

**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

1984

1. Name

historic St. Charles City Bakery

and/or common H. C. A. The Cartoonist

2. Location

street & number 501 Whitewater Avenue N/A not for publication

city, town St. Charles N/A vicinity of congressional district N/A

state Minnesota code 22 county Winona code 169

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 checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	N/A being considered	<input checked="" 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 James M. and Elvira A. Willson

street & number 205 Church Avenue

city, town St. Charles N/A vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Winona County Courthouse - Recorder's Office

street & number West 3rd Street

city, town Winona state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Resources has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date August 1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society - Fort Snelling History Center

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" 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 St. Charles City Bakery is located on the southeast corner of 5th Street and Whitewater Avenue, about three blocks north of the commercial district.

The two storey brick building, measuring approximately 20 X 40 feet, sits upon a limestone basement. The building, constructed in 1876, is designed in the Italianate style popular during that era and characterized by round arch forms.

The ground level storefront is three bay with a central entry. Paired wood panel entry doors with glass lights are set into wooden round arch openings. The upper portion of the arch is divided into four lights by radiating wooden muntins. This same feature is repeated on the flanking windows, above two over two glass lights. Below the lights are wood panel insets. Upper level openings are round arch with brick surrounds. The wooden sashes follow the curve of the arch and have two over two glass lights. A patterned brick belt course and cornice lend relief to the otherwise plain facade.

Only minor alterations have been made to the building since its construction. The original red brick has been painted a ochre color. An open wooden stairway has been added on the north facade and an upper level window has been altered to serve as an entry door. Paired rectangular windows on the south facade do not appear to be original.

A one storey concrete block addition constructed about 1913 adjoins the building on the south. This building is not considered important to the significance of the primary building.

The building is in good condition and stands on its original site.

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 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 checked="" 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 1876 **Builder/Architect** Conrad Bohn

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The St. Charles City Bakery is significant as the last surviving commercial building from the town's original business district and for the survival integrity of the building's original design. In 1876, Frederick Kuebler commissioned Conrad Bohn to construct a brick building to house his bakery. The site selected was the corner of Whitewater and Winona (now 5th Street) at the center of the town's commercial district. The city of St. Charles was originally platted as two separate town sites in Section 19: St. Charles platted in 1854 in the NE quarter, and Chattanooga and the First Addition of Chattanooga in the SE quarter. While Chattanooga developed south of the present railroad tracks, St. Charles was expanding around the intersection of Whitewater and Winona Avenues, about one-half mile north. With the arrival in 1864 of the Winona and St. Peter Railroad, development began to expand north and south along Whitewater Avenue gradually eliminating the wheat fields which separated the two towns. Finally, in 1868, an Act of the Legislature made Chattanooga and its Additions part of St. Charles, thus uniting the two into a single entity. The town continued to flourish until, on April 26, 1891, fire destroyed a three block area on the north end of town, virtually erasing the early commercial beginnings of St. Charles. The fire, along with the arrival the previous year of the Winona and Southwestern Railroad, provided the economic incentive for the businessmen to relocate the commercial area nearer the center of town and closer to railroad facilities. At the time of the fire the St. Charles City Bakery building housed the St. Charles Times newspaper and it, along with only one other structure, were the only commercial buildings to survive the devastating fire. Apparently neither time nor accident has visited itself upon this early fragment of St. Charles commercial history and it has remained virtually intact over its lifetime. Elements of its original Italianate style are prominent in the round arch forms displayed in the storefront display windows and openings at the second level. The St. Charles City Bakery represents an early example of the second generation of commercial development which follows the replacement of earlier frame structures with those constructed of more substantial materials.

9. Major Bibliographical References

St. Charles Historical Committee. A History of St. Charles. St. Charles, 1954.

St. Charles Times, May 1, 1891.

St. Charles Union, May 1, 1891.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name St. Charles

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

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4	8	6	9	0	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification

North 56 feet of Lot 2 Blk 32 O.P. St. Charles City.

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, Preservation Consultant

organization N/A

date March 1984

street & number 2110 - 24th Avenue South

telephone 612/338-6123

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

title Russell W. Fridley, State Historic Preservation Officer

date 7/5/84

For HCERS use only

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

Delores Byrum

EXEMPTED FROM
National Register

date 8-9-84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration