

HISTORIC NAME: Grant House

COUNTY: Chisago 80002005

CURRENT NAME:

CITY/TWP.: Rush City

LEGAL DESC.: Block 24, lot 7 and part of lot 6, excepting the east 25 feet of the north 75 feet, Original plat to city of Rush City.

ADDRESS: 4th Street and Highway 30

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

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:	Yes ___ No ___ Restricted <u>X</u>	PRESENT USE:
VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD:	Yes <u>X</u> No ___	Hotel/restaurant
OCCUPIED:	Yes <u>X</u> No ___	

DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1896 ORIGINAL USE: Hotel

ORIGINAL OWNER: Russell H. & Hannah R. Grant ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Glynn O. Boda Rush City, Minnesota 55069	ACREAGE: Less than one acre <u>X</u>
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LOCAL CONTACT/ORG.: Chisago County Historical Society, North Chapter, Rush City, MN	UTM REFERENCE: Rush City Quad. 15 / 503020 / 5058775
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FORM PREPARED BY: Britta Bloomberg
DATE: January 1980

DESCRIPTION:

The Grant House occupies a prominent position on the east side of Rush City at the intersection of two major streets, County Road 30, a principal north-south transportation link in the county, and Fourth Street, Rush City's principal business street. The hotel is located across the railroad tracks from the main portion of town; mixed residences and commercial structures occupy the immediate area.

The three story red brick commercial building was constructed in 1896 to replace an earlier frame hotel (also called the Grant House) which had been destroyed by fire the previous year. The building features hooded arched windows, stone sills, a metal bracketed cornice, and projecting name plates at the roofline. It is basically L-shaped in plan with the exception of a one story brick section to the southeast (original to the building) and a small addition to the rear (of recent construction).

The original balconies on the north and west facades and the full front porch with balustraded balcony on the north facade have been removed. Alterations have included an incompatible entryway and porch, aluminum windows, a fire escape at the rear, and the infill of several door and window openings on the south and north sides of the building, but the nineteenth century fabric of the building retains its integrity. The building's interior has been remodeled, but many original features and the basic plan are intact.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Grant House is significant both as a crucial link with Rush City's most important development period and as an important local enterprise which has survived one hundred years. Rush City was platted in 1870 by the Western Land Association, a subsidiary of the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Company (known as the St. Paul and Duluth after 1875), and rapidly became an important trackside town north of the Twin Cities as well as a major trade and service center in Chisago County. The early development period of this railroad community was characterized by rapid growth and a persistent housing shortage. The several hotels constructed during this period met an important need of housing for newcomers. The Grant House was constructed in 1880 by Colonel R.H. Grant, who had formerly operated a hostelry in Hinkley, Minnesota, and it quickly became known as one of the finest hotels on the St. Paul and Duluth road. Just as Rush City was reaching its development peak, a devastating fire destroyed the original structure, and in 1896 the present building was constructed. The city's growth leveled off during the twentieth century, but the Grant House has survived under its original name and has continued in operation as a noted local landmark. Constructed during Rush City's peak, the Grant House reflects the tremendous growth precipitated by the railroad in strategically located rural centers.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Melony Lyman
1/19/89

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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**Note: These changes apply to
Grant House in Chisago County,
Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80002005

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Chisago

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):

CITY:

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS: 4th St. and Bremer

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

**Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer**

JUN 17 1988

Date