

**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 DeGraff - Follrath House
Shaw-Hammons House

and/or common DeGraff House

2. Location

street & number 302 Fremont Street not for publication

city, town Anoka vicinity of congressional district 8th

state Minnesota code 22 county Anoka code 003

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Darwin Follrath

street & number 302 Fremont Street

city, town Anoka vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anoka County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Anoka vicinity of state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1978, 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society -- 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House

city, town St. Paul, vicinity of 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 Shaw-Hammons House, located at the front of a long, narrow wooded lot, was constructed in two sections. The east section of the house was constructed of wood frame with clapboard siding in 1852. This gabled section, which now forms an ell, is two stories in height with a one story rear addition. A slanting roof was discovered under the gabled roof on this addition during restoration. The front facade of this section contains a formal entrance and a gabled projecting dormer. The veranda, with turned posts and decorative spandrels, was added in 1870. The interior of this section contains a dining room, kitchen, closet, and porch on the first floor, and two bedrooms, and a closet on the second floor.

The west section, constructed in 1870, constitutes the main section of the house. It is two and one half stories in height with a full basement. It is constructed of wood frame with clapboard siding. The overall design of this section is Greek Revival. Greek Revival features include the symmetrical and formal design of this section; the slightly pitched gabled roof; the returns at the gable ends, and the eaves, which are detailed as a classical cornice. The windows and the front entrances all have shutters. The interior of this section contains two parlors, and a closet on the first floor, and two bedrooms, two closets, and a bath on the second floor.

Interior features, such as the oak balustraded staircase and door hardware, are in an excellent state of preservation.

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 type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" 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 ca.1852; 1870 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Shaw-Hammons House is significant primarily for its historic association with Anoka's settlement. The historic figures who built or lived in this house represent a wide range of people who contributed to Anoka's history in a variety of ways. Architecturally, the house represents Anoka's best preserved example of the Greek Revival style -- the city and county's most prevalent historic architectural style.

The abstract of title to this house reads like a "who's who" of early St. Anthony (Minneapolis), St. Paul, and Anoka lumbermen, financiers, land speculators, bankers, and politicians. Between 1852 and 1860, the property was held by Antoine Robert, Henry Rice, Samuel Shaw, Neal Shaw, William Woodbury, and Sumner Farnham, among others -- all of these men figured prominently in the development of mid and late nineteenth century Minnesota.

The east section of this house was built for use as a store and house by the Shaw family. The store was located along the eastern half of the first story. The Shaw store was moved in 1854 into the first building in Anoka to be constructed for a store. The Shaw family, originally from Maine, platted a 160 acre tract of land, "Shaw's Addition to Anoka," in 1854. In addition, the Shaw family was among the first proprietors of the dam and mills at Anoka.

The east section of the house passed through a number of hands throughout the 1860s. In the spring of 1870, Weston Hammons, an attorney from Maine, constructed the two and one half story section of the house and remodeled the front facade of the original house. Hammons owned interests in a number of lumbering concerns located along the Rum and St. Croix Rivers. He served, for a number of years, as attorney for Anoka County. Hammons was among the incorporators of the Anoka Boot and Shoe Manufacturing Company, one of Anoka's largest industrial concerns in the 1880s.

In 1883 Justus W. DeGraff, a railroad contractor and bridge engineer from Stearns County, Minnesota, purchased the house from Weston Hammons. Prior to moving to Anoka, DeGraff had been a partner, with Nicholas DeGraff and William Crooks, in the firm of DeGraff and Company. This noted railroad building company constructed railroads in Minnesota and Iowa. The DeGraff family owned the house until 1965. In 1965 Marie DeGraff, Justus' daughter, a locally prominent educator and artist, sold the house to the Follraths.

The Follraths restored the house, which had deteriorated greatly, to its 1870 appearance.

PLEASE NOTE: The manuscript for this nomination was prepared before the one paragraph limit for significance statements was stipulated.

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Anoka

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A

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

Auditors Subdivision No. 148

Lots 13, 14

Block 45

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 Lynne VanBrocklin Spaeth

organization Minnesota Historical Society date May 1979

street & number 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House contact Dennis Gimmetad
telephone (612) 296-9545

city or town state

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 11/1/79

For HCRS use only

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

Sally G. O'Connell date 12/26/79
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Kristin O'Connell date 12/26/79

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper *Helene Lyman*
11/19/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

**Note: These changes apply to
DeGraff-Follrath House in Anoka
County, Minnesota.**

REFERENCE NUMBER: 79001183

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Anoka

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Shaw-Hammons House

CITY:

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS:

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988

Date