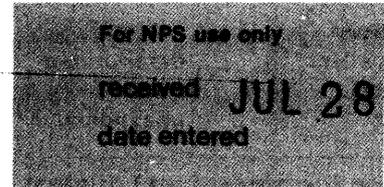


EXP. 10/31/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park 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 Wabasha County Poor House

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number Hiawatha Drive N/A not for publication

city, town Wabasha N/A vicinity of congressional district N/A

state Minnesota code 22 county Wabasha code 157

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input 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 James P. & Marian D. Jacob Cichanowski

street & number Box 301

city, town Wabasha N/A vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds, Wabasha County Courthouse

street & number N/A

city, town Wabasha state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date N/A N/A federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Erected in 1883 according to designs prepared by E. Alexander and William B. Lutz of Lake City, the old Wabasha County Poorhouse is a two story brick structure on a high limestone basement. It is the largest of the five structures located on the poor farm property, the others being a brick hospital and a frame shed and barn.

The Poorhouse is executed on an "L" plan with the front (west) wing measuring 76'8" and the side (north) wing measuring 64'4". The walls rise 27' above the watertable. The roof is sloping and metal-clad.

The principal facade is symmetrical in arrangement and is comprised of nine bays, the center of which marks the entry. The original portico over the entry has been removed and replaced with an enclosed vestibule accessible via a concrete block ramp. Windows are tall, two-over-two double hung sash with segmental brick hoods and stone sills. The roofline is defined by a brick parapet with low-relief panels supported by a simple corbelled cornice. Corners are defined by pilasters without caps. The north facade is similar in design but consists of only seven bays.

Originally, the Poorhouse contained twenty-nine rooms including a kitchen, dining room, and superintendent's quarters. The building has been adapted by the present owners for use as a residence and restaurant.

The former hospital is situated directly to the north of the Poorhouse. It is a one-story brick structure set upon a limestone foundation, rectangular (20' by 30') in plan, with a truncated hip roof. Windows are rectangular with one-over-one double hung sash capped by stone lintels. The eaveline is articulated with brick modillions. A frame lean-to has been added to the rear of the building.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1883 **Builder/Architect** E. Alexander & William B. Lutz

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

The Wabasha County Poor House is significant as a well preserved example of the poor house complexes that were constructed in the last half of the 19th century throughout rural Minnesota to aid in the relief of destitute county residents. Legislative action in 1864 established the county poor farm as an important component of the State's relief system. The law mandated that every county be responsible for poor relief and provide a poor farm, house or like facility for the "poor person."

Three years later, in 1867, Wabasha County purchased 160 acres in Hyde Park Township for its first poor farm. Soon realizing that the facility was too secluded, too far away to cheaply transport residents, and too large for poor farm residents to work, the county commissioners, in 1873, relocated the facility on a 32 acre site on the outskirts of the city of Wabasha.

A two story brick hospital was constructed in 1879, and in 1883 a 30 room building which housed the superintendent's quarters, kitchen, dining room, and resident bedrooms was built. The Wabasha County Poor House operated under the guidance of a series of county supervisors until the 1930s. With the introduction of old age assistance grants, the Wabasha Poor House, like other county poor farms and houses, experienced a reduction in the number of residents because many were required to leave the house in order to receive their "pensions". The Wabasha County Board leased the facility to a private operator changing its status from a public institution to that of a profit-making rest home. This move allowed residents to receive pension payments while remaining at the home. The building closed as a rest home in 1952 and stood vacant until its purchase for use as a restaurant by the current owners in 1956.

The Wabasha County Poor House is one of a few intact and well-maintained poor house complexes remaining out of a state total of some 64 poor farms/houses built in Minnesota from 1854 to 1926.¹ It stands as a reminder of the state and county's efforts to providing facilities and care for the aged and needy persons long before the advent of the Social Security and modern public assistance programs.

¹Ethel McClure, More Than a Roof (St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Historical Society, 1968), pp. 244-246.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Curtiss-Wedge, Franklyn, ed. History of Wabasha County, Minnesota, Illustrated. Winona: H.C. Cooper & Co., 1920.
History of Wabasha County. Chicago: H.H. Hill & Co., 1884.
 McClure, Ethel. More Than a Roof: The Development of Minnesota Poor Farms and Homes for the Aged. St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society, 1968.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 5 acres
 Quadrangle name Wabasha South Quad. Minn.-Wabasha Co. Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>5</u>	<u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>8</u> <u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>10</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>8</u> <u>10</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

The nomination comprises the western 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 4, T110N, R10W comprising approximately 5 acres.

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

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>	county	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>
state	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>	county	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charles W. Nelson, Historical Architect; Susan Roth, Research Historian
 organization Minnesota Historical Society date 3 May 1982
 street & number Fort Snelling History Center telephone 612-726-1171
 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 7/23/82

For NPS use only

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

Delores Byers date 8/26/82
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____
 Chief of Registration