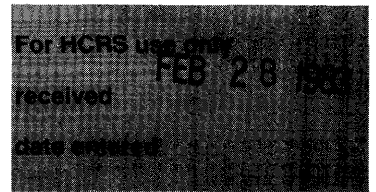


SUBSTANTIVE
REVIEW REQUESTED

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



SUBSTANTIVE

REVIEW REQUESTED

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

1. Name

Historic Cyrus B. Cobb House

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number 2199 1st Street N/A not for publication

city, town White Bear Lake N/A vicinity of congressional district 4th

state Minnesota code 22 county Ramsey code 123

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Edward Holtz et al

street & number 2199 1st Street

city, town White Bear Lake N/A vicinity of state Minnesota 55110

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Ramsey County Courthouse

street & number 15 W. Kellogg Boulevard

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota 55102

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Sites Survey of St. Paul and Ramsey County

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 12/80-11/82 federal state county local

depository for survey records Ramsey County Historical Society
75 W. Fifth Street

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota 55102

REVIEW REQUESTED

SUBSTANTIVE

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Cyrus B. Cobb House, built 1885, is located at 1st Street and Banning Avenue, in a primarily residential neighborhood between downtown White Bear Lake, and the Lake itself. A line drawing of the house appears in All About White Bear Lake, a promotional booklet issued by the local newspaper in 1890. This drawing indicates clearly what the alterations to the structure have been, and what portions of the original design have survived.

The house is a remarkably intact Queen Anne style two story brick building with ornate wood detailing and decorative brickwork. The house is unusually shaped because the 1st Street facade where the main entrance is located is divided into two parts. The west half is located under the main mass of the roofline, and the other half projects out several feet, and has its own hipped roofline and a canted corner. The east side wall of the building has an intersecting two story hipped roof wing which projects out to the east toward Banning Avenue. This wing has a projecting gabled roof bay which has a rectangular bay window on the first floor and an open balcony on the second floor. Behind this portion of the house is a large, two story hipped roof rear wing which has a small shed roofed rear entrance porch. The house has rectangular and segmental-arched window openings though most of the original windows have been replaced. Decorative brick features of the design include brick belt courses at the sill and lintel levels with triangulated brickwork, and a brick watertable. Brick corbels support attenuated wooden columns which enframe the rectangular bay window on the Banning Avenue facade and the rectangular oriel window which is located on the first floor of the canted southeastern corner of the building. The house also has wonderfully ornate woodwork, including paired brackets supporting the eaves, lacey bargeboards with pendants, and simple fretwork and spindles.

Though the overall architectural character of the house is still intact, several alterations have been made to its design. The main entrance to the house on the 1st Street facade consisted originally of an ornate open entrance porch with a second story gabled roof balcony. This entrance porch was replaced with an enclosed entrance porch, dating ca. 1950, which is unsympathetic to the original design. A second small entrance porch has been added to the house along the Banning Avenue facade. The brickwork has been painted and new shutters have been installed. The original corbelled brick chimneys have been replaced with newer chimneys. At one time there was an octagonal spire above the canted corner of the building, and the projecting gabled roof second story balcony once was topped by a finial. It is possible that at one time the building had a balustrade at the crest of its truncated hipped roof.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1885 Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Cyrus B. Cobb House, built 1885 by an unknown designer, is historically significant as the home of one of White Bear Lake's early businessmen, and is architecturally significant as one of the most intact surviving Victorian era houses in all of White Bear Lake, and the only basically intact brick house built in White Bear Lake which predates 1890.

The City of White Bear Lake, located on the northwest shores of the lake, was first platted in 1871, and was incorporated in 1881. The town developed as a resort community for vacationers from all over the midwest and many resort hotels and summer houses were built in the town and along the lake shore beginning in the mid-1850's. Most of the summer houses built in White Bear Lake were of wood frame construction, and were not well insulated since they were intended for summer use only. Many did not have kitchens since owners ate their meals at nearby clubhouses.

A small community of year-round residents was established in White Bear to cater to the flourishing resort industry. As streetcar and railroad connections between White Bear and St. Paul improved, many of the summer visitors also moved to White Bear Lake permanently, and many of their summer houses were adapted to year-round living, often necessitating renovation and expansions. For this reason, few of the houses which were built in White Bear Lake prior to 1890 have survived without major alterations.

The Cobb House, a large two story brick house, was probably one of the few substantial brick, year-round dwellings constructed in White Bear Lake before 1890. It was built at the corner of 1st Street and Banning, within the boundaries of the original townsite of White Bear Lake. It was built 1885 as the home of Cyrus B. Cobb, a prominent White Bear Lake businessman who sold lumber, building materials, coal, etcetera, and who also sold real estate and insurance in partnership with James C. Murray, another influential White Bear Lake businessman and year-round resident. Cobb also owned a commercial building located at the corner of Railroad Avenue and Fifth Street. The tenants of the "Cobb Block" in 1890 included Otto J. Troseth, a grocer, and the Lake Breeze newspaper and printing office. It seems ironic that Cobb, a lumber dealer, would construct a brick house, yet clearly this was one way for him to demonstrate his wealth and importance in the community. The Cobb House is symbolic of the early period of commercial and residential development of White Bear Lake.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Perkins, A.H.S. All About White Bear Lake. (White Bear Lake: Lake Breeze Printing House, 1890). rpt; White Bear Lake Area Historical Society, 1979.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name White Bear Lake West, Minn.

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A

1	5	4	9	9	4	2	0	4	9	9	1	9	0	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 17 and 18, Block 61, White Bear Lake.

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 Patricia Murphy, Survey Director

organization Historic Sites Survey of St. Paul and Ramsey County date 11/20/81

street & number 75 W. Fifth Street telephone (612) 292-0090/222-0701

city or town St. Paul 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Russell W. Fridley
Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 2/15/83

For HCPS use only

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

Linda McClelland
Keeper of the National Register

date 4.14.83

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date