

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0681431

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RECEIVED AUG 9 1978

DATE ENTERED DEC 18 1978

**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

Grey Cloud Lime Kiln

AND/OR COMMON

Grey Cloud Lime Kiln

**LOCATION**
 STREET & NUMBER (SE $\frac{1}{2}$  of the NW $\frac{1}{2}$ , Sec. 30, T27, R21)  
 10398 Grey Cloud Island Trail

\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Cottage Grove ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Minnesota

CODE

22

COUNTY

Washington

CODE

163

**CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: unused

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Otto E. Schmaltz

STREET &amp; NUMBER

10398 Grey Cloud Island Trail (SE $\frac{1}{2}$  of the NW $\frac{1}{2}$ , Sec. 30, T27, R21)

CITY, TOWN

Cottage Grove \_\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Stillwater

STATE

Minnesota

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Minnesota Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1976

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society - Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Grey Cloud Lime Kiln is located on an outcropping of limestone in extreme southwestern Washington County in Cottage Grove Township, between the east bank of the Grey Cloud Channel of the Mississippi River and the Grey Cloud Trail. The kiln faces the channel and is visible from Grey Cloud Island.

It is constructed of large, rough-cut limestone blocks, laid without mortar. It is square, about 20 by 20 feet at the base, tapering somewhat towards the top. The sides are slightly concave. It is approximately 35 feet high and may be missing a few feet of blocks at the top. There are three keystone arch openings in the base: a primary opening of about seven feet centered in the west (river or front) side and probable draft openings, slightly smaller and higher due to grade slope, centered on the north and south sides. Fire draft would be aided by the loose stone construction. The interior of the kiln is lined with several layers of loose fire bricks from the Laclede Fire Brick Manufacturing Company of St. Louis.

The nature of the burning process is not clear since there is no earth embankment against the rear of the kiln wall for top loading. The evidence of deteriorated wood members protruding from the upper rear wall of the kiln has led to the hypothesis that at one time a wood ramp existed between the kiln top and a limestone and earth bluff about twenty or thirty feet behind the kiln.

The kiln is an early vernacular type unlike the more refined construction found in kilns of the late nineteenth century, such as the earth-banked kiln of G.A. Carlson of Red Wing, Minnesota, built along the railroad tracks in 1882. The kiln is in sound condition and still contains the last load of lime which is believed to have been left in the kiln to help prevent an interior collapse of the walls.

# 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Industrial Archaeology
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca.1850-1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Grey Cloud Lime Kiln is significant as a well-preserved structure associated with one of Minnesota's important pioneer industries and as an early vernacular example of an important nineteenth century craft industry.

The date of construction is not recorded but the crude nature of the structure and the settlement of the surrounding area suggest a circa 1850 date. Although its early history is obscure the later importance of the kiln and its adjacent quarry is highlighted in the property's Abstract of Title. Entries made in 1886 state that a right-of-way must be preserved "... for a single track of railroad or a wagon road from the nearest point on the line...." An entry a month later is more specific, stating from "... the nearest point on the C.B. & N.R.R. /Chicago, Burlington and Northern Railroad Company/, to his lime kiln..." (entries 52 and 53).

Limestone quarried at the site was burned to furnish a necessary building material to nearby St. Paul and Stillwater and Mississippi River towns to the south. Perhaps more important, the lime was used as an agricultural soil agent by local farmers. A January, 1846, entry in the diary of William R. Brown states: "Harrison took the wagon and went down to the Island for six bbls of lime..." The diary's editor indicates that Island refers to Grey Cloud Island, directly across the Grey Cloud Channel from the lime kiln. It is not known if this early reference applies to the kiln but it does indicate the early discovery and processing of local lime deposits.

The kiln ceased operations about 1900 due possibly to a decline in demand for this building material and the substitution of alternative materials.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Abstract of Title to North Fifteen Acres of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 30, Township 27 North, Range 21 West, Washington County, Minnesota  
 "The Diary of William R. Brown, 1845-46," in Minnesota Farmers' Diaries. St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society, 1939.  
 "Kiln," in Abraham Rees, Rees's Manufacturing Industry (1819-20), Vol. 3. Reprint edition, Great Britain: David & Charles Reprints, 1972.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 5	5 0, 1 7, 6, 0	4, 9 6, 0 3, 6, 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is the kiln structure and the area immediately surrounding the kiln.

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 Spaeth, Survey Analyst, and Robert M. Frame III, Research Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Minnesota Historical Society - State Historic Preservation Office May 12, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Building 25, Fort Snelling

612-726-1171

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

St. Paul

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

5/2/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Charles [Signature]  
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

12-18-78

ATTEST:

Lynne B. Franklin  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

7/2/78