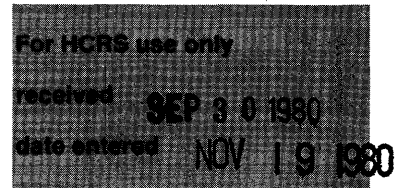


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Rochat-Louise-Sauerwein Block

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 261-277 West Seventh Street _____ not for publication

city, town St. Paul _____ vicinity of congressional district 4th

state Minnesota code 22 county Ramsey code 123

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 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 type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Apartments

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership - see continuation sheet

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Ramsey County Courthouse

street & number 15 Kellogg Boulevard

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes no

date July 25, 1979 _____ federal _____ state _____ county local

depository for survey records St. Paul Department of Planning and Economic Development/HPC

city, town 25 West Fourth Street, St. Paul state Minnesota

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

The Rochat-Louise-Sauerwein Block is located on West Seventh Street between Walnut and Sherman Streets. West Seventh Street, also called Old Fort Road, is the original link connecting downtown St. Paul and Fort Snelling. It has served the neighborhood as a commercial street since 1855 and continues to do so today.

ROCHAT BUILDING

The Rochat Building is the westernmost of the three buildings comprising the block. It was built and named for George Rochat in 1884. With its profusion of elaborate details, the Rochat Building, designed by William H. Castner, is an excellent example of commercial Victorian architecture. The Rochat Building is three stories high and features oriel windows on the second floor, and elliptical arched windows on the third. The roof is flat but on the front facade is a simulated mansard roof, which is adorned with elaborate detailing. Rising from the center of the front facade is a chimney pent with the date "1884" on it, which flows into the actual chimney stack behind the front. The first floor storefront of this building is intact with original windows, doors and zigzag brickwork. A sign covering the upper part of the first floor is slowly falling down revealing the rest of the original first floor facade. The structure is now used as a warehouse.

LOUISE BUILDING

The central building on the block, the Louise Building was constructed in 1885 according to designs by prominent St. Paul architect Edward P. Bassford. It has remained relatively unaltered. The Louise Building is a three story Victorian structure featuring fine decorative brickwork. The building is divided into nine bays by brick pilaster strips which run from the top of the second story windows to the roof parapet. Windows are set in semi-circular arches, segmental arches and rectangular surrounds. The structure is topped with a parapet, below which is a galvanized iron bracketed cornice. Rising from the center of the facade, above the parapet, is a full pediment with the date 1885 inside of it. Below this parapet, at the cornice line is the name "Louise." The first floor is separated from the second by a bracketed cornice. It contains storefronts, which are, for the most part, intact. The Louise Building is in need of maintenance work to insure preservation.

SAUERWEIN BUILDING

The Sauerwein Building, located on the easterly corner of the block, was constructed in 1895 for John Sauerwein. The three story building was designed by Herman Kretz. A more restrained building than either the Rochat or Louise Buildings, the Sauerwein Building features diamond brick work below the cornice line and wrap around windows on the corner, which are decorated with metal swags. It is divided into bays by brick pilaster strips. Of the three structures on the block, the Sauerwein Building has undergone the most alteration. The first floor storefront has been completely altered and the original cornice has been removed. Nonetheless it contributes to the block in terms of scale, massing, and architectural style.

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

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Rochat-Louise-Sauerwein Block is significant as a fine representative of commercial storefront architecture from the Victorian era in St. Paul. The block exemplifies the once common practice of small businessmen, that of constructing a building for combined commercial and residential use (often occupied by the owners themselves). Although taken separately the three buildings which comprise the block are of differing architectural significance, together they form a compatible and important composition in their contribution to the streetscape. When at its peak in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, West Seventh Street was lined with three and four story brick Victorian structures like the Rochat-Louise-Sauerwein Block. The Block remains today as a rare surviving example of that era and building type in St. Paul.

9. Major Bibliographical References

St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission Report: 7/25/79.
(supplemental bibliography in report)

10. Geographical Data

UMT NOT VERIFIED **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

Acreege of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name St. Paul East

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A

1	5	4	9	1	6	6	0	4	9	7	5	3	8	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

Lots 9-12 of Block 51 of Dayton and Irvine's Addition, St. Paul.
Northwest corner of Walnut and Seventh Streets

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Terry Pfoutz, Planner/Charles W. Nelson, Historical Architect

organization St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission/
Minnesota Historical Society date 2 May 1980

street & number 25 W. 4th St./240 Summit Avenue telephone (612) 292-6229/(612) 296-9073

city or town St. Paul/St. Paul state Minnesota

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Russell W. Fridley*

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 9/24/80

For HCERS use only

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

Jesse W. Ray
Keeper of the National Register

date 11/19/80

Attest: *Jesse W. Ray*
Chief of Registration

date 11-14-80

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	SEP 30 1980
DATE ENTERED	NOV 19 1980

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

Rochat-Louise-Sauerwein Block

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 1

Ownership List

ROCHAT BUILDING

John R. & Barbara Austin
Thomas & Mary Austin
3 Bassword Lane
St. Paul, MN 55110

LOUISE BUILDING

Joseph Markovich
1429 Como Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108

SAUERWEIN BUILDING

David Kuehn
43 MacKubin
St. Paul, MN 55102