

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Minnesota
COUNTY: Ramsey
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE NOV 27 1973

1. NAME	
COMMON:	Irvine Park
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Irvine Park Historic District <i>Use this</i>

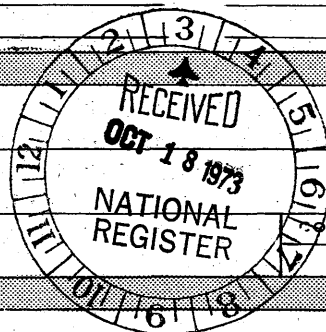
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Minnesota - 4th District	
STATE Minnesota	CODE 23	COUNTY: Ramsey	CODE 123

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC			
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" 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 (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNER'S NAME:	Multiple
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Register of Deeds, Ramsey County Courthouse	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul	STATE: Minnesota
CODE 23	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY: St. Paul City Planning Board Survey - 1964 Minnesota Historical Society Historic Sites Survey - 1973 National Register of Historic Places - 1969	
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: St. Paul City Planning Board Minnesota Historical Society	
STREET AND NUMBER: 421 Wabasha Street 690 Cedar Street	
CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul	STATE: Minnesota
CODE 23	



STATE: Minnesota	COUNTY: Ramsey
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER NOV 27 1973	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Irvine Park Historic District is located on one of the glacial river terraces upon which the city of St. Paul is sited. It is located approximately one mile southwest of the St. Paul Central Business District. Its northwest edge, West Seventh Street, was formerly named Fort Road; which since the first years of settlement has been the connecting link between St. Paul and the territorial military fortifications at Fort Snelling approximately four miles to the west. The southeast edge of the district is a shear bluff, dropping fifty feet to the Mississippi River flood plain below. The flood plain originally consisted of back water sloughs but now is a rapidly deteriorating industrial area of railroad switch yards and grain elevators. The northeast edge is partially determined by the new Chestnut Street right-of-way. It was originally the street access to the old Upper Levee site, which was located on the Mississippi River at the foot of present day Chestnut Street. The southwest edge has been determined by planned and/or already commenced redevelopment plans by the city of St. Paul.

The Irvine Park Historic District at the time of urban settlement in 1849 contained at least two unplatted farming homesteads, with a land surface steadily rising to swampy marshlands approximately four blocks to the northwest. Between 1849 and 1857 approximately fifteen buildings were constructed within the Irvine Park Historic District. Eight buildings, possibly nine, still exist within the area. Two more buildings, from the same period were relocated in the 1880's to within the district from a site one block to the northeast. The district, at present, contains residences from all three periods of economic prosperity in 19th Century St. Paul: the early and mid 1850's as previously mentioned, the post Civil War period, and the 1890's. The focus of the district, Irvine Park, has remained unchanged in size and location since 1849 when it was platted and donated to the city of St. Paul by John R. Irvine. He was one of the city's pioneer landowners and realtors.

Many of the homes in the district are now used for low cost apartment housing and the area is blighted due to lack of minimal building maintenance. However, it retains much of its original character; a historical island in one of the most active, changing sectors of St. Paul.

Description of the significant houses in the Irvine Park Historic District are:

1. The Charles Symonds House: 234 Ryan

The structure is a two story frame residence with hip roof constructed c.1850 by Charles Symonds, St. Paul's first ice dealer. The structure is without any distinguishable style still containing the original millwork, window locations, and two chimneys as shown on an 1857 photograph. The only modifications to the structure are the addition of a side entrance, the resurfacing with asbestos siding and the enclosure of the front porch; all having taken

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(see continuation sheet)

SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) <u>c. 1848-1900</u>			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry		<u>Immigration & settlement</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>exploration</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
<p>The <u>Irvine Park Historic District</u>, one of the last surviving original segments of the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area is the only complete representation of residential development from the start of white settlement in the late 1840s until the close of the 19th century. It contains homes built during all major phases of economic growth in 19th century St. Paul, without complete obliteration of previous phases, as has been done in most other major metropolitan areas. More significantly, the <u>Irvine Park Historic District</u> interprets as well as and in some aspects, better than any other St. Paul area, the lives of the men who provided the political, economic, military, medical and religious leadership that shaped the territorial and state capitol at St. Paul. Many also played important roles in the pioneering efforts to develop the Upper Midwest areas of Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana.</p> <p>Before 1848, St. Paul was in reality a poor collection of log cabins and shanties concentrated about the two steamboat landings. One was the Upper Landing or Levee located at the foot of present day Chestnut Street. It was founded by Henry M. Rice, territorial and United States Senator from Minnesota, to serve as the southern terminus of the Pembina Ox Cart fur trade route which originated in the Red River Valley of the North. Approximately 1½ miles down river from the Upper Levee stood the Lower or St. Paul's Landing, the original steamboat landing at St. Paul.</p> <p>When St. Paul was designated as the territorial capitol in 1848, rapid land speculation and construction commenced at each site. The two vied to become the power center of the city until the 1870's when by agreement the Lower Landing became the terminal for trade on the Mississippi River below St. Paul and the Upper Levee became the terminal for trade on the Minnesota River and the Mississippi River above St. Paul.</p> <p>Each site had its own business, trade and residential areas and in the case of the Upper Levee, the heart of the residential area was the <u>Irvine Park Historic District</u> platted along with the existing park by John R. Irvine in the spring of 1849. The business area was located at "Seven Corners" or Upper Town one block northeast of the district. This was the early financial and political center of St. Paul while the Lower Landing became the business-mercantile center of the city. Eventually, the Lower Landing grew into the present St.</p>			

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Pen Pictures of St. Paul and Biographical Sketches of Old Settlers,
T.M. Newson, 1886.

St. Paul and Vicinity, Henry A. Castle, Vol. 1, 2, 3, 1912.

History of Ramsey County, Edward D. Neill and William J. Fletcher, 1881.

St. Paul City Directories, 1856-95, inclusive.

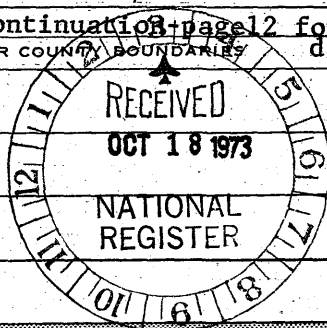
Dual City Blue Books, 1885-1914, inclusive. (see continuation sheet - page 11)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NW	44 ° 56 ' 33 "	93 ° 6 ' 25 "		0		
NE	44 ° 56 ' 33 "	93 ° 6 ' 3 "				
SE	44 ° 56 ' 22 "	93 ° 6 ' 3 "				
SW	44 ° 56 ' 22 "	93 ° 6 ' 25 "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 5 acres (see continuation sheet 12 for boundary description)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NW15/491160/4976370
SE15/492060/4976040
SW15/491160/4976040

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Thomas Lutz, Survey & Planning (approved Charles W. Nelson)

ORGANIZATION
Minnesota Historical Society

DATE
October 3, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
690 Cedar Street

CITY OR TOWN:
St. Paul

STATE
Minnesota

CODE
23

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name Russell W. Fridley
Russell W. Fridley

Title Director, Minnesota Historical Society

Date 10-11-73

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

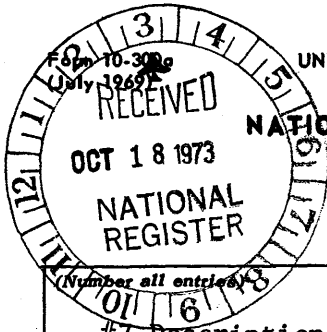
Peter M. Tuttle
Associate Director, Professional Services

Date 11/27/73

ATTEST:

Charles A. Harrington
Keeper of The National Register

Date 11/23/73



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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#7 Description (continued) -- page 1

place since its relocation from a site one block to the northeast in the early 1880's. It is now used as a low cost boarding house and is in poor repair.

2. The Willis House: 240 Ryan

The structure is a one story frame residence with hip roof and twin side dependencies styled on a simplified Georgian motif. It was constructed c.1850 and was one of the first residences constructed at Irvine Park. A two story wing was added in the 1880's (see description of House #3) and except for the addition of a small window bay on the northwest corner, the resurfacing of the exterior with asbestos shingles and the removal of the original balustrated "captain's walk," the structure is intact as originally constructed. It has always been used as a single family residence and is in fair to good repair.

3. The John R. Irvine House: rear wing to 240 Ryan

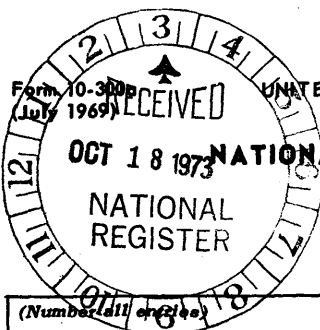
The structure is a simple two story frame Greek Revival residence, originally located one block to the northeast and added as a wing to the Willis House in the 1880's. It has undergone alteration with the removal of some windows and general resurfacing to match its companion; although the interior room arrangement is unchanged. It was constructed c.1850 by John R. Irvine who platted the area and donated Irvine Park to the city in 1849.

4. The Dr. Justus Ohage House: 59 Irvine Park

The structure is a two and one half story brick residence constructed 1889-90 by Dr. Justus Ohage. The architecture is German influenced Romanesque Revival, modeled after Mrs. Ohage's childhood home in St. Louis, Missouri and is unmodified except of the removal of the top of the corner tower and remodeled front entrance porch. It still retains the original cast iron carriage entrance to the northwest. The structure is poorly maintained but in good structural condition and is now divided into apartments. The interior is distinguished by the original stained woodwork throughout, but it is also poorly maintained.

5. The Wright-Prendergast House: 223 Walnut

The structure is a two story frame residence with a two story frame rear wing. Constructed in 1851 by Isaac V. Wright, and possibly altered in 1864, it was extensively remodeled in 1906 by its second owner James Prendergast. Added in 1906 by local architect, Mark Fitzpatrick, was the Ionic portico, and entire two story front portion. The interior (still intact) was completely redesigned with interiors salvaged from the Norman Kittson mansion, one of St. Paul's most well known and lavish residences. It is



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Form 10-300p
(July 1969)

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#7 Description (continued) -- page 2

still used as a private residence, and, although in need of repair and maintenance, is in good structural condition.

6. The William A. Spencer House: 47 Irvine Park

The structure is a two story stuccoed frame residence styled on a simple "broadside" Greek Revival, pioneer vintage. It was constructed 1856 to 1857 by William Spencer, and is unchanged except for stuccoed exterior and two story veranda. It is in very good repair and structural condition.

7. The Henry M. Knox House: 26 Irvine Park

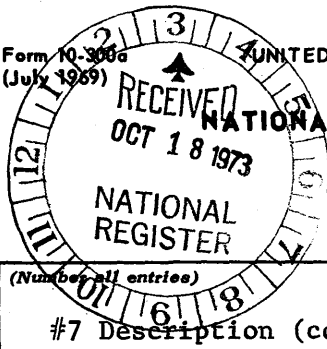
It was constructed in 1849, according to City of St. Paul building records by an unknown party, although property was owned in the 1850's by a series of early prominent St. Paul pioneers, one of which was Henry Rice. This house is a two story frame simply styled Gothic structure similar in many respects to the William A. Spencer House. It is unchanged, excepting the stuccoed porch and exterior still retaining the original hand made floor length French doors both levels of the front elevation and the original cast iron hardware. Also extant are the original flanking chimneys. The structure is fairly well maintained and in very good structural condition.

8. The Parker-Marshall House: 250 Sherman

Constructed in the early 1850's by Rodney Parker, it originally faced Irvine Park at relatively its present site. It is a two story frame structure, of Greek Revival style, with an original two story frame dependency to the rear. The house is distinguished by an oversized original double window mid-centered on the second story, front elevation. Except for the asbestos siding, 1880's stone foundation and rebuilt front porch, the house is unchanged from 1857 photograph and still contains the original millwork and general appearance. The structure is poorly maintained and has been divided into apartments since its relocation.

9. The Charles L. Wood House: 255 Sherman

Constructed in 1854 according to City of St. Paul building records, it is actually two separate structures, front and back, the front of which was either built on or moved from another location in the mid 1860's. The two story structure is brick bearing wall and it was designed in a very simple federal motif with hip roof and floor length windows on the front facade. The house still retains the original millwork behind the modern aluminum storm windows, but some cornice detail had been lost when the structure was reroofed. The structure is in fair repair and is still used as a private residence.



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COUNTY Ramsey	
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NOV 27 1978	

(Number all entries)

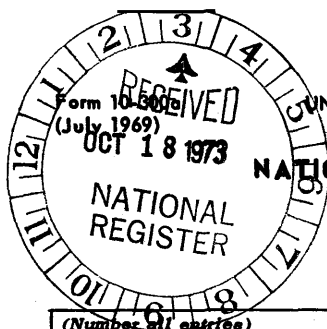
#7 Description (continued) -- page 3

10. The Holcombe-Averill-Jaggard House: 302 South Exchange
The house was constructed at an unknown date and is a two and one-half story brick structure. Designed after the French ☒ Second Empire Style with third story dormers projecting from the Mansard roof, the house is one of the finer architectural examples in the Irvine Park Historic District. It has been divided into apartments, is poorly maintained and is in fair structural condition.
11. The Forepaugh-Hammond House: 276 South Exchange
Constructed c.1871, according to the St. Paul City Directories, by Joseph Forepaugh, the house is a two story frame bracketed Italianate structure. An unusual feature of the house is the rear; a two and one-half story Mansard section with differing wall heights from the front section. The structure is suffering from poor maintenance and the super-structure and foundation are beginning to deteriorate. It has been subdivided into low-income, kitchenette, apartments.
12. The Alexander-Ramsey House: 265 South Exchange
Built by Alexander Ramsey between 1868 and 1872, the house and grounds are now owned and being restored by the Minnesota Historical Society. The house was added to the National Register of Historic Sites, November 25, 1969. See the National Register nomination form for further description.
13. The Mannheimer House: 270 West Seventh
Built as a double house by Louis Goodkind and Emil and Jacob Mannheimer in 1874, it is a two and one-half story example of French Second Empire architecture, characterized by the third story dormer projecting from the Mansard roof. The house is unchanged, except for stucco resurfacing and the rebuilt front porch. The structure, now used as a boarding house, is well maintained and in good condition.

#8 Significance (continued)

Paul central business district, obliterating all of its early historical traces while the Irvine Park area is all that remains of the Upper Levee town.

Typical of the men who lived in or very near the Irvine Park Historic District are two Minnesota governors, one United States senator, two Chief Supreme Court Justices of Minnesota, seven St. Paul mayors, numerous United States and state representatives, judges and other public officials. The business sector is represented by railroad tycoons, lumber barons,



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#8 Significance (continued) -- page 4

early St. Paul industrialists, mercantilists and financiers. Editors and publishers of every major St. Paul newspaper could claim at one time or another, local addresses, two of which went on to national fame in their fields. Irvine Park can also claim one national explorer, Nathaniel Langford, the discoverer of the geysers at Yellowstone Park and also its first park commissioner.

Typical of the prominent men who could claim Irvine Park or vicinity addresses during the period of significance and whose homes have been either seriously altered or razed were:

William J. Banning: lawyer; member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1845; major pioneer St. Paul banker (W.J. Banning & Co.), building the first bank building in St. Paul in 1855; captain in the Union Army during the Civil War; member of the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1860; nominee for Governor of Minnesota; railroad tycoon; and major religious leader helping to organize the House of Hope Church, the second and most important Presbyterian congregation in St. Paul.

David Blakely: leading area newspaperman establishing the Rochester Post, (1859) owner of the St. Paul Pioneer, (1874) publisher of the Chicago Evening Post; and manager of the Minneapolis Tribune; Minnesota Secretary of State 1862-6, and manager of the John Philip Sousa Band in the 1880's.

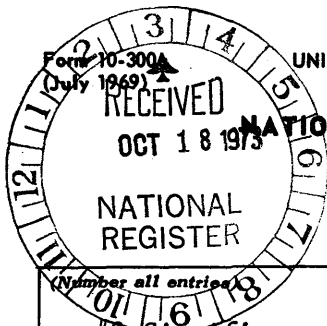
Dr. David Riddle Breed: prominent St. Paul clergyman and long time pastor of the House of Hope Presbyterian Church, a major religious force in the development of St. Paul.

Henry L. Carver: law partner with another Irvine Park resident, William Spencer; first president of the State Bar Association and Attorney General of Minnesota in 1859; Captain in the Union Army during the Civil War; organizer and officer in the city's first streetcar system; leading St. Paul newspaperman, being one time owner and publisher of the old St. Paul Pioneer, now the St. Paul Pioneer-Press.

Theodore F. Cheritree: founder of Cheritree and Farwell, hardware dealers, which evolved into St. Paul's Farwell, Ozmun, Kirk and Co., largest hardware wholesale house in the United States.

Erasmus M. Deane: early St. Paul industrialist; founder of the old St. Paul Machinery Co., which he built into the St. Paul Harvester Co., major St. Paul industry.

Frederick Driscoll: leading St. Paul newspaperman, who founded the old St. Paul Daily Union, which he merged with the St. Paul Press, and



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later with the St. Paul Pioneer creating the present day St. Paul Pioneer Press; chairman of the Minnesota Republican Central Committee from 1867 to 1870 and member of the famed "Inner Circle" of the party which virtually dictated every major political office and appointment in Minnesota from the mid 1860's until 1875; railroad tycoon, organizer of the city streetcar system, and one of the founders of the Associated Press.

Abram Elfelt: along with brother Charles brought the first Jewish families to St. Paul; opened the first dry goods store and the first public entertainment hall, the Mazurka Hall, in the city; realtor and railroad investor and organizer of the St. Paul Board of Trade in 1864.

Lafayette Emmett: law partner with another area resident, Henry L. Moss; Attorney General of the Minnesota Territory from 1853-8 and first Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court, serving from 1858-65.

Frank and Joseph Farwell: see Theodore Cheritree.

Charles Fillmore: Brother of United States President, Millard Fillmore.

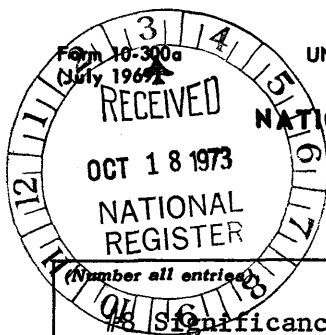
James Gilfillan: Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, 1869-70 and again 1875-9.

William Hollingshead: law partner with Henry Rice (territorial and United States Senator) and George Becker, (Governor of Minnesota), in Rice, Hollingshead and Becker, reportedly the largest law firm in the west in the 1850's; brother-in-law of Henry Rice and head of the territorial bar association.

Henry J. Horn: started law practice in Philadelphia in the 1840's with Henry G. Gilpin, United States Attorney General; elder and leader in the House of Hope Presbyterian Church and one of the organizers of the old College of St. Paul, now Macalester College; major city official.

Andrew R. Kiefer: enrolling clerk in the first Minnesota legislature and organizer of a regiment of German-American citizens which saw service in the Civil War; Provost Marshall of Tennessee during the Civil War and proprietor of the Staats Zeitung, a major St. Paul newspaper; state legislator (1864), St. Paul Mayor (1883) and Representative to Congress (1892-6); banker, realtor and insurance company founder.

Nathaniel P. Langford: leading St. Paul banker, being one of the organizers and First Cashier in two major 1850's St. Paul banking houses, The



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Bank of Minnesota and Marshall & Co.; Republican delegate from Montana nominating Abraham Lincoln and appointed first Governor of Montana (although never serving due to Johnson's impeachment); the discoverer of the geysers at Yellowstone while serving on the Washburn Expedition in 1870 and the first superintendent of Yellowstone, the first national park in the world, (1872-7); St. Paul Public Bank Examiner, (1865-72) and National Bank Examiner of the Pacific Coast (1872-84); the brother-in-law of William A Spencer and Governor William Marshall, both Irvine Park residents.

E. Howard Morphy: British Vice Consul in 1886.

Henry L. Moss: early law partner with Lafayette Emmett; first United States District Attorney to the Territory of Minnesota, serving 1849-58; first United States District Attorney to the State of Minnesota, serving 1858-68; one of the organizers of the old College of St. Paul (now Macalester College) and leader in the House of Hope Presbyterian Church.

Nathan Myrick: town founder of LaCrosse, Wisconsin c.1840; Indian agent and fur trader in the Mississippi and Minnesota River valleys; one of the incorporators of the St. Paul Bridge Company, which erected the first bridge across the Mississippi River in St. Paul in 1858.

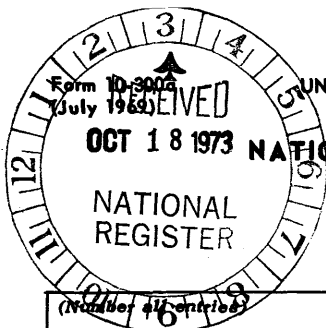
Daniel A. Robertson: United States Marshal for Ohio in the 1840's; Mayor of St. Paul in 1859; and founder of the second newspaper in St. Paul, the St. Paul Democrat.

Robert A. Smith: came to St. Paul in 1853, as the private secretary to the second territorial governor, Willis A. Gorman; first state librarian; one of incorporators of the Bank of Minnesota and partner in the powerful financial house of Dawson and Company; president of the St. Paul City Council 1884-7; state senator 1886; mayor of St. Paul 1888-1903.

Dr. Jacob H. Stewart: one of the organizers of the House of Hope Presbyterian Church; state senator in 1860; mayor of St. Paul for four terms between 1864 and 1874; member of the United States House of Representatives 1876-80; Surveyor General of Minnesota 1879-83; railroad tycoon; and leading St. Paul surgeon.

James W. Taylor: lawyer; United States Consul to Manitoba, 1871-81; United States Circuit Court Commissioner; and secretary of Minnesota's first chartered railroad - The Minnesota and Pacific.

Wilfred Wilson: One of the organizers and elder in the House of Hope Church; first ruling elder of the College of St. Paul now known as Macalester



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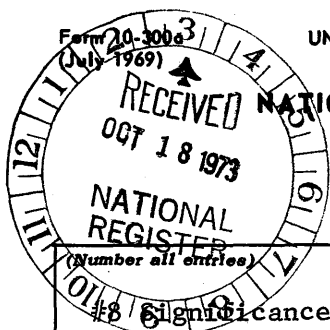
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College, and founded under the leadership of the House of Hope Church members; served on Minnesota Board of Agriculture 1858-7-; and one time chairman of the Minnesota Republican Party.

Significant houses remaining in the Irvine Park Historic District are:

1. The Charles Symonds House: 234 Ryan ✓
The house was built c.1850 by a former sea captain, Charles Symonds. He is most well known as the St. Paul's first ice dealer erecting an ice house at the Upper Landing to service both the steam boats and the many local breweries. He is lesser known for being the Minnesota Engineer of Mines in 1869 and also for participating in the Lake Vermillion gold rush in Minnesota. He lived at the house at its former location from c.1850 to the mid 1880's.
2. The Willis House: 240 Ryan
Built c.1850 the house, according to the oldest living resident of the area, was constructed as a honeymoon cottage for Harriet Bishop, St. Paul's first school teacher and renown educational pioneer. The first recorded resident, however, was Charles L. Willis, pioneer St. Paul lawyer, who was most well known for his extensive real estate dealings in St. Paul and northern Wisconsin. His son, John W. Willis, was appointed Judge of the United States District Court in 1892 and was a well known fixture of the neighborhood at the turn of the century. The Willis family lived in the house from the early 1850's until well after the turn of the century.
3. The John R. Irvine House: rear wing of 240 Ryan ✓
The house was built as the second house of John R. Irvine, one of the original landowners at the townsite and who along with Henry M. Rice, platted and subdivided approximately sixty acres of St. Paul in 1849, now known as "Rice & Irvine's Addition". It is John Irvine, after whom Irvine Park and the Irvine Park Historic District is named. The house was moved to its present location behind the Willis House a few years after his death in 1878, and was always in the possession of his family until its relocation. It also served during the mid 1870's as the home of his son-in-law and one time business partner Mayor John Kelliher; St. Paul banker, industrialist, and mayor.
4. The Dr. Justus Ohage House: 59 Irvine Park ✓
Constructed between 1889 and 1890 as the first permanent residence in St. Paul of Dr. Justus Ohage; St. Louis born and German educated nationally known surgeon. Dr. Ohage was the first surgeon in the United States to perform liver and gall bladder surgery, operating at old St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Paul. He is also well known for his public health improvements. After being appointed City Commissioner of Health by another Irvine Park resident, Mayor Andrew



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R. Kiefer, he improved garbage collection and started the inspection of cattle for tuberculosis. The house is the best example of the third and last period of prosperity in the Irvine Park Historic District.

5.

The Wright-Prendergast House: 223 Walnut
Long recognized as one of the finest examples of late Greek Revival architecture in the Twin City metropolitan area, it is lesser known as the first and only residence of Isaac P. Wright who built the original house in the spring of 1851 and who died there fifty-five years later. I.P. Wright began a very modest career in the 1840's as a lead miner at Galena, Illinois, one of four who eventually relocated to Irvine Park. He is known as one of St. Paul's most reputable contractors and for long standing civic service as city alderman and member of the St. Paul Board of Works. The house assumed its present appearance in 1906 when it was purchased by James Prendergast, son of Jeremiah Prendergast, pioneer plumbing contractor in St. Paul. The house has some of the finest Victorian interiors remaining in St. Paul.

6.

The William A. Spencer House: 47 Irvine Park
The house was built 1856 or 1857 by William A. Spencer, prominent pioneer St. Paul lawyer, and partner with another well known Irvine Park resident, Henry Carver. Spencer is most well known for his long service to the Minnesota courts, serving as the Clerk of the United States District Court (1863-1890) and as Minnesota Supreme Court Reporter (1865-75). The house is one of the finer example of "broadside" Greek Revival architecture, pioneer vintage, remaining in St. Paul.

7.

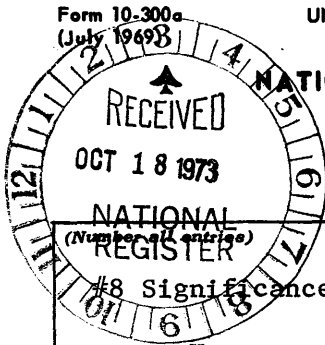
The Henry M. Knox House: 26 Irvine Park
The house was built in 1849, according to city building records, and is the oldest intact structure in the Irvine Park Historic District. Between 1849 and 1862, the names of the tenants are unknown, although some of the most prominent names in St. Paul history appear among the property owners. From 1863 until 1888 the house is the residence of Henry H. Knox, partner in the 1850's with his brother in J. Jay Knox & Co., banking house at "Seven Corners" and one of the first chartered banks in Minnesota. The Knox's were part of the bank boom which came to a sudden halt with the financial crash in the fall of 1857. The large majority of these bankers had their offices at the Seven Corners location and their homes in the Irvine Park Historic District.

After losing his entire fortune in the "crash of '57", Henry M. Knox became a realtor and insurance broker; also serving as Assistant United States Assessor (1869) and Public Bank Examiner (1878-82).

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He was active in the religious and educational affairs of St. Paul, serving as an elder in the House of Hope Presbyterian Church and as one of the organizers of the College of St. Paul (now Macalester College).

8

The Parker-Marshall House: 250 Sherman

The house, constructed c.1850, is the last surviving structure of the old Parker farm, homesteaded in the late 1840's and which covered the southern corner of the district. The residence of Rodney Parker (c.1850-76), it originally faced the park and was known for many years as #1 Irvine Park.

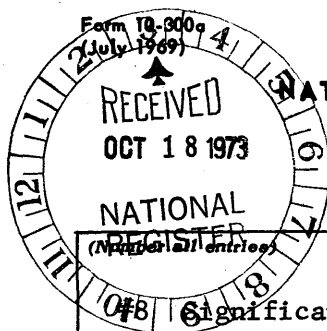
Mr. and Mrs. Parker are most well known as the proprietors of the American House, financed by Henry M. Rice, which was St. Paul's third hotel. Built in 1849, and a prominent landmark at Seven Corners, the hotel served as the meeting site of the territorial Supreme Court. It was also the departure point for stages going to St. Anthony, now Minneapolis and the site of Henry Thoreau's only visit to St. Paul. It was most widely known as the "political crossroads" of the territory.

The house became the residence of William R. Marshall between 1877 and 1882, one of Minnesota's most enterprising and versatile pioneers. Starting as a miner in the Galena lead fields in 1841, he relocated to the then old Wisconsin Territory, now Minnesota, laying claims at Taylors Falls, Minnesota and opening the first dry goods store at St. Anthony. He was one of the first members of the territorial legislature in 1849. Moving to St. Paul in the early 1850's he became a major force in the development of the city; opening the first heavy iron business in the city (1851), founding with his brother the prominent banking house of Marshall & Co. (1853), and leading the effort to construct the first bridge across the Mississippi River at St. Paul (1858). He, with Joseph A. Wheelock, assumed ownership of the St. Paul Press in 1861 and along with Wheelock, Frederick Driscoll, and R.N. McLaren comprised the famed "Inner Circle" of the Republican Party mentioned previously. After serving as a Brigadier General in the Civil War, he was elected to Governor of Minnesota (1876-80). He became a leading financier and railroad tycoon, eventually becoming the state's first Railroad Commissioner (1875). The Parker-Marshall House is his last surviving residence.

9.

The Charles L. Wood House: 255 Sherman

The rear portion of the house was constructed in 1854 according to the City of St. Paul building records, although the first recorded resident was David Stewart in 1856, St. Paul pioneer and partner in one of the city's first steam mills at the Upper Levee. Another



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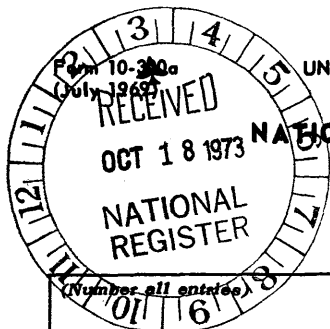
resident was D.C. Taylor founder of D.C. Taylor & Co., Seven Corners banking house and another banker ruined in the financial crash of 1857. The most prominent resident was Horace R. Bigelow whose second home across Walnut Street on South Exchange Street from the original Ramsey House was a major architectural landmark in the area. Horace Bigelow was a wealthy St. Paul lawyer who made his original fortune settling homesteaders insurance claims resulting from the Great Sioux Uprising of 1862 in the Minnesota River Valley. He also served as president of the Ramsey County Bar Association for many years. This house is his only surviving residence in St. Paul.

Charles L. Wood is the man most held responsible for the present appearance of the house. He lived in the house from 1864 until 1887 and was most well known as a pioneer railroader, holding various positions with four different railroad companies throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The house has only been in the hands of two other families since the Wood residency.

10. The Holcombe-Averill-Jaggard House: 302 South Exchange
The house was built at an unknown date in the 1870's or 1880's. The first known resident is Captain Edwin V. Holcombe of the famous early pioneering family of the Upper Midwest. His father William Holcombe was one of the first non-military men to stake claim in the area, coming to the St. Croix valley in 1838, and serving as; delegate to both the Wisconsin and Minnesota Territorial Conventions; member of the first Minnesota Territorial Legislature; and Lieutenant Governor of Minnesota (1858-60). Edwin Holcombe sought a varied career, being the proprietor of the Park Place Hotel, St. Paul's pretigious resort hotel in the early 1870's and serving as the Superintendent of the Red River Transportation Co. (1877-81), a major economic developer of the northwest sector of the state. He lived in the house from 1882 to 1889 and then sold the house to General John T. Averill, a delegate to the Minnesota Constitutional Convention in 1848, state senator (1859) and member of the United States House of Representatives (1871-5). He was well known as a lumber baron in southeastern Minnesota, an Indian fighter in the west where he earned his rank of Brigadier General and a prominent St. Paul banker in the 1890's.

His widow sold the house in 1899 to her son-in-law, Edwin A. Jaggard, an Associate Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court from 1905 to 1911.



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11. The Forepaugh-Hammond House: 276 South Exchange
The house was constructed by Joseph L. Forepaugh, pioneer dry goods merchant whose first business enterprise in the early 1850's, Forepaugh, Justice and Company, eventually evolved into the present day St. Paul department store chain of Field-Schlick. He also was founder and partner in Forepaugh and Tarbox major boot and shoe manufacturer to the mid and far west. He lived in the house from 1871 to 1885.

From 1886 to near the end of the century the house belonged to General John Hammond and whose background is unknown except for that after his death, the Lewis and Clark Northwest Expedition Papers were discovered in his personal desk.

12. The Alexander Ramsey House: 265 South Exchange
Added to the National Register of Historic Sites on November 25, 1969, and now operated as a historic house museum expressing the life style of Alexander Ramsey, Minnesota's first territorial and second state governor, the Ramsey "Mansion House" is the greatest architectural landmark remaining in the Irvine Park Historic District. Please see the nomination form for more information.

13. The Mannheimer House: 270 West Seventh
The house was built in 1874 as a double residence for the Louis Goodkind, and the Emil and Jacob Manneheimer families. The three men were partners in Goodkind and Mannheimer Bros., dry goods store, the largest dry goods store west of Chicago in the 1870's. When Goodkind retired from the partnership in the 1880's, the two Mannheimer brothers lived in the residence until near the end of the century. It apparently was their only St. Paul residence.

#9 Major Bibliographical References (continued)

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Minnesota History, "Aaron Goodrich, Stormy Petrel of the Territorial Bench", Winter 1964, pp. 141-52.

History of St. Paul, Gen. C.C. Andrews, 1890.

History of Olmsted County, Joseph A. Leonard, 1910, pp.86-7.

G.M. Hopkins, St. Paul Plat Books, 1887, 1916.

Minnesota Biographies, Warren Upham and Barteau Dunlap, June 1912.

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#9 Major Bibliographical References (continued) -- page 12

Files of the Minnesota Historical Society.

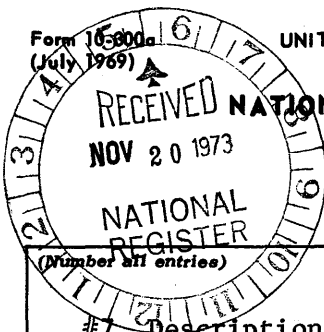
Files of the City of St. Paul, Dept. of Public Works.

#10 Geographical Data

Description of Irvine Park Historic District boundaries

All area within the following description beginning at the center of the intersection of Walnut and West Seventh Street, thence southeasterly along the center line of Walnut to the intersection of the centerline of the perimeter street surrounding Irvine Park, thence northeasterly to the north corner; thence southeasterly along the center line of the perimeter street to the intersection of the centerline of Ryan; thence northeasterly along the center line of Ryan to the northeast edge of lot 2, block 35; thence southeasterly to include lots 2, 3, 4, block 35, thence southwesterly to the centerline of Hill Street including that portion of Hill vacated; thence southwesterly along the centerline of Hill street to the top of the bluff's concrete retaining wall; thence following the concrete of the top of the retaining wall to the centerline of Sherman; thence northwesterly along the centerline of Sherman to the intersection of the centerline of Ryan; thence southwesterly along the centerline of Ryan to the intersection of the line extending from the southwest edge of lot 11; thence northwesterly along the southwest of edge of lots 11, 12 of Block 30, to the intersection of the centerline alleyway parallel to Ryan and Exchange, Block 30; thence southwesterly along the centerline of the alleyway to the intersection of the property line running northwest-southeast dividing in half lot 3, block 30; thence along the property line to the intersection of the centerline of South Exchange; then northeasterly along the centerline of South Exchange to the intersection of the centerline of Sherman; thence northwesterly along the centerline of Sherman to the intersection of the centerline of Ramsey; thence westerly along Ramsey to the intersection of the centerline of West Seventh; thence northeasterly to the point of beginning. All in Rice and Irvine's Addition to City of St. Paul.





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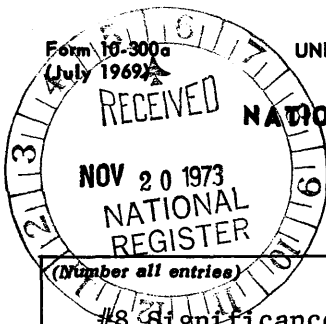
14. The Murray-Lanpher House: 35 Irvine Park
The structure is a frame, two and half story Queen-Anne with gable roof and corner turret, cap removed. Constructed c.1887 by Michael Murray and remodelled in the 1950s the exterior still contains most of the original wood carving, siding and shingles under the existing asphalt siding. The house is basically sound although early deterioration of the foundation is discernable. It had been converted into apartment dwelling, but presently stands unoccupied. This house is being added to the nomination due to the discovery of the original exterior beneath the existing siding and new biographic information on the early residents provided by the Murray-Lanpher family.
15. The Rogers-Johnson House: 306 South Exchange
The structure is a frame, two story towered Italianate, having a combination gable and hipped roof and also neo-classic overtones on the front facade. It was constructed c.1874 by Hiram Rogers and has undergone minor exterior renovation with residing and porch modification. Still intact are the original eave brackets, window trim and millwork. This is being used as a multi-family residence and appears to be in fair to good structural condition. This is being added to the nomination due to new biographic information on the residence's second owner, A.E. Johnson, recently discovered in the Alexander Ramsey House library.

#8 Significance

14. The Murray-Lanpher House: 35 Irvine Park
The house was built c.1887 by Michael Murray, a distant relative of Louis Robert, pioneer fur trader and early St. Paul settler. Murray, a Canadian by birth, first settled in northwestern Wisconsin, conducting lumbering operations in Chippewa County, Wisconsin. He also founded the Murray Manufacturing Company of Boyd, Wisconsin, which he operated from 1870-82. Moving to St. Paul, he founded the Northern Cooperage Company, a major barrel manufacturing concern which is still a significant industry in St. Paul today.

The House was sold to his son-in-law, Rollin A. Lanpher, Jr. in 1910 and remained the Lanpher residence until 1924. The Lanphers, Rollin Sr. and Rollin Jr., comprised one of St. Paul's earliest and most historic men's haberdashery concerns. Founded in 1868, it operated to the middle of this century.

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The house is architecturally significant for its richly detailed Queen-Anne, exterior recently discovered beneath the existing siding.

15. The Rogers-Johnson House: 306 South Exchange

The house was built c.1874 as the second (and now only surviving) Irvine Park residence of Hiram Rogers, early St. Paul entrepreneur. Rogers started in St. Paul in 1856 as one of the four leading leather crafters, helping build this enterprise into one of St. Paul major 19th century industries. He is also well known for his development efforts, constructing some of St. Paul major commercial buildings. He served as secretary of St. Paul Chamber of Commerce from 1877-81. His son who inherited the house in 1881 also served as secretary of the Chamber of Commerce from 1881-3 and was the real estate and passenger agent for the St. Louis and St. Paul Pocket Company, a major riverboat concern on the Upper Mississippi River.

The major personage to reside in the house was Aleck B. Johnson, its second owner from 1885-94. Johnson was a major force in the populating of areas in Minnesota, the Dakotas, Montana and the Pacific Northwest. He was the immigration agent for the State of Minnesota from 1868-70, and from 1870-81 served as the Western Immigration agent for the Cunard Steamship Lines, being the Chicago office manager in 1881. From 1881-3 he headed the immigration department of the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad (predecessor to the Great Northern) and was largely instrumental in the settling of the Red River Valley of the North.

He formed A.E. Johnson and Company in 1883 as land and ticket agents to the Northwest, with branch offices in Minneapolis and Chicago, and the company soon became the nation's leading firm in this business. In 1888 the firm took charge of the land and ticket business for the Northern Pacific Railroad for all Scandinavian, German and Finnish immigrants. Their solid business reputation earned them the position of being appointed general passenger agents for all America for the Scandinavian Thingvalla Steamship Line in 1891 and general emigrant agents of the Western States Passenger Association in 1893. During this period they also represented the American, White Star, North German Lloyd, Hamburg-American and French lines, a group which supplied three quarters of all steamship tickets purchased in the Northwest.

A.E. Johnson is regarded as being the major force in the settling

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of Central Minnesota and for his outstanding immigrant efforts throughout the United States was granted the rank of Knight of the Order of Vasa by King Oscar of Sweden in 1893.

In other capacities he was the publisher of the Hemlandet, the oldest and leading Swedish paper in America; also vice-president of the Scandinavian-American Bank of Seattle, the Scandinavian-American Bank of St. Paul and the president of the Scandinavian-American Bank of Tacoma, Washington.

#9 Bibliographical References (continued)

(For Aleck E. Johnson)

St. Paul, edited and published by the Pioneer Press Company, 1897, pp. 54-5.

(For Rollin A. Lanpher and Michael Murray)

"Pioneers tell how they saw Robert St. grow". St. Paul Daily News, November 25, 1915.

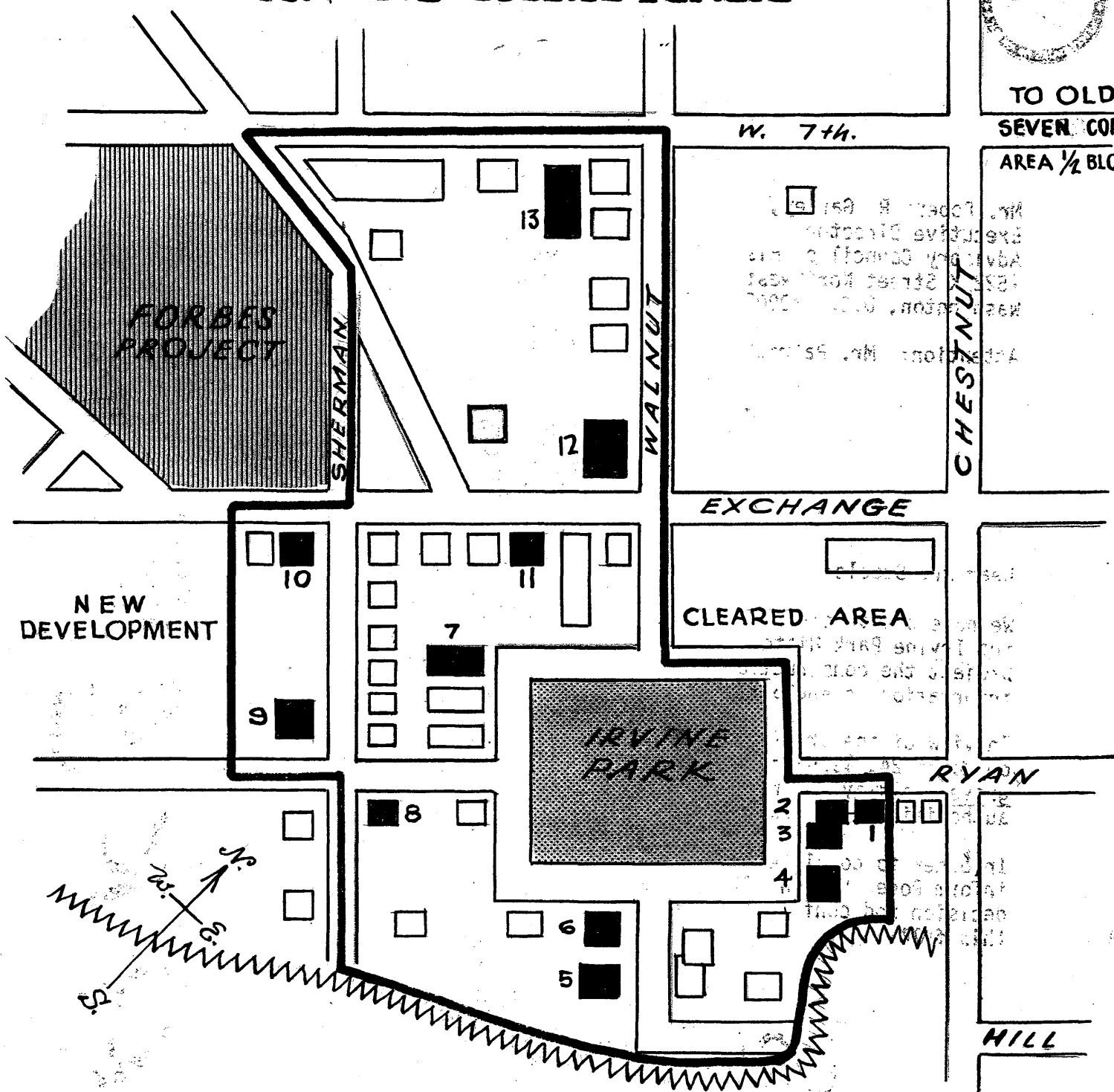
Lanpher Family Papers.



IRVINE PARK AREA



TO OLD
SEVEN CORNERS
AREA 1/2 BLOCK →



TO OLD UPPER LEVEL
SITE TWO BLOCKS



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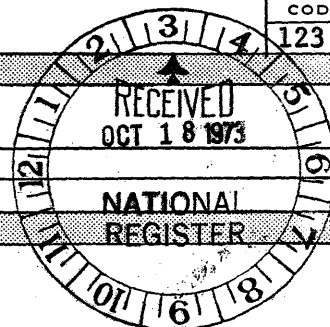
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

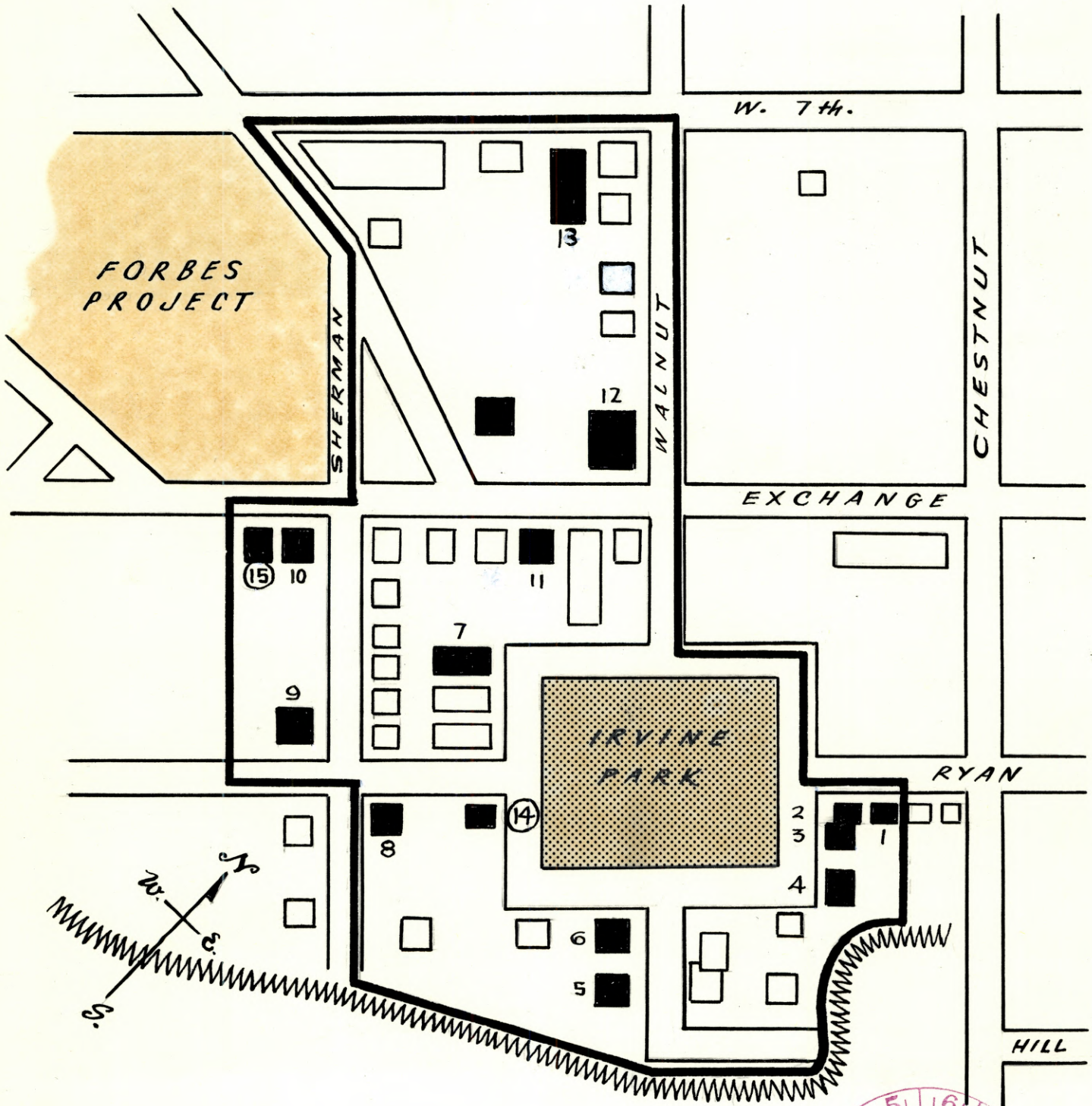
STATE Minnesota	
COUNTY Ramsey	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
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AND/OR HISTORIC:		Irvine Park Historic District	
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul			
STATE: Minnesota	CODE 23	COUNTY: Ramsey	CODE 123
3. MAP REFERENCE			
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SCALE: no scale			
DATE: October, 1973			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX			
2. North arrow.			
3. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX			
4. Map key for numerical listing of historical houses (see nomination form)			



IRVINE PARK AREA



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PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

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COUNTY Ramsey	
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ENTRY NUMBER NOV 27 1973	DATE NOV 27 1973

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Irvine Park			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Irvine Park Historic District			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul			
STATE: Minnesota	CODE 22	COUNTY: Ramsey	CODE 123
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SCALE: No scale			
DATE: November 14, 1973			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

