

MINNESOTA HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

APR 8 1980

HISTORIC NAME: Leland, Muret N., House COUNTY: Faribault
 CURRENT NAME: Same CITY/TWP.: Wells, Minnesota
 LEGAL DESC.: Clark Thompson's Addition, Block 6 ADDRESS: 410 2nd Avenue S.W.
 lot 12 Wells, MN 56097

CLASSIFICATION:	CONDITION:	SIGNIFICANCE:	THEME/S:
Building <u>X</u>	Excellent _____	Local <u>X</u>	Primary <u>Architecture</u>
Structure _____	Good <u>X</u>	State _____	Secondary <u>Commerce</u>
Object _____	Fair _____	National _____	Others _____
District _____	Deteriorated _____		

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Yes ___ No X Restricted ___ PRESENT USE: Vacant
 VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD: Yes X No ___
 OCCUPIED: Yes ___ No X

DATE CONSTRUCTED: ca. 1886 ORIGINAL USE: Residence
 ORIGINAL OWNER: Frankie M. Watson ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Frankie W. Watson

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Kenneth W. Brehm 1050 Lafond St. Paul, Minnesota 55104	ACREAGE: Less than one acre <u>X</u>
LOCAL CONTACT/ORG.: Faribault County Historical Society 405 E. 6th Street, Blue Earth, MN 56013	UTM REFERENCE: Wells Quad. 15 minute Lat. 43° 44' 37" Long. 93° 43' 46"
FORM PREPARED BY: Susan Roth	
DATE: November 1979	

DESCRIPTION:

The Muret N. Leland House is located on a wooded lot in Wells. The 2½ story Queen Anne house of irregular plan has a multiple gable roof and is constructed of clapboard on a limestone foundation. A conical-roofed turret emanates from the second floor, and side and front porches feature a pedimented roof. A porte-cochere with a pyramidal roof, finial, turned posts, bracketed eaves, and spandrels is attached to the front porch. Ornamentation includes shingled turret and gables with multi-paned windows, second story spandrelled porch, and decorated barge boards. Roof cresting and chimney caps have been removed. Other minor alterations have included removal of balustrades from the front porch and enclosing of the side porch. The interior of the house retains many original furnishings. Future plans included the total restoration of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Muret N. Leland House is significant for its association with pioneer merchant Muret Leland, and as one of the most imposing residences in Wells, one of the larger Faribault County railroad townsites platted in the late 19th century. Leland was born in Michigan in 1849 and moved to Wells in 1870, one year after the village was platted. He established one of the larger general mercantile businesses in Wells and operated it until his retirement in 1903. Politically active, Leland served as mayor of Wells, school board official and representative in the State Legislature. Although little is known of Watson, the house's builder, locally it is known as the Leland house since its purchase by Leland in 1890. The house incorporates many features of the Queen Anne style and reflects the commercial, social, and political prominence that a pioneer businessman achieved in the community of Wells.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Melvin Lynn
1/19/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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**Note: These changes apply to
Leland, Muret N., House in Faribault
County, Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80004261

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Faribault

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC):

CITY: Wells

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS:

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS: Property is located within the city limits of Wells,
not Walters.

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988
Date