

P 0509523

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
NOV 29 1977
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED MAY 22 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Harrison Miller Farmhouse

AND/OR COMMON

Whitson Farmhouse

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER:

E of Stanton on MN 19

Highway 19 SW 1/4, SW 1/4, Sec. 21, T112N R18W

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Stanton

VICINITY OF

First

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Minnesota

22

Goodhue

049

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

X OCCUPIED

X AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

X PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

X YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Claude R. Whitson

STREET & NUMBER

Hwy 19, SW 1/4, SW 1/4 Sec. 21, T112N, R18W

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Stanton

VICINITY OF

Minnesota

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Goodhue County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Red Wing

Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

State Wide Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1973

FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society, Ft Snelling Bldg. 25

CITY, TOWN

STATE

St. Paul,

Minnesota

typed by J.Rook

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Harrison Miller farmhouse, now known as the Whitson house, was built in 1869 for \$6,000. The house is the only house in Stanton Twp. which has been owned and occupied by the same family (5 generations) since it was built. The stately 14-room house has been painted only three times, and has had only three cedar shinglings during its 108 years of existence.

The external appearance of the house is original with the exception of railings on the porch roofs, which have been removed. The house is a beautiful example of broadside Greek Revival architecture. The broad side or main part of the house is the entrance part, and it has flanking chimneys on each gable. The style of the window trim (Italianate) would indicate that the architecture is transitional, as here we see both the Gothic style and the Italianate used in the same house. The style of architecture is believed to resemble closely that commonly seen in the New England states from which the Millers came. Color of the house has never been changed. It is cream with chocolate trim.

The house is 35' in height. The basement ceilings are 10', the second floor 9' and the attic over 6'5". The rooms on the second floor are the same dimensions as those on the first floor. There are seven rooms on each floor. Downstairs windows are 12-light; each 1/2 has six panes, 14" x 16" and 12" x 14". The upstairs windows are the same except slightly smaller. Trim around the windows is ornamental.

Lightning rods were probably installed soon after the house was built. Weatherstripping, likewise, was put in during the earliest years. The house was insulated in about 1956. Lapsiding was taken off at that time to blow the insulation in through bored holes.

There were two early water sources for the house. A well outside the kitchen provided hard drinking water, for which there was an 18" high brass cylinder hand pump at one end of the kitchen sink. At the opposite end of the sink was another pump connected to the cistern, built next to the well and designed to catch the rainwater from the eavespouts. Later the well was "stoned up" (closed) and a point was driven in the basement for a more efficient water system. The sewer system was built in 1975.

All of the floors of the house are of pine except for one room which is of hard maple, now carpeted. The stairway opposite the main entrance is mostly of black walnut which grew on the farm. Risers of the stairs are of butternut, but treads, railings and spindles are black walnut. Woodwork around the windows is butternut. Wainscoting is of pine. Stringers of the house are pegged. Where nails were used, they are of the square steel type.

The original lamp hanging from the ceiling at the foot of the stairway is a fancy kerosene lamp in perfect condition. It can be raised and lowered. There is a chimney within the globe and in order to light the lamp, the globe is raised with four strands of chain by which the lamp hangs.

Original heating was by five airtight heaters. A wood and coal furnace was added in about 1905 and was later converted to oil.

The basement under the main part of the house has three rooms, one originally for vegetables, one for milk and churning butter, and one for fuel. Ceilings in the basement are 10' high, walls are of lath and plaster, floor is of limestone and the foundation is of 18" wide limestone.

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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1869

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Whitson House is significant as an excellent example of transitional architecture in southeastern Minnesota. It is exemplary of three major stylistic influences combined into a single dwelling. These styles include the Greek Revival, evident in the massing of the main portion of the house as well as in the use of decorative elements such as the six over six window and the corner pilaster strip. The Gothic influence is evident in the high-pitched gable of the wing section along with the double-paired window inset within the gable. The Italianate mode is evidenced by the use of the segmental arch over the windows, window hoods, curvilinear spandrels, and balustraded upper level of the portico (balustrade now removed). The Whitson house exists in an excellent state of preservation through a sympathetic retention of original integrity (including the continuation of original polychromatic paint treatment) through five generations of occupancy by the same family.

According to the diary of Claude Whitson's grandfather, Harrison D. Miller, who built the house, supplies for the house were purchased at St. Anthony Falls - the millwork as well as all of the full-cut lumber (2 x 6 studs, all clear, no-knot virgin timber). Logs came from pineries this side of Pine City.

The lumber was floated down the St. Croix river to the Mississippi and thence to the sawmills at Hastings. Horse-drawn wagons which hauled the lumber back to Stanton had been loaded with wheat on the trip to Hastings. The lumber cost \$15.00 a thousand board feet, and the carpenters who built the house were paid \$1.00 a day, daylight to dark, plus board and room.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Andreas Atlas 1874
Files of Goodhue County Historical Society
Personal Diary of Harrison Miller

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 5	50, 02, 6, 0	4, 92, 56, 9, 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mrs. Jean Chesley

7/30/77

ORGANIZATION

DATE:

Goodhue County Historical Society

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1166 Oak Street

388-6024

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Red Wing,

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

7/19/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST

Walter C. ...
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

5-22-78

DATE

5-5-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper 
1/19/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

**Note: These changes apply to
Miller, Harrison, Farmhouse in
Goodhue County, Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 78001535

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Goodhue

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):

CITY:

VICINITY OF: Cannon Falls

ADDRESS: Mn. Hwy. 19

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988
Date