

**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

For NCRS use only
received JUL 9 1980
date entered AUG 26 1980

1. Name

historic Finnish Sauna

and/or common Finnish Sauna

2. Location

street & number 105 So. 1st St. ___ not for publication

city, town Virginia ___ vicinity of congressional district 8th District

state Minnesota code 22 county St. Louis code 137

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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Ted Maki

street & number 105 So. 1st St.

city, town Virginia ___ vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Louis County Court House

street & number

city, town Duluth state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes no

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

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 sauna is a plain two-storey brick building that has been painted red. It is approximately 25' x 100'. There are four windows on the front, two on each floor. The ground floor windows are made of glass brick. The sides of the first floor are windowless because the sauna is located there and there are four windows on the side of the second storey. The roof is flat and slopes to the rear. Although the ground floor of the principal facade has been altered through installation of glassblock in original window openings, the building retains a significant degree of integrity of both architectural design and function.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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. 1912

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The sauna reflects the pervasive effect of Finnish immigrant culture on the Minnesota Iron Range. It also reflects the commercial response to the desire of Finnish miners to continue to sauna despite their inability to provide themselves with private facilities. The public acceptance of the sauna experience has enabled the facility to continue to flourish to the present. The sauna served as a social meetingplace for miners and their families and broadened the horizon of entertainment activities in the small mining communities. This particular sauna has managed to survive despite the installation of private saunas in many homes since 1950, because it caters to an older population in Virginia on fixed incomes, to transients from various parts of the Range who are employed in the mines, and to individuals from the area who use the facility as a social evening in the same manner as a bowling alley, tavern, or coffee shop might be utilized. The owners are also responsible for its survival and as descendants of Finnish immigrants see historical significance in their activities as well as commercial ones.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Marvin Lamppa, A Report to the Department of Natural Resources on the Historical Aspects of the Vermilion, Cuyuna, and Mesabi Iron Ranges of Northeast Minnesota (Eveleth: 1977).

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Virginia, Minn.-St. Louis Co. scale 7.5

UMT References

A

1	5	5	3	5	2	6	0	5	2	6	3	1	4	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

The Finnish sauna is located on Lot 25, Block 27, Original Addition, Virginia, Minnesota.

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 Charles Skrief, Director, State Historic Preservation Office

organization Minnesota Historical Society date September 10, 1979

street & number 240 Summit Avenue 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Russell W. Fridley

Russell W. Fridley
title State Historic Preservation Officer date 6/24/80

For HCERS use only

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

W. Ray Luce
Keeper of the National Register date 8/26/80

Attest: Kristin J. O'Connell date 8/21/80
Chief Registration Officer