

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| STATE | Minnesota |
| COUNTY | Ramsey |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY DATE | |

| | | | |
|--|------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. NAME | | | |
| COMMON: The McColl Building | | | |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: Merchants National Bank Building | | | |
| 2. LOCATION | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: 366-368 Jackson Street | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul | | CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 4th | |
| STATE Minnesota | CODE 22 | COUNTY: Ramsey | CODE 123 |

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| 3. CLASSIFICATION | | | | |
| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress | 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 type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Business Offices | <input type="checkbox"/> Comments |

| | | | |
|---|--|---------------------|------------|
| 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY | | | |
| OWNER'S NAME: Norman B. Mears Investment | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: First National Bank Building -- Robert and Fourth Streets | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul | | STATE: Minnesota | CODE 22 |

| | | | |
|--|--|---------------------|------------|
| 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION | | | |
| COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Ramsey County Courthouse | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: 15 West Kellogg Blvd. | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul | | STATE: Minnesota | CODE 22 |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|------------|
| 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS | | | |
| TITLE OF SURVEY: Statewide Historic Sites Survey/Historic St. Paul Buildings Survey | | | |
| DATE OF SURVEY: 1973/1964 | | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local | |
| DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Minnesota Historical Society | | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: Building 25, Fort Snelling | | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul | | STATE: Minnesota | CODE 22 |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE
MinnesotaCOUNTY
Ramsey

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|--|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If Known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Merchant's National Bank is a four story, combination stone bearing wall and steel frame commercial structure. Built in 1892, the first floor was designed as a banking facility with office space available on the top three floors and accessible from the staircase leading from the first floor lobby.

Architecturally, the building is a well articulated example of Romanesque design. The front (west) and side (south) elevation, which are the only two elevations with any architectural detailing, are well organized complimentation of glass and stone masonry surfaces. Each verticle bank of windows is divided by a turret extending above the roof line. The windows are of arched design at the bottom and top levels, with the bottom window being designed in such a manner as to make the first two floors appear as one. The overall effect is to create the appearance of an extremely well proportioned, three story building.

The most distinctive feature of the exterior is its ornate appearance, characterized by the careful utilization of rough, carved and polished stone. Built on a granite base, local rusticated red sandstone faces the exterior with polished stone columns and carved stone lintels detailing the window openings. Carved stone is also utilized along the upper cornice line. Consequently, the overall result is the creation of an extremely attractive and highly textured exterior facade.

The building is presently used almost entirely as an office structure. The entry lobby along with the exterior elevations have undergone very little alteration and the only major change being the recent remodeling of the basement into a restaurant.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1892-present

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McColl Building, located at Fifth and Jackson Streets in St. Paul, was built in 1892 according to the design of Edward P. Bassford. Originally, this building housed the old Merchants National Bank Building and law offices. The history of the bank dates back to 1872 when it opened for business in the old St. Paul Press building.

The financial institution was founded by some of the most prestigious business and industrial leaders in St. Paul. The name of the institution symbolized the majority of those gentlemen who represented the city's wholesale and retail mercantiling industry; this industry was responsible for the growth of St. Paul into one of the major urban centers in 19th century upper midwest America.

By 1880 the Merchants National Bank had doubled its capital to one million dollars, and had two hundred thousand dollars of surplus. The space that the bank occupied in 1890 was no longer adequate, and the directors decided to erect a suitable building. A site convenient to the wholesale district on the northeast corner of Fifth and Jackson Streets was purchased for seventy thousand dollars. There the bank erected this building, costing approximately one hundred seventy thousand dollars. The bank building was the center of some of the major financial transactions of the Northwest's development at the turn of the century.

The law offices of many nationally eminent legal figures who practiced in the era when St. Paul was playing an important national role in the law were located in the McColl Building. It was here that Cushman Kellogg Davis, governor, United States Senator, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and scholar practiced in partnership with Cordenio A. Severance, one time president of the American Bar Association, and with Frank B. Kellogg, later United States Senator, ambassador to Great Britain, Secretary of State and Justice of the World Court. Here also practiced the firm of Butler and Mitchell. Pierce Butler went on to the United States Supreme Court and William D. Mitchell to the solicitor generalship of the United States.

In the spring of 1967 the McColl Building was threatened by demolition. Threatened demolition was due to a proposed plan to widen the east side of Jackson Street by twelve feet and the north side of Fifth Street by fifteen feet, to accommodate the desired number of traffic and turning lanes at the intersection where the McColl Building stands. At this time architects and historians presented a strong defense to preserve the building. They considered the four story red sandstone

(see continuation sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| STATE Minnesota | |
| COUNTY Ramsey | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | |

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

structure, at the lower end of the loop where St. Paul history began, to be a prime example of what the city was like in the late 19th century. Weighing downtown traffic needs against St. Paul's historical values, the St. Paul City Council members decided to save the building.

The McColl Building is one of the last remaining examples of those massive red stone Romanesque structures which so typified the prosperous, growing St. Paul in its great era of expansion following the completion of the Northern Pacific to the Coast in the 1880s. It is the only structure to remind generations to come of old Jackson Street, once one of the busier arteries in downtown St. Paul, and it is truly one of the most beautiful of St. Paul's old business houses.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Donovan, Frank Pierce and Cushing, F. Wright, The First Through a Century: A History of the First National Bank of St. Paul, St. Paul, 1954

Koeper, H. F., Historic St. Paul Buildings, St. Paul, 1964

Miller, F. C., Saint Paul: Location-Development-Opportunities, St. Paul, 1928

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 | | | | |
| | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds | | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds | | |
| NW | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds |
| NE | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | 44° | 56' | 47" |
| SE | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | 93° | 07' | 55" |
| SW | ° | ' | " | ° | ' | " | | 25' | 21" |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 1 acre

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

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Lynne VanBrocklin and Thomas J. Lutz

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Historical Society DATE: 10/15/74

STREET AND NUMBER: Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY OR TOWN: St. Paul STATE: Minnesota CODE: 22

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, Director

Title Minnesota Historical Society

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

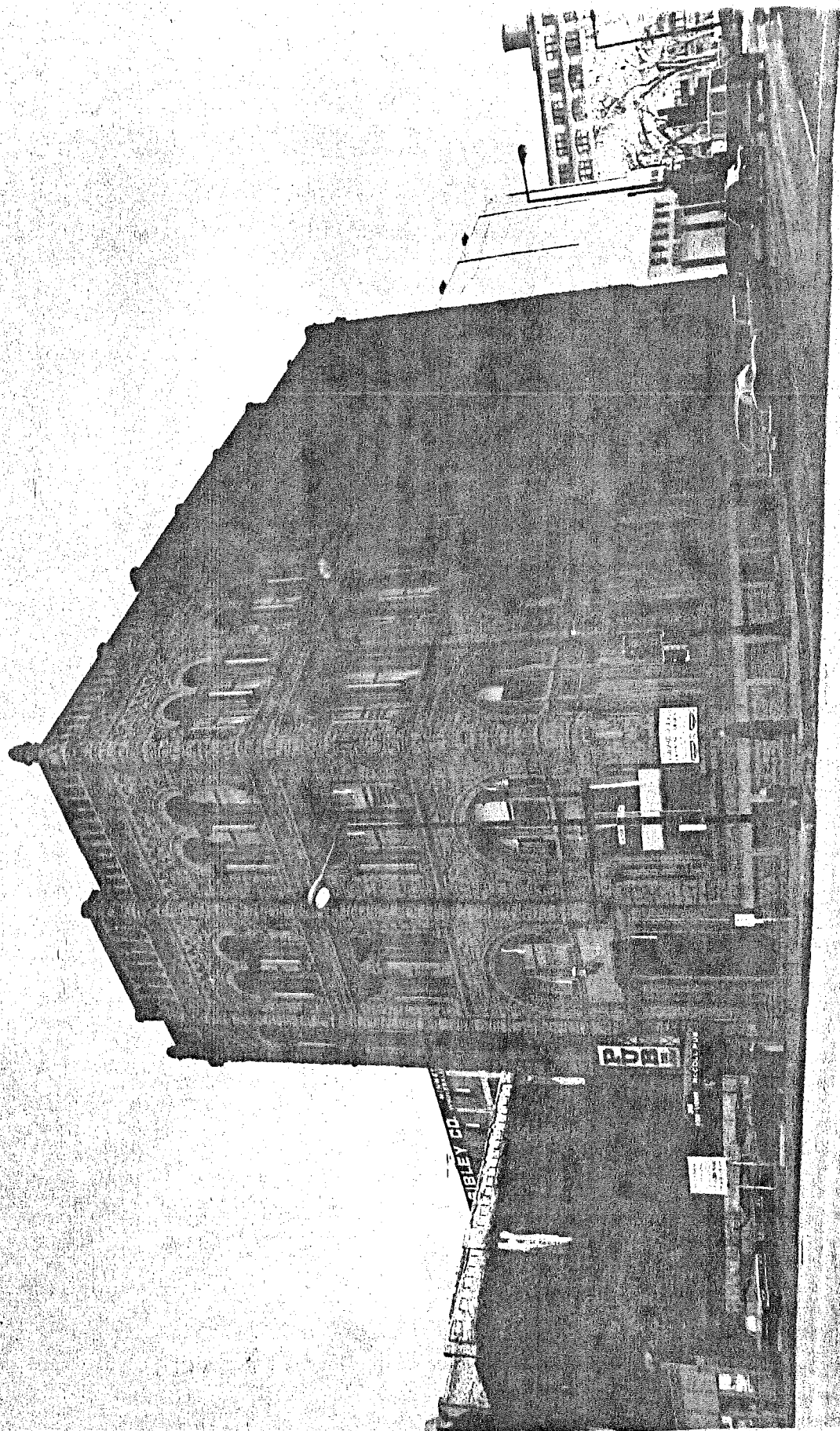
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____



Form No. 10-301a
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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

1. NAME

COMMON: The McColl Building

AND/OR HISTORIC: Merchants National Bank Building

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

366-368 Jackson Street

CITY OR TOWN:

St. Paul

STATE:

Minnesota

COUNTY:

Ramsey

CODE

123

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Thomas J. Lutz

DATE OF PHOTO: 1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Minnesota Historical Society, 690 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101

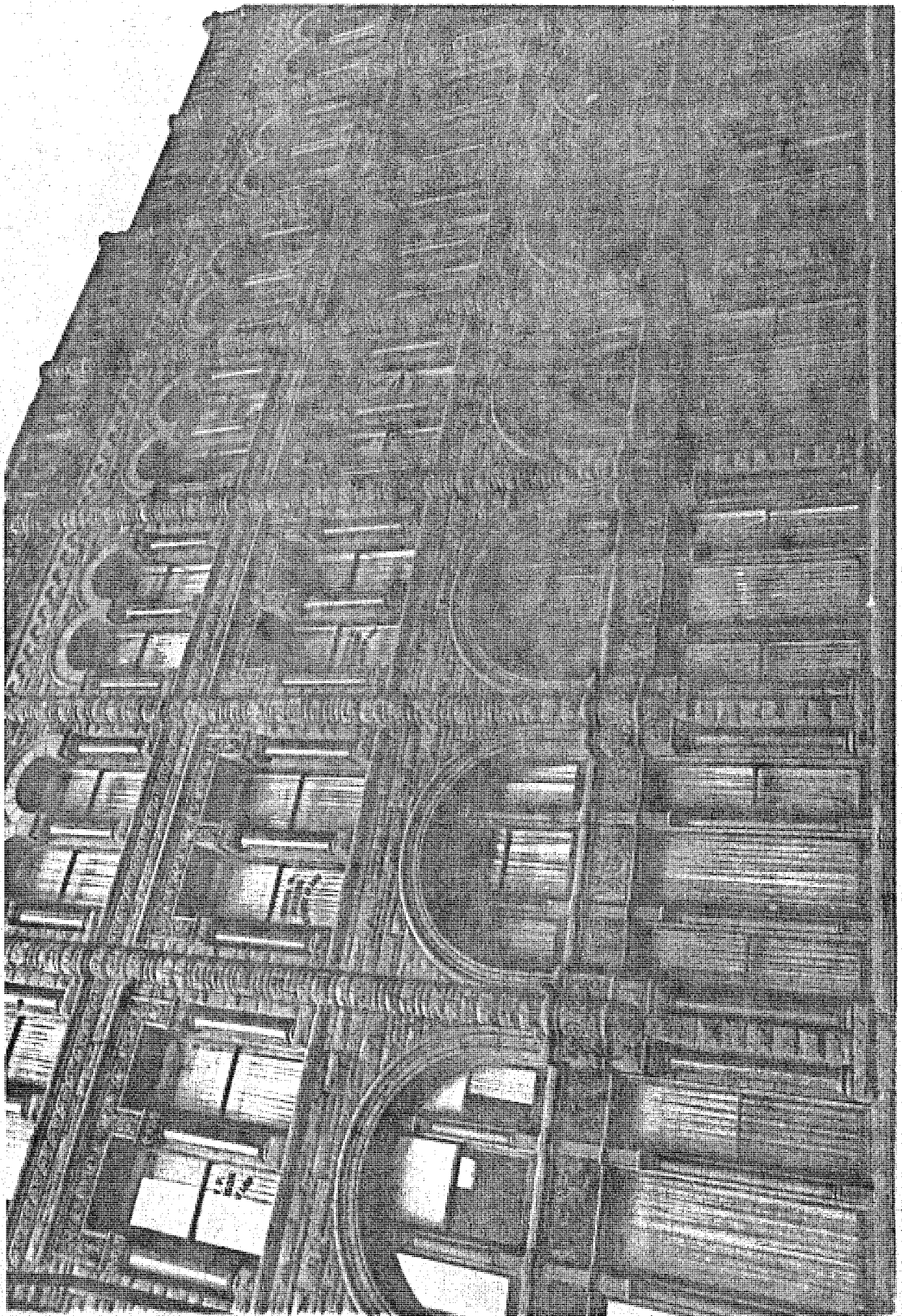
4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Southeast perspective view of the building showing the only two
architecturally developed street exteriors

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| STATE | Minnesota |
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Form No. 10-301a
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

1. NAME

COMMON:

The McColl Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:

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STREET AND NUMBER:

366-368 Jackson Street

CITY OR TOWN:

St. Paul

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Minnesota

CODE

22

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Ramsey

CODE

123

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT:

Thomas J. Lutz

DATE OF PHOTO:

1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Minnesota Historical Society, 690 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

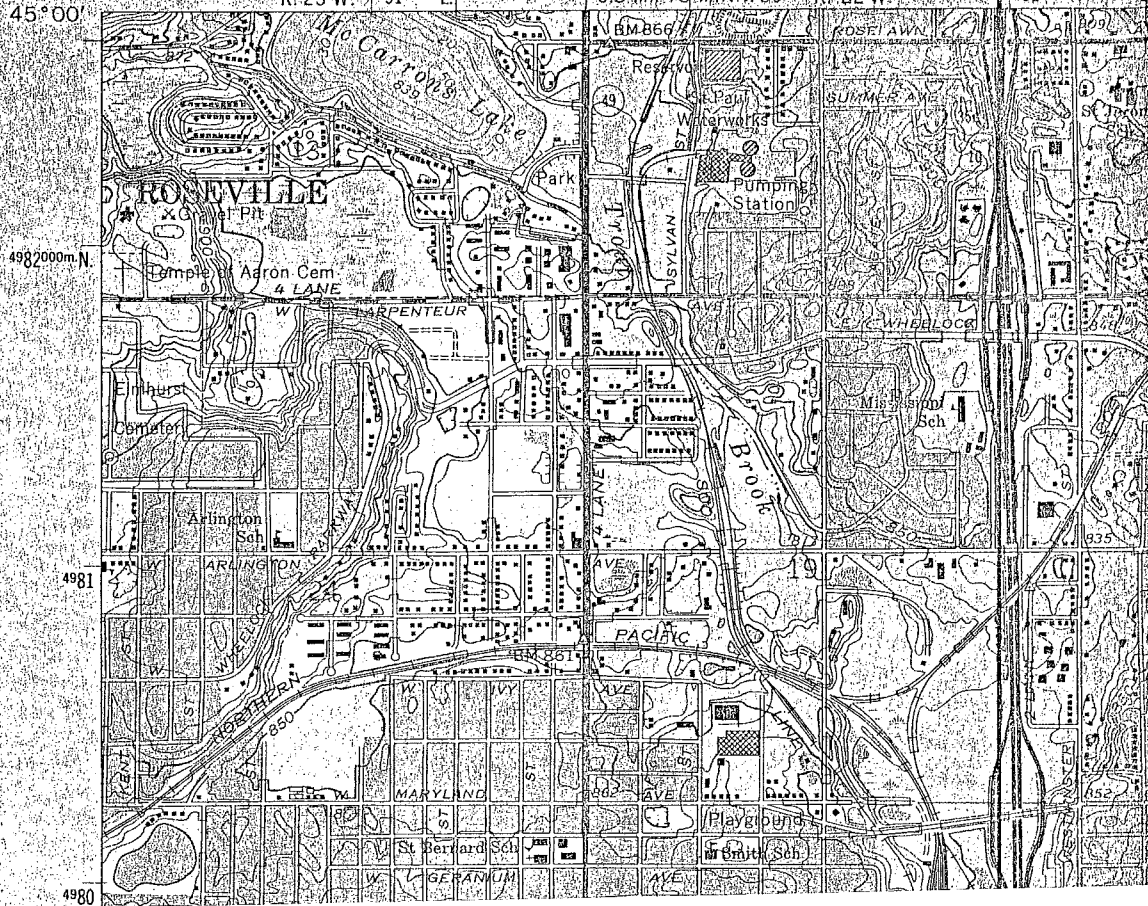
Detail view of side (South) elevation illustrating the masonry detailing and ornamentation of the exterior

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7374 11 SW
(NEW BRIGHTON)

11 MI. TO U.S. 8
0.5 MI. TO MINN. 36 R. 22 W

2.5 MI. TO INT
493



STRE INSTRUCTIONS

Form No. 10-301
Rev. 7-72

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| STATE | Minnesota |
| COUNTY | Ramsey |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |

1. NAME

COMMON: The McCall Building
AND/OR HISTORIC: Merchants National Bank Building

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

366-368 Jackson Street

CITY OR TOWN:

St. Paul

STATE:

Minnesota

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

USGS - St. Paul East Quadrangle, Minnesota - 7.5 Minute Series

SCALE:

1:24000

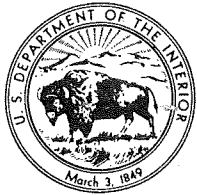
DATE:

1967

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

The Director of the National Park Service

Ronald H. Walker

is pleased to inform you that the historic property listed on the enclosed sheet has been nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer responsible for your State's implementation of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, P.L. 89-665 (80 Stat. 915), as amended. It has accordingly been entered in the National Register of Historic Places. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed for your information and convenience.

Enclosures



Save Energy and You Serve America!

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MINNESOTA

Date Entered DEC 19 1974

Name

Location

The McColl Building

St. Paul
Ramsey County

COPY OF CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION

Also Notified

Hon. Walter F. Mondale
Hon. Hubert H. Humphrey
Hon. Joseph E. Karth