

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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APR 14 1980
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED JUN 3 1980

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Croixsyde
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *N of Stillwater*
4 Croixside Road, Route 2
CITY, TOWN Stillwater *me* VICINITY OF First
STATE Minnesota CODE 22 COUNTY Washington CODE 163

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Lyman and Ruth Geary ✓
STREET & NUMBER 4 Croixside Road, Route 2
CITY, TOWN Stillwater VICINITY OF Minnesota

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Washington County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER 14900 North 61st Street
CITY, TOWN Stillwater, STATE Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE St. Croix National Scenic Riverway Survey of Historic Structures
DATE June 1976
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Minnesota Historical Society, Bldg. 25, Fort Snelling
CITY, TOWN St. Paul STATE Minnesota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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

Croixsyde is located on a small point of land on the St. Croix River eight miles north of Stillwater. The house was designed in 1922 by Chilson D. Aldrich who specialized in log cabins. It is a large rectangular, two-storey house of log construction. Each one of the Ponderosa pine logs was hand-fitted.

The house has a full basement and measures 70 by 45 feet. The full front, one-storey porch on the south side adds another 16 feet to the width. The porch was originally open but has since been screened in. The roof is gabled with eaves that extend out over the second storey balconies found on the east and west ends of the house.

The front door is centrally placed on the north side of the house and is sheltered by a pent roof supported by struts anchored at either side of the door. The window placement on all four facades is symmetrical. The original one-storey open porch on the east side of the front facade has been enclosed.

The interior arrangement of rooms is symmetrical. The front door leads into a centrally positioned living room two storeys in height with a balastraded gallery at the second storey level. A massive stone fireplace and chimney are located at one end of the living room. A double stairway at the opposite end of the living room leads to the second floor gallery and four bedrooms.

The interior walls and ceilings reflect the log construction with all of the log surfaces exposed. All of the interior fittings such as light fixtures, hinges, door handles, fireplace hardware, and even ashtrays were individually hand-crafted of wrought iron. Originally most of the furnishings were also handmade of birch and ironwood in keeping with the rustic feeling of the house. Only a few of these pieces remain.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation

SPECIFIC DATES 1922 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Chilson D. Aldrich

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Croixsyde was the summer residence of Benjamin B. Sheffield. It is one of the early summer residences on the St. Croix River and is significant for its architecture.

Benjamin B. Sheffield established Sheffield Elevators in Minneapolis and was also the president of the Big Diamond Milling Company. Before he retired, his interest ranked third largest in the flour and grain business in the country. In 1922 he bought fifty acres of land on the St. Croix River and had architect Chilson D. Aldrich design a house.

Aldrich, who specialized in log cabins, designed a large, rectangular house measuring seventy by forty-five feet out of logs. The ponderosa pine used in the building was brought in from Oregon, and every log was hand-fitted. Three master carpenters supervised the work which took four years to complete. The interior furnishings and fittings were hand-fashioned in keeping with the rustic feeling of the house.

A generating plant was built on the property, making Croixsyde one of the earliest rural homes in Minnesota to have electricity. All the wiring was done through the center of the logs so that it could not be seen on the interior surface.

The stream which ran through the property was dammed, and two trout ponds were created, of which only one remains. A stone hatchery was built for the breeding of trout and is still extant but now part of neighboring property.

Sheffield sold the house and property in 1948, and the second owner subdivided the land for a housing development called Croixside. Croixsyde, the original Sheffield house, and two acres of property were bought by the present owners in 1969.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Aldrich, Chilson D., The Real Log Cabin, New York: MacMillan Co., 1928

Geary, Ruth, Private interview, Stillwater, Minnesota, June 17, 1977

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Marine on St. Croix Quad. 7.5

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

A	1 5	5 1 9 0 0 0	4 9 9 9 5 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot 4, Croixside Subdivision, May Township.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Peggy Lindoo

10/3/77

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Minnesota Historical Society, Bldg. 25 Fort Senlling

612/726-1171

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

St. Paul,

Minnesota

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Russell W. Fridley

TITLE

Russell W. Fridley, State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

3/6/80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

W. Ray Tuce

DATE

6/3/80

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Kristen O'Connell

DATE

6/2/80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Helene Lynn
1/19/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Note: These changes apply to
Croixsyde in Washington County,
Minnesota.

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80002177

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Washington

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Sheffield, Benjamin B., House
(Croixsyde)

CITY:

VICINITY OF: Stillwater

ADDRESS:

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988
Date



JUN 3 1980

Croixsyde

Stillwater, Minnesota

(Vicinity of)

Liza Nagle

MAY 1

1979

Washington Co.

Minnesota Historical Society

690 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN

May 13, 1976

North (front) and West facades

01581/6.

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