

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JAN 19 1984
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Elizabeth City Hall and Jail

and/or common Elizabeth Municipal Liquor Store

2. Location

street & number Broadway Avenue N/A not for publication

city, town Elizabeth N/A vicinity of

state Minnesota code 22 county Otter Tail code 111

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name City of Elizabeth, (Karen Fisher, Clerk)

street & number Rt. 2, Box 86

city, town Fergus Falls N/A vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Otter Tail County Courthouse -- Registrar of Deeds

street & number Court Street and Junius Avenue

city, town Fergus Falls state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Resources has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1982 federal state county local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society -- Ft. Snelling History

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota Center

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Elizabeth City Hall is a two-story, brick building measuring 26 feet by 50 feet. At a later date a compatible, one-story jail was added to the east side of the city hall. The facade of the two-story hall is divided into three narrow bays by four raised-brick pilasters. On the ground floor these bays house an engine door to the fire hall; a central window; and a window and doorway entrance to the building. A brick coursework with dentils extends across the facade along the top of these bay openings. The second floor has three tall, double-sash rectangular windows, also surmounted by brick coursework. A more ornate cornice is seen at the roof gable. The four pilasters project above the roof line and are arched at the top. The projecting cornice consists of three rows of brick dentils. At the roof line decorative brick arches fill the angles of the two central pilasters.

The side facades of the hall are of a simple brick pattern with no doors or windows. The rear facade has a single window and a firehall garage door at the ground level. The fire hall door replaced three brick-arched windows. On the second floor, one of the four original windows has been bricked in.

The jail measures only 18 feet by 20 feet. It has two front windows and a door as well as a single side window. A raised brick pilaster and projecting brick cornice complement the adjacent city hall.

In the city hall, the second floor meeting room remains. The first floor now houses the municipal liquor store. The jail is used as the city polling place. The structure is in good physical condition and only slightly altered from its original design.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1898 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Elizabeth City Hall and Jail is the most attractive building along the town's main street. The hall is a fine example of municipal improvements reflecting the civic pride common to small Minnesota towns and villages during their heyday around the turn of the century. In 1898, the Fergus Falls Weekly Journal reported that "the village of Elizabeth had a special election...and by a unanimous vote, decided to erect a town hall. The citizens of Elizabeth believe in public improvements." The structure replaced a small frame hall (now the township hall) and reflected a substantial investment for the small community. Shortly after 1898, a one-story attached jail was added to the structure. The city hall and jail fits in with the commercial nature of Broadway Avenue.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Fergus Falls Weekly Journal, August 11, 1898.
Fergus Falls Daily Journal, February 23, 1977.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Elizabeth, Minn.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

14	720655	5140020
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

Zone	Easting	Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 4, Block 15, Original Townsite of Elizabeth

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Thomas Harvey, Contract Historian

organization N/A

date 19 September 1983

street & number 1916 Drew Ave. S.

telephone 612-920-6917

city or town Minneapolis

state 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. Fridley

title Russell W. Fridley
State Historic Preservation Officer

date 1/13/84

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 2/16/84

Keoper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration