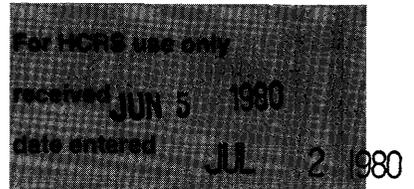


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Coan House

and/or common Coan House

## 2. Location

street & number 118 West Fifth Street \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Eyota \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district First

state Minnesota code 22 county Olmsted code 109

## 3. Classification

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

## 4. Owner of Property

name Willian F. and Esther Smith

street & number 118 West Fifth Street

city, town Eyota \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Minnesota 55934

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Olmsted County Courthouse

street & number 515 Second Street SW

city, town Rochester \_\_\_\_\_ state Minnesota 55901

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Resources

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1979-80 \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

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

city, town St. Paul \_\_\_\_\_ state Minnesota 55102

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## 7. Description

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**Condition** excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Coan House is located at the south edge of the small community of Eyota. It is a two story orange brick structure with stone foundation and gable roof, built on a T plan, with a one-story summer kitchen extending to the east. At the north (front) end of the north-south primary rectangle, the roof eaves extend over the second story balcony which, in turn, is built above the first story porch. This entire porch, balcony, and gable end ensemble is elaborately embellished with a profusion of wood decoration and jigsaw work. An embellished wood rectangular bay window is located next to the porch. The east, west, and south facades are relatively plain. Fenestration consists of one-over-one and two-over-two double-hung sash in segmental arch openings with heavily articulated hoods.

# 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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** ca.1888 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Coan House is significant as one of the best-preserved representatives of the Victorian domestic architectural design extant in Olmsted County. Although the house exhibits prominent hood moldings more reminiscent of Italianate style, the elaborate wood work prominently featured on the north (front) gable end facade is largely characteristic of the Eastlake style. Among the more ostentatious nineteenth century home designs in Olmsted County, the Victorian Picturesque styles, particularly the Eastlake, do not appear as frequently as the Italianate; the Coan House is a relatively rare example. Its position in the residential area of the small track-side community of Eyota has rendered it a highly visible local landmark. Constructed slightly more than two decades after Eyota was platted on the Winona and St. Peter Railroad, the house is evidence of the adaptation of popular styles in even the smallest agricultural shipping centers of the county. The Coan family, who are believed to have built the house, owned it from 1888 until the 1940s, but the family's specific role in early Eyota has not been determined.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Gebhard, David, and Tom Martinson. A Guide to the Architecture of Minnesota. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1977. p. 269.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Eyota, Minn.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

**UTM NOT VERIFIED  
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>5</u>	<u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>1</u> <u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>8</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u> <u>2</u> <u>1</u> <u>5</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C			
E			
G			

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
F			
H			

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The nominated property consists of the east .55 acre of the west one acre of the following: commencing 861.3 feet west of the center of section 14, township 106, range 12, and running thence southerly 13-1/3 rods, thence westerly 24 rods, thence northerly 13-1/3 rods, thence easterly 24 rods to point of beginning.

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

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert M. Frame III, Architectural Historian/Research Historian

organization Minnesota Historical Society date April 1980

street & number 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House telephone 612-296-9074

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 5/30/80

For HCRS use only

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

Forrest W. Ray date 7/2/80  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Justin J. O'Connell date 6/30/80  
Chief of Registration