

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED DEC 6 1976

DATE ENTERED MAR 25 1977

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

* Mille Lacs County Courthouse

AND/OR COMMON

Mille Lacs County Courthouse

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

5th Avenue S.E. & 2nd Street S.E.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Milaca

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Minnesota

CODE

27

COUNTY

Mille Lacs

CODE

095

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

X PUBLIC

X OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

X GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

X YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mille Lacs County

STREET & NUMBER

5th Avenue S.E. & 2nd Street S.E.

CITY, TOWN

Milaca

VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Mille Lacs County Courthouse - Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

5th Avenue S.E. & 2nd Street S.E.

CITY, TOWN

Milaca

STATE

Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1972

FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society, Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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 Mille Lacs County Courthouse is situated on a flat one-block site at the southeast corner of Second Avenue and Fifth Street Southeast in Milaca, Minnesota.

The courthouse was constructed in 1923 according to designs by Minneapolis architects Croft and Boerner for a cost of \$150,000 including furnishings. It is two storeys in height and set on a full basement which is also devoted to office space. All facades are symmetrical and consist of a rusticated basement, two storeys of ashlar, and capped by a parapet. The only projection from the rectangular massing is a central entrance pavilion on the north facade. This pavilion incorporates Renaissance Revival design features such as urns on the cornice, carved wreath and swag motif, high central multi-pane window with classic pilasters and entablature, and balustraded balcony.

When completed, the building was considered to be as near fireproof in construction as possible. The exterior is finished in Bedford stone over reinforced concrete walls. The base and the steps for the front entrance are of granite. The interior partitions are of hollow tile with a plaster surfacing. Woodwork throughout the interior is of oak and marble wainscot is used in the corridors. Floors in the corridors are of terrazzo whereas composition floors are used in the offices.

Offices are situated on all three levels of the building. The basement floor is about four feet below grade, allowing ample window areas in all offices. Spatial divisions throughout the building retain original functions as planned in 1923. Offices on the first floor are situated around a rotunda which is two storeys in height and lighted by a leaded glass skylight in the oak-beamed ceiling. These offices are those of the Registrar of Deeds, Auditor, Treasurer, Clerk of Court, and Sheriff. The courtroom, together with its auxiliary offices such as the judge's chambers and jury rooms are on the second floor. The rear section of the first floor functions as a jail and is accessible through a separate rear entry.

In general, the Mille Lacs County Courthouse is in an excellent state of preservation and continues to serve its original functions within the scheme of the original design.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1923

BUILDER/ARCHITECT E.B. Croft & Boerner
Builder: J.A. McDonald

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In addition to serving as the seat of political government for Mille Lacs County since 1923, the Mille Lacs County Courthouse is a well preserved representative of the last phase of courthouse building in Minnesota which began after World War I. Popular architectural design trends in public buildings are exemplified in the use of Renaissance and Classic motifs. The building also represents major use of fire-proof materials to assure preservation of public records. Further, the building has retained original plan, function and decorative treatment. It continues to serve Mille Lacs County in an excellent state of preservation and maintenance.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cross, Marion E., Minnesota Courthouse. (Minneapolis?) Colonial Dames of Am. in Minn., 1966.

Historical Records Survey, Minnesota. Inventory of the County Archives of Minnesota. Vol. 48, St. Paul.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 5	4, 5, 0, 0, 0, 0	5, 0, 6, 6, 7, 4, 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

Charles W. Nelson, Architectural Historian and Susan Zeik, Research Associate

ORGANIZATION

Minnesota Historical Society

DATE

2 November 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Building 25, Fort Snelling

TELEPHONE

612-726-1171

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 National Park Service

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Russell W. Fridley 11/29/76

TITLE Russell W. Fridley

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

CHIEF

[Signature]

DATE

3/25/99

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

[Signature]

DATE

3.24.97

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 2 Page 1

REFERENCE NUMBER: 77000756

STATE: Minnesota

COUNTY: Mille Lacs

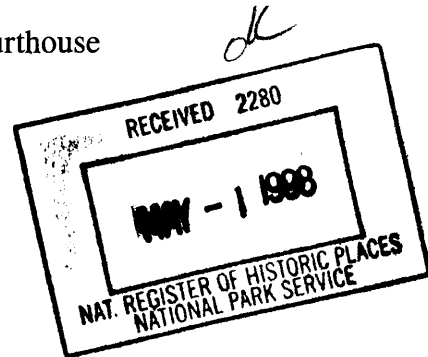
RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Mille Lacs County Courthouse

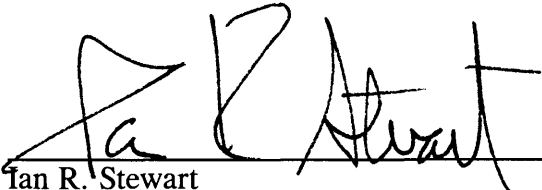
CITY/TOWNSHIP: Milaca

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS: 635 2nd St. S.E.

COMMENTS: Address Correction





Ian R. Stewart
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

4/24/98
Date