

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received SEP 1 1983  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Downtown Fargo, ~~North Dakota~~ District

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number See continuation sheet \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Fargo \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of

state North Dakota code 38 county Cass code 017

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name See continuation sheet

street & number

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Cass County Courthouse, Register of Deeds

street & number

city, town Fargo \_\_\_\_\_ state North Dakota 58103

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Standing Structures Survey of Fargo has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date Summer 1982 \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records State Historical Society of North Dakota

city, town Bismarck \_\_\_\_\_ state North Dakota

## 7. Description

**Condition**  
 excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**  
 unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**  
 original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

A. The following (see Map 1) are National Register properties within the district (first street address is inclusive; parenthetical is current or city assessor's mailing address):

1. ✓ Grand Lodge of North Dakota, Ancient Order of United Workmen (1914-15), 112-114 Roberts St.: Classical Revival, three-story brick classically-ornamented masonry building, palladian windows, engaged Tuscan pilasters. Haxby and Gillespie, architects. NRHP status: Placed on Register 24 August 1979.
2. ✓ deLendrecie's Department Store (1894, 1904), 620-624 Main Avenue: Richardsonian-Classical design. Five-story, grey pressed brick and brownstone by St. Louis Pressed Brick Co., buttered red mortar joint, red sandstone trim from Portage Entre, Michigan. First two stories by McMillan and Tenbusch, Duluth architects. Top three floors by Andrew J. O'Shea of Fargo in 1904. Topped with classically-inspired pressed metal cornice and brick and sandstone parapet. Closely associated with Onesine and Eugene deLendrecie, pioneer merchants and founders of one of North Dakota's premier department stores. NRHP status: Placed on Register 22 October 1979.
3. North Pacific Railway Depot (1898-1900), 701 Main Avenue: Richardsonian, one story, dark brown St. Louis pressed brick, Lake Superior brownstone trim, red tile roof, arched windows, deeply overhung hipped roof, bracketted supports. Cass Gilbert, architect. NRHP status: Placed on Register 13 February 1975.
4. Masonic Block (1884) 9-11 Eighth Street South: Pioneer and speculator Andrew McHench built this structure in part to house the Masonic Shiloh Lodge No. 8 with stores on the first floor. Plans by Charles N. Daniels, Fargo architect. In 1891, the building became associated with F. L. Watkins and his Dakota Business College until 1978. In 1906, Watkins added the north wing, a separate building (#91) at 806 Main. Victorian Gothic, three story red brick. NRHP status: Placed on Register 3 August 1979 (both the Masonic and Watkins blocks, as the Masonic Block nomination).
6. ✓ Fargo Theatre (1926), 312-16 (314) Broadway: Three-story, red brick, floral stone trim, stone gargoyles, palmettes, and egg and dart details, second story windows form arched arcade on front facade. Intact Art Moderne interior, original marquee. Liebenberg and Kaplan, architects. Beuchner and Orth, construction design and supervision; F. F. Powers, contractor. Cost: \$150,000.00 NRHP status: Placed on the Register 21 October 1982.

B. The following buildings are pivotal in the downtown Fargo district (see Map 1):

5. Ford Assembly Plant (1914-15), 505-11 Broadway: Chicago School, three-story red brick, light cream glazed clay tile and stone trim, glazed tile parapet, ribbed glass windows with steel sash, polished granite water table. North windows infilled with concrete block; vertical wood infill on storefront

## 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1882-1940 **Builder/Architect** various

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The significance of the downtown Fargo district lies in its unusually large concentration of diverse architectural styles, and in the extent to which Fargo's business district became the premier service, commercial, and distribution hub for a region extending from northwestern Minnesota through eastern North Dakota, including a major portion of the Red River Valley. The district represents a complete catalogue of architectural styles fashionable in commercial construction from 1878 Italianate through 1930-40 Art Moderne. For over 50 years, the district was identified with large volume service and retail establishments and agricultural implement dealerships, the results of excellent rail connections in the cardinal directions.

In 1872, Fargo became the North Dakota entry point for the Northern Pacific Railroad. The railroad completed construction to Bismarck on the Missouri River before its financial collapse precipitated the Panic of 1873. The reorganization of the NP and resumption of construction to the Pacific in 1879 marks the date that Fargo began to achieve significance architecturally and historically. By 1883, the NP was completed to the West Coast and Fargo had been made a division headquarters for the railroad. Birds-eye views and photographs from 1880 show that the 500 and 600 blocks on the south side of Main Ave. (then Front St.), near the NP's Headquarters Hotel, were developed with solid business fronts, albeit many were frame buildings which were gradually replaced by masonry during the 1879-86 Great Dakota Boom. Of this early period, the only intact business block today is the 600 block of Main Ave. Similar early structures between 6th St. South and the Red River of the North were cleared for urban renewal in the 1960s.

Several important early structures on the south side of Main Ave. and vicinity represent the Great Dakota Boom period which led to statehood in 1889. The first Luger Furniture Store (#85) at 716 Main Ave. is a brick commercial Victorian Gothic store built in 1882 from plans by Proctor and Daniels, an early local architectural firm. Around the corner at 9-11 8th St. S. (#4), the same architects built the Masonic Block in 1884 in a similar style. These two buildings are the best surviving examples of this style in North Dakota, and the Masonic Block has been listed on the National Register since 1975. Like many of Fargo's early architects, both Charles N. Daniels, who had worked in Minneapolis before moving to Fargo, and John N. Proctor moved to the Pacific Northwest to find new work in the late 1880s.

Fargo's greatest surviving concentration of Italianate commercial structures built during the Great Dakota Boom can be found fronting Main Avenue between 602 and 618 Main Ave. Before the Fargo Fire destroyed 90 per cent of the city center in 1893, Italianate features, such as paired bracketed cornices, arched windows, and hood molds and drip molds, could be seen on the majority of downtown Fargo business blocks. The Italianate style, popular in earlier decades farther east, is the earliest commercial high style found in North Dakota. It quickly became eclipsed in the region after 1890, and few good examples are found in the state today.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 60 acres

Quadrangle name Fargo North and Fargo South 1959 (2 maps)  
photorevised 1971 and 1976.

Quadrangle scale 7.5"

UTM References

A 

1	4	6	6	8	8	6	0	5	1	9	4	1	4	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

B 

1	4	6	6	8	5	7	5	5	1	9	3	2	6	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

C 

1	4	6	6	8	0	8	0	5	1	9	3	2	8	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

D 

1	4	6	6	8	1	2	0	5	1	9	4	2	6	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

E 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

F 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

G 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

H 

Zone	Easting			Northing										

Verbal boundary description and justification

See boundary on survey plat map (Map 2)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state NA code NA county NA code NA

state NA code NA county NA code NA

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Norene A. Roberts

organization Historical Research, Inc. date 12/4/82

street & number 5535 Richmond Curve telephone (612)929-2921

city or town Minneapolis 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 James E. Sherry

title State Historic Preservation Officer date August 9, 1983

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Beth Ansuena date 10/23/83  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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The following are inclusive street addresses located within the boundaries of the district (see Map 1):

52-516 Broadway (west side); 71-3 to 509-11 Broadway (east side); 12-114, 320-24, 508 Roberts St. (west side); 107-123, 303-321 Roberts St. (east side); 37, 503 7th St. N. (east side); 318-324 5th St. N. (west side); 403-407 4th St. N. (east side); 404-536 5th Ave. N. (south side); 521-655 1st Ave. N. (north side); 512-650 1st Ave. N. (south side); 609-643 N.P. Ave. (north side); 646-820 N.P. Ave. (south side); 623-801 Main Ave. (north side); 602-916 Main Ave. (south side); 5-9 9th St. S. (west side); 1-23 8th St. S. (west side); 14-23 8th St. S. (east side); 17-23 7th St. S. (west side).

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Building numbers correspond to the buildings listed in Item # 7, Description. All addresses are Fargo, North Dakota 58102 or 03, as stipulated, except where noted.

1. City of Fargo  
c/o City Auditor  
201 N. 4th St. 02
2. Truman E. Tryhus  
501 7th St. S. 03
3. City of Fargo (leasee)  
701 Main Ave. 03  
  
B.N., Inc.  
176 E. 5th St.  
St. Paul, MN 55101
4. F. Leland Watkins, Jr. et. al.  
384 8th Ave. S. 03
5. F. C. Hayer Company, Inc.  
c/o Kaye's Printing  
Box 2065 08
6. Elizabeth Powers as Trustee  
c/o Plitt Companies, Inc.  
Box 8188  
Atlanta, GA 30366
7. Ellen O'Connor et. al.  
c/o Swanson Properties  
Box 1672 07
8. The George M. Black Co.  
Box 1499 305 Black Bldg. 07
9. Allan and Irvin W. Mandel  
113 Broadway 02
10. Daystar Gardner Ministries, Inc.  
26 Roberts St. 02
11. Concordia College Corp.  
c/o Roger W. Landblow  
267 Prairiewood Drive 03
12. Northern School Supply Co. (leasee)  
Box 2627 08  
  
N.P. Railway c/o B.N. Inc.  
176 E. 5th St.  
St. Paul, MN 55101
13. Aggie Investment Co.  
Box 2762 02
14. Samuel J. Aggie et. al.  
505 2nd Ave. N. 02
15. Larry and Alvin A. Bosma  
620 2nd St. N. 02
16. Paul P. and Betty E. Feder  
1700 8th St. S. 03
17. same as # 16.
18. same as # 16.
19. Mik-Lar Realty  
c/o Jim Mullen  
416 13th St. S.  
Moorhead, MN 56650
20. Central Billing, Inc.  
Box 3105 08
21. Martha J. Wickland & Jean E. Beilke  
715 15th St. S. 03

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| <p>22. Loyal Order of Moose<br/>309 Broadway 02</p> <p>23. same as # 22.</p> <p>24. Eric A. Grundeen<br/>c/o Harold Alm<br/>#3 Souris Court<br/>Minot, ND 58701</p> <p>25. Marta E. B. Sivitz, Trustee for<br/>Clemens and Anna Brand<br/>5 Cooper Beach Drive<br/>LaFayette Hill PA 19444</p> <p>26. Joel C. Alsader<br/>c/o Schaak Electronics<br/>1415 Mendota Heights<br/>St. Paul, MN 55120</p> <p>27. Harland H. Geiger and<br/>James A. McAndrew, Jr.<br/>220 Broadway 03</p> <p>28. G. R. Peterson c/o<br/>Donald C. McAllister<br/>1307 6th St. S. 03</p> <p>29. Donald C. &amp; Jeanine M. McAllister<br/>1307 6th St. S. 03</p> <p>30. Boerth Frame and Mirror<br/>Box 947 07</p> <p>31. Northland Development Co.<br/>c/o Bergstrom and Crowe<br/>305 Black Bldg. 02</p> <p>32. First National Bank and Trust Co.<br/>Rm. 411, First Nat'l. Bank<br/>c/o Clapp 02<br/>(Trustee of Clapp Land Tr.)</p> | <p>33. First National Bank and Trust Co.<br/>Trustee for Clapp Land Tr.<br/>15 Broadway 02</p> <p>34. Ellen O'Connor et. al.<br/>1037 N. 7th St. 02</p> <p>35. George W. and Jean Ann Garrett<br/>c/o John Stockman<br/>Box 2932 08</p> <p>36. Boyd D. Knox<br/>RR # 1 03</p> <p>37. Allan and Irvin W. Mandel<br/>113 Broadway 02</p> <p>38. Royal Jewelers, Inc.<br/>73 Broadway 02</p> <p>39. Herbst Realty Co.<br/>c/o Thomas Realty<br/>609½ 1st. Ave. N. Suite 209 02</p> <p>40. Essie Seigel et. al.<br/>c/o Marvin Siegel<br/>1100 Alma St.<br/>Menlo Park, CA 94025</p> <p>41. Norso Hotel Corporation<br/>c/o A. M. Solberg et. al.<br/>326 10th Ave. S. # 8 03</p> <p>42. CCC Realty Inc.<br/>c/o Continental Big Red, Inc.<br/>100 S. Wacker Drive<br/>Chicago, IL 60606</p> <p>43. Ed Phillips and Sons, Co.<br/>318-20 5th St. N. 02</p> |
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| <p>44. George Duis, Attorney<br/>510 4th Ave. N. 02</p> <p>45. Edward and Frances Bowers,<br/>&amp; Leland J. Smith<br/>c/o E. A. Bowers<br/>37 7th St. N. 02</p> <p>46. KRJ, Inc.<br/>501 7th St. N. 02</p> <p>47. Martin Schnell Realty Co.<br/>c/o Fargo Investment Co.<br/>Box 790 07</p> <p>48. Christine and Helen Bowers<br/>620 8th St. S. 03</p> <p>49. Helen T. Dawson<br/>20 S. 8th St. 03</p> <p>50. Northland Development Corp.<br/>c/o George M. Black<br/>305 Broadway Black Bldg. 02</p> <p>51. Graver Hotel Co.<br/>c/o Housing Department<br/>N.D.S.U. 02</p> <p>52. same as # 51.</p> <p>53. B. Lloyd &amp; Helen B. Hammond<br/>305 Roberts St. 02</p> <p>54. Charles O. Follett <u>et. al.</u><br/>c/o Mary Paeper<br/>2728 Walnut Circle<br/>Moorhead, MN 56560</p> <p>55. David S. &amp; Carolyn J. Bowe<br/>209 Linden Ave. S. 03</p> | <p>56. C. Richard Corner<br/>c/o Knight Bldg. Management<br/>Box 2017 07</p> <p>57. Phillip C. &amp; Jean M. Wong<br/>623-5 N.P. Ave. 03</p> <p>58. Albert J. &amp; Marion Daveau<br/>c/o Phillip C. &amp; Jean M. Wong<br/>623 N. P. Ave. 03</p> <p>59. Josef's School of Hair Design<br/>627 N.P. Ave. 03</p> <p>60. Eugene T. Paulson<br/>Box 1230 07</p> <p>61. Swift &amp; Co. (leasee)<br/>Box 910 07<br/><br/>N.P. Railway Co. c/o B.N. Inc.<br/>176 E. 5th St.<br/>St. Paul, MN 55101</p> <p>62. F-M Insulation Co. (leasee)<br/>806-12 N.P. Ave. 02<br/><br/>N.P. Railway Co. c/o B.N., Inc.<br/>176 E. 5th St.<br/>St. Paul, MN 55101</p> <p>63. same as # 62</p> <p>64. Downtown Realty, Inc.<br/>319½ 5th St. N. 02</p> <p>65. Dakota National Bank &amp; Trust Co., Trustee<br/>c/o Norcostco Inc., 3203 N. Hwy. 100<br/>Minneapolis MN 55422</p> <p>66. Donald E. &amp; Betty G. Slingsby<br/>c/o Roger P. Cummings<br/>520 1st Ave. N. 03</p> |
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67. Stanley E. Larson  
1750 7th St. S. 03
68. A. J. Daveau Estate  
c/o Marion A. Daveau  
1532 8th St. S. 03
69. Gaffaney's Office Specialty Co.  
Box 2337 08
70. Daveau Music Co.  
c/o Else's  
Box 289 07
71. Stanley E, & Joanne M. Larson  
635 1st. Ave. N. 02
72. U. S. Government, U.S. Courts  
c/o City of Fargo Auditor  
201 4th St. N. 02
73. Burlington Northern Inc.  
176 E. 5th St.  
St. Paul, MN 55101
74. same as # 73.
75. same as # 73.
76. Campbell Partnership  
1122 6th St. S. 03
77. Frank O. & Dorothy P. Knerr  
c/o Wimmer Jewellery  
Box 1797 03
78. Robert S. & Kenneth H. Kostka  
1325 9th St. S. 03
79. Julius E., Sybol E., & Howard E. Squitt  
65 Broadway Box 70 02
80. same as # 79.
81. same as # 79.
82. Margaret E. Shotwell et. al.  
Box 505 07
83. Truman E. Tryhus  
501 7th St. S. 03
84. Carpet by Ron, Inc.  
1128 5th Ave. S. 03
85. same as # 84.
86. B.N. Inc.  
176 E. 5th St.  
St. Paul, MN 55101
87. F. Leland Watkins Jr. et. al.  
384 8th Ave. S. 03
88. Richard I. & Ettawyne L. Janson  
1520 11th Ave. N. 02
89. Red River Dance and Performing Co.  
c/o David R. Bailley  
400 First National Bank Bldg.  
Fargo, ND 58126
90. Thomas H. Anderson  
3633 River Drive 02
91. City of Fargo Park District  
Box 1798 07
92. F. Leland Watkins, Jr. et. al.  
384 8th Ave. S. 03
93. F. Leland & Louella A. Watkins  
384 8th Ave. S. 03

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94. same as # 93.	108. Clarence and Daryl Hein 613 10th Ave. N. 02	4 6
95. same as # 93.	109. Arcondo Ginakes et. al. c/o James Investment Box 1302 N. Elm 02	
96. same as # 93.	110. same as # 107.	
97. same as # 93.	111. same as # 107.	
98. Duane J. & Carol J. Rogne 801 31st. Ave. N. 02	112. North Broadway Development Co. c/o George M. Black & Co. 305 Black Building 02	
99. Frances G. Goldberg c/o Duane Rogne 801 31st Ave. N. 02	113. First Federal Savings and Loan 325 Broadway 02	
100. same as # 98.	114. Warner Investment Corp. 318-20 Broadway 02	
101. same as # 99.	115. Willaim A. Barnick, Jr. 1307 2nd Ave. S. Moorhead, MN 56560	
102. Mary J. Dockendorff 104 16th St. S. Moorhead, MN 56560	116. Jacobson Building Co., Inc. c/o Connie Hegeson Clinton Place Burnsville, MN 55337	
103. A. K. & Bertha O. Stromme c/o Everett G. Cannon 16½ 8th St. S. 03	117. Veterans of Foreign Wars Club 226 Broadway 02	
104. Unitarian Fellowship of Fargo-Moorhead 18 8th St. S. 03	118. The Fargo Council Corp. c/o John Kodelka 2457 W. Country Club Drive 03	
105. Howard L. & Ruth E. M. Knudson c/o Warrne W. Wilson 1133 7th St. N. 02	119. George W. and Jean A. Garrett c/o Stuart D. Boyer Box 106 RR 1 07	
106. SKE, A Partnership c/o Wagner Ohe and Assoc. Inc. Box 985 Moorhead, MN 56560		
107. Morris W. & Jean Rae Callahan 402 9th St. S. Moorhead, MN 56560		

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| <p>120. George M. Black Co.<br/>Box 1499<br/>305 Black Building 07</p> <p>121. Emilia J. Corneliusen<br/>c/o Richard Garske<br/>17 Broadway 02</p> <p>122. James R. &amp; Robert C. Dawson<br/>1749 9th St. S. 03</p> <p>123. Louis I. &amp; Anna B. Altshuler<br/>c/o Ardey Peterson<br/>Box 2866 08</p> <p>124. Downtown Realty Inc.<br/>Attn: Marvin Borman<br/>1800 Midwest Plaza<br/>Minneapolis MN 55402</p> <p>125. The George M. Black Co.<br/>S. S. Kresge Co.<br/>3100 W. Big Beaver<br/>Troy MI 48084</p> <p>126. Stan Larson<br/>1750 7th St. S. 03</p> <p>127. same as # 41.</p> <p>128. Metropolitan Federal Savings<br/>Box 2626 08</p> <p>129. Greyhound Lines, Inc.<br/>Tax Department<br/>50 First St.<br/>Detroit Lakes, MN 56501</p> <p>130. Korsmo Properties<br/>Box 826 07</p> <p>131. City of Fargo<br/>c/o City Auditor<br/>201 N. 4th St. 02</p> | <p>132. Concordia College Corp.<br/>920 8th St. S<br/>Moorhead, MN 56560</p> <p>133. Harry R. Arneson, Jr.<br/>19 10th St. N. 02</p> <p>134. Burlington Northern Inc.<br/>176 E. 5th St.<br/>St. Paul, MN 55101</p> <p>135. Harold C. Meyer<br/>c/o Richard Corner<br/>514 9th St. S. 03</p> <p>136. City of Fargo, Fire Hall<br/>c/o City Auditor<br/>201 4th St. N. 02</p> <p>137. same as # 12.</p> <p>138. ABC North Central Theaters<br/>c/o Plitt Theaters, Inc.<br/>Box 962 07</p> <p>139. same as # 3.</p> <p>140. Cass County c/o Cass Co. Auditor<br/>Cass County Courthouse 03</p> <p>141. Northwestern Mutual Savings &amp;<br/>Loan Assn.<br/>720 Main Ave. 03</p> <p>142. Laura M. Rice<br/>c/o Mexican Village<br/>Box 5092<br/>N.D.S.U. Substation 02</p> <p>143. Clifford Rud &amp; Joyce Tharaldson<br/>1618 14th St. S. 03</p> |
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144. Dans Oil and Service Inc.  
c/o Elmer G. Bruns Radiator  
1 9th St. S. 03
145. Oscar and Nellie Mathisen  
c/o John C. Bergstrom  
2413 E. Country Club Drive 03
146. Theodore LePine  
c/o James Grindeberg  
1618 17th St. S.  
Moorhead MN 56560
147. D & R Realty Co.  
Box 1820 07

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A Historic Sites Survey for Fargo, North Dakota, by Ronald Ramsey, 1978-79.  
On file: State Historical Society of North Dakota.

Five individual buildings have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Names, addresses and dates entered on the National Register, along with brief descriptions, are listed in Item # 7, Description of this nomination. These properties are keyed as buildings # 1 through # 4 of this nomination. The records for these properties are on file with the State Historical Society of North Dakota, Bismarck, N.D. 58505. The following information on the surveys is keyed to the building number:

- #1. Nominated by Ronald Ramsey, February 10, 1979.
- #2. Nominated by Ronald Ramsey, June 28, 1979.
- #3. Nominated by Walter L. Bailey, Historic Preservation Planner, State Historical Society of North Dakota, October 29, 1974.
- #4. Nominated by Kurt Schweigert, Architectural Historian, State Historical Society of North Dakota, May 22, 1979.
- #6. Placed on the Register October 21, 1982.

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windows is a reversible alteration. Originally a Ford Assembly Plant, one of several similar designs by Ford. John Graham, Seattle, architect. O. C. Foster, building superintendent for Ford Motor Co. Completed in 1915 for \$98,000.

7. Merchant's National Bank (1921), 122-4 (122) Broadway: Two stories, cream-colored glazed tile trim, red brick. Date and name block: "Merchants National Bank" "1890-1921." Paired brackets and tile blocks at cornice. Jacobethan tile tabs around windows. Minor alterations to exterior in wood panel infill in front windows and transoms. Hancock Brothers, architects.
8. Black Office Building (1929-31), 114-118 Broadway: Art Moderne, eight stories, light Indiana limestone facing, steel casement windows, black metal window spandrels, Art Moderne interior details in cast metal crane motif in elevator doors and banisters, oak woodwork. Lang, Raugland, and Lewis, Minneapolis; Brasseth and Houkom, associate architects.
9. Hancock Building (1903), 109-11 Broadway: Classical Revival, three stories, red brick and sandstone trim, painted white brick arched arcade ties together pairs of windows in three bays in second and third stories. Stamped metal spandrels; foliated motif above third story windows in the arches. Bracketted metal cornice. Parapet painted black with name block in sandstone. Tall keystones in sandstone in third story arches. Bays divided by brick pilasters. Sidelight windows in central bay. Sandstone deteriorating; new glass and infill at storefront of tile and aggregate refacing. Hancock Brothers, owners, architects, builders.
10. Gardner Hotel (1908), 18-26 Roberts: Classical Revival, five stories, red brick, butterjoint. Metal paired bracketted cornice and foliated metal frieze; brick quoins at corners, stone trim, egg and dart pattern atop corner piers at first floor. Stone balustrade over Roberts Street entrance; entrance has been infilled with concrete block; remainder of exterior intact. Original cost: \$150,000. Hancock Brothers, architects.
11. Ivers Apartments and Funeral Home (1929), 320-24 Roberts: Art Moderne, six stories, cream wire faced brick, original metal awning over front Roberts Street entry intact; front doors inset with diagonal glass panels; chapel on south side of building. Chapel windows in geometric colored glass in rising (or setting) sun motif in pale yellow, blue, and violet colored glass. Interior walls are cream-colored rough stucco; funeral lobby includes a wall tapestry in original condition; chapel has vaulted ceiling, once intricately painted in Art Deco motif, now repainted one color; original benches in chapel. Thirty-three apartments in original condition with all original hardwood cabinetry (now painted). Large suite on sixth

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floor was Mr. Ivers'. Hallways on each floor in original condition except chapel ceiling and new carpeting in funeral lobby and chapel. William F. Kurke, architect.

12. Robb-Lawrence Co. Building (1903), 648-54 (650-54) NP Avenue. Richardsonian Romanesque warehouse; four story, red brick, red sandstone trim; five bays on NP Avenue, seven bays on Eighth Street side; NP entrance includes wide keystone arch on sandstone piers; paired arched windows between bays with stamped metal fan-shaped motif in arches in third story windows. Massive post and beam construction in top three stories to accommodate original use as farm implement warehouse. No major alterations, except entrance moved to Eighth Street side and brick segmented arched windows at basement level bricked up. Willaim C. Albrant, architect.

C. The following properties (see Map 1) are contributing in the district:

13. Aggie Block (1926), 516-18 (516-20) Broadway: Two story, red brick, stone trim, central arched entrance with stone keystone; stone coping on parapet and name block "Aggie Block." Named for real estate investor, Samuel Aggie. Minor storefront alterations.
14. Idelkope Block (1914), 506 Broadway: Two story, yellow brick, stone cornice with corbelled brick. Minor store front alterations. Built by T. F. Powers Co., contractor for H. Idelkope for \$12,000.
15. The Viking Hotel (1910), 413-15 Broadway: Three stories, cream brick with butterjoint; rough stone sills; belt course above first story windows; elaborate bracketed metal cornice. Stone name block on parapet: "The Northern." Iron balcony and large square plate glass windows removed at first floor in 1940. Top two floors original except for one newer smaller window on second floor front facade. First floor has wood panelling applied to brick facade and a wood shingled shed roof over lobby. Alterations are reversible. This was the new Viking Hotel, replacing the Old Viking at 420 Broadway. Since 1940, this hotel has also been known as "The Northern" and "The Bison" (current). Alterations in 1940 by W. F. Kurke for \$4,500 to "The Northern."
16. 412 Broadway (1907): Two stories, red brick; applied metal grillwork bolted on front facade, behind which facade is intact at second story with three brick arched windows inset with arched stamped metal above lintels obscured. Storefront altered with brickwork and two new off-center display windows. Built for O. S. Hadeland, designed by Hancock Brothers; Bowers Brothers, builders.

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17. Lowman Block (1914), 406-10 (406-08) Broadway: Three story, red brick, decorative brick parapet with stone coping, stone sills, and stone name block: "Lowman Block"; storefront altered with metal grillwork applied at window transoms and new plate glass display windows; built for W. S. Lowman; Haxby and Gillespie, architects; Powers & Co., builders.
18. Powers Hotel (1914, 1919), 400 Broadway: Classical Revival, five story, red brick, stone trim and belt courses. First three stories built in 1914-15 for \$65,000 from plans by Hancock Brothers, for and by T. J. Powers & Co., contractors. Top two stories added in 1919 from plans by William F. Kurke. Original fenestration intact. The 1919 alteration included removing parapet at top of third story, leaving stone name block: "Powers Hotel." Operated as Powers Hotel until 1981. Now vacant, a tax act project through HUD is currently under way with planned reuse as senior citizen housing.
19. Schmidt-Russell (1921), 324 Broadway: Two stories, wire faced light brown brick, brick cornice and parapet with stone trim and coping; stone name and date block on parapet: "Schmidt-Russell" 1882-1921." Built for Mrs. Clara B. S. Russell by Meinecke Johnson Co., architect and contractor for \$30,000. Minor alteration to display window transoms covered with wood signage.
20. 322-322½ Broadway (1905): Classical Revival, two story scored concrete simulated block facade, jack-arch lintels, four windows on second floor with sandstone sills in one slightly recessed bay. Plain cornice. Facade painted black behind applied bolted-on vertical metal slots. Metal and glass office front on first story.
21. Derecci Building (1913), 311-17 Broadway: Classical commercial style. Three story, red Hebron brick, butter joint, stone trim. One bay with four sets of paired windows flanked by single windows at corners on second and third floors of front facade. Recessed brick panels above third story windows with centered stone name block: "Derecci Building." Molded metal cornice under plain brick parapet with stone coping. Similar style to Powers Hotel. Derecci said to have been related to Powers family.
22. Sons of Norway Lodge (1905), 309 Broadway: Three stories, cream brick with butter joint, three recessed bays, separated by brick piers with double windows in central bay and single windows in end bays on second and third stories. Egg and dart stone trim above third story bay; stone sills and sill courses. Large metal cornice with dentils. Elaborate brick parapet with center stone cartouche carved with "SafN" in stone; stone coping atop brick parapet. Second and third stories unaltered. First floor below second story sill course to ground has been refaced with new brick; vitrolite panels, new windows and entry, and shingled shed awning.



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23. Dixon Block (1905), 305-07 Broadway: Classical Revival, two story, cream brick facade with butter joint; three bays. Central bay has three brick arched windows flanked by end bays with paired windows below recessed brick panels. Metal dentilled cornice. Continuous stone sills and lintels across the bays. Brick parapet with stone coping includes center projecting name block "Dixon" between recessed brick panels and brick piers. Dixon Hotel and laundry prior to 1928. Hancock Brothers, architects.
24. 303 Broadway (1905): Two stories, dark yellow brick on front facade; one bay with three segmented brick slightly arched windows on third story; stone coping atop parapet with three recessed brick panels centered over windows. Chamfered brick dentils form the cornice. First floor storefront faced with vertical metal panels and new plate windows. Bowers Bros., builders.
25. 301 Broadway (ca. 1911+): Two story, yellow brick with stone sills and coping atop low parapet. Simple brick cornice. One bay with two sets of paired windows on second floor. Flemish brick pattern. Reversible alterations to storefront include display windows infilled with vertical wood panelling inset with smaller windows.
26. 230 Broadway (1908): Richardsonian Romanesque, two story, red brick, one recessed bay with brick end piers, with two sets of paired windows tied with two large brick arches infilled with wood over windows. Corbelled brick cornice under plain brick parapet. First floor storefront has vertical wood infill at transoms and new plate glass windows. Built for McFadden and Nichols, for \$8,000.
27. 220 Broadway (1903): Three story, cream brick, one recessed bay between plain brick corner piers; two arcades with paired windows extending through second and third stories. Stamped metal spandrels with modillion motif and stamped metal foliated motif inset in arches above third story windows. Stone trim. Minor alterations are aluminum storm windows and storefront.
28. Johnson's Block (1899-1900), 216-18 Broadway: Two story, red brick; three bays separated by brick piers. Each end bay inset with three-part window under wide segmented brick arch. Central bay is wider and slightly taller and includes two paired windows and large brick name block "Johnsons Block." Terminal piers on central bay project above brick parapet. Very elaborate brick corbelled cornice. Aluminum storm windows and reversible applied signage over original display windows. Built for John and John E. Johnson for \$11,100 for stores and apartments. Jacob Friedlander, architect.

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29. Loken Hotel (1894), 214 Broadway: Two story, frame with brick veneer, one bay, four windows on second floor with rough sandstone sills and lintels; three recessed brick panels above second story windows; corbelled brick cornice. Jacob Friedlander, architect. Built for B. Schmidt.
30. 212 Broadway (1912): Three story, cream brick, one bay with three windows on second and third stories. Tall keystones in lintels of third story windows. Elaborate corbelled brick cornice. This building, a separate property, is the north third of the Loretta Block at 208-10 Broadway, built three years later for lack of funds and legal entanglements.
31. Loretta Block (1909), 208-10 Broadway: Three story, cream brick. The south third of this building, 208 Broadway, is identical to 212 Broadway (above #30). The central bay (210 Broadway) is divided into two double sets of windows between plain brick pilasters. The third story windows are slightly arched with tall keystones. The second story paired windows have flat arches. An elaborate dentilled cornice matches building # 30. The cornice and parapet is slightly taller in the center bay (actually the north half of the Loretta Block) and has a carved name block "Loretta" on the brick parapet. Named for Loretta Elliott, youngest daughter of Peter Elliott.
32. McKone Block (1905), 206 Broadway: Classical commercial, three story, cream brick, stone trim; one recessed bay with two three-part Chicago style casement windows on second and third stories. Pilaster strips at corners terminate in stone Roman Ionic capitals. Stone bracketed cornice and plain brick parapet. Andrew J. O'Shea, architect. Built for A. K. McKone for \$12,000.
33. 202-204 Broadway (1908): Art Moderne, one story light cut stone facing. Angled corner entry at Broadway and Second Avenue North. Refaced in 1940 to present Art Moderne appearance by Braseth and Houkom, architects; F. F. Powers, contractors for E. S. Clapp for \$20,000.
- X 34. Dakota Block (1893, 1899), 121-23 Broadway: Two story, red brick, stone trim. Two bays with north bay forming flat roofed corner tower with projecting brick recessed panels in parapet. South bay has some panels in parapet but is slightly lower. Each recessed bay on Broadway side has four tall windows with glass window transoms. Elaborate corbelled cornice. Three bays on north (Second Avenue North) side. West bay is corner tower; east bay is rear corner tower; slightly recessed center side bay has segmented brick arched windows. This description is a \$4,500 refacing by Milton Earle Beebe in 1899 after a fire partially destroyed the building for Benton and Angell, merchants. The original building was similar in number of bays and in the north facade dating from 1893 and was designed

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- by Hancock Brothers, architects, for Benton and Angell as stores and offices for \$12,000. Erected in 1893 on the foundation of the old Pinkham Building destroyed in the June, 1893 fire. Reversible alterations include new glass entry and store windows and glazed green metal panels furred on to front facade with a sandwich of fiberglass insulation between.
35. Bristol and Sweet Building (1907), 117-19 Broadway: Classical Revival, three story, red brick, butter joint; two recessed bays separated by center and end brick pilasters, sitting on rough sandstone piers at first story; four windows to each bay at second and third stories. Elaborate dentilled metal cornice and foliated metal frieze; plain brick parapet. Built for Bristol and Sweet Harness Co.; Hancock Brothers, architects; Casper Johnson, builder. Alterations include brick facade painted black and reversible applied metal signage and new glass display windows on storefront.
36. Broadway Hotel (1924), 115 Broadway: Three story, brick butter joint; one recessed bay with four windows on second and third stories separated by pilaster strips between the windows. Corner pilasters terminate in foliated capitals. Continuous stone sills across the bay at third story windows. Corbelled brick trim terminates the bay. Above the bay are four recessed brick panels under corbelled cornice and plain brick parapet with stone coping. Facade painted grey. Reversible applied vertical panels over new storefront windows.
37. Douglass Block (1903), 113 Broadway: Classical Revival, two story, brick; jack arch lintel over three second story windows; one bay flanked by corner pilasters. Rough sandstone sills; bracketted metal cornice. Hancock Brothers, owners, architects, builders. Built with (#9) Hancock Building next door. "Douglass" name block and parapet was the maiden name of Walter B. Hancock's wife.
38. Gate City Block (1894, 1940), 69-73 Broadway: Art Moderne refacing in 1940, two story, gabled roof, light cut stone facing; geometric right-angled patterns scored on stone facing. Brass letters affixed in front gable "Royal Block" have replaced original "Gate City Block" lettering. Original 1940 condition with no fenestration alterations. Refaced for Gate City Building & Loan, which was started by architect Gillespie in 1923 after he gave up the Haxby and Gillespie architectural partnership. Building originally was O'Neill Block in 1894. Braseth and Houkom, architects on 1940 refacing and redesign for \$26,000. Carlson-Benson, contractors.
39. Kaufman Block (1900), 54-56 Broadway: Three story, dark yellow brick, butter joint; four bays; double window in each bay. Metal cornice painted silver, curving parapet. Masonite and plaster refacing on the storefront. Built for Maurice Kaufman, merchant.

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40. Fargo National Bank (1911), 52 Broadway: Classical Revival, three story, cream brick, butter joint. Pedimented and bracketted stone entry, flanked by Greek Ionic capitals on engaged piers. Stone sill courses and bracketted stone cornice. Stone window heads and consoles over second story windows. Exterior is original except three story 25 foot pre-1922 addition to rear (NP Avenue side) which matches the facade exactly.
41. Burrell Apartments (Colonial Hotel and Apartments) (ca. 1908-10), 403-09 Fourth Street North: Classical Revival, two story, light yellow brick, red brick and sandstone trim; red brick paired belt courses; sandstone lintels, dentilled cornice; large Tuscan columned flat roofed one story wooden porch across front facade; porch has balustrade of 1"x1" which may be a replacement. Interior patterned stucco walls, oak woodwork, and speaking tubes are original.
42. Stone, Ordean, and Wells Co. office and warehouse (1921), 413-17 Fourth Street North: Two story; red wire-faced brick; stone trim at coping on projecting front entry, parapet, caps on engaged brick piers which flank entry, and belt course; three part Chicago windows on first story, steel frame windows on second story. There is a small amount of brick infill at sidelights around front entry; at the rear of the structure are three additions in concrete block (1937, 1949, 1951) which do not mar original building. Built in 1921 for \$38,000 by Keith and Kurke, architects for this farm implement business.
43. McCormick Block (1920), 318-20 Fifth Street North: Three story, dark red glazed Hebron brick, raised basement; stone trim in water table, stone sills and stone name block "McCormick;" stone capitals atop pilasters in flank the front entry; one bay with a rhythm of 1-4-1 fenestration on second and third stories. Clean-cut elegant lines. Two large display windows centered on front facade are inset with plaster panels and sheet metal over transoms. Since 1958, a one story concrete block loading dock has been added to rear south side. Built for John and L. L. McCormick for Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. for \$60,000. Braseth and Rosatti, architects; F. F. Powers & Co., contractors.
44. Bristol Building (1920), 322-24 Fifth Street North (also 510 Fourth Avenue North, now Universal Building): Five story, dark yellow/brown brick; three bays on Fifth Street side, nine bays on Fourth Avenue side; paired windows to each bay between brick pilasters. Corbelled brick cornice; one wide display window with glass transom between bays on Fifth Street front facade; plain brick parapet. Reversible wood infill on front display windows. Metal awnings over principal entries. Interior is oak and patterned plaster with high degree of integrity. Built to replace (#35) Bristol and Sweet Building on Broadway. Built for Bristol and Sweet's harness factory and offices for \$98,000. Hancock Brothers, architects; F. F. Powers & Co., contractors. Interior converted from harness factory to offices in 1929 for Ginakes Bros.; contractors, Meineke and Johnson.

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45. Billmeyer Apartments (1910), 37 Seventh Street North: Three story, cream brick, one bay, three windows on second and third stories, central front entry flanked by similar windows. Windows are single sash with small panelled transoms. Plain brick course for cornice and corbelled parapet. Centered name block "Billmeyer" between cornice and parapet. Exterior in original condition.
46. Fargo Food Products Co. warehouse (1928), 501-3 (503) Seventh Street North: Art Moderne, three story, with four story tower facing south on Great Northern Railroad tracks; engaged brick piers and piers running up tower facade gives illusion of greater height. Tower terminates in brick zig-zag corbiestep parapet. Rounded arched front entry; steel window frames. Major alteration is a 1968 glass-enclosed exterior elevator on north side. Built for Fargo Food Products for \$35,500; William F. Kurke, architect; F. F. Powers, contractors.
47. F. P. Riley Building (1926) 12 (10) Roberts Street: Late Classical Revival, four stories, wire-faced red brick, American bond; stone trim in sills, keystones in central window lintels, molded cornice coping, and circular foliated motif in running course above cornice. Slightly projecting center bay with six over one triple window flanked by end bays of one six over one window on floors two to four. The front facade is intact except for infill in the centered display window between the two front entries and a continuous metal awning extending across the front and continuing down the south side of the building, which has been stuccoed. The south side constitutes a new entry, since the two buildings south were torn down. These changes do not seriously detract from front facade. Built for F. P. Riley for stores and apartments, Keith and Kurke, architects for \$68,000.
48. 12-14½ Roberts (1905): Three story, cream brick, butter joint, one bay, five double hung windows on second and third stories; dentilled cornice. Painted glass storefront window transoms. Excellent integrity.
- X 49. 107 Roberts (1915): Two story, one bay, three windows with stone sills, above which is a brick running course which meets long brick engaged end bracks which extend up to meet a brick corbelled cornice. Within the rectangular space formed by running course, cornice and brackets are three recessed brick panels centered over the second story windows. The storefront has been faced with form stone around display windows, applied plywood panels at transoms on storefront can be easily removed.

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50. Porterfield Block (1917), 109-11 Roberts: Jacobethan commercial, two story, red brick, one bay; stone caps on first floor piers, stone sills, keystones and skewback stones on second story windows, coping, name block "Porterfield" centered on front facade under parapet. Stone tabs on end windows. First story altered with stucco infill and new windows. Built for Fout and Porterfield drug company. Hancock Brothers, architects; Stewart Wilson, contractor.
51. 113-15 Roberts (1916): Two story, brick, three pairs of double windows on second story. Windows have small panelled glass in upper half over one; brick cornice; stone capped parapet is three piers inset with a terra cotta diamond between decorative patterned brickwork centered over each window set. New glass windows and applied glazed metal panels on storefront. Now: Graver Annex. Built for Moore and Gaard for \$20,000.
52. Hotel Graver (ca. 1917), 113-23 Roberts: Five story, wire-faced red brick, cream colored terra cotta tile punctuates spandrels between windows and molded terra cotta cornice, no parapet. At second story, shutters have been added to windows (an incongruous effect) and storefronts have been altered with half timber and stucco at display window transoms. Built for North Dakota Realty Co.; William Kurke, architect, F. Powers Const. Co., contractor as stores and flats. Currently used as dormitory by North Dakota State University and undergoing a tax certification.
53. The Herald (1910), 303-05 (303) Roberts: Two story, brick, four sets of paired windows between pilasters on second story; raised basement; simple brick cornice and uneven parapet rising to a centered name block "The Herald," printing company. Aluminum storm windows and painted brickwork at first story.
54. Smith, Follet, and Crowl office and warehouse (1917), 309-11 (309) Roberts: Four story; yellow brick; three bays with Chicago windows, now infilled with hinged metal awnings; brick patterned end piers and piers separating the bays extend to slightly crenelated parapet with stone coping. Display windows infilled with vertical wood panels and smaller windows and door. Original owner still occupies building, a wholesale notions and furnishings firm. William Kurke, architect; F. F. Powers Const. Co., for \$2,000.
55. John Morell & Co. (1913), 508 (506) Roberts: Two story, brick, one bay, molded cornice, end piers on parapet; painted white with dark grey in parapet. Built for Morell, meat packers.

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56. 619 NP Avenue (1897): Two story, red brick, butter joint; dentilled cornice and brick panelled frieze; one bay; brick and piers, three segmented arched windows on second story; corrugated metal panels infill storefront windows; new glass and metal doors and display windows. Built for Charles Greve. Andrew J. O'Shea, architect.
57. 621 NP Avenue (1893), 621 NP Avenue: Two story; red brick; two double sets of segmented arched windows tied together with belt course; corbelled cornice; arched rusticated corner entry to second story. Wood panelled signage covers first story transom. Hancock Bros., architects.
58. Patrick Flats (1914), 623-5 NP Avenue: Two story, red brick, butter joint; same facade as building #61, but with three sets of double windows. Storefront infill and signage is reversible. Bowers Brothers, owners, architects, builders.
59. North Dakota Harness Co. (1905), 627-29 NP Avenue: Three story, dark yellow brick, butter joint; three bays, three windows to a bay separated by brick piers within the bays between the windows. Each bay is separated by brick piers which extend from ground to corbelled brick cornice; moulded cornice above dentilled running course. Sheet metal applied over storefront transom; store windows bricked up and smaller windows added. Hancock Bros., architects.
60. 631 NP Avenue (1906): Two story; yellow brick; corbelled frieze under molded cornice; stone sill course under three double-hung second story windows. New glass and metal storefront and diagonal wood applied over transoms.
61. Swift & Co. Building (1913), 802-04 (800) NP Avenue: Two story, raised basement, red brick, stone sills and coping on parapet. Three part vertical mullions on triple sets of double hung windows. Three bays on NP and Eight Street facades with one set of windows per bay. Similar to building #45 by Keith and Kurke. Now vacant.
62. Union Storage and Transfer Co., Warehouse "C" (1916), 806-12 (806) NP Avenue: Two story, raised basement, wire-faced red brick; terra cotta white, green, red, and black geometric decorative pattern at top of each ground to parapet pier between the bays and over pedimented entry; three part Chicago style windows with glass transoms on first story; one window per bay on second story. Built for Union Storage; Ashelman and Gage, architects; Meineke Building Co., contractors.
63. 820 (828) NP Avenue (1925): Two story, red brick, stone trim in pier caps, coping; six bays; large steel sash windows; corbiestepped raised central parapet, two windows per bay; glass brick and wood panels infill some of storefront windows.

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64. Elliot Hotel Annex (1899), 606-12 First Avenue North: Classical Revival; three story; cream brick, butter joint; red sandstone trim on lintel and sills; three bays with discontinuous cornice and parapet taller over center bays; two brick arched windows with belt course in third story center bay. Panelled recessed brickwork over third story windows in recessed end bays; corner pilasters on third story extend through elaborate bracketted cornice to top of parapet. Brick is painted; windows infilled with wood; first story infilled with wood panels, but delicate cast iron columns between windows remain. Built as annex for Elliot Hotel next door facing 64-74 Broadway, which remained its function until ca. 1930-32. Named for Peter Elliot and owned by I. P. Clapp, an Elliot Hotel co-owner; for \$10,500; Hancock Brothers, architects; J. H. Bowers, contractors.
65. Kopelman Building (1896), 512 First Avenue North: Two story, brick, one bay with two pairs of jack-arched windows under recessed brick panels, dentilled and molded cornice, projecting parapet framed by brick piers. Painted grey, applied reversible materials on storefront. Built for Kopelman Hair Dressing Parlor.
66. 514-20 First Avenue North (ca. 1911-16): Two story, brick, four bays separated by brick pilasters and two windows to a bay. Cornice is same as building #69. Faced with bolted-on metal mesh screen which has not altered original facade. Storefront is altered with new glass and metal entries and display windows.
67. International Order of Odd Fellows Hall (1894, 1915-16), 521 First Avenue North: Originally constructed for stores and the I.O.O.F. Hall as a two story building, Orff and Joralemon of Minneapolis, architects; B. F. Shanley, contractor. Erected as part of the rebuilding of Fargo after the June, 1893 fire. In 1915-16, a third story was added sensitively, and the third and second stories became the Donaldson Hotel.

Renaissance Revival, three stories, dark red brick, butter joint; red sandstone trim; four bays on Broadway, thirteen bays on First Avenue side, of which the center bay at the second and third stories is a recessed Palladian motif balustrade balcony with engaged Corinthian pilasters and paired free-standing Corinthian columns. Above this is a Roman numeral date block "1894." Dentilled metal cornice, brick belt courses; semi-circular arches over third story windows. The third story was carefully added so as not to be apparent. First story brick painted and applied materials in metal, wood, and brick added.



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68. Stone Block (1910), 613-15 (613) First Avenue North: Classical Revival, three story, yellow brick, butter joint, stone trim, three bays with three windows in center bay and two in end bays on second and third stories; pilasters between the bays with egg and dart molding. Metal foliated frieze below elaborate dentilled metal cornice with paired brackets. Storefront has been altered with ceramic tiles applied over the brick and a protruding plaster/concrete awning over the front entrance. Hancock Bros., architects.
69. Laring Building (1910), 617-19 First Avenue North: Three story, red Hebron brick, three bays; egg and dart trim running above third story windows and on dentilled metal molded cornice. Name block.
70. Walker Block (1900-02), 621-23 First Avenue North: Two story, cream brick, red sandstone trim; four bays separated by pilasters with red sandstone caps. One window in each recessed bay, with recessed brick panel above each window; brick dentilled running course; corbelled frieze under molded metal cornice; surmounted by panels and piers on brick parapet with name block "Walker Block." On front facade, basement windows bricked up and new glass display windows reach to top of first story; built for T. J. Walker of Walker and Hardy Printers and Binders for \$17,500; Milton E. Beebe, architect; Casper Johnson, contractor. Storefront alterations by William F. Kurke in 1928.
71. Pioneer Life Building (1910), 625-39 (625) First Avenue North: Four stories, dark yellow brick, butter joint, stone trim; square corner towers form parapet above cornice with arched motif in brick above fourth story corner windows. Date block over pedimented entry to upper floors in stone: "1910." Sill and lintel level running courses in brick tie together fenestration. Storefronts have a variety of applied materials. Built for Pioneer Life Insurance Co.
72. U. S. Post Office and Courthouse (1929-31), 655 First Avenue North: Classical Revival, three stories, dressed stone; arched entries; two story arcade with fluted Ionic columns between the windows on second and third story projecting centry bay; running course under plain stone frieze and dentilled cornice; balustraded parapet. Built for \$600,000 under the administration of James Knox Taylor.
73. Rollo statue, 536 Fifth Avenue North: Monument to Gange Rolf, founder of Rouen, France and first Duke of Normandy. His line through William the Conqueror became the royal house of England in 1066 and the reigning family of Norway in 1905. According to the inscription, the statue was carved by Arseme Letellier, Norwegian sculptor, in 1863, and presented to Norse people in Fargo by the Society of Normandy and dedicated in 1912. Statue and stone base is painted grey, the only alteration. Erected through the efforts of H. O. Fjelde, Fargo doctor.

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74. Great Northern Depot (1906), 536 Fifth Avenue North: Romanesque, one story. dark red brick with rusticated buff sandstone foundation; sandstone trim; porte cocheres at east and west ends; green tile hipped roof; bright green wood window sashes and transoms; corner piers have rusticated granite bases; voussoirs and jack-arch lintels; patterned zig-zag brick terrace surrounds building. Samuel Bartlett, architect. Bartlett knew James J. Hill, owner of the Great Northern, and he built a string of Great Northern stations in Rugby, Minot, and Williston, North Dakota and Glacier Park, Montana.
75. American Railway Express Building (1906): One story; similar to Great Northern Depot (#74); stone water table, some windows bricked up; slate roof with green tile trim. Currently used as Burlington Northern Railroad freight house.
- X 76. First National Bank Building (1878), 602 Main Avenue: Two story brick; corbelled brick cornice; rounded arched windows with brick keystone; hood molds over east facade windows; recessed panelled parapet. Said to be Fargo's first brick building. Used as bank until 1911. New windows, faced with metal panels, and (after 1922) diagonal corner entry squared off. Original, now covered, facade similar to 604 Main today (Italianate).  
N/C
77. 604 Main (ca. 1878-1884): Two story, brick; original facade from top of first story to parapet; four rounded arched windows with hood molds and keystones, above each window is a decorative recessed brick panel; corbelled cornice; panelled and piers alternate on brick parapet. Was built in a style to be compatible with 602 Main (Italianate).
78. 606 Main (ca. 1878-1884): Two story; brick; three bays with window per bay each with rounded corners at top edges. Original building had hood molds around windows and metal frieze with metal cornice similar to 616 Main today. These have been removed. Facade nearly identical to 618 Main (which was replaced ca. 1915).
- X 79. Morris Block (1894), 608 Main: Two story, red brick; a three-window arched arcade of brick at second story front facade tied together with two arched brick courses above the windows. Corbelled cornice and panelled brick parapet. Covered with a metal facade attached at several places which makes 608 and 610 Main appear to be one building. Facade intact behind metal. Storefront altered. Named for Thomas R. Morris, owner and early contractor and builder.  
N/C

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80. Luther Block (ca. 1878-1884), 610 Main: Two story, brick, one bay, four windows flanked by pilasters supporting curved decorative window cornices; corbelled brick arcade cornice and molded brick parapet. Storefront is faced with black vitreolite panels. Upper story same as Morris Block (#79).
81. 612 Main (1890): Two story, brick; vertical metal panels and metal grillwork cover front facade, behind which is intact brick front and three sets of paired windows with hood molds and corbelled cornice; dentilled and corbelled parapet; with center projecting pediment removed. Storefront display windows are new.
82. 614 Main (1880): Two story, brick with butter joint. Running sill course and at lintels on second story windows; corbelled arched cornice; corner brick pilasters; gently curved stamped metal parapet. Storefront rebuilt with two large brick arches containing new display windows, and vertical board and batten over transoms. Current facing on upper floors date from 1899 when the original building, then owned by the First National Bank of Fargo, was refaced and lowered from three to two stories, probably as a result of a fire.
83. 616-618 Main (ca. 1884): Two story, brick. There are two different facades of 25 feet each on a 50 foot wide building. 616 Main: facade is original parti-colored brick; two bays with pairs of windows in each bay. Top of bays are dentilled brickwork and flat ornamental brick is laid around windows to create flat hood molds over second story windows. Elaborate bracketted stamped metal cornice with molded metal frieze 618 Main: front facade and parapet is refaced (ca. 1915) with wire-faced brick, stone cornice and two three-part Chicago style windows. Parapet has coping of stone. The original facade had window and bay configuration sported by 606 Main today. The original cornice and frieze was identical to 616 Main. Despite refacing, 618 Main contributes to the facade line on this block in materials, proportion and scale. Historically, this building (616-18 Main) was part of deLendrecie's department store from 1904 to 1972. Both storefronts are altered with applied metal grill and new display windows and entries.
84. Shields Block (ca. 1905-10) 714 Main Avenue: virtually identical to building #28 by Andrew J. O'Shea, same material, different pattern on metal spandrels; no parapet; end piers stamped metal capitals. Storefront altered. Andrew J. O'Shea, probable architect. Named for David W. Shields, shoemaker and investor, son-in-law of Luger, owner of building #85.

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85. Old Luger Furniture Store (1882), 716 Main: High Victorian Gothic. Three story, red brick; three bays; center bay has recessed Gothic arch inset with window; flanked by end bays with a window apiece on second story. Windows infilled with glass blocks. Very elaborate tall cornice and gabled parapet in corbelled brick. Permastone and vertical sheet metal applied over storefront.
86. Burlington Northern Headquarters (1925), 801 Main: Colonial Revival, two story, red brick with cream brick lintels, sills, and water table, gabled roof and parapet projecting over roof line. A few windows are brick infilled.
87. Watkins Building (1906): Classical Revival, commercial, three stories; red brick; four radiating arched keystone windows on third story; one wide Chicago style three part window on second story framed by Ionic capital pilasters; white marble string courses, pilaster bases and capitals. Built as additional space by F. L. Watkins for the Dakota Business College and attached to Masonic Block (#4) on Eighth Street South by a walkway. Part of NRHP nomination of Masonic Block.
88. 818-20 Main (1927): One story, red brick garage. Three bays with central entry. End bays have a garage door on one side and a display window with clear transom and reversible window infill on other. Fractables on parapet over front entry; stone coping; decorative ceramic tile squares punctuate bays and end piers over window and door openings.
89. Knerr Building (1920), 822-24 (824) Main: Two story; red brick, stone coping, keystones and running course. Built for Frank O. Knerr for Knerr creamery, at a cost of \$65,000; new glass windows; Gillespie, architect.
- X 90. 910-12 Main (1915): Two story, red brick, wide pedimented parapet with stone coping; cornice reduced to a brick running course; six steel single hung windows. Storefront covered with reversible applied metal panels and wood signage over window transoms.
91. Fargo Fire Station (1900), 914-16 Main: Classical Revival, two story brick, single bay, stone keystones, lintels, and heads and piers surround fire truck doors, stone radiating keystones and rusticated stone on ground floor around front entry, brick quoins at corners, brick panelled frieze under molded stone cornice; plain brick parapet with stone coping. Second story has two pairs of windows with stone keystones and brick heads. These windows flank a circular window surrounded with brick molding surmounted by stone keystone.

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- X 92.-97. These six buildings are located in the el formed by the Masonic Block at 11 South Eighth Street (#4) and the Watkins Building at 806 Main (#87). They are all frame and are one story with widths of six to ten feet except (#92) One Eighth Street South (which is about 20 feet wide and two stories) and Seven Eighth Street South which is also two stories. Their scale and location are important contributions to the early-Fargo feel of this block.
- Photo 15*
- X 92. 1 Eighth Street South (ca. 1884): Resided in asbestos shingles, simple wood cornice moldings over windows, molded cornice; storefront intact with diagonal corner entry.
- X 93. 3A (1) Eighth Street South (ca. 1901): Six feet wide, ten feet tall, what little facade shows over display window and door was brick-faced and a cornice was removed between 1922 and 1958.
- X 94. 3B (3) Eighth Street South (1900): Six feet wide; ten feet tall; entirely faced with masonite panels and metal window and door frames. Retains original wood bracketted cornice under masonite.
- X 95. 5A (5) Eighth Street South (ca. 1884-88): Six feet wide, ten feet tall; faced in permastone painted red.
- X 96. 5B (5½) Eighth Street South (ca. 1884-88): Six feet wide, ten feet tall; faced with certical metal corrugated paneling and masonite signage; new display window and door.
- X 97. 7 Eighth Street South (ca. 1889-92): First story altered with vertical metal panels and new display window; second story faced with asbestos siding and two one over one wood frame windows with wood cornices. Original wood cornice is bracketted and the only survivor of its kind downtown.
98. F. O. Knerr Block (1910), 13 Eighth Street South: Two story, dark yellow brick; pairs of windows with continuous sandstone heads and lintels; elaborately dentilled and corbelled cornice; arched brick parapet between brick piers with centered name block "F. O. Knerr." First floor brick string courses covered in stucco and half timbered look. Original entries and display windows replaced. Currently undergoing rehabilitation as a certified tax project with buildings # 99, # 100, and # 101. Built to house Frank O. Knerr Dairy Company and was headquarters until Knerr Building (#89) replaced it in 1920.

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99. Floyd Block (1910), 15-15½ Eighth Street South: Two story, red brick, one bay, three windows with stone lintels and sills, brick running course above windows, brick panelled frieze and dentilled and corbelled cornice. Plain brick parapet with stone coping and metal name block "Floyd."
100. McHench Block (1902), 17-19 Eighth Street South: Two story, red brick, storefront altered; second story has six arched windows forming an arcade with running course tying them together; dentilled cornice and plain brick parapet; stone lintels and coping. Built for A. J. McHench, developer and speculator who built (#4) Masonic Block in 1884, at a cost of \$9,200, Casper Johnson, builder. Hancock Brothers, architects.
101. 21-23 Eighth Street South (1900): Two story, red brick, seven bays between brick piers. Recessed central bay has arched recessed entry and a pair of windows on second story defined by brick piers which extend to top of parapet. Center bay is flanked by three bays on each side containing one store on each side of central bay on first story and on second story one window per bay. Elaborately dentilled cornice surmounted by recessed brick panels and plain brick parapet. Applied panels at storefront are being stripped off to reveal brickwork. New windows are being installed.
- X 102. 14 Eighth Street South (1896): Brick veneered frame construction, two story; one bay, three pairs of tall narrow windows on second story; parapet may be removed; storefront altered with new glass and metal windows and entries; reversible vertical sheet metal panelling has been applied to front facade.
103. Northwestern Block (1912), 16 Eighth Street South: Three story, brick, butter joint, two slightly recessed bays between simple brick pilasters. Bays terminate in corbelled brick; metal molded cornice and metal frieze; curved parapet between brick piers rises to accommodate name block "Northwestern." Continuous stone sills at second and third stories tie pairs of windows together in each bay. First story storefront covered with reversible metal signage over transoms. New display windows; one story concrete block rear addition built in 1958-60.
104. 18 Eighth Street South (1908): Two story, yellow brick, one bay three windows with continuous stone lintel, jack-arch brick lintels; brick quoins; brick running course above bay to designate simple brick frieze; Bowers Brothers, builders; two story rear addition built by C. H. Johnson and Son in 1922.

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105. Prescott Hotel (1907), 23 Seventh Street South: Three story red brick, butter joint, one bay per story; four windows on second and third story; jack-arched windows; stone sills; raised basement; molded metal cornice; plain brick parapet; belt courses in brick separate each story; exterior unchanged.
106. 17-21 (15-17) Seventh Street South (1927): Wire-faced red brick, one story auto showroom; stylized brick brackets intersecting with brick running courses above windows; stepped parapet, stone coping and sills. Stone star at top of parapet carved with "1927" date block in a six point star shape. Original transoms and new glass display windows; some lateral and rear window infill.
107. 418-420 (420) Broadway (1929): Two story, wire-faced red brick, four bays, two double-hung windows to a bay on second story; above the windows is a decorative band of triangular and square stone blocks, stone coping; storefront divides into two bays between brick piers capped by stone blocks; original square patterned opaque window transoms replaced and front facade has new display windows and entries. Braseth and Rosatti, architects.

D. The following properties (see Map 1) are non-contributing in the district:

108. 508-14 Broadway (1915): An \$800, one story brick garage built by Bowers Brothers construction company, refaced and altered into stores.
109. 422-24 Broadway (1895): Two story, frame, new windows, refaced with metal siding, brick, and tile.
110. 420 (416) Broadway (1960): One story, brick.
111. 418 (414) Broadway (1970): One story, brick, metal cornice.
112. Goodyear Auto Service, 405-09 (401) Broadway (1968): One story, brick store and service center.
113. First Federal Savings & Loan, 319-25 (325) Broadway (1965): One story, precast concrete.
114. 318-20 Broadway (1955): Three story, brick with wood facing, recently remodelled.

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115. Oasis, 310½ Broadway (1955): One story concrete block snack stand, formerly parking pay booth.
116. Cook Block (1916), 228 Broadway: Built for F. W. Cook sign company for \$4,000; new windows, refaced in brick. Original two three-part palladian windows on second story removed. Ashelman and Gage, architects.
117. 226 Broadway (1955): Two story, brick and stone facade.
118. 222-24 Broadway (1949): Two story brick, faced in polished stone blocks.
119. 120 Broadway (1895): Two story brick; refacing of cut stone covered original arched arcade of second story windows to blend with the Black Office Building to the south after 1930.
120. City Center (1961), 110-112 Broadway: Three story brick, faced in stone block with concrete arches.
121. 107 Broadway (1902): Original Classical Revival two story, brick, refaced in aggregate and brick, new windows. Hancock Brothers, architects.
122. Rentschler and Schoeninger building (1893), 105 Broadway: One of surviving buildings from first construction after the 1893 Fargo Fire; two story, brick, totally refaced in metal panels, new ribbon window. Jacob Friedlander, architect.
123. Bill Stern Building (1964), 102-08 Broadway: Two story brick and concrete, stone trim; replaced earlier Stern Building on Broadway; was Stern's department store.
124. Syndicate Block (1893), 64-74 Broadway: Two story, Hydraulic Co. pressed brick, now painted. Built for shops and the Elliott Hotel by a syndicate of businessmen as first generation of construction after the Fargo fire of June, 1893. Remained Elliott Hotel from 1893-ca. 1924; associated with Peter Elliott (Fargo mayor: 1909). A 1941 fire destroyed interior and damaged exterior: bracketted cornice, pedimented bracketted parapet, corner hexagonal towers removed at that time. Little original integrity remains today, save a palladian motif on three second story windows in centre bay of front facade. Millard and Joy (Charles E.) architects.
125. 58 Broadway (1893): (see # 126)



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126. 60-62 Broadway (1893): These two separate properties were actually part of one two-story brick building originally constructed for C. A. Hallenberg by Orff and Joralemon, architects, Minneapolis. Together they constitute the remaining north half of a building which originally extended south to N.P. Avenue. The south one-half of the building was razed in 1900, leaving 58 Broadway with half of the center bay and gabled parapet; and 60-62 with the cornice on the north tower removed.
127. 315 Fourth Avenue North (1920): A frame one-story with razed basement gable-roofed rectangular apartment structure facing east on Burrel Court behind the Burrel Apartments. Constructed for additional rental units.
128. 406 Fourth Street North (1965): One story concrete block with loading platform on south side; used by Metropolitan Federal.
129. Greyhound Bus Depot (1972), 415 Fifth Street North: A one story metal trussed, metal sided garage/depot.
130. 116 Roberts (1905): A one story, cream brick building faced in cream brick in 1970.
131. 223 Roberts (1930): Metal clad parking attendant shack on east side of Roberts in parking lot.
132. 315-321 (317) Roberts (1915): One story, refaced with stucco, new plate glass windows and window infill.
133. 609 N.P. Avenue (1893): Two story, tall jack-arch second story window lintels, brick with butter joint. Altered at storefront with recessed entry and brick bay window. This property is west half of a 50 foot wide building; other half removed when 52 (50) Broadway was added to in the rear prior to 1923.
134. Electronic transformer (1935), 628 N.P. Avenue: The only remaining structure of what was a large Northern States Power light and heat plant in 1958.
135. Model Steam Laundry (1897), 633-5 N.P. Avenue: Two story, brick, two bays originally with four arcaded arched windows per bay and ornate brick parapet; totally refaced in brick, parapet removed, new windows since 1950. One story rear addition in 1907.

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136. Fire Department Headquarters (1961), 637-43 N.P. Avenue: Glazed white and cream brick; two story structure in original condition; replaced an earlier structure.
137. 646 (653-54) N.P. Avenue (1895): Three story, brick; shares common wall and legal description with 648-54 N.P. Avenue: Original facade removed, replaced with glass brick and vitreolite panels in late 1930s-early 1940s; store front later refaced again at first floor.
138. Lark Theater (1970), 630 First Avenue North: Raised concrete block structure with sheet metal commercial mansard roof over parking lot.
139. "The Sodbuster" (1982) Main Avenue at Broadway: Fiberglass sculpture by Louis Jiminez. Bright colors, aesthetically distracting addition to N. P. depot block.
140. 702 Main (1958): One story fireproof construction faced with glass and polished stone panels with sides of random granite blocks. Originally: Fargo National Bank.
141. 720-24 Main (1959): Three story glass paneled bank.
142. 814 Main (1962): One story brick and concrete block restaurant with Mexican decor.
143. 816 Main (1961): One story simple brick faced building, currently a bar.
144. 902-08 (902-06) Main (1926): One story, garage and auto parts, refaced in metal and stucco and generally updated.
145. 918-20 (920) Main (1947): One story brick store with taller rear 1959 addition.
146. 9 Ninth Street South (1952): One story concrete block, painted white with glass brick and wood panelled infill on some windows.
147. 20-24 (28-32) Eighth Street South (1935): One story brick, refaced in stucco and wood panels on front facade.

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E.

The Downtown Fargo Architectural and Historic District (see Map 1) generally extends from First Avenue South to buildings just north of Fifth Avenue North. On this south to north axis the majority of the district properties fall between the Northern Pacific Railroad tracks along Main Avenue and the Burlington Northern Railroad tracks on the north. On an east-west axis the district includes most of Broadway, the main thoroughfare today, with jogs east to Fourth Street North and west to Seventh Street North. A regular grid pattern in the district is alleviated by the northeast to southwest trending Roberts Street which forms wedge-shaped blocks between Broadway and Roberts from N.P. Avenue northward to Sixth Avenue North. The majority of the properties in the district lie along the two north-south streets (Broadway and Eighth Street South) and three east-west avenues (Main Avenue, N.P. Avenue, and First Avenue North).

Blocks south of Main Avenue are 300' x 300' with 20' alleys. This area is the Original Townsite plat of largely 50' x 140' lot sizes platted in 1874. In the district, however, along the commercial south side of Main Ave., lots are 25' x 140' and from 20-40' wide along the commercial 8th St. S. Block and lot sizes in later plats above Main Ave. followed the Original Townsite dimensions of 50 foot wide lots, except along the north side of N.P. Avenue and most of Broadway up to Fourth Avenue North, where, again, commercial lots were only 25' wide. In the block-wide strip from the north side of Main Avenue to the south side of N.P. Avenue, the Northern Pacific Railroad (now Burlington Northern) retained its right-of-way. Properties located here are on unplatted land leased from the railroad. The two wedge-shaped blocks north of Fourth Avenue North between Broadway and Roberts Street contain lots which run through from street to street and vary in depth from 192' at Fourth Avenue North to 62'5" at Sixth Avenue North. As a result of these standard lot sizes, most early buildings along Main Avenue are 25' wide, while those along Broadway and the avenues north of the Northern Pacific tracks are commonly 50' or 25' wide (see Map 2, plat map).

Within the district, structural density is greatest along Broadway, N.P. Avenue, First Avenue North, and the south side of Main Avenue where facade lines are quite uniform. The structures in the district are predominantly two and three story commercial buildings. Non-contributing buildings in the district constructed in the 1950s and 1960s are mostly one story (see Map 1 for locations). Several buildings (such as #109, #116, #119, #122, 124, #125, #126) erected on Broadway between 1893 and 1916 are two story and harmonizes with facade lines and building density despite radical and irreversible changes. The tallest building, at eight stories, is (#8) the Black Office Building at 114-118 Broadway. All other tall buildings, many constructed in the past twenty years, lie east of the district (for example, in the 500, 400, and 300 blocks south of Main Avenue, on the corner of Fifth Street North and First Avenue, and on the east side of Broadway south of N.P. Avenue).

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The structures in the district are predominantly red or yellow brick. Lateral and rear sides are common cream brick. Pre-1910 buildings are often ornamented with brown or red sandstone trim, elaborate brick corbelling, or stamped metal cornices, parapets, spandrels, and foliated friezes. Newspaper documentation suggests that decorative stamped metal was the work of the Fargo Cornice and Ornament Company. Later buildings constructed after 1910 most often use more simple limestone or artificial stone trim or terra-cotta trim. A light-colored dressed stone facing is used on four buildings in the Art Moderne style (#8, #33, #38, #119).

The district represents a complete catalogue of architectural styles fashionable in commercial construction from 1878 to 1940 in the Red River Valley region. Of particular note are early High Victorian Gothic buildings (#4 and #85), Italianate (#76 and #77), and a bracketed wood frame building (#97). Most heavily represented in the district are Classical and Renaissance Revival styles (for example, #9, #10, #18, #23, #39, #44, #64, #67, #68, #72). These are high style structures. A simpler handsome turn-of-the-century commercial Classical style lingered on into this century (for example, #31, #32, #41, #48, #49). These later buildings carry the style through proportion and restraint in the use of decoration. Less common styles are Jacobethan commercial (#7 and #50). Richardsonian Romanesque (#3, #12, #26 and #74), Chicago School (#5), and Art Moderne (#8, #33, #38, #119).

The district contains 147 properties: Five on the National Register, eight pivotal, ninety-four contributing, and forty non-contributing. Building specific alterations are described in Sections A to C. In general, building integrity is excellent above the first floor. Typical of central business districts, storefronts and display windows have been altered or faced in a variety of materials (masonite, sheet metal, metal grillwork, plywood, new brick facing, board and batten, or ceramic-finished 1950s vintage metal panels). These applied materials, which occasionally cover the entire front facades, are reversible in the case of buildings which contribute to the district. Non-contributing structures have suffered irreversible changes, including entirely rebuilt or refaced facades, altered proportions, and new windows.

Open space within the district falls into several categories: Parking areas, railroad rights-of-way, and park or mall areas. Within the district and around its edges are large and small city-owned or private parking lots (shown in Map 1). As of July, 1982 the city of Fargo was maintaining parking spaces for 821 vehicles within and around the edges of the district. Many of the parking spaces are located on former building sites in the central business district. Through bond sales, a plan to clear peripheral areas of the central business district for parking was implemented between the late 1960s and 1974. Three major parking lot concentrations are located along both sides of Roberts Street north of Second Avenue North; on the north and south sides of the old Northern Pacific tracks between Broadway and Eighth Street; and the south half of the 600 block of Main Avenue. These three areas are within the district or just outside of its edges.

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Railroad rights-of-way account for two major open spaces on an east-west axis through the district. The first is the right of way along the old Northern Pacific tracks in the southern portion of the district. Here, building density in the district is very sparse on the north side of Main Avenue. The Cass Gilbert designed Northern Pacific depot (#3) occupies a 200' unplatted area between Sixth and Eighth Streets south. A former park in the block surrounding the depot generated civic pride and has been surrounded by parking lots since 1964-8. Rail passengers service at the Northern Pacific depot ended in 1970 as a result of the Burlington Northern merger. The blocks immediately to the east and west of the Northern Pacific depot and park are generally open. These blocks are former sites of wholesale and jobbing concerns and a large electrical plant. This land (over 400' between the tracks and Northern Pacific Avenue) is owned by the Burlington Northern Railroad and is leased to owners of existing buildings along Northern Pacific Avenue and the unit block of Broadway.

At the north end of the district the old Great Northern depot (#74) sits south of the tracks on Fifth Avenue North surrounded by open space. The depot proper and the freight building (#75) are surrounded by a patterned brick terrace with parking lots to the south. West of the depot, fronting Broadway at Fifth Avenue North, is a green lawn, the only one in the district. The statue of Rollo (#73), dedicated in 1912, is located here.

The Red River Mall, occupying a section of Broadway between the Northern Pacific tracks and Second Avenue North, was constructed in 1974 as a response to the very successful West Acres shopping mall development in West Fargo in 1972. A joint venture between the Chamber of Commerce, the City of Fargo, and downtown merchants, the Red River Mall was designed by a group of Fargo-Moorhead (Minnesota) architects. The Mall consists of widened sidewalks, a two lane zig-zag section of street, and street furniture with music amplifier and lighting. These embellishments obscure first story building facades (see Figure 1). The Mall also includes increased plantings (trees, shrubs, and flowers), seating areas, bus stops, waste baskets, and street signs.<sup>1</sup> Trees along the Mall are under 20' in height and include linden, elm, and ash.

From 1893 to 1974, the area of Broadway covered by the Mall was characterized by a dense concentration of retail businesses. Unfortunately, the Mall has not stimulated retail business nor has it strengthened the tax base. Occupancy of buildings on Broadway has steadily declined in the past several years, particularly in the area between Main Avenue and Second Avenue North.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Salem (1982), Section 3, p. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Salem, Section 3, p. 5.

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Historically, the southern portion of the district along Main Avenue began to achieve significance in the early and mid-1880s. The city of Fargo was located in 1871 by the Puget Sound Land Company at the head of navigation of the north-flowing Red River of the North. Puget Sound was composed of officials of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, whose policy was to plat townsites at the junction of major streams crossed by the railroad.<sup>3</sup> Delayed by the necessity to extinguish Indian title, the original townsite plat was not filed until 1874. Main Avenue at the north end of the original plat (then called Front Street), ran parallel and south of the Northern Pacific bridge, constructed in 1872 across the Red River. Small businesses, at first frame, and later, brick, were constructed on the south side of Front Street, which became the principal commercial avenue. Early insurance maps compiled before North Dakota entered the union in 1889 as a dry state show a generous number of saloons along Front Street among the more respectable business establishments.

Business development in the district increasingly migrated west away from the river and north along Broadway. Lower Broadway began to become an attractive business location as a result of Northern Pacific's Headquarters Hotel, erected in 1872 on the west side of Broadway north of the Northern Pacific tracks. This corner of Broadway and Main Avenue (Front Street) continued to be a commercial hub when the Cass Gilbert designed Northern Pacific depot (#3) was erected in 1898 on the north side of Main Seventh Street South. Broadway became attractive at the head of Seventh Street South in 1874 when city officials realized that Front Street locations were part of the Northern Pacific land grant of odd numbered sections. Section 7, granted to the railroad, involved the many business blocks on the south side of Front Street with uncertain legal titles. The problem was resolved in the 1880s when the railroad dedicated Front Street from the Red River to Thirteenth Street (now University Drive) to the City of Fargo. The strip granted by the railroad was 75'6" deep and resolved the title problems of businesses fronting Main Avenue. The future of Broadway as the main commercial street was further insured by the location of the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba Railroad tracks (later the Great Northern) in the northern portion of the district in 1881-2. The first Great Northern depot was located at 423 Broadway (where the statue of Rollo (#73) sits today); the Great Northern Hotel was across the street at 424 Broadway.<sup>4</sup>

By 1893, commercial blocks presented a nearly solid front along Broadway north to First Avenue North. It was inevitable that the core of the central business district would one day stretch along Broadway between the Northern Pacific and Great Northern Tracks.

<sup>3</sup> Cooper (1909) I:485.

<sup>4</sup> Sanborn Insurance Map, 1896.

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The single event which had the greatest impact on the district in the early years was the Fargo fire, which destroyed 90% of the city's center on June 7, 1893. The fire started near the north side of Front Street and Broadway. Whipped by a 30-mile-an-hour wind, it quickly spread north and east destroying an area that included many commercial blocks and houses between Broadway and the Red River. According to one account:

The fire broke out at 2:15 o'clock on Front Street, spreading East and North, and sweeping almost everything in its path. Over 100 business houses were destroyed, many of them being valuable brick structures. The fire burned over a space of 160 acres embracing the most compactly built portion of the city. In fact, the East side of Broadway from the Northern Pacific Railroad to the Great Northern Depot was completely wiped out. <sup>5</sup>The total loss was estimated at about three million dollars.

The only extant commercial buildings in the district spared by the fire are located on the south side of Main Avenue and along Eighth Street South. These buildings represent two early architectural styles uncommon in North Dakota: High Victorian Gothic and Italianate.

Despite the Panic of 1893, Fargo boomed after the fire as the rebuilding of the city began. Fargo was by 1893 a city of approximately 7,000, having grown from a town of 1,500 in 1880. It was also a jobbing, financial, supply, and distribution center for a vast and rich agricultural hinterland in the fertile Red River Valley. Rail connections via the Northern Pacific and Great Northern connected the city with Bismarck and points west to the Pacific Ocean and to the east with St. Paul/Minneapolis and Chicago markets. Hard spring wheat, the primary cash crop of new homesteaders in the upper Red River Valley, thrived, fueling the Fargo economy. By 1893, Fargo was a regional service center for the multitude of new settlers who had arrived during the Great Dakota Boom of 1879-1886. The commercial and warehouse businesses and wholesale firms burned by the fire were in a great hurry to rebuild.

Carpetbagger architects such as Orff and Joralemon of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and McMillan and Tenbusch of Duluth, Minnesota, added their numbers to local firms to help rebuild the city. Several buildings in the district survive from the 1893-5 post-fire construction: #29, #34, #38, #67, #122, #124, #126, and #133. Only the first four, however, are relatively unaltered.

<sup>5</sup> "The Big Fire of Fargo in 1893," The Record (June, 1899), Fargo, North Dakota 5(1):5.

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Architecturally Fargo had an opportunity after the fire to build a more modern and better planned city, a city of substance. Frame and brick veneer buildings were replaced by masonry and non-combustible concrete sidewalks.<sup>6</sup> Local hopes were not misplaced. Fargo, today, is the largest city in North Dakota by a population of about 25,000 ahead of the state capitol at Bismarck and Grand Forks, another Red River Valley city farther downstream.

The effects of the Fargo fire were felt immediately in the quality, size, and cost of many of the post-fire buildings. There were plenty of architectural commissions to go around and good architects in need of work. Firms such as Orff and Joralemon, the Hancock Brothers, and Jacob Friedlander set standards of architectural taste and quality which influenced later construction. The district is also characterized by an unusually large number of name and date blocks on post-fire structures built between 1893 and 1925. One can only speculate whether the fire heightened awareness of the built environment among the successful middle class Fargo merchants who were justifiably proud of their new architect-designed commercial palaces.

Fargo grew slowly between the first and second Dakota Boom (1898-1909). The second boom was a combination of factors including: Organized state and railroad efforts to attract new immigrants, the rush for remaining land as the frontier closed, liberalizations of the homestead requirement, and a period of favorable years for agriculture brought on by rising prices and adequate rainfall. By 1900, the population of Fargo was 9,589. It grew to 12,500 in 1905, 14,331 in 1910, and 20,549 by 1915.<sup>7</sup>

The downtown district in Fargo developed accordingly. By 1896, the majority of commercial buildings were still located south of Second Avenue North. Two lateral avenues, N.P. Avenue and First Avenue North, for a block east and west of Broadway were rapidly developing solid street facades. As late as 1905, however, Roberts Street, just a block west of Broadway was residential as were areas immediately north and east of the district. Even as late as 1916, almost a third of the Broadway lots between Third and Fifth Avenues north were still vacant and Roberts Street above Second Avenue North was still largely residential. Most of the wholesale and warehouse concerns were connected by spurs to the Northern Pacific and Great Northern tracks east and west of the commercial district. By 1922, the avenues and streets south of Fourth Avenue North were completely built up.

<sup>6</sup> Roy Johnson, "Ups and Downs of Fargo," Fargo Forum, Diamond Jubilee Edition, June 4, 1950, p. 32.

<sup>7</sup> Robinson, 242-251.



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Although the second Dakota Boom, lasting into the "teens" spurred a great deal of residential construction in neighborhoods north and south of the district, the effects of diversified farming and manufacturing and lower freight rate legislation had the greatest impact on downtown Fargo between 1915 and 1930. Although farmers did not abandon raising wheat, the frontier cash crop, they did begin to diversify operations after 1910. After 1910, Fargo industries became more concentrated on meat processing and dairying.<sup>8</sup> John Morrell Meat Company (#55) built a plant in 1913 and the Swift and Co. moved into its new building on Northern Pacific Avenue (#61) the same year. Between 1909 and 1919, the number of manufacturing establishments increased by 40% in Fargo and its sister city, Moorhead, Minnesota. During the 1890s, creameries in the Red River Valley often went out of business quickly. Dairy products spoiled easily there were few dairy cows in the Valley, and most farmers stuck to raising wheat,<sup>10</sup> a more lucrative crop. With improved refrigeration and higher prices, dairying became economically attractive in the Red River Valley after World War I. The Frank O. Knerr creamery moved into its new expanded facilities in 1920 at (#89) 822 Main Avenue.

Lower freight rates encouraged diversification and new industry in Fargo after 1925. Before 1925, freight rates from central and western North Dakota to Fargo were the same as to St. Paul or Duluth, despite excellent rail connections (see Map 3). High rates worked against both farmers and manufactures looking for diversification and competitive prices. The Fargo Rate Case of 1925, initiated by the Fargo Chamber of Commerce before the Interstate Commerce Commission, succeeded in reducing freight rates to Fargo by as much as 50%.

The stimulating effect of lower freight rates was felt immediately in the district, but lasted only a few years until the crash of 1929. The Fargo Food Products Co. built a large warehouse (#46) in 1926 along the Great Northern tracks on Seventh Street North; International Harvester built at 418-20 Broadway in 1929; a large food company built at 818-20 Main Avenue (#88) in 1927; and Universal Carloading and Distributing Co. built on Northern Pacific Avenue (#63) in 1925 on a Northern Pacific spur track.

Since 1930, the major impact in the district has been urban renewal, fire, and clearing of older buildings for parking lots, new construction, and the migration of retail business to the West Acres shopping mall in West Fargo.

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<sup>8</sup> Taylor, 25.

<sup>9</sup> Taylor, 26.

<sup>10</sup> Robinson, 253.

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The sale of municipal bonds in the late 1960s and early 1970s allowed the city of Fargo to implement a plan for peripheral parking surrounding the central business district. During this period, the areas on the east side of Roberts Street north of Second Avenue North and on First Avenue North where the Lark Theatre, built in 1970 (#138), now stand were cleared for parking lots. Other parking lots peripheral to the district were planned between 1970 and 1977.<sup>11</sup>

With the exception of new building infill (listed as non-contributing in list D above), most new construction and urban renewal has occurred south and east of the district. For example, planning for a massive urban renewal project to clear the area from Fourth Street North to the Red River was begun in 1952. Substandard single family frame housing, old hotels and warehouses were razed as part of a federally aided urban renewal plan implemented in the 1960s. Today, this area east of the district contains a new city hall, a civic center, and public library. Most of the city governing functions have now headquartered outside of the district.

Another large area on Main Avenue (Highway 10) east of the district was cleared from Sixth Street South east to the Red River bridge into Moorhead, Minnesota. Until the late 1960s, this stretch on the south side of Main Avenue contained many pre-fire and turn of the century structures similar to buildings #76 - #83. They were generally on 25' frontages and were brick or brick veneer business blocks. Today this area contains the 17 story Fargo National Bank at 520 Main Avenue, built in 1972; the four-story First National Bank at 406 Main Avenue built in 1982; and the Gateway East Shopping Mall at 300 Main Avenue built in 1975. These urban renewal projects constitute a distinct shift in scale, lower density, and age of construction east of the district.

The south half of Block 6 of the Original Townsite (see Map 1), immediately south of the district, is the planned site of two very large 70-apartment 12 story residential towers. Current plans call for a complete renovation of the old deLendrecie department store (#2) on the northwest corner of the block into a mix of commercial space and apartments connected to the new twin residential towers.<sup>12</sup> This project is the second adaptive reuse plan for deLendrecie's since the retail firm's move in 1972 to the West Acres Shopping Mall. The old store was renamed "Block 6" in 1975 and refitted for small retailers, but much of the retail space is unused today. The building was placed on the National Register in 1979. The current plan for Block 6 with the twin towers, when completed, is designed to bring 300 to 350 residents into the city core.

<sup>11</sup> Salem, Section 2, p. 5ff.

<sup>12</sup> Fargo Forum (September 5, 1982), Section C. p.10.

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The project with the greatest historical impact on the district is being planned to include a 12-story hotel and skyway system which will link the Civic Center on Fourth Street North with the Red River Mall on Broadway (see Map 1). Pedestrian skyways planned in conjunction with the new hotel (to be completed by the summer of 1984) would tie together several buildings in the business district and visually impact the district at Broadway. Within the district, a skyway would enter the rear of the old Gate City Building (#38) at the second story level, exit west through the front facade, and connect to building #119 diagonally across Broadway on the west side. On either side of this scheduled skyway route sit two pivotal buildings in the district: (1) the old Merchants Bank to the north (#7), and (2) the Black building on the south (#8). The intent of the city of Fargo is to use Federal Highway Administration money. This project and its appropriateness is now under review by the State Historic Preservation Office in Bismarck.

Fargo continues to lose buildings of importance to its architectural heritage. A recent plan to provide auto banking and parking for the First Bank of North Dakota Fargo's property on the east side of Broadway between Second Avenue North and Third Avenue North led to the demolition in November, 1982, of four buildings and necessitated redrawing the proposed district boundaries to exclude the entire block (see Map 1). Three of the buildings would have contributed to the district and one, at 221 Broadway, would not have contributed. The contributing buildings would have been: (1) the Norden Hotel (1899) at 223 Broadway, with a refacing done by Keith and Kurke in 1921; (2) the Evanson Block (1916) at 219 Broadway, erected by Ted A. Evanson, Fargo tailor, and designed in the Chicago School style by Ashelman and Gage, Fargo architects; and (3) the Calmer Block (1893) at 209 Broadway, built after the Fargo Fire in a style similar to (#28) by Jacob Friedlander, Fargo architect.

Fire and new development have also taken their toll in the past year. Two other buildings in the district which would have been contributing to a district were razed during the Summer 1982 survey, the second of which burned and was pulled down. These buildings were: (1) a 3-story brick and stone auto dealership at 508 Roberts, torn down to provide parking space for Hardee's Restaurant; (2) the Elliott Block (1895) at 615-19 N.P. Avenue, designed by the Hancock Brothers, Fargo architects, torn down after a fire in October, 1982, partially destroyed the interior and second story rear.

There are no current development plans north and west of the district. To the north, the district boundary defines a transition from commercial to residential areas above Sixth Avenue North with two churches on the east and west sides of Broadway at that intersection. West of the district, building density is dramatically lower. Land use west of Seventh Street North is a mix of service, residential, and newer commercial or wholesale businesses erected since 1950 in what was almost exclusively a residential area before World War II.

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Several projects in the district are currently under way to reuse the older downtown buildings. The Powers Hotel (#18) at 400 Broadway is using H.U.D. funds to remodel the vacant hotel into low income senior citizens housing. The brick exterior has been cleaned with a water wash and the project does not involve changing the exterior of the building. Four tax certification projects in the district include: (1) remodelling the Graver Hotel (#52) into office condominium space (the hotel is currently providing dormitory space for the North Dakota State University at Fargo), (2) remodelling the Fort Assembly Plant (#5) into offices, a restaurant, and condominiums, (3) refurbishing four adjacent buildings on South Eighth Street (#98, #99, #100, #101) to provide fourteen apartments and commercial space, and (4) redeveloping the vacant Gardner Hotel (#10) into apartments.

Most of these tax certifications are in progress. The Powers Hotel (#18) Part I. was passed on January 2, 1983 and Part II. on December 12, 1982. The Graver Hotel project (#52) Part I. was approved on June 2, 1982 and Part II. has not been submitted. The Eighth Street South group of buildings (98, 99, 100, 101) had Part I. approved on April 10, 1982 and Part II. approved December 15, 1982.

One project in the district involves design of a park on the west side of the Northern Pacific depot (#3) on Main Avenue at Eighth Street South. The park project, dubbed "Depot Plaza," is the second part of a project that involved adaptive reuse and restoration of the depot. "Friends of the Depot Plaza" are privately raising money needed to develop the parking lot on the west side of the depot into a turn-of-the century park on the site where the old Northern Pacific park stood until 1963.

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Although no building permits exist before the 1893 Fargo fire, the first all-masonry building constructed ca. 1878 in the district is believed to be the First National Bank building (#76) at 602 Main Ave. The double-arched mullions and heavy hood molds survive under its applied panelled facade. The building next door (#77) at 604 Main (ca. 1878-9) was designed to match the facade at 602 Main with arched hooded windows and the same interlocking arcade of corbelled brick at the cornice. Three other buildings on this block retain Italianate facades: 610 (#80), 612 (#81), and 616 (#83), all constructed prior to 1890. A frame building (#97) at 7 8 St. S. (ca. 1889-92) is constructed in a lapped-sided boomtown style with elaborate paired wooden brackets at the cornice, and is the only frame survivor in the district.

The arrival of the St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba railroad (later the Great Northern) in Fargo in 1881-2 and the location of tracks in the northern portion of the district at 5th Ave. N. have left no tangible reminders of the pre-1890 period in that part of the district. The Fargo fire of June, 1893, destroyed all early buildings in the district north of Main Ave. and from the east side of Broadway to the Red River of the North.

From the standpoint of the built environment, the district north of Main Ave. dates from 1894-5, the era of post-fire construction. The necessity of rebuilding virtually the entire downtown quickly and the fact that Fargo was already a bustling city at the time of the fire had several implications for the district as a whole. Merchants were well-established enough to afford architect-designed buildings. Good architects, feeling the effects of the Panic of 1893, were available for work. The post-fire construction, heavily represented by classical revival designs, was undoubtedly influenced by the classical manner made popular by the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Remarkably, another popular style sweeping the American cities during the 1890s, Richardsonian Romanesque, does not appear to have gained much popularity in Fargo by comparison.

The popularity and predominance of classical revival styles owes a great deal to the Hancock Brothers (George and Walter) who practiced in Fargo from 1882 until Walter died in 1929. Their work in North Dakota is virtually unknown before the fire; however George Hancock maintained a second architectural office in Bozeman, Montana, until around 1895.<sup>14</sup> Existing records indicate that the Hancock Brothers dominated post-fire construction in the district. Fifteen extant buildings in the district are known to have been designed by the firm between 1893 and 1921 (#7, 9, 10, 16, 18, 23, 34, 35, 37, 44, 50, 64, 68, 100, 121), and are predominately done in classical revival style.

Among other structures by the Hancocks in the central business district which have not survived are: the 1902 Carnegie Library at 625 2nd Ave. N.; the Waldorf Hotel (1899-1900) formerly located on the southwest corner of Main and 7th St. S.; the

<sup>14</sup> Ramsey (1979), 24-5.

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Elliott Block (1895) at 615-17 N.P. Ave. (destroyed by fire in October, 1982); the Masonic Lodge (1893) on 2nd Ave. N. (razed in 1977); the 1894 Federal Building and Post office on the northwest corner of 1st Ave. N. and Roberts (supervised by Geroge Hancock); and the second Luger Furniture Store at 12 Broadway ( its three arched Romanesque windows and facade irreversably altered). Outside the district extant Hancock buildings include: Old Main (1891) and Ceres Hall (1910) at North Dakota State University; St. Luke's (1909) and St. John's (1904) hospitals; Island Park's Lewis Bandstand (1928); a number of private residences in Fargo; and several churches.<sup>15</sup>

The best extant examples of the Hancock Brothers work in the district today are three buildings with excellent overall integrity. The Hancock building (#9), built in 1903 at 109-11 Broadway and the Gardner Hotel (#10) at 18-26 Roberts St. are the best and most elaborate survivors of the firm's work in the Classical Revival style. Both are well proportioned buildings in brick with stone trim and heavily bracketted cornices with pressed metal details. The third building, Merchant's National Bank (#7), was built in 1921 at 122-24 Broadway. Also employing classical details and excellent proportions, this building relays heavily for its visual impact on the use of cream-colored terra cotta trim, used in the Jacobethan "tabs" around the windows.

There are few extant buildings within the district in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. The most imposing example is (#12) the four story Robb-Lawrence Co. warehouse (1903) by William C. Albrant. Albrant may have been inspired in his design by the Richardsonian Romanesque Northern Pacific depot (#3) on nearby Main Ave., planned by Cass Gilbert and erected in 1898-1900. Other Richardsonian buildings which survive in the district intact include: the (#74) Great Northern depot (1906) on N. 5th Ave.; (#26) a modest business block at 230 Broadway, built in 1900; and (#79) the Morris Block (1894) at 608 Main Ave., now hidden behind applied metal panelling.

The Robb-Lawrence warehouse (#12) is the only known Albrant-designed structure in the district. William C. Albrant is best known in Fargo for his Classical Revival designed Carnegie Library (1905) and the 1901 wing of Science Hall (Minard) on the North Dakota State University campus. He was first listed in the Fargo city directory in 1900 and died young in 1905, at the beginning of "what seemed to be a promising career," according to one architectural historian. Albrant's work included: the new City Hall (1905) and several other buildings in 1904-5 in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan; libraries in Grandin, Mayville, and Valley City, North Dakota; Old Main at the Mayville Teachers College; and the First Baptist Church (1904) in Fargo.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>15</sup> For specific churches, see Ramsey (1979), 29.

<sup>16</sup> Ramsey (1979), 34; Hill (1982); Roberts (1982).

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Four "carpetbagger" firms from Minnesota also found work in Fargo after the fire. McMillan and Tenbusch of Duluth; Orff and Joralemon of Minneapolis; Millard and Joy of St. Paul; and Reed, Stem, and Goodkind of St. Paul. McMillan and Tenbusch's Fargo work survives in the lower three stories of the (#2) deLendrecie department store at 620-24 Main Ave. built in 1894 in Classical/Richardsonian design. Their other 1894 work in the district on Broadway included the R. S. Tyler building (razed) and the Smith Block (#38) which was entirely rebuilt and refaced in 1940.<sup>17</sup>

The Minneapolis firm of Orff and Joralemon designed many post-fire buildings of which only the I.O.O.F. hall (#67) in Renaissance Revival style remains. Within the district, two 1893-4 buildings by this firm have been razed: the Huntington Block and the Citizens National Bank building.<sup>18</sup> While maintaining offices in Fargo and Minneapolis during the 1890s, this firm designed two farm houses and barns (razed) and the Mechanic Arts building (1893) on the North Dakota State University campus, and several imposing mansions and business blocks in Minneapolis. Millard and Joy's 1893-4 work in Fargo survives only in the much-altered Syndicate Block (#124) on Broadway, while the Schmidt, Robert, and Stem building at Fourth and Broadway by Reed, Stem, and Goodkind was replaced by the Powers Hotel in 1914.

Buildings by Keith and Kurke are well-represented in the district, second only to those designed by the Hancock Brothers in numbers. William F. Kurke's practice appears in the city directory in 1917 and he remained active into the 1960s. He is best known as a consulting architect on North Dakota's state capitol building, a skyscraper erected in 1931-2 in Bismarck. Holabird and Root of Chicago were the designers. As state architects Keith and Kurke designed Morrill Hall (1922), Churchill Hall (1931), the new library, and the President's house (both 1949), and other buildings on the State University campus in Fargo. Their best work in the downtown Fargo district, however, is the Iver's Apartments and Funeral Home (#11) at 320-24 Roberts, which has survived in original condition. This building, in Art Moderne style, includes frescos by Italian craftsmen, geometric glass in the funeral parlor doors, and beautiful stained glass in delicate violet, blue, and pale yellow in the chapel windows. Within the district, this firm designed (#18) the top two floors on the Powers Hotel in 1919; the (#52) Hotel Graver; and three warehouses for: (#54) Smith, Follet, and Crowl (1917); (#46) the Fargo Food Products Co. (1928); and (#42) Stone, Ordean, and Wells Co. (1921).

A new generation of architects from Fargo and Minnesota maintained high standards of design in the period from 1915 to 1940, as the classical revival style was gradually replaced. The Chicago style is best represented in the district by the (#5) Ford Assembly Plant (1915) at the north end of Broadway. This building, designed by John

<sup>17</sup> "The Phoenix Act," Fargo Forum, December 31, 1893.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

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Graham of Seattle, makes maximum use of red brick and terra cotta trim in combination with large expanses of steel and broadly-arched glass windows. The building provides an elegant visual anchor at the north end of the district. It is one of several similarly designed Ford plants in the U. S., of which one is in Minneapolis. The Fargo theatre (# 6), built in 1926 by Liebenberg and Kaplan, with construction design by Beuchner and Orth, is the only theatre remaining in the district from early theatre design. Executed in a flamboyant Hollywood mixture of Moorish arches, palmettes, gargoyles, and egg and dart trim, it was one of a series of theatres designed by Liebenberg and Kaplan in the upper Midwest. Its steel truss roof construction was designed by Beuchner and Orth, better known for the Grand Forks (N.D.) County Courthouse and several other courthouses in North Dakota and Minnesota. Liebenberg and Kaplan also designed the State Theatre in 1929 in Fargo (razed) east of Broadway on N.P. Avenue.

In addition to the Ivers building (#11), the Art Moderne style is represented by the Black Office Building (#8) at 114-118 Broadway. This is the tallest building, at eight stories, in the district. Faced with Indiana limestone, it also deviates from the predominant brick in the district. The Black building was the work of Lang, Raugland, and Lewis of Minneapolis with Ole A. Braseth and S. Marius Houkom, consulting Fargo architects. Oscar Lang (1880-1960) and his partners designed the Art Moderne Greyhound bus depot (1936-7) in Minneapolis, the library at St. Olaf's College in Northfield, Minnesota, and a series of churches, schools, and commercial buildings in Minnesota.<sup>19</sup> The Black building (#8) may have inspired the Art Moderne refacing and reconstruction by Braseth and Houkom in 1940 of two other buildings on Broadway: (#38) the Gate City Block at 71-3 and (#33) the building at 202-204 in warm cream-colored ashlar.

For 50 years, Fargo was a distribution hub for an area with a radius of 200 miles in North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota. By 1880, the farmers in the fertile Red River Valley were served by the large agricultural implement businesses located in downtown Fargo. By 1920, Fargo was the second largest distribution point for agricultural implements in the United States, topped only by Kansas City. Many of the largest warehouses, for example, Buffalo-Pitts, Magill, and Garr-Scott, were formally located east of the district on N.P. Avenue, connected to spur tracks of the Northern Pacific. Of those located within the district, the largest and most imposing implement building remaining is that of the Robb-Lawrence Co. (#12). Robb-Lawrence was an agent for Tiffin wagons, Champion hay stackers and sweepstakes, Keystone rakes, loaders, corn huskers, Kingman planters, harrows, cultivators, and plows, and Studebaker wagons. By 1905, the company president, Wilbur Lawrence,

<sup>19</sup> "Oscar T. Lang." biographical file and Liebenberg and Kaplan collection, Northwest Architectural Archives, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota.



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had incorporated as Merchants Transfer and Storage Company, and operated his warehouse as a storage and transfer point and agency for a variety of agricultural implement dealers. The Union Storage and Transfer Company at 806-12 N.P. Avenue was a similar operation dealing from its new warehouse (#62) after 1916. The Stone, Ordean and Wells Co. warehouse (#42) at 413-17 Fourth Street North was built in 1921 to carry its own brand of farm implements. This company has been operating in the Red River Valley since the late 1880s.

Two of Fargo's important early manufacturing industries related to agriculture were the Bristol and Sweet Company and the North Dakota Harness Company. Both manufactured and sold a full line of saddlers hardware including harnesses, horse collars, and saddles. The Bristol and Sweet Company was founded in 1881 by Frederick Bristol and his brother-in-law, Col. W. D. Sweet. By 1898, the firm was manufacturing all of its own saddlery and selling in a hugh territory which included North Dakota, western Minnestoa, Montana, and northern South Dakota. Two of their several locations survive in the Fargo district: (#35) the Bristol and Sweet building at 117-19 Broadway erected in 1903, and the (#44) Bristol building into which the firm moved in 1921 at 322-24 Fifth Street North, when their operations needed more space. Both properties were built for the harness and saddle manufacturing operations of the company and both buildings were designed by the Hancock Brothers. The company appears to have continued in the Bristol building (#44) only until 1929, when their large harness factory was converted to office space. The other saddler was the North Dakota Harness Company, established in Fargo in 1897 by C. O. and W. W. Smith at 619 N.P. Avenue (#56). This company manufactured the "Gate City" line of saddlery, as well as leather, whips, blankets, robes, and turf specialties. The Smith brothers came to Fargo from Bismarck, beginning with convict laborers hired under the prisoner work release program of the State Penitentiary Board. They quickly abandoned their plan as unprofitable and thereafter employed local artisans.

Several large volume business establishments are represented in the district. In 1901, there were four immense job printing businesses of which Walker Brothers was the oldest. Operating as Walker and Hardy, this company specialized in printing and bookbinding from their three story building (#70) on First Avenue North. The building originally contained presses for job printing, lithography, and engraving. Walker and Hardy specialized in manufacturing blank books, stationery, and office supplies, which their travelling salesmen sold throughout North Dakota.

Fout and Porterfield was another early large-volume business. It was one of the leading drug retail companies and suppliers to other druggists in surrounding towns. Henry M. Fout and William P. Porterfield organized the drug company in 1894. Porterfield became

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sole owner in 1904 and erected the Porterfield block (#50) at 109-11 Roberts Street in 1917. William Porterfield was a member of the first Fargo park board, organized in 1910, and was elected for one term to the North Dakota State Senate in 1912.<sup>20</sup>

The building at 309-11 Roberts Street was designed in 1917 for the (#54) Smith, Follet, and Crowl Wholesale Dry Goods Company, and is still occupied by them today. Clarence O. Follet began in 1900 as a clerk for a wholesale grocery concern, the Fargo Mercantile Company. By 1929, he was devoting full time to Smith, Follet, and Crowl as its president. By 1931, Follet was also treasurer of another wholesale operation in the district, the Fargo Food Products Company, whose large warehouse (#46) is located along the Great Northern tracks at 501-03 Seventh Street North.

A large volume business of a cultural sort was Charles Robert Stone's music house, known as the Stone Piano Company. The Stone Block (#68) at 613-15 First Avenue North was the largest and last business block Stone constructed for his music company. His other locations, including a similar building across the street at 614 First Avenue North, have been razed. Charles Stone arrived in Fargo in 1894 to open his own business after having been a travelling piano salesman for a St. Paul firm. In North Dakota, Stone had little competition at the outset selling pianos, stringed instruments, and sheet music. Stone found it necessary, however, to create his own market. He did this by giving music lessons. Stone organized classes in piano, stringed instruments, especially in Fargo, Moorhead (Mn.) and surrounding towns; and travelling frequently by rail, brought music to remote farms in the large rural territory he covered in North Dakota, Minnesota, eastern Montana, and Idaho. Stone organized the first municipal band in Moorhead, Minnesota. When improved road construction began in the 'teens and twenties' in North Dakota, Stone's gravel holdings in Lisbon and Valley City, North Dakota, supplied gravel for state highways.

Several buildings in the district are associated with Peter Elliott (1856-1928), a pioneer in the Red River Valley, Fargo mayor from 1909-12, City Council member for a number of years, Regent of the North Dakota Agricultural College, and one of the city's leading businessmen. Elliott arrived in Fargo in 1873, worked his way from cabin boy to pilot on the steamboats running the Red River between Breckinridge, Minnesota and Winnipeg, Canada, and began in the hotel and restaurant business with his wife in Fargo in 1880. Their first hotel was lost in the Fargo fire in 1893, but, with several other businessmen, they erected the Syndicate Block (#124) on Broadway with the new Elliott Hotel on the second floor. Elliott operated the hotel until shortly before his death. In 1895, on speculation, Elliott erected the Elliott

<sup>20</sup>

Lounsberry (1917) Vol. 2, 92-3.

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block at 615-17 N.P. Avenue, which was destroyed by fire in October, 1982. In 1909, Elliott planned the Loretta Block (#31, #30), but only the south two-thirds (#31) was constructed that year. Legal or financial entanglements delayed the north third, actually a separate building (#30), until 1912. The Loretta Block was named for Loretta Elliott, Peter Elliott's youngest daughter, born in 1902.

Isaac P. Clapp (1839-1921), a co-investor with Peter Elliott in raising the Syndicate Block (#124), erected the Elliott Hotel Annex (#64) at 606-612 First Avenue North in 1899. Clapp, another Fargo pioneer, was one of Fargo's leading citizens and a successful businessman dealing in farm lands, loans, and real estate.

Norman B. Black, a leading North Dakota businessman and newspaper publisher arrived in North Dakota in 1905, where he became manager of the Grand Forks Herald and the Evening Times, until he purchased the Fargo Forum in 1917. In addition to publishing the Forum, Black, in 1920, became president of the Minot Daily News. His influence grew through the newspaper business and Black served two terms as president of the North Dakota Press Association. The Black building (#8) at 114-18 Broadway was erected by and named for him.

The district boundaries were chosen after an intensive National Register survey of the downtown Fargo area outlined on Map 4. All properties within the survey boundaries were field surveyed and photographed. All properties were assessed for significance, and district boundaries selected on the basis of historical and architectural qualities, density, and integrity (see Description section, Item #7). Information from permits, newspapers, archives, monographs, interviews, city directories, maps, and historical photographs were compiled on 4-page North Dakota cultural resource forms. The survey was conducted by Norene Roberts, Tom Jenkinson, Camille Kudzia, and Historical Research, Inc. assistants. The downtown Fargo district represents the largest concentration of eligible commercial properties in the central business district.

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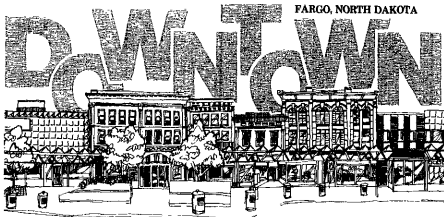
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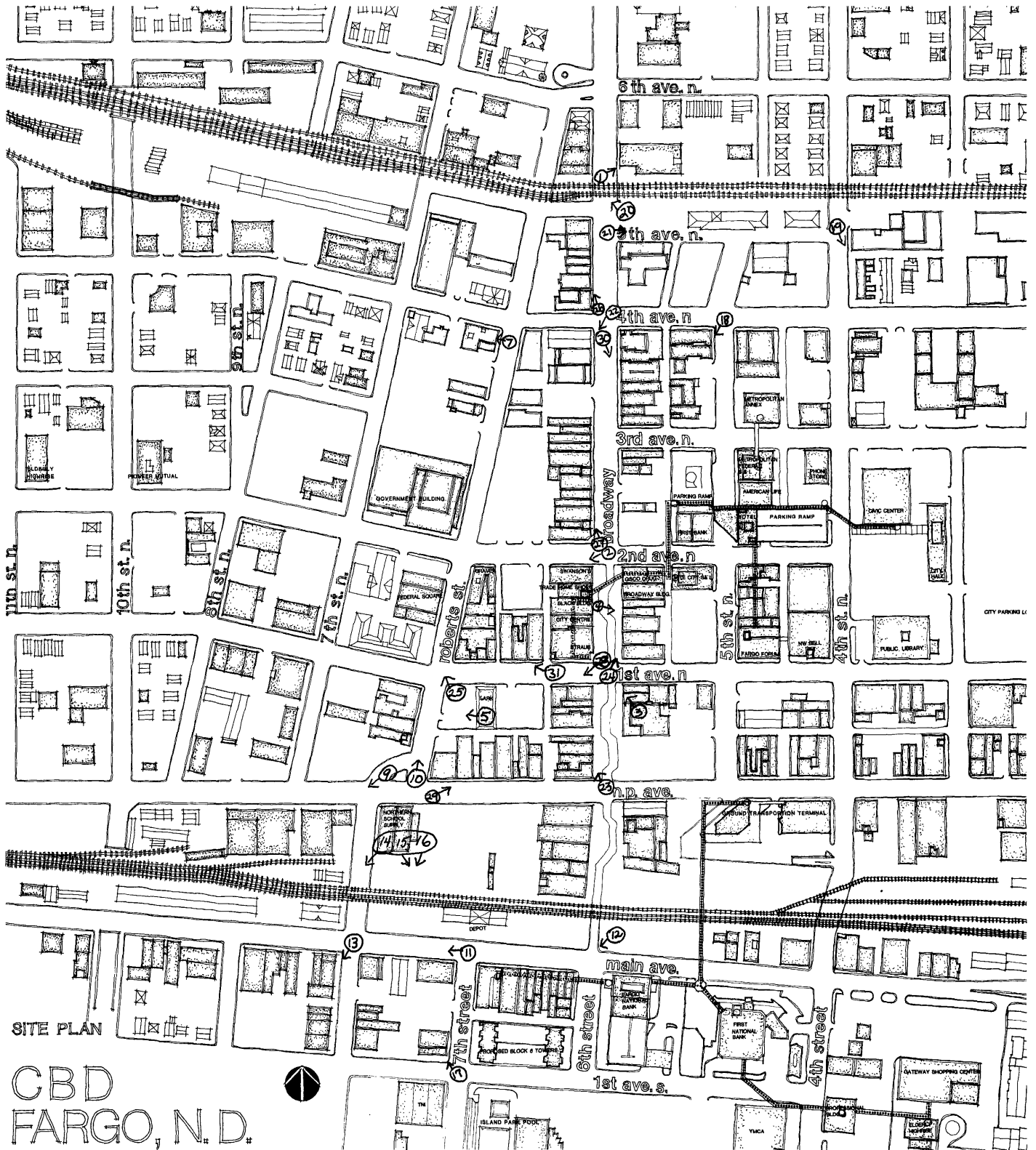
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Fargo N.D. Downtown District  
Photo map



SITE PLAN

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FARGO, N.D.