

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

APR 04 1989

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Ginthner, Lorenz and Lugerde, House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 130 West Third St.
city, town Wabasha
state Minnesota code MN county Wabasha code 157 zip code 55981

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private (checked)
Category of Property: building(s) (checked)
Number of Resources within Property: Contributing 1, Noncontributing 1 buildings, 1 sites, 1 structures, 1 objects, Total 1

Name of related multiple property listing: Red Brick Houses in Wabasha, Minnesota
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets (checked) does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of certifying official: Nina M. Archabal
Date: 2/15/89
Minnesota State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau: Minnesota Historical Society

In my opinion, the property meets (unchecked) does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official
Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
[checked] entered in the National Register.
[ ] See continuation sheet.
[ ] determined eligible for the National Register. [ ] See continuation sheet.
[ ] determined not eligible for the National Register.
[ ] removed from the National Register.
[ ] other, (explain:)
Signature of the Keeper: [Signature]
Date of Action: 5/15/89

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Cementwalls Brickroof Asphaltother Wooden verandaLimestone window hoods**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The Lorenz (also spelled Lawrence) Ginthner House is a two-story Italianate solid brick dwelling on a prominent corner site near downtown Wabasha. It rests on a native limestone foundation which has been cement-plastered. The main wing is a two-storied "L" to which one-and-a-half and one-story wings are serially connected. All of these are original construction and are capped with hipped roofs terminating in flat decks. False gables pierce the roof cornice on each of the street facades.

An elaborately detailed wooden veranda runs the length of the front; its roof and cornice are original, but the formed piers are modern restorations. The open kitchen porch is a wholly new and conjectural reconstruction of the original. An 1884 engraving formed the basis of much of the restoration work, but proved inaccurate in many details.

The windows are tall rectangles carrying native limestone hoods with bullseye incised bosses. A simple stone oculus lights the attic under both peaks. The most elaborate detailing is in the cornice: a profusion of brackets append to a molded and dented friezeboard; above the piers and at the corners these brackets extend down onto the brick walls, thereby articulating the three-bay front.

All of the ironwork is modern, though it matches the original in placement and period. Iron crestings outlining each of the roof decks (porches, bay, and main) were taken from the old state hospital in Menominee, Wisconsin. A cast and wrought iron fence surrounding the property on its street sides was salvaged from the local St. Felix Cemetery.

The three original segments of the building retain their historic plan, fenestration, and walling. The only loss of original fabric was a one-story frame structure originally appended to the side of the rear wing. A modern garage has been added to the rear of the property and detached from the historic building; it is a non-contributing element.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1882  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1882  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Lorenz Ginthner House is an exuberant example of the Italianate style in brick residential design, and the most intact and highly detailed of the brick merchant's houses in Wabasha. Its profusion of bracketry and cornice detail, excellent masonry craftsmanship, and painstakingly restored porches and ironwork combine to produce one of the most complete packages of High Victorian period design in outstate Minnesota. Heralded as "the finest in the city" in 1884, the house was built for the family of merchant tailor Lorenz Ginthner, who had emigrated from Germany in 1852 and arrived in Wabasha to set up business three years later.

Ginthner's success as a tailor and merchant came soon enough for him to build his own business block in 1867. However, his house, because of its later date and style, plainly belongs within the state historic context of Agricultural Development and Railroad Construction. During this period Ginthner's business expanded to require two additional tailors to assist in the manufacturing end of his enterprise; he also sold a line of clothing and accessories brought in by rail from the east. The rails also were instrumental in permitting the mass-produced ornament of the house, such as the cornice dentiling, to find their way into small cities like Wabasha, and onto the houses of its expanding merchant class.

As the single most outstanding 19th century residence in Wabasha, and the dwelling of a pioneer member of its important merchant class, the Ginthner House holds a key place in the Multiple Property listing, Red Brick Houses in Wabasha, Minnesota Associated with Merchant-Tradesmen.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

History of Wabasha County... Chicago: H.H. Hill and Co., 1884.  
Minnesota Gazetteer and Business Directory. St. Paul: Groff and Bailey, 1865.  
Personal interview with owner, Jay Anderson, June 1987.  
United States census records, Wabasha County, 1880.  
Wabasha, 1885. New York: Sanborn Map Co.

See continuation sheet

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property Less than one

**UTM References**

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5	7	6	9	6	0
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4	9	1	4	5	7	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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B 

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Zone Easting Northing

D 

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See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The nominated property occupies Lot 6 of Block 21 of the city of Wabasha.

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes the entire city lot that has historically been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Paul C. Larson  
organization N/A date July 1987  
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