

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 5 1979

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Historic Resources of Wright County (Partial Inventory:
Historic and Architectural Properties.)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

The County limits of Wright County

and the incorporated city limits
of Rockford in Hennepin County,
Minnesota.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
6th

VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

CODE

22

COUNTY

Wright

CODE

91

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☒ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☒ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☒ RELIGIOUS
☒ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☒ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

"Multiple
Resources"

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

"multiple ownership" - see individual inventory forms

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

1. Register of Deeds, Hennepin County Courthouse
2. Register of Deeds, Wright County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

1. Minneapolis
2. Buffalo

STATE

Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

See Survey Methodology for explanation

Minnesota Inventory of Historic Places

DATE Field Survey - 1973

National Register Nominations, 1976, 1977, 1978

DEPOSITORY FOR Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office

SURVEY RECORDS Minnesota Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

240 Summit Avenue-Hill House, 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

See Survey Methodology and Area Description

WRIGHT COUNTY MULTIPLE RESOURCES AREA NOMINATION

Introduction:

In July of 1977, the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office began an intensive, systematic county-by-county survey to identify the State's historic resources. A comprehensive survey methodology was developed for locating, identifying, and evaluating Minnesota's historic resources. This office selected the Multiple Resources Area nomination format for forwarding individual and district nominations to the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service to evaluate the significance of properties for possible inclusion in the National Register.

The historic resources survey of Wright County began in October of 1977 and concluded with the presentation of selected properties to the Minnesota State Review Board in August of 1978. The Wright County Multiple Resources Area nomination represents the result of a thorough survey of standing historic and architectural properties identified within this county's geographical boundaries. The nomination is only a partial inventory of the county's resources since archaeological properties are not represented within this Multiple Resource nomination. District nominations are not included because of the lack of definable geographic areas possessing significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of buildings, structures and objects associated with historic and architectural properties.

The Wright County Multiple Resources nomination is composed of twenty-nine individual nominations. Four of these properties were previously entered in the National Register listings. These registered properties have been incorporated in the Multiple Resource nomination. The additional twenty-five nominations are the selected historic and architectural properties derived from the present survey of the county.

Following are the survey methodology, description, and significance statements pertaining to the entire multiple resource area.

Survey Methodology:

State Historic Preservation Office staff members participating in the Wright County historic resources survey were John J. Hackett, Susan Zeik and Dennis A. Gimmestad. John Hackett coordinated and conducted the survey for historic, cultural, and architectural properties. He was assisted by Susan Zeik and Dennis Gimmestad during the preliminary research of the county's background.

The Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office survey methodology is divided into three progressive stages for locating, identifying, and evaluating historic resources. The first is the preliminary background research, followed by the field survey, and ending with the evaluation of the survey results.

Preliminary Research:

The purpose of the preliminary research background is twofold: first, to pre-identify and catalogue properties of importance to the county's historic development and, secondly, to formulate and understand of the historic and current developments of the county and its cities and townships. The pre-identification of historic properties involves a thorough examination of primary and secondary sources located at libraries, archives, and courthouses. Initially, the Minnesota Historical Society, the Wright County Historical Society, and the county's courthouse repositories were examined for information. Local and private sources of information were sought and utilized during the course of the field survey. Primary and secondary sources included books and pamphlets, maps and atlases, government and legal records, photographs, manuscripts, and taped interviews.

In addition to these sources, previous survey efforts and inventories were examined for historic properties. A total of 127 properties were incorporated into the presurvey data.

Of this total the State Historic Preservation Office, prior to the 1977 county survey, submitted four properties to the National Register. These are the Gust Akerlund Photographic Studio, Cokato Temperance Hall, Fairhaven Flour Mill, and the Thomas G. Mealy House. An additional twenty-nine properties were listed on the Minnesota Inventory of Historic Places as a result of this office's survey efforts in 1973. The Wright County Historical Society, as a Bicentennial project, marked thirty-two historic sites and seventy-four existing original homestead settlements. The Minnesota State Fair/Minnesota State Agricultural Society identified forty-four centennial farms in Wright County; they have remained in continuous family ownership for more than a century. Susan Zeik and Dennis Gimmestad, S.H.P.O. staff members, conducted a survey of eighteen selected farmsteads within Wright County in 1977-78. Their overview findings regarding the farmsteads aided in the evaluation of existing rural farm buildings and structures in the county.

The pre-identified property information obtained from the various sources was transcribed on to individual place-specific file cards. These file cards were catalogued by location (either incorporated cities or organized townships) and then subdivided by significant theme association. Prior to the field survey of an area, an analysis of the file cards was conducted. The analysis served to determine significant themes and indicate the various specific types of buildings, structures, and objects present during the county's historical development. In addition, pre-identified properties were plotted on corresponding city and township plat maps if a location was known.

The purpose of this material was to develop research tools for locating and identifying properties. The mapped properties assisted the surveyor during his field orientation and with individual property locations. The itemization of significant themes, and buildings, structures, and objects sensitized and expanded the surveyor's perception for conducting a thorough survey of Wright County. In turn, the survey used these tools to sensitize, stimulate, and direct interviews with selected local residents to identify additional significant properties in the defined area.

A general overview of Wright County's physical and historical development was formulated as the various primary and secondary sources were examined. The purpose of this overview was to provide a context and perspective for identifying and determining the significance of individual properties. This overview research was organized about the following topics: the physical character and development, the historical trends and major events, and the important individuals and groups within the county. The overview assisted the surveyor in understanding and sorting the county's natural and man-made landscape as it appears today and aided in identifying existing properties.

Survey: Reconnaissance

The field survey of Wright County involved the reconnaissance of the county's physical and man-made landscape, the location of pre-identified properties, the identification of additional properties via visual recognition and interviews with knowledgeable area residents, and the recording of survey data. Manageability of the county's area was achieved utilizing organized political boundaries. Survey areas were delineated into the twenty rural townships and sixteen urban cities.

The reconnaissance of the county's physical and man-made landscape is essential for establishing an overall character of the area and distribution of potential historic resources. This visual overview allows for the blending of the historical context with the present modern development of the county. This reconnaissance allowed for quick identification and isolation of buildings, structures, and objects that readily appeared to be significant.

The reconnaissance field work continued with the contacting of the county and three local historical societies. Representatives of the societies were interviewed for their knowledge of the pre-identified properties, identification of additional properties, the types of primary and secondary sources available in their repositories, and the names of knowledgeable local residents familiar with the delineated rural and urban survey areas. Prior to surveying the defined areas an interview was conducted with a knowledgeable local resident for identifying properties. These identified properties were recorded and mapped for the field examination.

Survey: Public Involvement:

The involvement of county and local representatives and residents is an important element in the comprehensive survey process. This involvement permits the identification of properties that may otherwise be overlooked utilizing standard research and visual determination methods. The participation of area residents injects a local level of perception of what is considered "significant". Local participation is an integral part of the State Historic Preservation Office methodology and as such is an important facet in the survey of Minnesota's historic resources.

Prior to the field work, press release and letters of notification were sent to inform local residents, historical societies, and public officials of the S.H.P.O. survey effort. The notification addressed the

S.H.P.O.'s intent to identify historic buildings, structures, and objects and to nominate eligible properties to the National Register. At this time, local residents and officials were invited to participate in the survey and referred to the S.H.P.O. surveyor and/or pre-designated contact from their area. A public meeting was held in mid-January, 1978, at the Wright County Historical Society. Information about the survey program was explained; the objectives of this county survey were discussed. Specific property information and names of volunteers and contacts were collected to be used during the field survey. During the course of the survey, selected local informants were interviewed for their knowledge of properties.

After evaluation of the information collected during the survey, press releases were again released to the county newspapers informing local residents and public officials of the State Review Board meeting to be held in Wright County. Individual owners of candidate properties were notified by registered mail. Local residents were invited to hear the results of the survey findings and comment on those selected properties presented to the State Review Board in April and August of 1978. The involvement and support of local residents in the survey of Wright County added a powerful and rewarding element to the successful identification of buildings, structures, and objects. Assistance and help by residents and public officials contributed to the thoroughness of the Wright County Multiple Resources Area nomination.

Survey: Field Survey

The field survey of the rural and urban areas was based upon the following: the historic and current developments of the county, the pre-identified properties, properties identified by local informants, and properties visually identified by the surveyor. The urban areas were canvassed by walking and driving all municipal streets. The rural areas were covered by driving to the identified properties and by driving a variety of county roads for visual identification.

Buildings, structures, and objects were evaluated against the guidelines of the National Register criteria of eligibility for historic, cultural, and architectural significance on the local, state, and national level. A survey inventory form was initiated if the property being examined was determined or even questionably met the criteria guidelines of significance. The S.H.P.O. surveyor utilized a standard property inventory form directed at recovering field data. The field data collected is material not readily available and it is often used as a base for utilizing library, archive, and courthouse sources of information.

The Wright County field survey resulted in an inventory data base and a photographic record. The photographic record consists of black and white negatives and color slides of buildings, structures, and objects. Seven hundred and thirty-six properties in rural and urban settings were identified during the course of the survey. Of these properties, one hundred and ninety-eight met aspects of the criteria guidelines and survey forms were initiated on them. Seven hundred and fifty-two color

slides and three hundred and sixty-one black and white negatives were taken and have been catalogued. This material formed the survey data base for the analysis.

Evaluation of the Survey Results

The inventory data base was carefully analyzed to determine which properties were eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. This analysis was based on the following: the perspectives brought by the background research, the intensive field work, information from continued research, and the recognition of the county's present and future development.

As a result of the analysis, twenty-eight properties were selected by the surveyor. These selected properties were presented in a Multiple Resource nomination context to the Minnesota State Review Board for their professional evaluation. The State Review Board determined that twenty-five of these individual nominations did meet the criteria for nomination to the National Register. The twenty-five nominations represent thirteen themes; each property is of local significance to Minnesota's history.

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Physical Description:

The descriptive statement addresses the historical, cultural, and architectural components of the Wright County Multiple Resources Area nomination. The statement includes a general physical description of the natural and man made character of the county, a general description of the resource area during periods it achieved significance, and a general description of the architectural components of the designated area.

Physical description of the natural and man made character:

Wright County is situated in the east central part of Minnesota. The county is on the southwest bank of the Mississippi River and is bordered by the Clearwater and Crow Rivers. This makes the shape of the northern and eastern borders somewhat irregular. The western and southern borders of the county are straight. The county length from east to west is 36 miles; its greatest width is thirty and one-half miles. The western border is twenty-two miles long; the southern is twenty-four miles.

Wright County has a total land area of seven hundred and sixteen square miles, 10% of which consists of lake acreage. The county is politically divided into twenty organized townships. This resource area is bounded on the north by Stearns and Sherburne Counties; on the east by Hennepin County; on the south by Carver and McLeod Counties; and on the west by Meeker County. In addition to the entire boundary of Wright County, the incorporated city limits of Rockford in Hennepin is included within the Wright County Multiple Resource area. The City of Rockford developed along the east and west banks of the Crow River which forms the boundary between Hennepin and Wright counties. Although Rockford is geographically situated between the two counties, it is historically associated with the development of Wright County.

All of Wright County has been glaciated, and, as a result, the topography consists of outwash plains, rolling to steep hills, and numerous marshes and lakes. The central and southwestern tracts of the county vary from nearly level to very steep. The south central tracks of the county vary between a strongly rolling to hilly terminal moraine and a gently undulating ground moraine. The only large and nearly level areas in the county are on outwash plains along the Clearwater and Mississippi Rivers. The county's elevations range from about one thousand one hundred feet to eight hundred and forty-three feet. The highest elevated areas are in the southwestern part of the county and on prominent hills near the cities of Clearwater and Monticello. These hills rise about one hundred and fifty feet above the surrounding area. The lowest tracts of land are to be found at the city of Dayton, on the south bank of the Mississippi River.

Wright County is located in the Central Lowland province of the Western Young Drift section of the Interior Plains of North America. Parts of three continental glaciers, the Nebraskan, the Kansan, and the Wisconsin, covered the county at various times. The most recent glacier terminated about 10,000 years ago. Depth of the glacial drift over bedrock ranges from one hundred to more than four hundred feet; it is thickest in the central and southwest parts of the county.

This glaciated region is characterized by young plains, morains, lakes, and lacustrine beds. Glacial till, outwash, and glaciolacustrine material therefore make-up much of the soils in the county. Many of the soils were also formed by organic material or in recent alluviums and colluvium. The difference in these parent materials accounts for many of the differences among the soils in the county. There are seven soil "associations" in Wright County. Associations one through six are

located in the uplands; soil association seven is located on the outwash plains and terraces. The soil associations are as follows: 1) Lester-LeSueur-Cordova, 2) Lester-Hayden-peat, 3) Hayden-Dundas-peat, 4) Hayden-Lester-peat, 5) Emmert-Milaca-peat, 6) Burnsville-Hayden-peat and 7) Esterville-Hubbard-Wadena association.

All of the areas of Wright County have very fertile soil which varies in depth from one to three inches. The soil is mostly dark red loam with a gravel or sandy subsoil. In the timber areas the soil is mostly alluvial with a clay subsoil. The natural grasslands, initially rejected by the newly arriving settlers, later proved to be the most valuable tracts because of the soil's ability to produce large quantities of high quality hay and tame grasses for feed. Nine-tenths of the county is adapted for cultivation. The gently rolling and undulating surface attribute to an excellent drainage system. The wells and springs are charged with carbonates of lime and magnesium dissolved from the glacial drift providing useful elements for agriculture. These features contribute to the fact that the county's main industry, from Euro-American settlement to present, has been agriculture. In 1972, the percentage of land engaged in agriculture amounted to 72.9%.

Wright County has a continental climate typical of central North America; it is cold in winter and warm in summer. Interactions between the cool air from the northeast and the warm, moist air from the southwest cause marked daily and seasonal changes in temperature and precipitation. The growing season is favorable for agricultural crops to mature without much damage from frost. Precipitation is ample for farm and garden crops grown in the county, and it generally is well distributed throughout the growing season. The climate is essentially uniform throughout the county with minor variations caused by vegetation, soil materials, and topography.

The first settlers to Wright County found two types of vegetation: thick forests of elm, basswood, oak and other hardwoods with a few scattered open tracts of prairie grasses. Most of the county is within the Minnesota Big Woods - a deciduous hardwood belt that crosses south-central Minnesota. The types of vegetation in the county are broken down into these categories: oak, brush-prairie, aspen oak, northern hardwoods, bottomland, wet prairie and dry prairie.

It was estimated in the 1880s that 95% of Wright County's landscape was covered by forest. However, in 1975, forest covered only 12% of the county.

There are over two hundred and ninety-eight lakes over ten acres in size. Together they cover 44,384 acres. More than ninety of these lakes are a half a mile long or longer. Pelican Lake, located in the northeastern section of the county is the largest lake completely within the county boundaries. In addition to the numerous lakes, many marshes, slough, and potholes occur throughout the upland areas.

Almost all townships and cities in the county are connected by some water feature -- lake, stream or river. All streams and rivers within Wright County drain into the Mississippi River. The Mississippi

River forms all but fifteen miles of the northern boundary of the county. The remaining northern boundary is formed by the Clearwater River before it enters the Mississippi River. The north and south fork of the Crow River are the two major streams flowing through the county. These two streams join near the city of Rockford to form the Crow River. The Crow River shapes the eastern border before it enters the Mississippi River.

The streams, rivers, and lakes augmented the settlement of the resource area. Settlers and residents employed these ample natural resources for transportation and applied the water and steam technology in commercial and industrial development. Today, however, water resources are relegated to recreation.

Additional natural resources present in the glacial till are deposits of rock, lime, clay, gravel, and lignite. The deposits of granite and limestone boulders, lime, clay, and gravel provided early rural and village residents with an accessible source of building materials. Today, the deposits of gravel are utilized for road and building construction. Currently, fifty-one gravel pits are located about the county. Lignite, an imperfectly formed coal, appears in trace deposits too small to be of value or use.

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Architectural Description:

Generally, buildings and structures of Wright County have been simple functional forms based on economically available construction materials. The majority of the buildings and structures in the county do not adhere to traditionally defined architectural styles. The earliest buildings employed log and timber construction methods. As individual lumber mills and yards appeared, the wood frame structure of mass-produced lumber became the basis for virtually every type of residential buildings. Brick buildings appear relatively infrequently.

It might be noted, however, that commercial and institutional buildings and structures utilize brick masonry to a far greater extent than residential buildings. The nucleus of most of the county's commercial districts are composed of brick masonry buildings. A large proportion of the county's modern agricultural, industrial, and commercial buildings utilize mass produced construction materials such as fiber-glass, metal sheeting, and press woods. These materials are as popular now as wood framing was in the past. This seems true because of their availability, economy, and their ability to fulfill the need of the intended purpose.

While the style of most frame residential buildings in the county has been simple and unadorned, a few early homes display detailing characteristic of traditional architectural styles. The Thomas G. Mealey House (1855) in Monticello is a Greek Revival residence; the Ames/Florida House (1856) in Rockford (Hennepin County) is a Greek Revival residence; the William W. Webster House (1863) in Clearwater is a Greek Revival residence; the Rufus Rand Summer House (1884) in Monticello is a Queen Anne residence; the Nickerson/Tarbox House (1889) in Monticello is a Queen Anne/Stick style residence; and the Weldele House (1893) in Delano is a Queen Anne residence. These residences are frame buildings of traditional styles.

In contrast, the Henry C. Bull House (1878) in Cokato is a good example of a frame residence that does not represent a traditional architectural style but contains numerous design and detail features characteristic of the Italianate and Queen Anne styles.

One fine example of a brick masonry residence employing a traditional style of architecture is the Hanaford Farm farm house (1870) in Monticello Township. This house is a timber framed, red brick Federal-styled residence.

As the county was rapidly settled and as accessibility to mass produced lumber evolved, residential building styles and plans progressed through a series of common functional designs in both urban and rural settings. Typical designs found in Wright County are the one and one-half, and two story buildings of L plan with gable roof; the one and one-half and two and one-half story rectangular plan with truncated roof; and the two and the two and one-half story irregular plan with multi-gabled roof. These residences were principally built of wood and, occasionally, of local brick. The ornamentation, if any, was simple and utilitarian and primarily limited to eaves, bay windows, and porches.

Today, most commercial and industrial areas in the sixteen cities contain a mixture of earlier frame and later masonry buildings and structures. Buffalo, the county seat and largest population center in the county, has the largest percentage of masonry buildings. Rockford, an early speculative townsite (1856) has the largest percentage of wood frame buildings in its commercial district. Most wood frame and brick commercial buildings have been altered on their street level fronts. Commercial and industrial buildings and structures in rural settings were generally constructed of wood. With the exception of octagon and round barn styles -- the Peter J. Marsh Octagon Barn (1880) in Rockford Township and the Olof M. Titrud Round Barn (1908) in Stockholm Township -- simple functional design forms were used in the rural areas.

Examples of building and structure forms used for commercial and industrial purposes are the timber frame Fair Haven Flour Mill (1867) in South Haven Township, the brick Eagle Newspaper and Job Printing Office (1883-1885) in Delano, the frame and brick Dr. E.P. Hawkins Clinic, Hospital and Residence (1885-1903) in Montrose, the wood frame Annandale Hotel (1895) in Annandale, the wood frame August Akerlund Photographic Studio (1903) in Cokato, and the brick Albertville Roller Mill (1909) in Albertville.

Institutional buildings in the county also utilized available construction materials and simple functional forms. Through scale, material and architectural detailing a greater sense of permanence was expressed in these buildings. This is easily noticeable in the generally imposing church and government buildings.

Examples of early frame institutional buildings are the Simpson Methodist Church (1857) in Monticello, the First Congregational Church of Clearwater (1861) in Clearwater, St. Mark's Episcopal Church (1871) in Corrina Township, the Granklin Township School House No. 48 (1871) in Franklin Township, and the Cokato Township Hall (1896) in Cokato Township.

Examples of later, masonry-constructed institutional buildings are: the Delano Village Hall (1888) in Delano, the Clearwater Masonic Lodge No. 28/G.A.R. Hall No. 112 (1888) in Clearwater, the St. Michael's Catholic Church (1890) in St. Michael, the Marysville Swedesburg Lutheran Church (1891) in Marysville Township, the Howard Lake City Hall (1904) in Howard Lake, and the Middleville Township Hall (1905) in Middleville Township.

Generally, agricultural buildings and structures also followed simple functional forms. Most of the earlier frame and then the later block-and-metal rectangular barns are of a moderate size and the strictly functional design necessary for diversified farm operation. The three octagon and seven round barns in the county, although architectural variants from the traditional rectangular plan, follow a functional design philosophy exhorting greater efficiency and economy for agricultural use. Presently, the one story pole barn and metal silos are replacing the standard two story barn on the farmstead. A majority of the 1700 plus rural farmsteads throughout Wright County have undergone radical alterations in

recent years. These alterations are a result of continual adaption of the farms to new technology and introduction of skilled agri-business management practices. As these individual farms modernize to keep pace with agricultural developments, their earlier buildings and structures have been altered, abandoned or destroyed.

Township land division within the county follows the non-varying grid pattern of strict cardinal directions established by the government land survey in 1852-1858. County roads follow the pattern of the conventional section lines and any variant road patterns pre-date the land organization of the county. The sixteen incorporated cities are also organized on grid plats. With the exception of Clearwater, Monticello and Rockford, all other plats are oriented on the cardinal directions for grid and street layout. The three exceptions accommodate the topographical features of the Clearwater, Mississippi and Crow Rivers. Clearwater and Monticello's plats are oriented northwest to southeast and Rockford's plat is oriented northeast to southwest. Buildings and structures located in the sixteen cities are generally situated on one lot of the block plat.

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Historical Description:

The evolution of Wright County's man-made physical environment during the historical period reflects the development of a system of agriculture, the creation of service areas, and the establishment of transportation routes. This development occurred basically between the 1850s and the early 1920s. These three components of development continue to govern the present man-made features of the county.

The first recorded Euro-American to establish himself in what is now Wright County was Edmund Brissett. He was a Canadian engaged in fur trading. Brissett operated a trading post at Lake Pulanski from 1850 to 1855 and established the first road from Lake Harriet (in Minneapolis) to what would become Buffalo. This route was later used by settlers to enter the county. The first farm was started in 1851 by Samuel E. Carrick in Ostego Township along the Mississippi River. This event marks the beginnings of the primary land use and economy of the county.

The treaties of Traverse des Sioux in 1851 acquired all of the lands that are now within Wright County. The organized opening of the county came with the United States Land Survey conducted from 1853 through 1858. This allowed the passing of lands in the public domain to private ownership. The physical directions of settlement in the county occurred in two distinct waves. The first settlement occurred along navigable rivers, streams, and lakes and progressed in a northeast to southwest direction. The second wave of settlement occurred along railroad lines originating from Minneapolis and St. Paul and crossing the county from east to northwest. These settlement directions are reflected by township settlement and organization dates (1858-1868) and the dates of existing incorporated cities plats and incorporation dates.

Between the years 1852 and 1857, the county underwent a land purchase and speculation period generated by land developers, town site companies, and individuals. During these years of townsite speculation and early farmsteads there is evidence of at least thirty-five townsites planned in the county. Only five of the platted townsites exist today as incorporated cities; Monticello - 1854, 1856, Dayton - 1855, Buffalo - 1856, Clearwater - 1856, and Rockford - 1857. Another plat does exist, Otsego - 1857, although nothing remains of this community. All of the townsites with one exception were located on rivers, streams or lakes. Fourteen townsites were located on the Mississippi River, Five on the Crow River, and one on the Clearwater River. Fourteen townsites adjoin lakes. Water was the common factor for site selection because it provided either accessibility or a source of power for milling. The single townsite unrelated to water, Glenwood, now known as Cokato, failed quickly after its initial development, but reappeared as a railroad townsite. A general progression is noted for these townsite developments. Appearing first are the townsites along the Mississippi River, then those along the Crow River, and eventually those along the interior lakes.

Steamboat transportation in the vicinity of Wright County appeared on the Mississippi River in 1850 and continued until 1874. The first ferry crossing was established on the Mississippi at Monticello in 1856; others appeared later on the Crow River. Organization and construction activities for roads began in 1854, facilitating or establishing penetration to the interior lake townsites.

In 1857, a financial panic severely affected Wright County (which was then part of the Territory of Minnesota). This panic halted the county's land speculation, despite the fact that strong settlement footholds had been established in the young county. There were no new townsites recorded in Wright County between 1857 and 1868. It would not be until the first of the county's three railroad lines were laid that strong settlement activity would again begin.

The present boundaries of Wright County were organized in February of 1855. The county seat was located at the river town of Monticello in the same year. The land was politically organized into twenty townships between 1858 (Minnesota Statehood) and 1868. The pattern of their organization followed the earlier township settlement pattern -- from north and east to the southwest. In 1868, the county seat was moved from Monticello to the lake townsite of Buffalo -- in anticipation of railroad development and in view of Buffalo's more central location in the county.

Renewed settlement in the county began with the construction in 1868 of the first of three railroad lines. While settlement had preceded railroad construction, especially along the navigable rivers, population figures in most townships and villages increased noticeably during the years immediately following the introduction of rail service. By 1869, the St. Paul and Pacific (now the main line of the Burlington Northern) Railroad crossed the county's southern tier. Five townsites were platted between 1868 and 1870 along this rail line: Crow River (now Delano) in 1868, Howard Lake in 1869, Smith Lake in 1869, Waverly in 1869, and Cokato in 1870. Montrose was platted along this rail line ten years later, in 1879. All of these townsites exist today as incorporated cities -- with the exception of Smith Lake, which disappeared in the 1930s.

The second railroad to cross the county was the Minneapolis and Northwestern (now part of the Burlington Northern) Railroad Company in 1882. This line was completed through the northern tier of the county via the established river townsites of Monticello and Clearwater. The townsite of Hamburg (now known as Albertville) was platted in 1881 along this rail line. Not until after the turn of the century were the additional townsites of St. Michael's Station (an addition to Hamburg) -- in 1900 -- and Hasty -- in 1906 -- platted on this railroad line. All of these townsites exist today as incorporated cities, with the exception of Hasty. Only a few buildings exist there which suggests its role as a railroad siding.

The third and final railroad line, the Minneapolis and Pacific (now the Soo Line) Railroad Company, crossed the center of the county in 1888. This line ran through the existing townsites of Rockford and the county seat of Buffalo. Three additional townsites were platted northwest of these two river and lake townsites: Annandale in 1888, Maple Lake in 1888 and South Haven in 1888. All five of these townsites exist today as in-

In total twelve townsites were platted along the rail lines; ten of these remain as cities. In reviewing the placement of the railroad townsites, all but four -- Cokato, Montrose, Hasty and South Haven -- were located adjacent to a river or a lake. The remaining rail towns indicate a site selection process parallel to that in the townsites of the earlier speculation period. This selection suggests the continuing importance of water power for local mill processing of agricultural products as well as the desirability of a location accessible to area farmers.

Two townsites not previously mentioned are St. Michael and Hanover. These were platted in 1890 and 1891 respectively. Both towns are located on the eastern edge of the county. They are located three and a half miles from each other. Neither townsite is located on a rail line. Their origins are based on religious settlement and industry. St. Michael grew around the Catholic Church established there in the late 1860s by German immigrants. The town was platted around the church in 1890. Hanover grew around a roller mill and sawmill located on the Crow River in 1867. Both townsites exist today as incorporated cities.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

___PREHISTORIC

___1400-1499

___1500-1599

___1600-1699

___1700-1799

X 1800-1899

X 1900-

___ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC

___ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC

X AGRICULTURE

X ARCHITECTURE

___ART

X COMMERCE

X COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

___COMMUNITY PLANNING

___CONSERVATION

___ECONOMICS

X EDUCATION

X ENGINEERING

X EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

X INDUSTRY

X INVENTION

___LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

___LAW

___LITERATURE

___MILITARY

___MUSIC

___PHILOSOPHY

X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

X RELIGION

___SCIENCE

___SCULPTURE

X SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN

___THEATER

___TRANSPORTATION

X OTHER (SPECIFY)
Recreation

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

See Area Significance

AREA SIGNIFICANCE

NATIONAL
REGISTER

Historical and Architectural Significance:

The twenty-nine historical resources identified in this Multiple Resources nomination derive their significance from the role they represent in the evolving historical development of Wright County between 1850 and the 1920s. In total, these locally significant properties represent thirteen themes. This section will examine aspects of history and architecture as they relate to the individual properties included in the nomination. It is to be noted that these properties illustrate discrete and specific components of the county's development and do not represent a complete history of the area.

The central historic significance of Wright County has been and continues to be that of a producer and exporter of agricultural products. Two major events that mark the origins of this significance are: the treaty of Traverse des Sioux in 1851 and the construction of three railroads between 1868 and 1888. The treaty of Traverse des Sioux marks the transition of land occupancy from Indians to Euro-Americans. The construction of the three Minneapolis-St. Paul based railroads across the county marks the development of a coordinated transportation system for shipping agricultural products East to demanding markets. This rail transportation system shifted agriculture from a subsistence level farming to the primary and present economy of the county.

There are three basic functional mechanisms in the development of Wright County: the unit of production, the support system, and the attendant means of transportation. Applied to the county, the unit of production is the individual family farm producing agricultural goods. The support systems are the commercial, industrial, educational, governmental, religious, and social components which support the rural and urban populations engaged in agriculture. The means of transportation are the water routes, the railroads, and later, the highway road system.

Prior to the development of the railroad transportation system across the county (1851-1868) family farm production and agricultural processing support systems (i.e. creameries, flour mills and meat processing) were oriented to local markets. After the construction of the rail system, the county became a component part of a larger, developing and expanding agricultural and processing region. The rail system directed processing of farm goods to Minneapolis and St. Paul to supply the market demands in the Eastern United States. As agricultural production, the work force, and technology evolved to meet the market demands, so did the support systems for the rural and urban populations.

The historic resources of the county derive their significance from the role they played in the development of this economic system. Many key decisions were made outside the county (e.g., determination of rail routes and townsite placement) and most county resources illustrate the direct consequences of these outside decisions or are a part of the general system of county organization which these decisions created.

Major periods of development, as discussed earlier, were the periods of: initial settlement (1852-1857) of rural and townsite areas and county and township political organization (1855-1868), railroad construction (1869-1888), and townsite development (1854-1906).

The Hanaford Farm (1870-1900) in Monticello Township is an excellent example of an early Wright County farmstead developed by a pioneer family from New England. Despite demands for over a century for agricultural and technological change, and despite the pressure the county is under from the expansion of Minneapolis and St. Paul, the farm's early buildings have survived. This farmstead provides a visible contrast to most of the individual family farms in the county today, most of which have been radically altered as a result of the adoption of new technological methods and the specialization in the farmstead operation.

The most visible buildings and structures constructed by the railroad companies have disappeared or retain no integrity. With the completion of the railroad lines, numerous township roads were constructed for farmers to bring their production to the service centers located along the rail lines. The Hanover Bridge (1885) in Hanover is indicative of the common type of single lane metal truss bridge built to cross terrain features such as the Crow River. Only ten other such bridges, dating from 1889 to 1922, remain in Wright County. All of these ten bridges have been recommended for removal and replacement to allow greater access and safety to the rural and urban areas they serve.

Representatives of the speculation settlement process and development are: the Ames/Florida House (1856) in Rockford (built by the founders of the townsite, the first industrial center in the county) and The First Congregational Church of Clearwater (1861). The church was built in Clearwater and is associated with the Sioux Uprising of 1862 and the subsequent "Indian Scares" of 1862 and 1863. As a result of the outbreak of the Sioux Uprising in 1862 at Fort Ridgely in Brown County and the Dustin Family murders in Wright County a year later, area homesteaders erected stockades at various points throughout the county. The First Congregational Church was chosen for use as a stockade. The effect of the "Indian Scares" on settlement was estimated to have reduced the county's population by one-third. The "Indian Scares" were but one of several events that curtailed development and growth in the county between 1857 and 1868.

Euro-Americans were the most numerous among the pioneers who settled in the area between 1851 and 1857. They located in the river and lake townsites of Clearwater, Monticello, Otsego, Dayton, Rockford and Buffalo and surrounding townships. Scandinavians, both Swedish and Norwegians, began arriving in 1856 and located in the southeast and across the southwest part of the county. After the construction of the first rail line in 1869, a steady flow of Swedish immigrants populated these areas. German immigrants located in the townships of Frankfort and Franklin in the late 1850s. Polish immigrants settled in and about Delano in Franklin Township. Finnish immigrants settled near Cokato in 1856 and then, in later years, located along the west side of the county. Smaller groups of Irish, Swiss, and Dutch immigrants settled in the northern half of the county.

Settlement groups established numerous churches throughout the county as part of their cultural background. Many of these churches were the focal point for rural and community life. For example, the Simpson Methodist Church (1857) in Monticello is the oldest continuously functioning Methodist

Church in the state. This Greek Revival building reflects the cultural origins of those Euro-Americans who first settled in the river town of Monticello. St. Michael's Catholic Church (1890) in St. Michael, is the dominant architectural feature in this rural farm area and a pivotal point of religious and social activities in this German community. The Marysville Swedesburg Lutheran Church (1891) in Marysville Township is closely associated with the Swedish homesteaders who began to arrive in 1869.

Other resources of importance are components of the various support systems of the county. The townsites contained the necessary ranges of services, including retail trade and processing components, to support the rural population engaged in farming. Most of these supportive historic resources were located within these townsite areas (although it might be added that some of the industrial, social, and government components existed in the rural township areas).

The earliest mills were built along the water routes of the Crow River and its tributaries, the Clearwater River, and the Mississippi River. The Fair Haven Flour Mill (1867) in South Haven Township (placed on the National Register in 1978) is one of twelve water-powered mills known to have existed in the county. This mill is one of the surviving mills in Wright County and the third oldest extant mill building remaining in Minnesota. This historic resource is representative of the numerous water-powered mills built prior to the construction of the railroad transportation system.

The completion of the railroad routes in Wright County (1869-1888) lifted the limitation created by unpredictable flows of water. Additionally, steam-powered mills were constructed in railroad townsites. The Albertville Roller Mill (1909) in Albertville is an example of a commercial steam-powered roller mill established in eight known villages served by the railroad companies.

Townsites served by the rail lines became storage, distribution, and processing centers for the areas they served. These railroad towns had greater numbers and more diverse commercial businesses than the earlier river and lake townsites. Sawmills, creameries, stockyards, banks, lumber yards, general stores, hardware stores, hotels saloons, post offices, depots, grain elevators, and blacksmith shops were businesses and industries common to most rail towns. In addition, printing offices, farm implement dealers, confectionaries, photograph studios, doctors office, jewelery shops and tailor shops were located in smaller numbers in these towns.

There are three buildings which are associated with prominent commercial and industrial figures. The earliest building is the Tobias G. Mealey House (1855) which was placed on the National Register in 1976. This building is located in Monticello and was the residence of the prominent Monticello pioneer-businessman and Minnesota legislator. Mealey invested in Lumber-mills and farm land while engaging in other various businesses in Monticello. The William W. Webster House (1863) in Clearwater was the home of an early Clearwater settler, merchantile businessman, and civic leader. The

Henry C. Bull house (1878) in Cokato was the residence of one of Wright County's prominent businessmen and financiers. Bull promoted various enterprises that contributed to the commercial and industrial growth of Cokato, in particular, and to the county in general.

The following examples refer to the buildings constructed to house businesses and institutions. The Eagle Newspaper and Job Printing Office (1883-1885) in Delano has served the community and surrounding rural populations since its inception in 1872. The Dr. E.P. Hawkins Clinic, Hospital, and Residence (1885, 1890, and 1903 respectively) is an example of a type of medical facility which served Montrose and adjacent rural areas and communities at the turn of the century.

An example of the large commercial hotels operated to accommodate the traveling public, transit workers, and local population along major transportation routes is the Annandale Hotel (1895) in Annandale.

The August Akerlund Photographic Studio (1903) in Cokato (placed on the National Register in 1977) is an example of a "special function" commercial business which served the community and the tri-county area.

The Franklin Township School House No. 48 (1871) in Franklin Township is representative of the early schoolhouses that were used throughout rural and urban Wright County for primary education in the 1870s and 1880s. Buildings like this one were constructed to replace crudely built log cabins and classrooms in private homes as the area population increased. At the peak of development of the rural school district system in 1920, the Wright County Superintendent of Schools supervised nineteen districts and one hundred and forty schoolhouses. Today, fourteen modern brick consolidated schools have replaced this rural education system.

City and township halls that were built in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century were frequently of a simple and functional design. These halls were built of dimensional lumber or of locally made brick. Ornamentation varied from building to building. These civic buildings were easily identifiable since they were the dominant features in their rural and urban settings at the time of their construction. The Delano Village Hall (1888) in Delano has been since its construction the center of both community government and community activities. The Howard Lake City Hall (1904) is another example of civic architecture and serves as a visual landmark in the community. The Middleville Township Hall (1905) in Middleville Township is a well preserved rural township hall and still serves this original function.

Fraternal and social institutions were established in the villages and numerous rural communities in the county. These institutions included the Masons, Odd Fellows, Patrons of Husbandry, the Grand Army of The Republic and the Temperance Societies. These fraternal, social, and cultural associations provided leadership, direction, and contributions to the county's political, educational, patriotic, social, and athletic life. The Clearwater Masonic Lodge No. 28 and the G.A.R. Hall No. 112 (1888) in Clearwater and the Cokato Temperance Hall (1896) in Cokato Township (placed on the National Register in 1976) are surviving representatives of this social, fraternal, and cultural advancement in villages and townships.

Tourism and summer homes developed quickly in the county as a result of the development of the rail system. Twin Cities residents took advantage of the close and accessible natural land features (i.e. numerous lakes and rivers, wild game and topography) to build summer residences. The Rufus Rand Summer House and Carriage Barn (1884) in Monticello is an example of one of the existing large country estates constructed by a successful Twin Cities businessman for a seasonal home. Today, tourism and recreation are very much a part of the county's land use.

Generally, buildings and structures in Wright County have been simple functional forms based on economical and available construction materials. The building and structure stock of the county has been discussed earlier. Of note are the following architecturally, significant properties: the Greek Revival-styled Ames/Florida House (1856) in Rockford (Hennepin County), the Greek Revival First Congregational Church of Clearwater (1861) in Clearwater, the Greek Revival William W. Webster House (1863) in Clearwater, the Federal-styled Hanaford Farm - farmhouse (1870) in Monticello Township, the Gothic Revival St. Mark's Episcopal Chapel (1871) in Corrina Township, the Queen Anne/Stick style Nickerson/Tarbox House (1889) in Monticello, the Queen Anne Weldele House (1893) in Delano, the Peter J. Marsh Octagon Barn (ca.1880) in Rockford Township, and the Olof M. Titrud Round Barn (1908) in Stockholm Township.

Not all historically significant elements of Wright County are architectural. One such element is the Nelsonian - 32 Piece One-Man-Band (1910-1940) It is a physical object located in Chatham Township and is unrelated to the development components of the county's history. The Nelsonian is significant as an mechanized musical invention. It was created by Albert Nelson, a Wright County resident, who traveled around the county and the state playing his 32 piece instrumental device.

Man-made Surface Features

The man-made surface features of the resource area reflect the elements of population, subdivisions of government, agriculture, service centers, and recreational land uses.

Wright County's first federal population census was taken in 1860. The total population at that time was 3,729 people. Population growth continued strongly until 1920 when it peaked at 29,157 people. A fluctuation of decline and growth in population continued between 1910 and 1950 with the population figures fluctuating between 28,082 and 27,711 people. A rapid increase in the county's population, which began in the late 1950s, continues to this day.

The 1960 and 1970 population census figures were 29,935 people and 38,933 people respectively. This is an increase of 30.1% over the previous census. The projected population for 1974 was estimated at 51,643 people, indicating an increase of 32%. A review of these populations figures reveals the county is growing faster than the national average. The cause of Wright County's rapid growth is due primarily to its proximity to the Twin Cities (Minneapolis and St. Paul) Metropolitan Area. Hennepin County, the largest county of the seven county metropolitan area, borders the entire eastern boundary of Wright County. Stringent development controls affecting residential, commercial, and industrial growth within the Metro Area has resulted in a significant influx of suburban families to Wright County. According to the 1970 census, 15,000 people have moved into Wright County between 1967 and 1970. Municipal and city officials reported 3,581 new housing units between the years 1970 and 1973, the majority of these housing units being located in the half of the county bordering Hennepin County. The impact of this increased population is causing a shift from the traditional agricultural land use to non-agricultural land development.

The government subdivisions for Wright County include twenty organized townships, sixteen incorporated cities, and fifteen unincorporated villages. The city of Buffalo is the county seat and is situated near the center of the county. It is located thirty-five to forty miles from Minneapolis and St. Paul. The city of Buffalo is the only city with a population over 4,000 people. Wright County's estimated population for 1974 is 51,643, of which 31,964 people (62%) are projected to live within the twenty townships; 19,679 people are expected to live within the incorporated cities. The majority of Wright County's population has traditionally resided within the townships.

Wright County's major natural resource is the fertile, cultivable soil which covers eight-tenths of the surface area. The primary economy of the county is agriculture; over seventy percent of the land surface is farmed. Commercial and non-commercial forest covers twelve percent of the land and the remaining surface area is occupied by open water, swamps, native pasture, and private and public development.

In 1974, the total number of farms in the county was 1,795. Farming occupies 300,149 acres of the 429,440 acres that make up the

county's area. Total crop land acreage is 239,245. Corn is the principal crop, alfalfa second, and soybeans. The average size of a farm is one hundred and forty acres. The major source of agricultural income is dairy farming. Its predominance is related to the size of the farms and the topography and the proximity to the Metropolitan Area for the fluid milk market. Hogs and pigs are also an important livestock enterprise. Trends in poultry livestock include chickens and turkeys. Lesser farm enterprises include truck farming, seed corn, sugar beets, sweet corn, peas, lumber, and other forest products such as maple syrup and Christmas trees.

Historically, the number of farms in the county, based on federal and state census, shows a maximum of 4,019 farms in 1935 as compared with 1,795 farms in 1974. The decrease in the number of farms has been steady since the peak year. The cost-price squeeze, proximity to the Metropolitan Area, and the value of lake shore property is causing development pressure and change in traditional land use.

Three major Federal and State Highways equally divide and cross the county in a northwest to southeast direction. These three principal arteries facilitate the movement of people and goods between Wright County and the Twin Cities Area. In the Wright County Overall Development Plan, August 1976, the county's work force was broken down into three categories. 8,709 people live and work in the county, 4,585 people live in the county and work out of the county and 1,005 people live out of Wright County and work in the county. These figures demonstrate the high mobility of individuals to cross into and out of the county on a daily commuter basis. Contributing to this mobility factor is a well established county road system which interlocks the townships and cities. County highway mileage total 527 miles, with an additional 131 miles of State highway mileage. Fourteen of the sixteen incorporated cities are directly located on State highways. The other two cities border Hennepin County and use county roads which lead to Hennepin County's state roads.

Three railroad lines paralleling the major highways exist in Wright County. The three lines are, from north to south, a Burlington Northern spur line, the Soo Line, and the main line of the Burlington Northern Railroad. These lines are no longer utilized for passenger service but are still used for freight service. The major importance of these lines has been pre-empted by passenger and commercial vehicles. Air facilities are limited to three small airports in Maple Lake, Monticello, and Buffalo townships.

Sixteen incorporated cities make up the principal service centers of the county. These cities are generally zoned for residential, commercial, and light industrial land use. Residential property usually utilizes the largest percentage of land. Business and commercial services are locally oriented toward the community, township, agricultural industry, and highway services. However, only six cities are considered full service centers in the county. Light industrial development is small in scale and is established in the six full service centers. The fifteen unincorporated villages are all located on the western rural townships and provide limited services to these areas. Proximity and assessability to the Twin Cities restricts growth of local commercial services but encourage residential and future industrial development.

The water resources of Wright County provide an emphasis toward recreation for local residents and weekend use by tourists from the Metro Area. Some 2,325 acres of land is utilized for forty public recreation and tourist areas: one state park, three county parks, two county forests, eighteen county parks, thirteen county waysides, and three county historical waysides. In addition to these facilities, nine private and public camps and numerous privately operated resorts, boat liveries, and boat launching areas serve to utilize the natural resources of the county.

Present Directions and Pressures

Development pressures on the traditional land use of farming are primarily caused by the proximity to the county of the Metropolitan Area of Minneapolis and St. Paul (approximately twenty-five miles from the county's border). The Twin Cities' residential, commercial and industrial growth is spilling over into rural Wright County. Recognizable factors contributing to the changing landscape will be summarized to illustrate the principal changes rapidly occurring in the county.

An increasing number of non-farming residents are "bedrooming" in the county and traveling to the Twin Cities for employment. In the opposite direction, large numbers of metropolitan residents are attracted to the county's recreational features and facilities. In addition, local farmers are platting prime lakeshore property for development. Additionally, light industrial development is forecast for the near future because of the easy accessibility to the Metro Area.

The prime economy, agriculture, is facing and undergoing change. There is competition for use of farm lands for residential, commercial, and industrial development. The opportunities for individuals to begin or remain in farming are becoming increasingly difficult. Even with adequate investment capital, the cost of land challenges the ability of farmers to succeed on a economical enterprise. Individual farmers must incorporate agri-business attitudes and practices into their own in order to continue or expand their farming operations. Price-cost squeezes on the individually established farms has necessitated off-farm employment to supplement incomes.

Within the cities and townships, rapid development is occurring along the major highway arteries. Central business and commercial areas within the historic cities are shifting to the new highways which pass on their fringes. New residential developments are occurring outside the established residential areas of the cities. High density mobile home parks are frequent and lay along the major highways outside the cities.

To cope with the rising high rate of unemployment in the county, county administrators and planners are encouraging development. Incentives to encourage industrial development, an emphasis toward recreation and tourism, and the improvement of governmental services are viewed as solutions to rising unemployment among Wright County's traditional residents. Road building has been identified as the greatest apparent and immediate need of the county to encourage additional accessibility.

All of these factors of change are affecting the historic landscape of Wright County. The survey of the county has served to identify, locate, and evaluate the existing historic resources which meet the criteria of the National Register. The results of the survey will be utilized in the environmental review process and a planning tool to promote education about these historic resources. Hopefully, this will encourage their continued recognition and protection.

MAR 5 1979
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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheets

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY see individual inventory sheets

UTM REFERENCES

A

ZONE	EASTING							NORTHING	

B

ZONE	EASTING							NORTHING	

C

ZONE	EASTING							NORTHING	

D

ZONE	EASTING							NORTHING	

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Wright County is situated in the east-central part of the State of Minnesota, southwest of the Mississippi River, between the Crow and Clearwater Rivers. Somewhat irregular in shape its length from east to west is 36 miles, and its greatest width $30\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The western border is 22 miles, and the southern is 24 miles. The county has a total area of 716 square miles. The county is bounded on the north by Stearns and Sherburne Counties; on the east by Hennepin County; on the south by Carver and McLeod Counties; (continuation sheet)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Minnesota CODE 22 COUNTY Hennepin CODE 053

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE John J. Hackett, Historian

ORGANIZATION Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office

DATE November 1978

STREET & NUMBER 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House

TELEPHONE 612-296-9070

CITY OR TOWN 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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Russell W. Fridley
TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 2/14/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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