

**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

For HCRS use only

received JAN 29 1980

date entered

MAR 27 1980

1. Name

historic Baird, George W., House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 4400 West 50th Street _____ not for publication

city, town Edina _____ vicinity of congressional district 5th

state Minnesota code 22 county Hennepin code 053

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Curtis

street & number 4400 West 50th Street

city, town Edina _____ vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Hennepin County Government Center

street & number 300 South Sixth Street

city, town Minneapolis, Minnesota state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title _____ has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date _____ federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town _____ state

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The George W. Baird House is situated on a large lot on the north side of West 50th Street in Edina. It is a two story brick residence done in the Queen Anne style of architecture. Features typical of the Queen Anne style appear throughout the residence including a square corner tower with pyramidal roof, projecting attic gables, patterned shingles, carved wood panels, windows with small square lights and tall sculptured brick chimneys.

The foundation of the house is of native Plattesville limestone with a water table course of Mankato stone directly above. Mankato stone also appears as a belt course over the paired first story windows of the tower and over the landing windows on the east elevation. Window sills throughout the house are also of Mankato stone as well as the lintel inscribed "1886" over the second story tower window.

The brickwork throughout the house is of a red pressed brick laid with thin buttered joints.

Very few changes have been made to the exterior of the house. The multi-colored slate roof on the tower has been replaced with black asphalt shingles. An attic dormer on the front of the house has been removed. The scrollwork on the front porch has similarly been removed, however, the porch roof with carved wood gable remains intact. A wood frame summer kitchen at the rear of the house was replaced in 1969 with a one-story family room addition which is sympathetic with the details and materials of the original house.

Ancillary structures including a barn and windmill have been removed.

On the interior very few changes have been made and much of the interior woodwork is intact. Original hardware and light fixtures also remain.

The woodwork in the front entryway and dining room wainscot is of brown ash. The stairway to the second floor is of white oak. The woodwork in the parlor is of cherry. Light fixtures in the dining room as well as the upstairs hall are original to the house. All radiators are also original except for the kitchen and upstairs rear bathroom. The house was one of the earliest to have steam heat.

The kitchen has been remodelled several times, most recently in 1963.

The house was acquired by its present owner in 1960 and has been carefully preserved.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 1886

Builder/Architect Charles S. Sedgwick

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The George W. Baird House is a fine example of a Queen Anne style residence and the only structure of its kind in Edina. Designed by the noted Minneapolis architect, Charles S. Sedgwick (1856-1922), the original plans for the house are in the possession of the present owner.

Sedgwick established an office Minneapolis in 1884 and designed a large number of buildings, the majority of which were residences. His buildings were characterized by complex plans and agitated outlines. "They make use of many materials, are strongly chromatic, profusely ornamented and incorporate details from a great variety of stylistic sources."¹ Sedgwick's residential designs tended to be pretentious with little regard to their size or cost. The Baird House represents one of the earliest houses he designed in this area.

George W. Baird was an important figure in the early days of Edina. A native of Pennsylvania, he came to Minnesota in 1857 and purchased a farm of 120 acres in what was the rural township of Richfield (now Edina). In the spring of 1860 he imported the first Spanish Merino sheep brought into the state. He sold the first fleece of fine wool in Minneapolis receiving 95 cents per pound. Later he concentrated his efforts in raising fine Cotswold and Lincoln grades of sheep receiving first prizes at the Minneapolis Exposition of 1880.

Both George W. Baird and his wife, Sarah (Gates) Baird were active in the Grange. They were charter members of the Minnehaha Grange No. 398 formed in Edina in 1873. Both served at various times as Masters of this Grange (George W. Baird, 1877-79, 1900-04, 1908, Sarah G. Baird 1894-97). Sarah G. Baird also served as State Master of the Minnesota Grange for 18 years.

In 1888, George W. Baird was one of the members of a committee of five who were responsible for the formation of the Village of Edina when it seceded from Richfield.

¹. Donald R. Torbert, "Minneapolis Architecture and Architects" (Doctoral thesis, University of Minnesota, 1931) p. 444.

PLEASE NOTE: The manuscript for this nomination was prepared before the one paragraph limit for significance statements was stipulated.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Neill, Edward D., History of Hennepin County and the City of Minneapolis, Minneapolis, North Star Publishing Co., 1881.
- Torbert, Donald R., Minneapolis Architecture and Architects, 1848-1908, Doctoral Thesis, University of Minnesota, 1931.
- Baird, Sarah G., Papers, 1870, 1882-1918, Manuscripts Division, Minnesota Historical Society.

10. Geographical Data **UTM NOT VERIFIED**

Acreeage of nominated property 1.17 **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**
 Quadrangle name Minneapolis South Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>5</u>	<u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>9</u> <u>7</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	B	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	D	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
E	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	F	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
G	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	H	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

South 295 feet of east 200 feet of west 630 feet of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ except road section 18, T28 R24. (I.D. # 18-028-24-13-0001)

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Foster W. Dunwiddie, Architect

organization Edina Historical Society date December 6, 1977

street & number 4801 West 50th Street telephone (612) 926-3008

city or town Edina state Minnesota 55424

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 1-24-80

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

W. Ray Luce date 3/27/80
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Kristin O'Connell date 3/14/80
 Chief of Registration

Property Druid, George W. House

State Mn - Hennepin

Working Number 1-29-80 341

20002067

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 2

Maps 1

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*Accept
O'Connell
3/14/80*

Very large Queen Anne style brick house, only one of its kind in this community; significant as a local architectural landmark, the work of a notable Minnesota architect, and home of an important figure in development of Minnesota agriculture. Retains most of its original interior features, including light fixtures + radiators.

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered MAR 27 1980

Federal Register Entry 2-3-81

Re-submit _____



George W. Baird House
4400 West 50th Street
Edina, Minnesota

1977

George W. Baird House ¹⁰⁷²
Edina, Minnesota; Hennepin County
Unknown
1977
Minnesota Historical Society, 690
Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55102
Looking Northeast
No contact number.

MAR 27 1980

JAN 29 1980



George W. Baird House
4400 West 50th Street
Edina, Minnesota

n.d.

George W. Baird House
4400 West 50th Street
Edina, MN; Hennepin County

2072

Unknown
no date

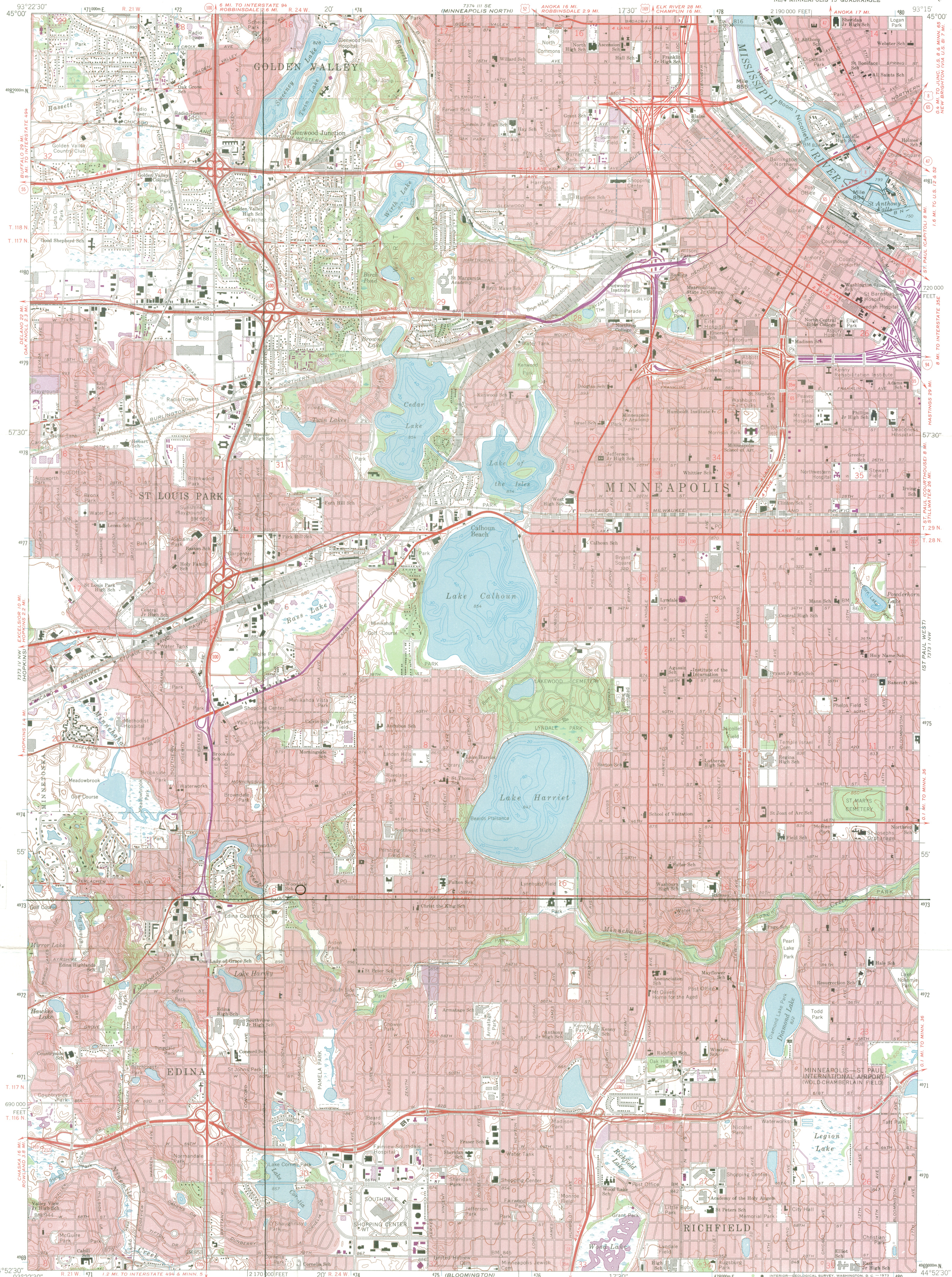
MAR 27 1980

Minnesota Historical Society, 690
Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55102

Looking northwest

No contact number

JAN 29 1980



George W. Baird House
4400 West 50th Street
Edina, MN; Hennepin Co.
UTM References
15 / 473420 / 4973100

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1947. Field checked 1952. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1967

Hydrography compiled from information furnished by Minnesota Department of Conservation

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum, 10,000-foot grid based on Minnesota coordinate system, south zone

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
○ Interstate Route ○ U.S. Route ○ State Route

MINNEAPOLIS SOUTH, MINN.
NE/4 MINNEAPOLIS 15' QUADRANGLE
N4452.5-W9315/7.5

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1972. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

1967
PHOTOREVISED 1972
AMS 7373 IV NE—SERIES W872



MAR 27 1980

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MINNESOTA

Date Entered MAR 27 1980

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Saum Public School	Saum Beltrami County
Baird, George W., House	Edina Hennepin County
Maternity Hospital	Minneapolis Hennepin County

Also Notified

Honorable David Durenberger

Honorable Rudolph Boschwitz
Honorable Arlan Stangeland
Honorable Martin O. Sabo

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Russell W. Fridley
Director, Minnesota Historical
Society
690 Cedar Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

NR Byers/bjr 4/2/80

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.