

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

received **AUG 5 1985**  
date entered **SEP 5 1985**

**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 Hotel Reichert

and/or common N/A

**2. Location**

street & number 20 Third Street North N/A not for publication

city, town Long Prairie vicinity of N/A

state Minnesota code 22 county Todd code 147

**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	<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 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
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Joyce Dixon

street & number N/A

city, town Alexandria vicinity of N/A state Minnesota 56308

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Todd County Courthouse, Register of Deeds

street & number 215 1st Avenue South

city, town Long Prairie state Minnesota 56347

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Minnesota Statewide Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1984  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society  
Ft. Snelling History Center

city, town St. Paul state Minnesota

## 7. Description

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

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

The Reichert Hotel is a two story brick commercial building sited facing south on Central Avenue, Long Prairie's main commercial street. U-shaped in plan, the building's overall dimensions are one hundred seven feet by one hundred forty one feet. Hotel rooms occupy the second floor. The first floor has three shops facing Central Avenue, the hotel lobby, entered from the west side through an arched loggia, a dining room, and a caretaker's apartment.

Designed in a simple turn of the century Classical Revival commercial style, the building has classically-influenced detailing and plan. The two principal facades have features placed symmetrically to central axes. These axes are marked at the second floor level by oriel windows and a pediment-like rise in the parapet wall, the crests of which are marked by finials. Centered on the parapet wall are carved stone nameblocks. Perhaps to reduce confusion over which side the hotel entry faced, the south facing name block reads "Reichert Building," while the west facing nameblock reads "Reichert Hotel."

The entries centered at the west and south facades were given special attention in the building's design. The glass and wood paneled lobby entrance on the west side is set back from the street behind three brick arches. Polished granite columns with sandstone capitals support the arches. The detailing of the brickwork on the loggia arches is repeated above the three dining room windows immediately to the north, so as to provide the necessary symmetry to the facade. The entry on the south side has four engaged stone Tuscan piers which support an entablature.

Window openings on the second floor are flat-arched, and have raised brick keystones. Window openings on the first floor apartment and on the rear facades are segmental arched. Windows throughout the building are double-hung sash. A sandstone belt course is placed at the second floor sill height. Other ornamental features include an egg and dart patterned molded brick course above the keystones and a dentilled cornice.

Minor alterations, which do not affect the integrity of the building, have been made over the years. Pyramid-shaped towers which originally marked the corners of the building have been removed. Storefront windows have been replaced, and the upper lights infilled with wood panels. The original configuration of full width glazing and recessed entries has, however, been retained. A side entrance to the corner shop has been infilled with a painted wood panel, as have several minor doorways leading into the hotel lobby or the dining room. On the interior, most of the lobby and other public spaces have been partitioned for use as offices. The rooms on the second floor have generally remained as originally constructed.

# 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 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** 1902-03      **Builder/Architect** William King, Contractor

## Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Reichert Hotel is significant for its role in the growth and development of Long Prairie, Minnesota. A first-class hotel was an important amenity for a small growing community, often providing the first and lasting impressions of the community for businessmen and visitors that may settle there. The Reichert, when built in 1902-03, fulfilled this role. Its opening was celebrated by a formal dedication attended by over 300 people. The hotel was built by the sons of Ignatz Reichert, who had opened Long Prairie's first hotel in 1869. Designed in a simplified Classical Revival style, the Reichert incorporates a sophisticated plan and detailing that is unusual for a town of Long Prairie's size and background.

Ignatz Reichert built the Long Prairie House, the first hotel in the town, in 1869, when the community had less than one hundred residents. Following Reichert's retirement, and the subsequent destruction of a wood frame hotel building by fire, the Reichert Improvement Company decided to erect a first-class hotel. This company had the sons and son-in-law of Ignatz Reichert as officers: John J. Reichert, President; Mike L. Reichert, Secretary; Henry L. Reichert, Vice-President; and Edward S. Shenk, Treasurer.

The importance of the building to the community was marked at a festive opening dinner and dance, jointly sponsored by the Reichert Improvement Company and the Long Prairie Board of Trade. At this ceremonial event, attended by over 300 persons from Long Prairie and area communities, a formal program included toasts recounting the close associations of the previous hotel with the growth of the village, and confidence in the future of Long Prairie shown by its builders.

William King, of Wadena, Minnesota was the contractor for the building, which was estimated to cost \$40,000. The building occupies a prominent corner site in the commercial area of Long Prairie, and is a very good example of the type of Classical Revival commercial building constructed in the area near the turn of the century. Its refined detailing and plan indicate that the building was likely architect-designed, but no known surviving historical sources have revealed the architect's name.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Long Prairie, Minn.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A 15 355915 5092680  
Zone Easting Northing

B           
Zone Easting Northing

C         

D         

E         

F         

G         

H         

Verbal boundary description and justification

The south 20 feet of Lots 4 and 5 except the east 26 feet of the south 20 feet of Lot 4, Lot 6, and the west 41 feet of Lot 7 and the west 6 inches of the east 25 feet of the south 90 feet of Lot 7, except the east 1 foot of the north 75 feet of the west 41 feet of Lot 7; all in Block 10; Original Townsite of Long Prairie.

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

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Thomas L. Jenkinson and Norene Roberts

organization Historical Research, Inc. date March 1, 1985

street & number 5535 Richmond Curve telephone (612) 929-2921

city or town Minneapolis state Minnesota 55410

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

   national    state X 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*

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 7/12/85

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

Entered in the National Register

date 9/5/85

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
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Hotel Reichert, Long Prairie, Todd County, MN

Continuation sheet Bibliography

Item number 9

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- "Angry Flames Run Riot." Todd County Argus, March 20, 1902, p.1.
- "Hotel Reichert is Formally Opened." Long Prairie Leader, February 27, 1903, pp. 1, 7.
- Fuller, Clara K. History of Morrison and Todd Counties, Minnesota.  
Indianapolis, Indiana: B.F. Bowen and Co., Inc., 1915.
- "I. Reichert." Long Prairie Leader, July 25, 1902, p.1.
- "1902 Improvements." Long Prairie Leader, November 27, 1902, p.1.
- "Reichert's Hotel to Open Monday." Long Prairie Democrat, February 6, 1903, p. 1.
- "Social Event of the Season." Long Prairie Leader, February 20, 1903, p. 1.
- "The Reichert Block." Todd County Argus, February 5, 1903, p. 1.
- "The Reichert Opens." Long Prairie Democrat, February 27, 1903, p. 1.
- "The Reichert to Open." Long Prairie Democrat, February 20, 1903, p. 1.
- "To Dedicate the Reichert." Long Prairie Leader, February 13, 1903, p. 1.