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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name McCarthy, Timothy J., Building  
other names/site number Taft Building, the Marble Front Building

2. Location

street & number 24 3rd Street NW N/A  not for publication  
city, town Faribault N/A  vicinity  
state Minnesota code MN county Rice code 131 zip code 55021

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

[Signature] Ian R. Stewart 6/26/90  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
State or Federal agency and bureau Minnesota Historical Society

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Mark J. Baker Entered in the National Register August 3, 1990  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register.  
 removed from the National Register.  
 other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Funerary/mortuary

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/specialty store

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation limestone

walls brick

marble

roof composition

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See continuation sheet

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McCarthy, Timothy J., Building

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The Timothy McCarthy Building is a two story brick commercial block located within a commercial row with a two story commercial structure to the east and a one story structure to the west of its front (south) facade. The building is located on the north side of 3rd Street NW approximately half a block west of Central Avenue, Faribault's main commercial street. The building's facade is rendered in the Italianate style with features that include a highly ornate bracketed cornice and "flattened" arch windows with elaborate enframements.

In plan the building is a simple rectangle with the shorter, storefront, dimension running east and west. The front elevation is divided into four bays on the storefront and three bays on the upper story. The original storefront remains basically intact with engaged stone columns defining the bays. The central door bay, recessed, is flanked by two commercial window bays with plate glass. All three bays were topped with transom windows which are now covered with a board for signage. A lesser side bay to the west provides access to the upper floor.

The upper story of the main facade displays an outstanding example of Italianate detailing rendered in a polished marble applied to the brick. The three second story bays are defined by rounded arches with keystones supported on engaged columns with ornate capitals. The two side bays display arched windows with stone hoods and sills. The central bay contains two tall narrow windows which support a common stone hood. Visual interest is further added with alternating banding of cream and gray stone across the upper facade, quoining, and dentillation on the cornices at the storefront and upper story levels. The composition is capped with a highly ornate metal cornice with four brackets and finials and a raised center panel that displays "1884", the year of construction.

The back (north) elevation has been somewhat altered. The only original opening remaining intact is the one supporting bi-fold doors with a glass transom on the northwest corner of the second story. Other openings on the rear facade have been

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infilled with a variety of materials including brick, glass block, concrete block, modern casement windows, and an aluminum door with aluminum awning. The one story open porch which crossed the back facade has been removed. An iron fire ladder to the roof, once accessed from the porch, remains in place.

The building has a flat roof which slopes to the north and parapet walls capped with red tiles. The east elevation, sharing a common wall with the adjacent structure does not appear to have any openings. The west wall displays the original chimney stacks (although somewhat modified at the parapet ledge) and a second story window/door onto the roof of the adjacent structure.

The masking of the first floor transom windows is the major alteration to the street facade. This alteration, however, is reversible and does not seriously compromise the material integrity of the facade.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1884  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1884  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.  
See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet

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McCarthy, Timothy J., Building

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The Timothy J. McCarthy building is significant within the context of Faribault's aesthetic development as demonstrated through the built environment. (This context spans the Minnesota Historical Society's context: *Agriculture Development and Railroad Construction*.) This context encompasses the activities, institutions and structures which represented the community's aspirations for physical beauty and culture as expressed through craftsmanship, art and architecture. Buildings significant within this context exhibit a high degree and integrity of artistic design with special attention given to scale, architectural stylistic vocabulary, and use of quality materials. The Timothy J. McCarthy Building is significant within this context for its highly designed, ornate, small Italianate marble front facade.

There are many factors which contribute to the aesthetic quality of a particular place. Faribault, Minnesota, is a community which, partially through fate and partially through insightful planning, achieved a high standard of civic pride. Early practices of social justice and tolerance did much to affect the enduring social and economic prosperity of the community. Proximity to natural building blocks did much to affect Faribault's architectural prosperity.

Locating on the Straight River the early residents had easy access to high quality limestone deposits within a mile of the Faribault settlement. Faribault's first three quarries were opened in the mid-1850s and owned separately by Alexander Faribault, Charles Wood and M.N. Pond. This indigenous natural resource, combined with the development of major religious and state institutions and their need for facilities, served to draw master craftsmen and designers to Faribault. Stonemasons William E. Jones, Edward Goodman, Thomas and Cormack McCall came to Faribault to work on the large stone contracts being generated by these institutions. Similarly, architects Henry Congdon of New York City, Cass Gilbert of Saint Paul, Willcox and Johnston of Saint Paul, and Thomas F. Ellerbe worked on large commissions and have left a legacy of finely designed, native limestone buildings in Faribault.

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As the community and its institutions grew, so did civic and personal pride. The fine designs which flourished from the 1860s to the early 1900s were not, however, limited to public or ecclesiastical architecture; the designs of private homes displayed the same pride and sophistication as their more imposing institutional neighbors. The same entrepreneurs who were building elaborate Italianate commercial blocks on Central Avenue (then Main Street) were also building exquisite, highly refined Italianate and Queen Anne style homes in Faribault's residential neighborhoods.

Timothy J. McCarthy was born in Ireland in 1848 and came to America with his family in 1852, settling in Dubuque, Iowa. After his father's death a year later, Mrs. McCarthy migrated to Shieldsville a community of Irish settlers established by General James Shields. After attending the Shattuck School in Faribault for two terms, Timothy McCarthy embarked on a business career in Faribault. By 1881 McCarthy and associate J.H. Nightingale had purchased the Faribault Marble Works. By 1884 McCarthy had bought into the undertaking business and was moving his Faribault Marble and Granite Works, monument sales and embalming services, into his new "marble front" building on W 3rd. Street.

The McCarthy Building is the only building in Faribault which has a polished marble facade. The building is one of the most architecturally significant and ornate buildings in Faribault as an intact example of the Italianate style rendered in polished stone veneer. The small commercial facade displays an elegance and flourish rarely found in Minnesota.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Fort Snelling History Center  
Saint Paul, Minnesota

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than one acre

UTM References

A 

1	5
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4	7	8	5	2	0
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4	9	0	4	3	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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B 

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Zone Easting Northing

D 

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N/A  See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property occupies the East 23 feet and west 93 feet of Lot #9, and Lot #10, Block #45, Original Town.

N/A  See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the city lots, and portion of city lots, that have historically been associated with the property. City legal description.

N/A  See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Thomas R. Zahn  
organization Thomas R. Zahn & Associates, Inc. date December 7, 1988  
street & number 807 Holly Avenue telephone (612) 227-9989  
city or town Saint Paul state Minnesota zip code 55104



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Faribault City Directory, Charles Pettibone and Company., 1880, 1888-89, 1893, 1899, 1903.

Faribault Daily News, Faribault, Minnesota. 4/11/1932, 1:2, 8.

Ibid. 4/12/1932, 14:3.

Ibid. 4/13/1932, 1:4.

Faribault Republican, Faribault, Minnesota. 5/18/1881, 3:1, 3:6.

Ibid. 4/23/1884, 3:1.

Ibid. 11/26/1884, 3:1.

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Ibid. 6/25/1890, 3:1.

Granger, Susan. Faribault's Historic Contexts: Final Report of a Historic Preservation Planning Project. Heritage Preservation Commission, Faribault, Minnesota. June 30, 1986.

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Zahn, Thomas R. Faribault Heritage Preservation Commission Planning Report, July, 1988.