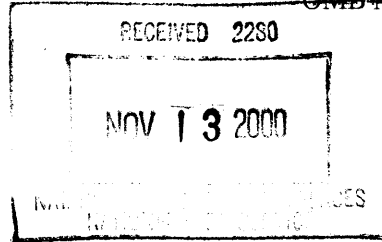


United States Department of Interior
National Park Service

1502



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Schumacher, Emily and Stephen, House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 202 3rd Street North not for publication N/A

city or town St. Peter vicinity N/A

state Minnesota code MN county Nicollet code 103 zip code 56082

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide X locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

11/7/00

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
Ian R. Stewart, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Minnesota Historical Society

State or federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.
(_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____

State or federal agency and bureau _____

Schumacher, Emily and Stephen, House
Name of Property

Nicollet County, Minnesota
County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
 entered in the National Register.
 ___ See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the
 National Register.
 ___ See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the
 National Register.
 ___ See continuation sheet.
 removed from the National Register.
 other (explain) _____

for
Signature of the Keeper Edson H. Beall Date of Action 12/13/00

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many as apply.)
 private
 public-local
 public-state
 public-federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box.)
 building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include listed resources in the count.)

	Contributing	Noncontributing
buildings	1	2
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	1	2

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)
foundation STONE
walls BRICK
roof ASPHALT
other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Schumacher, Emily and Stephen, House
Name of Property

Nicollet County, Minnesota
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying
the property for the National Register listing.)

A Property is associated with events that have made a
significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons
significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of
a type, period, or method of construction or represents
the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or
represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose
components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information
important in our prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious
purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age achieved significance
within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1887-88

Significant Dates
1887-88

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Gerlach, Henry C.

Schumacher, Emily and Stephen, House
Name of Property

Nicollet County, Minnesota
County and State

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous Documentation on File (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other state agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other

Name of repository: Minnesota Historical Society

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.) St. Peter, Minn., 1991

1	<u>1/5</u> Zone	<u>4/2/3/7/9/0</u> Easting	<u>4/9/0/8/5/0/0</u> Northing	3	<u>1</u> Zone	<u>11111</u> Easting	<u>111111</u> Northing
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2	<u>1</u> Zone	<u>11111</u> Easting	<u>111111</u> Northing	4	<u>1</u> Zone	<u>11111</u> Easting	<u>111111</u> Northing
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_____ see continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Beth A. Wielde, Historic Preservation Specialist; Amy R. Squitieri, Manager of Historic Preservation
organization MEAD & HUNT, Inc. date July 2000
street & number 6501 Watts Road telephone (608) 273-6380
city or town Madison state WI zip code 53719-2700

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps: A U.S. Geological Survey map (7.5- or 15-minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs: Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Schumacher, Emily and Stephen, House
Name of Property

Nicollet County, Minnesota
County and State

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Judy Ahlstrom
street & number 202 3rd Street North telephone (507) 931-6423
city or town St. Peter state MN zip code 56082

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Schumacher, Emily and Stephen, House
St. Peter, Nicollet County, Minnesota

Description

Property and Setting

The Schumacher House stands on the northwest corner of Chestnut and North 3rd Street, just north of St. Peter's central business district. The surrounding neighborhood has historically been light-to-medium density residential, with the exception of the Norwegian Lutheran Church across the street from the Schumacher property and the Lincoln School on the lot behind. The property currently measures 155 feet by 88 feet. The property was originally a double lot, but was subsequently subdivided and another residence was constructed on the lot. Historic Sanborn insurance maps indicate the lot originally contained the house and one outbuilding on the northwest corner. This outbuilding is no longer standing but, based on its size as indicated on the 1914 Sanborn map, it may have been a carriage barn. Two non-contributing small frame sheds, dated 1990 and 1993, stand on the south and the west sides of the property. Mature trees that surrounded the house were lost in the 1998 tornado and have been replaced by young plantings.

Exterior

The brick-over-frame, Queen Anne style house was designed by Henry C. Gerlach, a prominent regional architect based in nearby Mankato. The residence was constructed in 1887-88 for the family of Stephen Schumacher, owner of a local dry goods store. The Schumacher House is two stories tall and exhibits an irregular plan. The house features projecting, pedimented bays and a two-and-one-half-story turret. The orangish-brown brick walls are laid in a running bond pattern over frame construction, interrupted by a beltcourse between the first and second stories and another along the bottom of the first-story windows. Decorative brick patterning is found directly above and below paired windows on the second story of the front (southeast) facade. The brick, according to architect specifications, was to be ". . . good sound hard well burned brick with flushed solid joints and laid up in best quality lime mortar." The foundation is stone, and according to original specifications, it is raugerock.¹

Multiple gables project from a central hipped roof. A polychromatic, asphalt material covers every roof, including the porches. On the roofing material, dark gray fish scale-shaped shingles run for six courses, then one course of light gray, one course of red, one course of light gray, and then six more courses of dark gray, continuing the pattern to the peak. Two brick chimneys are located at opposite ends of the house: one is an interior corbeled chimney visible on the southwest facade; the other is a wide, end wall chimney with corbeling on the northeast facade. The turret has a copper tent cap with a small onion dome at the top and a decorative finial.

Windows are generally double-hung and display heavy, rock-faced stone lintels and label moldings, and smooth stone lintels. Tall, double-hung sash windows encircle the turret on the first and second stories – with colored stained glass framing the upper light of the second-story windows. The turret's half story includes smaller double-hung windows. One-over-one, double-hung windows with slightly arched upper lights are found single or in pairs on each facade. A picture window with floral pattern, stained-glass transom appears on the first story of the front facade.

The front facade has a central, pedimented entrance opening onto an ornate, wraparound porch. The paired panel, front doors are surmounted by an etched glass transom. The frame, wraparound porch extends from the front (southeast) facade around the first story of the turret to the southwest facade. The porch features tapered columns, a

¹ Henry C. Gerlach, "Specifications for 202 3rd Street North, St. Peter," collection of current owner, Judy Ahlstrom. The reference to a "raugerock" foundation is believed to mean the same as ragrock, which is "crude masonry, laid in a random pattern of thin-bedded, undressed stone most commonly set horizontally." Cyril M. Harris, ed., Dictionary of Architecture and Construction (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, [1975]), 394.

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Schumacher, Emily and Stephen, House
St. Peter, Nicollet County, Minnesota

turned spindle frieze with sunburst medallions, and an ornate open balustrade. At the top of the columns, decorative brackets support the frieze and porch eave. Two pediments along the porch roof line feature an open cutout – above the front entrance – and a sunburst – at the porch's southwest end.

Additional details include a segmented brick arch with keystone on the decorative gable end of the front facade's projecting bay. This gable end, and those on the side facades, also feature returns supported by brackets and latticework at the peak. The sunburst theme is represented in a small, gable-on-hip on the front facade. On side and rear facades, the sunburst reappears in gabled peaks.

The southwest facade has a frame, shed roof porch with decorative balustrade and frieze, and slightly tapered posts. Though simpler in design than the front porch, this side porch also has a sunburst-patterned pediment at the roof line, which accents the kitchen entrance. A three-panel-and-glass door with an overhead transom opens into the kitchen. The large gable end on this facade has a solid bargeboard decorated with the sunburst theme. Two small square lights lie below the bargeboard. Paired windows are found on the second story, and a bay projection on the first story features three, double-hung windows. Above the bay projection, an accent gable displays the sunburst pattern.

Modest decoration is used on the northwest (rear) facade. It features multiple roof lines and few windows. The sunburst theme is used in the solid bargeboard on the second-story gable end.

The northeast facade has a clipped gable with brackets, and a quarter-circle window in the clipped gable end. The end wall chimney, which displays decorative brickwork, projects only slightly from the exterior wall. Stained-glass headers are found on the two cottage windows that flank the chimney.

The property has two new outbuildings, both small sheds constructed in 1990 and 1993. The buildings are frame with board-and-batten siding and gable roofs. The buildings' forms and roof shingle patterns match the house.

Interior

The first floor contains seven rooms – the foyer, living room, parlor, den, kitchen, dining room, and a spare rear room – many of which are divided by large pocket doors or decorative, spindlework grilles. The entryway opens into a foyer with a side staircase that features honeycomb newel posts and the sunburst theme on the staircase stringer. At the first turn of the stairs, the turret opens up behind a turned spindle and beaded grille. The parlor, located off of the entryway, features a fireplace with a Queen Anne mantle, blue tile face, cornice mirror, and bric-a-brac shelves. The living room features a bay window projection. The dining room features a china closet, and provides access to the kitchen and pantry.

Original maple woodwork is found throughout the first floor, from the 1 ½-inch slats with diamond pattern border in the entryway floor to the beaded grilles and pocket doors. Window and door trim is wood with corner plinth blocks. The walls have new picture molding along the ceiling and about 12 inches below the ceiling. The molding was added during the remodeling process, but was installed along a shadow of the original. Gas light features, now electrified, are original to the house.

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At the top of the main staircase, a long hallway extends the length of the house. On the second floor, three bedrooms and a small step-down leading to a fourth bedroom open off the hallway. This level also includes a closet, small bath, and spiral staircase leading down to the kitchen. At one end of the hall lies the turret projection, separated from the bedroom area by a beaded grille. Some of the walls have rounded corners. The dominant wood used for floors and trim on the second floor is fir.

Integrity

The house exhibits excellent historic integrity. According to the owner, damage from the 1998 tornado included the loss of the roof, turret top, and front porch. Damaged portions of the house, interior, and exterior, have been restored to match the historic materials and craftsmanship. Restoration work was completed using historic photographs, blueprints, and architectural specifications found in the attic floorboards after the tornado. Materials from the house were salvaged and reused whenever possible to maintain integrity.

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Schumacher, Emily and Stephen, House
St. Peter, Nicollet County, Minnesota

Statement of Significance

The Emily and Stephen Schumacher House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under *Criterion C: Architecture*, as an excellent local example of Queen Anne style residential architecture. Stylistic features of the Schumacher House include varied wall materials, multiple roof lines, a turret with an onion dome capped tent roof, stained-glass windows, and an elaborate first-story wraparound porch with spindlework and tapered posts. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) inventory identifies it as one of two remaining intact Queen Anne structures that maintain high decoration in St. Peter. The Schumacher House compares favorably to the other Queen Anne example, which uses a similar form and materials but has less ornate porch and tower details. The period of significance for the house is the 1888 date of construction. The house was designed by regional architect Henry C. Gerlach for Stephen Schumacher and his family, owner of a St. Peter dry goods store.² The property contributes to the local context of "Residential Development, 1854-1945," defined in *St. Peter's Historic Contexts: Final Report of a Historic Preservation Planning Report*.

Historic Context

Residential Development in St. Peter

St. Peter's residential areas were platted with wide streets and large parcels to make room for the potential growth as the state government center, though this vision was never realized. Residential lots were originally laid out on a skewed grid system oriented toward the Minnesota River, so lots in the earliest part of town have a northeast-southwest orientation. As additions were acquired, the grid shifted away from the river to orient true north and south. By 1870, the city's residential area was found along Washington, Front, Locust, and Broadway Streets, but soon grew beyond these limits.³ By the 1880s, the city had grown due to its status as a commercial center and seat of county government, boasting a population of about 4,000 in 1884.⁴

Housing, such as the Schumacher property, that stood in the area around Minnesota Avenue – St. Peter's main commercial street – allowed ready access to goods and services. Late nineteenth and early twentieth century residential units were primarily detached, single-family dwellings with carriage houses or other outbuildings to the rear of the lot. Some lots included housing for livestock before St. Peter passed an ordinance prohibiting this.⁵ The houses were generally constructed of wood frame or locally produced brick.⁶ St. Peter boasted a wide variety of residential architectural styles, including Italianate, Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, and Queen Anne.

² Minnesota Historic Properties Inventory Form for NL-SPC-271, Collection of the Minnesota Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office.

³ Gemini Research, "St. Peter's Historic Contexts: Final Report of a Historic Preservation Planning Project" (St. Paul, Minn.: Minnesota State Historical Society), 79-80.

⁴ Nicollet County, Minnesota, as an Agricultural and Dairying Section and St. Peter as a Manufacturing Center, Sketches of Their Early History . . . With Numerous Illustrations (St. Peter, Minn.: Reliable Publishing Co., 1884), 18.

⁵ Gemini Research, "St. Peter's Historic Contexts," 80.

⁶ Gemini Research, "St. Peter's Historic Context", 80.

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Queen Anne Architecture

The Queen Anne style was developed by English architect Richard Norman Shaw and enjoyed popularity in Minnesota from the early 1880s to the turn-of-the-century. Characterized by an eclectic blend of decorative detail and “bold geometric massing” reflective of fifteenth and sixteenth century English manor houses, the movement gained widespread popularity during the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exposition. The style could be found in pattern books and architectural magazines of the time, giving it national exposure and publicity, and was adapted by residential architects around the country. Pre-cut architectural details could be shipped to distant markets by the expanding railroad system. By the late 1870s and early 1880s, Midwestern architects were designing residences in the Queen Anne style. It was a break from housing styles previously found in American architecture, a combination of features and decoration that emphasize aesthetic over function.⁷

Design characteristics that identify the Queen Anne style are: irregularity in plan, volume, and shape; a variety of surface textures, roof and wall projections; steep roofs with multiple or intersecting gables; and bay windows, towers, wraparound porches, and tall chimneys with intricate caps. The Queen Anne also often uses patterned shingles in gable areas, towers, and bays. Porches have classically inspired columns and spindlework railings; eaves are decorated with dentils and brackets. Windows are tall with large panes of glass, and stained glass is a trademark feature. The complexity and placement of ornamentation makes the Queen Anne an ideal candidate for polychromatic color schemes.⁸

The Schumacher House is a highly decorative example of the Queen Anne style, with ornamentation applied on almost every surface. Distinctive Queen Anne features displayed on the house include: a tent-capped turret roof on the southeast corner, multiple roof lines with decorative shingle patterns, a bay projection on the south elevation, stained-glass windows, and ornate friezes and spindlework over the porches and various entryways throughout the house's interior. A sunburst theme is found in the interior stairway stringers, gabled pediments, medallions on the porch, and in some of the furniture original to the house. The sunburst is a distinguishing feature of the house, connecting the interior design to the exterior elements. The SHPO identified the Schumacher House and the Engesser House at 1202 Minnesota Avenue South as the two extant, ornate Queen Anne style houses in St. Peter. While the Engesser House has a similar form with tower and bay projections and a front porch, its details – such as brickwork and turned porch balusters – are less elaborate than those of the Schumacher House.⁹

⁷ Charles Nelson, historical architect, “Tech Talk: Minnesota’s Architecture, Part III, The Bric-a-Brac Styles,” *Minnesota History Interpreter* (September 1999); Paul Jakobovich, *As Good As New: A Guide to Rehabilitating the Exterior of Your Old Milwaukee Home* (Milwaukee, Wisc.: Department of City Development, 1993), 18; Herbert Gottfried and Jan Jennings, *American Vernacular Design 1870-1940* (Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press, 1988), 212; Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1984), 268.

⁸ Nelson.

⁹ Minnesota Historic Properties Inventory Form for NL-SPC-271.

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Schumacher, Emily and Stephen, House
St. Peter, Nicollet County, Minnesota

The Architect: Henry C. Gerlach

The original construction drawings and specifications found in the home during the aftermath of the 1998 tornado identify the designer as Henry C. Gerlach. Gerlach, the son of German immigrants who arrived in the United States in the 1840s, was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1859.¹⁰ His architectural career began in 1879 in Milwaukee, where he apprenticed for 4 years before moving to Mankato. Gerlach married twice – after his first wife passed away in 1886, he married Minnie Irasek of Milwaukee in 1889. They had four children. After moving his family back to Milwaukee in the early 1900s, they returned to Mankato in 1908, where Gerlach continued to practice until his death in 1924.¹¹

Gerlach designed an array of commercial, public, and residential buildings in the Minnesota Valley region, including Mankato, New Ulm, St. Peter, Good Thunder, and Mapleton. His public buildings include the State Normal School in Mankato (nonextant), the Blue Earth County jail (nonextant), the Mankato High School (nonextant), the First Baptist Church in Mankato, and the Watonwan County Courthouse (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987).¹² His residential structures include: the Schumacher House; his own Queen Anne home in Mankato (1892), which was immortalized in the “Betsy-Tacy” book series by Maud Hart Lovelace; and the William E. Stewart House in North Mankato (1910).¹³ While Gerlach’s residential structures tend to reflect the Queen Anne style, the level of decoration varies. For example, the Schumacher House exhibits elaborate decoration on each facade, but Gerlach’s own house is more subtle, reflecting the national trend toward more subdued Queen Anne styling in the 1890s. Although his Mankato residence features a wraparound porch and multiple roof lines, it does not have towers or turrets. The Schumacher House is an excellent example of Gerlach’s ornate early residential work.

¹⁰ Sharla Whalen, *The Betsy-Tacy Companion* (Whitehall, Penn.: Portalington Press, 1995), 196.

¹¹ Whalen, 216, 267.

¹² Sue Hodapp, “National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form, William E. Stewart House,” August 1984, Collection of the Minnesota Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office.

¹³ Gerlach’s residence was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Lincoln Park Residential Historic District in 1995.

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Schumacher, Emily and Stephen, House
St. Peter, Nicollet County, Minnesota

Ownership History

The residence was constructed in 1887-88 for the family of Stephen Schumacher, owner of a local dry goods store. Stephen Schumacher operated his business in a two-story brick building at 217 West Park Row. The commercial building was constructed c. 1873 by F. Schumacher for use as a cabinet workroom with a residence above. The dry goods and grocery store business began operating in this building as early as 1885 and the business was continued by Stephen Schumacher's sons, Henry F. and Louis Schumacher, until 1909.¹⁴

The house was owned by the Schumacher family until it was purchased from descendants (Laumann family) by Mark Ahlstrom in 1967. The Ahlstrom family completed the restoration after the 1998 tornado.¹⁵

Conclusion

The Schumacher House is eligible for listing on the NRHP under *Criterion C: Architecture*, as a fine local example of the Queen Anne style. The house displays high-style architectural features, including varied, patterned roof lines, a turret capped with an onion dome, projecting bays, recurring sunburst patterns, and a wraparound porch with decorative frieze and railing. The Schumacher House retains excellent historic integrity. Repairs to the house after the 1998 tornado replicated the historic materials and details of the house.

¹⁴ "Diamond Jubilee Anniversary Number," Special Supplement to St. Peter Herald (1 October 1930) and "Old Buildings Still Standing in 1958," manuscript in the collection of the Nicollet County Historical Society.

¹⁵ Judy Ahlstrom, current owner, interview by Christina Slattery, Amy Squitieri, and Beth Wielde, 26 October 1999.

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Schumacher, Emily and Stephen, House
St. Peter, Nicollet County, Minnesota

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Schumacher, Emily and Stephen, House
St. Peter, Nicollet County, Minnesota

Verbal Boundary Description

The Schumacher House is located on the south 88 feet of Lot 2, Block 23 of Dodd's Addition to the City of St. Peter. The parcel measures 155 feet along the southwest border and 88 feet along the southeast border.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property includes the western lot of the original double lot that was historically associated with the Schumacher House. The original double lot was subdivided by 1908 and another residence was constructed on the eastern lot that does not have an association with the nominated property.