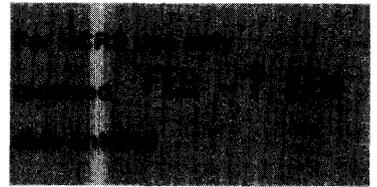


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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



1. Name

historic Owre, Oscar Dr., House

and/or common Newhart, Elwood H. Residence

2. Location

street & number 2625 Newton Avenue South ^S ~~South~~ N/A not for publication

city, town Minneapolis N/A vicinity of congressional district Fifth

state Minnesota code 22 county Hennepin code 053

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Elwood H. Newhart and Others

street & number 2625 Newton Avenue South

city, town Minneapolis N/A vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds, Hennepin County Government Center

street & number 300 South Sixth Street

city, town Minneapolis state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date N/A N/A federal N/A state N/A county N/A local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Dr. Oscar Owre House is located at 2625 Newton Avenue South in the lake district of Minneapolis. Designed in the Prairie School style by the prominent architectural firm of Purcell, Feick and Elmslie, the residence is sited to provide a view of Lake of the Isles.

Constructed in 1912, the two storey frame building features a central cube which is extended by the use of porches and projections into a rectangular plan. The walls of the house are faced with plaster veneer with a horizontal frame skirting. The broad, modified hip roof is sheathed in wooden shingles and has a centrally located chimney. Casement windows form horizontal bands across wall surfaces.

A glassed-in porch projects from the primary facade while the main entrance is recessed and secluded on the north side of the house. The entrance is covered by an open latticework frame with design motifs suggesting an Oriental influence. A one-storey sunporch is located at the rear of the house.

In 1917, a detached garage designed by Purcell and Elmslie was constructed at the rear of the house. Alterations to the house and garage include a 1965 kitchen remodeling project which replaced original windows in the sunporch and kitchen. At that time a small addition was also built on the garage. The Owre House in in excellent condition and, with the exception of minor alterations, has retained its original integrity.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1912 ~~Builder~~ **Architect** Purcell, Feick and Elmslie

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Dr. Oscar Owre House is significant for its Prairie School design by the prominent Minnesota architectural firm of Purcell, Feick and Elmslie. The house was constructed in 1912 for Dr. Owre, a University of Minnesota professor in the School of Dentistry. The design for the Owre House focuses on a central cube form which is extended through the use of porches and extensions into a rectangular plan. The massing of the plan, use of surface materials and fenestration all reflect the Prairie School design tradition. The architectural partnership of William Grey Purcell and George Feick was formed in 1907. In 1909, they were joined by George Grant Elmslie who had come from the offices of Louis Sullivan. Feick left the firm in 1913, and Purcell and Elmslie continued the Minneapolis practice until the 1920's. The architectural team of Purcell and Elmslie played a significant role in the development of the Prairie School in the early twentieth century. Using a design vocabulary originally developed by Louis Sullivan and expanded by Frank Lloyd Wright and others, the firm of Purcell and Elmslie created their own interpretation of the Prairie School style. The Owre House is an important local example of the interpretative design tradition established by the Prairie School architects - Purcell and Elmslie.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Cowles, Linn Ann and Johnson, Peter. The Work of Purcell and Elmslie in Saint Paul and Minneapolis. Hopkins, MN.: Greenwich Design, 1978. Telephone Interview with Alan Lathrop, Northwest Architectural Archives, University of Minnesota. March 2, 1982.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than one

Quadrangle name Minneapolis South

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A

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

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

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 continuation sheet, Page 2.

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Camille Kudzia

organization City of Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission

date March 1982

street & number 210 City Hall

telephone 612-348-6655

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Russell W. Fridley

Russell W. Fridley

State Historic Preservation Officer

date

2/1/84

For HCRS use only

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

Entered in the National Register

date

3/8/84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

0277 10/31/84
0277 10/31/84

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Dr. Oscar Owre House, Minneapolis, Hennepin County, MN

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 1

Additional information to be included in Item #8 - Significance.

The Oscar Owre House is an outstanding example of the ability of the Purcell, Feick, and Elmslie firm to produce an excellent design while working with young cost-conscious clients. In 1911, Dr. Oscar Owre was in the early stages of what proved to be a distinguished and successful medical career. He was "scared to death" that the house would eventually cost more than he could afford if he hired the architects. Purcell assured him it could be built for the estimated \$17,000 if Owre cooperated. On completion, the house came in \$35 under budget.¹ Dr. Oscar Owre began his career as an instructor in oral surgery at the University of Minnesota in the School of Dentistry from 1907-12 where his older brother Alfred Owre was dean. From 1910-13, Oscar Owre was also an instructor in "gen-ito urinary diseases" at the University. He then affiliated himself with the Minneapolis College of Physicians and Surgeons, and eventually served as a staff surgeon specializing in urinary and venereal diseases in the Swedish and Lutheran hospitals in Minneapolis.²

¹Purcell and Elmslie parabiographical file, Northwest Architectural Archives, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

²Oscar Owre file, Walter Library, University Archives, University of Minnesota.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Owre, Oscar Dr., House, Minneapolis, Hennepin County, MN

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

Commencing on westerly line of Lot 17 at a point 21.25 feet southwesterly from northwest corner thereof, southeasterly to a point on southeasterly line of said lot distance 17.75 feet southwesterly from northeast corner thereof, thence northeasterly along the rear lines of Lot 17, 18, 19 to a point in the rear line of Lot 19 distance 4.79 feet northeasterly from southeast corner thereof, thence westerly to a point on westerly line of said lot distance 5 feet northerly from southwest corner thereof, thence southerly along the westerly line of lots 19, 18, 17 to a point of beginning. Block 5 Island Park Addition.