOWN			STATE	`
	Red Wing	VICINITY OF	Minnesot	a
LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCR	RIPTION		
COURTHOUSE,	•			_ =
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APPDECEN	Red Wing	INIO OLIDADAO	Minnesot	<u>a                                      </u>
6 REPRESEN	TATION IN EXIST	ING SURVE 15		
TITLE				
	Minnesota State	<u>wide Historic Sites</u>	Survey	
DATE	•	EEDEDAI 37 4	STATE COUNTY LOCAL	
DEBOCITORY	1973	revenaL X	STATECOUNTYLOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS	Minnesota Histo	rical Society, Buil	ding 25, Fort Sne	lling
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
	St. Paul		Minnesota	a.



#### CONDITION

\_EXCELLENT X\_GOOD

\_\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED

\_\_RUINS
\_\_UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE** 

X\_UNALTERED DOVINT

**CHECK ONE** 

XORIGINAL SITE
\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_\_

### 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 state are comprised of two rooms separated by double doors. Each room is provided with

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CONTINUATION SHEET St. James Hotel ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

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	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X.1800-1899	X_COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1874	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT 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.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of Goodhue County, Red Wing: Wood, Alley & Co., 1878.

"Opening of the St. James Hotel," The Republican (Red Wing), 25 November 1875.

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